

## **Corinne Steel, Vice President**

Corinne Steel's volunteerism is a core piece of her life. Not only is she active in Jewish charitable work, but she is also a director and secretary of The Bay and Paul Foundations, on the Advisory Board of AERO, a supporter of the Millay Colony for the Arts, and a member of the Whitman Society of the Marine Biological Society in Woods Hole, MA. She always begins by directing her energies to a small aspect of the organization, but ends by becoming the person who steps into any position where her wisdom and expertise are needed. Because of her work at The Bay and Paul Foundations and in honor of a recent birthday, the Foundations created and funded The Corinne Steel Prize for Outstanding Senior Honors Thesis written in English 89 or English 89.2 at Brooklyn College.

A graduate of Hunter College High School, Corinne went on to Brooklyn College and became a librarian in a Wall Street law firm. As a young stay-at-home mom, she directed her energies initially to the North Shore Leukemia Society, but gradually became more active in her children's public school, making her way up the ladder to co-president of the P.T.A. A member of Marathon Jewish Community Center for forty-two years, she has participated in Sisterhood-sponsored Oneg Shabbats at Creedmoor, served on the School Board and with the P.A., and has been a long-time member of the Center's Board of Directors. Her love of music brought her to Marathon's choir, and her interest in theater got her involved with the Marathon Little Theatre Group where she served as a producer.

During a vacation at Tamiment, in the Poconos, fifty-four years ago, Corinne met Leonard Steel. They became engaged after one week, were married within the year, and began their life together in Little Neck, where they still reside. Their children, Stephen, Hillary and Brian brought spouses Richard and Colette into the family, and then came Chloe, Beatris, Jacob, Bari and Alisa. To the younger members of this "organization", Corinne proudly serves as Grandma.

She currently holds the position of secretary of the NEQJCC, and will be installed as 3rd vice-president at its breakfast in October. She was also honored there for her work with the Salute To Israel Parade, where she served as liaison for the past three years. "It has been a joy", she says, "to watch our contingent grow to over 300 marchers and spectators. Each time, being with my synagogue, with my community, with my people, was beyond wonderful."