



Brotherhood Synagogue בית

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Sivan / Tamuz 5778 June 2018

Pinkie Pointing

by Rabbi Daniel Alder

If you come to the Brotherhood Synagogue on a Shabbat morning you may witness a perplexing practice following the reading of the Torah. As is the common custom, an individual is called to raise the Torah (*Hagbah*) and turn it so that the congregation can see the writing of three columns of text. And then you'll see many congregants raise their pinkie finger in the direction of the raised Torah.

Well, this is a perplexing custom to many a visitor—and frankly, to myself, the first time I saw it. But a *minhag* (custom) is a *minhag* and Judaism values these *minhagim* even if they are local to a particular community. Now thanks to a new crop of curious congregants and the wonders of the internet, I'm able to provide a partial answer:

First, a little background on the raising of the Torah itself. Nachmanides (the *Ramban*) remarks that an overly literal understanding of the verse "accursed is the one who will not uphold the words of this Torah..." (Deuteronomy 27:26) is the source for the obligation to show the written text of the Torah to the whole congregation. The Code of Jewish Law (the *Shulchan Aruch*) states that it is a mitzvah for all men and women to see the written text of the Torah, to bow, and to say, "This is the Torah that Moses placed before the Children of Israel" (Deuteronomy 4:44).


While the *Shulchan Aruch* obligates reciting the above verse, it is also a *minhag* (custom) to append part of a second verse "according to the word of God through Moses." (Numbers 9:23). In his comprehensive anthology *Me'am Loez*, Rabbi Yaakov Kuli expounds on this custom saying: "The combination of these two verses, though from different sections of the Torah, alludes to the dual nature of Torah—a Written and an Oral Law, both stemming from a single Source."

Also, the *Me'am Loez* is the only source that mentions the custom of pointing the pinkie finger towards the text, adding that some have the custom to kiss the pinkie after pointing.

Rabbi Chaim Pinchas Scheinberg gives the following explanation: The Torah lists the ten generations from Noah until Abraham (Genesis 10:26-29), including the name Yoktan, who established the largest number of families. Rashi notes that Yoktan merited establishing so many families due to his great humility, as his name indicates (from the root *katan*—little). Rabbi Scheinberg goes on to explain that when pointing

at the Torah we take this lesson to heart and we point with our smallest finger—the pinkie—to indicate that we should reach out to try to gain understanding of the Torah with the utmost humility and thus merit to succeed in this aspiration.

Rabbi Chaim Falagie expounds on a second variation of the custom in which the index finger is used for pointing towards the Torah rather than the pinkie. He bases his custom on six consecutive statements in the Psalms (Psalms 19:8-10), the first of which is, "The Torah of God is perfect reviving the soul..." Each of these statements is composed of five words, corresponding to the number of fingers of one hand. The second word of each statement is God's name corresponding to the second, namely the index finger. In pointing towards the Torah with the index finger we are indicating that every word of the Torah is a Name of God.

The significance and the symbolism that our Sages attach to every finger and to each part of our body is most instructive. Rabbeinu Bechaye discusses the utility of each organ and in particular the fingers, each of which serves to facilitate one of the five senses. The pinkie finger is associated with the sense of hearing and we may conjecture that this too is related to the custom of pointing towards the Torah with the pinkie. 

Shabbat Services

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 9:30 AM

Bar Mitzvah of Max Paster

SATURDAY, JUNE 2, 5:30 PM

Bat Mitzvah of Angelina Lieberman

FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 9:30 AM

Bat Mitzvah of Chloe Cohen

FRIDAY, JUNE 15, 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 9:30 AM

Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Epstein

SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 8:00 PM

Bar Mitzvah of Schuyler Schultz

FRIDAY, JUNE 22, 7:30 PM

Guest Speaker: Morgan Powell, Mazon

SATURDAY, JUNE 23, 9:30 AM

FRIDAY, JUNE 29, 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, JUNE 30, 9:30 AM

Adult Bar Mitzvah of Arnold Winn



KIDS ARE PERFECT IN EVERY WAY!!

**MAZAL TOV TO THE ENTIRE CAST AND CREW OF
BYE BYE BIRDIE!**

My Two Cents

by Penny Domow and Bob Wolf

Over the past decade, we have headed to a number of international destinations on our vacations. In most of the countries we have visited, there have been Jewish sites—be they active synagogues, Judaic museums, or historical remains of a once significant Jewish presence—which we have made sure to include in our itinerary.

One of our initial such encounters took place in Venice where, in the early 16th century, the Doge—the leader of the Venetian Republic—decreed that all the Jews of Venice be compelled to live in a small, segregated area connected to the rest of the city by two bridges that were only open during the day. That area was known as the “getto,” which means foundry in Italian, as legend has it that a foundry had previously been located in or near that small area. That “getto” is viewed as the derivation of the modern day term “ghetto,” an area in which a minority population resides.

Our tour of the Jewish ghetto included a walk through the couple of remaining active synagogues there, prayers at the wall erected in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, a glimpse of the Lubavitcher’s Chabad, and learning that *tashlich* is carried out by congregants throwing bread out of the synagogue’s windows into the little canal below.

Our trip to Turkey a couple of years later included a stay in Izmir (formerly known as Smyrna), which sits along the Aegean Sea and once was home to approximately 55,000 Jews at the end of the 19th century. Currently, it is estimated that only some 1,700 Jews remain in the city. Nevertheless, there are still a number of synagogues that have been preserved, which we visited with our Jewish guide—with whom we still exchange holiday greetings. Our favorite shul was the still active Beit-Israel Synagogue, a magnificent structure which was built in the first decade of the 20th century and has a seating capacity for several hundred worshippers.

Like the Jewish population in Turkey, that in Morocco has dwindled greatly, but there remains a rich collection of Jewish sites and heritage. They include the mella, the Jewish district in Fez, where we were given a delightful tour by the elderly Jewish caretaker of the synagogue there and the adjacent “museum” which had a vast collection of memorabilia left behind by Jewish families who have emigrated over time, principally to Israel. Another must see is the vast Jewish cemetery in Fez. The Jewish history of the country also includes a number of grand rabbis for whom there is “saint-like” veneration, and we visited several tombs of those rabbis to which Jews of Moroccan descent return to offer devout prayer.


Unfortunately, our visit to the temple in Vienna was a reminder of the perils of being a Jew in certain parts of the world. Stadttempel was built into a block of houses in the 1820’s and hidden from view, which saved it from destruction during Kristallnacht. It is the only synagogue in the city that was not destroyed during World War II by the Nazis. In order to attend Friday night services, we were required to provide our passports in advance, walk past heavily armed Viennese police stationed at the corner of the block and pass through armed private security guards and metal detectors before entering the synagogue. By the time services began, our hearts were heavy and minds elsewhere.

Myanmar (formerly Burma), in South-east Asia, might not be a country where you’d expect a Jewish presence, but in fact during British colonial times, there were probably at least a couple of thousand Jews, most of whom were originally from Baghdad, who engaged in commercial enterprise there. And though the Jewish population in Myanmar is very scant today, there remains a sizable and beautiful shul in the capital Yangon, the Musmeah Yeshua Synagogue, built in 1896. When we visited the shul, its then trustee and caretaker, Moses Samuels, who unfortunately passed away in 2015 (his son has since taken over), gave us the tour,

including showing us an early 20th century photo of the then Grand Rabbi of Baghdad and Burma who turned out to be the great-grandfather of one of Bob’s law school classmates!

While we have visited and worshipped at a number of magnificent synagogues in our travels, the “award” for the most fascinating sanctuary goes to that at the Mikvé Israel-Emanuel Synagogue in Curacao. That synagogue is the oldest surviving one in the Americas; its first building was purchased in 1674 and the current building dates from 1730. We worshiped there at Shabbat services on a Friday evening, at which there was a diverse mix of congregants of Spanish and Portuguese Jewish descent and tourists like us from the US and other countries. The sanctuary, including the Holy Ark, is adorned in carved mahogany, but its most awesome feature is its floor, which is pure white sand!

Needless to say, while our travels to these various countries have exposed us to an array of different peoples, cultures and traditions, our visits to the Jewish sites in each of them have greatly enriched our experiences.


This is another in our series of “My Two Cents” columns about travels in the world-wide Jewish community. 

Life Goes On

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.

Our next outing will take place **Thursday June 14** at the beautiful New York Botanical Gardens. Besides its gorgeous 250 acres, the Garden is a showplace for nature in every season and hosts special exhibitions. We will visit the featured exhibition, *Georgia O’Keeffe: Visions of Hawaii*. The exhibition offers a rare focus on more than 15 of O’Keeffe’s paintings rarely seen together. We will also view a stunning display of the flowers and plants that inspired her. With the price of admission (\$34), we can also take a tram ride through much of the gardens. **We will meet at 11am** at Grand Central Station at the round information booth for the 20 minute ride on Metro-North Harlem line to the Botanical Garden Station and we will have lunch at the Gardens together. **Please RSVP to Susan Feldstein (Hipsuzie@aol.com) ASAP** if you would like to attend or if you have any questions.

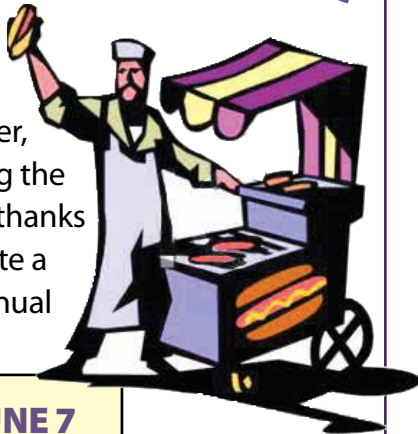
We had a wonderful discussion of Gail Honeyman’s *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* at our May Book Club. On **Monday, June 18** at our final **Book Club** of this season, we will be reading *Anything is Possible* by Elizabeth Strout. As usual, NYU Professor Margaret Birns will guide our discussion and wine and desserts will be served. Please remember that you must **RSVP in advance to Ellen Kenigsberg (ellensken14@gmail.com)** if you plan to attend and know that the cost of participation is \$20 per person which is nonrefundable if you cancel within 48 hours. Please save the date: **Wednesday, September 26** for our first Book Club in the Fall when we will be reading and discussing *The Essex Serpent* by Sarah Perry.

If you or someone you know would like to be a part of *Life Goes On*, 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 Iagnesmarton@gmail.com or call Roberta in the Synagogue office at 212.674.5750, email rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org. 

To say "thank you"* for giving to Brotherhood's Annual Fund...

You're invited to a sizzling time
Join us at Brotherhood Synagogue's
ANNUAL FUND BBQ

Join us for hotdogs, burgers (veggie too), a frosty long neck beer, and good times. Bring the kids of course. And—thanks to you—we'll celebrate a great year for our Annual Fund.



**THURSDAY, JUNE 7
6:30 PM**

*There's still time to join us by making your Annual Fund gift. Call 212-674-5750 or make your gift online at www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org/make-a-donation. Be sure to specify your gift is for the Annual Fund.



**CELEBRATE
ISRAEL
PARADE**
Sunday, June 3

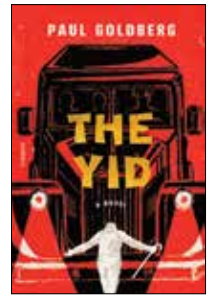
11 am-4 pm • Rain or shine

The Parade begins at 57th Street and travels up to 74th Street from 11 am to 4 pm along Fifth Avenue.

Brotherhood Book Club

Thursday, June 21, 7:00 pm

Joan Price will lead a discussion of *The Yid* by Paul Goldberg. Moscow, February 1953. A week before Stalin's death, his final pogrom, "one that would forever rid the Motherland of the vermin," is in full swing. Three government goons arrive in the middle of the night to arrest Solomon Shimonovich Levinson, an actor from the defunct State Jewish Theater. But Levinson, though an old man, is a veteran of past wars, and his shocking response to the intruders sets in motion a series of events both zany and deadly as he proceeds to assemble a ragtag group to help him enact a mad-brilliant plot: the assassination of a tyrant.



Upcoming: July 19 - Wendy Linderman will lead a discussion of *And After the Fire* by Lauren Belfer.

If you are interested in joining the Book Club, please contact Margie Katz at margie.katz@me.com. All are welcome.

Speaker at Services
Friday, June 22, 7:30 pm



Why Should Jews in NYC Care About the Farm Bill?

Our guest speaker at Friday services on June 22 will be **Morgan Powell**, a Board member of **MAZON**, the Jewish Response to Hunger. He will discuss how the Farm Bill before Congress now will affect the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), better known as food stamps, and its effect on women and children, military families, and older Americans and why the social values we hold as Jews compel our involvement in shaping a solution to nutritional insecurity. Mr. Powell will join us at the Oneg afterwards where he can further engage with the congregation.

This program is sponsored by the Social Action Committee and is one of several policy topics to be brought to us in the coming months.



REMINDER! Brotherhood Synagogue Annual Meeting
Tuesday, June 12, 2018 • 6:30 PM

The congregation will vote on important matters including the budget and trustees. Please come and help us form the mandatory quorum! Wine and cheese to follow.

Happenings in Our Kehilah

B'nai Mitzvah, Mazal Tov to:

Timothy and Erica Paster on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Maxell**. Max, a student at Friends Seminary, will celebrate his simcha with his younger brother, **Ryan**.

Jacques and Maribel Lieberman on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Angelina Lieberman**. Angelina is a student at Avenues.

Douglas and Melissa Cohen on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, **Chloe Cohen**. Chloe is a student at the Chapin School.

Ken and Beth Epstein on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, **Zachary Epstein**. Zachary, a student at NEST+m, will celebrate his simcha with his older sister, **Rebecca**.

James Schultz and Susan Shachner-Schultz on the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Schuyler Schultz**.

Arnold Winn on his adult Bar Mitzvah.

Births, Mazal Tov to:

Netalie and Ariel Shlezinger on the birth of their daughter, **Dylan Jordan Shlezinger**; and to older sister, **Ayden**.

Rhoda Cohen on the birth of her granddaughter, **Harper Rose Cohen**, born to **Alicia and Adam Cohen**.

Natalia Alfonso and Michael Schor on the birth of their daughter, **Amalia Luisa Schor**.

Robert and Debra Miller on the birth of a grandson, **Jacob Albert Kagan** born to **Samantha and Barry Kagan** and a granddaughter, **Tessa Ruth Fass**, born to **Carly Miller and Jarret Fass**.

Condolences to:

Mark Berman on the passing of his father, **Martin Berman**.

Larry Nunno on the passing of his wife, and our member, **Henrietta Nunno**.

Vicki Morwitz on the passing of her father, **Bernard Morwitz**.

Liza Landsman on the passing of her mother, **Barbara Berci**.

David Godin on the passing of his mother, **Judith Godin**.

Welcome New Members:

Alexander Wolfman of Tribeca is an executive with Avenue Capital. He has a son, **Wyatt**, and a daughter, **Bailey**.

Welcome to **Ben and Kelly Prusky** of Gramercy Park. Ben is the founder of Freedom Merchants Corporation and Kelly is currently raising their baby-daughter, **Bryn**. Kelly is a former early-childhood education teacher at the nearby

Explore & Discover School. They are very excited to become part of our community.

Joshua Adler and Candace Worth of Chelsea have an 11-month old daughter, **Agnes Worth Adler**. All 3 are looking forward to becoming part of the Brotherhood community

Marianna Dimentman of Sutton Place is a real estate broker with Corcoran. Originally from Ukraine, Marianna came to New York at age eight and has been here ever since. When she is not immersed in the world of real estate, Marianna enjoys exploring the City's endless food and restaurant scene and trying out different fitness trends. She also loves organizing events for friends and family and is "somewhat obsessed" with her niece and nephews.

Welcome to **Raph and Kimberly Osnoss** of Chelsea. Raph is a Vice President at General Atlantic and Kimberly is a doctoral candidate at Columbia University. Their son, **Samuel**, will be attending Brotherhood Nursery School starting in September. They are very excited to be joining the Brotherhood community! 🌈

A Note from Development

2017/18 Annual Fund Year Ends June 30, 2018

Yes, it's that time of year already. We are in the final month of our 2017/18 Annual Fund drive AND we are falling short of our fundraising goal of \$650,000! Each year, we count on you, our loyal members, to contribute to this fund—starting with our High Holiday/Kol Nidre appeal every Fall. You may ask why this fund is so important to the health and well-being of the Synagogue. The simple answer is that membership dues do not cover the cost of running the many programs that make Brotherhood the unique and special community that it is. To name just a few of these programs: we offer free High Holiday services to the community at large; our unique Tikvah special needs program runs at no cost to participants; our homeless shelter provides hot meals and a warm, safe place for our homeless guests to sleep during the winter months; our generous school scholarships insure that no one is turned away from a Jewish education for lack of ability to pay and we offer free transportation to services for members who are unable to walk or use public transportation. In addition to these programs, the Annual Fund helps maintain and keep our beautiful

landmarked building running year-round. **If you have not yet made your Annual Fund gift this year, won't you please do so while you have this reminder in hand?** In addition to knowing that you have done your part to show your support and commitment to Brotherhood, **Annual Fund donors are invited to attend our Annual Fund Barbeque on Thursday, June 7!** Please make your gift now by mail, online at www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org or by calling our office at 212-674-5750. We thank everyone who has already contributed to the Annual Fund and we urge all who have not yet done so to please do so today. We are ever grateful to you, our wonderful, diverse, awesome and amazing members!

Save The Date—Rothman Fund Event!

Please mark your calendars and **Save the Date: Thursday, October 4, 2018** for "A Night at the Races"—a benefit event for **The Rothman Fund**. Details to follow on this fundraising event at Yonkers Raceway in support of the Rothman Educational Fund for the Benefit of the Hebrew School. Stay tuned for more information!

—Marilyn Strozak,
Director of Development 🌈

Shabbat Club

During the months of June, July and August, the Shabbat Club will be on vacation. We will resume in September. Please let **Deborah Newman** (newmanddale@aol.com) or the office know if you have a suggestion for a topic or discussion leader.

Wishing everyone a great summer. See you in the fall.



President's Post

by Trudi Rae Bartow



The true pleasure of afternoon tea is having a moment to take a break and to reflect calmly and quietly on the day passed and the upcoming events of the evening. You want to enjoy each bite and savor the tastes so it makes you slow down. Today it's giving me the opportunity to reflect on the days that I have had the honor to serve as your president.

For the past two years it has been my great pleasure to work with each of you, side-by-side, as we bring Brotherhood to a stronger position than ever before. We have some wonderful new faces here since I began, including our Cantor! Our Hebrew school is thriving, our board is active and involved, and our programs are attracting more people than ever. There's a slew of people to thank for their countless hours of volunteer time and I hope they each know how much I appreciate them.

I would normally end this article with a traditional Jewish blessing, let us go from strength to strength, but since I'm writing this in Ireland, I'll leave you with a traditional Irish blessing that warms my heart.

May the road rise to meet you,
May the wind be always at your back.
May the sun shine warm upon your face,
The rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Sláinte 🌿



The Chesed* Committee WANTS YOU TO KNOW

If you are grieving the loss of a loved one, we have gathered a variety of useful books in the Brotherhood library on the fourth floor. There are many resources on the internet as well. One website that collects the experiences of others coping with loss is modernloss.com.

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



YAHREZITS

^Garden of Remembrance *Book of Remembrance

June 2-8

^Herman Asnas, Ruth Bergman, Hyman Berkowitz, ^Rose Bernstone, ^Armand Blatt, *Pauline Cagen, Dean Dodd, Ellen Doherty, Leon Epstein, Lillian Feinstein, Maryann Ferrari, ^Israel Finder, Martin Finegold, Joan Friedmann, Elsie Frommer, ^*Morton Geller, Leo Goldberg, ^Wilhelm Goldreich, *Tillie Goldstein, Charlotte Gothelf, Dona Gracia Nasi, ^Lena Green, *Charlotte Hamburger, ^Alter Michael Kaplan, Eva Kaufman, ^Leisel Kaye, Susan Levin, Abraham Levine, *Ana Ottilie Lourie, Irwin Magerfeld, ^Harold Merkelson, Isador Moed, Rhoda Moed, ^*Nathan Neidich, Robert Nelson, *Jean Pauker, Elliott Perlman, Irving Plutzer, Morris Press, *Harry Ralston, ^William Raskin, Shirley Rosen, Melvin Rudoltz, Moishe Sage, Frank Savits, *Regina Schlanger, Gertrude Schorr, Sadie Schwartz, Ruth Schwartzberg, ^*Patricia Greenhouse Seaman, Mary Sonnenfeld, ^Morris Steinberg, Ruby Strauss, Boris Weisman, ^Jacob Weisman, ^Julius Winicki, ^Henry Wolfsonc, Gloria Younger, ^Harry Zolick

June 9-15

^George Z. Abrams, Diana Balaber, ^Mary Blum, Sylvia Braun, Leon Cohen, ^Lillian Durst, Eli Bodie Enzer, ^Arthur Feitell, *Julius Field, Daisy Fish, ^*Annafay Bayuk Franklin, Samuel Friedwald, Dorathy Gaum, ^Sarah B. Glass, ^Gerry Goldberg, ^Martha Golden, ^Rose Goldman, ^Elizabeth S. Goldschmidt, ^Aaron Gottlieb, David Greenleaf, ^Philip Haim, ^Julia Jacobs, ^Sima Kislak Jelin, Helen Klein, Julian Koenig, ^Faye Kuhne, ^Ruth Labiner, Ivor Lederer, Victoria Leffel, *Dora Lowy, *Dora Magerfeld, Julius Marke, Victoria Menashy, ^David Moses, Maurice Pine, Fred Profeta, Philip Raphael, ^Norman Redlich, ^Dr. William Reiser, Emily Rich, ^Maurice Rickles, ^Molly Rosenblum, *Helen Rubenstein, ^Anna Schaffer, Frances Schwartz, *Fannie Schwartz, ^Ira Sollar, William Spielberg, ^Jeff Sugarman, Willie Walther, Arthur Weiss, *Elias Werner, ^Lili Wolf, ^Audrey Zollman, ^Seth Zucker

June 16-22

^Robert Adler, *Sidney Altman, *Samuel Ash, Esther Ashkenazi, ^Lillian Benardo, Sylvia Brumberg, ^Florence Burrell, ^Samuel Coppersmith, ^Elaine Davidorf, *J. Howard Denny, ^Irwin Diamond, ^Jennie Douglass, *Sadie Elson, *Rose Farland, Morris Feinstein, Morris Glusband, *Barney A. Goldman, Harold Green, ^Frank Scott Green, Ellen Greenleaf, ^Louis Himmel, ^David S. Hocky, ^Ruth Holzberg, ^Lewis J. Honekman, Charles Kalisky, Deborah Sue Kornblatt, ^Eugene Labiner, Sally Leatherman, Sidney Levin, Gregory Litwack, ^Saul Magram, *Betty Mald, *Fay Markel, Jeanne Marshall, Elizabeth Meyerowitz, Janet Miltenberg, Phyllis Noone, Eileen Osofsky, ^Rosalind Pesiri, ^Pauline Pessar, Morton Pollak, Carl Rosner, ^Frances Schechter, Joseph Silver, ^George Singer, *Murray Sirkin, Rose Storick, William Tricanowicz, Edward Tuft, *Henry Unterweiser, ^Benjamin L. Wasserman, Debora Weinstein, Herbert Weissberg, Rose Yatrofsky

June 23-29

^Florence Alster, ^Joseph Alster, Mollie Bender, *Diana Berel, Celia Bersoff, Norman Block, Edna Bloom, ^Milton Bloom, Jack Blush, *Abraham Cooperman,

^Joseph Cosnow, Isadore Davis, *Milton Fischbein, Israel Garfin, *Heinrich Gelber, Seymour Gerstenhaber, Isidore Gluck, Arthur Gold, Richard Goldman, ^Benjamin Gordon, *Jack Harrison Gorta, ^Mollie Green, ^Max Greenberg, Marilyn Greenblatt, Michael Greenspan, Enid Guttman, Daniel Hamburger, Nathan Kaye, ^Dr. Leo J. Koven, Benjamin Levine, *Nicholas Lowy, ^Sue Machlin, Lillian Mandel, Ida Medwed, *Nathan Natilson, Robert David Newman, ^Doris Perlman, ^Mildred Ray, Miriam Roland, Anna Rosenthal, *Rose Rothchild, Naomi Rubin Strumpf, ^Ethel Rubinstein, Sam Sagman, Joseph Saltzman, Margot Salzman, *Jacob H. Schlager, Harry Siegel, *Dorothy J. Sims, *Samuel Sosnen, Hugo Stern, ^Morton Usdan, Miriam Weber, Peggy Weiner, Irene Weiss, Isidore Weiss, Thomas Werner, *Mark Werner, ^The Family Weygman, ^*Rose Zweibach

June 30 - July 6

*Ray Aaronson, Louis Abelson, ^Sylvia Altman, Deanna Basch, *Samuel M. Baum, ^Mae Lena Slotnick Block, *Fannie Chizner, Rosalind Cohen, ^Sabina Herbst Ehrlich, David Fein, Bernard Fine, Rosalind Fleckman, Irving Gaines, ^Max Goldberg, William Goldman, *Sheila Gourse, ^Kenneth Greenberg, *Sucher Gross, ^Jesse Gruber, *Jennie Herbst, Lillian Hoban, Dorathy Petchenik Isaacson, Henry Jones, *Albert M. Kaltman, ^Harry Kirshbaum, Rose Klau (Goldberg), ^Avraham Kolodicki, Frances Kramer, Dorothy Leff, Ida Leibowitz, ^Tevel (Ted) Leifschutz, Benjamin Leinweber, Barbara Levine, ^Minnie Levitt, ^Lillian Levy, Sarah Mandel, *Mollie Mandelowitz, ^Morris Meyerson, ^Sylvia Murzin-Lipson, ^Sandra Newman, ^Ernest Noymer, Gertrude Pine, *Saul Presser, Irving Protaz, ^Florence Reiff, Fannie Rosenfeld, ^Monya Schwartz, ^Harry Seinfeld, ^Judith Pitreich Seinfeld, ^Solomon Shlomo Seinfeld, Irwin Shapiro, ^Celia Shorin, Sylvia Sidney, Louis A. Siegel, Walter Siegel, Irving Silver, ^Joseph Silverstein, Jack Soffer, Jack Sorrell, Genevieve Steinberg, Alan Udelson, *Edith F. Vyner, Judith Weinman, ^Ruth Weintraub, ^Emma H. Wolff, Natalie Zenkel

The Brotherhood Synagogue



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Fax: (212) 505-6707



www.brotherhoodsynagogue.org

RABBI DANIEL ALDER,
CANTOR ISAAC YAGER,

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

HERMAN DIAMOND: Cantor Emeritus

TRUDI RAE BARTOW: President

PHILLIP ROTHMAN:
Executive and Education Director

Congregation founded in 1954
Historic Landmark Building erected in 1859



Hava Tequila!



A great group attended the Adult Education Committee's *Hava Tequila!* night last month! A fun time was had by all and we learned a bit about Mexican Jewish culture too! The Committee hopes to have similar Adult Education events in the future and looks forward to seeing more of our members and friends there!

Photographs courtesy of Kari Otero Photography

MAZAL TOV
To All of the
Chai-Q 5778
Competitors and
Winners!

CHAI-Q GRAND CHAMPION 5778 !!!!

ARIELLE EBER

Kitot Gimmel & Dalet
(3rd & 4th Grades)

First Place: ISABEL FINE
Second Place: LIAM KITT
Third Place: CASH ADELMAN

Kitot Hey & Vav
(5th & 6th Grades)

First Place: ARIELLE EBER
Second Place: HELENA GREENBERG
Third Place: JARED GLATZER

Congratulations to Our Graduates!

Our High School Graduates:

Finn Barry on his graduation from Friends Seminary and his acceptance to the University of Chicago.

William Cohen on his graduation from Friends Seminary and his acceptance to the University of Pennsylvania.

Eric Ellman on his graduation from the Summit School and his acceptance to Landmark College.

Madeline Hikida on her graduation from Dalton and her acceptance to Bowdoin College.

Rowana Miller on her graduation from Beacon High School and her acceptance to the University of Pennsylvania.

Eve Rich on her graduation from the Summit School and her acceptance to CUNY.

Brandan Risen on her graduation from Birch Wathen Lenox and her acceptance to the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Milo Roth on his graduation from Eleanor Roosevelt High School and his acceptance to Goucher College.

Fraya Salzman on her graduation from Eleanor Roosevelt High School and her acceptance to Cornell University.

Dana Schatz on her graduation from Fieldston and her acceptance to Tulane University.

Marc Schorin on his graduation from Fieldston and his acceptance to Princeton University.

Zachary Seigelstein on his graduation from Bronx High School of Science and his acceptance to Tufts.

Alessandra Tucker on her graduation from John Jay High School (Katonah) and her acceptance to Tulane University.

Our College Graduates:

Elijah Bender on his graduation from Marist College.

William Berg on his graduation from Skidmore College (Business and Political Science).

Irena Ehrlich on her graduation from the University of Chicago (History).

Rebecca Ennis on her graduation from Tufts University (History).

Matthew Epstein on his graduation from Tufts University (Computer Science).

Ethan Gold on his graduation from Tulane University (Marketing and Management).

Ilan Gold on his graduation from the University of Pennsylvania (Math).

Jake Kern on his graduation from American University (Political Science).

Ariane Lapidus on her graduation from Skidmore College (English).

Jonathan Levine on his graduation from the University of Southern California.

Anny Lutwak-Schneider on her graduation from Bard College (English Literature).

Andres Marton on his graduation from the University of Chicago (Political Science).

Phillip Messineo on his graduation from Boston University (Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences).

David Perle on his graduation from Hofstra University (Finance).

Luciana Skinner on her graduation from Binghamton University (Integrative Neuroscience).

Lauren Silver on her graduation from the University of Delaware (Elementary Education).

And also:

David Schmutzer on his graduation from UCLA Law School.

Jake Teperman on his graduation from NYU Medical School.

Marissa Moskowitz on her graduation from Harvard Business School.

Nursery School Thoughts

by Joanna Weiss

This year, my younger son, Seth, is in the Blue Room, and my daughter, Aviva, is in the Yellow Room, and my husband, Matt, and I have been so thrilled to watch them grow and learn this past year at Brotherhood Synagogue Nursery School.


When you first meet him, Seth seems like he has life all figured out—he is four going on 40. But Mira and Deb looked below the surface to see how much he struggled when asked to do something he wasn't good at, like drawing, and they found creative ways to boost his confidence and help him learn. Now when I come home from work, Seth shows me what he has drawn that day, from ninjas to cars to superheroes, and he is able to sign all of

his drawings with his own name (written forwards or backwards, depending on the day).

At the same time, Aviva has blossomed under the care of Rivki, Jonathan and Mel. In the beginning of the year, she was inconsolable when I left her in the classroom. Now, when I drop her off, she goes into class with a wave and never looks back. She loves going to school to play with her friends and teachers, to make art projects, and to play with the classroom baby dolls.

But the most special part of this year has been watching Seth and Aviva grow together. On those days when Aviva couldn't stop crying, she would go into the Blue Room, where Seth would comfort

her, and she would sit with him during his circle time. They laughed and danced together on the bimah during Shabbat. And when it was Aviva's birthday, Seth celebrated with Aviva in the Yellow Room for a bit and then (once the cupcakes were eaten), maturely said, "Bye, Mom and Dad—I'm going back to the Blue Room with my friends."

Even though Seth is leaving the nursery school to go to kindergarten, we can't wait to see how Aviva grows next year in the Red Room. And maybe, if he's lucky, Aviva will let Seth come by for a cupcake or circle time or a dance on the bimah for old time's sake. Either way, we look forward to many more special times at Brotherhood. 




Thanks to Daphna Mor and Saskia Lane for another great year of teaching and inspiring our youngest children at Brotherhood! Our Early Childhood Program Year End Concert was terrific!! Save the date: Friday September 21 for our first Friday Family Shabbat in the Fall!

Cantor's Notes

by Cantor Isaac Yager

Historically, the Jewish people have always had a complicated relationship with the non-Jewish world around them. Ultimately, *Am Yisrael*, the nation of the Jewish people as a group, has sometimes shared a turbulent rapport with the world at large. Though Jews have sought to exist peacefully with their neighbors, traditionally, this has been a complicated process. Though rooted in a deep theological conviction of the Jewish right to the land of Israel, Theodor Herzl's vision for Zionism was intended to be both a vehicle for communal peace and an answer to the European "Jewish Question" that existed in the 19th and 20th centuries: What was the appropriate treatment of Jews given the anti-Semitic hostility that existed towards them? Unintentionally, Zionism plays a much different role on the world stage today. Fundamentally, this is due to the political outcome and consequences that emerged from the creation of the state of Israel. But at its inception, the marketing presentation of the Zionist cause was envisioned to make everyone happy, especially non-Jews. After all, what better way to deal with the Jewish question than to simply give the Jewish people their own independent nation far away from those who saw them as an economic and social threat.

In the end, the effects of Zionism and the creation of the state of Israel became just as complex as the relationship the Jewish people have always had with the rest of the world and with the different theologies that claim their own legitimate connections to the Holy Land. Zionism is not the answer to the "Jewish Question" because there is no answer to the "Jewish Question," nor should there be. Ideally, the function of the Jewish people within secular European society should never have been a problem to be solved. The constant willingness of the Jewish people to accept Zionism supporters, however indirect the nature of that support may be, indicates their vital need for non-Jewish cooperation, their will to survive, but more pointedly, demonstrates their continuous resolve to find a peaceful existence in the world. After all, the primary objective of the Zionist movement was to find a peaceful solution to this Jewish dilemma. However, as can be expected, new problems emerged from the creation of a Jewish state. But this is neither here nor there, because as history demonstrates, very little about the Jewish people, whether it is their connection to the world around them or the essence of Judaism itself, is straightforward and uncomplicated. 

Fall 2018 Early Childhood Programs at Brotherhood

MEMBERS EARLY REGISTRATION:
Wednesday June 6

Open Registration begins
Thursday, June 7



Early Childhood Programs at Brotherhood Synagogue help our community's youngest children grow and flourish in an atmosphere where Jewish values and traditions are integrated into all of our classes. Cognitive skills and social, emotional, and physical development are encouraged through music, movement, theater arts, storytelling, learning activities, play, and arts & crafts with a special focus on Shabbat & Jewish holidays.

- **Baby** (3 mos- 12 mos)
- **Pre-Toddler** (12 mos -18 mos)
- **Toddler** (18 mos-3 years)
- **Thursday Corner** (3-5)
- **Shabbat Corner** (3-5)

Visit the Early Childhood Programs page on the Brotherhood website to register.

Class sizes are limited and are filled on a first come, first served basis so register now!

Feel free to call Roberta at 212.674.5750 or email her at rkahn@brotherhoodsynagogue.org.

Brotherhood Synagogue



Sivan / Tamuz 5778
June 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28 MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED	29 10 am: English in Action 5:40 pm: Minyan	30 10 am: Pre-Toddler Class 11 am: Baby Class	31 Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English in Action	1 8:03 pm: Candles 7:30 pm: Services	2 ⚡ 9:30 am: Services Bar Mitzvah of Max Paster 5:30 pm: Bat Mitzvah of Angelina Lieberman BEHA'ALOTECHA
3	4	5 10 am: English in Action 5:40 pm: Minyan	6	7 Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English in Action 6:30 pm: Annual Fund BBQ	8 8:08 pm: Candles 7:30 pm: Services	9 ⚡ 9:30 am: Services Bat Mitzvah of Chloe Cohen SHELACH
10	11	12 10 am: English in Action Last session until fall 5:40 pm: Minyan 6:30 pm: Brotherhood Synagogue Annual Meeting	13 7:30 am: Minyan ROSH CHODESH	14 Noon: Lunch and Learn 2 pm: English in Action Last session until fall	15 7:51 pm: Candles 7:30 pm: Services	16 ⚡ 9:30 am: Services Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Epstein 8:00 pm: Bar Mitzvah of Schuyler Schultz KORACH
17	18	19 5:40 pm: Minyan	20	21 Noon: Lunch and Learn 7 pm: Brotherhood Book Club	22 7:58 pm: Candles 7:30 pm: Services Guest Speaker: Morgan Powell, Mazon	23 ⚡ 9:30 am: Services CHUKAT
24	25	26 5:40 pm: Minyan	27	28 Noon: Lunch and Learn	29 8:03 pm: Candles 7:30 pm: Services	30 ⚡ 9:30 am: Services Adult Bar Mitzvah of Arnold Winn BALAK

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