

BHBIRochester.org
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Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel

BULLETIN

Editor: Stan Schaffer

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November President's Message

Friends,

Whew! Holidays over! We had a very nice and festive holiday season at BHBI, with shared services with our partners Temples Beth Am and Beth David, and a great dinner in the sukkah. Thanks to sukkah constructors Paula Bobb, Ira Cohen, Harris Honickman, Nina Klionsky, Leon Metlay, Stan Schaffer, Tammy Strubel, and Ken and Mollie Traub. And thanks to sukkah de-constructors Paula, Ira, Harris, Ken and Mollie. Thanks to Nina and Judith Mercer for helping me prepare the Sukkot dinner, and thanks to Harris, Nina, Leon and Sylvia Rose, and all others who helped set up and clean up. Now, on to Chanukah!

As you may have noticed, work has finally begun on our roof repairs. Just in time for the winter rain and snow! Thanks to Harris for interfacing with our contractor and supervising the repairs.

As we start again the cycle of Torah reading, it is interesting to ask what archeological evidences may exist for the various stories we find there. I was reading an interesting article in today's Haaretz (English edition) on just this topic (see <https://www.haaretz.com/archaeology/.premium-1.818795>, but you might need a subscription to read it). Among the claims in this article: Although the book of Genesis mentions camels (recall Rebecca fell off her camel upon first seeing Isaac!), the earliest domestic camel bones found in Israel date to around 930 B.C.E., about a millennia later. There is no archeological evidence for walls around Jericho at the date when Joshua supposedly brought them down. There is no archeological evidence clearly supporting an exodus from Egypt! Although we read that Abraham went to visit the land of the Philistines, the historical record does not have the Philistines arriving until centuries later, around 1200 B.C.E. (however old Rabbinic sources, going back at least as far as the Septuagint, do argue that the Philistines of Genesis were not the same people as the Philistines of Deuteronomy, so maybe there is an out here!). While most archeologists seem to agree on these points, the situation gets murkier as we move later on in our history. A point under active contention (by archeologists) concerns the question as to whether there ever was a large united kingdom under Kings David and Solomon, or if Jerusalem under David and Solomon was never more than a small backwater town. Until recently, the more cynical second view seemed to be the prevailing one, but more recent excavations are lending some support towards the Biblical narrative. Debate remains as to whether new excavations in the "City of David", south of the Temple Mount, have found any remnants of King David's palace, or not. Currently there seem to be two schools of thought vying against each other: the Biblically leaning school, centered with archeologists based in Jerusalem, and the "minimalist school" centered in Tel Aviv. Why do I not find that surprising? Anyway, an interesting article if you can get it.

See you in shul,

Steve Teitel



BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS - NOVEMBER 2017

Saturday	Nov 4	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Services Torah: Vayera
Sunday	Nov 5	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Friday	Nov 10	7:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am at Beth Am
Saturday	Nov 11	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Torah: Chayei Sarah
Sunday	Nov 12	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Monday	Nov 13	7:30 PM	BHBI Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday	Nov 15	7:30 PM	Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study at BHBI
Saturday	Nov 18	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Toldot
Sunday	Nov 19	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Saturday	Nov 25	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Vayetze
Sunday	Nov 26	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion

SHABBAT CANDLELIGHTING TIMES

Friday, Nov. 3 – 4:39 PM
 Friday, Nov. 10 – 4:31 PM
 Friday, Nov. 17 – 4:24 PM
 Friday, Nov. 24 – 4:19 PM

SMALL CONSERVATIVE SHUL COLLABORATIVE TORAH STUDY

Following the High Holy Days, we are resuming our Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study sessions. The next one will be scheduled on Wednesday, November 15th at 7:30 p.m. at BHBI.

EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Kristallnacht Program with Dr. Deborah Lipstadt

Renowned Holocaust historian, Dr. Deborah Lipstadt, Professor of Modern Jewish and Holocaust Studies at Emory University, will speak at the MCC Center for Holocaust Studies' Kristallnacht program on Wednesday evening, November 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the Warshof Conference Center in MCC Building 3. The author of several books on the Holocaust, she was also the subject of a libel suit by British Holocaust denier David Irving. She fought the suit in a British court, where there is a presumption of guilt and a person being sued for libel has to prove that they did not libel the accuser, and won, as was illustrated in the recent feature film 'Denial'. The event is free but tickets are required and can be obtained by calling 292-2534 or by going to http://monroecctickets.universitytickets.com/user_pages/event.asp?id=311&cid=27

Jews and American Politics

Professor Sarah Liebschutz will discuss Jews and American Politics at Temple Beth El's Beit Café on Thursday, November 30th from 1:30 - 3:30 pm. The event is free and open to the public. For information, call Sheila Weinbach at 732-0865.

Shalom Hartman Video Lecture Series

Temple Sinai and Temple Beth David are jointly sponsoring the newest Shalom Hartman video lecture series titled *Jewish Values and the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict* beginning on November 6th. Classes will be held from 6:30 – 8:30 pm on 11/6, 11/20, 12/4, 12/18, 1/8, 1/22, 2/5, 2/26, 3/12, 3/26, 4/9 and 4/23. Cost - \$50 (separate charge for the textbook is \$20). Each session will include a video followed by an explanation by the rabbis and a small group discussion. To register, go to www.tsinai.org

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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.

J C C L A N E D W O R K I N JEWISHBOOKFESTIVAL

November 5 - 19, 2017

Sunday, November 5th @ 10 am – Rochester's own Mark Schulman discusses his book for teenagers *'Scrawl'*

Sunday, November 5th @ 7 pm – Michael Chabon discusses his NY Times bestseller *'Moonglow: A Novel'*. A dessert reception will follow.

Monday, November 6th @ 7 pm – Rochester's own Todd Moss discusses his book *'The Shadow List'*

Friday, November 10th @ 12 noon – Fiction Panel Discussion: Mystery Edition with Ronald Balson, author of *'The Trust'*, Julia Dahl, author of *'Conviction'* and Danya Kukafka, author of *'Girl in Snow'*

Sunday, November 12th @ 11 am – Raychel Kubby Adler discusses her book *'Life in Asymmetry: A Hopeful Journey Over the Peaks and Valleys of Genetic Breast Cancer'* in discussion with Holly Anderson, Executive Director of the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester, and Dr. Rachel Farkas

Tuesday, November 14th @ 6 pm – local wine, beer and spirits tasting followed by former Saturday Night Live writer Alan Zweibel discussing his book *'For This We Left Egypt?'* at 7 pm. The event will be held at the Irondequoit Country Club.

Thursday, November 16th @ 7 pm – Leslie Bennetts discusses her book *'Last Girl Before Freeway: The Lives, Loves, Losses and Liberation of Joan Rivers'*

Sunday, November 19th @ 11 am – Rochester's own Michael Dobkowski discusses his book *'Facing Death: Confronting Mortality in the Holocaust and Ourselves'*

Sunday, November 19th @ 1 pm – Rochester's own Alan Singer discusses the book *'Arthur Singer: The Wildlife Art of an American Master'* that he co-wrote with his son, Paul Singer

For information or tickets for the Jewish Book Festival, go to www.jccrochester.org or call 461-2000



DONATIONS
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Sam Gold
Lyn Adams

In memory of Bernard Israel
Rose Israel

In memory of Celia Israel
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In memory of David Israel
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In memory of Jean Traub
Ken and Mollie Traub

In memory of Bernard Lipschutz
Judith Mercer

In memory of Louis Rappaport
Ira Cohen

HIGH HOLY DAY APPEAL

Ira Cohen
Gail Faber

Arthur and Trude Fitelson
Phil Garver

Harris and Aline Honickman
Judith Mercer

Katharine Metlay

Leon Metlay and Nina Klionsky
Alan Resnick

Stan and Elaine Schaffer

Tammy Strubel

Steve and Ruth Teitel

Ken and Mollie Traub

Hermann Vogelstein

Steve Wittlin

THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS
FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

October 7	Hermann Vogelstein in honor of his sister, Esther's birthday Katharine Metlay in memory of her brother, Leon Titof
October 14	Jill Clark-Foulkes in memory of her mother, Beverly Clark
October 21	Leon Metlay and Nina Klionsky
October 28	Hermann and Esther Vogelstein in memory of their mother, Ingeborg Vogelstein

CONDOLENCES

The congregation sends its condolences to our former members, Marco and Patricia Malka y Negri, now living in Florida, on the sudden passing of their son, Marcelo.

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.

November 3-4	Cheshvan	November 10-11	Cheshvan	November 17-18	Cheshvan-Kislev	November 24-25	Kislev
Nellie Beckler*	15	Louis Gastel*	23	Abraham Friedman*	29	Meyer Kovel'ski*	7
Lena Cohen*	16	Nathan Strom*	24	Rose Nidetz	30	Fanny Titof	8
Sofya Kaminnik*	17	Mary Jaffey*	28	Charles Franke	2	Nathan Bernstein*	9
Rae Toker	17	Harvey Sanow*	28	Sam Morris*	4	Beatryce Cohen*	9
Mosheh Lazar*	18	Fannie Stern*	28	Israel Schriba*	4	Joseph Louis	
Julia Goldman*	19			Jacob Smilack*	4	Shapiro*	9
Bessie Schnidman*	21			Dorothy Lewis		Rose Alderman*	10
				Cohen*	5	Feist Hess*	10
				Mark H. Keyfetz*	5	Eleanor Teitel	10
				Rachel Olkes*	6	Dr. Mark Blue	11
						Wolf Schild*	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

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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

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

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, 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!

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

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

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

Congregation Beth Hamedresh-Beth Israel
1369 East Avenue
Rochester, NY 14610