

HaShomer

APRIL 2011

Congregation Beth Shalom

ADAR II/NISAN 5771

Schedule of Services

April 2011

Adar II/Nisan 5771

Friday, April 1, 7:30 pm

Led by **Barry Goldfarb**

Saturday, April 2

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Stuart Snow**

Torah: Tazria

Friday, April 8, 7:30 pm

Saturday, April 9

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Stuart Snow**

Torah: Metzora

Friday, April 15

Dinner 6:30 pm

Family Shabbat 7:30 pm

Led by **Jennifer Daley**

Saturday, April 16

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Stuart Snow**

Torah: Achrei Mot

Tuesday, April 19, 6:30 pm

Community Seder

Led by **Barry Goldfarb**

Friday, April 22, 7:30 pm

Led by **Angela Markson**

Saturday, April 23

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Torah: Chol Hamoed

Tuesday, April 26, 9:00 am

Last Day Passover

and Yizkor Service

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Friday, April 29, 7:30 pm

(In the Religious School

Assembly Room)

Saturday, April 30

Torah Study 9:00 am

Shabbat Service 10:00 am

Led by **Cantor Sheri Allen**

Torah: Kedoshim

My Two Shekels

It's officially the Season of our Freedom. Nisan, the Hebrew month in which Pesach falls, is actually the *first* month in our calendar, even though we think of Tishrei, (technically the *seventh* month), as beginning the New Year, commencing with the observance of Rosh Hashanah. Are you officially confused yet?

To make it easier, we can understand our calendar as having two major New Years' celebrations, each one emphasizing a different theme. Rosh Hashanah focuses on the reaffirmation of G-d as King, and also commemorates the Creation of the World. Pesach celebrates the true beginning of freedom for the Israelites as they embark on their journey toward the Promised Land.

With freedom, however, comes responsibility. The Jews are not free to begin a 40 year party in the wilderness. They have a purpose, a calling: they are now free to establish themselves as a nation devoted to serving their G-d in the land that was promised to them.

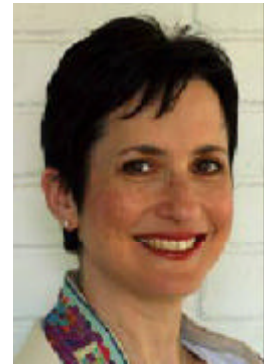
Unfortunately, the generation that left Egypt wasn't up to the challenge; it was too difficult to discard the slave mentality that had developed over hundreds of years in Egyptian captivity. But the next generation understood the task at hand, and were allowed to continue the job that had been assigned to their parents. It was, however, a struggle for them as well, a struggle both joyfully and painfully documented in Nevi'im, the Book of Prophets, which basically begins where the Torah ends.

So what are we to learn from our ancestors' journey, their struggles, their shortcomings, their triumphs? The Jews were not so much free *from* something, as they were free *for* something: in this case, building a nation focused on worshipping G-d. Freedom went hand and hand with purpose. It was no walk in the wilderness. The challenges were numerous, and they often paid the price for succumbing to the temptations of the idolatrous people around them. But throughout their journey, G-d never gave up on them.

We have also reached a milestone as a Congregation, one which has aptly been described as "The Season for Beth Shalom's Freedom". We have paid off the mortgage, and can now begin to imagine a future for this congregation. But this is where the real work begins. With that freedom comes the responsibility to shape what that freedom will look like; to create a vision, and make concrete efforts to see that vision through to reality.

Our journey will be a challenging one as well, and will require the commitment of each member of Beth Shalom to make it happen. Let's learn from our ancestors. Let's secure the foundation of our newly-paid-off building with long-term planning, so that our children will be free to continue building into the future.

– Cantor Sheri Allen



Join us for our

**13th Annual Beth Shalom Gala
and Community Passover Seder**

Details on Page 2

13th Annual CBS Gala

Featuring
The Best Little Klezmer Band in Texas
and
Senseless Acts of Comedy

Dinner Catered by
Chef Philippe Lecoq

Benefitting Nationally Recognized
Camp Impact
and Congregation Beth Shalom

Saturday, April 30, 7:00 p.m.

Cocktail Attire Cash Bar
Raffle Drawing for an Apple iPad

Community Seder

Please Join Our Congregational Family on
April 19, at 6:30 p.m.

Dinner Catered by
Chef Chad Friedensohn

Main Course: Brisket and Chicken
Roasted Garlic Potatoes
Vegetable Medley

Paid Reservations are Required by April 5

Adults: \$25

Children 12 and under: \$1/year of age

RSVP to Linda Seward in the CBS office



Adult Education Classes

Doctors of various specialities will be here to present a 30-minute talk, followed by a 30-minute general discussion period. Sessions will be held on the second floor of the religious school building.

If you would like to attend but cannot manage the stairs, please notify Linda in the office and we will try to change that session's location.

If you plan to attend, please RSVP Linda Seward in the Beth Shalom office.

April 3: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Allergies. Dr. Eugene Posnock

How to help yourself during allergy season.

April 10: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Bladder Health. Dr. Ken Licker

Everything you need to know about your bladder.

Focusing on Improving our Health

April 10: 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Obesity and Nutrition. Dr. Brian Caplan

Weight-caused problems and how you can avoid them.

April 17: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Your Eyes. Dr. Mark Schwartz

Potential problems and how you can protect your eyes.

April 24: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Let's Relax. Felice Silverberg, Massage Therapist

The importance of keeping yourself relaxed.

May 1: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Diabetes. Dr. Brian Caplan

What is it? How does it affect you? What can you do to minimize the problems?

New Member Applications
If you, or anyone you know, is
interested in joining the
Beth Shalom family, please call our
the CBS office, 817-860-5448

HaShomer

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Editor: Hy Siegel Editorial Assistance: Linda Seward

Yasher Koach

Mical Renee Self, daughter of Sharon and Robert Self, has accepted the position of Technical Designer, a newly created department for Shear Enterprises LLC, a lingerie and shapewear business.

Ms. Self is a graduate of the University of Alabama, College of Human Environmental Sciences. She graduated in 2007 with a B.S. in Apparel and Textile Design, and minored in graphic arts.

Sisterhood

Our Sisterhood year seems to be flying by and while we have accomplished so much, we still have many exciting upcoming events. For paid-up Sisterhood members, our **Munchies, Margaritas & Membership Celebration will be Sunday, April 3, at 2:00 p.m. in the Social Hall.**

This is our chance to celebrate and thank all members for joining Sisterhood this year. All attendees are asked to bring a new journal and pen to be donated to the birth mothers at The Gladney Center for Adoption, as part of Sisterhood's ongoing Tikkun Olam effort this year.

Do you have a passion for a tzedakah project? Our VP's Stephanie Posner and Iris Jeffreys' Social Action committee will be meeting in June to plan the upcoming year and we welcome your tzedakah ideas! Please email me at jdports27@hotmail.com if you wish to be included on the committee or would like to attend the brainstorming session.

Our social action recipients this year include Congregation Beth Shalom, Alliance for Children, WRJ's YES fund, Simon Youth Foundation, Meals on Wheels, and now, The Gladney Center for Adoption.

Back by popular request, but with a fun twist, is Triple B (Bingo, BBQ and Beer)! This event will be held Sunday, April 10 at Beth Shalom. Look for our email notices for further details or contact programming vp Yael Sasley, yaelrivka@hotmail.com. As always, lots of prizes will be given away and there's a GRAND PRIZE to be won during the last round. If you loved Bingotini, you'll love Triple B!

In March, we watched *Adjustment Bureau* at the Eastchase Market Theatre for 'Sisters and a Movie'. We met for a 'Nosh n Schmooze' and tried the new Zio's in South Arlington. To prepare for Passover, we met at Creative Hands in Pantego for our 'Ceramics Night' and painted seder plates and Elijah's cups. What a fun month with our Sisters!

My proudest moment in March was hearing the results of our Sisterhood Nominating Committee slate for the proposed new board. We have several new members who will now become Sisterhood board members beginning in July. I would like to thank and welcome **Yael Sasley** to the president-elect position, **Sue Brezinsky** as membership vp, **Iris Jeffrey** as social action co-vp, **Lynda Friedensohn** as programming co-vp, and **Pam Sudbury** as recording secretary.

I would also like to thank all existing and outgoing Sisterhood board members for their continued service and dedication to Beth Shalom Sisterhood. I am already energized for the exciting things we will do next year! Come join the fun.

I wish you and yours a happy Passover. Without you, we are one woman short!

L'Shalom,

– Jennifer Daley
Sisterhood President

Sisterhood Calendar

Sunday, April 3 - *Membership Celebration Luncheon*
Sunday, April 10 - *Triple B (Bingo, BBQ and Beer)*

Saturday, May 14 - *Night of Israeli flavors 7:00 p.m. (Yom Ha'Azmaut – Tuesday, May 10)*

Monday, May 16 - *Nosh and Schmooze w/ sisters 11:30 a.m.*
Saturday, May 21 - *Installation Dinner*

Ritual Committee

You know something is good when you want to do it again. I went to my very first Torah study ever on Saturday, March 12th and I can't wait to go back. It was fun, interesting, and informative.

Eight of us - three women and five men - discussed and debated the weekly parasha in the context of both when it was written and how it relates to today. I was able to make a meaningful contribution to the discussion (others might disagree with me on this point) even though I knew nothing about the parasha ahead of time.

What was most fun for me was delving into a couple of the most profound issues of religion—the meaning of faith and the role of G-d in our lives. While we didn't solve these problems that morning, we certainly had fun trying.

– Lisa Rein
Ritual Committee Chair

From the Other Side...

It is incumbent upon the parent to teach the child...

What exactly do those words mean to us? As we approach Passover, and are busy preparing both our homes and our hearts for this wonderful holiday, will we take this command seriously, and what exactly will we be teaching?

Each year, my children would ask me who was coming to our Seder. It was not unusual for us to have strangers, newcomers to Texas, and even non-Jews at our table. Some years we had to get very creative squeezing in more chairs and rearranging table assignments to assure everyone had a good neighbor to talk with.

Our guests were usually people who called Beth Shalom asking if we were having a community Seder or if congregants were opening their homes to guests. Occasionally, members called letting me know that they were interested in hosting guests. Making those matches was so very important and the mitzvah of feeding the stranger often led to long and meaningful relationships.

One custom in our home is for each person at the table to mention something that they are thankful or grateful for. It always seemed that our guests were most thankful for being included, so that they could celebrate Passover with "family".

Let the office know if you would like to host guests, and if you don't have plans, let Linda know that you would like to be invited to someone else's Seder. It's a mitzvah either way!

Beth Shalom's Community Seder is Tuesday, April 19, at 6:30 p.m.

–Janet Aaronson

Congregation Beth Shalom Sisterhood Gift Shop

Open Sundays and Wednesdays During
Religious School Sessions, and by Appointment:
Contact Melanie 817-465-1194

I Gotcha

In America, more Jews gather for Passover seder with their families than for any other Jewish celebration. The gathering may be religious or just social or cultural. In any case, we all will get together for traditional Passover foods and maybe a little wine.

When I was about five or six, we went to my grandfather's house for seder. He always made his own wine from Texas wild mustang grapes. He prepared his mix in five-gallon ceramic pots, and kept them covered with flour sacks under the back porch of his house.

Refrigeration was not an option in those days but winter weather and alcohol provided the proper protection. It must have tasted good because one day, I drank a lot and got really sick. That lesson kept me from drinking anything until I was in my 30's.

In later years, we went to seder at my Aunt Ella Carshon's house where my father was raised. (Aunt Ella was a founder of Carshon's Delicatessen in Fort Worth.) She had a large living room with a fireplace where you could roast an ox. We sat at one long table that must have seated 35 people.

The service was totally in Hebrew, and we kids played hide-and-seek in the rest of the large house. In later years, we held our seder at my mother's house. My uncle Oscar always led our service, and after his death, it became my job.

That service grew with my mother's children, her grandchildren, her sisters, their families, cousins, and any guest that happened to be in town.

During World War II we always invited Jewish soldiers from nearby camps. These visits resulted in correspondence that lasted more than 50 years with letters and photographs that my mother kept in a box. Through the years, our family maintained close ties that we still cherish today.

This year, I know where I will be on Pesach. For so many years, I have celebrated the First Seder with my cousin, Joel, in Dallas, and a second seder with Robert and Felicia Rubin and my brother's family who always sat at the opposite end of my mother's table.

Joel's seder is very well organized, with each person reading from scripts with their parts clearly labeled with their names. My brother's kids are less formal and they read from the same Haggadot that we used at my mother's seders.

Passover is a wonderful time. Could my mother be watching?

– *Sherwin Rubin*
sherwin@rubin.net

A leaf on the Tree of Life, located in the Dora Saxe Sanctuary, is a perfect opportunity to commemorate a simcha in your family or to acknowledge someone special.

The minimum donation is \$100 and benefits the Building Fund.

To order a leaf, please write your own inscription and mail it with your check to the CBS office.

Yiddishkeit

Retaining a sense of Jewishness

In a few days we will be observing Yom HaShoah, a day of remembrance for those who perished in the Holocaust.

Every year new books about the Holocaust are written; many are made into movies. But, it seems that the further we move away from the actual events, the more unrealistic the stories become.

Last year we had Quinton Tarentino's *Inglorious Bastards* about a fictitious band of Jewish scalp hunters. Just this week it was announced Michael Chabon is working on a series where Jewish magicians fight the Nazi's. The Holocaust story has evolved since *The Diary of Anne Frank*.

Perhaps the only way many can face the horrific truth about the Holocaust is to turn it into fantasy. And fantasy is a large part of the Jewish literary tradition.

Three unusual books to consider, all linking some form of fantasy with the Holocaust.

The first is Steve Stern's *The North of God*, a short novelle in which a storyteller tries to distract his fellow boxcar passengers, on their way to where all stories end, with the tale of the succubus and the bridegroom.

Another book, Michael Chabon's *The Final Solution* is a simple tale of a nine-year-old mute boy, an African gray parrot, and Sherlock Holmes. And the third is a recent release by Erika Dreifus, called *Quiet Americans*, seven stories which involve survivors of the Holocaust.

– *Dr. K*
oygevalt@sbcglobal.net

Religious School

As I compose this article I am still smiling as I reflect on Saturday's Purim celebration. A wonderful time was had by everyone who attended and it was made very clear by the excitement in the sanctuary throughout the evening.

I want to give a big thank you to all the religious school students who participated. You did a tremendous job! Thanks, also, to everyone who had a part in making this such a special evening.

Religious school is coming close to an end for the year. It's hard to believe that we are moving into the Passover season. We will be having our model seder on Sunday, April 17. This is always something that the kids enjoy.

Our confirmation class is hard at work preparing for their special night too. They will be leading services on Friday, May 13. Please plan on joining them as they culminate years of religious school with a very well prepared program complete with speeches from each of our confirmands.

– *Stephanie Posner*
Religious School Director

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 info@bethshalom.org.

Purim at Beth Shalom

The CBS Theatre proudly presented a fabulous Purim spiel written by Cantor Sheri Allen with lyrics based on popular Broadway hit songs, on Saturday, March 19. The cast of characters colorfully adorned in costumes belted out tunes and performed brilliantly to a packed house who responded with the appropriate boos, hisses and "groggering".

Debra Kaplan wowed the house with her rendition of "I am Vashti" sung to the tune of Helen Reddy's "I am Woman" and Phil Landsberg, our one-man orchestra trumpeted cues to all our singers. Randy San Antonio created our "Praybill" mimicking the Broadway version of Playbills complete with lyrics to the songs of the ten chapters of the Megillah which Cantor Allen so beautifully chanted.

Special thanks to the cast of characters: Richard Allen, Debra Kaplan, Stuart Snow, Hy Siegel, Marian Feld, Phil Kabakoff, Randy San Antonio, Sherwin Rubin, Phil Landsberg, and members of the Beth Shalom religious school.



Megillat Esther: Original Purim Songs based on Popular Songs and Musicals, lyrics by our own Cantor Sheri Allen, and performed by the Beth Shalom Not-Ready-for-Prime-Time Purim Players, was a big hit at our Purim Family Dinner, Service and Megillah Reading.

Sylvia Gray Chaverim

Invite you to join them for
Passover Luncheon

At Congregation Beth-El

Tuesday, April 12

The van will leave Beth Shalom at 10:30 a.m

RSVP to:

Rosalie Cagan, 817-684-7197 or

email to: ccagan@tx.rr.com

Sylvia Gray Chaverim is partially funded by 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:

A Tour of the

Acme Brick Company

Art Collection

Followed by Lunch

Wednesday, April 13, 11:00 a.m.

3024 Acme Brick Plaze, Fort Worth

Most of the 27-piece collection was developed especially for the architecturally beautiful building. Following the Docent-guided tour, we will have lunch on the beautiful patio overlooking the Trinity River trail (weather permitting), or inside in the Acme Brick café.

Lunch, catered by Pak-a-Pocket, \$9.00

Program only, \$4.00 per person

For information/reservations contact: Barbara Rubin, 817-927-2736, or Irv Robinson, 817-731-7447.

The Sylvia Wolens Jewish Daytimers is a program of Beth-El Congregation with support from the Jewish Federation.

Has your email address changed?

Please be sure to notify the CBS office if you are not receiving your News Blasts!

Thanks! info@bethshalom.org

ADVANTAGE EYECARE

MARK SCHWARTZ, O.D.

ARLENE SCHWARTZ, O.D.

MAYFAIR VILLAGE

724 GRAPEVINE HWY.

HURST, TEXAS 76054

817-788-2020

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

Donations

(Received from February - March 22)

GENERAL FUND

In memory of David Snow; in honor of Janet Aaronson's many years of service to CBS from Trish and Randy San Antonio
 In memory of David Snow, Alain Lecoq, Dr. Leonard Pock and Burt Friedman from Cookie and Phil Kabakof
 In memory of Irwin Padereski and Jean Mazur from Fran Levy
 In memory of David Snow from Fran Levy and Phil Landsberg
 In memory of David Snow, Alain Lecoq, and Etta Schmerler; in honor of the birthdays of: Seena Stevens, Bea Stein, Terri Kravetz, Rabbi Ned Soltz, Wanda Brunell, Leslie Udes, Suzi Kapin; in honor of the anniversaries of: Christine and Gene Posnock, Shelley and Steve Sternblitz, Cookie and Phil Kabakoff from Harold Mandel and Sharon Self
 In memory of Alain Lecoq from Janet and Jerry Aaronson

MAINTENANCE FUND

In memory of Burt Friedman and Shirley Printz; in gratitude to Janet Aaronson for her many years of service to CBS; in honor of Dr. Brian Caplan's recitation of his Bar Mitzvah Haftorah from Alice Ginsburgh\
 In memory of Alain Lecoq and Daniel Carver from Melanie Garver

IRA UDES MEMORIAL BIMAH FUND

In honor of Evelyn Fleisher's Bat Mitzvah from Steve and Shelley Sternblitz

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Alain Lecoq and David Snow from Lena Pack



Birthdays

April 3

Lynda Friedensohn

April 5

Frank Greenberg

April 6

Michelle Kapin
 Jackie Pock
 Josef Uri Spindler

April 7

Kenneth Licker
 Michael Rein

April 8

Andrew Fleischer

April 9

Adam Visosky

April 10

Cara Schulman
 Shari Stevens

April 14

Andrea Snow

April 15

Kaitlin Barasch
 Sarah Bushner

April 17

Carolyn Solomon

April 18

Paul Solomon

April 19

Sarina Bekerman
 Nina Fernandes

April 21

Sarah Cimbalo

April 22

Jessica Silverberg

April 23

Josh Bushner

April 24

Ken Daley

April 27

Sarah Soltz

April 28

Jim Frisinger
 Samuel Markson

April 29

Juli Hobdy
 Madeleine Markson

April 30

Roger Carlone
 Angela Markson

Anniversaries

April 2

Raquel Rosenthal &
 Brian Jetty (5)

April 8

Lee & Leslie Schulman

April 11

Rabbi Ned & Mary Soltz (35)

April 24

Mary Ann & Steve Levine

April 26

Sue & Vince Brezinsky



*The Congregation records
 with sorrow the passing of:*

Douglas Groh,
 beloved son of Helen Wilson

May his memory be a blessing

Yahrzeits

April 1-2

Fanny Nancy Finkelstein*
 Chaya Leder
 Jake Sharg
 Lewis Lackman*
 Rowland Bertoff
 Wallace Printz*
 Albert Hirschman*
 Fannie Milner*
 David Wildman
 Ruth Goldsmith*
 Lorraine San Antonio*
 Rose Weinberger

April 8-9

Anne Lefer*
 Arlene Godfrey*
 Joseph Lazovick*
 Meyer Cohen
 Shaoul Haim ben Ezra Israel
 Howard Koven*
 Joan Dunn
 Beila Buckbinder Spindler
 Joseph Spindler
 Jack Zimmerman

April 15-16

S. William Flack*
 Robert Milner*
 David Meyer Rubin*
 Edward Hans
 Beatrice Mandelstein*
 Sadie Kneee Sternstein
 Harry O. Miller
 William Grodin
 Charlene Longoria*
 Dolores Fratina
 Eva Weiss

April 22-23

Misa Galam
 Isidor Landsberg
 Lillian Lazovick
 Irene Lewis
 Andries Voet
 Lillian Bushlow*
 Melvin Gottlieb*
 Morris Gould*
 Daniel S. Ratner*
 Robert Stuart*

April 29-30

Bertha Diamond
 Blossom Gitterman
 Dora Saxe*
 William Willie, Jr

* Memorial Plaque in Sanctuary

Check out:

**Congregation Beth Shalom
 Arlington on Facebook!**

Lynne Jacobs has been doing a terrific job updating the page. It's a great way to connect with current and past CBS members.



Congregation Beth Shalom
1212 Thannisch Drive
Arlington, TX 76011-4848

HaShomer