

BHBIRochester.org  
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April 2014

**Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel**

# BULLETIN

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## **April President's Message**

Friends,

This month we will celebrate Passover. We will have a complete set of services jointly with Temple Beth Am and have invited Ohel Avraham to join us. Please come and support our services.

On the eve of Passover we will all sit down at the seder. A large part of the seder is the telling of the story of leaving Egypt. Part of that is straightforward storytelling and a good bit of it is rabbinic explanation of Torah text. Nowadays when fewer people spend time studying Torah, the textual explanations tend to be rushed through or skipped over in favor of expanding the more straightforward narration. Within the textual analysis, we meet a man who I think could be looked at as the first Conservative Jew.

Rabbi Elazar ben Azarya says that he is like a man of seventy years old. It's a curious statement to make. It turns out that Rabbi Elazar reached a position of authority in the Yeshiva at Yavneh at a very young age, he was the replacement of Rabban Gamliel, who had been the Patriarch. The transition of leadership of Yavneh from Yochanan ben Zakkai to Gamliel had not gone smoothly. Rabban Gamliel publicly humiliated a revered sage, Rabbi Yehoshua, and as a result was deposed. Rabbi Elazar was elevated to Gamliel's office and his hair miraculously turned white, giving the dignified appearance necessary for his position. When Rabbi Yehoshua forgave Rabban Gamliel, Gamliel resumed his office and Elazar became the Chief Judge.

Rabbi Elazar was noted for removing restrictions on who could study. All students were welcome; they had to add benches to the study room on days he lectured. He quoted Deuteronomy 31:12 and welcomed men, women, and children.

Rabban Gamliel said "Make for yourself a teacher and remove yourself from doubt" (Avot 1:16), i.e. listen to your teacher and don't ask questions. In contrast, Rabbi Elazar said "Make your ear like a funnel and acquire for yourself a discerning heart..." (Hagiga 3b). You should listen to all the voices and opinions around you and weigh them within you. Gather all the opinions and choose the ones that best fit the situation. That, to me, is the essence of Conservative Judaism.

Have a happy and kosher Passover.

Also, looking ahead, set aside the dates for our two concerts with Remy Yulzari and Nadav Lev, Thursday May 1<sup>st</sup> at BHBI, and Sunday May 4<sup>th</sup> at the JCC. The second concert will also include a group of Sufi musicians and is part of our Muslim Jewish dialogue series.

*Leon Metlay*

*Have a very happy Passover!*



## BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – APRIL 2014

|           |        |         |  |
|-----------|--------|---------|--|
| Friday    | Apr 4  | 7:00 PM | Shabbat Evening Service at Heather Heights in Pittsford<br>Light candles at 7:21 PM  |
| Saturday  | Apr 5  | 9:30 AM | Shabbat Morning Service      Torah: Metzora  |
| Sunday    | Apr 6  | 9:00 AM | Service, Breakfast and Discussion  |
| Monday    | Apr 7  | 7:30 PM | Monthly Meeting of the BHBI Board of Trustees  |
| Friday    | Apr 11 | 7:00 PM | Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am at Beth Am<br>Light candles at 7:30 PM   |
| Saturday  | Apr 12 | 9:30 AM | Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI<br>Torah: Acharai  |
| Sunday    | Apr 13 | 9:00 AM | Service and Discussion   |
| Tuesday   | Apr 15 | 9:30 AM | Joint Passover First Day Service with Temple Beth Am and Ohel Avraham at Beth Am   |
| Wednesday | Apr 16 | 9:00 AM | Joint Passover Second Day Service with Temple Beth Am and Ohel Avraham at BHBI   |
|           |        | 7:30 PM | Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study at BHBI  |
| Friday    | Apr 18 | 6:00 PM | Joint Shabbat Chol Hamoed Passover Evening Service with Ohel Avraham and Temple Beth Am at Nazareth College Golisano Bldg. Rm. 375 (Park in Lot Q)<br>Light candles at 7:38 PM |
| Saturday  | Apr 19 | 9:00 AM | Shabbat Chol Hamoed Passover Morning Service   |
| Sunday    | Apr 20 | 9:00 AM | Service and Discussion   |
|           |        | 7:00 PM | Joint Erev Passover 7 <sup>th</sup> Day Service with Temple Beth Am and Ohel Avraham at BHBI   |
| Monday    | Apr 21 | 9:30 AM | Joint Passover 7 <sup>th</sup> Day Service with Temple Beth Am and Ohel Avraham at Beth Am   |
|           |        | 7:00 PM | Joint Erev Passover 8 <sup>th</sup> Day Service with Yizkor with Beth Am and Ohel Avraham at Beth Am   |
| Tuesday   | Apr 22 | 9:00 AM | Joint Passover 8 <sup>th</sup> Day Service with Yizkor with Temple Beth Am and Ohel Avraham at BHBI  |
| Friday    | Apr 25 | 7:00 PM | Shabbat Evening Service<br>Light candles at 7:46 PM  |
| Saturday  | Apr 26 | 9:30 AM | Shabbat Morning Service      Torah: Kedoshim   |
| Sunday    | Apr 27 | 9:00 AM | Service, Breakfast and Discussion  |

### SALE OF CHAMETZ

Do you want to sell your chametz before Passover? BHBI makes it easy for you to do so. Just fill out the Sale of Chametz form on page 4 and send in your form with a donation to BHBI to be received by Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.

### SAVE THE DATES

The musicians who performed at BHBI last year are returning for 2 concerts in Rochester - on May 1st at 7:30 pm at BHBI and on May 4<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm at the JCC (where a Sufi music group will also perform). See you at both concerts!

## DONATIONS THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

### GENERAL FUND

In memory of Edith Berkowitz

*Gloria Berkowitz*

In memory of Aaron Baker

*Sue Baker*

In memory of Charles Levy

*Paul and Rose Israel*

In memory of Irving Gold

*Linda Adams*

In memory of Gertrude Swartz

*Sue Baker*

In memory of Sylvia Kowel

*Phil and Annette Garver*

### THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| March 1  | Tamara Strubel in memory of her mother, Lea Kron  |
| March 8  | Leon Metlay and Nina Klionsky in honor of everyone who worked to make our Purim celebration a success |
| March 15 | Paul Rosenfeld and Sylvia Rose in memory of Paul's father, Leon Rosenfeld                             |
| March 22 | The Congregation  |

### 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!

### EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

**Rochester J Serve Day – Jewish Teen Day of Service** – on Sunday, April 6<sup>th</sup> Jewish teens from throughout the community will join together in a day of community service. The “Rochester J-Serve Day” is hosted by the Jewish Federation of Greater Rochester in partnership with the Jewish Community Center and multiple synagogues and Jewish youth programs. There will be three different community service projects participants can choose from in advance – arts & crafts with residents at Jewish Senior Life; making PBJ sandwiches for Open Door Mission; and a Holocaust Memorial Project including listening to a local survivor tell their story and creating artwork to put on display during the Rochester community Yom HaShoah ceremony on April 27<sup>th</sup>. For more information and to sign up, go to [www.jservice.org](http://www.jservice.org)

**Holocaust Memorial Day (Yom HaShoah) Remembrance Event at the JCC on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm.**

As the Portuguese Consul-General stationed in Bordeaux, France, Aristides de Sousa Mendes helped thousands of refugees escape from Nazi-occupied France by issuing visas to neutral Portugal, against the explicit orders of his government. He suffered harsh consequences. At the Center for Holocaust Awareness and Information's annual Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance program, keynote speakers Louis-Philippe Mendes, grandson of Aristides de Sousa Mendes, and Dr. Olivia Mattis, descendent of Sousa Mendes' visa recipients, will speak about how one person can “save a world.” The service will also include prayers, music and a candle lighting ceremony with local survivors of the Holocaust and their families.

**The Sousa Mendes Story in Film** – Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at the JCC. The film tells the story of Sousa Mendes' amazing rescue operation, beginning in May 1940 when Nazi troops invaded France. Sousa Mendes (portrayed by Bernard Le Coq) defiantly issued visas to some 30,000 refugees of the Holocaust, a third of whom were Jewish. Noted Holocaust scholar Yehuda Bauer calls Sousa Mendes' willful defiance “the largest rescue action by a single individual during the Holocaust.” The event is free and open to the public.

# FREE 3-MONTH TRIAL MEMBERSHIP FOR FIRST-TIME NEW MEMBERS

Let your friends know about BHBI's special free 3 month trial membership (available to prospective first-time new members only). Have them contact BHBI at 244-2060 or BHBIRochester@gmail.com and we will be happy to give them information about BHBI and this great offer!!

## 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 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.

## BRIGHTON FOOD CUPBOARD

The Brighton Food Cupboard is very low on breakfast cereal, pasta and tuna. Please consider donating to them. There is a box in the BHBI lobby where you can drop off your donation or you can drop food items off at either the Brighton Board on Education Building or at the former Brookside School in Brighton.

## SMALL CONSERVATIVE SHUL COLLABORATIVE TORAH STUDY

Our next Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah study session will take place at BHBI on Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

## FREE OR DISCOUNTED JCC MEMBERSHIP FOR SENIORS

The JCC participates in the Silver&Fit® and the SilverSneakers® fitness programs for seniors which are sponsored by various Medicare health insurance plans. JCC membership is just \$25 per year for Silver&Fit® members and is free for SilverSneakers® members. Bring your health insurance card to the JCC to sign up.



## CONTRACT FOR SELLING YOUR CHAMETZ

Know ye that I, the undersigned, fully empower and permit Rabbi Simeon Kolko to act in my place and stead, and in my behalf to sell all chametz possessed by me (knowingly or unknowingly) as defined by the Torah and Rabbinic Law (e.g. chametz, possible chametz, and all kinds of chametz mixtures). Also chametz that tends to harden and to adhere to inside surfaces of pans, pots or cooking and usable utensils. And to lease all places wherein the chametz owned by me may be found, especially in the premises located at:

\_\_\_\_\_ and elsewhere. Rabbi Simeon Kolko has the full right to sell and to lease by transactions as he deems fit and proper for such time that he believes necessary in accordance with all detailed terms and detailed forms as explained in the general authorization contract which has been given this year to him. He has full power and authority to appoint a substitute in his stead and to sell and to lease as provided therein. The above given power is in conformity with all Torah, rabbinical regulations and laws, and also in accordance with laws of the State of New York and of the United States. To this I hereby affix my signature on the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year 5774/2014.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

**Please fill out and mail this form to Congregation BHBI, 1369 East Ave., Rochester, NY 14610 so it is received no later than Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>.**



Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel  
*The East Avenue Synagogue*  
1369 East Avenue, Rochester, NY  
Thursday, May 1, 7:30 pm

## STRINGS ATTACHED:

## A SPANISH HERITAGE

*a recital of Original Compositions, Israeli Songs,  
Classical Spanish, Latin American, and Sephardic Music*



## LEV-YULZARI DUO DOUBLE BASS & GUITAR

*Open to the public, \$10 donation suggested*

Rémy Yulzari (double bass) is a musician and composer and founding member of ensembles dedicated to various musical genres, including chamber music, gypsy-jazz, Klezmer and Spanish/Latin music. He has played in concert halls worldwide including venues in France, Great Britain, United States, Israel, Spain, Russia, Italy, Japan, Taiwan, Lithuania and Serbia. He was awarded a “Premier Prix” in double bass from the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique de Paris.

Nadav Lev (guitar) has performed throughout the US, Israel and Europe, in venues such as Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall, in a variety of styles and forms, from classical to rock to jazz and improvised music. He is the winner of the Andrés Segovia Award, the AICF’s prestigious Abroad Studies award, and others.



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*A Jewish – Muslim Dialogue Series*



*presents*

# A CONCERT OF TURKISH & JEWISH MUSIC



Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 pm  
Jewish Community Center

Sufi Musical Ensemble, Ithaca NY

Lev-Yulzari Duo, NYC

Senior Adult Lounge  
*Free and open to the public*

*Co-sponsored by*

Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel

Peace Islands Institute · The Turkish Cultural Center of Rochester

Temple Beth Am · Temple Beth David

Supported in part by:



The Max and Marian Farash Charitable Foundation  
The Jewish Community Center of Greater Rochester



## 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.

| April 4-5            | Nissan | April 11-12       | Nissan | April 18-19         | Nissan | April 25-26         | Nissan-Iyar |
|----------------------|--------|-------------------|--------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|-------------|
| Gertrude Kleinstein* |        | Helen Neiman      |        | David Morris*       | 20     | Arthur Weinberger   | 26          |
| Rachael Weinstein*   | 5      | Goldman*          | 14     | Jacob Weinrib*      | 20     | Alexander           |             |
| Esther Bertman*      | 5      | Sylvia Kowal      | 14     | Beatrice Goldstein* | 21     | Greenbaum*          | 27          |
| Max Block            | 8      | Harry Toker       | 14     | Meshulam Langman    | 21     | Esther Gurian*      | 27          |
| Seymour Ouzer*       | 8      | Leo Buchbinder*   | 15     | Benjamin Ritter     | 21     | Ethel L. Goldstein* | 28          |
| Charles Levy         | 10     | Sol Levin*        | 15     | Yetta Levine*       | 22     | Hyman Rothschild*   | 29          |
| Morris Lipman*       | 11     | Rose Jossem*      | 16     | Evelyn Maimon       | 23     | Karen Schulman      | 30          |
|                      | 11     | Judith Potter*    | 16     | Simon Finkelman     | 24     | Louis Goldberg*     | 1           |
|                      |        | Louis Cohen*      | 18     | Blanche Levitz      | 25     |                     |             |
|                      |        | Harry H. Levinson | 18     | Louis Priceman*     | 25     |                     |             |
|                      |        |                   |        | Dorothy Riwkin*     | 25     |                     |             |
|                      |        |                   |        | Samuel B. Spiller*  | 25     |                     |             |

\*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.

*Rochester's Jewish Funeral Home*



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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)

### 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)

### 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!

### 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)

OFFICE: The synagogue office is checked regularly for mail and messages. The synagogue phone is 244-2060. For urgent issues, call Steve Teitel at 473-5741 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.

DID YOU MISPLACE YOUR BULLETIN? Don't worry. BHBI Bulletins going back several years can now be found on our web page: [www.BHBIRochester.org](http://www.BHBIRochester.org)

WANT TO GET YOUR BULLETIN HOT-OFF-THE-PRESS? Consider having us e-mail it to you! Contact Stan Schaffer at: [stanschaffer@frontiernet.net](mailto:stanschaffer@frontiernet.net)

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