



BETH OR Spotlight

May-June 2017 | Volume 61, Issue 5 | Iyar-Sivan-Tammuz 5777



May Worship Schedule

Friday, May 5

Shabbat Aharei Mot-Kedoshim

6:00 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Family Shabbat Worship in the Gitlin Sanctuary

6:30 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Worship in the Haines Memorial Chapel

Saturday, March 6

9:30 am – Torah Study

11:00 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Adam Resnick, son of Brian and Kimberly Resnick and Peyton Webb, daughter of Gregory Webb and Stephanie Gwen Webb

Friday, May 12 – Shabbat Emor

6:00 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat with *Finally Friday!* Performance

Saturday, May 13

9:00 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Morgen Lubinski, daughter of Daniel and Melisa Lubinski

9:30 am – Torah Study followed by Extended Torah Study with rabbinic intern, Janine Jankovitz

10:00 am – Celebrations Shabbat Worship

11:00 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Jordyn Grunfeld, daughter of Eric Louis Grunfeld and Shira Anne Grunfeld

Friday, May 19

Shabbat Behar-Behukotai

6:00 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Zimriah – Enhanced musical experience with additional musicians & upbeat melodies

Saturday, May 20

9:00 am – Shabbat Worship with Bar Mitzvah of Dylan Waddell, son of Ryan and Brittany Waddell

9:30 am – Torah Study

11:00 am – Shabbat Worship with B'not Mitzvah of Leah Dubin, daughter of Lane and Lori Dubin and Willow Kaplan, daughter of David and Marisa Kaplan

Friday, May 26 – Shabbat B'midbar

6:00 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship

Saturday, May 27

9:00 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Jordyn Kelman, daughter of Craig and Amy Kelman

9:30 am – Torah Study

11:00 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Shayna Feldgus, daughter of Daniel Feldgus and Elizabeth Gubin

Tuesday, May 30 – Erev Shavuot

7:00 pm – Erev Shavuot & Confirmation Service. Dessert Reception followed by Tikkun Leil Shavuot.

Wednesday, May 31 – Shavuot

9:00 am – Shavuot Worship with Yizkor Service. Brunch to follow

June Worship Schedule

Friday, June 2 – Shabbat Naso

6:00 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Family Shabbat Worship with BOFTY Installation in the Gitlin Sanctuary

6:30 pm – Kabbalat Shabbat Worship in the Haines Memorial Chapel

Saturday, June 3

9:00 am – Shabbat Worship with Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Silverman, son of Robert and Alison Silverman

9:30 am – Torah Study

11:00 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Nicholas Rabin, son of Jordan and Michelle Rabin and Michael Menaker, son of Debra Menaker and Steve Menaker

Friday, June 9

Shabbat Beha'alotecha

6:00 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship

Saturday, June 10

9:00 am – Shabbat Worship with the B'not Mitzvah of Jordyn and Carlie Pincus, daughters of Jeremy and Meredith Pincus

9:30 am – Torah Study

11:00 am – Shabbat Worship with B'nai Mitzvah of Gabrielle Bren, daughter of Faina Bren and Alex Bren and Zachary Berman, son of Jeff and Jessica Berman

Friday, June 16

Shabbat Shelah-Lecha

6:00 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship with Installation of Officers and Board of Trustees Honoring Our Volunteers

Saturday, June 17

9:00 am – Shabbat Worship with Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Spain, son of Peter and Tracy Spain

9:30 am – Torah Study

11:00 am – Shabbat Worship with Bat Mitzvah of Alli Gerson, daughter of Greg and Sheri Gerson

Friday, June 23 – Shabbat Korah

6:00 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship

Saturday, June 24

9:30 am – Torah Study

11:00 am – Shabbat Worship with Bar Mitzvah of Jason Kosmin, son of Jerry and Jodi Kosmin

Friday, June 30 – Shabbat Hukat

6:00 pm – Pre-Neg

6:30 pm – Shabbat Worship

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May/June

Candle Lighting Times

Friday, May 5 • 7:41 pm

Friday, May 12 • 7:47 pm

Friday, May 19 • 7:54 pm

Friday, May 26 • 8:00 pm

Friday, June 2 • 8:05 pm

Friday, June 9 • 8:10 pm

Friday, June 16 • 8:13 pm

Friday, June 23 • 8:15 pm

Friday, June 30 • 8:15 pm





Rabbi Gregory S. Marx

Anti-Semitism and Hate in America

Rabbi Gregory S. Marx, Senior Rabbi

You do not need me to tell you that our country is witnessing a wave of Anti-Semitic attacks in recent months. According to the ADL, 2016 saw more anti-Semitic incidents than 2015. Already in 2017, we have hit the 2016 numbers. We read about bomb threats called into hundreds of Jewish organizations, along with cemetery desecrations. Thankfully, the calls have turned out to be hoaxes meant to disrupt our lives and instill fear. Know that here at Beth Or, we take many precautions and have practiced evacuations while continuing to pray, celebrate, learn and build. The increase of hatred, however, is not confined to the cemeteries and our community centers. It is displayed on college campuses, where students are unable to support Israel without fear of retribution. The BDS movement, "Boycott, Divest and Sanction," gains steam as it convinces people Israel should be shunned politically, morally and financially. This is just another form of anti-Semitism. 75 years ago, Jews were ostracized in Germany. Now Israel, the Jewish State is being isolated by a determined effort to delegitimize the Jewish homeland.

But there is good news to report. First, I have received numerous calls and letters from Muslim and Christian clergy who claim they will stand with us as we confront hate. They want us to know we are not alone. Pastor Charles Quann of Bethlehem Baptist Church recently held up our community in prayer as we confronted the desecration of Mount Carmel Cemetery. The church took up a collection, raising \$1300. Second, I am happy to tell you our newly formed Social Justice Committee, chaired by Craig Schultz and Char Friedenheim is already hard at work educating and advocating against anti-Semitism. This newly formed committee, which I invite you to join, stands for social justice advocacy in line with our Jewish values.

Even as our community claims we are in trouble, the truth is, America is in trouble. Anti-Semites didn't just wake up and start today. They have been filled with hate for years. They probably have been that way all of their lives, but felt powerless and helpless and mostly kept it to themselves. But things have changed. What used to be talked about in private now has become public. We hear about: "bad hombres and rapists coming in from Mexico"... "terrorists and spies coming in amongst Syrian refugees"... "blacks and carnage"... "terrorism being perpetrated by illegal immigrants"... "the LGBTQ community taking over our bathrooms." When this kind of talk becomes public discourse, hate becomes normative. Did we really think in this climate and atmosphere that Jews would be left out of the discussion? Do you really think the killer of a man from India in Kansas wouldn't have been just as content killing a Jew?

Anti-Semitism is a threat to us. There is no doubt about it. At the same time, hate is a threat to America. The best way we can confront it, is by living our lives proudly as Jews and by working with others. I have always believed in alliance building. I ask you to join me. Come to Shul. Partner with others and build bridges. Let me remind you of the words of Pastor Martin Niemoller, who spent the last seven years of Nazi rule in concentration camps:

First they came for the Socialists, and I did not speak out — because I was not a Socialist.

Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out — because I was not a Trade Unionist.

Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out — because I was not a Jew.

Then they came for me - and by then, there was no one left to speak for me.

From the Rabbi's Desk

This newly formed committee, which I invite you to join, stands for social justice advocacy in line with our Jewish values.

The Why of Beth Or and Social Justice

Ira Secouler, Beth Or President

This past winter I attended a meeting in Dallas of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ), comprised of representatives from 80 large congregations throughout the US. This three-day conference featured various topics that informed and educated. In addition, it was of great value to discuss with other leaders the successes and failures of their respective congregations.

One of the highlights was a seminar regarding the question of WHY? The “Why does your congregation exist” question focused on the mission, vision, and values of a congregation. If these are not articulated and understood by the congregation, they will be principles that lack practice. Our lay leadership, along with the staff and clergy, has begun the conversation to discover “our why.” Why do our members join us and more importantly, why is Beth Or relevant in their lives? Although we



Ira Secouler

are a diverse group, it is our hope we can define the “why” and better articulate it throughout our communications within and external to Beth Or.

President's Corner

Another highlight of the convention was an informative and emotional seminar regarding the issue of Social Justice in the Reform movement. For many years, we have had a strong and impactful Social Action committee. It has engaged our members and focused on our core value of Tikkun O'lam, repairing the world. However, the concept of Social Justice is different; it focuses on the study of public policy and its relevance to Jewish texts and values. Many of our congregants have asked the Rabbi the question, “What is Beth Or doing about...?” They are not asking for a speech from the pulpit, they want this Congregation to provide a meaningful way to act as a cohesive group. As such, and with the information provided by the URJ, we have undertaken the challenge to create a Social Justice Committee.

It will be the role of this committee, along with the Senior Rabbi, to be the focal point for public policy matters and bring together those members most passionate about current issues. For those members, this is their WHY. It is our hope that the committee provide education and discussion on public policy matters and develop a strategy to educate the congregation about the position adopted by the committee. The committee will not speak publicly in the name of the Congregation; that is a unique role for the Senior Rabbi and President. And in light of our non-profit status, specific actions will not be allowed, such as endorsing political candidates.

The committee will be guided by our Senior Rabbi during the decision-making process. The first step in the process will be an examination of the Jewish values at stake in the issue and a determination that Judaism offers an important perspective that should be understood and heard.

As a congregation, we seek to be inclusive not divisive, but public policy matters do create tension and anxiety. The purpose of this committee is to allow all our members to voice their opinions, in a respectful and educational manner. We will act in accordance with Jewish values throughout the process, both in deeds and actions.

Lastly, as we undergo this new experiment, we have almost completed one year of an ongoing experiment. The change in our Friday night Shabbat experience had been undertaken with care and concern for our congregants. This month, we ask for your feedback in a short, but important survey. Please take the time to complete this survey, so that the Board of Trustees can evaluate the program changes and make an educated decision about the future of our Friday Night experience.

As I will be ending my term as President of the Congregation in June, I would like to thank all of you who have reached out to me with support, words of encouragement, and words of gratitude. I have enjoyed my term as President and have found it to be most rewarding. I hope my efforts and determination to move us forward has been successful and worthwhile. It has been my honor and privilege to serve our members and this holy community. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to engage my Jewish community in such a valuable endeavor.



Rabbi David Gerber

The Bow in the Sky

Rabbi David Gerber, Associate Rabbi

It was said of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai that throughout the duration of his life, there was never a single rainbow in the sky. The rainbow, as you may remember, was God's sign to humanity that there would never again be a flood destroying the earth. Rashi explained that only during the lifespan of a perfect *tzaddik* (righteous person) would the symbol be unnecessary.

Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai lived during a time of great Roman oppression. Still, he went to great lengths to advance the study of Torah. As the sun sets on May 13, Jews will observe L'ag B'Omer, which is considered to be Bar Yochai's *yahrzeit*. This is a day of great celebration for Jews where we gather around a bonfire, put our Torah study on hold, and play with bows and arrows.

Yes, you read that right. We have a holiday that we celebrate by shooting bows and arrows. The reason why we do this is to teach us what made Bar Yochai so righteous.

If you have ever fired a bow and arrow, you know that the distance the arrow travels is directly related to how far you pull back the string. With enough force, a person of any size and strength can launch an arrow a remarkable distance. If you are holding the bow properly, you know that when you pull back the string, you pull it closer to your heart.

Our rabbis teach us that the bow and arrow represents our voice. The Torah teaches us that the entire world was created with the power of speech. We, too, have that ability. Like the arrow, if the words come from our heart, they will travel a great distance.

Bar Yochai was righteous because he always spoke from the heart. He recognized that our words, like the bow, can very easily turn into weapons of war and hatred. God placed a rainbow in the sky to prove to us that we can take something that was once a symbol of war and turn it into one of peace.

Today, our words can travel across greater distances than ever before. As we honor the great Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai, let us make sure that whatever we say, it comes from a place of goodness. In doing so, we can create a world with no need for a bow in the sky.

From the Rabbi's Desk

The Torah teaches us that the entire world was created with the power of speech.



Religious School NEWS

Important School Dates

Sunday, May 14

No School Mothers Day

Sunday, May 21

Last Day of Sunday School

Monday, May 22

Last Day of Monday Hebrew

Last Day of Academy

Academy BBQ at 7 pm

Tuesday, May 23

Last Day of Tuesday Hebrew

Tuesday, May 30

Confirmation Service at 7 pm

Aaron Nienshultz, Director of Religious School

Late last summer, our school applied for and won a grant called Better Together, funded through the Legacy Heritage Foundation. This grant funds programs that bring together teens and senior citizens to facilitate conversations, share stories, and foster connections among the generations; we have partnered with the Abramson Center for Jewish Living for this two-year program, and so far, the results have been fantastic.



Aaron Nienshultz

From our first session onward, our students embraced the challenge of this program. Mona Gold, Director of Volunteers at the Abramson Center, ran a program with the teens alone where she sensitized them to the challenges of aging: teens were equipped with glasses that didn't match their own prescription to mimic difficulties in vision, or they had rice placed in their shoes to challenge their walking; other students were fitted with gardening gloves that had fingers taped together and were asked to perform basic functions. All around, this sensitizing program helped the students to see that there are reasons for the way the residents interact with the world. One of our students who normally demonstrates a rather sarcastic wit remarked that this exercise was eye-opening, saying "I had noticed that older people moved slowly, but it hadn't occurred to me why they might do so." From this experiential beginning, the students embraced the residents with compassion, learning their lives and their stories with respect. Another student said about her partner, "She's 100 years old. It's amazing to me everything that she's seen and done." At the end of the sessions, the students take the residents back to the residents' rooms, and on our first Sunday at the Abramson Center, students learned that saying goodbye can take a lot longer than they might expect — already they had made enough of a connection that the residents AND the teens wanted to keep chatting.

But the big difference came by December; when I asked students how things were going, one of them said, "I used to think that what we were doing was a nice thing for the seniors, but I can see that it's good for us, too." Teens and seniors have stopped seeing each other with those labels and now see each other as people — people who have important stories to share and things to say, no matter their age. Students have created oral histories and write about their experiences. You can read and see more by going to our blog: <https://bethorbtg.com/> We invite you to see what we've been doing!

This simple program has been a wonderful addition to our 8th/9th grade Sunday curriculum, and I think it's safe to say that we're all looking forward to continuing the program in the year to come.

On another note, school registration is open for 2017-2018. Go to <https://bethor.org/registration> to get started!



We congratulate our congregants on their achievement in reaching their spiritual goal and recognize their passion and dedication to living a vibrant and committed Jewish life.

Beth Or Confirmation Class Of 2017 – 5777

Confirmation Service

Tuesday, May 30 / 6 Sivan at 7:00 pm

Lily Rose Ashery

Larry & Lisa Ashery

Garielle Beidner

Brad & Michelle Beidner

Carly Blitzer

Sandy & Amy Blitzer

Hannah Elizabeth Cutler

Helene Sheri
Warren-Cutler & the late
Evan Harlan Cutler

Elisabeth Deschene

Brian & Sarah Deschene

Aaron Dorsey

Bruce Dorsey & Jennie
Nerenberg

Sammy Lane Dratch

Todd & Renee Dratch

Andrew Enck

Robert & Deborah Enck

Alexa Renae Frankel

Frederick & Stacy Frankel

Brielle Kasey Geisler

Drew & Tracy Geisler

Leah Tian Goldberg

Bob & Sara Goldberg

Jenna Heisman

Scott & Elisa Heisman

Ben Helzner

David & Pam Helzner

Benjamin I. Kollender

Richard & Sharon
Kollender

Alexa Sydney Levin

Lee & Diane Levin and
Jenifer Seboek & Jeffrey
Gould

Brina London

Larry London & Carol
Meyers

Maxwell Bradley Lubinski

Daniel & Melisa Lubinski

Amanda Mazurek

Martin & Catherine
Mazurek

Jordan Mitchell

Steven & Simone Mitchell

Robert Noah Newman

Scott Newman & Ellen
Harris Newman

Catherine Perry

Stephen & Mandy Perry

Carter Maclain Pestrack

Eric & Jamie Pestrack

Becca Porter

Scott & Jennifer Porter

Josh Portney

Kevan & Nancy Portney

Scott E. Schwartz

Stephen & Merle
Schwartz

Gracie Clara Silverstein

Gwen Silverstein &
David Silverstein

Jared G. Smith

Suzanne Singer & Barry &
Sandra Singer

Ryan Voron

Neal & Barbarann Voron

Josh Warsaw

Staci Warsaw & Alan
Borthwick, David Warsaw

Cooper Sitko Wolff

Ramona Sitko & Philip
van Asselt, David Wolff

Junior Choir Purim Shpiel rocked!



Jaime Murley

*Cantor Jaime Murley,
Junior Choir Director*

I want to take this opportunity to give a hearty and sincere Mazal Tov to the performers in this year's 80's Purim Shpiel! These kids worked super hard both individually and together as a group to create an amazing result!

Of course, none of it would have been possible if it weren't for an amazing and supportive group of parents who did everything they could to make the show a hit! I really appreciate everyone's hard work during this process!

A special thank you goes out to:

Brina London, as the Emcee and co-writer

Ryan Voron, as Haman and breakdancer extraordinaire

Julia Germer, as Esther

Jacqueline Germer, as Aunt Mardy

Victoria Rabin, as Vashti

Micah Margolis, as Achashverosh

Samantha Levin and **Sophia Trice**, as cheerleader

Dylan and **Ilan Goldstein**, as Ghostbusters

And the rest of the "Jews" who took part in the show Saturday night and/or Sunday morning.

Junior Choir May/June Calendar

May 5

Jr. Choir Banquet, 5 pm
Family Service, 6:30 pm

June 2

Family Service, 6:30 pm

Beth Or

Junior Choir



BOFTY Purim Carnival Supports Youth Activities and Scholarships!

Jillian Glick, Director of Member & Youth Engagement

A hearty thank you to everyone who helped make this year's Purim Carnival a great success once again! With the help from the following groups and individuals, we raised over \$1,000 for youth group scholarships and programs. Even better than raising money — fun was had by Beth Or people of all ages and stages! Save the date — We will see you February 28, 2018 for our next BOFTY Purim Carnival!

Thank You:

- Izzie's Deli for donating a large portion of the carnival food.
- Sesame Rockwood Camps for lending us their carnival games.
- BOFTY Board – Alex Green, Jacob Kaffey, Jason Pohl, Gracie Silverstein, Lindsay Gilbert, Jenna Tessler, Dani Silver
- BOFTY Board Parents – Martin Gilbert, Lisa Cooper, Kim Kaffey, Gwen Silverstein
- Beth Or Youth Committee and Parent Volunteers– Allison Levin, Randi Copman, Fran Margolis, Jeff Green, Samantha Green, Staci Warsaw, Roni Berman, Rachel Steinberg, Mark Pokedoff and Susan Perlmutter
- Sandi Ratson and the Beth Or Scouts!
- Our Carnival Photographer – Rebecca Laing
- Teen Volunteers from Religious School
- All the families who supported us by joining in the fun!



Jillian Glick



Camp Chaverim: Friendships Start Here

Jillian Glick, Director of Member & Youth Engagement

Summer 2017 is almost here! At Beth Or that means that the building will fill with Camp Chaverim Campers. Our theme this summer is Camp Chaverim Beach Patrol! An extension of our flourishing Early Childhood Center, Camp Chaverim invites children ages 3 months to 4 years to splash, run, paint, garden and more at their own developmentally appropriate level. Our amazing staff and CIT's provide a fun and warm environment for all of our children. We want to make your child's first camp experience the best it can be!

Some Camp Highlights Include:

- Nature ■ Art ■ Swimming in our in ground pool ■ Music Class
- Yom Foam – Friday Foam Machine Fun ■ Outdoor Shabbat Services
- Theme Days ■ Afternoon Enrichment Programs
- Special Programs – concerts, traveling farm, yoga, magic shows and more

Not only does camp provide excellent programming for our little ones, but we invite teen members of our congregation to volunteer as Counselors In Training. Anyone entering 7th grade or above can take advantage of this experience. Some teens even use it as a B'Nai Mitzvah Project! We have weekly lunches for our CIT's, an end of summer outing and invaluable childcare experiences for them. This program is free for our Beth Or Members.

I grew up spending every summer at camp from age 2 all the way until I was a 22 year old counselor. I truly lived 10 months for 2, as we say in the camp world. I am sure that Camp Chaverim can provide your young camper or CIT with the best summer experience to ensure a longtime love of camp!

Camp Registration is now open! Please visit www.bethor.org for registration materials.

Please contact me in the ECE office to set up a tour or for camp questions! 215-646-8869 or jglick@bethor.org.



*Jillian at Jewish Summer Camp
Circa 1988 — Finding a love.*



The staff and counselors at Camp Chaverim ensure a safe, loving and enriching environment for the campers. My daughter has the time of her life!

Lauren Gerber, Camp Mom, Rebitzen

Being a CIT at Camp Chaverim was an amazing experience, especially for someone like me who has never done any kind of camp before. Can't wait to come back this summer!

Bess Mensoff, 13, Camp CIT

Camp Registration is now open!

Enroll for a 2017 fun-filled summer

Camp Chaverim at Congregation Beth Or

Thematic programming, Swimming, Arts and Crafts, Nature, Sports and more!

Full-day and part-day options available.

www.bethor.org/camp-chaverim



Camp Chaverim isn't just child care for your kids. Its eight weeks of special activities, constant movement and lots of time outdoors. My favorite thing is when I refer to camp as school, and my kids are always sure to correct me that it's definitely not school, its camp! It's a truly different experience.

Mollie Becker, Camp Mom



Camp Chaverim taught me how to be prepared for any new situation that came my way. I really felt that I made a connection with the kids. I had an overall great experience!

Jenna Heisman, 16, Camp CIT

My daughter, Ryan's, first experience with camp was Camp Chaverim!! She absolutely loved the different activities each day and every day! Her favorite part of the day is going in the pool. I love camp more than almost everyone I know and to see that same love in my little one makes my heart melt! The counselors and staff at Camp Chaverim are the best and every day is a new fun-filled adventure!

Jess Mustikoff, Camp Mom



Meet Our B'nai Mitzvah Students

Peyton Hannah Webb May 6

A few years ago, I started making earrings. After making 11 pairs in one weekend, I decided to sell them and give the money to a good cause. Following in my mother's footsteps, and my love of animals I began buying items needed for the local **SPCA**. This was originally going to be my Mitzvah project until something bigger came up.

In July of 2016, my Aunt Madi was diagnosed with Triple Negative Breast Cancer. After going through a double mastectomy and enduring the long process of chemotherapy treatments, I decided this is where my money will now go. So far, I have been able to donate blankets and bootie socks to **Paoli Hospital's Cancer Center**. I'd like to continue to fill their waiting room baskets with comfort items. If you are interested in donating to Paoli Hospital's Cancer Center, please visit their website, www.mainlinehealth.org.



Jordyn Grunfeld May 13

When asked what I wanted to do for my Mitzvah project, I said that I wanted to help people AND animals. Being a huge dog lover as well as having experience actually caring for a blind pet, it made perfect sense to help raise money for the **Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind**. While my experience with the blind was with a dog and not a person, I gained an understanding of the lifestyle and limitations of being blind and how important it was to have someone assist you. The mission of the Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind is to improve the quality of life of blind people by providing them with safe mobility, independence and self-confidence through the faithful assistance of guide dogs.

I will be hosting a restaurant night as well as a 3-on-3 basketball tournament to help raise funds. My goal is \$1,000 to sponsor and raise a puppy, which includes all of their food, toys and immunizations. To help me reach my goal, please visit <http://IGDCB.donorpages.com/Mitzvah/Jordyngrunfeld>. Thank you!



Morgen Lubinski May 13

I have a passion to help others, especially those with fur and four feet. On National Make A Difference Day (10/22/16) I coordinated a pet supply collection drive to help **WAGS Rescue and Referral**. WAGS is a non-profit organization that finds homes for dogs and cats in desperate situations. Horsham Veterinarian Hospital generously allows WAGS to use their hospital for weekly adoption events.

I was humbled by the large response from my neighbors, friends and family who helped me collect two van loads of supplies. Monetary donations I collected went towards WAGS Medical Fund to help heart worm positive dogs get the care they need in order to be eligible for adoption. I am a registered volunteer with the WAGS organization and I participate in adoption events and fundraisers. At my most recent event, I sold raffle tickets for a laser tag fundraiser.



Dylan Waddell May 20

For my Mitzvah project, I raised money through a bake sale at Beth Or on March 26. All of the money collected was donated to the **Students In Concert Program** through the Youth Orchestra of Bucks County (YOBC).

The Students In Concert Program is a community outreach program through YOBC that provides musical instruments, music scores, instructional specialists and other support to capture the interest of students and encourages students to learn to play an instrument. I have been fortunate to have my very own trombone for practice and participation in concert band and jazz band. I would like all children who are interested in music to have the same experience as I have had. You can also donate money directly to the Students In Concert Program by going to the following website: <https://onw.yobc.org/yobc-programs/students-in-concert/>



Leah Dubin

May 20

For my Mitzvah project, I helped The **Interfaith Housing Alliance** and **Hope Gardens**. The IHF provides a safe place to stay for Montgomery County families who are homeless. Beth Or is one of the partners who provides temporary housing for families in need. I cooked and provided dinner for some of the families who stayed at Beth Or this past February. In addition to cooking dinner for these families, I hung out with them for the night. These families have been going through some tough times. The goal is for them to find a longer-term housing solution.

Hope Gardens is Inter-Faith Housing Alliance's transitional housing program for low-income families with children. This program provides a secure home for families for up to two years while they work to become self-sufficient. I hosted a drive for IHF during the month of April. I collected many needed items such as bedding, cleaning supplies, kitchen supplies, and personal items.



Shayna Feldgus

May 27

For my Mitzvah project, I chose to pack and deliver food for the **Jewish Relief Agency**. JRA is the largest provider for food assistance for Jewish families in need in the Philadelphia area. They have been distributing food since 2000, and now they help over 3,000 low-income families per month.

Although 85% of the JRA's recipients are Jewish, they will provide food for anyone who asks for assistance. They serve a wide variety of people who need help: families with young children, people who face mental and physical disabilities, elderly people living on a fixed income, and unemployed people.

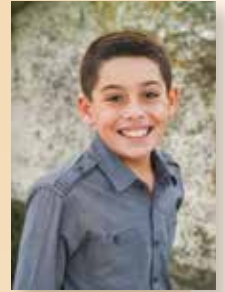
This was a great way for me and my family to give back to the community in a fun but very helpful way. It's just a short period of time to take out of one's day and it could save people's lives. It made me feel so great knowing I helped others in need. If you would like to volunteer, sign up on their website at www.jewishrelief.org.



Andrew Silverman

June 3

For my Bar Mitzvah project, I chose **Pitch In For Baseball**, which is a non-profit organization that provides gently-used baseball equipment to underprivileged children around the world. I chose Pitch In for Baseball because I love baseball and I love helping kids. I think that every kid deserves a chance to play baseball. There is a bin in the Beth Or lobby where equipment donations can be dropped off. Additionally, collections can be dropped off at my home. To coordinate a drop-off date/time, you may e-mail my mom, Ali, at asilverman17@gmail.com. For more information about Pitch In For Baseball, including how to start your own fundraiser, you can visit their website at <http://pifb.org/who-we-are/mission-purpose/>.



Nicholas Rabin

June 3

I have always had a huge heart for animals. Our family has three rescue cats. In fact, we found out later that two of our cats came from a boarding cattery. One of the first kittens we rescued developed a deadly disease called FIP and sadly passed away very abruptly. This left an impression on me. I did not want any animal to suffer the same fate. I researched and found **Cat Tales, Inc.**, in Warrington PA. They are a non-profit organization that spends 86% of its revenues in veterinary services for stray cats and is a no-kill shelter. Hopefully, fewer stray cats and kittens will spread these types of diseases.

I am collecting donations of cat food and cat litter. You can email me at njrabin24@gmail.com. I am also collecting donations at Beth Or and have made cat magnets as a gift for donations. We also set up a GoFundMe account to get the Tzedakah directly to the organization. Please visit <https://www.gofundme.com/atailtoremembermymitzvah>.



Michael Menaker

June 3

My Mitzvah Project is a near and dear to me. I am working with **WAGS rescue in Horsham**. I am volunteering my time helping to take care of the animals and am collecting donations to bring to them. Please do your part to help this cause. The animals count on us. All donations will be presented to Paws after my event. Items of need: dog beds, cat beds, blankets, toys, dry food (dog and cat) and wet food (dog and cat). Thank you!



Zachary Berman

June 10

I did my Mitzvah project at the **JRA (Jewish Relief Agency)**. I went to the warehouse in Northeast Philly and helped pack boxes of food and canned goods for those in need. I then delivered the food to the people who were unable to go to the store for food or could not afford to buy food for themselves. They were so grateful for this food delivery to them.



Gabrielle Bren

June 10

I am a seventh grader at Sandy Run Middle School. Inspired by my sister's efforts with Penn State's THON, I started a mini-THON at my school. Mini-THONs across Pennsylvania raise money to benefit **Four Diamonds at Hershey Medical Center**. The Fund ensures that families with children battling cancer never see a bill and can focus their energy on their child's well-being. Guided by the theme, "We Are Wearing Bright To Help The Fight," I am taking a stand in the fight against childhood cancer by leading school-wide fundraisers and accepting donations online. Some of these events include Duct-Tape Your Teacher To A Wall, Candy grams, Homeroom Canning and Stall Day. Sandy Run's hard work culminated in a 3 hour dance marathon on March 31. To learn more or to donate, please visit <https://fourdiamonds.donordrive.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=donate.participant&participant-ID=89473>.



Jake Spain

June 17

For my Mitzvah project, I have been volunteering with **Animal Defenders International**. I am committed to meeting every week during the school year to work with an animal welfare educator/representative to tackle the various issues that arise with animal suffering and abuse. I visited an animal sanctuary and investigated the treatment of these animals in Florida. We are researching how circus animals are transported from location to location and their welfare during the performances. We have been planning and working with federal legislators to gain support for Bill TEA-PSPA. This bill will protect exotic animals during travel/export and stop the suffering of circus animals. We are also working on ways for more youth to engage in this worthy cause. I am interested in helping animals because animals are not in a position to help themselves. For more information on Animal Defenders International, visit www.ad-international.org.



Alli Gerson

June 17

For my Mitzvah project, I will be raising money to support the fight against pancreatic cancer. I will be running in the Beth Or Oy Vey 5k on Sunday, June 4 to help raise awareness and funds for this important cause. All of the funds raised from my Mitzvah project will be donated to the **Pancreatic Cancer Action**

Network. The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network instills hope in the pancreatic cancer community with a vision toward doubling pancreatic cancer survival by 2020. I am also pleased to be supporting Congregation Beth Or through my annual participation in the Oy Vey 5k. For more information, please visit <http://support.pancan.org/goto/wagehopeallisway>. Hope you can join me for the Run or even the 1 mile Walk!



Jason Kosmin

June 24

For my Mitzvah project, I volunteered for two organizations which help families in need. The first one was the **Mitzvah Circle Foundation**, an organization that provides material support to local families that are facing a crisis, serious illness, poverty and/ or homelessness. I volunteered at the warehouse located in Harleysville, and assisted with sorting items donated, such as clothing, appliances, toys, books and diapers, etc. and then selected and packed specific items requested by each family.

The second organization I volunteered at was the **Jewish Relief Agency (JRA)**, which is the largest provider of food assistance to Jewish families in need in Philadelphia. At the JRA food distribution center, I packed and delivered non-perishable Kosher pantry items and fresh produce to households in Philadelphia and nearby communities. Both of these volunteer opportunities made me realize how many people struggle each day to be able to afford food and basic necessities, and I should not take these things for granted. I plan to continue volunteering for both of these amazing organizations after my Bar Mitzvah.



SOCIAL Action

If you are reading this May/June issue of the Beth Or Spotlight shortly after it arrives in your mailbox, the last thing on your mind may be: What am I doing on December 25?

The Social Action Committee is always planning ahead, so we are asking ourselves this question, especially since Beth Or's 1st Mitzvas Day in 2016 garnered so much interest.

To recap, there were three volunteer opportunities last December 25, all of which filled up quickly. Some congregants baked cookies and delivered them to the local police stations to thank them for the good work that they do 24/7. Another group stocked the freezer at Interfaith Housing Alliance with more than 100 containers of homemade soup that they cooked that morning. And a third group collected pajamas for children at St. Christopher's Hospital, and had the privilege to hand deliver them along with lunch for patients, families and nursing staff.

This year, we are looking to add projects to Mitzvas Day to accommodate more members of our community. One that is already lined up is a visit with young people in the Silver Springs Martin Luther Residential Treatment Program who are separated from family during the holiday.

We would love to hear from you with additional ideas that you may be passionate about, that can engage fellow congregants, and will help to heal the world.

Please give us a call or send an email. Thank you for being a part of Social Action at Beth Or!

Social Action Chair Susy Krimker, susykrimker@gmail.com, 215-572-8325

Social Action Vice-Chair Margie Chachkin, chachkin@aol.com, 215-540-0444



Beth Or BROTHERHOOD

Future of Food and Fellowship

Michael Davis, Brotherhood President



Michael Davis

If you look at the Brotherhood logo, the first word at the bottom is "Fellowship" (followed by Community, Service, and Support). "Fellowship" and Jewish deli is what drew me into the Brotherhood thirteen years ago. When I arrived from Connecticut, I was told that the "bros" gathered at Pumpernick's Deli Saturday mornings before torah study. During my term as "Dah Bro Prez", I have seen the combination of food and fellowship as a major draw to increasing participation.

Some of the food and fellowship events we have strengthened include our study sessions with Rabbi Marx, followed by dinner and our monthly meeting. About one to two dozen bros make the time to attend our monthly dinner meetings regardless of the agenda. I have often seen that when the congregation needs help with food, the bros get the call. Brunches, pancake breakfasts, Shabbat in the Park, and the Purim reception are events where the bros pitched in to provide or serve the refreshments.

Where might this food and fellowship lead? We have strengthened our relationship with Bethlehem Baptist Church by inviting their men and families to our Eagles Tailgate party. We're working on expanding this relationship. The Brotherhood financially supports the Rosh Brodesh group. I have asked our clergy if we can build a social relationship with this group. We have a great picnic area. We should use it to better effect.

One idea that I picked up during a meeting with men from other local congregations is that as parents drop their children off to attend religious school, their men offer a bagel "smeared" with cream cheese and wrapped with a flyer noting upcoming activities to them. I am going to encourage my fellow bros to "steal" that idea.



Stay Connected!

Join our  Facebook page at www.facebook.com/CongBethOr
Like, comment and share our posts!

Sign up for our weekly Chai-Lights and Community Matters e-mail blasts on the Beth Or website homepage, www.bethor.org.

Beth Or SISTERHOOD

Beth Or Sisterhood says YES!

Marilyn Ackerman and Ellen Mirbach, Sisterhood Co-Presidents

Join Sisterhood in saying YES to strengthening the Reform Movement and ensuring the future of Reform Judaism. Through the YES Fund individual donors and WRJ affiliated sisterhoods like ours at Beth Or provide Reform Jewish institutions and individuals worldwide with the tools necessary for religious, social, and educational growth and enhance Jewish life by supporting clergy, cultivating women's leadership, advocating for social justice, providing programming, and offering support.

The YES Fund was named in 1955, but the tzedakah roots of WRJ that initially were centered around rabbinic scholarships date to 1913, the same year the organization was founded. Over the past century, the YES Fund has raised millions of dollars through a combination of dedicated campaigns and product sales for projects including: building the dormitory at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in Cincinnati and the URJ Headquarters in New York, establishing the Jewish Braille Institute (JBI International), founding the North American Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY), and helping to create the first URJ camp.

Here are some examples of the results of supporting the YES Fund:

- Train future leaders of Reform Judaism by providing scholarships for rabbinical and cantorial students at HUC-JIR's four campuses, Leo Baeck College in London, and Geiger College in Berlin.
- Support NFTY (North American Federation of Temple Youth, of which BOFTY is our chapter), as well as URJ Camps (including Camp Harlam) and Israel programs, where our youth build friendships, establish strong Jewish identities, and develop leadership skills. The YES Fund was among the initial donors of the URJ Campaign for Youth Engagement (CYE) when it launched in 2011 and continues to support programs that engage and inspire Reform Jewish youth.
- Provide annual support to the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC), helping to fund an Eisendrath Legislative Assistant, who advocates for Jewish values and social justice.
- Providing support for the World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ) and its programs around the world. The Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC) receives funding to continue the struggle for religious pluralism in Israel.

How can you contribute to the YES Fund?

- Women of the congregation can join Beth Or Sisterhood and through that membership, Women of Reform Judaism.
- Purchase Union Grams in the Tarshis Gift Shop. These beautiful note cards on which to write messages for every occasion were introduced in 1913 when NFTS, now known as WRJ was founded as the women's affiliate of the Union for Reform Judaism. Since 1913, the sale of Uniongrams has raised millions of dollars for the YES Fund, enabling WRJ to help ensure the future of Reform Judaism.



Marilyn Ackerman and Ellen Mirbach



Please Support the

Tarshis Gift Shop

Proceeds Benefit Beth Or Sisterhood Programs

Discounts available for Sisterhood Members and Beth Or Staff | Great Monthly Sales and New Arrivals

Beth Or EVENTS

Adult Programs

APEX Brunch

Sunday, May 7 – 10 am to 12 noon

Join us for brunch and folk dancing. Instructors from the Ambler Y, Ret and Peggy, will present a potpourri of dances — old and new from around the world, including some Israeli dances that are fun, easy and good exercise. No special dance skills are required and no partners are needed. You can even just sit and enjoy while everyone else participates.

No charge to Beth Or members if you RSVP by Wednesday, May 3. (\$5 at the door.) Contact Barb Murtha at bmurtha@bethor.org to RSVP.

APEX is the Adult Programming Experience Committee which presents events geared toward congregational members 55 and over. All Beth Or members are welcome to attend APEX events.

Art Gallery

Artist – Anthony Casasanto

Opening Reception: Friday, May 12 at 6 pm

Exhibiting from May 12 through June 7

Anthony has exhibited his oil paintings in many juried and non-juried art shows and festivals throughout our area, including the Audubon Center at Mill Grove, Doylestown Art League, Oreland Art Center, Philadelphia Sketch Club, Art in the Atrium, the Manayunk Roxborough Art Center, New Hope galleries, and many others. He has received numerous awards for his paintings.

Anthony has had a solo exhibit in the historic home of John James Audubon, featuring landscapes and still life with images of birds observed while traveling and in his own backyard.

His collection of paintings featuring images of historic Ambler buildings and sculptures were featured in the *Ambler Gazette*. His work is held in private collections.



Artist – Lauren Daddona

Opening Reception: Friday, June 16 at 6 pm

Exhibiting from June 16 through September 6

Beth Lauren Daddona received a degree in art from East Carolina University, Greenville, NC. Having spent most of her life as an interior designer, she has found her passion in watercolor. She has a strong sense of color and enjoys the spontaneous reactions watercolor creates.

Lauren is a signature member of the Philadelphia Watercolor Society, The Pennsylvania Watercolor Society, and The Baltimore Watercolor Society. Her work has been published in *Splash 15' Palette Magazine*, and *Southwest Art*. Lauren teaches watercolor at the Wayne Art Center and The Greater Norristown Art League, and also teaches workshops nationally.

Commissioned works are on exhibit at Einstein Hospital, The University of Virginia, Princeton University, Trenton University, The University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania Army National Guard in Norristown, PA, and private collections.



Brotherhood/Sisterhood Events

One Book One Jewish Community

Wednesday, May 3 at 7:30 pm to 9 pm

Aaron Nielsenshultz will lead a lively discussion of Michael Solomonov's book, *Zahav*. Refreshments, inspired by the *Zahav* cookbook, will be served. This event is free, but RSVP is required to Arlene Slobodzian at abswws125@gmail.com.

WFCA Ecumenical Luncheon

Tuesday, May 23 at Noon

Beth Or Sisterhood hosts the Wissahickon Faith Community's 27th Annual Ecumenical Luncheon. Women of all faiths will join together to enjoy a festive buffet lunch and inspiring program. Contact Lori Motis, lorimotis@aol.com or Janet Katz, bocakatz@aol.com for more information.

Night Out at Act II Playhouse

Thursday, May 25 at 8 pm • Optional Dinner at 5:30 pm

Spend an evening with friends and Neil Simon's play "Brighton Beach Memoirs" at the Act II Playhouse in Ambler. Limited tickets available, so act now! Join Sisterhood before the theater for dinner at the Fireside Bar & Grille. Theater Tickets: \$37/person. Dinner: \$20/person. RSVP on the website homepage RSVP Portal or calendar link by May 18.

Joey Vincent Show, Las Vegas Revue & Dinner

Saturday, June 3 from 7 pm – 11 pm

Joey Vincent Funny Man with a Horn Show has something for everyone: Music, comedy, and impressions. Joey Vincent will take you on a one-man musical journey from the '30s to today. Dinner and dancing to follow. Cost: \$50/person includes dinner and entertainment. BYOB. RSVP on the website homepage RSVP Portal or calendar link by May 25.

Holidays and Shabbat Events

Tikkun Leil Shavuot

Tuesday, May 30 at 10:30 pm

following Confirmation and a Dessert Reception

Join Rabbi Gerber for a study session, "In Search of Sinai." Explore the revelation of Torah and the evolution of our understanding of its origins.

Lifelong Learning

Adult Education Retreat at the Pearlstone Center

Friday – Sunday, October 20 – 22

Registration and Deposit Deadline: May 19

Enrich your soul. Spend an educational, invigorating, yet relaxing weekend focusing on Jewish learning, community and nature. Join members of Temple Isaiah from Columbia, MD for Shabbat services and classes led by Rabbi Marx and former Beth Or Associate Rabbi Craig Axler, currently Rabbi for Temple Isaiah. Enjoy accommodations at the beautiful Pearlstone Center (<http://pearlstonecenter.org/>), a lush executive conference center nestled in Maryland's picturesque countryside, on 160 acres of woods, pastures and farmland. The retreat includes accommodations for 2 nights, all meals and snacks. Register on website homepage RSVP Portal and pay deposit by May 19 or contact Barbara Murtha at 215-646-5806, ext. 220. Contact Don Berry at dberry@mac.com with any questions.



Beth Or Travel

From Holocaust to Revival:

15 Day Tour of Poland & Israel

Sunday, October 28 – Sunday, November 12, 2017

Registration and Deposit Due ASAP!

Rabbi and Laurie Marx are leading a special pilgrimage where you will journey through our people's history, learn about the heritage of the great pre-war Jewish community in Poland, pay respect to those who died in the Holocaust and then travel to Israel to celebrate the Jewish revival. Explore Krakow and Warsaw in Poland and Jerusalem, the Negev and Tel-Aviv in Israel.

Register now with \$1000/person deposit, as space is limited. Complete day-to-day itinerary, cost details and registration form can be found on the website homepage. For additional information, contact Rabbi Marx at gmarx@bethor.org.



Special Events

Beth Or's Got Talent

Saturday, May 13 at 7 pm

Spend a fun night watching amazing, talented performers from our very own Beth Or community — singers, dancers, comedians and more! Tickets: \$10/person should be payable to Congregation Beth Or and sent to the office, attn.: Talent Show. RSVP on the website homepage RSVP Portal or contact Barbara Murtha at 215-646-5806, ext. 220.

3rd Annual Beth Or Pars "FORE" a Purpose Golf Outing

Monday, May 22

Bluestone Country Club (Formerly Meadowlands)



Golfer Registration & Buffet Lunch at 11 am
• Shotgun Start at 12:30 pm • Cocktails & Hors D'oeuvres at 5:30pm • Dinner, Awards, Live & Silent Auction at 6:30 pm

Join us for a day of golf, fun and friends! The day starts with lunch for our golfers who will then all tee off together. Once golf is finished, we will enjoy cocktails, dinner and a silent auction. A few of our items will be auctioned off by the world's greatest auctioneer — Rabbi Marx!

In past years, this event has raised upward of \$30,000 for Beth Or, which goes towards some of the following programs:

- **Housing the Homeless** — Our congregation houses families in transition at our synagogue providing shelter, dinners & transportation for up to three families for one month each year through the Interfaith Housing Alliance.
- **Meals** — Our volunteers cook monthly to provide homemade, nutritious meals to needy seniors in Philadelphia.
- **Food** — Beth Or has an on-site vegetable garden tended to by volunteers that produces fresh vegetables for struggling families at Hope Gardens in Ambler, who are also part of the Interfaith Housing Alliance.
- **Financial Support** — We financially support the apartments at Hope Gardens in Ambler and provide assistance for Jewish education of children whose families could not otherwise afford it.
- **Quality Learning Opportunities** — We provide personalized instruction, including classroom shadows, for special needs children in all grades in our Religious school program.

Registration closes once the final slots are filled, so act quickly! Register on the website homepage RSVP Portal or calendar link. Contact Jillian Glick, Director of Member and Youth Engagement, jglick@bethor.org, with any questions.

Introducing: Beth Or's Event RSVP Portal

We've made it easier to sign up for the programs and events you want to attend!

Click this button on the website home page to view all of the upcoming events with an on-line RSVP/Registration option, organized by category.

If the event you are looking for isn't listed, check the website calendar, or contact Jillian Glick, Director of Member and Youth Engagement at jglick@bethor.org.



12th Annual Oy Vey 5K/10K

Sunday, June 4 at 8:30 am

One of our most popular community events of the year is back — The Oy Vey 5k/10k! This year we are proud to raise money for Beth Or and the Women's Center of Montgomery County. Registration is now open on www.runtheday.com or click the link on the Beth Or website RSVP portal.

The 5K and 10K races are both chip-timed on a certified course. There are water stops along the way and t-shirts for all participants. Medals will be given to the top 3 winners in 10 year age brackets for both races. Finishing awards will be given to everyone! There's also great food and family activities for all participants and spectators. This is a fun day you won't want to miss!

Consider joining our volunteer team! Contact Alan Kober if you are interested — sportyalan@comcast.net.



Film Screening: Munich'72 and Beyond

Tuesday, June 6 at 7 pm

Friends of the Israel Defense Forces (FIDF) and Congregation Beth Or invite you to a screening of Munich'72 and Beyond, a film about redemption, a monument of remembrance. Guest Speaker, Captain Gary (Yuri) Tabach (retired U.S. Navy) will lead a discussion following the movie. Captain Tabach served as the first U.S. Deputy Director at Defense Against Terrorism Center of Excellence in Ankara, Turkey. He also served as Chief of Staff for the NATO Military Liaison Mission in Moscow, Russia, where he acted as liaison between NATO's Military Committee and the Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation. Admission is FREE, but RSVP requested by June 1 to philadelphia@FIDF.org.

Israel Bond Tribute Reception

Tuesday, June 13 at 6:30 pm

Israel Bonds, Congregation Beth Or & Tiferet Bet Israel are supporting Israel and honoring our Board President, Ira Secouler, among others at this event to be held at TBI. Guest speaker is Larry Weinberg, Communications & Branding expert. Couvert: \$40/person (non-tax deductible). Register online using the RSVP portal or contact Sharon Richman, 267-443-2005, at the Development Corporation Office of Israel to RSVP by June 6. Contact Tribute chairs Phil Goodman or Liz Rultenberg with any questions.

Congregational Notices

- The Board of Trustees will meet on **May 17 at 7:30 pm** to vote on the dues structure and the budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year. In accordance with Article III, Section 4(b) of the Constitution and By-laws of Congregation Beth Or, all Congregants have the right to attend and speak at this Board Meeting and to participate in the voting along with the Board of Trustees.
- In accordance with Article II, Section 6(a) of the Constitution and By-laws of Congregation Beth Or, notice of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation is being provided to all members of the Congregation. The Board

of Trustees has set the date of **June 14 at 7 pm** as the date and time of the Annual Meeting.

All Congregants are invited to attend the Annual Meeting to hear reports from the Officers, presentation of the Annual Budget and for the filling of elected Officer and Trustee positions.

We hope to see you at the Annual Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Cohen, Parliamentarian

VOLUNTEER

Spotlight

Alan Kober

Joan and I have been members of Beth Or for nearly 40 years, joining when our then two young children, Tracy and Scott, were ready for kindergarten and pre-school respectively. Our two young children in 1977 now have families themselves and are raising our three grandchildren (Carly, Ryan and Charlie) in the same Jewish tradition that they learned at Beth Or. For us, Beth Or has been a place to learn and celebrate, a place that has given us a sense of community, where we can volunteer and give back not only to the Jewish community but to the community as a whole.

One of the ways Beth Or gives to the secular community is via the annual Oy Vey 5K (and now 10K, too). This year is our 12th annual event, to be held on Sunday, June 4. A portion of the proceeds each year is donated to worthwhile local charities that are nominated by congregants. Over the years, we have given over \$100,000 to community organizations like the Mattie Dixon Food Pantry, the STARS After-School Program of Ambler, the Kelly Ann Dolan Foundation, Golden Slipper Camp, Habitat for Humanity and the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) to name a few. This year's recipients are the Women's Center of Montgomery County and Beth Or.

Joan and I have served on the Oy Vey committee since its inception both chairing the group and serving as members. Our interest in sports (our e-mail names start with 'sportyjoan' and 'sportyalan') as well as our desire to offer meaningful support to needy charities led us to become part of this annual event that melds sports with giving. Being involved at Beth Or through various boards, committees, Sisterhood and Brotherhood enabled us to make many life-long friends and to be part of the larger Jewish community and family. We look forward to many more activities with which to be involved over the coming years. We hope you can join us in our Beth Or endeavors!



Chai-Lights — March/April 2017

New Members

Marcia Harris
Pete, Jenn, Quinn & Reid Jennings
Michael Strenger & Amanda Disabatina

Rejoining Members

Jill Gutsin

May Their Memory Be a Blessing

Bill Cherkes, family member of Davy & Marilyn Cohn
Selma Kramer, sister of Elsa Engel
Martin Beer, brother of Michael Beer
Roz Chatilo, mother of Randee Tecklin
Bruce Harris, father of Jeff Harris & Carly Bromberg
Cynthia Newman, daughter of Sam & Edie Newman
Sylvia Resnick, mother of Michael Resnick & Carla Shafer
Linda Zion, congregant & wife of Michael Zion
Martin Kreithen, father of Jane Sutow & uncle of Barbara Spilove
Lowell Lander, congregant & husband of Madeline Lander
Wally Rubin, father of Sally Hurwitz
A. Samuel Fox, father of Glenn Fox
Henrietta Udis, mother of David Udis & Gary Udis & grandmother of Jennifer Udis
Lorraine Rakliff, grandmother of Tracey Rubin
Vivian Reiben, mother of Shelley Rubin
Jerry Friedenheim, father of Rich Friedenheim
Renee Sue Harrison, mother of Meichelle Feinberg
Morris Sacks, grandfather of Melanie Demar
Raymond Weinraub, uncle of Meryl Lightstone
Charlotte Moskowitz, mother of Ken Moskowitz
Herbert Cutler, husband of Elizabeth Cutler
Dianne Marie Perry McDill, aunt of Stephen Perry
Sylvia Kalen, Grand Aunt of Jill Gutsin
Goldie Schwartz, Grandmother of Stephanie Webb

Mazel Tov

Birth of Bella Theresa Milakofsky, granddaughter of Steve & Marsha Milakofsky & great granddaughter of Florence Milakofsky & Myer & Rita Bernstein
Engagement of Rachel Siegel, daughter of Owen & Mary Lou Siegel, to Kevin Albright
Engagement of Ross Rutman, son of Robert & Audrey Rutman, to Sam (Samantha) Bogus
Wedding of Michael Strenger & Amanda DiSabatina

Bar Mitzvah of Adam Resnick
Bat Mitzvah of Peyton Webb
Bat Mitzvah of Morgen Lubinski
Bat Mitzvah of Jordyn Grunfeld
Bat Mitzvah of Dylan Waddell
Bat Mitzvah of Leah Dubin
Bat Mitzvah of Willow Kaplan
Bat Mitzvah of Jordyn Kelman
Bat Mitzvah of Shayna Feldgus
Bar Mitzvah of Andrew Silverman
Bar Mitzvah of Nicholas Rabin
Bar Mitzvah of Michael Menaker
B'not Mitzvah of Jordyn & Carlie Pincus
Bat Mitzvah of Gabrielle Bren

Bar Mitzvah of Zachary Berman
Bat Mitzvah of Jacob Spain
Bat Mitzvah of Alli Gerson
Bat Mitzvah of Jacob Kosmin
Bat Mitzvah of Lainey Goldoor
B'nai Mitzvah of Alex, Shawn & Madison Gindea
Bat Mitzvah of Reed Bram
Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Green
Bat Mitzvah of Alex Warsaw
Bat Mitzvah of Talia Newman
Bat Mitzvah of Griffin Pestrack
Bat Mitzvah of Amanda Brecher

Pre-Neg and Flower Donations

Additional February Donation.

Pre-Neg:

February 10 • Barry and Vicki Oppenheim and Rita Roy in honor of the yahrzeit of Vicki's father and Rita's husband, Charles Roy

May Donations.

Pre-Neg & Flowers:

May 5 • Brian and Kimberly Resnick in honor of Adam Resnick's Bar Mitzvah
Greg and Stephanie Webb in honor of Peyton Webb's Bat Mitzvah
May 12 • Dan and Melisa Lubinski in honor of Morgen Lubinski's Bat Mitzvah
Eric and Shira Grunfeld in honor of Jordyn Grunfeld's Bat Mitzvah
May 19 • Ryan and Brittany Waddell in honor of Dylan Waddell's Bar Mitzvah
Lane and Lori Dubin in honor of Leah Dubin's Bat Mitzvah
David and Marisa Kaplan in honor of Willow Kaplan's Bat Mitzvah
May 26 • Craig and Amy Kelman in honor of Jordyn Kelman's Bat Mitzvah
Daniel Feldgus and Elizabeth Gubin in honor of Shayna Feldgus' Bat Mitzvah

June Donations:

Pre-Neg & Flowers:

June 2 • Robert and Alison Silverman in honor of Andrew Silverman's Bar Mitzvah
Jordan & Michelle Rabin in honor of Nicholas Rabin's Bar Mitzvah
Debra Menaker and Steve Menaker in honor of Michael Menaker's Bar Mitzvah
June 9 • Jeremy & Meredith Pincus in honor of the B'not Mitzvah of Jordyn & Carlie Pincus
Faina Bren and Alex Bren in honor of Gabrielle Bren's Bat Mitzvah
Jeff and Jessica Berman in honor of Zachary Berman's Bar Mitzvah
June 16 • Peter and Tracy Spain in honor of Jake Spain's Bar Mitzvah
Greg and Sheri Gerson in honor of Alli Gerson's Bat Mitzvah
June 23 • Jerry & Jodi Kosmin in honor of Jason Kosmin's Bar Mitzvah



Memorials and Contributions

Rabbi Marx's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of

ELIAS ZAMKOFF
Arthur & Sheila Zamkoff
HERBERT J. GREENBLATT
Bryna Berman
LOWELL LANDER
Elaine Slott
Judith & Philip Pfeffer
BERNICE TEPPER
Gary & Helene Fisher
ROSLYN CHATILO
George & Joanne Stewart
Lee Levine & Shelley Block
Scott & Elisa Heisman & Family
IDA & JOSEPH SCHULTZ
Harry Schultz
CLARICE & GILBERT STRAUSS
Jacqueline Zelle
MARK APFELBAUM
Jaime Hersh
CHARLOTTE MOSKOWITZ
Karen Liebman
IRVING RUBIN
Larry & Beverly Samson
WALLY RUBIN
Libby Schwartz
GLORIA BIUNDO
LOUIS BIUNDO
Lisa Herman
LOUIS HERSHMAN
Madeline Lander
MARTIN BEER
Myer & Rita Bernstein
IRVIN BERLIN
SYLVIA R. BERLIN
Norman, Betsy, Dan & Mike Berlin
MORTON DRATCH
Robert & Ellyn Dratch
ANN GARNICK
Robert & Heidi Garnick
HENRIETTA UDIS
Ronald & Barbara Rosenthal
Eugene Schobel
Frances J. Schobel
Andy Purnell
Rozi Snyder
STEVE GALLANT
Scott & Amy Gallant
FLORENCE RESNICK
Steven Resnick
CHARLOTTE MOSKOWITZ
Suzzie Byron
Karen Liebman

In Honor of

SUSAN SILVERSTEIN'S Birthday
Candice Chachkin
RABBI MARX
David & Rachel Stolzenberg

In Appreciation of

RABBI MARX
Eric & Faye Benshetler
Julie Fried
Victoria Leonard
Ira & Deanna Roth
Holly A. Wright

Rabbi Gerber's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of

ROSLYN CHATILO
Barbara Ghen
Michael & Randi Berry
LILLIAN CHINOFOSKY
Iris Fine
MICHAEL FINE
Iris Fine
HENRIETTA UDIS
LINDA ZION
Scott & Amy Gallant

In Honor of

MICHAEL PARLOW'S
50th Birthday
KIM FELLER'S 50th Birthday
Mark & Sue Rabinowitz

In Appreciation of

RABBI GERBER
Daniel & Melisa Lubinski
David & Carol Udis
Madeline Lander
Eric & Faye Benshetler
Ira & Deanna Roth

Cantor Green's Discretionary Fund

In Memory of

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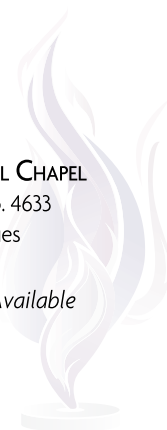
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