

It has been speculated that this year's theme "*Putting Life into Living*," along with the challenge to prospective Trustees and guests of "Come see how we do it, " prompted the large turn-out.

The guest speaker for the meeting was Allison Turkell, a 22-year-old graduate of the University of Rhode Island some 72 hours prior to the meeting. Ms. Turkell was an intern at Tamarisk during the last semester, in addition to being active in the URI Hillel. Allison was asked to speak because of her enthusiastic personality and the love of living she brought to the residents at Tamarisk. Allison related her experiences at URI Hillel, her Birthright Israel trip, and working at Tamarisk. Congratulations were extended to Allison from many members of the community upon hearing her speak, with wishes for a successful life in whichever career path she chose. (As a post script to the meeting, Allison accepted a position with Tufts University Hillel on the following day.)

Martin Dittelman was honored and presented with the 2008 Maurice Glicksman Leadership Award by Jim Galkin, last year's recipient. Martin's many accomplishments for the Jewish Seniors Agency were lauded. A full text of Jim Galkin's presentation can be viewed through the following link.

Presidential Award Initiated

Susan Leach DeBlasio introduced a new award to be bestowed annually on a volunteer, board member, or affiliate of the **Jewish Seniors Agency** who has responded to provide service above and beyond what is expected for the accomplishment of the mission of the Jewish Seniors Agency. In announcing this year's winner, Susan stated that two individuals would receive this inaugural award. **The first-ever Presidential Award was presented jointly to Sylvia Brown and Marcia Gertstein, co-presidents of the Women's Association.**