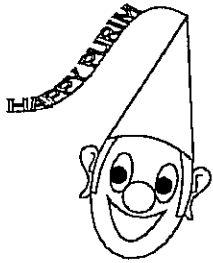




The February 2010 Shofar
 Temple Beth El, 3 Marion Avenue, Glens Falls, New York 12801
 (518) 792-4364 * tbeqfny@gmail.com
 Affiliate member of the URJ since 1950



Family Potluck Dinner and Purim Service

**Friday, February 26th, 2010
6:00 p.m.**

Calling every Queen Esther, Haman, King Ahasuerus, Mordechai and Vashti! Bring your *groggers*, wear a costume and come to the Temple Family *Shabbat* and Purim Service!

Come and enjoy a potluck dinner followed by a Family Service at 7 p.m. and an *oneg* hosted by Matt, Allison and Grant Levin in celebration of Jonah's 5th birthday!

Please RSVP to Katie in the Temple office by February 22nd to let her know what dish you will be bringing to share. If you are unable to bring a dish to share, a donation of \$5 will be asked to offset the cost of items to be purchased.

Pizza & A Movie Night Saturday, February 20 at 7 p.m.

Divided We Fall (2000)

Rated: PG (Parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.)

In Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia, Josef and Marie Cizek grudgingly agree to shelter David, a Jewish concentration camp escapee, in their tiny apartment. When Josef takes a job with a Nazi collaborator to ease suspicion, mayhem consumes the household. Filled with pungent humor and universal truths about the fragility of the human condition, director Jan Hrebejk's poignant film skirts a fine line between comedy and tragedy.



Inside this issue:

Rabbi's Message	2
President's Message	3
Rabbi Richard "Dick" Sobel	4
Meredith Rosoff	4
Ritual/Pulpit Update	5
Chai Society Breakfast	6
Help Make History!	6
Calendars	7-8
Contributions	9-11
We Remember	12
Book Club	12
Temple History	13
Mazel Tov	13
Happy Birthday, Get Well, Etc.	14



Rabbi's Message

Commitment, joy, love and admiration . . . Rabbi Richard Sobel exemplified all of these during his tenure at Temple. Dick left a tremendous legacy and a precious mark upon this community. From his work with hometown Thanksgiving, to his interfaith work, to his devotion to lifecycle events and the life of the community, to his sincere joy and dedication to the children and the religious and educational life of Temple Beth El, Dick will have a lasting and important impression upon all those who have been affected by his work. He left some pretty big shoes to fill! I find, as I write this, a community in mourning, a congregation deeply saddened by the loss of such a figure in our community. I can remember on numerous occasions talking with Dick and watching the look on his face when he spoke about the community and the tremendous love he had for each and every member. It is always hard to lose a loved one, and for a congregation it is even harder to lose its rabbi, a rabbi who served this congregation well for over 25 years.

As I remember Dick and his life, I stop to think about how coincidental it is that I have become your rabbi. Dick's daughter, Sharon, became my rabbi at my home congregation in Toronto at Holy Blossom Temple. She guided and assisted me throughout my life and influenced me to become the rabbi that I am today! She has been a close personal family friend for over 20 years and how fitting it is that I take over from the work that her father has committed his life towards. It seems as if it has come full circle now—as I lead and guide this community, may the work and life of Rabbi Richard Sobel be remembered and cherished within the community of Temple Beth El.

We wish the Sobel family (Elaine, Sharon, Isaac, David, Marilyn, Michael, Ari, Christina, Naomi, Jonathan, Sandra, Yann, Edie, Michael, Daniel, Judy, Peter, Heather, Katie, Samantha, Adam, Sarah, Elizabeth, Rachel, Leon, Zoe, Sydney, Aimee, Xavier and Max) strength and our deepest condolences on the loss of their loved one! Dick will truly be missed.

Zichrono Livracha!

May we always remember the memory and life of Dick Sobel as a continual blessing!

Amen!

Rabbi Matthew J. Durbin

TSRS in the Community

During our last Sunday in December the religious school students went to The Glen at Hilland Meadows, an independent and assisted living center in Queensbury, as part of the combined Hadassah Mitzvah Day and TSRS Community Service Day. This was part of my ongoing effort to show our students that there is more to *tzedaka* than just money. The residents and students shared a Chanukah ceremony, poems, songs, and holiday memories. Special parts to our program included a poetry reading by Emily Korot, a great rendition of *I Have a Little Dreidle* by the K-1 class, and many thoughtful insights into the holiday season provided by Rabbi Durbin. The morning ended with all in attendance learning *Shalom*, a song in English and sign language, which provided a very appropriate close to the morning. I know that the residents enjoyed our program and mingling with some of the students afterward. I owe an extra thank you to Bonnie Yanklowitz and Hadassah for sharing the day with the religious school.

In January I shared my Judaic political campaign memorabilia collection with the religious school. I started collecting American presidential campaign buttons when I was nine years old and have been a member of the American Political Items Collectors (www.apic.us) for 15 years. A couple of years ago I began a collection of Jewish American campaign memorabilia, and I have over 200 items in this collection ranging from a 1952 Eisenhower campaign button in Yiddish to a kippah supporting Gore in 2000. If anyone has an expertise or hobby that they would like to share with the religious school, please contact me at adampaulfine@gmail.com. I am always looking for people to come in and help supplement our curriculum.

Our family *Tu B'Shvat* seder will be on January 31st. All are invited to attend. More information will be forthcoming.

Adam Fine, TSRS Director



President's Message

Welcome to 2010! I hope that this new secular year finds our congregation stronger than ever, continuing the programs and activities that we love, implementing new ones, and providing a warm and caring atmosphere that encourages you to be at Temple. We have been working hard to accomplish that.

The keys to Temple's success are:

- * Your continued support, through honoring your financial commitment. I am happy to report that, in spite of the economic downturn, most members are doing just that. Thank you!
- * Participation in activities. More people are coming to Friday night services and to the Family *Shabbat* suppers than ever. Attendance at *Channukah* was fantastic. It is heartwarming and very encouraging, and tells us that a community of members who enjoy each other's company is being built. Chef Elliott will again prepare a delicious meal for Passover and I encourage as many of us who can, to help with the arrangements.
- * Volunteering to help with at least one program this year. The very small group of core volunteers has gradually expanded and many members have brought in cakes and cookies for a special *oneg*. We are very grateful to our "regulars" and hope that others will join them this year. Additionally, sponsors for Friday night *onegs* are needed. Please check your calendars and share your celebrations with us.
- * New ideas and new leadership. Several new programs have been tried this year. Some worked and some didn't. Please tell us what you liked or didn't and why and better yet, tell us what improvements you would like to see. Best of all, give us a new idea and join the team to make it happen!

There may be several openings on the Board this year and the Ritual/Pulpit Committee is looking for new members. Each meets monthly, engaging in spiritual, thoughtful discussion of Temple life. One route to Board membership is to get involved in an activity, as a team member and then chairperson. Creative people who are doers are needed. Are you such a person?

The United Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York has approved two grants that support Temple's outreach efforts in the greater Glens Falls community to unaffiliated Jews, former Temple members, interfaith families and others interested in Judaism. Temple Beth El and Crandall Library will co-sponsor a Jewish Film Festival this summer and Scholar-in-Residence lecture series will be presented in the Fall. Look for details in future announcements.

I am excited about the plans for 2010 as I hope you are.

Warmly,

Steve Adler

Purim

[The following is from the Union for Reform Judaism web page.]

Purim is celebrated by the reading of the Scroll of Esther, known in Hebrew as the *Megillat Esther*, which relates the basic story of Purim. Under the rule of King Ahashuerus, Haman, the King's prime minister, plots to exterminate all of the Jews of Persia. His plan is foiled by Queen Esther and her uncle Mordechai, who ultimately save the Jews of the land from destruction. The reading of the *megillah* is typically a rowdy affair, which is punctuated by booing and noisemaking when Haman's name is read aloud.

Purim is an unusual holiday in many respects. First, Esther is the only Book of the Bible in which God is not mentioned. Second, Purim, like Channukah, is viewed by tradition as a minor festival. The elevation of Purim to a major holiday was a result of the Jewish historical experience. Over the centuries, Haman became the embodiment of every anti-Semite in every land where Jews were oppressed. The significance in Purim lies not so much in how it began, but in what it has become—a thankful and joyous affirmation of Jewish survival against all odds.



Rabbi Richard "Dick" Sobel

Temple Beth El and the entire community mourn the loss of Rabbi Emeritus Richard J. ("Dick") Sobel, who passed away on December 26, 2009, at the age of 72. Friends, family members, colleagues, and community leaders filled the Temple Sanctuary for a funeral service of prayer, tribute, and humor, to honor the man who served our region in many capacities and led Temple Beth El for twenty-six years, followed by three years as the Congregation's first Rabbi Emeritus.

Dick made a strong local impact with his engagement in *Tikkun Olam*, the betterment of the world. In addition to many discreet benevolences for individuals in need, he was deeply involved in the community as a chaplain, a board member of numerous charitable organizations, a leader in the local clergy, and an advocate for ethics and harmony. He will long be remembered as a co-founder, leader, and tireless worker for the Hometown Thanksgiving Dinner and for helping to originate the Community Christmas Breakfast.

A scholar and voracious reader, Dick enjoyed intellectual discussions with his many friends and, even in retirement and as his health declined, continued to lead a weekly class at The Glen at Hiland Meadows. He took part in an active social and cultural life, traveling with his wife and family and patronizing theaters and concert venues.

Asked whose voices should be heard in reminiscence, Dick's widow, Elaine, quickly suggested, "the kids." The patriarch of a blended family of nine children and thirteen grandchildren always had the time and capacity to be playful, and to love and inspire children and young adults. After the funeral, Rebecca Les-sick reminded her parents that, when children were present, Dick always looked each one in the eye and smiled. Two young leaders in the local Jewish community credit their Rabbi with formative roles in their lives. Adam Fine, now the Director of the Temple-Synagogue Religious School, notes that Rabbi Sobel officiated at his *Bris*, his *Bar Mitzvah*, and his Confirmation, played golf with him, brought him souvenirs, and taught him a little about driving and a lot about classical and liturgical music, service, and life. Sara Rice, now the mother of a fifth-generation Temple member, recalls that "my Rabbi" counseled her that song brings people together, and taught her the power of listening – to be aware of people who cannot speak for themselves, to be their advocate, and to respect everyone. Helping her deal with grief, he wrote, "When a loved one dies, it leaves a jagged hole in your heart. That hole will never disappear, but with time the jagged edges will become smooth and your pain will lessen."

Dick's legacy will endure in our community. May his memory be for a blessing.

Meredith Rosoff

Technically speaking, I am a new member of Temple Beth El. However, unlike most new members, my sister, Sara Rice, and I have the benefit of familiarity with this wonderful congregation with which we are now, officially, affiliated. We were named here, *bat mitzvahed* here, and confirmed here. We are 4th generation "new members."

I have been back in the area for almost four years, after three on the air as a DJ at 102.7 WEQX in Manchester, VT and six managing a five-floor FYE Music and Movies in Downtown Crossing, Boston. I am currently a Merchandise Planner for Trend (think *tchotzkes* and *schmatas*) and Electronics for TransWorld Entertainment in Albany, the parent company of FYE.

In addition to my full-time job, I also work as a Receptionist for Weight Watchers (I lost 40 pounds in 2008) and volunteer at the Capital District Gay and Lesbian Community Center in downtown Albany along with my girlfriend of the last 2 ½ years, Tia. I started running last winter and spend what little free time I have training my body (the 4 mile 2010 Guilderland Rabbit Ramble in April, the 3.5 mile GHI Corporate Challenge in May, the 5k Freihofer's Run in June, etc) and training my brain for what will be my 4th American Crossword Puzzle Tournament. Now, if I could just figure out how to do a crossword puzzle WHILE running...

For all of the time I spent away from the North Country, I never joined a congregation. If someone asked if I were affiliated, my answer was always, "if it's important to me, I'll go home to my temple in Glens Falls." Temple Beth El was always *my Temple*, regardless of geography, and I'm glad to be home.



January 12, 2010 Ritual/Pulpit Committee Meeting

Following is a summary of some of the committee's more substantive discussions and decisions:

1. The Cemetery and Ritual/Pulpit Committees are collaborating to insure that procedures are formalized in writing to respond to funeral homes and families concerning questions relating to funeral plans and cemetery use. Matthew Levin has volunteered to assist Mike Seidel on this committee. Mike will train him to arrange for cemetery use when Mike is not available.
2. Three matters will be referred to the Temple Board of Trustees for advice and consent:
First is a request from an outside group to use the Social Hall on New Year's Eve of 2010.
Second is a request to establish a new standing fund to be known as the "Book Fund." Contributions to this fund will be designated for the purchase of Torah Commentaries and other materials for use during Temple services.
And third is a recommendation to begin planning events to commemorate the 85th anniversary of the dedication of our building.
3. Temple Music Director, Diane Martin, met with the committee, including Rabbi Durbin, to discuss preparation for *B'nai mitzvot* - particularly in regard to singing. Policies and procedures will be communicated to families of *b'nai mitzvot*. Study schedules will be established for each student and family. Regular attendance at Friday and Saturday *Shabbat* services will help to insure that each student will be familiar with the order of services. Diane and Rabbi Durbin will also coordinate with the religious school director to insure that students and their parents initiate preparation for these life cycle events in a timely manner.
4. The committee is preparing an article for the March Shofar explaining the various functions of the Ritual and Pulpit Committee.
5. The committee has asked Elliott Heyman to prepare and serve the meal for the Passover Seder to be held on Tuesday, March 30th. Lois Hellman, Karen Marks, and Barbara Rosoff will form a committee to take responsibility for preparation of ritual aspects of the Seder, solicitation of desserts and other items, to coordinate with Elliott, the Rabbi, and the Ritual and Pulpit Committee.



UNION FOR **MEMBER**
REFORM JUDAISM

האיחוד ליהדות רפורמית

SERVING REFORM CONGREGATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA

Temple Beth El is an Affiliate Member of the Union for Reform Judaism

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



Chai Society Breakfast Program

Topic: *Did a Comet Cause Noah's Flood?

Speaker: Dee Breger

Date and Time: Sunday, February 21 at 9:15 a.m.

Summary: Breger's images and chemical analyses of microscopic particles created during meteor impacts provide support for a controversial new theory proposing that many more cosmic strikes have changed the course of human history than are traditionally accepted by geologists, astrophysicists and other impactologists. Ongoing work in collaboration with colleagues Dallas Abbott and Enrico Bonatti from Columbia University and a handful of other scientists worldwide includes evidence for the Tunguska, Siberia impact of 1908; two simultaneous impacts into the Gulf of Carpentaria (northwestern Australia) in 536 AD that may have contributed to the severe climate cooling with resulting famines, wars, plagues, population migrations and the beginning of the Dark Ages that were recorded by contemporary observers; an impact into the Atlantic Ocean off New York City that sent a tsunami up the Hudson River, and a massive impact into the Indian Ocean, probably around 2800 BC, that may have caused the catastrophic flooding (from ensuing megatsunamis) and torrential deluge (from returning vaporized seawater) cited in numerous global myths and legends including Gilgamesh and Noah. The Indian Ocean impact study was featured in the recent History Channel documentary *Comet Catastrophe*, which includes a scene of Breger and Abbott investigating some of the impact's microejecta on the scanning electron microscope. Other documentaries by the National Geographic Channel, the Discovery Channel and the BBC have recently been launched or are currently in the works.

*(*Please take note that at the time of the Shofar going to print, the power point presentation of Did a Comet Cause Noah's Flood? is tentative due to technical conflicts with Dee Breger's equipment and the Temple's. Should this conflict not be resolved in time, the subject will be Arctic Expedition in which a video will be shown.)*

HELP MAKE HISTORY!

At Temple Beth El, we are making history every day, and we can collect and preserve it. At its December, 2009, meeting, the Board of Trustees established a new standing (permanent) committee to safeguard the Congregation's historical materials and make them available for everyone to enjoy.

Consider yourself a member of the committee! Please save news clippings and photographs of Temple activities and Temple members, and provide a copy to me directly or by leaving it at the Temple office. If possible, clippings should show the name and date of the publication and the page number of the article; and photographs should be submitted with the date they were taken and identification of the people, places, and occasions depicted. Ideally, clippings from print media will be from the published edition, instead of being printed from the Internet.

You may have noticed some of the ways we display our history. Every month in *The Shofar*, there is an excerpt of the history kept from 1925 until 1935 by Ella Cline, the first Historian of the Temple Beth El Sisterhood. Her record helps us identify many of our first documents and furnishings. In our main hallway today, you can see some of our photographs and documents. Later this year, hopefully, we will have office space to work on our archives and we will begin to use our front vestibule for displays. I've taken a one-day class on archiving, but I'm just beginning to feel my way and would welcome anyone's skills, advice, and help.


This year, we will celebrate the 85th anniversary of the construction of our building, and it may be appropriate to recognize the occasion with a special program, as we have at other milestones. A historical exhibit or presentation can be a big part of that. If you are interested in the Temple's history, you are a member of the History Committee. I invite your ideas and participation.

Judy Metzner Shepherd, Historian

judithshepherd@hotmail.com






FEBRUARY 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	*SAT
	1	2 2 p.m. <i>Tikkun Olam</i> Class 5:30 p.m. Beginner Hebrew	3 6 p.m. Hebrew School at synagogue	4 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	5 7 p.m. New Member Service / <i>Oneg</i> hosted by Board of Trustees	6 10:30 a.m. Torah Service
7 9:20 a.m. Religious School	8	9 10 a.m. Book Club Meeting 2 p.m. <i>Tikkun Olam</i> Class 5:30 p.m. Beginner Hebrew 7 p.m. Ritual / Pulpit Committee Meeting	10 6 p.m. Hebrew School at synagogue	11 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	12 7 p.m. <i>Shabbat</i> Service / <i>Oneg</i> host TBA	13 10:30 a.m. Torah Study
14 No Religious School	15 Presidents' Day 	16 5:30 p.m. Beginner Hebrew	17 No Hebrew School	18 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	19 7 p.m. Torah Service / <i>Oneg</i> host TBA	20 10:30 a.m. Torah Study 7 p.m. Pizza and a Movie
21 No Religious School 9:15 a.m. Chai Society Breakfast Program (Dee Breger)	22	23 5:30 p.m. Beginner Hebrew 7 p.m. TBE Board Meeting	24 6 p.m. Hebrew School at synagogue	25 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	26 6 p.m. Family Potluck Dinner / Purim Service / <i>Oneg</i> hosted by the Levin Family ICO Jonah's birthday!	27 10:30 a.m. Torah Study
28 9:20 a.m. Religious School Purim						

*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 and we will read from the Torah and one or more individuals will be called to the Torah for an Aliyah.



MARCH 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THURS	FRI	*SAT
	1	2 5:30 p.m. Beginner Hebrew 7 p.m. Ritual / Pulpit Committee Meeting	3 6 p.m. Hebrew School	4 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	5 7 p.m. Shabbat Service / Oneg host to be announced <i>Rabbi Away</i>	6 No Torah Study
7 9:20 a.m. Religious School	8	9 10 a.m. Book Club Meeting No Beginner Hebrew	10 6 p.m. Hebrew School	11 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study <i>Rabbi Returns</i>	12 7 p.m. Family Service / <i>Oneg</i> host to be announced	13 10:30 a.m. Torah Study
14 9:20 a.m. Religious School 	15	16 5:30 p.m. Beginner Hebrew	17 6 p.m. Hebrew School	18 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	19 7 p.m. Torah Service / Oneg host to be announced	20 10:30 a.m. Torah Study 7 p.m. Pizza and a Movie 
21 9:20 a.m. Religious School	22	23 5:30 p.m. Beginner Hebrew 7 p.m. TBE Board Meeting	24 6 p.m. Hebrew School	25 2 p.m. Intermediate Hebrew Study	26 7 p.m. Ser- vice / Oneg host to be announced	27 10:30 a.m. Torah Service
28 9:20 a.m. Religious School	29 Passover begins at Sunset	30 Second Passover Seder at Temple 	31 No Hebrew School			

*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 and we will read from the Torah and one or more individuals will be called to the Torah for an Aliyah.



Contributions

GENERAL FUND

Florence Handen

In memory of Jacob Goldstein

Dr. Orel Friedman

In honor of Ralph Leinoff

Florence Handen

In memory of Rabbi Dick Sobel

David & Paula Handen

In memory of Rabbi Dick Sobel

Jean & Leonard Every

In memory of Rabbi Dick Sobel

Chris, Katie, Tyler & Jonathan Weaver

In memory of Rabbi Dick Sobel

Judith Metzner Shepherd

In memory of Babette and Henry Metzner

Larry J. Greenberg, MD

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Ruth Heller

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Phillip & Kathy Naftaly

In memory of Rabbi Dick Sobel

Howard Serlin

In memory of Rabbi Richard "Dick" Sobel

Norman Enhorning

In memory of Rabbi Dick Sobel. He was always a kind and gracious person. I always enjoyed conversing with him. He will be sorely missed.

Matt & Allison Levin

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Elyse Krantz

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Phyllis & Dan Brown

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Phyllis Feigenbaum

In memory of Bill Feigenbaum

Phyllis Feigenbaum

In memory of Dick Sobel

Sharyn Feldstein-Fox

In memory of William Feigenbaum

GENERAL FUND (Cont.)

Sharyn Feldstein-Fox

In memory of Elliot Pearl

Sharyn Feldstein-Fox

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Melvin Bittman

In memory of Dick Sobel

Benjamin Handen

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Norman & Helen Neslin

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Dr. Orel Friedman

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Ralph Leinoff

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Jack & Lois Hellman

In memory of Rabbi Dick Sobel

Hilda Grunblatt

In memory of Dr. Samuel Waterman

Hilda Grunblatt

In memory of Dr. Jacques Grunblatt

Donna Futia

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Marcy Flores

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Barbara Friedman Plasse

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Jonathan & Dale Nemer

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Joel Friedman

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Rampart Casino

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Sandy, Martha and Chuck Searleman and Beth, Derek and Layla McDonnell

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Jeffrey & Deirdre Hill

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

(continued on next page)



Contributions (Cont.)

GENERAL FUND (Cont.)

Bill Paulos, Bill Wortman, Guy Hillyer and Tom Lettero of Cannery Casino Resorts, LLC

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Roger & Myriam Friedman

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Dale Tracy & Jerry Starr

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Jeffrey Rose

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

David & Sari Erlanger

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Abraham & Clara Rudnick

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Martin & Maxine Wasserman

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Ronald & Eva Pierce

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Eleanor Elliott

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Lillian Leibman

In memory of Dick Sobel

Paul and Rebecca Wasserman Rubenstein

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel—He was an amazing teacher and friend for many years.

Sonny Segan

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Paul & Betty Gancher

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Rose Cohen

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

David & Priscilla Borchardt

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Fred & Nancy Fagelman

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Falk and Wolpert Families

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Ralph Leinoff

In memory of Rose Leinoff

GENERAL FUND (Cont.)

Ralph Leinoff

In memory of Nathan Barry

Ralph Leinoff

In memory of Sadie Barondess

Sandy Terwilliger & Larry Silver

In memory of Herman Silver

Judaica Shop of Temple Beth El (Louise Binns)

My final donation from the Judaica Shop. Farewell!!!

Mitchell & Susan Frost

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Michael Shaw

In appreciation of the Levy family hosting a 70th birthday celebration for Joseph Groome at Temple Beth El

Dr. Jay & Linda Yarnis

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Marcia Simon & Jean Bendon

In memory of our cousin, Rabbi Richard Sobel

Dorothy Creager

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Paltrowitz Family

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Hilda Grunblatt

In honor of Suzanne Seay's conversion

Karen Marks

In honor of Suzanne Seay

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Joyce Yaffee

In appreciation for Rabbi Durbin's guidance, empathy, and leadership: "You helped make my most difficult life experience 'tolerable,' and you were inspiring beyond my greatest hopes. You honored my mother. Many thanks."

Judith Metzner Shepherd

In memory of Rabbi Richard J. Sobel

Helene Rudnick

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

(continued on next page)



Contributions (Cont.)

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Leah Conklin

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Robert & Joan Aronson

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Jack & Lois Hellman

In celebration of Suzanne Seay receiving her Hebrew name

ENDOWMENT FUND

Mike & Gilda Siegel

In memory of Jacob Goldstein

Judith Metzner Shepherd

In memory of Vilma and Charles Gelman & Jeanette and Herman Metzner

Mike & Gilda Siegel

In memory of Rabbi Dick Sobel

Mike & Gilda Siegel

In memory of Morris "Uncle Moe" Miller

Judith Metzner Shepherd

In celebration of Suzanne Seay receiving her Hebrew name

Mike & Gilda Siegel

In honor of Suzanne Seay's conversion

Robert & Barbara Rosoff

In memory of Rabbi Richard Sobel

Robert & Barbara Rosoff

In honor of Suzanne Seay

CEMETERY FUND

Ruth Lichtman

In memory of Sherman Lichtman

Albert Beson

Ruth Lichtman

In memory of Sarah Wolf

Ruth Lichtman

In memory of Rabbi Sobel

Torah Portions

February 6:

Ex. 18:1-20:23

Pr. Is. 6:1-7:6; 9:5-6

February 13:

Ex. 21:1-24:18; Num. 28:9-15

Ex. 30:11-16

Pr. II Kings 12:1-17

I Sam. 20:18, 42

February 20:

Ex. 25:1-27:19

Pr. I Kings 5:26-6:13

February 27:

Ex. 27:20-30:10

Deut. 25:17-19

Pr. I Sam 15:2-34

Rental Space at Temple

Temple is starting a new initiative, as we also seek to revitalize an old one. First, the new: Tai Chi classes. An instructor with thirteen years' experience will be offering a beginning and an intermediate class on Monday evenings in our Social Hall. Further details will soon be available. We look forward to both the revenue this provides as well as the opportunity to welcome the greater Glens Falls community into our spiritual and cultural home. I'm told that there are many people looking to rent space for their programs and we have the room. If you know someone who might be interested, let us know and we'll take it from there! As with those who currently rent space in our building, those who wish to use our space must be willing to yield to Jewish holidays and other Temple activities when a conflict arises.

Second: Please consider having *B'nai Mitzvot*, weddings and other family celebrations at Temple and encourage family and friends to consider using our facilities as well. There is no fee for Temple members and we offer excellent accommodations at a favorable rate for non-members. Please call Katie at the Temple office for information.

Thank you!

Thank you to Todd Feigenbaum and the staff at Feigenbaum Cleaners for once again taking such good care of our embroidered tablecloths.



We Remember

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

February 5

Edward Buyer, Guglielmo D'Amico, *Sadie Esner, Louis Feigenbaum, *Anna Maslon, *Babette Metzner, George Pfeiffer, *Rose Sollosy Rabhan, Nathan Rosoff, Faye Schlesinger, *Louisa Sommer, Phillip Stogel, *Isidore Winer, *Beulah S. Yanklowitz

February 12

Sadie Barondess, Mollie Bourstein, Helen Levin, *Emanuel Pawel, *Henry Pawel, Philip Sovetts, Etta Wein

February 19

*Sharon Barclay, Alan Bessen, *Sophia Cline, Isadore Cohyen, Saul Goldfarb, Gussie Gordon, Otto Heller, *Dr. Abraham Reed, Marcia Siegel Tanzman, Melvina Wieder

February 26

Ida Frank Blecker, John Brunell, A. William Cohn, Dora Honigsbaum Elitzer, Harry Feldman, David Gancher, Anna Goldstein, *Henry J. Metzner, *Moses Metzner, Blanche Salomon, *Dorothy Seidel, Rose Seidman, Saul Silverstein, *Florence Sobel, Max Stichman, Charles Alfred Togut, Samuel Wolf, Richard Yamin, Marcy Young, Barnet Zackowitz

(*name appears on yahrzeit plaque in the sanctuary)

Book Club

Here are the next three books that our book club will be reading: February 09, 2010: Mornings on Horseback by David McCullough; March 09, 2010: The Devil in the White City by Erik Larson; and 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

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Tree of Life

On January 30 we celebrated *Tu B'Shevat* - the New Year of the Trees. While the trees outside are far from showing their first buds, our Tree of Life continues to grow.

In honor of their birthdays, Gilda and Mike Siegel each have a leaf on our Tree of Life given to them by their daughter, Donna Futia.

Don't forget our Tree of Life when you want to recognize a special occasion for family and friends.

Call me at 792-1023 or e-mail me at barbnob24@yahoo.com for information.

Barbara Rosoff

Temple-Synagogue Religious School

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Temple Beth El History—Part 26 - "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.]

"Behold a good doctrine has been given unto you, forsake it not." This verse, repeated in our Temple many times, was a source of inspiration to the Sisterhood. Guardians of a sacred trust, earnestly and faithfully, we worked during 1926-1927 for Beth El. It is not necessary to enumerate again every activity of the year, or to name each one who worked.

Our Temple was dedicated on September 28, 1926. David B. Alpert, a senior student in the Jewish Institute of Religion, continued with us, coming for every other weekend. He gave us all the time he could spare from his studies, conducted services more times than had been expected; we practically had the services that year that a resident rabbi might have given.

Our Home Room contained a rather sad group in September when we gathered to bid farewell to Mr. and Mrs. Gus Jacoby who were leaving Glens Falls, and our congregation, to make their home in Louisville, Ky. They were charter members, capable and well liked, the loss of their active, and often leading, participation in all the work of our congregation would be felt greatly. The organization presented them with a traveling bag as a token of affection, and sincerely wished that the fortunate business venture need not have taken them away.

We met again, as in former years, in October, to say "farewell till we meet again" to Mr. and Mrs. Julius Jacobson and their sister, Miss Carrie Goldstein, before they left for the South in November. Mr. and Mrs. Jacobson presented us with their newly-taken photographs, suitably framed for our Home Room. Their kind smiling faces add cheer since then to each of our gatherings, even when they themselves are not present.

The work of our Sisterhood proceeded in steady routine. Food sales, rummage sales, card parties were planned and successfully conducted through united effort, no matter who took the lead. There was a rummage sale October 21-22, a large public card party and dance November 22. The second-Tuesday-each-month affair in our Home Room began January 25 and will doubtless be continued the coming year. These affairs were each in charge of four members (in alphabetical order) and were invariably profitable, since there was little expense involved. Those in charge furnishing the refreshments, prizes, and often something to be raffled as well.

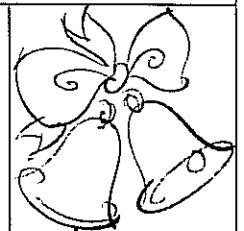
A public supper was tried, but the return did not justify the work. Card parties with simple refreshments and prizes, where the social contact was pleasing, were found to be most profitable for our Home Room gatherings. Nevertheless, having a fully equipped kitchen, a supper will doubtless be tried again and may prove more encouraging. Occasionally money was given to us in memory of the departed.

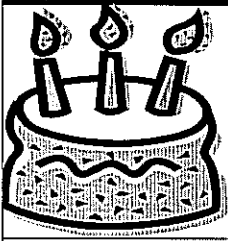
Religious services were conducted every Friday evening in the Temple, as Rabbi Alpert earnestly desired. 1926-1927 was the first year in the history of Beth El that services were conducted every Friday evening. Members of the congregation acted "rabbi" the alternate Fridays Rabbi Alpert was absent. If the choir was also absent, the congregation sang hymns accompanied by one of our young folk on the violin or at the piano.

Max Cline was rabbi frequently, preached several good sermons. His Bible readings and commentary were instructive and appropriate. Dr. Morris Maslon introduced a series of health talks that proved splendid Torah. These talks continued for a number of alternate Fridays. On January 14, by Dr. Maslon's invitation, Dr. Munson of the New York State Board of Health gave an illustrated talk on toxins and anti-toxins as a preventative in the treatment of diphtheria.

Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov to **Dylan Martin** (son of Temple Beth El's Musical Director Diane and Bill Martin) and **Allison Hennigan** (daughter of Pam and Michael Hennigan of Huntsville, Alabama) who married on Monday, January 4, 2010 in Decatur, Alabama.





Happy Birthday!

Denise Jackson (2/3), Beth McDonnell (2/5), Cathy Viele (2/6), Elizabeth Solomon (2/9), Dale Tracy (2/11), Tammy Kafin Taylor (2/12), Louise Binns (2/14), Samuel Marks (2/16), Lisa DeLuca (2/17), Don Schwartz (2/17), Jonah Levin (2/18—5 years old!!), Kathy Naftaly (2/19), Mitch Corton (2/20), Charles Waimon (2/22), Jonathan Nemer (2/23), Jared Brender (2/26), Deena Gill (2/27)

Get Well Soon

Lydia Adler, Helen Ahern, Rabbi Jeffrey Ballon, Ronald Binns, Paul Cattabiani, Maryann Charlabois, Mia Corton, John Dessingue, Victor Friedman, Herb Goldstein, Allan Gordon, Jacqueline Gordon, Hilda Grunblatt, Mark Grunblatt, Mike Jucowics, Chris Kobel, Paula Knight, Ellen Leibman, Linda Leinoff, Joan Livingston, Jan McBean, Gilbert Metz, Gerald Miller, Sade Paige, Dave Peyton, Tom Reid, Edie Rudnick, Alan Schwartz, Sonny Segan, Ariel Sharon, Frank Sheridan, Sue Silverberg, Helen Silverstein, Carol Wells, Jarod Winchell, Bertel Wolfe



Happy Anniversary!

Michael & Gilda Siegel (2/9 - 58 years)
Daniel & Phyllis Brown (2/13—22 years)
Robert & Barbara Rosoff (2/20—38 years)

Our Condolences

Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth El, Dick Sobel, passed away on Saturday, December 26, 2009 at the age of 72. Dick Sobel was the husband of Elaine Sobel, father of Rabbi Sharon L. Sobel, Isaac Sobel, David (and Marilyn) Sobel, Michael Sobel, Ari (and Christina Drum) Sobel, Naomi (and Jonathan) Marks, Sandra (and Yann Jallu) Scolnik, Edyce (and Michael) Mulligan, and Daniel Scolnik, and grandfather of Heather Ward, Katie Sobel, Samantha Sobel, Adam Mulligan, Sarah Sobel, Elizabeth Mulligan, Rachel Mulligan, Leon Jallu, Zoe Sobel-Drum, Sydney Marks, Aimee Jallu, Xavier Marks and Makis (Max) Sobel-Drum.

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Katie Weaver

*The February issue of The Shofar is dedicated
in memory of Temple's Rabbi Emeritus
Richard "Dick" Sobel*

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 (tbeqfny@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 March issue of
The Shofar is Monday, February 15th!**