



Congregation Netivot Shalom

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Vol. 16, No. 3

FROM THE RABBI

A Day Apart in Our New Home

By Rabbi Stuart Kelman

Recently, a new booklet was published, written by Noam Zion and Shawn Fields-Meyer. You may remember hearing Noam's name, because he coauthored that wonderful *haggadah* for the Pesach seder called *A Different Night, The Family Participation Haggadah*. He also coauthored a spectacular book for Hanukkah, *A Different Light: The Hanukkah Book of Celebration*. And now comes this guide to Shabbat: *A Day Apart: Shabbat aji Home — A Step-by-Step Guidebook with Blessings and Songs, Rituals and Reflections*. The timing is *bashert* (destined), because as many of you have heard me say, and, as many of you said at our annual meeting, the move into our new home gives us the opportunity to turn Saturday into a full 25-hour Shabbat — something we have been unable to do before this as a community.

“To set a day apart one day a week for freedom, a day on which we would not use the instruments which have been so easily turned into weapons of destruction, a day for being with ourselves, a day of detachment from the vulgar, of independence of external obligations, a day on which we stop worshipping the idols of technical civilization, a day on which we use no money, a day of armistice in the economic struggle with our fellow men and the forces of nature — is there any institution that holds out a greater hope for human progress than the Sabbath?”

**Why is this man smiling?
More photos from the
Annual Meeting on the
back page.**



These words by Abraham Joshua Heschel frame both the book and my dream for this community. To turn these 25 hours into a “day of delights” (Isaiah 58:13) has got to be the core of our community. A while ago, there was a sign in my office that translated *shavat vayinafash*, the often repeated words about Shabbat from Genesis, as “slow down and live!”

I therefore want to invite you to a series of learnings and conversations as a way of beginning to plan for our move and for Shabbat. Beginning in January, I plan to conduct a series of four sessions that will focus on four elements of our new shul — directly related to Shabbat, except for the last. They are:

1. The 25 hours: the rhythm and program of Shabbat at Netivot Shalom
2. Shabbat morning
3. Musical instruments (and music of the day)
4. Food (*kashrut*) — public practice and communal practice

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FROM THE PRESIDENT The Road Ahead

By Carol Cunradi

In looking over the main challenges we'll be facing over the next two years, two big issues come to mind. First, of course, is the move this spring into our new building. This provides our congregation with the opportunity to reenvision virtually all of our programs and activities. The possibilities, it seems, are endless. For example, as Rabbi Kelman has suggested, we can now imagine a full 25-hour Shabbat observance in our new home. We can start Friday afternoon, perhaps preparing a delicious community meal in our communal kitchen, followed by kabbalat Shabbat services. The next morning could include activities for all age groups, including Torah study, davening, preschool and school-age youth services, teen activities, *kiddush*, study groups, singing, rest, mincha, ma'ariv, *se'udat shlishit* and havdalah. This is by no means an exhaustive list.

Similarly, our new home will provide the opportunity to celebrate the holidays in new ways. For example, we can finally begin to think about having our own community seder! Although our building probably won't be ready in time to hold such an event this year, it won't be long before Pesach 5766 is upon us.

A final example of new building challenges and opportunities is in the area of social action. While Netivot Shalom has been involved for years in social action projects, such as Rebuilding Together, moving into our new home — and becoming homeowners — will give us the opportunity to meet our neighbors, develop ongoing relationships, and participate in joint social action projects with them. Food drives, literacy campaigns and after-school tutoring are just a few of the possibilities.

Another major challenge we'll be facing

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Reenvisioning Netivot Shalom: Notes from the Annual Meeting

By Rose Levinson, Director, Tiferet Project

Three major themes arose as to how members see life in Netivot Shalom's new building. Above all, people long for **community, connection** and **continuity**. How to achieve these desired aims differs, with various suggestions as to where to direct energy. While most people feel optimistic about the next phase of the congregation's life, there are also reservations.

Shabbat

Shabbat observance at Netivot Shalom is seen by many as central. Suggestions for providing a setting in the new building where people can spend time together, enjoying and being nurtured by Shabbat, include:

- Possible inclusion of music in Shabbat services.
- Contemplative, meditative Shabbat experiences, perhaps meditative *minyanim* parallel to main service.
- Nourishing food for Shabbat lunchtimes and always having ample food around; ideally, having a shul-cooked meal at an *oneg*.
- Rotating hosts who live within easy walking distance of shul who would welcome members from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. with potluck items delivered the day before.
- A place in the building where people can rest/nap after lunch.
- Comfortable room where people can sit and schmooze, especially Shabbat afternoon.
- Cooking together in shul kitchen for Shabbat and other gatherings; for example, for *gemilut basadim*.
- Weekly havdalah gatherings.
- Friday night dinners with families; usually two families are enough.
- Shabbat should be a 25-hour experience; it's great to have things going on all day.
- Reinstate kabbalat Shabbat services, either at shul or in someone's home; great way for people to connect.
- Shabbat services have gotten too long; let's begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at noon; eliminate some elements that are making service far too long.

Connection/Welcoming

- Creating intimacy in our community is difficult; many people don't feel attached to our congregation and don't have time to become active in ways that would facilitate connection; finding ways to create communal intimacy is central to our success.
- There is an "in-group/out-group" high school atmosphere in

which relatively observant two-parent families with high-level professional jobs and kids are "in" and everyone else is "out"; we need to change this.

- We are not particularly welcoming to people with children in secular schools; some people with little kids feel excluded from the informal Shabbat B'Yachad socializing.
- We have a very diverse membership, and we need to pay attention to how needs differ among our various members.
- Shabbat activities that can help foster community include: a *dvar siddur* instead of a *d'rash* to involve people in reflecting upon prayer; discussion about aspects of Jewish worship/life; individual stories about one's own Jewish journey; personalize parts of the service without detracting from tradition; congregation should be an *obel moed* — a tent of meeting.
- Committees provide a way of helping people connect to one another; advertise Kiddush and House Committees as a way to meet people and have fun by helping set up.
- Our new space can help create more of a community; it should be like a second home.
- Create opportunities to tell our stories and listen across our invisible divisions; let there be dialogue/listening/healing groups to help in community building.
- Need young adult group, geared to graduate students and older.
- Adequate transportation is crucial; need a list of car pool participants (both drivers and riders) and remind congregants of importance of offering rides.

Education

- Netivot Shalom should be a place of prayer and education for *all* stages of life.
- Mustn't cut Amitim or other educational programs; they are vital to our future.
- Have Religious School Shabbat activities same time as services.

Volunteering

Janet Schneider (kahna@pacbell.net) has volunteered to (1) compile a skills assessment of members as well as time availability, and (2) notify members via e-mail of weekly volunteer opportunities based on teacher/committee/staff needs. Further comments:

- Create list of jobs needed to complete our new home and send hard copy to everyone, saying we need every member to volunteer for at least one thing; Publicity Committee should help with ongoing promotion of volunteer needs.
- Require commitment of certain number of volunteer hours each year; mandatory *kiddush* once a year (can be shared); *minyana* commitment too.
- Volunteer database should include time, skills, special interests, demographics; use Web site to post volunteer opportunities.
- Acknowledge contributions individual volunteers make.
- Get teenagers involved in transition to new building.

Other Activities

- We can/should charge for activities; have maximum fee for families.
- Moving-in party — with dancing; Hanukkah party; Purim dinner; shower for new kitchen; dance night; Israeli folk dancing.

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NETIVOT SHALOM NEWSLETTER

Editor: Judith Lesser McCullough

Layout, design & production: Karen Friedman

Please submit copy to newsletter@netivotshalom.org. Copy may be edited for accuracy, clarity, length and language, including adherence to grammatical and stylistic consistency.

Issue	Deadline
March/April	January 24, 2005
May/June	March 28, 2005

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

Because I believe that everyone should have the opportunity to participate, I will repeat these sessions at least twice, so that if one of the times is not convenient, another may be. At each of the sessions there will be material to study and opportunity for discussion. Let me now frame the four issues.

1. The 25 hours. Over the past 15 years of our existence, we have tried a few times to conduct services Friday evenings. For one reason or another, none of these experiments has ever taken hold. A new location and new thinking about Friday night observance may open up new possibilities and new challenges. The same holds true for Shabbat afternoon after services through havdalah — and even into Saturday evening. All this is reflected in the movement of the day from creation (on Friday evening) through revelation (Shabbat morning) and redemption (Shabbat afternoon). Carrying and driving will also be on the agenda.

2. Shabbat morning deserves special attention since this period of time has become the centerpiece of our shul. Yes, there are many of you who are saying “don’t fix it if it ain’t broke,” but perhaps there are ways of enhancing both our own worship experience and some of the other study and worship possibilities as well. Are there other ways to conceive of the morning that will allow us to become a center for community study and worship? Actually, the whole notion of study and its relation to worship is an interesting tension. Meditative *minyanim*, learners *minyanim*, family *minyanim* are all feasible.

3. Musical instruments. Until now, one of the distinguishing features of our shul has been the absence of musical instruments in our services. This has set us apart from our Reform neighbors and many other Conservative shuls as well. We’ll explore some of the *t’shuvot* of the Committee on Jewish Law and Standards and try to arrive at some approach as we move into our new home. I hope we’ll be able to get into the question of appropriateness of music and *nusach* — and maybe even the issue of dance!

4. Kashrut. This subject is tangentially related to Shabbat —

although food does play a major part of the day, and the subject of meals needs discussion. But I’d like to extend this into two areas in particular. The first is that of private observance — inside the home and outside. Second is the question of our communal observance. Until now we have not had our own kitchen. (Actually, we’ve *kashered* the JCC each time we use it.) Now, we will have our own kitchen, and this will mean changes to our existing *kashrut* observance. The Ritual Committee has been working on this, and we now need to study the issue in a more public forum.

Four issues — each of which has multiple components. We’ll study our tradition, engage in questions and responses, discuss the issues, and attempt to apply each of these subjects to the many groupings in our shul (singles, families, children, seniors). Our Conservative community must become a community that serves all. Again, a quote from Heschel:

“The seventh day is a palace in time which we build. It is made of soul, joy, and reticence.”

Programs and times

The 25 hours: Wednesday, January 19, 7:30–9:00 p.m. (shul office); and Shabbat, January 29, 4:30–6:00 p.m. (the Kelmans’).

Shabbat morning: Shabbat, February 12, 1:30–3:00 p.m. (BRJCC); and Tuesday, February 15, 7:30–9:00 p.m. (shul office).

Music: Sunday, February 20, 4:30–6:00 p.m. (shul office); and Shabbat, February 26, 4:30–6:00 p.m. (the Kelmans’).

Kashrut: Private observance: Wednesday, March 16, 7:30–9:00 p.m. (shul office); and Shabbat, March 19, 1:30–3:00 p.m. (BRJCC).

Kashrut: Communal practice: Sunday, March 20, 10:30 a.m.–noon (shul office); and Tuesday, March 22, 7:30–9:00 p.m. (shul office). ❧

REINVISIONING NETIVOT SHALOM (continued)

- Piano, large-screen TV with VCR and DVD, art/photo gallery good for new home.
- Childcare should be available and be everyone’s responsibility.
- Library can be central; honor Margot Lucoff along with John Ginter.
- Use Web site more effectively — keep up-to-date, more user-friendly.
- Appoint ombudsman as liaison between board and membership.

Miscellaneous

- Ask ourselves: do we need to do so much? don’t assume, as does Western materialist culture, that more means better. If committee has no members, disband it. If people really want it, they’ll step forward. In our new home, let’s have more reflection and less action.
- No one should feel pressured to do or to give; no institutional pressure to conform, perform, socialize, pay, give.
- Leadership should communicate clearly, candidly, quickly. ❧

Weekday Talmud Study

Join a small group of congregants who are studying *Moed Katan* with Rabbi Kelman. We are approaching the material on a fairly advanced Hebrew level and have chosen the third chapter because it deals with some of the laws of mourning. The class usually meets during the daytime — and while the time may vary, classes usually last an hour and a half. Check the weekly listings for specific times, or call Michelle Wolfson (510-549-9447, ext. 104) for further information.

over the next two years will be the transition in rabbinic leadership. With Rabbi Kelman's planned retirement in 2007, we'll have much work to do to prepare for this major change in our congregation's life. First, I recommend that everyone read the book, *The New Rabbi*, by Stephen Fried. This excellent book documents the search for a rabbi at Har Zion, a large Conservative shul in Philadelphia, after its long-term rabbi announced his retirement. Second, with the board's approval, a Rabbinic Search Committee will be established. Third, again with the board's approval, I envision holding a series of membership meetings at some point during the search process in order to gain input from congregants.

In addition to helping lead the congregation through these two challenges, I have a number of goals I hope to accomplish over the next two years. One of these is to increase participation in congregational committees. It's easy to see why this is important. First, most committee tasks are more easily accomplished by more volunteers. Second, participation in committees reinforces the participatory nature of our congregation. Third, active committees are, I think, the best way to train congregants for assuming leadership positions. Each of us should, ideally, join and participate in a committee. For some people, that may be too big a time commitment. In that case, I would urge you to call a committee chair, and volunteer to help out with committee tasks without assuming the responsibilities of committee membership.

My second goal is to help institutionalize fundraising. The board has taken steps in this direction, for example, by holding the annual Yom Kippur Appeal. But in addition to fundraising, I think we should be *fun*raising. We should make fundraising events an established aspect of congregational life, and have fun doing it! Scott Adams's Baseball Tailgates are a perfect example. Who could have imagined dozens of Jews munching kosher hot dogs and schmoozing in the A's parking lot awaiting the game? Or better yet, the *kosher l'pesach* tailgate last spring? It's a great way for everyone in the congregation — kids, teens, adults, seniors, singles, married folks, with or without kids — to be together, have fun, and raise some money. I hope we'll have many more such events.

Lastly, most other Jewish organizations that I am familiar with, such as Midrasha and Tehiyah Day School, hold annual fundraising dinners. This could be another way for us to get together as a community, raise money and have fun. Moving into our new building will provide us with many such opportunities.

Instituting certain structural changes in our bylaws is the third goal that I have as president. With the board's approval, I hope to appoint a committee that will review our bylaws and recommend whether they should be amended. Specifically, I believe we need to re-examine our process for leadership transition. Currently, the bylaws call for appointing a nominating committee that nominates officers, other board members and committee chairs a few months prior to the annual meeting. I believe this system could be improved by codifying a clear succession of leadership, similar to what many other synagogues do. For example, the candidate for vice-president would become the president-elect at the end of his or her term. While this would demand a serious time commitment from candidates, I think it would also allow for a smoother transition in leadership. Another structural change I would like

Thank You One and All!



Outgoing Board Members and Committee Chairs:

Past President	Debby Graudenz
Treasurer	Mike Rosenheimer
At-large	Robert Efrogymson
At-large	Charlene Stern
At-large	Deborah Yager
Budget Chair	Jonathan Klein
Membership	Rebecca Calahan Klein (co-chair)
Publicity	Jaimie Levin
Ritual	Jerry Derblich
Youth Education	Jenny Groody (co-chair)


New Board of Directors and Committee Chairs for 2004-6:

President	Carol Cunradi
Past President	Mark Priven
Treasurer	Michael McCullough
Budget Chair	Open
Secretary	Deborah Yager
At-large	Hannah Dresner
At-large	Babbie Freiberg
At-large	Daniel Handwerker
At-large	Josh Kirsch
Fundraising	Michael Steinbaugh
Membership	Maia Fleming-Singer, Elissa Kittner
Publicity	Ed Gold
Ritual	Glenn Massarano
Social Action	Jonathan Stern

Continuing Board Members and Committee Chairs:

Vice President	Ken Schnur
At-large	Scott Adams
Administration	Golda Blum
Adult Education	Robin Braverman
Arrangements	Andrea Altschuler
Chevra Kadisha	Andrea Cassidy
Community Building	Katya & Joel Gerwein
House	Eugene Berg
Membership	Melissa Mednick (co-chair)
Youth Education	Carol Dorf

considered is whether we should reestablish at least some committee chairs as board members. Formerly, committee chairs served as board members; a few years ago, we decided to uncouple the two. I believe experience has shown this to be disadvantageous to the board, the committees and the congregation.

These are a few of my thoughts on the challenges and issues facing our congregation. I am honored and humbled at being elected president, and I look forward to an exciting two years helping to lead Netivot Shalom with the benefit of your input and support. 

2nd Annual
Tu b-Sh'vat Program On
Ecology & Judaism

Sunday, January 30,
10:30 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
at the BRJCC

TU B-SH'VAT SEDER

Followed by a program about how to make a difference in the environment, and what Judaism has to say about environmentalism.

Activities suitable for children and adults.
Come for part of the program or the entire program.

Ten households are needed to sponsor the food for the seder and do preparation.

Contact Robin Braverman,
rivkah48@aol.com or 925-979-1998.

Sponsored by the Adult Education Committee,
Community Building Committee, Religious School,
Ritual Committee, Social Action Committee.

In memory of Stephanie Davis, z"l.



4th Annual Yiddish Sing!
February 5, 7:00–10:00 p.m.



You don't need to speak Yiddish to enjoy an evening of Yiddish song!

In an ongoing effort to make Yiddish a vital part of Netivot Shalom, the Adult Education program is sponsoring our fourth annual Yiddish sing-along at the Kelmans' home, (1003 Mariposa Ave. in Berkeley). **Gerry Tenney of California Klezmer** and Netivot Shalom congregants will lead us through the evening's repertoire, which will commence with *havdole* (also pronounced *havdule* or *havdalab*). Together, we will sing Yiddish songs from a wide variety of genres: love songs, anthems, drinking songs, early Zionist pioneer songs, and politically inspired music — maybe we'll even learn a *bis!* Yiddish along the way!

Although this is not specifically a children's event, kids are welcome. Kosher refreshments will be provided. Join us for an evening of fun that also puts us in touch with this wonderful part of our Jewish heritage.

This event is co-sponsored by KlezCalifornia. For more information on upcoming Yiddish activities at Netivot Shalom, contact Judy Kunofsky and Mitchell Shandling at 510-848-2732, or kunofsky@jmljline.com.

Sunday Morning *Minyanim*

By Art Braufman

The morning *minyanim* — on the second and fourth Sunday of every month — have been going very well. It's a wonderful time to get to visit with other shul members, partake in a light breakfast (the last one wasn't so light thanks to the spread prepared by Barbara Wezelman and Rena Fischer), and participate in some good teaching and discussion as well. The congregation has a wonderful wealth of knowledgeable speakers who have graciously agreed to share their expertise. We're pleased to announce the following programs for January and February:

- **January 9: Michael Meltzer**, environmental engineer at Livermore Lab and freelance science writer, will speak about the Galileo mission to Jupiter and the book he authored for NASA about the mission.
- **January 23: Claude Fischer**, professor of sociology at UCB, will discuss "Religious Diversity in America." (Due to space conflicts at the shul office, this *minyan* will be held at the Braufman home, at 926 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.)
- **February 13: Peter Berck**, professor of economics at UCB, will discuss "Israeli Water Policy: Cause or Consequence of Conflict."
- **February 27: Rabbi Kelman** will lead a study session on "*Hashkamat beit ha-midrash* and *iyun t'fillah* — attending the house of study punctually and probing the meaning of prayer."

Shacharit services start at 9:30 a.m., followed by breakfast at 10:15 a.m. and the study program at 10:30–11:30 a.m. *Minyan* members are available to help teach anyone interested how to *leyn t'fillah* (not mandatory). We're looking forward to seeing you. ☞

Giving Presence: Healing
through Listening & Legacy
A Workshop with Linda Blachman

Sunday, February 6, 10:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

This workshop will explore how we can be more present with ourselves and others we care for, in our lives and in our shul, through deep listening and an appreciation of story and legacy. Discussion to follow an inspiring Peabody-award-winning video. Especially relevant for parents of school-aged children, those wishing to serve through Bikkur Holim, Chevra Kadisha, Nehama, and Gemilut Hasadim, and anyone who feels estranged in our community.

Linda Blachman, a long-time Netivot Shalom member, is a personal historian, public health consultant, and founder and director of the Mothers' Living Stories Project, which trains volunteers to record the life stories and personal legacies of mothers living with cancer while raising children.

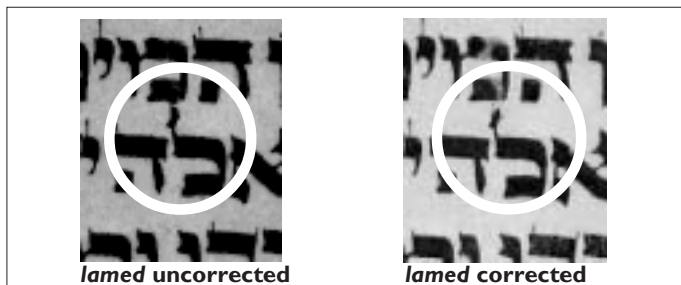
What Happens When There Is an Error in the *Sefer* Torah? *

By Glenn Massarano, Chair, Ritual Committee

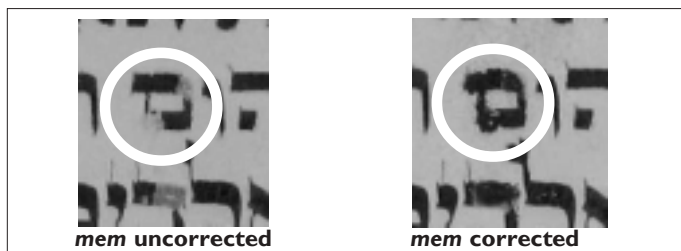
As I read from the *sefer* Torah on Shabbat B'reishit, I found that there was a problem with the *sefer*. Jewish *halakhab* says that when a *sefer* contains a significant mistake that changes the meaning (a *ta'ut gamur*), a *sefer* Torah becomes *pasul*, or not fit for use.

Only a kosher *sefer* Torah can be used for reading with the appropriate blessings during services. This means that the *sefer* is complete, each letter correct, distinct and separate from all other letters, and there is nothing extraneous or missing. (There is one exception to this in the Torah, where a letter is intentionally defective. Where is this? See the end of this page for the answer.)

What were the problems with the *sefer* we used on Shabbat B'reishit? There were two clear problems and a few problems waiting to happen. If you look at the first set of pictures, you'll see that one letter (the *lamed*) was drawn so close to a letter on the previous line as to appear that they were touching. The correction for this kind of problem is easy. A trained *sofer* (scribe), like Rabbi Kelman, takes a knife or razor to scrape off the excess ink. Voila! It's fixed.



The second problem was a *mem* (see photos below) where the ink was worn away to where the letter might be mistaken for another letter. This problem is just slightly more complicated to fix. It means filling in the letter until it is whole again.



The other corrections that Rabbi Kelman made were to fill in letters whose ink had started to rub off. While not necessarily making the *sefer pasul*, they were errors waiting to happen.

Now, why so many problems in just one column? And a few years ago, again while I was reading B'reishit, I came across problems in two separate *sefarim*. What's with B'reishit? It turns out that, because it is the beginning of the scroll, the first few columns experience the most friction every time we roll the *sefer* tight. Therefore, the ink rubs off more quickly.

What do we do when an error is found while reading an *aliyah*? In general, we stop reading from the *sefer*, roll it up, and put the tie

on the outside (instead of the inside) to indicate to others that it is a *pasul sefer*. Next, we bring out another *sefer* and begin again from the place the error was found. What happens when there is no kosher *sefer*? What I learned is that the reading of the *sefer* continues, but without the blessings.

Now, the letter that I mentioned above that is supposed to be defective? While there are many scribal "errors" — where the word is written one way and we read it corrected, and even words written correctly, but where we read a completely different word in their place — there is only one letter in the *sefer* Torah that is written in a "defective" manner that would normally be corrected.

(continued on next page)



Rabbi Kelman using a turkey quill to rewrite broken letters.



Rabbi Kelman with Religious School students reading from the *sefer* Torah.

The Ritual Committee Report

By Glenn Massarano, Chair, Ritual Committee

Currently, the Ritual Committee is looking at a number of big items. Rabbi Kelman brought up these items as part of the synagogue's effort to reenvision the synagogue. I spoke about this from the Ritual Committee's perspective at the annual meeting. I repeat some of it here for the benefit of those who were not able to attend the meeting, and to again invite your input.

As we move into our own building, we can look more closely at what we do. Having our own space affords us opportunities that were difficult to bring to fruition under our current itinerant tenancy. Think about it. Without our own building, we have been a community for which Shabbat has come down to the four hours or so of shacharit, the morning service. Now we have space for the entire 25 hours of Shabbat. What can we do with it? Have kabbalat Shabbat? With music and/or food? We have many classrooms/meeting rooms. Do we want to have a meditative *minyana*? A Sephardic *minyan*? Other *minyanim*? Do we want to make any changes to shacharit? Lengthen it? (Didn't think so.) Add afternoon classes? Have a *se'udat shlishit* (third meal in the late afternoon)?

These questions will be answered by both the Ritual Committee and

other committees that will help organize these activities and provide leadership (*daveners*, Torah readers, if needed). But they also need to be answered by you. What do you want? Where are you interested in helping? What makes sense in terms of creating the type of community we all envision? I invite you to contact me with your thoughts and ideas.

Other topics that we have discussed in our past few meetings include the following:

- Given that our new building will be ready for next year's Yamim Nora'im, do we want to look for space closer to the new building for services? Is there enough space available for us? And what would that space look like?
- Plans for upcoming holidays: *Hanukkah*, Tu b-Sh'vat, Purim.
- Recruitment of new Torah and *haftarah* readers (if you're interested, please contact Debra Lobel at ritualcoordinator@yahoo.com.)
- A review of Yamim Nora'im services for 5765.

Finally, I want to publicly acknowledge and thank Jerry Derblich for all his efforts as the Ritual Committee's previous chair. While I don't know the full extent of the job (yet), I can see it is a big one and appreciate the way he has handled it deftly, graciously and with intention. *Kol ha-kavod!* ❧

ERROR IN THE SEFER TORAH (continued)



Rabbi Kelman with Religious School students learning about the sofer's craft.



Rabbi Kelman correcting broken letters with a turkey quill.

This letter can be found in *parashat Pinchas*, B'midbar 25:12. At the end of the verse, you can find the word *shalom*. Look at a *tikeun* or *humash* (but not the *Etz Hayim* — it's not shown defective there), and you will see that the *vav* is broken in the middle. Pinchas has just stabbed an Israelite and a Midianite for being together in an inappropriate place (in front of the Tent of Meeting). For his zealotry, God gives him "[God's] covenant of *shalom*" as well as the covenant of eternal priesthood. What exactly is this "covenant of *shalom*"? This is not clear from the text, nor is it clear why the *vav* in the word *shalom* is defective. There are many *d'rashot* by the commentators. But I'll leave that for another discussion or *d'rashah!*

Finally, why are we so concerned about the correctness of the text?

One answer is that this is a connection with our past and our history: the *mesorah* (tradition). Another answer is that this is the way we show *kavod* (honor) to the Torah. My wife, Judy, pointed out that no matter how we interpret, emend, or expound on the text, we start from a common, standard, authoritative text studied or read in every synagogue, *beit midrash* (house of study) or home, everywhere. It's what connects us in place and in time, to our fellow Jews, to our past. ❧

*To learn more, read "The Torah Scroll," by Rabbi Kelman, in *Etz Hayim*, p. 1484.



Tools of the sofer: turkey quill, special ink, knife, pumice stone, good eyesight.

Notes from Tiferet

By Alice Hale, Tiferet Outreach Coordinator

As the secular year begins, the Tiferet Project, which welcomes and supports intermarried households in Conservative Judaism, is planning a number of programs in the East Bay for those lives touched by intermarriage:

On Thursday, January 13, at 7:30 p.m., Rabbi Gordon Freeman will facilitate a discussion on “Being a Terrific Jewish Grandparent When Your Children Inter marry” at Congregation B’nai Shalom in Walnut Creek.

On Thursday, January 27, at 7:30 p.m., please join us for a discussion and book signing of *A Place in the Tent*, the book written by the Tiferet Project about finding a meaningful place in contemporary Conservative Jewish institutions for intermarried households. This will take place at Afikomen Books and Judaica, 3042 Claremont Ave., Berkeley.

In late February, Rabbi Kelman will teach a three-part class called “A Taste of Judaism: Are You Curious?” This class is for beginners — Jewish or not — and explores the topics of Jewish spirituality, ethics and community. Do you know someone who wants to learn more about Judaism, but is intimidated about taking an Adult Education class or attending services? This is a great class for someone who has Jewish relatives or in-laws and wants to learn more about their religion, as well as those who identify themselves as Jewish, but feel they don’t know a lot about Jewish customs or practice. “A Taste of Judaism” is a wonderful way to get started, and we will follow it up with information about resources in the community, and programs and events here at Netivot Shalom, that newcomers might enjoy.

Further down the road, in March, Tiferet will sponsor a workshop on “Honoring Your Child’s Non-Jewish Heritage,” in cooperation with Dawn Kepler of Building Jewish Bridges. And in May, we’ll host a program on “Adoption in Jewish and Intermarried Families” at the BRJCC. More details on both programs to come!

For more information about any of these programs, contact me at 510-549-9447 ext. 244 or alice@tiferetoutreach.org. ☞

A Place in the Tent: Intermarriage & Conservative Judaism

Join the book’s authors — Rabbis Mark Bloom, Ted Feldman, Gordon Freeman, Stuart Kelman, Harry Manhoff and Mimi Weisel, and Rose Levinson and Glenn Massarano — for a discussion and book-signing.

Thursday, January 27, 7:30 p.m.

Afikomen Bookstore, 3042 Claremont Ave., Berkeley

All proceeds benefit the Tiferet Project.

Questions? E-mail tiferet2@earthlink.net.

Save the Date!

Synagogue Retreat

By Dan Siegel

Netivot Shalom Goes to Camp — with a weekend retreat at Camp Newman in the hills near Santa Rosa over Memorial Day weekend 2005 (May 27–29). The theme of the weekend will be “Building a Stronger Netivot Shalom Community.” We will have a variety of structured and unstructured activities that will create opportunities to build relationships among synagogue members. The event is meant for everyone, from young families to seniors. Let’s all go to camp in this beautiful Jewish setting and make the synagogue a friendlier community as we move into our new building!

Activities: The weekend will feature a range of activities, including (1) recreation, (2) arts and (3) services/text study. There will usually be several activity options at any given time, including swimming/hanging out at the Olympic-size pool; paddle boats in the pond; nature hike; mountain bike trail and/or road ride; campfire; game night/wine & cheese mixer; sports field; yoga; crafts projects; singing; Israeli dancing; drama games; adult, SBY-age and youth services; text study; *havdalah*; workshop on strengthening Netivot Shalom community; and book discussion group.

Children’s Programming and Childcare: There will be special children’s and family education programming for different age groups run by volunteers. There will also be blocks of time when childcare is available for younger kids.

Housing and Food: Housing will be in motel-style rooms. Each household will have its own room with bathroom. Healthy, kosher meals will be provided by Camp Newman.

Price: The pricing for a two-night, six-meal weekend will probably be \$170/adult and \$80/child two years and older. This means the total price for a couple will be \$340 for two nights. The price for a family of four with kids will be \$500 for two nights. There will be no charge for children under two. The retreat will be from 4:00 p.m. Friday through 5:00 p.m. Sunday. Registration for the retreat will take place in March/April.

Please Help! I am the retreat chair, and I’m looking for lots of people to lead very small aspects of the retreat, from a song or Israeli dance session, to a text study class, to a hike, bike ride or yoga class, to any of the other activities listed above. Volunteers so far include Rabbi Kelman, Vicky Kelman, Cathy Shadd, Michelle Wolfson, Mark Priven and Traci Siegel. I would appreciate feedback on your interest in attending the retreat at 510-540-6128 or siegeldb@pacbell.net. ☞

Photos from Our Cuban/Israeli Friends!

Nili and Eitan Behar are the proud parents of the newest Cuban/Israeli baby. Nili and Eitan moved last year from Santiago, Cuba, to Beersheva, where their daughter, Shirli, was born. In Santiago, they were active in the community as youth leaders, Nili as a teacher and Eitan helping with Torah reading and services. In Beersheva, Eitan is the network manager for a computer company with offices in the U.S. and Israel. Nili works for an oculist as the business manager. She is eagerly waiting for her mother to get permission from the Cuban government to visit Israel for two months. Grandma Clara (Eitan's mother) is so excited about the baby that she wants them to have another one or two.



The happy family — from Santiago to Beersheva: Grandma Clara, holding her first granddaughter, Shirli, and mom, Nili Behar.



Shirli Behar.



Eitan Behar with Shirli.



Nili Behar with Shirli.

Cuba Medicine Packing Party

By June Safran, Cuba Affairs

October brought a howlingly successful end to our efforts to provide medicines and other humanitarian aid to Cuba's Jewish community. Fifteen of us spent the day sorting and packing medicines for the November mission to Jewish Cuba. After all outer wrappings were removed from samples and everything repackaged, we ended up with four suitcases of 48 to 50 pounds each — full of precious medication. Bob Safran made a great lunch, including a Cuban tuna mold that was the hit of the meal. Bob and I can't thank everyone enough for the willing support in this effort.

The following people helped, and in honor of the great American holiday of Halloween, Bob gave each a special title. Members of Netivot Shalom have asterisks before their names.

- * June Safran, Head Witch
- * Bob Safran, Chief Warlock (or Witchdoctor?)
- * Jennie Safran, Youth Enchantress
- * Judith McCullough, San Francisco Elf
- * Michael McCullough, San Francisco Ent †
- * Denah Bookstein, Glenda Goodwitch
- Al Bloch, #1 Leprechaun
- Anne-Marie Bloch, Motorcycle Gramma
- Gary Smith, Lord High Executioner
- Marion Kohlstedt, Lady High Everything Else
- Yaacov Harari, Satyr
- Barbara Fritz, Fairy Godmother
- Jane Falk, Woodland Nymph
- Marvin Schwartz, Medicine Man
- Ellen Schwartz, Blythe Spirit

My friend Lourdes Albo works in a pharmacy in Havana and teaches ESL at the medical school there, where she is in charge of the English program for three provinces and is writing a new study book on medical ESL. When I wrote her about our packing party she replied:

"I am glad you are doing well with your trip to Cuba. You know medicines are so important and we are really in need.

"Have I told you that Lourditia [her daughter, who just graduated from medical school] has helped the obstetricians delivering babies? It seems she will be a good doctor.

"Hope we will see you soon. Love to everybody. Take a good care, we need you." ❧



David Tacher of Santa Clara, Cuba, sent us this photo from the anniversary celebration of our sister congregation, Comunidad Hebrea Hatikva de Santiago de Cuba.

† In *Lord of the Rings*, an ancient tree that walks and talks.

A Visit to My Roots

By Michael Rosenheimer

As part of a trip to Europe in October, my wife, Betsy, and I visited the towns where my father grew up in southern Germany, in the former principality of Hohenzollern. These towns all had a Jewish population during the nineteenth century. His family was the next-to-last to leave his village in 1904. Many of the other congregations continued until the Nazi deportations.

In 1904, the last two Jewish heads-of-household in my father's village drew lots to see who would keep the Torah and who would get the Torah silver. My grandfather lost; he got the silver. These silver pieces are now on display in the museum in Haigerloch and were the reason for my visit.

Today, the Jews who live in these towns are mostly immigrants from the former Soviet Union. The synagogue in Hechingen, for example, was bought back from private hands in 1982 and restored. It has been active since 2003. Notices are posted in the synagogue window in three languages: Russian (for the congregation), German (for the townspeople), and Hebrew (for tradition).

In other villages, a few volunteers are preserving the memory of the former Jewish populations. They are doing this entirely on their own time and at their own cost. In my father's village, Dettensee, the cemetery has been restored and the many ruined gravestones reassembled and cemented together. This is largely the work of one man and his son. He also has assembled the history of the Jewish people who lived there, in my family's case, back to the census of 1764. Another man has taken on the care and cataloging of the cemetery of Haigerloch, which sustained no damage over the years.

The former one-room synagogue in the village of Haigerloch has been turned into a small museum that attempts to recall how the Jews used to live in the area. It is operated under the auspices of the history museum of Baden-Wuerttemberg in Stuttgart. The display is entirely frank. It is called "Securing of Evidence," and begins with this sign (translated in a museum pamphlet): "27 November 1941: Beginning of the deportations of Jews from Hohenzollern into the Nazi concentration and extermination camps. Almost all of the Jews carried off are murdered. The Jewish communities of Hohenzollern with a history of hundreds of years are extinguished." ❧



Betsy (center) & Michael (right) Rosenheimer with their host in Michael's father's village in Germany.

Robert Alter's *The Five Books of Moses*

In 2004, Robert Alter's most recent book, *The Five Books of Moses: A Translation with Commentary*, was published by W. W. Norton. The book has received virtually unanimous acclaim. Here is what some reviewers have said about it.

Publishers Weekly:

"This brilliant and rigorous book by Alter, who teaches Hebrew and comparative literature at Berkeley, strikes the perfect balance. It delves into literary and biblical scholarship, yet is accessible to the general reader. It argues forcefully and persuasively, but is never arrogant, even when Alter is detailing the inadequacies of other biblical translations. It points to the ways a single Hebrew word can make all the difference in our understanding of the text, but it never loses the forest for the trees. In a stimulating and thorough introduction, Alter makes a case for the coherence of the Torah . . . as a whole, while acknowledging that it is 'manifestly a composite construction' that was written and edited by many people over several centuries. He discusses why we need yet another translation, contending that every existing English translation has an anemic sense of the English language, while the King James Version — the most beautiful and literary English-language translation — is unreliable and sometimes inaccurate with the original Hebrew. After this energizing introduction, Alter proceeds with his eminently readable translation and fascinating footnotes on various Hebrew terms. **This may well be the best one-volume introduction to the Torah ever published in English.**" (our emphasis)

Judith Shulevitz, *New York Times Book Review:*

"Alter's translation deserves to become the version in which future generations encounter this strange and inexhaustible book."

"Cynthia Ozick, *The New Republic:*

Alter's language transcends to a rare purity through a plainness that equals the plainness of the Hebrew . . . [and] lets us hear God's imperatives, pleas, hopes, and elations."

Michael Dirda, *Washington Post Book World:*

"A superbly attentive translation . . . thrilling and constantly illuminating . . . [Alter] brings all his gifts as both a scholar of Hebrew and a major literary critic. . . . By reading him, we learn things we might have forgotten or never noticed."

Pearl Abraham, *Forward:*

"Alter's best argument for retaining as much as possible of the original artistry — its form, sentence structure and rhythm — is this very translation itself, which well might become the definitive text for readers and scholars alike."

And from W. W. Norton:

"Through a distinguished career of critical scholarship and translation, Robert Alter has equipped us to read the Hebrew Bible as a powerful, cohesive work of literature. . . . Alter's masterly new translation and probing commentary combine to give con-

(continued on next page)

New (and Not So New) Members

As one way to reach out to new, and not so new, members, we are including profiles to introduce people to our congregation. If you would like to introduce either yourself or someone you have come to know, please send copy, and a (jpg) photo if possible, to newsletter@netivotshalom.org.

Laurie Greenhut Zell

Laurie Greenhut Zell joined the Netivot Shalom congregation about a year and a half ago, but she has recently increased her participation and is eager to get to know more of the members.

Laurie lives in Pinole with her two children, Lillian (10) and Benjamin (8), both of whom attend Tehiyah Day School. Laurie grew up on Long Island in a Conservative home, attended services regularly, and became a *bat mitzvah* at the age of 13. Judaism has always been a cornerstone of her belief system, but observance was limited to Friday night Shabbat dinners, Hanukkah and Passover celebrations, and a brief period singing in the choir of Temple Beth Hillel in Richmond. More recently, Laurie decided to observe Shabbat on a more spiritual level and now attends our Saturday morning services. She is amazed at how the weekly *d'rash* always seems to be so relevant to what is going on in her life.



Laurie has worked with Netivot Shalom's Membership and Fundraising Committees and looks forward to getting more involved. She is also a member of the board of trustees of Tehiyah and is very devoted to the school. Professionally, Laurie is a realtor and works in the El Cerrito office of Prudential California Realty. She looks forward to getting to know everyone more personally and to participating more fully in the life of our congregation.

Laurie's e-mail address in the Netivot Shalom roster is incorrect. The correct address is laruez@aol.com. ☞

ROBERT ALTER (CONTINUED)

temporary readers the definitive edition of *The Five Books of Moses*.

"Alter's majestic translation recovers the mesmerizing effect of these ancient stories — the profound and haunting enigmas, the ambiguities of motive and image, and the distinctive cadences and lovely precision of the Hebrew text. Other modern translations either recast these features for contemporary clarity, thereby losing the character of the original, or fail to give readers a suitably fluid English as a point of contact. Alter's translation conveys the music and the meaning of the Hebrew text in a lyrical, lucid English. His accompanying commentary illuminates the text with learned insight and reflection on its literary and historical dimensions."

There are many more reviews, equally lyrical and enthusiastic. If you haven't yet taken a look yourself, you may well want to do that — even to purchase a copy (we get no commissions). ☞

Art Reingold

Our member bio this month is of Arthur Reingold, M.D. Here's what he has to share about himself:

"I was born and raised on the south side of Chicago, and belonged to South Side Hebrew Congregation, where I went to Hebrew school and Hebrew High School. I went to public schools, then to the University of Chicago for college, medical school and graduate school. I did a medical residency in Boston, then went to work at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta for eight years, where I worked on epidemic meningitis in West Africa and Nepal; tampons and toxic shock syndrome; Legionnaires' disease; and myriad other infectious diseases. I joined the faculty at UCB in 1987 and am currently professor and head of the Division of Epidemiology, with concurrent appointments at UCSF in Medicine and in Epidemiology and Biostatistics. My wife, Gail Bolan, who is also a physician, is the director of STD Control for the State of California and on the faculty at UCSF. We have three children, Rebecca (19, a sophomore at Middlebury College), Sarah (almost 17, a junior at College Preparatory School), and Jake (14, in 8th grade at Tehiya). They had their *b'nei mitzvah* at Netivot Shalom. We live in Oakland."

In November 2003, Art was elected to the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. Here's part of the UCB School of Public Health announcement:

"Art was recognized for his contributions to infectious disease epidemiology and public health. He became the 9th member of the school's faculty and alumni to be elected to the IOM" (While the election took place in 2003, the induction took place a year later, in November 2004, as is IOM's normal practice, so you may recently have heard about this.)

In September 2004, Art was named to the World Health Organization's Scientific Advisory Group of Experts. Again, according to the UCB School of Public Health:

"Art Reingold has been named to the WHO's Scientific Advisory Group of Experts (SAGE), a committee that advises on all key vaccine-related matters. SAGE was established by WHO to review, from a scientific and technical standpoint, the content, scope, policies, and operations of both the Children's Vaccine Initiative and the Global Programme for Vaccines and Immunization."

So, don't call Art about getting flu vaccine, but do congratulate him, as these are both great honors and recognitions of significant achievement. ☞

PHOTO: SKORPINSKI



Midrasha in Berkeley

By Diane Bernbaum, Midrasha Director

Save the date and dust off your dancing shoes. This year, Midrasha's annual *se'udab* fundraising event will be a Saturday night dance party with music provided by the Cajun-Creole band, Sauce Piquante. The evening will include dance lessons, live music and sweets and savories. You can even get yourself photographed, just as you did at your high school prom. Phone the Midrasha office, 510-843-4667, with any questions. There will be more information in next month's newsletter.

And yes, we're still in the business of being a school, which in January means that our new semester is up and running. New Sunday courses include "Judaism and Islam" and "God and Religion in Music" with Jody Pearce; "Jewish Medical Ethics" and "Israeli Dance" with Sacha Kopin; "Judaism 101: Jewish Thought Like You Never Learned It Before" and "Everything's in It" (a look at the Torah) with Muni Schweig; "Films of the Holocaust" and "Spark — Heartaction: Connecting with Our Elders," a class that studies the elderly and visits the Jewish Home in San Francisco. Shoshana Uribe will examine the Torah and ecology in "Torah of the Earth" and also conduct an in-depth look at the "Holy Days of Spring." Yosefa Raz will teach Zohar and poetry writing. And that's just a taste of our many classes, which also include *Eigar* (Jewish Identity), *Kesher Aleph* (Israel), *Kesher Bet* (Jewish Spirituality and Thought), *Gesharim* (Ethics in Action), Hebrew and classical texts. We have classes on social justice, the places of the Bible, Torah and society, yoga and prayer, kabbalah, racism, women in Judaism, Jewish acting, the ethics of interpersonal relationships, and "The Golem: American Jews and the Comics."

We also say goodbye to old faculty members Ellie Shapiro and Noam Birnbaum, and welcome in their place Rabbi Rachel Miller, who will be teaching classes on "Midrashim on Women" and "Sex in Judaism." And, of course, our mid-week Bible study groups on Monday (in English) and Tuesday (in Hebrew) and our Yoga, Art and Sacred Text class (on Tuesday) are all continuing.

Let me end by telling you about something we did with our 8th graders in November, in a three-hour program that occurs every fall. We began by doing some values clarification, which allowed the students to realize their preconceptions about the problems of homelessness. We then broke into small groups and discussed: What is homelessness? (sometimes it's being out on the street, other times in shelters or transitional housing, or couch-hopping at friends' homes). Who is homeless? (this reaches across ethnic and religious lines). Why are people homeless? (this can happen to anyone; lives seem to be going well, but divorce, illness or loss of job can put people out of their homes quickly). We then looked at traditional Jewish texts, biblical and talmudic, that answered the questions: (1) Do Jews give to beggars? (2) What if they are fakes or frauds? (3) If they ask for money, should I buy them a cup of coffee instead? (4) How much should I give?

It was then snack time, but instead of letting the students eat, they needed to fill out a complicated form to simulate how the homeless

need to go through administrative hoops to receive aid. We followed this with four speakers. Three of them were brought by the Alameda County Homeless Youth Services; they were older teens who had spent time on the street. The fourth was a Midrasha student who had lived in shelters and transitional housing with his family. Needless to say, all the speakers had a big impact. We ended with the students making a contract and thinking about what they themselves could do, including participating in the dinners Midrasha families cook at the Berkeley Men's Shelter three times a month. ❧

Educating All Our Children

By Carol Dorf, Chair, Youth Education Committee

Our community is creating a new sacred space, a new building designed in part for the education of our youth. The Youth Education Committee is currently working to develop new programs to attract new families and enrich the experience of those families already participating. We are doing this because it is the right thing to do. We respect the tight budget constraints under which the synagogue must operate. As we look to be fiscally prudent and programmatically creative, we welcome input from kids, parents, and all those who care about the education of our community's children.

All of you who have attended *b'nei mitzvah* at Netivot Shalom witness firsthand the fruits of our Youth Education programs. We have a demanding *b'nei mitzvah* program, and our children make us very proud. Every year, children who have attended our weekday Religious School and our day schools show us how much they have learned. The children who come up through the Religious School have been with us since they were very young. It is impressive that both groups of children have such a high level of Jewish learning and leadership.

Of course, everyone sees Torah parades and Shabbat B'Yachad, but before a *bar* or *bat mitzvah*, a lot of our children's education happens behind closed doors away from the sight of the adults of our community. It takes many years of preparation to even get to the Amitim program. The learning and leading does not stop at 13. We subsidize 54 Netivot Shalom students' attendance at Berkeley Midrasha. Ten teens are *madrikhim*, or teaching assistants, at the Yamim Nora'im children's programs. Eight teens are *madrikhim* for Shabbat B'Yachad, Amitim, Shabbat or weekday Religious School.

(continued on next page)



The Amitim students: Hannah Groody, Ilana Zimmerman, Sarah Geleibter, Eileen Blum, Elana Cohen, Rebecca Friedman, Elana Kessler, Ezra Marcus, Talia Shragai, Alida Jakabsen. Not pictured: Ilana Wexler, Benjamin Lee, Sa'adia Massarano.

Todah Rabbah! Many Thanks!

By Michelle Wolfson, Director, Youth Education

Special Thanks: Al & Constance Weissman, and Julie Weissman & Michael Steinbaugh, for their generous donation to Youth Education.

Shabbat: Guest storytellers Mina Gobler and Debbie Graudenz. Lee and Nava Bearson for leading Shabbat First! services and Torah story. John Reynolds for leading Jewish yoga for kids.

Yamim Nora'im L'Yeledim (YNL): Denise Moyes-Schnur, Carol Delton and Debbie Graudenz for leading children's services. Amitim for leading all school games and setting up. Older teens for volunteering their aid. Carol Dorf for all her help!

Sukkot in Tilden: Ellen Peskin & Ben Heschen for all their hard work and community building.

Donations to the Religious School: Billie Romain, Mel & Lisa Sibony, Dan Siegel and any others who donated games. Rachael Brodie and Beverly Pinto of Beth Shalom for donating textbooks.

Volunteers for the Religious School: Carol Dorf, Jenny Groody, Andrea Altschuler, Ed Gold, Tony Hecht, Karen Hecht, Lisa Sibony, Mel Sibony; and to any others I may have forgotten, please forgive me and accept my thanks!

EDUCATING OUR CHILDREN (CONTINUED)

Our Yamim Nora'im L'Yeledim program coordinator came up though our Religious School and *madriskim* programs. Our former weekday students regularly lead Shabbat services for the whole *k'hilah*, or community.

Our community has carefully nurtured these future leaders, year by year, from *kitab alef* (first class) to Amitim. Youth Education serves all ages — preschool, elementary and teens (with more teen programming planned). It takes money to run all these programs. Because of the size of our synagogue, the commitment of the entire congregation is required to support our youth programs. All Jewish congregations subsidize their educational programs, and our community is no exception. We serve a large chunk of our membership directly, but what we are really subsidizing is all of the Jewish people's future.

While our congregation develops its budget in late spring for the next fiscal year, which starts July 1, educators are hired between January and March for the following year. We want to ensure funding stability to keep our excellent staff, and our multitalented, innovative, warm and welcoming educator, Michelle Wolfson, for the next fiscal and Jewish year. We need to ensure that we at least maintain our current level of funding, sufficient to fund a full-time educator and strong Youth Education programs to serve the needs of all our youth. We ask that the community support Youth Education in its desire to ensure stable funding to hire a full-time educator for 5766. ❧

SBY's New Program for Parents with Young Children!

By Cathy Shadd, Coordinator, Shabbat B'Yachad

Watch for e-mail announcements of a new program for parents with young children — **Pajama Havdalah and Parents' Night Out**. Shari Rifas came up with the brilliant idea of a once-a-month havdalah to which children would come in their pj's, and after which parents would get to go out, leaving their children in the care of teens and an adult supervisor. The children would play some games and possibly watch a movie, and be all mellowed out and sleepy when the parents returned. The children would have to be out of diapers and independent enough to be left in a group setting in the evening. Dates and times will be set in the near future, maybe even by the time you are reading this. Later in the year, we will still have havdalah, but it will be too late for the parents to have a night out. Thanks to Shari for her efforts to make this happen, especially considering that she doesn't even have a child in the target age group! If you have ideas or want to help make it happen, please contact me (sby@netivotshalom.org).

Thanks to Our Guest Torah Storytellers!

This year, in an effort to bridge the gap between our Shabbat Religious School and our main Shabbat services, we are asking congregants to volunteer to tell a Torah story once a month in our grades K-2 and 3-6 classrooms. Mina Gobler beautifully involved the children in her telling of the story of Noah and the Ark in October, and Debby Graudenz did a wonderful job of engaging the children with the story of Jacob and his dream of the ladder to the heavens in November. Our hope is that when the children come into services in the main sanctuary, they will have an increasing number of adults whom they know to make them feel more a part of the shul. Thanks so much, Debby and Mina. We look forward to guest appearances by Rabbi Kelman, Art Braufman, Janet Harris, Vicky Kelman and Eugene Berg in the months ahead. We still have May 14 open — any volunteers?

SBY — Save These Dates!

Torah Storytelling Workshop and Tu b-Sh'vat celebration: Sunday, January 23, 10:00 a.m.–noon, in the shul library. Separate activities for parents and children followed by a combined Tu b-Sh'vat celebration.

Service Leading Workshop: Sunday, February 20, 10:00 a.m.–noon, in the shul library. Come and hone your SBY service leading skills. It is time to expand the number of parents prepared to lead our services! Childcare available.

Purim Celebration:

Sunday, March 20, 10:00 a.m.–noon, BRJCC. Come in costume for games, craft activities, a puppet show and singing! ❧



Sophia Brodie-Weisberg at the SBY Hanukkah celebration.

More SBY Hanukkah photos on next page! ➔

Shabbat B'Yachad Celebrates Hanukkah!

photos by Cathy Shadd and Michelle Wolfson



Gabi Sandel paints a dreidel.



Mira and Aaron Gellman read a Hanukkah book with their dad, Alan.



Norma Kaufman watches as her daughter, Jordana Meltzer, makes a "finger menorah."



Mira Kittner paints a dreidel.



Ziva Rosenfeld and SBY teen helper Lucy Kahn show the felt dreidel bags they made.



Eli Singer displays his "finger menorah."

The parents and children of Shabbat B'Yachad got ready for Hanukkah at our annual SBY Hanukkah celebration on Sunday, Dec. 5, at the BRJCC. The children spent an hour making Hanukkah crafts, then Michelle Wolfson led the children in Hanukkah songs. Cathy Shadd told the story of Judah the Maccabee, and the celebration ended with a light lunch and gifts of Hanukkah gelt for all the children.

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. Registration is required, but membership in Netivot Shalom is not. 2nd & 4th Shabbat each month, 11:00 a.m. at the BRJCC.

Religious School for children in grades 1–6. Weekday classes cover Hebrew, Torah study, Jewish calendar and holidays, Jewish history, ethics, Israel and life-cycle events. Shabbat classes focus on *t'fillah*, synagogue and Shabbat observances.

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.

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 meet Tuesdays, 4:00–6:30 p.m.

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

ADULT EDUCATION

SUNDAY

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

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

January 9, 23; February 13, 27

(For a list of teaching sessions, see the article on page 5 of this newsletter.)

WEDNESDAY

A Taste of Mussar

7:30–9:00 p.m., NS office, January 19; February 2, 16

THURSDAY

Talmud

7:00–9:00 p.m., NS office

SHABBAT

Praying Outside the Synagogue: For the Heart and Mind

Rabbi Stuart Kelman

1:30–3:00 p.m., BRJCC, January 8, 22

WEEKDAY T'FILLAH

Held at the Netivot Shalom office, 1841 Berkeley Way

Morning Minyan, every Wednesday at 7:15 a.m.,

2nd & 4th Sundays, 9:30–10:30 a.m.



OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS

Sponsor a Kiddush: Calendar On-line

Go to http://my.calendars.net/netivot_shalom/admin or contact us: Joanna Weinberg (weinbgj@itsa.ucsf.edu) and Turi Adams (live-mic@majornet.com).

The Morning Minyan Needs You

There are people attending these services who need to say kaddish and have been unable to do so. Consider becoming a once-a-month attendee. 7:15–8:00 a.m.

Are You Struggling with Infertility or Miscarriage? Would you like to talk with someone from the congregation who has had a similar experience? Contact Robin Braverman 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

Youth Shabbat Program

Children grades K–6, 10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Torah Study: the weekly *parashah*

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

SOCIAL ACTION

Claremont House Kabbalat Shabbat 4500 Gilbert in Oakland, 5th floor lounge, 7:00 p.m., 1st & 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 needed for shopping, cooking or serving. Donations are needed for food purchases. Make contributions to Netivot Shalom, marked "Dinners for the Homeless." 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 Volunteers 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.

January 2005

Tevet - Sh'vat 5765

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Parashat Sh'mot 20 Tevet 9:00 am Torah study: David Winston 9:45 am Shabbat services 6:13 pm Havdalah
2 21 Tevet	3 22 Tevet	4 23 Tevet	5 24 Tevet 7:15 am Morning minyan	6 25 Tevet 7:00 pm Talmud study	7 26 Tevet 4:48 pm Candle lighting	8 Parashat Va-era 27 Tevet 9:00 am Torah study with Nitzhia Shaked 9:45 am Shabbat services 11:00 am Shabbat B'Yachad 1:30 pm Rabbi Kelman: "Praying Outside the Synagogue: Kiddush for Shabbat" 6:19 pm Havdalah
9 28 Tevet 9:30 am Minyan & program: Michael Meltzer on Galileo mission to Jupiter, and his book	10 29 Tevet	11 1 Sh'vat ROSH CHODESH SH'VAT 7:15 am Rosh Chodesh minyan 7:00 pm Rosh Chodesh Group, Naomi Seidman on "Mameloshen: Yiddish and Women in Ashkenaz"	12 2 Sh'vat 7:15 am Morning minyan	13 3 Sh'vat 7:00 pm Talmud study	14 4 Sh'vat 4:54 pm Candle lighting	15 Parashat Bo 5 Sh'vat 9:00 am Torah study: Naomi Seidman 9:00 am Amitim 9:30 am Meditative minyan, room 14 9:45 am Shabbat services; Rebecca Friedman will be called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah 6:25 pm Havdalah
16 6 Sh'vat 4:00 pm Youth Education Committee meeting	17 7 Sh'vat MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OFFICE CLOSED	18 8 Sh'vat 4:00 pm Amitim resumes	19 9 Sh'vat 7:15 am Morning minyan 4:00 pm Religious School resumes 7:30 pm A Taste of Mussar 7:30 pm "Shabbat: The 25 Hours," Rabbi Kelman	20 10 Sh'vat 7:00 pm Talmud study	21 11 Sh'vat 5:02 pm Candle lighting	22 Parashat B'shallah 12 Sh'vat 9:00 am Torah study: Nitzhia Shaked 9:45 am Shabbat services 10:30 am Youth Shabbat program resumes 11:00 am Shabbat B'Yachad 1:30 pm Rabbi Kelman, "Prayer Outside the Synagogue: When Are the <i>Shehecheyanu</i> Moments?" 6:33 pm Havdalah
23 13 Sh'vat 9:30 am Minyan & program: Claude Fischer, "Religious Diversity in America," at the Braufman's, 926 Shattuck Ave. 10:00 am SBY Tu b-Sh'vat Party & Storytelling Workshop, NS library 7:00 pm Board meeting	24 14 Sh'vat 4:00 pm Religious School	25 15 Sh'vat TU B-SH'VAT 4:00 pm Amitim	26 16 Sh'vat 7:15 am Morning minyan 4:00 pm Religious School	27 17 Sh'vat 7:00 pm Talmud study	28 18 Sh'vat 5:10 pm Candle lighting	29 Parashat Yitro 19 Sh'vat 9:00 am Torah study: Robert Alter 9:45 am Shabbat services 10:30 am Youth Shabbat program 4:30 pm "Shabbat: The 25 Hours," at the Kelmans 6:41 pm Havdalah
30 20 Sh'vat 1:00-5:00 pm Jewish Educators' conference at Temple Sinai 10:30 am Tu b-Sh'vat Ecology Program & Seder, BRICC	31 21 Sh'vat 4:00 pm Religious School					

Beginning Hebrew is available by appointment; 925-979-1998 or rivka48@aol.com.

February 2005

Sh'vat - Adar 1 5765

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 22 Sh'vat 4:00 pm Amitim	2 23 Sh'vat 7:15 am Morning minyan 4:00 pm Religious School 7:30 pm A Taste of Mussar	3 24 Sh'vat 7:00pm Talmud	4 25 Sh'vat 5:17 pm Candle lighting	5 Parashat Mishpatim 26 Sh'vat 9:00 am Torah study: Nitzhia Shaked 9:45 am Shabbat services 10:30 am Youth Shabbat program 7:00 pm Yiddish Sing at the Kelmans' 6:48 pm Havdalah
6 27 Sh'vat 10:00 am "Healing Through Listening & Legacy w/ Linda Blachman" 1:00 pm K-6 Shabbat Program Game/Costume Making Party 3:00 pm K-2 Parents Meeting/Kids make games	7 28 Sh'vat 4:00 pm Religious School	8 29 Sh'vat 4:00 pm Amitim	9 30 Sh'vat ROSH CHODESH ADAR I 7:15 am Morning minyan 4:00 pm Religious School	10 1 Adar I ROSH CHODESH ADAR I 7:00 pm Talmud	11 2 Adar I 5:25 pm Candle lighting	12 Parashat T'rumah 3 Adar I 9:00 am Torah study: Naomi Seidman 9:45 am Shabbat services; Midrasha Shabbat 10:30 am Youth Shabbat program 11:00 am Shabbat B'Yachad 1:30 pm Rabbi Kelman, "Shabbat Morning" 6:56 pm Havdalah
13 4 Adar I 9:30 am Minyan and program: Peter Berck, "Israeli Water Policy"	14 5 Adar I 4:00 pm Religious School	15 6 Adar I 4:00 pm Amitim 7:30 pm Rabbi Kelman, "Shabbat Morning"	16 7 Adar I 7:15 am Morning minyan 4:00 pm Religious School 7:30 pm A Taste of Mussar	17 8 Adar I 7:00 pm Talmud	18 9 Adar I 5:33 pm Candle lighting	19 Parashat T'tzavveh 10 Adar I 9:00 a.m. Torah study: Nitzhia Shaked 9:30 am Meditative minyan, room 14 9:45 am Shabbat services <i>No Youth Shabbat program</i> 7:04 pm Havdalah
20 11 Adar I 10:00 am SB'Y Service Leading Workshop, at NS library 10:30 am Purim <i>Halakhah & Minhag</i> 4:30 pm "Music and Shabbat," Rabbi Kelman	21 12 Adar I PRESIDENTS DAY OFFICE CLOSED NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	22 13 Adar I 4:00 pm Amitim	23 14 Adar I Purim Katan 4:00 pm Religious School	24 15 Adar I 7:00 pm Talmud	25 16 Adar I 5:40 pm Candle lighting	26 Parashat Ki Tissa 17 Adar I 9:00 am Torah study: Simon Firestone 9:45 am Shabbat services 10:30 am Youth Shabbat program 11:00 am Shabbat B'Yachad 4:30 pm "Music & Shabbat," Kelmans' home 7:11 pm Havdalah
27 18 Adar I 9:30 am Board mtg. 9:30 am Minyan and program: Rabbi Kelman, "Attending the House of Study Punctually & Probing the Meaning of Prayer"	28 19 Adar I 4:00 pm Religious School					

Beginning Hebrew is available by appointment; 925-979-1998 or rivka48@aol.com.

David Moss's *Love Letters: A Celebration of Jewish Love and Marriage in Words and Images*

“This landmark work by David Moss once again reveals an extraordinary talent, rich in imagination and craftsmanship. With well-chosen gems from classical and modern literature, Moss’s art celebrates love, courtship and marriage in beautiful color and a wide range of imaginative design. It is another of David Moss’s unique contributions to the art of the book and sure to be treasured by all.”

— Seymour Fromer, Director Emeritus, Judah L. Magnes Museum, Berkeley

One of our generation’s greatest Judaic artists, **David Moss**, creator of *The Moss Haggadah*, has just finished another masterpiece — an artistic tour de force called *Love Letters: A Celebration of Jewish Love and Marriage in Words and Images*. In the late 1960s, David began to revive the handwritten, illuminated *ketubah*, the traditional Jewish marriage contract. *Love Letters* is a collection of his stunningly imaginative illuminated *ketubot*.

The publisher has generously allowed Netivot Shalom to offer this magnificent work, which includes prints suitable for framing, at a special pre-publication price of \$175, plus shipping and sales tax, which comes to \$198. This is a one-time opportunity to both receive this magnificent new work at a discount and help our financial and educational needs. Netivot Shalom will receive half of the pre-publication price, which will be used for Youth Education programs. David may have an opportunity to speak with us about the book — we’ll keep you posted.

You should have received a letter, order form and brochure describing the book and companion prints. For another brochure, send an e-mail to mossloveletters@yahoo.com, or pick one up at the shul office. You may also use the form below to place your order.

I/We would like to purchase _____ copies of *Love Letters* at \$198 each (\$175 plus shipping and sales tax; Netivot Shalom receives \$87.50 per book from your purchase). Please allow four weeks for delivery.

I/We would like to purchase _____ copies of the Wedding edition of *Love Letters* at \$328 each (\$300 plus shipping and sales tax; Netivot Shalom receives \$150 per book).

I/We would like to purchase _____ copies of the portfolio of *sheva brochot* (marriage blessings) for \$104 (\$85 plus shipping and sales tax; Netivot Shalom receives \$42.50 per set).

Make checks payable to Congregation Netivot Shalom – Youth Education.

Name _____

E-mail/Phone _____

Address _____

Please ship to: Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____


When Thanks Are Not Enough

By Sheela Dunovan, Office Administrator

Here in the front office, we have some sad news to report. Our wonderful administrative assistant, Jennifer Zahigian, has just left Netivot Shalom after three and a half years of incredible, unwavering support to the entire congregation, the board and all the staff. Jen started as a part-timer, but we quickly discovered how indispensable she was and she became full-time. Since then, she has, cheerfully and with great love and care, attended to hundreds of special requests, processed memberships, helped to shepherd several High Holy Day seasons, taken care of many Youth Ed kids and parents, and on and on.



Jen recently became the proud owner of her first home (a great loft space in Oakland!), which she is working on; she will also be working with our former bookkeeper, Lauri Abrahamsen, at a construction company, as well as expanding her massage therapy practice, baking, taking photos and more. Though she’ll be very busy, she has promised to come see us in our new home. We hope she visits often!

Jen has been an invaluable asset in Netivot Shalom’s growth and well-being, and she will be sorely missed. Please join us in offering her our heartfelt gratitude, love and support in all her future endeavors. May she always go from strength to strength — and may her life be filled with wisdom, joy and sweetness. We thank you, Jen, with love and *biv’hat shalom* — blessings of peace. 

Thanks from the Food Bank

The Alameda County Community Food Bank has sent us a letter of thanks for our participation in the Yamim Nora’im Food Drive. We collected **1,005 pounds of food for families in need** during the holiday season. Thanks to all of you who brought in food!

The Food Bank reported that the 5765 Yamim Nora’im food collection totaled more than 27,000 pounds of food, from eleven synagogues, seven Noah’s Bagels and four Jewish community organizations. As Alameda’s central clearinghouse for donated food, the Food Bank provides emergency food assistance to 120,000 people in need each month.

Art & Objects for New Shul

The art and objects panel met in late November to review the many donations that were offered by artists and collectors to adorn the new shul building. Many wonderful pieces were selected, BUT — there are still many areas that we will want to eventually fill with beautiful art and objects. For more information, please contact Sheila Braufman (510-525-8492 or sbraufman@cs.com).

Attention eScrip Participants:

eScrip requires that you annually renew your commitment to having Safeway donate money to Netivot Shalom. Please surf the Net to www.escrip.com and follow the directions as an existing member.

If you are not signed up for eScrip, please consider doing so to help our shul in a free and simple way. Our eScrip registration number is 128330637. Follow the easy directions, and start sending money to Netivot Shalom with many of your ordinary purchases. Questions? Call David Levine (510-653-0679).

Rosh Chodesh Group

Tuesday, January 11, at 7:00 p.m.

Naomi Seidman will speak on **Mameloshen: Yiddish and Women in Ashkenaz.**

Women are welcome to join us in a member's home. Please contact Toby Gidal for location and other information: tgidal@comcast.net or 510-841-8868.

News from JFED

Free Bikkur Cholim Volunteer Training

The Community Rabbi Program of the Jewish Community Federation of the Greater East Bay is offering a free four-session training series for volunteer visitors on February 6, 13, 27, and March 6, at 2:00–5:00 p.m., in Oakland. For more information or to apply, see www.jfed.org/bikkurcholim.htm or contact Rabbi Miriam Senturia at RabbiMiriam@jfed.org or 510-839-2900 ext 212.

MAZAL TOV! TO...

Robert Alter on the publication of his translation and commentary, *The Five Books of Moses* (and wonderful reviews in *The New York Times* and numerous other publications).

Julia Watts Belser on the publication of her poem, "Crossing the Field," in *Midstream* magazine.

Cantor Pamela Rothman Sawyer on being honored by Temple Israel for 10 years of service.

Elana Shever & Jonathan Levine on their wedding.

Adrienne Williams & Shamma Boyarin on the birth of their son, Gavriel ben Adrah v'Shamma.

Jeannie Witkin on the birth of her second set of twins, Ezra Aaron and Rena Rose.

WELCOME!

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

- Steve Goldman
- Estie Hudes
- Rachel Miller
- Phyllis Press
- Leslye & Seth Robbins

Some Upcoming Programs at the BRJCC

Wednesday, January 26, 7:30 p.m.

"Radical Islamist Ideology: What Does It Mean for the Jews?" Yitzhak Santis, director of Middle East Affairs for the Metropolitan Jewish Community Relations Council, will discuss the implications of the growing support for radical Islamist ideology in the U.S. and worldwide. Fee: \$5 donation

Thursday, January 27, 7:30 p.m.

Seeds of Learning: Biblical Gardens Learn how to create a biblical garden and explore the historical ecology of biblical gardens and biblical instruction for maintaining ecological balance.

With Shirley Pinchev Sidell Fee: \$5 donation

Monday, February 28, 7:30 p.m.

Book Club: *The Plot against America: The Jewish American World of Phillip Roth* Beginning with *The Plot against America*, the group will explore the Jewish experience in America as reflected in 45 years of Phillip Roth's fiction. Facilitator Laura Bernell is a Bay Area author who has taught college classes focusing on Jewish-American literature for 20 years. Fee: \$10 per session

Sign Up Now for the BRJCC Softball League!

Have fun, get some exercise, meet new people, no experience required. Games will be played April–August in Alameda on either Wednesday or Thursday nights. **Please sign up by late February** and indicate night preference.

Fee: \$50 for 10-game season

Tickets: \$12–\$35. Discount tickets for students, seniors and groups of 5 or more. For tickets: 415-285-8080 or atjt.com.

For more information call 510-848-0237 ext. 110 or e-mail info@brjcc.org.

*Joan Bradus & Dale Friedman
invite you to share in their simḥah on*

January 15, 2005

5 Sh'vat 5765

Parashat Bo

when their daughter, Rebecca Friedman,

*will be called to the Torah
as a Bat Mitzvah.*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS & REMEMBRANCES

Our sincerest thanks for your support of Netivot Shalom.

ADULT EDUCATION

Ed Anisman & Claire Sherman
Anonymous
Eugene & Nancy Bardach
Judy Breakstone
Janis Burger
Carol & Jim Cunradi
Jerry Derblich
Susan Douglass
Karen Friedman & David Marcus in memory of Stephanie Davis, Fred & Edie Marcus and Moshe Hellner
Susan Jaeger
Jack Joseph & Gail Gordon
Andrew Kahn & Janet Schneider
Seth Kimball & Vicki Sommer Kimball
Barbara Wezelman in memory of her father

BREAK-THE-FAST

Steve & Karen Bovarnick
Deborah & Michael Feiler
Jan Fischer
Stuart & Vicky Kelman
Seth Kimball & Vicki Sommer Kimball
Eric & Rachel Seder
Ann Swidler & Claude Fischer
Barbara Wezelman
Chuck & Ellen Wunderlich

BUILDING FUND

Claudia Herman in honor of our new building and our beautiful Rosh ha-Shanah services

GENERAL FUND

Joe & Dorothy Becker in memory of Rebecca Feiler, ז"ל
Arthur & Sheila Braufman in honor of Lee Feinstein and her myriad hours of behind-the-scenes work for the shul
Susan David
Mindy Geminder
Reno Hillel in appreciation of our Yamim Nora'im services
Jessica Ivry
Betty Kaufman in appreciation of our Yamim Nora'im services
Jonathan Laba & Dorilyn Ahana in thanks for assistance during the Yamim Nora'im
Sarah Levin in gratitude of the Sephardic Kol Nidre service
Debbie & Jerry Isaak Shapiro in honor of Celia Concus, and our new home, with love and best wishes to the Netivot Shalom community
Nike Wind in appreciation of a beautiful and sacred Yom Kippur

KIDDUSH FUND

Ethel Murphy in honor of her mother's yearzeit
Norine Shima
Joanna Weinberg & David Levine

MAX & CECILIA ROSENHEIMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Ruth & Stanley Kochman

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Scott & Turi Adams
Hope & Noah Alper
Andrea Altschuler & David Finn
Sarah Bailey
Sharona Barzilay & Thomas Graff
Joel Bashevkin & Sarah Herman

Peter Berck & Cyndi Spindell Berck
Eugene Berg
Diane & Edwin Bernbaum
Yael Biederman Galinson
Steven Bileca & Angela Alonso Bileca
Jean Bradman
Arthur & Sheila Braufman
Judy Breakstone
Marcia Brooks
Lydia Anne Brose
Carl Buchin & Claudia Valas
Rachel Cane
Frank Commanday
Deborah & Michael Feiler in memory of Rebecca Feiler, and in honor of Rabbi Kelman, the Chevra Kadisha, and Alice Webber's support
Dorothy Feiler
Ted Feldman
Jan Fischer
Karen Friedman in honor of David's birthday
Joel & Katya Gerwein
George & Toby Gidal
Dana & Michael Gill
Mina & Jack Gobler
Leslie Gordon
Debby Graudenz & Rom Rosenblum
Karen Greene
Milton & Marge Greenstein
Josh & Noga Gressel
Larry Hanover
Jonathan & Rachel Heinstein
Lara Hornbeck & John Erlich
Karen Horowitz Weiner in memory of Lillian Horowitz, ז"ל, grandmother of Katya Gerwein, and in appreciation of Rabbi & Vicky Kelman
Alison Jordan
Barry Kamil & Nancy Gurian
Elisabeth Kashner & Jonathan Stern
Stuart & Vicky Kelman
Seth Kimball & Vicki Sommer Kimball
Selma Klett
Ruth Konoff & Ben Hermalin
Leo Levenson
Rose Levinson & David Jeffrey
Florence & John B. Lewis
Marilyn & Morton Markowitz
Glenn & Judy Massarano
Michael McCullough & Judith Lesser McCullough
Gregory & Ruth Morris
Marissa Moss
Noriko Obinata
Robert (Perl) Perlmutter & Meghan Starkey
Linda & Nelson Polsby
Mark & Sharon Priven
Michael & Betty Rosenheimer

The Bulletin Board (cont.)

B'nai Mitzvah Anniversaries

Sh'mot: Madeline Sproull Friedman, Emma Schnur, Michelle Berck
Va-era: Benjamin Simler, Renna Khuner-Haber, Rachel Ranney, Simone Kertes
Bo: Judith Rosenblatt, Valerie Morris, Gabriel Scheffler, Maggie Bond, Ariel Platt
B'shallah: Etan Basseri, Noam Ben Oni, Elan Ben Oni, Emma Mayerson, Yonitte Hindawi
Yitro: Andrea Gottlieb, Maya Gundelman, Jessica Grossman, Jonathan Levy Wolins
Mishpatim: Ari Radousky, Deborah Goldschmidt
T'rumah: Rachel Frank, Marielle Basseri, Ethan Kimball
T'tzaveh: Coby Harris, Laura Miller, Laura Cunradi
Ki Tissa: Benjamin Graff, Beth Morris, Olivia Walt-McCrodin, Anna Frenklach

Sarah Y. Ruby
 June & Bob Safran
 Helen Schneider
 David Shragai & Brenda Goldstein
 Brett Singer & Maia Fleming-Singer
 Howard & Belinda Solovei
 David Vogel
 Martin & Helen Wachs
 Arne & Gail Wagner
 Peter Wahrhaftig & Rena Dorph
 Adam Weisberg & Rachel Brodie
 Alfred & Constance Weissman
 Adrienne S. Williams &
 Shamma Boyarin
 David & Irene Winston
 David Wolins & Yonit Levy
 Glenn Wolkenfeld & Nancy Facher
 Diana Wood & Mark Rasmussen
 Laurie Zell
 Assi & Kim Zvik

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

Steve & Marion Fredman in memory of
 Rebecca Feiler, ז"ל
 Karen & Joel Zeldin for Dinners for
 Homeless in memory of Risa Kagan's
 sister, Faye

SUKKOT IN TILDEN

Lee Bearson & Babbie Freiberg
 Eric & Rachel Seder

TORAH STUDY

Robert Feldman

YIZKOR BOOK

Jean Bradman
 Arthur & Sheila Braufman
 Michael & Andrea Cassidy
 Jan Fischer
 Dennis Michael & Marilyn Levi
 Rose Levinson & David Jeffrey
 Leslie Levy & Steven A Greenfield
 Hillel & Judy Salomon
 Barbara Wezelman

YOM KIPPUR APPEAL

Dan Alter
 Robert Alter & Carol Cosman
 Ruth & Larry Amernick
 Ross Andelman & Hannah Dresner
 Ed Anisman & Claire Sherman
 Fred Astren
 Sharona Barzilay & Thomas Graff
 Joe & Dorothy Becker
 Diane & Edwin Bernbaum
 Yael Biederman Galinson
 Steven Bileca & Angela Alonso Bileca
 Jeffrey Black
 Howard & Joan Bloom

Cathy Bolding & Joseph Meresman
 Esta Brand
 Arthur & Sheila Braufman
 Judy Breakstone
 Mark Brilliant
 Jeffrey Burack & Shelly Ball
 Michael & Andrea Cassidy
 Frank Commanday
 Michael & Theresa Cooper
 John Cox
 S. David
 Carol Delton & Steve Zolno
 Margaret Dorfman & Wayne Pickus
 Gidon Felsen
 Jan Fischer
 Rena Fischer
 Ednah Beth Friedman
 Barbara Fritz
 George & Toby Gidal
 Dana & Michael Gill
 Ellen Gobler
 Peter & Deborah Goldberg
 Leonard Goldschmidt &
 Jeanne Reisman
 Sandra Gore & Ron Sires
 Benjamin Graff
 Debby Graudenz & Rom Rosenblum
 Iris Greenbaum & Stephen Knaster
 Milton & Marge Greenstein
 Ralph & Judith Greif
 Josh & Noga Gressel
 Barry Groody &
 Jenny Schwartz Groody
 Susan Cohen & Lawrence Grossman
 Larry Hanover
 Karen Hecht
 Jonathan & Rachel Heinstein
 Lara Hornbeck & John Erlich
 Michael Irwin & Charlene Stern
 Andrew Kahn & Janet Schneider
 Barry Kamil & Nancy Gurian
 Kathy Khuner & Theda Haber
 Joshua & Jenny Kirsch
 Alan & Elissa Kittner
 Jonathan Klein &
 Rebecca Calahan Klein
 Samuel Krantz
 Gail Krowech
 Judy Lieberman & Allen Samelson
 Margalit Mathan
 Michael McCullough &
 Judith Lesser McCullough
 Robin Mencher
 Marissa Moss
 Martin Myers & Deborah Lewis
 Deborah G. & Yuval Peres
 Mark & Sharon Priven
 Frances Quittel
 Wendy Rosov

Sarah Y. Ruby
 Kathryn & Samuel Scheffler
 Dr. Perry &
 Maralynn (Malka) Scheinok
 Helen Schneider
 Eric & Rachel Seder
 Susan Seeley
 Nitzhia & Ze'ev Shaked
 Susan Sheftel & Robert Meola
 Norine Shima
 David Shragai & Brenda Goldstein
 Mel & Lisa Sibony
 Donna Sidel Straus
 Susan Stanfield
 Rita Stein
 Richard Stern & Risa Kagan
 Peter & Nan Strauss
 Stan & Judi Taubman
 Kara Vuicich & David Radwin
 Martin & Helen Wachs
 Julian & Elsa Waller
 Alice Webber & Stephen Tobias
 Joanna Weinberg & David Levine
 Barbara Wezelman
 Frankie Whitman & Sam Salkin in
 honor of Dean Kertesz
 Roger & Edie Wilson
 David & Irene Winston
 Diana Wood & Mark Rasmussen
 Jahangir & Vadjiheh Yadegar
 Deborah Yager & Barry Muhlfelder
 Assi & Kim Zvik

YOUTH EDUCATION

Karen Horowitz Weiner in appreciation
 of Cantor Pamela Sawyer, Lee Bearson,
 Judy Breakstone and Joel Gerwein, for their
 supportive assistance, along with others, for
 the *shivah minyans* for Katya Gerwein's
 grandmother, Lillian Horowitz, ז"ל. May
 you all grow from strength to strength.

**GIFTS OF TIME, TALENT
 AND TRIMMINGS**

Cynthia Hoffman & Jane Credland for
 repairing some silver *yads* for the Torah

Michael McCullough for transporting
 our guest lecturer, Jonathan Sarna, from
 SFO to Berkeley

Alfred & Constance Weissman, and
 Julie Weissman & Michael Steinbaugh
 for the generous donation of their
 apartment to Youth Education and
 Community Programs.

We Must Not Forget

By Peter Strauss

The following is taken from the Yad Vashem Web site* and is worthy of our attention: “The Central Database of Shoah Victims’ Names is now online.

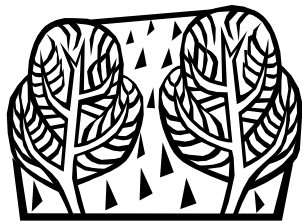
“The Names Database is an international undertaking led by Yad Vashem, from Jerusalem. It is the attempt to reconstruct the names and life stories of all the Jews who perished in the Shoah. It is the final sign of respect we can show them. We estimate that the number of Jews commemorated in the database to date is close to three million. The database is [composed] of pages of testimony, historical documentation and other sources.

“Millions of names that appear in historical documents have not yet been identified nor recorded in the database; many additional names still linger in the memories of survivors or in the lore of their families. Building the database is a work in progress.

“We urge Jewish families around the world to check the database for the names of Shoah victims that they know, and to submit unrecorded names via the site. This is a race against time — we must redeem as many names as possible before the generation that remembers them is no longer with us.”

If you had family members who perished in the Shoah, please check this Web site. If you don’t know for certain, but do know the *shtetls* or towns or cities your ancestors came from, check for family names. We must not forget them. The world must not forget them. ❧

* http://www1.yadvashem.org/remembrance/names/site/home_names.html



**We extend our condolences
to this Netivot Shalom member
& her family:**

Ann Swidler on the death of her mother,
Gertrude Swidler, ז"ל

Yahrzeits

Zichronam l'verakbah — May Their Memories Be Blessed

Naida Schlossman Epstein	21 Tevet	January 2
Cecelia C. Rosenheimer	21 Tevet	January 2
Anne Ruth Greif	25 Tevet	January 6
Lorelei F. Cohen	26 Tevet	January 7
Harry Alter	26 Tevet	January 7
William Samelson	28 Tevet	January 9
Edwin Posner	28 Tevet	January 9
Gertrude Aronstein	29 Tevet	January 10
Rosalie Cohen	29 Tevet	January 10
Frieda Elbogen	1 Sh'vat	January 11
Mary Rosenblatt	1 Sh'vat	January 11
Yoseph Bruchiel	2 Sh'vat	January 12
Nathan Solomon	2 Sh'vat	January 12
Florence Marson	3 Sh'vat	January 13
Nancy Kennedy	3 Sh'vat	January 13
Hada Korc	5 Sh'vat	January 15
Nina Chaya Davis	5 Sh'vat	January 15
Harold Seder	5 Sh'vat	January 15
Sarah Cohen Stahl	7 Sh'vat	January 17
Chaim Radousky	7 Sh'vat	January 17
Mollie Levine	8 Sh'vat	January 18
Leonard Fox	8 Sh'vat	January 18
F. R. Scott	9 Sh'vat	January 19
Binyamina Lawrence Cohen	10 Sh'vat	January 20
Rose Milkman Shandling	10 Sh'vat	January 20
Charmin Knock	10 Sh'vat	January 20
Sidney Edystone	10 Sh'vat	January 20
Cantor Don Fischer	12 Sh'vet	January 22
Sylvia Facher	12 Sh'vat	January 22
Harry Rappaport	12 Sh'vat	January 22
George Levine	13 Sh'vat	January 23
Harry Cohen	15 Sh'vat	January 25
Shirley Burnstein	15 Sh'vat	January 25
William Spielman	16 Sh'vat	January 26
Frieda Bloom	16 Sh'vat	January 26
David Hellman		
<i>(David ben Simcha haLevi vGolda)</i>	17 Sh'vat	January 27
Harry Valas	17 Sh'vat	January 27
Pearl Max	18 Sh'vat	January 28
Goldye Spilky	18 Sh'vat	January 28
Chan Su Kim	20 Sh'vat	January 30
<i>Moishe ben Yudel haCohen</i>	24 Sh'vat	February 3
Ruth Blachman	24 Sh'vat	February 3
Edith Shapiro	26 Sh'vat	February 5
Julia De Lorraine Levin	26 Sh'vat	February 5
Cynthia Walter Drazen	27 Sh'vat	February 6
Lee Valas	28 Sh'vat	February 7
Fanya Cohen	29 Sh'vat	February 8
Florence B. Levine	30 Sh'vat	February 9
David Wunderlich	30 Sh'vat	February 9
Ida M. Cohen	2 Adar I	February 11
Marion Morris	3 Adar	February 12
Jerry Shorer	3 Adar I	February 12
Murray Walter	6 Adar I	February 15
Esther Lipow	10 Adar I	February 19
Abraham Levine	11 Adar	February 20
Benjamin Gottlieb	11 Adar	February 20
Melvin K. Sittes	14 Adar	February 23
Edi Miller	14 Adar I	February 23
Henry Cohen	15 Adar	February 24
Tillie Zimmerman Alter	16 Adar	February 25
Eileen Sheila Derblich	18 Adar I	February 27
<i>(Etta Shaindel bat Zalman Leib vRachel Leah)</i>		
Judith Gold	19 Adar I	February 28



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