

**Susan Kline Klehr**  
**President: 2005-2008**

Susan Kline Klehr was President of Rodeph Shalom from 2005-2008. From involvement as a class parent in her sons' religious school classes to serving on the design committee for the renovation of the synagogue's lower level, to leading two RS after-school tutoring programs at local public schools, to serving on the Board, to creating new fundraising opportunities, such as TasteRS, Susan had long been a leader at RS before becoming Board President.



As President, Susan oversaw exciting changes at RS. She welcomed Beth Ahavah into the Rodeph Shalom community. Under her leadership, RS conducted a feasibility study and acquired support for what would become Buerger Early Learning Center. While President, Susan helped with the conception and introduction of the strategic plan that was started under Tom Perloff's leadership. She helped complete a capital campaign and oversaw the related renovations of our beautiful sanctuary that preserved its history while meeting our modern needs. The master planning for the construction of the new part of the synagogue began during her term. Also during Susan's term, as part of our strategic plan, our two campuses were consolidated into one site to become an even stronger regional center for Jewish life in Philadelphia.

"I felt honored to serve as President of Rodeph Shalom. I was in awe of its history and the beauty that surrounded me, and I was grateful for the opportunity to lead such an important congregation. I enjoyed being part of a congregation of people who loved RS and were always available to help. And as much as I gave to the position, I received multiples in return. My appreciation of my own faith grew, and I developed meaningful relationships with so many wonderful people in our RS community."

A member of Rodeph Shalom for 35 years, Susan has long felt a profound connection to congregants, the clergy, and the synagogue. Her vision and leadership have contributed to the thriving community we enjoy today.

*Written by Deborah Gordon Klehr*

