

Written by Nella Weisman  
Dora  
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~~... of ...~~  
"Hello my Baby" - when spot  
- using screen & small light

NARRATOR #1 Good evening, Ladies and gentlemen. Tonight, we all share a wonderful occasion - the celebration of Sisterhood's 90th birthday. In order to do this, we now ask you to travel back in time with us. Let your imagination carry you back to a moment in history. The year is 1899. The setting is a house on the north shore of the Allegheny River - an area we now call the Northside. At that time it was known as the city of Allegheny.

MUSIC - MEMOIR

(Spotlight on 2 figures in costume of 1899. One carries a gavel, the other carries notebook and pen.)

Marian Heller  
MRS. J: The first meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary society of the Tree of Life Congregation will please come to order! Mrs. Levin, as Secretary, will you please record in the minutes that I, Mrs. Henry Jackson, have called this meeting to order at 12:30 p.m., October 15, 1899 at the residence of Mrs. K. Solomon, 937 Beech St. in the city of Allegheny. Ladies, we all, I'm sure, feel the importance of this moment. We are the first - the only Ladies' Auxiliary of a Conservative Synagogue in the entire tri - state area.

Mrs. Levin, please record the names of all those present and read to us the names of our first slate of duly elected officers.

Dorothy Kano  
MRS. LEVIN: Certainly, Madame President.

The officers are:

- Mrs. Henry Jackson - President
- Mrs. K. Solomon - Vice President
- Mrs. Mark Browarsky - Treasurer
- and I - Mrs. B. Levin - Secretary

Marian  
MRS. JACKSON: Thank you madame secretary. Ladies, we've come a long distance since our first discussions over tea in Mrs. Goldstein's kitchen. Hopefully, we shall soon be holding regular meetings in our own Synagogue on Fourth Ave. and Ross St. Rabbi Coffey was most helpful with his many suggestions as to how we could organize and what our aims might be. Since this is our first meeting, I believe that it's important to read and understand the purposes for which we have been formed. Mrs. Levin, will you please read them to us now.

Dorothy  
MRS. LEVIN: Yes, Madame President. The purposes of the Ladies Auxiliary

1. To interest the ladies in an active way in the Synagogue.
2. To awaken a more friendly spirit among the Congregation.
3. To bring our children together in the spirit of friendship and Judaism.
4. To help the Congregation meet its financial obligations.

Marian  
MRS. JACKSON: We have set goals for ourselves, Ladies, that are both noble and difficult. It will take all our energies to achieve them. We must begin to work immediately. We have to plan activities - lectures, classes, programs for the children that are meaningful and fun, too.



We'll have a fund - raising chairman to plan bazaars, balls, picnics, perhaps even a Purim Carnival.....

*Dorothy*  
MRS. LEVIN: How about a sewing circle. Our women love to sew - and I know that the Montefiore Hospital, the Tuberculosis League and the Jewish Home for Babies could use our help - and we must find women to sew and embroider covers for our Torahs.

*Maria - "Memories"*

NARRATOR # *01* Indeed they did sew beautiful Torah Covers and they did fulfill all their other obligations in so many, many ways. Had Mrs. Jackson, our first Sisterhood President and Mrs. Levin, our first Secretary been gifted with the power to see the future, how amazed they would have been with this beautiful Synagogue - this pavilion - this festive birthday party.

Tonight we celebrate our 90th birthday. We honor the foresight of the founders and the dedication of all those women who served with dignity and love throughout our history.

This was our beginning. The way was not always easy. Funds were not always available. Depression, flood and two World Wars took their toll of our resources. But we persevered and we grew and we developed a closeness among ourselves and the Ladies' Auxiliary truly became a Sisterhood.

Tonight, we of Sisterhood reflect on a past rich in tradition. Let us re-dedicate ourselves to continue the tradition which began so long ago in 1899.

"How goodly is our portion,

How pleasant is our lot,

How beautiful is our heritage." - *Blackout* (Song) *Entertainment*

*Song (End) of Memories - Blackout*  
NARRATOR # 2: We promised you that this would be a birthday party. Every party - goer deserves to have fun and entertainment. ~~We hope that, so far, you've had fun.~~ Now its time for the entertainment!