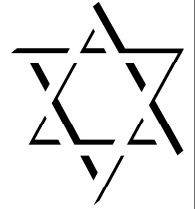




SHALOM NEWS

BETH ISRAEL



THE JEWISH CONGREGATION OF SUN CITY CENTER

DECEMBER 2013

BETH ISRAEL ANNUAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2013

7:00 PM

This is your invitation to attend the annual meeting of Beth Israel, the Jewish Congregation of Sun City Center. At this meeting, you will have the opportunity to meet the current Board members, review the budget for the coming year, learn about plans to spruce up and renovate the building, and ask any questions you might have about your synagogue or its governing body.

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Happy Chanukah!

Shalom News

Published monthly by

Beth Israel

The Jewish Congregation

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FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

Rabbi Carla Freedman

As I write this, former President George W. Bush is preparing to speak at a fund raising dinner to benefit an organization whose stated goal is the conversion of the Jews. As far as I can tell, this is a radical departure for Mr. Bush, who has been considered friendly to Jews and an ardent supporter of the State of Israel. It is also a radical departure from the usual behaviour of former presidents, who generally engage in acts of humanitarian generosity, supporting causes that bring peace, safety and enlightenment to people all over the globe. Otherwise, they maintain a relatively low profile and eschew controversy.

The organization Mr Bush is helping, Messianic Jewish Bible Institute, trains people in the United States and in Israel, to convert Jews to its belief system. A number of "messianic rabbis" ("messianic" is code for "Jews for Jesus") are prime movers in this organization. But no branch of Judaism considers "messianic Jews" as legitimate Jews. These are people who were born to Jewish families, and who have accepted Jesus as their personal saviour. They vehemently deny that they are Christians, and point out that they do not celebrate Christian holy days. They hold their worship services according to the Jewish calendar, and they wear kippot and tallitot. Their liturgies are similar to ours, except that they contain references to Jesus, of course. And their sanctuaries, tallitot and other accoutrements are decorated with symbols that most Jews readily identify as Christian.

The point of departure from normative Judaism is their belief in Jesus. But that is no small thing. Judaism teaches that the messiah has not come yet, and these folks are waiting for him to return. They believe that the failure of the Jews to accept Jesus is a major reason for his delay in returning, and they are committed to helping us "see the light".

These fervent followers of Jesus have understood the establishment of the State of Israel as a harbinger of the coming end of days, to be heralded by the return of Jesus. The conversion of the remaining Jews is still required, however, to complete the task, and so they enter this process with zeal, because they think their efforts will usher in an era of peace and triumph for the true believers.

Most branches of Christianity accept that they are required by their faith to share the "good news" of their beliefs with others, which they consider an act of kindness and generosity. But they understand that "no" means "no". "Messianic Jews" are less inclined to back off, because they think they, as our kinfolk, are doing us a great favour, as well as literally saving the world.

What is the former president thinking as he commits himself to this cause? We all know that he has experienced redemption through his faith, and undoubtedly he wants to share that accomplishment with others. It is possible that he has always believed that this effort to convert the Jews is part of his religious path, and that, until now, he has chosen not to press the point. It is unlikely that Mr. Bush follows the media outlets which have castigated him for the insensitivity of his current actions, so he may not know that his choice, to speak to this group, is earning him rebukes, rejections, and worse, ridicule. Perhaps he is surrounded by like-thinking people who shield him from such reactions.

This is not a matter of politics. In choosing to endorse this organization by his presence and giving a speech at its annual fund raising event, the former president is betraying his service to this country as president of all the people. He is entitled to his beliefs, as are we all. But his beliefs are supposed to stop where ours begin. If Mr Bush wants to support this cause, he should do so discreetly. His decision to step into the spotlight in support of this cause is an affront to the separation of church and state, because his value to this organization lies in his former occupancy of the highest office of the land.

This is a shanda.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ELLEN STEIN

So what's the difference between anticipation and expectation? Perhaps it's in our attitude. One is hope and the other is entitlement. Hope allows for a number of things to happen and keeps us open to possibilities while expectation usually has a very specific outcome. It relies on other people to react and behave in the way we want them to.

Anticipation is like being on pins and needles and gives us a feeling of excitement about something pleasant (or not) that you know is going to happen. Expectation almost always comes with pre-conceived notions that may involve other people. This kind of thinking keeps you constantly on edge because it's pretty hard to figure out what another person might do. Expectation leaves an opening for us to not take responsibility when things don't go our way and makes it very easy to blame other people. Expectations are bad news because it takes away the right of others to do what they want.

Here's how we can apply this today. Think of something you want involving other people and reflect on how you've been handling it. If you are continually disappointed because your expectations aren't met, maybe use anticipation instead. In any case, hope for the best.

So let's apply the above to our plans for Beth Israel. What will the secular new year bring us? Will we anticipate fruition of the plans set down by the Capital Projects Planning Committee? Do we expect to fulfill our visions for the future? So far this committee has completed many projects without much fanfare. I suspect that we will anticipate good things to come, not only in Beth Israel but in all areas of our lives. I think we can achieve whatever we believe as long as we're willing to work for it. And working for it in our sense of the word is having the means to fulfill our visions. Which brings us back to today's subject. WE anticipate that you will not only fulfill your promises but exceed them. WE expect you to do this in a timely manner. Now it's your turn: WE anticipate fulfilling our promises to keep Beth Israel alive and beautiful so as to provide us with a place of worship of which we can be proud. WE expect this to be done within the time frame provided.

As we enter our *kehilla kedosh* and continue into the Sanctuary hoping for a packed house, we expect to be greeted by the Rabbi (as we are) in anticipation of a beautiful and meaningful service. Let's fulfill our expectations of bringing Beth Israel into the 21st century with our hearts brimming with a sense of ownership. (A new coat of paint wouldn't be so bad either.) Thank you from the bottom of my heart to those who have come forward to complete our dream and, to those of you who have not yet joined the caravan, get on board!!!!

Since this issue of Shalom News will arrive simultaneously with Hannukah, the Board of Directors and I would like to take this opportunity to extend to you and yours the happiness that comes with this joyous holiday. The story of Hannukah is a combination of fact and legend, with a little miracle thrown in. As we celebrate the rededication of the Second Temple, keep in your mind the miracle that Beth Israel is to us.

I look forward to greeting each of you in person at our annual meeting on December 18th. It is important that you keep the date in mind and plan to be present.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to Beth Israel. **Please add their information to your membership directory**, and please let them know how happy we are to have them as members of our congregational community:

Judy Branch & Ken Rodman, 2250 Brookfield Greens Cr., Sun City Center (813) 746-1222, JL branch @hotmail .com

Ronald & Paula Newburger, 16137 Amethyst Key Dr., Wimauma, FL 33598, (813) 633-1211, meemato5@gmail.com

Barbara Nova & Barry Friedman, 16211 Amethyst Key Dr., Wimauma, FL 33598 (813)938-5050, baknova@yahoo.com

Ellen Lebowitz, 840 King Leon Way, Sun City Center (813) 331-3131, egramazona@aol.com

Candace Stanlake, 1618 N. Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City Center 33573 (305) 925-4193, cjstanlake@yahoo.com

Laura Borak, 1010 American Eagle Blvd., #724, Sun City Center, FL 33573 (813) 260-3972 (RETURNING MEMBER)

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

CHERYL KAPLAN

On January 5, 2014 at 2:00 PM we will have a speaker at Beth Israel to discuss Balance Issues and Maintaining a Healthy Lifestyle. The topic is certainly on target for our congregation and it affects us all. There will NOT be a charge for this event and we will have refreshments in the Social Hall following the program. If you would like to attend you can call me at (813) 633 3188 or email me at iquit2010@yahoo.com to place your reservation. A reminder email will be going out in December.

On January 13 & 14, 2014 we will have our Scholar In Residence program led by Rev. Dr. Carol Johannsen. The topic will be "A Spiritual Job Description For Elders". From her description of the class – "The Rev. Dr. Carole Johannsen, a board-certified chaplain, focused her doctoral work on the spiritual role of people over 70. It is not enough to do what we've always done, comforting and inspiring as that may be. At our age-Johannsen is 71 and counting-we lean toward other work: that of reflection, assessing what has been, celebrating and mourning and recognizing our legacy and our ethical wills, and looking forward to what life still holds for us". The workshop will run 9-12 both days; we will have a continental breakfast on Monday at 8:00 AM, and a light luncheon following the workshop on Tuesday. The cost for this event will be \$10.00 pp. Reservations can be made by calling me at (813) 633 3188 or emailing me at iquit2010@yahoo.com. An email with more information concerning the workshop will be going out the first week of December.

This is certainly an interesting topic and I hope you are looking forward to it as much as I am.

Any questions, please do not hesitate to call me.

Cheryl Kaplan

(813) 633 3188

iquit2010@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Shelly Grossman & Sheila Rubenstein
Co-Directors

A warm welcome back to our Beth Israel snowbirds! We look forward to seeing you at services and at our many meetings and functions.

My co-chair and friend Sandy Abramson, has resigned this position to take over the Gift shop. Many, many, thanks for all her hard work and wonderful help. I know she will keep our gift shop filled with all things bright and beautiful.

Our new co-chair in membership is Sheila Rubenstein. We look forward to working together and to keeping our Beth Israel family growing.

Since last month, we have 8 new members that have joined our Beth Israel family. Please say hello to: Paula & Ronald Newberger, Barbara Nova & Barry Friedman, Judy Branch & Ken Rodman, Eileen Lebowitz and Candace Stanlake, and returning member, Laura Borak.

We hope the coming holidays will be filled with plenty of food and fun. Enjoy!

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RITUAL DIRECTOR
FRED LEVINE



What an exciting time of year. By the time our members receive the email or USPS mailing of the Shalom News, Hanukkah will be half over with. Looking forward through the end of February – we only have the Fast of the 10th day of Tevet, which is December 13th. This fast is in conjunction with the siege of Jerusalem in the year 586 BCE. On January 16th we celebrate Tu B'Shevat, the New Year of Trees and we eat the first fruits from the trees. Sort of quiet since the High Holy Days.

During this quiet time of the year, the ritual committee had a really great meeting to review the High Holy Day services and everything that goes on with the holidays to critique and to help plan for next year. There is really a lot to plan for other than just the actual service such as: Erev Rosh Hashanah Meal, Break the Fast meal, tickets, ushers, greeters at the front door, memorial booklets, pledge cards, Aliyahs, Pesichas (honors) etc. etc. etc... We do plan on meeting again in the near future to review Shabbat services and to hopefully semi finalize plans for 5775 (2014).

A few months ago I wrote an article on how I was asked to serve on different committees and participate in services at the synagogue I belonged to when I lived in New York. Now I have a two favors to ask of our members of Beth Israel, which will hopefully make my job a little easier. **I did request the following information from over 230 members – and in 3 months have had less than 12 responses.**

#1: I would like to have the English and Hebrew names of all members of Beth Israel. So – you're asking why would Fred want these. Simple answer. When we call members up to the Torah for an Aliyah, they are called by their Hebrew name. G-d forbid, when the time comes and someone wants to donate a memorial plaque, we have all of the necessary information available. If you should become ill and the Rabbi, Chaplain, or Ritual Director visits you, we have the Hebrew name to say the Mishaberach prayer.

Member Name – English: _____

Member Name - Hebrew: _____

Father's Hebrew Name: _____

Mother's Hebrew Name: _____

This information can be left off at the Temple or emailed to me at your convenience.

#2: This is a definite must – keeping our Mishaberach list updated. I believe that members of Beth Israel, plus relatives and friends of members of Beth Israel would very much appreciate our prayers for their healing. We do have a semi current listing of these people and we do ask at services for the names of others who are ill. Sometimes, this has become like the "Isadore syndrome – (Izzy)".

An example of this is on Friday evening we might have 10 names mentioned who are not on our list. The next morning at services, we do not have their names when we do the Mishaberach prayer. So – we ask ourselves on Saturday morning – Izzy still sick, Izzy better, Izzy in the hospital, Izzy home, Izzy recovered, Izzy only ill when the congregant comes to services to mention the name(s). So – all I am asking the members of Beth Israel is to forward the names of anyone who is ill and needs our prayers to Delyse Axinn, so she can update our list.

#3: Participation in our Friday evening Shabbat services. Please sign up for participation during services. We have a sign up sheet posted in the Gibson Social Hall. If you are celebrating a simcha or attending services for a yahrtzeit, There is no better way to celebrate or to remember a loved one by coming up to the bimah for an aliyah, opening the ark, carry / dressing the Torah. I will thank everyone in advance for your help in this matter.

Chodesh Tov to everyone

Fred Levine

Ritual Chair

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Beth Israel now has a JUDAIC/ETHNIC ARTS COMMITTEE

People who are downsizing, entering retirement facilities or moving away often seek special disposal of treasured, religious or ethnic paintings, tapestries, jewelry, sculptures, etc.

If the job is left to family, please let them know that you'd like unwanted Judaic/ Ethnic items donated to the Temple. (If the Committee feels it cannot properly handle them, they may be refused.)

*Committee Members Bob Cobe, Lynn Safian,
 Joan Kramer
 Chairperson, Charna Bogdany 633-1159*

REMEMBRANCE GIFTS

If you are thinking of a way to remember a loved one, don't forget our Memorial plaques or Bricks at the Meditation Garden. Call the office at 634-2590 and leave a message.

Please note there has been a slight increase in cost as of December 1.

The cost of each of these items is as follows

Prayer Book \$35
Leaf on Tree of Life \$100
Plaque on Tree of Life \$275
Chair Plaque \$75
Memorial Plaque – member price \$275
Memorial Plaque – non-member \$350
Bricks at Meditation Garden \$100

Beth Israel Library News



DECEMBER, 2013

New Additions with Recommendations:

Einstein : His Life and Universe by Walter Isaacson. An epic biography of the man who some say represents the genius of the complexities of the modern age. Take time to read how Einstein handled fascism, communism and the Cold War as you look at his witty and public persona. (BIOgraphy)

The Ghost Writer by Philip Roth is a unique mixture of autobiography and alternative history. This short novel, the first of a trilogy, introduces Roth's alter ego, Nathan Zuckerman, in a story about the tensions between literature and life, artistic truth and convention. Roth is a literary treasure, and although this is not considered one of his major works, this is definitely a good read. (FICtion)

700 Sundays by Billy Crystal. Crystal tells his own story in this memoir based on his one-man Broadway play of the same name. Amazon says this is a moving memoir of Crystal's youth and the precious days he, a devoted son, shared with his adoring father. (BIOgraphy)

December Library Program

Monday – December 16, 2013

10:00-12:00 for Coffee and Author

Once My Name Was Sara

I. Betty Grebenschikoff, author, will be with us to talk about her memoir, a personal account of her experiences as a child fleeing Germany during World War II and moving to Shanghai.

RSVP if you plan to attend bac.cobe@gmail.com

Next Library/Archive Committee Meeting

Monday, January 20, 2014, 10-12

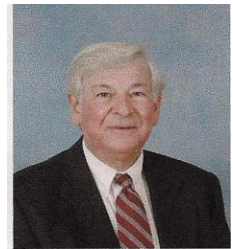
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December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 4 pm Chanukah party	2	3 11:30 Sisterhood Program Com 1 pm Hebrew Class	4 1 pm Canasta 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	5 10 am Jewish History Class 1 pm Mah Jongg	6 7:30 Shabbat Service	7 12 N Torah Study
8	9	10 1 pm Hebrew Class 7 pm Temple Board	11 10 am Men's Club Board 1 pm Canasta 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	12 1 pm Mah Jongg	13 7:30 Shabbat Service	14 10 am Shabbat Service 12 N Torah Study
15	16 10 am Library Committee GIFT SHOP OPEN	17 11 am Wholeness Service 1 pm Hebrew Class	18 12 N Men's Club 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	19 1 pm Mah Jongg	20 7:30 Shabbat Service	21 12 N Torah Study
22	23	24 9:30 am Sisterhood Board 1 pm Hebrew Class	25 1 pm Canasta 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	26 1 pm Mah Jongg	27 7:30 Shabbat Service	28 10 am Shabbat Service 12 N Torah Study
29	30	31	SHABBAT SERVICES WILL BE LED BY RABBI CARLA FREEDMAN EVERY FRIDAY EVENING AT 730 PM AND ON THE 2ND & 4TH SATURDAY AT 1000 AM. WHEN RABBI LEADS AM SERVICE, SHE ALSO LEADS TORAH STUDY. ON ALTERNATE SATURDAYS, TORAH STUDY WILL BE LED BY PAUL GROSSMAN.			



Spotlight on Sisterhood

SANDRA HURWITZ, PRESIDENT

"May the lights of Hanukkah usher in a better world for all humankind."

Author Unknown

Rochelle Lafer and Ron Boyarsky, along with their committees, have worked very hard planning our annual Hanukkah party. This year we moved to a larger location so we could comfortably accommodate everyone.

Our annual paid member luncheon was very well attended. Sandy Zion and her committee made sure everything ran smoothly. Thanks to a generous donation of a beautiful stained glass piece by Sid Goldstein, our raffle was a huge success. All of the proceeds will go to the Women of the Wall project. We definitely have enough to purchase the Tallit.

Sisterhood will not have a general meeting in December, but plan to join us on January 7, 2014 for an informative and delicious program. Our speaker will be Jeanne Shanin. She will talk to us about Healthy Desserts and the board members will prepare some of her recipes for us.

Sandy Abramson will be our new Judaica Shop chairwoman. We extend a huge THANK YOU to Elayne Grossman for her many years of service. She has turned our shop into a very profitable business. The gift shop is open the third Monday of each month from 10 until noon. You can also call Sandy at 634-8863 for an appointment.



Welcome to our newest Sisterhood members
(L to R) Shelley Cohen, Judy Branch and Peggy Cohen

ONEGS SHABBAT

Oneg Shabbat Chairperson

Lyn Safian (634-6013)

lynleestep@mac.com

Our thanks to those people who sponsor Onegs. Supporting an Oneg Shabbat is a mitzvah. If each member would sponsor just one Oneg a year, our calendar would be full.

Please check the Oneg Shabbat list on the bulletin board and sign up to celebrate your special occasion. If you want information about sponsoring an Oneg, please contact the chairperson.

The committee is willing to shop only for those members who are physically unable to shop for themselves. Thanks for your participation. Also, if you have just signed up, please call the chairperson to confirm the date.

Dec. 6 - Jeanne Shanin - gratitude for warm welcome from the congregation

Dec. 13 - Charna Bogdany - mom's 105th birthday

Dec. 20 - Tzipporah and Bob Whiteman - both their birthdays

Dec. 27 - Ina and Alan Stull - 64th anniversary

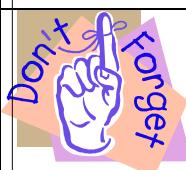
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Judaica Library**

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*I don't know what your destiny will be,
but one thing I do know:
the only ones among you who will be really happy
are those who have
sought and found how to serve.*

-Albert Schweitzer

WAYS & MEANS

Carol Balent, Director

AVON FUND-RAISER

What a great deal! This is your chance to help our Temple out in a small way.

How can you beat Avon's 4 - piece pack for \$10.00 each?

Avon will give back 40% of the profit earned from all Temple sales until December 9th. Orders and payment must be turned in to our Rep. by the 9th. Sell it to your friends, family or give it as a gift. This fund-raiser is a very simple win - win for you and the Temple. Please take advantage of the low prices offered to us from our Avon Fund-raising Representative. Let's take advantage of this impressive amount of return from Avon.

Please contact Carol Balent to place an order.

Beth Israel presents

"A NIGHT AT THE RACES"

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday May 4, 2014 @ 4:30pm

LOCATION: Community Hall

1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City Center, FL 33573

You will receive further information via email.

Last year we requested donations of wine, liquor, and any new item/items that you have no use for. Our Temple family came through for us in an incredible way. Once again, Ways and Means needs your help. We will not turn down any type of donation as long as it is brand new.

**It's not too early to bring your donations to the Temple. Please leave all items in the office marked:
Carol Balent.**

RUMMAGE SALE - February 9, 10, 11, 2014

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Holly Slamovitz From Jacqueline Schindler
Barara Millstein from Nelson & Ida Grimm
Bob Rubin from Nelson & Ida Grimm

BIRTHDAYS

Cyrille Cobe from Nelson & Ida Grimm

CONDOLENCES

Marvin Maurer in memory of his wife, Eileen from Jacqueline Schindler
Mell Moss in memory of his wife, Pearl from Robert & Lillian Solin

Good luck in your new home to **Alan & Elaine Levin**

2304 Nottingham Greens Dr.,
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CONDOLENCES

We mourn the passing on October 29 of **Pearl Moss**, one of our founding members. Our deepest sympathy to her husband Mel, daughter Ellen, and other family and friends. She will be sadly missed.

Helen Seeman, a former member of Beth Israel and a member of Beth Israel Sisterhood passed away on November 10. Condolences to her family and friends.

MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR



Dec 01 Robert Whiteman

Dec 02 Paul Silverman

Dec 02 Lillian Solin

Dec 03 Louis Einhorn

Dec 03 Marcia Silverman

Dec 05 Harold Rudin

Dec 06 Barbara Aspis

Dec 07 Naomi Foreman

Dec 09 Judith Michael

Dec 10 Sandra Zeligman

Dec 11 Laura Borak

Dec 12 Barbara Bauman

Dec 12 Diana Raphael

Dec 14 Linda Barrett

Dec 17 Ed Berkun

Dec 20 Jacqueline Schindler

Dec 21 Tzipporah Whiteman

Dec 22 Alan Berkov

Dec 25 Robert Solin

Dec 28 Charna Haimes

Dec 28 Charles Margulies

Dec 30 Susan Linky

Dec 30 Len Meltzer

Dec 31 Arnold Greenstein

A very happy belated birthday wish to Neal Rosen, whose Nov. 1 birthday was inadvertently omitted from last month's issue of Shalom News.

Congratulations to the following couples who are celebrating anniversaries this month

Dec 03 Butch & Judi Cohen

Dec 03 Paul & Shelly Grossman

Dec 19 Neal & Joy Rosen

Dec 22 Joseph & Pearl Birnbaum

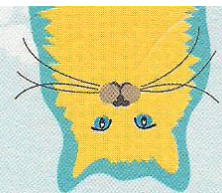
Dec 23 Joseph & Sandra Zeligman

Dec 26 Stephen & Hilde Klein

Dec 26 Gerald & Carol Lakritz



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ASK THE RABBI

Question: Why is the blessing over the wine, which we sing in the Social Hall every Friday evening, so much longer than the blessing over the bread which we sing there each Shabbat as well?

Answer: In fact, the blessing over the wine and the blessing over the bread are about the same length.



What you are correctly noting, however, is that the blessing over the wine (which ends: *borey p'ri hagafen*) is followed directly with a second blessing, which is referred to as *kiddush*, sanctification. If you look at the text provided on page 5 of our prayer book, you will see that the translation of the second paragraph speaks about the Sabbath day, referring to it as “our heritage”, “a reminder of the work of creation”, which “recalls the exodus from Egypt”. These words tell us why Shabbat is an occasion to be celebrated, and to be made holy, as we are commanded in the Torah (Ex. 20:8). In Hebrew, the word “holy” is *kadosh*. Its essential meaning is “set apart, special”. How do we make the Sabbath day special, how do we set it apart from other days? For the rabbis who gave us most of our rituals, the answer seemed to be to identify things we do daily, and then invest them with some special actions or practices for Shabbat, which would remind us that this day is different. For example, in antiquity, people probably lit candles every evening as it got dark out. But candles were expensive, so they didn’t use them for very long; they extinguished the candles and went to sleep! But on Shabbat, the rabbis told us not to extinguish the candles, so that we would make the day different in a dramatic way.

Similarly, our ancestors drank wine every day, and multiple times a day (it was really their only beverage). And they said the blessing over the wine every time, as we are supposed to do. So to call attention to the drinking of wine on Shabbat, the rabbis added the second paragraph to the blessing sung on Friday evenings, which makes clear that Shabbat is an important and holy occasion. That blessing is sung in conjunction with the blessing over the wine, to make Shabbat special.

Because the blessing over the wine comes before the blessing over the bread, the special Shabbat paragraph is recited over the wine, and there is no need to prolong the blessing over the bread.

However, it is interesting to note that, in the absence of wine or grape juice, the second paragraph of the blessing over the wine is recited over the challah. In previous times, the challah itself marked Shabbat as special, because : 1) it is made from white flour, signifying that it has been finely ground; and b) it is braided. Other days of the week, our ancestors ate dark bread made from coarse flour (the more the grinding, the more expensive the bread), without any embellishments (ie braiding). We today can eat bread made of finely ground flour any time we want, and since we do not usually make it ourselves, we have no sense of what time and effort go into making it fancy. By comparison, the wine consumed every day was probably the same as the wine over which they made kiddush. So it needed a little extra help to be “special, set apart”.

L' chayim!

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

As of November 14, 2013

Reported by Elizabeth Jacobs, Treasurer, and Paul Grossman, Financial Secretary

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contribu-

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Sandra Abramson	In memory of Maurice Abramson, father-in-law of Sandra
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Sandra Abramson	In memory of Sarah Kagan, grandmother of Sandra
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Martin & Sandra Hurwitz	In memory of Sylvia Hurwitz, mother of Martin
Martin & Sandra Hurwitz	In memory of Jay Markowitz, father of Sandra
Martin & Sandra Hurwitz	In memory of Pearl Moss, wife of Mel Moss
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Richard Kravitz	In memory of Rose Kravitz, mother of Richard
Alison & Stephen Levine	In memory of Shirley Robbins, mother of Alison
Richard & Marsha Marshall	In support of Beth Israel's internet expenses
Jerome & Barbara Millstein	In thankfulness for Barbara's continued recovery
Ronni & Mark Neckes	In memory of Sidney Neckes, father of Mark
Laura & Roland Reuterfors	In memory of Anders Eriksson, father of Roland
Doris Richman	In memory of Harold Abramson, brother of Doris
Gloria & Sherwood Rubin	In honor of Mimi Levine's "95" birthday
Robert & Idalea Rubin	In memory of Edward Rubin, father of Robert
Robert & Idalea Rubin	In memory of Frances (Cookie) Rubin, late wife of Robert
Seymour Schaffer	In memory of Yetta Schaffer, mother of Seymour
Roslyn & Herbert Shapiro	In memory of Milton Niedenthal, father of Roslyn
Ellen Stein	In memory of Sophia Neitlich Leff & Nathan Neitlich, parents of Ellen

Maintenance & Improvement Fund

Arnold Greenstein	In support of Beth Israel
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This is the list of the funds which were set up to help ensure that your donations are put to use in the area of your choice. When making contributions to Beth Israel, the Jewish Congregation, whether it be for a Yahrzeit, a mitzvah, or for any other reason, please specify the fund (or funds) to which you would like your donation directed. Undesignated donations will go to the General Operating Fund.

GENERAL OPERATING FUND for a wide variety of operating needs

MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT FUND for ongoing Temple maintenance and improvements

FURMAN/LEE FAMILY MEMORIAL/RABBI FUND for the generation of income to defray Rabbi's expenses

CANTOR FUND for the generation of income to defray the Cantorial Soloist's expenses

JANE FISHMAN KITCHEN FUND for kitchen improvements

PRESIDENT'S DISCRETIONARY FUND for assistance of community and individual needs

ARTHUR & SELMA PELLEGRINO STAINED GLASS WINDOW FUND for the addition of stained glass windows to the Henry Gibson Social Hall

CHAPLAIN EDUCATION FUND for providing educational opportunities

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE FUND for a weekend seminar

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

MEN'S CLUB REPORT

Paul Grossman – President



Thus far, seventy two (72) men have elected to join the Men's Club. If you are one of the 72, thank you for choosing to be with us. If you have not joined yet, but you have that application still sitting at home, please consider completing it and sending it to us, along with your annual dues payment of \$18.

On Wednesday, December 18th, at 12:00 PM, we will hold our annual business meeting AND this will be our paid-up member lunch.

On the agenda, in addition to our Directors bringing you up to date on our activities and plans, we will hold an election for six Director vacancies. Additionally, we will be voting whether or not to accept recommended changes to our by-laws. Informational packages were mailed in mid-November, to all paid-up members, including a proxy ballot. If you still have not joined and wish to do so, please contact me, by December 11, so that we can provide you with the necessary information.

Lunch that afternoon will be catered by our very own, world acclaimed BBQ chef Dick Marshall and will feature his finger-lickin good BBQ chicken, with all the fixin. RSVP information is provided in the informational package and reminders will be sent out.

Coming attractions for January and February, with more detailed information to follow are:

Sunday, January 26, 2014, at 10:30 AM – Bagels & Discovery

Our speaker for this program is award winning **Tampa Bay Times columnist Daniel Ruth**. All members of Beth Israel Men's Club, Sisterhood, and Beth Israel congregation and their guests are welcome to attend. More details to follow in mid-December.

Wednesday, January 29, 2014, at 12 PM – Membership Meeting

Our speaker for this program is **Neil Solondz**, host of the pre-and postgame shows on the **Rays Baseball Network**. Again more details to follow in mid-December.

AND, finally (for now at least);

Sunday, February 16th, at 10:30 AM – our Ladies Day /Valentine's Day weekend celebration

Mark Sforzini, maestro of the St. Petersburg Opera Company, and accompanying vocalists and musicians will be performing. Details are being finalized, but keep this date on your calendar.

All of the above sounds like a lot of fun. So, do keep us in mind, as you fill-in your calendar boxes for 2014.

DECEMBER YAHRZEITS

Yahrzeits are read at the Shabbat Service on the date listed which includes the yahrzeits for the following week-Friday through Thursday.

December 6, 2013

JUDIE GOLDEN, Daughter of SHIRLEY BERGMAN
GERTRUDE GREEN, Mother of DOREEN CARRION
JERRY COHEN, Brother of ANDREW COHEN
WILLIAM SCHMIDT, Father-in-law of MARTIN DAIN
MORTIMER JACOBS, Father of ED JACOBS
MAURICE KLEINMAN, Father of GERALD KLEINMAN
STEVEN SORIN, Nephew of RICHARD KRAVITZ
ANN WEINER, Mother of EILEEN LEBOWITZ
LENA GOLDSTEIN, Mother-in-law of JOANNE MEDLEAU
JACK SCHWARTZ, Late Husband of DEBORAH OZER
MARY FRIEDMAN, Mother of LAURA REUTERFORS
DAVID SHAIKOWITZ, Father of SEYMOUR SHAW
TED ROBERT, Late Husband of TZIPPORAH WHITEMAN
ALEX SLUTZKY
SAMUEL GIBSON

December 13, 2013

JEANETTE BENENSON, Mother of LILLIAN AARON
ROSE ABRAMSON, Mother-in-law of SANDY ABRAMSON
JULIUS BELL, Brother of NATE BELL
DEBORAH LEVINSON, Aunt of NATE BELL
LAURIE BETH, Father of ALAN BETH
SADIE AXELROD, Mother of TRUDY BURKEY
ANNE CASHVAN, Wife of HERBERT CASHVAN
MARIE JACOBS, Mother of ED JACOBS
FANNIE HONICK, Mother of BOOTS KNECHT
ESTHER ROTHLEIN, Sister-in-Law of LEWIS KONIGSBERG
IDA MARSHALL, Grandmother of RICHARD MARSHALL
SAMUEL MARSHALL, Grandfather of RICHARD MARSHALL
LILLIAN ENGORAN, Aunt of LAURA REUTERFORS
SIDNEY LEVY, Uncle of LAURA REUTERFORS
ESTHER SAFIAN, Grandmother of LYN SAFIAN
JANE DEFREITAS
FRANCES WINNICK
PETER SPERLING

December 20, 2013

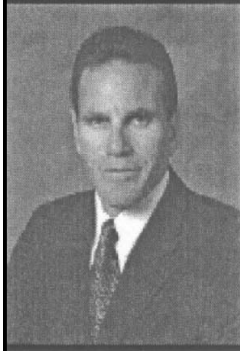
LOUIS HOLLANDER, Father of MARSHA FADER
LOUIS NOLE, Father of JOANNE MEDLEAU
SHELDON KOHL, Father of BARBARA NOVA
EPHRIAM BERMAN, Father of DEBORAH OZER
PHILIP RICHMAN, Husband of DORIS RICHMAN
HELEN ROSEN, Mother of MARCIA SILVERMAN
JULIUS SPIELER, Father of TRUDY STEIN
RACHEL FISCHER, Mother of ADDIE UNTERLACK
MAURICE LOBENSKY, Father of CHARLOTTE ZAROFF
SYLVIA JUPITER

December 27, 2013

HARVEY KEMP, Father of SANDY ABRAMSON
REBECCA GROSSMAN, Mother of GILDA ATKINS
RACHEL IMHOFF, Mother of JUNE BELL
FELMA BERKOV, Mother of ALAN BERKOV
FAE BARNETT, Mother of PEARL BIRNBAUM
JACK COONIN, Father of SHAYNA COONIN

MINNIE BLOOM, Grandmother of ANNETTE GARSON
EDITH BAUM, Mother of BARBARA GROSSMAN
MAX LAFER, Father of WILLIAM LAFER
ROBERT ELLIS, Father of WILMA LEVINE
ABE GASTMAN, Father of LYNNETTE MARTASIN
RACHEL KAGNO, Grandmother of MARK NECKES
EVA GREEN, Mother of RONNI NECKES
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HELENE SHANE, Mother of SHEILA RUBINSTEIN
SOLOMON SAFIAN, Grandfather of LYN SAFIAN
STANLEY SHAPIRO, Brother of HERB SHAPIRO
MARJORIE KAYTON, Sister of LOIS SMERILSON
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DECEMBER NEWSLETTER