



## United Jewish People's Order - Winnipeg

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### ***Our Upcoming Season - 2011-2012***

UJPO Winnipeg is planning interesting, educational and enjoyable events for the upcoming year. When members take part in these activities they contribute to the richness of the discussions, raise the level of the conversation and strengthen our organization. Here's what's happening in the first two months of the new season:

### ***First Event in our Member Discussion Series: Independent Jewish Voices- Everything You Wanted to Know – Sunday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2 PM***

Our kick-off activity this year will be a members-only discussion, on September 18<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 to 4:00 PM at the Age and Opportunity Centre, 1085 Main St. **Mark Etkin** will inform us about the policies and work of Independent Jewish Voices. He'll answer questions about the organization, which works to promote human rights and healing in the Middle East. To prepare for the event, check out the IJV website at <http://ijvcanada.org/about-us-a-propos-de-vji/ijv-basis-of-unity-vji-entente-de-principes>

It is important for members in an organization such as ours to have opportunities to express their views and have their questions answered on important issues. We hope to see you on September 18<sup>th</sup>. Keep your eyes open for other meetings in this series.

### ***UJPO North End Jewish Folk Choir***

Our choir will begin practicing again on **Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup>** at the Age and Opportunity Centre at 1085 Main Street. We are starting earlier than usual as we will be singing at a number of events coming up in September and October. Everyone is encouraged to attend these events, to support our choir and Yiddish culture and music. If you like to sing, come join the choir! No prior singing experience or knowledge of Yiddish is necessary. Contact Dora Rosenbaum at 338-3448.

### ***Abe Arnold Memorial – Thursday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7 PM***

Abe Arnold's life as a journalist, social activist and historian will be remembered on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Abe was a lifetime member of UJPO which is a co-sponsor of this event. When he died in January of this year, Abe left a generous legacy of \$500 to support the North End Jewish Folk Choir's activities. This bequest will enable us to perform more often, and is much appreciated.

### ***Culture Days - Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>***

Culture Days is a Canada-wide event aimed to raise the awareness and participation of Canadians in cultural activities. The North End Jewish Folk Choir will perform, along with other choral and musical groups, on **Saturday, October 1 at The Forks between 11 and 11:30 AM** and then later at a program beginning at **6 PM at the St. Boniface Cathedral**. It's going to be a

spectacular evening in a beautiful location. The cathedral is being lighted for the occasion and our choir will certainly be 'in the spotlight'. For further information check out the website at <http://www.culturedays.ca/en/about-culture-days> and search for North End Jewish Folk Choir.

### ***National Board Meets in Winnipeg, October 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>***

UJPO Winnipeg is playing host to the annual National Board Meeting this year. Members are invited to meet participants from Toronto and Vancouver at a social event on **Saturday, October 15** (details to be confirmed – save the date and watch this space!).

### ***Outlook Brunch – Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>***

The annual fundraising event for The Outlook magazine will take place in co-ordination with the National Board Meeting. This year's event will take place **12 Noon on Sunday, October 16** at the Fort Garry Hotel. **Dr. Lionel Steiman** will address the gathering on the topic of the Canadian Museum of Human Rights. This is timely in light of the controversies that have been raised. We will be partaking of the famous **Hotel Fort Garry Grand Sunday Brunch**. The cost is \$28.00 per person. Please mail your cheques to Karen Naylor, 342 Oakwood Avenue, R3L 1G1 or call her at 250-8697 for information. Please remember to be generous in your support for The Outlook, Canada's independent voice of secular Judaism, a magazine with a socialist-humanist perspective that has been publishing continuously since 1962.

### ***Memberships***

Just a reminder that our fiscal year had to be adjusted to conform with the fiscal year of the national organization. This means that membership fees are due September 1<sup>st</sup> for the September 1/11 to August 31/12 year. You will be receiving a letter from us towards the end of August reminding you that the fees are due and payable. This "short" year is a one-time event only!

### ***Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations***

The Congress held its conference this spring in Toronto. UJPO Winnipeg President Roz Usiskin attended and delivered a paper entitled *Jewish Pioneer Farmer in Edenbridge: Mike Usiskin*.

### ***Milestones***

Mazel Tov to **Helen Peltz** on the occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday! We wish her good health and happiness.

We regret to report the passing of pioneer UJPO member **Ben Shek**, of Toronto on June 26, 2011. Ben was a professor of French and a scholar of Quebecois literature. He was a journalist, a community activist for social justice, a choir organizer and a singer in the Yiddish tradition. He was, as UJPO members across Canada remember, a man of principle, a *mentsch*, a gentleman, and a friend. Ben was predeceased by his wife, Jean, also a singer and social activist.

### ***Thanks to...***

To **Lee Anne Block** and **Richard Grunfeld** for hosting the annual UJPO windup barbecue in June. It was a wonderful event where members got together and socialized. Also to **Adrian Challis**, husband of UJPO member Ellen Karlinsky, who gave an interesting and informative talk on his recent travels in the Middle East and updated us on the situation in Israel and Palestine.