

MISHPOCHEH

Temple Beth Shalom ☆ Brigantine Jewish Community Center

May 2009 Vol. 17, No. 4

Rabbi Gerald R. Fox

Iyar/Sivan 5769



SERVICES

Every Friday Evening
Throughout the Year,
8-9 p.m.

Saturday Services

May 16, 2009 • 10 a.m.
(Followed by Kiddush luncheon)

Board Meeting

Sunday, May 17 • 10 a.m.

Yizkor Services

Saturday, May 30 • 10 a.m.



Shavuot Eve

Thursday, May 28

Shavuot

Friday, May 29

RABBI'S COLUMN

Learning to Count . . .

How do you count? How do you mark the time between the special moments in your

life? Do you act oblivious while others express their enthusiasm or despair over the number of days left before a big (perhaps looming) event? What do you do when you cannot wait for a special time or event to arrive? How do you measure special moments in your life? And, of course, what do you define as “worthy” of the act of counting?

How we count, what we count, but especially the very fact that we count time or rather measure the details of our daily lives, says a great deal about who we are and what we want out of our lives. The very act of counting is a holy act, as we are reminded of repeatedly in the Torah and in all of our holy books - counting is what God does to define who is “in” and who is “out,” who will live and who will die, who has God’s favor and who does not. When we count the details in our lives, we might consider the holiness of this seemingly perfunctory act.

I have been thinking about counting for a number (pun intended) of reasons lately. Of course, not the least of which is that from Pesach to Shavuot we Jews engage in one of our most important calendrical tasks: We measure the time between the recollection of our people’s freedom by way of our Exodus from Egypt to our re-enactment of our receipt of God’s laws and statutes for us as well as the very creation of our “Peoplehood” at Mount Sinai. I have been reckoning other numbers, as well.

During this special time between Passover and Shavuot when our ancestors went from simply being a group of individuals with a shared

ancestor to an actual community, I find myself counting those of us who attend Temple Beth

Shalom’s services as well as those involved in our events. And yet this does not consider an ever-present concern of mine and the shul’s leadership: Growing the per capita dollars donated to the shul. In many measureable ways, each one of Temple Beth Shalom’s members “count” - you do this most impressively by attending synagogue events and by joining each other at critical times in each others’ lives. Anyone who has experienced this knows that this is a central part of what it means to be a community. But counting is even more than this; counting, with its deluge of meanings, calls upon us each of us to be a reliable and present force in the life of that for which you count . . . in this case, in the life of Temple Beth Shalom.

As we make our way from Passover’s *zman heruteinu*, the time of our freedom, to standing with our ancestors at Sinai on Shavuot to receive the very laws and values that govern our lives as Jews, let us consider what we count, how we count, and what especially counts us. I would put forth that you might consider Temple Beth Shalom in that mix. Perhaps you might think it untoward for you to hear such words from your Rabbi, but I feel that this season calls out for such an appeal as we Jews seek to live higher spiritual lives each day in this season: Put simply, your Rabbi is asking you to join him at services, to engage with your fellow congregants in and out of the shul building, and to offer yourself in

(RABBI continued on page 2)



Presidents' Column

April showers bring May flowers
The trees, bushes and flowers are blooming
The snow birds are gradually returning to our island
This is the season for rebirth, reawakening and rededication.

We who have kept the fires burning in the hearth this long cold winter are eagerly waiting for this season. We have planned several wonderful events for this spring and summer. But (you knew there was going to be a but) in order to succeed, we need your support and participation! Contact the office and tell Diane you would like not only to participate but also to serve on the various committees.

And yes, one more thing – we need you to pay your dues! Good intentions are one thing but we cannot run this synagogue on air. We have salaries, utilities etc. We all have expenses. If you cannot pay in full, pay in monthly increments or use Paypal. Your dues are due by January 31. We cannot wait until September. We are thinking of changing from a calendar year to a fiscal one but this year we are still on the calendar year!

I know I can count on each one of you for your support!
Happy Spring!

Lill Shender, President



**It's not too early to gather together
your donations for our**

ANNUAL BAZAAR.

**We will be accepting good, clean
merchandise (NO JUNK, PLEASE)**

**So go through your closets, kitchens,
garages, jewelry boxes, etc. and bring
them to the Temple**

**10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday through
Friday.**

**Call the office at 609-266-0403
if you have any questions or need to
make special arrangements.**

Edie Krimstock, *Chairman*

Person of the Month

DIANE ALEXEEV

We have been blessed with an angel who has landed in our office some three or four years ago. Diane Alexeev has sailed with us through many phases of the Temple's development. Her efficient, charming manner and computer smarts helps her manage our office perfectly. Anytime you call the Temple office and are greeted by a smiling, melodious response, that's our office angel.

Rabbi *(continued from page 1)*

good will and without agenda to the running of our congregation. In other words, your funds are necessary, your efforts and time are valued, and, most of all, your presence is what can and will raise this community's spirits to new heights.

Let's be honest: Temple Beth Shalom makes modest "demands" upon our congregants (except those at the center of our ability to function) by any measure of congregational life, and I believe that there is a significant and disproportionate benefit that each of us receives by offering what we can (and then a little more) to the endeavor of Jewish life on Brigantine Island. And to be most blunt, our congregation needs you; I would like to see our commitment to Jewish life here on Brigantine Island increase in every way "countable" and I hope that you will be inspired to contribute to that endeavor. Do not be mistaken: Our modest shul cannot exist without you . . . in my vision of our shul's future, you have an important role to play, but only you can "count" yourself into that future! Join me. Join your fellow Jews on Brigantine Island. Join together in making Temple Beth Shalom a place that "counts" in ways that cannot be measured simply . . . just as we count this island as a true machaya, or life giver, so too, is our shul.

May we go from strength to strength, may we see each other soon, and may we share joyous moments with each other at each meeting. Please know that even when I do not see you, you are thought of and you are missed . . . and so it is that we are counted.

Rabbi Gerald R. Fox

MAY I HAVE YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE!

*Are you celebrating a special day, honoring
someone or remembering a loved one?*

A good way to do this is to sponsor an Oneg Shabbat on a Friday night or a Saturday Kiddush Luncheon. It will make you feel good and will help your synagogue carry on this time-honored tradition.

For only \$25 for a Friday night or \$100 for a Saturday luncheon, this has got to be the biggest bargain on the planet! Call Diane at 266-0403 and make your intentions known.

Thank You To the Oneg Shabbat & Kiddush Sponsors
For April

Friday, April 3 Eileen & Daniel-Paul Alva
in memory of Eileen's grandmother, Katie Wallach.

Elaine & Joshua Shapiro in memory of Elaine's mother, Gertrude Nerenberg.

Friday, April 17 Albert & Barbara Dragon in memory of Albert's aunt, Rose Marcus.

Eugene Blum & Judith Blum-Crawford in memory of Gene's sister/Judy's aunt, Jessica F. Blum; and Gene's mother-in-law/Judy's grandmother, Rebecca Furst.

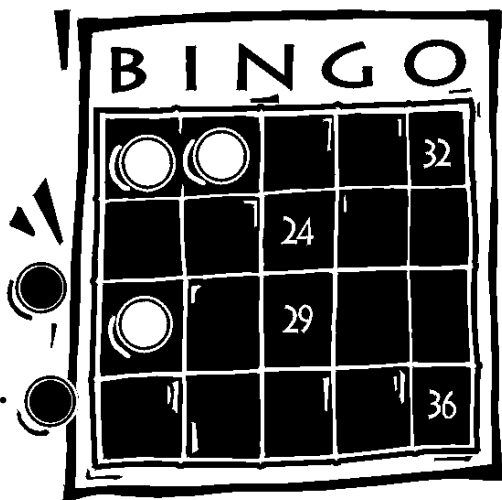
Marsha & Leonard Goldberg in memory of Marsha's mother, Claire Glider

Sidney & Shirley Morgan in memory of Sid's father, Abraham Morgan

Saturday, April 18 Dr. Stephen & Rosalyn Weinstein in memory of Steve's mother, Elsie M. Rosenblatt

Friday, April 24 Jo-Ann & Ronald Massanova in memory of Jo-Ann's aunt, Lenore Yudof.

BINGO
starts
Thursday,
July 9
and every
Thursday
evening
from
7-8:30 p.m.
until
August 27.



All children ages 7 through 11 are welcome. Prizes and refreshments will be served. Parents are encouraged to join their children. We need help. Call the office at 266-0403 to volunteer.

Jamie Satz
Chairman

WWW. SEASHUL.ORG
For Temple Information

Be sure to sign in to our website. It contains a wealth of information. Remember you can use PayPal to take advantage of this convenient method of payment for your dues, your donations or anything else.



BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1.....Dr. Roberta Ball | 15.....Barry Cogan |
| 7.....Ronald Bermon | 21 ..Dr. Warren R. Heymann, |
| 8.....Moe Lurie | Dr. Rhonda Schnur, |
| 10.....Bruce Bortner | Helen Spinrad |
| 11.....Afton Koontz | 24.....Sydelle Cohen |
| 13.....Dr. Robert Schwab | 26.....Bruce Nussbaum |
| 14.....Barbara Glaser, | 27.....Lilyan Cralle |
| Mina Kramer, | 28.....Robert Linzner |
| Howard Schlesinger | |

ANNIVERSARIES

- | | |
|---------|---------------------------|
| 3..... | Ronald & Jo-Ann Massanova |
| 24..... | Daniel-Paul & Eileen Alva |
| 27..... | Carol & Howard Serotta |
| 28..... | Milton & Phyllis Berkes |

Condolences

Deepest sympathy to **Lill & Ron Shender** on the loss of Lill's cousin, Dr. Harvey Goldman, who passed away April 6, 2009.

General Donations

Lill & Ron Shender in memory of Lill's cousin, Dr. Harvey Goldman.

Sheryl & Jeffrey Mazur for many mitzvahs in honor of their children.

Get Well

Pearl Kaye, Mitchell Kramer, Aimee Levin, Sari Levin, Shirley Schreiber, Jeffrey Shender, Sandy Berkowitz-Shender, Marvin Siegel, Sandra Wray (sister of Lill Shender)

Yahrzeit Donations

Jo-Ann & Ronald Massanova in memory of Jo-Ann's aunt, Lenore Yudof

Susan Orloff in memory of her grandmother, Yetta Levin

Joseph Harris in memory of his mother, Anna Harris

Janis & Larry Murphy in memory of their son, Andrew Milstein Murphy

Seymour & Norma Trachtman in memory of Norma's mother, Elsie Freidberg, and their friend, Carole Kramer

May Yahrzeits

- 5/2 Barry & Sandy Cogan *in memory of Barry's mother, Hilda Cogan*
Seymour & Norma Trachtman *in memory of their friend, Carole Kramer*
- 5/4 Ronald & Rhoda Bermon *in memory of Rhoda's father, Solomon Boyer*
- 5/5 Aaron & Joan Grossman *in memory of Joan's grandfather, Philip Goldberg*
- 5/7 Bruce & Barbara Nussbaum *in memory of Bruce's father, Marvin Nussbaum*
- 5/8 Milton & Phyllis Berkes *in memory of Milton's father, Morris Berkes*
Dr. Henry & Gloria Jacoby *in memory of Henry's mother, Pearl Jacoby; and Gloria's father, Louis Yablonsky*
- 5/9 Barry & Ellen Savitz *in memory of Barry's father, Percy Savitz*
- 5/12 Philip Goisman and Gale Hoffman *in memory of Philip's stepmother and Gale's aunt, Virginia Goisman*
Thelma Zuckerman *in memory of her mother, Nettie Semel*
- 5/13 Stanley & Judith Levick *in memory of Stanley's father, Max Levick*
- 5/14 Beverlee Bearman Reiter *in memory of her mother, Sylvia Bearman*
Sylvia Leibowitz *in memory of her uncle, Maurice Howard Leibowitz*
- 5/15 Mildred Richmond *in memory of her brother, Albert Goldstein*
- 5/16 Henry & Janis Garson *in memory of Janis's mother, Lenora Goldstein*
- 5/17 Ronald & Lillian Shender *in memory of Lill's mother, Evelyn Harrison*
Howard & Janis Rosenberg *in memory of Howard's mother, Seena Rosenberg*
- 5/19 John & Lena Elzufon *in memory of Lena's brother, Jack Jacobs*
Sylvia Leibowitz *in memory of her aunt, Bertha Kanter*
- 5/20 Leon & Harriet Ackovitz *in memory of their aunt & uncle, Rosa & Bernard Foster*
Amy Hammel *in memory of her mother, Rosalind Lutin*
- 5/21 Sidney & Shirley Morgan *in memory of Shirley's mother, Gertrude Neumann*
- 5/22 Jack & Lilyan Cralle *in memory of Jack's father, John Hutchinson Cralle Sr.*
Dr. Martin & Linda Millison *in memory of Linda's mother, Ethel Raichlen*
- 5/23 Linda Hahn *in memory of her grandmother, Bertha Haufman*
Ronald & Susan Panitch *in memory of Susan's father, Irving Wallin*
- 5/24 Seymour & Norma Trachtman *in memory of Norma's mother, Elsie Freidberg*
- Howard & Janis Rosenberg *in memory of Janis's father, Henry Miller*
Barbara Pearlman *in memory of her husband, David Pearlman*
- 5/26 Alan Simon, Esq. *in memory of his wife, Carol Simon*
- 5/27 Burton & Ruth Weiss *in memory of Burton's mother, Pauline Weiss*
- 5/28 Thelma Zuckerman *in memory of her father-in-law, Benjamin Zuckerman*
- 5/29 Stanley & Judith Levick *in memory of Judith's father, Arthur Goldman*
Marvin & Irene Siegel *in memory of Marvin's mother, Gertrude Siegel*
- 5/30 Fannie Labkow
- 5/31 Dr. Joseph & Betty Chaikin *in memory of Joe's mother, Katie Chaikin*
Aaron & Joan Grossman *in memory of Joan's grandmother, Anna Goldberg*



*Shavuot

Shavuot begins the evening of May 28. It celebrates the end of the omer – 49 days from the 2nd day of Passover. On the 50th day, Shavuot, the feast of weeks, (the wheat harvest) is celebrated. Kabbalists read mystical meaning into the ritual of the counting between the deliverance of Israelites from Egypt and their betrothal of Torah at Sinai.

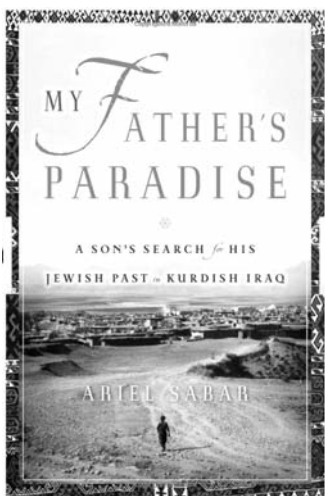
*The Standard Jewish Encyclopedia, 1962



**Temple Beth Shalom of
Brigantine invites Vendors,
Crafters and Pack Rats to book
space for our summer Sundays
“Craft Show/Flea Markets.”
Bring your goods and table for
only \$25 a spot each Sunday.**

**Contact the office at
609-266-0403 Monday through
Friday, 10 to Noon to reserve
your spot as soon as possible!**

BOOK CLUB



The next book club meeting will be held Monday, May 18, 1:30 p.m., at Betty Chaikin's, 56 Ocean Drive West, Brigantine. “MY FATHERS PARADISE” will be discussed.

This book is about a son's search for his Jewish past in Kurdish Iraq. You will think you are reading a fairy tale of Jewish history of Kurdish Jews. It is fascinating. Call Lill Shender if you are coming or for more information – 264-9347.



We would like to say thank you to Rabbi Fox for making the March Super Weekend so very memorable. We truly enjoyed Rabbi Micah Becker-Klein Friday nite and also Saturday nite. We were unable to attend on Sunday, however know that this must also have been a success. All of the hard work which it took to make this happen is truly appreciated and we thank you and say we are looking forward to next year.

We would also like to thank Lill and Ron for the behind the scenes work which you both do on a regular basis. Our Temple is most fortunate to have you and we truly appreciate all you do.
Sid and Shirley Morgan

Congratulations to the Mazurs for Special Mitzvahs

I have many mitzvahs and would like to make a donation in honor of my children.

- My oldest son, Nolan, is graduating Hofstra University in May, 2009 with a degree in civil engineering. He will start working in June for a large construction company in long Island.

- My middle son, Matt is producing his own student play this weekend at NYU – Playwrights’ Horizons Theatre program.

- My youngest son, Harris, is performing in the Music Man at Livingston High School this week as Marcellus Washburn. He is being inducted into the National Honor Society in May.

Please use the money for the synagogue for any needs or onegs. I have been very busy at work which is why we have not been down much.

Best wishes to all from the Mazur Family.

Jeffrey & Sheryl Mazur



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MISHPOCHEH NEWS

Published Monthly by
 Temple Beth Shalom

4419 West Brigantine Avenue, Brigantine, NJ 08203

www.seashul.org

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*Affiliated with the United Synagogue of
 Conservative Judaism*

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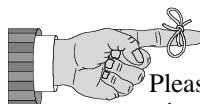
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A Reminder

to all Temple Beth Shalom members
 Please notify the office of any births, engagements,
 marriages, illnesses or deaths. This way the Rabbi,
 Board and Temple membership can be notified. The answering
 machine is on 7 days and 24 hours a day.

**Help Our Temple
 through your donations**

Your donations in memory of loved ones, simchas, our
 Rabbi's Library Fund or Rabbi's Discretionary Fund not only
 help the Temple, but also are a way to remember various happy
 and sad events in your life. Unsolicited general donations are
 needed to help the Temple meet its annual operating expenses.
 Keep in mind, less than 50% of our operating expenses are
 covered by membership dues. Listed below are the various
 items to which you can contribute.

- Bronze Memorial Plaque**\$300
- Leaf on the Tree of Life**\$50
- Oneg Shabbat sponsor** (Friday night)\$25
- Kiddish Sponsor** (Saturday Luncheon).....\$100
- Message Card**\$5 each
- Yizkor Memorial**Minimum \$10
- Ackovitz Education Fund**Whatever you desire
- Building Fund**Whatever you desire
- Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**.....Whatever you desire
- Library Fund**Whatever you desire
- Kiddush Fund**Whatever you desire