



# Congregation Netivot Shalom

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Heshvan 5765

Vol. 16, No. 1

## FROM THE RABBI

### A Frame for Yamim Nora'im

By Rabbi Stuart Kelman

Well, life certainly takes its proverbial twists and turns — for individuals and for institutions. In my case, the birth of a beautiful granddaughter offered an opportunity to once again renew the personal wonder of creation (and, I must admit, to *quell* a bit). And life has its sorrows as well, particularly the loss of some wonderful souls within our own congregational family, Margot Lucoff and Gerda Mathan. It's hard to balance these two emotions — but they are real.

Last month, I wrote about a new *mahzor* that is being created under the leadership of the Rabbinical Assembly and about my involvement on that team. It now turns out that the printer is unable to have the booklets prepared by Yom Kippur, so the sad news is that we shall have to wait one more year before we can use this new *mahzor*.

I would like to correct one possible misunderstanding: this is a new version of a Conservative *mahzor*. Most of the Hebrew liturgy that was in the Harlow (think purple) and Silverman (think black) is to be replicated in this new *mahzor*. What is new is the translation; instructions; some additions; brand new gender-sensitive translations; transliterations (for the first time in a *mahzor* of the Conservative movement); explanatory notes; meditations and readings. While the *mahzor* will not be ready for this Yom Kippur, I do have some galley's for anyone interested in seeing what it will look like.

An example, adapted from a piece by Rabbi Harold Schulweis:

“Where do I begin? Where do I find God? How do I begin to pray? There is a *tzalem*, an image of God, implanted in you. The image of God is found in the self, in whom God breathes *nishmat hayim* — the divine breath of life. In each of us is a *n'shama*, a soul whose origin is God. In prayer, I enter into the deepest parts of my self, discover who I am, and touch God's presence.”

What a wonderful thought on which to reflect. Our committee has placed this piece right before we say the *barkhu* — the call to prayer on *erev* Yom Kippur.

Or take an example by Herschel Matt about the end of the *amidah* with its blessing for *shalom*:

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT Greetings!

By Mark Priven

I would like to convey greetings to you from the extremely high Office of the President.

One thing that sticks in my mind from my first Yamim Nora'im at Netivot Shalom is the words people used to greet each other. Having grown up in a Conservative congregation, I was used to folks saying “*shanah tovah*” (good year), though I have to admit I was always more comfortable with a big old “hi!” What I was totally unprepared for were the various Hebrew variations I heard at Netivot Shalom. So that you don't wind up as perplexed as I was, here's the scoop.

First, I heard, “*le-shanah tovah tikateyvu*” (may you be inscribed for a good year). This one only added one word to what I'd been used to, plus it sounded vaguely familiar. So far, so good. A more effusive version I heard was “*le-shanah tovah u-metukah tikateyvu*.” OK, that was just a few too many big Hebrew words for my comprehension. It turns out that it means “may you be inscribed for a good and sweet year.”

Just when I was afraid the greetings would grow even longer, I heard someone say “*ketivah tovah*.” At least that one was short, even if I did find it incomprehensible. I consulted someone who seemed to know her *alef-bet* (i.e., Hebrew alphabet) and learned that this one means “a good inscription.”

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## FROM THE RABBI (continued)

“When the blessing of *shalom* is lacking, however much we have of other blessings — wealth or power, fame or family, even health — these all appear as nothing. But when *shalom* is present, however little else we have, somehow seems sufficient.”

A lovely frame around ma’ariv! And speaking of frames, I want to remind you of my favorite larger “frame” for understanding these High Holy Days. It is the frame, or metaphor, of an opera. Most of the characteristics of an opera are to be found in this High Holy Day season, which actually begins in Elul, the month prior, and continues through Sh’mini Atzeret at the end of Sukkot. It is a mistake to think of each part of this season as a separate entity rather than as part of an integrated whole, just as in an opera.

Elul is the overture — and we begin to awaken to the themes of the season: return and repentance. The music continues until we get to the first act: the two days of Rosh ha-Shanah, with its focus on the beginnings of our people — with Abraham, Isaac, Hagar, with us as a family. There are highpoints — *unetaneh tokef, avinu malkeinu*, the shofar of awakening, tashlikh, for example.

Then, a second scene — the 10 days between Rosh ha-Shanah and Yom Kippur — with its primary message: go and make amends with someone. Patch up your relationship, apologize, cry, hug, say “I’m sorry” — not to God (Rosh ha-Shanah and Yom Kippur are for that), but to someone you know and maybe even love.

Next comes the intermission — time to wander outside of where the performance is, to look around and connect with someone else.

Then, Yom Kippur — the second act — with the themes of denial and regret and memory. A time to be with community for 25 hours.

At last, the final moment of the opera, with its pageantry of shofar and Jerusalem — the other use of the shofar, proclaiming the goodness of a future time, of an optimism born in the reality of the world and of life. All this is followed by the reprise, thematically, through Sukkot.

My prayer for us all is that, through the use of reflection, meditation, prayer and human contact, we will be able to use this gift of the Yamim Nora’im (Days of Awe) to ponder our human and Jewish condition. And out of this, as a community, to gain the strength to move into our new home with a vision evolved out of our past and with hope for the future. ❧

### NETIVOT SHALOM NEWSLETTER

Editor: Judith Lesser McCullough

Layout, design & production: Karen Friedman

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November/December	September 27, 2004
January/February	November 29, 2004

“How good is a word rightly timed.” (Proverbs 15:23)

## FROM THE PRESIDENT (continued)

It sure is nice to know what people are saying when they greet you, but that’s not much help if you don’t know what to say back. Such was my position. According to my anonymous *alef-bet* expert, the appropriate response is “*gam lekba*” (when talking to a male) or “*gam lakh*” (when talking to a female). This is the Hebrew way of saying “ditto,” or “whatever you just said to me, same to you.”

I was feeling proud of myself for getting the hang of all this, but then Yom Kippur rolled around. Yom Kippur is supposed to be a humbling experience, and on that particular year it was especially humbling, because the greetings switched yet again. All of a sudden people were saying “*hatimah tovah*” (a good sealing) or the more elaborate “*gemar hatimah tovah*” (a good final sealing [in the book of life for the year to come]). Is it my imagination, or do these sound more like Yiddish curses than greetings of well-wishing? I can just hear my grandfather muttering, “A Good FINAL Sealing” to someone who just cut him off in traffic or beat him in gin rummy.

The variety of greetings for Yamim Nora’im makes me realize that a proper greeting is important in Jewish culture. To me, the words are not quite so important; I have to admit that I usually stick with a simple “hi.” It’s the act and warmth of greetings that count in my book.

So on behalf of Netivot Shalom, I’d like to wish you a warm and hearty “WELCOME,” and I hope to be able to greet you in person at our High Holy Day services. May you be inscribed in the book of life with a good, sweet, healthy and fulfilling year.

El Presidente ❧

## SAVE THE DATE! NOVEMBER 14

It’s Annual Meeting time again! So save the date of November 14, 2004. And then, come to the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Street, Berkeley. The meeting will take place from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Be there!

## Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has been formed to select candidates for board and committee chair positions opening in November. Please contact any of the people listed below if you are interested in a board or committee chair position.

Eugene Berg  
Mary Breiner  
Andi Cassidy  
Simon Firestone  
Djedi Mateen  
Denise Moyes-Schnur  
Marshall Platt

# A Smorgasbord of Learning Opportunities

By Robin Braverman, Chair, Adult Education

Hillel taught... Do not say "When I have leisure, I will study," for you may never have leisure. — *Pirke Avot 2:5*

Welcome back from your summer endeavors. Now is the time to take advantage of the fine array of Adult Ed programs we have to offer this fall at Netivot Shalom.

We will have two **scholar-in-residence** programs this fall. Both are exciting and different from what has been offered in the past. First, our spirituality coordinators, Shirah Bell and Josh Gressell, have arranged for **Dr. Alan Morinis** to join us for **S'lichot** weekend. Dr. Morinis wrote *Climbing Jacob's Ladder* and is best known for teaching the practice of Mussar — a Jewish spiritual practice for right action in the everyday world, helping us to learn how to translate Jewish values into ethical behavior in our dealings with other people. Netivot Shalom joins with the Berkeley Richmond JCC, Temple Isaiah of Lafayette and Beth Chaim Congregation of Danville, to sponsor Dr. Morinis throughout S'lichot weekend, **September 10, 11 and 12**. Look for times and places in the flyer that should have come with your Yamim Nora'im tickets, on the calendar, and on the Adult Ed "green sheet," or contact Shirah Bell at [sb@livingwealth.com](mailto:sb@livingwealth.com).

Our second scholar-in-residence is **Rabbi David Seidenberg**, who will join us at **Sukkot in Tilden** for Shabbat and Sunday teachings entitled "Sukkot Teachings on Ecology and the Environment." This program will be partially funded by the Stephanie Davis Fund, and will serve as an introduction to a four-part course Rabbi Seidenberg will teach in November and December, co-sponsored by Lehrhaus Judaica, on ecology, the Bible and the Jewish tradition. Contact Ellen Peskin, at [ellenpeskn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ellenpeskn@sbcglobal.net), for more details about both the wonderful Sukkot community-building activity in Tilden and the November/December learning opportunity.

We are very excited to be co-sponsoring **Heritage: The History of Jewish Civilization** with Lehrhaus Judaica. This is a series of five modules of classes on Jewish history, using the late Abba Eban's nine-part PBS series (first aired in 1984) as a base, augmented by an interactive DVD, and taught by **Ken Cohen**. It covers the entire span of Jewish history, beginning in 3800 BCE. You can take the whole set of 20 classes in five modules, or take just one module if you like. This program will begin on **Monday, September 20** (before the end of the *bagim*), and continue throughout the year on Mondays from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

On **Tuesdays**, **Rabbi Kelman** will be teaching a seven-session class called **Seven Tuesdays, Seven Psalms**, beginning **October 19**. Rabbi Kelman will also be teaching, on the **second Sunday** morning of each month, **Core Values in/about Our New Home**. This program is in conjunction with the new twice-a-month Sunday morning minyan, being coordinated by Art Braufman. It will begin at 9:30 a.m. with davening, after which there will be a food break, followed by Rabbi Kelman's presentations on the second Sunday, and presentations by other congregants on the fourth Sunday. The presentations will end by 11:30 a.m. I will present the first program, **Living in a Sukkah**, on Sunday, **September 26**.

**Rabbi Kelman** will also be teaching from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. on **selected Shabbat afternoons at the BRJCC**, beginning October 9. His topic is **Prayer Responses Outside the Synagogue**. The areas to be covered are birkhat ha-mazon; bedtime prayers; prayers upon awakening; blessings of the moment; blessings of wonderment; and havdalah.

**Naomi Seidman** will teach two two-part programs on **Wednesday** nights this fall. The first, **Mameloshn: Gender and Language in Ashkenaz**, will be on **October 13 and 20**. This class is an exploration of history, sociology and the connection of gender to language. Naomi's second program will be on **October 27 and November 3**, and will be entitled **Jesus through Jewish Eyes**. Here, Naomi will explain how rabbis and Jewish texts, in Jesus' time and through the ages, have viewed Jesus and have referred to him and Christianity.

On **Thursday, November 11**, we will offer **Talmud Tools** again, taught by **Rabbi David Seidenberg**. This time, the course will be a one-day, three-hour workshop. This program gives you a taste of Talmud study, and prepares you to participate in the **ongoing Talmud class**, which will again be taught by Rabbi Seidenberg on **Thursday** nights, beginning **November 18**.

On **Sunday** mornings between minyan weeks, beginning **October 17**, **Carol Cunradi** will offer a five-session program on **K'vod Ha-met**, co-sponsored by Lehrhaus Judaica. Last year, we got a lot of feedback that people wanted more opportunities to learn about Jewish rituals of death and dying. This course will provide an introduction to traditional Jewish death and mourning practices, including the role and function of *Chevra Kadisha* (Sacred or Holy Society, the group that prepares the body for burial); *tabarah* (ritual purification of the deceased); *shivah* (seven-day mourning period); and *kaddish* (prayer recited by mourners). It will explore the underlying principles of these customs, such as *k'vod ha-met* (respect for the dead) and *nihum aveilim* (consoling mourners).

On **Wednesday** nights, beginning **October 13**, **Jan Fischer** will again teach **haftarah trope**, in a nine-week course ending December 15. This is great either as a refresher or if you need to learn from scratch. Jan will teach Torah trope in the spring.

If you want to learn the alef-bet, we will again be holding a **beginners' biblical Hebrew** class starting after the *bagim*. We have not yet assigned a night, because we want to decide where and when to meet once the class is together. I will be teaching this program. Please contact me, at [rivkah48@aol.com](mailto:rivkah48@aol.com), if you would like to participate.

We will happily facilitate the formation of **biblical Hebrew study groups**, on a self-paying basis, for any six students who want to study at the same level. This includes those interested in a level-two program, using *Prayerbook Hebrew the Easy Way*, and those who are

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## Want to Study Biblical Hebrew?

**Beginner's class** for learning the alef-bet. Nine-week class to begin after the holidays. Time and location to be determined by students and teacher.

**Level-two class** using *Prayerbook Hebrew the Easy Way*, and more **advanced classes** using text for study, will be formed for six or more students.

Contact Robin Braverman:  
rivkah48@aol.com.



Stephen Tobias studying at last year's Sukkot in Tilden.

## Editor's Note:

In our effort to create a consistent style for transliteration of Hebrew words, we have hit a snag...or rather, a het. Our computer program does not like to put dots under h's, so, for the nonce, please accept an underlined h to represent a het (and not to imply a vowel sound).



## Sunday Minyan Begins September 26

By Art Braufman, for Ritual and Adult Education Committees

Starting **Sunday, September 26**, a shaharit minyan will be held the second and fourth Sunday of every month. The minyan will start promptly at 9:30 a.m. and will be followed by a light continental breakfast and then a speaker from 10:30 until 11:30 a.m. These times were chosen to coincide with Midrasha, so that parents can drop their children off and then come and join the minyanaires.

On the **second Sunday** of each month, **Rabbi Kelman** will teach about an aspect of **Jewish values** related to our new home. Each session will stand alone, and those who can't be regulars are always welcome. See the Adult Education article for more details.

On the **fourth Sunday**, we will invite **members** of the congregation to speak about a topic that is dear to their heart (and knowledge/experience). The topics will be diverse and can be secular, although the speaker will be challenged to relate the week's topic to some Jewish context. The idea is for shul members to get to know other members of the congregation better in an informal atmosphere and dimension outside of services. We have an amazing array of members with broad, diverse interests. This eclectic program will permit us to learn from each other and get to know each other better.

Our first speaker, on **September 26** (the day after Yom Kippur and right before Sukkot) will be **Robin Braverman**, speaking about the *balakhab* and traditions of building a *sukkah* along with practical building tips and the ritual for "**Living in the Sukkah.**" This timely subject is bound to be informative and enlightening.

On **October 24**, the speaker will be **Scott Adams**. Scott is a professional political campaign strategist/consultant (Political Movers and Shakers). Since this will be so close to election day, he will be discussing some of the ins and outs of running a **campaign** and some of the **moral and ethical issues** that arise. This will NOT be a pro/con discussion of candidates or issues.

We hope to see you at the above programs. Come pray, nosh and schmooz with your fellow shul goers.

If you have any questions or suggestions, or would like to volunteer to be a presenter, call me at 510-525-8492.

### Adult Education Learning Opportunities (continued)

more advanced and want to work on their Hebrew skills through the study of text. Anyone interested in this kind of study should contact me ASAP, and I will pull together a class and engage a teacher. Funds are available through the Ethelyn Simon Fund for those who want to study biblical Hebrew, but cannot afford the fee.

A word about money. Finances are tight for the shul, and we are therefore compelled to charge fees for most program areas this year. Pricing will be indicated on flyers and e-mails, so you will know what to expect. Where we could, we made classes free to NS members. When there is a fee, it is reduced for NS members.

There are many more programs in the works not listed in this article. Here, I've tried to give you a sampling of what we're offering. As more programming is put in place, we'll keep everyone informed with flyers, e-mails and, of course, the green sheet.

Your comments and suggestions for programs are always welcome, as is your time and energy, if you would like to work with the Adult Ed team. E-mail me at any time with ideas or comments, or if you can help.

I wish all of you a happy and healthy New Year. In the New Year, I bless you that you find a way to make some time to study and expand your Jewish soul. *L'shanah tovah.* ❧

## Introducing Tiferet: Intermarried Households in Conservative Judaism

By Alice Hale, Tiferet Outreach Coordinator

This is the season for new beginnings, so it seems appropriate to announce that Netivot Shalom is part of a new beginning among Conservative synagogues in the East Bay. We are part of the Tiferet Project, a program designed to welcome intermarried households into Conservative Judaism.

Netivot Shalom, along with Temple Beth Abraham in Oakland, Congregation B'nai Shalom in Walnut Creek and Temple Beth Shalom in San Leandro, is forging a new path for Conservative synagogues — acknowledging the intermarried families that already belong to our communities, and welcoming others to join them.

The members of the Tiferet Consortium are committed to the notion of inclusion of intermarried families, while also recognizing the need to honor certain boundaries, institutionally and individually.


As such, the Tiferet synagogues hope to

- be welcoming places for intermarried households to experience Jewish life and worship
- integrate the non-Jewish member(s) of the household into the life of the synagogue community
- communicate clearly the beliefs and boundaries of Conservative Jewish life
- educate all our members about the *mitzvah* of welcoming the stranger, and making all who come here feel comfortable

Together, the four synagogues will offer a variety of educational and social programming to help interfaith households integrate themselves into Conservative synagogue life. Stay tuned for announcements of what Tiferet will be offering at Netivot Shalom.

Do you have an idea or a question about Tiferet and intermarried households at Netivot Shalom? Please contact me at 510-549-9447 ext. 244 or at [tiferetoutreach@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tiferetoutreach@sbcglobal.net).

Carol Cunradi is chairing an ad hoc Q'rovei Yisrael committee to help implement the goals of the Tiferet Project at Netivot Shalom. Interested? Contact her at 510-234-1003 or [cunradi@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cunradi@sbcglobal.net).

The Tiferet Project is delighted to announce that its defining document, *A Place in the Tent: Intermarriage and Conservative Judaism*, has just been published. Written by a consortium of Conservative rabbis, including Rabbi Kelman, this document argues for the need to find a meaningful place in contemporary Conservative Jewish institutions for intermarried households. In addition to Rabbi Kelman, the authors are Rabbis Mark Bloom, Ted Feldman, Gordon Freeman, Harry Manhoff and Mimi Weisel, and Rose L. Levinson and Glenn Massarano. To order, contact EKS Publishing: 510-251-9100, or [orders@ekspublishing.com](mailto:orders@ekspublishing.com), or [www.ekspublishing.com](http://www.ekspublishing.com). \$8.95 per copy, plus shipping and handling; ask for item #TW404. 

## Sukkot: A Time to Remember Women Who Need Shelter

By Nancy Facher

Sukkot is a time when we remember that when *am Yisrael* was in peril in the wilderness, we created shelter for ourselves and each other. *S'khakh* (thatch) itself is a symbol of protection. The Rabbis remind us that it represents the *ananei kevod*, the clouds of God's presence that protected the people of Israel during their desert journeys, and that the protection provided us is not to be forgotten. It's therefore fitting that during Sukkot we should think of those in our community that are in great need of such shelter and protection: battered women. This year, as we observe Sukkot, we also mark the beginning of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, in October.

Many of us grew up with the idea that violence doesn't occur within Jewish families. This is a dangerous myth. Jewish women are battered at the same rate as women of other religions, yet studies show that Jewish women tend to wait longer for help.<sup>1</sup> Jewish women stay with their partners longer than non-Jews — five to seven years longer.<sup>2</sup> Of course, it's tremendously hard to come forward; and often, in a close-knit Jewish community, where both spouses are well-known, it is even more difficult. We all probably know Jewish women who have been battered, but they may never have told us, and we might not know who they are.

Fortunately, here in the Bay Area, there is a great resource for Jewish battered women and their families and friends: Shalom Bayit, Bay Area Jewish Women Working to End Domestic Violence. Shalom Bayit provides support groups, advocacy, counseling, teen programs, spiritual and healing programs, and referrals. During Pesach, it provides *pesadich* food baskets to women in shelters. During Hanukah, it provides gifts requested by women in need. Each year, Shalom Bayit observes Sukkot by providing a ritual of healing.

At the June meeting of the Social Action Committee, we agreed to consider the ways in which we at Netivot Shalom can work to raise awareness of domestic violence, support battered women within our own community and support the work of Shalom Bayit. To those of you who have been physically hurt or intentionally humiliated by your partner, know that you do not deserve this. For those of you in need of emotional support or advocacy, the phone number is 866-742-5667 (866-SHALOM-7). This year, the Shalom Bayit Sukkot event will take place on October 3.

There are many ways to support Shalom Bayit. It is a small organization that operates out of an office in Oakland on a shoestring budget. Help is needed in the office, building community-wide education and prevention programs, providing services for battered women, and of course, raising money. Netivot Shalom members already actively involved include Hope Alper, Rachel Biale and Marilyn Levi (Marilyn was Shalom Bayit's volunteer of the year this year). In addition, Julie Patrusky is the counseling director there, and I work as an occasional consultant. Rabbi Kelman is on the Rabbinic Advisory Council and has participated in many Shalom

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## Update on Claremont House

By Hilla Abel

What brings you back to your childhood? Each time I lead services at the Claremont House senior residence center, I witness how prayer services bring back childhood memories to many of the seniors. One woman tells stories of her father, who was a cantor on the East Coast. One man recalls how his Hasidic grandfather taught him how to read Hebrew. Another woman entertains us with “Hava Nagila” on the piano, which she learned as a child in Germany. I’ve now been leading Shabbat services at the Claremont House for a year, and it has been delightful to get to know the residents and learn about the ways they connect with both Judaism and their pasts.

During this past year, one of our projects has been revising the *siddur* packets. The old ones were torn and had pages missing, and it was understandably difficult for some people to follow along. Our new *siddur* is hot off the presses, just released last month. It has a larger font for easier readability, newly added readings and more traditional Hebrew prayers. Both residents and leaders have enthusiastically embraced the new *siddurim*.

**Volunteer opportunities coming up:** Besides offering Shabbat services, we would like to offer Rosh ha-Shanah services. We have some folks who have signed up to help out, but we are still looking for someone to lead the services. We are flexible regarding the day — either the first or second night of Rosh ha-Shanah. Also, we are in need of volunteers to help out (but not necessarily to lead services) on the following Shabbat dates in particular: October 15, November 19 and December 17. And, as always, you are welcome to join us on any of the *Shabbatot* that we hold services. They are the **first and third Friday** of the month at 7 p.m., at 4500 Gilbert St. in Oakland. Feel free to stop by unannounced, or you can call me at 510-848-4843 for more information. Hope to see you there! ☞

### Sukkot: A Time to Remember Women Who Need Shelter (continued)

Bayit programs, including speaking against domestic violence here at Netivot Shalom. For more information, go to Shalom Bayit’s Web site: [www.shalom-bayit.org/index.shtml](http://www.shalom-bayit.org/index.shtml). To make a donation, send a check to Shalom Bayit, P.O. Box 10102, Oakland, CA 94610.

As you engage in your own Sukkot celebrations, I encourage you to reflect upon those within our community in need of shelter from abuse, even those unknown to us, who may be ashamed or afraid to speak out about their experiences of abuse. Let them no longer dwell apart, but rather among us. This Sukkot, well after the last-minute scramble for *s’khabakh*, and the last check to see how much light shines through it, I encourage us all to remember to look overhead, through the *s’khabakh* and up to the sky, to imagine ways we together can create spiritual and physical refuge for victims of violence within our community. May your home, and all our homes, be shelters of peace. ☞

<sup>1</sup> Jewish Women International.

<sup>2</sup> Barbara Harris, Transition Center, New York.

## Report from Makom ba-Galil

*One day in March, Netivot Shalom’s Israel Pilgrimage group visited a school in an Israeli Arab village, whose students participate in a program of Makom ba-Galil. Makom ba-Galil is a seminar center located on Moshav Sborashim in the Galilee, and affiliated with the Conservative/Masorti Movement. It has a variety of educational programs for Israelis and tourists, youth and adults, devoted to Jewish-Arab understanding and cooperation, Jewish pluralism and Israel-Diaspora relations. Below are excerpts from a recent report from Makom ba-Galil’s director, Rabbi Marc Rosenstein.*

### Dear friends of Makom ba-Galil,

“So, rabbi, what do you do all day, anyway?” To know what we do here on our little hilltop in the Galilee, it is sufficient to survey the past week [of July 18]:

**Sunday through Thursday:** we ran an English day camp for 35 Arab teens, which included encounters with several hundred participants in [Reform youth movement] teen tours. A few weeks earlier, the same local Arab teens had met with all seven Ramah seminar groups. The camp program included art, drama, cooking, music, hiking, all in English. Six [Reform youth movement] graduates from Australia and S. Africa, [served] as volunteer counselors; they spent the week living in one of the villages, with campers’ families. [We had] adult volunteers for program segments, from local communities and even from Philadelphia. And a wonderful time was had by all. At one of the evaluation sessions, a [teen participant] said it all: “This was the best experience of the summer so far for me; this was the only time when I was really challenged to rethink basic assumptions about Israel. When I go back home, I will now read the news differently, understand Israel from a different perspective.”

**Wednesday evening:** a workshop for teachers from Miami, on “teaching Israel.” Beneath the slogans, the challenge of “teaching Israel” involves some difficult and fascinating educational-philosophical dilemmas, which, it turns out, teachers are happy to be helped to articulate and discuss.



**Thursday evening and Friday morning:** the latest in our series of “festivals,” this one in honor of the Ninth of Av: a study tour of the ruins of Yodfat (first battle in the Great Revolt against Rome), women’s study circle, lecture on the Messiah according to the Rambam, workshops on rabbinic theology and on psychology and Judaism. And, of course, brunch. Good attendance, good mix of backgrounds, great atmosphere.

**Sunday:** all day workshop for Israeli teachers on teaching the Diaspora in Israel. We [held] a workshop on the meaning of Tisha b’Av, and a text study session on the Joseph story as a master story for themes of Jewish life in exile/diaspora. They were a heterogeneous yet congenial group, interested and thoughtful, and it was one of those days that simply leave you smiling.

I thought you’d enjoy a little good news from Israel.

*Kol tuv* [all the best],  
Marc Rosenstein ☞

## YAMIM NORA'IM 5765 SCHEDULE

	DATE	TIME	SERVICE	LOCATION	YOUTH PROGRAMMING
S'LIHOT	Saturday, Sept. 11	9:00 p.m. 9:45 p.m. 11:30 p.m.	Ma'ariv/Havdalah Study Sessions S'lihot	BRJCC 1414 Walnut St.	
KEVER AVOT Memorial Service	Sunday, Sept. 12	10:00 a.m.	Kever Avot	Rolling Hills Cemetery, Tel Shalom 4100 Hilltop Dr., Richmond	
EREV ROSH HA-SHANAH	Wednesday, Sept. 15	7:30 p.m.	Ma'ariv	Northbrae Community Church 941 The Alameda	
*FIRST DAY OF ROSH HA-SHANAH 	Thursday, Sept. 16	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 12:15 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:15 p.m.	Pseukei d'Zimra Shaharit Torah Service Drash Musaf & Torah Study Tashlikh Minhah/Ma'ariv	Northbrae      Live Oak Park Northbrae	YNB program 9:30 am–1:00 pm, Northbrae YNB T'fillah: 11:30 am–12:30 pm, Northbrae  YNL program 9:30 am–1:30 pm, Epworth United Methodist Church
*SECOND DAY OF ROSH HA-SHANAH	Friday, Sept. 17	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 11:45 a.m. 12:15 p.m.	Pseukei d'Zimra Shaharit Torah Service Drash Musaf	Northbrae	YNB program 9:30 am–1:00 pm, Northbrae YNB T'fillah: 11:30 am–12:30 pm, Northbrae  YNL program 9:30 am–1:30 pm, Epworth
SHABBAT SHUVAH	Saturday, Sept. 18	9:45 a.m.	Shaharit (reg. Shabbat Services)	Northbrae	
*KOL NIDRE	Friday, Sept. 24	6:50 p.m.  6:50 p.m.  6:30 p.m.	Kol Nidre (2 Services) Sephardic Kol Nidre  Family Kol Nidre	Northbrae (Sanctuary & Haver Hall) Epworth United Methodist Church 1963 Hopkins (Upstairs) Epworth United Methodist Church (Downstairs)	
*YOM KIPPUR	Saturday, Sept. 25	9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 10:45 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 12:30 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m. 6:45 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 8:01 p.m.	Pseukei d'Zimra Shaharit Torah Service Drash Yizkor Musaf/Avodah/Martyrology T'fillah Study Study Sessions Minhah Ne'ilah Ma'ariv/Havdalah Break the Fast	Northbrae        Northbrae & Epworth  Haver Hall at Northbrae	YNB program 9:30 am–1:00 pm, Northbrae YNB T'fillah: 11:30 am–12:30 pm, Northbrae  YNL program: 9:30 am–2:30 pm, Epworth  
1ST DAY SUKKOT	Thursday, Sept. 30	9:45 a.m.	Sukkot Services Hallel & Hoshanot	BRJCC	
2ND DAY SUKKOT	Friday, Oct. 1	9:45 a.m.	Sukkot Services Hallel & Hoshanot	Netivot Shalom 1841 Berkeley Way	
SH'MINI ATZERET	Thursday, Oct. 7	9:45 a.m.	Sh'mini Atzeret Services Shaharit (Kohélet, Yizkor)	BRJCC	
SIMHAT TORAH	Thursday, Oct. 7  Friday, Oct. 8	7:45 p.m.  9:45 a.m.	Ma'ariv/Simhat Torah & Hakafof  Shaharit/Simhat Torah & Hakafof	BRJCC	

\* Indicates **ticket required for admission**. Because of increased attendance, **and for security reasons, we will be checking tickets at the door**.  
Note also there are no reserved seats.

# Celebrating Our True Nature

By Ellen Peskin

After the deeply inward and personal experience of Rosh ha-Shanah and Yom Kippur, we are invited to rejoin the stream of life with a joyous community celebration of the autumn harvest. We are looking forward to returning to the Wildcat View campsite in Tilden Park, where we have welcomed the festival of joy and recreated a community in the wilderness for the past six years. Once again, the Religious School will be preparing decorations to adorn our *sukkah*, and hosting a potluck dinner for all of the teachers and students and their families. Katya and Joel Gerwein will be returning to lead us in havdalah under the stars, followed by another joyous evening of rousing songs around the blazing campfire.

This year, our community celebration will include many new opportunities for harvesting our joy together:

### Welcoming the Ushpizin

Last year, Rabbi Kelman offered teachings on the tradition of welcoming the *ushpizin*, our beloved ancestors, into our *sukkah* to celebrate with us. In addition to the patriarchs and matriarchs and our spiritual ancestors, we were each invited to invoke the memory of a cherished relative no longer living on earth. We shared how their love continues to sustain and inspire us in our daily lives and how their memories are a blessing. This year, we are planning to observe this practice each night. Everyone coming to the *sukkah* is invited to bring photographs or mementos of a loved one, so we can welcome them into our community *sukkah* and holiday celebration.

### Scholar-in-Residence-in-the-Wilderness!

Rabbi David Seidenberg will be camping out with us all weekend, leading services Friday evening, Saturday and Sunday mornings; guiding us in Torah study; and offering two classes on Jewish teachings on ecology and the environment (on Saturday afternoon and on Sunday morning). A wonderful opportunity to study together in a relaxed atmosphere and immerse ourselves in teachings on nature, surrounded by the beauty of Tilden Park.

### Amitim Sukkah!

This will be the first year that the members of the incoming Amitim class and their families will build their own *sukkah* at the adjoining campsite and camp there overnight. Lively activities are planned — time together with the larger community and time on their own. Some Amitim students will be helping with childcare during Rabbi Seidenberg's classes Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning. We are looking forward to welcoming the students and their families, and expanding our community in the wilderness!

### Shabbat B'Yachad

Sunday afternoon's program will include a story time and activities for children under five and their families, as well as harvest snacks in the community *sukkah*. Everyone is welcome!

### Tiferet Project Gathering

Sunday evening, the Tiferet Project, a program designed to welcome intermarried households into Conservative Judaism, will host the

# Harvesting Our Joy: Sukkot in Tilden Park

a weekend of joyful prayer  
and lively study, exploring  
Jewish teachings on



## Ecology and the Environment

*Everyone is welcome!*

**Wheelchair Accessible**

**Suggested Donations for Camping: \$18/night**  
**Scholar-in-Residence Weekend: \$36, sliding scale**

**For more information and to register,  
contact Ellen Peskin at 510-685-8024, or  
ellenpeskn@sbcglobal.net**

**Please register by  
Wednesday, September 22.**

potluck dinner in our community *sukkah*, followed by an evening program with Rabbi Kelman. This will be an opportunity for members of Netivot Shalom, as well as intermarried families in the larger community, to gather informally to share experiences and celebrate together.

### Social Action/Tikkun Olam Project

This year, we will have an opportunity to give back to the park that has so warmly welcomed us each year. On Monday morning, naturalist Alan Kaplan, a park ranger at the Tilden Nature Center, will lead us in a park beautification project, of trail maintenance. Afterward, we will all gather in our *sukkah* to enjoy a potluck lunch together.

### Star Gazing, Evening Nature Walk

Alan Kaplan came up to our *sukkah* last year to enjoy his apple and fulfill the *mitzvah* of eating in a *sukkah*. This year, Alan has offered to lead an evening presentation on Tuesday night, describing the wonders of the natural life in Tilden Park and illuminating the treasures of the autumn sky.

Celebrating together in Tilden Park, surrounded by the wonders of the natural world and the gifts of the season, offers so many opportunities for reconnecting with the nature that surrounds us, and with our own true nature. Come taste the sweetness of our nomadic community in the wilderness, and experience pure joy.



# Harvesting Our Joy

## Sukkot in Tilden Park 5765 Schedule of events

### WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 29

- 10:00 a.m. Build the *sukkah* – many hands make light work!
- 4:00 p.m. Decorate the *sukkah* (no Religious School today; students especially welcome!)
- 6:00 p.m. Ma'ariv, potluck dinner, welcome *ushpizin* (our ancestors)

### THURSDAY, SEPT. 30

- 10 a.m.–3 p.m. Young children's activities
- 6:30 p.m. Potluck dinner, welcome *ushpizin*

### FRIDAY, OCT. 1

- 6:00 p.m. Ma'ariv/kabbalat Shabbat with Rabbi David Seidenberg, potluck dinner, welcome *ushpizin*

### SHABBAT, OCT. 2

- 10:00 a.m. Shaḥarit and Torah study with Rabbi David Seidenberg
- 1:00 p.m. Potluck lunch
- 3:00–4:30 p.m. Class with Rabbi David Seidenberg (childcare w/ Amitim students)
- 6:00 p.m. Potluck dinner, welcome *ushpizin*
- 8:00 p.m. Amitim sleepover at neighboring campsite
- 8:30 p.m. Havdalah and campfire

### SUNDAY, OCT. 3

- 10:00 a.m. Class with Rabbi David Seidenberg (childcare w/ Amitim students), followed by shaḥarit
- 1:00 p.m. Potluck lunch
- 2:00–4:00 p.m. Shabbat B'Yachad program
- 6:00 p.m. Tiferet potluck dinner, welcome *ushpizin*
- 7:30 p.m. Evening program with Rabbi Stuart Kelman

### MONDAY, OCT. 4

- 10:00 a.m.–noon Social Action/*tikkun olam* project — trail maintenance in Tilden Park with naturalist Alan Kaplan, park ranger at Nature Center in Tilden
- 6:30 p.m. Potluck dinner with Religious School teachers, students and families, welcome *ushpizin*

### TUESDAY, OCT. 5

- Hoshana Rabbah begins at sunset
- 6:30 p.m. Potluck dinner, welcome *ushpizin*
- 7:30 p.m. Evening nature program with naturalist Alan Kaplan

### WEDNESDAY, OCT. 6

- MORNING Pack up *sukkah* and head home

*All potluck meals are kosher vegetarian, according to Netivot Shalom guidelines.*



Photographs of Sukkot in Tilden 5764, courtesy of Ellen Peskin.

# SHUL ACTIVITIES

## YOUTH EDUCATION

**Shabbat B'Yachad (SBY)** for families with preschool children. Program includes *t'fillah* (prayer), songs, Torah stories, a Torah parade and kiddush. A vibrant community of families, SBY also holds holiday celebrations throughout the year. Registration is required, but membership in Netivot Shalom is not. **2nd and 4th Shabbat** each month, 11:00 a.m. at the BRJCC.

**Religious School** provides an engaging curriculum for children in grades 1–6. Weekday classes cover Hebrew language, Torah study, the Jewish calendar and holidays, Jewish history, ethics, Israel and life-cycle events. Shabbat classes focus on *t'fillah*, synagogue and Shabbat observances. Classes resume **September 20** for grades 3–6, **September 22** for grades 1–2, 4:00–6:00 p.m.

**Shabbat Program** for children (K–6) in either Religious School or day school. Each Shabbat, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. at the BRJCC. *T'fillah*, and classes on prayer, synagogue and Shabbat observances. Classes resume **October 9**.

**Amitim** (b'nai mitzvah preparation program) classes focus on the structure and meaning of prayer. Students also study Torah texts and explore their relevance for a teen's life. Open to Netivot Shalom member families. Classes resume **September 21** and meet Tuesdays, 4:00–6:30 p.m. plus another day to be determined.

**Midrasha**, an inter-congregational program for East Bay Jewish teenagers, offers classes ranging from Talmud and Hebrew to Jewish films and drama. The program provides students with the skills and knowledge they will need as committed Jewish adults. Classes resume **September 12**.

## ADULT EDUCATION

### SUNDAY

**Morning minyan, 9:30 a.m., NS office**

**Teachings, 10:30–11:30 a.m., NS office:**

**Core Values in/about Our New Home**

Rabbi Stuart Kelman

2nd Sunday, starting **October 10**

**Congregant Presentations:**

4th Sunday, starting **September 26**

**#1: Living in a Sukkah**, Robin Braverman

**#2: Running a Political Campaign**, Scott Adams

**K'vod Ha-met**

Carol Cunradi

10:30–11:30 a.m., NS office, 1st & 3rd Sunday, starts **October 17**

### MONDAY

**Heritage: The History of Jewish Civilization**

Ken Cohen

7:30–9:30 p.m., NS office, starting **September 20**

### TUESDAY

**Seven Tuesdays, Seven Psalms**

Rabbi Stuart Kelman

7:30–9:00 p.m., NS office, beginning **October 19**

### WEDNESDAY

**Haftarah Trope**

Jan Fischer

7:30–9:00 p.m., NS office, beginning **October 13**

**Jesus through Jewish Eyes**

Naomi Seidman

7:00–9:00 p.m., NS office, **October 27, November 3**

**Mameloshn: Gender and Language in Ashkenaz**

Naomi Seidman

7:00–9:00 p.m., NS office, **October 13, 20**

**Tradition and Change in the Conservative Movement**

Rabbi Stuart Kelman

7:00–9:00 p.m., BRJCC, **October 20, 27**

### SHABBAT

**Praying When You're Not in Shul**

Rabbi Stuart Kelman

1:30–3:00 p.m., BRJCC, **October 9, 23**

### SCHOLARS-IN-RESIDENCE

**S'lihot:**

**Mussar Study with Alan Morinis**

Shabbat, **September 11**, 9:00 a.m.; 9:15–11:15 p.m., BRJCC

**Sukkot in Tilden:**

**Rabbi David Seidenberg**

**Friday, October 1**, 6:00 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat service

**Shabbat, October 2**, 3:00–4:30 p.m., Tilden Park

**Sunday, October 3**, 10:00–11:30 a.m., Tilden Park

## COMMUNITY NEEDS

**Sponsor a Kiddush: Calendar On-line**

Go to the link from the Netivot Shalom Web site or directly to [http://my.calendars.net/netivot\\_shalom/admin](http://my.calendars.net/netivot_shalom/admin). Scroll through to see which dates need a kiddush sponsor. And, of course, contact us to sponsor a kiddush. Thank you from the Kiddush coordinators, Joanna Weinberg ([weinbgj@itsa.ucsf.edu](mailto:weinbgj@itsa.ucsf.edu)) and Turi Adams ([live-mic@majomet.com](mailto:live-mic@majomet.com)).

**The Morning Minyan Needs You**

The core of our Wednesday morning minyan has shrunk, and we've been having trouble getting a minyan. There are people attending services who need to say kaddish and have been unable to do so. Consider becoming a once-a-month attendee. The minyan begins at 7:15 a.m. and ends by 8:00 a.m.

**Are You Struggling with Infertility or Miscarriage?** Would you like to talk with someone from the congregation who may have had a similar experience, or may be in the same place right now? Contact Robin Braverman, who will facilitate discreet, one-on-one contact between Netivot Shalom members. Have you “been there?” If you would be willing to speak with congregants who are now experiencing these issues, please contact Robin at rivkah48@aol.com or 925-979-1998.

## SHABBAT SERVICES & PROGRAMS

Held at the BRJCC, 1414 Walnut Street

### Shabbat Morning Services

Morning services begin at 9:45 a.m.

### Meditative Minyan

9:30 a.m., room 14, 3rd Shabbat each month.

### Shabbat B'Yachad

11:00 a.m., room 14, 2nd and 4th Shabbat each month.

### Religious School Shabbat Program

Children Grades K–6; classes resume October 9.

### Torah Study: the weekly *parashah*

See calendar for teachers; 9:00–10:00 a.m., BRJCC Library; free.

## WEEKDAY T'FILLAH

Held at the Netivot Shalom office, 1841 Berkeley Way

**Morning Minyan**, every Wednesday at 7:15 a.m., 2nd & 4th Sundays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

**Rosh Hodesh Minyan:** R"ח Tishrei is Rosh ha-Shanah, September 15. R"ח Heshvan is October 15, Shabbat.

## SOCIAL ACTION

### Claremont House Kabbalat Shabbat

4500 Gilbert in Oakland, 5th floor lounge, 7:00 p.m., 1st and 3rd Friday of the month. Volunteers are needed during services, to hand out kiddush cups and for schmoozing afterwards. Contact Hilla Abel at 510-848-4843 or hilla\_abel@hotmail.com.

### Dinners for the Homeless

Dorothy Day House of Berkeley, 1st Sunday of the month. Volunteers are needed for shopping, cooking or serving. Donations are needed for food purchases. Make contributions to Netivot Shalom, marked “Dinners for the Homeless” (\$60 provides dinner for about 40 people). Contact Sharona Barzilay at 510-658-8157.

### Feed the Hungry

Food barrels are available in the office. Bring unopened non-perishable food any time the office is open.

### Social Action Committee meetings

4th Thursday of the month in private homes. Contact Jonathan Stern at socialaction@netivotshalom.org or 510-872-0751.

### Jewish Coalition for Literacy Tutors at BYA

Volunteers are needed to tutor students one hour a week at the Berkeley Youth Alternatives program. Contact Jonathan Stern at socialaction@netivotshalom.org or 510-872-0751.

## Youth Ed Revs Up for 5765

By Michelle Wolfson, Director, Youth Education

5765 is going to be an amazing year! We have a first-rate staff of new and returning teachers who are super enthusiastic and work well together as a teaching team. The Amitim students I've worked with these first few weeks have been a blast, and I can't wait to connect with the rest of our students. I'm fired up to create fun and engaging events and activities. There's a whole lot of percolating going on. Shabbat programs for youth are undergoing a revamp. Stay tuned. We are extremely fortunate to have the gifted Cathy Shadd continue to coordinate Shabbat B'Yachad and Yamim Nora'im B'Yachad (YNB) for the five-and-under crowd and their parents! Our own talented Zephira Derbllich-Milea is coming back for a second year as program coordinator for Yamim Nora'im L'Yeledim (YNL), Yamim Nora'im children's programs.

In addition to teaching Hebrew, Torah, *t'fillah* and the holy days of the Jewish calendar, we have two special themes this year. Since we are moving into a new sacred space of our own this spring, we will study the history of our people's sacred spaces in biblical and modern times, looking at the *obel moed* – tent of meeting, *mishkan* – tabernacle, *beit ha-mikdash* – temple, and the history of the synagogue ancient and modern. 2004 is the 350th anniversary of Jews in North America, in 1654, so our religious school will be studying how Jews arrived in the U.S., Jewish contributions to American ideals, early America and the larger culture.

The new year is a time for both looking back and looking forward. If there is anything that Netivot Shalom has done in years past that you really dug and want to see happen, let me know. If there is any activity you envision our youth would relish, let's talk, and maybe we can make it happen. We have such a depth of talent in our community, and such a willingness to contribute, I just have to ask. A few ways, all fun, that you can help are detailed below.

So, *she-bebeyanu*, what a blessing it is for God to have sustained me and brought me to this community at this time. I am honored to take on the role of director of youth education and feel extremely blessed to work with the youth of our community.

Here's to a year of many blessings! ☺

## Pictures of Synagogues & Temples Wanted

As we look forward to moving to our new building this spring, the religious school will look at the history of synagogues and our people's sacred spaces. I am looking for pictures of different synagogues and sacred places of worship, both full color and Xeroxable, or even models! Here are a few sacred spaces I want to share with our students:

- **Obel moed – tent of meeting:** The name *obel moed* includes within it the spatial element of *obel*, or tent, and *moed*, appointed time or season. The *obel moed* was the location of sacred space and created

sacred time, and also a place where we could push the boundaries of both space and time in encountering the ineffable.

• **Mishkan – portable tabernacle or tent:** *Mishkan* comes from the Hebrew root *shakhan*, which means to dwell or to abide. We get other Hebrew words from this same root, like neighbor and neighborhood. The Rabbis derived the word *Shekhina*, the indwelling Presence of the Divine, from this root, from the noun *mishkan*, the place where the Divine dwells.

• **Beit ha-mikdash – temple, sanctuary, sacred place:** *Kadosh*, the root word of *mikdash*, means separate; sacred, holy, to be set apart. The *mikdash* is a sacred space set apart for the holy, a separate reality. This term refers to the First Temple, that is, Solomon’s Temple; the Second Temple; and Herod’s remodeled Second Temple.

- Ancient synagogues around the Mediterranean
- Sephardic and Ashkenazi synagogues
- 18th and 19th century American synagogues
- Modern synagogues

## 350th Anniversary of Jews in North America, 1654–2004

How did the United States become the nation with half of the Jews in the world? It is a 350-year story, and here is a little background.

Did You Know???

- In 1492 (the same year as Columbus’s expedition), Spanish Jews were forced to convert to Christianity or leave Spain.
- Many of those *conversos* (forced converts) settled in the Americas.
- Converso Jews sailed with Columbus in 1492, Hernando Cortes in 1521, and Sir Walter Raleigh to Roanoke, Virginia, in 1584.
- A converso Jew financed Columbus’s expedition.
- Seized assets of the expelled Jews of Spain funded Columbus’s second voyage.
- Brazilian Dutch Sephardic Jewish refugees were the first Jews to permanently settle in North America. In 1654, the Portuguese recaptured Brazil from the Dutch, and the Inquisition returned. Twenty-three Jewish refugees fled Brazil and settled in the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam (against the wishes of its governor, Peter Stuyvesant).
- When the English conquered the colony of New Amsterdam, in 1664, all of its inhabitants became English subjects in the colony renamed New York. Yes, the first Jews in North America settled in New York.

## Lower East Side Culture Day

We are planning a Lower East Side of New York Culture Day, with stickball, kick the can, food, storytelling, Yiddish singing, learning Yiddish insults, and maybe even dancing. If anyone has a story, song, game, activity or something else to share with our 1st–6th graders, or wants to help organize this two-hour event, please contact Michelle Wolfson at [edu@netivotshalom.org](mailto:edu@netivotshalom.org).

## Stories Wanted

All you storytellers and historians of Jewish American history — if anyone has a story to share on the following subjects and wants to tell it to our students in grades K–2 or 3–6 on Shabbat, let me know. Let’s turn your anecdote into a 5–10 minute story.

- Jews in the early history of the Americas
- Jews in the American Revolution and the founding of the United States
- Jews in the Civil War, American West, Gold Rush, with Native Americans, or early San Francisco
- Lower East Side of New York
- Unusual emigration, wild escape or surprising immigration to the U.S.
- Jews in the civil rights struggle or early union organizing

## Your Family’s Jewish Holiday

### Traditions:

I am also collecting stories about how Jewish holidays and Shabbat were celebrated in different times, places and communities, especially in the U.S., but also in other ancestral locations. If you have any unusual, quaint or unique family customs or memories of traditions past for Rosh ha-Shanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Hoshana Rabbah, Simḥat Torah, Hanukah or Shabbat, or Jewish American history stories, e-mail them to Michelle Wolfson at [edu@netivotshalom.org](mailto:edu@netivotshalom.org).

## Report from Midrasha in Berkeley

By Diane Bernbaum, Midrasha Director

School starts on Sunday, September 12. It seems that, as always, the summer was way too short. One of the highlights of my summer was the second annual conference for directors of community Hebrew high schools that took place on the Brandeis University campus in Massachusetts. Those faithful readers with better memories than mine may remember me talking about this last summer. An anonymous donor (the donor is still anonymous, but now we know he or she heads something called the Legacy Heritage Foundation) wanted to give some money to community Hebrew high schools; schools like Midrasha that are supplementary Jewish high school programs, supported either by a federation or a group of synagogues, usually cross-denominational, usually open to unaffiliated students as well. Last summer, the donor wasn’t even aware that there were several schools like this that already existed. He or she was thinking of starting new schools. The 10 of us who were assembled from around the country explained that one didn’t need to reinvent the wheel — that there were several schools like this around the country. We urged the donor to hold another conference and this time invite all directors of community Hebrew high schools.

This summer, 25 of us showed up. It was great to meet in person the other directors that I had been corresponding with all year, based on the list-serve set up after last summer’s conference. Over the year, I’ve asked for advice on Hebrew books. Other directors have asked about the popularity of studying Hebrew (I found out that we have strong Hebrew enrollment in Berkeley, while in other parts of the country classes are very undersubscribed) and the need

for a dress code. (I smiled silently to myself on this one, and thought about how un-Berkeley a dress code would be. Besides, somehow the students do just fine, showing up appropriately clothed).

Our host, Joe Reimer, director of the Institute for Informal Jewish Education, and his staff put together a wonderful program. We started early in the morning and went till late at night, often meeting over meals. One morning was devoted to marketing. We needed to have interviewed several parents and students before we came. From this exercise, I learned that we have a much easier time marketing Midrasha in this community than is the case in other places. Here, it's the norm for students to continue after their 7th grade Hebrew school. Other communities were jealous.

We spent part of a day discussing how to help our teachers write curriculum. We learned how to do grant writing and found out that there might be some grants available to us from this same donor. And the best part is that this conference is funded for the next two years, so I can look forward to returning next July. Throughout my many years as director of Midrasha, until last summer conferences and meetings made me feel like the odd man (OK, woman) out. Either they were aimed at elementary school education or at high school programs within a specific synagogue. To have a room filled with people with exactly my concerns was a joy. And the best part was attending with my local colleagues, Rebecca Zimmerman, Elaine Bachrach and Juliet Spear, directors of the Midrashot in Contra Costa, Oakland and Fremont. And now, throughout this coming year, we can use what we learned to make better group decisions.

That's not all we did as a group this summer. The Midrasha directors also shared an intern through Jewish Vocational Service's Kohn internship program. Our amazing intern, Emily Berenberg, collected 20 plus years' worth of courses taught at all four Midrashot, combined them into one document, categorized them on a spread sheet, and noted which ones had complete curricula, books or syllabi to go with them. Now when new teachers come and say they are interested in teaching a course in a particular subject, at the press of a button I can show them how similar classes have been taught in the past and where we have an appropriate curriculum. Emily was great to work with. And my colleagues and I can't imagine why we waited so long to have this project done.

*Shanah Tovab!* ☞

#### FIRST DAY OF RELIGIOUS SCHOOL:

September 20 for grades 3–6, 4:00–6:00 p.m.

September 22 for grades 1–2, 4:00–6:00 p.m.

#### FIRST DAY OF AMITIM:

September 21, 4:00–6:30 p.m.

#### FIRST DAY OF MIDRASHA:

September 12

#### FIRST DAY OF SHABBAT PROGRAM:

October 9, 10:30–12:30 a.m.

## Yamim Nora'im B'Yachad

By Cathy Shadd, Shabbat B'Yachad Coordinator

Children experience the Yamim Nora'im in their own, age-appropriate way, during our Yamim Nora'im B'Yachad (YNB) program and *t'fillah* services. While a preschooler's understanding of the Days of Awe does not encompass being inscribed in the Book of Life, or God sitting in judgment, or Abraham offering Isaac as a sacrifice, we try to help the children experience the essence of the High Holy Days in a meaningful way. Our goals are to familiarize the children with the special symbols and words we use — the shofar, apples and honey, round *challot*, *shanah tovah* — and with the underlying meaning of the awe we feel.

In our program for Rosh ha-Shanah, children aged two and a half through five decorate *shanah tovah* cards with stickers; make bees out of foam shapes and pipe cleaners; cover little honey bowls with stickers; make play dough “cookies” in the shapes of shofars, Torahs, magen Davids and kiddush cups; play holiday-related matching games; and look at picture books about families celebrating the High Holy Days. On Yom Kippur, they decorate paper shofars with stickers, use stickers to decorate cardboard puppets with a happy face on one side and a sad face on the other, “fish” for *mitzvot*, toss rings onto “*mitzvot*,” and make more holiday-related play dough cookies. Through all this, the children love the warm attention they get from the teen helpers who work with our program!

The parents of the preschoolers and the younger siblings come later for our family *t'fillah* service. Using the special *mahzor* we created for YNB, parents lead us in our prayer service and tell holiday-related Torah stories. During these services, the children learn some of the High Holy Day melodies; and having focused on the things we do and see during the Yamim Nora'im, they now have the chance to focus on what we feel. We talk about what it means that a new year is starting, that we have the chance to pause, look back, and look ahead. With so many children starting school in the fall, it is a natural time for them to feel themselves growing and changing. One of the songs we sing on Yom Kippur nicely frames reflection and repentance for little children in these words: “These are the days we say we are sorry, for the things we did that we can do better; these are the days we make a promise, to be the best that we can be.”

Many thanks to all the parents and teens whose contributions make the Yamim Nora'im such an enriching learning experience for the youngest members of our shul community! ☞

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Join us on Sunday, October 3, 2:00–4:00 p.m., when SBY celebrates Sukkot in our community *sukkah* (at the Wildcat View site in Tilden Park) with crafts, songs, stories and snacks. RSVP to Cathy Shadd (cathy@inventek.com).
- Back by popular demand, Vicky Kelman will once again facilitate a parenting discussion group based on the best-selling parenting book *The Blessing of a Skinned Knee* by Wendy Mogul. The group will meet at the Kelmans' home one weekday evening per month for six months starting in October or November. It is open to all parents of young children. Please contact Cathy Shadd to register (510-654-5522 or cathy@inventek.com).

## MAZAL TOV! TO...

- **Shamia Arif**, our Shabbat childcare worker/play yard supervisor, on her engagement to Yacob Munshi
- **Eugene & Nancy Bardach** on the marriage of their daughter, Naomi Bardach, to Jonathan Katzman
- Amitim teacher **Adam Bodenstein** on his engagement to Tamar Fogel
- **Lara Hornbeck & John Erlich** on the birth of their son, David Lev Erlich
- **Mike Irwin & Charlene Stern** on the engagement of their son, Daniel Irwin, to Neely Margo
- **Rabbi Danny Isaacson** on his marriage to Liora Brosbe
- **David Radwin & Kaara Vukich** on the birth of their daughter, Ruth Lydia Radwin
- **Barbara Staman** on her marriage to Tom Wolff

**To these newest members of Netivot Shalom, b'ruhim haba'im — welcome to the shul!**

- **Ralph & Judith Greif**
- **Edward Levitch**
- **Irwin Mussen**

## Upcoming B'nai Mitzvah Anniversaries

### September 11: Nitzavim–Va-Yeilekh

Or Shuval, Lillian Stern, Seth Rosenthal, Robert Stern, Sarah Breiner, Joshua Cataldo, Nathan Levin

### September 18: Va-yeilekh

Jenny Fineman

### October 9: B'reishit

Rachel Meresman, Lilah Valfer, Sarah Goldberg, Leah Whitman-Salkin, Amit Gressel, Lucy Kahn, Rose Hermalin

### October 16: No-ah

Nicolas Bell, Jacob Shandling, Zephira Derblich-Milea, Jacob Breslow, Avi Samelson, Noah Schnur

### October 23: Lekh L'kha

Japhet Weeks, Miriam Feeley, Tahle Sendowski, Simon Stahl, Arielle Levine, Adam Rosenbloom

## Order Your Lulav & Etrog for Sukkot

“...you shall take the fruit of goodly trees, branches of palm trees, boughs of leafy trees and willows of the brook, and you shall rejoice before the Lord your God seven days” (Leviticus 23:40)

The mitzvah is to take the four species (etrog, palm, myrtle and willow), hold them together and wave them. The symbolism is clear: God is not to be located in a specific location, and these four species are symbolic of the gifts that God has given all of us. The practice is to choose the finest available, in order to practice the custom of *hiddur mitzvah* — doing a *mitzvah* in the most exquisite way possible.

Order your *lulav* and *etrog* from Afikomen by September 13. \$45 a set. Call 510-655-1977.

Unsure of the proper blessings? See pages 378–9 in *Siddur Sim Shalom*.

## Two Programs of the Jewish Community Federation of the Greater East Bay

### SPECIAL NEEDS PARENT SUPPORT GROUP

Open to parents of Jewish children who have special learning needs and reside in the East Bay. **Dates for the 2004–5 school year:** Sundays, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 14, Dec. 5, Jan. 9, Feb. 6, Mar. 6, April 3, May 1 (*motzei hag*), June 5, 7:00–9:00 p.m. Temple Beth Abraham, 327 MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. For information, call 510-839-2900 ext. 233, or e-mail [desmid@jfed.org](mailto:desmid@jfed.org).

### VOLUNTEER WITH THE JEWISH COALITION FOR LITERACY

Help a child, grades K–3, learn to read! Call 510-839-2900 ext. 272 or e-mail [shirley@jfed.org](mailto:shirley@jfed.org).

## The Corners of Our Fields

Fulfill the biblical mandate to “leave the corners of our fields for the poor and the stranger.”

Donate to MAZON: A Jewish Response to Hunger what it would have cost to feed yourself and your family on Yom Kippur — help feed the 13 million American children who will not break their fast at sundown.

MAZON, 1990 South Bundy Drive, Ste. 260, Los Angeles, CA 90025, [www.mazon.org](http://www.mazon.org)

## Yamim Nora'im Food Drive

A Message from Raechelle T. Clemmons, Alameda County Community Food Bank: “The High Holy Days food drive draws extra attention to the issue of hunger in our community. It’s timing is particularly important, as our shelves can get rather bare following the summer and before the big holiday push.

“Our goal this year is to collect 30,000 pounds of nutritious, nonperishable food. This represents an increase of 50 percent over last year’s collection. I know this is a very ambitious goal, but the need in our community continues to grow at the same time that the Food Bank’s food industry donation sources are shrinking.”

OK, folks: Last year we collected 600 pounds of food at the NS office (throughout the year) and 130 pounds at Northbrae during Yamim Nora'im. **Can we increase that by 50 percent?** Why not?! Bags are available at the NS office and the barrels will be set up at Northbrae, just as in past years. **Start collecting nonperishable food items now!!** (And you don't have to wait; our two barrels are in the office now, waiting to be filled.)

## We Want You!

Do you want to know *everything* that's going on at Netivot Shalom? Do you want to find out more about the talents and skills of our congregants, and share them with others? Then, *we want you!* Join our small but mighty newsletter band. Write an occasional piece or contribute on a monthly basis. (We'll be happy to supply you with topics to cover.)

Do you like to draw? Would you like to add your artistic touch to the newsletter? *We want you!*

Would you like to organize the monthly calendar, ensuring that we are accurate and complete? Then, *we want you!*

Add life to our bimonthly communications — without signing away your life. Take on as much, or as little, as you like. Write to newsletter@netivotshalom.org, or call Judith Lesser McCullough at 415-647-4792.

**Mark Rasmussen & Diana Wood**  
invite you to share in their *simha* on

**October 16, 2004**

**1 Heshvan**

**Parshat No-ah**

when their son, **Will Rasmussen,**

will be called to the Torah  
as a Bar Mitzvah.

**Norine Shima**

invites you to share in her *simha* on

**October 23, 2004**

**8 Heshvan**

**Parshat Lekh L'kha**

when her daughter, **Nia Shima-Franklin,**

will be called to the Torah  
as a Bat Mitzvah.

## Kol Sippur: A Festival of Jewish Storytelling

**Sunday, October 10, 2004**  
**10:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., at the BRJCC**

A day-long celebration of Jewish storytelling, the art that is central to Jewish life and learning — with Joel Ben Izzy, Roslyn Bresnick-Perry, Steve Sanfeld, Erica Lann Clark, Jane Golbert and many others. Events include morning and evening performances, innovative workshops, story swapping, children's performance, story hour, food and childcare.

All day: \$25 public/\$18 co-sponsors; families: \$70 public/\$56 co-sponsors

Half-day (after 1:00 p.m.): \$18 public/\$15 co-sponsors; families: \$40 public/\$30 co-sponsors

Childcare: \$3 an hour (must be reserved by October 1, 2004)

Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center  
1414 Walnut St., Berkeley  
510-848-0237 ext. 127 or ruthp@brjcc.org



## BRIDGES TO ISRAEL-BERKELEY & THE BRJCC PRESENT Israel's Fence: Legal — or Necessary?

**Ephraim Margolin**, professor, Hastings School of Law, and internationally acclaimed civil rights attorney, will discuss arguments for and against the fence, recent rulings on the fence by the International Court of Justice and the Israeli Supreme Court, and the impact of these rulings in the Middle East and internationally.

**Sunday, September 12, 7:15 p.m., at the BRJCC**

Ephraim Margolin was recently named to the Trial Lawyers Hall of Fame by the California Bar Association for his success in "representing the powerless against the anonymous and all-powerful society." One-third of his work is donated, and he has argued cases involving censorship, civil liberties, and the rights of conscientious objectors and gays. He has also taught at Boalt School of Law.

**Refreshments**

**Donation:** \$10, BRJCC members (includes Netivot Shalom) \$8

# September 2004

# Elul 5764 – Tishrei 5765

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> 15 Elul 7:15 am Morning minyan	<b>2</b> 16 Elul	<b>3</b> 17 Elul 7:19 pm Candle lighting	<b>4</b> 18 Elul 9:00 am Torah study with Simon Firestone 9:45 am Shabbat services; drash by Michael Meltzer Ki Tavo
<b>5</b> 19 Elul 7:00 pm Ritual Committee meeting	<b>6</b> 20 Elul	<b>7</b> 21 Elul	<b>8</b> 22 Elul 7:15 am Morning minyan	<b>9</b> 23 Elul	<b>10</b> 24 Elul 8:00 pm Scholar-in-residence, Dr. Alan Morinis, Temple Isaiah, Lafayette 7:08 pm Candle lighting	<b>11</b> 25 Elul S'LIHOT Nitzavim-Va-yeilekh 9:00 am Scholar-in-residence, Dr. Alan Morinis 9:45 am Shabbat services; drash by Peter Berck 11:00 am Shabbat B'Yachad 9:00 pm Ma'ariv/Havdalah, at BRJCC 9:15 pm Scholar-in-residence, Dr. Alan Morinis, BRJCC 11:30 pm S'ilhot service, at RJCC
<b>12</b> 26 Elul 10:00 am Kever Avot, Tel Shalom, Richmond 9:30 am, repeat 11:45 am Scholar-in-residence, Dr. Alan Morinis, Beth Chaim Congregation, Danville 10:30 am New Building presentation	<b>13</b> 27 Elul	<b>14</b> 28 Elul	<b>15</b> 29 Elul EREV ROSH HA-SHANAH 7:15 am Morning minyan 7:30 pm Ma'ariv, Northbrae	<b>16</b> 1 Tishrei ROSH HA-SHANAH 9:00 am Services, Northbrae 9:30 am YNL, YNB 5:00 pm Tashlikh, Live Oak Park 7:15 pm Mitzvah/ma'ariv, Northbrae	<b>17</b> 2 Tishrei ROSH HA-SHANAH SECOND DAY 9:00 am Services, Northbrae 9:30 am YNL, YNB 6:57 pm Candle lighting	<b>18</b> 3 Tishrei Shabbat Shuvah Haazinu (Services held at Northbrae) 9:00 am Torah study with Nitzhia Shaked 9:45 am Shabbat services; drash by Rabbi Kelman
<b>19</b> 4 Tishrei Fast of Gedaliah 6:30 pm Youth Education meeting	<b>20</b> 5 Tishrei 4:00 pm First day of Religious School for grades 3-6 7:30 pm Heritage, Ken Cohen	<b>21</b> 6 Tishrei 4:00 pm First day of Amitim	<b>22</b> 7 Tishrei 7:15 am Morning minyan 4:00 pm First day of Religious School for grades 1-2	<b>23</b> 8 Tishrei	<b>24</b> 9 Tishrei EREV YOM KIPPUR 6:30 pm Family Kol Nidre, Epworth 6:50 pm Kol Nidre, Northbrae 6:50 pm Sephardic Kol Nidre, Epworth 6:46 pm Candle lighting	<b>25</b> 10 Tishrei YOM KIPPUR 9:00 am Psukei d'Zimra, Northbrae 10:45 am Torah service 12:30 pm Yizkor 1:00 pm T'fillah study, Musaf 4:00 pm Study sessions 5:15 pm Mitzvah 5:15 pm Ne'ila, Northbrae & Epworth 6:45 pm Ma'ariv/Havdalah 7:30 pm Break the Fast, Haver Hall at Northbrae 8:01 pm
<b>26</b> 11 Tishrei 9:30 am Morning minyan 10:30 am Living in a Sukkah, Robin Braverman 7:00 pm Board meeting	<b>27</b> 12 Tishrei 4:00 pm Religious School 7:30 pm Heritage, Ken Cohen	<b>28</b> 13 Tishrei 4:00 pm Amitim	<b>29</b> 14 Tishrei EREV SUKKOT 10:00 am Sukkah raising in Tilden Park 4:00 pm Sukkah decorating party at Tilden Park 6:00 pm Ma'ariv, potluck dinner at Tilden Park NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	<b>30</b> 15 Tishrei FIRST DAY OF SUKKOT 9:45 am Sukkot services, hallel & hoshanot, BRJCC 10:00 am-3:00 pm Young children's activities, Tilden 6:30 pm Potluck dinner, Tilden	<b>For a complete listing of Yamim Nora'im services and youth programs, please turn to page 7.</b>	



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>3</b> 18 Tishrei 2ND INTERMEDIARY DAY SUKKOT *10:00 am Sukkot Ecology w/ R. David Seidenberg, service follows *2:00 pm Shabbat B'Yachad Sukkot celebration *6:00 pm Tileret polluck *7:30 pm Program w/ Rabbi Kelman *At Tilden Park	<b>4</b> 19 Tishrei 3RD INTERMEDIARY DAY SUKKOT *10:00 am Social Action/likkun olam project with Alan Kaplan *4:00 pm Religious School *6:30 pm Family polluck 7:30 pm Heritage, Ken Cohen *At Tilden Park	<b>5</b> 20 Tishrei 4TH INTERMEDIARY DAY SUKKOT EREV HOSHANA RABBAH *6:30 pm Polluck dinner *7:30 pm Nature program with Alan Kaplan *At Tilden Park	<b>6</b> 21 Tishrei HOSHANA RABBAH ERUV TANSHULIN 7:15 am Hoshana Rabba morning minyan Morning: Pack up Tilden sukkah NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	<b>7</b> 22 Tishrei SH'MINI ATZERET 9:45 am Shatarit/Sh'mini Atzeret service (Kohel, yizkor), BRJCC 7:45 pm Ma'ariv/Simchat Torah & hakafot	<b>8</b> 23 Tishrei SIMCHAT TORAH 9:45 am Shatarit/Simchat Torah & hakafot, BRJCC 6:25 pm Candle lighting	<b>9</b> 24 Tishrei B'reisheit Torah study with Dean Kertesz Shabbat services; drash by Josh Gressel Youth Shabbat program begins Shabbat B'Yachad Praying When You're Not in Shul, Rabbi Kelman
<b>10</b> 25 Tishrei 9:30 am Morning minyan 10:30 am Core Values in/about Our New Home, with Rabbi Kelman	<b>11</b> 26 Tishrei 4:00 pm Religious school 7:30 pm Heritage, Ken Cohen COLUMBUS DAY	<b>12</b> 27 Tishrei 4:00 pm Amitim	<b>13</b> 28 Tishrei 7:15 am Morning minyan 4:00 pm Religious School 7:00 pm Mameloshin: Gender & Language in Ashkenaz, Naomi Seidman 7:30 pm Hatarah trope, Jan Fischer	<b>14</b> 29 Tishrei Art Submissions Deadline 6:15 pm Candle lighting	<b>15</b> 30 Tishrei Noah Torah study with Nitzhia Shaked Meditative minyan Shabbat services; Will Rassmussen will be called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah Youth Shabbat program	<b>16</b> 1 Heshvan LeKh L'kha Torah study with Naomi Seidman Shabbat services; Nia Shima-Franklin will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah Youth Shabbat program Shabbat B'Yachad Praying When You're Not in Shul, Rabbi Kelman
<b>17</b> 2 Heshvan 10:30 am K'vod Ha-met, with Carol Cunradi	<b>18</b> 3 Heshvan 4:00 pm Religious school 5:00 pm Parent-Teacher back to Hebrew school 7:30 pm Heritage, Ken Cohen	<b>19</b> 4 Heshvan 4:00 pm Amitim 7:30 pm Seven Tuesdays, Seven Psalms, Rabbi Kelman	<b>20</b> 5 Heshvan 7:15 am Morning minyan 4:00 pm Religious School 7:00 pm Mameloshin: Gender & Language in Ashkenaz, Naomi Seidman 7:00 pm Tradition & Change in the Conservative Movement, Part 1, Rabbi Kelman, BRJCC	<b>21</b> 6 Heshvan 6:05 pm Candle lighting	<b>22</b> 7 Heshvan 9:00 am 9:45 am 10:30 am 11:00 am 1:30 pm	<b>23</b> 8 Heshvan Va-yera Torah study with Nitzhia Shaked Shabbat services Youth Shabbat program
<b>24</b> 9 Heshvan 9:30 am Morning minyan 10:30 am Scott Adams 7:00 pm Board meeting	<b>25</b> 10 Heshvan 4:00 pm Religious school	<b>26</b> 11 Heshvan 4:00 pm Amitim 7:30 pm Seven Tuesdays, Seven Psalms, Rabbi Kelman	<b>27</b> 12 Heshvan 4:00 pm Religious School 7:00 pm Jesus through Jewish Eyes, Naomi Seidman 7:00 pm Tradition and Change in the Conservative Movement, Part 2, Rabbi Kelman, BRJCC	<b>28</b> 13 Heshvan 5:57 pm Candle lighting	<b>29</b> 14 Heshvan 9:00 am 9:45 am 10:30 am	<b>30</b> 15 Heshvan Va-yera Torah study with Nitzhia Shaked Shabbat services Youth Shabbat program
<b>31</b> 16 Heshvan 10:30 am K'vod Ha-met, with Carol Cunradi	DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS					

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & REMEMBRANCES

## Yahrzeits

Joseph Milton	Elul	15/September 1
Laura London		16/September 2
Helmut Sam Isaak		17/September 3
Jacob Harry Kulakofsky		18/September 4
Joel Knaster		19/September 5
Frank Jacobvitz		20/September 6
Jacob Rosenblatt		22/September 8
Sylvia Brenner		24/September 10
Rabbi Stephen Neil Levinson		25/September 11
Martin Spilky		25/September 11
Esther Berger		26/September 12
Erwin Jacobs		26/September 12
Florence Harriet Smith Andelman		29/September 15
Hannah Aaron		29/September 15
Philip Jaeger	Tishrei	1/September 16
Jacob Lawrence Cohen		1/September 16
Sam David		1/September 16
Julius Lucoff		2/September 17
Max Louis Blachman		2/September 17
Morris Becker		2/September 17
Ida Yaffee		3/September 18
Meyer Kaplan		5/September 20
Beatrice Trow		5/September 20
Dora Goldschmidt		5/September 20
Isador Henry Schwartz		5/September 20
Mendel Sieradzki		6/September 21
Benjamin Solomon Klatt		7/September 22
Norman Kabatznick		7/September 22
Lottie Gidal		7/September 22
Theodore Einwohner		8/September 23
Bernice Epstein		8/September 23
Bertha Rosenstein		10/September 25
Egon Breiner		11/September 26
Al Anisman		12/September 27
David Mathew		14/September 29
Moshe ben Yaakov		15/September 30
Sumner Yale Andelman		16/October 1
Fred Morris Schuman		17/October 2
Rose Beck		17/October 2
Marjorie S. Kaplan		17/October 2
Sylvia Swersky		18/October 3
George H. Kaplan		19/October 4
Ethel Glickstein		21/October 6
Marc Lanier		21/October 6
Elsa Kraus		26/October 11
Sadie Weiser Brinner		28/October 13
Jerome Lieberman		28/October 13
Ben Rust		28/October 13
Philip Braufman		30/October 15
Nathan Kublin		30/October 15
Louis Baron	Heshvan	1/October 16
Zelma Lucoff		1/October 16
Leib Geliebter		3/October 18
Kent R. Granzow		4/October 19
Alan E. Straus		8/October 23
Eva Madonik		10/October 25
Ruth Strauss		10/October 25
Esther Lifschitz		11/October 26
Flora Concus		11/October 26
Harry Vogel		11/October 26
Jeffrey Kabatznick		11/October 26
Deborah Slater		11/October 26
Nathan Schwartz		12/October 27
Sura Brana bat Perl		13/October 28
Isadore Sherman		13/October 28
Max Levine		13/October 28
Herman Schuman		14/October 29
Sophie Bardach		14/October 29
Bessie Raphael		15/October 30

## OUR SINCEREST THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF NETIVOT SHALOM.

### AMITIM

Anonymous

Seth Kimball & Vicki Sommer Kimball

### BUILDING FUND

**Milton & Marge Greenstein** in honor of the birth of Rabbi & Vicky Kelman's first grandchild

**Betty Martinez** in honor of her grandmother, Ethel Teger

**Helen Schneider** in honor of the Kelmans' becoming grandparents, the Braufman family's celebration of Jessica's bat mitzvah, and Pam Sawyer & Margaret Rowland's marriage

### GENERAL FUND

**Arthur & Sheila Braufman** in memory of Peter Berck's mother and Joe Meresman's mother

**Harold & Betty Lee Finn** in memory of S. Cohen and L. Finn

**Jan Fischer** in memory of Sharon Berck, Michael Wynd and Abe Levin

**Dale Friedman & Joan Bradus** in honor of Rabbi & Vicky Kelman's first grandchild

**Julie Weissman & Mike Steinbaugh** in honor of Stu & Vicky's first granddaughter

### LIBRARY FUND

**Hope & Noah Alper** in memory of Margot Lucoff

**Barbara Bibel** in honor of Marsha & Ruth Rosenblatt's banot mitzvah, and in memory of Margot Lucoff

**Judith Lesser McCullough & Michael McCullough** in memory of Margot Lucoff

### RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

**Diane & Edwin Bernbaum** in honor of the marriage of Cantor Pam Sawyer & Margaret Rowland

**Cathy Bolding & Joseph Meresman** in honor of the rabbi's assistance, guidance & support

**Ellen & Herb Brosbe** in honor of the rabbi's care and time with officiating Danny & Liora's wedding

**Karen Friedman & David Marcus** in honor of Hannah Bond's bat mitzvah, Robin Braverman, Judith Lesser McCullough and Rena Fischer

**Stanley & Sharon Meresman** in honor of Rabbi Kelman's support, comfort & prayers for their mother

Denise Moyes-Schnur & Ken Schnur in honor of the Kelmans' first granddaughter

### SHABBAT B'YACHAD

Ellen Raff Peskin & Ben Heschen

### SUKKOT IN TILDEN PARK

Lisa & Joy Gessow

Jeffrey Burack & Shelly Ball

Carol Dorf & Nathan Landau

Joel & Katya Gerwein

Rabbi Serena Eisenberg

### TORAH STUDY

Basya Gale

### YOUTH EDUCATION

**Ellen & Herb Brosbe** in honor of Deb Fink, a welcome to Eliana Panina Becker, and in memory of Abe Levin

### GIFTS OF TIME, TALENT & TRIMMINGS

**Scott Adams** for organizing our participation at Oakland A's baseball games!

**All of you who have recently donated books for our library**

## We Extend Our Condolences to These Netivot Shalom Members & Their Families

**Lee Bearson** on the death of his father, Robert Bearson, ז"ל

**Jim Cunradi** on the death of his father, George Cunradi, ז"ל

**Janet Harris** on the death of her aunt, ז"ל

**Phyllis Helfand**, on the death of her mother, Norma Caplow, ז"ל

**The family and friends of**

**Margot Lucoff**, ז"ל

**The family and friends of**

**Gerda Mathan**, ז"ל

**Joe Meresman** on the death of his mother, Mildred Meresman, ז"ל

## In Memoriam

It is with great sadness that we acknowledge the loss of two long-time members of Netivot Shalom within the past month: Margot Lucoff and Gerda Mathan. They will be greatly missed. *Zichronam l'verakbah.* May their memories be blessed.



## CONGREGATION NETIVOT SHALOM

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## **Deadline Nears for Art & Objects Submissions for Opening of New Building**

The process to enhance the spaces in our new shul has begun. The request for proposals for donations of art and objects has been distributed, but there is still time to obtain one if you haven't already done so. **October 15** is the deadline for submitting proposals. If you are interested as an artist or donor (or know of artists or donors who would be interested in the project), there are copies of the request for proposals, floor elevations, and color and material samples for each space available at the Netivot Shalom office, at 1841 Berkeley Way. Because time is so short, the public spaces on the main floor, such as the sanctuary and various foyer and hall spaces, are our main priorities. Requests for other objects will go out at a later time. A five-person impartial panel will review all submissions and make the final decisions. At this time, we have no budget for these objects, but artists will have the opportunity to have their work viewed by a wide audience.

Blair Prentice and David Finn, the architects on the project, will make a **presentation** on the spaces on **Sunday, September 12, at 10:00 a.m.** at the office and will be available to answer your questions.

For questions, contact Sheila Braufman at 510-525-8492 or [sbraufman@cs.com](mailto:sbraufman@cs.com).