



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

## Netivot Shalom

JUNE, 2002 • SIVAN-TAMMUZ 5762

## From the Rabbi: Thoughts on the State of Israel

By Rabbi Stuart Kelman

Israel! Each day I wake and hurry to read the New York Times and the San Francisco Chronicle to find out the latest news about Israel. [www.haaretz.com](http://www.haaretz.com) is the web address of choice. I ask myself: Do I watch CNN, ABC or MSNBC? Whose e-mails do I read, and whose do I delete without reading? God, somehow I feel that I (and we) are being tested. But the test is not about loyalty or love for the State of Israel. That is clear. It seems to me that the test is about how to express that love daily. Surely, our prayers do just that. (*Bircat hamazon*, for example, is constructed on the notions of food, Israel and Jerusalem.) Yet, many of us don't know exactly *how* to express our love, hope and vision for a safe and secure dream in other ways. This dilemma is reflected in the tensions which we experience and which are quite public. As the University of Michigan Hillel students have said: "We stand with Israel—wherever we stand!"

I always like to look to texts for statements that ground our public discourse. Our Conservative Movement, in *Emet Ve-Emunah, Statement of Principles of Conservative Judaism*, issued in 1990, states quite clearly:

"We rejoice in the existence of Medinat Yisrael (the State of Israel) in Eretz Yisrael (the land of Israel) with its capital of Jerusalem, the Holy City, the City of Peace. We view this phenomenon not just in political or military terms; rather, we consider it to be a miracle, reflecting Divine Providence in human affairs. We glory in that miracle; we celebrate the rebirth of Zion....

"The State of Israel is a unique phenomenon in history. On the one hand, it is and ought to be a democratic state which safeguards freedom of thought and action for all of its citizens. On the other hand, it is and ought to be a distinctively Jewish state fostering Jewish religious and cultural values. Balancing the democratic and Jewish goals in Israeli society presents a constant challenge....

"We hope that the State of Israel will always be a strong and secure democratic nation that will serve as a haven of refuge for Jews fleeing oppression and a welcome home for those who elect to make *aliyah*. We do not view Israel as just another state or political entity; rather, we envision it as an exemplar of religious and moral principles, of civil, political, and religious rights for all citizens regardless of race, religion, ethnic origin or sex. We believe that the litmus test of the character of a democratic Jewish state is its treatment of and attitude towards its religious and ethnic minorities. Having been the victims of oppression and discrimination in the lands of their dispersion, Jews should be particularly sensitive to the well-being of all the various ethnic and religious groups living in the State of Israel.

"We are painfully aware of Israel's security needs and the devious turns of international relations. We recognize that Israel must steer a hazardous course in immoral international waters. Nevertheless, we recall the prophetic injunction to our people to be "a covenant people, a light of nations." Israel reborn provides a unique opportunity for the Jewish people to be a holy people and a blessing to the nations. Consequently, it

behooves Israel to set an example for other nations to build their societies on the principles of social justice, righteousness, compassion, and love for all citizens of all faiths and ethnic groups.

"...The State of Israel and its well-being remain a major concern of the Conservative Movement, as of all loyal Jews. To be sure, The Conservative Movement has not always agreed with Israel's positions on domestic and foreign affairs. We have often suffered from discriminatory policies, but we remain firm and loving supporters of the State of Israel economically, politically, and morally.

"We hope that Israel will be true to the principles cited in its Declaration of Independence so that the State will continue to maintain the moral principles of our prophets and sages who never ceased to call for morality in government and international affairs. We look forward to the day envisioned by our prophets when 'nation shall not lift up sword against nation; they shall never again know war.'"

These are only excerpts; please study the entire document. ✪



**Read congregant Carol Robinson's account of her African AIDS Trek, page 15**

Deadline for submitting material for the July/August newsletter is **Sunday, June 9**. Please send articles or letters to [newsletter@netivotshalom.org](mailto:newsletter@netivotshalom.org)



# Congregation Netivot Shalom

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# President's Letter

As we were preparing for the first of our discussions on Israel, and during and after that evening, a number of people said something to me that I found amazing. Although each said it slightly differently, the gist of each of their comments was, "We shouldn't be talking about whether or not we should support Israel, but how we should support Israel." What's amazing to me about this comment is that I never understood the purpose of the discussion as whether or not to support Israel. I couldn't imagine that was even a question. Discussing whether or not to support Israel is like discussing whether or not to breathe. Supporting Israel is a given, so much a part of our nature as Jews that it never occurred to me that our support of Israel would be questioned. We at Congregation Netivot Shalom absolutely support Israel—questioning that fact serves no purpose.

When I originally brought up the idea of talking about Israel during my drash on Shabbat Zachor, I did so because I was struck by the wide range of feelings and political views we members of Netivot Shalom have. And, I would guess, this range is a microcosm of the diversity of views in world Jewry. One needs only to get on the internet and read Ha'aretz to realize that this same range of views is part of the beauty and complexity of the democracy of the State of Israel.

Dialogue and debate among ourselves are important factors in our strengthening and development as a community. Yes, there are differences of opinion. What is striking are the similarities: grief over the murderous loss and shattering of innocent lives in each terrorist attack; anger at the growing anti-Semitism in Israel, abroad, and right here in our own backyard; disgust at the thought of people dancing in the street, celebrating the loss of innocent lives; disbelief that mothers would willingly send their own children to kill others in suicide terrorist attacks; and the list goes on. Many feel impotent in the face of these growing dangers, yearning ultimately for a peaceful solution. And we all wonder, "What can we do?" Just as the Israelites answered God at Mt. Sinai, "Na'aseh v'nishma," ("We will do, and we will listen," often interpreted to mean "We will perform mitzvot so that we can study Torah") we must incorporate deeds as well as words in our response. But there are parameters.

We are a synagogue community. Netivot Shalom is incorporated as a California Nonprofit Religious Corporation, with 501(c)(3) status, "organized ... primarily and exclusively for religious purposes." The laws regarding nonprofit status are quite clear with regard to political activity—the two are mutually exclusive. That is, an organization with nonprofit status is precluded from engaging in political activity, or attempting to influence legislation—local, state, national or international—and should such an organization do so, it risks the loss of its nonprofit status.

Any president of Netivot Shalom has the authority to create an ad hoc committee that will be in effect no longer than the length of that person's term. Should the Board decide that such a committee is one that should continue within the shul structure, it can be added to the agenda for the annual meeting and be voted on by the members.

What kind of committee, and what should it do? I propose the creation of a committee called Chaverim kol Yisrael, (the fellowship of the entire people Israel—a quote from the service for announcing the new month). The basic tenets of Chaverim kol Yisrael and some of the activities in which this committee may decide to engage are as follows:

- Congregation Netivot Shalom absolutely supports Israel's right to exist.
- Congregation Netivot Shalom recognizes that there is a wide range and variety of political opinions within the State of Israel, and does not identify with any one of those opinions.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

## T'FILLAH SCHEDULE

### SATURDAYS

All services are held at the Berkeley-Richmond Jewish Community Center 1414 Walnut Street, Berkeley

**Torah Study** 9:00 a.m.  
each Shabbat

**Shabbat Services** 9:45 a.m.

**Meditative Minyan,**  
3rd Shabbat  
June 15 9:30 a.m.

**Learner's Minyan,**  
2nd Shabbat  
June 8 9:45 a.m.

For Children & Parents:  
**Shabbat B'Yachad (pre-school),**  
2nd & 4th Shabbat  
June 8 & 22 11:00 a.m.

**Shabbat Shelanu (grades K-2),**  
1st Shabbat  
June 1 11:30 a.m.

**Children's Service**  
(will resume in September)

**WEEKDAY MINYANIM**  
All services are held at our offices,  
1841 Berkeley Way, Berkeley  
**Morning Minyan**  
Wednesdays 7:15 a.m.

**Rosh Chodesh Minyan**  
Rosh Chodesh Tammuz,  
Monday, June 10 7:15 a.m.

## TORAH STUDY SCHEDULE FOR:

### JUNE

- 1** Be Ha'alotekha (Num 8:1-12:16)  
with Jerry Garfield & David Bradford
- 8** Shelach Lekha (Num 13:1-15:41)  
with Nitzhia Shaked
- 15** Korah (Num 16:1-18:32)  
with Seymour Kessler
- 22** Chukat-Balak (Num 19:1-25:9)  
with Nitzhia Shaked
- 29** Pinchas (Num 25:10-30:1)  
with Gershom Cox

**Y**ou are invited to a Bar Mitzvah!

**Celebrating  
Congregation Netivot Shalom's  
13th Year  
&  
Honoring Rabbi Stuart Kelman  
on the occasion of his 60th Birthday**

**Synagogue Services**

Saturday, June 8, 2002 / 28 Sivan, 5762  
9:45 a.m. at the BRICC  
Kiddush to follow services

**Dinner / Dance**

Sunday, June 9 / 29 Sivan, 5762  
6:00 p.m.  
Scott's Restaurant\*  
#2 Broadway,  
Jack London Square, Oakland  
*With live music for lively dancing!*

**Only a few more days  
left to purchase your  
tickets!!**

Cost per ticket  
\$ 75 • Friend of the shul  
\$125 • Friend of the Rabbi  
\$250 • Friend of the Rabbi's wife  
Request: \_\_\_\_\_ tickets @ \$\_\_\_\_\_

Cost per table (10 tickets)  
\$1,800 • *A Minyan of Friends*  
Request: \_\_\_\_\_ table(s)

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Please make your check payable  
to Congregation Netivot Shalom

Indicate your entrée selections:  
*Place the number of individuals  
requesting the selection in the space provided.*  
\_\_\_\_\_ Salmon \_\_\_\_\_ Vegetarian

Send these tickets to:  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

R.S.V.P. by returning this form  
and your check to the shul office.

*\*Kashrut certified by Va'ad HaKashrus of Northern California*

**WELCOME  NEW MEMBERS!**

**Morgan Tharan, Isaiah (6) and Adira (2)**

A graduate student in education, Morgan is a single mom living in Albany. Her son, Isaiah, attends Tehiya Day School, and daughter Adira is happy at Thousand Oaks Playschool. Morgan says she is looking to "put down some roots" and Netivot Shalom feels like her "spiritual home". The Tharans have enjoyed the Shabbat B'Yachad program and are looking to find more ways of becoming involved in the shul. When asked what brought her to Netivot Shalom, Morgan said she had heard about our shul from several Tehiya families, and when she attended services was greatly impressed by the warmth and friendliness she met. She was particularly pleased by the Shabbat Greeter. "Whoever it was who greeted me was so warm and welcoming!"

**Daniel Handwerker**

Daniel lives in Berkeley, is not married and has no kids. He's a grad student in Bioengineering at Berkeley and UCSF and studies neuroimaging. He moved here from Baltimore, Maryland, two years ago and he grew up in New York. Daniel has been attending services at Netivot Shalom since he got here and finally decided to join last January. "I don't plan to focus my time working on any one shul project yet, but I read what happens and show up to things when I can."

**Jay A. Frogel & Susana E. Deutsua, Geoffrey (15) and Erol (9)**

Jay & Susana and their two sons currently live in Albany where Geoffrey attends Albany High School, and Erol attends the Cornell school. But soon they will be moving to Washington, D.C. (They are both Astronomers; he works for NASA and she will soon be working for the American Astronomical Society.) Why did they become members of Netivot Shalom, then? "Because we really like it! Why else?" Jay is originally from New York City, and Susana is from Lima, Peru.

**Andy & Rebecca Dale, Merav(5) and Gideon (2)**

The Dales became involved with Netivot Shalom through Shabbat B'Yachad, and are looking forward to joining the larger Netivot Shalom community. Andy is a computer consultant, and Rebecca is an office manager and massage therapist. Merav attends Rosa Parks School in the Spanish Immersion program; Gideon attends Nia House.

**Ariella Poppo, Ulysses, Dante, Absalom**

*(The Popples were unavailable at the time of this writing, but will be profiled for the next newsletter.)*

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**To the Editor:**

This statement is painfully written as a response to several writings (or lack thereof) in the May, 2002 Netivot Shalom newsletter.

1. On April 17th, just a few days after the statement from Rabbi Kelman was composed (he indicates he is writing several days after Yom Hashoa), Israel celebrated its 54th Yom Ha'atzmaut (Independence Day). That important event, which is of great historical significance to Zionists and supporters of Israel world-wide, was not even mentioned in the Rabbi's letter, nor was it acknowledged in the letter from the president. As an Israeli and a Jew I find these omissions to be both insensitive and offensive.

2. The only time the words "the government of Israel" were actually mentioned in the May, 2002 issue was in Mr. Rosenblum's letter, where he states his conflict between wanting to be a Zionist and the actions of "an over-the-top right wing Israeli government".

In a congregation which strictly imposes the rule of "no Israeli political discussions", I was surprised to find out that there are exceptions, printed no less. During this time of great political strife, I find it careless to PRINT such statements (print that might end up on the Berkeley City council desk, for example). I was also surprised at the very content of the statement itself, which, like many propaganda statements (as opposed to factual), misrepresented

the FACTS! As a matter of FACT the government of Israel is a UNITY government, where Labor is holding both the foreign ministry and the defense ministry files. This government has done what ANY other government—left, right or center—would have done to defend its citizens. Indeed, if it DID NOT do just that it would have been an over-the-top irresponsible government.

As an Israeli, I think that Israel's leadership thus far has been acting responsibly and honorably, and I want to wish them and the rest of the State of Israel Happy Independence Day.

*Nitzhia Shaked*

**To the Editor:**

I am writing as a member of Netivot Shalom, and as someone who cares deeply about our shul. It saddens me that our synagogue has not taken a public affirmative stand in support of Israel.

Let us be clear. I am not suggesting a position in support of, or in opposition to, any specific strategic decision which may be taken by any given government in power. I am saying, however, that as Jews it is incumbent upon us to express our support of Israel during this very dangerous period.

We need an Israel committee. We need to organize a letter writing campaign to local newspapers, particularly regarding our views of the inadequate coverage of

Israeli and Jewish issues in our local press. We need to thoroughly educate ourselves on Middle East issues so we can promptly and effectively contradict biased or erroneous statements. We need to remember that if there are Jewish people in jeopardy any place in the world, we are in jeopardy also.

Let's get moving, folks.

*Jean Bradman*

**To the Editor:**

It's unfortunate that Rom Rosenblum is losing sleep over his "belief in Zionism" vs. what he calls "bad ideas perpetuated by an over-the-top right-wing Israeli government." Although he implies that Israel and the Arabs share equal blame, I see no relationship between "mothers who send babies to be killed" versus settlers who "show no respect for the rights of others." Can murderers really be compared to people who are 'disrespectful'? I can't agree that Sharon and Arafat really are no more than "septuagenarians engaged in a pishing contest." Nor can I agree that Rom's phone interactions really are "as nonsensical as the probems in Israel."

Rosenblum, like each of us, is entitled to agree or disagree with specific Israeli policies. Nevertheless, in spite of any differences, I would hope that each of us would stand firmly together with the people and the state of Israel.

*June Brott*



**Letters to the Editor may be sent to newsletter@netivotshalom.org.**

**Please call Karen Friedman at 528-0728 with questions.**

**PRESIDENT'S LETTER**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

- Congregation Netivot Shalom fosters an environment in which people are encouraged, and feel comfortable, to discuss Israel in ways that are tolerant and respectful of a wide range of views.
- Chaverim kol Yisrael will provide forums for both open discussions of, and education about, Israel.
- Chaverim kol Yisrael will identify and encourage ways and means for non-political support of Israel and Jews here and abroad, such as: organizing participation of Netivot Shalom

members in rallies supporting Israel and Jews; creating and maintaining a relationship with a sister Masorti congregation in Israel; fundraising for victims of terror and their families; finding ways to offer moral support to individuals in Israel, such as pen pals; the same for Jews who are experiencing anti-Semitism in other countries; supporting Jewish students on local college campuses who are experiencing anti-Semitism. This list is not exhaustive, it's simply a first pass at generating

ideas.

- Chaverim kol Yisrael will not engage in any activity that could endanger the nonprofit status of Congregation Netivot Shalom.

We are at an important crossroads for the State of Israel and world Jewry. This is a time for us to come together, and not a time for us to be pulled asunder by divisiveness.

*B'shalom,*  
Debby Graudenz



## Attention Andronico's Shoppers!

Andronico's has recently switched its electronic scrip affiliation. It is now affiliated with E Scrip (rather than Schoolpop). If you have already registered the credit card you use for Andronico's with E Scrip, you don't have to do anything. However, if you have never registered with E Scrip, we ask you to do so now. You can register on line at [www.escrip.com](http://www.escrip.com) or call 1-800-592-0942. The Congregation Netivot Shalom Group ID # is 128330637.

If you have never registered for E Scrip, please do so! Safeway, Andronico's and many local and national stores are affiliated with E Scrip. There is no cost to you to register and Netivot Shalom will benefit every time you use registered credit cards or your Safeway card with affiliated merchants. If you have any questions, please call David Levine at 653-0679.

Thank you for supporting your shul in this painless way!

## Upcoming Rosh Chodesh Services

### • TAMMUZ: Monday, June 10

7:15 a.m., in the shul library

### • AV: Wednesday, July 10

7:15 a.m., in the shul library

## New Shabbat Greeter Coordinator

Djedi Mateen has agreed to coordinate Shabbat greeters. Please help him along by agreeing when he approaches you. Even better, contact him yourself and volunteer to greet. He can be reached at (510) 839-2568 or [dlmateen@aol.com](mailto:dlmateen@aol.com)

## Shabbat Shelanu & You

Read stories to kids, lead Torah class, have a good time! Shabbat Shelanu, our popular Saturday program for children in grades K-2, needs your involvement. Call Judy Radousky at 278-5985.

## Distance Learning Project

The Phyllis Kaminer Center for Distance Education is making Jewish learning more accessible than ever before. All courses offer a rich learning environment with multimedia resources and on-line discussions that can be accessed at any time, day or night. The Distance Learning Project offers: online degrees, professional development, adult education, a free learning resource ([learn.jtsa.edu](http://learn.jtsa.edu)).

Visit the Jewish Theological Seminary Web Site <http://courses.jtsa.edu> to learn more about on-line courses, including tuition, requirements, and schedule. Alternatively, contact the Distance Learning project at [dlp@jtsa.edu](mailto:dlp@jtsa.edu).

LORRAINE GRAY &

JORDAN BRESLOW

INVITE YOU TO JOIN THEM

ON SATURDAY,

JUNE 22, 2002,

AS THEIR SON,

MAX HILTON-GRAY

IS CALLED TO THE TORAH

AS A BAR MITZVAH.

## A Week of Torah Study

with Rabbi Yosef Leibowitz  
and Rabbi Aharon Leibowitz  
Sunday Evening, June 16 to  
Friday noon, June 21

### Morning Classes 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

"From Joshua to Solomon: On Leadership"  
Taught by Rabbi Aharon Leibowitz

"Torah, Revelation and Truth"  
Taught by Rabbi Yosef Leibowitz

### Afternoon Class 1:30-3:30 p.m.

"Voices of Prayer"  
Taught by Rabbi Aharon Leibowitz

\$20 per class

All daytime classes will be held at  
Congregation Netivot Shalom, 1841 Berkeley Way

### 7:30 p.m. Evening, Free & Open to Public Lectures

Sunday, June 16 at Congregation Beth Israel,  
1630 Bancroft Way, Berkeley  
Monday-Thursday, June 17-20 at Beth El,  
2301 Vine St., Berkeley

For more information, contact:  
Lois Marcus, 848-5910 • Linda Levy, 525-2381

## Thank You Peggy

By Josh Gressel, Ritual Committee Chair

Peggy Sandel has just stepped down as Ritual Coordinator after a two-year stint. She is also taking a break from the Ritual Committee, after eight years on board. Peggy will be replaced as Ritual Coordinator by Debra Lobel.

I believe the Ritual Coordinator position to be the second most important job in the synagogue. It is like being a producer of a play, but the play and players change every week. Each week the coordinator must assemble a cast of Torah readers and daveners, taking into account male/female ratios, speed and familiarity, length of the *parasha*, who did what and when most recently, and a host of other intangibles. It all must be done accurately and reliably, or there will be an embarrassing pause when someone doesn't come up to the *bimah* for *Shacharit* or the Torah reader ends three lines too early because they were not given the right information. The fact that you have seldom seen this happen is just one testament to the quiet and reliable way Peggy did her job.

While the Coordinator is a paid position, this in some ways makes it harder because it doesn't pay enough, so there are a great number of volunteer-hours devoted, for which she gets no public recognition. The synagogue has been fortunate to have a person of Peggy's Jewish educational level, commitment to community, and grounded personality to perform this critical post for two years. To Peggy, *Todah Rabbah!* (thanks very much) and to Debra, *Behatzlacha!* (good luck).

## Re-Creating Sacred Space

Josh Gressel, Ritual Committee Chair

Netivot Shalom's current meeting place at the BRJCC is a challenging site in which to create a sacred space for prayer that is in harmony with our self-definition as an egalitarian participatory congregation. Over the years, as our numbers have grown, our room arrangement has "migrated" from a softer, warmer, more intimate modified-circle of chairs to a more "theater" type arrangement. Theatre-style doesn't say "participatory-egalitarian." It says "us-them", "audience-performer."

You've probably noticed that the more crowded the Shabbat the longer and straighter the rows of chairs and the more distant the ark and the *bimah*. The Ritual Committee has decided to work with the House Committee to try arranging the space in which we pray so it is more in keeping with who we say we are. To this end we have decided that for the Shabbatot on which there is no major *simcha* (crowd) we will create a seating arrangement which is closer to "in the round." (For big-crowd Shabbatot we really don't have a lot of options, but we'll try to move the *bimah* out more toward the middle or the room.)

This new system will be in place for June, July and August, at which point we will re-evaluate it. The Ritual Committee would like to hear from you (but please give it a chance, first). Talk with me or e-mail me at [adirhu@yahoo.com](mailto:adirhu@yahoo.com) with your reactions.

## Our Cuban Friends

By June Safran

In a recent letter, a friend told us a little of his family history and revealed a bit of his personality that I wish to share with you as I pack to go to Israel. As I told you last month, Bob and I will be visiting our Cuban friends who have made *aliyah*, and, we will have the pleasure of attending the wedding of Eduardo Bradman to Haya, a beautiful, intelligent, and loving *Sabra* of Sephardic descent. I have little to tell you about Cuba except the humanitarian needs still exist but the community continues to grow stronger religiously.

*L'hitraot,*  
June

*Letter from a friend in Havana April 20, 2002:*

### Dear June and Bob,

I am very glad to receive letters from you and I hope that both of you, together with your family, enjoy a nice *Pesaj* celebration with all the nice health you deserve so you can keep on with the good will chain that you started about 8 years ago.

There is a nice story I can transmit to you about how Jewish blood is always overcoming life's shortcomings. When Cuba and Israel severed their diplomatic relations some years after the Six Day War, the Jews who were living here established closer ties among themselves. The young people went house by house gathering the Jewish people remaining in the community. By this exercise of love and searching out of people with Jewish roots, my older daughter became a part of this group and there she met her husband to be (and still is. They have been married since September, 1973.) Her husband's family is the product of an intermarriage in which my son-in-law's mother is from Sephardic elders. She passed away a couple of years ago in Miami. But the main thing is that we strengthened our Jewish future and my American grandchildren have been to Israel and have had a taste of the life there.

Life is a surprise box and even having had a rough going through my life, I can't complain because I have been in touch with people of good will and some of them have been marvelous, my late wife being one of them. I can vouch for that because we were together for more than 45 years.

In 1948, I was invited to visit the U.S. by a distant family member and I spent a month having a good time sightseeing until a person gave me an affidavit so I could live in the U.S. This was a sample of a good will person who started the long chain of nice people that I have met. I came to live in the United States, preparing myself to make *aliyah* to Israel, and I never had to bother this person who had backed me in my quest for *aliyah*. I lived, worked and studied and came back to Cuba. At the University, I made friends with a very pretty girl who also had lived for three years in the States. My luck was there and we got married. ✨

## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

## Sukkot Success, Mitzvah Dreams, Homeless Dinners & Mideast Hopes

By Cyndi Spindell Berck

**S**uccessful Succot in April: Many, many, many thanks to Jon Klein, who took on the entire responsibility for coordinating Sukkot in April; to Jon's wife, Rebecca Calahan Klein; and to House Captain, Eric Strimling.

**Jon's Report:** Congregation Netivot Shalom's Sukkot in April 2002 endeavor is complete and it was a smashing success. Almost 60 members participated in Sukkot in April this year. Some donated money to enable us to raise the \$3,000 necessary to sponsor a house. Others donated time and labor doing hard physical work. Others helped with food and child care so that workers at the site could make their contribution. Some gave both time and money. This was truly a team effort that has made a tangible difference in the life of one family in our Berkeley neighborhood who desperately needed our help.

The home is located at 1509 California (at Cedar) and has been for many years the home of the Grimes family. The house is less than a mile from Netivot Shalom's new home on University Avenue. The owner is an elderly grandmother who is on oxygen full time. Some of her adult children live with her. Over the years, the Grimes family home has slipped into disrepair. A badly leaking roof accelerated this and one of our top priorities was to remove and replace the roof.

That work began on our Prep Day, Sunday, April 14, with a team of nine Netivot Shalom members. It was a long, hard, and hot day of good work. We used flat shovels to scrape the gravel off the tar and then scrape the tar off the roof. Much of it was very sticky and needed more intensive scraping with a crow bar. The roof is peaked, and is about 60 feet long and 30 feet wide—a good sized roof. By the end of the day we had stripped the roof down to the wooden boards and covered it with plastic sheets to await the arrival of the roofers, who put a new roof

on the Grimes' home a few days later. Rebecca Calahan Klein kept people energized and happy with food and drink throughout the day. One volunteer said later that he had not seen a spread like that since his daughter's Bat Mitzvah!

In addition to the Netivot Shalom team, six of the Grimes family members worked with us, either on the roof or on the ground, hauling rubble to the dumpster. Plus, we had three terrific folks from Winan's Construction, including our House Captain Eric Strimling, without whom none of this would be possible.

Our labors continued on the Big Day of April 28. We had a total of about 45 people working on site including 35 from Netivot Shalom, eight from Berkeley Hillel and Eric and Brian from Winan's Construction.

Work this day included a final sealing up of parts of the roof, finishing the exterior paint (scraping, priming and repainting), removing dry rot, replacing interior framing and supports and weeding the yard. We began the day shortly before 9:00 a.m. and divided into teams of painters and carpenters. Several members who had earlier professed utter incompetence in the home repair department found themselves completing an array of projects and even organizing and leading teams of workers. We took a break for lunch and then continued on until clean up was finished, a bit after 5:00 p.m. Rebecca again coordinated food and drink and organized child-care for parents who wanted to work on-site.

Throughout all the work, I kept thinking about that rainy Sunday in March when Eric and I visited the Grimes house. The roof was leaking in many locations inside the house. There were plastic tarps hanging from the ceiling and buckets filling with water all over the place. Now the Grimes family has a new dry roof over their heads and won't need to worry when the rains come again.

Robert Grimes, who worked closely alongside us, conveyed the family's gratitude at the end of the work. I explained to him that this is something we feel compelled and want to do. Volunteers from Netivot Shalom who worked on the Grimes home have described their Sukkot in April experience as meaningful, satisfying and even inspirational. For many of us, it is also an affirmation of what we are all about as a community and a big part of what it means to be Jewish.

### We Need a Mitzvah Coordinator

Or possibly a new Social Action Chair! After hearing a presentation by Danny Siegel of the Ziv Foundation, I am struck by the amount of good work in the community that could be done by a Mitzvah Coordinator or Social Action Chair who—unlike me—has more than an hour a week to offer. Rabbi Kelman arranged the talk by his old friend Danny Siegel, whose work can best be described as matchmaking between volunteers, funders, organizations, and people in need, on a dizzying array of issues (from health services to domestic violence to quality of life for elders). Anyone interested? Please contact Cyndi Berck at 524-2984 or [cyndiberck@hotmail.com](mailto:cyndiberck@hotmail.com).

### Homeless Dinner Donors

Thanks to several families who have agreed to pay for a dinner at the homeless shelter once a year, so that this program will continue. We still need some more donors willing to contribute \$70 per year (taking turns in rotation). The contribution can be tax deductible. Contact Cyndi at 524-2984 or [cyndiberck@hotmail.com](mailto:cyndiberck@hotmail.com).

### Grasping at Straws

I attended the Berkeley City Council meeting at which the council rejected a proposal of the city's Peace and Justice Commission to stop doing business with

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



## Please Show Us The Money: A Request/Report From a Joint Subcommittee of the Finance & Membership Committees

By Andrea Aultschuler

Soon after you receive this newsletter, you'll be receiving your annual synagogue membership renewal form and Yamim Nora'im information packet. Each year when we renew our membership, and when new people join the congregation, we each pledge a certain amount of money - membership dues - which materially sustains our congregation. It is this money that allows Netivot Shalom to maintain and expand programs and services. Each "member unit" indicates on the renewal/membership form whether they're going to pay

their membership in full at the time of renewal, pay on some sort of short or longer installment plan, and/or request some sort of arrangement because full membership is too great an expense. Any of these forms of payment is fine, as long as the synagogue receives the money (clearly not a problem with payment in full). And therein lays the problem.

During the current fiscal year ending June 30<sup>th</sup>, only about 25% of the congregation has been on ACH billing,\* which is the process that allows an automatic deduction from one's checking account. In these cases, the installment plan goes very smoothly, and the synagogue receives the money in a timely manner. The goal for the coming fiscal year is to get virtually 100% of congregants to pay the balance of their dues through the ACH billing system. In addition to ensuring a systematic revenue stream that is crucial to our fiscal health, ACH will cut down on endless staff and volunteer hours spent tracking down late or outstanding payments. This happens when people indicate that they will pay off their balances over a several month period, but then the synagogue never receives the checks. The small size of our office staff prohibits a system of monthly billings, and as most of us need some sort of reminder to pay a bill, unless one is very organized, one forgets to pay the dues balance.

Thus, our request to you. In this year's renewal package, we will ask you to make one of two choices: pay your balance in full when renewing, or put yourself on ACH billing. Many non-profit organizations, from Jewish day schools to the YMCA, have converted to the ACH billing system to cut down on administrative and bookkeeping costs and to ensure systematic payments. The ACH system is as secure, or more secure, than conventional check payments. For example, when you give us your checking account information, you are giving us the same information that you would give us if you simply wrote us a check, and the same information you give to businesses who you do not know at all, and we would assume, are not part of your community. We only are asking that you allow us to authorize your bank to make your installment payments to the synagogue so that we can collect dues—over two-thirds of our operating budget—in a timely, efficient manner. Without such a system, the subcommittee predicts an increase in balding Board members—from the pulling out of hair that accompanies end-of-year Board meetings during which we find ourselves in a financial shortfall. If you have any questions about the ACH system or this request, please feel free to contact any members of this subcommittee: Andrea Altschuler, Carol Cunradi, Rebecca Calahan Klein, or Mark Priven (contact information can be found on page 2 of this newsletter). ☆

\*for those as in the dark as I was, "ACH" stands for "automatic clearing house."

### **SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE** CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

organizations that do business in Israel "and Palestine." The only thing that pro-Israel and pro-Palestine speakers seemed to agree on was that the resolution, while evenhanded on its face, was, in effect, aimed at Israel (although a representative of the Commission, identifying himself as Jewish, insisted with obvious sincerity that the intent was to be evenhanded). The level of rhetoric on the pro-Palestine side was high, while, on the pro-Israel side, a few speakers expressed my personal view that some of Israel's actions should be subject to criticism. Those Jews present, including myself, who are critical of Israel but opposed this resolution—Jews who would like think of ourselves as, above all, "pro-peace"—believed that singling out Israel was unreasonable, counter-productive to any hopes for peace, and bound to accelerate the growth of anti-Semitism in our community.

If there was any comic relief, it was the sight of arch-rivals Mayor Shirley Dean and Councilman Kriss Worthington agreeing to oppose the resolution but disagreeing on every other substantive and procedural issue pertaining to the resolution. Mayor Dean, to her credit, said that her highest priority was responding to anti-Semitism in Berkeley, while Councilman Worthington, to his credit, said that, while he might support a rewritten resolution on the Mideast, he would never vote for a resolution that failed to explicitly condemn terrorism.

### **Here's the Shred of Hope:**

The recent *Chronicle* series on the Mideast conflict listed a website, [www.mideastweb.org](http://www.mideastweb.org), which is a site for Israelis and Arabs working toward peace. One link is to the Bereaved Parents Forum, an organization of Israelis and Palestinians who have lost children in the conflict, and who believe that the only hope for survival and safety is the path of dialogue, compromise, and peace. I recommend this website for a dose of hope. ☆

# JUNE 2002

**SUNDAY**

**MONDAY**

**TUESDAY**

**WEDNESDAY**


<p>Unless otherwise stated, all Saturday morning activities take place at the BRJCC (1414 Walnut St.) and all other activities take place at the Netivot Shalom offices (1841 Berkeley Way).</p>	<p><b>Save the Date!</b>  <b>June 9</b>  <b>Netivot Shalom's Birthday Bash</b>  <b>Dinner / Dance</b>  <b>at</b>  <b>Scott's Restaurant</b>          (see announcement on page 4)</p>			
<p><b>2</b> 22 SIVAN</p> <p><b>10:30 am</b> Ritual Fair: Rituals of Death and Dying, shul offices</p> <p><b>7:00 pm</b> Ritual Committee meeting</p>	<p><b>3</b> 23 SIVAN</p>	<p><b>4</b> 24 SIVAN</p> <p><b>7:30 pm</b> Talmud class with Rabbi Kelman: Brachot</p>	<p><b>5</b> 25 SIVAN</p> <p><b>7:15 am</b> Morning Minyan</p>	
<p><b>9</b> 29 SIVAN</p> <p><b>5:00 pm</b> Youth Education meeting</p> <p><b>6:00 pm</b> 13th Birthday Bash at Scott's Restaurant</p>	<p><b>10</b> 30 SIVAN  <u><b>Rosh Chodesh Tammuz</b></u></p> <p><b>7:15 am</b> Rosh Chodesh Service, in the shul library</p> <p><b>7:00 pm</b> Mature Mavens; RSVP to Iris Greenbaum, 524-8548</p> <p><b>7:00 pm</b> Social Action Com. mtg.</p>	<p><b>11</b> 1 TAMMUZ  <u><b>Rosh Chodesh Tammuz</b></u></p> <p><b>7:30 pm</b> Last Talmud class with Rabbi Kelman: Brachot</p> <p><b>7:30 pm</b> University Ave. Site Work Group meeting</p>	<p><b>12</b> 2 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>7:15 am</b> Morning Minyan</p>	
<p><b>16</b> 6 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>10:00 am</b> K'tanim at the BRJCC</p> <p><b>5:00 pm</b> Executive Committee meeting</p> <p><b>7:30 pm</b> Rabbi Leibowitz lecture, at Beth Israel</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FATHER'S DAY</b></p>	<p><b>17</b> 7 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>9:00 am-5:00 pm</b> Ramah Staff Training</p> <p><b>9:30 am-3:30 pm</b> Torah Study with Rabbis Leibowitz</p> <p><b>7:30 pm</b> Rabbi Leibowitz lecture, at Beth El</p>	<p><b>18</b> 8 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>9:00 am-5:00 pm</b> Ramah Staff Training</p> <p><b>9:30 am-3:30 pm</b> Torah Study with Rabbis Leibowitz</p> <p><b>7:30 pm</b> Rabbi Leibowitz lecture, at Beth El</p>	<p><b>19</b> 9 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>7:15 am</b> Morning Minyan</p> <p><b>9:00 am-5:00 pm</b> Ramah Staff Training</p> <p><b>9:30 am-3:30 pm</b> Torah Study with Rabbis Leibowitz</p> <p><b>7:30 pm</b> Rabbi Leibowitz lecture, at Beth El</p>	
<p><b>23</b> 13 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>10:30 am</b> Lois Silverstein will read from her novel, <i>Daughter</i>, in the shul library</p>	<p><b>24</b> 14 TAMMUZ</p>	<p><b>25</b> 15 TAMMUZ</p>	<p><b>26</b> 16 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>7:15 am</b> Morning Minyan</p>	
<p><b>30</b> 20 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>5:00 pm</b> Board of Directors meeting</p>	<p><b>July 1</b> 21 TAMMUZ</p>	<p><b>July 2</b> 22 TAMMUZ</p>	<p><b>July 3</b> 23 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>7:15 am</b> Morning Minyan</p>	

# SIVAN-TAMMUZ 5762

## THURSDAY

## FRIDAY

## SATURDAY

		<p style="text-align: right;"><b>1</b> 21 SIVAN</p> <p><b>9:00 am</b> Torah Study of <b>Be Ha'alotekha</b>, with Jerry Garfield &amp; David Bradford  <b>9:45 am</b> SHABBAT SERVICES; drash by Dan Alter  <b>11:30 am</b> Shabbat Shelanu, room 20</p>
<p><b>6</b> 26 SIVAN</p>	<p><b>7</b> 27 SIVAN</p> <p><b>8:11 pm</b> Candle Lighting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>8</b> 28 SIVAN</p> <p><b>9:00 am</b> Torah Study of <b>Shelach Lekha</b>, with Nitzhia Shaked  <b>9:45 am</b> Learner's Minyan, room 14: Open discussion about future sessions  <b>9:45 am</b> SHABBAT SERVICES; Shabbat B'Yachad and Shabbat Shelanu shul-wide end-of-year celebration &amp; 13th Birthday Services  <b>11:00 am</b> Shabbat B'Yachad, room 14  <b>1:30 pm</b> Gender &amp; Judaism: Open discussion of future sessions</p>
<p><b>13</b> 3 TAMMUZ</p>	<p><b>14</b> 4 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>8:14 pm</b> Candle Lighting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>15</b> 5 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>9:00 am</b> Torah Study of <b>Korach</b>, with Seymour Kessler  <b>9:30 am</b> Meditative Minyan, room 14  <b>9:45 am</b> SHABBAT SERVICES; drash by Rabbi Yosef Liebowitz</p>
<p><b>20</b> 10 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>9:00 am-5:00 pm</b> Ramah Training  <b>9:30 am-3:30 pm</b> Torah Study with Rabbis Leibowitz  <b>7:30 pm</b> Univ. Ave. Site Work Group  <b>7:30 pm</b> Adult B'Nai Mitzvah class, final meeting  <b>7:30 pm</b> Rabbi Leibowitz lecture, at Beth El</p>	<p><b>21</b> 11 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>9:00 am-5:00 pm</b> Ramah Staff Training  <b>9:30 am-3:30 pm</b> Torah Study with Rabbis Leibowitz  <b>8:17 pm</b> Candle Lighting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>22</b> 12 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>9:00 am</b> Torah Study of <b>Chukkat-Balak</b> with Nitzhia Shaked  <b>9:45 am</b> SHABBAT SERVICES; drash by Max Hilton-Gray, who will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah  <b>11:00 am</b> Shabbat B'Yachad, room 14</p>
<p><b>27</b> 17 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b><u>Fast of 17th of Tammuz</u></b></p>	<p><b>28</b> 18 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>8:18 pm</b> Candle Lighting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>29</b> 19 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>9:00 am</b> Torah Study of <b>Pinchas</b> with Gershom Cox  <b>9:45 am</b> SHABBAT SERVICES; drash by Claude Fischer</p>
<p><b>July 4</b> 24 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>INDEPENDENCE DAY</b></p> <p><b>OFFICE CLOSED</b></p>	<p><b>July 5</b> 25 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>8:17 pm</b> Candle Lighting</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>July 6</b> 26 TAMMUZ</p> <p><b>9:00 am</b> Torah Study of <b>Matot Masei</b>  <b>9:45 am</b> SHABBAT SERVICES; Blessing of the new month; drash by Rebecca Calahan Klein  <b>11:00 am</b> Shabbat Shelanu, room 20</p>

## RITUAL COMMITTEE

**The Condition of Our Condition: Point/Counterpoint**

By Josh Gressel, Ritual Chair, and Jonathan Heinstein

I hope to continue to use this column as a place to address topics that are of relevance to our community and our spiritual lives. This month's column is the outgrowth of an ongoing discussion between Jonathan Heinstein and me. Jonathan writes:

This year on the second evening of Pesach we were guests at the home of Josh and Noga Gressel. The familiar mix of song, story, ritual acts and casual conversation lulled us with its sweetness. We felt neither the harshness of bondage and exile, nor the upheaval of exodus. It was a lovely evening with friends, a sumptuous meal. Why should this night be any different than others, except for the lack of *chametz*? During the meal a conversation developed that ran against the grain of our happy mood. Josh and I subsequently spoke of possibly exploring some of the themes of that conversation in a more public venue. I doubt that the initial spur to the thoughts expressed below will make them any more palatable. The bitter herb and the bread of poverty are likewise wrapped in festive garb.

To participate in the Services at Netivot Shalom, to read its newsletter or to attend an annual meeting is to experience the heady atmosphere of mutual admiration. I am convinced that much of the praise we lavish upon ourselves misses the mark. There remains a great deal of work to be done shoring up the foundation of the way we transmit the traditions of Judaism that we espouse and hold dear. From my perspective our educational framework lacks both direction and the ability to evaluate or repair flawed performance of staff and volunteers. Our Services claim a participatory mission but a proposal for a living, breathing support system with a budget was ignored twice this year both in committee and before the Board. The lack of innovation in the ritual and educational dimensions of our synagogue is baffling. There is a hard edge to my subjective sense: the premonition that my

own intellectual and spiritual stake in this community will grow dull and irritable.

I would like to see Netivot Shalom adopt a post-denominational identity. The great mass of Jews in Israel and the Diaspora is indifferent to the institutional vision of the various denominations. It strikes me that the human fabric of our congregation is a delightful mix of traditions and approaches. There is a genuine openness to the array of Sephardi contributions to our Services and educational programming. This element needs to be made an organic part of our whole, incorporated into youth education and Yamim Nora'im services. A great deal of thought and experiment is dedicated to the issue of gender in Judaism. Despite the beginnings of a lecture and dialogue series this year, Netivot Shalom is largely out of the loop on this matter. I would like to see our congregation take action to support Israel. The claim that our by-laws prevent us from having an Israel Action ad-hoc committee is spurious. We simply change badly written by-laws. It is only through a rigorous public stance in defense of Israel that we will have the right and ability to pursue an internal dialogue about our ethical and political concerns vis-à-vis the occupation or synagogue and state.

Constraints of time and coherency prevent me from more fully exploring the ways we might expand the base of our community. The issue is not so much the stifling effect of denominational identity as a general sense of weariness with the unproductive 'Jewish Wars'. Not enough about Judaism, not enough about Zionism, and too much about institutional hegemony. It would be a breath of fresh air to find a congregation that actively sought to give its identity definition through dialogue, study, ritual devotion, and action. At the age of thirteen we can hardly afford complacency.

In my view we are not rigorous enough in our pursuit of the fundamentals of Judaism, nor exacting enough in the

standards we set. We coordinate the flow of leyners and daveners in our Services, but lack a formal commitment to teach, learn and transmit the core of synagogue traditions. Those who lead our Services are the flagship of our mission and mandate. Their talent and expertise needs to be nurtured and refined. Each of our participants needs evaluation, access to consultation and tutorials for specific readings, and an ongoing enrichment program. Most importantly Netivot Shalom needs to commit to providing an environment that encourages and rewards practical learning by the adults and post-b'nei mitzvah teens who carry our Services.

Rabbi Kelman has developed a policy of rabbinic leadership that he has labeled 'tsimtsum' or contraction. By reducing his involvement in the development and administration of programs in the shul, the Rabbi hopes that a more active lay leadership can form. In practice, however, the real decision making remains under the Rabbi's control. The volunteer committees rely heavily on his guidance in formulating policy, and are forced to provide their own administrative support. The committees balkanize the various aspects of shul operation with a great number of people contributing a small piece. There is no address for programmatic concerns, other than the Rabbi, and no real evaluation of the role he plays. Initiatives that do not receive the Rabbi's blessing are highly unlikely to move forward. A model of synagogue organization that sets out to empower the lay community ends up frustrating its most creative and critical people.

I want to thank Josh for the opportunity to express my views in this venue and for his efforts to support and tease out the dialogue that goes on, as it were, under our breaths.

*Jonathan Heinstein*

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

**Josh Responds:**

It gives me great pleasure to disagree with someone I like and respect so much, because it keeps me open and unsure of myself. I don't know where I'm right or wrong here and I hope you or other people can nudge this dialogue further down the road.

Let me begin with where I can find points of contact in what you write. I know what you mean about the tenor of our "mutual admiration society." Are we really as great as we say we are? How does one measure that? Is it enough to be better than horrible synagogues? Have we become complacent because we set the bar so low?

That said, I'll take an overall positive atmosphere as the prevailing norm any day over the sniping, critical vibe one encounters in some organizations. In other words, even if our self-congratulatory posture is not completely justified or masks some problems, I prefer it to the alternative. Still, your point is valid. We should not always accept our own PR at face value, and we need people like you to take the less popular but important role of prodding us to look beneath the smiles.

What real roadblocks are there to implementing change in our synagogue? My own experience is mixed. I have been unsuccessful in some things and successful in others. Compared to trying to institute change in other institutions, such as a kibbutz or a large government bureaucracy, I've found Netivot Shalom relatively easy. I wonder, Jonathan, if part of the problem you perceive is that you set your sights so admirably high. Your vision and passion and willingness to give of yourself are intimidating. You made a huge impact as Chair of the Adult Education Committee. Besides speaking volumes about you, doesn't it say something about our congregation that you were able to do so much? I expect you would answer that it isn't enough, that there should be more, that I'm happy because my expectations are so minimal. I guess the reason I'm able to sleep well at night as a member of Netivot Shalom is that on this point I think you're wrong and I'm right.

I also have a fundamental difference

with you in how I see the quality of our Service leaders and how important it is to address what shortcomings there are. I wish that as a congregant I was able on the whole to match their level of internal preparation, proficiency, and *kavanah* in my own prayers. While one can always hope for the occasional *shaliach tsibbur* who can transport you deep into the religious experience no matter what your internal state, I think it is up to each of us to do our half of the work and not to come to synagogue expecting someone else to do it all for us. In this joint effort, I think I do a far poorer job in my part than they do in theirs. I worry that setting up the mechanism you envision for training and evaluating would ultimately be something that would strain financial and volunteer resources while offering little upgrade in the level of services. I think we have a very high quality congregation who on their own expect excellence of themselves, especially when appearing before others. There are many people (such as you) to turn to within the congregation when someone feels he or she needs help. In short, I think you're trying to fix something I don't see as broken, and I think that's why there hasn't been buy-in to date. Still, if you're right and I'm wrong, I hope you'll continue to pursue your vision.

I think it best for Rabbi Kelman to address issues regarding his role in the congregation, though I certainly agree with you it's a topic worth ongoing discussion. I want to use your comment, however, to stand on a soapbox of my own on the nature of spiritual communities and their leaders.

Belonging to a spiritual community automatically triggers a dual process of elevation and denigration. I think this is intrinsic to the spiritual path. Being

connected to a tradition that promises redemption awakens us to the infinite possibilities within us, and in the world around us. We feel very good to be part of a community with a higher calling, and give of ourselves much more fully than we would to other duties in life. The spiritual practices themselves can bring us tantalizingly close to these other realities, letting us taste them occasionally but always leaving us longing for more. We then forget that our ensuing disappointment is cosmic disappointment, that it is the pain of our souls being separated from their Creator. In that forgetting we attach our pain onto some outward form which has not brought us to the bliss we so dimly intuit but toward which we still grope. Secular people have only their spouses or their jobs to blame. We have a much more powerful hook on which to hang our disappointment: our synagogue, and all the ways it "fails" us. I think that's why the Jewish wars you referred to – or any religious dialogue – can be so passionate. We know at a deep level how much is at stake, but seldom is it explicitly articulated.

Do I think Netivot Shalom as an institution is perfect? Of course not. I'm happy to have someone like you press for more. But I also like the freedom of seeing where and what we could be without the tyranny of automatically having to try to make it happen. If anything is wrong with our synagogue, it's that we try to do too much, not too little, and it makes a lot of people very tired. Not doing is also a way to hear the "still, small voice" of God.

Thank you for taking part in this public exchange.

Josh Gressel ☆

**Appropos of Nothing Department:**

The word "Abracadabra" comes from the Aramaic contraction *avara k'davara*, which means "I create as I speak" (*avara* = "I create," from the Hebrew "borei", *k'davara* = "as I speak," from the Hebrew "daber").



**THE UNIVERSITY AVENUE SITE WORK GROUP  
Creating Community**

By Joe Meresman, Site Work Group Chair

Netivot Shalom's proposal for our new home at 1316 University Avenue is under review by the City of Berkeley Zoning Approvals Board (ZAB). The Board will likely hold a public hearing in late July or early August, where community members can express their concerns or, more importantly, their enthusiasm for our project. We will let you know when a date is set and encourage you to attend.

We look forward to only supportive comments from the community, and we are confident that will be the case, since the Site Work Group has been working hard at community outreach in recent months. We have established relationships with the churches and schools in the area and with the business and neighborhood associations, and our proposal to the ZAB even includes letters of support from several of those organizations. We are definitely off to the right start with our new neighbors.

To continue that effort, we are forming a neighborhood group of Netivot Shalom members who live near the new site. Our records show that 17 member units live within a 1/2 mile radius of 1316 University Avenue, and another 37 member units live within 1/2 to one mile. The SWG will be contacting these member units to get them involved in our community outreach activities. If you'd like to take the initiative and volunteer, please let me know.

On the good neighbor theme, we have completed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Berkeley Montessori School, our next-door neighbor and partner in joint-campus development. Among other things, the MOU allows for our use of their exterior courtyard (adjacent to our social hall) on Shabbat, in exchange for their use of our social hall as a school auditorium on weekdays. In addition, this agreement will allow our social hall to have both a door that opens directly to the courtyard and windows facing the courtyard. These

would not otherwise have been possible, since that wall is right on our property line; they will greatly enhance the functionality and aesthetics of our social hall. Another positive development for our campus design happened at the end of April, when the city council approved a resolution to create a pedestrian and bicycle path on the Santa Fe right-of-way between Strawberry Creek Park and Delaware Street. The right-of-way runs through the Montessori's property and behind our own, and the new path will facilitate walking access for our members and create a more serene environment around our home.

Finally, also on our short-term agenda are discussions about limited-mobility access issues, and ritual objects which need to be commissioned and/or integrated into the design plan. More details to follow, but please be in touch with me if you would like to be part of those.

Please continue to watch this space for more exciting developments on University Avenue, and as always, feel free to contact me at MeresmanJ@aol.com. ✨

**Notes from the  
Ritual Committee  
Meeting of May 5th**

- Vicky Kelman addressed the issue of seating arrangements for Shabbat services and Eugene Berg, House Committee Chair, responded. It was decided to institute a three-month trial of seating in-the-round when appropriate, and to try to move the *bimah* farther into the center of the room to encourage a more participatory and egalitarian feeling. The trial period is to begin in June.
- There was discussion of having a Sephardi Kol Nidre for Yamim Nora'im. Rabbi Kelman pointed out practical difficulties with text, gender sensitivity; Jerry Derblich pointed out possible copyright infringement problems. There was heartfelt argument in favor. It was agreed to continue studying the issue and make a decision at the next meeting.
- Jerry Derblich reported that his Budget report is incomplete because of bookkeeping inaccuracies and insufficient information.
- Rabbi Kelman discussed the issue of head coverings and *tallitot* at the shul in general and at the new building in particular. It was agreed to continue studying the issue.

**The MAX & CECELIA  
ROSENHEIMER CAMP  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND  
has awarded grants totaling  
\$800 for camp scholarships  
this summer.**

**Thank You!**

## African AIDSTrek: One Member's Journey for Tikkun Olam

By Carol Robinson

One of the ways that I chose to celebrate my 50<sup>th</sup> birthday was to participate in the African AIDSTrek from April 2-8. This trip was organized by Pallotta Teamworks and Across the Divide Expeditions, a UK based outdoor adventure travel company. I asked Netivot Shalom to join me in performing the mitzvah of Tikkun Olam by supporting my participation in this event. Now that it's over, I can confirm that the AIDSTrek was one of the most intense, challenging and moving experiences of my life. In gratitude, I'd like to share the experience with you in this article.

### The Trip

I've been asked many times about the flight. Between SFO and Capetown, South Africa, the flight took about 28 hours, with stops in Atlanta and Johannesburg, and an additional stop in Ile de Sol on our return.

### People

When I started, I knew no one else on the trek. I was fortunate to join a group of caring, confident and generous people. There were about 130 participants as well as the guides and staff. We were a diverse group. Most of the participants and Pallotta staff were from the U.S.; guides and Across the Divide staff were from the UK and Africa. We became a community, where support for one another was the norm, not the exception.

### The Trek

The trek was much more challenging than I expected. The trails were extremely rough and extended through thorny, brushy areas and over boulders, rivers and mountains. The distance we covered, approximately 70 miles, scarcely communicates the difficulty of the route. The weather was also a challenge, ranging from 100° F during the day to 39° F at night.

We walked in groups of about eighteen. Each morning our guides woke us in the cold and dark. We would warm our hands at the fire, eat a hearty breakfast, pack up our duffle bags, fill our water bottles, pick up lunch and then gather together for warm-up. Then we hit the road and walked steadily, except for breaks and lunch.

If you asked us hikers what we saw during the trek, most would say, "The tops of our shoes!" The difficulty of the trails meant that we had to pay extremely careful attention to where we put our feet. It's a beautiful country, and we did have time to enjoy the beautiful scenery, mostly during breaks, lunch and at camp. We didn't see much wildlife, but one highlight of the trip was seeing



Victory! Carol on the trail.

a troop of baboons on a rocky hill.

Almost everyone suffered some sort of injury. In addition to the scratches and bruises from the thorns, I smashed my toes so badly that I had to hike for three days in sandals—shoes were too painful to wear.

### Camp Life

An important part of the trek was camp life. This turned out to be a pleasant surprise—we lived in tents, but the camp surroundings were more comfortable than expected. We had to carry our own luggage, but the tents were set up for us, and the caterers prepared the food.

Even though we were tired, camp life was fun. Each day there was at least one educational session, including sessions on AIDS by Dr. Peter Anton, a specialist in AIDS vaccine research at UCLA, who was both a trek participant and a grant recipient. Because of Across the Divide's commitment to conservation, we had a number of sessions about African conservation.

Music was another important part of camp life. We had guest musicians every night, as well as our camp drummers, Alistair and Blessings.

### AIDS

Though the trek offered participants the opportunity to stretch beyond our physical and emotional boundaries, the AIDSTrek is fundamentally about AIDS. In addition to sessions on AIDS during the trek, we also were privileged to hear others at our opening and closing ceremonies. We learned about the terrible impact AIDS is having in Sub-Saharan Africa—almost 10% of South Africans are infected, approximately 28 million people in all of Sub-Saharan Africa. We learned about political issues and U.S. governmental efforts from the U.S. Ambassador to South Africa, Cameron Hume. We learned about the efforts of recipient agencies to preserve the AIDS-free generation through education, to train peer counselors to be ready to facilitate successful treatment as drugs become available, to provide respectful, caring support for those who are too sick to help themselves, and to take care of the children orphaned by AIDS.

Each of us has the ability to make a difference, and, in the words of Rabbi Tarfon, *Pirke Avot*, "You are not obliged to finish the task, neither are you free to neglect it."

Additional information can be found on my website:  
[http://www.geocities.com/carol\\_joy\\_robinson/AIDSTrekletter041202.html](http://www.geocities.com/carol_joy_robinson/AIDSTrekletter041202.html). ✨

ADULT EDUCATION

**Notes on  
Upcoming Events**

By Ethel Murphy,  
Adult Education Committee Co-Chair

**1. Ritual Fair, Sunday, June 2,** 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., in the shul offices. The topic is "Rituals of Death and Dying," with concurrent sessions on *t'fillah*, Torah and Shabbat. Call Robin Braverman at 925-979-1998 for more information.

**2. Lois Silverstein** will read from her book called *Daughter*, a stirring novel which emphasizes both the struggle between traditional and innovative religious observance, and women's role in it. The book carries a strong endorsement by Rabbi Kelman. We heard Lois read from her writings at the Yom Hashoah commemoration evening. She writes with great insight and intelligence, and is well worth hearing.

**Sunday, June 23,** 10:30 a.m.-12:00 noon in the shul library. Copies of the book will be available for purchase.

**Youth Education**

By Robin Mencher,  
Youth Education Committee Chair

The school year has just wound down with much festivity and the planning is well underway for next year. Hopefully many of you had a chance to meet our new Education Director, Deb Fink, on Shavuot. If you did, there's no doubt that you share the enthusiasm of the Search Committee in welcoming her. Deb officially begins her position on July 1. If you are around this summer, give her a call or stop by the shul office to introduce yourself.

Religious school registration materials for the 5763 school year may have already arrived in your mailbox. Please return them as soon as possible so that we can make sure to prepare appropriately.

Believe it or not, it's time to start thinking about *Yamim Nora'im l'Yeladim* programs. Look out for this packet soon, too. This year, there will once again be a K-6 program, a pre-school program, and childcare available.

And finally, as the new Chair of the Youth Education Committee, I want to say hello. I stepped into the very large shoes of Andrea Altschuler a few months ago and have learned quickly of the dedication of so many Netivot Shalom families who put energy into keeping our school and youth programming running. Although I am not a parent, my commitment to Jewish education and education in general is strong. I invite you to come to a Youth Ed meeting and join in the fun! The June Youth Education Committee meeting will take place on **Sunday, June 9,** 5:00 p.m. in the shul office. Please call or e-mail me if you would like to attend: 510-528-6814; robinjm189@aol.com.

**From Midrasha**

By Diane Bernbaum, Midrasha Director

The Midrasha school year is over. What a lovely year. Great staff. Great teens. Great parents. Thanks to everyone who is part of this family. And thank you to everyone who helped make our recent Midrasha Spring Seudah such a success. Thanks to Gail & Eric Buchbinder for offering us their extraordinary home and for underwriting the costs of the event. Thanks to Hope Alper for Chairing the event, to Alan Finkelstein for catering, to Gan Eden for wine, to Jane Brenner for graphic design, to Semifreddi's for bread and dessert, to Desmid Lyon for administrative help, and to Solstice Press for printing. Thanks to our raffle donors: Focal Point, Claire Max and Jonathan Arons, Estie and Mark Hudes, Rabbi Jane Litman and Stuart Schwartz and Rochelle Slamovich. Thanks to our bakers: Ruth Ackerman, Daniela Calciolari, Denise Resnikoff and Susan Schickman. Thanks to our teen servers: Jonah Blumenfeld, Zephira Derblich-Milea, Miriam Lyon, Hannah Lesser, Sarah Lesser, and Jared Martin. Thanks to the parents who volunteered with mailing, set-up, serving, parking and clean-up: Rochelle & Joel Blumenfeld, Judy Breakstone, Cynthia Colvin, Carol & Jim Cunradi, Hannah Dresner, Mark Geliebter, Michelle Hellerstein, Jean Henderson, Estie Hudes, Barbara Kanter, Robin Keller, Patricia Kipnis, Faith Kramer, Dana Lear, Debbie Lesser, Leslie Levy, Laura Lipman, Jim Martin, and Jan Schmuckler (plus anyone I may have left out). And thanks to everyone who attended (especially my mom who came all the way from Arizona!) and to those who sent in contributions. What a fun evening!

Midrasha will begin again next year on **September 15.** Because of the intricacies of the Jewish calendar, we will meet on that day and then not again for three weeks. Our registration materials will be sent out by early August. If you think you may not be in our database, give us a call. 843-4667. Enjoy your summer.

**My Apologies To:**

**Nick Bell,** who was inadvertently left off the list of this year's Midrasha graduates. Congratulations Nick!

**The Youth Education Department**

would like to thank the following people for their help:

**Sally Martin** for her expert traffic directing on Wednesday afternoons when children are picked up from Religious School.

**Cathy Shadd** and **Mel & Lisa Sibony** for their help in making our Shabbat B'Yachad Program a smashing success.

**Judith Rosenblatt, Wendy Powis** and **Justin Lam** for staffing Netivot Shalom's Art Booth at the Festival of Israel.

**Nia Shima Franklin** for her help stamping envelopes

**Robin Mencher** for Chairing the Youth Education Committee  
**Karen Friedman** and **Andrea Altschuler** for directing the Purim Basket Fundraiser for the second year.

**Dean Kertesz** for his many hours teaching Amitim students  
**Andrea Altschuler** for her continued help on the Youth Ed Committee for the past four years.



**RAMAH DAY CAMP  
Helicopters Visit  
Ramah Day Camp**

By Melissa Rogoway, Ramah Day Camp Director

Paint flew in every direction as campers new and old painted a new *aron* (ark) for Ramah Day Camp of the Greater East Bay. Seventy campers and parents gathered in Tilden Park on a Sunday afternoon in April to see the camp's site, eat kosher hot dogs, play field games, and experience Jewish fun together. Activities were all related to the summer's theme, learning from Pirkei Avot (sayings of our ancestors).

The unplanned highlight of the day, at least for the kids, was the sight of an emergency helicopter which was sent to airlift a bicyclist who had been in an accident. Participants sang 'Mi-sheberach' for the victim, and when things calmed down, went back to the day's activities, which included an intense game of tug-of-war, silly relay races, and many game booths. My guitar and I led the spirited singing.

Ramah Day Camp is now in its third fun-filled summer, serving children K-5 in the Greater East Bay. Busing is available from Contra Costa and Alameda counties. There are still a few spaces at camp available. Contact me at (510) 549-9447 ext.111 for information.

**Mazal Tov to the following students  
who will be graduating this year:**

NAME	FROM	TO
Nicholas Bell	Alameda High School	Stanford University
Sam Black	Berkeley High School	State University of New York at Purchase
Anya Grossman	Piedmont High School	UC Los Angeles
Eva Heinstein	Berkeley High School	New York University
Josh Issacs	Berkeley High School	UC Santa Cruz
Maia Kern	Berkeley High School	American Musical and Dramatic Academy, New York
Laura Miller	Albany High School	UC Berkeley
Zachary Morfin	Marin Academy	Oberlin College & Conservatory
Judith Rosenblatt	Skyline High School	UC Santa Cruz
Sarah Salkin	Urban School of San Francisco	Barnard College
Ben Simler	Berkeley High School	UC Los Angeles
Adam Scheffler	College Preparatory School	Harvard College
Adam Stern	Hyde School, Bath, Maine	UC Los Angeles
Miriam Gould	University of North Carolina	University of Texas



**Rebecca's 24  
Commandments**

Dictated to the teachers  
at Gan Shalom  
By Rebecca Dorf Landau

- Don't kill.
- Don't even pretend to kill.
- No hitting.
- No fighting.
- No hurting.
- Don't ever try to kill spiders.
- Be nice to your guest.
- If someone is playing with a toy, don't grab it.
- Don't go over to Rachel's house without telling her.
- Please don't eat in the living room.
- Be nice to your cousins for the summer.
- No little kids are allowed to sleep over.
- Don't hurt with any kind of hurting.
- Tell your mom what pajamas you'll wear all the time.
- Be good to your friends.
- Don't cry if there is not the breakfast you want.
- Don't ever hurt or do bad things.
- Don't tease.
- Please don't say, "That's my jewelry," and snatch it away if they are wearing your favorite jewelry except if you are a grown-up.
- Do be good.
- Always clean up.
- Never disrupt mom when she is on the phone.
- Don't make a mess before your babysitter comes over.
- If Rachel comes over to not babysit, don't worry; then play and if it's hot just play in the backyard.

SEND YOUR CHILD'S SUBMISSION TO  
NEWSLETTER@NETIVOTSHALOM.ORG

**MAZAL TOV TO:**

**Phil Rosenthal** on receiving the UCSF Chancellor's Award for Service to the Community

**Peggy Sandel** on receiving her Ph.D in Jewish Studies

**David Pripstein & Reesa Felsher** on their April 28th wedding

**CONDOLENCES TO:**

**Herb Klar** on the death of his father, Bernard Abraham Klar, on April 26th

**Jory Gessow** on the death of his father, Alfred Gessow, on May 4th

**Rom Rosenblum** on the death of his mother, Sybil Rosenblum, on May 11th

**Visit us on the web!**

**www.netivotshalom.org**

*The May newsletter was printed before the author of the following poem was identified. Here is the full text of the poem, whose author is Nancy Gossels.*

Somewhere out of time  
 In the mystery of time  
 Somewhere between memory and forgetfulness,  
 Dimly though  
 I remember how once I stood  
 At Your mountain trembling  
 Amid the fire and the thunder.  
 How I stood there, out of bondage  
 In a strange land and afraid.  
 And You loved me and You fed me  
 And I feasted on Your words.  
 And, yes, I can remember  
 How the thunder was my heart  
 And the fire was my soul.  
 O God, I do remember,  
 The fire burns in me anew.  
 And here I am, once more  
 A witness to that timeless moment.  
 Present now in the light of Your Torah  
 I am reborn.

**Y AHRZEIT LIST**

Chaim Klatt	21 Sivan/June 1
Rivka Hanover	22 Sivan/June 2
Richard Balk	23 Sivan/June 3
Raymond Richman	23 Sivan/June 3
Sylvia Strub Goldman	24 Sivan/June 4
Ruth David	26 Sivan/June 6
Dianna Hoffman	27 Sivan/June 7
Madelaine Starkman	27 Sivan/June 7
Felix Khuner	28 Sivan/June 8
Celia Garber	28 Sivan/June 8
Anna Brenner	29 Sivan/June 9
Jack Markowitz	29 Sivan/June 9
Ruth Richman	29 Sivan/June 9
Dvora Yaffey	1 Tammuz/June 11
Edna Riemer	3 Tammuz/June 13
Bella Nadler	3 Tammuz/June 13
Morton Bardach	4 Tammuz/June 14
Esther Levi	6 Tammuz/June 16
Albert Lord	6 Tammuz/June 16
Bernard K. Ross	6 Tammuz/June 16
Anna Bratter	6 Tammuz/June 16
Gladys Sessler	7 Tammuz/June 17
Garson Yaffee	8 Tammuz/June 18
Howard Barschi	9 Tammuz/June 19
Henry Abraham Gozan, M.D.	9 Tammuz/June 19
Lewis William Max	
Eliezer ben Eliahu v'Batya	10 Tammuz/June 20
Ethel Teger	11 Tammuz/June 21
Aaron Mandel	12 Tammuz/June 22
Ilse Straus Feiger	13 Tammuz/June 23
Dorothy Granzow	16 Tammuz/June 26
Malkah Zacharin	17 Tammuz/June 27
Henry Hamburg	18 Tammuz/June 28
Esther P. Morse	18 Tammuz/June 28
Jeanne Wirtzer	22 Tammuz/July 2
Anna Lea Greenstein	23 Tammuz/July 3
Regina Berrol	23 Tammuz/July 3
Simon Goldschmidt	24 Tammuz/July 4
Eva Graudenz	28 Tammuz/July 8
Sam Koltun	29 Tammuz/July 9
Dora Becker	30 Tammuz/July 10
Roy H. Steinberg	3 Av/July 12
Morris Rothblatt	3 Av/July 12
Walter Mayer	6 Av/July 15

**TO ADD A NAME(S) TO THE YAHRZEIT LIST, FILL OUT THE INFORMATION BELOW AND MAIL, E-MAIL OR FAX** (Include only names of departed parents, spouses, siblings or children.)  
**MAIL TO:** Congr. Netivot Shalom, 1841 Berkeley Way, Berk., CA 94703  
**E-MAIL TO:** administrator@netivotshalom.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:** \_\_\_\_\_



# DONATIONS TO NETIVOT SHALOM

## GENEROUS GIFTS FROM THOUGHTFUL PEOPLE

**Doug Arnold** for the handy personal copier for our library and for his time helping catalogue books for the library  
**Lee Feinstein** for all her library work  
**Ann Swidler & Claude Fischer** for donating 13<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash tickets to Jennifer & Rhea in the office  
**Andrea Altschuler & David Finn** for donating an automobile  
**Ruth Moskovitz** for donating an automobile  
**Ralph & Hadassah Kramer** for donating to the 13<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash in honor of the Rabbi's birthday

## ADULT EDUCATION

**Barbara Wezelman** in memory of her father, Norman Wezelman  
**Pam Sawyer** in honor of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jan Fischer's Bat Mitzvah  
**Jan Fischer** in memory of Danielle Shelley's mother, Charmin Knock; Pauline Moreno's father, Chan Su Kim; Jerry Isaak-Shapiro's father, Leonard Shapiro; Kim Capelouto-Sorell's father, Edward Morris-Capelouto; and Claire Sherman's mother, Ursula Sherman

## BUILDING FUND

**Diane & Edwin Bernbaum** in honor of the Bat Mitzvahs of Robin Keller, Edie Murphy, Barbara Bibel, Carla Cassler and Anna Korteweg  
**Pam Sawyer** in appreciation and honor of Eva Heinstein  
**Hyman & Miriam San** in honor of those remembered during Yizkor

## DINNERS FOR THE HOMELESS

Kathryn & Samuel Scheffler

## ETZ HAYIM

This year's Amitim families  
 Susan Lawrence  
 Andi Cassidy

## GENERAL FUND

**Barbara Wezelman** in memory of her relatives  
**Stephen Tobias & Alice Webber** in honor of Jan Fischer's Bat Mitzvah Anniversary  
**Lawrence Polon & Ernestina Carrillo** in honor of Carol & Jim Cunradi  
**Debby Gaudenz & Rom Rosenblum** in honor of those remembered during Yizkor

## NEWSLETTER

Eric & Julie Brink

## PURIM

Judy & Glenn Massarano

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Joseph & Dorothy Becker** in memory of Harold Silvertrust, Sylvia Simon's brother  
**Arie Cohen & Lea Kelso**  
**Carol & James Cunradi**  
**Linda Blachman**  
**Ethel Murphy**  
**David Marcus & Karen Friedman**

## TORAH STUDY

**Antony & Karen Hecht** in memory of Sid & Zanetta Hecht  
**David Bradford**

## YOUTH EDUCATION

**Barry Muhfelder & Deborah Yager** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Shorer Family** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Mark & Sharon Priven** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Golda & Eric Blum** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Norine Shima** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Jonathan & Heidi Wexler** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Meghan Starkey & Robert Perlmutter** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Mel & Lisa Sibony** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Ed Gold** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Vicki & Seth Kimball** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Sarah Herman & Joel Bashevkin** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Kim Zvik** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Deborah & Yuval Peres** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Norman & Lorraine Rosenblatt** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Peter Jacobs & Karen Pliskin** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Ross Andelman & Hannah Dresner** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Traci & Daniel Siegel** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Pam Sawyer** in appreciation and honor of the Amitim Madrichim Eli Anders and Renna Khuner-Haber  
**Carol & James Cunradi** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Elana Reinin & Marshall Platt** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Alison & Stephen Waterman** for the Teacher's Kiddush

**Gail Krowech** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Anthony & Karen Hecht** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Benjamin Hermalin & Ruth Konoff** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Lee Bearson & Beatrice Freiberg** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**S.E. Martin** for the Teacher's Kiddush  
**Dr. Philip & Sherrin Rosenthal** for the Teacher's Kiddush

## MAKE A DONATION

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

### Donor(s) Information:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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City \_\_\_\_\_

### Please honor the following person/ event:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

### This donation is intended for the following:

- Adult Education
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- Cuba Fund
- Dinners for the Homeless
- Etz Hayim Fund
- General Fund
- Kiddush Fund
- Library Fund
- Max & Cecelia Rosenheimer Camp Scholarship Fund
- Newsletter
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- Torah Study
- Yamim Nora'im
- Youth Education
- Youth Education Scholarship Fund

**Thank you!**



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1841 Berkeley Way  
Berkeley, CA 94703**

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**CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED**

## *Volunteer!*

**Shabbat Greeters** We need Shabbat Greeters to welcome people into our services on Saturday mornings. Volunteer to greet for one Shabbat. Call D'jedi Mateen at 839-2568, or e-mail him at DL\_Mateen@aol.com.

**Book Reviewers** Often library volumes are sent to us for review purposes. Many of the reviews need only be a one paragraph description while some require a bit more. In order to keep these books coming to Netivot Shalom, please contact Rabbi Kelman at 549-9447 ext. 103.

**Library Help** Do you have a few hours to volunteer in our library? We need volunteers to re-shelve books, keep track of books that are borrowed and process new books. If any of these "jobs" interest you, please contact Rabbi Kelman at 549-9447 ext. 103.

## *Contribute!*

**E Scrip** Each time you shop at Safeway, Andronico's, Albertsons and many other stores in the Bay Area, a percentage of your purchases can be donated to Netivot Shalom through E.Scrip. Registration forms for E.Scrip and Albertsons Community Partner Cards are free and available through the congregation office.

**Planes, Trains & Automobiles** Donate your old car, motorcycle, truck or RV to Netivot Shalom. For more information, call Claudia Valas at 558-9200.

**Stocks & Bequests** To find out how to make a donation of stock to the congregation, contact Mark Priven at 559-8393. When drafting your will, please consider making a bequest to Netivot Shalom.

**The opportunities you've been waiting for!**