



Brotherhood Synagogue ביה

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Speaking Out

by Rabbi Daniel Alder

Last month I received an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary. This degree is awarded to all graduates of the Seminary who have served as a rabbi for at least 25 years. The ceremony was a joyful event that included a speech from the Chancellor of the Seminary, Dr. Arnie Eisen.

Dr. Eisen spoke to the topic of whether and how rabbis should speak out on controversial issues of the day. What should rabbis do in this politically contentious time? What should they say, on the pulpit or off? What alliances and marches should they join and lead? There seems to be a broad consensus that Jews should not remain silent when core interests and values are at stake, but little agreement about how to define those values or protect those interests, or what the role of the rabbi should be in such efforts.

Toward the beginning of his talk, Dr. Eisen declared his belief “that the lack of consensus on these points makes the role of the rabbi more, rather than less, crucial.” He stated: “It is imperative that those charged with teaching Jews Torah speak out loud and clear on moral and religious issues of the day. They must speak out carefully yet boldly; with love for God and Israel; and always from deep inside the teaching and practice of Torah.”

We want our rabbis—among their many other duties—to be prophets of a sort, which means helping their communities to hear clearly what God wants of them, and helping our words reach God. The words sent in God’s direction include protest, petition, thanksgiving, praise, love letters, or silent meditation. The words headed back toward us from God’s side include command, forgiveness, comfort, appeal for help, or reflection on the relationship between God and humanity. Paraphrasing Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, we might say that the rabbi in his or her prophetic role helps Jews to keep God always in mind, and stops us from focusing only on our own needs and desires.

Heschel made that declaration about Israel’s prophets in his 1963 address on “Religion and Race,” and when he marched in Selma, Alabama, he affirmed, as the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. did in his “Letter from Birmingham Jail,” that rabbis must call out injustice, call for compassion, and call lies lies. They cannot teach the opening chapters of Genesis without reminding us that human beings are assigned to work and tend the garden of earth; that all human beings are children of Adam and Eve created in God’s image; that this status carries with it a demand to protect human dignity always and everywhere. Rabbis cannot teach the Exodus narrative without stressing over and over, as the Torah does, the obligation to take care of the stranger, free those enslaved, and not bow down to false gods. The Judge of all the earth must be assisted in doing justice.

Of course, a rabbi’s job is to teach Torah and to help Jews live Torah, not to be a political operative. Spiritual/moral leaders cannot fulfill their calling effectively if they routinely sound off on contemporary controversy rather than helping Jews listen week in and week out to the voice of Torah. For rabbis to do the prophetic job to which they are called, they and their communities need to trust each other’s dedication and integrity.

Chancellor Eisen concluded his remarks with a word of Torah that he learned from Heschel some 45 years ago, when he asked him as a student reporter with incredible chutzpah how he had the chutzpah to call the Vietnam War evil—not just wrong, but evil—and to write on the first page of his book *God in Search of Man* that religion had declined because it had become “irrelevant, dull, oppressive, insipid.” Heschel responded thusly: “I am heir to a great religious tradition, and as such it is not only my right but my duty to speak in its name as best I can, knowing that others will speak differently.”

Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 6:30 PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, APRIL 7, 6:30 PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 9:30 AM
Bat Mitzvah of Julia Lowy

FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 6:30 PM
SATURDAY, APRIL 15, 9:30 AM
Shabbat Chol HaMoed Pesach

FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 7:30 PM
Please note the new start time
SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 9:30 AM
Bar Mitzvah of Yarden Nahum

FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 7:30 PM
Guest Speaker:
Justice Richard Bernstein
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, 9:30 AM
Bat Mitzvah of Emma Kelmachter

THE BROTHERHOOD
SYNAGOGUE SCHOOLS
**SPRING
BENEFIT**
Thursday, April 6, 2017
6:30 - 9:30 PM
Cocktails, Dinner, Dancing,
and Auction
www.brotherhoodbenefit.org

My Camp Lives

by Debra Saltzman Hill

Camper, Riflery Instructor, Camp Mother, The Voice of Camp Monroe

I must have been seven years old when my grandfather offered to send my 10-year-old brother to “Hebrew speaking camp” (Camp Ramah). When my brother turned it down, the words within me, “GRANDPA, I’LL GO!!” ached to emerge.

That summer, my family took off on a road trip from our home in suburban Cleveland to see relatives in Montreal. On the way we stopped at Camp Ramah.

I loved it from the moment we stepped onto the campus: the Hebrew, the rustic buildings, and the activities. Some of my older Montreal cousins were campers, and I was ready to sign up! My parents thought I was too young, it was too far away, and too expensive. I was very disappointed and wished that my grandfather could read my mind and send me there on a magic carpet.

Several years later, my parents sent me to a girls’ overnight camp on Lake Erie and my younger brother to a nearby boys’ camp, where we could be together with our Cleveland cousins. We were all around the same age, but at different schools, so camp gave us time to grow closer.

I loved living in a cabin, nestled in the woods, making new friends, hiking, horseback riding, canoeing, and learning archery.

Nonetheless, I knew that something was awry. When the dining room served non-kosher food, I ate peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. When we dressed in white on Sundays and went to vesper services, I yearned to hear haunting Jewish melodies sung bel canto by world famous cantor Louis Danto, under my synagogue’s broad Temple Mount-like dome.

Yet at age 19, I returned to that camp to do something I bet almost no one reading this article could imagine: I became Camp Wingfoot’s Riflery Instructor.

Fast forward a couple more decades: My camp cousin, then living in suburban Washington, DC, called to suggest that my 12-year-old son, Aaron, and her 13-year-old son would go to camp together, just like we did.

She found Camp Monroe, a Jewish oriented sleep-away camp located in the Catskill foothills, almost unchanged from the 1940’s. It was owned by a group of men who had started out as campers. They matured into hippies, bought the place, changed nothing; then some became Baal



T’shuvah black-hats, and still they changed almost nothing about the camp. It welcomed campers and employees from around the world, including Israelis and people who had never met Jews before.

I liked my cousin’s idea so much, I got a job there as a summer break from working in the NYC Public Schools and to be nearby for Aaron’s seven-year-old brother, Jonathan. At first, I worked as one of the camp-mothers, alongside a maniacally energetic 82-year-old camp-grandmother. Eventually, I became the office manager, dispensing individually numbered ping pong balls, hunting through parent-sent care packages for contraband candy, and after instruction by my mellifluous-voiced husband, making camp-wide loud speaker announcements, á la M*A*S*H’s Radar O’Reilly. And on my days off, Paul and I explored the Catskills—for the next eleven years!

Aaron and Jonathan enjoyed Camp Monroe’s sports, field trips and its differing perspectives on Jewish life. Both were invited to Bar and Bat Mitzvahs across the tri-state area. A Westchester camper invited Aaron to be her high school prom date.

Jonathan became good friends at camp with a boy from Alsace, France, and attended 11th grade, in St. Avold, where he was virtually adopted by his friend’s Jewish family. Paul and I visited that Chanukah and ushered in the New Year with better Champagne and wine than ever could be imagined in your wildest dreams! A few years later, we returned the favor when Jonathan’s French camp friend lived with us in Manhattan, completing his college internship, while Jonathan served in the Israel Defense Forces.

Today, our sons still meet former camp friends all over the world, who post Facebook photos of graduations, weddings, and new babies. They’ve made Jewish friends for life.

The Foundation for Jewish Camping has published quantitative evidence that Jewish summer camps help develop kids into adults who are committed to the Jewish community and engaged in Jewish practice.

Don’t walk ... RUN ... to sign up your children and grandchildren for Jewish summer camp!

DOR L’DOR דור דור
GENERATION to GENERATION

Service and Study for the First Born

This service will be held on Monday morning, April 10 at 7:30 am. Those who choose not to observe the fast of the First Born should attend the service and then participate in the completion of a tractate of study. In celebration of that accomplishment, a light breakfast will follow.

Passover Services

First Days

Monday, April 10, 7:00 pm

Tuesday, April 11, 9:30 am

Wednesday, April 12, 9:30 am

Concluding Days

Sunday, April 16, 7:00 pm

Monday, April 17, 9:30 am & 8:00 pm

Tuesday, April 18, 9:30 am

Yizkor will be recited at services on Tuesday, April 18th at around 11:30 am. Passover is one of the four times a year when we recite Yizkor prayers in memory of our loved ones. It is traditional to give gifts of charity in their names. May every gift be blessed and the givers thereof.



Brotherhood Book Club Thursday, April 20, 7:00 pm

Susan Halper will lead a discussion on *In the Dark Room* by Susan Faludi.

All are welcome to participate in the Book Club. Please contact Margie Katz margie.katz@me.com to join us!



**The Brotherhood Synagogue
Chesed Committee invites you to join us**

Sunday, April 2, 2017, 10:30 am -12:30 pm

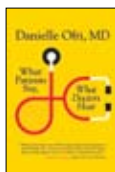
Breakfast and Welcome

The Chesed Committee and Rabbi Daniel Alder

Keynote Address

**What Patients Say, What Doctors Hear
Danielle Ofri, MD, PhD**

Despite modern medicine's infatuation with high-tech gadgetry, the single most powerful diagnostic tool is the doctor-patient conversation, which can uncover the lion's share of illnesses. However, what patients say and what doctors hear are often two vastly different things. Danielle Ofri reveals how refocusing conversations between doctors and their patients can lead to better health.



Book signing with books available for sale following keynote presentation.



Photo: Joann Park

Danielle Ofri, MD, PhD, is a physician at Bellevue Hospital, the oldest public hospital in the country, and associate professor of medicine at NYU. She writes about medicine and the doctor-patient connection for the *New York Times*, and other publications. She is the Editor-in-Chief of the *Bellevue Literary Review*, the first literary journal to arise from a medical setting and the author of five books about the world of medicine.

12:00 pm

Healing Service with Cantor Michael Weis

Seating is limited. Please email awarren@jbfcs.org to reserve your space.

Donations are appreciated and will go to support the Brotherhood Synagogue Chesed Committee activities.



**Israel's Nature: Protecting
Wildlife in the Shadow of War**

A Talk with Hedy Ben Eliahu, Regional Ranger Mount Gilboa, Israel Nature and Parks Authority

Thursday, April 27, 7:00 pm

War affects us all, including wild animals and plant life. When a small region like the Middle East is drenched in a history of war and violence, we sometimes forget that humans are not the only ones who suffer.

Wild animals do not have a lobby, nor does anyone negotiate with them their right to live and prosper. Military activity on all sides is the largest contributing cause of wild fires, habitat fragmentation, illegal hunting, mass poaching, and habitat loss in Israel. Security fences and walls put up to separate populations in the Middle East have done much more. Many species that once roamed freely from Egypt all the way up to the Lebanese mountains are now doomed to live in isolated habitats due to these security borders. The lonely striped hyena, which can travel up to 40 miles a night, is now forced to live in the political zone to which it has now been confined. Nowadays hyena numbers are significantly declining due to habitat fragmentation. The striped hyenas are not the only ones...

Please join us for this fascinating lecture on Israel's wildlife, habitat, and geography with Hedy Ben Eliahu.

Sunday, April 23 • 5:30 pm

YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION

The Brotherhood Synagogue, along with Downtown Jewish Life (JDL), will hold a community commemoration of Holocaust Memorial Day at East End Temple with a guest speaker, musical presentations, candle lighting and memorial prayers.



Speaker at Services:

**Justice Richard Bernstein
Overcoming Obstacles and
Breaking Down Barriers**

Friday, April 28, 7:30 pm

Justice Richard Bernstein became the first blind justice, elected by voters statewide, to the Michigan Supreme Court in November 2014. With a commitment to justice and fairness, Bernstein began his 8-year term in January 2015. Prior to being elected to Michigan's highest court, Justice Bernstein was known as a tireless advocate for disabled rights as an attorney heading the public service division for The Sam Bernstein Law Firm. Blind since birth, Justice Bernstein is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of Michigan and earned his juris doctorate from Northwestern University School of Law.

Please visit our online monthly calendar for Justice Bernstein's full bio.



**CELEBRATING ISRAEL'S 69TH
INDEPENDENCE DAY!**



Tuesday, May 2nd • 7 pm

@ Brotherhood Synagogue

Come and dance and explore the diverse culture of Israel with ANBESSA ORCHESTRA - a Brooklyn-based Israeli band.

Dance to the sounds of Ethiopian inspired Jazz. Wine, beer, snacks from Israel!

\$10. Purchase tickets on our website.



Sponsored by Downtown Jewish Life (JDL)

President's Post

by Trudi Rae Bartow



I've started to clean out my cupboards and closets...must mean Passover is right around the corner! As I eagerly rearrange my entire apartment I find myself singing a song my grandmother used to sing when she would clean this time of year. It is a song about a very frantic woman on a cleaning mission whose name is Mrs Balabusta. For a long time I only could recall the first line of this fun, little song—*Oh my name is Balabusta and I'm so very busy, Peseach may be fun for you but it just makes me dizzy. Here's a list of things a Balabusta has to do.*

Try as I might I could not recall the rest of the song. I asked my brother, who has an excellent memory, and he also could not recall how it went. I thought that was the end of it, but my brother is persistent and thus began his quest to get his hands on a copy of the song. One day, as my brother was searching through Google results, he discovered the website for the Judaic Sound Archives (JSA) at Florida Atlantic University. This online music archive has been collecting, preserving and promoting the study and enjoyment of Judaic sound recordings since 2002. Not only did we find the original Gladys Gewirtz recording of *Mrs Balabusta*, on an album festively titled *Seder Party!*, we also discovered a wealth of forgotten treasures including a *Tribute to Moyshe Oyster* by Alberto Mizrahi, Meir Finkelstein and David Propis and cast recording from the Yiddish Theater.

The JSA website promotes their work in creating a safe and protected environment for the storage of vintage recordings. They use state of the art technology to digitize obsolete phonograph and tape-recorded music creating a collection of over 100,000 songs easily accessible on their website. The majority of the music has been digitally enhanced to fix the degraded quality of the recordings.

To view the collection and rediscover your favorite songs, visit rsa.fau.edu/judaic. To hear my beloved *Mrs Balabusta* song, visit rsa.fau.edu/album/42327.

—Trudi 🌸

Happenings in Our Kehilah

B'nai Mitzvah, Mazal Tov to:

Joseph and Lynn Lowy on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Julia Lowy**. Julia, a student at Trevor Day School, will celebrate her simcha with her older brother, **Alex**.

Yaron Nahum and Miriam Rahav on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Yarden Nahum**. Yarden, a student at Simon Baruch Middle School, will celebrate his simcha with his younger siblings, **Lielle, Oren and Zohar**; and to Yarden's grandparents, **Michael and Joan Rahav**.

Leslie Kelmachter on the Bat Mitzvah of her daughter, **Emma Kelmachter**. Emma, a student at Simon Baruch Middle School, will celebrate her simcha with her younger sister, **Aliza**.

Births, Mazal Tov to:

Kim Harounian Zaga and David Zaga on the birth of their son **Samuel Salomon Zaga**.

Maya and Danny Katz on the birth of their son, **Jude Wolf Katz**; and to older sister, **Simryn**.

Condolences to:

Sheila Manischewitz on the passing of her husband, **David Manischewitz**.

Bob Wolf on the passing of his mother, **Esther Wolf**.

Phyllis Auliano on the passing of her husband, **John Auliano**.

Leslie Spira Lopez on the passing of her mother, **Jeanette Spira**.

Merril Feinstein on the passing of her step-daughter, **Laurie Feit**.

The family of **Susan Fox** on her passing. 🌸

Shabbat Club • Saturday, April 22, 1 pm

April 22 is Earth Day. To celebrate, three members of our congregation—**Alba Dwass, Esther Altaras Meyers, and Deborah Newman**—will lead us in a discussion of Jewish Environmentalism, or Eco-Judaism. On Earth Day, annually since 1970, events are held in more than 190 countries to demonstrate support for environmental protection.

Come to this meeting to hear about the connections between Judaism and environmental concerns found in ancient and modern texts and about some of the modern organizations and movements which are trying to educate and involve us as Americans and as Jews in these serious and timely issues.

Also, you can learn from the group leaders and from others—and contribute yourself—some practical ideas about improving our environment, in small and large ways. Bring your questions and comments, and your friends! We will meet, as usual, in the reception room on the second floor, opposite the sanctuary.

Contact Deborah Newman or Roberta Kahn with questions, or suggestions for topics, or discussion leaders (or to volunteer!).

Life Goes On

In the aftermath of the biggest snowstorm of this winter, our visit to the Morgan Library started with an afternoon tea with sandwiches and scones in the Library's beautiful café followed by a tour of the stunning private office and library of probably the wealthiest man of his era. Among other treasures, there are masterpieces of Renaissance Art on display as well as at least one of the three Gutenberg bibles he owned. And we rescued an American woodcock in the course of the trip—a beautiful, unusual bird; you'll have to speak with one of us to get the full story!

An extraordinary event will follow at 4 pm on **Thursday, April 27!** We will be visiting another great museum in New York, the Brooklyn Museum of Art, to tour their amazing Georgia O'Keeffe exhibit with an exceptional tour

guide. We have a special connection to the museum who will arrange our tour free of charge for all! Dinner together will follow, most likely in the museum's famous restaurant, with details to be sent to members of the group as they are available.

Our discussion of *Commonwealth* in our book club in March was a wonderful opportunity to explore the unusual relationships within some extended families, hopefully gaining insight into our own.

Our next book club meeting on **April 24** will feature *The Nix* by Nathan Hill. Hill's novel is the story of Samuel, both the boy and the man that he became in 2011 in Occupy Wall Street America. NYU Professor Margaret Birns will guide our discussion and wine and desserts will be served as usual. **Please remember always to**

RSVP if you plan to attend and know that the cost of participation is \$20 per person.

Due to Passover, our book club and meeting will both take place during the last week of April. If this causes a problem for too many of our members, we will try to reschedule one of the events.

Life Goes On is a group for those of us who have lost a spouse or life partner and want to experience the beauty, joy, and opportunity that New York life offers surrounded by supportive friends who understand and share in the loss. If you or someone you know would like to be a part of the group, please come to our meetings—we would be happy to see you! If you have any questions, please call **Agnes Marton** at 917.519.4427 or e-mail her at lagnesmarton@gmail.com or call Roberta in the Synagogue office at 212.674.5750. 🌸

VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST REMEMBERED IN OUR GARDEN

As we mark Yom HaShoah, observed on April 24, 2017 (26 Nisan 5777), we think of members of families in our congregation who perished during the Holocaust and whose names are memorialized on the wall of our Garden of Remembrance.

Rivka Leah Aspis, Chaim Berglas, Herman Berglas, Rachel Leah Berglas, Elvira Berkowitz, Regina Berkowitz, Alma Bermann, Leo Bermann, Bertha Brenman, Moses Brenman, Fanny Friedenstein, Israel Friedenstein, Mina G. Friedenstein, Rosa Friedenstein, Sonia Friedenstein, Hedwig Friedjung, Boris Glucksman, David Glucksman, Esther Glucksman, Helena Glucksman, Ilya Glucksman, Lola Glucksman, Masha Glucksman, Nadia Glucksman, Sasha Glucksman, Yetta Glucksman, Zsayama Glucksman, Pincus P. Goldman, Berish Goldreich, Sarah Goldreich, Yitzak Goldreich, Adolph Hamburger, Bella Hamburger, Ilse Hamburger, Joseph Hamburger, Natalie Hamburger, Ibi Hausler, Rifka Hausler, Frieda Heidelberger, Adolph Hirsch, Yaakov Michel Hirsch, Abraham Hirschfeld, Bertha Jacobowitz, Bertha Blume Jacobowitz, Fannie Jakobovits, Kaethe Kelemen, Sandor Kelemen, Ferdinand Kohn, Sophie Kohn, Avraham Kolodicki, Feige Kolodicki, Wolf and Sarah Lebowitz Family, Emma Anna Lowinger, Leopold Lowinger, Miklos Marton, Elizabeth Nachmann, Florine Nachmann, Julius Nachmann, Ruth Nachmann, Gita Najberg, Tzvi Najberg, Margarete Neumann, Rudolf Neumann, Benjamin Orenbuch, Isaac Rabinowitz, Erwin Roth, Isidor Roth, Mina Rubin Roth, Esther Rothenberg, Joseph Rothenberg, Abraham Rothstein, Ida Rothstein, The Family Rothstein, Max Rubin, Ella Schaeffer, Hugo Schaeffer, The Family Schreier, The Family Silberling, Samuel Stanger, Sari Orován Steiner, Feiga Trencher, Moses Trencher, Ida Berger Veisz, Lajos Veisz, Avram Weissman, Avrom Weissman, Hentshe Weissman, Hersh Weissman, Lonka Weissman, Necha Weissman, The Family Weygman, Emma Wolff, Josef Wolff, Avrum Wolkove

And the children who perished.

The Chesed* Committee WANTS YOU TO KNOW

The internet offers a variety of Jewish-oriented websites that feature blogs, podcasts, and resource lists for those of us hitting midlife and older ages. Try jewishsacredaging.com or growingolder.net.

*The Chesed Committee provides help and compassion to Brotherhood members in times of need. We can be reached at chesed@brotherhoodsynagogue.org or through the synagogue office.



Yahrzeits

^Garden of Remembrance *Book of Remembrance

April 1-7

Dr. Julius Leonard Abrams, ^Rachel Alster, Beatrice Alter, *Rachel Ash, Michael Baslow, Ella Berenstein, Alan Berkowitz, Anna Bernstein, *Gussie Biegeleisen, ^Lewis Braverman, Bernard Buchman, ^Dorothy Cohen, ^Albert Eidelberg, *Charles Eisinger, *Rebecca Ellenbogen, ^George Farkas, ^Dorothy Fein, Miriam Feingold, *Morris Feldman, *Fred Firstenberg, ^Iakov Gleizer, ^Joseph Goldenberg, **Sara Anna Goldfarb, ^Bertha Gomby, Charlie Greenberg, *Eva Passman Greenberg, ^Samuel Greenhouse, Irving Hattem, Dolores Hoffman, Nathan Kaplan, Alex Kassir, Arthur Kellman, ^Philip Kenner, *Fred Klein, Miriam Kleinbein, ^Molly Pitcher Krauss, ^Patricia Learner, *Jules Lederberger, Regina Handel Leslie, *Sarah Levine, Bernard Lichtenstein, *Fannie Mandelowitz, ^George Markowitz, *Samuel Meyer, Hortense Luria Mintzer, ^Sadie Mosberg, Nathan Neiderman, Harry Rosenzweig, Fay Rothstein, Carl-Olof Sandberg, Jacob Henry Schoenbaum, ^Bertha Antler Seinfeld, Nathan Shapiro, Robert Sigman, Miriam Silver, Lena Simon, ^Barry Smulian, *Samuel Tepperman, *Lilyan Weber, Leah Weisman

April 8 - 14

*David Aaronson, ^Selma E. Abraham, Sarah Altman, Rachel Balaber, **Erwin T. Basch, *Celia Baum, Olga Blum, George Casper, Betty Cohen, Elio Cohen, *Herbert E. Cohen, Mary Cooper, Victor Danberg, *Samuel Eichner, Beatrice Einbinder, ^Albert Epstein, Rose Erman, ^Fannie Feitell, *Louis Feldman, David Finkelstein, Edward Fong, **Cyril Freedman, Martin Frey, ^Helen Friedman, ^Selma Frishling, **Nathan Goldschlag, *Simon Gourse, ^Ralph Isaac Green, Harry Gussman, Eddie Hans, Frederick Hardenburgh, Harold Irving Hill, **Henry Hodys, ^Steven Hueglin, Samuel Jr, *Samuel Jacobs*, ^Nathan D. Jacobs, Esther Kassir, *Isak Katz, Sylvia Kletzkina, Celia Kliger, ^Anna Klonsky, ^Lillian Kosta, Fred Kriegel, Owen Kupferschmid, *Phillip Langer, Jack Luderman, Max Leinweber, Elizabeth Levine, ^Saul Levy, Ruth Lewen, Selma Licht Gold, Molly Menschenfreund, Gertrude Miller, ^Larry Miller, Dorothy Moldow, Sylvia Moskowitz, ^Harvey Nelson, ^Louis Offerman, Philip Petchenik, *Rose Pollack, Marilyn Radovsky, Sol J. Rauch, ^Sadie Rickles, *Helen Robinove, *Rose Rosen, ^Anna Helen Rothbart, Hannah Schimel, Johannes Schmutzer, Joseph Selterman, Rene Shapshak, ^Morris Samson Sidran, ^Samuel Signer, Nathan Simon, ^Michael S. Soloway, Mark Sonnenblick, ^Dorothy Spatt, Tilly Stern, Stanford Stillpass, *Jacob Tepperman, Albert Wertheim, Harry Wolf, ^Alexander Wolf, James Yassky, ^Alice Zelmanowicz, Rose Zucker, ^Susan Zuckerberg

April 15 - 21

Eva Aaron, ^Lottie Abrams, Sidney Alper, Jack Babitz, ^Herman Berglas, Brig.Gen. Irving Bersoff, Max Bledstein, Donald Brandt, *David Cagen, Paul Benjamin Cohen, Ariel Distenfeld, *Mark Ellenbogen, Bertram Feinberg, ^Isaac Feldman, ^Robert Fink, ^Bella Flame, Harry Genzer, Harry Gingold, ^Stanley Glassman, Rose Gross, Roselyn Hauptman, *Hyman Herbst, Kati Jacobs, Gizelle Joblin, ^Manya Kaplow, ^Kaethe Kelemen, ^Sandor Kelemen, Edith Kitt, Sheila Leah Klein, Honon Kommissaroff, Millie Koppelman, Jeffrey Korman, Alice Kresic, Shirley Krieger, Dalia Leeds, David Lesser, Sarah Lesser, Alexander Levine, Esther Levine, ^Stanley Levitt, Daniel Mann, ^Blanche Mann, Ruth Mason, ^Bertram Miller, ^Milly Monk, Edward Moskowitz, Jack Parker, Guta Perle, ^Marian L. Plotka, Bertha Pollick, ^Benjamin Protter, ^Jennie Rabinoff, Joseph Rothberg, Sharon Salant, Oscar Saltzman, ^Kalman Schindel, *Marcus Schnapp, ^Pearl Settle, *Ruth Shaine, Vera Shapiro, ^Abraham Silberling, *Benjamin Siskind, ^Maxwell Siskind, *Sidney

Solomon, M.D., ^Florence I. Stark, Minna Tornek, ^Frank Turteltaub, **Meyer Warmbrand, Belle Weissman

April 22 - 28

Luna Alhadeff, Saul Allenson, Dorothy Baumstein, Joel Berger, *Martin Berkman, Jack Berkowitz, Martin Blank, *Sarah Block, Gale Brown, Irving Chais, Alain-Gerard Cohen, Hillel Eisenberg, **Samuel J. Friedman, Jules Gaynor, ^Richard Glaubinger, Paul Goldman, ^Belle Greene, *Dr. Samuel Gross, *Saul Grossman, ^Adolph Hamburger, ^Bella Hamburger, ^Ilse Hamburger, ^Joseph Hamburger, Robert Jacobson, ^Leonard Kahn, Eva Kalish, Albert Kaufman, *Cornelius Joseph King, *Dr. Jerome J. Klein, ^Ferdinand Kohn, ^Sophie Kohn, ^Sarah Lebowitz, ^Wolf Lebowitz, ^Leonore Soloway Lippman, *Marion Lipshie, **Carl Maisel, ^Miklos Marton, Jacob Menschenfreund, ^Jessie Meyer, Rosalind Miller, Julia Moss, ^Beatrice Nemser, ^Margarete Neumann, ^Rudolf Neumann, ^Paul Newton, Sophie Polk, ^Phillip Prichap, ^Sid B. Prichap, ^Isaac Rabinowitz, Jonathan Marc Ragovin, ^Sylvia Regan, **Dora Robins, ^Joseph Rofman, Conrad Roland, Samuel Rosenberg, Murray Rosenberg, Sheila Sagman, Leo Sigal, *Harry L. Spindel, ^Kenneth Stark, Buddy Weiner, Dora Wertzer, Garson Zeltzer

April 29 - May 5

*Israel B. Aaronson, ^Rebecca Abelson, ^Arlene Abramowitz, Lony Alexander, Albert Altaras, Albert Anes, Ruth Ascher Abel, ^Max Bachrach, Seymour Bauchner, Shirley Bauchner, Bernard Baumstein, ^Cynthia Blumenthal, ^Irving Bogash, Dawn Bowers, Matthew Consumano, ^Arthur Dorman, Herman Fox, Ann Friedman, **Jeanne Engel Friedman, ^Carole Gelfand, Rose Gluck, ^David Goldsmith, ^Lydia Goldstein, ^Marjorie R. Goodrich, ^Nathaniel H. Goodrich, Joseph Greene, Barbara Herman, Ruth Hill, Hopestill Hunter, Jack Kindler, **Theresa F. Lasser, ^Ruth Marlowe, Edith Penchina, Michael Press, Joel Rosenfeld, ^Ben Rothstein, **Rosalind G. Roy, ^Irvin Russ, Joseph Saba, **Yetta Gustin Safadi, Marvin A. Saltzman, ^Max Schlanger, Billie Seffens, Florence Sherinsky, Claire Silverstein, Albert Soifer, Ethel Solender, ^Cantor Samuel M. Soloway, Ella Soroka, ^Fay Stelzer, ^Rose Williamowski Strauss, Margit Sugar, ^Henrietta Tarlow, Dorothy Unger, Samuel J. Warner, Martin Wexer, Rabbi Manfred Wimer, Charles Zimmerman

The Brotherhood Synagogue



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www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org

RABBI DANIEL ALDER,

CANTOR MIKE WEIS,

RABBI IRVING J. BLOCK²¹ D.D.: Founding Rabbi

HERMAN DIAMOND: Cantor Emeritus

SHIYA RIBOWSKY: Cantor Emeritus

TRUDI RAE BARTOW: President

PHILLIP ROTHMAN:
Executive and Education Director

Congregation founded in 1954
Historic Landmark Building erected in 1859

A Note from Development: ANNUAL FUND NEWS – BOARD CHALLENGE GRANT!

The Board of Trustees of the Brotherhood Synagogue has generously agreed to match, dollar-for-dollar, up to \$18,000 of new Annual Fund gifts that are raised between now and May 31, 2017. If you have already made an Annual Fund gift this year, we are extremely grateful for your help in keeping all of our programs running—special programs like Tikvah, our homeless shelter, our interfaith work, scholarships to our schools, and our individual chesed projects, many of which are done quietly and go unknown to the general congregation.

The Annual Fund also helps cover the costs associated with the daily upkeep of the building—literally keeping the lights, heat and all the other necessities up and running. You, our valued members, are our core group of supporters and we cannot do any of this without your help.

If you have not made a donation to the Annual Fund yet this year, please take advantage of this exciting opportunity! Your Annual Fund gift—in whatever amount—is worth twice its value between now and May 31st: \$1,000 = \$2,000; \$500 = \$1,000;

\$50 = \$100, \$18 = \$36, and so on. No amount is too small—or too large!

You may mail your check to my attention at the Synagogue or make a credit card gift online at www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org or call me at 212-674-5750 x 203. We are deeply grateful to you for every new gift that comes in as we are grateful to our Trustees for this generous challenge.

Let the challenge begin!

—Marilyn Strozak
Director of Development

Hebrew School News

The Hebrew calendar month of Nisan (March 28 - April 26) is the first month of the Hebrew calendar year, even though we change our Hebrew calendar year date on the first day of the seventh month (Tishri) at Rosh Hashanah, Pesach (Passover) begins on the 15th day of Nisan (this year the evening of April 10). Pesach has many names: The Spring Festival (Chag HaAviv); the Festival of Matzah (Chag HaMatzot); the Season of our Freedom (Z'man Cheyrutaynu), and of course, Passover (Pesach).

On Monday April 3 (from 4:45 pm -6:00 pm) our students in Kitot Gimmel through Vav (3rd through 6th graders) will be participating in a Model Seder conducted by Rabbi Alder and music teacher Daniel Meron. All of our students have been studying sections of the Haggadah, which they will be leading at our Model Seder.

On Tuesday April 4, the Gan (Kindergarten), Kitah Aleph (1st grade), and Kitah Bet (2nd grade) students will be inviting their families to a Hagaddah Sing-Along from 5:30-6:00 pm in the Sanctuary. The Kitah Zayin students (7th graders) will be participating in a “Teach-In” with Phil Rothman titled *Everything You’ve Wanted to Know About Pesach, But Were Too Shy to Ask!*

We teach our students about the symbols of Pesach and their significance. We eat matzah to remember how our ancestors left Egypt before their bread had a chance to rise. We dip a green vegetable into salt water to combine the hope of spring (greens) with the sadness of slavery (salt water symbolizing the tears of slavery.) We spill ten drops of wine (grape juice) to express

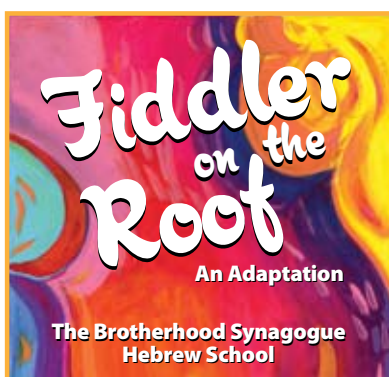
regret that the Egyptians suffered in the process of our being set free. We place a cup of wine for Elijah to express our hope for a time of peace. And we ask the Four Questions as a way to begin recalling the story of the Exodus and the lessons we learn from it.

Almost all of our children have been practicing the Four Questions - *Ma Nishtana?* (Why is this night different from all other nights of the year?) Whenever the subject of Ma Nishtana arises, I think not only of the Passover Haggadah, but also of one of my father’s favorite stories. Here it is: An English Jew, a prominent novelist and intellectual, is informed that he will be knighted. The queen’s

protocol officials prepare him and the other knights-to-be for the ceremony. He is informed that, when he stands before the queen, he is to recite, “Philosophum non facit barba. Non in solo pane vivit homo,” just before being knighted. On the day of the ceremony, the man is very nervous and, sure enough, when he approaches the queen, he forgets the Latin expression. As precious seconds tick by, the only non-English words he can think of pour out of him: “Ma nishtana halaila hazeh mikol haleilot?” The queen, confused, turns to her protocol officer and asks, “Why is this knight different from all other knights?”

Wishing you a zissen (sweet) Pesach! Chag Pesach Sameach! Happy Passover!!

—Barbara



SAVE THE DATE
Wednesday & Thursday
May 17 & 18 @ 7pm

**Once again, we will be
publishing our
outstanding PLAYBILL!**

The money raised from playbill advertisements will be used to benefit the Brotherhood Synagogue.

- You can place an ad to honor your children, your friends or to advertise a business.

- The ad information form can be found in the weekly mail or you can pick one up in the Hebrew School office.

- All ad forms and payments must be received prior to: May 3, 2017.

Please note: all artwork should be in PDF or JPEG format only.
All contributors will receive a copy of the playbill.

Nursery School Thoughts

by Julie Lilienfeld

As I look at my daughter, Gemma, I am struck by how much she has grown—physically, intellectually and emotionally—since starting at Brotherhood. Every week she comes home with new stories to tell (after a lot of prodding, mind you) about her “job” for the week, or a new song she has learned from Katie or the funny thing that happened during the neighborhood walk. I was struck recently when people kept mentioning how much Gemma has grown up this year. In the constant rat race of getting ready, work, kids, dinner, bedtime, it was a needed reminder to take a step back and observe Gemma in her element. She has lots of opinions, she knows so much about certain topics that I need to use Wikipedia to be able to answer her questions correctly, not to mention she has become a loving and helpful big sister. I can’t help but think how lucky we are to be a part of this community and it makes me so pleased to begin the journey again with my son Theo in the yellow room this fall. 🌿



Please join us at Brotherhood for our wonderful Family Shabbat services!

Friday, April 7

5:30 pm - Children up to age 3 with Daphna Mor

Friday, April 21

5:30 pm - Children up to age 3 with Daphna Mor

5:30 pm - Children ages 4-6 years old with Barbara Simon and Katie Shea

6:30 pm - Grades 2-7 with Phil Rothman

🎵 The Truth about the Question: “When Do We Eat?” 🎵

by Cantor Mike Weis

Among professional Jews, there’s an expression to describe the majority of those who belong to most liberal American congregations. They’re called “twice-a-year Jews.” Though it might sound perhaps a bit ungenerous, it’s merely a shorthand projection of our own failures as leaders to inspire affiliated Jews to come to shul more than on Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur.

I would suggest, however, that the expression “twice-a-year Jews” is factually incorrect. It may be true that most affiliated Jews only come to synagogue on the High Holy Days, but there is another occasion which brings a huge percentage of even unaffiliated Jews to flock to a religious setting.

That occasion is, of course, the Passover seder. While it typically doesn’t take place in the synagogue (except for sumptuous feasts like we have here at Brotherhood!), the Passover seder is most certainly a religious observance. In that sense, on Passover, every home in which a seder is taking place becomes a house

of worship. And that provisional status conveys an entirely new meaning on what takes place at the table as well as a responsibility for curating the experience.

Maybe that’s why so many of us can’t wait for the one ritual that draws more Jews together than any other observance in Jewish life to be over. And yet, of all the rituals in Jewish life, the seder is perhaps the one most open to individual interpretation. There’s no rabbi to tell you what to do. No cantor to lead the songs. Passover is the ultimate DIY holiday. Maybe that’s also why each year, more and more Haggadahs are published, representing an increasingly broad spectrum of perspectives, both spiritual and political.

Unlike every other holiday in the Jewish tradition, though, because it takes place at home, on our turf, the success or failure of our seders will be the result of our own choices. Yes, there’s a guidebook, the Haggadah, and Jewish law clearly outlines that which is considered obligatory, but even within that frame-

work, we are the ultimate arbiters of what is meaningful at our own tables. If all we think about during the seder is “When do we eat?” a question made even more infamous by a movie of the same name; or if we cut out all the “boring” parts so we can eat sooner, we can no longer pin the blame on our clergy when we fail to have a spiritual experience doing something Jewish.

More than any other holiday, Passover is our opportunity to make Judaism our own and to make it mean something. By giving us complete control over every aspect of our spiritual experience, ranging from the food, music and ritual—even to the guests, themselves—Passover places the responsibility for creating meaning squarely on our shoulders. With all that control, if we still find ourselves wondering, “When do we eat?” then maybe we have to admit that perhaps it’s not Jewish ritual that keeps us estranged from our shared tradition, but our own hesitation to fully commit to our own spiritual journeys. 🌿



Jewish Breads Class

We had another great class on the art of baking Jewish breads last month taught by member, Mark Goldey. Thanks to Mark for leading another great class! Next year: Jewish desserts!



Brotherhood Synagogue



Nissan / Iyar 5777
April 2017

☆ Saturday Mornings: Shabbat Corner 9:45 am • Junior Congregation 10:30 am • Alef-Bet Club 11 am

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26 9 am: Tikvah	27 4 pm: Hebrew School	28 9:30 am: Toddler Class 10 am: English-in-Action 10:45 am: Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan	29 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School	30 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English-in-Action 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:15 pm: Thursday Corner	31 7:02 pm: Candles 6:30 pm: Services	1 ☆ 9:30 am: Services VAYIKRA
2 9 am: Tikvah 10:30 am: Chesed Committee Breakfast and Keynote	3 4 pm: Hebrew School 4:45 pm: Hebrew School Model Seder 7 pm: Shaharit at Conservative Synagogue of Fifth Avenue	4 9:30 am: Toddler Class 10 am: English-in-Action 10:45 am: Toddler Class 1:30 pm: Hadassah Meeting 4 pm: Hebrew School 4 pm: Hebrew School Hagaddah Sing-along 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Interfaith Seder	5 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School	6 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English-in-Action 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:15 pm: Thursday Corner 6:30 pm: Brotherhood Synagogue Schools Spring Benefit	7 7:09 pm: Candles 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat up to age 3 6:30 pm: Services	8 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bat Mitzvah of Julia Lowy TZAV
9 9 am: Tikvah	10 NO SCHOOLS - PASSOVER 7:30 am: Service and Study for the First Born 7 pm: Passover Service 7:30 pm: Passover Seder EREV PASSOVER	11 NO SCHOOLS - PASSOVER 9:30 am: Passover Service PASSOVER - FIRST DAY	12 NO SCHOOLS - PASSOVER 9:30 am: Passover Service PASSOVER	13 NO SCHOOLS - PASSOVER Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English-in-Action CHOL HAMOED	14 NO SCHOOLS - PASSOVER 7:17 pm: Candles 6:30 pm: Services CHOL HAMOED	15 ☆ 9:30 am: Services CHOL HAMOED
16 7 pm: Passover Service CHOL HAMOED	17 NO SCHOOLS - PASSOVER 9:30 am: Passover Service 8 pm: Passover Service PASSOVER	18 NO SCHOOLS - PASSOVER 9:30 am: Passover Service PASSOVER	19 NO SCHOOLS - PASSOVER No Hebrew School	20 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English-in-Action 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:15 pm: Thursday Corner 7 pm: Brotherhood Book Club	21 7:24 pm: Candles 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat (up to age 3) 5:30 pm: Family Shabbat (up to age 6) 6:30 pm: Family Shabbat (2nd through 7th grades) 7:30 pm: Services **Note new start time through summer	22 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bar Mitzvah of Yarden Nahum 1 pm: Shabbat Club SHEMINI
23 10:30 am: Youth Group Hunger Van	24 4 pm: Hebrew School	25 7:30 am: Rosh Chodesh Services 9:30 am: Toddler Class 10 am: English-in-Action 10:45 am: Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School 5:40 pm: Minyan ROSH CHODESH	26 10 am: Baby Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class 4 pm: Hebrew School	27 9:30 am: Toddler Class 11 am: Pre-Toddler Class Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English-in-Action 3 pm: Thursday Corner 4:15 pm: Thursday Corner 7 pm: Israel's Nature-Protecting Wildlife in the Shadow of War	28 7:31 pm: Candles 7:30 pm: Services Speaker: Justice Richard Bernstein	29 ☆ 9:30 am: Services Bat Mitzvah of Emma Kelmacher TAZRIYA-METZORA
30 9 am: Tikvah						

PURIM FUN

Mazal tov to all who planned, performed and participated in our Purim celebrations this year! Mazal tov to the Kitah Dalet (4th Grade) & Kitah Hey (5th Grade) students who did an amazing job in bringing the story of Purim to life in *The Megillah According to the Beatles!* with (a little help from our friend) Daniel Meron, our incomparable musical director! Thanks to all who created and ran the most innovative Purim Carnival Booths ever!



From left to right: Hebrew School student Sela Quiniones (as Wednesday Addams of the Addams family), Barbara Simon (Hebrew School principal), and Hebrew School student Phoebe Auslander (as Betty from Archie) with their Purim Jeopardy booth.



Above: The 4th and 5th graders' Purim Spiel.



Left, from left to right: Paul Hill and Debra Salzman Hill, Rabbi Alder, Trudi Bartow and Cantor Weis.