

BHBIRochester.org  
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**Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel**

# BULLETIN

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*President: Leon Metlay  
Treasurer: Ira Cohen*

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## **May President's Message**

Friends,

I hope you have had an enjoyable Passover. Our services the first two days, held jointly with Beth David and Beth Am were wonderful. As I'm writing this, the final services of Passover haven't happened yet, but I'm anticipating that they will also be enjoyable and meaningful.

The month of May means that it is time for our annual meeting. The nominating committee, headed by Chris and Andrea Paprocki will be calling people. When they ask you to serve, please say "Yes". We need to get more people involved in running our shul. The annual meeting will be on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 3 PM. We will accept written proxies for the voting, but we need to have a quorum in attendance in order to conduct business. Please come. You can help make a quorum and find out what's new in the lives of people you haven't seen in a while. I do not anticipate a long meeting.

Following up on the success of last month's "Just for the heck of it" Movie Night, we're doing it again in May. In fact we're showing the movie shortly after the congregational meeting is over. So, come to the meeting and stay for the movie. The movie will be "The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz". Of course, there will be popcorn.

There aren't any major holy days in May, but there is one minor one, Lag B'Omer, the 33<sup>rd</sup> day of the omer period between Passover and Shavuot. It is traditionally observed with outdoor activities. Lag B'Omer falls on May 26<sup>th</sup> this year. There usually is a community celebration, though I haven't seen the announcement for it yet. But, if you don't feel like celebrating with the community, it will be a good day to have a picnic.

Yom HaShoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, is not technically a holy day, but it is a solemn day. This year it falls on May 5<sup>th</sup>. The community observance this year will be at Temple B'rith Kodesh from 7-9 PM on Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> with a talk titled 'Life After Liberation – Refugees of the Holocaust'.

Israel Independence Day is on May 11<sup>th</sup>. The JCC will show a film "A Hero in Heaven" at 7 PM on Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup>. The community celebration will take place at Temple Beth El on Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> starting at 4:30 with a speaker at 7:15. The theme will be 'Israel=Innovation'.

There are many events happening in our community in May. I hope I'll see you at some of them. I also look forward to seeing you in shul.

*Leon Metlay*

## **BHBI Annual Congregational Meeting**

**Sunday, May 22nd at 3:00 p.m.**

**Please try to attend.**

**If you cannot make it, you can give a proxy to another BHBI member to vote on your behalf**

**(Note: proxies do not count toward a quorum; no member may vote more than 2 proxies)**

**Join us for the film "The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz" immediately following the annual meeting**

## BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – MAY 2016

Sunday	May 1	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Friday	May 6	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 7:59 PM
Saturday	May 7	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service    Torah: Acharei Blessing of the New Month
Sunday	May 8	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Monday	May 9	7:30 PM	BHBI Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday	May 13	7:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am (at TBK Room 103) Light candles at 8:07 PM
Saturday	May 14	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Torah: Kedoshim
Sunday	May 15	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Wednesday	May 18	7:30 PM	Small Conservative Synagogue Collaborative Torah Study at BHBI
Friday	May 20	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 8:14 PM
Saturday	May 21	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service    Torah: Emor
Sunday	May 22	9:00 AM  3:00 PM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion  BHBI Annual Meeting followed by Movie: "The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz"
Friday	May 27	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 8:21 PM
Saturday	May 28	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service    Torah: Behar
Sunday	May 29	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion

**YOM HA'ATZMAUT (ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY) FALLS ON  
WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 11<sup>TH</sup> AND THURSDAY, MAY 12<sup>TH</sup> THIS YEAR**



### BUY BLUE AND WHITE

Israeli products are widely available for purchase these days. Whenever you go to the supermarket, the wine shop or the mall, you are likely to come across Israeli products. Make it a point to support Israel by buying Israeli products whenever you can!

**DONATIONS  
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**

**GENERAL FUND**

In memory of Jacob Swartz <i>Sue Baker</i>	In memory of Gertrude Swartz <i>Sue Baker</i>
In memory of Aaron Baker <i>Sue Baker</i>	In memory of Meshullam Langermann <i>Ayala Emmett</i>
In memory of Sylvia Kowel <i>Phil and Annette Garver</i>	In memory of Harry Gordon <i>Phil and Annette Garver</i>
In memory of Rose Lewis <i>Judith Mercer</i>	In memory of Morton Lewis <i>Judith Mercer</i>
In memory of Edith Berkowitz <i>Gloria Berkowitz</i>	In honor of the birth of Ava Baker <i>Ira Cohen</i>

**THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS  
FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL**

April 9           Cathy Block in memory of her father-in-law, Max Block  
April 16          Tamara Strubel in memory of her father, Michael Kron

**AMES AMZALEK ROCHESTER JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL**

The JCC is selling all-festival passes for this summer's Ames Amzalak Rochester International Jewish Film Festival which will run from July 10-18. To purchase passes, stop by the JCC, call 461-0200 or go to [www.jccrochester.org](http://www.jccrochester.org)

**GOODSEARCH.COM**

Goodsearch.com is an on-line internet search program that pays non-profit organizations like BHBI a fee every time someone uses their search service. Go to [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com), enter the search term that you want and put in BHBI on the line where it says Who Do You Goodsearch For? BHBI will benefit from each search you make!

**CEMETERY PLOTS**

Did you know that BHBI has designated sections at Stone Road, Britten Road and Mt. Hope Cemeteries and that we sell cemetery plots? If you would like more information, contact Steve Teitel.

**AD SPONSORS**

We are always looking for additional businesses that are interested in placing an ad in the BHBI Bulletin. If you know of someone whose business or company may be interested, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or by e-mail at [stanschaffer@frontiernet.net](mailto:stanschaffer@frontiernet.net)

**SMALL CONSERVATIVE SHUL COLLABORATIVE TORAH STUDY**

This month's Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study session will be held at BHBI on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at BHBI. Come and bring your friends. Everyone is welcome! If you haven't attended before, give it a try – you will definitely enjoy the lively discussion.

**BHBI WEBSITE**

Have you checked out the BHBI web site lately? If you haven't there is a lot that you're missing. The web site at [www.BHBIRochester.org](http://www.BHBIRochester.org) provides information about many aspects of our congregation, lists the BHBI calendar, has electronic versions of this and previous bulletins going back several years, has an extensive history of our congregation along with historic photos, includes photos from several BHBI dinners, picnics and other special events, and has the unique Adon Olam Songbook with information on over 100 melodies for Adon Olam.

## **MAKE YOUR PURCHASES AT AMAZON.COM AND SUPPORT BHBI AT THE SAME TIME!**

Why not contribute to BHBI while making on-line purchases? It's easy to make purchases on-line at Amazon.com and support BHBI financially at the same time. Just go to the BHBI web page at [www.BHBIRochester.org](http://www.BHBIRochester.org) and click on the Amazon.com link. Each time you make a purchase after linking to Amazon.com from our web page, BHBI gets a percentage of the purchase price. The more you buy in this way, the more BHBI makes!

### **EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY**

#### **Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration) at RIT**

**Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 7-9 p.m. at the Carlson Auditorium on the RIT campus (Carlson Hall Room 1225).**

Local Holocaust survivor, Henry Silberstern will share his experiences.

#### **Community Yom Hashoah Commemoration**

##### **Life After Liberation – Refugees and the Holocaust**

**Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at Temple B'rith Kodesh**

The keynote speaker will be Dr. Atina Grossman, an expert on Jewish refugees of the Holocaust. The event is sponsored by the Center for Holocaust Awareness and Information (CHAI) of the Jewish Federation.

#### **JCC Israel Independence Day Film Night**

**A viewing of the film "A Hero in Heaven" (45 minutes long)**

**Monday, May 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at the JCC**

The film tells the story of American-born lone soldier, Michael Levin, who decided to serve in an elite unit of the IDF and was killed in combat in the Second Lebanon War in 2006.

#### **Leon Katzen Memorial Lecture Series: On Israel and the Middle East - What in the World is Going On?**

**Featuring Malcolm Hoenlein, Executive Vice-Chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations**

**Tuesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. at Congregation Beth Shalom**

Leon Katzen, who was a former Associate Member of BHBI, passed away at age 97 several months ago. This lecture series is sponsored in his memory by the Katzen Family Foundation and Lacy Katzen LLP.

#### **Israel = Innovation**

##### **An All New Community Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) Commemoration**

**Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 – 8:30 p.m. at Temple Beth El.**

4:30 – 5:00 PM: Yom Ha'Zikaron (Israel's Memorial Day) Ceremony; PJ Library Play Time (ages 2-8)

5:00 – 6:00 PM: Israel Innovation Fair (activities for ages 7-12); PJ Library Israel Program (ages 2-8); The Path to Israel's Independence: Adult Learning with Joy Getnick, JCC Director of Jewish Life

6:15- 7:00 PM: Israel in Concert featuring voices from Jewish Rochester

7:15-8:30 PM: Community Lecture: "How Israel Innovation Feeds, Heals and Advances the World"

Kosher food will be available from 5-7 PM. Food can be pre-purchased at [www.tberochester.org/yom-haatzmaut](http://www.tberochester.org/yom-haatzmaut)

#### **Israel 2016: The Series continues with David Makovsky speaking on "Why is Israeli-Palestinian Peace So Elusive?"**

**Tuesday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm at Temple Beth El**

David Makovsky is the co-author along with Dennis Ross of the 2009 bestseller *Myths, Illusions, and Peace: Finding a New Direction for America in the Middle East*. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations as well as a former executive editor of the Jerusalem Post and former diplomatic correspondent for Ha'aretz.

# Yahrzeits

At the following Shabbat Services, we will read the names of our late loved ones whose Yahrzeits will occur on that Shabbat or during the following week.

May 6-7	Nissan - Iyar	May 13-14	Iyar	May 20-21	Iyar	May 27-28	Iyar
Hyman Rothschild*	29	Hyman Goldberg*	6	David Gross*	13	Maurice Baker	21
Karen Schulman	30	Morton Lewis	6	Johanna Schild*	13	Samuel Gastel*	21
Louis Goldberg*	1	Harry Gordon*	7	Haskell Isaac Smith*	15	Samuel Sanow*	22
Louis Goldman*	3	Abraham Mosheh Malina*	7	Samuel Lederman*	16	Esther Leah Silverman*	24
Beverly Honickman	4	Minnie Rothbard	9	Samuel J. Weisenberg*	16	Bessie Baker	26
		Harry Cominsky*	11	Libby Goldberg*	18	Reuben Cohen	26
		Tessie Yablin*	11				
		Dr. Murray Cowen*	12				
*Denotes name memorialized on BHBI Memorial Plaque							

We pray that our mourners will be comforted among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem and that the memory of the deceased continues to be a blessing to all who knew them.

## MEMORIAL PLAQUES

You can also memorialize a friend or loved one on a BHBI memorial plaque. Our memorial plaques are very reasonably priced. For more information, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or [stanschaffer@frontiernet.net](mailto:stanschaffer@frontiernet.net)

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 S/W corner of Jefferson & Winton Rds

So far our **TOPS** Gift Card fundraiser has been quite successful. Remember, **TOPS** Gift Cards are now available through BHBI in \$50 denominations. To purchase **TOPS** Gift Cards, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or by e-mail at [stanschaffer@frontiernet.net](mailto:stanschaffer@frontiernet.net)

## WHAT IS LAG B'OMER AND HOW IS IT CELEBRATED?

The Hebrew letters lamed gimel (lag for short) stand for the number 33 and thus Lag b'Omer designates the 33<sup>rd</sup> day of the counting of the Omer (which we are instructed to count each day to mark the week of weeks between Passover and Shavuot). In the 2<sup>nd</sup> century BCE, 24,000 students and disciples of Rabbi Akiva (ancient Israel's greatest sage) died mysteriously during the days following Passover. Thus, to recall this tragedy, traditionally the Omer period is treated as a time of semi-mourning during which one is not supposed to celebrate happy occasions like weddings or even to listen to music. However, on Lag b'Omer, Rabbi Akiva's students stopped dying, and thus that specific day became a day of celebration. Additionally, one of Rabbi Akiva's most outstanding disciples, Rabbi Shimon bar Yochai, the author of the Zohar, later passed away on Lag b' Omer and had asked that the anniversary of his death be celebrated as a happy day. Traditionally, in Israel Lag b' Omer is celebrated with bonfires. Lag b'Omer falls on May 26<sup>th</sup> this year.



OFFICE: The synagogue office is checked regularly for mail and messages. The synagogue phone is 244-2060. For urgent issues, call Leon Metlay at 271-2945 or Stan Schaffer at 473-8072. You can also e-mail us at [BHBIRochester@gmail.com](mailto:BHBIRochester@gmail.com)

WANT TO REMEMBER OR HONOR SOMEONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION? *Consider sponsoring a kiddush or making a donation to any one of our funds* (General Fund, Kiddush Fund, Harry Rogachefsky BHBI Building Fund, Torah Fund, Rabbi Aaron Solomon Scholarship Fund, Special Events Fund or the Sam Malina Memorial Fund). Please indicate which fund you would like your donation to go to and we will send out an acknowledgement card as you indicate and print an announcement in this bulletin. A standard sponsored kiddush at BHBI costs just \$40 while a larger enhanced kiddush is just \$50.

BULLETIN CONTENT What do you enjoy reading in the BHBI Bulletin? Is there something that you would like added (or taken out)? If so, please let Stan Schaffer know. We always appreciate feedback.

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