



Temple B'nai Abraham

Temple B'nai Abraham
President – Betsy Ramos

The Temple Shofar

Rabbi Alex Lazarus

Sarah Seidel Sisterhood
Co-Presidents-Bonnie Friedman
Debbie Weiss

5765-5766

October

2005-2006

While most people think of the Jewish calendar as being solely a lunar calendar, it actually is a combination of a lunar and a solar calendar. The leap month of Adar, added in every two to three years, helps us compensate for the several week difference between the solar and lunar years. Without this additional month, our holidays would bounce around the seasons, falling at unexpected times and throwing off the rhythm of the Jewish year. Sukkot, a harvest holiday, would appear in the winter when there is no crops, and Chanukah, a celebration of light, would occur at a time when light is plentiful in the middle of the summer.

Unlike the Jewish year, the Muslim year is not tied to the seasons. They rely fully on a lunar calendar and are thus surprised every year by which time and which season their holidays will fall. The most well known example of this is the holiday of Ramadan, the ninth month of the Muslim year, and a time of fasting, family, and community.

Several years ago, I traveled to Istanbul from Israel during my winter vacation. Unbeknownst to my traveling companions and I, our trip was fortuitously planned to coincide with Eid al-Fitr, the celebration upon ending the fast of Ramadan. While Jews celebrated Chanukah and Christians celebrated Christmas, Muslims the world over were off from work and school to celebrate their own unique three-day festival. For us this meant watching with delight at all the people out in the streets, fairs of delicious foods, and dancing and singing all around. Not to mention the fact that all public transportation in the city was completely free.

This year's convergence of Muslim, Christian, and Jewish holidays has a much more somber tone. This year, Ramadan begins on October 3-4, the same day as Rosh Hashanah and the Jewish month of Tishri. In addition, on October 4, Christians celebrate the feast of St. Francis of Assisi, a day marked by a procession of animals for a saint known for his love of animals. As a perfect time for interfaith dialogue, an organization called *The Tent of Abraham* (www.tentofabraham.org) led by Rabbi Arthur Wascow put out a call for religious communities to work together to mark these occasions together. In Bordentown, Rev. John Wesley Morrison of the United Methodist Churches of Crosswicks and Elisdale and Tom Riley of the Unitarian Universalist Church and myself have arranged a Harvest of Faith - Interfaith Dialogue at the United Methodist Church of Crosswicks on October 20 at 7 PM. There we will construct an interfaith Sukkah and hold a dialogue session with faith groups in the area, hopefully including Muslims, Christians, and Jews.

Please come and support our efforts to make Bordentown a place where all religions feel welcome. I look forward to seeing you during the High Holidays

Shanah Tovah,
Rabbi Alex

p.s. - Rev. Morrison, who is an excellent Hebraist, will be offering a beginning Hebrew class to adults. Please see me if you are interested



**Temple B'nai Abraham
Officers for 5765-66**

President	Betsy Ramos
Exec. Vice Pres.	Charlie Weiss
Religious VP	Robin Affrime
Financial VP	Jennifer Carton
Secretariat	Eileen Gale
Trustees:	
Religious School Chair	Susan Giachetti
Membership/Outreach Chair	Brian Epstein
Building Committee Chair	Stan Zeichner
Adult Education Chair	Jill Popko

**Sarah Seidel Sisterhood
Officers for 5765-66**

Co-Presidents	Bonnie Friedman and Debby Weiss
Treasurer	Shira Lawry
Financial Secretary	Rita Nissim
Record. Secretary	Ellen Wehrman
Corres. Secretary	Mimi Geller
Trustees:	
	Jill Popko
	Susan Giachetti

**SHABBAT SERVICES, YAHRZEITS
ONEGS**

**Friday September 30th Tot Shabbat/Pot
Luck Dinner 6PM, Regular Adult Services
7:30PM** We will remember Ruth Pierce,
mother of Ira Pierce Light candles 6:25PM

October High Holiday Schedule

Rosh Hashana

Monday, October 3rd 7:30PM
Light Candles 6:20PM
Tuesday, October 4th 1st Day Morning
Services 9:30AM, Tashlich 12:30PM - Baby
Sitting available only in morning

Family Services 6:30PM

Light candles after 7:16PM
Wednesday October 5th - 2nd Day
Rosh Hashana Services 9:30AM
Yom Kippur
Wednesday October 12th Kol Nidre 6:30PM
Light Candles 6:06PM
Thursday October 13th Morning Services
9:30AM, Yizkor 11:30AM
Mincah/Ne'Leh 5:00PM Break the Fast 7:00PM
Baby sitting available only in morning

**Friday October 7th Shabbat Services
7:30PM** We will remember Charles stein,
uncle of Randy Bloom and Herman Sternfeld,
father of Mildred Josephson
Light Candles 6:13PM

**Friday, October 14th Shabbat Services
7:30PM** We will member Ida Kushner, mother
of Sol Kushner, Fred Gutstein, husband of
Lillian Gutstein, and Molly Schaffer, mother of
Rhoda Kessler. Light Candles 6:03PM

**Friday, October 21st. Shabbat Services
7:30PM, Sukkah Program** Oneg Hostess
Jennifer Carton and Schwartz/Shein Family
We will remember Noah Bloom,, mat.
Grandfather of Ida Reichlin, and Nissim
Nissim, father of Martin Nissim.
Light Candles 5:52PM

Light Candles on Tuesday, 10/25 at 6:46
**Thursday, October 26th Simchah Torah
Services and Hebrew School 4:30 to 6PM**
**Friday, October 28th Shabbat Services
730PM** We will remember Mervin Groveman,
husband of Seena Groveman, Elsie Sternfeld,
mother of Mildred Josephson, and Mollie
Piennek, sister of Mike Grannick.
Light Candles 5:43PM

**Friday, November 4th Shabbat Services
7:30PM** Oneg hostess Phyllis Chudoff and
Affrime Family. Light Candles 4:35PM

Hebrew and Religious School Info

**Hebrew/Religious School Dates of
Importance**

Sunday October 16th Joint Hebrew and
Religious School Build Sukkot
**Wednesday, October 26th Simchah Torah
Services and Hebrew School 4:30 to 6:30**

Tot Shabbat News

Rowdy, Restless Children and the People who Love Them are invited to join us for Tot Shabbat Services. Tot Shabbat is a child friendly service designed especially for our youngest congregants and their extended families. We begin with a pot luck dinner, followed by candle lighting and brief service which includes singing, finger plays, a story and craft.

Although we will not be having a service in October, we will resume meeting once a month starting on November 18, 6:00-7:30, when we celebrate Shabbat. Also mark your calendars for December 23 Tot Shabbat when we will celebrate Hanukkah.

For more information about Tot Shabbat or to join our pot luck RSVP list call Sharon Dauber 291-9169.

Adult Ed Program

This year Temple B'nai Abraham will continue our "Jewish Alive and American" thirty session introduction to living a committed Jewish life in the late twentieth century. JA&A offers opportunities for asking questions about ultimate meaning and mundane day-day reality. We will explore our relationship to Jewish life and envision the role Judaism can or does play in our lives. The class will meet twice a month, either on Saturday or Sunday afternoons for one hour each session (On Sunday we will meet between 1-2 PM and Saturday between 12:30-1:30 PM). The following dates have been tentatively selected: 9/24, 10/9, 10/23, 11/12, 11/20, 12/17, 1/8, 1/21, 2/4, 2/26, 3/18, 3/26, 4/22, 4/30 and 5/21. All those interested in learning about Judaism, its roots, its history and texts and the opportunities Judaism offers to live, learn, celebrate, pray and relate to life's challenges in a Jewish way, today, please contact Rabbi Alex Lazarus - 267-269-9154, rabbialex@bnai-abraham.org.

Rabbi Alex

Break the Fast will be Thursday October 13th. All are invited to participate at the close of Yom Kippur services. The cost is \$10.00 per adult, children 6-12, \$5.00, with children under 5 free. You will be asked to provide a prepared covered dish and to help set up or clean up. **Reservations must be made to attend.** Please call Rita Nissim at 298-5357 by October 1st.

RELIGIOUS COMMITTEE

Cantor Avi Green will be back with us this year for the High Holidays. The Rabbi, Avi, and Sid are already working on the service plan.

If you do not desire an honor (an Aliyah, English reading, or Ark opening/closing), please remind Sid when you come into the service.

Note: Services on the second night of Rosh Hashana are Family Services and will start at 6:30PM.

Sid and Robin

Babysitting is offered to the community for the High Holiday services on Tuesday, October 4 in the morning, and on Thursday, October 13 in the morning. Please contact Debbie Weiss at 208-2084 to make a reservation.

Dues and High Holiday tickets.

Just a reminder, no High Holiday tickets will be sent to you unless you are paid in full or have worked out an arrangement with our President, Betsy Ramos. If you have a need for a special accommodation, you may call her. Please don't make us chase you for your dues. If you haven't done so already, please mail them in today! 298-0437 or bramos@capehart.com.

THIS GOLDEN AGE

WALTER LIEBERMAN



GRANDMA... IS ROSH HASHANNA A HOLIDAY FOR SHAKING HANDS?

Letter from our Temple President Betsy Ramos

I wanted to address two issues: dues and the Elaine Zeitz building fund. First, thank you to all who paid your dues on a timely basis without a reminder. I want to explain why we have insisted on payment at the beginning of the year, unless paid by credit card or special arrangements are made with me. Based upon our low dues and the small size of our congregation, unless the major part of our dues are paid in a timely basis in the beginning of our year, we are unable to pay our expenses as the year proceeds. Some of you who are long time members have appeared to be offended that we are requiring payment in August. Please keep in mind that it is not meant to diminish in any way the importance of having devoted, long time members. It is simply to ensure a sufficient cash flow so we can pay our bills. Next year, please pay your dues when they are due so our membership chair does not have to chase you!

Second, as to the Elaine Zeitz building fund, there has been no decision as to how to spend the donations received on Elaine's behalf except to segregate them into a building fund, which is what the board felt was most needed at this time and was a project worthy of remembering someone who contributed so much to our community. It will be a congregation decision as to how to spend the donations received for this fund. The congregation will decide whether to use the money towards an addition, new building, or renovations. Bear in mind, however, that not only does our existing facility limit our membership but, with an upstairs sanctuary, there are many elderly persons and those with disabilities who are precluded from attending our services due to their inability to climb the stairs. That issue really needs to be addressed.

One last word about the term "expansion." In my mind, I am not envisioning making this community into a huge, impersonal temple. Rather, just somewhat larger so that we can ensure our continuing viability. One of our best features is our small tight knit, caring community. That's a feature that we can continue even if we have additional members.

Betsy

Building committee members wanted

The board is looking to form a committee to study the issue of expansion for our synagogue. The committee would study the issues of expanding our membership, as well as expanding or renovating our building, moving to a new building, or building a new building. The committee would study the advisability and feasibility of all of these possibilities, as well as considering the financial feasibility. A report with recommendations will then be presented to the community, hopefully at our annual meeting. We are looking for about 5 people to serve on the committee. If you are interested, please call or e-mail Betsy Ramos at 298-0437 or bramos@capehart.com.

Elaine Zeitz Building Fund

To honor the memory of Elaine Zeitz, who has performed countless acts and filled so many vital roles for our synagogue, the Temple Board has voted to establish an Elaine Zeitz Building Fund. Any donations received will go into that fund and will be used towards a new addition, a new building, or a major renovation to our synagogue. One of my long-term goals as President is to explore how we can expand our facility and membership. It is very difficult to stay the same size without stagnating and facing the loss of members. If we do not grow to some extent, we may not survive into the long term future. Our building is historic but is also old and is in need of some major updates. We are limited by the size of our building to grow our membership. Elaine was always practical and would appreciate that we would be honoring her in a manner that would ensure our continued viability. Thus, rather than purchase merely an item in her memory or purchase a plaque, the Board has decided to make a much grander gesture, which will move us towards a successful future, by starting a building fund in her memory. We hope that this will give us a good start towards this goal.

Betsy Ramos
President

Around our Temple and Sisterhood

The Temple and Sarah Seidel Sisterhood extend condolences to the Bloom/Scolaro family, Randye, Jeff and Michael on the passing of Randye's mother Selma Bloom.

The Temple and Sarah Seidel Sisterhood extend condolences to Ellen Wehrman, Louise Thompson and families on the passing of their mother, Ellen Rosenberg, a beloved sisterhood member and late wife of our beloved Louis Rosenberg.

2005-2006 Host List for Oneg Shabbats and Sisterhood Meetings

Please find your name and date. It is your responsibility to find substitutes if you cannot attend your date.

October 21, Sukkot Jennifer Carton & Marcy Schwartz

November 4 Services Robin Affrime & Phyllis Chudoff

November 12 Luncheon Madge Rosen & Marcia Rosen

November 14 Meeting Robin Affrime, Eileen Gale, Rhea Goldman High Tea, Book Review

December 17 Luncheon Rita Nissim & Karen Nissim

December 30 Chanukah Aubry & Epstein Families

January 13 Susan Giachetti & Deena Kobrin

January 21 Luncheon Joanne Lutz & Elaine Trackman

February 4 Luncheon Zeichner & Fattori Families

February 10 Tu B'Shvat Betsy Ramos & Elizabeth March

February 13 Meeting Patricia Light-Tolomeo & Ellen Wehrman Yoga Class

March 6 Meeting bonnie Goldman & Rhea Goldman Woman's Space

March 18 Luncheon Albanese & Bergman Families

April 7 Shira Lawry & Debbie Schulkin

April 22 Luncheon

May 5 Arlene Speiser & Jennifer Carton

May 8 Meeting Linda Osman & Renee Harrison Game Night

May 27 Luncheon

June 2 Hebrew School Graduation Hebrew School Families

June 12 Covered Dish Randye Bloom and Marsha Dowshen

June 16, & 17 Brittany Friedman Bat Mitzvah, Bonnie Friedman

June 30 Member of the Year

If Oneg is cancelled due to inclement weather, your responsibilities may be moved to another date.

Donations

Temple Fund

In Memory of:

Elaine Zeitz

Robin and Steve Affrime
Jennifer Carton
Randy Bloom and Michael Scolaro
Leslie and Susan Young
Linda Bowker
Antoinette and Rick Dori
Jeff Goldman and Shirley Littleford
Marcel and Lee Nissim
Fay and Harold Black
Dr. Matthew and Michelle Bagan
Dr. Matthew and Laura Soff
Liam Brockey and Monica Silva

Selma Bloom, mother of Randy Bloom

Dr. and Mrs. Ellier Russ
Jennifer Carton
Nicholas and Roselynn Calio
Col. Retired Dominic and Mary Scolaro
Frank and Joann Garzio
Gary Roselle
Phyllis Busch and Ilene Miller
Michael and Sharon Dauber
Charles and Rosalie Vilc
Linda Bowker
Palma Harwick
Patrick and Kathleen Stanton

Prayer Book Fund

In Memory of:

Selma Bloom Jeffrey Goldman and Shirley Littleford

Elaine Zeitz Sarah Seidel Sisterhood

Sisterhood Joy and Sorrow

In Memory of:

Elaine Zeitz

Thomas and Katherine O'Neill
Bordentown Library Association
Fay and Harold Black
Phyllis Chudoff
Mark and Kim Cheiken
Deborah Bozarth
Margaret E. Mewborn
Constance B. Mewborn

In Memory of Ellen Rosenberg, mother of Ellen Wehrman

Eileen Gale
Sid and Charyl Morginstin
Susan and Tom Giachetti
Shryle and Sol Kushner
Ellen Wiener
Phyllis and Is Kamer
Elaine and Jay Trackman
Renee Harrison
Rita and Marty Nissim
Barbara and John Dundon
The Kessler Family

In Memory of Selma Bloom, mother of Randy Bloom

Phyllis Chudoff
Eileen Gale
Rita and Marty Nissim
Phoebe and Jeff Nissim
Charyl and Sid Morginstin
Elaine and Jay Trackman
Phyllis and Is Kamer
Shyrlly and Sol Kushner
Mimi Geller
Nina Glanz
Susan and Tom Giachetti
Berny and Arlene Speiser
Irene Harrison
The Kessler Family

In Memory of Albert Dowshen, father of Joel Dowshen

Phyllis Chudoff

Yahrtzeit

In Memory of:

Harry Roseman Irene Harrison

A Message from Randy Bloom

Thank you: My brother, Jeff, and I greatly appreciate the support that we received from this community while sitting Shiva for our mom, Selma Bloom. We wanted to do everything that we did in 1991 when our dad died and that included sitting seven days and saying Kaddish at home each day. We realized that was asking a lot of our small community, but Rabbi Alex, Jay Trackman, Sid Morginstin, Len Klepner, and all of you made it happen. Your love and support during this very difficult time will never be forgotten. Thank you.

Randye

Programs and Services Available to Temple and Sisterhood Members

Sisterhood Joy and Sorrow

Cards of sympathy, good cheer, or mazel tov, are available through Sarah Seidel Sisterhood at a cost of \$2.50 minimum. Contact Rita Nissim at 298-5357.

Temple Joy and Sorrow

Cards of sympathy or good wishes are available through Temple B'nai Abraham at a cost of \$5 minimum. Contact Sharon Dauber at 291-9169.

Torah Prayer Books (Cumashim)

For those interested in purchasing a torah prayer book in honor of or in memory of someone, the cost is \$75. If interested, please call or e-mail Betsy Ramos. We do not need any more siddurs but do need approximately 25 more torah prayer books.

General donations

For anyone interested in making a general donation to the synagogue that does not fit into any of the above categories, of course, the synagogue will be happy to accept the donation. You may send a check to Temple B'nai Abraham, P.O. Box 245, Bordentown, NJ and indicate whether it is for a special occasion and whether you would like the synagogue to send an acknowledgment to someone. If it is a non-temple member, please provide their name and address

Break The Fast

Each year at the conclusion of Yom Kippur services, The Sarah Seidel Sisterhood sponsors a community break the fast. **Reservations are required** by calling Rita Nissim at 298-5357. The cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children 6-12, free for children under 5. Each family/member will be asked to provide a prepared food to share and help set up or clean up.

Super Market Gift Cards.

Please remember to purchase Supermarket gift cards for the Acme and Shop Rite. This fundraiser is ongoing throughout the year. The gift cards are purchased at **dollar for dollar value**. The Temple receives 5% making this is a great way to support our temple. Contact Joel Dowshen and he will see that you will receive them in a timely manner. 298-5306.

Electronic newsletter

Starting this month, those of you who have e-mail addresses, will receive your newsletter electronically. The printing and postage costs are substantial for the temple, not to mention the labor involved to send out the newsletters each month. Of course, our members without e-mail will still receive a print copy in the mail.

Cat's Meow Collectors plaque

Sarah Seidel Sisterhood has available the Cat's Meow Collectors plaque of our Temple for sale at \$10.00. The plaques are imprinted on the back with the date of our establishment, and signed by the artist. These plaques were sold at The U and I Book Store for many years. Contact Eileen Gale at 291-0220 for your plaque.

Procedure for Lighting the Shabbat Candles

The woman (or young girls in the household) lights the candles, then spreads her hands out around the candles, drawing her hands inwards in a circular motion three times to indicate her acceptance of the sanctity of the Shabbat. She then covers her eyes and says the blessing:

Bo-ruch A-toh Ado-noi E-lo-hei-nu Me-lech Ho-olom A-sher Ki-de-sha-nu B-mitz-vo-sov Vi-tzi-vo-nu Le-had-lik Ner Shel Sahbbos.

She then uncovers her eyes to behold the Shabbat lights.

JRF Notes of Interest

Teen Program Announcement

"Calling all B'nai Abraham Teens" - The second year of B'nai Abraham's combined teen program with JRF congregations the JCC of Belle Mead and String of Pearls in Princeton is now underway. All Temple teens (8th graders through 12th graders) are invited to attend. Calendar and more information below. Please contact Rabbi Alex if interested.

Saturday, October 15th-Sunday, October 16th. 4 PM - 10 AM. Shul-In! JCC of Belle Mead

A repeat of one of last year's favorite events--our annual welcome-back Shul-In. Hours of fun, great food, great friends. Hope to see you all there!

Saturday, October 29th. 8-10 PM. Bowling Night. Colonial Lanes.

Please attend the Central Jersey Regional Equity Coalition (CJREC) public assembly on Sunday October 23 from 3-5 PM in Ewing at Kendall Hall at the College of New Jersey. CJREC is a coalition of faith and civic organizations that formed to address social justice issues including issues affecting immigrants, affordable housing, and property-tax reform. Please join the expected 1,000 attendees of all faiths and races to help persuade our invited local and state level elected officials to support legislation that will address these issues. Rabbi Lazarus attended last year's public assembly in Hamilton and can tell you more about CJREC. For more information contact Rabbi Lazarus or Mike Gross with CJREC at 609-278-5656 or mgross@cahenj.org, or see www.njregionalequity.org.

Rabbi Alex

New JRF Camp

Open House at New JRF Camp site in Poconos on October 16, 2-6 PM. We will be leaving from the Temple at 12 PM. Please contact me if you are interested in coming. Also check out the camp's website - www.campjrf.org

Sarah Seidel Sisterhood

The next meeting of the Sisterhood will be on November 14th. at 7:30pm. The program will be a book review on *The Queens Fool* by Phillippa Gregory and will also include a semi-High Tea presented by Robin Affrime, Eileen Gale and Rhea Goldman. We hope to see all of you at this delightful evening of food and entertainment. Please read this book to partake in the discussion.

Thank you Shira Lawry for volunteering to be our new Treasurer.

Sisterhood Meeting and Event Dates

October 10	Sisterhood Meeting
October 16	Race for the Cure
November 14	High Tea/Book Review
December	Blood Drive
January 9	Sisterhood Meeting
February 13	Yoga
March 6	Women's Space Speaker
May 8	Sisterhood Meeting-Game Night
June 12	Covered Dish

When you host an Oneg or Sisterhood meeting, please bring your favorite recipe in writing along with any brief commentary on it to be included in our end of the year COOKBOOK fundraiser.

We extend our sympathies to Esther Goldberg's family on her recent passing. Esther was a long time Sisterhood member. We thank her for remembering the Sisterhood in her will.

TEMPLE B'NAI ABRAHAM OCTOBER 2005

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
					September 30 Tot Shabbat Services and Pot Luck Dinner 6PM Adult Services 7:30PM	October 1
2 Religious School 9:30 to 10:30 10:30 to 12:30	3 Rosh Hashana Services 7:30PM	4 Rosh Hashana Morning Services 9:30AM, Tashlich 12:30 Baby Sitting Available for Morning Services <i>Family Services</i> <i>6:30PM</i>	5 Rosh Hashana Morning Services 9:30AM	6 Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM	7 Shabbat Services 7:30PM	8
9 Religious School 9:30 to 10:30 10:30 to 12:30 Adult Ed 1PM	10	11	12 Yom Kippur Kol Nidre 6:30PM	13 Yom Kippur 9:30PM Baby Sitting Available Yizkor 12 Noon Evening 5PM Mincah/Ne'Leh Break the Fast 7PM	14 Shabbat Services 7:30PM	15
16 Joint Hebrew and Religious School 10 to 12 noon Build Sukkot Susan B. Komen Race for the Cure JRF Camp Open House 2 - 6	17 Eve of Sukkot	18 First Day of Sukkot	19 Second Day of Sukkot	20 Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM Harvest of Faith 7Pm United Methodist Church Crosswicks, NJ	21 Shabbat Services 7:30PM Sukkah Program Oneg Jennifer Carton and Marcy Schwartz hosts	22
23 Religious School 9:30 to 10:30 10:30 to 12:30 Adult Ed 1PM CJREC 3 to 5	24	25 Shemini Atzeret	26 Simchah Torah Services and Hebrew School All are invited to attend 4:30 to 6:30PM	27 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	28 Shabbat Services 7:30PM	29
30 Religious School 9:30 to 10:30 10:30 to 12:30	31	NOVEMBER 1	Nov. 2	Nov. 3 Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM	Nov. 4 Shabbat Services 7:30PM Oneg Phyllis Chudoff and Robin Afrime hosts	Nov. 5