

HaShomer

JANUARY 2010

Congregation Beth Shalom

TEVET/SH'VAT 5770

Schedule of Services

January 2010

Tevet/Sh'vat 5770

Friday, January 1, 8:00 pm

Simcha/Shabbat Service

Saturday, January 2

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Torah: Vayechi

Friday, January 8, 8:00 pm

Board Installation Service

Saturday, January 9

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Sheri Allen**

Torah: Shemot

Friday, January 15

Dinner 6:00 pm

Family Service 7:30 pm

Led by **Sheri Allen**

Saturday, January 16

Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Torah: Vaera

Friday, January 22, 8:00 pm

Saturday, January 23

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Torah: Bo

Friday, January 29, 8:00 pm

Led by **Sheri Allen**

Saturday, January 30

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Sheri Allen**

Torah: Beshalach

My Two Shekels

Happy secular New Year everyone. I imagine that many of you follow the tradition of making New Year's resolutions (although as Jews, we've been there and done that at Rosh HaShanah). But it never hurts to revisit, reassess, or revamp those resolutions. So here's one I'd like you to add to the list: make a commitment to attend services on a regular basis this year.

I know what you're thinking: "There she goes again, on the synagogue soapbox, trying to guilt us into doing something that we shouldn't have to be forced into doing."

Well, you're right. You shouldn't have to be motivated by guilt, and attending services should be something that you look forward to, and that you joyfully anticipate. And in a perfect Jewish world, I'm sure everyone would feel this way. But in the five months that I have been here, this is the reality of the situation as I see it (and, as I'm sure the prophet Jeremiah once said, "Please don't shoot me, I'm just the messenger").

The future of Beth Shalom is uncertain. Attendance at services is very low. We often have trouble making a minyan on Shabbat. And commendable as it is that Sisterhood and Brotherhood events are nicely supported, in the long run it will not help save a synagogue where we can't even gather ten Jewish adults to pray on a Saturday morning. Perhaps the most sobering example I can give you is this: a congregant who had to say Kaddish actually went to another area synagogue to do so, as he/she didn't want to risk not being able to say it if there wasn't a minyan at Beth Shalom. When our own members have to go outside the Beth Shalom community to say Kaddish, we are all in trouble. Serious trouble.

One of the things I admire most about this community is how everyone comes together in times of crisis. I have been to several Shiva minyanim now, and I can't tell you how impressed I've been at the outpouring of support for the mourner. At least 50 congregants have been there, food and siddurim in hand, to pray and offer solace. But what we cannot, must not forget, is that after everyone leaves that night, the mourner is still obligated to say Kaddish for the next eleven months. And if those same supporters do not come to services, then this important mitzvah cannot be fulfilled.

There are so many reasons to not attend services. Everyone has busy schedules, and conflicts. Perhaps some aren't comfortable with the Hebrew, or perhaps the melodies aren't familiar. Those are issues that we can work through and find solutions for. But there is one reason *TO* attend that trumps any and all excuses: the survival of Beth Shalom depends on it. It is said that all Jews are responsible for each other. We simply cannot assume that others will come so we don't have to. We need each individual to be counted. I believe that we have created services that are "user friendly", meaningful and full of joy, but they won't be as powerful without your participation. And they will be meaningless without your attendance. And if things don't change dramatically, and soon, I truly believe that we are at risk of losing the synagogue that you have all worked so hard to build.

As difficult (and perhaps risky) as it is for me to voice my concerns, I feel it is my responsibility to do so, because I care greatly about the future of Beth Shalom, and know that it is in your power to ensure that future. And as we begin a new secular new year, I believe that you can, and will make that happen

- Cantor-Elect Sheri Allen



New Member Applications

If you, or anyone you know, is interested in joining the Beth Shalom family, please call our executive director, Janet Aaronson, 817-860-5448

From the President

Vision for the Future

Remarks Delivered at the CBS Annual Meeting, November 15

Good evening. To start with, I would like to thank you, the congregation, for the confidence that you have placed in me. I only hope that I can live up to your expectations. I would also like to thank all of those who have agreed to serve on the incoming board. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Finally, I would also like to thank Stuart Snow for talking me into this. If he had not done that, I would not have stretched myself beyond my comfort zone, and would not have had this opportunity for growth.



We have a vision. This is a vision that is shared by this entire board, both the current one, and the incoming one. It's pretty simple. We want to make Beth Shalom a warm and welcoming place such that people want to come here, and by people, I do mean you.

We want you to come here for services.

We want you to come here for education.

We want you to come here for fun.

Oh yeah, and by the way, we want your children.

I said it's pretty simple, and in theory, it is. In practice, it takes some work; work that we have begun. But we need your help. We need you to meet us halfway.

At the annual meeting, you heard Stuart list all of the positive things from the last year. I would like to reiterate his list and encourage you to find something that we offer that connects with you.

Jewish Reasoning

I was at a loss to write something for this month. A cousin in Amsterdam sent me this piece and it was a perfect example of Talmudic reasoning. I hope you will enjoy it. (The Steinbergs were my cousins).

After months of negotiation with the authorities, a Talmudist from Odessa was finally granted permission to visit Moscow. He boarded the train and found an empty seat. At the next stop, a young man got on and sat next to him. The scholar looked at the young man and he thought: This fellow doesn't look like a peasant, so if he is no peasant he probably comes from this district. If he comes from this district, then he must be Jewish because this is, after all, a Jewish district.

But on the other hand, since he is a Jew, where could he be going? I'm the only Jew in our district who has permission to travel to Moscow. Ahh, wait! Just outside Moscow there is a little village called Samvet, and Jews don't

Come to services. You'd be surprised at how praying among your fellow Jews rejuvenates you. If you have not done so yet, check out our new Family Services on the third Friday of each month. After the first one; I said "this is a home run." The services are wonderful, and the Parsha Plays are amazing (kudos to Richard Allen). It's really great seeing the kids enjoying acting out the plays and learning Torah at the same time.

Our adult education classes this morning were overflowing. Come see what all of the buzz is about, and stimulate your mind at the same time. I promise no one is penalized for joining a class late.

Watch the emails and when you see the notice for the program and you think "hey that might be fun." Make a commitment to be here. For example, if you have not been to one of our movie nights, you owe it to yourself to do so. The movies are good, and the preliminary remarks by Dr. Brent Sasley are very enlightening.

One of the things that we have promised our new board members is that no one will be a committee of one. So if you are not on a committee, I ask you, why not? We need you; all of you. We have our Gala scheduled for May 1, 2010. The Gala committee will be getting underway soon. They have a great time, and many hands make for light work.

We have many programs, but maybe there is one you think we should have but don't. Join the Program Committee and we will. Whatever your area of interest, there's a committee that could use you.

Help us fulfill this vision. Help us make Beth Shalom the wonderful place we all know it can be.

– **Barry Goldfarb, President**
Congregation Beth Shalom

need special permission to go to Samvet. But why would he travel to Samvet? He is surely going to visit one of the Jewish families there. But how many Jewish families are there in Samvet? Aha, only two - the Bernsteins and the Steinbergs. But since the Bernsteins are a terrible family, such a nice looking fellow like him, he must be visiting the Steinbergs.

But why is he going to the Steinbergs in Samvet? The Steinbergs have only daughters, two of them, so maybe he's their son-in-law. But if he is, then which daughter did he marry? They say that Sarah Steinberg married a nice lawyer from Budapest, and Esther married a businessman from Zhitomer, so it must be Sarah's husband. Which means that his name is Alexander Cohen, if I'm not mistaken.

But if he came from Budapest, with all the anti-Semitism they have there, he must have changed his name.

What's the Hungarian equivalent of Cohen? It is Kovacs. But since they allowed him to change his name, he must have special status to change it. What could it be? Must be a doctorate from the University. Nothing less would do.

At this point, therefore, the scholar of Talmud turns to the young man and says, "And how do you do, Dr. Kovacs?"

"Very well, thank you, sir, for asking." answered the startled co-passenger. "But how is it that you know my name although we have never met, or so it seems to me?"

Replied the Talmudist, "It was obvious".

– **Sherwin Rubin**

HaShomer

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Editor: Hy Siegel Editorial Assistance: Janet Aaronson

Sisterhood

Sisterhood, Brotherhood, Chanukah music, pizza, vodka and latkes! What more could one ask for? On Wednesday, December 2nd, we joined together and prepared enough latkes to feed everyone at the CBS Chanukah Workshop. (I would like to send out a big thank you to Rob Berg, Don Powers, Stuart and Andrea Snow, Lisa Rein, Melanie Garver, Jennifer Daley, Fran Kreindler, Miriam Benebib, Oscar Flores, and Felice Silverberg. And, not least, to Laura Fleischer as well, who was thankfully able to answer our questions about latke making—over the phone!)

Sisterhood continued to celebrate the Chanukah spirit, and went for an evening of ceramics-painting at Creative Hands, on Thursday December 10th. Oh, what to paint? So much to choose from. Menorah? Dreidle? Star of David mug? Oh my! (In keeping with the celebration of 8 days, Sisterhood provided discounts of \$8 to the first 8 people who RSVP'ed!)

Programs to look forward to in January include: Bingo-tini, which is the same as regular bingo, but with a twist of alcohol (Sunday, January 10th); Nosh and Schmooze (Monday, January 18th); Learn to play Mah Jongg (Sunday, February 7th - see below); and A Night of Sushi and Drinks (Saturday, January 30th). See you there!

– Yael Sasley, VP Programming

New Sisterhood Members

Valerie Carlone
Laurie Sherwin

Did you ever want to know the secret to playing Mah Jongg?

If so, come join your sisters on
Sunday, February 7, at 2:00 p.m.
at the house of Marian Feld,
1411 Glasgow Drive, Arlington, TX
Please RSVP by January 20 to
yaerivka@hotmail.com or 682-587-4255

Erev Shabbat Service for Richard Cook

On Friday, November 27, 2009, congregants from CBS participated in an Erev Shabbat Service for Richard Cook at Arlington Memorial Hospital. Ben Weiger, our Social Action Chair, led services.

Folks that attended the service included Ben, Fran, and Sam Weiger, Phil and Cookie Kabakoff, Frank and Lili Weiner, Mike Kapin, Brian Caplan, Stephanie Posner, and Martine Thomas.

Special thanks to Barry Goldfarb, who was under the weather, but went to CBS to pick up the siddurim, and provided them to Ben for the service. Thanks to everyone who participated in this good deed at this time.

Richard passed away December 25. May his memory be a blessing.

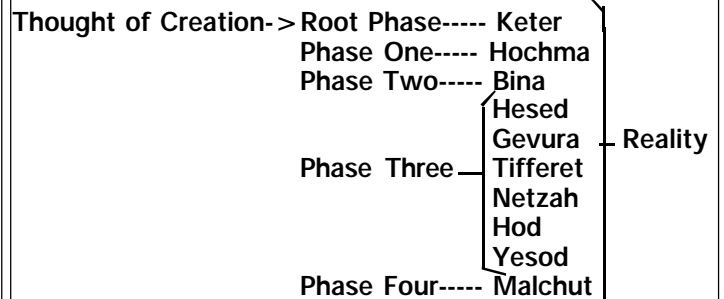
Views from Kabbalah:

Sensing Reality through Kabbalah

Of all the unexpected concepts found in Kabbalah, there is none so unpredictable, unreasonable, yet as profound and fascinating as the concept of reality. Had it not been for Einstein and the subsequent quantum physicists who revolutionized the way we think about reality, the ideas presented here would have been brushed off as absurd.

In a previous column, we said that evolution unfolds as a manifestation of our growing egoistic desires. But if our desires propel the evolution of our world, what would happen if we had no desires at all? Would there still be a world? Because if desires propel evolution, perhaps our world is just a figment of our desires, a tale we want to believe?

Creation started from the Thought of Creation, which created the Four Basic Phases of Light. These phases include ten Sefirot: Keter (the Root Phase), Hochma (Phase One), Bina (Phase Two), Hesed, Gvurah, Tifferet, Netzah, Hod, and Yesod (all of which comprise Phase Three called Zeir Anpin), and Malchut (Phase Four). The Book of Zohar states that the whole of reality consists only of these ten Sefirot, i.e., of the four basic phases as shown below.



The Thought of Creation leads to the creation of the four phases, which include ten Sefirot. This structure is the whole of reality.

Just as atoms are the building blocks of our world, the ten- Sefirot structure is the building block of the spiritual worlds. Both are made of “positive” giving parts, which include the Sefirot from Keter to Yesod, and of a “negative” receiving part, Malchut. This is the basic, indivisible structure of the spiritual reality.

The only difference between people is in the way they want to experience pleasure, i.e., in their desires. Therefore, our different desires create a different reality for each of us. However, all of our “realities” consist of the same basic sub-

Continued on next page . . .

Congregation Beth Shalom Sisterhood Gift Shop

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Friends and Family Members.**

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We support the works of Israeli artists.

Support CBS through the Sisterhood Gift Shop.

Views from Kabbalah

... continued from previous page

stance: a desire to experience pleasure. When we use our corporeal, egoistic desires to experience reality, we call what we experience "our world." By contrast, when we experience the ten- Sefirot structure with our spiritual desires, we call it "the spiritual world." In Kabbalah, spiritual desires are called Kelim (Vessels in Hebrew).

Just as we need senses to perceive the physical reality, we need Vessels to perceive the spiritual reality. The purpose of the wisdom of Kabbalah is to help us develop those Vessels. As our brains use the letters of the alphabet to study and describe this world, our spiritual Vessels use the ten-Sefirot structure to study and describe the spiritual worlds. To understand our world, we must follow certain restrictions and rules of study and experimentation. Similarly, to achieve the most accurate understanding of the spiritual worlds, we need to know which rules and restrictions to follow in the spiritual worlds.

– Dr. Jossif Perl

Sources:

www.kabbalahlearningcenter.info: Interactive online classes in true Kabbalah (in English) based on the writings of Rabbi Shimeon Bar Yochai (Zohar), Ari and Baal HaSulam.

www.kab.tv/eng/: A TV channel with English translation from Hebrew, which provides Kabbalah-related programs, including discussions, lessons, music, childrens programs, womens programs and more.

Yiddishkeit

Retaining a sense of Jewishness

If you have a good ear, you probably already know the answer to this question: What song is playing in the background of the NBC commercial promoting the 2010 Winter Olympic games in Canada?

Is it Springsteen's? Bon Jovi's? Bono's? Nope, its a song written and recorded initially by a guy named Matisyahu.

Remember Matisyahu? He is the Jewish Reggae singer. The song is *One Day* and it is on his new album *Light*.

At one time Jewish music consisted of *Hava Nagila* and *My Yiddisha Momma* type songs. But the number of Jewish groups, new Jewish music has been growing exponentially, and it isn't all klesmer.

With the diversity of the Internet, there are now multiple options available to hear this music on Jewish music stations. One Jewish webblog for music is Teruah Jewish Music. This web page discusses various music groups, has Youtube video, and also has a link to Live 365 Jewish Radio shows. One other source of multiple Jewish Radio stations is www.jmwc.org/jmwc_radio.html. Using Google, even more stations can be found. So if you want to hear more great jewish music, or hear Matisyahu singing "One Day" check it out on line.

– Dr. K
oygevalt@sbcglobal.net

Dear Fellow Beth Shalom Members,

Our biggest fundraising event of the year is getting under way!

Saturday, May 1, 2010

12th Annual Congregation Beth Shalom Gala

**Sisterhood will again prepare delicious appetizers
Chef Philippe Lecoq will astound us with a gourmet meal
And a lot more surprises throughout the evening!**

**Opportunities abound for everyone to join in our celebration for the success of
Congregation Beth Shalom and Camp Impact.**

Have fun and raise money by:

- ✧ Attending the Gala
- ✧ Inviting several non-members to share in the magic of the night
- ✧ Gathering at least two new items to be sold at the Gala.
(Forms are available through the office)
- ✧ Selling raffle tickets. The winner will be announced at the Gala
- ✧ Joining our fabulous team to help with this year's preparation
- ✧ Becoming a corporate or individual sponsor
- ✧ Making a financial contribution if you cannot attend the Gala!

**If you would like to be a part of our 12th Gala Event, please call
Jan or Howard Weiss at 817-465-687.**

**Be part of the excitement as we celebrate with our friends and guests at 6:00 p.m.
on Saturday, May 1, 2010. Thanks in advance for your support!**

**Shalom,
The CBS Gala Committee**

Religious School

Calendar For January

- 3 No Religious School
- 6 Mid-Week Hebrew
- 10 Religious School
- 13 Mid-Week Hebrew
- 17 No Religious School, MLK
(AISD two-day holiday)
- 20 Mid-Week Hebrew
- 24 Religious School
- 27 Mid-Week Hebrew
- 31 Religious School - Tu B'S'vat Seder

Upcoming Events in January

- 1 Erev Shabbat & Simcha Service
- 2 Torah Study and Shabbat Morning Service
- 3 No Religious School
- 6 Hebrew School
- 8 Erev Shabbat Service - Board Installation
- 9 Torah Study and Shabbat Morning Service
- 10 Religious School, Adult Education, Bingo-tini
- 12 Sisterhood Meeting
- 13 Hebrew School
- 15 Congregation Dinner, Erev Shabbat Family Service
- 16 Torah Study and Shabbat Morning Service
- 17 No Religious School, Sylvia Gray Chaverim,
Board Meeting
- 18 Nosh and Schmooze with Sisters
- 20 Hebrew School
- 22 Erev Shabbat Service
- 23 Torah Study and Shabbat Morning Service
- 24 Religious School, Tu'B'Sh'vat Seder, Learn Mah-jongg
- 27 Hebrew School
- 29 Erev Shabbat Service
- 30 Torah Study and Shabbat Morning Service
- 31 Religious School

See calendar for additional items and times

Simcha News

Congratulations to **Laurie** and **Scott Sherwin** on the marriages of their sons. **Benjamin** and **Deborah** were married in Boston in June by **Rabbi Stern** (who officiated at Benjamin's Bar Mitzvah at CBS). **Michael** and **Allison** were married in November in Georgetown.

The *San Antonio Business Journal* has announced that **Brian Feld**, son of **Marian** and the late **David Feld**, will be among the winners of its "40 Under 40 Rising Stars". The winners were selected from a pool of more than 200 nominees under 40 years of age who are making a difference in the business world and the community.

Has your email address changed?

Please be sure to notify the CBS office if you are not receiving your News Blasts!
Thanks! janetaa@bethshalom.org

Sylvia Gray Chaverim

Invite you to join them for
"An Interesting Program"

Sunday, January 17, 12:30 p.m.
 in the Social Hall at Beth Shalom

Watch for a Flyer Announcing
The January Program

There is no charge for this event; your donation, however, would be greatly appreciated.
 Please make your check payable to CBS.

Call or email your lunch order to:

Rosalie Cagan, 817-684-7197, ccagan@tx.rr.com

Sylvia Gray Chaverim made possible through a grant from the Jewish Federation of Fort Worth and Tarrant County. You need not be a member of Congregation Beth Shalom to participate in the Sylvia Gray Chaverim.

Daytimers Presents:

**Dave Lieber's Watchdog Nation:
 Bite Back When Businesses
 and Scammers Do You Wrong**

Wednesday, January 13, 12 noon
 at Beth-El Congregation

Bernard Madoffs are everywhere!

Usually, there's nothing funny about getting hurt by a scammer, or your bank, or a credit card company. But if anyone can get you to laugh at our heartless institutions and show you how to beat them at their own game, it's *Star-Telegram* Watchdog Columnist Dave Lieber.

Lunch, catered by Jason's Deli, \$9.00
 Program Only, \$4.00 per person

For information/reservations contact: Barbara Rubin, 817-927-2736, or Sylvia Wexler, 817-294-1129.
The Sylvia Wolens Jewish Daytimers is a program of Beth-El Congregation with support from the Jewish Federation.

We rely on you to let us know when a member of Beth Shalom has celebrated a simcha, endured a loss, or is ill.

Please call the office 817-860-5448, or email to janetaa@bethshalom.org.

ADVANTAGE EYECARE

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 HURST, TEXAS 76054
 817-788-2020

If you can't read this, you need to see us.

ARFTY

ARFTY hopes that the past year was a great one for you, family and friends! But as they (ever wonder who was "they"?) say, out with the old and in with the new! ...and with the beginning of 2010, the start of a new year of planning takes off with our focus towards ARFTY events and Camp Impact.

Our monthly camp meetings begin this month and continue up through the start of camp. There is much to do in preparation for another year of helping kids of many ages enjoy life, gain confidence and hopefully catch a glimmer of hope for their futures.

The ARFTY kids work very hard to ensure the success of camp in terms of commitment and fulfillment for all involved. And, this being our 15th year of conducting this mitzvah project solidifies that there really is a need for this type of project and the success it brings to the campers.

But, it is not only the campers that benefit from Camp Impact. ARFTY counselors learn so much along this journey about themselves. They also experience what the real world can be like with the hardships and emotional stress that some children are forced to endure.

We stress a positive experience for the campers and enjoy the laughter and smiles that comes from all the activities and crazy fun that occurs during the week. When camp concludes, it is a wealth of emotions from the unknown and the satisfaction, to relief that the work is over and the disappointment that we may never know the fate and their futures.

So, as the new year brings new work, know that our goals have not changed for our community and the kids who attend camp...sometimes the old *is* the new!

– Al Fratina

Birthdays

January 1

Aimee Israel-Pelletier
Hunter Powell

January 4

Phyllis Richmond

January 5

Sharon Grene

January 6

Miriam Benabib
Valerie Carlone
Danny Fratina

January 7

Carl Cagan
Michael Fleischer

January 8

Jared Snow

January 10

Oscar Flores
Andrew Robertson

January 11

Michael Dickman
Jeff Rothschild

January 17

Ilene Feld
Bennie Sudbury

January 18

Ben Weiger

January 20

Larry Bushner

January 21

Cynthia Barr
Philippe Lecoq
Stuart Snow

January 23

Randy Rosenstein
Shelby Snow

January 24

Stephen Cabrero
Sandy Wallace

January 25

Mark Greenberg
James Kravetz

January 26

Rosalie Cagan

January 27

Emily Powell
Allan Wallace

January 29

Jonathan Sternblitz
Scott Weiner

January 30

Robert Freeman

January 31

Shawn Goodman
Rebekah Posner
David Rein
Pam Weiner

Anniversaries

January 3

Lori & Robert Freeman

January 6

Martine & Larry Thomas

January 13

Lili & Frank Weiner

January 29

Dolores & Barry Schneider

A Halachah of the Heart

by Rabbi John Crites-Borak from: *Conservative Judaism Magazine* (Thanks to Stuart Snow)

Rabbi Schochet seemed a bit disappointed and I can't say I blamed him. Once again we students were not as prepared as we should have been, even though we were studying to be rabbis. It didn't seem to matter to most of us that our professor was a direct descendant of Rabbi Elijah ben Zalman, the Gaon of Vilna, the pre-eminent scholar and sage of 18th-century Lithuanian Jewry. And little did we know we were to see a spark of the master's brilliance in our classroom that morning.

Some instructors ignored our lapses. Some railed at them. All seemed to accept our laxities as unavoidable disappointments in the life of a teacher. We expected the same from Rabbi Schochet. He would lecture us a bit about being more diligent and remind us of our responsibilities as caretakers of the faith. I never expected him to tell me a story that would change my life.

Rabbi Schochet set his book aside. He adjusted the black kippah on top of his head. He stroked his beard thoughtfully and gazed into the distance. When at last he looked up he surveyed the room with his dark brown eyes. "I know this is boring for you," he said. "Studying halachah is difficult. Translating from the Hebrew would be hard enough, but the law is dry at the best of times. I know you don't enjoy it and

I'm grateful for all the work you do."

Grateful? In response to our being unprepared?

"I myself love studying," he said. "Let me tell you why. When I was a little boy I spent time every morning studying with my father. We were in the kitchen together, sitting at the table, a bit of text before us. I was on my father's lap and his arms were around me. He was drinking his morning coffee and I was drinking warm milk, often with sugar in it. My mother was there, too, making breakfast. Consequently, every time I sit down to study today I am transported to some of the happiest and most precious moments of my life. I am surrounded by love and warmth and affection. I am embraced by my memories of the two people in the world who loved

Continued on next page . . .

The Congregation records with sorrow the passing of:

Ann Lidell, beloved aunt of Felice Silverberg
Esther Siegel Schatten, beloved mother of Hy Siegel
Richard Cook beloved husband of Cricket Cook
and father of Ben Cook

Donations

(Received prior to December 19)

BUILDING FUND

In honor of: Janet and Jerry Aaronson's 40th wedding anniversary and Stephanie and Richard Posner's 20th anniversary; in honor of the birth of Shai Kobi Sasley; in loving memory of David Feld; in honor of Stephanie and Richard Posner being honored as Congregants of the Year; in honor of the birthdays of: Melanie Garver and Randall Gray from Miriam and Jim Ward

In honor of Stephanie and Richard Posner's 20th anniversary; in honor of the birth of Shai Kobi Sasley; in honor of Stephanie and Richard Posner being honored as Congregants of the Year; in memory of: Henry Kasten, Louis Cooper, Shirley Boam; in appreciation of the outgoing board of trustees; welcome to the incoming board of trustees from Melanie Garver

In memory of Morris Gitterman

from Shelley and Steve Sternblitz

In appreciation of Congregation Beth Shalom from Alice and Steve Ginsburgh

In loving memory of my mother, Esther Siegel Schatten

from Hy Siegel

RICHARD WENOKUR MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Lee Wenokur from Michael Kornitzky

ONEG/KIDDUSH FUND

In memory of David Poster from Sheila Poster

CHEVRA KADDISHA FUND

In memory of Elsie Satinsky Solomon from Carolyn and Paul Solomon

BANKS SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of Lorean Gardner from Toni and Norm Epstein

MORTGAGE REDUCTION FUND

In honor of the birthdays of: Norm Epstein, Brian Caplan, Barry Stevens, Barry Goldfarb, Linda Licker, Mark Snailer; in honor of the anniversaries of: Tamara and Stephen Lenhoff, Arlene and Mark Schwartz, Barbara and Larry Bushner

from Harold Mandel and Sharon Self

In memory of Coston Gardner and Lorean Gardner

from Toni and Norm Epstein

In loving memory of David Poster from Sheila Poster

GENERAL FUND

In honor of Stephanie and Richard Posner's 20th anniversary

from Shelley and Steve Sternblitz

In memory of Ben Rubin and Esther Siegel Schatten

from Sherwin Rubin

IRA UDES MEMORIAL BIMAH FUND

In memory of Henry Kasten

from Shelley and Steve Sternblitz

In honor of the marriage of Judy Udes and Stephan Wurmbrand

from Leslie Udes

EDUCATION FUND

In memory of Hyman Siegel, Ida Siegel, and David H. Siegel

from Hy Siegel

SPIRITUAL LEADER CAMP FUND

In memory of Ronald Vickers, Jr. and William B. Mason

from Michael Kornitzky

CAMP IMPACT FUND

In memory of Gertrude Steinberg Rubin from Sherwin Rubin

A Halachah of the Heart

... continued from previous page

me most."

The rabbi paused. Maybe he was letting us think about the picture he had created or maybe he was just savoring the moment. I remember envying him that aspect of his childhood. "None of you have these memories," he said, a bit sadly. "I know that. I also know all of your children can have them—if only you will create them.

I don't remember what Rabbi Schochet said after that. I was busy imagining what Judaism might be like if every Jewish parent regularly dedicated time for learning with his or her children. What if the most cherished memories of our children were of being embraced by loving parents and a beloved tradition? Would such a foundation make Jewish day school, Hebrew school, bar/bat mitzvah training and

confirmation classes more meaningful?

The course of my rabbinate—and my life—changed that morning. I would never have a memory of sitting on my own father's lap and studying Torah, but perhaps I could teach other parents how to wrap their children in indelible memories of Jewish Learning and love.

Rabbi John Borak, founder and director of Amud ha-Shachar/First Light, converted to Judaism. He was ordained a Conservative rabbi in 2000. He has been an air traffic controller and a consultant to the labor movement.



Yahrzeits



January 1-2

Lela May Bolding*
Saul Greenberg
Ron Vickers*
Ruth Mayster*
David H. Siegel*
Nettie Bailin
Hetty Rubins*

January 8-9

Leah Aaronson
Joseph G. Geisler*
Samuel William Flack*
Rose L. Gross
Philip Herman*
Elsie Satsky Solomon*
Evelyn Grossman
Florence Baronoffsky*
Coston Gardner*
Samuel M. Posnock*

January 15-16

Samuel Aaronson
Ada Jolkovsky
Lorean Gardner*
Alan Chait
Alice Coplin*
Trudie Sobel
David Poster
Leo Berman*
Jeanette Bushner*
Beatrice Vogel Goodman
Anselm Rothschild
Jodie Ward Starr

January 22-23

Lillian Blumberg
Ilse Brunell
Yachmiel Sheftel Caplan*
Naomi Pincus Fisher
Ann Grossman
Morris Lefer*
Louis Dickman*
Irwin Lackow
Skippy Reynolds*
Ben Rubin*
Lillian Rubin*
Harry Dearing, Sr.
Barbara Freeman
Gertie Strausberg*

January 29-30

Jack Kirshbaum*
Reva Lustig*
Billie Schneidkraut*
Lois Abel
Eve Glickman
Jack Lefer*
Rosalie Russell*
Sylvia Soltz
Marilyn Bloch*
Bernard Ciocci*
Lawrence Cooper
Elsa Greenwald
Sidney Steinberg

* Memorial Plaque in Sanctuary