

# Presidential Message

November 2018

You're all a good influence!

Writers block leads to my spilling family secrets. Not really a big secret... I've never made it much of a secret that my parents made it as far as my younger brother's Bar Mitzvah and then became unaffiliated. I've always credited Anne with encouraging me to get involved with Temple life, and my parents were surprised with our decision to raise a Jewish family.

So, Mom and Dad live in North Carolina, but they've always been really good about making it up to Connecticut for all of our life cycle events at the Temple and a few Temple events, including our Starry Night event last fall. They're always quick to tell me that you all remind them of their lodge friends from the 1970s and they like how much we enjoy one another's company. You were all such a good influence on them that they're working on re-affiliating!

This is where things get weird... They've found their own Temple Emanu-El in Winston-Salem.

Yeah, yeah. I know that Temple Emanu-El is a common name. But I was looking at their website, and I think that we may have a photocopy of us down there. They've got a Rabbi Mark. (Yeah, he spells it wrong.) They've got a school director named Rowe. They've got Board Members with familiar names like Wolfe and Lerner. Pretty creepy stuff. I was telling my father that the only thing that they're missing is a President Bendick. They should be so lucky ;-)

Well, not much a story for this November, but I wanted to use this little tale to let you know that I'm thankful to all of you for the love and friendship that you've always had for my family and for one another, and that you've all played a part in my family's Jewish growth.

Happy Thanksgiving!