



Hayenu

B'nai Shalom

300 Pleasant Valley Way
West Orange, New Jersey 07052
(973) 731-0160

VOLUME 45, NUMBER 8

APRIL 2000

ADAR II / NISAN 5760

From the Rabbi

Dear friends:

As we begin our preparations for Passover I recall a famous Midrash in which the Rabbis pose the question of what made the Israelites worthy of being redeemed from slavery. (Of course, there is a debate among the Rabbis about the legitimacy of this question to begin with. For after all, after having been enslaved for over 400 years, and after crying out to God for help, it was certainly time for them to be rescued and brought back to their homeland! Nevertheless, the original question still stands and) the Midrash suggests the following response: "They were worthy of being redeemed because of the righteous people among them and their deeds—for example Amram (Moses' father) and those around him." In other words, even though they were enslaved for generations; even though the average person was unable to do more than just keep his/head above water and survive; there were a few exceptional individuals who managed to transcend the difficulties of physical, psychological, and emotional enslavement to good deeds, remind the people of their Jewish heritage, keep its message and vision alive, and preserve their identity. The great good that these few individuals did was enough to preserve the people and make them worthy of being redeemed.

This Rabbinic response satisfies two problems posed by the initial question of "what made the Israelites worthy of being redeemed from slavery":

It indicates the real meaning of the question. Our Rabbis were not in search of outstanding good or unusual deeds that they might have performed that would have made our ancestors "worthy" or being redeemed from their suffering. In a sense that is a cruel question. No people in its entirety deserves to be enslaved for any amount of time, let alone hundreds of

SPECIAL PASSOVER NOTICE

All Passover information, including Laws of Kashrut for the holiday and times of services, including Yizkor, has been sent out previously in a special Passover mailing. Please consult this mailing or call the synagogue office for further details!

SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Friday, April 7	7:11 P.M.
Friday, April 14	7:18 P.M.
Friday, April 21	7:25 P.M.
Friday, April 28	7:32 P.M.

MINCHA-MAARIV TIMES

Saturday, Sunday April 1, 2	6:05 P.M. & 7:05 P.M.
Saturday, Sunday April 8, 9	7:10 P.M.
Saturday, Sunday, April 15, 16	7:20 P.M.
Saturday, Sunday April 22, 23	7:25 P.M.
Saturday, Sunday April 29, 30	7:30 P.M.

(Continued on page 4)

President's Message

As I sit down to write my article for the April edition of the Hayenu the weather has become warmer, and I even saw some flowers just starting to peek out of the ground. Let us hope this is the beginning of spring! While on this subject, I would like to wish everyone a very Happy Passover! We should all remember at this time of year to be thankful for our freedom.

Many of you may already be aware that our office administrator, Sally Weisman, resigned her position at B'nai Shalom. Sally has moved on to another opportunity. I am sure I speak for everyone as we wish Sally all the best, and thank her for all of her hard work and dedication on behalf of B'nai Shalom. We have now hired Barbara Herman as office administrator. Barbara has experience working in a similar position, in addition to many other wonderful attributes which I am sure will make her successful in this new capacity. Please, as the occasion presents itself introduce yourself to Barbara.

As a reminder, the door to the synagogue from the parking lot will generally be locked except for services and special events. There is a new system which will allow the office staff to see and talk to you, and then buzz you in. There is also a doorbell at the back door should the staff not be in the office. I hope this is not too much of an inconvenience, but it is felt that this is a prudent step toward improving security.

I recently was invited to attend a special program presented to our students at the B'nai Shalom Religious School. The program was about Ethiopian Jewry. It was a slide show presented by The North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry. I was fascinated by the program, but I was thrilled to see the attention, enthusiasm, and excellent questions posed by the students. Congratulations to Janice Colmar and the students for an important program such as this.

I know Rabbi and Cecille Asekoff, along with Barry Liben, are planning another sensational synagogue trip to Israel in December, 2000! I have heard so many wonderful stories about the first trip, and have already committed to participate with my family. Information will be coming out soon. Please try to join us!

Finally, I would like to remind everyone of the upcoming fund-raising events at B'nai Shalom. As you know, the tickets for The Raffle of the Millennium have been mailed. There are some great prizes! Please sell as many tickets as possible. Alan King will be at B'nai Shalom on Sunday evening, May 7. This should be a fantastic event! Try to purchase your tickets as soon as they become available and bring friends. Our Gala Dinner Dance honoring Nancy and Paul Kurland will take place on Sunday, June 4, at the fabulous Short Hills Caterers. This will be a wonderful evening honoring two very dedicated members of B'nai Shalom. Please make plans to attend and give tribute to Nancy and Paul.

Shalom,

Bennett

**B'NAI SHALOM
IS NOW ON LINE
VISIT THE SITE AT
www.uscj.org/njersey/w-orange**

HAYENU

B'nai Shalom
300 Pleasant Valley Way, West Orange, NJ 07052

Rabbi STANLEY L. ASEKOFF
Cantor ELIHU FELDMAN
President BENNETT SCHWARTZ
Editorial Staff GORDON RAYFIELD

PLEASE NOTE
HAYENU HAS A NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS:
grayfield@home.com

CANTORIAL

COMMENTS

By Cantor Elihu Feldman

Shirat Hayam- A Triumphant Song of Jewish Victory

One of the oldest melodies in Jewish history is the song of national triumph sung by Moses and the Children of Israel after our miraculous deliverance at the Red (or Reed Sea). It appears in the Book of Exodus (Chapter 15) and is popularly called "Shirat Hayam" (The Song of the Sea), or simply The Shirah (The Song). Tradition dates this event as having occurred on the seventh day after the Exodus from Egypt. In Temple days, the Levites sang the Shirah at the afternoon sacrifice of Shabbat day. Later it became fixed as a daily recital at the conclusion of Pesukei Dezimrah in the morning service. Sefer Hamanhig attaches great significance to its recitation, for Scripture states, "That you may remember the day you came forth out of the land of Egypt all the days of your life..." (Deuteronomy 16:3).

The Shirah is read publicly in the synagogue on the seventh day of Passover as part of the Scriptural reading, as well as on Shabbat Parashat Beshalach. This Sabbath is called Shabbat Shira. Among Hassidic sects there is a special ceremony at midnight on the seventh day of Passover where the Shirah is sung again. In Israel it is sung ceremonially on the seventh day of Passover at the beach in Tel-Aviv and Eilat. The chant is based on the cantillation accents, but differs in melody especially at verses 15:1,2,3,6,11,16, and 48. The stylistic device of parallelism in these verses is emphasized by utilizing a festive melody. The special melody is intentionally adapted to these verses in order to publicize the miracle of the splitting of the sea. In other locales (e.g., Poland, Galicia) each verse, of the Shirah is rendered with this special melody.

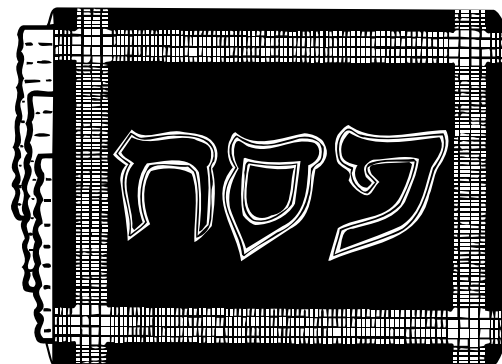
In order to recall a sentiment of victory, the two-part melodic Shirah tune has been adapted as a representative theme for a variety of texts. The unanimous response theme Hazak Hazak Venit'hazzek - ("Be strong! Be strong! And may we be strengthened!") declaimed by the congregation and reader at the completion of each of the Five Books of Moses utilizes the second part of the tune. In this case it is no doubt used to mark a moment of triumph and jubilation at the completion of a book of the Torah, and to take courage and start a new book. Adapting the Shirah melody when reading Berashit on Simchat Torah (at Vayehi erev, -vayehi Voker...) for each of the six days of Creation designates a moment of exaltation. Each stage indicates a moment of achievement, and thus the victory tune is most fitting. The entire Shirah tune is adapted for the Biblical section in "Eileh Masa'ot" in describing the journeys (masaot) of the our people through the Sinai.

All of the events and vicissitudes that confronted the Israelites, their wanderings after the Exodus, until 38 years later when they were about to enter the Holy Land, are recounted. Each halting-place is marked by some attainment in their lives. The entire Shirah melody can be identified with the Ashamu confessional recited on Yom Kippur. While reciting this confession, the worshipper hopes and prays that he/she will be exonerated from all sins and leave the synagogue victoriously.

On Friday evening, at Kabbalat Shabbat, the Cantor or Shaliach tzibbur may also use the Shirah chant for the opening-psalm Lekhu Neranenah. We use this tune to emphasize that we were able to live through the past week successfully and will be recharged for the week to come, The Shirah is noted for its forceful text, poetic fire and vivid imagery, and its tune became associated, throughout Jewish history, with attaining a state of triumph, joy, and exultation.

The Shirah is so special that the Midrash makes reference to it in commenting on the verse, in Song of Songs 2:14),¹ "My dove in the clefts of the rock... let me hear your voice" the Midrash states that G-d is speaking to the people of Israel saying, "Let Me hear the same voice with which you cried out to Me in Egypt (Shemot Rabbah 21:5).

May this Passover, its traditions, songs and special Shirat Hayam Torah reading be a wonderful and joyous festival for all of us.



RELIGIOUS NEWS...

FROM THE RABBI

(Continued from page 1)

years. No people needs to "earn" its redemption from servitude. To live in freedom on one's own land is a God given right and privilege.

Our Rabbis were asking another very different question. They wanted to know if our ancestors deserved to be redeemed as "Israelites," as "Jews." Had they been able to maintain enough of their heritage, practices, and identity-in spite of centuries of oppression-to make them worthy of being redeemed as part of the chain of Jewish history that would bring them first to Sinai to receive the Torah, and then to the promised land in fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham and Sarah? Their answer was that the actions of a few outstanding individuals had been able to fulfill this precondition. Consequently they did, in fact, deserve to be redeemed as Jews within the chain of Jewish history.

This Rabbinic response is not a "one time" comment on the redemption from Egypt. It is to be applied to every generation throughout Jewish history. One never knows when the actions of one or a few individuals will have profound effects on the fate of the Jewish people in generations to come. I recently attended the annual convention of the Rabbinical Assembly (the worldwide organization of Conservative Rabbis) that took place in Philadelphia. We celebrated our one hundredth anniversary with great joy, pausing to look back in admiration in all that we had accomplished in our first one hundred years. We started out in Philadelphia as a very small alumni association of the then very new Jewish Theological Seminary. We have become, today, an international Rabbinical Assembly of almost 1500 Rabbis serving the Conservative Movement and the entire Jewish people all over the world: the United States, Canada, South America, England, Europe, Israel, and the Former Soviet Union. Our growing Masorti Movement in Israel and our growing number of synagogues in Israel are offering a meaningful alternative to orthodoxy to increasing numbers of native Israelis, and we are a significant player in the movement for the legitimization of religious pluralism within the Jewish state. From one school in New York we have grown to encompass Rabbinical Schools in California, South America, Israel, as well as an affiliation with the Jewish Theological Seminary in Budapest. We have fostered the growth of hundreds of synagogues, significant Jewish educational institutions, the Ramah Camp system that now has camps in the United States, Canada, South America and Israel. We have maintained our commitment to Halakha (Jewish Law) as well as developing an approach to Halakhic innovation. We have fostered and nurtured our commitment to serious Jewish study and scholarship. We have continued to maintain our devotion to "Klal Yisrael" (the Jewish People in its entirety). We have grown from a small alumni association

to an international Rabbinical Assembly that has had a profound influence on American and then worldwide Jewry that far exceeded anything any of our founders could have imagined. In a very significant way we have played, and will continue to play, an important part in the ongoing process of the redemption and renewal of the Jewish People.

Our generation of Conservative Jews, Rabbis and lay people working together for the benefit of the entire Jewish People, has accomplished great things! We have transformed the Jewish landscape in the world for the better. As we usher in Pesach, and take stock of the role we Conservative Jews have played in the ongoing redemption of our people, we have much for which to be grateful and even more to which to look forward in the new century we have just begun.

My very best wishes to everyone for a "Khag Kasher v'Sameach" - a "Kosher and joyous Pesach"

Sincerely,

Rabbi Stanley L. Askoff

Reserve The date Now!

Yom Hashoah-Holocaust Memorial Day Program

**Monday Evening,
May 1, 8:00 P.M.**

**Featuring as guest speaker
our own B'nai Shalom member**

Henry Klein

Watch for further details!

RELIGIOUS NEWS...

THE RABBI'S TABLE

Meets next on
Shabbat Morning, April 15 & 29
Following services join
Rabbi Asekoff
For a light Kiddush luncheon,
Study, song, and discussion.

CANDLE LIGHTING BLESSINGS FOR FRIDAY NIGHT

ubase rat d'kugy l'kn udvkt 'v'v, t lurc
,ca.kar.bekskubunu.h,umc

Baruch attah Adonai Eloheynu melech ha'olam, asher kidshanu b'mizvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik ner shel Shabbat.

EARLY FAMILY SERVICE

Friday Evening, April 7 at 7:30 P.M.

Welcome Shabbat With Song and Stories!

Especially designed for the participation of families with children, join us as we sing, dance, welcome Shabbat, hear a story told by Rabbi Asekoff, and put ourselves in the mood for a great Shabbat!

PEREK YOMI DISCUSSION GROUP

To enhance our reading of the daily Biblical chapter Rabbi Asekoff is offering a weekly discussion group of the biblical chapters being read. It will take place in the synagogue every Shabbat during the Kiddush following morning service.

STUDY MISHNAH WITH RABBI ASEKOFF

Our weekly Mishnah study class continues on Tuesday evenings, 8:15-9:30.PM, and is open to anyone who can read Hebrew with comprehension. Contact Rabbi Asekoff for information.

SHABBAT MORNING FOR CHILDREN

TORAH AND TEFILLA: GRADES K-2

Torah and Tefilla, our Shabbat morning program for children in grades K-2 usually meets every other Shabbat from 11:00-12:15. Why not take advantage of this wonderful opportunity for the children and enhance Shabbat for them. Led by Sherry Kirschenbaum it is a wonderful age appropriate experience including a Shabbat service, stories, songs, games and ending with Kiddush and cookies.

SHABBAT FUN: AGES 2-5

Our special Shabbat program for children between the ages of 2 & 5-SHABBAT FUN - usually meets every other week on Shabbat Mornings from 11:00 A.M. until 12:15 in the Shabbat Fun room (nursery room/youth lounge). It includes play time, a children's service, refreshments and joining the adults for the singing of Ayn Kaylohaynu and Adon Olam. Shabbat Fun is a wonderful opportunity for all our "little ones" to begin their exposure to synagogue life. Join them and see for yourself!

MINI MINYAN: GRADES 3-5

Students take an active role in all aspects of the service from leading prayers to announcing pages. It meets in the Garnet Chapel from 10:45-12:00 noon beginning Shabbat morning

**B'nai Shalom Proudly Announces
Our Shabbat morning program
For Junior High & High School Students,
Led by Jeff Arnowitz
Continues this month on
Shabbat Morning, April 8 & 29
At 10:45 A.M.**

THE KOSHER

KORNER

By Rabbi Stanley L. Asekoff

Keeping you up to date with the latest in the world of Kashrut:

Never let it be said that the Kosher world is without variety and excitement!

Special Passover Note: This column contains our regular monthly Kashrut column which is, of course, "chametzdik." Please consult the special Passover mailing that was sent out under separate cover for all Passover Kashrut Information!

CONDIMENTS

From Israel comes a really great line: Chocolate spread with Puffed Rice, Chocolate and Halvah spread, Chocolate and Hazelnut spread, and just Halvah spread. In addition, they also make syrups: Chocolate, Strawberry, Cherry, and Maple. All products carry a double hashgacha: Badatz Jerusalem and the OU. Next time you are surfing the Net, visit the Topaz web site for info: .

DUTCH GOLD HONEY makes some fine honey, but did you know that they now market a full line of OU-certified honeys in just about every honey flavor you could want? Look at this list of flavors: Alfalfa, Avocado, Blueberry, Buckwheat, Clover, Eucalyptus, Golden, Orange Blossom, Premium, Safflower, Sage, Tupelo, and Wild Flower. If you have never tried Buckwheat, Tupelo, or Sage honey, you are really missing a treat. These are all natural products. Dutch Gold Honey is located at 2220 Dutch Gold Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601. The phone there is 717-393-1716. They also have a web site:

Here is a unique product: "In 1937, Fred Carbon developed the recipe for the World's First Improved Flour...GOLDEN MALTED PANCAKE & WAFFLE FLOUR." (Quote taken from the company's publicity book.). Fred went on to patent his secret ingredients, and he gave the world an incredible pancake flour. It makes the best Belgian waffles ever. Fred 's now has OU (pareve) certification. F.S. Carbon Company is located at 324 East Dewey St. Buchanan, MI 49107. You can phone them at 800-253-0590.

Krelish is a sweet and tangy sauerkraut with onions, corn starch, vinegar, spices, and red bell peppers in it. It is kind of hard to describe. The company suggests a lot of different way to use its product, including as an "awesome cold pizza topping!" Certification is by the OU. Mrs. Kleine's Ltd. is located at 586 Skalkaho Hwy., Hamilton, MI 59840. The phone number is 406-363-1206. The company donates the first 5% of profits to hospice movements all over the country.

Today it is hard to know just who owns what. Here is a quick look at who actually owns which deli companies.

Bessin (Sara Lee) owns Shofar, Best Kosher, Sinai, and Oscherwitz. Alle Processing owns Meal Mart and New York Kosher Deli. Rubashkins own Agri-Processors, Aaron's Best, Shor Harbor, and European Glatt. Empire produces under its own name only. And there you have it - no more wondering.

INFORMATION, PLEASE!

If you would like to receive a list of Kellogg products that are under the KVH, write to the Rabbinical Council of New England at 177 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02111.

Here is the web site to get information and to order Bone Suckin'Sauce. Pay a visit to .

Spice Bouquet Chicken Soup Base & Spice Bouquet Beef Soup Base - bear an unauthorized "OU" and are NOT KOSHER. They had been recalled but have resurfaced and are being sold by National Wholesale Liquidators.

Dannon Fruit On Bottom Yogurt - is reformulating to include glycerin. It will not bear an "OU" but a "K". Some Dannon Yogurt will remain "OU"-certified.

Gingerbread House (manufactured by Fantasy Cookie Co.) - bears an unauthorized "KOF-K". The company is recalling the product.

The Hommus Factory brand Spicy Hommus - with an expiration date of October 1, 1999 is certified by the "KOF-K". Product with earlier dates are not certified.

Le Voyage Travel Glatt Kosher Cruise to the Caribbean - advertised bearing an unauthorized "KOF-K".

Natalins, Poly-Vi-Flor and Poly-Vi-Sol Tablets - are no longer "OU" certified as they contain a non-kosher ingredient. Even product bearing an "OU" contains non-kosher ingredients so consult your Rabbi.

Best Foods Caesar Vinaigrette Dressing - (Gallon Size), distributed by Best Foods Food Service (Franklin Park, IL), mistakenly bears an "OU" symbol and contains non-kosher ingredients. This product is being recalled.

Jell-O Ready to Eat Strawberry Gelatin - (Kraft Foodservice product number 96924) bears an unauthorized "OK". A recall has been made.

SYNAGOGUE NEWS...

MAZAL TOV TO

Renee and Tom Phon on the engagement of their daughter, Vicki, to Andrew Caplan.

CONDOLENCES TO

Fran Orzech on the death of her father (our apologies for reporting this erroneously in the March Hayenu)

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE BOARD

3/3/00

- The synagogue has a new administrator, Barbara Herman.
- The backdoor will be locked all day except around morning minyan time. Office personnel will buzz people in.
- Fundraising events:
 - Raffle
 - Alan King – May 7th
 - Dinner Dance – June 4th to honor Paul and Nancy Kurland
- Israel trip – Dec. 2000–Jan 21001
- Friday night 4/14, Pre-Passover dinner
- Sisterhood is planning a Women's retreat in September at the Raleigh Hotel
- Men's club wine sale will be 2 weeks before Passover
- Signs are being made for the pay phone and the lobby to inform people that the use of the phone, beepers and cell phones are prohibited on Sabbath and Holidays.
- Committee is working on setting up a B'Nai Shalom web site

TORAH READING ACADEMY

Thank you to the many religious school and day school students who worked with Margo Heda and read from the Megillah at our Family Megillah Reading: Alyssa Sher, Erica Pally, Ian Gleaner, Naomi Michaelis, Steven Hoffer, Hannah Grossman, Ben Batchelder, Daniel Batchelder, David Grossman, Avital Andron, Gideon Grossman, Alison Santuucci, Tali Grossman, Jonah Kaplan, Vivian Feldman, Aaron Shenassa, Karl Shenassa, Evan Colten, Michal Reuven, Michelle Klein, David Alsieux, Dina Cohen, Whitney Gruhin, Melissa Gruhin, Jacob Simon, Zoe Siegal, Aaron Blady, Jenni Blady, Jason Bergman, Keren Baruch, Nomi Kaplan, Ben Kaplan, Peri Klein, Reggie Viezel, Mark Chringer, Gabi Blady, Garret Chringer.

By the time you read this, we will have traveled to New York together to enjoy the improvisational comedy at Chicago City Limits. This has become a favorite yearly activity of ours.

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our two newest members, Jonah Kaplan and Samantha Knauer. We are delighted to have you with us!

Finally, Mazal Tov to all of our outstanding members who were honored at special Shabbat services March 11, 2000. The Torah reading was excellent and we are proud to have each and every one of you as a members of T.R.A.: Adelle Nazarian, Karl Shenassa, Reuben Meltzer, Jonah Grossman, Alyssa Sher, Sam Kallus, Stephan Kallus, Jonathan Pogach, Melissa Berger, Darren Hochberg, Michael Rayfield, Ari Lipkin, Yarden Cohen, Doug London, Erica Pally, Aaron Karp, Michael Baruch, Samuel Friedman, Eli Lieberman, Ranit Lieberman, Shira Bortniker, Ethan Bortniker, Jonah Kaplan, Samantha Knauer.

Finally, My sincerest thanks to the wonderful T.R.A. families, who have purchased a leaf in my name on the Tree of Life at B'nai Shalom. I am touched and honored by this most thoughtful gesture, and I shall treasure "my leaf" and all that it represents.

With warmest gratitude,

Margo Heda
Director, Torah Reading Academy

B'nai Shalom's Dinner Dance 2000
Will honor Paul and Nancy Kurland
At the Short Hills Caterers

Sunday, June 4, 2000, 6:30 PM

For information Call Donna 731-7119
For the Ad Journal, Call Steve 731-7119 or Steve 325-0176



SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Each year on the fifteenth day of Nisan, we celebrate Pesach with a seder. We remember the bitterness that our people endured as slaves in Egypt and the miracles we were shown by G-d. We follow the order spelled out in the Haggadah, but we may also include a way of emphasizing the importance of women and include our daughters in this ritual.

The Jewish Women's Project suggests that we begin our seder by placing two ceremonial goblets on our table: the traditional one filled with wine for Elijah the Prophet and a second one filled with water for Miriam the Prophetess. This cup serves as a symbol of Miriam's well, which tradition tells us was given to us as a source of healing and sustaining water for the Israelites in the desert, because of the merits of Miriam. The purpose of Miriam's Cup is to draw attention to the important role of Miriam and the other women of the Exodus story, who have sometimes been overlooked. It was Miriam who led the people in singing and dancing after the people had successfully crossed the Red Sea. It was Miriam who looked after the baby Moses when he was placed in the water, and it was she who persuaded the Pharaoh's daughter to hire his mother to nurse him.

We may choose to start a new tradition by beginning the seder with Miriam's cup as we say: This is the cup of Miriam, the cup of living waters. Let us remember the Exodus from Egypt.

Janet Geldzahler

SISTERHOOD NEWS BRIEFS:

Our next book review is May 17th. The book is *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant. Call Helyn Benjamin at 731-5291 or Susan Galatz at 736-3798 for the location and time.

Sisterhood Passover centerpieces and flowers can still be ordered. Call Paula Lipkin at 716-9031.

Take a break from cleaning and cooking and join us for our annual pre-Passover Shabbat dinner on April 14th at 6:30 pm. Adults \$12 and Children \$5.

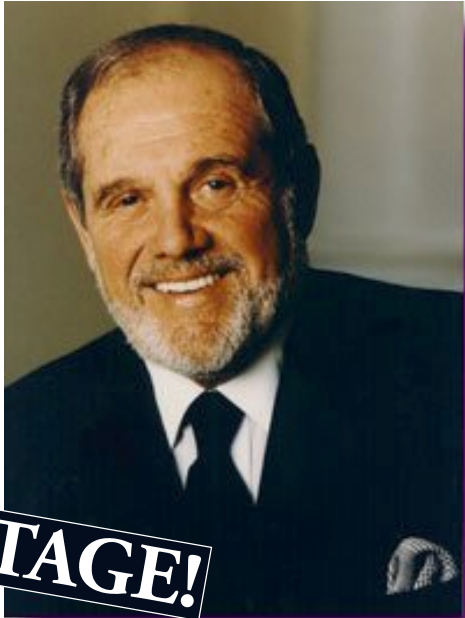
Buy script and support Sisterhood. Now available from Ana Bercovici (731-2063), Carol Churgin (243-0426), Susan Galatz (736-3798), and Eylana Garfinkle (535-0645).



The KING of Comedy

ALAN KING

LIVE! ON STAGE!



SUNDAY, MAY 7, 2000
8:00 PM at B'nai Shalom

.....
CALL (973) 731-0160 FOR TICKETS
.....

- **PATRONS: \$125.00**
Includes reserved seating, dessert buffet, pre-show reception with Alan King, and listing in program
- **PREFERRED SEATING: \$50.00**
- **GENERAL ADMISSION: \$36.00**

ALAN KING TICKET ORDER FORM

Number of Tickets x Ticket Price = Amount Enclosed

Name

Street Address

City, State, Zip

Credit Card Number Visa Mastercard Exp. Date

Signature

If paying by check please make checks payable to B'NAI SHALOM.

Mail To B'nai Shalom, 300 Pleasant valley way, West Orange, NJ 07052

Fax to 973-731-1160

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS...

DATES TO REMEMBER :

April 9 - Gimel Family Workshop
April 15 - B'nai Mitzvah Shabbaton- Minha
April 18 - May 1 - Passover Vacation
May 2 - School resumes
May 6 - B'nai Mitzvah Shabbaton - Shaharit
May 7 - Open House for Prospective Primary Students
May 21 - Last Sunday of Religious School - Primary Graduation
June 1 - Last Day of Religious School

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REGISTRATION OPENS

Registration materials for school year 2000-2001 are in the process of being sent out to our present student body. This year, families receive confirmation forms - with all the information for the upcoming year listed. Families will be automatically re-enrolled for the new school year, unless we are notified by May 5. Families of re-enrolled students will be charged tuition on July 1.

Our Religious School accepts students entering kindergarten through second grade in our Sunday School Program. Children entering third grade are accepted as Aleph students and attend classes three days a week - Sunday, Tuesday and Thursday. Special programming is devised for students with special learning needs. Your questions are welcomed. There will be Open Houses for our Sunday School program as well as the Weekday program in May. Private tours of the school can be arranged - please call the school office at 731-3720.

YASHA KOACH TO OUR ENGLISH MEGILLAH READERS:

We are very proud of our Religious School students who read English introductions to the Megillah Reading on March 20. These students were: Maya Reuven, Ava Boxer, Robert Solomon, Sara Snyder, Aaron Handsman, Aaron Kurtzer, Brandon Isaacson, Emily Dery, Matthew Goldberg, Mark Pollack, Corey Madden and Sara Kesselbrenner.

Shabbat Morning Programming for Children

B'nai Shalom is the place to come with your children on Shabbat

Try out our Shabbat morning services this week!

10:45 Saturday morning

MINI MINYAN - A Service for children in Grades 3-5

11:00 Saturday morning

SHABBAT FUN for children of nursery school age and below - This program meets weekly

TORAH AND TEFILA for children ages 5-7 (this program meets twice a month, please check your Hayenu or the calendar in the synagogue hallway)

questions: call Janice Colmar, principal B'nai Shalom Religious School - 731-3720

PURIM SEUDAH THANKS

Once again, our annual Purim Seudah was a large success. Cecille Asekoff and Janice Colmar would like to thank everyone for joining us. Special thanks to Rena Casser for running our fabulous raffle, and Robin Colten for all of her help and support. Our entertainment was Jump America, party entertainment for kids and our master of ceremonies, Rabbi Asekoff. Food was provided by Gourmet Galaxy.

B'NAI SHALOM RELIGIOUS SCHOOL GENERAL INFORMATION

SCHOOL PHONE NO. - 731-3720

SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS -
SUNDAY - 8:30 - 1:00 P.M.

TUESDAY AND THURSDAYS - 12:30 - 6:00 P.M.

ANSWERING MACHINE IS ALWAYS ON FOR MESSAGES

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP - NEXT MEETING IS MAY 15.

NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS...

April is here and it is hard to believe that an entire year at B'nai Shalom Nursery School is winding down. We have had an incredibly successful year which we owe largely to the continued support of our dedicated parents. They have volunteered their precious time and numerous talents to make our events so special. Without them we could not have presented such a fantastic Fashion Show/Treasure Chest Auction, fun-filled Purim Carnival or delicious Passover Seder.

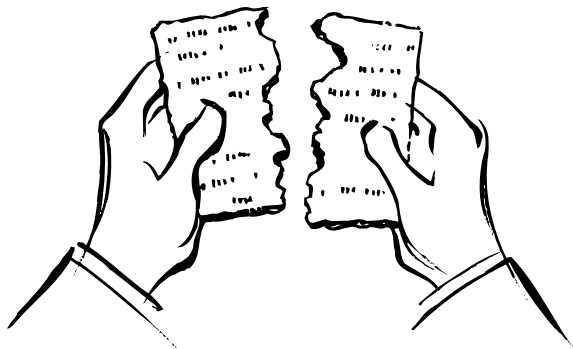
In starting to evaluate our Nursery School progress for this school year, the overwhelming opinion (including my own) is "Thumbs Up!" We continue to search for constructive and innovative ideas and/or suggestions; our door is always open!

"It's going to be a long, hot summer" is a phrase we've been talking about when we discuss "Summer Fun" our B'nai Shalom Nursery School Summer Camp. A typical camp day will include water/sand play, arts and crafts, drama, music, sports, nature, cooking and trips, etc. Our Camp aims to fulfill the individual interest of every child. Our highly qualified, hand-picked staff is always warm and nurturing, the atmosphere small and inviting. Please don't forget to insure a spot for your child.

Registration for the 2000-2001 school year is on going. If you are interested or know of anyone who would like to give their child a wonderful nursery school experience please call our office for an application at 325-8825.

Shalom,

Michele Weiss
Director



COMMUNITY NEWS...

KADIMA AND USY UPCOMING EVENTS

Below are the exciting programs for the West Orange/South Orange Kadima and USY groups (Temples B'nai Shalom, Cheb Shalom and Beth El). If you are in grades 6 - 12 and are not receiving mail for these programs, please contact the Youth Director, Mindy Hanken at (973) 428-9300 ext. 467. Please RSVP for any programs.

USY (for Grades 9 - 12)

APRIL

2nd - Swing Lesson and Dance - 6:00 - 8:00 PM - B'nai Shalom

14th - 16th - Regional Convention

23rd - Trip to Great Adventure

MAY

7th - Elections - 6:30 P.M. - Cheb Shalom

19th - 21st - Camping Trip (with whitewater rafting!) to PA

KADIMA (for Grades 6 - 8)

APRIL

8th - Show Time - Joseph at JCC - West Orange

15th - Surprise Program - 9:00 - 10:30 P.M. - Cheb Shalom

MAY

6th - Bowling Party - Eagle Rock Lanes

19th - 20th - Regional Weekend

We are also looking for parents to join the Youth Activities Committee. If you are interested, please call Teri Solomon at 731-9372.

COLLEGE FUNDING

Do you need money for college? The Jewish Vocational Service offers interest-free loans for undergrad, graduate, vocational or technical education from the Scholarship Loan Program. Up to \$3000 can be borrowed each year by full-time students. The deadline to apply for the 2000-2001 academic year is May 15, 2000. Call Lynne Robbins or Linda Zamer at (973) 674-6330 for information and applications.

DONATIONS...

THE JONATHAN BARUCH CHILDREN'S LIBRARY FUND

In Memory of

Joseph Minde

Stacey & Kevin Kimmel
Nancy & Paul Kurland

Anne Adelman

Susan & Bruce Friedman

Matthew Kaplan

Leslie & Marc Kallus

In Honor of

Gil Leibovich Becoming a Bar Mitzvah

The Baruch Family

Shawn's Madden Bar Mitzvah

Robin, Steve, & Evan Colten
The Baruch Family

The Birth of Audrey and Murray Schwartz's Grandson, Jacob

Doris & Jacob Becker

Adam Weiss' Bar Mitzvah

Dr. & Mrs. Howard Miller

YOUTH FUND

In Honor of

David Goler's Bar Mitzvah

Howard Berman

CHUMASH

In Honor of

Jack Nathanson's Simcha

Tina & Bernard Rabbino
Selma & Chuck Wapnowitz

In Memory of

Joseph Minde

B'nai Shalom Men's Club Softball Team

SIM SHALOM WEEKDAY PRAYER BOOK

In Memory of

Bennett Schwartz's mother, Bertha

Susan & Bruce Friedman
Phil Pomerantz

BUDDY EDELMAN FUND

In Memory of

Joseph Minde

Mr. & Mrs. Joel Rosenzweig

In Honor of

Ari's Engagement

Mr. & Mrs. Joel Rosenzweig

RABBI'S MITZVAH FUND

The Rabbi's Fund is an ongoing source for the performance of good deeds and acts of loving kindness. In addition, it supports a variety of good causes, including scholarships for Jewish Summer Camping. Donations may also be made "in honor," "in memory of," and "for the recovery of." All donations are acknowledged in writing. We deeply appreciate those who have made donations this past month:

Mary, Robert and Mollie Mandel In memory of Jennifer Ehrlich

Mary and Robert Mandel for the Speedy Recovery of Ben Allman

Anne and David Blady and Family In memory of the beloved father of Michael Kaplan

Anne and David Blady and Family for the Speedy Recovery of Goldie Jacoby

Roberta and Jack Yecies in Asher's name

Barbara and Elliot Leinwand In memory of the beloved father of Michael Kaplan

Joel and Renee Rosenzweig In appreciation to Rabbi Asekoff
Robin, Steve and Evan Colten In memory of Matthew Kaplan, beloved father of Michael Kaplan

Debra, Lesley and Nancy Grossman In appreciation to Rabbi Asekoff for prayers offered for Harvey Grossman during his recent hospitalization

Goldie and Steve Jacoby and family In appreciation to all of their friends for their good wishes upon the birth of their grandson, Lee

Marsha and Norman Raymond

Nancy and Len Fisher for the speedy recovery of Barry Liben

Edith and Jerry Wasserman In honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Selma and Chuck Wapnowitz

Edith and Jerry Wasserman In honor of the special birthday of Jack Nathanson

Edith and Jerry Wasserman In honor of the engagement of the grandson of Pearl and Allen Cohen

Gail, Michael, Toby and Rachel Herman In memory of the beloved father of Abe Minde

Bea and Al Solomon In honor of the birthday of Morris Waxman

Bea and Al Solomon In honor the anniversary of Bea and Morris Waxman

Fran Orzech

Kate Tarnofsky In honor of the special birthday of Jack Nathanson

Bea and Sy Cipnick In honor of the special birthday of Jack Nathanson

Gloria and Frank Schanerman for the Speedy Recovery of Sylvia Kalnitsky