

THE MESSENGER

The Official Newsletter of Temple Beth Sholom | Sarasota, FL

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Upcoming Events!

June 4	Staying Connected w/ Rabbi Anat Moskowitz	7:30 pm
June 9	Staying Connected w/ Cantor Neil Newman	7:30 pm
June 14	Annual Congregational Meeting (Stay tuned)	11:00 am
June 18	Staying Connected w/ Rabbi Ed Weinsberg	7:30 pm
June 25	Staying Connected w/ Rabbi Mimi Weisel	7:30 pm





RABBI'S MESSAGE

You can ask Lex, she'll tell you that I have put off writing this article to the very last minute. It is probably the hardest article I have had to write. As my last *Messenger* article, it is one piece in the process of saying goodbye as my family and I prepare to move to Washington, DC. This process is being made even harder by the situation in which we find ourselves. Not being able to meet together in person is promoting the necessity to change our expectations and ways of doing things.

Perhaps this is a fitting message for this final article. Things are going to be different. Things are going to be different for me, and they're going to be different for you. But one of the things we have noticed throughout the pandemic is that the need to embrace change can open us up to new ways of doing things and make us realize that the expectations we had for something do not always turn out to be the reality.

When I was at the Rabbinic Assembly/United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism convention in December, I had an experience with the other rabbis in attendance that I thought would be a great way to conclude my final service here. We stood all together in the middle of the room, close to one another, standing shoulder to shoulder. One person started to hum a note and everyone joined in. We were all supposed to hold that note as long as we could and when we needed to take a breath we were to do that and join right back in.

What did we notice? We saw that throughout the more than five minutes that we held the note, even if one, or even a few people, dropped out for a few moments to take a breath, the note could be sustained and the people could join back in. Doing so allowed them to regroup and come back with more energy and strengthened the whole. It is only if many people stop, that the note cannot be carried.

What do we learn, and what would we experience if we could be together for my last Shabbat? We would learn that each one of us is needed to carry our congregation forward. We may each need our time to regroup and gather more strength, but ultimately, each person is important. If too many take a break, then the whole will struggle, but during the time that some need a rest, others step up and carry on.

This is my parting blessing for you all at TBS. I was one breath among many during my time here. There may be areas where I started a note, but you all have picked it up and carry it on. You support each other when someone needs to refresh. When you need time to refresh, you are given the space to do so and are welcomed back into the whole when you are ready.

May you all be blessed to continue to find TBS to be an embracing community, one that values the individual as a means to make a beautiful whole. May you be blessed to see the talents you have and contribute to the TBS community. May you be blessed to have the time and space you need to step back, appreciate the music from afar, and then join back in. May you be blessed to see TBS continue to flourish and be a source of joy and blessing to the members, guests, and entire Sarasota community.

Livracha (In Blessing),

Rabbi Michael Werbow

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Dear fellow Temple Beth Sholom congregants,

In the words of Rogers and Hammerstein, *June is busting out all over*.

Summer is here and we are adjusting to a different climate and tempo in Sarasota, as well as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This is, however, a summer with a difference as we bid farewell to Rabbi Michael Werbow, his wife, Melissa, and their three children, Maya, Lev, and Asher, accompanied by their dog, Bamba.

Rabbi Werbow came to Sarasota over five years ago, and together with former presidents Emma Joels and Rob Katz, played a pivotal role in the revitalization of Temple Beth Sholom, transforming it into the flourishing temple it is today with a warm, friendly, and embracing spirit.

During his tenure Rabbi Werbow reached out to the congregation in so many ways. His scholarly activity and sermons were always well received. His weekly Torah class, Cup of Joe and the Five Books of Mo, was always very erudite, informative, and popular. In 2019, he reinstated the adult Bat Mitzvah class, culminating in a unique and inspiring graduation event.

No task was out of reach for Rabbi Werbow as he could be seen carrying chairs for services, distributing siddurim, helping erect the sukkah with members of the Men's Club, kashering the kitchen, to name just a few. He took pride in challah-making, winning the annual contest with various recipes so many times. I even attended one of his challah-baking sessions and learned how to braid a challah!

Rabbi Werbow served as a champion for social causes, and he established himself firmly in the company of other interfaith leaders in the Sarasota-Manatee area. Melissa Werbow has always been a very strong supporter and co-worker with him in all his activities and a gifted educator and lecturer in her own right.

We have all been charmed by Maya, Lev, and Asher. Our congregation was privileged to be present at Maya's bat mitzvah at TBS. My wife, Esme, and I also had the distinct pleasure of being present at Maya's bat mitzvah at The Wall in Jerusalem and we were proud and honored to have an aliyah during the moving ceremony. We enjoyed being with the Werbow family together with Melissa's mother Moreen Fand for a tour of Israel.

We will miss Maya, Lev, and Asher as we have grown accustomed to seeing them at services on Friday evenings and Saturday mornings. Lev and Asher often served as greeters and would escort senior congregants to the synagogue front door before services.

We will certainly all miss the Werbow family and send them our love and best wishes for their future in the Washington DC area. We expect them to keep in touch with us and visit Temple Beth Sholom on future visits to Sarasota!

Stay safe and well,

Eric Faerber

MEET INTERIM RABBI HOWARD SIEGEL



Dear Temple Beth Sholom congregants,

It is with much pleasure that we welcome Rabbi Howard Siegel as our new interim rabbi, commencing August 1, 2020!

Rabbi Siegel received rabbinical ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York and was awarded a Doctor of Divinity by JTS. Rabbi Siegel's professional accomplishments include serving as a pulpit rabbi in Vancouver and Richmond in British Columbia, Minneapolis, and Houston. He was also the founding director of the Solomon Schechter

Day School of St. Louis. In 2003, he founded the "Jewish Information Center of Houston", an outreach program to unaffiliated Jews. He has staffed and directed Jewish summer camps and served as a chaplain in the U.S. Navy.

For the past 11 years, Rabbi Siegel has been an interim rabbi for congregations in Los Angeles, San Antonio, Vancouver, Tampa, and Charlotte. Rabbi Siegel's honors include: The Rae & Edmund Hecht Houston Jewish Community Rabbinic Award, Congressional Recognition for Work with Hunger & Homelessness, Hennepin County Award of Distinction for Work with Hunger, and the Lillian M. Lowenfield Prize in Practical Rabbinics from the Jewish Theological Seminary. He currently writes a weekly blog for the Houston Chronicle.

Rabbi Siegel is the proud parent of 3 children and 8 grandchildren.

VISIONARY SOCIETY



Temple Beth Sholom
Visionary Society

We are pleased to present the following participants
in the 2020 - 2021 Visionary Society program:

Partners



Ruth & Jerry Beck
Martin D. Cohn



Joyce & Frank Podietz

Investors

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TBS Visionary Society 2020-2021

THANK YOU to everyone who participated in the 2019-2020 campaign!

TBS looks forward to having you re-enlist for this new membership year which begins June

1. Visionary Society brochures have been mailed out in the New Membership Year Packet.

June Anniversaries

Adele & Lawrence Bacow	45 Years	Evelyn & Stan Mitchell	57 Years
Bette & Phillip Balk	61 Years	Sarane & Neil Newman	33 Years
Molly & Mark Ballow	53 Years	Susan & Joseph Noah	35 Years
Joan & Ron Braun	29 Years	Linda & Bernard Papernick	56 Years
Beverly & Ray Broth	69 Years	Joan & Marden Paru	54 Years
David & Andrea Caufield	47 Years	Kate & Eric Pressman	17 Years
Leslie & Jay Cohen	49 Years	Belle & Ted Probst	51 Years
Lydia & Jack Corn	39 Years	Paula & Alan Rothman	48 Years
Esther & Harlan Domber	31 Years	Irene & Paul Sacher	56 Years
Ann & Gene Ginsberg	50 Years	Jackie & Stan Schear	62 Years
Rita & Paul Glosser	66 Years	Anne Weiss & Joseph Schwartz	8 Years
Tonya & David Graber	16 Years	Lillian & Jules Silberg	70 Years
Jane & Bob Greenfield	53 Years	Toby & Murray Simon	55 Years
Susan & Marshall Horwitz	39 Years	Susan & Martin Spector	60 Years
Wendy & Ken Hurwitz	33 Years	Robin & Alan Wallack	53 Years
Irma & Herb Jacobs	67 Years	Cynthia & Stanley Wright	58 Years
Myrna & Howard Levine	63 Years	Phyllis & Richard Yonker	42 Years
Ilana & Eli Livni	51 Years	Nancy Levine & George Hafitz	20 Years

Mazel Tov!

Mazel Tov to Florence Brinling, who is celebrating a new addition to her family with the birth of a grandson, Patrick.

Mazel Tov to Jeff and Fran Cohen on the Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Avery.

April Bimah Basket Sponsors

Miriam & Mario Hallphone, in honor of their 54th wedding anniversary (March)

Dr. George Gitlitz, in gratefulness in reaching his 90th birthday

Gina & Andrew Krinsky, in honor of their 37th wedding anniversary

Sue & Marty Spector, in honor of Marty's birthday

Belle & Ted Probst, in honor of Ted's 75th birthday on April 4

ANNOUNCEMENTS

July Anniversaries

Selma & Barry Abeshaus	59 years	Fern & Ray Millman	44 years
Amy & Shane Edelkind	25 years	Felicia & Joel Servetz	46 years
Dolores & William Fogel	58 years	Bonnie & Skip Silverman	40 years
Amy & Louis Grossman	35 years	Madelyn & Ed Freshwater	25 years
Gale & Jeffrey Kaplan	54 years	Barbara & Stephen London	50 years
Gail & Bernie Katz	59 years	Nancy & Peter Finn	53 years

Welcome!

All of us at Temple Beth Sholom would like to extend a warm welcome to the following

New Members:

Allan Karp and his daughter, Sophia
* as of 5.6.20

SPARCC Reminder

Please hold onto the items you have collected - travel-sized hair care items, lotions, deodorants, combs & brushes, small soaps, toothbrushes & toothpaste, and lip balm. We'll let you know when it is safe to bring them in. We hope to deliver them to SPARCC, Safe Place and Rape Crisis Center as soon as life gets back to normal, whenever that happens.



TBS MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the 2020-2021 membership year! Everyone has been hard at work to plan interesting programs and exciting events to engage and educate our TBS members.

Your June statement will be e-mailed and also mailed in a "packet" of information for this new year. The dues fee structure has once again remained constant for this year. Please take a look at the information when it comes and contact the Business Director with any questions or concerns.

* Remember, credit card information needs to be updated EACH year as well as your preferred payment plan.

Wishing you a safe summer!

Thank you to our volunteers!

Due to the virus situation we are not able to have our Kiddish in honor of our wonderful volunteers as scheduled. We would like to acknowledge each and every one of our awesome volunteers! **TBS thanks you for your dedication & service, we couldn't do all we do without you!**



Photo Above (L-R):

Sam & Lauren Haven and Pam (in the far back) & Luke Adelstein helped with May 8 Shabbat meal pick-up

*Photo taken by Joel Servetz



**Be sure to check out our
June Shabbat Take-out Meals!
The menus are available at:
templebethsholomfl.org/events**

YOUTH & PREP

With the abrupt end to our youth and religious school activities we do not have any new information at this time. We have gotten confirmation that Camp Ramah & Camp Coleman have cancelled the summer sessions for this year.

We are sorry the world health situation we are in has affected such a big part of our temple youth. Please be assured we will be hard at work planning for the coming year. As soon as we are sure of what can be scheduled, we will let you know what is going on.

Our hope is to be back to normal when school begins in the fall. Keep an eye out for programming information from Kelly Nester during the summer.

Please don't hesitate to contact Kelly with any questions you may have. She can be reached by phone: 941.955.8121, ext. 1002 or by email: knester@templebethsholomfl.org. She will be happy to help.

Stay safe, stay healthy and know that your TBS family is here when you need us.



June Youth Birthdays



<i>Caleb McCaffrey</i>	<i>June 7</i>
<i>Sophie Pressman</i>	<i>June 6</i>
<i>Jacob Lirio</i>	<i>June 14</i>
<i>Allie Leichter</i>	<i>June 18</i>
<i>Blake Leichter</i>	<i>June 18</i>
<i>Matthew Servetz</i>	<i>June 22</i>

COVID-19 UPDATE

Today is Wednesday, May 13th, so it's been about a month since my last Covid update. In general, we are seeing fewer cases in our community, state, and country as the emphasis changes to opening up the economy. While the case rates and hospital readiness seem acceptably close to previously recommended criteria for proceeding, availability of testing and appropriate infrastructure for proper contact tracing continue to lag behind. This is important because as mitigation decreases, there will be more cases.

Our communities, however, are fortunate to have a low level of virus in the general population as indicated by the numbers and the types of patients seen in the hospital. Unfortunately, our elder care facilities have been hit hard, both residents and employees alike. This is not unexpected for south Florida, but some of these individuals are part of our temple family as well.

These next 2-3 weeks concern me. For those reading in *The Messenger* we are probably at that point. The frustrations of lockdown and self-isolation have understandably lead to an overenthusiastic return to those areas and businesses now open to the public. I might suggest that these actions are understandable but not advisable. Persons over 65 and those with any number of well-outlined medical issues are still instructed to "stay at home".

It is true that we have great hospitals. There are ICU beds, ventilators, and protective equipment. The various treatments you hear about are available, but they are intravenous, expensive, and limited to a small subset of patients who meet certain specific criteria. So as we remain a "mature" congregation, please be careful should you decide to "open up." Careful, selective socializing with proper social distancing seems reasonable. Wear masks in public and keep washing those hands!

Stay safe,

Andy Krinsky



WORKING IN ISRAEL



My Experience Working in Israel

By Maddy Freshwater

BSI was a subsidiary of BellSouth that built cellular telephone companies around the world. We would go to a new country and submit a bid. If our bid was selected, we would hire and train the local people, build the network and work ourselves out of a job. I was part of two unsuccessful bids in New Zealand and Belgium.

In October, 1993, I made sure that I was on the team that went to Israel to work on a bid for a new cellular company, CellCom, to compete with Pelephone, which was the only cellular provider at the time. A group of about 30 people went to Tel Aviv to start the process. There were very few, if any, other Jewish people from BSI. Needless to say, it was quite a culture shock for some of them. Just getting through customs was a challenge. I made sure that the people interviewing me for entrance knew I was Jewish. I wore my Jewish star necklace and mentioned bar mitzvahs and the synagogue within the first minute. It sometimes took my co-workers from 45 minutes to 2 hours to pass through immigration.

I had been to Israel two other times. In 1976, I visited my brother when he was living on a kibbutz, Beit Alfa. In 1990, I participated in a program called Sar-El, Volunteers for Israel, and lived on an Army base near Eilat. Trust me, being in Israel on an expense account is much better. My memories of the actual bid process have faded but I know we worked long hours. After 6 weeks, we submitted the bid and then we returned home and waited.

In May, 1994, we learned that we won the bid and returned to Israel. We lived in the Alexander Hotel right on the beach in Tel Aviv. I could hear the sound of people playing Kadima from my balcony. The travel guidelines that the company gave us were that we worked six weeks abroad and returned to work in Atlanta for two weeks.

I met Ed, my husband, shortly before I left for my first business trip to Israel. We kept in touch while I was away and we continued dating when I returned. At some point, he proposed, but I did not give him an answer. He just left it as an open-ended offer. I do remember calling him from Israel and telling him I would marry him. Crazy, huh? In June, I stayed in Israel, and used the airfare money for Ed, now my fiancée, to visit me. I worked during the day and he explored Tel Aviv.

During the first months, meetings were conducted in English. As time went on and more Israelis were hired, more and more Hebrew was spoken. By this time, I was acting as a project coordinator, keeping track of the status of the different cell sites. There would be long discussions in Hebrew and then I was given the final answer in English to record.

Working in Israel was a very interesting experience for me. Everyone was Jewish and everything followed Jewish guidelines. We worked Sunday through Friday afternoon. Then everything shut down. The people I worked with discouraged me from going to the synagogue, and since the entire service was in Hebrew, I stayed away. I remember that when I asked about saying Kaddish for my father, my friend said I should just stand in the back and whisper it.

WORKING IN ISRAEL CONTINUED



Photo Above (L-R):

Maddy & Ed Freshwater and Maddy's mother and brother, Shirley and Roy Goldenberg in front of the Agam Fountain at Dizengoff Square.

The executives decided that since we couldn't go home, we could bring our families to Israel for a week, either before or after Christmas. If you were married, you could bring your whole family. If you were single, you could bring three people. I invited Ed, and my mother and brother. The executives of BSI were coming with their families the week before Christmas and planned sightseeing excursions for them. The employees' families were included in these excursions. They visited the Dead Sea, the Golan Heights, and Masada.

CellCom went into service with great fanfare on December 27, 1994. It caused a revolution in wireless services in the country as it offered service at rates which were a fraction of those charged by Pelephone.

On December 24th, we travelled from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. We had a festive meal then headed to Bethlehem and Manger Square. On the way, we stopped to pick up a young Israeli dressed in a Santa Claus costume. He had gifts for everyone. I had never visited any Christian sights on my previous visits to Israel. On Christmas day, we all boarded buses in preparation for more sightseeing. The President of BSI entered the bus and informed everyone that there had been a bombing in Jerusalem. He advised that there usually isn't more than one bombing in a day, but if we had concerns we could leave the bus. No one left the bus. There had been bombings in each of the other cities that we had worked in during our stay.

After Christmas, we returned to Tel Aviv and the employees went back to work. The families continued their sightseeing. Unfortunately, my mother took a tumble in Jaffa and had to see a doctor. As with all Jewish geography, this American doctor knew our family doctor in Miami. She just had a scraped knee and was taken care of. The next day, the doctor called to see how my mother was doing. We were amazed that he was so concerned. It turned out that he was really calling to see if I had connections and could get him a cell phone. After the launch of the new company, most of the BSI employees returned to Atlanta. I continued to work in Israel until the end of February. Working in Israel was a fabulous experience for me. It also gave me an opportunity to do some traveling in the region.

SISTERHOOD



Our Messenger articles are written about six weeks in advance of when the TBS Messenger actually lands in your home mail box. Under ordinary circumstances we know what events are scheduled to occur and we write about them as if they have happened. As you can imagine it's hard to know what will be happening when you actually read this.

That being said, right now we are planning for the coming year. We have a calendar in place with many events scheduled. We hope that we will be able to execute all of this in our traditional way, but if that is not the case, we will have to get creative and do them using alternative methods. Our first activity will be Sippin' in the Sukkah on October 7. Hopefully by then we will all be able to gather in the TBS sukkah and enjoy lunch and conversation.

This past year was a banner one for our membership. We grew by over 20%. Membership materials will be sent out in the fall. We hope that all returning members will send in their dues and those who did not join last year will consider joining us for 5781 (2020-2021). For now I wish all of you a wonderful summer and hope we all stay healthy and safe.

Sheryl Glickman
Sisterhood President

MEMBER FEATURE



Housewives and COVID-19

by Marcia Horn



Although trivial compared to the tragedies of the global pandemic, my friends and I are suffering from a new and unexpected problem I am calling "The Somewhat Spoiled Middle Class Woman's Coronavirus Syndrome."

It has been many years since any of us has had to clean house by herself. We have all been fortunate enough to employ cleaning ladies. Now they cannot come.

We all are already familiar with social distancing, having for a long time kept at least six feet away from our vacuum cleaners. Edie had to call her cleaning lady to find out how to

turn her vacuum cleaner on and most of us have forgotten how to connect the attachments. Ronnie, who at one time owned a vacuum for each level of her home, donated them when she switched to a cleaning service that brings their own equipment. Now she has to purchase a new one. Bunny, who also uses a service, had to buy a new Swiffer. I, myself, had to go on YouTube to learn how to attach the wet and dry pads to my Swiffer.

Some of us have had our own body parts turn against us. Our shoulders refuse to allow us to tuck in the corners of a fitted sheet. Our knees won't bend low enough to let us scrub the

bottom of the bathtub. And who can figure out how to remove the childproof cap of the product that cleans under the rim of the toilet bowl? Our grandchildren probably could but they're not permitted to visit us. Toby actually snuck in her cleaning lady because she couldn't manage to remove and reinstall her refrigerator shelves to clean for Passover.

Despite our efforts, when we finish cleaning, none of our homes have the shiny look and fresh smell they have when the cleaning women do them. So when your cleaning lady finally is able to come again, don't forget to say a Shehekyanu and give her a raise.

MEMBER FEATURE

A Yiddish Vitz (Joke)

by Lillian Green

The scene takes place somewhere in Eastern Europe at the turn of the 20th century. A shidduch (match) is made between 2 bokherim (boys) in one shtetl and 2 maydlekh (girls) in another shtetl. The plan is for the two bokherim to travel by horse-drawn wagon to the shtetl where the 2 maydlekh and their mothers (the prospective mothers-in-law) will meet them.

The day arrives for the meeting. The 2 bokherim are seated in the wagon, and the driver whips the horses to start the journey. A little background information here is necessary. In those days it was customary for young people to be married off at a very young age, usually teenagers with little, if any, experience socializing with the opposite sex. It is perfectly understandable, then, to learn that one of the bokherim, scared out of his wits at the prospect of becoming a groom, jumps out of the moving wagon and runs back home.

Some time later the wagon arrives at the second shtetl where the 2 maydlekh and the 2 prospective shvigers (mothers-n-law) are waiting. However, there is only one bokher! There ensues a geruder, a commotion. One shviger pulls the bokher's arm, the other shviger pulls his other arm, nearly ripping him in two, each claiming him for her own daughter. The villagers, aghast at the situation, try to break up the fight, but to no avail.

What to do? Finally, they all agree to consult their rebbe, he who is reputed to be able to solve all of their problems. All of the characters stand before the rebbe-- the first shviger and her daughter on one side, the second shviger and her daughter on the other side, and the poor frightened bokher in the middle. The situation is described to the rebbe.

The rebbe thinks to himself, "This is a dilemma that is not easy to solve." All of a sudden, however, he has an inspiration! How would our wise King Solomon have ruled? Finally the rebbe exclaims, "I have the solution to your problem. The only fair thing to do is to cut the bokher into two halves and give each half to each shviger and her daughter!"

On hearing this, the bokher faints, and shviger # 1 pipes up, "Good idea! Let's do it!" Shviger # 2, however, screams out, "No, no. Don't cut him. Give him to the other shviger, but don't cut him. Whereupon, the rebbe points to shviger #1, the one who agreed to have the bokher cut, and rules, "You get the bokher. You're the real shviger (mother-in-law)!"

JUNE STAYING CONNECTED PROGRAMS

June 4 – 7:30 pm Rabbi Anat Moskowitz

The fear surrounding this pandemic has created isolation for so many of us. We will explore the question: in this world of separation, how can we as a community, reach out and support one another?

June 18 – 7:30 pm Rabbi Ed Weinsberg

Moses ben Maimon was a medieval Sephardic Jewish philosopher who became one of the most prolific and influential Torah scholars of the Middle Ages. Hear about his views regarding how to balance extremes in life in an age of crisis.

June 25 – 7:30 pm Rabbi Mimi Weisel

Many of us will have to provide care for an elderly parent, spouse, or loved one which can be isolating. We will answer the questions: how can we support someone who is providing the care and how as a caregiver, do you take care of yourself?

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Programming Preview 2020/21

by *Al Treidel*



Although we are finally into summer, rest assured that your Program and Education Committee has been hard at work planning for another exciting year of programs for the TBS community and beyond. There is something for everyone.

Two days after the presidential election, on November 5, TBS will be hosting Ambassador Dennis Ross who will have a lot to say about the Middle East and beyond. He served two years as special assistant to President Obama and served a year as advisor to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. For more than 12 years, Ambassador Ross played a leading role in shaping U.S. involvement in the Middle East peace process and dealing directly with the parties in negotiations. Ambassador Ross was the U.S. point man on the peace process in both the George H.W. Bush and Bill Clinton administrations. More information to follow.

We will be kicking off the Lunch and Learn season with a series dealing with comparative Judaism. We will host an Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform

rabbi who will each take a session discussing their movement's unique approach to Judaism. During the final session on November 19, they will serve as panelists discussing their movement's specific approaches to contemporary Jewish issues. In early January through mid-February, by popular demand, we are bringing back Steven Stark-Reimer (our in-house archeology expert) to lead another 6-part series called "Siblings- part 2". As always he brings great expertise and enthusiasm to his presentations.

By popular demand, we will bring back our Traditions in the Kitchen series. Learn how to make special Jewish desserts and add to your recipe collection.

Our Wednesday afternoon series has been so successful that we have increased it from four to six programs. They include: "History of the Jews of Sarasota," "Building a Country from Ancient Roots to a Blooming Future," "Primo Levi, Italian-Jewish chemist, partisan, Holocaust Survivor and Writer," "History of the Jews

of Florida," "Shatiel Family Saga from Inquisition to Modern Times," and performance of "Bintel Brief" with the Asolo Guild Players.

These are just some of the program offerings that are already on the calendar. In addition, we are pursuing additional Lunch and Learn offerings, a possible trip to the Holocaust Museum in St. Petersburg, an additional musical performance on a Sunday afternoon, two or three visitations from the musical performing group from the Day School to entertain us on various Shabbatot, a Havdalah Sing Along, and of course our annual Scholar in Residence weekend. All of these programs will be supplemented with Shabbat Schmooze presentations and great course offerings.

If you have additional ideas for Schmoozes, other programs, or would like to get involved with the planning and implementation of great program opportunities, please email me at: treidad@aol.com.

FASHION SHOW

Thank You to Our Community Partners

A Good Yarn
Barnes & Noble Booksellers
Bealls
Big Cat Habitat & Gulf Coast Sanctuary
Blu Kouzina Restaurant
Bobby Jones Golf Club
Another Broken Egg Café - Lakewood Ranch
Cha Cha Coconuts
Casa Smeralda Fashion Style - St. Armands Circle
LeBarge Tropical Cruises/Sunset Sail
Donna Payne Psychic Medium
Fashion Focus Hair Academy
Florida Holocaust Museum
Franklin Lighting
GOLFTEC
Great Performers Series - Sarasota Concert Association
Grog Shop Liquors
HH&DD NYC Deli
Happy Paddler Kayak Tours
Hyatt Regency Sarasota Hotel
Jack Dusty Restaurant
Jason's Deli
Jo-El's St. Pete Deli
Just Because Unique Finds

Key Chorale Sarasota's Symphonic Chorus
Feel Better Now Kripalu Yoga & Relaxation Meditation
with Gary Halperin
Kona Grill
Luxury Nails - The Square at UTC
Maple Street Biscuit Company
Marina Jack Restaurant
Mattison's Restaurants
Metro Diner
Mote Marine Laboratory & Aquarium
Nellie's Deli, Market and Catering
Nuovo Salon at the Landings
Patrick's 1481
Public House Tap & Grill
Rosemary Court Yoga
Running with Scissors Hair Salon
Sarasota Ballet
Marie Selby Botanical Gardens
Selva Grill on Main
Tampa Bay Rays Baseball
Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall
Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe
Winn-Dixie Stores
Whole Foods Market
Yoder's Gift Store



It has been a very curious time since my last message. On behalf of the committee, I hope everyone is well and able to deal with the physical distancing we have to maintain. We want to thank everyone who had made a reservation for HONEY'S SOPHISTICATED LADIES CATCH THE BUZZ to support Sisterhood. We certainly look forward to 2021 when we can do it bigger and better!

Cate Blank spent an inordinate amount of time contacting our community partners for their support. Diana Paver reached out to her contacts as well. Our community partners came through with gifts, tickets to performances, and gift certificates.

When life returns to normal, please patronize these partners and thank them for their support. Thank you to committee members who secured some gifts as well as visiting the community partners to pick up the gifts- this was truly a team working together. In addition to the above, many beautiful items were donated by members. We can not adequately express our appreciation for the support Sisterhood has received. Ideas are already percolating to bring you something new and exciting in 2021. Stay tuned for news. On behalf of the committee, we wish you a peaceful summer. Stay well and be safe.

Hannah Puckhaber
For the Committee

TORAH FUND

*“Who will not support a scholar will see no blessing.”
- A Treasury of Jewish Quotations*

We are grateful to all our generous supporters of the Jewish Theological Seminary and its affiliates through significant donations to Torah Fund this year and appreciate the many additional donations not listed.



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WHAT'S COOKING

Our Newest Certified Kitchen Volunteers!



Photo Above (L-R):
Luke Adelstein & Sam Haven
manning the grill

We are proud of our newest certified kitchen volunteers, Sam & Luke



COMMUNITY DAY SCHOOL

CDS Celebrates Graduates and Teachers

by Sharon Kunkel



Photo Above:

The Werbow family, including Melissa (holding Bamba), Asher, and CDS graduate Maya participating in the parade

While students across the country have been forced to adjust their lives and schedules – as well as missing numerous milestones, such as moving up celebrations and graduations, proms, and other landmark occasions – due to the coronavirus, Hershorin Schiff Community Day School and parents of graduating students determined that graduating eighth graders would not miss seeing their teachers during Teacher Appreciation Week. While in-person events and social opportunities were off the table, an Appreciation Parade was organized – social distancing style!

Students and their families “paraded” by every middle school teacher’s house to show their love and appreciation for the dedication, knowledge, and support these teachers and administrators have offered. Students made signs, decorated their cars, and made sure to practice safe social distancing protocols while they celebrated the educators who have had such a significant impact on their lives.

The Community Day School graduates will attend Pine View High School, the Riverview High School IB program, and Cardinal Mooney High School in the fall.



Photo Above:

CDS graduate Jake Saltzberg and his mother (and CDS Board Co-Chair), Rachel Saltzberg, during the Appreciation Parade

Photo Below:

The Clements Family – Katherine, CDS graduate Oakley, and Tony – show their gratitude for CDS teachers



JEW OF INDIA

Who Were the Jews of India? Part 1

Submitted by Sue (article) & Marty (photos) Spector



Photo Above: Marty & Sue inside of Maghen David Synagogue, Mumbai

Last year, we explored “Jewish India.” There are three groups of Jews in India: Baghdadi Jews, the Bene Israel, and the Jews of Cochin which will be discussed more in the next issue. They came fleeing persecution but also for commercial gain. The Jewish Community numbered 35,000 to 40,000 Jews at its height in the 1950s, but fewer than 5,000 remain today.

We began our adventure in Mumbai (formerly Bombay), at the Sassoon Dock, built by the Sassoon family. In 1832, David Sassoon fled persecution in Iraq and arrived in Bombay: penniless, dressed in Arabic clothes, married twice, and had 13 children. David, his son, Albert, and grandson, Jacob, wealthy Baghdadi Jews, built this dock, two synagogues in Mumbai, schools, museums, the Gateway Arch, and other philanthropic endeavors. As David’s children became adults, he sent them to manage his various business enterprises—textiles, cotton, spices, and opium, which was sent to China in exchange for tea from Britain.

Sir Jacob Elias Sassoon expanded his father’s business by building India’s largest textile company, comprising of silk mills and India’s first dye works, employing 15,000 workers. During the American Civil War, the South couldn’t export cotton, so England looked for another supply source and found it in India. Some businessmen lost their fortunes as they stockpiled too much cotton; when the war ended, prices dropped. Having diversified, the Sassoon fortunes were safe. Flora Sassoon, David’s great granddaughter, ran a successful business after her husband died. Being well educated, she advocated for social justice. Today the Sassoon Charity Trust looks after the poor and destitute in the community.

Sir Elly Kadoorie, another philanthropic businessman of Iraqi origin, arrived in the 1870s, to work for the Sassoons, before establishing himself in the Far East. He gained success in various business ventures, including hospitality and electricity. He built schools and hospitals in India and other countries. His motto was: “Wealth is a sacred trust to be administered for the good of society.”



Photo Above: Outside of Maghen David Synagogue, Mumbai

Most Baghdadi Jews sided with the British, and because of uncertainty, many left India as the British departed. Only about 50 Baghdadi Jews remain in Mumbai, out of 5,000 before the British left and the founding of Israel. Out of 20 synagogues and 3 Jewish schools in Mumbai only 8 remain today. David Sassoon built the Maghen David Synagogue, the only one today with a daily minyan. His grandson Jacob built the Kneseth Eliyahu Synagogue, where we went for services and a delicious Baghdadi kosher dinner.

JEW OF INDIA CONTINUED

Maghen David is a typical Baghdadi synagogue, with the Tevah (Bimah) in the center of the sanctuary, the Torah in a Tik (a wooden case), read in an upright position, and the Hechal (Aron Hakodesh or Ark) holding the Torahs. The Sassoon Endowment fund provides for its care and renovation. These synagogues, all Orthodox, can seat several hundred on the first floor with a women's balcony above.

The JDC (Joint Distribution Committee) opened a JCC in 1999. At a Malida ceremony—a Thanksgiving ritual with fresh fruits honoring the prophet Elijah—we met with local Jews. It is the most active organization in Mumbai. Social groups, camps, and a pre-school have brought about a renaissance of religious, cultural, and social life to Jewish communities across India. Young adults participate in Birthright Israel; The Gabriel Project takes teens and young professionals to volunteer in the slums. The JDC provides aid for those in need and a home for the elderly.

In November, 2008, terrorists landed near the Sassoon Dock and dispersed throughout the city. Bombs exploded in many locations, including the Central Train Station and the beautiful Taj Mumbai Hotel; authorities were overwhelmed. The terrorists also attacked the Chabad house and murdered Rabbi Gavriel Holzberg, his wife, Rivka, and several others. His two-year-old son, Moshe, was saved by his Indian Nanny. The Chabad house has reopened, and while the sanctuary has been renovated, the living quarters are empty, filled with bullet holes and bloodstains. The perimeter of the house has been fortified and a rooftop garden is planned to memorialize the 185 victims of the Mumbai attack. The new shlichim do not live here because of security concerns. A movie was made about this terrorist attack.



Photo Above: View of Maghen David Synagogue, Calcutta above the ark

Bagdadi Jews also settled in Calcutta, (Kolkata today). Our guide Rahel Museah's father was the Rabbi in the Maghen David Synagogue. He was the only officially ordained religious leader since the first settler arrived in 1798. At its peak, there were about 5,000 Jews in Calcutta. With seats for 400 men and 300 in the women's balcony, each family had their own bench and a box to keep their Siddurim. The Hechal was a separate room with space for the original 75 Torahs; only two remain in metal cases. Sadly, only 18 Jews remain in Kolkata today. Friday night services followed Baghdadi customs, while the service on Saturday was egalitarian. I was excited to receive an Aliyah. How moving to be on the tevah next to this ancient scroll, in this very old synagogue.

The entrance to the Neve Shalom synagogue, next door, was up many steps, the original entrance now a separate kitchenware shop, owned by Muslims. At nearby Beth El synagogue, built in 1850, wine and matzah were made for the whole community in an attached building where a mikvah was also located.

Finally, during a visit to Delhi and the small, Judah Hyam Synagogue, we met with the leader, Ezekiel Isaac Malekar, a lawyer. He has worked tirelessly for 25 years to keep his community going. The number attending services varies with those working in government or business. With the opening of the Israeli Embassy in 1993, the synagogue became a center of Jewish activity also for diplomats and their families. Egalitarian services are held on Friday nights. Classes are held in a small annex that serves as a library and interfaith study center. A 90-year-old cemetery, with 150 tombstones, has headstones all in English. There are also two Chabad houses in Delhi today.

Minyan Breakfast

Normally a breakfast is served every Wednesday morning after the daily minyan under the auspices of the TBS Men's Club. Anyone can sponsor a breakfast, at relatively modest cost, to mark a special occasion – or simply to do something nice for your fellow congregants and others who attend the minyan. Under current circumstances the Wednesday Minyan Breakfast Program has been suspended. We hope to resume as soon as it is safe for TBS operations to return to normal.

When we resume, the same three styles of breakfast will be offered. Sponsorship of the traditional Deluxe Breakfast – consisting of bagels, cream cheese, a tray of sliced vegetables, herring, coffee, tea, schnapps, and assorted pastries – will be available at the modest cost of \$54. Also available will be the Premium Breakfast, which provides all the delicacies included in the Deluxe Breakfast plus lox, at the economical price of \$98. The more elaborate Scrumptious Breakfast, which adds whitefish, an assortment of cheeses and fruits, and other items at special request, will again be available for only \$150. Catering is provided by Barry Abeshaus, Ben Berman, Len Berman, and Len Stein.

While we enjoy the opportunity to work together, it would be helpful to have more members of the TBS family join us. If you're interested, please call Ben Berman at (941) 355-2469 to volunteer.



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Celebrate a Simcha - In Honor or In Memory - Just Because

Celebrate the good times in your life with your TBS friends!

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*Contact Kelly Nester for date availability at
knester@templebethsholomfl.org or
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We will help you make your day special!



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

These donations were received by the TBS office during the month of April (4/1-4/30).

CEMETERY BEAUTIFICATION FUND

IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL HIMELSTEIN

Ros Mazur

Yahrzeit Remembrance

Lita Robbins for her husband, Stephen Weiss

Lita Robbins for her brother, Henry Weiss

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IN HONOR OF THE BIRTH OF THE GRANDSON OF

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Helen Shafer for her father

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Sheldon Wald for his aunt, Jeanette Goldstein

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GENERAL FUND

IN APPRECIATION OF SUSAN MCCANN & THE

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Barry & Hendrea Schwartz thank you for your
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IN MEMORY OF VERA GOODMAN

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Yahrzeit Fund

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Sharon Burke for her father, Louis Cohen

Lauren Cohen for her husband, Sanford Alan Cohen

Marsha Cohen for her grandmother, Rebecca Auerbach

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

These donations were received by the TBS office during the month of April (4/1-4/30).

Marsha Cohen for her father, Hyman Abraham Sugarman

Martin Cohn for his wife, Elsie Cohn

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Benjamin Eisenberg for his mother, Sarah Eisenberg

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Sue Jacobson for her father, Milton Jacobson

Frederika Jacobson for her mother, Henriette Van Der Ryn

Edward Kalin for his mother, Ray Kalin

The Knego family for our father & grandfather, Jehuda Steinbach

Judith Kulman for her mother, Frances Swartz

Joseph Kravitz for his daughter, Carol Kravitz-Gray

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Priscilla Reisinger for her husband, John Reisinger

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Martin Rich for his grandfather, Wolf Rich

Edward Rosenthal for his mother, Celia Lerner Rosenthal

Marilyn Roth for her mother, Anne Cron

Freda Saphier for her husband, Lester Saphier

Marsha & Alvin Seiger for their daughter, Sindee Dubin

Marsha Seiger for her father, Manuel Heit

Muriel Shindler for her friend, Margaret Shindler

Marilyn Shuman for her husband, Irving Shuman

Lila Siegel for her husband, Normal Siegel

Dorothy Sparber for her father, Louis Matlow

Arlene Stein for her father, Moses Cohen

Barbara Steinbach for her husband, Jehuda Steinbach

Judith Turlenko in memory of her father, Maurice Sail

Sheldon Wald for his grandmother, Rachel Goldstein

Norman Walter for his mother, Hilda Walter

Mark Yecies for his father, Sidney Yecies

Mark Yecies for his brother, Jay Yecies

IN MEMORY OF PEGGY SIMON

Barbara Simon & Richard Enslein

Lois Levine

PLEASE NOTE: *The Tribute/Acknowledgement Card minimum is \$10.*

This donation covers the cost of one tribute card per address, postage, and staff time.

Thank you for your cooperation.

You can also make donations and tributes easily at www.templebethsholomfl.org by clicking the red button in the upper right corner that says "Donate."

JUNE CALENDAR

June 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 (9 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a	2 (10 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a	3 (11 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a	4 (12 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a Staying Connected w/ Rabbi Anat Moskowitz: Reaching Out to a Community When the Doors are Closed 7:30p	5 (13 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a Shabbat Meal Pick-Up 11:00a Shabbat Service 6:30p Candle Lighting 8:05p	6 (14 Sivan) Nasso Shabbat Services Havdalah 9:00a 8:59p
7 (15 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a	8 (16 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a	9 (17 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a Staying Connected w/ Cantor Neil Newman: Songs from the Bible II 7:30p	10 (18 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a	11 (19 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a Board of Directors Meeting 7:00p	12 (20 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a Shabbat Meal Pick-Up 11:00a Shabbat Service 6:30p Candle Lighting 8:08p	13 (21 Sivan) Behar/otcha Shabbat Services Havdalah 9:00a 9:02p
14 (22 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a Congregational Meeting 11:00a	15 (23 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a	16 (24 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a Sisterhood Board Meeting 1:45p	17 (25 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a	18 (26 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a Staying Connected w/ Rabbi Ed Weinsberg: The Rambam: Rebalancing Your Life in an Age of Crisis 7:30p	19 (27 Sivan) Morning Minyan 8:00a Shabbat Meal Pick-Up 11:00a Shabbat Service 6:30p Candle Lighting 8:10p	20 (28 Sivan) Sh'lach Shabbat Mevarchim Shabbat Services Havdalah 9:00a 9:04p
21 (29 Sivan) Father's Day Morning Minyan 8:00a	22 (30 Sivan) Rosh Chodesh Tammuz Morning Minyan 8:00a	23 (1 Tammuz) Rosh Chodesh Tammuz Morning Minyan 8:00a	24 (2 Tammuz) Morning Minyan 8:00a Finance Committee Meeting 12:00p	25 (3 Tammuz) Morning Minyan 8:00a Staying Connected w/ Rabbi Mini Weisel: Caring for the Caregiver 7:30p	26 (4 Tammuz) Morning Minyan 8:00a Shabbat Meal Pick-Up 11:00a Shabbat Service 6:30p Candle Lighting 8:11p	27 (5 Tammuz) Korach Shabbat Services Havdalah 9:00a 9:05p
28 (6 Tammuz) Morning Minyan 8:00a	29 (7 Tammuz) Morning Minyan 8:00a	30 (8 Tammuz) Morning Minyan 8:00a				

JULY CALENDAR

July 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 (9 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	2 (10 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	3 (11 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan Shabbat Service Candle Lighting 8:00a 6:30p 8:11p	4 (12 Tammuz) Chukat-Balak Independence Day Shabbat Services Havdalah 9:00a 9:05p
5 (13 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	6 (14 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	7 (15 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	8 (16 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	9 (17 Tammuz) Fast of Tammuz Morning Miyyan 8:00a	10 (18 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan Shabbat Service Candle Lighting 8:00a 6:30p 8:10p	11 (19 Tammuz) Pichas Shabbat Services Havdalah 9:00a 9:04p
12 (20 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	13 (21 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	14 (22 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	15 (23 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	16 (24 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	17 (25 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan Shabbat Service Candle Lighting 8:00a 6:30p 8:08p	18 (26 Tammuz) Matot-Massei Shabbat Mevarchim Shabbat Services Havdalah 9:00a 9:02p
19 (27 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	20 (28 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	21 (29 Tammuz) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	22 (1 Av) Rosh Chodesh Av Morning Miyyan 8:00a	23 (2 Av) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	24 (3 Av) Morning Miyyan Shabbat Service Candle Lighting 8:00a 6:30p 8:05p	25 (4 Av) Devanim Shabbat Hazon Shabbat Services Havdalah 9:00a 8:58p
26 (5 Av) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	27 (6 Av) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	28 (7 Av) Morning Miyyan 8:00a	29 (8 Av) Erev Tisha B'Av Morning Miyyan 8:00a	30 (9 Av) Tisha B'Av Morning Miyyan 8:00a	31 (10 Av) Morning Miyyan Shabbat Service Candle Lighting 8:00a 6:30p 8:07p	













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