

MISHPOCHEH

Temple Beth Shalom ☆ Brigantine Jewish Community Center

November 2015 Vol. 23, No. 10

Rabbi Gerald R. Fox

Heshvan/Kislev 5776

SERVICES

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

Light Refreshments

Saturday Service

November 14 • 10 a.m.

Sunday Board Meeting

November 15 • 10 a.m.

Coming Events

Tuesday, Nov. 24
Thanksgiving
Interfaith Service,
7pm, Community
Presbyterian Church

NEED A RIDE?

If you need a ride to
Friday night services,
call the office at
266-0403 and leave
a message by
Thursday each week.
We will do our best to
accommodate you!



RABBI'S COLUMN

The Importance of "Thank You"

Every relationship has its ups and downs. That is the very nature of relationships; there is ebb and flow between the participants. Before we can hope to absorb and then acknowledge these more intense and more relaxed times within a relationship, we must be able to focus on it enough to notice what's happening. And this, I think we would all agree, is where we sometimes run into trouble.

Especially in our incredibly over-programmed lives, we have a tendency to rush from one task to another (particularly if it has to do with health or some other sort of urgency). Before we know it, we have forgotten what we did last or what we have promised or simply to offer our appreciation for the presence of someone else in our lives. In other words, we forget the importance of being aware in our own lives, which is often exemplified by our forgetting the importance of "Thank you."

No relationship we have — whether professional or personal, whether casual or intimate, whether human or Divine — can survive being taken for granted. And, contrary to how each of us tricks ourselves into thinking sometimes, the erosion of the strength of a relationship occurs pretty soon after we remove our focus from it.

Many of us have heard the phrase, 'Life is about the journey, not the destination.' What I tell people who come to me for counseling and what I will tell you now is a little different: "Life is about management, not accomplishment."

'Being in a relationship' is really a better way to understand the word, "relationship," as it is an active pursuit, not a passive experience. I think it's fair to say, however, that it is easy to become confused in the midst of a relationship, as we might be the one providing the vast majority of the energy to maintain or ensure the existence of the relationship. We may think that the gifts that we give or the time that we spend listening or helping someone else (or even that the impressive personal abilities we bring) entitles us to something back. Ultimately, though, the more transactional we make a relationship, the less it is a true relationship. I'm not suggesting that we live a life of altruism but I am saying that no relationship can survive the pressure of expected rewards.

As we approach Thanksgiving, a civic holiday created in the midst of the greatest

(RABBI continued on page 3)



Sukkah Decoration

*Sid and Shirley
Morgan,
Lill Shender and
Natalie Solomon
decorate the Sukkah.*

*(More photos on
page 2)*

The Prez Sez

As we get deep into fall and approach winter, it is a difficult time for our Shul by the Sea. Our crowds get smaller as the weather cools. Some think that Brigantine and the Expressway closes this time of year and therefore do not venture east.



Others head south or west until the crocuses reemerge. As a result it is increasingly difficult to have viable crowds for all of our activities. To me, one of the saddest situations is to have someone arrive to say Kaddish and not have a Minyan available to assist in honoring the memory of a loved one. You can turn that situation around.

Temple Beth Shalom is open all year long and Brigantine is a great place to visit in the fall and winter: the town is not crowded; the restaurants are open; the casinos have good shows and empty tables and available slot machines. Come on down and check us out and of course start your week-end at the shore with Friday night visit with your friends and extended family at TBS. We would love to see you. How about making Erev-Shabbat service a monthly tradition? (Of course, we'd love to see you weekly.)

Another of my favorite topics: do you have creative juices that you are waiting to loosen? If you do, we have an outlet for you. Is your latent talent writing? We can use you to write publicity, contribute articles to this newsletter or to even edit this missive.

Are you a thinker and planner? How about coming up with a fundraiser or a fun social night? You can plan it and chair the event.

What about the culinary side? We would like fresh ideas for our dinners.

Are entertainment or current events your forte? We can use a program chairperson.

I am sure that you get the message. We need you, but we want to use you in a way that will provide benefits to you as well as to TBS. Give it a try.

One last reminder: we need new members. If you have any potential member, please, let us know.

To volunteer or to provide a prospect's name, come see me any Friday night or log onto our website, seashul.org, and click on the contact us button. Please, give it serious consideration.

I close with a lot of thanks. There is an article in this newsletter about Sukkot and the names of all of those that helped with the Sukkah and the dinner are enumerated. I can't thank you enough for what you do and did to keep our ship sailing in the right direction.

The last thanks are to all of you who answered our High Holy Day Appeal. We depend on your generosity and are appreciative and grateful for your response.

Shalom.
Jack



Sukkah Crew

Sid Morgan, Howard Abber, John (our handyman) and Joel Miller attacking the Sukkah structure.



Good bye Sukkah

Henry Jacoby, Sid Morgan and Joel Miller pack away the last remnants of the 2015 Sukkah. Inclement weather prevented use of the Sukkah, but TBS was ready.

BOOK CLUB

The next book club will meet

**Monday,
November 23, 1 p.m.**

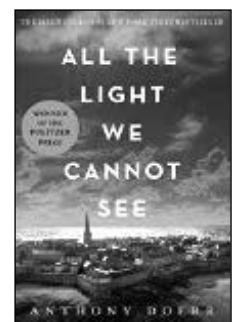
to review

**“All the Light We
Cannot See”**

by **Anthony Doerr.**

Hosted by **Judy & Burt
Schwartz**

2107 Bayshore Avenue



RSVP to Shirley at

ssmorgan3@verizon.net or call 609-266-8599.

Simply Shirley . . .

Welcome to all of my readers.

On Friday, October 9 our Temple celebrated an Oneg Shabbat to honor Betty Chaikin's 90th birthday. The Oneg was sponsored by Dr. Harry and Sarah Chaikin and was truly wonderful. Betty is such a very special person to our Temple as well as to Brigantine. May you celebrate many more healthy and wonderful birthdays Betty and know you are missed by us all.

The TBS book club met on Monday, October 12th to discuss the book "All The Love I Know," which turned out to make for a great discussion. Our hostess was Natalie Solomon and we thank her for making us all feel so very welcome at her lovely home. Not only was the food wonderful but we were able to sit outside on the deck, enjoy the beautiful view and discuss our book. Our bookies have become a very interesting group and truly very special. This book also made for a lively discussion and I would personally recommend it as a diversified and fast reading book.

November 23rd is our next book club and we will be reading, "All The Light We Cannot See." This is another most interesting book and one which is a "must read." We will be meeting at the home of Burt and Judy Schwartz. Our hosts are truly wonderful and always make us feel so welcome, whether it is at the Community Center or at private homes, our TBS Bookies know how to make you feel special and I thank you all for being you.

Please contact Shirley at 609-266-8599 or ssmorgan3@verizon.net should you be interested in being added to our book club list.

We welcome suggestions regarding any good read you may have and thank you in advance.

Happy Reading,

Simply Shirley

Thanksgiving and the Jews: Pennsylvania, 1868

When the Governor of Pennsylvania declared that Thanksgiving should be celebrated as a Christian holiday in 1868, the rabbis of Philadelphia protested.

By Michael Feldberg

Chapters in American Jewish History are provided by the American Jewish Historical Society, collecting, preserving, fostering scholarship and providing access to the continuity of Jewish life in America for more than 350 years (and counting). Visit www.ajhs.org.

The first "American" Thanksgiving was held in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1621, attended by 90 Native Americans and 50 English Pilgrim settlers. That first Thanksgiving mirrored ancient harvest feasts such as Sukkot, the ancient Greek mid-June Thesmophorian celebration, and the ancient Roman Cerealian rites of mid-April.

The Pilgrims' Thanksgiving was not an annual event, and did not become an American ritual for more than 200 years. To mark the adoption of the Constitution and the establishment of a new government, President George Washington declared November 26, 1789, a day of thanksgiving and prayer. However, Washington did not renew his declaration. It was not until 1863, in the midst of the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln fixed the last Thursday of each November as a "day of thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father." After the Union triumphed, Thanksgiving Day became an even more significant observance in the northern states.

It was in this context that Governor John W. Geary of Pennsylvania, in 1868, issued a proclamation to the citizens of his state urging them to celebrate Thanksgiving. Geary's proclamation read in part:

Unto God our Creator we are indebted for life and all its blessings. It therefore becomes us at all times to render unto Him the homage of grateful hearts . . . and I recommend that the people of this Commonwealth on [November 26th] refrain from their usual avocations and pursuits, and assemble at their chosen place of worship, to praise the name of God and magnify Him with thanksgiving.

While such sentiments were not offensive, some of Geary's additional words were: "Let us thank Him with Christian humility for health and prosperity," Geary urged, and he called on Pennsylvanians to pray that "our paths through life may be directed by the example and instructions of the Redeemer, who died that we might enjoy the blessings which temporarily flow therefrom, and eternal life in the world to come."

Michael Feldberg, Ph.D. is executive director of the George Washington Institute for Religious Freedom. From 1991 to 2004, he served as executive director of the American Jewish Historical Society, the nation's oldest ethnic historical organization, and from 2004 to 2008 was its director of research.

Rabbi (continued from page 1)

incivility, let's take a moment to consider not just what we receive as blessings in our lives for which we should be thankful but how present we are in the relationships in which we consider ourselves participants. Are we truly focused on what is happening in them? Do we bring all of ourselves to them even during seemingly trivial interactions? Are we waiting for something before we give? Flowing from these questions, let us presume, no matter how appreciative and "plugged-in" we perceive ourselves to be, we can always offer our gratitude to an acquaintance, a loved one, or even to God. We can begin, quite simply, with the words, "Thank you."

If we have any hope of making this year a better one and this world a more perfect one, we must begin by increasing and improving our connections with each other and with the world around us. It is not Pollyanna-ish to recognize that our Jewish heritage places a premium on acknowledging the blessings in our lives. Our Torah and Talmud as well as the myriad of our other holy works provide countless reminders that "being a good Jew" is built upon the foundation of being aware and focused enough to see and acknowledge that the mere presence of another 'being in relationship' with us is a sacred gift.

May each of us find the courage and the vitality to "manage" rather than "accomplish," and may we remain aware in our lives so as to offer our gratitude.

In reflection of these words: Thank you all for being in my life.

Rabbi Gerald R. Fox

November Yahrzeits

- 11/1 Ronald & Shelley Miller *in memory of* Shelley's father, David Gitomer
Howard & Carol Serotta *in memory of* Carol's cousin,
Barry Joel Hecht
Michael Axler *in memory of* his mother-in-law, Ruth Myers
- 11/3 Amy Hammel *in memory of* her husband, William Hammel
Erika Brooks and Beverly Rosendorf *in memory of* Erika's
grandmother and Beverly's aunt, Pearl Kaye
- 11/4 Mark & Pearl Erdman *in memory of* Pearl's mother, Clara Blady
- 11/5 Mark & Dr. Linda Baum *in memory of* Linda's father,
Jacob Bornstein
- 11/6 Drs. Burton W. & Judith P. Schwartz *in memory of* Burton's
father, Dr. Albert M. Schwartz
Dr. Ira & Donna Wertheimer *in memory of* Ira's father,
Jacob Wertheimer
- 11/9 Michael & Carol Albert *in memory of* Michael's father,
Maxwell B. Albert
Michael & Cheryl Guterman *in memory of* Cheryl's aunt,
Rose Gilden Talbin
- 11/10 Dr. Joseph Hassman *in memory of* his father-in-law, Morris Davis
Jerald & Sheila Cohen *in memory of* Sheila's grandmother,
Sarah Levine
- 11/14 Lilyan Cralle *in memory of* her mother-in-law, Sue Marie Cralle
Sima Lotstein
- 11/15 Dr. Henry & Gloria Jacoby *in memory of* Gloria's mother,
Rose Yablonsky
- 11/16 Debbie & Gail Coplein *in memory of* their mother,
Constance Coplein, and great-grandfather, Eli Erlichman
- 11/17 Edward & Judith Rubin *in memory of* Judy's father, Herman Lam
Susan Mintz *in memory of* her mother, Lilyan Politzer
- 11/18 Jack Hanish
Seymour & Dorothy Katz *in memory of* Seymour's father,
Joseph Katz
- 11/19 Leon Lotstein
Marvin & Diane Waxman *in memory of* Diane's mother, Ethel Rose
- 11/21 Michael & Cheryl Guterman *in memory of* Cheryl's father,
David Brownstein
Anne Paulin
Gregory & Bella Royzman *in memory of* Bella's brother,
Khaim Sapozhnikov
Seymour & Norma Trachtman *in memory of* Seymour's
mother, Yetta Trachtman
Dr. Eli & Nancy Zucker *in memory of* Eli's father, Irving Zucker
- 11/23 Dr. Barry & Barbara Glaser *in memory of* Barry's father,
Samuel Glaser
Dr. Eli & Nancy Zucker *in memory of* Nancy's mother, Helen Kotzin
Jerald & Sheila Cohen *in memory of* Sheila's father, David Weil
- 11/24 Deborah Cimini *in memory of* her father, Gerson Goldberg
- 11/25 Joel & Stephanie Miller *in memory of* Stephanie's grandfather,
Dr. Samuel Segal
Marvin & Diane Waxman *in memory of* Marvin's mother,
Belle Waxman
- 11/28 Betty Chaikin, Dr. Harry & Sarah Chaikin, Gale & Steven
Donohue, and Jamie Chaikin & William Boutin *in memory of*
husband and father, Dr. Joseph Chaikin
Jacqueline Fabel *in memory of* her daughter-in-law, Maria Fabel
Jerald & Sheila Cohen *in memory of* their grandmother,
Helen Greenberger
Gerald Pepper *in memory of* his mother-in-law, Elizabeth Rosman
Leslie & Susan Tuerk *in memory of* Susan's mother, Adeline Taylor
Arnie & Lory Schuster *in memory of* Lory's father, Harry Zeidel
- 11/29 Judith Blum-Crawford *in memory of* her mother, Sheila Blum
Harvey Fern *in memory of* his mother, Dorothy Fern
- 11/29 Linda Hahn *in memory of* her grandfather, Meyer Hahn
Stanton & Aimee Levin *in memory of* Stan's father, Leonard E. Levin
David & Estelle Silver *in memory of* David's mother, Pearl Silver
- 11/30 Toby Waller *in memory of* her mother-in-law, Freida Waller

Sad, Soggy, Sukkah Story with a Happy Ending

On a sunny, Sunday morning on the eve of Sukkot, the plea for volunteers to assist in the TBS Sukkah construction was answered. A great crew of eager workers arrived bright and early. The team performed as if they had been working together for weeks. Even with the occasional break for a bagel and a schmear, the Sukkah was erected in record time. The decoration crew then took over and well before noon, the Sukkah was up, the walls were decorated, the tables and chairs for 32 people were in place and we were ready for Sukkot. The crew that did this great job deserves recognition and the thanks of the entire congregation. The team was comprised of Howard Abber, Michael Albert, Wayne & Jack Lieberman, Ron & Lill Shender, Sid & Shirley Morgan, Howard & Natalie Solomon, Carl & Beth Apter, Joel Miller and Stan Levin. They worked hard for the Mitzvah of constructing the Sukkah.

The plan was to have our Friday night Sukkot dinner in the Sukkah. Before then, the Sukkah was available for any members who wanted to have a meal inside to observe the Sukkot Mitzvah. We know of at least one father and son who enjoyed their lunch and each other's company in the Sukkah.

All was going well. The reservations were pouring in, and then the rain also started to pour in. That did not seem like a big deal at first. All the veterans said that was no big deal since it was a tradition to have at least a couple days of rain during Sukkot. However, as the week progressed, the weather deteriorated and the gloom and doom forecast got worse by the hour. The first word was that there would be a nor'easter storm with record rains and winds that would even make Brigantine residents take notice. That was the good news. The bad news was that hurricane Joaquin was heading north and would probably make landfall somewhere on the east coast.

Plan B was put into action. Lill and Ron Shender started to dismantle the Sukkah. Ron and Jack Lieberman moved the tables into the sanctuary and stowed the chairs. On Friday morning Howard Abber, Sid Morgan and Jack Lieberman, working in gale conditions, stripped all of the tarps from the Sukkah to prevent wind damage. So, for the second year in a row, the Sukkah was only a symbol.

Now for the happy ending: the dinner was moved indoors. Even though the rain and wind were daunting and many of our intended guests could not travel from the west or north, we still had 19 for dinner. And what a dinner it was. Lill and Ron did the catering. The meal began with an Israeli salad. The entrée was a bourbon

Sukkah Story continued on page 6

Building Fund

Albert & Barbara Dragon in memory of Al's brother,
Dr. Arnold Dragon.

Get Well

**Dr. Roberta Ball, Barry Bornstein,
Fred Fabel, Bernie Gittelman, Saul Grossman,
Fred Horowitz, Diane Waxman**

General Donations

Ron & Jackie Caplan in honor of
Betty Chaikin's 90th Birthday.

Selma Rosenblum in honor of the 50th Anniversary of
Larry & Susan Levy.

Message Cards

Sid & Shirley Morgan – Congratulations and best wishes
to Jack Lieberman on his presidency; and
Get well wishes to Fred Horowitz.

Mitch & Mina Kramer – Happy Birthday wishes to
Betty Chaikin; and
Congratulations to Lil & Joe Hassman on their 60th
wedding anniversary.

Dr. Joe & Lil Hassman – Get well wishes to Roberta
Ball; Get well wishes to Mitch Kramer.

Yahrzeit Donations

Jackie & Fred Fabel in memory of their fathers, Emanuel
Bilk & Lewis Fabel.

Dr. Barry & Barbara Glaser in memory of Barry's sister,
Flora Furman.

Harvey Fern in memory of his mother, Dorothy Fern.

Dr. Howard & Arlene Waronker in memory of Howard's
father, Isadore Waronker.

Drs. Burton W. & Judy P. Schwartz in memory of
Burton's father, Dr. Albert M. Schwartz.

Bernard & Norma Gittelman in memory of Bernie's
mother, Henrietta Gittelman.

Ronald & Shelley Miller in memory of Shelley's father,
David Gitomer.

Stewart Lapayowker in memory of his grandmother,
Mary Moskowitz.

Sheila Feder in memory of her mother, Dora Werbin, and
mother-in-law, Lillian Feder.

Bernard & Camille Rosenberg in memory of Bernie's
father, Charles Rosenberg.

Irene Siegel in memory of her deceased family members
for Yizkor.

Annieta Mann in memory of her parents,
Leon & Virginia Shanack.

Arnie & Lory Schuster in memory of Arnie's mother,
Margot Schuster.

Dr. Joseph & Lillian Hassman in memory of Lil's father,
Morris Davis.

Dr. Henry & Gloria Jacoby in memory of Gloria's
mother, Rose Yablonsky.

Max & Judy Blum-Crawford in memory of Judy's
mother, Sheila Blum.

Stanton & Aimee Levin in memory of their fathers,
Leonard E. Levin & Daniel Schmerling.

Carol & Howard Serotta in memory of Carol's cousin,
Barry Joel Hecht.

John & Beth Bacha in memory of John's father,
Andrew Bacha.

Thank You To the Oneg Shabbat & Kiddush Sponsors For October

Friday, October 2 – **Sidney & Shirley Morgan** in honor
of all the years of dedication given to our temple by Lill
and Ron Shender.

Friday, October 9 – **Dr. Harry & Sarah Chaikin** in honor
of the 90th birthday of Harry's mother, Betty Chaikin;
Bernard & Norma Gittelman in memory of Bernie's
mother, Henrietta Gittelman;

Howard Abber in memory of his sister, Joyce Small.

Friday, October 16 – **Carl & Beth Apter** in memory of
Carl's brother, Allen Apter.

Saturday, October 17 – **Albert & Barbara Dragon** in
memory of Al's mother, Betty (Becky) Dragon.

Friday, October 23 – **Dr. Howard & Arlene Waronker** in
memory of Howard's father, Isadore Waronker.

Friday, October 30 – **Drs. Burton W. & Judith P.
Schwartz** in memory of Burton's father, Dr. Albert M.
Schwartz.



BIRTHDAYS - November

1John A. Elzufon 14.....Trudy Durant
3Joseph Weinstein 26.....Lisa Yuen
5Eric Goldstein

ANNIVERSARIES - November

5Dr. Stephen & Rosalyn Weinstein
23Cary & Trudy Durant, Saul & Nancy Grossman
27Mitchell & Mina Kramer

Prayer Book Dedication

Purchase a memorial/honorarium plaque to be placed in our
new prayer books (inside front cover) for only \$36. We have
only 15 books remaining for dedication, so call the office at
609-266-0403 and make your wishes known.

Sukkah Story (continued from page 4)

glazed salmon with roasted vegetables and noodle kugel. The Morgans, Beth Apter, Henry Jacoby and Jack Lieberman helped the Shenders with the set-up, clean-up and serving. The consensus was that the Shenders could start a new career in the food service industry.

The dinner was only Act I in the crescendo. After the meal Act II was our traditional Erev Shabbat service. Act III was the installation ceremony for the new board.

Rabbi Fox arranged a wonderful program that consisted of appropriate joyous songs, incoming board's pledge of service and presentations. Certificates were presented to

Mina Kramer and Ron Shender in recognition of their service on the outgoing executive committee. Lill Shender was given a certificate and a plaque in appreciation and gratitude for her ten years of service as president.

The moral of the story is that our Shul by the Sea is a survivor. In the face of adversity, we seem to find a way to recover and indeed make lemonade from lemons. The other moral is that the participants in the construction, deconstruction, the dinner and the installation had a good time that will trigger a lot of warm memories. We would love to have more members share in those types of memories and Mitzvahs.



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MISHPOCHEH NEWS

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*Affiliated with the United Synagogue of
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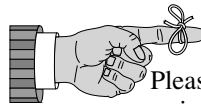
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2nd Vice President: Howard Abber

Treasurer: Lill Shender

Recording Secretary: Joel Miller

Corresponding Secretaries: Drs. Burton & Judy Schwartz



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 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	\$25
Kiddush Lunch Sponsor	\$100
Message Card	\$5 each
Yizkor Memorial	Minimum \$10
Building Fund	Whatever you desire
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund	Whatever you desire
Library Fund	Whatever you desire
Kiddush Fund	Whatever you desire