



THE SCRIBE

Monthly Newsletter of Temple B'nai Abraham
Now Celebrating its 122nd Year
Affiliated with The United Synagogue
of Conservative Judaism

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May, 2011

Nisan – Iyar 5771

From Rabbi Michael G. Kohn

I have remarked on several occasions that a synagogue is really a combination of a three separate entities — a *Beit HaKenneset*, a House of Assembly, where members gather for many types of activities; a *Beit Midrash*, a House of Study, where young and old alike come to learn about Jews, Judaism, and Jewish values; and a *Beit Tefillah*, a House of Prayer, where Jews come to pray as a community. Of these three, however, it is as a House of Prayer that a synagogue fills its most vital function. And if there is one place where the concept of community still exists in Judaism, it is in the *minyan*. Yes, a *minyan* is required for those prayers for which a congregational response is required to sanctify God's name — the *Bor'khu*, a *Kedushah*, a *Kaddish*, and a public recitation of the *Amida*, or reading of the *Torah*.

When we call for a special *minyan* so one may say *kaddish* for a loved one, we generously give of our time to be present. However, members (and even visitors) who need to say *kaddish* will often come to one of our regularly scheduled services — Friday evening, or Saturday, Sunday and Thursday mornings, or at a Festival morning service — without calling, expecting to find a *minyan*. And more frequently than not, except for *Shabbat* morning, we are finding ourselves short of the required number at our services.

There is no *halakhah*, or Jewish law, which commands us to pray in a *minyan*. Nevertheless, we are encouraged strongly to do so. Why? According to Maimonides' code of law, the *Mishneh Torah*: "The prayer of the community is always heard; and even if there were sinners among [the *minyan*], the Holy One, blessed be He, never rejects the prayer of the multitude." And why is that? As one modern commentator has put it: "It is not that God hears better in groups, it is that we hear better in groups! Our connection to God is through our connection to each other."

It is important that we maintain a *minyan* for all of our regularly scheduled services. Our members, and those others who find us in a time of need, count on us to be there for them. Can we count on you?

Yom HaShoah

Each year the number of survivors of the *Shoah*, both in our community and the world at large, is rapidly diminishing. Who will tell their story when they are all gone? In addition to survivors' descendants, there is the "Adopt-a-Survivor Program", begun by Irving Roth, a Holocaust survivor and director of the Holocaust Resource Center in Manhasset, N.Y. This program pairs Holocaust survivors with high school students through whom, the survivors' life stories are passed to a new generation for safekeeping and sharing. This year, Bernie Frydenberg and Rena Berliner (Sherwin Borsuk's mother) from Temple B'nai Abraham have been paired with students and their stories will be shared at a *Yom HaShoah* service at the JCC in New Haven on Sunday, May 1, 2011, beginning at 4:00 p.m. In order to allow us to be present to support Bernie and Rena, our service will begin at 11:45 a.m. that day in conjunction with our religious school students.

Yom Ha'Atzma'ut

Yom Ha'Atzma'ut — Israel Independence Day — occurs on the fifth day of the Hebrew month of *Iyar* (May 9 this year). On May 15, Temple B'nai Abraham will be hosting a gala celebration in honor of the 63rd anniversary of the creation of the State of Israel. It is open to the entire congregation and we will be joined by members of Adath Israel from Middletown and, perhaps, members from Beth Hillel in Bloomfield and Beth Israel in Wallingford. There will be programs for the Religious School and Youth Group children and programs for adults, all centered around Israel. And, of course, Israeli food. Come and help us — and Israel — celebrate!!!

b'Shalom,
Rabbi Michael G. Kohn



CALENDAR EVENTS MAY, 2011

1 Sunday

9:30 AM Religious School

9:30 AM Jewry Duty

**11:45 AM Yom HaShoah – Holocaust
Memorial Service – new time**

4 Wednesday

7:00 PM Synagogue Skills Class:
Leading the Services

5 Thursday

8:00 AM Morning Minyan

7:00 PM Ritual meeting

6 Friday

6:30 PM Shabbat Evening Services

7 Saturday

9:30 AM Shabbat Morning Services

9:45 AM Jr. Congregation

8 Sunday

No Religious School

No Jewry Duty

11 Wednesday

5:30 PM Cemetery meeting

7:00 PM Synagogue Skills Class:
Torah/Haftorah/Megillah

12 Thursday

8:00 AM Morning Minyan

7:30 PM Auxiliary meeting

13 Friday

6:30 PM Shabbat Evening Services

14 Saturday

9:30 AM Shabbat Morning Services

15 Sunday

9:00 AM Small Schools Consortium
Celebrating Yom Ha'Atzma'ut
(Israel Independence Day)

18 Wednesday

7:00 PM Synagogue Skills Class:
Leading the Services

19 Thursday

8:00 AM Morning Minyan

20 Friday

6:30 PM Family Shabbat Services

21 Saturday

9:30 AM Shabbat Morning Services

22 Sunday

9:30 AM Religious School

9:30 AM Jewry Duty

10:30 AM Adult Education Series: Zohar
and other texts of Jewish mystical tradition

25 Wednesday

7:00 PM Synagogue Skills Class:
Torah/Haftorah/Megillah

26 Thursday

8:00 AM Morning Minyan

7:30 PM Board of Directors' meeting

27 Friday

6:30 PM Shabbat Evening Services

28 Saturday

9:30 AM Shabbat Morning Services

Mark Your Calendars:

June 2nd – Hadassah Person of Honor

June 7th – Tikkun Leil Shavuot

June 8th & 9th – Shavuot Services

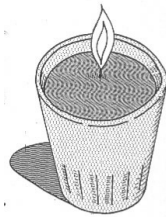
**June 12th – Annual Temple Brunch
and Meeting**

**June 17th – Congregational Dinner
followed by Family Services
and Awards Night**

Yom HaShoah A change in time

**May 1st
11:45 AM 12:30 PM**

This year two of our Temple members will be honored at the JCC in New Haven on Sunday May 1st from 4 – 6 PM. Both Bernie Frydenberg and Rena Berliner (mother of Sherwin Borsuk) will be having their survival stories presented this year. Obviously, many of our members wish to be present for this honor to them. Therefore, the Yom HaShoah Memorial Service here at the Temple will be held from 11:45 AM. to 12:30 PM. This will allow the honorees, their families and friends time to get to New Haven.



Our next Congregational Dinner is scheduled for Friday, June 17th at 6:30 PM. The evening will begin with Family Shabbat Services, followed by the dinner and will conclude with the presentation of School Awards and College and Camp Scholarships.

This will be the third of our International theme dinners. The first, in November had been Moroccan, the second, held in March was Polynesian/Hawaiian. The dinner is June will be Greek and will be a dairy meal.

Between 65 and 70 people enjoyed each of the previous delicious dinners. We are hoping to have a similar number for this dinner. The food for each Congregational Dinner is prepared here at the Temple. Obviously this is time consuming and a lot of work. We would love to have some new people helping for the June dinner.

Please call the Temple office (203-235-2581) and volunteer some of your time. You don't have to be a great cook. We need extra hands for the food preparation. There will always be someone around to help and direct you. Food preparation takes place during the week of the dinner – during both day time and evening.

Don't forget to also send in your dinner reservation and check. It should be a wonderful evening.

רפואה שלימה

Get Well Wishes to:

Howard Koenig

Mazal Tov - מזל טוב

Happy Anniversary to our couples celebrating an anniversary in May:

- 5th – Bev & Keith Cirillo
- 10th – Regina & Joe DuBrow
- 15th – Beth Ann & Ben Eisner
- 17th – Marilyn & Dan Steiner
- 17th – Shana & Alyn Adams
- 25th – Julie & Howard Levine
- 26th – Audrey & Jack Acabchuk
- 26th – Michele & Greg Radin
- 27th – Amy & Dan Sparks
- 28th – Fellis & Harold Jordan
- 29th – Joan & David Goodman
- 31st – Joan & Joel Kronengold

Happy Birthday to our members celebrating a birthday in May:

- 1st – Larry Kirchheimer
- 3rd – Joan Kronengold
- 5th – Rena Berliner
- 9th – Rick Grossman
- 11th – Cathy Burwick
- 12th – Marc Nemeth
- 12th – Rebecca Sheftel
- 14th – Abe Chidekel
- 15th – Risa Zierler
- 15th – Steven Kosofsky
- 16th – Regina DuBrow
- 17th – Donna Hayford
- 18th – Roberta Ash
- 19th – Adrienne Palley
- 20th – Kenneth Steele
- 21st – Ruth Borsuk
- 21st – Ginny Kalmanowitz
- 27th – Michael Burwick
- 28th – Norman Landberg
- 28th – Jean Lawrence
- 29th – Joan Goodman
- 31st – Sue Teller

Happy Birthday to our next generation:

- 10th – Garrett Dylan Sparks
- 19th – Danielle Ieraci
- 23rd – Andrew Ieraci
- 24th – Joshua Eisner
- 25th – Gabriella Radin



New Books in the Library

Juvenile: *The Kids Fun Book of Jewish Time*

by Emily Sper

Sukkot Treasure Hunt by Alison Ofanansky

Alfie's Bark Mitzvah by Shari Cohen

Always an Olivia by Carolivia Herron

Adult: *A Child at Confino* by Eric Lamet

The Sabbath World by Judith Shulevitz

Bar Mitzvah, Bat Mitzvah: Planning the

Perfect Day by Amy Nebens



Thank you to everyone who donated to my Bat Mitzvah Project. I collected a lot of food and blankets for the Meriden Humane Society. The animals and volunteers there were all very appreciative. I was also successful in reaching my goal of \$400 to send to the Jerusalem Zoo in Israel. I have contacted them and the money will be utilized toward their big cat project. I appreciate all of your support, which allowed me to help the animals in need both locally and in Israel.

Thank you again.

Karissa Massicott

Condolences on the passing of:

Concetta DeMaio

Mother-in-law of Margaret DeMaio

Carl Benjamin Balk

Grandfather of David Goodman



3rd Shabbat Around the World Dinner

Friday, June 17, 2011

**Service at 6:30 PM, led by
the children of our Religious School**

Dinner immediately following services

Traditional Greek Dairy Shabbat Dinner

**Featuring: Appetizers, salad, soup, entrée
And delicious Greek Desserts**

**Prepared in our kitchen by Rabbi Kohn
and many friends of the kitchen!**

Be a part of what promises to be a tastefully pleasant evening.

**Reservations a must – Please return this form to
the Temple by Sunday, June 12th.**

***** Guests are encouraged to attend!**

Greek Dairy Shabbat Dinner Reservation

Family Name _____

_____ **Adults @ \$12.00** \$ _____

_____ **Children of Religious School Age (4 and up) @ \$8** \$ _____

_____ **Children under 4 Free**

It's a Gold & Silver Party!!

To benefit the extraordinary work of Hadassah

Clean out your jewelry box, sideboard or attic and trade it for some \$\$\$

Bring all forms of gold, silver or platinum to be professionally bought by Becker's Diamonds and Fine Jewelry.

You will be paid top dollar for your unwanted gold and silver jewelry. This could be your broken bracelets and chains, half pairs of earrings, old class rings, outdated or jewelry that you never wear. Becker's will also buy sterling silver flatware, hollowware, gold and silver coins, platinum and diamonds 1/2 carat or larger.

Sunday, June 5, 2011 11 am - 4 pm

***Becker's Satellite Gold Buying Location
809 North Colony Road, Wallingford, CT
ACROSS FROM WALMART***

Refreshments will be served

*Highest Prices Paid

*Dealer check will be dispersed to you at the party

*Be sure to bring a photo ID (driver's license, passport, etc)



For additional information, contact Debbie Kaye at (203) 269-0476

Yahrzeits in the Month of May

1-May	Rebecca O. Levitt Ida Levine Charles Bienstock Augustus Gribus		Louis DeSarno Ethel Greenberg	24-May	Brina Sheftel Harry Roden Edward Rosenthal Zelig Telis Edythe Stein
2-May	Carol Samuels Bess Levine	14-May	Jacb Gelfand Marvin Kaplan Henry Port Edward Schwartz	25-May	Charles Weisser Frieda Arinofsky Samuel Jacobs Marilyn Michaelson Evelyn DeSarno
3-May	Rose Kaplan Eire Gottlieb Sylvia Dressler Jacob Hubert Sarah (Sue) Fine	15-May	Cecelia Friedman Hilda Sorman	26-May	Abraham Peck Hella Friedlander Lili Lamm Herman Schwartz Zali Schwartz
4-May	Blanche Davidson Howard Sheftel Jane Scavotto	16-May	Harry Dobris Rifka Dokshitski Rashka Dokshitski Harry Klamkin John B Nemeth	27-May	Abraham Cherniack Hannah Buchholtz Aaron Kalmanowitz Dr. Daniel Kahn
5-May	Cantor Abram Brodach Edward Marcus	17-May	Morris J. Taitz Arnold Gordon Charles Sundel Barry Cooper Hyman Silver	28-May	Joseph Miller Nathan Israel Nathan Grossman Marlene Linder Marjorie Croog
6-May	Louis Alderman Harry Krakower Max Katz	19-May	Herbert Aron Sarah Tonkonow Katherine Bishins Samuel Kalmanowitz Harold Zimmerman	29-May	William Hasburg
7-May	Bertha Orentlich Steven Jacobs Elsie Goodman Joseph Hasburg Aaron Dubrow	20-May	Morris Rubenstein Abel Opinsky	31-May	Anna Levine Louis Shatsky Samuel Friedman Louis Schwartz
8-May	Max Rischall Louis Katz Fanny Rovinsky Hattie Sigmond	21-May	Eva Povlotsky Marcia Katz Young Hillel Telis Leib Telis Moishe Telis Kopel Telis Joseph Goodman Louis Sigmond Robert Muravnick		
9-May	Jack Teller Hyman Lovett	22-May	Dr. Mathias Borsuk Max Byer Steven Simon		
10-May	Esther Friedman Ida Kosofsky Abraham Levine Charles Davidson	23-May	Moses Frydenberg Gussie Miller Elma Kaufman Aaron Nissenson		
11-May	Rose Nemeth Viola Jacobs Betty Ofshay				
12-May	Rebecca Greenberg Ida Bittman				
13-May	Emil Blau William Jacobs Sylvia Trueheart				

A Candle or Yahrzeit Light should be lit at sundown the night before these dates.

Tzdakah to perpetuate the memory of a loved one is a Mitzvah. Your contribution to the Yahrzeit Fund would be greatly appreciated.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO OUR VARIOUS FUNDS

Yahrzeit Fund: In Memory of:

Ruth Sugarman by Don & Phoebe Sugarman and family

Dr. Lester Sugarman by Don & Phoebe Sugarman and family

Perla Kronengold by Joan & Joel Kronengold
Ida Kosofsky by Jane Weisberg

General Temple Fund

In Memory of **Barry Koslow** by Cathy & Michael Burwick & family.

In Honor of **Mr. & Mrs. Alex Gershman**, on their 68th anniversary, by Selma & Joe Young.

Continued Recovery to **Estelle Swearsky** by Selma Young.

From Mr. Solomon Gelfand.

From Harvey Ofshay.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

A most generous donation to help the needy at Passover by Carolyn Schwartz.

Barry Koslow Torah Fund

In Memory of **Barry Koslow** by Adrienne & Jon Palley.

In Memory of **Barry Koslow** by Marianne Smith.

Gary I. Limon Memorial Book Fund

From Budie Limon and Abby & Gene Cerrotti.