

Dear haverim,

“My cup runneth over,” the Psalmist says, giving each of us words with which to characterize significant moments in life. This past Sunday evening was one of those moments--it will remain with us for a very long time.

The Dream Event at Anshai Torah captured us. . .warmth, family, pride, beauty, detail, thankfulness, and enthusiasm. We were all treated to a phenomenal evening organized by a supremely competent team led by Marcy Kahn, Debbie Katz, Beth Berk, Jaime Cohen, and Janet Behringer, and the dynamite committee they assembled.

While we celebrated the fulfillment of significant dreams throughout the evening, the setting enabled us to express our profound appreciation to Janet and Robert Behringer--two of the sweetest unassuming people any of us will meet in the course of a lifetime. The words that Janet, Brad, Heather and Jaime used to describe their feelings, in addition to the wonderful montage created by Jaime, were a testament to the values that define their family. Indeed, it was our privilege to say ‘thank you,’ and to honor the Behringer family for their leadership.

From the moment we walked into the hotel our spirits were transported to a very special place. . .our spiritual home. The setting, hors d’oeuvres, music, flowers, food, etc., were all tended to with such love and dedication--a reflection of the feelings so many have for our Shul. Everyone present knew we were sharing something special.

I say to you, the membership of Anshai Torah, it was a moment I will not forget. Standing before you, reminding ourselves how many times we have worked together, rolled up our sleeves, moved tables, supported each other for a minyan, stuffed envelopes, and danced the night away--that is how to build community! You, the membership of Anshai Torah are an awesome group of people with tremendous talent who have created a shul that deserves the recognition, admiration and respect it has earned. As long as we keep our priorities straight--that we are serving God and the Jewish people--I pray our path will continue to be blessed by God’s presence.

Every day at minyan I remind myself of the honor I have of serving as your rabbi. Thank you for the distinction, and thank you for walking with me as we continue to strive to impact our world in significant ways.

Kol HaKavod to all,

Shalom u’mevorach,

Rabbi Stefan J. Weinberg