

## president's message

court intrigue, a plot to advance personal fortune, a plot to annihilate a race because one person was disliked . . . a plot undone by selflessness: the simple story of purim. haman and mordecai, vashti and esther, antithetical philosophies reread each year from the megillah. a happy, colorful celebration in honor of the escaped slaughter and the chance again to live as we pleased: as jews.

national intrigue, a plot to advance personal fortune, a plot to annihilate a country because an idea is disliked . . . a plot yet to be undone by selfishness: the third world war?

—MARY HECHT