



Congregation Netivot Shalom

Mar–April 2006
Adar–Nissan–
Iyyar 5766

Vol. 17, No. 3

FROM THE RABBI

Shabbat and the Berkeley *Eruv*

By Rabbi Stuart Kelman

By now, you probably know that there is an *eruv* in Berkeley. The Web site is www.berkeleyeruv.org. There, you'll be able to find the exact boundaries. So, just what is an *eruv* — and why should we care? The concept of *eruv* concerns the boundaries of what can be considered your "home." That is important since, according to the Web site link:

"The Torah permits carrying within an enclosed 'private' area on Shabbat and Yom Kippur. Such an area enclosed and considered 'private' may vary in size from a small home to an entire community. The Talmud specifies both the definitions of an enclosure and how to render an entire area a private domain. The *eruv* is helpful to families with young children and to individuals who are unable to walk, as carriages, strollers and wheelchairs may be wheeled within the area of an *eruv*. Others may find it convenient to bring a Tallit or Siddur to Shul, or a Sefer to a class or Shiur, or to carry glasses, house keys or other permitted items necessary for Shabbat. Please note that items required for use after Shabbat may not be carried on Shabbat. Children's tricycles may be used inside the *eruv*."

This, by the way, was probably the reason why many synagogues began providing *tallitot*, *siddurim* and *humashim* for use by congregants and visitors.

My bottom line: I fully support the Berkeley *eruv* project.

So what is the issue? Well, for one, I do not observe the *mitzvah* of *eruv*. The issue of a boundary within which I choose to observe Shabbat is not bounded by a wire or string. It is the community in which I live. I hasten to add that driving to shul completely negates the *mitzvah* of *eruv*. And yet, there are some in our Conservative community for whom this *mitzvah* is important and part of their Shabbat observance, and I certainly do not wish to disparage its practice. For those of you who have been in Jerusalem, for example (a city with a rather large *eruv*!), you may find people wheeling strollers and even carrying food from one home to another on Shabbat. Because Jerusalem has an *eruv*, it is perfectly permissible, according to *halakhab*, to wheel a stroller or carry prepared food for, let's say, a pot-luck lunch.

But there is another, more important issue at hand. Jerusalem is a different kind of a city. Jerusalem closes down Friday after lunch, so people have time to go home

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

From Where I Sit . . .

By David Stein

The rains came, and with the successive downpours we learned more about how our new building and the grounds around it feel in such weather. The very cold days told us that the HVAC needed fine-tuning; the corner of the ceiling told us there was a leak on the roof; the mud-engraved tracks in the lobby told us to buy some mats; and the dripping umbrellas told us we needed something to let them drip into! And so it goes.

Getting used to the vagaries of the new building is a challenge: completing the unfinished construction is another. We need to complete the play yard area, and we are dancing around the options and the costs, but the dance will indeed end soon and we will get it done! We need to build a gate and a wooden barrier around the gas-pipe maze in the play area. Could you be one of the volunteers to do build these two items? We have the plans. Call me!

If you have visited us in the administration or education offices, you know about our boxes and our disarray. Sometimes Michelle, Jen, Leonid (our trusty volunteer) and I move things around and weed out some things. You could help: we need an angel to provide two, two-drawer lateral file cabinets for the office; some basic Ikea storage units for Michelle's office; and able-bodied volunteers to assemble KD units and move things around. Call me!

And then . . . well, we have four computers (networked through Norm Rosenblatt's ingenuity), which are being used extensively and continuously (because of what I want done with the programs we have). They are each in need of a memory upgrade. With 325+ member families, perhaps one or two of you have access to good deals on memory chips! Call me!

I have met many of you because I have gotten involved with Queen E's Purim planners; the Web site re-do group; the Religious School Committee; the jazz band/ping-pong people; the library; the unbelievable ritualizers; the ever-growing Adult Education programmers; and of course the kiddush machers and Kitchen Cabinet! And by the time you read this, I might have become involved with many more groups in the dynamic Netivot Shalom community.

Thank you for inviting me here. We have a lot to do, and please know that I am here to give you my two-cents worth and to help you make it all worthwhile.

Until next time . . . ☺

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Preparing for Pesah

By Rabbi Stuart Kelman

It's not even Tu b-Sh'vat and here we have to start planning for Pesah. The first *Seder* is Wednesday evening, April 12. As the *bag* gets closer, there will be more specific announcements, but for now, here are some highlights:

- Our annual Pot Party (for koshering of utensils, of course) will take place Sunday morning, April 9, from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the shul. Once again, Michael Cohen has agreed to set up all the necessary equipment, so that if there are dishes or other items that need to be made kosher for Pesah, you can bring them to the front patio of the shul. Please remember that they must be brought for the immersion into boiling water only after they have been fully scrubbed and cleaned. Both Michael and I will be on hand if there are any questions as to whether something can be koshered. If you are considering making your home kosher, this is the perfect opportunity. Contact me for assistance.
- *Bedikat hametz* — the search for *hametz* is carried out the evening of Tuesday, April 11. All that is needed is a candle, a feather, a few pieces of *hametz* and a paper bag into which the *hametz* is placed. Again this year, I will have *bedikat hametz* kits available.
- *Bi'ur hametz* — the burning of *hametz*. Wednesday morning, April 12, is the time to take out those little pieces of *hametz* and burn them, symbolizing the fact that one's house is now free from *hametz*. A prayer nullifying *hametz* not found is recited (it's in any *baggadab*).
- *Siyum bechorim* — the fast of the firstborn. To commemorate the saving of the Israelite firstborn, anyone (male or female) who is a firstborn traditionally fasts the day before the first *Seder* (from the morning until the *Seder*). But the rabbis prized study as an even higher value, and said that if someone finished the study of a section of rabbinic literature, everyone

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and prepare for Shabbat. In cities in the Diaspora (like ours), Fridays are just like any other workday. So for me, living in Berkeley, there are two values that are in conflict: observance of Shabbat as a 25-hour-long unified experience verses the permissibility of carrying. Please remember that what I am about to discuss pertains to the practice of the community and not necessarily to the practice of individuals.

As a congregation, we have worked extremely hard at defining our Shabbat boundaries. We've said that anything that needs to be used in the shul for the community for Shabbat needs to be there before Shabbat (usually around 4:00 p.m.). And we've asked that things (for example, objects or food) used on Shabbat be left at shul until after Shabbat — in order to protect this, as Heschel calls it, "sanctuary in time."

In this tension between values, I place the value of the 25-hour day of rest far above the concept of *eruv*. For me, and for us as a community, the gift of Shabbat lies precisely in the fact that we protect that period of time and call it *kadosh* — holy, different from any other period of time that we know.

To reiterate, even though we now have an *eruv*, and our shul is within the *eruv*, if you need to bring anything to the shul for Shabbat for the **community's use** (in contrast to

present must celebrate — and what better way than to eat! So, on Wednesday, April 12, we will have our *minyan* as usual, beginning at 7:15 a.m., after which I will complete the study of a portion of rabbinic literature and we will all be invited to have a nosh, thereby fulfilling the *mitzvah* of the fast and enjoying the completing of a book of rabbinic literature. This is a wonderful opportunity to start preparing spiritually for the *Seder*.

- *Mekbirat hametz*: Any *hametz* that is not consumed, burned or otherwise disposed of before Passover is to be sold to someone who is not Jewish, who legally owns the *hametz* during the holiday. It is customary to do this the week before Pesah, and the last time one can do this is after the *minyan*, Wednesday morning, April 12. The *hametz* is sold to the rabbi who then sells it to someone who is not Jewish. A form is filled out, and it is customary to give *tzedakah* when completing this sale. It has been our custom to give this *tzedakah* to someone living near our shul who is in need. The form is on page 22. Fill it out and send it back, or bring it to the office by the morning of April 12. Upon conclusion of the *bag*, the rabbi buys back the *hametz* and one is permitted to use it.
- Pesah workshops will be held on Sunday, March 26, after the 9:30 a.m. *minyan*.

To sum up, there are four stages in preparing for Pesah: *bedikat hametz*, *mekbirat hametz*, *bitul hametz* and *bi'ur hametz* (searching, selling, nullifying and burning) — all this in order to preserve the biblical injunction that there should be no *hametz* in one's possession during Pesah.

Finally, each year we publish a little booklet about Pesah — including instructions about koshering one's home, what's kosher for Pesah and what isn't, what needs a *bekhsber* and what doesn't. It's available in the office — just e-mail and ask for a copy or drop by and pick one up.

The appropriate greeting: *bag sameah v'kasher* — may you have a happy and kosher Pesah! 🌸

things needed for personal use), you need to do so before Shabbat (generally around 4:00 p.m. Friday). And — in order to protect this precious gift of a "sanctuary in time" — we've asked that things used by the community on Shabbat be left at shul until after Shabbat. 🌸

NETIVOT SHALOM NEWSLETTER

Editor: Judith Lesser McCullough

Photo Editor: David Radwin **Calendar:** Alice Webber

Designer: Jessica Sterling

Please submit copy to newsletter@netivotshalom.org. Copy may be edited for accuracy, clarity, length and language, including adherence to grammatical and stylistic consistency. Photos should be digital, if possible, in highest possible resolution; e-mail to david@radwin.org, and provide names of people in each photo.

Issue
May/June

Deadline
March 27, 2006

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

Report from the Board

By Deb Yager, Board Secretary

The Netivot Shalom Board of Directors began its term with three new members (Joe Meresman, vice president; Toby Gidal, treasurer; and Joanna Weinberg, member-at-large) as well as our new executive director, David Stein. Our current focus is assessment of our financial revenues as well as building and operating expenses, and planning for next year's budget. We also began a process to evaluate our governance and management structure, with the goal of improving our effectiveness in carrying the broader responsibilities that come with owning our own building, including working relations between committee chairs and associated committees and the board. The following are excerpts from board minutes.

December 18, 2005, board meeting:

- **Building Report.** A large donation of white desk frames and associated drawers was received for the front office. We gratefully acknowledge Charlene Stern of the late Stern Marketing Group for these items, as well as the giant sheffelera plant inside the front entrance of our shul. The plant was a gift from Charlene's parents when she started her business 15 years ago, when the plant was just three feet tall. The beautiful refinished base cabinets now in the adult study room are the kitchen cabinets from our former Berkeley Way office.

- **Financial Safeguards.** If a monetary request is part of an approved budget, a check can be issued. If a monetary request is not part of an approved budget and/or causes an approved budget to be overbudget, then prior board approval of the expenditure is required.

Motion The board authorizes David Stein to sign all checks for \$500 or less, provided the item for which the check is written is part of a board-approved budget. The treasurer will review all checks monthly. **Passed 10-0-0.**

- **Rabbi's Report.** Rabbi Kelman would like to hire a sociologist to study how Netivot Shalom came to be and to prepare a document for use by other congregations. He also urged the board to form a committee to look at our bylaws for possible revisions. The last set of bylaws was written 17 years ago and much has changed since then.
- **Nominating Committee.** Hannah Dresner, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, presented a report that included several excellent recommendations that would improve the function and process of future nominating committees, some of which may require changes in our bylaws. Hannah also recommended that we consider leadership development as a year-round process.
- **Ritual Committee.** Glenn Massarano reported that several groups have expressed interest in using our building for religious purposes, including a Reconstructionist group and a liberal Orthodox minyan. These groups are a mix of Netivot Shalom members and non-members. The Ritual Committee is challenged to address these requests and their use requirements, which require consideration of issues of ritual and *halakhab*, as well as our congregational identity. Glenn asked the board to consider becoming involved in this process and asked that a board representative attend the February 5, 2006, Ritual Committee meeting.

- **Building Fund.** Mike Irwin reported that after more than 10 years of his management, all financial records of the Building Fund have been transitioned to David Stein, and that David is now in charge of all future Building Fund collections and expenditures. It is important to establish a building maintenance fund for future building maintenance and repair, as well as a building fund cash reserve, which can be used to cover final building costs, including finishing of the kitchen and construction of a preschool playground.

Motion The board authorizes the Executive Committee to allocate up to \$7,000 toward the purchase and installation of a double residential oven. **Passed 10-0-0.**

Motion The board authorizes the Executive Committee to allocate approximately \$8,000 for construction of a preschool playground. The board gives one month to assess the adequacy of this funding and for suitable donors to be contacted regarding a larger donation for a more expansive version of a playground, possibly with a naming opportunity. **Passed 10-0-0.**

- **Board/Committee Chair Communication.** The board discussed the importance of defining the scope of Netivot Shalom governance (board) and management (personnel and committee chairs), as well as the relationship between the two. David Stein will determine a process by which to review management/governance issues and make recommendations. Several board members (Joe, Hannah, Mark) and others (David, Rabbi Kelman, Glenn Massarano) agreed to work as a subgroup as part of this process.

January 22, 2006, board meeting:

- **Temporary Rabbi Duties.** Carol Cunradi and David Stein will determine how Rabbi Kelman's tasks can be delegated over the next two months. We need to ensure that Rabbi Kelman can recover in as stress-free an environment as possible.
- **Membership.** Total households: 325 (including 27 new households since July 2005). Breakdown: 195 family, 92 single, 11 student, 7 out of town, 17 honorary & complementary, 3 employees.
- **Facilities Use.** Jen Childs is the contact person for people interested in renting space at Netivot Shalom. David Stein will review each request and monitor charges.
- **Administration.** The board extends its appreciation to Lisa Schwartz, who provides the entire complicated and changeable ACH/auto-deduction process whereby we receive significant cash each month in a timely fashion. Statements of accounts and member end-of-year donation reports should be mailed in 10 days.
- **Finances.** The current state of our QuickBooks and Rakefet ledger systems is a result of many years of different bookkeepers and overseers with different styles of recordkeeping. David Stein and Toby Gidal are in the process of cleaning up these records. It is the responsibility of the executive director to make sure that the reports generated from the financial/membership data are reliable and are designed to provide the treasurer with the necessary facts for her board reports.

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Motion The board authorizes \$1,000 to fund child care during Shabbat services through this fiscal year.

Passed 10-0-0.

- **Board/Committee Relations.** David Stein will call a meeting of committee chairs and delegates from groups that need access to the calendar, deal with synagogue money, have materials needing storage, or whose activities might affect board policies or synagogue *minbag*. An orientation process is needed for committee chairs, including training, and there is an overarching need for chairs to get together just to talk about things. ☞

Sunday Morning *Minyanim* Speaker Schedule

By Art Braufman, for Ritual and Adult Education Committees

The schedule for Sunday *minyanim* for March and April has been modified because of the number of other activities scheduled. Please see the details below. Also, if you're planning ahead, the *minyanim* in May will be on the first and third Sundays to avoid conflicting with other activities. We encourage you to come at **9:30 a.m. for services** and to have a light breakfast and shmooz with fellow members and guests. If that's not enough motivation, remember that a number of our members are saying *kaddish* for their loved ones, and it is a *mitzvah* to help make a *minyan*. If you relish staying in bed late on Sunday morning, come over at **10:30 a.m. for the speaker**.

Here is the upcoming schedule:

March 12: Minyan only — no speaker; preparation/**decoration for Queen E's Shushan West Supper Club**. Come to the *minyan* and then stay and join in the preparation fun.

March 19: Barry Muhlfelder: "Testing Einstein: Mind-Bending Ideas about Bending Space-Time." Barry, chief scientist for the Gravity Probe B (GP-B) program at Stanford University, has worked on it for 20 years. GP-B is NASA-funded and -designed to test two predictions from Einstein's general theory of relativity. A spacecraft equipped with four precise gyroscopes was launched in April 2004 and recently completed data acquisition. Barry promises that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to enjoy hearing the ups and downs of this experiment. **Note this is the third Sunday in lieu of no speaker on March 12.**

March 26: Minyan only followed by Pesah workshops; sponsored by Adult Education.

April 9: Minyan only, no speaker. This is the Sunday before Pesah and the shul kitchen will be in the process of being *kashered*; a pot party will be held on the patio. Got your attention, didn't it! The Ritual Committee has scheduled a pot-boiling party to *kasher* your pots and pans. Come to the *minyan* and then help in the kitchen; bring your pots.

April 23 Rabbi Kelman: "How Law Works — Some Case Studies, Halakbab." Fourth in the series: "In the Middle Doesn't Mean *Parev*: A Fresh Look at Conservative Judaism."

☞

Report from the Art & Objects Committee

By Sheila Braufman

We're proud of the beautiful artwork that has been generously donated to the shul in the spirit of *biddur mitzvah* (the obligation to beautify ritual objects). We encourage congregation members to continue helping us fill the building with art.

The procedures for making art donations and a list of criteria are available in the front foyer (or you can contact me with questions). After an offer is made, members of the Art & Objects Committee will decide whether to accept the object. Unfortunately, we can't accept all offerings.

The following are the artworks currently on display. Our deepest gratitude goes to the donors.

FIRST FLOOR: Foyer stairway Quilt made by Karen Friedman, on long-term loan. **Social hall** Photographs by Gerd Mathan (also in the conference & adult education rooms), donated by her estate. Three woodcuts by Jacob Steinhardt, donated by Linda and Nelson Polsby.

SECOND FLOOR: Open hallway Two prints by Louise August, donated by Jerry Derblich. Two prints by Israeli artists Raphael Abecassis and Amos Amit, donated by Joan Bradus and Dale Friedman. **Back hallway** Painting of dancers, created and donated by Ruth Peterson Shorer, who also made the *mezuzah* on the shul entrance that was used for the grand opening. **Library** Silk painting made by congregants at 2005 retreat; framing donated by retreat participants and Dan Siegel. Quilt in memory of Margot Lucoff, who participated in its creation before her death; made and donated by Diane Bernbaum, Lee Feinstein, Karen Friedman, Rivka Greenberg, Nancy Katz and Faith Meltzer. The Story of Jacob scrolls: text by Judith Goldhaber, illustrations by Gerson Goldhaber.

We have several items that are still being made. Watch the walls and the newsletter for updates. ☞

Introduction to Maimonides — Taught by Nitzhia Shaked

Seven Thursdays, February 23–April 6, 7:30–9:00 p.m.

This course will introduce Maimonides as a master rabbi, codifier and philosopher, with an emphasis on selected sections from his magnificent code: *Mishnah Torah*. The class will explore legal provisions as well as philosophical, theological and moral ideas displayed in the code, and will discuss Maimonides' approach to issues such as behavioral norms (*bilkhot de'ot*), repentance, idolatry, messianic ideas and *tzedakah*.

Nitzhia Shaked holds a degree in law from Hebrew University and worked for the Israeli Supreme Court. She has a master's degree in jurisprudence from Harvard and is a member of the California Bar. She is currently teaching at San Francisco State University, and is a Wexner scholar.

Co-sponsored with Lehrhaus Judaica, and held at Netivot Shalom. \$80 for Netivot Shalom members; \$95 for others.

Ritual Committee Issues

By Glenn Massarano, Chair, Ritual Committee

First, I want to mention one thing that comes up every once in a while on the Ritual Committee. This is *aliyot laTorah* (*aliyabs*, or coming up to the Torah). Sometimes (usually anonymously), we hear about people who are frustrated because they have not received an *aliyah* and would like to have one, either because they have never had one or because it has been a long time since the last one. We have been working to make sure the *gabbai'im* spread out the honors. But here are some tips for what you can do if you would like to have an *aliyah*.

- First and foremost, **ask**. Ask the *gabba'i*. You can find out who that person is by checking the announcement sheet. Or by looking for the person wandering around, frequently scanning the congregation, often with rolo-dex in hand. The only way they know that you want an *aliyah* is if you let them know.
- Another tip (and this one is important) is to **come early**. Often, the *gabba'i* tries to hand out most, if not all, the *aliyot* before *barkhu*. This is not necessarily because they are in a hurry to go do something else. The *balakhab* is that people praying should not be disturbed from *barkhu* through till the end of the amidah. If they waited until after the amidah to hand out *aliyot*, they would not have enough time. This tip works not only at Netivot Shalom, but elsewhere as well.
- You can also pass on the request to Peg Sandel, the ritual coordinator (rituals@netivotshalom.org), or myself (ritualchair@netivotshalom.org). We will see that the *gabba'i* is aware of your request, and an *aliyah* will be held for you, if possible. (But remember to show up early enough. If the *gabba'i* cannot find you by a certain time, she or he may give away the *aliyah*!)
- Understand that, on some *Shabbatot*, *aliyot* are already committed for one reason or another. If we cannot get you an *aliyah* on a particular Shabbat, we'll try to get one for you another time.
- If you want an *aliyah* for a specific reason, let us know. These reasons might include a *yahrzeit* for a family member, to celebrate a *simhah* (birthday, anniversary, birth, *brit milah*), before a long trip, after a long trip, or after recovering from an illness or accident. Also, the anniversary of your *bar/bat mitzvah* is a great reason to have an *aliyah*. (Even better, if

you remember your Torah portion, you can read from the Torah!) In fact, the sources talk about a priority order for people in different categories. These people are at the top of the list. So this information is important.

Regarding those observing a *yahrzeit*, you should receive a reminder in the mail prior to the *yahrzeit*. If you are not getting these reminders, please contact the office (admin@netivotshalom.org) to provide details.

And if you want to know about the how-to of doing an *aliyah*, I wrote about the process in a former issue of the newsletter. Contact me if you would like a copy of the article.

One other item that has been discussed recently that is worth more than a bullet below is the use of items like cell phones and cameras/videocams on Shabbat and *lag*. While our policy is printed on the announcement page, I'd like to reiterate it here: **the use of cameras and video cameras is not appropriate on Shabbat and lag**. We ask that you not use them on our premises during these times. We are trying to create a sacred space for our use on Shabbat. This sacredness also has a temporal component. It applies the full 25 hours of Shabbat. It includes services and the *kiddush* following. Please respect and contribute to our effort at creating sacred space by not using these items on our premises.

This also goes for **cell phones**. We ask that you silence all cell phones before entering the premises and not use cell phones on the premises.

Here are some of the other items that the Ritual Committee has been discussing recently. This covers our December and January meetings.

- We continue to prepare for the holidays. The current ones in sight? Tu b-Sh'vat, Purim, Pesah, Yom ha-Shoah and Yom ha-Atzmaut.
- Rabbi Kelman reported very favorable reviews of the trial of the new *maḥzor* this past Kol Nidrei, and that we will continue to use the *maḥzor* until it is published.
- We are working with David Stein, looking at the possibility of having a second night *Seder* this year for Pesah.
- We continue to develop the policy for *kashrut* and the kitchen usage.

If you have any questions or comments about any of these items, anything ritual, or ideas to propose, please feel free to contact me. ☺

Rabbi Pre-Selection Committee Update

By Art Braufman

The survey period was completed in February and the study group is busy analyzing the results and preparing a report for presentation at a congregational meeting, tentatively scheduled for April 2 at 10:00 a.m. at the synagogue. Please reserve that date and plan to attend. A formal notification confirming the date will be sent out by mail as required by our bylaws. Attendance by a large percentage of our members is important to hear the survey results, which the Rabbi Search

Committee will use as the foundation to develop search criteria for the new rabbi. We anticipate that the congregation's opinion regarding the question of affiliation with USCJ will also be needed, so that the board can make the decision at a future board meeting.

Prior to the congregational meeting, we plan to hold several open meetings for congregants to hear a preliminary report of survey results, and to comment on the process and the preliminary results. Please watch your e-mail and regular mail for the announcement of those meeting dates.

We welcome any questions or comments about the RPSC or search process. You may e-mail the committee at rabbisearch@netivotshalom.org. ☺

It is my hope, in this column, to encourage discussion and even debate with regard to issues concerning and confronting Israel. What follows in this issue are the thoughtful — and, I hope, thought-provoking — views of one member of our community. I encourage you to engage with the article and also, if you wish, to offer other ideas and/or articles.

— Editor

The Recent Palestinian Elections

By Seymour Kessler, Co-chair, Bridges to Israel-Berkeley

The Palestinian elections are behind us and Hamas has won a dramatically clear-cut victory. The extent of their success came as surprise to everyone including Hamas itself. Before the elections on January 25, Hamas projected an image of being in the opposition or perhaps holding some posts in a unity government. But their electoral sweep catapulted them into the responsibilities, power, headaches and everything else that comes with governance.

Much of Hamas's success comes from the Palestinian public's dissatisfaction with the Palestinian Authority (PA), its ineffectiveness, corruption and lack of a program to build a viable economy. Added to these inadequacies was Fatah's inability to put together a unified election list to compete with Hamas candidates. Hamas ran a far better organized campaign and was more diligent in getting the vote out. Lastly, despite the millions of dollars poured into Palestinian coffers over the years, Fatah failed to provide basic social services — schools, medical centers, welfare services and other programs — whereas Hamas built its reputation, in the eyes of the Palestinian public, largely on a dedication to these issues. The election results are more a repudiation of Fatah than an embrace of the Hamas agenda.

Hamas, as you probably know, is committed to what it calls “a path of resistance against Israeli occupation,” and their covenant calls for the destruction of Israel. Over the past five years, Hamas took “credit” for nearly 60 suicide bombings against Israeli civilians. They have Jewish blood on their hands, and even though they may be a governing party they still maintain — like Fatah before them — an armed militia group trained in terrorist tactics. Despite international calls to disarm these militias, Hamas leaders adamantly refuse. Ismail Haniyah, a senior Hamas leader in Gaza put it well: “The Europeans and the Americans are telling Hamas to choose between arms and parliament. We say we will go for arms and parliament and there is no contradiction between the two of them.”

He is correct. There is no contradiction. Both are seen by Hamas as tactics to eventually destroy the Jewish state.

Nevertheless, Hamas is not a monolithic group. It has factions of pragmatists, hotheads, ideologues, religious fundamentalists, etc. Also, its leadership is split between those in Gaza (e.g., Haniyah), the West Bank (e.g., Hassan Yousef) and Damascus (Khaled Mashaal), the latter most surely supported financially by Iran. These various factions have their spokesmen (they are all male), each broadcasting disparate views. In the weeks ahead, while things sort out, we

can look forward to hearing and reading some contradictory positions regarding relations with Israel and other issues. We are also likely to see considerable infighting within Hamas as each faction jockeys for power and the money that inevitably comes with power.

Hamas won because it has clean hands. How long that will last is anyone's guess, especially if international funding continues to flow, directly or indirectly, into PA coffers with little if any accountability. Also, the Hamas leadership faces major challenges from Fatah's armed security forces, and how these conflicts will be resolved is unclear, especially since within Fatah itself major infighting between the old guard and the young guard is intensifying.

Instability among the Palestinian factions is generally not good news for Israel; it invariably increases terrorist actions, perhaps as a way of deflecting attention away from internal problems and promoting unity within the Palestinian community. One of the players in the Palestinian community not currently on the media radar screen is Islamic Jihad, which opted not to advance candidates in the recent election and remains outside the political system. It has taken over Hamas's traditional role in attacking and killing Israeli civilians and was responsible for all the suicide bombings last year. My guess is it will continue its operations and, as usual, the Palestinian leadership will do nothing to contain, punish or stop them. This would allow a Hamas government to maintain an image of adhering to a ceasefire with Israel, while its surrogates go about their dirty work.

Israel, as you know, has an upcoming election of its own March 28, and no time is being lost to blame PM Sharon, acting PM Olmert and the newly formed Kadima party as the cause of the Palestinian electoral outcome. Netanyahu and others on the Israeli right focus on Sharon's support of the Gaza withdrawal as the cause of Fatah's defeat. On the other hand, Yossi Beilin on the far left also blames Sharon and company for not having sufficiently supported Mahmoud Abbas and the PA after Arafat's demise — as if the PA's ineffectiveness and impotence to reduce unemployment and bring law and order to the Palestinian territories were somehow under Israel's, not the PA's control. These charges are mostly electoral rhetoric — something we shall probably see more of in the weeks ahead. A more reasonable and Occam razor explanation for Hamas's success can be found in the many Palestinian discontents and Fatah's failures in this election campaign.

Undoubtedly the outcome of the Israeli elections is uncertain at this point. Much can happen — suicide bombings, scandals, health issues, a miraculous resurrection of Arik Sharon — to determine the final outcome. No matter who wins, security will be the top item on the agenda, and we are likely to see more Israeli unilateral actions, including the extension of the security fence and withdrawals from areas difficult to protect.

We might also see an increase of unilateralism on the part of the Palestinians — a “parallel unilateralism” seems to be in the offing. Although it is unclear at this point what steps the Palestinians might take, at least one Hamas leader, Mahmoud al-Zahar, envisions closer economic ties with Egypt and other Arab nations rather than with Israel.

Israel is sufficiently resilient to withstand whatever happens under a Hamas regime. If there are sporadic suicide bombings

or another intifada breaks out, Israel knows what to do, and this time, I suspect, it will not be as condemned by the international community for the force it may need to exert to protect its citizens. Unless Hamas changes its basic attitudes regarding Israel's existence and a desire to negotiate a peace settlement, Israel's argument that "there's no one to talk to on the other side" will be little criticized.

In essence, the issue of the 1970s and '80s is back on the diplomatic table: recognition of Israel's right to exist as a precondition for talks about peace. Thus, for the Israeli peace movement, the Hamas win has been a disaster. Writing in *Haaretz* recently, a senior member of the Israeli far left, Uzi Benziman, stated:

"The results of the elections in the Palestinian Authority were the death knell for the left's way of looking at the world: when the majority of the Palestinian people votes for a party that, for religious reasons, rejects the right of the Jewish people to have a state on part of the Land of Israel, it affirms the Israeli right's understanding of the essence of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

"The Palestinians are proving that they reject Israel's very existence . . . and that even if Israel were to withdraw to its pre-1967 borders, the Palestinian demand for control over all of the biblical Eretz Yisrael would remain. In other words, the January 25 elections brought to the surface the deep current that flows through the Palestinian consciousness: the fervent desire for Israel's destruction and the refusal to recognize the legitimacy of its existence."

Thus, it appears that even among the most impassioned peace proponents a sense of fatalism — perhaps realism is a better word — has begun to set in. The issue of Israel's existence has never truly left the diplomatic starting gate. Israel's political center suspected as much when the Camp David meeting in 2000 collapsed, and with the onset of the intifada each deadly suicide attack convinced the overwhelming majority of Israelis there was truly no one there to talk peace with.

Hamas's win has implications for the broader international community. In this country the administration's policy of bringing democracy to the Arab world seems to be under review. Elections do not necessarily mean progress toward freedom and democracy in the absence of a social structure, economy and philosophy of life that provide a fertile field in which flowers of democracy might bloom. Also, flaws in U.S. intelligence were revealed by the election. The extent of the victory was totally unanticipated, and policy decisions (to fund Mahmoud Abbas' campaign prior to the election, for example) based on faulty information may have contributed to Fatah's defeat. Undoubtedly Fatah's defeat was partially due to American insistence that the elections proceed even though Mahmoud Abbas and other Fatah leaders wanted to cancel them. The European community, a source of moral and financial support for the Palestinians, also has been thrown by the Hamas victory, and major assessments of basic policies are under way.

Hamas's victory also has multiple ramifications for the Palestinians themselves. They have tended from the onset to make tragic policy misjudgments and have chosen leaders that brought enormous destruction, poverty and misery to their own community. Many are wondering what further suffering

is in store. A Hamas administration may want to impose a *sharia* (Islamic law) orthodoxy, and it is likely that many of the few gains in civil liberties that Palestinians have achieved might be lost. In addition, the younger elements of Fatah have scores to settle with the "old guard," and this will certainly contribute to further instability in the Palestinian territories as internecine struggles within Fatah and between Fatah and Hamas intensify.

On the whole, the Palestinian public does not want to see a return to Arafat-like violence, and this has forced Hamas to refrain from violating the ceasefire they agreed to early in 2005. Recall how strongly Hamas was criticized a few months ago when an electioneering vehicle carrying missiles exploded among civilians in Gaza City. Hamas was embarrassed by the debacle. Nevertheless, the situation in the Palestinian areas is highly unstable and generally — if the past predicts the future — the result is an increase of terrorist activities against Israel. Insofar as other matters are concerned, only time will tell.

Assessment by Prof. Shlomo Avineri

In the attached article, Shlomo Avineri, a professor of political science at the Hebrew University and former director-general of the Israeli Foreign Ministry under PM Yizchak Rabin, points out some of the reasons for Hamas's victory and what it might mean for Israel. He notes the bleak history of power transfer in the Arabic world and suggests that we may see considerable in-fighting among the Palestinians during this interim period. He suggests that Olmert and the Kadima party might be the beneficiaries of the Hamas victory. He sees a growing distance between Israel and the Palestinians and more unilateral decisions on Israel's part.

"Prospects of Hamas in Power" by Shlomo Avineri (Project Syndicate)

"The victory of the fundamentalist Hamas in the Palestinian elections will have far-reaching consequences for the region, some totally unexpected. Two aspects, however, are already visible.

"The Hamas victory is, first and foremost, an indication of the total failure of the traditional Palestinian leadership to create a body politic. Palestine is not yet a state, but it is already a failed one.

"Since the Oslo Accords of 1993 between Israel and the PLO, the Palestinians enjoyed limited transitional autonomy. To be sure, the new Palestinian Authority took power under difficult conditions, but which new liberation movement does not face serious challenges when it finally must govern?

"The PA had an opportunity to lay the institutional foundations for a functioning state. But, instead of supplying the population with the necessary infrastructure — economic development, education, welfare, medical services, housing, and refugee rehabilitation — Yasser Arafat's Fatah-led PA spent more than 70 percent of its meager budget on a dozen competing security and intelligence services, neglecting all other spheres of activity. It created what is called in Arabic a Mukhabarat (security services) state, very much like what is prevalent in almost all Arab countries — Egypt, Syria, Saudi Arabia, republics and monarchies alike.

"The vacuum that the PA left elsewhere, including the social

(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)

sphere, was filled by Hamas. Indeed, its popularity is due not only to its fundamentalist Islamic ideology and its commitment to the destruction of Israel. The high esteem in which Palestinians hold Hamas also grew out of what Hamas actually did for them while the PA squandered its resources.

“It was not only the endemic corruption of the official Palestinian leadership that turned so many Palestinians from it. Hamas set up better schools, kindergartens, creches for mothers, medical centers, welfare services, and programs for youth and women — all of this in addition to giving special grants to the families of suicide bombers. In the elections, Hamas received its dividend for doing what the Fatah-led Palestinian Authority failed to do.

“It is still an open question whether Hamas in government will become more pragmatic and less committed to terrorism: it certainly is a possibility, and one should not prejudice the outcome. But nor, on the other hand, is it clear that the existing organs of the Palestinian Authority — especially the security services at its disposal — will allow a peaceful transfer of power. Indeed, no such precedent exists: there has never been a peaceful transfer of power in any of the Arab League’s 22 member states.

“Israel’s response to Hamas’s victory will obviously be complicated by its own elections on March 28, and by a government headed by an interim prime minister, Ehud Olmert, owing to Sharon’s incapacitation just weeks after leaving Likud and founding a new, centrist party, Kadima (Forward).

“Despite Sharon’s absence, Kadima maintains its lead in public opinion polls — the most recent gave it 44 of the Knesset’s 120 seats, compared to 21 for Labor and 14 for the right-wing rump-Likud, under Binyamin Netanyahu. Kadima’s success is due to Sharon’s main innovation in Israeli politics: the successful unilateral disengagement from Gaza.

“That withdrawal was based on the conviction that the gaps between the Israeli and Palestinian positions are too wide to enable meaningful negotiations. Hence, Israel must start deciding the future boundaries of the country unilaterally, hoping for eventual negotiations at a later stage.

“This is also the line adopted by Olmert. But Hamas’s victory suggests that the gaps between the Israeli and Palestinian sides will grow even wider, and that the chances for a negotiated settlement will recede even farther into the future. This leaves further unilateral Israeli moves — such as a partial set of withdrawals from selected areas in the West Bank — as the only feasible option. Realistic conflict management will replace utopian hopes for conflict resolution.

“In a region full of paradoxes, the Hamas victory may have added another one: usually, when extremists on one side become stronger, it plays into the hands of extremists on the other side, producing a dangerous spiral effect. In this case, however, the victory of the extremist Hamas may strengthen not the extremists of Likud, but, surprisingly, the more moderate centrists of Kadima. One cannot be certain of such an outcome, of course, but it is now the best that one can realistically hope for.” ☞

Our Cuba Connection

By June Safran, Cuban Affairs

Israel

I have been writing articles about Cuban Jewry for many years, and there is always a lot of interest in what is happening with our friends who are still in Cuba and those who have moved on to Israel and other countries. I went to Israel in September to see the Cubans who have made *aliyah* during the past six years. What I found was that they are succeeding in making a fresh start — complete with children that are a delight, apartments and cars. Many are sending aid back to families and communities in Cuba. One young man (from Caibarién) just spent his first winter in Jerusalem working at an Argentinean restaurant, and he experienced his first New Year’s Eve celebration outside of Cuba, where it is a family night. His description was, “Incredible!!”

Another group went to Israel in February, including our friends, Vicente Dorado and his family from Santiago. We went to Santiago in November 2004 for Ruben Dorado’s *bar mitzvah*. Vicente’s mother, Lourdes Levy, will not be going since she has her own mother living in Guantanamo and a daughter living in Matanzas.

Miami

Not everyone has been able to make a life in Israel, mostly because of language-learning problems. Irene Zonszajn, her brother, Joel, and all their family are in Miami now, where they have a large extended family to assist them. Irene has bought an apartment, and her son and daughter-in-law, who live with Irene and her mother, have two children. Her mother is still active, but is much weaker than before. Joel bought a house, and his wife babysits all the grandchildren while the adults work. Their son, Joelito, was able to buy an apartment. Salomon Botton and family are also in Miami with their extended family. Salomon is working as a janitor since he doesn’t have the language skills to get his veterinary license. Yolanda, his wife, is happy in Florida. Her English continues to improve and the two girls are doing well.

Cuba

Much has changed in Cuba this past year. First, it is harder to get aid to the communities, as our government has increased restrictions, including the amount of money nonprofits can send. The CAJM is grateful that we got our license from the Treasury Department to travel *and* to send money. Not many organizations have.

Cuba is making money by exporting doctors overseas. A doctor friend is spending three years in Botswana. She had no choice about whether to go. She says she works very hard because she is the only ophthalmologist in the area; the principal problems are AIDS, cataracts, glaucoma and eye trauma. She says it isn’t much money and there is lots of illness around her, but she is sure HaShem will protect her.

The senior group in Havana is doing well. We were able to send money for the leader to buy “goodies” for outings. A new Holocaust memorial park is being developed near the Orthodox synagogue in collaboration with the city historian and Congregation Betzabel in the Miami area. The community is very excited. Incidentally, the Orthodox are coming into

the twenty-first century. Look at their Web site at <http://jewishcuba.org/adathcuba/>.

More exciting news comes from David Tacher, president of the small community of Santa Clara, where the most beautiful Holocaust memorial stands, designed by both the community and those of us who sent financial aid. David wanted it to belong to everyone, he said. It is made of green marble with a stone from Colodno Street (Warsaw Ghetto) set in its side. I hope many of you will get to see it soon. The new exciting news is that the community has found a house big enough to use as a synagogue and library for both Santa Clara and nearby Caibarién. They are successfully raising funds to buy and remodel it and only need the okay from the government to purchase it.

Our autistic child in Havana, Carlitos, continues to respond to therapy. His mother writes, "We are fine and especially Carlitos, with his important advances principally in the cognitive and affective areas. For these times he learns to kiss really in the face and all the time he comes to me or his father or to Bruno [his 12-year-old brother], too, to kiss us. Really is very pleasant to know how he loves us and it is one important part of the recovery. He continues with the special therapy but in these moments the principal problems is his language. But the new therapist of language said me that perhaps after the 4 years he develops his language. I hope so

but I will continue to work very intense with him."

Happy news comes from Havana, where Deborah Soriano and Franco Cannetti (both Jews by birth) were married. Deborah has been active in the Conservative community since she was a child and now teaches in the Sunday school, and Franco, although fairly new to the community, is enjoying his involvement.

If anyone wants information on how to travel to Cuba to the Jewish community or how to provide aid, please contact me. ☺



Photos are from the reception of newlyweds Deborah Soriano and Franco Cannetti.

A Message from Our New Kiddush Coordinator

By Susan David, Kiddush Coordinator

Greetings! I have been a member of Netivot Shalom for many years, and now that I am retired I find that I have the time to participate in the life of the congregation by serving in this position. As you know, however, my work as coordinator is not to provide the *kiddush*, but to arrange for all of you to do this. As always, you are encouraged to volunteer. But, like Turi and Joanna before me, I must remind you that if we don't have sufficient volunteers, we will be in the unpleasant position of not having any food for *kiddush*!

You can always view the calendar through a link from our Web site. Clicking on "Sponsor a Kiddush" will bring you to another screen that has a link to the coordinator (me) and to the calendar, where you can check to see if a particular date is available or has been taken. I was recently a *kiddush* co-sponsor, and it was a very pleasant experience. Contact me at kiddush@netivotshalom.org and join the fun. Sign up to sponsor a *kiddush* today! ☛

Chevra Kadisha Annual Meeting

By Andi Cassidy and Karen Friedman, co-chairs, Chevra Kadisha

13th Annual Chevra Kadisha Meeting
March 7, 2006
7:30 p.m. at Netivot Shalom
Refreshments will be served.

The Chevra Kadisha meets as an entire group just once per year. Traditionally, this meeting is held on 7 Adar, the anniversary of Moses' death. This year's date is March 7. If you are a current Chevra Kadisha member or are looking for a way to connect with members of Netivot Shalom in a meaningful way, or to perform *mitzvot* of a deeply spiritual nature, then please attend this meeting.

The Chevra Kadisha comprises several subgroups, *tabara* (ritual cleansing and purifying of a body); *shmira* (guarding the body before burial); *nehama* (grief counseling); *shivah minyans*; and *gemilut hasadim* (taking food to the bereaved). At the annual meeting, we will review assignments and procedures as well as give practical overviews for new people interested in joining the Chevra Kadisha.

We will open our meeting with a presentation from Gene Kaufman, director of Sinai Mortuary, who will discuss the history of Jewish burial practices in the Bay Area, and the new Jewish cemetery in Contra Costa that is scheduled to begin operations in 2007. Following that presentation, we will break up into meetings of each of the Chevra Kadisha subgroups.

In order to familiarize people with the different groups, we will provide overviews for new attendees as well as a review for continuing members. There will be a practical *tabara* demonstration. Ross Andelman, head of the *nehama*

committee, will review the group's work over the past year and discuss the process of supporting mourners. And, of great importance, we will address the openings: someone to assist Pat Hellman in arranging *minyanim* and some one or two to continue the incredible work of Stephen Tobias and Alice Weber, taking food to grieving families. (To Stephen and Alice, thank you.)

It is vital that you attend this meeting if you have *any* interest in the *chevra*. Our numbers have dwindled, and at times we have had difficulty fulfilling these *mitzvot*. If you have been a member or are interested in becoming a member, please attend. Please RSVP to Chevra Kadisha co-chairs Andi Cassidy and Karen Friedman (chevrakadisha@netivotshalom.org) or call Karen (510-528-0728). ☛

Jessica Sterling

Newsletter Designer

I knew, from a young age, that I would be in publishing in some capacity. As a child, I wrote and illustrated several children's books (as yet unpublished) and worked on various school-based publications including *Leviathan*, the Jewish student quarterly at UC Santa Cruz.

After earning a degree in fine art at UCSC and attending art classes at Parsons School of Design in N.Y., I was set to make my living at my trade, painting or maybe printmaking, only to find that neither would pay the rent. I quickly got in gear, bought my first Macintosh and advertised as a graphics and production wiz.

I was fortunate to land my first real job as production manager of a local weekly in Hollister, Calif. A quick learning curve and intense on-the-job-training gave me the ability to move north to the Bay Area, where I began work in San Francisco as a part-time contractor at a small publishing house and part-time staff member at the *Jewish Bulletin* (now *J.*). From there I moved into a position at Pacific Bell Directory, learning the ropes in a larger corporate creative services group. My corporate stint ended in 1999 when my first daughter, Zoe, was born. I have been working on a freelance basis for clients in the Bay Area and nationally for about three years. Our family has recently been blessed with the birth of a second daughter, Emma. I live in Oakland with my husband, Greg, and our two lovely daughters.

☛



Rabbi Daniel Kohn and Deborah Stachel

By Rabbi Daniel Kohn

When Judith asked me to write a short article about myself and my family, she said to include “whatever is interesting” about us. All of this depends upon your perspective, but Deborah and I met in Jerusalem 18 years ago. I was in rabbinical school, studying at Hebrew University and the Beit Midrash LaRabbanim, the Masorti Movement’s rabbinical school for Israelis. (The remainder of my rabbinic training was at the University of Judaism and the Jewish Theological Seminary.) Deborah had taken a year after college to study Jewish texts at a program sponsored by the Conservative Movement. Originally, I am from St. Louis and Deborah is from both Boston and Princeton, N.J.

We have been married for 14 years this March, and due to our various careers (rabbinical and legal), we have lived in a number of different East Coast cities together including Manhattan; Philadelphia; Wildwood, N.J.; and Forest Hills in Queens, NYC, but for the past eight years we have called Mill Valley home.

Professionally, I have worked in Jewish education and served congregations both on the East Coast and here in California. Among my positions, I have served as the chief rabbi of Cape May County — not to mention the *only* rabbi in that county — and helped to found the Solomon Schechter High School of Long Island. Currently, I am teaching Judaic studies as the rabbi-in-residence at the Contra Costa Jewish Day School in Lafayette. For the past eight years, I also have been privileged to teach adult education for Lehrhaus Judaica.

For many years, I was an enthusiastic student of the Japanese martial art of Aikido. However, after 16 years of training and getting my third-degree black belt last spring, I have retired from Aikido and am now taking up Tai Chi. I also like to write and publish on Jewish subjects in print and Web media. The three books that I have published, *Practical Pedagogy for the Jewish Classroom*; *Sex, Drugs and Violence in the Jewish Tradition*; and *Kinesthetic Kabbalah: Spiritual Practices from Martial Arts and Jewish Mysticism*, are all available at Amazon.com. (If you have any influence in the publishing world, please let me know — I have several other completed, but unpublished, books that I am hoping will someday find a publisher.)

As for Debby, she is a voracious reader, loves long walks and is the calmest, most centered mother of three kids that you can imagine. Professionally, her legal career began at the University of Pennsylvania, where she was awarded her law degree in 1993. Subsequently, on the East Coast her experience included clerking for two judges, including for a judge in the U.S. District Court in NYC, and working as assistant corporation counsel for the New York City Law Department, where she defended civil rights and

employment discrimination actions in federal and state courts and administrative agencies. When we moved west, she became senior staff attorney for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit (San Francisco) before taking her current job as assistant regional counsel for the Social Security Administration (also in San Francisco).

Both of us have been more than happy to turn our full-time attention to raising our children, Nava (now four), Reuven (two and three-quarters) and Kalanit (one and one-half). Reuven and Kalanit have only been with us for a few months and we are hoping to finalize their adoption by the summer. Because of our family focus, it was Shabbat B’Yachad that brought us to and kept us at Netivot Shalom. In fact, I want to thank all of our friends who have extended their hospitality to us on Shabbat and holidays and made us feel like integral parts of the Netivot Shalom community. Despite the distance from Marin, being a part of Netivot Shalom is well worth the schlep! 🌀



Nava (top), Daniel Kohn and Deborah Stachel smile for the camera.

In each issue, we introduce one or more congregants to you — some new and some not so new — so that we can all get to know each other better. 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.

Our Children, Our Most Precious Beings — and Youth Education

By Michelle Wolfson, Director of Education

Do you know that one third of our congregants have kids 14 and under? Parents report that one of the joys of Netivot Shalom is how safe they feel letting the children play underfoot during Saturday morning *kiddush*. Congregants tell me how they delight in seeing so many little Jewish souls partaking of the joys of Shabbat. We are blessed to have a building designed with our children in mind. We are having a blast using the art room and the children's library, and our eight classrooms still have that brand-spanking-new car smell! The first four months with Religious School in session have been what Rabbi Kelman calls "a shakedown cruise," where we see how everything works in our new home. Now that we've lived in the new building, we're developing policies to make our home kid-friendly and kid safe.

"All Israel Is Responsible One for the Other" (Shavuot 39a)

Remember decades ago, when all adults felt empowered to correct and teach any child? Our tradition teaches that it is not just parents that are commanded to do the *mitzvah* of "and you shall teach them diligently to your children . . ." but all members of the community over the age of *mitzvot*. I construe "your children" to refer to "your community's children." Please keep your eyes open for any child who needs a helping hand, or needs a friendly, gentle reminder how to behave in a *makom kodesh*, a holy place.

The Wiggle Section in the Sanctuary

The southwest corner of the sanctuary nearest the preschool room is designated "the Wiggle Section." If you are facing the ark, it is the far right, rear section on the room, by the door to the hallway. We have put a box of soft, quiet toys there for little ones to occupy themselves with while they soak in our Hebrew prayers. This is the area in which to bounce the baby, answer the four-year old's questions about the Torah, and let kids be wiggly while parents are participating in the service. We wish we could put up a sign saying *yeladim* welcome here in our sanctuary, because they are welcome and wanted!

Pre-Teens in the Sanctuary

We encourage our 5th and 6th graders to participate in the main service, and require our 7th graders to attend a minimum of 18 Shabbats as part of their preparation to lead services for their *bar* or *bat mitzvah*. They are learning how to follow the service and how to be part of adult life at our shul. The key word is "learning." The Amitim *b'nei mitzvah* class sits at the far right (south) side of the shul. All adults are welcome to sit near them, or among them, or lean over and lend a hand. We can remind them where they are in the service, help them focus, or send them back to the service after a bathroom break. Of course, children can sit with their parents anywhere in the sanctuary.

Adult Library

The library overlooking the sanctuary is a great place to hang out during the service. Twice a month we hold children's

services in the library at 11:15 a.m., and all kids and adults are welcome to join us. There are two windows that crank open to the sanctuary. Please be aware that with even one window open a crack, everything that goes on in the library can be heard below in the main service. Those that hang out in the library can choose: windows open and everyone upstairs listening quietly, or windows closed and everyone can make noise. If tightly shut, the windows are soundproof to the level of normal singing.

Children's Library

The children's library has a wide selection of Jewish-themed books for preschoolers to young adults. They are available to check out, but please be aware that these same books are used by all our teachers for their students in Religious School, so please don't check out holiday books around holiday time. There are also two shelves of secular books on the bottom shelves, so that children can entertain themselves during adult meetings. Other shelves in the children's library room include all our teacher resource books, textbooks for Religious School and storytelling resources. Please do not take these without asking as we cannot replace them. If you would like to work on your Hebrew, I can suggest books and give you Web sites on which to buy them. Feel free to browse or use any of the books while you are in the building, and return them to where you found them.

In the Classrooms — *Ba'kittot*

Our children enjoy an unprecedented number of technological toys for leisure hours that don't belong in the classroom. This includes weekdays and Shabbat. If for some reason they must transport toys or electronics, they must be checked in with the teacher, to be returned only at dismissal. This includes Tamagachi, ipods, cell phones, PDAs, calculators, electronic Hebrew dictionaries, fancy pens and pencils, and the low-tech rubber balls, yo-yos, string, and glitter and gel pens, and whatever the teacher determines is a distraction from learning.

Food and Drink, *Mazon v' Mashke*

The synagogue grounds are kosher premises. Rabbi Kelman, our *mara d'atra* (halachic authority), has ruled that inside the gates, our *kasbrut* policy applies, so students (and parents), please bring only *hekhshered* snacks. Unfortunately, this means no slurpies or non-*hekhshered* candy (since sugar and learning . . . well, you know.) Food and drink are to be consumed in the social hall and courtyards only. Please don't send students with snacks for themselves only, unless they can be finished before 4:00 p.m., because everyone wants to share and it disrupts the class. We always give them snacks at 5:00 p.m.: crackers, cookies, chips generally, carrots, fruit, bagels or pita some days. No food or drink is allowed on the Berkeley Montessori Playground, for the simple reason that there is no one, no janitor, to clean it up before the school needs to use its premises again. This includes parents watching children.

Preschool Family Update

Shabbat B'Yachad is bubbling with activity every second and fourth Saturday morning, with five new *neshamas*/souls about to come into the world, and standing room only for our amazing parent led-services and storytelling.

Our beautiful new furniture has arrived! Bright blue tables, and chairs just the right size for *kiddush* and art projects.

Sturdy, light wood bookshelves and cubbies with room for all our toys, plus they roll away to hide distractions when we need to. Book display shelves with Hebrew and English books to read with our kids. And a multicolored Noah's ark rug to sit on during the service, complete with animals looking out each porthole.

Childproofing

There is still a lot of work to do. We are looking for a point person to organize folks to finish childproofing. The tasks that need to be done for the preschool area are: one-touch releasable gate to the interior hallway and to the temporary yard; latches for the cupboards and drawers; in the temporary yard, gate to the parking lot; one-touch releasable gate to the back of the building; building covers for the gas meter and electrical box; purchasing and installing a secure hose rack; removing shade structures, and any unsafe items. In other parts of the building, we need to childproof the second floor window stoppers and install childproof latches in the kitchen; the sliding metal gate between the BMS and CNS courtyards needs a plexiglass blocker; and a solution needs to be found for the balcony wire fence overlooking the social hall.

Shabbat Program

The Shabbat program is for all our kids, weekday and day school. Each week is stand alone, and day school children and guests can drop in. Remember, the youth Shabbat program is 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. to synchronize with the new start time of the community service, 9:30 a.m. It is disruptive and tough to teach when children arrive for the last 15 minutes of class. There is one class for K-2 with Lena Silver, and one class for 3rd-6th grades with Miriam and Andrea alternate weeks. The monthly *t'fillab* schedule is as follows, and guests are welcome for the first and fourth Shabbats.

1st Shabbat: 11:00 a.m. Shabbat First! Family Service K-2 in the adult library

2nd Shabbat: 10:15 a.m. Teva. Nature Shabbat K-6 at Strawberry Creek Park
11:00 a.m. Shabbat B'Yachad

3rd Shabbat: Each class has a learners' *minyán*

4th Shabbat: 11:00 a.m. Shabbat B'Yachad
11:15 a.m. All-school service K-6 in the adult library

Children on Shabbat and Holidays

We are in the process of setting up a hang-out room for elementary school-aged kids, with paid supervision, for our Shabbats with no Hebrew school, or children not in the Shabbat program. One of the classrooms will have board and card games, and a place for kids to hang out with their buddies. We'll be hiring a college-aged supervisor from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. At the start of *kiddush*, the Berkeley Montessori playground will be open, and the supervisor will be there until 1:30 p.m. Please check that the adult is out on the playground before leaving your children there. One or two 5th or 6th graders in the preschool room are helpful, more are a gaggle and disruptive for the little ones.

Supervision during Meetings and Classes

This community is run on volunteer power, and we are all appreciative of the long hours congregants put in at meetings

and working on the building. Kids are welcome to hang out in classrooms while their parents work, as long as parents frequently check on them, and then clean up when they leave. Food must still be eaten only in the social hall.

Weekday Religious School

Once a week, *kitab aleph* and *bet* have been learning new songs and dances, and developing their Hebrew decoding, especially those tricky vowels, with Devorah Levy. In *kitab gimmel* and *dalet*, with Miriam Pasternak, they are learning about the Jewish lifecycle, *brit milah* and *simḥab bat*, and weddings. Ask them about their cross-cultural philosophy project and super secret activity. In Hebrew-level *gimmel*, they are mastering their decoding skills and working on conversational Hebrew. Level *dalet* is beginning to read and comprehend basic texts. *Kol ha-kavod!* In *kitab bay*, with Andrea Shupack, students are studying *mab la'asof?* What to do on ethical issues. They are zooming ahead in *siddur* Hebrew, doing a lot of work translating prayers and simple stories.

Day School or Public School?

It is difficult for parents to decide where to send their kindergartners, and we are happy to sit down and share our plans for the weekday Hebrew school, and even happier to have you visit any classroom, with notice. Come see what we are doing; we hope we can assist you in the decision-making process. Better watch a *bar* or *bar mitzvah*. More than half of the children came through our weekday religious school with its demanding standards.

Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service & Potluck Dinner

6:00-7:00 p.m. Potluck Dinner: *kiddush* and *motzi* at 6:00 p.m.

7:00-8:00 p.m. Kabbalat Shabbat Service and Story. The fourth Friday, **Rabbi Daniel Lev** leads a singing service with a lot of *ruah* and a riveting Torah story. Experience the Sh'ma dance! Target audience: preschool-4th graders, with all young people and adults welcome. Same time year round. Meet us in the social hall for dinner, and the library for the service. Dates: March 24 and April 28, 2006.

Amitim Update

The first *bat mitzvah* of the year, Gaby Rothman, made us all proud in January, and the rest of our 20 Amitim students are working hard, learning trope, Torah service, musaf, and birkat ha-mazon. In the fall and early spring, we focus on *t'fillab* skills, and the rest of the spring we turn to the meaning of each prayer. We're reading their Torah portions together, and sharing questions about becoming an adult Jew with 7th graders in Israel on our shared photo blog. The class they've been waiting for, "Talking Jewishly about Sex and Dating," is scheduled for two sessions in February. We'll teach what the tradition says about respect, responsibility, reputation, readiness and reciprocity.

Feedback on Policies

We are figuring out how our community grows and changes in our new space. I want to hear any feedback on our kid-friendly, kid-safe building/playground policies. Thanks for keeping an eye on all our community's children. ☺

Shabbat B'Yachad Continues to Attract New Families!

By Cathy Shadd, Coordinator, Shabbat B'Yachad

For the past several months, it seems that at least one, and often as many as four new families come to our SBY services each time! They come through a variety of channels — families that live in the neighborhood and decided to check out the shul, people who heard about the program from friends, people who know someone in the congregation who encouraged them to come, or new arrivals to the East Bay seeking a shul. Some are seeking community, others a meaningful family davening experience. Others are wondering whether now is the time to join a synagogue and reconnect with their Judaism. While some may not come back, many will and many have. Our membership has grown considerably since we moved into our new building in June.

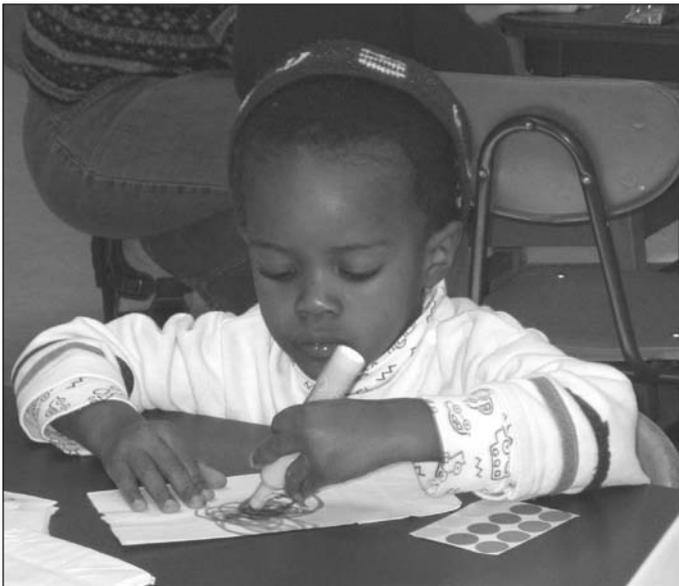
We do a special welcome song each week to all our visitors and guests. And we make sure that the welcoming feeling extends through our mini-*kiddush* by introducing them to other families, including them in conversations, and inviting them to come back soon and often. We want to encourage these families to attend the main *kiddush* as well, so when you notice parents with young children standing alone, please introduce yourself and really and truly welcome them into our larger community. It is still hard, no matter how old we are, to walk into a room full of people and not see any familiar faces. Let's all make sure our faces become familiar to our newcomers very soon.

SBY Room Is Filling Up!

Our SBY room is not only filling up with new families, but also with new furniture and furnishings! Our preschool-sized tables and chairs have arrived in all their multi-colored glory — pink and blue and purple! We have shelves and cubbies for all our donated toys! Soon we will have art on our walls — mosaic-style paintings done by our children at the shul retreat last May and at Camp Ramah several summers ago. There is also progress on the play structure, which we hope we will be enjoying this spring. Many thanks to all our families for their patience. The long wait is proving to be well worth it! 🌟



Sophia Kiang (left) and Kalanit Kohn concentrate on perfecting their menorah drawings.



Upper left: Ariel Newman (right) puts the finishing touches on her frosted sugar cookie, while Sid Polston verifies that the cookies are delicious.
Middle left: Reuven Kohn decorates a bag for taking home his cookies and dreidel.
Lower left: Joshua Polston retells the story of Hanukkah.
Upper right: Rabbi Daniel Kohn leads the group in a round of Hanukkah songs.
Lower right: Mila Stern creates a drawing of a menorah.

SHUL ACTIVITIES

Unless otherwise noted, all activities will be held at our shul, 1316 University Ave, Berkeley.

YOUTH EDUCATION

Shabbat B'Yachad (SBY) for families with preschool children five years and under. Program includes *t'fillab* (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.–12:15 p.m.

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'fillab*, games, Jewish values and Torah stories. Tuesday–Thursday, 4:00–6:00 p.m.

Shabbat Program for children (K–6) in either Religious School or day school. Each Shabbat, 10:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m. Innovative game-based classes focus on the values of the week.

Family Kabbalat Shabbat Service for all ages (especially 3–9 year olds), with singing, a Torah story and the minimum halakhic service. 4th Friday each month, 6:00 p.m. dinner, 7:00 p.m. service.

Amitim (*b'nei 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 and Thursdays, 4:00–6:30 p.m.

Midrasha, an intercongregational program for East Bay Jewish teenagers, offers classes ranging from Talmud and Hebrew to Jewish film and drama. The program provides 8th–12th grade students with the skills and knowledge they will need as committed Jewish adults.

ADULT EDUCATION

SUNDAY

Morning minyan, 2nd and 4th Sunday, 9:30 a.m.

Teachings, 10:30–11:30 a.m.

(For the schedule and a list of teaching sessions, see weekly announcements.)

TUESDAY

Talmud

7:00–9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Morning Minyan

7:15 a.m.

SHABBAT

Various *shabbatot* after services; check the “green sheet,” congregational announcements or the newsletter calendar for special programs and classes.

OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS

Sponsor a Kiddush: Calendar On-line

Go to http://my.calendars.net/netivot_shalom/admin.

The Morning Minyan Needs You

People are attending these services who need to say *kaddish*. Consider becoming a once-a-month attendee. Wednesdays, 7:15–8:00 a.m.

SHABBAT SERVICES & PROGRAMS

Shabbat Morning Services: Morning services begin at 9:30 a.m.

Meditative Minyan: 9:30 a.m., 3rd Shabbat each month

Shabbat B'Yachad: 11:00 a.m., 2nd and 4th Shabbat each month

Youth Shabbat Program: Children grades K–6, 10:15 a.m.–12:15 p.m.

Torah Study: the weekly *parashah*

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

Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv Services: 7:00 p.m., 2nd Friday of each month, services followed by a potluck dinner. Family kabbalat Shabbat, 7:00 p.m., 4th Friday of each month, services preceded by dinner at 6:00 p.m.

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 Joan Bradus at 510-528-3467 or drfriedman@juno.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 Sharon Barzilay at 510-658-8157.

Feed the Hungry Food barrels are available in the lobby. Bring unopened nonperishable 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 at the Berkeley Youth Alternatives program. Contact Jonathan Stern at 510-872-0751 or socialaction@netivotshalom.org.

Midrasha in Berkeley

By Diane Bernbaum

Michael Krasny to Speak at Spring *Se'udab*

We're having a party, and YOU are invited. Each year, Midrasha in Berkeley holds a spring *se'udab*, a festive event with a featured program and some food and music. This year's *se'udab* will take place on **Sunday, March 5, 4:00–7:00 p.m.** It is our extraordinary good luck to have gotten Michael Krasny to be our guest speaker. Any of you who have ever tuned in to KQED's "Forum" program each weekday morning know Dr. Krasny's breadth of knowledge and ability to be cogent and articulate on so many subjects. Besides being host of "Forum," he is also a professor of English at San Francisco State University, a former regular contributor to *Mother Jones* magazine and a fiction writer. For the Midrasha *se'udab* Dr. Krasny will talk about "350 Years of Jewish Presence in the U.S.: The Gifts that Keep on Giving." He will present an accelerated overview of the historic experience of Jews in the United States, with emphasis on what Jews have contributed to America and America to the Jews. I frequently sit glued to my radio listening to his program, and can't wait to hear him on this topic.

This year's *se'udab* will take place at Congregation Beth El. The Midrasha board, which plans this event, thought that the general Bay Area community would be interested in seeing the magnificent new Beth El building. In addition to seeing the lovely building and hearing from Michael Krasny, we will hear Howard Barkan play jazz guitar while we smooze, Barrie Rokeach will be available to take souvenir photos so you'll remember the event, and of course, because this is a Jewish party, there will be food.

Now comes your part. Although we mail out invitations to current and alumni Midrasha families, we don't mail invitations to every member of our 10 sponsoring synagogues. If you're interested in coming, or know someone who might want to come, or someone who is a Michael Krasny fan, or a jazz guitar fan, or just someone who likes supporting Jewish education in general or Midrasha in particular, call the Midrasha office (510-843-4667) to either make a reservation or request an invitation. We are hoping to fill our venue to overflowing, attracting more people than ever to this spectacular event. Tickets are \$60 and tables of 10 are \$540. Why don't you find nine friends and join us on March 5. We're looking forward to seeing you.

Hebrew High School Network Forming

Those of you who have been reading this column faithfully and carefully (O.K., O.K., only my mother fits into that category) will know that for the last three years I have been talking about the coming together of a nascent network of directors of supplementary community Hebrew high schools. That's what Midrasha is. All of us are sponsored by more than one religious movement (although having Orthodox congregations along with Reform, Conservative and Renewal makes us somewhat unique) or by a Jewish Federation. Some schools are much smaller than Midrasha, with only a handful of students, and some, like schools in Boston and Philadelphia, have 900 students.

Things began three summers ago when 10 of us got flown to Boston to advise a representative of the Legacy Heritage Foundation on how best to support supplementary community-based teen Jewish education. The meeting was facilitated by the Institute for Informal Jewish Education at Brandeis University, which continues to midwife our group. We told the Foundation's representative that the best investment would be to help us mold into a group, and to continue to hold a summer conference; for the last two years, we've done just that, and our group of 10 has grown to 60.

How does this effect Midrasha right now, this winter? It turns out that much of what I have been doing this academic year has been tied up with Legacy Heritage's beneficence. To begin with, the conference funding will end with this summer's conference, so a handful of us have been involved in lengthy conference calls to try to form our group into a real network. We have been talking to other national organizations to find an appropriate umbrella for our group. I never knew that community day schools (like Tehiyah) also had a network. Their network started as a tiny organization like ours 20 years ago and now has a huge membership. My national colleagues and I have spent our phone calls dreaming: how a Web site would help, how we could have a speakers' bureau, share curriculum, provide consultants and grants, and help our graduates transition to college by being a link with campus Hillels. I had been hesitant to volunteer to sit in on these phone calls but am very glad that a colleague twisted my arm. I may not be in the field 20 or 30 years from now, but because of the groundwork happening now, my younger colleagues will have infinitely more national support than I did at the beginning of my career.

Midrasha Receives Legacy Heritage Grant

But that's not all. Legacy Heritage, besides helping with our annual summer conference, has been providing grants to schools in the areas of curriculum and marketing. Last year, a Midrasha in Rhode Island was funded to develop a curriculum called "Abraham's Journey": a study of the Abraham story in Genesis, linking it with students' own spiritual journeys. This spring, we have been chosen as a pilot site for this curriculum and Yossi Fendel is teaching the course.

And there's still more. Last year, four schools across the country were chosen for a marketing grant. I wasn't too interested in applying at the time, but last summer when I saw the work that last year's recipients had done I kept saying to myself, "Why didn't Midrasha in Berkeley fight for this grant? This is so wonderful." I saw before me an introspective process of allowing an organization to figure out who they were and what they wanted to say about themselves, and what was working and what wasn't. I'll admit it, I was really jealous. So this year, I applied, certain that the funders would discount us since another local Midrasha was funded last year. I was wrong. We were recently notified that we will receive the grant for the next two years. This will involve forming a committee of students, parents and faculty to be trained in how to think strategically and holistically about marketing, and it will provide us access to a wonderful marketing expert who really understands the field of Jewish education. This is just the beginning. I'm sure in the two years to come, you'll be hearing a lot more from me about this. ☞

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 1 Adar Rosh <u>Hodesh</u> Adar 12:00 a.m. Deadline for Rosenheimer campership applications 7:15 a.m. Minyan 7:00 p.m. Rosh <u>Hodesh</u> Group (in a private home)	2 2 Adar 4:00 p.m. Religious School 4:30 p.m. Amitim 7:30 p.m. Introduction to Maimonides with Nitzhia Shaked	3 3 Adar 5:46 p.m. Candle lighting	4 4 Adar Parashat <u>Trumah</u> 9:00 a.m. Torah study with Naomi Seidman 9:30 a.m. Shabbat services 10:15 a.m. Youth Shabbat program 11:00 a.m. Shabbat First! Family service 6:47 p.m. Havdalah
5 5 Adar 10:00 a.m. Shabbat B'Yachad Purim 4:00 p.m. Midrasha spring se'udah 7:00 p.m. Ritual Committee meeting	6 6 Adar	7 7 Adar 4:00 p.m. Religious School 7:30 p.m. Chevra Kadisha annual meeting 8:00 p.m. Intermediate Talmud Study with Ilana Fodiman Silverman	8 8 Adar 7:15 a.m. Minyan	9 9 Adar 4:00 p.m. Religious School 4:30 p.m. Amitim 7:30 p.m. Introduction to Maimonides with Nitzhia Shaked	10 10 Adar 7:00 p.m. Young Adult Potluck & Service 5:53 p.m. Candle lighting	11 11 Adar Parashat <u>Tzavveh</u> Shabbat <u>Zakhor</u> 9:00 a.m. Torah study with Nitzhia Shaked 9:30 a.m. Shabbat services 10:15 a.m. Youth Shabbat program Teva Shabbat K-6 11:00 a.m. Shabbat b'Yachad 1:00 p.m. R. Kelman: The Real Story of Purim 6:54 p.m. Havdalah
12 12 Adar 9:30 a.m. Morning minyan 7:00 p.m. Queen E's Shushan West Supper Club	13 13 Adar Ta'anit Esther Purim 6:15 p.m. Children's Purim Program: Shpiel, singing, costume parade 7:15 p.m. Ma'ariv and Megillah reading	14 14 Adar Purim 7:15 a.m. Minyan and Megillah reading 4:00 p.m. Religious School Purim Fair Religious School Purim Fair 4:30 p.m. Amitim 7:00 p.m. Liturgy Literacy with R. Kelman 8:00 p.m. Intermediate Talmud Study with Ilana Fodiman Silverman	15 15 Adar Shushan Purim 7:15 a.m. Minyan	16 16 Adar 4:00 p.m. Religious School 4:30 p.m. Amitim 7:30 p.m. Introduction to Maimonides with Nitzhia Shaked	17 17 Adar 6:00 p.m. Candle lighting	18 18 Adar Parashat <u>Ki Tissa</u> 9:00 a.m. Torah study with Cynthia Hoffman 9:30 a.m. Shabbat services Zak Hecht is called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah 9:30 a.m. Meditative minyan 10:15 a.m. Youth Shabbat program: each kitah minyan 2:00 p.m. Minhah 7:01 p.m. Havdalah
19 19 Adar 9:30 a.m. Morning minyan 10:30 a.m. Talk by Barry Muhlfelder: "Testing Einstein: Mind-Bending Ideas About Bending Space-Time"	20 20 Adar 6:30 p.m. Ping pong	21 21 Adar 4:00 p.m. Religious School 8:00 p.m. Intermediate Talmud Study with Ilana Fodiman Silverman	22 22 Adar 7:15 a.m. Minyan	23 23 Adar 4:00 p.m. Religious School 4:30 p.m. Amitim 7:30 p.m. Introduction to Maimonides with Nitzhia Shaked	24 24 Adar 6:00 p.m. Family Potluck 7:00 p.m. Family Kabbalat Shabbat service 6:06 p.m. Candle lighting	25 25 Adar Parashat <u>Va-yakhel</u> — P'kudei Shabbat ha- <u>Hodesh</u> 9:00 a.m. Torah study with Nitzhia Shaked 9:30 a.m. Shabbat services 10:15 a.m. Youth Shabbat program 11:00 a.m. Shabbat b'Yachad 11:15 a.m. All School Service K-6 1:00 p.m. R. Kelman: Liturgy of Kabbalat Shabbat 7:07 p.m. Havdalah
26 26 Adar 9:30 a.m. Morning minyan 10:15 a.m. Pesah workshops	27 27 Adar	28 28 Adar 4:00 p.m. Religious School 4:30 p.m. Amitim 8:00 p.m. Intermediate Talmud Study with Ilana Fodiman Silverman	29 29 Adar 7:15 a.m. Minyan	30 1 Nissan Rosh <u>Hodesh</u> Nissan 7:15 a.m. Rosh <u>Hodesh</u> minyan 4:00 p.m. Religious School 4:30 p.m. Amitim 7:30 p.m. Introduction to Maimonides with Nitzhia Shaked 7:00 p.m. Rosh <u>Hodesh</u> Group (in a private home)	31 2 Nissan 6:13 p.m. Candle lighting	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<p>1 3 Nissan Parashat Va-yikra 9:00 a.m. Torah study with R. Mimi Weisel 9:30 a.m. Shabbat services Avi Rosenblum is called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah 10:15 a.m. Youth Shabbat program 11:00 a.m. Shabbat First! Family service 7:14 p.m. Havdalah</p>
<p>2 4 Nissan 10:00 a.m. Special congregational meeting (tentative)</p>	<p>3 5 Nissan</p>	<p>4 6 Nissan 4:00 p.m. Religious School 8:00 p.m. Intermediate Talmud Study with Ilana Fodiman Silverman</p>	<p>5 7 Nissan 7:15 a.m. Minyan</p>	<p>6 8 Nissan 4:00 p.m. Religious School 4:30 p.m. Amitim 7:30 p.m. Introduction to Maimonides with Nitzhia Shaked 7:30 p.m. Lecture by Gershon Gorenberg, Jerusalem correspondent for the Forward</p>	<p>7 9 Nissan 7:19 p.m. Candle lighting</p>	<p>8 10 Nissan Parashat Tzav Shabbat ha-Gadol 9:00 a.m. Torah study with Nitzhia Shaked 9:30 a.m. Shabbat services Jesse Rosenbloom is called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah 10:15 a.m. Youth Shabbat program Teva Shabbat K-6 11:00 a.m. Shabbat b'Yachad 8:20 p.m. Havdalah</p>
<p>9 11 Nissan 9:30 a.m. Morning minyan 10:00 a.m. Pot party 7:00 p.m. Ritual Committee meeting</p>	<p>10 12 Nissan 7:00 p.m. Shul band</p>	<p>11 13 Nissan 4:00 p.m. Religious School 4:30 p.m. Amitim 8:00 p.m. Intermediate Talmud Study with Ilana Fodiman Silverman</p>	<p>12 14 Nissan Ta'anit B'khorot Erev Pesah 7:15 a.m. Minyan First Seder Office closes at 12:00 noon 7:24 p.m. Candle lighting</p>	<p>13 15 Nissan Pesah I No Religious School No Amitim Second Seder 6:00 p.m. Congregational Seder Office closed</p>	<p>14 16 Nissan Pesah II Office closed 7:25 p.m. Candle lighting</p>	<p>15 17 Nissan Pesah III (Hol ha-Mo'ed) 9:00 a.m. Torah study with Fabrice Habelski 9:30 a.m. Shabbat services 9:30 a.m. Meditative minyan No Youth Shabbat program 2:00 p.m. Minhah 8:26 p.m. Havdalah</p>
<p>16 18 Nissan Pesah IV (Hol ha-Mo'ed) 9:30 a.m. Morning minyan</p>	<p>17 19 Nissan Pesah V (Hol ha-Mo'ed) 6:30 p.m. Ping pong</p>	<p>18 20 Nissan Pesah VI (Hol ha-Mo'ed) No Religious School Office closes at 12:00 noon</p>	<p>19 21 Nissan Pesah VII 7:15 a.m. Minyan Office Closed</p>	<p>20 22 Nissan Pesah VIII No Religious School No Amitim Office Closed 8:31 p.m. Havdalah</p>	<p>21 23 Nissan 6:00 p.m. Family potluck and services 7:32 p.m. Candle lighting</p>	<p>22 24 Nissan Parashat Sh'mini 9:00 a.m. Torah study with Nitzhia Shaked 9:30 a.m. Shabbat services 10:15 a.m. Youth Shabbat program 11:00 a.m. Shabbat b'Yachad 11:15 a.m. All School Service K-6 8:33 p.m. Havdalah</p>
<p>23 25 Nissan 9:30 a.m. Morning minyan 10:30 a.m. R. Kelman: "How Law Works: Some Case Studies" 7:00 p.m. Board meeting 30 2 Iyyar 10:00 a.m. R. Kelman: Workshop on Prayer for the State of Israel</p>	<p>24 26 Nissan</p>	<p>25 27 Nissan Yom ha-Shoah 4:00 p.m. Religious School 4:30 p.m. Amitim 7:00 p.m. Yom ha-Shoah service 8:00 p.m. Intermediate Talmud Study with Ilana Fodiman Silverman</p>	<p>26 28 Nissan 7:15 a.m. Minyan</p>	<p>27 29 Nissan 4:00 p.m. Religious School 4:30 p.m. Amitim</p>	<p>28 30 Nissan Rosh Hodesh Iyyar 7:15 a.m. Rosh Hodesh minyan 6:00 p.m. Family Potluck 7:00 p.m. Family Kabbalat Shabbat service 7:38 p.m. Candle lighting</p>	<p>29 1 Iyyar Rosh Hodesh Iyyar Parashat Tazria - M'tzora 9:00 a.m. Torah study 9:30 a.m. Shabbat services Anya Platt is called to the Torah as a bat mitzvah 10:15 a.m. Youth Shabbat program: Each kitah minyan 8:39 p.m. Havdalah</p>



Order Your Netivot Shalom T-Shirts!

A fund-raiser for the Youth Education department.

T-shirts are 100% cotton,
with off-white printing on a maroon background.

Adults: women's medium;
men's medium, large, X-large and XX-large.

Children: baby onesies 18–24 months; X-small (2–4);
small (4–6); medium (6–8); large (10–12).

Adult shirts are \$18, children's are \$15.

Order for the whole family today!
Order forms are available in the shul office.

Upcoming B'nei Mitzvah Anniversaries

March 3: T'rumah

Marielle Basseri, Rachel Frank

March 11: T'tzavveh

Laura Cunradi, Coby Harris, Laura Miller

March 18: Ki Tissa

Anna Frenklach, Benjamin Graff, Beth Morris,
Olivia Walt-McCrodan

March 25: P'kudei

Abbey Augus, Adam Sheffler, Tali Weininger

April 1: Va-yikra

Noah Belkin, Micah Burger, Dale Guinasso

April 8: Tzav

Andrea Morris

April 22: Sh'mini

Oran Gannot

Tony Hecht & Karen Juster Hecht
invite you to share in their *simhah* on
March 18, 2006
18 Adar 5766
Parashat Ki Tissa

when their son,
Zak Hecht,
will be called to the Torah
as a *bar mitzvah*.

Debby Graudenz & Rom Rosenblum
invite you to share in their *simhah* on
April 1, 2006
3 Nissan 5766
Parashat Va-yikra

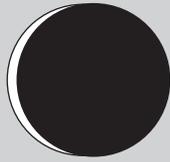
when their son,
Avraham Dov Rosenblum,
will be called to the Torah
as a *bar mitzvah*.

Jeff Rosenbloom & Melissa Mednick
invite you to share in their *simhah* on
April 8, 2006
10 Nissan 5766
Parashat Tzav

when their son,
Jesse Dov Rosenbloom,
will be called to the Torah
as a *bar mitzvah*.

Elana Reinin & Marshall Platt
invite you to share in their *simhah* on
April 29, 2006
1 Iyyar 5766
Parashat Tzav

when their daughter,
Any Lia Reinin Platt,
will be called to the Torah
as a *bat mitzvah*.



The Netivot Shalom Rosh Hodesh Group

Wednesday, March 1

For Adar, Abby Kaplan will lead us in a healing evening.

Thursday, March 30

For Nissan, Naomi Seidman will present a teaching.

Monday, May 1

For Iyar, Michelle Wolfson will speak on sex issues in the Torah. This is a program that she has presented to Religious School families.

Meetings begin at **7:00 p.m.** with refreshments and socializing, and are held in members' homes. All women in the congregation are invited to attend.

For additional information, times and locations, contact Toby Gidal (510-841-8868), Nan Strauss (510-547-8174), or e-mail roshchodesh@netivotshalom.org.

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El Cerrito, CA 94530
www.tehiyah.org

Please join us...

Kindergarten Information Brunch
Sunday, January 8, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Tehiyah welcomes students of all religious and ethnic backgrounds. It is a beneficiary of the Center for Jewish Living and Learning of the Jewish Community Federation of the Greater East Bay and Koret Foundation.

Who Says Jews Can't Agree on Anything?



WINNER OF J. WEEKLY READER'S POLL
"BEST OF THE JEWISH BAY AREA" AWARDS 2005

- "Best Italian Restaurant"
- "Best Pizza"
- "Best Take out"
- "Best place for a small party"
- "Best Kosher Restaurant"
- "Best Kosher Caterers"



Catering • Happy Hour • Banquets • Take out

2132 Center Street, near Shattuck, Downtown Berkeley
Validated parking at Center Street and Allston Way Garages, Oxford Lot
510/644-9500 www.ristoranteraphael.com

NOSH!

NOSH, the Netivot (Shalom) Online Social Hall, is up and running. Join our virtual community at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Nosh/join>. Schmooze, ask and give advice, swap recipes and help enlarge our community beyond the shul walls.

Questions? Contact Community Building co-chair David Radwin at david@radwin.org or 510-558-6800.

5766 – 2006

SELLING YOUR *HAMETZ*

Jewish law requires that we own no *hametz* at all during Pesah. To ensure compliance with this *halakhab*, we may transfer title of whatever *hametz* we have to a person who is not Jewish. Thus, legally, the *hametz* is not ours during Pesah. (This applies to people going out of town as well

Here's how it works: you fill in the form below and send it to the office. Rabbi Kelman will then sell the *hametz* to a non-Jew, thereby making him or her the owner. Following Pesah, the non-Jew returns the authorizations to the rabbi so that possession reverts back to the original owner. Please allow one hour after dark on the last day of Pesah so that Rabbi Kelman can buy back the *hametz*.

Please fill in the form below authorizing Rabbi Kelman to sell your *hametz*. The sale must be completed by 8:30 a.m. on the morning before the first *Seder*; **Wednesday, April 12, 2006**. This is immediately after the morning *minyan* and *siyyum*.

It is customary to give *tzedakah* when performing this *mitzvah*. Those monies will be transferred to a person in need. We've made contact with someone living near the synagogue who is in need and with whom we have done the selling of *hametz* in the past.

Send your forms and checks or cash to the shul office and write on the memo line "Selling of Hametz." You can also fax the completed form to 510-549-9448.

APPOINTMENT OF AGENT FOR THE SALE OF HAMETZ

I, _____, hereby authorize Rabbi Stuart Kelman to act as my agent to sell any *hametz* that is in my possession wherever it may be: at my home, place of business, car, vacation home or elsewhere in accordance with Jewish law.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Brunch and Conversation for Jews by Choice

Sunday, April 2
10:00 a.m.–12:00 noon

Jewish Community Federation
of the Greater East Bay
300 Grand Avenue, Oakland

Whether you recently converted, are in process, or converted long ago — we'd love to hear your experiences about getting integrated into the larger Jewish community, dealing with extended family, and learning about new rituals, foods and holiday celebrations. We'll share insights and funny stories along with (kosher) bagels and sweet rolls and get to know each other a little better!

RSVP to Alice Hale
at Building Jewish Bridges, 510-839-2900 ext. 249
or by e-mail to alice@jfed.org.

Camp Ramah Celebrates 50th Anniversary

Camp Ramah in California is celebrating its 50th anniversary. Founded in 1955 with a pilot summer run by Rabbi Jack Pressman and Miriam Wise, and in 1956 with a full encampment run by Rabbi David Lieber, Camp Ramah has affected the lives of thousands of children of the Conservative movement for 50 years.

The camp is reaching out to all former campers and staff to register at <http://www.ramah.org/alumni/>. Everyone is invited to Ojai for a special day-long celebration on December 3, 2006, where all past directors of Camp Ramah in California will be honored.

Max & Cecilia Rosenheimer Camp Scholarship Fund

This fund was established to assist Netivot Shalom members in sending their children to a Jewish summer camp.

Application Form

Please contact Michelle Wolfson with questions at 510-549-944, ext. 104 or education@netivotshalom.org

Name of child #1: _____

Name of summer camp and session number for child #1: _____

Name of child #2: _____

Name of summer camp and session number for child #2: _____

More than two children? Please include their information on a separate piece of paper.

Parent(s) name(s) _____

Daytime phone #: _____

Evening phone #: _____

E-mail address: _____

Return this form to:
Michelle Wolfson, Director of Education
Cong. Netivot Shalom
1316 University Ave., Berkeley, CA 94702

Application deadline is March 30, 2006

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND REMEMBRANCES

Our sincerest thanks for your support of Netivot Shalom.

Adult Education

Carole Baden
Lee Bearson & Babbie Freiberg
Chauncey & Shirah Alice Bell
Robin Braverman
Joel & Katya Gerwein
Patricia Munro

Book of Remembrance

Ernestina Carrillo & Larry Polon
Karen Friedman & David Marcus
Josh & Jenny Kirsch
Leo Levenson & Rebecca Whiteman

Building Fund

Ross Andelman & Hannah Dresner
Fred Astren
Golda & Eric Blum
Mary & Tom Breiner
Ellen & Herb Brosbe
Ernestina Carrillo & Larry Polon
Michael Cohen & Gerry Goeres
Carol & Jim Cunradi
Mark Geliebter & Robin Keller
Iris Greenbaum & Stephen Knaster
Barry & Jenny Groody
Hilda & Seymour Kessler
Jamie Levin & Jane Weiss
Herbert & Babette Maccoby
Robin Mencher
Marissa Moss
Ellen Peskin & Ben Heschen
Arthur Reingold & Gail Bolan
Jane Rubin
SaraLeya Schley
Helen Schneider
Eric & Rachel Seder
Laura Sheppard
Michael Steinman & Dorothy Richman
David & Virginia Vogel
Arne & Gail Wagner
Rabbi David & Irene Winston
Tali & Elad Ziv
Cheryl Zlotnick

Building Projects

Ross Ellen & Herb Brosbe for the new play structure
Rabbi Daniel Kohn & Deborah Stachel for the new play structure
Mark & Karen Radwin for the new play structure

Michael Steinman & Dorothy Richman for building improvements

Ethelyn Simon Fund

Rabbi Stuart & Vicky Kelman in memory of Ethelyn's *yahrzeit*

Fundraising: Turkey Drive

Art & Sheila Braufman
Robin Braverman

General Donations

Joseph & Dorothy Becker, bookplate in memory of Margo Lucoff
Yossi & Tamar Fendel in honor of the birth of their son
Michael & Judith Lesser McCullough in memory of Lillian Grossell Lesser
Diana Wood & Mark Rasmussen for the Kaifeng Jewish community

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Joseph & Dorothy Becker in memory of Margo Lucoff
Terrence & Lisa Cohen Bennett for the Sorani family in memory of Shalva Sorani
Ellen & Herb Brosbe for the Sorani family in memory of Shalva Sorani
Shannon & Grant Edelstone in honor of the brit milah of Henry Ross
Joel & Katya Gerwein for the Sorani family in memory of Shalva Sorani
Phyllis Helfand for the Sorani family in memory of Shalva Sorani
Norma Kaufman & Michael Meltzer for the Sorani family in memory of Shalva Sorani
Rabbi Stuart & Vicky Kelman for the Sorani family in memory of Shalva Sorani
Robin Levy & John Hayes for the Sorani family in memory of Shalva Sorani
Leda Schulak & Brian Anderson for the Sorani family in memory of Shalva Sorani
Mel Sibony & Lisa Tranter for the Sorani family in memory of Shalva Sorani
Harriet Speiser for the Sorani family in memory of Shalva Sorani
Tali & Elad Ziv for the Sorani family in memory of Shalva Sorani

Yom Kippur Appeal

Scott & Turi Adams
Robert Alter & Carol Cosman
Ed Anisman & Claire Sherman

Fred Astren
Carole Baden
Eugene & Nancy Bardach
Sharona Barzilay & Thomas Graff
Lee Bearson & Babbie Freiberg
Joe & Dorothy Becker
Chauncey & Shirah Alice Bell
Diane & Edwin Bernbaum
Steve & Karen Bovarnick
Arthur & Sheila Braufman
Judy Breakstone
Mary & Tom Breiner
Ellen & Herb Brosbe
David Scott Callen & Laura Suci
Ernestina Carrillo & Larry Polon
Michael & Andrea Cassidy
Paul & Celia Concus
Michael & Theresa Cooper
Susan David
Margaret Dorfman & Wayne Pickus
Shannon & Grant Edelstone
Paul & Lee Feinstein
Jan Fischer
Michael Fogelman & Ann Biederman
Dale Friedman & Joan Bradus
Karen Friedman & David Marcus
Mark Geliebter & Robin Keller
Mindy Geminder
George & Toby Gidal
Mina & Jack Goblner
Debby Graudenz & Rom Rosenblum
Iris Greenbaum & Stephen Knaster
Laurie Greenhut
Milton & Marge Greenstein
Ralph & Judith Greif
Josh & Noga Gressel
George & Leah Haber
Daniel & Elizabeth Handwerker
Larry Hanover
Jonathan & Rachel Heinstein
Jack Joseph & Gail Gordon
Andrew Kahn & Janet Schneider
Barry Kamil & Nancy Gurian
Seth & Vicky Kimball
Josh & Jenny Kirsch
Alan & Elissa Kittner
Herb Klar
Ralph & Hadassah Kramer
Gail Krowech
Dennis Michael & Marilyn Levi
Jaimie Levin & Jane Wise
Judy Lieberman & Allen Samelson
Djedi Mateen & Deirdre Ward
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Marissa Moss
Denise Moyes-Schnur & Ken Schnur
Robert Perlmutter & Meghan Starkey

Roger & Louisa Philipp
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 Dr. Perry & Malka Scheinok
 Helen Schneider
 Lisa Schwartz & Michael Feeley
 Eric & Rachel Seder
 Mel & Lisa Sibony
 Traci & Daniel Siegel
 Howard Solovei
 Bruce Starkman
 Rita Stein
 Richard Stern & Risa Kagan
 Peter & Nan Strauss
 Ann Swidler & Claude Fischer
 Stan & Judi Taubman
 Robert & Braha Trabin
 Elsa Tranter
 David Vogel
 Martin & Helen Wachs
 Julian & Elsa Waller
 Alice Webber & Stephen Tobias
 Stewart Weinberg
 Rabbi Mimi Weisel & Paul Hamburg
 Nancy & Sheldon Wolfe
 Glenn Wolkenfeld & Nancy Facher
 Diana Wood & Mark Rasmussen
 Deborah Yager & Barry Muhlfelder
 Tali & Elad Ziv
 Kim & Assi Zvik

Gifts of Time, Talent & Trimmings

Eugene Berg & Tobie Luri for their indispensable help on our member database
Charlene Stern for our office furniture and beautiful new schiflera tree (a gift to her from her father) in our lobby
Deborah Yager for donations of furniture for our library & offices

Mazal tov! To . . .



Shannon and Grant Edelstone

on the birth of their son, Henry Ross Edelstone (Hebrew name: Chaim Shimon ben Gershon v'Simcha), born November 27, 2005. He is named in honor

of Grant's father, Sidney Henry (Chaim ben Gershon); Grant's mother, Roslyn; Shannon's grandfather Simon; and Shannon's grandmother Rebecca.



Elisabeth Kashner and Jonathan Stern

on the birth of their daughter, Eva Pearl Stern (Hebrew name: Chaya Shlomit), born January 23, 2006. She is named for Elisabeth's great aunt Pearl and Jonathan's grandfather Sam.



Elizabeth Weber Handwerker and Daniel Handwerker

on the birth of their daughter, Amira Josephine Handwerker (Hebrew name: Amira Yonina bat Daniel Avraham v' Elisheba Asney), born January 26, 2006. She is named for Elizabeth's maternal grandmother, Irma G. Speyer, and Elizabeth's paternal grandfather, Joseph Weber.



Sarah Horwich and Andy Spear

on the birth of their daughter, Celeste Spear (Hebrew name: Elsa) born December 22, 2005. She is named in honor of her mother's grandmother Elsie and her father's grandfather Eric.

Eugene and Nancy Bardach

and their children Elizabeth and Jeffrey on the adoption of their now eight-month-old daughter, Jia Ke-Tang Lawrence.

Ernst Valfer and Lois Brandwynne

on the birth of their first grandson, Wiley Valfer Kendall (Hebrew name Nadav in memory of Lois's father), born on November 28, 2005. Wiley is the son of the Ernst and Lois' daughter, Lilah, and her husband, Kent Kendall.

Yahrzeits

Zichronam l'verakhab —

May their memories be blessed

Nathan Patrusky	1 Adar II	March 1	Barbara Strauss		
Ida M. Cohen	2 Adar I	March 2	Frances Keller	7 Nisan	April 5
Marion Morris	3 Adar	March 3	Bernhardt Dorman	10 Nisan	April 8
Jerry Shorer (member)			Charlotte Koltun	11 Nisan	April 9
Joan Siegel	4 Adar II	March 4	Hyman Feinstein		
Murray Walter	6 Adar I	March 6	Reggie Hyne	12 Nisan	April 10
Esther Lipow	10 Adar I	March 10	Jack I. Antokal		
Susan Shackman			Betty Falk		
Benjamin Gottlieb	11 Adar	March 11	Saul Sherman	13 Nisan	April 11
Abraham Levine			Diana Jurdem		
Marc Rappaport	13 Adar II	March 13	Beatrice (Bebe) F. Simon		
Morris Lifschitz	14 Adar II	March 14	Jacob Gordon	14 Nisan	April 12
Melvin K. Sires			Mary Jane Dannenbaum		
Henry Cohen	15 Adar	March 15	Penina Shragai	15 Nisan	April 13
Louis Woolf Meltzer			Sandy Schneider	16 Nisan	April 14
Tillie Zimmerman Alter	16 Adar	March 16	Sarah Gordon	17 Nisan	April 15
Seymour Bradus			Rifka Radousky		
Joseph Hornstein			Joseph Richmond Levenson	18 Nisan	April 16
Wilson Kelman	18 Adar II	March 18	Rosemary Levenson		
Eileen Sheila Derblich			Jens Grossman		
Stephanie Davis	19 Adar II	March 19	Ilan Gabriel Biederman	19 Nisan	April 17
Judith Gold			Moishe Brose		
Rose Lowsky	20 Adar	March 20	Margaret McCullough Jerew		
Rivke bat Dora v'Yankev			Jack Maslan		
Mildred Harris Burger	21 Adar	March 21	Sadie Estry	20 Nisan	April 18
Pearl Pollero			Devorah Fox		
Sylvia Jacobson	22 Adar II	March 22	Fred Marcus	21 Nisan	April 19
Maurice I. Neipris			Ethel Wilonsky	22 Nisan	April 20
Norman Pollner			Herman (Hy) Gold		
Carl Slater			Max Jacobson		
Donald Weinberg			Max Slavin	23 Nisan	April 21
Stella G. Dorman	23 Adar II	March 23	Rose Feige Kaplan	24 Nisan	April 22
James Bloom	24 Adar	March 24	Morton Quittel		
Robert Finegold			Abraham Jacob Tolmach		
Marjorie Alper	25 Adar	March 25	Marian Wagner		
Rachel Press			Ursula Sherman	25 Nisan	April 23
Claire Abrahams	26 Adar	March 26	Rabbi Samuel Haim Dresner		
Mira Kon			Joseph C. Swidler		
Esther Matthews			Leah Jacobson Reingold	26 Nisan	April 24
Leah Jacobson Reingold			William Schwartz		
Pearl Pripstein			Sarah Ruth Bat Avraham	27 Nisan	April 25
Bennett Hornstein			Frieda Valfer		
Nathan Brandwynne	28 Adar	March 28	Hermann Valfer		
David Lesser			Maurice Strauss		
Max. M. Falk	1 Nisan	March 30	Sol Gidal	2 Iyar	April 30
Meir Simler	4 Nisan	April 2	Harry Greif		
Anna Margueleis Schuman	5 Nisan	April 3			

We Extend Our Condolences to

Denah S. Bookstein on the death of her brother, Michael Schuman, *z"l*

Shamma Boyarin on the death of his grandfather, Sidney Boyarin, *z"l*

Laura Grossman on the death of her step-father, Aubrey Lee (Bob) Broudy, *z"l*





Congregation Netivot Shalom

1316 University Ave., Berkeley, California 94702
 Telephone: 510-549-9447 • Fax: 510-549-9448
 www.netivotshalom.org • e-mail: office@netivotshalom.org
 Office Hours: Mon.–Thurs. 9:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. • Friday 9:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

RABBI & STAFF

Rabbi
 Rabbi Stuart Kelman
 549-9447 ext. 103
 rabbi@netivotshalom.org

Executive Director
 David Stein
 549-9447 ext. 102
 exec@netivotshalom.org

Director of Education
 Michelle Wolfson
 549-9447 ext. 104
 education@netivotshalom.org

Administrative Assistant
 Jennifer Childs
 549-9447 ext. 101
 admin@netivotshalom.org

Midrasha Director
 Diane Bernbaum
 843-4667
 diane@midrasha.org

Ritual Coordinator
 Peggy Sandel
 843-9027
 rituals@netivotshalom.org

Shabbat B'Yachad Coordinator
 Cathy Shadd
 654-5522
 sby@netivotshalom.org

Tiferet Project Director
 Rose Levinson
 526-1322
 tiferet2@earthlink.net

Torah Study Coordinator
 Noriko Obinata • 848-7906

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President
 Carol Cunradi
 234-1003
 president@netivotshalom.org

Vice President
 Joe Meresman
 653-1978
 vicepresident@netivotshalom.org

Secretary
 Deborah Yager
 886-6824
 secretary@netivotshalom.org

Treasurer
 Toby Gidal
 841-8868
 treasurer@netivotshalom.org

Past President
 Mark Priven
 559-8393
 privwest@pacbell.net

Budget Chair
 Michael McCullough
 415-647-4792
 budget@netivotshalom.org

At-large
 Hannah Dresner
 526-9615
 hdresner@alumni.uchicago.edu

Babbie Freiberg
 704-1532
 babbief@pacbell.net

Daniel Handwerker
 540-7066
 werker@berkeley.edu

Josh Kirsch
 428-0918
 joshnjenk@mac.com

Joanna Weinberg
 653-0679
 joanna.weinberg@ucsf.edu

COMMITTEES

Administration Chair
 Marcia Brooks • 526-6462
 administration@netivotshalom.org

Adult Education Chair
 Cynthia Hoffman • 326-5492
 adulteducation@netivotshalom.org

Capital Campaign Co-chairs
 Art Braufman • 525-8492
 braufs@cs.com

Ann Swidler • 644-0858
 swidler@uclink.berkeley.edu

Claudia Valas • 848-6536
 eks@wenet.net

Community Building Co-chairs
 Katya & Joel Gerwein • 883-9561
 David Radwin & Kara Vuicich • 558-6800
 community@netivotshalom.org

Fundraising Co-chairs
 Lisa Fink • 233-1932
 Susan Stanfield • 848-6181
 fundraising@netivotshalom.org

House Chair
 Susan Lawrence • 658-3105
 house@netivotshalom.org

Marketing Chair
 Marshall Platt • 526-8358
 publicity@netivotshalom.org

Membership Chair
 Howard Miller • 559-9969
 membership@netivotshalom.org

Ritual Chair
 Glenn Massarano • 644-0654
 ritualchair@netivotshalom.org

Social Action Chair
 Jonathan Stern • 872-0751
 socialaction@netivotshalom.org

Youth Education Co-chairs
 Billi Romain • 527-7654
 Meghan Starkey • 526-2600
 youthed@netivotshalom.org

RESOURCES

Arrangements
 Andrea Altschuler • 649-9290
 arrangements@netivotshalom.org

Bikkur Holim
 Peter Strauss • 547-8174
 bikkurholim@netivotshalom.org

Building and Grounds
 Norm Rosenblatt • 910-5518
 bg@netivotshalom.org

Chevra Kadisha Co-coordinators
 Andrea Cassidy • 549-1407
 Karen Friedman • 528-0728
 chevradkadisha@netivotshalom.org

Cuban Affairs Coordinator
 June Safran • 526-7173
 junesafran@aol.com

Drash Coordinator
 Lee Bearson • 704-1532
 lwbearson@yahoo.com

Gemilut Hasadim Open

Handypersons Extraordinaire
 Bert Dorman
 Milt Greenstein

Kashrut Resource Coordinator
 Glenn Massarano • 644-0654
 kashrut@netivotshalom.org

Kiddush Coordinator
 Susan David • 841-9628
 kiddush@netivotshalom.org

Newsletter Editor
 Judith Lesser McCullough
 415-647-4792
 newsletter@netivotshalom.org

Shabbat Greeter Coordinator
 Josh Kirsch • 428-0918
 joshnjenk@mac.com

Yahrzeit Coordinator
 Diana Wood • 486-1737

Young Adult Hevreh Coordinators
 Elizabeth Handwerker • 540-7066
 Jenny Kirsch • 428-0918
 ya@netivotshalom.org

Via e-mail, we send weekly announcements of services and activities, plus occasional messages deemed important for our members. If you have NOT been receiving these announcements, please send an e-mail to office@netivotshalom.org; write "Subscribe" in the subject line, with your name and e-mail address in the body. Thank you.

Unless otherwise noted, telephone numbers are in the 510 area code.



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Congregation

Netivot Shalom

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Queen E's Shushan West SUPPER CLUB

Open for just one night this year!

Sunday, March 12, 2006

Seven o'clock in the evening

At Netivot Shalom

Dinner, dancing, silent auction and karaoke!

Adults only . . . Elegant attire requested

\$75 per person • Kashrut observed

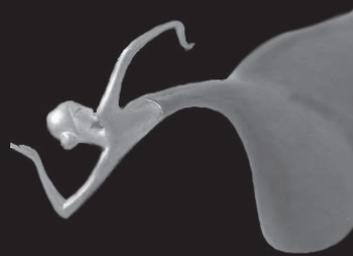
Featuring:

The Dave Alt Band



Mark Priven and His Captivating

Karaoke Queen Machine!



All proceeds raised from Queen E's Shushan West Supper Club will benefit the many educational, community and ritual services for which Congregation Netivot Shalom is known.

Please send in your RSVP card today!

For more information, or if you wish to volunteer at this fabulous event, please call Laurie Greenhut at 510-506-2865.