



C O N G R E G A T I O N

NETIVOT SHALOM

JUNE 1999
SIVAN / TAMMUZ 5759

Those of us who were privileged (fortunate? destined?) to sit around that now infamous kitchen table ten years ago, could never have dreamed that in this short expanse of time and space, we would be a growing, thriving full-service congregation with more than three hundred and eighty households. Sure, many of us 'old-timers' have memories about those first few months (and, being fully human, we all remember things slightly differently).

One of my first memories is that of wanting us to be a *minyan* - not a *shul*, but a place in which women could participate equally in a traditional, Conservative setting. Who would have guessed that just a few months after that 'kitchen-table' meeting, we would transform from a *minyan* into a *shul*. And then there were the firsts: the first baby-naming; the first *bar mitzvah*, the first *bat mitzvah*, the first funeral, the first wedding, the first *adult binai mitzvah* - actually, I remember saying almost every week: 'this is the first...' because in the life of our *shul*, there were lots of firsts. Some of these 'firsts' were not only life cycle markers, but personal events and achievements. People grew and learned how to read Torah, Haftorah, how to *daven*, how to be a *gabbai*, how to read a *Megillah*. We studied, we

organized, we started collecting dues(!), we formed a *chevra kadisha*, we started a school, we joined Midrasha, etc., etc. All those beginnings were full of surprises and thrills. We clearly had found our niche in the greater Berkeley Jewish marketplace.

particularly in light of ten years of growth, I was able to learn something from our tradition. Actually, from the prayer we say when we return the Torah to the ark (that prayer from which our congregation's name was taken). It is the last line in 'etz

chayim he' and actually is a verse from the book of Lamentations: *'Hashiveinu Adonai aylecha vinashuva, chadesh yameynu kikedem.'* - Return us, Adonai, to You and we shall return, renew our days as of old.' But history cannot repeat itself exactly as it was. Nothing in life can. So what does this verse

RABBI'S COLUMN

ABOUT A SHORT REFLECTION ON
TEN YEARS

by Rabbi Stuart Kelman

So now we're in our adolescence, as it were. The enthusiasm and energy levels are, at this point, simply different than those of earlier years. Three hundred and eighty households is vastly different from forty or fifty or even one hundred and fifty. Even the nature of volunteerism has changed - and must change (remember the *mishloach manot* project - which in the early days could be done by a few volunteers, but now needs an entire army of volunteers to bake, pack and deliver the *hamentaschen*?)

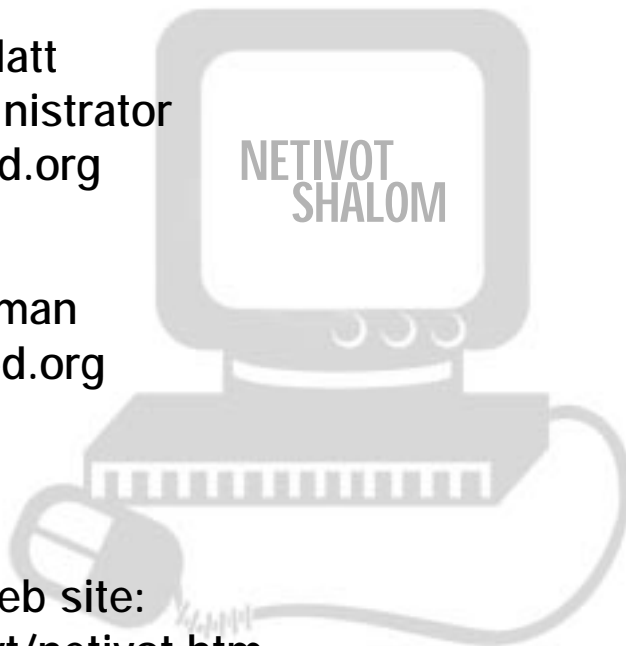
Can we ever return to those 'olden days of yore'? Should we return to those olden days? When I thought about this question,

mean? For me it means that we are asking for God's help - to make it possible not to relive an experience, or even to return us to those days, but to enable us to regain the life and delight and enthusiasm and motivation and spirit of that initial encounter or event. It is this 'renewal' that we seek - the joy that we experienced in creating those 'firsts' - not the 'firsts' themselves. That, essentially, is where we are this June as we celebrate our 10th anniversary. It is our prayer to God (and our reminder to ourselves) that we, together, have the possibility of growing creatively into adulthood with the same vigor with which we started, so that we may be a blessing to all and that we can truly build a place in which God can reside. ☆

THE OFFICE NOW HAS E-MAIL

Lorraine Rosenblatt
Synagogue Administrator
ntv-office@eb.jfed.org

Rabbi Stuart Kelman
ntvt-rabbi@eb.jfed.org



Check out our web site:
www.jfed.org/ntvt/netivot.htm

Congregation Netivot Shalom
1841 Berkeley Way
Berkeley, California 94703
Office: 510.549.9447
Fax: 510.549.9441
Office Hours
Monday-Thursday 9:00-6:00 P.M.
Friday 9:00-4:30 P.M.

Rabbi
Stuart Kelman • 549-9447 ext.44
Youth Education Director
Miriam Hyman • 549.9447 ext. 45
Administrator
Lorraine Rosenblatt • 549.9447 ext. 43
President
Pauline Moreno • 428.1048(h) • 845.0829(w)
Vice President
Judy Breakstone • 527.1376
Secretary
Joe Meresman • 653.1978
Treasurer
Norman Rosenblatt • 339.1863
Past President
Ken Schnur • 526.6445
Administration
John Reynolds • 666.1314
Finance
Open
Adult Education
Barbara Wezelman • 525.0730
Youth Education
Andrea Altschuler • 649.9290
Membership
Mary Lukanuski • 654.7620
Public Relations
Turi Adams • 595.7332
Fund Raising
Claudia Valas • 848.6536
Ritual Chair
Jerry Derblich • 843.5991
Gemilut Chasidim
Lee Feinstein • 527.0464
Chevra Kadisha
Heidi Wexler • 654.6933
Community Building
Julie Weissman • 849.9505
Social Action
Cheryl Hyde • 482.3568
House Chair
Jeff Rosenbloom • 653.7848
Ritual Coordinator
Rachel Brott • 733.3393
Kiddush Coordinator
A Woman Called Sam • 526.9754
Drash Coordinator
Helen Schneider • 524.7867
Yahrzeit Coordinator
Debra Lobel • 428.1048
Midrasha
Diane Bernbaum • 843.4667
Newsletter Design
Kesler Creative Communications • 528.2465
Webmaster
Michael Gill • 236.6237

DONATION CARD

I/we wish to make a donation. Enclosed is my check payable to:
Congregation Netivot Shalom
1841 Berkeley Way
Berkeley, CA 94703

This donation is intended for the following:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ADULT EDUCATION | <input type="checkbox"/> LIBRARY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> BUILDING FUND | <input type="checkbox"/> RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CUBA FUND | <input type="checkbox"/> YOUTH EDUCATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> GENERAL FUND | <input type="checkbox"/> DINNERS FOR THE HOMELESS |

Please honor the following person/event:

NAME _____
STREET _____
CITY _____

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Saturday Shabbat Services & Torah Study

Torah Study – 9:00 am
Services – 9:45 am
BRJCC
1414 Walnut Street
Berkeley

Kabbalat Shabbat

6:15 p.m.
1841 Berkeley Way

Wednesday Morning Minyan

7:15 a.m.
1841 Berkeley Way

Meditative Minyan

9:30 a.m.
Third Shabbat of each month



A lot has happened since my last column, so instead of writing on just one topic, I will touch briefly on a couple of things.

On April 2nd Sandy Schneider died suddenly. I personally lost many opportunities for laughter, friendship, advice, warmth and a great martini. Our community lost a leader, an

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Pauline Moreno

advisor, and a man full of passion and belief in Netivot Shalom. The day after he died, many of us sat through Shabbat services. It was a morning of heavy sighs and heavy hearts. As a community we allowed the sadness to embrace us collectively, and I must say it felt good to be there. In the days that followed I found myself in awe of the outpouring of care from Netivot Shalom, towards Helen (his wife) and their children. I felt very proud to be a part of such a community.

As time passes and we feel a bit more healed, let's not forget the spirit of community and closeness that held us together through this loss. As for Sandy, his memory will settle within the hearts of each of us who knew him and within our collective heart as well.

Secondly, I wanted to tell everyone about a new program that was developed by Iris Greenbaum, called Shabbat B'Yachad. This is a Shabbat service for children five and under and their parents. Sounds simple enough, wouldn't you say? But it is not simple at all, it's magical.

Imagine twenty small children standing under several large tallitot held high by their parents. The sun streaming in from the window casts shades of blue and white on the children. Everyone is smiling and dancing around and singing. Or picture twenty marching kids in a Torah procession, each clutching a soft stuffed Torah, singing "Toooooorah, Tooorah, Tooorah..." It is one of the sweetest sights I have ever seen.

Every second Shabbat at 11:00 am you can visit Shabbat B'Yachad. If you have a child five or under, please do yourself and your child a favor and try it. If you do not have a child/children either that age or at all, stop by and visit this wonderful program anyhow. It will make you wish you were a child.

B' Shalom
Pauline Moreno

On the Shabbat of June 5th we read *Parashat Beha'alotecha*. The text recounts the observance of Passover as commanded by God: "Let the Israelite people offer the Passover sacrifice at its set time.... in accordance with all its rules and rites". The Torah tells us that the Israelites offered the Passover sacrifice as instructed .

However, there were some people in the camp who were ritually impure, and thus could not offer the Passover sacrifice on that day. Appearing before Moses and Aaron they asked, "..... Why must we be barred from presenting the Lord's offering at its set time with the rest of the Israelites?" Moses did not know the answer to their question, so he instructed them to wait while he consulted God. This teaches that a judge should not be ashamed to say, "That is a law with which I am unfamiliar. Wait and I will ask a higher authority or one with more knowledge."

This lesson is an important one for teachers and parents. One should not be embarrassed if he or she does not know something. By saying that you are not sure, and that you need to consult a book, or a more knowledgeable person, you are modeling a healthy learning process for your children. If children see you, an adult, feel comfortable looking for information, they will be less hesitant to admit ignorance, or ask for help.

Religious School News:

It's hard to believe, but another year of religious school has come to an end. At Netivot Shalom we have been blessed with an experienced and dynamic staff. In addition to classroom study, we are proud to have been able to offer tutoring to children whose learning styles make learning Hebrew especially challenging.

Thanks to Judy Massarano's hard work and dedication, our families with preschoolers have been treated to a monthly program that creates opportunities for family interaction in a Jewish context. Judy provided parents with valuable information about Jewish customs and parenting while assistant Nicole Monastersky enthralled children with stories, games, scavenger hunts and art projects. I am pleased to say both Judy and Nicole will be returning next year.

Jenn Schindel has done a spectacular job with our kindergarten class! She accepted the challenge of teaching on Shabbat, and helped our youngest religious school students explore the stories of our Torah, celebrate holidays, and participate in their own service. The highlight of the kindergarten Shabbat morning was the opportunity to come into the main service to kiss the Torah as it went by in the processional. Jenn will be graduating from Berkeley this year, and is exploring options for next year. Thanks, Jenn!

I would like to thank Michael Feinberg, who has been teaching first grade at Netivot Shalom for several years. From introducing our students to the letters of Aleph-Bet, to exploring the weekly Torah portion through stories, games and activities, Mike's boundless enthusiasm has made the grades 1 and 2 *'mini minyan'* fun. Mike will return after his summer marriage and honeymoon.

Thanks to Ali Cloth and Revital Heller, our second graders have completed the task of learning to read Hebrew. Both Ali and Revital have really taken the time to get to know each of their students. Congratulations to Ali, who will be at Harvard next year earning

her Masters in school psychology. Revital, a sophomore at UC Berkeley next year, will be returning to teach a very lucky group of second graders. Also, thanks to Sarah Eisenberg our Shabbat assistant and to Diana Wood, our volunteer.

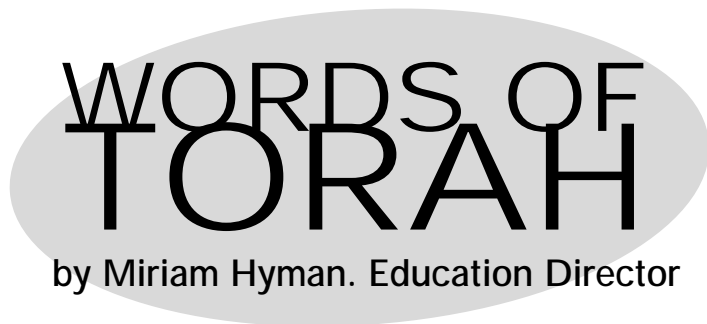
Matt Hoffman completed his sixth year of teaching third grade at Netivot Shalom. He has done a super job with Hebrew. The *Tzedakah* fair was a big hit again this year, with a lot of money raised to help animals in Israel. Matt will spend next year finishing his dissertation while teaching adult classes related to his research. He will also begin searching for a faculty position as a professor of Jewish history. Shalom Matt, we will miss you.

Shimon Bonem gets thanks for not only improving the Hebrew skills of his fourth grade students, deeply engaging them in Torah study, but for providing them with two special programs: On Tu B'shevat, Shimon showed his slides from a conservation trip in the "Cloud Forest" in Ecuador. He brought a Holocaust survivor to speak to our older students on Yom Hashoah. Accepted to a program of study at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Shimon is in the process of deciding whether or not to go.

Hugh Seid, our fifth and sixth grade teacher, had another splendid year. Hugh created fun opportunities for Hebrew review on Shabbat. He has also done an excellent job facilitating discussions about such complicated matters as prayer, Israel, Kosovo and the Columbine High School shootings. He has also been instrumental in the development of the Torah and *mitzvah* curriculum for the Amitim class. Hugh will be starting at Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Philadelphia this fall. We will miss him.

This year, we continued to enhance and refine the curriculum of the Amitim program. Amitim learned the skills that they needed in order to lead our congregation in prayer. Our tutors, Pamela Sawyer and Coby Harris-Rudolph provided students with individual attention. Pamela Sawyer will return as Amitim tutor in the fall. Coby Harris-Rudolph,

(continued on next page)



(continued from previous page)

who has been tutoring our Amitim for many years, will be graduating high school, and starts a Young Judea year course in Israel next year. Thank you, and good luck!

In a new program, Amitim students delved deeply into their Torah portions by examining traditional sources and through creative writing, art and drama. Students also studied *mitzvot*, and did public service projects such as presenting Jewish residents of the Claremont House with a Passover program, helping to clean up the shoreline at a marine Park in Oakland, packing *mishloach manot* for the entire community, and helping the North Berkeley Senior Center put in a new garden. Several synagogue members deserve thanks for enhancing our Amitim program with their volunteer work. Jan Fischer made beautiful cloth *siddur* covers for the class, Lee Feinstein lead a *tallit* making project, and Glenn Massarano taught us the hand signals for *trope*.

After their B'nai Mitzvah, Netivot Shalom youth continue their Jewish education at Midrasha. Netivot Shalom has 53 students enrolled, and next year, we will have up to 60 students, one fifth of the total Midrasha student body! Several of our students study not only on Sunday mornings, but also during the week. The response to the upcoming Midrasha Shabbat was so great, it was difficult to find roles in our service for all who wished to participate!

Everyone should know the contributions our young people make. They work in the religious school as teaching assistants, and help to run the school and synagogue office. Our youth have become excellent teachers, who show maturity, responsibility and willingness to help. Thanks to Rachel, Judith, Gilad, Becky, Zephira, Rebecca Daria, Tali, Gal, and Coby. We could not do it without you!

The special programs have continued to grow. *Yamim Noraim /Yeladim*, our High Holiday program for kids, was a success. Over 120 children took part in the events that included educational programming, *tefillot*, a show, a storyteller, and a birthday party for the world. The extra space at Thousand Oaks Baptist Church allowed more children the opportunity to participate.

We are pleased to have added two new youth groups. Our alliance with Young Judea has led to the creation of the Tzofim for seventh and eighth graders, and the Ofarim, a group for young people in grades 3-6. Youth can now participate in activities such as ice skating, and bowling, and come to club meetings where they explore Jewish topics and plan future events. We welcome your participation in helping get these groups off the ground.

I would like to thank Golda Blum, who has organized and streamlined our system for recruiting school volunteers. Her tireless efforts, and numerous phone calls, mean there is always someone scheduled to set up the religious school on Shabbat and to help with traffic during the week. Many families have fulfilled their volunteer-

ing obligations by helping in the office, setting up kid's *kiddush*, or doing special projects. Thanks to you all!

There are currently two new Family Room groups active in our shul. The original group, led by Vicky Kelman, continues to meet periodically for learning and celebration. The second group, led by Debbie Isaak-Shapiro is in its second year and hopes to continue. Debbie is looking forward to gathering a new Family Room group together next year. Our family preschool program has grown as the population of children under the age of five in our synagogue has increased. The Shabbat Magic series for families with children in kindergarten, in its second year, has created a mini community among members. The pajama *havdalah* was a big hit, with 18 families attending. We also added programming for families with children in grades 1-4. Family programmer, and social work student, Linda Karlin created interactive programs for exploring Jewish values. Due to a generous contribution from Vicky Kelman, Netivot Shalom families enjoyed a series of workshops this spring where area artists shared their expertise and guided families in the creation of beautiful, Jewish art objects.

This year we also began exploring the development of a Ramah Day Camp at Netivot Shalom. This summer program, affiliated with the Ramah camping movement, would combine a high quality day camp with Conservative Jewish education. In order to have a longer session, we have decided to postpone opening until next summer. If you would like more information, speak to Dan Alter or to Rabbi Kelman.

Finally thanks to the members of the youth education committee, and its chairs, Shari Rifas and Alison Cohen, for their dedication and support. Also thanks to Iris Greenbaum, Mindy Blechman, Rochelle Guinasso, Robin Keller, Ruth Paris, Norman Rosenblatt, and Joe Meresman. Thanks to Noga Gressel for serving as a resource to our Amitim families. Thanks to Dinah Beck for a year of tutoring. And, of course, thanks to Rabbi Kelman for your guidance, great ideas, and advice.

Andrea Altschuler and Claire Davidson are our new youth education co-chairs. With the youth education committee in their capable hands, I expect our religious school and family programs to reach new heights. There are already great things in the works, which you will be hearing about soon. Welcome to new committee member, Lauren Helfand.

As many of you know, this is my last year as education director at Netivot Shalom. I will be moving to Philadelphia to join my fiance, Michael Fessler, a rabbinical student at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. I also plan to begin my own study for the rabbinate. Although I depart for happy reasons, I am sad to be leaving Netivot Shalom, and the Berkeley Jewish community. In my two years here, I have made friends, learned a lot, and become part of this great community. Mike and I hope to visit often. If you are in Philadelphia, please look us up, and spend Shabbat with us. *Shalom ulehitraot.* ☆

NETIVOT SHALOM IS 10 YEARS OLD

Netivot Shalom Gala

Sunday, June 13 • 5:30 - 9:30 PM

Bancroft Hotel

*Music, Dancing, Dinner,
Auction, Time Capsule,
and more!*

WE NEED YOUR MEMORABILIA

- Photos of life-cycle and Shul events and memories
- Copies of tickets, certificates, old fliers and newsletters
- Funny stories
- Photos, photos, photos!

CONTRIBUTE AUCTION ITEMS

- Vacations spots or condos
- Airline miles
- Art and Judaica
- Dining, sports and entertainment
- Shabbat dinners

Bring auction contributions and memorabilia to the Shul Office

creative [kesler] communications

1326.b milvia street
berkeley ca 94709

tel 510.528.2465
fax 510.527.7182

cssherman@earthlink.net

GRAPHIC DESIGN

MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS

WEB SITE DEVELOPMENT

ARCHITECTURE

3-D RENDERING

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, August 15, 1999

BALI CHAI BRUNCH

A BUILDING FUND EVENT

Further details next month



New Year's in Havana

No joke. Let's do New Year's Eve in Havana, Cuba. We have a fantastic trip planned to visit six different Jewish communities across the Island of Cuba. Visit these wonderful people and see the beauties of their land and the monuments to the history of their country as we travel from community to community from Havana to Santiago. Celebrate New Year's Eve with services and dinner at the Grand Synagogue, Beth Shalom, and then party 'till dawn (or as late as you like. The best music starts at 2AM).

Tour the old city of Havana with an interesting Jew who was born and raised there before WWII and continues to work there in the History of Science Museum. If you would like more information, contact June or Bob Safran at 5100526-7173 or CAJM@aol.com

Here are some items from the Mail bag: From Stan Cohen, B'nai Brith Cuban Relief Chairman: I spoke with [Dr.] Rosa [Behar] Hasday the other day. She told me that three people need medications and have been unable to get them. Nitroglycerine spray is needed for one heart patient due for an operation. They also need Tegretol for three children suffering from seizure disorders.

From President Eugenia Farin in Santiago de Cuba: In our community, we commemorated Yom Ha Shoa in a simple but solemn manner. Our youth prepared the activity giving us an overview and those present talked about what they knew of the Holocaust. Finally, they read a sad but inspiring poem by one who lived in the camps.

From Israel,

First at all, I hope that you are fine as all your family. I'm very happy today, because Jorge y Zeina are here and I can write to you very easy.[email] I finished already the first Ulpan. Tomorrow I'll start

another Ulpan, more intensive. Now, I'm not working, because I don't speak Hebrew but I hope in the future to learn and find a job in my field. Some days ago I worked in many different jobs: construction, chocolate factory and now I'm working, as my son, in a kibbutz. It is minimos salary but is enough to live and to breath freely. my daughter, Maruchi, is pregnant. I'll be a grandfather probably in the end of May or in the first days of June. My wife was very sick, many colds. she is fine now, not working. Everyday we

remember you, with a lot of love. as we remember all of our friends in Santiago de Cuba. Maybe we'll be together and help them as you helped us. *Joel*

From Nili, also known as Zeina. This is a letter to a friend in Berkeley.

Hi sweet girl, It is so nice to ear from you! We are very, very happy here. We started the Ulpan already. Beer Sheva it is a nice city. not many people, not much noise. We have our own apartment. It is big, very clean with a beautiful view to the city. Here are many pigeons and a lot of cats. We have many friends. They are very nice and are helping us a lot. I'm missing my family a lot. specially my nephew. .. He can walk, say mom to his mother and Tata to my mother. When I left Cuba he can't walk. It is so hard for me, but I hope to see them soon. Send my best regards to everyone there. I love them very much. A big, big kiss to you, *Nili*

I'm hoping for I big kiss for all of them from all of you in the form of financial support for our work. Send your contributions made out to the Cuba-America Jewish Mission or to Netivot Shalom. Mark it "Cuba relief."

June Safran

LETTER FROM CUBA



LISA M. HARBUS
THERAPEUTIC BODYWORK
SINCE 1985
2034 BLAKE STREET #10
BERKELEY, CA 94704
510 • 665 • 5670



MARK ROSS
WATCH REPAIR
CLOCK REPAIR
STAINED GLASS DESIGN
(510) 528-7204

ADULT EDUCATION

by Barbara Wezelman

SPECIAL EVENTS

Play with plays. You are invited to two evenings of play readings to be held in June and July. We will be reading and discussing two plays by Rebecca Froemer. One play is based on the Biblical characters of Sarah, Avraham, and Hagar, and the other is based on Lot and his daughters.

The readings will be held at Sanne and Hugh DeWitt's house at 7 PM on Sunday, June 20th, and Sunday, July 18th. We will have dessert after the readings. Please contact Sanne DeWitt at 845-2098 by the Tuesday of the week of the play, if you plan to attend, so that we will know how many copies of the script to provide ☆

A Jewish Historian Talks about Christianity: What Jews Should Know

Professor Fred Astren is the guest speaker at this Monday night lecture series. All sessions will be from 7:30 -9 PM at the synagogue office.

- June 7 The Jewish background of Christian origins
- June 14 How Christianity transformed its Jewish heritage
- June 21 The dance of Jews and Christians through history

Professor Astren is an associate professor in S.F. State's thriving Jewish studies program. He has written and published on the Karaite Jews, the Dead Sea Scrolls, Jewish and Muslim mourning practices, and sacred history in Judaism, Christianity and Islam. Professor Astren taught last year at Netivot Shalom on the topic of Jews, Judaism and Islam. ☆

Come closer to the source of your spiritual heritage.

LEARN CLASSICAL HEBREW

EKS Publishing Co.
 Claudia Valas
 1029A Solano Ave., Albany, CA 94706-1617
 (510) 558-9200 • Fax: (510) 558-9255

COMING UP

Jewish Apocalyptic Literature on the Eve of Tisha B'Av

Why do we continually wonder how the world will end? How do the Bible and Apocrypha use the mortality of our people, species, and planet to ponder the meaning of humankind's existence? In these sessions we will read about symbolic visions and other-worldly journeys in excerpts in English from Noah's Flood, Isaiah, Ezekial, Daniel, 2 Esdras, and 3 Baruch. We will place these apocalyptic eschatological narratives in their historical and literary context, examining the Jewish view of the end times.

Michelle Wolfson will teach this series in July; look for details in the July newsletter. Michelle is a dissertation student in literature at UC Berkeley. ☆

Yiddish Anyone?

Mark Geliebter is interested in participating in a monthly, peer-led Yiddish literature group. If you are interested in helping to organize this, please give Mark a call at 524-7030. ☆

ONGOING CLASSES AND STUDY GROUPS

Torah Study, with Nitzhia Shaked and guest teachers, meets every Shabbat at 9:00 a.m. in Room 4 at the JCC. Child care also begins at 9 a.m.

Talmud Study with Rabbi Kelman, meets every Tuesday evening from 7:30 -9:00 p.m., at the synagogue office.

B'nai Avraham v'Sarah, a *chavurah* for Jews by choice and their families, meets monthly at various members' homes. For information call Denise Moyes-Schnur at 526-6445. ☆

TORAH STUDY SCHEDULE

JUNE

June 5
B'Halotecha
Nitzhia Shaked

June 12
Shelach Lecha
Esther Brass

June 19
Korach
Nitzhia Shaked

June 26
Chukat-Balak
Sheila Jelen



JULY

July 3
Pinchas
Nitzhia Shaked

July 10
Mattot-Mase
Nomi Seidman

July 17
Devari'm
Nitzhia Shaked

July 24
Va'Etchanan
Open

July 31
Ekev
Open



Our Torah study group has enjoyed a spectacular year, thanks to the efforts of our teachers, as well as the group participants. Nitzhia Shaked, our regular teacher, deserves a special tribute for her outstanding presentations. Nitzhia has a sparkling and dynamic teaching style and dazzled us with her meticulously

researched lectures and her skill at leading group discussions. We have been blessed with a roster of guest teachers who bring extraordinary scholarship and insight to their presentations. Thank you's to Ariel Bloch, Ester Brass, Hank Millstein, Seymour Kessler, Ed Bernbaum, Nomi Seidman, Michael Cohen, Rabbi David Winston, John Reynolds, Raphael Rettner, Sheila Jelen, Steve Tobias, Uri Alter, Jerry Garfield, Vicki Kelman, Leora Lawton, Jodi Feld, Fred Astren, Yehuda Sherman, Conrad Elner, Rabbi Arthur Gould, and Avital Plan. I am

grateful that we have such a rich community of scholars.

Please come and join us on Shabbat, before services, from 9:00 to 9:45 AM to study and wrestle with Torah. We would love to have you. Let me know if you are interested in teaching one of the Parashot. We would enjoy having your tal-

TORAH STUDY NEWS

from Hugh Dewitt

ent and point of view.

I would like to make a special plea to our Netivot community. As you all know, there is no free lunch! Our Torah study group has operational costs such as the honorarium for our regular teacher, the rental of our room, and child care. I appeal to you to help us meet these expenses. Please consider making a donation to Netivot Shalom for Torah study to help underwrite the cost of this valuable program. ☆

VICKI AND STU KELMAN
announce the engagement of their son


ARI KELMAN
TO AMIE DORMAN

&

ART AND SHEILA
BRAUFMAN

invite the congregation to join them for KIDDUSH on
June 19, 1999

in Honor of their 40th Anniversary and Sheila's BIG Birthday!

22 Sivan	23 Sivan	24 Sivan	25 Sivan	26 Sivan	27 Sivan	28 Sivan
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
 10th Anniversary Gaia 5:30 - 9:30 pm Bancroft Hotel	7:30 - 9 pm Christianity: What Jews Should Know	7:30 pm Talmud Study	7:15 am Minyan		6:15 pm Kabbalat Shabbat	9:00 am Torah Study 9:30 am Meditative Minyan 9:45 am Shabbat Services 11:00 am Shabbat B'Yachad
29 Sivan	30 Sivan	1 Tammuz	2 Tammuz	3 Tammuz	4 Tammuz	5 Tammuz
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
7:00 pm PLAY WITH PLAYS At Hugh Dewitt's	7:30 - 9 pm Christianity: What Jews Should Know	7:30 pm Talmud Study	7:15 am Minyan			9:00 am Torah Study 9:45 am Shabbat Services
6 Tammuz	7 Tammuz	8 Tammuz	9 Tammuz	10 Tammuz	11 Tammuz	12 Tammuz
27	28	29	30			
13 Tammuz	14 Tammuz	15 Tammuz	16 Tammuz			
		7:30 pm Talmud Study	7:15 am Minyan			



DON'T FORGET!!!!

June 13, 1999 • 5:30-9:30 PM
Bancroft Hotel

Music, dancing, dinner, auction, time capsule, and more!
DON'T MISS THIS GREAT EVENT!

Shabbat B'Yachad is multigenerational! Our last service welcomed grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, new babies, guests, our youngest congregants and their parents. Stan Dorn, (better known as Jacob & Rebecca's Dad), led us in a joyous service with eighty six *daveners*, ranging in age from new born babies to grandparents! The children's *kiddush* was sponsored by Melissa Hillman in honor of her parents, Charlene and Don Hillman, the proud grandparents of Jonah! We also celebrated the 4th birthdays of Batya Brose and Yona Radousky. Mazel Tov to Lydia Brose, and the Radousky family, who co-sponsored a special birthday *kiddush* in honor of Batya & Yona!

A special thanks to all the members of our congregation. Your enthusiasm is so welcoming of our youngest congregants who delight in their Torah parade and *tefillot*. Thank you!

We are proud to welcome new families to our congregation: Lee Bearson & Babbie Fraiberg; Stan Dorn & Carla Ellern; Melissa Hillman; Bridgette Wynne & Julia London; Nadine & David Samuels. Welcome!

Shabbat B'Yachad needs your participation in new ways: We will be forming a committee to evaluate our Shabbat pro-

grams for the family, bake for a Bar Mitzvah family, and sponsor a Succah building event in their yard. The Richmond, El Cerrito, & Tiburon *schuna* celebrated Yom Ha'Atzmuat with Havdallah, Israeli films, and discussion co-sponsored by the Israel Center of the Jewish Federation of the Greater East Bay. Thank you to the members who have welcomed neighbors to your homes for our Schuna events. Special thanks to Ellen

Peskin and Dennis Donohue, Sally Martin, Julie Weissman, Judy Breakstone & Michael Fuss.

More details to follow about your *schuna*.

Gemilut Hassadim: Congregant needs help with transportation for her elderly mother to visit her elderly father at Herrick hospital from the Claremont Retirement Home. Another congregant would be most appreciative of phone calls and occasional visits with her at her retirement home. Please call me if you are available to assist.

Please share your ideas, and let me know if you are interested in hosting an event for your *schuna*!

BShalom! ☆

PROGRAM NEWS

by Iris Greenbaum, M.S.W.,
Program Coordinator

gram, plan for summer events, and coordinate our Shabbat mini-services and *kiddush* for the summer months. Please let me know if you are interested in participating.

Etzleinu Baschuna- In Our Neighborhood Your response has been so positive to our beginning efforts to organize our congregation within the small communities where we live. We have scheduled initial meetings for the areas of Richmond, El Cerrito, Albany, Oakland, Berkeley, Piedmont, San Francisco, and Alameda. Each community has generated its own ideas for future events: Some communities have taken the initiative to welcome new families to the neighborhood for Shabbat meals, welcome a new birth with

CELIA CONCUS



264 ARLINGTON AVENUE, BERKELEY • KENSINGTON, CA 94707
(510) 527-0211 • FAX 527-1442

MILAFINEARTS
20TH CENTURY ISRAELI ART
1307 Solano Avenue
by appointment
Michelle J. Schwartz 510.845.0653

ADOPT AN EVENT!

**Do you clamor for Purim?
Do you pine for Tu B'Shevat?
Do you burn the midnight oil for Hanukkah?**

WE HAVE A SOLUTION FOR YOU: "ADOPT AN EVENT"

DONATE YOUR TIME, ENERGY AND TALENTS
(MONEY DOESN'T HURT EITHER)

CALL OR EMAIL JULIE WEISSMAN
(OR BID AT THE AUCTION) FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

SUCCAH MEAL-MATES
PESACH SEDER-MATCHING
PURIMSPIEL
HANUKAH PARTY AND LATKE-MAKING
HAMENTASHEN-BAKING AND SHELACH MANOT AND MANY MORE

849-9505 OR JWELSS2015@AOLCOM



AND NOW, MOMS & DADS, THE MOMENT YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR . . .

THE BAR OR BAT MITZVAH!

(WASN'T IT JUST THE FIRST DAY OF KINDERGARTEN?)

HERE ARE A FEW THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT HAVING YOUR SIMCHA AT NETIVOT SHALOM:

- It is a synagogue policy to have a child's bar/bat mitzvah as soon after the child's 13th Hebrew birthday as possible.
- In order to have a bar/bat mitzvah at Netivot Shalom a child must have had five years of formal Jewish education and enroll in the Amitim program.
- In order to enroll your child in our Amitim (B'nai Mitzvah) program your family must have been a member of Netivot Shalom for at least one year prior to enrollment.
- Amitim is a year-long commitment. Students are expected to complete the program even if their bar/bat mitzvah falls during the amitim year.
- Amitim grads are expected to continue their education at Midrasha throughout high school.
- For information on Amitim, call the Education Director at 510.549.9447 ext. 45



CARS IN BERKELEY?

YES INDEED!

You donate your old car, motorcycle, truck or RV to Netivot Shalom to sell

You give us the registration or pink slip and keys – the car doesn't have to be drivable

We raise money for the Shul



Call Claudia
510.558.9200
All donations tax deductible

MIDRASHA NEWS

Thank you, thank you, thank you. The entire community was so supportive with our garage sale. We couldn't have done it without John Gordon and Janice Mitchell who donated the site for the third year in a row. Thanks to Leah Statman who chaired the event. Thanks to Adam Thorman, Dean Meltz, Jerry

Derblich, Judy Radosky and all the other people who shlepped items to the sale. Thanks to Julie Tarshish and John Hinks who were there for every moment of the pricing and the sale and who managed to sell some of our leftovers even after the sale ended! Thanks to Jonathan Heinstein who showed up at 7:30 each Sunday to set up, and Janet Harris who spent a whole Sunday manning the cash box. Jean Henderson arranged for the shleppers— a big job—thank you. Thanks to the

Wilkins-Malloy family, Josh Gressel and Claire Shoen for posting signs. Thank you, Desmid Lyon, for making hundreds of phone calls to get volunteers. Thanks to everyone who priced, sold, received donations, or cleaned up. And many, many

thanks to all of you who made donations who gave us LOTS to sell. We

made more than ever before...over \$5000... and the money goes straight into our scholarship fund. You are great. Start saving again now for next year. And if you have any leads on a large, vacant warehouse space we could use for the sale for about six weeks for our sale next year, let us know.

Midrasha will begin again on September 12. Registration materials will be mailed in July or August. Enjoy your summer. ☆



Special Thanks to OAKLAND KOSHER FOODS

for donations in support of Netivot Shalom's homeless dinners



The Company You Keep



Judith Breakstone, CLU

Agent

New York Life Insurance Company
70 Washington Street, Suite 200
Oakland CA 94607
Bus. 510 268-3378
Fax 510 268-1537
License #0690944

Registered Representative
for NYLIFE Securities Inc.
70 Washington Street,
Suite 200
Oakland CA 94607
510 268-3300

TIKKUN OLAM AND A SOCCER BALL AMITIM AND SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE CLEAN UP

by Cheryl Hyde

With the help of Miriam Hyman, and enthusiastic Amitim members Sharon Gannot, Eli Anders, Leah Whitman-Salkin, Valerie Morris, Tahle Sendowski, along with a few intrepid adults; Sam Salkin (Leah's Dad), Ruth Morris (Valerie's Mom), Netivot

Shalom's third clean-up project at Martin Luther King Jr. Shoreline Park in Oakland



was a great success!! We filled Park Supervisor Joan Suzio's pick-up truck with trash. Among the finds were a car seat, G.I. Joe doll, and cosmetics. Miriam took home the prize— a soccer ball. Special thanks to Alex Madonik, a committee member who organized the event, and special recognition to Larry Pollan who returned for his second clean-up event.



Despite the success of this event, the social action committee is in great need of more members and a chair. Committee chair, Cheryl Hyde, is moving away from the area during the summer. So if anyone is interested in becoming a member or leading the committee, please contact Cheryl or Board President Pauline

Moreno as soon as possible. ☆

SPINOZA'S CATERING

distinctive dairy and pareve menus

Michael Cohen

(510)594-9001 X2 fax (510) 594-9002

CONTEMPORARY


POSTAG'S

FLORIST

Floral Design

510-653-3430 • FAX 510-653-3431 • 1-800-669-0403
5697 MILES AVENUE • OAKLAND • CALIFORNIA • 94618

AFIKOMEN

JEWISH BOOKS  GIFTS AND ARTS

**Books
Books
Books**

3042 CLAREMONT AVENUE, BERKELEY (510) 655-1977

SITE COMMITTEE By Josh Gressel NEEDS YOUR INPUT

The Ritual Committee has formed a sub-committee composed of Mark Priven, George Gidal and me to search for a new site for our High Holiday services. We have outgrown the Northbrae site and need to find something larger, at least until we have a home of our own. While we likely will need to squeeze out one more year at Northbrae, we want to begin searching for 2000.

We need a place which can seat 1,000 people with additional rooms for day care and with kitchen facilities. Likely candidates would be a large church without iconography (i.e., no prominent crucifixes or other non-Jewish symbols unless they could be removed or covered); a convention center or large banquet facility. Ideal location would be North Berkeley, though as we all know by now, the number of facilities which fit these criteria is very limited. Therefore, we may be forced to look in adjoining communities.

If you have any ideas, call (510) 234-4862 or e-mail me at adirhu@2xtreme.net. ☆

TZEDAKAH / CONTRIBUTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

BUILDING FUND

In Memory of Sandy Schneider
Leonard Goldschmidt and Jeannie Resiman
Ken Schnur and Denise Moyes-Schnur
Walter Frank
David and Geri Schneider
Ronnie and Jane Kon
June and Bob Safran
Mel and Judy Sadoff
Carol Robinson and Art Gould
Vivienne Freeman
Lydia and Batya Brose
Ann Swidler and Claude Fischer
Hugh and Sanne DeWitt
Laurie Holtzberg
Mira Kon
Rivka Greenberg and Kenneth Stanton
David and Donna Mendelsohn
Zora Golden
William Evelyn Krasow
Ednah Beth Friedman
Nan and Peter Strauss
Irene Wolins
Alfred and Connie Weissman
Marilyn Mogelberg
EKS Publishing

SOCIAL ACTION

Judith Heumann

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Rob Saper and Ruth Saper-Paris in Honor of the birth of their new baby, Dalia Leah Binai Shalom
Helen and Sandy Schneider, in Honor of Peter Dales Scott's birthday
Lydia Brose, in Honor of Rabbi Kelman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND (continued)

Jeff Rose
Ethel Murphy
Robert Jacobvitz in Honor of the Birth of David and Jacob Blumsack
David Berman and Denah Bookstein in Honor of Laura Cunradiis Bat Mitzvah
June and Bob Safran, for the Sale of Hametz
Debbi and Jerry Isaak Shapiro
Sherrin and Phillip Rosenthal
Pauline Moreno

MAZEL TOV

Rabbi Kelman for the publication of his review of the book *Unfinished Rabbi, Selected Writing of Arnold Jacob Wolf*
Dirk Rosen and Pamela Rich on the birth of their daughter, Nina Marie
David Berman and Denah Bookstein on the birth of their grandson, Moshe Haim
Celia and Paul Concus on their 40th wedding anniversary
Shirley and Ernest Weiner on their 50th anniversary
The following Midrasha Graduates: Coby Harris-Rudolph, Elijah Martinez, Philipp Miller, Jonathan Neril, Michal Shein
On becoming a Bar Mitzvah: Chuck Wunderlich
On becoming a Bat Mitzvah: Hope Alper, Andi Cassidy, Ellen Wunderlich

THANK YOU

Walter Frank for his donation of books to our library
Milt Greenstein for his handy work in the office
Helen and Sandy Schneider for their donation of books to our library
Wendy Rosov for her donation of books to our library
Cathy Bolding and Josh Gressel for organizing the Midrasha Shabbat
Norine Shima and Leonid Plotkin for their help in the library
Eric Brink for his expertise in the ergonomic design of the offices
Jerry Derblich of Afikomen for his donation of the Tzedakah Box for the Kitah Gimel Chai Fair
Michael Rose of Semifreddis for the chalot and biscotti for the Tu BiShevat Seder
Gail Antokal for buying and donating fruit for the Tu BiShevat Seder
To the numerous people who shopped and chopped for the Tu BiShevat Seder

THE MEDITATIVE MINYAN

led by K'vod Weider meets
3rd Shabbat of each month
at 9:30 am at the BRJCC

Mazel Tov to

DAVID KESLER & CORI SHERMAN

ON THEIR

MAY 23, 1999
WEDDING

Mazel Tov to

GENE AND JUNE BROTT

on the marriage of their daughter

**RACHEL BROTT TO
ALEXANDER KATSMAN**

ON MAY 29, 1999

KIDDUSH CONGRATULATIONS & THANKS

Editor's note: We apologize for not having included a Kiddush sponsor's list with the May newsletter. As we try to look on the bright side, we like to think that there are some of you (and you know who you are) who may make decisions on whether to attend services based on whether or not you suspect the Kiddush will be especially delicious and tempting. However, our blunder allowed you to attend *shul* during the whole month of May without a single ulterior motive. Don't you feel virtuous? So now, in addition to letting you know whose *simchas* lie ahead, please feel free to thank and congratulate those who celebrated their events last May. And remember, "A Woman Called Sam" is always looking for Kiddush sponsors. If you want to be remembered as "that really cool person who brought us ice cream," or, "the tuna salad maven," or even just as someone who made a lovely hour of Shabbat socializing possible, give her a call at: 510-526-9754. There are, as you can see, dates available in June.

**Thanks for the May
Kiddushim to:**

May 1, 1999 Hope and Noah Alper in honor of their 13th anniversary.

May 8, 1999 The Kramer, Shein, and Jacobvitz families in honor of the anniversary of the Bat Mitzvah of Miriam Shein and the Bar Mitzvah of Ariel Jacobvitz.

May 15, 1999 The Simler and Nichols families in honor of Michael's Bar Mitzvah.

May 21, 1999 Mort Markowitz

May 22, 1999 The Youth Ed Committee in honor of Miriam Hyman and all the teachers.

**Join us for the upcoming
Kiddushim, thanks to:**

6/5/99 Adult *B'nai Mitzvah*: Ellen and Chuck Wunderlich, Hope and Noah Alper, & Andrea Cassidy

6/12/99 In honor of Coby and Rebecca's trip to Israel Janet Harris and Brad Rudolph

6/19/99 Art and Sheila Braufman, in Honor of their 40th Anniversary and Sheila's BIG Birthday/Vicky and Stu Kelman in honor of the engagement of their son, Ari, to Amie Dorman

6/26/99 Ellen and Chuck Wunderlich, in honor of Ross Wunderlich's *Bar Mitzvah*

YAHRTZEIT LIST

JUNE 1 - JULY 16, 1999

IF YOU'D LIKE TO ADD
A NAME(S) TO THE
YAHRTZEIT LIST,
FILL OUT THE
INFORMATION BELOW AND
MAIL, E-MAIL OR FAX

*(include only names of departed
parents, spouses, siblings and
children)*

MAIL TO:

Congregation Netivot Shalom
1841 Berkeley Way,
Berkeley, CA 94703

E-MAIL TO: ntvt-office@eb.jfed.org

FAX TO: 510.549.9448

NAME OF DECEASED:

(ENGLISH NAME)

(HEBREW NAME - IF POSSIBLE)

DATE OF DEATH:

(CIVIL DATE)

(HEBREW DATE - IF POSSIBLE)

YOUR NAME:

RELATIONSHIP TO DECEASED:

date entered: _____ (office use only)

6/1/99	Irene B. Diener	17 Sivan
6/3/99	Abram Gurian	19 Sivan
6/4/99	Barbara Marmer	20 Sivan
6/4/99	Victoria Levinsky	20 Sivan
6/5/99	Chaim Klatt	21 Sivan
6/8/99	Sylvia Strub Goldman	24 Sivan
6/11/99	Madelaine Starkman	27 Sivan
6/12/99	Esther Bolder	28 Sivan
6/12/99	Felix Khuner	28 Sivan
6/13/99	Anna Brenner	29 Sivan
6/13/99	Ruth Richman	29 Sivan
6/15/99	Jacob C. Epstein	1 Tammuz
6/19/99	Morton Bardach	5 Tammuz
6/20/99	Albert Lord	6 Tammuz
6/20/99	Bernard K. Ross	6 Tammuz
6/22/99	Garson Yaffee	8 Tammuz
6/23/99	Howard Barschi	9 Tammuz
6/23/99	Henry Abraham Gozan, M.D.	9 Tammuz
6/26/99	Aaron Mandel	12 Tammuz
7/1/99	Malkah Zacharin	17 Tammuz
7/2/99	Henry Hamburg	18 Tammuz
7/6/99	Jeanne Wirtzer	22 Tammuz
7/6/99	Clara Thaler	22 Tammuz
7/7/99	Anna Lea Greenstein	23 Tammuz
7/7/99	Regina Berrol	23 Tammuz
7/8/99	Simon Goldschmidt	24 Tammuz
7/12/99	Eva Graudenz	28 Tammuz
7/12/99	Murray Ivers	28 Tammuz
7/13/99	Sam Koltun	29 Tammuz
7/15/99	Blanche Gould	2 Av
7/16/99	Roy H. Steinberg	3 Av
7/16/99	Morris Rothblatt	3 Av

**HAGAR
ORREN^{RE}
electrolysis
permanent
hair • removal**

1301C California St., Berkeley, CA 94703 • (510) 526-4288

CHUCK AND ELLEN WONDERLICH

invite the congregation to join
them on June 26, 1999, when their son,

ROSS WONDERLICH

**WILL BE CALLED TO THE TORAH
AS A BAR MITZVAH.**

BERKELEY BOWL

SCRIP

NOW AVAILABLE!!!!

IT'S EASIER THAN EVER TO BUY SCRIP, TOO!

Call David Levine at (510) 653-0769
for a list of participating merchants.
Now, Scrip can come to your mailbox,
every month!

Buy scrip. After all, we've all gotta eat.

SHABBAT REST?

By Julie Weissman

Excerpted from my journal entry dated April 3, 1999

What an odd day. I got to shul early and Ken Schnur greeted me with the awful news that Sandy Schneider had died. My mind went blank. Sandy is younger than dad is. How can he be dead? I didn't know what to say or do. Stu was on the other side of the room. I really wanted to talk to him, but he was busy.

Just then my friend, Leo, came in and invited me to go to Torah study. I don't usually get there in time to go, but since it was early, I went. The conversation went back and forth between the members of class — something about the 13 attributes of God. I couldn't concentrate. In my mind, I kept seeing Sandy's wonderfully colorful ties.

After the study was over I asked Leo to put on my *Tallit* and I got a *Siddur*. I wasn't ready to be in a room full of people. Too much had happened before 10 o'clock in the morning! Since there were no greeters, I parked my chair outside the main doors and halfheartedly tried to follow the prayers that drifted through the open door. People came and went. I stopped anyone who knew Sandy and broke the news. I recognized the shock in their eyes as my own. I asked Jan Fischer for a hug. Her broad chest and strong arms comforted me. I didn't really know Sandy well. But, I felt the community that stood by me during my worse times had lost some of its strength.

The Torah service started. I went inside. I thought about moving chairs so I could sit between the stage and Ken. I didn't want to sit alone. I looked at the back row where there is always a space for my chair. There were strangers sitting next to my spot. I looked again and saw Jan and Don sitting in the row in front. I felt better about taking my usual seat. Before we read *Shir Ha Shirim*, Stu announced Sandy's death. As he began, Jan reached back to squeeze my hand. I moved my chair and sat in the aisle next to Jan. We all needed each other.

There was a strong feeling of loss in the air. It was hard to *davvin*. Pauline barely got through the announcements. She broke into tears and Stu stood up and took her in his arms. Watching them, I felt happy that this was my community!





NON-PROFIT RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BERKELEY CA
PERMIT NO. 106

Congregation Netivot Shalom
1841 Berkeley Way
Berkeley CA 94703

Issue Date: June, 1999
Frequency: Monthly
Issue Number: Vol 12, No. 5

Change Service Requested