



Temple Israel

CHAI - Lites

A Traditional Conservative Synagogue

FEB/MAR 2008

ISSUE 1081

Adar-I - Adar-II 5768

CELEBRATE PURIM AT TEMPLE ISRAEL!

THE MOST FUN JEWISH HOLIDAY OF THE YEAR JUST WOULDN'T BE THE SAME WITHOUT YOU!



Purim Carnival
Sunday, March 9th at Noon



Featuring giant slides, sno-cones, cotton candy, face painting and more
Admission is free • Purchase tickets for games and food.

Save The Date

Sunday, June 22, 2008

Honoring *Malky Asarch*

Temple Israel Sisterhood

Annual Spring Torah Fund Luncheon

Please Reserve Early for

Temple Israel's
Annual Journal
Dinner Dance

May 18, 2008

Honoring

*Randee and Michael
Busch*

Candle Lighting Times

Fri. Feb. 8	5:02 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 15	5:11 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 22	5:19 p.m.
Fri. Feb. 29	5:27 p.m.
Fri. Mar. 7	5:35 p.m.
Fri. Mar. 14	6:43 p.m.
Fri. Mar. 21	6:50 p.m.
Fri. Mar. 28	6:57 p.m.

Shabbat Ends

Sat. Feb. 9	6:07 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 16	6:15 p.m.
Sat. Feb. 23	6:23 p.m.
Sat. Mar. 1	6:31 p.m.
Sat. Mar. 8	6:39 p.m.
Sat. Mar. 15	7:47 p.m.
Sat. Mar. 22	7:54 p.m.
Sat. Mar. 29	8:01 p.m.

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY**"CONSOLING MOURNERS
THE SHIVA VISIT
AND BEYOND"**

The loss of a loved one is a challenge not only to the bereaved, but to the entire community. Much as Jewish law and custom places certain responsibilities upon the bereaved, such as tending the funeral and observing the laws of mourning, the loss also creates a responsibility upon the community to be caring and supportive to the family.

Interacting with those who have lost loved ones can be intimidating. We all know that on a certain level there is nothing we can do to take away the anguish of the moment, and we are very concerned that we might "say the wrong thing." At the same time, we can't understate the value of our simply "being there" for the bereaved. Here are some helpful hints to guide you in the great mitzvah of *nichum avelim* (consoling mourners). An expanded list of instructions will be available at shiva homes in the future.

- *When entering, you should not knock or ring the bell.* Simply let yourself in. In general, the door is left unlocked during the hours that the mourners are receiving guests.

- *The custom is not to speak to the mourner(s) until they acknowledge you.*

- *Try not to ask questions like "How are you doing?"* Questions like this are called *she'elat shalom*, and may be perceived as insensitive to the mourner's sense of loss. Simply tell the mourner that you are sorry for his or her loss.

- *Some people bring food* (but generally not flowers). Others prefer to make a donation in memory of the loved one. Although either act is appropriate, neither is required.

- *You are welcome to eat any of the food that has been set out.* If the mourner asks if you would like to take food home, that's OK. It's better than any food going to waste.

- *Let the mourners set the tone of the conversation.* The main goal is not to socialize, but to show the mourner that we care. General conversation is OK, particularly if the mourner needs a break from the intensity of the moment. It can also be both appropriate and meaningful to ask the mourner about

his or her loved one.

- *There are no magic words*, and philosophy will not be comforting (and may appear to be insensitive to the gravity of the loss). You are there to show you care. You are not expected to take away the mourner's pain. Try to avoid expounding on your own philosophies, or comparing your experience in loss to theirs.

- *Most importantly, be a good listener.*
- *Try to limit the length of your visit and allow others to have access to the mourners.*

- *What to say when you leave:* It can be difficult to find the right parting words. It is usually better to use one of the traditional sayings upon leaving a shiva house. Ashkanezi custom is to leave with the words "May God comfort you among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem." Sephardic custom is to say the words *min hashamayim tenuchamu* - "may you be comforted from the heavens." Either phrase is appropriate. In many shiva homes, you will find a sign that has these words for you to read.

- *You don't have to be a close friend to make a visit.* Don't think that you don't "belong." Many mourners have told me how touched they were when someone that "they only knew from seeing them in synagogue" came by to visit. This gives the feeling of the warmth of an entire community caring for the person.

- *Caring Goes Beyond Shiva:* The mourning process continues well beyond shiva. A friendly call, a lunch invitation, or offering to join the mourner in synagogue where he or she will say *kaddish* are some ideas of how to continue to care for mourners beyond the Shiva period.

Dates to Remember

- February 10 - Yoga for Kids and Parents - classes given by Sandie Oppenheimer, no charge
- May 18 - Temple Israel Annual Dinner Dance - honoring Randee and Michael Busch
- June 22 - Sisterhood Torah Fund Luncheon - honoring Malky Asarch

**Hebrew School
Happenings**

This is Barbara, writing to you from the Rehab Center. I am doing much better, and want to thank everyone for their good wishes. I really appreciate the cards the children made for me, and I enjoy looking at them.

On Saturday 1/12, we had a Havdallah Service. It was a very nice night. After the service, the children played games and had desserts. Thanks to Shlomit, Revi and the Rabbi for their hard work.

On 1/22 and 1/23, Tu B'Shevat was celebrated with Seders and the new fruits of the season. Parents and siblings were invited. Our next major event is Purim. A flyer will be going out. We need lots of family participation in building and making booths. We want this to be a huge success and lots of fun. I can't wait to see what costume the rabbi will be wearing at the Megillah reading.

Then comes "Shabbat across America." This is a major Temple celebration and gala Shabbat Dinner. As usual, the children will run the Kabbalat Shabbat Services. We will be having our annual Passover Candy Sale. This is our only fundraiser and I would appreciate a few *9ijn* parents volunteering to help me out. Please call me, through the office, to let me know about the Passover Candy Sale.

The Rabbi brought me the new Siddur. He did a magnificent job. I hope everyone realizes what an effort was made and treats the Siddurs with lots of dignity.

I want to thank Shlomit, Revi and Rabbi Gradofsky for everything they have done to keep things running smoothly. You are all very special. I can't wait to see all of your smiling happy faces. Now I will be able to walk into your classrooms and actually listen to you practice from the Siddurs. Start thinking of your ideas for the Purim Books. Thanks, also, to Rachel Weiss, for her efforts in making the flyer for the Yoga workshop.

I miss you all and will be back very soon.
With love..... Barbara

P.S. There will be a Family Yoga Class on Sunday 2/10 run by our own Sandie Oppenheimer.

SISTERHOOD NEWS

Todah raba to Ellen Klein for the wonderful renovation of our meeting room, the Stein Social Hall, and our great new chairs. A new window treatment is in the works.

Our Purim Carnival will be held on March 9th. We need people to set up and run game booths. It was great fun last year. We will have face painting, sand art and an inflatable ride/slide. If you can help out, please call Pam Garfinkle at 632-5871.

Thank you to Malky Asarch for the hard work of running the Holiday Boutique. The vendors were great and I hope we do it again.

Marcia Kaskel is our new Board Secretary.

Rita Berger, 432-3157, Chair of our 52 Club, is looking for new members.

Mark your calendars for the synagogue Dinner Dance, honoring Randee and Michael Busch, May 18th.

Get well to Barbara Semel. Mazel Tov to Shirley Tydings on the marriage of her granddaughter, Shira Tydings, to Lee Bressler.

Wonderful vacation wishes to Gigi Raphael and Evalyn Rintel and Sy Ulan.

We are delighted to have as honoree, for the Sunday June 22nd Torah Fund luncheon, past president Malky Asarch. Bernice Altarac, Chair of this event, anticipates a sold out luncheon.

On Monday night, April 7th, we are participating in a Women's Seder at Temple Emanu-El. Freda Eiberson will lead the Seder. The charge is \$5. Also participating are Hadassah, Temple Beth Sholom, Temple Emanu-El and JWJ.

Francine Wurman

We extend sincere get well wishes to:

Steven Garfinkle
Addie Goode
Mildred Lefkowitz
Marcie Livingston
Rachel Scharman
Barbara Semel
Meyer Stein
Zev Vishnia.



Congratulations to...

• Lisa and Michael Khus, on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Jonathan.

• Lloyd Struver, on the Bar Mitzvah of his son, Joshua.

• Shlomit and Isaac Cohen, on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Ravid.

• Hillary and Scott Buda on the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Zachary.

• Sue Solomonic for winning The Town of Hempstead Calendar Photo Contest.

• Dani Solomonic (Sue's daughter) for her work with the Best Buddies in the Long Beach High School. This group endeavors to enhance the lives of students with learning disabilities.

• Marin Shapiro, daughter of Marsha and Dr. Andrew Shapiro, for being honored by the Board of Education for her leadership and her dedicated efforts in the "Rock and Wrap It Up" program, one which collects and distributes surplus food for hungry youngsters.

• Sarah Garfinkle, daughter of Pam and Steve Garfinkle for her initiative, once again, in conducting a Scholarship Blood Drive at Temple Israel, on Martin Luther King Day.

Synagogue Renovations

Temple Israel is undergoing a face-lifting procedure. The areas that have been recently completed are the Beit Hamidrash (new flooring installed) and the Stein Social Hall (ceiling, light fixtures, walls and flooring). Currently, the main Sanctuary is being repainted. This is a three-week job. Therefore, Sabbath services will be temporarily conducted in the Beit Hamidrash.

If you care to donate to this costly paint job, your contribution will be greatly appreciated and duly recorded in the next issue of CHAI Lites.

Shabbat Kiddush

Sponsors

- Oct. 13, Elaine and Marc Goodman, Luncheon in honor of their anniversary and Marc's birthday.
- Oct. 20, Sy Ulan, Dessert Kiddush in honor of Sy's Bar Mitzvah haftorah.
- Nov. 3, Susan and Stanley Alt, Dessert Kiddush in honor of Stanley's Bar Mitzvah haftorah.
- Nov. 17, Fred Resnick, Luncheon in honor of the wedding of his daughter, Shira to Anthony Fisher.
- Dec. 1, Gert and Dr. Sol Griboff, Dessert Kiddush on the Yahrzeit of Mother, Frieda Slomka
- Dec. 8, Lederman Caterers, Luncheon in appreciation of being able to serve Temple Israel.
- Dec. 15, Shlomit and Isaac Cohen, Luncheon in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Ravid.
- Dec. 22, Bernice Altarac, Luncheon, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson, Seth Pachman
- Jan. 12, Rabbi Gradofsky and Bernice Altarac, Dessert Kiddush for reciprocal appreciation of teacher and student of the Hebrew Reading Crash Course.
- Jan. 19, Rita and Simon Berger, Gail Ulanow and Eleanor Sobel, Dessert Kiddush on the Yahrzeits of the Berger Family and Nathan Sobel's Birthday.
- Jan 26, Kenneth Stein and Barbara Rowan, Dessert Kiddush in memory of their beloved parents, Florence and Dr. Emanuel Stein.

Shabbat "Munch N' Learn"

On January 12th, Rabbi Gradofsky held the second, in a series of planned programs, "Munch 'N Learn" session after Shabbat Services. In lieu of delivering a sermon, the Rabbi led a lively discussion on the Torah portion of the day -while the congregants feasted on a sumptuous, high calorie, dessert kiddush. Join us - you'll love it.

"Tree of Life"

Gold Leaves on the Tree of Life in the upper lobby may be purchased for \$125 each. This is a good way to honor a loved one or oneself on any special occasion, such as a birth, bar/bat-mitzvah, wedding, etc.

Call the Temple Office
432-1410

Make Your Next Simcha at Temple Israel

Our synagogue facilities include our stunning synagogue, a charming beit midrash (chapel), two gorgeous ballrooms (below), several hebrew school class rooms including modern computers, and a large multi-purpose room. Our facilities are available to host your kosher affairs.

Call the Temple Israel Office for more information 432-1410



FREE HEBREW HIGH SCHOOL

Temple Israel is offering Free Hebrew High School this coming year. Classes are on Wednesday evenings, 6:00 – 7:15 PM. These tuition-free classes are open to all students in grades 8-12, regardless of synagogue affiliation. Classes will cover Hebrew reading refreshers, the basics of Judaism, and modern day topics that are important to teens (drugs and alcohol, relationships, peer pressure etc). Please see the flier or Rabbi Gradofsky.

Shaleh Shudos

- October 13, Harry Sealine - in honor of the Men's Club
- October 20, Tamar and Bruce Sklover, on the Yahrzeit of Tamar's father, James Rader
- November 3, Seth Jackson, on the Yahrzeit of his cousin, Dr. Solomon Siegel.
- November 14, 2007 Todd Benenson, on the Yahrzeit of his grandfather Sam Michaels
- November 24, Lillian Friedman, Jason Schlacter, Rebecca and Greg Elaison, in honor of the anniversary of Barbara and David Schlacter
- December 1, Charney and Jonathan Reichbart, on the Yahrzeit of his father, Pinchas Eliahu Reichbart.
- December 8, Francine and Gus Wurman, on the Yahrzeit of his father, Abraham Wurman.
- December 15, Harry Sealine, on becoming the newest paralegal at a prestigious, New York City law firm.
- December 22, Harold Last, on the Yahrzeits of his parents, Yetta and Louis Last and his wife, Helen.
- December 29, Renee and Leo Adler, on the Yahrzeit of his father, Abraham Ben Moshe.
- January 5, Todd Benenson, on the Yahrzeit of his grandfather, Eli Benenson
- January 12, Eleanor and Nathan Sobel, on the Yahrzeits of his mother, Basha Rachel Sojbel and his brothers, Ben Zion Sojbel and Aaron Tzvi Sojbel.
- January 19, Grace and Ed Levie, in honor of the minyanaires, for their faith and devotion to Temple Israel.
- January 26, Harry Sealine, in honor of the birthday of his mother, Estelle

Condolences to

- Michael Freiser and Barbara Levy, on the loss of their mother Genevieve, a long time member of Temple Israel.
- Jonathan Reichbart, on the loss of his sister, Ziporah Getler.
- The family of Erica Whitehead, a long time member of Temple Israel.
- Daniella Lans and the Steinberg Family, on the loss of Danielle's brother, Steven Steinberg.
- Marcie Ross, on the loss of her mother, Stella Glickman
- Michael Busch, on the loss of his father, Stanley Busch
- Todd Benenson, on the loss of his father, Herbert Benenson.
- Leonard Weinberger, on the loss of his beloved wife, Hannah .
- Ken Sherrin, on the loss of his sister, Esther Weitz.
- Nathan Sobel, on the loss of his cousin, Norma Faigen.

Birthday and Anniversary Shabbat Service

We would like to start a Birthday and Anniversary Shabbat, celebrating these special occasions. Please contact the TI office if you are interested.

Sisterhood Boutique

The Sisterhood Boutique is now located to the upper lobby.

Think of us for all your Judaic and non-Judaic needs. Beautiful and unique gift items for all occasions. Flexible hours to suit your schedule. Contact Debbie Gordon, Marci Ross, or Ellen Klein or Temple Israel 432-1410

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