

The April 2010 Shofar

Temple Beth El, 3 Marion Avenue, Glens Falls, New York 12801

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Affiliate member of the URJ since 1950



Pizza & A Movie Night Saturday, April 10 at 7 p.m. Defiance



Daniel Craig stars as Tuvia Bielski, one of four Jewish brothers who escape from Poland into the forests of Belarus during World War II to lead a band of resistance fighters and create a safe haven for Jewish refugees. The real-life sanctuary established by the Bielski brothers saved more than 1,000 Jews from persecution and death. Liev Schreiber, Jamie Bell and George Mackay also star in this moving historical drama based on actual events.

Rated: R (Restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.)

Chai Society Breakfast Sunday, April 18 at 9:15 a.m.

Bernice Mennis will raise a few questions and explore some thoughts on language and loss: what happened to the German language under Nazism; what happened to Yiddish when immigrants came to America; and how certain authors learned to speak the mother tongue in a new land. She will comment upon these topics in the context of George Steiner's *Language and Silence*, Irena Klepfisz' *A Few Words in the Mother Tongue*, and Anzia Yezierska's stories.

Bernice Mennis taught literature and writing for twelve years in Great Meadows Correctional Facility as part of Skidmore College's University Without Walls and for twenty five years in Vermont College's Adult Degree Program. In *Breaking Out of Prison: a guide to consciousness, compassion, and freedom*, she explores ways to "break out of prison" in order to come to greater awareness, reflecting on experiences in her own life and on her years teaching and learning.

The breakfast chef for this program will be Sandy Searleman.

Rabbi Richard J. Sobel Scholar-in-Residence Lecture Series

On Sunday, May 16th and Sunday, May 23rd, 2010, at 1:00 p.m., Temple Beth El will proudly host the first Rabbi Richard J. Sobel Scholar-in-Residence Lecture, sponsored by the Chai Society and supported by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York. Dr. Peter S. Zaas, Ph.D., Professor of Religious Studies at Siena College, and the Director of the Kieval Institute for Jewish-Christian Studies, will be our presenter. Dr. Zaas has lectured extensively on a wide variety of subjects of interest to both Jews and Christians. His two-part lecture series is entitled, "Seeing Ourselves as Others See Us: Jewish and Christian Views of the Other". This first program is designed to reach out to the Greater Glens Falls community and surrounding areas. The topic will be of interest to Temple and Synagogue members, as well as unaffiliated Jews, former Temple members and interfaith couples, as well as representatives of different faith communities. Dr. Zaas' lectures will be followed by refreshments and a question-and-answer period. As Rabbi Durbin regularly reminds us, "Don't be the person to miss this special program!"

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RABBI'S MESSAGE

Spirituality is the rage of our age! Yet, as a Jewish religious leader, I sometimes struggle on this New Age word, and use the term apologetically. It's vague. What should it mean to Jews? We have been reading from the middle book of the Torah, *Vayikra*, which includes the Holiness Code. It sets out the Jewish definition of spirituality. We understand it not only in terms of our covenantal relationship with God, but in our behavior to each other. Righteous behavior and moral living create spirituality in every aspect of our existence, outside the sanctuary as well as in it. Holiness keeps us going. But it's not always so easy to achieve.

Only God lives in the full brightness. We catch the occasional glimpse—if we're alert. Yet, if only a glimpse, *dayenu*, it is enough to replenish our inner self. Occasionally, as Martin Buber taught, we may have an I—Thou relationship with someone or something, or even more awe-inspiring, an I—Eternal Thou relationship. It is the ultimate intimate relationship that is affirming of our being. It is the affirmation to all our existential doubts. Sometimes we will get it; sometimes not. Life is fluid and dynamic, bright and dark, sacred and profane.

But if we're open and aware, we can perhaps glimpse the spark that brightens our days and brings warmth to our coldest moments.

Jewish spirituality includes regular prayer, for it is only through prayer that we learn to pray. Admittedly, prayer can be mechanical. But not every concert makes our hearts soar, either. The great moment can only be experienced in the hall; you have to be there. Prayer is the conduit to *kedushah*, to sacred moments and relationships. Once in awhile, the door opens a crack and we see and sometimes it happens at the strangest times.

Faith in adversity sometimes helps us confront the harsh realities of daily existence. While there is no word in the Torah for recession, Judaism does offer us significant help in trying economic times. We are taught to be compassionate to others' losses without judgment. Moreover, more than our net worth, our character is what matters. Our worth is measured not by our financial accounts, but by our *mentschlichkeit*. None of us would choose the uncertainty and the darkness of the present economy or want to live in times of fear and anxiety, but what we make of adversity is ultimately up to us. Our spirit may be battered by the economy, but our inner strength is ultimately determined by our own determination and our will. Whether confronting a sick economy or physical illness a little bit of *chutzpah* and a lot of perspective about what is ultimately important determines the essence of our character and the spirit of our lives.

It is easy to determine what we have lost. Let us also remember to acknowledge what we have. We all want a healthier economy, but what we all need is a clear enough head to remember what is the core of our being and which values we cherish most. We need to see more clearly what is essential and to use our minds, our words and ultimately our energy to constructively shape our present and build for a values-based foundation upon which to create our economic and our spiritual life.

What we worship is what we become! Too many in our culture were seduced to invert what is of primary importance in their lives. Doing godly deeds for our loved ones, for ourselves, and even for those whom we do not know, can build a veritable empire of wealth. If there is a silver lining in these uncertain economic times then we, like the Children of Israel in Biblical times, may move away from idolatry, from worshipping what is secondary and see, do and cherish what is of real value. Only then will our net worth and our self worth grow in ways for the better. At the end of the day, we do not live in these cloudy times alone. So let me share with you a little secret: God is also with us!

God's eyes are our eyes. God's ears are ours. It is up to us what God will see and hear and maybe even what God will do. We must take up this responsibility and act for God on this earth. Such is the meaning of the brightness and the possibility of *kedushah*, of spirituality.

Spring's beauty and brightness can inspire us to look at the world and know that we are seeing it through God's eyes. Let us remember each day to look anew at our hands and know that these are the hands of God. Even though our net worth has diminished in our bank accounts, with our hands, God's hands, we can create rich new blessings!



YOM HASHOAH

LIGHT A YELLOW CANDLE TO REMEMBER THOSE WHO PERISHED

It has been over sixty years since Nazi concentrations camps were liberated, and the Holocaust that claimed six million Jewish lives came to an end. To ensure that the six million did not die in vain and that the Holocaust never happens again, Temple Beth El will join Jews and others throughout North America by participating in the *Yom HaShoah* Yellow Candle Program.

As the years pass, the memories of those who fell victim to the ultimate hate crime must not diminish. That is why we are encouraging your family and every family in Temple Beth El to light just one Yellow Candle on the night of Sunday, April 11, 2010. When each family lights a Yellow Candle it increases the awareness of the Holocaust and perpetuates our commitment to our people.

The memory is important because the number of Holocaust survivors is diminishing with each passing day. As we lose this precious link, those who deny the Holocaust ever happened gain strength. Sadly, 20% of all high school students lack any knowledge of the Holocaust.

Yom HaShoah candles are a highly visible symbol for keeping the flame alive. Their color recalls the badges Jews were forced to wear in Nazi-occupied Europe, but their flame inspires hope that we can yet make our world a tolerant place to live.

Now, unlike past years when we mailed a candle to each member, we are requesting that you contact Katie Weaver at the Temple (792-4364) to make arrangements to pick up your candle(s) and make a *tzedakah* donation of \$18 (or more) per candle. Please make your check payable to Temple Beth El Brotherhood. (We also accept Visa, MasterCard and Discover.)

Shalom,

Sandy Searleman

Yom HaShoah Chairman

March 2010

Yom HaShoah

[From www.urj.org]

Yom HaShoah, also known as Holocaust Remembrance Day, occurs on the 27th of Nisan. *Shoah*, which means catastrophe or utter destruction in Hebrew, refers to the atrocities that were committed against the Jewish people during World War II. This is a memorial day for those who died in the *Shoah*.

The *Shoah* (also known as the Holocaust, from a Greek word meaning "sacrifice by fire,") was initiated by the members of the National Socialist (Nazi) Party, which seized power in Germany in 1933. The Nazis believed in a doctrine of racial superiority, centering around the idea that people of Northern European descent were somehow better than members of all other races – especially the Jews, who were "unworthy of life."

After taking power, the Nazis gradually restricted the rights of German Jewish citizens and encouraged their followers to commit acts of violence and destruction against Jews and their property. During World War II (1939-1945), the Nazis implemented their "final solution," a plan to concentrate and annihilate all European Jews. Jews were first crammed together in ghettos and slave-labor camps, where disease, brutality, and malnutrition ran rampant. Eventually, they were sent to death camps, where millions were murdered in special facilities designed to kill a tremendous number of people over a brief period of time. In addition to the six million Jews who died - two-thirds of the European Jewish population – the Nazis also killed millions of others, including Roma (Gypsies) and Slavs, political and religious dissidents, the handicapped, and gays and lesbians.



Plaut Torah Commentaries

Temple Beth El has received fifty Plaut Torah Commentaries, thanks to the generosity of Holy Blossom Temple and Rabbi Yael Splansky of Toronto, Ontario, the networking skills of Rabbi Durbin and the kindness of Geri and Norman Durbin. The Rabbi's parents transported the Commentaries to Temple Beth El when they visited us during the weekend of March 12th. They will certainly be welcome during Torah services, Torah studies and Temple classes. The Board has forwarded a letter of appreciation to Rabbi Splansky, the Congregation and President Larry Babins of Holy Blossom and book plates acknowledging the generosity of our friends at Holy Blossom will be placed in each of the Commentaries. Thank you, Rabbi Durbin, Geri and Norman Durbin, Rabbi Splansky and Larry Babins for your cooperative efforts to bring us this generous gift.

9th Annual Glens Falls North Country/Saratoga Event

We urge all members of Temple Beth El to attend the 9th Annual Glens Falls North Country/Saratoga Event on Sunday, May 23, 7:00 p.m., at the Saratoga City Center.

The event features Professor Stephen M. Berk, Professor of History at Union College. He is an author, TV commentator, and spellbinding orator. The topic, "Obama, Netanyahu, and the Search for Peace" is most timely. It includes a sumptuous hors d'oeuvres and dessert reception and promises to be a most memorable and enlightening evening.

Federation is generous to the Glens Falls Jewish community and specifically to our synagogue. In addition, Federation funds many programs and services which help and serve our individual members.

Temple member, Michael Seidel, is an event chair.

The cost of the event is \$30.00 pp. Reservations can be made by calling Mary Ringwood at 783-7800 ext. 229 or on-line at www.jewishfedny.org.

TSRS Honors Rabbi Sobel

The TSRS annual Purim carnival was held on February 28th at the Synagogue. All of the students, and some parents, had a great time playing games and winning prizes. It was fantastic to see both of our Rabbis dressed for the occasion. My favorite part of the carnival was watching the parents who grew up in our religious school playing some of the same games with their own children that they once played themselves. I owe a special thank you to Ben Cohen, Vance Cohen, and everyone who helped organize, set up, and run the carnival. My thanks to Jack and Lois Hellman as well for making delicious falafels.

During the community luncheon on March 14th, the religious school had a special ceremony to honor Rabbi Richard Sobel. Elaine Sobel spoke to the gathering of students, parents, and community members about the Rabbi's passion for teaching and helping students. It was amazing to see how many lives of the people in the room had been touched by Rabbi Sobel. Several couples had been married by the Rabbi and almost everyone in the room, both young and old, had been a student of his at one point in time. One of his former students, Sara Rice, was also invited to speak about the Rabbi and what he meant to her as a teacher, mentor, and friend. I also took this opportunity to present the Rabbi Richard J. Sobel Distinguished Service Award. The award plaque states:

"Rabbi Sobel served as a teacher, spiritual leader, and friend during his service to the Temple Synagogue Religious School from 1980 - 2006. He shared his knowledge of Judaism with the students and encouraged them to reach their full potential. The recipients of this award exemplify Rabbi Sobel's dedication and distinguished service to the school."

Finally, I would like to include what Avery Hill, one of our 6th grade students, said when asked to share her experiences about the religious school.

"I feel like I have learned a lot and have had fun learning it. Like our class made up a play for Purim and put it in our own way in a school setting. Rabbi Durbin has helped make it fun and if we don't understand what we are learning, he will explain it better. When it's time to go to Sunday and Hebrew school, I am looking forward to it!"

Sincerely, Adam Fine, TSRS Director



Mazel Tov

To Rachel Swart, a Temple Beth El member and daughter of Judy Jacobs and James Swart. Nominated by Dawn Green, her school counselor. Rachel was one of 20 area high students (out of 70 nominees) honored at a recent Teen Excellence Awards breakfast at the Queensbury Hotel. In justifying her nomination Ms. Green described Rachel as "a silent leader who leads by example. She never needs to be center-stage to do great things."

Among the school activities that Rachel participated in are Key Club, National Honor Society and Tutoring (of Special Educational Students.) Additionally Rachel has given her time and energy to an impressive array of Community Programs including Special Olympics, Shamrock Shuffle, Hometown Thanksgiving, Women's Shelter, Double H Ranch, Locks for Love, Relay for Life, Book Drive for Teach America, Temple Beth El Youth Program, Crandall Public Library as a library aide and Camp Meadowbrook as a Junior Camp Counselor.

In response to the question of whom she most admires Rachel said, "My parents; they taught me to give back to the community that raised me."

Temple Beth El can be proud to claim this bright young woman (and her parents) as members of our community.

Mazel Tov

To Sara, Dan and Sofia Rae Rice on the birth of their daughter and new sister, Mattea Rose, who was born on February 26, 2010.

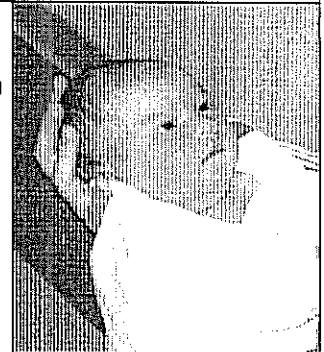
Mattea Rose is the great granddaughter of Lillian Leibman of Albany, the granddaughter of Barbara and Robert Rosoff and niece of Meredith Rosoff.

She is also the granddaughter of Barbara Preller of Sarasota, FL, and Lan and Cynthia Fischer Rice of New York City.



Historical Note

Mattea Rose Rice and her older sister, Sofia Rae, are very small, but they share an important, historic distinction. They are the only fifth-generation members of Temple Beth El! Their maternal great-great-grandparents, Vilma and Charles Gelman, were among the first few families who began the Congregation and the thirty-five brave members who erected our beautiful Temple. Their great-grandmother, Elsa Gelman Rosoff [you can see her in the front row of the 1924 Purim picture in the hallway], grew up in the Temple, as did their maternal grandparents, Robert and Barbara (Leibman) Rosoff, and their mother, Sara Rosoff Rice.



Judy Metzner Shepherd, Historian (and their proud cousin)

Judaica Shop

Don't forget to shop at the Temple Beth El Judaica Shop for all of your Judaica needs. In stock merchandise is on display and can be purchased from Katie during normal Temple business hours. If you are not able to make it during the day and/or would like to order something that is not in stock, please contact Gail Hamel at 761-1220 or email Gail at ghamel@hamelresources.com.

Gail Hamel, Judaica Shop Chair

**APRIL 2010**

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	*SAT
				1 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study <i>4th Day of Passover</i>	2 7 p.m. Family Service / Oneg host to be announced <i>5th Day of Passover</i>	3 10:30 a.m. Torah Study <i>6th Day of Passover</i>
4 No TSRS <i>7th Day of Passover</i>	5 <i>8th Day of Passover</i>	6 5:30 p.m. Beginner Hebrew	7 No Hebrew School	8 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	9 7 p.m. Service / Oneg host to be announced	10 10:30 a.m. Torah Study 7 p.m. Pizza and a Movie
11 No TSRS Holocaust Remembrance Day	12	13 10 a.m. Book Club Meeting (<u>Olive Kitteridge</u>) 5:30 p.m. Beginner Hebrew 7 p.m. Ritual/Pulpit Committee Meeting	14 6 p.m. Hebrew School at synagogue	15 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	16 7 p.m. Service / Oneg host to be announced	17 10:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat
18 9:20 a.m. TSRS at Temple 9:15 a.m. Chai Society Breakfast	19	20 5:30 p.m. Beginner Hebrew	21 6 p.m. Hebrew School at synagogue Administrative Professionals Day	22 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	23 6 p.m. Torah Service / Oneg hosted by Lieberman Family IHO Molly becoming a <i>Bat Mitzvah</i>	24 10:30 a.m. Molly Lieberman <i>Bat Mitzvah</i>
25 9:20 a.m. TSRS at Temple	26	27 5:30 p.m. Beginner Hebrew 7 p.m. TBE Board Meeting	28 6 p.m. Hebrew School at synagogue	29 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study <i>Rabbi Away</i>	30 7 p.m. Service / Oneg host to be announced	

*Saturday Services: Unless noted otherwise, there will be a *Shabbat* Service and Torah Study every Saturday. When a "**Torah Service**" is scheduled, the Torah will be removed from the Ark, we will read from the Torah and one or more individuals will be called to the Torah for an Aliyah.



MAY 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	*SAT
						1 No Torah Study <i>Rabbi Away</i>
2 9:20 a.m. TSRS at Temple Lag B'Omer	3	4	5 6 p.m. Hebrew School synagogue	6 No Intermediate Hebrew Study <i>Rabbi Returns</i>	7 7 p.m. Family Service / Oneg	8 10:30 a.m. Torah Service 7 p.m. Pizza and a Movie
9 9:20 a.m. TSRS at Temple Mother's Day	10	11 10 a.m. Book Club Meeting 7 p.m. Ritual / Pulpit Committee Meeting	12 6 p.m. Hebrew School at synagogue	13 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	14 7 p.m. Shabbat Service / Oneg hosted by Rabbi During IHO Rose becoming a Rabbi	15 10:30 a.m. Torah Study
16 9:20 a.m. TSRS at Temple 1 p.m. Rabbi Richard Sobel Scholar-in-Residence Lecture (Professor Peter Zaas)	17	18	19 Shavuot	20 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	21 7 p.m. Torah Service / Oneg host to be announced	22 10:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat
23 9:20 a.m. TSRS at Temple 1 p.m. Rabbi Richard Sobel Scholar-in-Residence Lecture (Professor Peter Zaas)	24	25 7 p.m. TBE Board Meeting	26	27 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	28 7 p.m. Service / Oneg hosted by the Schwartz Family IHO Daniel becoming a <i>Bar Mitzvah</i>	29 10:30 a.m. Daniel Schwartz <i>Bar Mitzvah</i>
30	31 Memorial Day		*Saturday Services: Unless noted otherwise, there will be a <i>Shabbat Service</i> and Torah Study every Saturday. When a " Torah Service " is scheduled, the Torah will be removed from the Ark, we will read from the Torah and one or more individuals will be called to the Torah for an <i>Allyah</i> .			



Temple Beth El History "A Good Doctrine"

[Following is an excerpt from the early history of Temple Beth El, written by Ella Cline. "A Good Doctrine" is the chapter for 1926-1927.]

With even greater zeal we continued our activities after Passover, urged on by our pledge to raise one thousand dollars. A splendid idea that we eagerly accepted occurred to our president, Mrs. Carl Bronne. She suggested that we sell raffles during the summer for a hope chest. Mrs. Bronne wanted to give the chest, everyone promised to donate freely to make it a worth-while prize. Mrs. Sarah Marks was appointed chairman of the enterprise.

The religious school year was nearing Confirmation and the summer vacation. With the sum of the small coins collected in the school, the children voted to buy a bookcase for the school as a gift from the class of 1926-1927.

A friendly and happy congregation filled the Temple on June 5, for the confirmation of Dorothy Shapera and Robert Gelman Kempner. Robert and Dorothy read papers that showed they had a thorough understanding of the Jewish religion and the position of the Jew in the modern world. Rabbi Alpert admonished and blessed the confirmants; Mr. Cline delivered an address; Mrs. Julius Jacobson spoke to the confirmants and presented them with Bibles, gifts from the Sisterhood. Gaily we congratulated Dorothy and Robert and their happy parents, ate cookies and ices in the Home Room, spent a jolly afternoon.

The first Bar Mitzvah ceremony in our Temple was held Saturday morning, June 11, 1927. Rosmore Schwager, son of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Schwager, was Bar Mitzvah. Rabbi Alpert, who had prepared Rosmore, conducted the ceremony with instructive solemnity.

The staff of regular teachers in the religious school for the year had been: Rabbi Alpert, Max Cline, Nathan Pickard, Miss Alyce Shapera, Miss Cecelia Shapera, and Leo Cline.

The Congregation Beth El was aware that Rabbi Alpert would receive offers financially better than ours for his services, nevertheless they asked him to remain with us another year and presented him with a traveling bag as a sign of their esteem. He said he would rest July and August, but would return for September and October to remain the entire year, if he could. The financial part meant little to him. He had become attached to the endearing beauty and comfort of our Temple, and, like a great many others, loved the Utopia-like qualities of our little city.

So everything seemed pleasantly settled. We planned to rest and recuperate during the summer months; to enjoy the lakes and forests of the Adirondacks, our gardens and motor cars, and the additional social life of the summer colonies at Lake George and Saratoga. All was well.

HELP MAKE HISTORY

This autumn, we will celebrate the 85th Anniversary of our Temple building. And in just twelve years, 2022, it will be 100 years since we started worshiping together. Wouldn't it be nice to have a written/digital history of the first century of our Congregation? And wouldn't it be a good idea to start now? Ella Cline left us a great legacy in the history of our first thirteen years; and the American Jewish Archives is helping us to collect information about our earliest rabbinical leaders.

Please help me create an "oral" history of your years (and those of your family) at Temple Beth El. When was your family first affiliated with the Temple? Why did you join? What rabbis and teachers do you remember? What activities made an impression on you? Do you have any good stories about the Temple or the Congregation or its members? Pictures or memorabilia suitable for our archives? This is a project for everyone, including adults and children, your cousins and friends who have moved away. You are the only source of important information about our Temple history. Please share it. You can email me at judithshepherd@hotmail.com or leave articles at the Temple office.

Judy Metzner Shepherd, Historian



Contributions

GENERAL FUND

Judith Metzner Shepherd

To celebrate the birthday of Louise Binns

Janet Friedman

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Charlotte & Donald Corey

Honoring David Erlanger on his 80th birthday

Helen & David Koltun

Honoring David Erlanger on his 80th birthday

Judith Metzner Shepherd

In memory of Donald J. Levy

Phillip & Erma Gordon

In memory of Gussie Gordon

Steven & Carol Shain

In honor of David Erlanger's 80th birthday

Hilda & Moe Schwartz

In honor of David Erlanger's 80th birthday.
"Wishing him a happy birthday and many more."

Colette & Stephen Smith

In memory of Donald Levy

Irwin & Ruth Jonas

In memory of Rabbi Dick Sobel

Larry Silver

In memory of Arthur Katchman

Camille Wodicka

In memory of Carmela D'Amico

Sandra & Jack Terwilliger

In memory of Arthur Katchman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Chris & Jeff Levy

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Sarah Coleman

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

David Erlanger

In honor of his 80th birthday

Janice Luciano

In memory of Donald Levy

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Judith Metzner Shepherd

In honor of the naming of Mattea Rose Rice

Sid & Lina Hellman

In memory of Don Levy

Chris & Jeff Levy

In appreciation of Rabbi Durbin and Camille Wodicka

ENDOWMENT FUND

Mike & Gilda Siegel

In memory of Donald J. Levy

Judith Metzner Shepherd

In honor of the birth of Mattea Rose Rice

Robert & Francine Nemer

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

CEMETERY FUND

Ruth Lichtman

In memory of Samuel Wolf

NEW PAINT AND DRAPERIES!

The next time you visit the Temple, see how the Home Room has been transformed! Our custodian, Minette, has cleaned the chandeliers to make them sparkle on the walls, which have been painted a soft, creamy color. The ancient, patched stage curtain has been replaced, and drapes and opaque shades have been added to the bay window. Bright new kickplates help protect the kitchen doors.

All of these are generous gifts from members who love the Temple. Please help thank them by keeping the paint and drapes clean. Be careful with sticky fingers, and don't bang feet or furniture into the walls. NOTHING may be taped or tacked on the walls or doors. There are other, convenient ways to decorate the room, and I will be happy to make suggestions. Thank you for your cooperation and that of your family members.

Larry Silver, House Committee Chairman



We Remember

Mourners Kaddish for the following individuals will be recited in Temple on the noted dates:

April 2

William Aronson, *Beatrice A. Bassock, Hyman Berkowitz, *Joseph Frieber, Cindy Ginsburg, *Leonard Leopold, Annette T. Lessick, H. Robert Marks, Adolph Ochs, May Silk

April 9

*Fannie Bittman, Thomas J. Brown, Mark Chanis, Marcia Lillian Cohen, *Charles Friedman, *Moey Leo Friedman, Robert Goodman, Ann Grablow, Jack Harrell, Sidney Hellman, Theodore Helman, *Cecelia Jacoby, Meta London Merkel, *Sarah Moskowitz, Martin Weitsen

April 16

Adele Arnstein, Hannah Diskin Berkowitz, Charles Daniels, *Evelyn Friedman, *Charles Gelman, Nathan Goodman, Salo Hellenberg, Stephen Hertz, Goldie Heyman, *Milton Klein, *Louise Y. Pearl, Carlos Stone, Lewis Swartz

April 23

Emilia Ales, *Guttel Aronson, Evelyn Babcock, Joseph R. Feger, James Gruber, David Hirsch, Rose Jutkovitz, *Gilbert Kuh, Lillian Levy, *Meyer Lowe, Bessie Metzner, Sadie Newmark, *Abe Ovitz, Hannah Pritikin, *Sam Schwartz, Isador Silberman, *Sam Wallach, *Dr. Saul Yafa

April 30

Hyman Berkowitz, *Sarah Donnenberg, Joseph Gordon, Joseph Kasriel, Tillie Lazarus, *Joseph Arthur Leopold, Herbert Muller, Margaret Ofner, *George Schectman, Julius Seidman, *Ida Sovetts, Betty Stewart

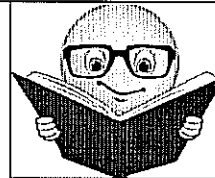
Book Club

Here is the next book that our book club will be reading:

April 13, 2010: Olive Kitteridge by Elizabeth Strout.

Don't forget, we meet the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10 a.m. at the Temple. All are welcome and happy reading!

Karen Marks



Torah Portions

April 3

Third Day Chol Hamoed

April 10

Lev. 9:1-11:47

Pr. II Sam. 6:1-7:17

April 17

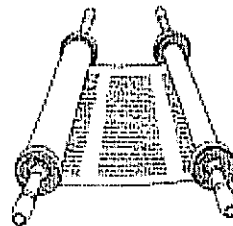
Lev. 12:1-15:33

Pr. II Kings 7:3-20

April 24

Lev. 16:1-20:27

Pr. Amos 9:7-15



Officers & Board of Trustees

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1st Vice President, Jack Hellman

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Synagogue Board Members: Ben Cohen, Monica Guglielmo, Melissa Korot, Dolly Morrissey

Treasurer *ex-officio*, Linda Friedman

Committees

Ritual/Pulpit Chair, Jack Hellman

Fundraising Chair, Mike Siegel

Cemetery Chair, Michael Seidel

Membership Chair, Lydia Adler

Personnel Chair, Kathy Naftaly

Musical Director, Diane Martin

History Chair, Judith Metzner Shepherd

Rabbi Durbin and President Adler will be ex-officio

members of all committees.



Ritual and Pulpit Committee Meeting

March 2, 2010

Attending: Rabbi Matthew Durbin; Steve Adler, President; Jack Hellman, Chair, Lois Hellman; Karen Marks; Judith Metzner Shepherd; and Sandy Searleman.

Major Topics of Discussion

1. Organizing a group of cantorial soloists and pianists to assist Diane Martin in working with *B'Nai Mitzvah* students in preparing for and leading *Bar* and *Bat Mitzvah* services. These same individuals will also fill in when Diane takes time off on Fridays and Jewish holidays.
2. Rabbi reported on those students who are currently studying with him to prepare for their *Bar* and *Bat Mitzvah*. Each family and student will receive a document explaining requirements and expectations for all families preparing for these life cycle events.
3. Lois Hellman reported on plan for the upcoming Passover *Seder*. A number of interim meetings will be held with Elliott Heyman and other individuals involved with organizing the *Seder*.

April's meeting will be on Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at 7 p.m. at Temple.

Let's Get on the Move!

All members, families and friends of Temple Beth El, Congregation Shaaray Tefila, and the Temple-Synagogue Religious School are invited to participate in the:

Alzheimer's Association Adirondack Memory Walk

Saturday May 1st, 2010

Fort William Henry Resort and Conference Center

Lake George 9:00-Noon

Refreshments, kid's activities, entertainment, and incentive prizes will be available for all participants to enjoy!

Sunny Buchman, a prominent member of our Jewish community, whose family has been personally touched by the devastating effects of this disease, is serving as the Family Chairperson for this year's Adirondack Memory Walk.

If you would like more information or to join Team *Chai* Hopes led by Christine Levy and representing our local Jewish Community at this walk, please contact Chris at cmlevy@iname.com or (518) 796-8808, or leave a message at the Temple Beth El Office for Chris to contact you.

This is a pledge-based event, with NO minimum fundraising or donation required per walker. Fundraising and personal contributions of any amount are appreciated and all donations are tax-deductible. If you can't join us for the walk, but would like to make a contribution to our team, checks made payable to the Alzheimer's Association can be sent to Team *Chai* Hopes c/o Temple Beth El, 3 Marion Avenue, Glens Falls, NY 12801. Please note on you check memo: Team *Chai* Hopes.

You may also register to walk or make a donation on line to:

TEAM CHAI HOPES at www.adirondack.kintera.org

Your support is GREATLY appreciated!

Hope to see you there!



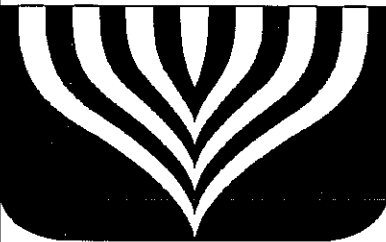
WANTED - A LEGACY

Temple Beth El needs a generous family or two to create a legacy for their families and for the Congregation. When family members pass away, or when new families join the Congregation, members want to honor the memories of loved ones by donating plaques for one of the memorial tablets in the Sanctuary. All of our memorial tablets are now full (except for a few "reserved" spaces representing donations that have been received for future use). We now need a new tablet to accommodate current and future requests.

If your family is in a position to make a significant gift to the Temple, this presents an excellent opportunity to ensure that your loved ones are permanently remembered and recognized for your contribution. What does it cost? A lot, but perhaps less than you think, and there are several advantages to the donor(s) (including, of course, a likely tax deduction) that reduce the effective expense. Most recently, a tablet was donated several years ago by the Rosoff and Metzner families to honor their loved ones. If you believe your family may be interested in a contribution of this nature, please contact Barbara and Bob Rosoff (518-792-1023), or Judy Shepherd (518-793-4149), for a confidential discussion.

TOT SHABBAT

Have you wanted to bring the richness and beauty of Judaism into our lives and the lives of our family and children? Are you thinking about ways in which we can make a more meaningful and valuable experience for our children? Do your children have a tremendous amount of energy in the mornings and no outlet to express this joy? Please join us at Temple as we bring back TOT SHABBAT through song, music, story and dance whereby we will rejoice in our children and provide them an experience which they will enjoy and foster love of Shabbat and the joys and flavor of our tradition as we celebrate together. TOT SHABBAT is an event which is not only open to our children, but we hope that families, parents, children and community will support us in our endeavor to instill wonder and awe in our Jewish tradition and love of community. Please join us as we celebrate together!



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The Reform Movement is the largest Jewish religious movement in North America, with 1.5 million Reform Jews and more than 900 congregations that are part of the Union for Reform Judaism. Although each congregation is autonomous and very individual in its programs, worship style, and culture, all are characterized by the same core values:

- * A God-centered Judaism that combines respect for Jewish law and Jewish tradition with a progressive religious outlook designed to remain relevant and meaningful to contemporary North American Jews
- * A commitment to Torah (lifelong Jewish learning), *Avodah* (worship of God through prayer and observance), and *G'milut Hasadim* (the pursuit of justice, peace, and deeds of loving kindness) – expressed in lifelong study of the sacred Jewish texts, creativity and spirituality in worship, and social action fulfilling the vision of the Prophets
- * A commitment to *klal Yisrael*, the entirety of the Jewish people, with special focus on the people and the state of Israel, and on world Jewry, particularly on the needs of Progressive congregations everywhere
- * A community-focused religion that honors the personal autonomy of the individual and the institutional autonomy of the congregation, within a framework of egalitarianism and inclusiveness



Sunny Buchman Chairs Adirondack Memory Walk

A local woman who has spent years leading efforts that make the Adirondack region a better place to live is now involved in a major fund raising event for the Alzheimer's Association of Northeastern New York.

Sunny Buchman of Queensbury is the Chair of the Alzheimer's Association of Northeastern New York's Adirondack Region Memory Walk. The event will take place on May 1st at Fort William Henry in Lake George. The walk steps off at 10:30 a.m. You can register today and get more information at www.adirondack.kintera.org, or by e-mailing Sujata.chaudhry@alz.org, or by calling (518) 867-4999 ext 304.

Previous to the involvement with the Memory Walk, Mrs. Buchman taught music for 20 years in the South Glens Falls Central School District and has been deeply involved in the arts and religious communities in our region. She helped create and played in the Adirondack Concert Orchestra which would become the Glens Falls Symphony. She was one of the founders of The Guild of the Lake George Opera Festival as well as served in many volunteer capacities for the Opera such as coordinating the Affiliate Artist program in area schools bringing artists to schools. She served for many years on the board of the de Blasiis Chamber Music Concert Series. In 1972 she helped found the Lower Adirondack Regional Arts Council (LARAC) and served as the organization's first president. Mrs. Buchman has also been a leader in the efforts of her Synagogue and of Hadassah. Following her retirement from her career as a music teacher, she returned to the classroom herself at the General Theological Seminary of the Episcopal Church in New York City to earn in 2000 a Master's Degree in Spiritual Direction. Thereafter, she created and still leads group sessions in a program called "Spiritual Journey" - bringing men and women of all faiths together sharing in spiritual discussion. Additionally, among her activities have been efforts of using the arts to help Vietnam veterans.

Recently Sunny created and coordinated the Hadassah-LARAC "A Celebration of Life" Holocaust Education Project involving 18 area school districts, a 3 1/2 week gallery showcase of students' works, and a reception honoring six area Holocaust survivors. Mrs. Buchman currently lives at The Glen at Hiland Meadows and helps coordinate "Earth's Elders," an intergenerational program with nearby schools, and she as well helps with other senior activities at The Glen.

THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS

On March 13, 2010, many Temple members and guests from the community enjoyed a scholarly presentation about the Dead Sea Scrolls, ancient texts that shed important light on the Judaism and culture of 2,000 years ago. The Temple's Chai Society was proud to sponsor an illustrated lecture by Geri Durbin, an educator at the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, where some of the Scrolls were exhibited recently.

The Scrolls, believed to have belonged to a separatist sect of messianic Jews, were hidden in jars for nearly 2,000 years in caves near a settlement called Qumran, on the shore of the Dead Sea. They were brought to the attention of the world in 1947, and eleven caves were excavated by 1956. Although some are actual scrolls of substantial length, most are merely fragments of parchment or papyrus, containing writing in Hebrew, Aramaic, or Greek. Included are a number of texts about the governance and practices of the community that made or collected the Scrolls, but, significantly, the Scrolls feature at least a fragment of every book of the Hebrew Bible we have today (except the Book of Esther). Considering that the only way to reproduce text for more than 1,000 years of that time was to copy it by hand, it is remarkable that the text of the Scrolls varies little from the Bible as we know it today.

At the time of the principal discoveries of the Scrolls, the area of Qumran was controlled by the British Mandate, and later was part of the kingdom of Jordan. For many years, the Scrolls were in the custody of an academic institution, where they were studied, but remained unpublished and closely guarded. Following the 1967 war between Israel and her neighbors, and years of academic controversy, the Scrolls became available to many more scholars and were published with, and without, the permission of the custodians. Today, the text and images of the Scrolls are widely available in books and digital media. Many of the original Scrolls are housed in the Shrine of the Book, built for them at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

Mrs. Durbin, a knowledgeable and entertaining speaker, illustrated her presentation on the Temple's large television screen, with photographs of the Scrolls and the caves in which they were found; she graciously remained to answer many questions from the audience. Light refreshments completed a successful event.



Happy Birthday!

Justin Wodicka (4/1), Henry Gartner (4/1 - 9 years old!), Florence Handen (4/3), Mattilyn Brender (4/5), Samuel Satenstein (4/8), Elizabeth Solomon (4/8), Erma Gordon (4/8), Mason Flatley (4/9 - 9 years old!), Minette Riquelme (4/10), Tom O'Brien (4/11), Dr. Daniel Kraus (4/14), Joshua Silverberg (4/16), David Lieberman (4/16), Jessica Katz (4/17), Howard Krantz (4/20), Alexia Scott Mones (4/23 - 8 years old!), Jonathan Weaver (4/24 - 4 years old!), Lois Hellman (4/25), Beverly Seligson (4/28), Deirdre Hill (4/30), Laurie Nelson (4/30)

Get Well Soon

Helen Ahern, Rabbi Jeffrey Ballon, Ronald Binns, Paul Cattabiani, Maryann Charlebois, Mariella Cohen, Mia Corton, John Dessingue, Victor Friedman, Gayle Goldstein, Allan Gordon, Jacqueline Gordon, Hilda Grunblatt, Mark Grunblatt, Jack Hellman, Mike Jucowics, Chris Kobel, Paula Knight, Linda Leinoff, Joan Livingston, Diane Martin, Karen Muller, Sade Paige, Dave Peyton, Edie Rudnick, Alan Schwartz, Sonny Segan, Ariel Sharon, Frank Sheridan, Helen Silverstein, Walter Stern, Carol Wells, Jarod Winchell, Bertel Wolfe



Happy Anniversary!

Rachel Gartner & Suzanne Seay (4/21 - 20 years!)

Condolences

Donald J. Levy husband of Beatrice; father of Jeffrey (Christine) Levy, Linda (Eleanor Mardin) Levy, Tina Sorell, and Karen (Sami) Davda; grandfather of Eric Reed, Elizabeth Levy, Connie, Amy, and Jeff Sorell Jr., and Avital Davda; great-grandfather of Ryan Sorell; and brother of Joel (Phyllis) Levy, passed away on February 16, 2010 at the age of 82.

Gerald Miller, husband of Linda Miller, father of Lori Dale Lavender, Phyliss Miller, Gina Lyon and Joanna Miller-Beers and Robert Miller, grandfather of Cara, Joshua, Leah, Clarissa, Sarah, and Drew, passed away on Saturday, March 13, 2010.

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The Shofar

Editor, Lois Hellman
Assistant Editor,
Judith Metzner Shepherd
Administrative Assistant,
Katie Weaver

Writing for *The Shofar*? Think Ahead!

Writing something for *The Shofar*? REMEMBER YOUR DEADLINES. Articles and announcements for *The Shofar* should be sent to the Temple Administrative Assistant, Katie Weaver, well in advance of the desired publication date. The deadline for each issue (usually the 15th day of the preceding month) is shown on the Calendar page, but your article should arrive as early as possible. *The Shofar* is published before the first day of each month, and PUBLICATION WILL NOT BE DELAYED for late articles and announcements.

Remember: If your article will be timed to coincide with a holiday or event, you will want it to appear at least as early as the issue preceding the event. And if you are asking for volunteers, for reservations, or for advance ticket or merchandise purchases, your article or announcement may need to appear several months in advance. Even for something that is several months away, it is never too early to submit an announcement to get *The Shofar* readers to "save the date"!

The Editors welcome letters and other reader contributions. E-mail submission (tbegfny@gmail.com) is preferred. Submit your article as an e-mail message or as an attachment. If you lack internet access, you may deliver or mail your submission to the attention of Katie Weaver at Temple Beth El, 3 Marion Avenue, Glens Falls, NY 12801, to arrive prior to the deadline.

**The deadline for getting articles to Katie for the May issue of
The Shofar is Thursday, April 15th!**