

# The Indiana Jewish Historical Society 41st annual meeting

BY EILEEN BAITCHER



represents must be remembered, celebrated, and passed on to future generations. The old Beth-El Temple at 34th and Ruckle is the last remaining historical synagogue structure in the city of Indianapolis."

Isaiah and others have formed a non-profit organization called the Temple Heritage Center with a board of dedicated individuals from both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities. They have already

received grant money from the city and the Mapleton Fall Creek CDC, as long as an additional equal amount of money is raised from other private sources. He asked for the community's participation and support in this important project. ✪



The 41st annual meeting of The Indiana Jewish Historical Society (IJHS) took place on Sun., Oct. 27 at Broadmoor Country Club in Indianapolis. Nominating Chair, Judy Koor, announced that the following members were elected by mail ballot to serve on the IJHS Board of Directors: Dan Appel of Fort Wayne; Steve Bulloff of Indianapolis; James Mulis of Peru and Stanley Steiner of Marion, all serving a three year term ending in 2016. Ron Cohen of South Bend was elected to serve a one year term ending in 2014. Earlier that morning the Board of Directors elected the executive officers for 2013–2014 fiscal year: President, Sheila Greenwald, Indianapolis; First V.P., Rosalie Gussow, Indianapolis; Secretary, Mary Tilden, West Lafayette and Treasurer, Barbara Goldman, Indianapolis.

President Sheila Greenwald honored all IJHS past presidents: Max Einsteadig, Mary Fink, Charles Fine, Marty Schwartz, David Kleiman, David Fogle, Earl Brenn, Wynn Robin, Arthur Meyers, Richard Friedman, Paul Bloomberg, Judy Koor, Trent Pendley, and Alan Gilbert. IJHS Original Board Members were also recognized: David Bucove, Mrs. Arthur Cassell, Armand Cohodes, Mary Fink, Betty Fleck, Arthur Friedman, Melvin Goodman, David Kleiman, Mrs. Walter Lichtenstein, Frank Maidenber, Flo Mary Mantel, Illene Maurer, Louis Pearlman, Jr., Morris Polis, Irvin Rose, Meyer Ruchman, Maurice Schankerman, Marty Schwartz, Ervin Weil and Rose Weinraub. Sheila announced that the IJHS website at [www.ijhs.org](http://www.ijhs.org) was updated.

The featured speaker Isaiah Kuperstein (photo at top; read more in Editorial p. 3) presented a history of the old Beth-El Temple (photo of original shown) on 34th and Ruckle St., starting with its dedication, on Dec. 11, 1925. He explained that Beth El Temple was a magnificent structure. "It was regarded as the leading Orthodox synagogue in the State of Indiana and the largest synagogue on the city's north side." After Beth-El moved further north to its current location in 1958, B'nai Torah used the facility until 1967, and from the late 1960s until about four years ago, the building was used by several Christian churches until the building was abandoned.

Isaiah Kuperstein expressed "that this magnificent building cannot be destroyed and must be preserved and shared by everyone. The heritage that this building

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