# **Temple Emeth**

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Bulletin

Temple Emeth of Teaneck, New Jersey An Affiliate of the Union for Reform Judaism Serving Reform Congregations in North America



## **\*\*\*\* TEMPLE EMETH \*\*\***

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Bulletin Deadlines		Mid-Month Mailing Deadlines		
Month	Deadline Date	Publication Date	Deadline Date	<b>Publication Date</b>
April	March 9	April 1	April 3	April 14
May	April 6	May 1	May 3	May 16
June	May 11	June 1	June 1	June 15
Midsummer			July 18	July 28

From the Editors - in order to make sure everyone's article/blurb/ important announcement, makes it into the Bulletin, we have to insist they are no longer than half a page. Remember, flyers are for the mid-month mailing and should be sent to Sandra Rumayor at srumayor@emeth.org

Material for the bulletin is welcome and essential for the success of the publication; however, it is necessary to honor the dead- lines as listed.	The Temple Emeth Bulletin is published monthly from September through June	
For the Bulletin mailings, all material <b>must</b> be submitted by 8:00 p.m. on the date of the deadline. Please submit all material by e-mail to sandifk@aol.com and Barbara Balkin - dkrm505@yahoo.com We cannot guarantee publication of items submitted on paper. For Mid-month mailings, all materials (either camera ready art or information to be included in the body of the Mid-month sheet) are due by 12:00 noon on the date of the deadline.	Advertising Rates for Ad Size 2" x 3 ½"MemberNon-Member1 Month\$ 50\$ 755 Months\$225\$35010 Months\$300\$450For additional information, call (201) 833-1322	

# **Message From the Rabbi**

For months now, we have been hounding, nagging, and cajoling you to register in the World Zionist Congress elections and to vote for the Association of Reform Zionists of America (ARZA), which represents the Reform Movement in Israel. Well the time for this, including the decline in the power and prestige of the World Zionist Congress since the State of Israel was declared in 1948. But I cannot discount an even more basic reason: according to recent surveys, Israel simply has less significance to American Jews

for hounding is over and the time for congratulations has arrived.

ARZA, which won the previous two elections, also turned out an impressive victory this year. It won 55 out of 145 seats on the American delegation to the World Zionist Congress. Temple Emeth again worked hard to turn out the vote, thanks in large part to Gloria Barsky, the chair of our

Israel/ARZA Committee, and Vicky

Farhi, who gave the eloquent Yom Kippur appeal to register and vote.

The news, however, is not all good. ARZA has been steadily declining over the last three elections, from 70 in 1997 to 61 in 2002 to the current 55. Even so, by partnering with the Conservative (32 seats) and Reconstructionist (2 seats) movements, ARZA will be able to advance its agenda of religious pluralism in Israel.

More distressing, perhaps, has been the overall decline in voter participation. Nine years ago over 107,000 people cast ballots, compared with less than 76,000 this year. There are probably several reasons



Rabbi Steven Sirbu

than in previous generations.

The American Jewish establishment has tried to fight this wave of apathy in a variety of ways, primarily by encouraging travel to Israel. Their assumption is that no one who has spent time in Israel can be apathetic about Israel. Based on the response of the Temple members who traveled with me last summer, I think that assumption is right on.

Whether you have been to Israel or not, I hope you will follow the news closely following the Israeli elections at the end of March. I hope you will plan to be on the next Temple Emeth Israel trip, February 15-25, 2007. I hope at the end of your Passover Seder, when you say, "Next year in Jerusalem," that it is more than a mere line from the Haggadah, but rather a declaration that Israel is important to the Jewish soul.

Israel has never succeeded on apathy. In fact it is the antithesis of Herzl's now famous motto: "If you will it, it is no dream." May the dream flourish, based on a foundation of active American support and a culture of religious pluralism and tolerance.

## **Message From the President**

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world. Indeed it's the only thing that ever has.

- Margaret Mead

The creation of a welcoming, spiritually fulfilling Jewish community happens only when many people work together, and most importantly, enjoy each other's company! So it was a pleasure to join our first Couple's Club (or should we call it our "NOT Just for Couples Club") event at Brian and Stacy Lawrence's House last month. An evening of kibitzing, socializing, karaoke singing with the Fearon's, the Seiden's and all

the others was alot of fun. I especially enjoyed hearing Rabbi Rebecca sing "These Boots Were Made for Walking." It was Little Eva's "Locomotion" for me. Affinity groups such as this, along with Outreach, our new Rosh Chodesh, Renaissance (join them for a trip to the beautiful New York Botanical Gardens this month), B'Yachad Sunday morning programs and other groups planned for next year, will strengthen the Temple and help us all get to know each other and enjoy the company of the extended TE family.

Building a sense of community includes our own Board of Trustees. Last month we held a day-long Sunday Board Workshop with a facilitator from Cincinnati, provided at no cost by the URJ's Synagogue Management Committee. It was good to work together to review and clarify the Board's role and each BoT's responsibility, consider challenges at TE and learn more about each other. Many thanks to Marc Chelemer and Maddy Wolf for their efforts to make this happen.

Board members meet monthly and are also actively involved in a variety of committees. The importance of recognizing new leadership is key to the long-term health of Temple Emeth. This year the Nominating Committee, headed by past president Karen Rappaport, identified and vetted new individuals for our 2006-2007 Board of Trustees. We thank them all for volunteering their time and their efforts. The Congregation will have a chance to meet them and vote

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on the entire slate at our annual meeting next month. With heartfelt thanks, I want to acknowledge the time and hard work of our departing board members and hope they continue to stay active and participate in all Temple projects and activities.

The Executive Committee (eCom) is a smaller group within the Board that provides day-to-day managerial support. This year we added 3 new members. Marc Chelemer serves as Secretary. He's married to Carol Shansky, a talented flutist who plays in the TE Band and currently serves as co-chair of our Membership Committee. They live in Tenafly with

their two children, Micaela (14) and Daniel (10). Marc teaches enrichment classes in Sunday school, sings with Kol Emeth at the High Holidays, is our head usher, helps build our Succah. You see the Chelemers everywhere in Temple. In his spare time Marc works for AT&T, bird watches, travels and rides rollercoasters.

Jeff Etzin joined eCom this year as Assistant Treasurer. Jeff and his wife Pam have been Temple members for 10 years,

choosing to travel to Teaneck from their Hillsdale home because, "We have always felt very comfortable here and we enjoy the company of so many of the members". They have 2 children - Kimberly (12), who will soon be a Bat Mitzvah, and Carly (9). Pam is active as a board member and can often be seen working in our Gift Shop. Jeff is a CPA who provides complete financial services to business owners and their families.

Assistant Secretary Wendy Kossakoff is a professional violinist-turned-stay-at-home mom of three boys: Danny (15), Josh (13) and Adam (9). She's married to David Kohane, who serves as TE attorney. The whole brood now resides in River Edge. A member since 1994, Wendy has served on many committees, and is particularly proud of her family's involvement in the musical life of Temple Emeth.

> B'shalom, Dan Firshein President



## From the Religious School

#### "Kol Dichfin" "Let All Who are Hungry Come and Partake" – From the Haggadah

A Chasidic master taught, "The people of Israel never got used to Egypt." They ever said, "They are the masters, and we are the slaves, and that's the way it is."

So when Moses came and told them they were going to leave, they had faith that they would. We all have our Egypts (Mitzraim) – our narrow places. You've got to know who you are and what your limitations are. "But heaven forbid you should make peace with them." The soul within you knows no limits.

At Temple Emeth Religious School, we take pride in our strong Judaic curricu-

lum and our rigorous Hebrew program. At the same time, our faculty imbues all our studies with neshama, or Jewish soul. When our students learn the Hebrew prayers, they not only learn to decode, string syllables and words together, but they also learn the soul of the prayer. At our school, we have always understood that Jewish education cannot be meaningful if it only happens in the classroom. On March 19, our 2nd grade families – children, parents, teachers and Rabbi Sirbu, explored the theme of our ancestors, Abraham and Sarah, through song and activities, and the sharing of

> family stories. On March 31, families of grades 5 - 7 joined together for a shabbat meal followed by an inspiring service led by 7th grade. On April 2, the 7th grade will deliver Passover food and friendship to the elderly. Passover gives all of us an opportunity to celebrate our "Exodus" with family and friends and take pride when we hear our children ask the questions and sing songs of freedom. We are building Jewish memories that encourage us to

leave our "narrow places" as we journey to freedom.

A Zissen Pesach.

Dora Geld Friedman

### From the Early Childhood Center

By the time you read this, Purim will be but a memory and Passover excitement will be in the air in the ECC. Do you remember when you were little and the thought of the long Seder was tempered by the anticipation of the arrival of Eliyahu? Jews all over

the world give honor to this prophet and fill a special cup for him. The children – and the child in us – watch the door closely and wonder if this is the year that he will arrive at our home.

Legend tells us that Eliyahu will be the one to announce the era of peace. However, before there is peace in the world we must help create a world worthy of peace. This challenge looms heavily in our lives today. How can we make a difference? The answer is – how can we not? We can teach our children how to appreciate all that we have and the joy of sharing with others. Every day is filled with opportunities for the hug and smile to make

someone's life a little brighter.

Each of us has the potential to embody the spirit and message that Eliyahu spreads at Pesach. The challenge is not in recognizing when the world will be ready for Eliyahu, but to dig deep inside to find the Eliyahu in each of us.

> Chag Sameach Sharon Floch ECC Director



# SOCIAL ACTION SPRINGS INTO ACTION

#### **FRIDAY, APRIL 14th , 8:00 P.M.** GUEST SPEAKER : DR. JOSEPH CHUMAN,

#### LEADER OF THE ETHICAL CULTURE SOCIETY of BERGEN COUNTY

Temple Emeth is now a member of the Bergen County Temporary Sanctuary Committee. One of the founders, Dr. Joseph Chuman, will not only discuss the plight of asylum seekers, and conditions they endure at the Elizabeth Detention Center, but tell us how we can get involved. During this Passover season, when we celebrate our exile from slavery in Egypt, let us think of those who are being denied the very freedoms we cherish.



Join us at Temple for this important evening!

## SUNDAY, APRIL 30th THE 2nd ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION DAY 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

#### Volunteer at one of three local sites:

~Hackensack River in River Edge in power boats, canoes and kayaks,

~Tenafly Nature Center and Teaneck Creek Conservancy

#### Or...Attend

#### THE RALLY TO STOP GENOCIDE IN DARFUR

A Temple group is going to Washington, D.C. to participate in this event co-sponsored by the Union for Reform Judaism. Contact Dennis Hirschfelder -201-836-0973 for more information.\*

\* Last year, prior to Passover, and courtesy of the URJ, we distributed suggested prayers and readings relevant to Darfur. Unfortunately, nothing has changed, in fact, the situation's worsened. The material is available again with updated information about what you and your family can do to help.

#### MARCH MITZVAH OF THE MONTH

The Mitzvah for March is Kosher for Passover food for needy Jewish families. It will be distributed by the Jewish Family Service. We are also collecting unopened Chametz food items for the Center for Food Action. Deadline – April 2nd.

Watch the Bulletin Board and the flyer bins

for more information on any of the above!

WE CAN and DO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE WHO COOKED, SERVED, AND SLEPT AT THE OVERFLOW SHELTER DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY:

Peggy & David Gerber, Liz & Paul Rubbock, June & Victor Cohen, Sharon Kalman & Bill Waldman, Amy Abrams & Arnold Graber, Pam & Jeff Etzin, EMTY, Michael Baer, Dana Graizel, Jeal & Rachel Sugarman, Geordy & Larry Bernard, Sy Lazar, & Paul Wilson

SPECIAL THANKS TO DANA & BILL GRAIZEL AND PAUL WILSON FOR ORGANIZING THE ENTIRE PROGRAM.



# **The Adult Education Committee**

by Stew May There's an old saying that the Jewish people a people of the book " Limagine this reflects

are, "the people of the book." I imagine this reflects our study of Torah. It might also reflect on our study of just about everything else.

Temple Emeth's Adult Education Program helps us to continue our search for knowledge, for living a Jewish life and for reminding us, most often in very subtle ways, that we are God's people. At the same time, our program attendees always seem to have a good time along the way. We enjoy ourselves in Adult Ed. It's never boring. Our clergy, guest lecturers, teachers and scholars offer stimulating topics to curious people.

All of this is possible because of the wonderful and dedicated members of our Adult Education Committee, who work hand-in-hand with our Clergy and the Temple Staff. During 2005/2006 we have produced one thought provoking, interesting, and enjoyable program after another.

Ongoing programs include: "Torah Study," led by Rabbi Sirbu - held every Saturday morning at 9:00 in the Trachtenberg Library; "Speak, Laugh and Enjoy Yiddish" on Monday mornings with Jennie Freilich and "Literature from a Jewish Perspective" on Tuesday evenings with Dione Danis.

This January, about 80 congregants and guests attended the Kabbalat Shabbat service, dinner, speaking and singing event. Also in January, more than 100 of us viewed the movie "Divan," an autobiographical documentary about the search for a couch; really a search for Jewish identity and meaning. Pearl S. Gluck, the film's director and subject was there to present her experiences and respond to our questions.

Our Winter/Spring Semester is in full swing. Coming up we have: "Passover in Text and Tradition" with Rabbi Sirbu and a "Shofar Blowing Workshop" lead by veteran, Jessica Firshein, who will help train Temple Emeth's next talented shofar blower. In April and May, Cantor Tilem will offer a course on liturgical music that will conclude with guest Cantor Leon J. Sher, who composed the popular "Heal Us Now," that we sing at our music service.

Our big event of the spring is a bus tour of Jewish Newark on May 7. Our seasoned guide, a university professor, will show us major sites and tell the story of what used to be New Jersey's largest Jewish community.

Please refer to your Adult Education Bulletin, the Temple Bulletins and program fliers for dates and times. Come and meet your fellow congregants, enrich yourself through a learning experience...and come for a good time! If you have any questions, please call me at 201-907-0823 or call the Temple Office.

## Super Mitzvah Project by Leah Staffin

Hi, my name is Leah Staffin, and I am becoming a Bat Mitzvah this March. As part of my becoming an adult in Jewish religion and accepting more responsibilities, I have completed several mitzvah projects,

and I am continuing my Super Mitzvah Project, which is counting and rolling money from the tzedakah boxes at Temple Emeth. Students of the religious school, families, and individuals contribute to these tzedakah boxes. After it has been counted and deposited, the money is donated to organizations for those less fortunate. One recent recipient has been Hurricane Katrina Relief Fund.

Eva Sandrof, a member of the Social Action Committee, has been my guide in this project. I would like to thank her for all her help and hard work. I am going to continue working on this project with the help of my family, and appreciate your ongoing support.



# TEMPLE EMETH ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION

#### Who Are We?

The Temple Emeth Endowment Foundation (TEEF) was established in 1991 to safeguard the endowment funds of the congregation. TEEF functions independently of the Temple, but trustees must be Temple members. Current assets are close to \$380,000.

The Foundation holds three different types of funds, two of which are unrestricted: the Temple Emeth Endowment Fund and the Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Fund. In addition, there are a number of named funds, each with a specific purpose.

#### Why Give to an Endowment?

People give to the endowment because they want their money to benefit the Temple over time. Proceeds of unrestricted funds go into the Temple's general fund to meet ongoing needs. Named funds are usually established because a donor has a special interest, often something outside the funding ability of the Temple.

#### **Recognized Giving Opportunities**

TEEF maintains a wall just outside the library that recognizes donations of varying levels.

- Temple Emeth Endowment Fund: the Founders category is closed, but Sustainers is open to gifts of \$1800.

- The Rabbi Louis J. Sigel Fund recognizes donors at the \$2500 level.

- Named funds begin at \$5000, with approval by TEEF of the donor's purpose, which must be within the mission of Temple Emeth.

Donors may add to all existing funds at any time, in any amount.

#### **How Do I Proceed?**

Please contact Suzanne Keusch, president, at 201-836-6275, or any member of the TEEF Board of Trustees.

# Minutes from the March 9, 2006 Board Meeting

While all meetings of Temple Emeth's Board of Trustees are open to any congregant, the Board suggested, starting with this issue of the Bulletin, to provide a synopsis of each monthly meeting.

President Dan Firshein updated the Board on the repairs to the Cantor's office, our Temple Administrator's contract, and upcoming events. Among other items, Rabbi Sirbu announced TE's trip to Israel in February 2007.

Assistant Treasurer Jeffrey Etzin presented the yearto-date financial position of the Synagogue.

Michael Robinson, Financial Secretary, reported that dues are 80.2% paid as of February 28.

The Nominating Committee proposed a slate of new members for next year's Board. A motion to recommend that slate was passed.

Donald Kaplan, Treasurer of the Temple Emeth Endowment Fund, gave a report on its activities. David Fox discussed the Strategic Implementation Team.

Larry Silver solicited participation for the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fund.

Dan Firshein then talked about the many activities that are new at TE including: a Women's Group, a Men's Group, and two Volunteer Coordinators.

Marc Chelemer and Maddy Wolf summarized the Board Workshop held March 5.

Committee reports were given, notably Shalach Manot, which packed 660 baskets this year with lots of help. So successful, it's being copied by other synagogues!

For the complete minutes and all attachments, please contact Marc Chelemer, Secretary, at <u>marcchele-</u><u>mer@alum.mit.edu</u>. Marc has copies of minutes for the past two years. In general, don't be a stranger to your Board of Trustees. It's here to serve you, so tell Board members what's on your mind!



If you've got a good thought, or a gripe to share about life at Temple Emeth, tell it to the Editor! We'll make every effort to publish your letter in the Bulletin. Send letters and suggestions to: Sandi Klein at sandifk@aol.com

# Services and Smachot

3 Nisan 5766

Friday, March 31

Shabbat Vayikra Shabbat Service at 8:00 p.m.

The Oneg is being sponsored by Shana and Gregory Janoff in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Arye Janoff

Saturday, April 1

#### il 1 Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m. BAR MITZVAH OF ARYE JANOFF

Torah Portion: Lev 1:1-5:26

# Haftarah: Isaiah 43:21-44:23

#### 10 Nisan 5766 Friday, April 7

#### Shabbat Tzav Family Service at 7:30 p.m.

The Oneg is being sponsored by Amy Abrams and Arnold Graber in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Elizabeth Graber

## Saturday, April 8 Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m. BAT MITZVAH OF ELIZABETH GRABER

Torah Portion: Lev 6:1-8:36

Haftarah: Malachi 3:4-24

17 Nisan 5766 Friday, April 14 Saturday, April 15 Shabbat Chol Hamoed Pesach Shabbat Service at 8:00 p.m. Tot Shabbat at 9:30 a.m. Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m. *Haftarah: Ezekiel 37:1-14* 

Torah Portion: Exodus 33:12-34:26

#### 23 Nisan 5766 Friday, April 21

Shabbat Shemini Music Service at 8:00 p.m.

The Oneg is being sponsored by Janis and Donald Hoey in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Bradford Hoey

#### Saturday, April 22 Shabbat Wo BAR MITZVAH OF BRADFORD HOEY

Haftarah: Ezekiel 45:16-25

Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Torah Portion: Exodus 35:1-40:38

# \_\_\_\_\_

1 Iyar 5766 Friday, April 28

### Shabbat Tazria-Metzora Shabbat Service at 8:00 p.m.

The Oneg is being sponsored by Giselle Heitzner and Tom Kliewe in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Ian Kliewe

Saturday, April 29

1 29 Shabbat Worship at 10:30 a.m. BAR MITZVAH OF IAN KLIEWE

Lev 12:1-15:33

Haftarah: Isaiah 66:1-13, 23

# April 2006 3 Nisan 5766 - 2 Iyar 5766



# **GOOD & WELFARE**

#### Condolences to ...

Marty Dubno on the loss of his beloved brother, Herbert Dubno

Pauline Hecht on the loss of her beloved aunt, Evelyn Kaplan

Mazel Tov to ...

Joan and David Paul on the engagement of their daughter, Victoria to Mr. James Van Zetta.

Bea & Al Westin on the birth of new grandson, Jack Dylan Westin, son of Vanda & Jeremy Westin

Get Well Wishes to ...

**Bob Spiewak** 

# Shalach Manot 2006 – Another Record Breaker!!

Well, we did it again—packed and delivered record-breaking numbers of packages, made recordbreaking numbers of people happy, and raised a record-breaking amount of money for the Temple. And didn't you just love your Temple Emeth mug?

Our thanks to the many adults, teenagers, and older children who packed and delivered our packages. The congenial afternoon of packing and the exciting day of delivering are part of the fun of this project, and it couldn't happen without each and every one of our workers. For the multitudinous minutia which ensure, behind the scenes, the success of this project, special thanks are due to: the accommodating and talented Peter Adler; the efficient Maddy Wolf; the indefatigable Vivian Gaits; the obliging Ken Hoffman; the indispensable Paul Wilson; the ubiquitous and incomparable Marc Klausner; the surprise visitor Lane Tobias; the resourceful Larry Tobias; the brawny and crucial Alex and Nick Hoffman; the energetic Rhona Herman and Mimi Sigel.

> We can't wait till next Purim—can you? Judy Fox, David Fox, and Eva Tobias

#### Get them while they last !!

A Few of Those Wonderful Temple Emeth Mugs which you received in your

> SHALACH MANOT are available for purchase. \$3.00 apiece, or 2 for \$5.00 call Judy, 201-836-0260 or e-mail jsfoxrk@aol.com



# PASSOVER ALERT!!!!

Spring is just around the corner and that means so is PASSOVER. The

Paul S. Lazar Caring Community Committee does not want anyone to be alone for the 1<sup>st</sup> Seder on Wednesday, April 12th.

Therefore, we'll help coordinate "Seder matches." Please complete the form below and leave in the CC box by Monday, April 3rd. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to call (201.837.0694) or e-mail me.

elinorcb@optonline.net

Thank you. Elinor Buchbinder

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

\_\_\_\_We would like to invite other Temple members to join our Seder.

I/We can accommodate \_\_\_\_\_\_ adults \_\_\_\_\_\_ children (ages \_\_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_We would like to join another family's Seder. I am/We are\_\_\_\_\_ adults

\_\_\_\_\_ children (ages \_\_\_\_\_)

Name

Address

Phone

Email

Thank you to all our friends at Temple Emeth for the beautiful Shalach Manot package that we received this Purim. We thank you for making us feel so much a part of Temple Emeth. Marion Schechter

n Demeenner

# **Temple Emeth College Kids**

#### By Lynne Graizel

Laura Geisenheimer who is in her junior year at Hobart & William Smith returned from Spain where she was attending Suffolk University in Madrid. Laura's course load included Latin American Short Narratives, Masterpieces of Spanish Theater, Spanish Cinema and Theory and Practices of International Relations.

...and from Leah Reiner, a junior at University of Delaware, comes this e-mail: London is terrific! The city itself is incredible. I am studying at the London College of Fashion, which is a very reputable school in the fashion industry. So, as you might imagine, I am having a blast!

Janette Rosenbaum, a junior at Mt. Holyoke,



says she'll be spending a semester at the Australian National University in Canberra.

Laura Breznick, a freshman at the University of Hartford, is going on a spring break program where she'll help excavate an old synagogue built before the Spanish Inquisition. WOW!

Marissa Dessanti, a sophomore at Washington University, is in Florence, Italy. She writes, "I'm studying art, art history, and Italian. It is very exciting to be in a place that truly celebrates art. I pass through the Piazza Vecchio and see the David on my way to class!"

So next time you see one of these fabulous young ladies, ask them more about their adventures abroad.

Next column: Another Hillel incident!!

# **Temple Emeth Gift Shop**

Come see our NEW selection of Spring merchandise



*EXCITING* Bar/Bat Mitzvah gifts and cards *ALSO* Baby, Wedding and New Home gifts

AND - Artwork by Reuven Masel - 3D Decoupage pieces for all occasions catalog available for special orders

Shhh - below suggested retail & remember -No tax

# Rabbi Joshua Trachtenberg Memorial Library <u>Update</u>:

PASSOVER IS COMING... WHAT IS GOING ON IN OUR LIBRARY? by Laurel Kane

#### ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES ACCREDITATION

This month's Temple Bulletin will arrive about two weeks before Passover, which begins on the evening of April 12<sup>th</sup>. In the weeks leading up to Passover, we will have many opportunities to broaden our knowledge of this holiday and get ideas on how to make our Seders even more special. It seems logical, almost expected, that the Library article for this month would also be about Passover. I promise that if you read this entire article, you will see the connection.

The title of this article refers to "what is going on in our Library." Throughout the year we have books, newspapers, DVDs, etc., available on many aspects of Judaism. But that is just part of the function of our Library.

Every Saturday morning, from 9:00 to 10:15, something very special happens. The library becomes a vibrant, vocal place of learning and discussion about the Torah. Rabbi Sirbu leads a discussion about a section of the Torah, from <u>The Torah - A Modern Commentary</u>, edited by W. Gunther Plaut (the same large blue book that we use during Services). Of course, these sessions include bagels, coffee, tea and other goodies, which we take turns providing. After all, who can concentrate on an empty stomach if it isn't Yom Kippur? Almost three years ago, we embarked on this educational journey, beginning with Genesis.

This Saturday, as the Temple Bulletin goes to press, we have just reached Leviticus 23, which concerns the Festival Calendar. The first holiday mentioned is Shabbat. Those of you who attend Torah Study on Shabbat . mornings know how much fun we have as we gain spiritual knowledge.

We are using our Library for one of its most important uses: studying Torah. We are not (for the most part) erudite scholars, but rather interested Jews, always asking "who, what, when, where, why, and how" of our very patient Rabbi. Often, we even help by supplying answers for him! More than twenty people come each week, offering different opinions. We gain insight into ourselves and each other, our religion, our customs and traditions, and our history.

For the next few weeks we will continue to study Leviticus 23. We will read about Shabbat, Passover, Shavuot, Sukkot, Rosh Hashanah, and Yom Kippur.

With Leviticus 25, we will be reading about slavery, and how the Israelite people must treat their slaves. Throughout this section there is reference to when the Israelites were slaves in Egypt. In fact, throughout the Torah there are frequent references to God, who freed His people from slavery in the land of Egypt and lead them to the Promised Land.

Thus, the story of Passover is an underlying thread as we read the Torah. At your Seder, when you hear the words:

If Adonai, our God, had not brought us forth from Egypt, we, and our children, and our children's children, would still be slaves...

remember that you can read about our journey, and everything that we experienced, and are told to do, by coming any Saturday morning, year-round.

Please join us.



April 2 Shofar Blowing workshop 11:00 a.m. contact Stewart May (201) 907-0823

> Interfaith Seder 2:00 p.m. contact Sy Lazar (201) 498-9563 or Art Lerman at alerman@mercy.edu

April 9 B'Yachad Breakfast 10:30 a.m. Rabbi Newmark, speaker contact Elliot Steinberg at (201) 836-3423



- April 13 Congregational Seder 6 p.m. contact Karen Sacks kssacks@optonline.net or Lori Moses lorimoses@aol.com
- April 23 Renaissance Trip to NY Botanical Gardens 11:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. contact Barbara Kaufman (201) 385-8433 or Elaine Pollack (201) 385-2085
- April 30 Yom Hashoah Service 10:00 a.m. Yom Hashoah Tree Planting 10:30 a.m.

Environmental Action Day 11:00 a.m. contact Eva Sandrof (201) 837-2241





Of the 145 delegates up for grabs in ballot-

ing for the U.S. slate to the WZO's 35th Congress of the Jewish People, 55 went to ARZA, an overwhelming victory!

Scott Dubin, campaign manager for ARZA, reacted enthusiastically, saying "It's a victory for those who want to shape Israel's agenda, with non-orthodox marriages recognized, non-orthodox converts legitimated, and non-orthodox rabbis permitted to perform those ceremonies." To those of you who voted, THANK YOU.

GIVE YOURSELVES A BIG PAT ON THE BACK!

Gloria Rose Barsky, ARZA Chair

# SAVE THE DATE

Welcome Aboard: SHABBAT NOACH

Friday, October 27 to Saturday, October 28, 2006 **NJWHVC - REGIONAL** BIENNIAL **Parsippany Hilton Hotel,** Parsippany, NJ

# **B'YACHAD BREAKFAST**

Rabbi Helga Newmark will be the guest speaker for the Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup> B'yachad breakfast starting at 10:30 a.m. The topic will be:

# "HEALING THE PAST AND PRESERVING THE FUTURE."

Please look for further information in the mid-month flyer and in the congregational e-mail. Copies will also be available in the

flyer rack opposite the Temple office. RSVP no later than April 3<sup>rd</sup>, and leave your tear off in the B'yachad box.

#### NEW MUSEUM EXHIBIT

The Museum committee held a well attended opening reception for the new exhibit, **EMETH IN ISRAEL**, Photographs by Temple members who went on the trip to Israel in August, 2005 led by Rabbi Sirbu. Thanks to all the photographers who shared their views and comments and contributed to this memorable show, which can be seen through May. Barbara Balkin, chair CELEBRATING PURIM



















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# CONTRIBUTIONS

#### **ADULT EDUCATION FUND**

Elaine & Joe Pollack in memory of Herbert Dubno, brother of Marty Dubno

#### ADULT KALLAH FUND

- Bev & Sy Lazar in memory of Evelyn Kaplan, aunt of Pauline Hecht
- Bev & Sy Lazar in honor of the engagement of Vicki Paul, daughter of Joan & David

#### **CANTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Cynthia Kitzinger in gratitude to Cantor Gail Talcoff & Robert Staffin in gratitude to Cantor Tilem

Gail Talcoff & Robert Staffin in gratitude to Cantor Goldman

#### **CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND**

Judith Bitterman in memory of Herbert Dubno, brother of Marty Dubno

Temple Emeth College Kids in memory of Herbert Dubno, brother of Marty Dubno

Jacqueline & Howard Guttman in honor of Peter Adler's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday

Jacqueline & Howard Guttman in honor of Teri & Fred Binder's new home

Bev & Sy Lazar in memory of Herbert Dubno, brother of Marty Dubno

#### **ILANA HED RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND**

Gail Talcoff & Robert Staffin in gratitude to Marc Chelemer, Steve Leeman & Marc Klausner

Lesley & Gene Marsilio in gratitude to Michael Baer & Mark Klausner

The Membership Committee in memory of Enid Broder

The Etzin family in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Naomi Scher

#### LIBRARY FUND

Mary Jane Ferziger in memory of Elsie Albert

#### **DORIS & NED SINER MUSIC FUND**

Lynne & Bill Graizel in honor of Carol Shansky's birthday

Lesley & Gene Marsilio in gratitude to Cantor Tilem

and Cantor Goldman

Lesley & Gene Marsilio in gratitude to Elliot Plotkin

Jacki & Ron Arams in honor of Carol Shansky's birthday

Kathy, Seth, Ethan & Jacob McGowan in gratitude to Elliot Plotkin

#### PAUL S. LAZAR CARING COMMUNITY FUND

Carlene & Seymour Fleishman in honor of the special birthday of Nan Badian

Carlene & Seymour Fleishman in gratitude to Beverly Lazar

#### Lenore Krigsman

Sid Broder, Jonathan & Melissa express their gratitude for the many messages of condolence that they have received in memory of their beloved wife and mother, Enid Broder

#### **RABBI SIRBU'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Gail Talcoff & Robert Staffin in gratitude to Rabbi

Sid Broder in gratitude to Rabbi

Elinor & Richard Buchbinder in gratitude to Rabbi

Lesley & Gene Marsilio in gratitude to Rabbi Cynthia Kitzinger in gratitude to Rabbi

#### SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Gail Talcoff & Robert Staffin in gratitude to Jim Chiappini, David Kohane & Eva Sandrof

Cathy & David Bicofsky sending Purim Greetings to their Temple friends at this time of Shalach Manot

#### **TEMPLE EMETH BEAUTIFICATION FUND**

Bea & Alan Westin in honor of the special birthday of Nan Badian

In memory of Max Kotkin, father of Stan Kotkin

In memory of Enid Broder

Sending special birthday wishes to Ruth Adler

Sending special birthday wishes to Bev Lazar

#### CONTRIBUTIONS **TEMPLE EMETH FUND**

Kathy, Seth, Ethan & Jacob McGowan in gratitude to Rabbi Sirbu, Cantor Tilem, Cantor Goldman, Marc Klausner, & Judy Fox for helping to prepare Ethan for his Bar Mitzvah

Estelle & Bob Spiewak in gratitude to the **Caring Community** 

#### **YAHRZEIT FUND**

Judith Bitterman in memory of Isidore Schorr Shirley Rosenzweig in memory of Rose Cohen Judith Bitterman in memory of Pauline Bitterman Joan Betty Schwarz in memory of Helen Peck Samuels

Bev & Sy Lazar in memory of Paul Lazar

Barbara Smolin in memory of Blanche & Edward Smolin

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# DON'T FORGET TO BUY SCRIP

Gift cards can be purchased at the Temple:

Office 9:00AM - 5:00PM Monday to Thursday 9:00AM - 2:00PM Friday Main Lobby 10:30 -11:30AM Sunday morning

Shop 10:00AM - 1:00PM Sunday Gift

or by contacting gift card captains:

Ted Greenwood	Don Kaplan	Sy Lazar	
201-692-8156	201-568-5189	201-498-9563	





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