

Beth Israel — The West Temple

BULLETIN

April 1999 * Nisan/Iyar 5759

PLANTING SEEDS

Recently, we had the pleasure of being interviewed by the third- and fourth-grade Religious School students taught by Rhoda Rosen. Mrs. Rosen's students were very well-prepared with lots of interesting questions. It's obvious that they are a curious, thoughtful group and we enjoyed meeting and talking with each of them.

Their goal for the interview was to find out what the president of a congregation does -- and a lot of you probably wonder the same thing sometimes. We could provide a long list of tasks that we do on a daily, weekly and monthly basis -- some interesting, some boring, some frustrating, and some incredibly gratifying (such as that interview!), but here's the job in a nutshell. Basically, we're doing our best to keep our ship (Beth Israel) on course with the help of dedicated officers (the Board members) and energetic crew (all of you!). There are principles and rules to guide us as leaders but -- as in any voyage -- it's critical to stay alert to changing conditions around us and on board.

The most time-consuming job of the presidents is to acquire, analyze and categorize all the information that comes our way each day. Then we prioritize issues, place them before the Board and work out solutions.

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We also see that the information is communicated to you and we look for your response -- then the cycle starts again. By keeping clear channels of communication open, we hope that you feel involved, as an important, contributing part of Beth Israel -- and that your thoughts, ideas, opinions and needs are being adequately addressed by your leadership.

Mrs. Rosen's students also wanted to know what was the best part of being president of Beth Israel. Probably planting the seeds of leadership with our students -- letting them know that some day they will have the opportunity to guide a congregation into the future, whether as president, Board member or active participant. It's a role we can all model for our future members.

CONGREGATIONAL SURVEY

Thanks to all of you who took time to respond to the recent congregational survey. What a great response! We received 65 replies -- almost 50 percent of all members. That is remarkable

-- and speaks to the high level of importance all of us place on the critical issues that were addressed. The information that you provided will guide us and the Board going forward. We are reviewing, compiling and analyzing the surveys and will have a full report in the mail as soon as possible.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

The vote on the constitutional amendments has finally concluded with the approval of the amendments. According to the Beth Israel constitution, the amendments will not go into effect until the next general membership meeting, which will be in July at the beginning of the new fiscal year. Thanks to all who took the time to vote on this important issue.

OUTREACH PLAN

Congratulations and thanks to Michael Palnik on the development of two excellent information packets designed to inform potential members and welcome new ones. The role of the Membership Committee is vital to the future of Beth Israel. Please contact Michael if you are interested in working on this important effort.

45th ANNIVERSARY UPDATE
This work of preparing for the
celebration of our 45th
anniversary is under way. Our

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Co-Presidents: Maryellen Kohn & Barbara Schwartz
Dir. Of Congregational and Family Education: Enid C Lader
Religious School Administrator: Rhoda Rosen
Editor: Linda Kramer
Production Coordinator: Doris Rieff

focus is achieving accessibility to the temple building for all folks -- something we can all get behind. The anniversary celebration and fund-raising will be a combined effort.

Fund-raising: First vice presidents George & Barbara Rolleston.

Social: Second vice presidents Shellie Sedlak & Susan Wagner.

Buildings & Grounds: Rick Keller.

We're also grateful to Harold Friedman and John Goodworth for volunteering to head up the research on accessibility options. Please call any one of these folks to add your name to the committee. It's going to be a wonderful project.

Wishing you and yours a warm and kosher Pesach.

Shalom,

Maryellen Kohn Barbara Schwartz Co-Presidents

Education Notes

By Enid Lader Director of Congregational & Family Education

The month of April finds us welcoming spring and the contemporary Jewish holidays, which come at this time of year. Our Tuesday Hebrew classes will host services for Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day) at 6:45 p.m. April 13. The following week, at 6:45 p.m. April 20, we will remember those who gave their lives for Israel during Yom Ha-Zicaron and celebrate the rebirth of Israel, Yom Ha-Atzmaut, with a special service. All parents and members of the congregation are invited to attend.

Tot Shabbat is 10:30 a.m. Saturday, April 10. The youngest members of our congregation and friends are invited to celebrate Shabbat with songs, stories, crafts and refreshments. Please RSVP to the temple office, (216) 941-8882.

Circle of Friends will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, April 19. The women and friends of the congregation are invited to celebrate the new month of Iyar -- Rosh Chodesh Iyar -- with prayer, song and convivial conversation at the home of Robin Kaufman, 28591 Stonegate Circle, Westlake. Our special quest for the evening is Helene Weinberg, leading us in a discussion of "In and Out of the Home: Working Hard - And Proud of It!" RSVP to Rhoda Rosen at (440) 234-9575 or Robin at (440) 899-1111.

Shabbat Morning Torah Study continues each Saturday at 9:30 a.m. This month, we take a closer look at the book of Leviticus: Why all these rules and what do they mean to me? What, you want to come but think that you can't because you'll be lost? Each week we review from the past and catch up with the present -- no one is left behind. But I don't know Torah; how can I even have anything to say? Each participant brings a fresh new look to the text; we welcome your comments.

April 3: Shabbat during Pesach, special Torah portion -- Ex.33:12-34:26.

April 10: Shemini, Lev. 9:1-11:47 -- Continuation of the installation of the priests; Aaron's sons Nadav and Avihu die; discussion about drunkenness; dietary laws.

April 17: Tazria/Metzorah, Lev. 12:1-15:33 -- Discussion of childbirth, leprosy, spots, discoloration on houses and various fluids.

April 24: Acharey
Mot/Kedoshim, Lev. 16:1-20:27 -From the Yom Kippur service to
forbidden relations; the
Holiness Laws and penalties.
Lev. 19 is one of the most
famous in terms of how we are to
treat each other.

LETTERS

Thanks

On behalf of the members of Beth Israel - the West Temple, I would like to thank Frank & Nancy Eilberg for their donation of the repairs to the Torah breastplate. They were able to clean, polish and repair the breastplate and return it to its original beauty when it was donated to Beth Israel by one of our confirmation classes.

I would also like to thank Enid Lader, Allison Winokur, Glenn Butt and the members of BITSY for the wonderful Purim service that they led for families. Kudos to Barbara Schecter and our other to-doers for the delicious hamentaschen.

Todah Rabbah to Enid Lader, Shosh Ault and Rabbi Lettofsky for leading Shabbat services.

Chag Sameach and Happy Passover.

Scott Machol Ritual Chair

Greetings from Office Coordinator

I am here to help you. If you drop off a written message for me when I am not in the office, please be sure to date it and sign your name so that I'll know who to contact if I have any questions. Thank you!

Pat Outlaw Office Coordinator

NEW LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

By Bob Roth

FOR CHILDREN

TEN CLASSIC JEWISH CHILDREN'S STORIES, retold by Peninnah Schram. For ages 6-9. Classic stories that have become part of the legacy linking the written tradition (Torah) and the oral tradition (Talmud) to the Jewish people. Includes "Teach Me on One Foot," "Honi the Rainmaker" and "Drop by Drop." Plus interactive "Now Consider This" questions that highlight the main theme of each story.

WHEN MINDY SAVED HANUKKAH, by Eric A. Kimmel. For ages 4-7. Once upon a time, a little family named Klein lived behind the walls of the Eldridge Street Synagogue. It was right before Hanukkah and time to make the candles. Everyone waited for Papa to come home. He had gone out to find one big candle so

they could make plenty of little ones. But instead, Papa came home with a sprained ankle. The enormous cat that had moved into the temple to chase away the mice had chased Papa! Now how would they get candles for their menorah?

CLOUDS OF GLORY, by Miriam Chaikin. For children in the middle grades. This is a book of legends and stories about Bible times. Where is God? Who are the Angels? The Bible holds the answers to questions and puzzles raised in Bible texts...if you know how to look. The body of Jewish literature known as Midrash, which is Hebrew for "to search and explain," consists of stories that have arisen to answer such perplexing questions. Established rabbinic Midrashim about the Book of Genesis are here retold with freshness, wit and clarity.

RED, BLUE AND YELLOW YARN, by Miriam R. Kosman. For grades 3-6. Donny isn't sure what his

Neal M. Kaufman, D.D.S. Specialist in Child & Adult Orthodontics



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grandmother thinks of him. She is so proper and his behavior is far from perfect. Yet, when Donny gets tangled up in some trouble, Bubbe reveals the secret that all grandmothers and grandchildren share.

CRAFTS FOR HANUKKAH, by Kathy Ross. A book of 20 simple crafts especially designed for young children. There are games to play and gifts to give, and even a special Hanukkah book to store all your favorite memories in.

THE JEWISH HOLIDAY CRAFT BOOK, by Kathy Ross. Another craft book, this time for the whole year.

FOR ADULTS: FICTION

THE FIFTH SON, by Elie Wiesel. Reuven Tamiroff, a Holocaust survivor, has never been able to speak about his past to his son, a young man who yearns to understand his father's silence. As campuses burn midst the unrest of the 60s and his own generation rebels, the son is drawn to his father's circle of wartime friends in search of clues to the past. Finally discovering that his brooding father has been haunted for years by his role in the murder of a brutal SS officer just after the war, young Tamiroff learns that the Nazi is still alive. Haunting, poetic and very contemporary, "The Fifth Son" builds to an unforgettable climax as the son sets out to complete his father's act of revenge.

FOR ADULTS: NON-FICTION

PARENTING AS A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY, by Rabbi Nancy Fuchs-Kreimer. "Parenting as a Spiritual Journey" shows, by looking at a typical day's

routine, how even the seemingly insignificant moments in a day with your child can be full of spiritual meaning. From waking up in the morning to bedtime at night, there are so many opportunities for parent and child to connect in a spiritual way. Fuchs-Kreimer helps us see those possibilities, revealing how parents can come to recognize, understand and appreciate the joys, insecurities, wonder and awe that can contribute to the spiritual fulfillment of raising children.

TURBULENT SOULS: A CATHOLIC SON'S RETURN TO HIS JEWISH FAMILY by Stephen J. Dubner. "Turbulent Souls" is a luminous memoir, crafted with the eye of a journalist and the art of a novelist. By turns comic and heartbreaking, it tells the story of a family torn apart by religion, sustained by faith and reunited by the truth that is revealed in these pages.

SWIMMING IN THE SEA OF TALMUD, by Michael Katz & Gershon Schwartz. If you have found the study of the Talmud daunting, "Swimming in the Sea of Talmud" is a perfect jumping off point for this central body of rabbinic literature; it helps apply the Talmud's lessons to the issues and conflicts of modern life, including business ethics, sexuality, family dynamics and their connection to a satisfying and meaningful life.

Condolences to the family of Ona Griswold on the death of her mother

LILA TRAUB

TEMPLE TIDBITS

CONGRATULATIONS to Harold and Ruth Friedman, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary March 27.

DR. ABE SILVERSTEIN will be honored at Gates of Freedom, a gala celebration marking the 10th anniversary of the great Soviet Jewish aliyah to Israel. Silverstein, a founding member of Beth Israel and of the Cleveland Council on Soviet Jewry, will be saluted along with 14 other Soviet Jewry activists in the Cleveland area.

The brunch begins at 11:30 a.m. May 16 at Executive Caterers at Landerhaven. It is sponsored by Greater Cleveland State of Israel Bonds.

There is a charge. For more information, call (216) 751-3984 or (800) 752-5667.

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD has been presented to Lou and Evy Rosenblum by the Western Reserve Historical Society.

The Rosenblums have been volunteering with the Jewish

Archives at the historical society for the past 15 years, processing manuscript collections donated by synagogues, organizations and individuals.

Beth Israel donated files to the archives in 1980. These had been collected by Bernard and Sheila Eckstein.

Evy is compiling a second collection to be donated and stored in an archival environment for safe-keeping. Needed are certain Bulletins from 1980-88, 1995-98 and 1957-61. The temple office has a complete set of Bulletins but those will remain here for our use.

If you can help, call Evy or the temple office.

JUST RETURNING from two weeks in England and Scotland are Lona Gruber and son Larry, who lives in Chicago. They visited Edinburgh, Loch Ness, London (even catching a glimpse of the Queen), Shakespeare's home in Stratford-on-Avon and the Lake Country. It's a trip Lona and her late husband, Herb, had planned to take before his death in 1982.

TAX DEDUCTION!!

At this time of year, what grabs our attention more than those two little words? Well, here is an opportunity for you to boost your tax deductibility for next year's filing.

Are you upgrading the computers in your home or office? If so, why not donate your gently used and still useful "old" computers to Beth Israel - the West Temple? We can put them to good use in our office, school and library. Peripherals are welcome too -- such as printers, modems or scanners. If you have software (productivity tools, telecom, educational titles) that you are no longer using, they are welcome as well. Let us know what you have and where to pick it up. Just call or fax the temple office and we'll be there!

COLLEGE FINANCIAL AID for the 1999 academic year is available through the Jewish Family Service Association of Cleveland.

Deadline for application is April 16.

The JFSA awards grants, interest-free loans and scholarships.

For more information, call (216) 378-3429.

CONTRIBUTIONS

General Fund

Richard Feigenbaum in memory of Janet Feigenbaum and Fred Feigenbaum.

Michael & Beryl Palnik in memory of Marvin Goldberg.

Linda Kramer in memory of father, Myron F. Kramer, and grandmother, Ada Ludwig Moyer. * Roger, Judy, Matthew & Shaina Friedman in memory of Janet Feigenbaum, Janet Goodworth & Mary Koshel and in honor of Matt's Bar Mitzvah.

Library Fund

Rick & Maria Bloom in memory of Lori Shymske's mother, Agnes

The Green-Shymske Families in appreciation of Enid Lader.

Donald & Marilyn Bogart in honor of Ruth & Harold Friedman's Golden Wedding Anniversary and in memory of Bernie Schwartz.

* In memory of Ron Berman from Paula Jacobson, John & Myrna Pendery, Bernie & Barbara Gordon, Sid & Lisa Feldman, Mark & Lolita Spiro and Neal & Robin Kaufman.

Rabbinic Discretionary Fund Barbara & Bernie Gordon for Chanukah presentation for Adam's school.

Enid Lader in honor of success of Circle of Friends.

* Correction to February Bulletin

APRIL

Student Birthdays

- Deborah Mason
- 14 Samuel Jacobson
- 22 Sarah Brehm
- 24 Rachel Kaplan
- Sean Kleve 25
- 28 Michael Robinson
- 29 Joseph Spiro

Wedding Anniversaries

- Dan & Carole Litt
 - Craig & Roberta Newman
- Louis & Linda Goldman
- 7 Martin & Susan Asztalos
- 10 Willy & Phyllis Sapell
- 15 Robert & Shellie Sedlak

The entire congregation is invited to join in celebration and worship as

JILLIAN ALTUS

is called to the Torah daughter of Gene and Cindy Altus as a Bat Mitzvah 10:30 a.m. Saturday April 24



A special kiddush and light lunch will follow in Ratner Hall after the service.

Civil dates correspond to Hebrew calendar, unless followed by ****.

Satur	day, April 3 - 17 Nisan
3/28	Boris Goldberg
3/29	Max Briskman
3/30	Vera Wharton ****
3/31	Samuel Mesiboff
4/1	Harold Feldman
	Edna Smilgoff
4/2	Eva Gartner
	Charlie Gluck
	Irwin L. Newman
	John Nussbaum
	Harriet Goldberg

April 10 - 24 Nisan
na Mark
ma Caron
rold Altus
onard M. Reingold
se Seldin
ry Jacenty ****
oria Wax
ke Benes
ndra Schwartz
fredo Flores

Abraham Melnick

Satur	day, April 17 -	1	Iyar
4/11	Jonathan Schoe	en	
B.F. Suffer	Faye Schwebel		
4/14	Henry Stone		

4/15 Sally Figler 4/17 Irving Schecter

Saturday, April 24 - 8 Iyar 4/21 Lucille Deren Jerome Rosen Gussie Lieberman 4/22 4/23 Michael Fendrich Miriam Rosenblum

Saturday, May 1 - 15 Iyar Ruth Goldman 4/25 Henry M. Rand Helene Weber 4/27 Donna Lezberg Charles Gedo 4/28 Melville Folkman 4/29 Flora Fleischman 4/30 Eisenstein Raquel Klipstein-Hauser Malvina Gluck

5/1

Saturday, May 8 - 22 Iyar Morton Lenker , Irving Reingold Margaret Fodor 5/5 Herbert Kohn Henry Welch Harry Lubitz 5/6 Sidney Balick 5/7 Lisa Mancher

Anna Priesand

PARTICIPATION SCHEDULE

Friday April 2: Laura Folkman & Andrew Eilberg, ushers; Susan Nussbaum, candles; Susan Nussbaum & Grossman Family, oneg

Saturday, April 3: Matt Friedman & Shaina Friedman, ushers; Jim Feldman, aliyah; Craig Newman, hagbah; Blanche Caron, galilah; Friedman Family, oneg hosts.

Friday, April 9: Ben Kaplan & Alex Keller, ushers; Roberta Provder, candles; Kathryn Hale & Jacobson Family, oneg hosts.

Saturday, April 10: Joel Pendery & Leslie Pendery, ushers; Alice Mark, aliyah; Mark Wax, hagbah; Braanda Schwartz, galilah; Pendery Family, oneg hosts.

Friday, April 16: Jessica Schecter & Amanda Schoen, ushers; Dorothy Lubitz, candles; Robert & Ilene Brehm and Art & Dee Gold, oneg hosts.

Saturday, April 17: Megan Abady & Jason Abady, ushers; Barry Schecter, aliyah; Ken Cooper, hagbah; Mindy Bedrossian, galilah; Abady Family, oneg hosts.

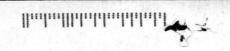
Friday, April 23: Goodworth Family and Karl & Dorothy Lubitz, oneg hosts.

Saturday, April 24: Bat Mitzvah of Jillian Altus.

April 1999

Tue Wed Thu Sun Mon Fri 6:30 PM 8:00 PM Erev 9:30 AM Torah Community Seder Shabbat Service Study PASSOVER **PASSOVER** 10:45 AM Torah Service **PASSOVER** FIRST SEDER - MARCH 31 10 NO SCHOOL NO SCHOOL **PASSOVER** 7:30 PM Yizkor PASSOVER 8:00 PM Erev 9:30 AM Torah PASSOVER **PASSOVER** Shabbat Service Study Service 10:30 AM Tot PASSOVER Shabbat 10:45 AM Torah Service 11 12 13 15 17 16 9:55 AM School 6:00 PM Hebrew 7:30 PM Board 8:00 PM Shared 9:30 AM Torah Meeting Shabbat Service Study 6:45 PM Yom 10:45 AM Torah Hashoah Service Congregational Retreat Service Congregational Retreat 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 9:55 AM School 7:30 PM Circle of 6:00 PM Hebrew Israel 8:00 PM Erev 9:30 AM Torah 10:30 AM Adult Ed Friends Independence Day Shabbat Service Study 6:45 PM Yom 10:30 AM Jillian Fourth Friday in HaZicharon/ Ratner Hall Altus Bat Mitzvah Yom Ha-Atz. Service 27 30 26 28 29 9:55 AM School 6:00 PM Hebrew

Beth Israel-The West Temple



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Service Schedule

Thursday, April 1, First Day of Passover, Second Seder at Strosacker College Union, Baldwin-Wallace College, 6:30 p.m. Seder Leader - Enid Lader

Friday, April 2, Erev Shabbat 8:00 p.m. Service Leader - Shosh Ault

Saturday, April 3, Torah Study 9:30 a.m., Torah Service 10:45 a.m. Service Leader - Rabbi Alan Lettofsky

Wednesday, April 7, Yizkor Service 7:30 p.m. Service Leader - Enid Lader

Friday, April 9, Erev Shabbat 8:00 p.m. Service Leader - Enid Lader

Saturday, April 10, Torah Study 9:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat 10:30 a.m.,
Torah Service 10:45 a.m.
Service Leader - Shosh Ault

Tuesday, April 13, Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day Services 6:45 p.m. Friday, April 16, Erev Shabbat 8:00 p.m. Service Leader - Shosh Ault

Saturday, April 17, Torah Study 9:30 a.m., Torah Service 10:45 a.m. Service Leader - Shosh Ault

Tuesday, April 20, Yom HaZicaron (remembering those who gave their lives for Israel) and Yom HaAtzmaut (Israel Independence Day) services 6:45 p.m.

Friday, April 23, Erev Shabbat 8:00 p.m. Service Leader - Enid Lader

Saturday, April 24, Bat Mitzvah of Jillian Altus, 10:30 a.m.

Friday, April 30, Erev Shabbat 8:00 p.m. Service Leaders - BITSY

Saturday, May 1, Torah Study 9:30 a.m. Torah Service 10:45 a.m. Service Leader - Rabbi Alan Lettofsky