



CONGREGATION NETIVOT SHALOM

DECEMBER 2010

KISLEV 5771

November 14, 2010 Annual Meeting Recap

By Janet Schneider

Rabbi Creditor's D'var Torah focused on place, the responsibility of providing and maintaining this place for all who seek it.

Jeff Rosenbloom, in his last official act as President, introduced the new Board member nominees and thanked the nominating committee for all their hard work. He also explained that Annual Meetings would occur in the spring beginning in 2011 so that the Board elections and budget discussions would happen before the fiscal year begins in July. Jeff was warmly applauded for his tenure as president.

David Birnbaum, gave his treasurer's report, which is contained in another newsletter article. We heard from our Executive Director, Lisa Gershony, who told us of her recent successes in renting building classroom spaces for the Russian and Chinese schools' uses when not needed for our own students. This will bring in needed revenue. She was also awarded the

Frugal Frog Award for her cost saving measures including the purchase of chairs through eBay, saving us annual chair rental expenditures for the high holidays.

Mel Sibony informed us that today we have 387 member units, which represents a continuing increasing trend. He emphasized the challenge of maintaining community as we expand. Every speaker mentioned thus far, raised in one way or another, the need to increase revenue and the importance of the upcoming capital campaign to pay down our mortgage.

The 100 members in attendance elected the new Board members. Committee chairs were introduced. Rabbi Shalom Bochner gave a summary of life long education programming, which is also the subject of another newsletter article. We learned there were 59 hebrew school students, including six in Amitim.

Pleas for Kiddush sponsors were heard and the January 8 Music Festival was announced as well as the biennial retreat at Camp Newman on May 20-22, 2011.





The Choice to Include

By Rabbi Menachem Creditor

There is one moment that stands out as the most sublime in a rabbi's work. It is an encounter with people at their most vulnerable, most open, most hopeful, and most fearful state: the moment before immersing in a *mikvah* upon affirming their Jewish identity. It is an intense and unforgettable experience of fragile ecstasy.

Born Jews are blessed, tradition tells us. But even deeper to the Jewish People is the affirmation of its collective history and soul when a new sister or brother commits to a Jewish life. They are often more deeply attuned to Jewish destiny than most born Jews have ever felt. We have been blessed as a community to have so many new family members that we have lost the ability to differentiate clearly between the born and new Jews.

Just stand there with me; hear the trembling in someone's voice as they recite the *Shema* for the first time as a Jew. Usually adults, they have worked so hard to get to this point. And although they often learn more about Judaism than most born Jews, they still remain concerned with their "right to belong", despite all the rightful assurances offered.

New Jews offer gifts they can no longer hold back. They come home to both the most familiar and yet strangest place they've ever found. You are their home. Whether you know it or not, you've been waiting for them for so long. You have needed the gift of being part of their lives. And now you're sharing love with newly discovered family.

Stand for a moment with me as I look into almost-affirmed Jews' glistening eyes. Swirling in their hearts are their expectations that this journey they've worked so hard to navigate will feel "real" for them, that their family of birth will see their choice as a continuation of their whole identity, and that their new community will see their whole story as an emerging facet in the story of the Jewish People.

The song, "I'm Going To Go Back There Someday," by Kenny Ascher and Paul Williams names this emotion, and invites us all back to a moment when we found home.

This looks familiar, vaguely familiar. Almost unreal, yet, it's too soon to feel yet.
Close to my soul, and yet so far away. I'm going to go back there someday.
Sun rises, night falls, sometimes the sky calls. Is that a song there, and do I belong there?

I've never been there, but I know the way. I'm going to go back there someday.
Come and go with me, it's more fun to share, We'll both be completely at home in midair.

We're flyin', not walkin', on featherless wings. We can hold onto love like invisible strings.

There's not a word yet for old friends who've just met. Part heaven, part space, or have I found my place?

You can just visit, but I plan to stay. I'm going to go back there someday. I'm going to go back there someday.

We have a tradition of inclusion. But these moments of affirmation turn the story on its head because when new Jews claim their destiny it is born Jews who are blessed to be included in these sacred moments.

Mixed Emotions

By Jeff Rosenbloom

The November 2010 Annual Meeting was the last time I addressed the congregation as President of the Board. Upon reflecting over the past two years, I have very mixed emotions. Yes, the workload was more than I expected. The number of meetings, beyond impressive. There were many challenges and at times I was not as successful at solving them, as I would have liked. I also had the unenviable task of presenting the Board's decision to the congregation about the Critical Appeal to help pay our mortgage.

Yet, however, difficult or unpleasant some of these challenges were over the past two years, I left knowing I was blessed to also be able to experience:

- the opportunity and honor to meet with Rabbi Creditor weekly to work, study and occasionally play together. We didn't always see eye-to-eye on issues, but our discussions were direct, honest and always with love and compassion for each other, Netivot Shalom and our community (locally and beyond).
- almost daily contact with our amazing Executive Director, Lisa Gershony. She epitomized the velvet glove covering the iron fist. She was relentless in her search to control expenses and improve income (we just brought in another group to rent space during our down time) while excitedly greeting the pre-schoolers who come to her office each morning. Her devotion to our community was awe-inspiring and her expanding role into fundraising will continue to hold us in good stead as we work to meet our long-term financial commitments.
- interaction among our staff, from Rabbi Bochner to Lauren, as well as being continually impressed at what our administrative wizard Rachel managed to accomplish each day with aplomb.
- discussions with congregants beyond my usual peer group. I learned we are a tremendously diverse community that is by no means shy and retiring in our opinions, yet also has fierce concern for each other. We cannot lose sight of how important this diversity is and must strive to keep our tent stakes spread far apart.
- lastly, the true pride that I felt when I told people inside and outside of our community that I was President of Netivot Shalom. I felt honored and thrilled representing the Board at Shabbat announcements, and Netivot Shalom to the Berkeley Synagogue Partnership, to USCJ President's discussions, and to the Masorti community in Israel.

I also wanted to let you know how much I appreciated the many congregants who came up to me over the past two years and thanked me for the work I had done. You had no idea how much that meant to me.

My farewell is made easier knowing the reigns of leadership were passed to someone as capable and menschlich as Mel Sibony. Mel has served as First Vice President and will represent our community with honesty, compassion and humor for the next two years.

Todah Rabah

2010-11 Board of Directors for Congregation Netivot Shalom (Bold entries are new to position)

President

Mel Sibony

president@netivotshalom.org

First VP

Joan Bradus

firstvp@netivotshalom.org

Second Vice-President

Steve Bileca

secondvp@netivotshalom.org

Secretary

Edna Stewart

cnssecretary@netivotshalom.org

Treasurer

Dave Birnbaum

cnstreas@netivotshalom.org

Past President

Jeff Rosenbloom

pastpres@netivotshalom.org

At-large

Matt West

mattboard@netivotshalom.org

At-large

Jim Cunradi

jimboard@netivotshalom.org

At-large

Gerri Levitas

gerriboard@netivotshalom.org

At-large

Pauline Moreno

paulineboard@netivotshalom.org

At-large

Betsy Cottle-Ross

betsyboard@netivotshalom.org

New Committee Heads:

Chevra Kadisha

Mary Breiner/co-chair TBD

chevrakadisha@netivotshalom.org

Ritual Chair

Justin Garland

ritualchair@netivotshalom.org

Social Action

Kate Smallenburg

socialaction@netivotshalom.org

Youth Education

Lara Hornbeck

youthed@netivotshalom.org

Young Adult

Taylor Maurand, Mark Cohen

ya@netivotshalom.org

Board Update

By Edna Stewart

Greetings from your Netivot Shalom Board of Directors. For several of us, our October meeting was our last meeting as Board Members. At the Annual Meeting, held on Sunday, November 14th, new Board members were elected and assumed office immediately.

Although finance and fund raising are constant Board meeting agenda items, the majority of Board meeting time is consumed by reports of successful activities and events, proposals for more, and new ideas to make our community even better than it already is.

The Board's major financial concern is that in 2015, our loan for the building becomes due which means that we have to raise \$2 million by that time or risk losing our building. This means that there will be major fund raising events this coming year. We will also be re-instituting the Capital Campaign and will probably require the assistance of a professional fundraiser. The threat of losing the building is too real not to be addressed and emphasized for many more meetings to come. As far as operations, we did finish this past fiscal year with a surplus of \$4,490.

There were so many new and successful programs held during these past few months. Among the highlights is Shalom Rosenberg, who came aboard under the new Edah grant and is also functioning as Youth Director. Shalom has been actively marketing Edah. We also managed, once again this year, to conduct the Yamim Norim services in the building and in nearby buildings. The survey taken after the Holidays found that 80.1% were very satisfied; 15.4% were somewhat satisfied, and less than 1% were not satisfied. The Board discussed the survey comments and formulated a follow up plan for next year. The entire Board expressed thanks to the staff for making this happen. They worked extremely hard and their efforts paid off.

The Nominating Committee worked hard to present an excellent slate of Board candidates; admittedly some Board and committee chair positions were difficult to fill. After the Annual Meeting, Betsy and Steve intend to organize a database for specific skills for Board members and committee chairs.

As many of you already know, our congregation continues to be a dynamic and involved community. Come to Netivot on just about any night of the week, as well as weekend mornings and afternoons, and you will find at least one activity or class if not several.

Alisa Flatow Memorial Scholarship

Scholarship applications are now available for the 2010-2011 academic year for those planning to spend the year pursuing Jewish Studies in Israel.

The Alisa Flatow Memorial Scholarship Fund was established by the family of the late Alisa Flatow who was killed in a terrorist attack in Kfar Darom, Israel on April 9, 1995.

She was spending the year studying Judaism in Israel.

Applications are available only from our website:
www.alisafund.org

Applications should be submitted on-line. Deadline for receipt of all completed applications, essay and references is February 15, 2011.

It is not necessary for a student to be accepted to a school in order to apply.

Questions may be directed through the website to:
Dr. Wallace Greene,
Executive Secretary.
www.alisafund.org

623 Eagle Rock Ave, #404,
West Orange, NJ 07052

*Dr. Wallace Greene,
Executive Secretary*

Fiscal Year 2009/2010 Treasurer's Report

By David Birnbaum

I presented Netivot Shalom's current financial status at the Annual Meeting on Nov. 14, 2010. We made a small "profit" since our income exceeded our expenses by \$4,109. This success in balancing the budget was due to a lot of hard work by the staff with the help of many volunteers. For those who are interested in details, a summary of the year-end actuals versus the 2009/10 budget is below.

Next year's budget also forecasts a balanced budget but this will require increased fund-raising. We are expecting a single big fund-raising gala event on Feb 27, 2011 to raise significant revenue. More details about the gala are on page 8 in this newsletter.

Long Term Financial Status

The Board's and the Finance Committee's major focus is on our long-term financial status. We have two mortgages on the building: a first mortgage with a current balance of \$2.9 million, and a second mortgage of about \$0.6 million. The first mortgage is held by Fremont Bank and has a balloon payment of the outstanding balance due in 2015. The second mortgage is held by a number of congregants and is also due in 2015. At our current payment schedule the first mortgage balance in 2015 will be somewhat smaller, about \$2.6 million.

We pay a \$23,000 monthly payment on the first mortgage and a once a year \$25,000 payment of interest on the second mortgage. The operating budget currently pays \$7,000 per month towards the first mortgage. The remaining \$16,000 monthly payment is paid out of the Building Fund. At the current rate of payment, the Building Fund will be exhausted in 16-18 months.

We continue to discuss re-financing with the bank. While we have about \$1.5 million in equity on the building, our cash flow is not sufficient to maintain the current payment schedule for a \$2.9 million balance mortgage.

These facts require us to make a significant reduction in the mortgage balance via a Capital Campaign. Plans are underway to initiate such a campaign this spring. We believe that we will be able to reduce the mortgage principal balance to a level that will allow us to refinance the mortgage at a level that is within our ability to pay on an ongoing basis from normal operating budgets.

Summary of Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Actual vs. Budget

	Jul 09-Jun 10	BUDGET 09-10
INCOME		
Admin Income/Membership Dues	484,265.09	458,177.00
General Fund Donations	14,371.38	31,000.00
Fundraising	25,993.75	50,000.00
Yamim Noraim	27,779.37	38,500.00
Yom Kippur Appeal	22,350.00	30,000.00
Facilities Income	3,007.50	4,000.00
Lifelong Learning Income	143,912.96	101,300.00
Programs & Committee Income	13,350.19	28,000.00
Preschool Income	297,205.12	271,700.00
TOTAL INCOME	1,032,235.36	1,012,677.00
EXPENSE		
Administration Expenses	34,346.03	40,000.00
Building & Grounds	87,269.53	78,000.00
Yamin Noraim Expenses	10,880.74	7,393.00
Ritual	1,901.90	2,500.00
Personnel-Administrative	363,357.86	345,103.00
Lifelong Learning Expenses	171,186.38	150,826.00
USCJ	2,000.00	3,500.00
Programming	18,742.45	35,000.00
Preschool Expenses	260,440.91	271,679.00
CNS Mortgage Contribution	84,000.00	84,000.00
Accounting Transfer	(6000)	(6000)
TOTAL EXPENSE	1,034,125.80	1,012,001.00
NET ORDINARY INCOME	4,109.56	676.00

Life-Long Learning Update: Focus on our New Hebrew School Faculty

by Rabbi Shalom Bochner

It has been an incredible year so far for Life-Long Learning at Netivot Shalom! The High Holidays included a new Machzor supplement with transliterations and illustrations and greatly improved Yamim Nora'im LeYeladim (YNL) childcare and kids activities under the direction of our new Edah and Youth Director, Shalom Rosenberg. Our Adult Green Pages are filled with new and exciting classes such as La'asok Ketuvim with Rabbi Creditor and me every Wednesday, a class on the Rambam with Nitzhia Shaked, and a Mussar class with Laura Goldman and Jeffrey Kessler.

Adult learning takes place almost daily: Tuesday – Discover Judaism series, Wednesday – Israeli series, Thursday – Talmud Class, Shabbat morning – Torah Study and After-Kiddush learning, and our Sunday Morning Minyan, breakfast, and speaker series.

We have made some significant improvements to the Shorashim Hebrew School Programs' schedule and content. The school year had a great start with wonderful energy provided by new faculty who have contributed to a wonderful school program:

Josh Buchin, 5th Grade Teacher

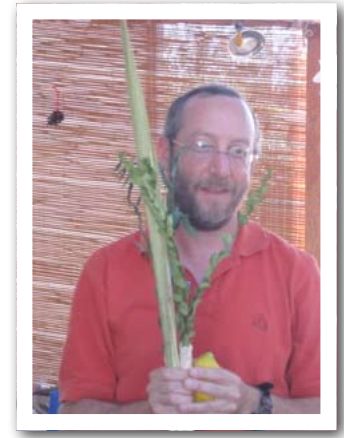
Josh Buchin, who joined our faculty this year, is an educator and artist who has worked with children in schools, synagogues and summer camps. For the last three years, he has been fortunate to work as a teacher at Gan Shalom Preschool in Berkeley. He is an organizer for the East Bay Minyan, and was formerly a co-chair for the Netivot Shalom Young Adult Havura. His hobbies include writing, rock climbing, camping, bike riding, and studying Torah. He has a BA in Judaic Studies from Gratz College.

Jessica Dell'Era, 6th Grade Pre-Amitim and Amitim Teacher

Returning from last year, Jessica Dell'Era, has for the past three years taught a Spanish bilingual 4th grade class at Meadow Homes Elementary in the Mount Diablo Unified School District in Concord. She taught herself to read Hebrew as an adult and has become a frequent reader of Torah and Haftarah at Temple Beth Abraham, where she is a member. She received her B.A. from Pomona College and M.A. in Education from UC Berkeley (Go Bears!). In the classroom she goes by her Hebrew name, Mirah.

Debby Graudenz, 7th Grade Amitim Teacher

Helping prepare students to become b'nai mitzvah allows Debby to bring together three passions in her life: Judaism, teaching and working with kids. Debby has worked as a *metapelet* (child care person) with infants and toddlers on kibbutz, preschool director and teacher, and for the past 25 years a child, adolescent and family psychotherapist. Currently, she maintains a private psychotherapy practice in Albany seeing children, teens and their families. Debby has been on the faculty for the last two years, taught previously at Netivot Shalom, and is a past President.



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Shalom Rosenberg, Edah Director, Youth Director, and Kindergarten Teacher

Shalom Rosenberg, another newcomer to the faculty this year, has been a Jewish Educator for the past decade and has taught in Jewish schools, camps, and organizations of all denominations. Prior to this year, Shalom taught at the Palo Alto JCC, the Gideon Hausner Jewish Day School, Sha’ar Zahav, Emanu El San Francisco, JCC Manhattan, Shaaray Tefila, the Solomon Schechter School of Manhattan, and the Wilshire Boulevard Temple Camps in Malibu. Shalom graduated from Brooklyn College where he studied film and education.



Joel Siegel, Music Specialist

Joel Siegel is a Bay Area “institution” who has brought Jewish music to children and adults for many years. Joel brings his warmth, skill, knowledge and music to Wornick Jewish Day School in Foster City, Contra Costa Jewish Day School, and Congregation Sha’ar Zahav in San Francisco. Joel has taught at Netivot Shalom for the last five years and has worked at Camp Swig, Osher Marin JCC, and Camp Newman. He has a BA from UC Berkeley in Peace & Conflict studies and a JD from UC Davis. In his spare time Joel is a B’nai Mitzvah tutor and a social activist.



Lisa Schachter-Brooks, 1st-2nd Grade Teacher

Lisa Schachter-Brooks has worked as a Jewish educator in the classroom, in the jungle, in shuls, in Israel and at home. Before joining our faculty this year, for more than 12 years, she was the Executive Director and owner of Costa Rican Adventures, offering educational eco-tours for schools groups, families and many others. Lisa has a BA in child development and Spanish from Tufts University, an MA in education from Harvard University, and has studied at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem.



Yael Zaken, 3rd-4th Grade Teacher

Although Yael was born in Oakland, California, when she was seven years old her family made Aliyah to Israel. She attended the Masorti High School in Jerusalem. After completing her army service, she received her BA from Bezalel Academy of Art and Design, majoring in photography. Currently, Yael attends the San Francisco Art Institute and is working towards her Masters in Fine Art in photography. This is Yael’s first year teaching at Netivot Shalom.



Come see this all-star line up in action. Stop by on a Tuesday and/or Thursday afternoon and see our students singing with Joel Siegel, exploring Midot with Rabbi Creditor, experiencing Hebrew Verb and Letter Yoga with Lisa Schachter-Brooks and Yael Zaken, engaging in Beit Midrash Torah Mysteries and Tefillah with me, enlarging their Judaic knowledge with Josh Buchin, learning what it means to become a Bat/Bar Mitzvah with Debby Graudenz and Jessica Dell’Era, or enjoying each other’s company at snack and recess in the park.



Sukkot celebration

Honoring our Past Presidents

February Gala to Honor our Past Presidents

By Lisa Gershony and Cathy Shadd Rosenfeld,
Gala Co-Chairs

Past Netivot Shalom presidents devoted countless hours to the business of our shul. When was the last time you actually said thank you to one of them? Now, we as a community plan to do just that. On Sunday evening, Feb. 27, 2011, there will be a fun and festive gala in honor of all 11 of our past presidents— Celia Concus, George Gidal, Claudia Valas, Art Braufman, Ken Schnur, Pauline Moreno, Debbie Graudenz, Mark Priven, Carol Cunradi, Joe Meresman, and Jeff Rosenbloom. Please plan to attend, as your way of personally acknowledging the tremendous contribution they, individually and as a group, have made to the strength of our shul.

Since the founding of Netivot Shalom, our presidents: found a space for our, then, fledgling community to daven; wrote by-laws and officially established Netivot Shalom as a non-profit religious institution; created committees for members to meet each other's needs; hired staff to create dynamic and ever changing programming; laid the ground work for all kinds of community celebrations; oversaw our increasingly complicated finances; launched major capital campaigns to purchase a site and build our own spiritual home; managed the transition from our first to our present rabbi; and coaxed all of us into giving whatever we could from our pockets and our hearts to make Netivot Shalom a cornerstone of our lives.

At this gala we will thank and show them our deep gratitude. One way we will do this is through the tribute journal. In the coming weeks, fellow congregants will ask you for your personal contribution, in the form of an ad, to the tribute journal. You may give at various levels named for the materials used to make the *Mishkan*: gold, silver, copper, acacia wood, and precious stones. You will help ensure future Netivot Shalom's presidents' successes in maintaining the beautiful community we all share by honoring the work of the past presidents when you place the largest, most heartfelt ad you can! We may "go green" by presenting each president with a hard copy of the book and each member of the shul with a "Smart Stick" to view it online. Stay tuned...

At the gala there will be a live auction with a professional and very entertaining auctioneer. You will receive a letter soon asking you for ideas for "big ticket" items for the auction. If we all think broadly and creatively, we should be able to come up with some auction items that will be well worth energetic bidding!

The evening's emcees are two newer congregants – Justin Garland and Matt West. Given their energy and humor, the delicious meal planned, plus the auction and the tribute journal, the evening promises to be a lot of fun as well as a successful fundraiser. But for that to happen, we need you! So, look for the gala invite coming shortly, please stay tuned for more details, and mark your calendars now.

May our shul go from strength to strength.

Celia Concus

George Gidal

Claudia Valas

Art Braufman

Ken Schnur

Pauline Moreno

Debbie Graudenz

Mark Priven

Carol Cunradi

Joe Meresman

Jeff Rosenbloom

Greetings From Your New Social Action Chair!

By Kate Smallenburg

I have been a member at Netivot Shalom for about two years, and I am very excited to be your new Social Action Chair! As a brief bit of background, I was a middle school science teacher for four years in Los Angeles, and then came up to Berkeley for a science degree, which I finished in May. I spent the last year as the Economic Justice Intern with the Progressive Jewish Alliance, and am now working as a Community Organizing Resident with the San Francisco Organizing Project.

I would like to sit and chat with you, get to know you, and find out how we can create a social action program that you're passionate about. I'm excited about supporting the great ongoing social action work in which our members are already engaged, and I look forward to working together to find more ways for our community to help make change and improve the world around us. Please e-mail me at socialaction@netivotshalom.org. I can't wait to talk to you! Meet Kate at a welcoming tea on December 5th at 10 a.m. hosted by Sharon Priven. RSVP to the e-mail above.



Bikkur Cholim Provides Much Appreciated Assistance

By Tobie Lurie

I would like to encourage Netivot Shalom members to sign-up and be on the Bikkur Cholim e-mail list. This is a very rewarding activity and the recipients have been so appreciative of assistance we have provided. This year we visited Netivot members in the hospital and at their homes when they were recuperating from sickness and surgeries. We provided rides to members for medical appointments and to visit their loved ones in hospital. We cooked and delivered countless meals to folks when they were too ill and needed the support and company. Please contact me so I can add your name to the Bikkur Cholim list.

Tobie Lurie 510-841-3662 or tobie.lurie@gmail.com

THE ROSH CHODESH GROUP

Tuesday, December 7 - An Evening with Naomi Seidman

Wednesday, January 5 - A Musical Evening with Fran Avni

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

For additional information, contact Nan Strauss at roshchodesh@netivotshalom.org.

News from Knetivot Knits

By Tobie Lurie

We continue to meet on the second Sunday of the month—usually from noon to 2 p.m. and provide warm wool garments for “Afghans for Afghans”. In addition, we are now knitting baby things for “Onsietwosie”. Not everyone can attend on a Sunday so I’ve put a bag outside the office and if you would like to knit or crochet for either charity, you may put your finished projects there. “Afghans for Afghans” requires products in 100% wool and “Onsietwosie” needs washable fibers. Want-to-be knitters are welcome—we will get you started.



Sunday Minyanim Program — A Great Start

By Toby Hopstone

The Sunday Minyanim Program is off to a fabulous start this year. We began with an intellectually stimulating presentation by Dr. Nurit Novis, on the interplay among identity theory, psychoanalysis, and religion. Much enjoyed by all who attended! On October 24th, we were thrilled to hear the ins and outs of David Birnbaum's creative adventures as an engineer, in his presentation entitled, "How a Grapefruit Knife Predicted My Future." The next few months promise to provide a varied and interesting selection for our friends on Sunday mornings. Come join us!

On November 21st, we were honored to have Rabbi Kelman and David Stein present "The Elephant in the Living Room: Concerning Death in the Jewish Tradition." This program explored not only the Green Cemetery options in Northern California, but also the perspectives on Jewish burial and death.

On December 5th, we welcome Rabbi Bochner, who will present on perhaps our greatest sage—Hillel—and peel away the myths to share insights into his actual life. On December 19th, Rabbi Creditor will challenge our thinking with a fresh look at Israelis and Jewish Tradition.

Join us in the new year! On January 9th, we will have Rachel Brodie wake us up with an Ethics Workout, and on January 23rd, Sue Fishkoff will present her work, "Kosher Nation." On February 13, 2011, Nitzia Shaked—our much loved and respected Torah scholar, will share another side of her fantastic talents—her artwork!

More than a lecture series, our Sunday Minyanim Program offers a cross-generational adult learning opportunity for members who want to both broaden their world and connect with the CNS community. We have delicious refreshments, and warm conversation ready for you! Mark your calendars and introduce yourselves if you are new. We want to see you!

Questions? Contact Toby Hopstone, cell (925)300-TOBY or email tdhopstone@yahoo.com.

Gan Yarok Cemetery at Fernwood

301 Tennessee Valley Rd, Mill Valley



Gan Yarok cemetery was consecrated in 2010 as America's first Jewish green cemetery. There are three sections: Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform/Renewal. The principles guiding Gan Yarok were established by the founding rabbis of the cemetery, representing all streams of modern Judaism.

Congregation Netivot Shalom was a founding member of Gan Yarok Association & Rabbinical Council. Many members have already secured their space within the cemetery. The Association offers Netivot members a significant reduction in the price of land and mortuary services.

For Information contact:
David Stein at steindavid@comcast.net



A Recap, Announcement, and New Offerings at Midrasha!

By Diane Bernbaum

The school year is up and running so I can catch my breath a little bit and see what we've accomplished so far. High on my list are that Midrasha in Berkeley is 140 students strong, classes are vibrant, and our first retreat at Walker Creek Ranch was a success. For the first time in many years, I went along and observed students from 9th -12th grade busy making new friends, re-connecting with old ones, observing Shabbat, participating in educational programs, and celebrating havdallah by forming a spiral to fit into a room.

While I get to catch my breath this time of year, students and their parents have a few things to consider. On December 5th, you can attend:

- from 9:30 am -10:30 am, an information session for teens in 10th grade and their parents on the community Let's Go Israel! summer trip.
- also from 9:30 am-10:30 am, Paul Epstein will talk to 11th and 12th graders and their parents on "Packing for College," based on a URJ curriculum about putting Jewish values into the college search process.
- and from 10:30 am -11:30 am, an information session on the Shalhevet program, which is a transformation experience for 11th and 12th graders from the entire Bay Area. Participants have four day long pre-trip seminars in January, February and March, to learn about the thriving Jewish communities that existed in Europe before the war and about the establishment of the State of Israel.
- then from April 3rd-17th, teens, with local educators and a Holocaust survivor, will travel first to Poland and then to Israel. As one student wrote: "No book, movie or lecture could ever teach the things we learned on this trip." And another wrote, "We are the last generation that has the opportunity to learn through Holocaust survivors' eyes."

If you cannot attend the December 5th meetings but are interested in either Shalhevet or Let's Go Israel contact the Midrasha office.

By the time you read this, we will have announced next semester's elective classes. Check our website, www.midrasha.org for details. For the first time we will be offering a mid-week film class, taught by Shalom Rosenberg at Netivot Shalom. Students will watch clips from many different films and discuss what they say about Judaism and Jewish values. It's never too late to register for this class, our midweek Tanach class or our Sunday classes.

TEENS FOR HIRE



Did you know we have a job bank of teens willing to work for you? When they register, Midrasha students are asked if they want to make their names available to people looking for teens to babysit, help with their computers or in their office, do housework, move or lift, work in the garden, tutor their younger children, pet sit, help build or dismantle their sukkah (remember that for next year!), or help at parties. If you would like a copy of the list, e-mail us at: diane@midrasha.org or call the Midrasha office, 510-843-4667.

Mark Your Calendars!

By Esther Brass-Chorin

This year *V'zot Yisrael*, Netivot Shalom's Israel interest group, is planning exciting new activities to give Netivot Shalom members an opportunity to learn more about Israel and also add to our sense of community as we learn together.

Here is a summary of what we have planned so far for 2010-2011: There will be a two-part series of classes on the history of Zionism and its relationship to Israeli politics today. We are fortunate to have two very interesting Israeli instructors, each with his own perspective.

This class began on Tuesday, November 9th and continues for five Tuesdays. Part I, covering the birth of Zionism to 1948, will be taught by our member and visiting Masorti Scholar, Rabbi Avi Novis-Deutsch. Hebrew University Professor Gideon Aran, who is on sabbatical at UC Berkeley, will teach part II. He will cover the period after 1948 using an anthropological-sociological approach. This class will run for five Wednesday evenings starting January 19th.

The two courses are related yet independent, so it is possible to attend either or both. More information is available at the shul's website, or by contacting us.

We have begun a pilot group of Netivot Shalom members who had expressed interest in a discussion group about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Rabbi Shalom Bochner facilitated the pilot meeting and has offered to facilitate at least three more meetings. We are hoping to expand this group to additional people who are interested.

Israel is rich in writers and artists, and we are planning two activities that give a small taste of Israeli films and novels.

On December 26th, we will have a family movie night, starting with a casual dinner and then showing of the Israeli film, *Little Heroes*, a movie made for younger viewers (age 10 or so and up) and said to charm adults as well. Since we are all family here at Netivot Shalom, of course, this dinner and show is for everyone.

On March 27th, Professor Arie Dubnov of the Hebrew University, who is a visiting professor this year at Stanford, will talk to us about a novel by Moshe Shamir, *Hu Halach Basadot*, *He walked in the fields* and show the movie based on the novel.

We hope these activities will be interesting, fun, and community building. If you have questions about any of the above programs or would like to help with programming and activities, please feel free to talk to Art Braufman, Ednah Beth Friedman, or Esther Brass-Chorin or email us at vezotyisrael@netivotshalom.org.



Little Heroes movie poster

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Bat/Bar Mitzvah Announcements:

Debra Lobel and Pauline Moreno
 invite you to share
 in a simcha on
December 11, 2010,
 4 Tevet 5771
Parshat Vayigash
 when their son,
Edgar Lobel is called to the Torah
 as a Bar Mitzvah

Mel and Lisa Sibony
 invite you to share
 in a simcha on
January 22, 2011,
 17 Shevat 5771
Parshat Yitro
 when their daughter,
Lena Sibony is called to the Torah
 as a Bat Mitzvah

Barry Kamil and Nancy Gurian
 invite you to share
 in a simcha on
March 5, 2011,
 29 Adar 1, 5771
Parshat Pekudei
 when their daughter,
Rachel Kamil is called to the Torah
 as a Bat Mitzvah

Birth Announcements:

Mazal Tov to grandparents Michael Irwin and Charlene Stern
 and to great-grandparents Helen and Ben Stern on the arrival
 of Gabriel Irwin, who was born on November 5th!!!

Mazal Tov to Timna and Yanay Ziv-Farja, big sister Noga on
 the birth of Naomi, who was born on October 28th!!!

Mazal Tov to Alison Jordan upon the birth of her grandson,
 Samuel Marcus Jordan, and Mazal Tov to his parents Chris and
 Susie Jordan!!! Having gone through surgery upon his birth, baby
 Samuel is recovering, gaining strength, and experiencing the love
 of his family. May his body be full of healing, and may his heart
 know the love all around him.

Mazal Tov to Ernst Valfer & Lois Brandwynne upon the birth of
 their grandson born November 13! Mazal Tov to his parents Rachel
 Valfer-Sills and Eliyahu Sills. The baby and family are all doing
 well and we will be able to share his name soon!



Welcome New Members:

- | | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Susan Anderson | Rabbi Yitzhak "Avi" & Nurit Novis-Deutsch |
| Doug Arnold & Julie Katz | Rabbi Jonathan Omer-Man & Nan Gefen |
| Chava Bat-Esha | Michael Peltz & Maggie Heredia-Peltz |
| Deborah & David Enelow | Jan Raymond & Michal Longfelder |
| Revital & Eli Gilad | Julie Schliesser |
| Gregory & Andrea Goldman | Hagit & Nadav Sorek |
| Liza Kramer | |

Designated Funds at CNS

The next time you make a donation to our synagogue, consider designating it to one of our funds.

Stephanie Davis Fund

For programs which teach ritual and connect Judaism and the environment and action to help the environment.

Young Adults Fund

Supports activities of the Young Adults Havurah, including monthly Kabbalat Shabbat service and community dinner.

Ethelyn Simon Fund

Supports programs that emphasize Biblical Hebrew language learning and Textual Studies.

Sifrei Kodesh

To be used for purchase and repair of *Torahs*, *chumashim*, *sidurim*, and other ritual books.

Open Door Fund

Supports programs that enable our services, classes, and programs to become more accessible to adults and children with various disabilities (learning, physical, intellectual, or emotional).

Tzedakah Fund

Collections from our religious school, pushkes, and individuals that are used for various charitable purposes. In the past we have supported *Mazon*, *Mogen David Adom*, Food Bank, etc.

Kelman Liturgy Fund

Liturgy or *tefillah*, worship, prayer and spirituality have become central to our identity as a congregation. This fund can be used to invite a scholar-in-residence or hold a weeklong programmatic concentration or have a special retreat or even a musical program focusing on the general topic of 'prayer'.

Youth Education Fund

Supports the needs of our various youth education programs.

Preschool Scholarship Fund

Provides assistance if needed to underwrite the tuition for children to attend our Preschool.

(continued on page 17)

Donors

Donors: We sincerely thank the following members and friends for contributions to the funds listed below made during the time period of mid-August through November 9th. We apologize if we have inadvertently missed anything including a name or donation. Please mail Rachel at office@netivotshalom.org with any corrections so that we may note it in the next newsletter. (Please note: we are not listing pledge payments of any kind except for the Yom Kippur Appeal in the Newsletters. The Paths of Torah Commentary donations will be listed in the future publication. Donations for the Alameda County Food Bank Holiday Dinner Drive will be acknowledged when the Dinner Drive is over.)

Adult Ed Fund

Martha & David Birnbaum

Jean Bass Bradman

Celia & Paul Concus, Adult Ed/Yeshiva that took place during Elul

Susan David, Adult Ed/Yeshiva that took place during Elul

Jerry Derblich & Alexis Milea

Jacob & Rena Harari, Torah Study

Bill Stewart & David Stein, Adult Ed/Yeshiva that took place during Elul

Bill Stewart & David Stein, in honor of the Adult Ed Committee

Ben & Helen Stern, Torah Study

Barbara Wezelman, in memory of Daniel Bartlett

Tali & Elad Ziv

Building Fund

Milt & Marge Greenstein, in memory of Bertha Rosenstein & Sonia Kitsis

Michael Irwin & Charlene Stern, in honor of Stuart & Laurie Marson for their work on Onsie & Twosies

Michael Irwin & Charlene Stern, in honor of Ben & Helen Stern's wedding anniversary

Sylvia Korchin, in honor of her great-grandchildren

Rabbi David & Irene Winston

Break-the-Fast Fund

Shosh Anderson

Eugene Berg

Steve & Karen Bovarnick

Art & Sheila Braufman

Carol & Jim Cunradi

Susan David

Joel & Katya Gerwein

George & Toby Gidal

Sandra Gore & Ron Sires

Milt & Marge Greenstein

Josh & Noga Gressel

Lara Hornbeck & John Erlich

Michael Irwin & Charlene Stern, in honor of Rabbi Creditor

Ronna Kabatnick & Peter Dale Scott

Seth Kimball & Vicki Sommer

June & Bob Safran

Helen Schneider

Rita Stein

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Social Action Fund

Supports the various activities that the Social Action Committee determines important for the year. In the past this fund helped underwrite our Feed the Homeless program, the Annual Turkey Drive, etc.

Tiferet Fund

To apply the action plans developed by our Tiferet Project to support programs which show that intermarried families can have a spiritual home at Netivot Shalom.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Funds are used for charitable purposes at the rabbi's discretion.

Executive Director's Discretionary Fund

Funds are used to benefit the Congregation at the executive director's discretion.

Building Fund

Funds to be used for the purchase of the land and the building for the Congregation.

Max and Cecilia Rosenheimer

Campership Fund

Provides funds to Netivot member children who need assistance to attend summer camp.

For a complete list of designated funds, please contact the Office at office@netivoshalom.org. Thank you.

"How wonderful it is that no one need wait a single moment to start to improve the world."

Anne Frank



(continued from page 16)

Chevra Kadisha Fund

Deborah & David Enelow, in honor of Alison Jordan

General Donations

Chauncey & Shirah Alice Bell, in memory of Meyer Kaplan

Martha & David Birnbaum, in memory of Nathaniel Abrams

Golda & Eric Blum, in memory of Esther Samuely

Jean Bass Bradman, in honor of the wedding of Karen Aronson and Joshua Fierman

Carl Buchin & Claudia Valas, in memory of Clare Breitman

Daniel Chesir, in honor of David Stein

Celia & Paul Concus, in honor of Julian & Elsa Waller, Claudia Valas & Carl Buhin, David Stein & Bill Stewart

Rabbi Sheldon & Gail Dorph

Michael Fuss, in honor of Aryeh Breakstone

Mina & Jack Gobler, in memory of Sylvia Weiner and Aaron Harry Gobler

Leonard Goldschmidt & Jeanne Reisman, in honor of Karen Bovarnick's birthday

Leonard Goldschmidt & Jeanne Reisman, in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Aaron Robbins

Karen Greene

David & Caroline Guendelman, in appreciation

Larry Hanover, in memory of Irving Hanover

Michael Irwin & Charlene Stern, in honor of Sy Horowitz's 80th birthday

Ronna Kabatznick & Peter Dale Scott, in memory of Norman Kabatznick, Roberta Chaplin, in honor of Diane & Ed Bernbaum

Ronna Kabatznick & Peter Dale Scott, for a refuah shelma Hilda Kessler, and in memory of Flo Pripstein

Ronna Kabatznick & Peter Dale Scott, in memory of Jeffrey Kabatznick, in honor of Martha & David Birnbaum and in honor of Helen & Ben Stern's anniversary

Hilda & Seymour Kessler, in memory of Flo Pripstein

Hilda & Seymour Kessler, in memory of Sheila Braufman's mother

Hilda & Seymour Kessler, Mazal Tov to Mike Irwin & Charlene Stern on a birth of a grandson

Alan & Elissa Kittner, in honor of Orli Ziv's Bat Mitzvah

Ralph & Hadassah Kramer, in memory of Steve Bileca's father

Sophia Lehmann & Jonas Duke, in memory of Erich Lehmann

Michael & Anne Marx, in memory of Miki Schwartz

Blair Perilman

Cantor Pamela Rothman Sawyer & Margaret Rowland, in memory of Merritt Rowland

Bill Schechner, in appreciation and thanks

Dr. Perry & Malka Scheinok, in memory of Chaim Scheinok, Sarah Scheinok and Shalva Sorani

Joel Siegel, in honor of Hazzan Martha Birnbaum

Philip & Ellen Siegelman, in memory of Flo Pripstein

Rabbi Jonathan Slater & Barbara Schechter, in appreciation and support of the CNS Community

Bill Stewart & David Stein, in honor of Ben & Helen Stern's 65th anniversary

Ben & Helen Stern, for an aliyah

Joanna Weinberg & David Levine, in memory of Doris & Leonard Kadisch, Sadie Rice & Sylvia Rice

(continued on page 18)

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Adam Weisberg & Rachel Brodie, in memory of Steve Bileca's father, Dennis Bileca

Cynthia Whitehead, in honor of Sy & Regina

Kelman Liturgy Fund

Dale Friedman & Joan Bradus, in honor of Rabbi Kelman and the new Mahzor

Brad Rudolph & Janet Harris, in honor of Rabbi Kelman

Kiddush & Oneg Fund

Joe Becker

David & Laura Callen

Library Fund

Bill Stewart & David Stein, Library Fund for cataloging goals

Preschool Donations

Alfred & Constance Weissman

Barry Kamil & Nancy Gurian, in memory of Frieda Gurian

Jane Van Horn, in honor of the wedding of Rebecca & Jason

Jaron & Lena Lanier

Jewish Community Endowment Fund

Reva Fabrikant & Solomon Weingarten, in memory of Michael Fabrikant

Rosenheimer Fund

Wendy Rosov, in memory of Jennie & Sam Samuels

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

David & Ruth Abusch-Magder, in gratitude for your generosity & hospitality

Ross Andelman & Hannah Dresner

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Julie Batz & Jhos Singer

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Margee Churchon

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Michael Irwin & Charlene Stern, in memory of Flo Pripstein

Michael Irwin & Charlene Stern, in honor of David & Martha Birnbaum

Rabbi Daniel Isaacson & Liora Brosbe, in honor of Michael Bennett

Diane Rose Johnson & Bette Martinez, in memory of Isadore Teger

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Rabbi Raphael Kanter

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Shifra & Stephen Pride-Raffel, in memory of Itzolin Garcia

Arthur Reingold & Gail Boan, in memory of Haim Reingold

Betinna Rotenberg

Helen Schneider, in honor of Helen & Ben Stern's 65th wedding anniversary

Helen Schneider, in memory of Flo Pripstein

Richard Stern & Risa Kagan, in memory of Myer Kagan

Richard Stern & Risa Kagan, in memory of Faye Ellen Hanfling

Peter & Nan Strauss

Alfred & Constance Weissman

Barbara Wezelman, in memory of Barbara's father and nephew

Cynthia Whitehead

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Max & Raquel Wolf, in memory of Pascal Greenberg

Sifre Kodesh Fund

Thom & Betty Seaton

Social Action Fund

Deborah & David Enelow, in honor of Wendy Rosov

(excluding Holiday Dinner Drive)

Gabriel & Angela Levy, in memory of Donald L. Vance

Luis & Miriam Shein, in honor of the marriage of Michal Shein & Jonas Parker

Yom Kippur Appeal

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Robert Alter & Carol Cosman

Ruth & Larry Amernick

Ross Andelman & Hannah Dresner

Fred Astren

Carole Baden

Eugene & Nancy Bardach

Sharona Barzilay

Lee Bearson & Babbie Freiberg

Joseph Becker

Karen Ben-Moshe

Peter Berck & Cyndi Spindell Berck

Jerry Berkman & Carolyn Koestel

Diane & Ed Bernbaum

Joan Bieder

Carolann Biederman

Steve Bileca & Angela Alonso Bileca

Martha & David Birnbaum

Linda Blachman

Erica Bloom

Cathy Bolding & Joe Meresman

Steve & Karen Bovarnick

Esther Brass-Chorin

Art & Sheila Braufman

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DONATIONS

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Robin Braverman
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Marcia Brooks
Lydia Anne Brose
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Deborah & Michael Feiler
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and her family
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Perl Perlmutter & Meghan Starkey
Karen Pliskin & Peter Jacobs
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Shifra & Stephen Pride Raffel, in memory of Itzolin Garcia
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Helen Schneider
Nina Schulman & Hal Ruddick
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Luis & Miriam Shein
Mel & Lisa Sibony
Brett & Maia Singer
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Bill Stewart & David Stein
Ben & Helen Stern
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Mauricio & Katharine Vieira
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Barbara Wezelman
Rabbi David & Irene Winston
Nancy & Sheldon Wolfe
Tali & Elad Ziv
Ellen Zucker
Assi & Kim Zvik

Yahrzeits

Zichronam livrachah — May their memories be blessed**December 1, Kislev 24**Jeanette Hart Laner
Anne Schoenfeld
Roslyn Sterling**December 2, Kislev 25**Jan Fischer
Judith Lee Stronach
David Wald**December 3, Kislev 26**Gitel Gerstel
Phillip Gressel**December 4, Kislev 27**

Beulah Pride

December 5, Kislev 28Sol Goldberg
Sam Levin**December 6, Kislev 29**

Getel Goldstein

December 8, Tevet 1Elaine Miller Dorfman
Philip Dorph
Bernard Kilimnik
Dolan Edgar McIntyre
Gerald Alvan Tranter
Eric Wood**December 9, Tevet 2**Harry Beck
William Bruch**December 10, Tevet 3**Essie Lev
Leo Lowsky**December 12, Tevet 5**Helly Barzilay
Charles Friedman
Matthew Prentice**December 13, Tevet 6**Essie Sadie Sagarsky Berkman Douglas
Beatrice Jaeger
David Rosenstein
Julie Senturia**December 14, Tevet 7**

Theodore Jerome Myers

December 15, Tevet 8

Bertha Brotfeld

December 16, Tevet 9Nathan Abraham Epstein
Max RosenheimerNaomi Rudolph
Edith Webber**December 17, Tevet 10**

Ida Frank

December 18, Tevet 11

Josephine Walter

December 19, Tevet 12Stan Fink
William Jeffrey**December 20, Tevet 13**David Merton Banen
Irving Lowe
Rabbi Solomon Zaiman**December 21, Tevet 14**Maya Cooper
Chaim Radousky
Esther Radousky**December 22, Tevet 15**Ludwig Muhlfelder
Nathan Wolf**December 23, Tevet 16**

Hester Fox Liebman

December 24, Tevet 17

Sherry Lee Amernick Schulman

December 25, Tevet 18

Albert Kittner

December 26, Tevet 19Al Becker
Alan Gordon
Joseph Levi
Isaac Polak**December 27, Tevet 20**Robert Lee Meltzer
Jacob Oliker**December 28, Tevet 21**Abe Rock
Cecelia Rosenheimer**December 29, Tevet 22**

Herman Platt

December 30, Tevet 23

Michael I. Schuman

December 31, Tevet 24Sophia Katz Bearson
Dell Piper**January 1, Tevet 25**Anne Reiter Greif
Miriam Mendelson**January 2, Tevet 26**Harry Alter
Lorelei Freda Cohen
Israel Dov Gerstel
Molly Rock
Gail Schwartz**January 3, Tevet 27**

Esther Landau

January 4, Tevet 28Stevens Manning, Jr.
Edwin Posner
William Samelson**January 5, Tevet 29**Gertrude Aronstein
Rosalie Cohen**January 6, Shevat 1**

Mary Rosenblatt

January 7, Shevat 2

Yoseph Bruchiel

January 8, Shevat 3May Darrow
Sarah Feinstein
Nancy Kennedy
Celia Levin
Florence Marson**January 10, Shevat 5**

Nina Chaya Davis

January 11, Shevat 6Morris Brezniak
Bernard Budiansky
Max Fabrikant
Thelma Rita Karp
Nathan Kaufman
Mary Potak**January 12, Shevat 7**

Sarah Cohen Stahl

January 13, Shevat 8Joe Fellman
Leonard Fox
Zev Ben Shmuel Spencer
Cantor Morris Wolf

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*We Extend Our Condolences to the Families of:***Dennis Bileca**, z"l, father of Steve Bileca**Clare Breitman**, z"l, mother of Sheila Braufman**Bernard Freedman**, z"l, husband of Miriam Chaya
Freedman**Bernard Mizock**, z"l, father of Adam Mizock**Florence Pripstein**, z"l, wife of Moishe Pripstein**Carol Smallenburg**, z"l, grandmother of Kate
Smallenburg

along with all others who mourn Zion and Jerusalem.

Yahrzeits

Zichronam livrachah — May their memories be blessed

(continued from page 20)

January 14, Shevat 9Frank Scott
Estrella Sherez**January 15, Shevat 10**

Rose Milkman Shandling

January 17, Shevat 12Beatrice Domb
Sylvia Facher
Cantor Don Fischer
Harry Rappaport**January 18, Shevat 13**Esther Cygelfarb
George Levine**January 20, Shevat 15**Harry Cohen
Robert Ray Stewart**January 21, Shevat 16**

Leon Frank

January 22, Shevat 17David Hellman
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Abraham Liebhoff
Harry R. Valas**January 23, Shevat 18**Isaac Henry Lifchez
Pearl Max
Nelson Polsby
Deborah Potak
Alma Shuchat
Goldye Spilky
Joseph Waxman**January 24, Shevat 19**

Sara Levitas

January 26, Shevat 21Abraham Birnbaum
William Konigsford**January 28, Shevat 23**Leonard Mell
Walter Martin Petersen
Genny Schifrin**January 29, Shevat 24**Joseph Beck
Ruth Blachman
Sylvia Friedman
Julian Knaster
Jack Rubinstein
Yetta Shuchat**January 30, Shevat 25**Cheryl Kessler
Simon Levine**January 31, Shevat 26**Julia De Lorraine Levin
Edith Shapiro**February 1, Shevat 27**Ruth Brandwynne
Morton Grossman
Herman Salkin
Cynthia Walter Drazen
Milton Weiner**February 2, Shevat 28**David Abrahams
Lee Valas**February 3, Shevat 29**Fanya Cohen
Rick Isaacson**February 4, Shevat 30**

Florence B. Levine

February 5, Adar-1 1Hannah Dorph
Bertha Greenberg**February 6, Adar-1 2**Ida Cohen
Mary Lieberman**February 7, Adar-1 3**

Irwin Mussen

February 8, Adar-1 4Gerald Shorer
Jose Zak**February 9, Adar-1 5**Paul Baden
Blanche Rose Cohn
Norma Blankstein Lewis**February 10, Adar-1 6**Martin Trow
Murray Walter**February 11, Adar-1 7**

Krusa Kieliszek

February 12, Adar-1 8Susan Fendel
Joseph Jacobson
Harlane Longfelder
Henrietta Mandel
Sarah Mishkin**February 13, Adar-1 9**Harry Clay Frank
Jon Galinson
Emily Maurand
George Popell**February 14, Adar-1 10**Lou Berman
Esther Lipow
Susan Shackman**February 15, Adar-1 11**Blanche Birnbaum
Benjamin Gottlieb**February 17, Adar-1 13**Janice Colen
Julius Gottleib
Ceila Kessler**February 18, Adar-1 14**Melvin K. Sires
Irv Weiman**February 19, Adar-1 15**Harry Breitman
Henry Cohen
Rudy Corber
Jean Taylor Coy
Esther Eva Yachelson Goldman
Henry Greenberg
Joan Ruth Groody
Jack Jacobs**February 20, Adar-1 16**Tillie Zimmerman Alter
Miriam Bittker "Rock" Clark
Herman Jordan**February 21, Adar-1 17**

Margaret K. Churchon

February 22, Adar-1 18Sid Berman
Freda Bond
Eileen Sheila Derblich
Wilson Kelman**February 23, Adar-1 19**Herman Gold
Judith Gold
Frederike Stefanie Kalisch
Gertrude Schorner
Myer Sefkin
Jules Shuchat**February 24, Adar-1 20**Ralph Dubin
Rose Lowsky**February 25, Adar-1 21**

Laura Hall

February 26, Adar-1 22Robert C. Fite
Carl Slater**February 27, Adar-1 23**Laurette Goldberg
Jerome Grossman
Morris Rothstein**February 28, Adar-1 24**Marjorie Alper
John Raymond
Ben Shuchat
Pliskin William Aaron

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SEE YOUR NAME IN A PHOTO CAPTION!

We're looking for photos of Netivot events!

Please send shul event photos to newsletter@netivotshalom.org. Use cell phone, camera or other digital photo devices.

CONGREGATION NETIVOT SHALOM NEWSLETTER

December 2010 • Kislev 5771

Editor

Janet Schneider

Design and Production:

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 and provide names of people in each photo.

Printed by request.

Call the office at 510-549-9447.

Congregation Netivot
Shalom's **CALENDAR**
of **ACTIVITIES &**
EVENTS for current
and upcoming events
is online.



YOUTH EDUCATION

Our **Preschool**, serves children between 2 years old - Pre-Kindergarten. "Inspire Our Hearts, Light up our Eyes." The program provides a learning environment rich in Jewish content, with a focus on Hebrew language. Learning is interactive; children cook, garden, sing, listen and tell stories, perform math and science projects, dance, and celebrate Jewish holidays. For more information contact Lauren Kindorf, Preschool Director, at 549-9447.

Shabbat B'Yachad (SBY) for families with preschool children five years and under. Program includes *tefillah* (prayer), songs, Torah stories, a Torah parade and *kiddush*. Registration is required, but membership in Netivot Shalom is not. 2nd and 4th Shabbat each month, 11:00 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Rimmonim, a program for families with children in grades kindergarten to second grade. It meets on the 1st and 3rd Shabbat of each month, 10:30 a.m.-12:15 p.m., for *tefillah* Torah story, family learning about the core values of Judaism (one per month), and parallel adult and children's learning. Contact Cathy Shadd Rosenfeld at rimmonim@netivotshalom.org for more information.

CNS Shorashim Hebrew School for children in grades K-5. Hebrew Bilingual Program: Edah (K afterschool) Tuesday through Thursday 1:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.; (K) meets on Thursdays 3:45 - 5:45 p.m. (1st- 5th grade) meets on Tuesday and Thursday 3:45 - 5:45 p.m. **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. 6th and 7th Grade classes meet Tuesday, 4:30-6:30 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

Adult Education classes are currently taking place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Please see the Netivot Shalom Calendar or call the office at (510) 549-9447 Ext 101 for additional details.

Minyan Opportunities:

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 online calendar, and weekly announcements.

WEDNESDAY

Morning Minyan 7:15 a.m.

SHABBAT

Various activities after Shabbat services; check the newsletter calendar, congregational announcements, or the weekly "green sheet" for special programs and classes.

OUR COMMUNITY NEEDS

Sponsor a Kiddush: Calendar Online

Go to www.netivotshalom.org and, from the side menu, select "Sponsor a Kiddush." There you will find a link to our calendar, along with some of our suggestions for making a *kiddush*, and the latest version of our *kasbrut* policy.

The Morning Minyan Needs You

People attending these services who need to say *Kaddish* need a minyan! Please consider becoming a once-a-month attendee to help them fulfill this *mitzvah*. 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

Rimmonim: 10:30 a.m., 1st and 3rd Shabbat each month. For children in Kindergarten through 2nd grade.

Shabbat B'Yachad: 11:00 a.m., 2nd and 4th Shabbat each month. For families with children up to five years old.

Orah VeSimchah: 11:00 a.m., monthly. For children in 3rd through 5th grades.

Torah Study: discussion of the weekly *parashah*. Shabbat, 9:00-10:00 a.m.; no charge

Young Adult Kabbalat Shabbat and Ma'ariv Services:

2nd Friday of each month, followed by a meal. Email ya@netivotshalom.org for times and details. Hosted by the Young Adults Havurah, all ages welcome.

SOCIAL ACTION

Dinners for the Homeless Dorothy Day House of Berkeley, 1st Sunday of the month. Volunteers needed for shopping, cooking and serving. Donations needed for food purchases. Make contribution to Netivot Shalom marked: "Dinners for the Homeless." Contact socialaction@netivotshalom.org

Feed the Hungry Food barrels are available in the lobby. Bring unopened nonperishable food any time the office is open. The food bank needs our help!

For updates on social action events, join our e-tree! Contact socialaction@netivotshalom.org to be added to the list.

Volunteer in our neighborhood! The Women's Daytime Drop-In Center on Acton St. and the Youth Emergency Assistance Shelter on University Ave. could use support in a variety of ways. Be a good neighbor! For more info contact socialaction@netivotshalom.org.



CONGREGATION NETIVOT SHALOM

1316 University Avenue, Berkeley, California 94702

Telephone: 510-549-9447 • Fax: 510-549-9448

www.netivotshalom.org • e-mail: office@netivotshalom.org

Office Hours: M-Th 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. • F 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

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.

BOLDED NAMES ARE NEW TO THE POSITION.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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COMMITTEES

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Young Adult Havura

Taylor Maurand & **Mark Cohen**
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RESOURCES

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Drash Coordinator

Rona Kabatznick
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Greening Group

Susan Lawrence & Joel Gerwein
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Greeter Coordinator

Justin Garland
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Kiddush Team

Marcia Brooks, Shari Rifas, and their trusted associate Jerry Berkman
kiddush@netivotshalom.org

New Babies Coordinator

Ruth Konoff
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Newsletter

Janet Schneider
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Shabbat Hospitality

Katya & Joel Gerwein
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RABBI AND STAFF

All phone extensions connected to 510-549-9447

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Director of LifeLong Learning

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Midrasha Director

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Coordinator of SBY

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Coordinator of Rimmonim

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Founding Rabbi

Stuart Kelman
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