



*Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center*

*Arthur Ajzenman*

Born in Manhattan and raised in Queens, Arthur received the finest in Public School educations at the Paul Klapper Elementary School and John Campbell JHS in Flushing. He ventured into Manhattan to attend Stuyvesant High School, and then Columbia University, with an academic scholarship from the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, graduating with a BA in Liberal Arts, concentrating in Economics. Throughout his youth, he excelled in sports, particularly baseball, as well as music, playing the trombone in symphonic and marching bands and singing in the school chorus. And, he always worked -from dog walking, to paper routes, to summer camp counselor.

Thanks to his parents, Florence and Harry, Arthur was raised with a strong sense of Jewishness. His grandparents, Bessie and Irving Schmell, saw to it that he and his sister, Rochelle, and brother, Joel, received a formal education in Judaism at the Talmud Torah program of Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills. And, though his family was unaffiliated with any temple, Jewish observance was always a part of their life, culminating with Bar Mitzvah, and continuing with Hebrew High School.

After graduating from college, Arthur tested out a variety of jobs, ranging from bartender, to bouncer, to carpenter's apprentice, to Emergency Medical Technician, to night club manager, to the Marketing and Public Relations Director for an independent film producer, before embarking on his career in printing technologies, where he has spent nearly 30 years. As a specialist in digital printing workflow for Xerox, Kinko's, Kodak/Danka, and now Ricoh, Arthur has achieved numerous milestones.

Arthur met his wife of 28 years, Lisa, on a group get-together, hopping between three live music stops in one evening, and their love of unplanned, spontaneous fun is at the center of their 31 year relationship. His children Matthew and Sara, 25 and 21, bring daily pride and joy to his life. Fortunate to have young parents, and a close relationship with his brother and sister, family is at the center of Arthur's life.

Friendships formed over a lifetime, some from as far back as kindergarten or Hebrew school, some from business, and so many from college, as a member of the Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity, are another critical ingredient in Arthur's life. Having joined the Hollis Hills Jewish Center almost 25 years ago, the friendships built here are as important to him as all the others.

Now known as the Hollis Hills Bayside Jewish Center, Arthur was proud to be elected to the office of President of the Men's Club at HHJC after years of service to the temple, both as a member of the Board of Trustees and as a member of the Club. With the goal of reinstating the Yellow Candle Program to commemorate Yom Hashoah, and with mentorship from Bob Fogel, and support and participation from the Clergy and the key members of the Men's Club, Arthur was able to foster new programs like Game Night, Lag B'Omer, and Karaoke with Sisterhood, among others. And during his terms as President, HBJC once again became an active member in FJMC. He is proud to accept this award, and looks forward to many years of fruitful association with HHJBC, Men's Club and FJMC.