

Sisterhood

Our Donor Dessert meeting held on Wednesday, May 14 was a wonderful evening. The efforts of Meryl Sasnowitz and Marlene Serkin really paid off. We were lucky to have the warm hospitality of Susan Wright, who gave of her time and her home, and the enjoyable program presented by Rabbi Rachel Esserman. We look forward to Sisterhood's next meeting, our closing dinner, to be held on June 18.

Sisterhood would like to congratulate Laura Greger, this year's honoree at the Shul Annual Dinner.

Happy Shavuot.

Dora Feuer,
Sisterhood President.

Sisterhood Slate of Officers

Following is the Sisterhood proposed slate of officers for 2008-2010:

- President – Claire Ladenheim
- Fund Raising VP – Marlene Serkin
- Programming VP – Meryl Sasnowitz
- Service VP – Paula Rubin
- Secretary – Lillian Zodikoff
- Treasurer – Ilene Goldman

Customs and Practices for the “Three Weeks”

Background: The three-week period from 17 Tammuz through 9 Av was a time of tragedy for the Jewish people. Many calamities happened on these specific days and during the time between. The catastrophic events surrounding the Holy Temple in Jerusalem that occurred on those specific days resulted in the long exile, which is still ongoing. On the 17th of Tammuz the walls of Jerusalem were breached during the period of the second Temple, and the 9th of Av marks the day on which both the first and second Temples were destroyed. For that reason it was ordained that this period of three weeks should be observed as days of mourning by the entire nation. Some mourning practices begin on 17 Tammuz and they increase in severity as we approach the 9th of Av.

Since the next *ChaiLine* will first appear after this period begins, we will mention only the customs observed until Rosh Chodesh Av. Those that first apply after that date will be described in the summer edition.

When: The three weeks begin on 17 Tammuz, which occurs on Sunday, July 20, and continue through 9 Av, which occurs on Sunday, August 10.

The fast of 17 Tammuz: This day is observed as a fast day, with the fast beginning in the morning at 4:33 am and ending at nightfall, at 9:17 pm.

Mourning practices: During the entire three week period we do not conduct weddings, we refrain from haircuts, and we avoid listening to live music.

Calendar of Events

- June 9 & 10 Shavuot
- June 14 Mark Budman speaking at Shabbat luncheon
- June 15 Jaqueline Karp Bat Mitzvah
- June 15 Shul Dinner
- June 18 Sisterhood Closing Dinner

Marlene Serkin, Typist: mserkin@stny.rr.com

Beth David Annual Dinner

On Sunday, June 15, 2008, Beth David members and guests will come together for an annual tradition – The Beth David dinner. This year we will be honoring long-time member and devoted worker, Laura Greger. In addition there will be the installation of four trustees for a three year term.

The dinner will be held at the Synagogue beginning with cocktails at 5:30 pm, followed by the meal at 6:30 pm. During the evening, the drawings will be held for the raffle which will consist of five \$100 prizes and one \$1000 prize.

Invitations have gone out and members are encouraged to RSVP by June 3. Couvert is \$40.00 per person. Mark your calendars now for this very special evening.

Paula Rubin

Cemetery Report

The temporary restroom on the right side of the brick building has been removed. It has been replaced by a permanent room on the left side of the building. It is open 24/7 and was paid for and is maintained by Temple Israel.

Steven R. Feuer,
Cemetery Chairman



Shavuot Customs & Practices

When: Shavuot begins on Sunday, June 8th at night, and lasts through the day of Tuesday, June 10th.

Candle Lighting: As with every Yom Tov, we light candles each night of the holiday, reciting the *twobrachot* – one for the holiday (*l'hadlik ner shel Yom Tov*) and the *Shehecheyanu*. *Shehecheyanu* is also recited at the end of Kiddush.

Tikkun Leil Shavuot: Since Shavuot commemorates the revelation at Mount Sinai and the acceptance of the Torah, there is a beautiful, time-honored custom to stay awake the entire night of the first day of Shavuot and study Torah. Beth David will host various Torah study groups and lectures the night of June 8, beginning at 11:30 pm. Refreshments will be available to help all attendees remain awake and alert. Those awake all night in Torah studies often participate in a sunrise Shacharit service. This service is held at our shul only if there is assurance that the regular service can be conducted properly.

Megillat Rut: There is a custom to read the scroll of Ruth on the second day of Shavuot. Ruth, who was a convert, accepted the Torah just as the Jews did at Sinai. She was also the great grandmother of King David, who was born, and died on Shavuot. We read the *megillah* before the Torah service.

Dairy Foods: There is a custom to eat dairy foods on Shavuot. Thus, the annual Beth David Sisterhood Shavuot lunch on the second day of Shavuot will be dairy.

Shavuot Schedule

- Sunday, June 8 Candle lighting — 8:20 pm
- Mincha/Maariv — 8:25 pm
- *Tikkun Leil Shavuot* – All night Torah study begins — 11:30 pm
- Refreshments – 11:30 pm
- First lecture – 12:00 midnight
- Monday, June 9 Shacharit — 9:00 am
- Candle lighting — after 9:20 pm
- Mincha/Ma'ariv — 8:20 pm
- Tuesday, June 10 Shacharit — 9:00 am
- Yizkor – approximately 10:45 am
- Mincha/Ma'ariv — 8:20 pm
- Yom Tov ends — 9:21 pm



Beth David Family

Pesach was a joyous time with incredibly beautiful weather. Rocketing gas prices didn't keep us from visiting family or family from heading back home to us at Beth David. Some who filled their Southern Tier homes with *mishpacha* were Michael and Susan Wright, SarahLynn and Rabbi Ami Adamit, Miriam and Aaron Alweis, Rivky and Aaron Slonim, Ilene Goldman, Judy and Rabbi Zev Silber, Judy and Irwin Simon, and Roz and Harry Wiesel (in Queens). Rachel, Rami, and baby Nathan David Elbaz of Toronto traveled to Israel to bond with grandparents Suzanne and Leon Feldhamer.

Some of us were fortunate to visit relatives for the holiday. After making Pesach at our home for 39 years, Harold and I had the pleasure of spending it with our children Abigail and Tzali Lazarus at their new Clifton, NJ home this year. Charney and Bob Oppenheim enjoyed the holiday with children Heather and Jonathan Douek and little Sophia in St Louis. Marion and Norman Rudin Pesached in Passaic with Debbie and Hal Rudin and the extended family, and Dora and Sol Polachek were with family in Westchester.

Marilyn Bell bounced from coast to coast to spend time with her children in California and in Passaic, NJ. Marti Klionsky popped down to North Carolina for her grandparent fixes, while Ruth and Howard Bushman traveled to Israel for theirs. Ruth and Bob Groh were thrilled their children Sharon and Howie Mintz and the grandchildren made several recent visits to Binghamton. Paul Serkin and Stuart and Molly Serkin have made Binghamton a regular stop on their itinerary to see their Dad Jack at Bridgewater and their Mom Marlene. Tal and Yossi BehManesh of Israel brought their parents, Rabbi Ami and SarahLynn Adamit much joy with their month long stay.

Kol Hakavod to Kerry Wright, a Speech and Language Pathologist, and a shul member in her own right, who was recognized with the Better Speech and Hearing Award of 2008, presented by the NYC Department of Education. Her parents Susan and Michael are *sheppening nachas*, especially since Kerry was also asked to speak at a UFT gathering. Yehuda, son of Rochie and Marc Sommer and grandson of Harold and me, performed with the renowned Yeshiva Boys' Choir at a Pesach *chol ha moed* concert at Queens College. *Yasher Koach* to Mark Budman, the recipient of the Silver Award in the Publishers Association of the West Book Design Awards for *You Have Time for This*, a flash fiction anthology co-edited by Mark.

Mazal Tov to Suzanne and Leon Feldhamer on the birth of a grandson, David, to Shani and Kenny Feldhamer of Pittsburgh. Cari and Dan Sommer of NYC presented grandmother Lillian Sommer with a grandson, Asher Theodore. Our good wishes are sent to great-grandmother Ilyse Stern. Roz and Harry Wiesel happily greeted their newest granddaughter, Lia Tamar, born to Yocheved and David Wiesel of Teaneck. May each of the babies be blessed with good health to Bar and Bat Mitzvah, to chuppah, and to 120!

Rika and Steven Katz, now of the Boston area, graced our presence at the May Shabbos luncheon. Steven's talk about Jewish Mysticism enlightened our large hometown crowd.

Paula and Charles Rubin marked the yahrtzeit of Elaine Frances Raff, sister of the late Barry Raff, by hosting a luncheon Kiddush in her memory.

Refuah shelemah to Ilene Goldman, Sam Ladenheim, and Frieda Samuels. With sadness I mention the passing of Marilyn Bell's brother-in-law, Alan Gilstein.

On to Shavout, commemorating our receiving the Torah at Mount Sinai. May each of you experience the Torah's words anew and find connection to your daily lives.

Meryl Sasnowitz

Calling All Graduates

Please notify Meryl Sasnowitz, 797-5458, if there is a graduate in your family this year. We would like to compile our yearly list of graduates in the Beth David Family, and the only way we can do this is with your help.

Contributions

General Fund from:

- Danel, Inc. – In memory of Barry Raff
- Sheldon Edison – In memory of Barry Raff
- Sheldon Edison – In memory of Rabbi Adamit's mother
- Jack I. Fisher – In memory of Barry Raff
- Ellen and Arny Loew – In memory of Barry Raff
- Arnold and Martha Schecter – In memory of Barry Raff
- Suzanne and Thomas Triebwasser – In memory of Barry Raff
- Arieh Ullmann – In memory of Shirlee Galanty
- Saba and Michael Wiesner – In memory of Les Bank's father
- Lilly and Herman Wolf – In memory of their parents
- Loren and Marlene Wolsh – In memory of Shirlee Galanty
- Dr. and Mrs. Elmer Zinner – in memory of Abba Bank, father of Les Bank

Shul Beautiful to:

- Marilyn Bell with thanks for your help from Madeline Miller
- Rabbi Zev Silber with thanks for your help from Madeline Miller
- Lillian Sommer with thanks for your help from Madeline Miller
- From: Barry & Joan Rozen and family on the yahrtzeit of Martha Rozen

Seudah Shlishit Fund

Rabbi & SarahLynn Adamit

Mitzvah Fund

Charney Oppenheim, 723-6205

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing:

Mazel Tov to:

- Leon & Suzanne Feldhamer on the birth of their grandson
- Sam Ladenheim Happy Birthday and many happy returns
- Jack & Marlene Serkin on the marriage of their granddaughter
- Rabbi Zev & Judy Silber with thanks for their hospitality

Refuah Shelemah to:

- Ilene Goldman
- Sam Ladenheim
- Sorelle Parker

Condolences to:

- Les Bank in memory of his father
- Sylvia Diamond in memory of her husband
- The family of Shirlee Galanty
- The family of Barry Raff
- The family of Robert Solomon

Thank You

To all the kind people that sent cards and called with good wishes for a speedy recovery from my fall, thank you. Your kindness was most sincerely appreciated.

Doris Zolty

Steve and Rika Katz would like to thank the Beth David family for the warm welcome received on May 10th. It was wonderful to catch up with old and new friends and we thank everyone for the hospitality extended to us.

I would like to thank everyone for their good wishes for my speedy recovery.

Ilene Goldman