

# Sisterhood

Spring is finally here and our Sisterhood season is winding down. Thanks to the organizational efforts of Marlene Serkin, we had a successful rummage sale. Many, many of our members helped Marlene and, of course, that's what Sisterhood is all about. The next sale is scheduled for August.

The Donor Dessert evening was held at the home of Susan Wright with Meryl Sasnowitz furnishing delectable treats. Naomi Shnoor provided the program discussing the differences in daily life between here and Israel. The Shnoor family will be ending their Sabbatical year here in Binghamton and will be returning to Israel in July. They will sorely and surely be missed. Naomi has played an active part in Sisterhood and even her husband, Boaz, helped us bake hamentashen. We wish them good luck and good health in the future and hope to see them again.

The Shavuot luncheon is coming up on the second day of the holiday, June 9. It will be chaired and prepared by Marcy Yonaty with the help of our volunteers. Marcy always comes back from Florida to work on this luncheon and we hope to have a good turnout.

Our closing dinner will be held on June 15 and will be prepared by Rivky Slonim. This is our last function of the year, so let's get together for some delicious food, schmoozing and relaxation.

At this point I would like to thank my wonderful board members who did an outstanding job in seeing that all our functions ran smoothly. Everyone is to be commended but I have to give special thanks to Paula Rubin for her wonderful publicity and to Meryl Sasnowitz for her Herculean efforts this year. *Yasher Koach* to them and to all the other members.

Have a great summer and see you next season!

*Claire Ladenheim*, Sisterhood President

## 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 3 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 3 weeks begin on 17 Tammuz, which occurs on Tuesday, June 29, and continue through 9 Av, which occurs on Tuesday, July 20.

**The fast of 17 Tammuz:** This day is observed as a fast day, with the fast beginning in the morning at 4:18 am and ending at nightfall, at 9:26 pm.

**Mourning practices:** During the entire 3-week period we do not conduct weddings, we refrain from haircuts, and we avoid listening to live music.

### Note

Treasurer Michael Wright would like to remind all Beth David members and supporters who may have an outstanding balance due on the pledge that they made to our Endowment Fund to please send a check at their earliest convenience and remember to include a note indicating that the check is in payment for your Endowment Fund pledge. For anyone who did not make a pledge, all contributions will be gladly accepted.

## Mitzvah Fund

Toby Kohn, 754-4297 or [tgkohn@stny.rr.com](mailto:tgkohn@stny.rr.com)

Sisterhood acknowledges contributions to the Mitzvah Fund wishing

### Mazel Tov to:

Les & Barbara Bank on Tanya's earning her PhD and beginning her new job  
Howard & Ruth Buschman on the engagement of their granddaughter  
Rabbi Chaim & Adina Harkavy on their new daughter  
Claire & Sam Ladenheim on their grandson, Gideon's engagement to Jennifer  
Claire Ladenheim on receiving the Jack & Mary Ferber Memorial Award  
Sam Ladenheim on his 90th birthday  
Annette & Barry Shaw on Lindsay's new job  
Judy Silber on receiving the Jack & Mary Ferber Memorial Award  
Judy & Irwin Simon on the birth of their new granddaughter, Sadie Lou  
Lillian Sommer on her granddaughter becoming a Bat Mitzvah  
Roz & Harry Wiesel on their new grandson, Aaron  
Sari Ann Yonaty on earning her PhD  
Hanna & Shelley Zachs on their inspiring talk at May's Shabbat Luncheon

### Condolences to:

Babs Bischoff in memory of her mother, Elinor  
Micki Braslow in memory of her husband, Milton  
Chung Sik Choi & family in memory of Jay  
Susan Choi & family in memory of Jay  
Adina Harkavy's in memory of her father

**YOU ARE INVITED TO DINNER  
THE FIRST NIGHT OF SHAVUOT  
Tuesday, June 7**

**JOIN US FOR SERVICES, DINNER AND  
STAY FOR AT LEAST ONE TORAH STUDY SESSION,  
AND THE DINNER IS ON US!**

**Reservations required by Friday, June 3!  
RSVP to [rabbisilber@stny.rr.com](mailto:rabbisilber@stny.rr.com) or 761-7098**

*Dinner Sponsored by Rabbi Zev and Judy Silber*

## Shavuot Customs and Practices

**When:** Shavuot begins on Tuesday, June 7th at night, and lasts through the day of Thursday, June 9th.

**Candle Lighting:** As with every Yom Tov, we light candles each night of the holiday, reciting the 2 brachot – 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 7, 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.

### Thanks

A special thank you to those who made contributions to the "roof-repair" fund. Your generosity is much appreciated.

*Saba Wiesner*, President

## Beth David Family

April showers bring... I guess they bring May showers. We all hoped our returning Floridians would bring sunshine our way, but alas, it didn't happen. Welcome home to Sheldon Edison, Susan and Gerry Hubal, and Marcy and Gabi Yonaty.

Pesach brought visitors to town. I was blessed to have a full house – 22 of us eating, sleeping, and singing. What Joy! The Adamits also enjoyed a full *yom tov* house with children, grandchildren, and the newly engaged couple Gilad and Batsheva. The Silbers were kept on their toes by their grandchildren's visit as well. Some of our members traveled to their children for the holiday. Claire and Samuel Ladenheim spent the week in Philadelphia with their family, Marion and Norman Rudin split their holiday between their Monsey and their Passaic families, and Toby and Harold Kohn enjoyed seders with family in Queens. Ruth and Howard Buschman were with their family in Israel for Pesach.

Mazal Tov to Michal, daughter of Zehava Schechter of West Hempstead, who was chosen as this year's Yeshiva University High School for Girls recipient of the Keter Shem Tov Award. *Kol Hakavod* to Claire Ladenheim and Judy Silber, this year's recipients of the Mary and Jack Ferber Memorial Award at the shul dinner.

The Ullmanns had a family reunion in Brisbane, Australia, with Rhoda flying in from London and Arieh from Binghamton, to attend Jeremy's graduation from the University of Queensland. Jeremy received his Doctor of Philosophy in the School of Biomedical Sciences. He received the Dean's Award for Research Higher Degree Excellence 2010. After the festivities in Brisbane, the Ullmanns vacationed in New Zealand.

Barbara and Maish Rozen happily announced the arrival of their 10th great grandchild, a boy. The bris was erev Pesach. Marion and Norman Rudin have several simchas to report. Two babies were born, Nechemah Esther, to Malka and Gavi Rudin, and Yisroel Meir, to Naomi and Tzvi Rudin. Both babies are grandchildren of Debbie and Hal Rudin of Passaic and great-grandchildren of Marion and Norman. The Rudins also celebrated the engagement of their granddaughter Itta Pesha, daughter of Jackie and Mark Berkowitz of Monsey, to Shragi Lazarus. If the surname rings a bell, it's because Shragi is a cousin of my son-in-law Tzali Lazarus. That makes four Beth David families now married into the Lazarus mishpacha! We are Fam-i-ly!

Mazal Tov to Lillian Sommer on the Bat Mitzvah of her granddaughter, Dassi, the daughter of Rachel and Avi Nadel. Beth David was well represented at the Kohav Hashahar simcha. In attendance were Naomi Staiman, Claire Goldstein, Adina Goldstein Samson, Debbie Groner, Meira Groner Bell, Hadassah Groner Lebowitz, Janet Wilson, Melissa Pletter Wegline, Shira Katz Reifman, Amy Cohen Unteberg, and, of course, Grandma Lillian.

We offer our condolences to the family of Milton Braslow: his wife, Maxine (Micki) Potchinsky Braslow, his sisters Ruth Braslow and Sylvia Dombeck, and his children, grandchildren, and great-grandson.

With great sorrow I also note the passing of Jay Choi, son of Susan Choi and Chung Sik Choi, and brother of Gil and Lily. May the Choi Family find comfort among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

With great eagerness, our souls anxiously awaited the receipt of the Torah at Mt. Sinai. As we approach Shavuot, may each of us again experience anticipation and rebirth of spirit.

*Meryl Sasnowitz*

### Men's Club Breaking News

*This news just in from an unnamed source, who only gave his first name as Charlie (It is suggested that you call 765-3304 for confirmation). This information is sooo hot even Snoopes doesn't have it yet. The BD Men's Club, so as not to be accused of gender discrimination, will stage another great, don't miss-it-kind-of event. You mystery solving, Sherlock Holmes types have probably already deduced the answer. No, it was not the butler. It is a Men's Club Father's Day Event for 9:44 am, June 19th. Such a Deal you will get! Lox & Bagels w/accountrements, several kinds of scrambled eggs by Charles & Charles, homefries by Harold & Harold, seasonal fruits by Dice & Slice, fresh brewed coffee by Urm. Cakes baked by Sam's & Club. Other as yet unidentified chefs will prepare culinary creations to placate even the most particular palate. For only \$8 adults, \$5 children, includes any applicable tax and gratuity (how can they do all of that for such a small fixed price)? Just in case your mother is not nearby to remind you, mark it on your calendar now, and call Charlie ASAP.*

## Contributions

### General Fund from:

Charney & Bob Oppenheim in honor of Sam Ladenheim's 90th Birthday  
Charney & Bob Oppenheim in honor of Judy Silber  
Barbara & Robert Ruchames in honor of Judy Silber  
Bruce & Sarah Feder & Family in honor of Judy Silber  
Charney & Bob Oppenheim in honor of Claire Ladenheim  
Barbara & Robert Ruchames in honor of Claire Ladenheim

### In Memory of:

Milton Braslow by Dr. & Mrs. Barry Shaw  
Milton Braslow by Dr. Arieh Ullmann  
Jay Choi by Daria & Megan Shierly  
Jay Choi by Julie & Alan Piaker  
Jay Choi by Lilly & Herman Wolf

### Shul Beautiful to:

Howard & Ruth Buschman in honor of their granddaughter's engagement  
by Marcy & Gabi Yonaty  
Sam & Claire Ladenheim in honor of their grandson's engagement  
by Marcy & Gabi Yonaty

### Shabbat Luncheon from:

Hanna & Shelly Zacks  
Eileen & Thomas Head  
Rabbi Ami & Sarah Lynn Adamit  
Marion Pine  
Lenore Manasse  
Sam & Claire Ladenheim

### • Annual Dinner •

Sunday, May 22, 2011 was the annual Shul Dinner, this year honoring Claire Ladenheim and Judy Silber. The dinner was chaired by Toby and Harold Kohn and Saba Wiesner. Caterer Michelle Bank did a super job. A presentation was made to Naomi and Boaz Shnoor, Israeli's who have been spending the year in Binghamton and will soon return to Israel. They have done much to enhance life at Beth David this year.

Tributes were given to Claire by her daughters, Susan Rendsburg and Xianna Shiffman, and the Jack & Mary Ferber Memorial Award was presented by Marlene Serkin. Judy's daughters Avital Weissman and Sarah Feder offered tributes to their mother and Meryl Sasnowitz presented her with the Jack & Mary Ferber Memorial Award.

Both women have been very involved in the Sisterhood and Synagogue and well deserved the honors bestowed upon them.

Thanks go to all who worked on the dinner, from chairing, running the raffle, manning the bar, setting tables and all other jobs, both large and small, that go into putting on such a wonderful affair.

To those who attended, thank you for helping to honor special people; to those who didn't, there is always next year.

### Thank You

*Thank you for the honor bestowed upon me at the annual dinner,  
for a lovely event and for all the wonderful wishes and congratulations.  
Claire Ladenheim*

## Rummage (Recycle) Sale Report

Thanks again to all of you who donated merchandise and/or volunteered your time to help out at the rummage sale held Sunday, Monday and Tuesday May 1, 2 and 3, 2011.

Set up was done on Sunday morning. Our volunteers were so efficient that we finished in a little over an hour.

A million thanks to the following for helping set up, clean up and working at the sale, we couldn't do it without you:

<i>Judy Silber</i>	<i>Valerie Preston</i>	<i>Marilyn Bell</i>
<i>Claire Ladenheim</i>	<i>Lilly Wolf</i>	<i>Marie Werner</i>
<i>Lillian Zodikoff</i>	<i>Meryl Sasnowitz</i>	<i>Sima &amp; Neil Auerbach</i>
<i>Rita Shawn</i>	<i>Marcia &amp; Steven Sutter</i>	<i>Naomi Shnoor &amp; Family</i>
<i>Marti Klianski</i>	<i>Cathy Velenchik</i>	<i>Lil Sommer</i>

Thank you to Nancy Nagel a customer who always comes and helps us set up and to Chung Sik Choi who was also a big help. The Shnoors brought a neighbor, Lisa Casteter and her son to help out.

Thank you,

*Marlene Serkin*, Rummage Sale Chairwoman