



Temple B'nai Abraham

Temple B'nai Abraham
President – Betsy Ramos

The Temple Shofar

Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein

Sarah Seidel Sisterhood
Co-Presidents-Bonnie Friedman
Debbie Weiss

5765-5766

JANUARY

2005-2006

Sometimes a rabbi raises a community – presiding over life cycle events, guiding people through challenging times and celebrating achievements. And sometimes, a community also raises a rabbi. B'nai Abraham has a tradition of raising rabbis. For more than a half a century the Jewish community in Bordentown has watched over rabbinical students and newly minted rabbis. Rabbinical school is often a time of transition in a person's life. While the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College has a wide range of students, ranging in age from their early twenties to sixties, the majority attend when they are in their twenties. This is a time when one's identity is cemented and a person discovers what he or she can do in the world. Having often been told that, "I look young for a rabbi," I know that I too fall in this category. How wonderful is it that I have found my way to a community that understands what a privilege it is to raise a rabbi.

This past December, I married my beloved Ashirah, and together took on a new last name, Lazarus-Klein. In the months leading up to our simchah, we experienced the excitement in the Bordentown community. We saw the joy in your faces and it helped increase the joy in our own. During our ceremony, Rabbi Micah Becker-Klein, Ashirah's brother who also served in Bordentown, told a Hassidic story about a rebbe who would stand outside of a wedding hall. He often would see people emerging smiling from end to end. But, when he would ask them to describe the wedding they would talk about the food or the band. It was as if they had not been to a wedding at all. On rare occasions, people would describe the joy in the faces of the bride and groom. And, only in those instances, would the rebbe tell them that they had been to a wedding.

Ashirah and I would like to thank the entire community for your overwhelming support leading up to our big day. I think back to my first phone conversation with Ashirah a year and a half ago, when I mentioned that I worked as a rabbi in Bordentown, expecting that she would never have heard of it. She, of course, had not only heard of B'nai Abraham, but had even attended services here many times. You see, she said, her brother was a rabbi there only a few years before I began.

I am proud to join the long list of rabbis who have celebrated life cycle events while they served as rabbi at B'nai Abraham. Rabbi Micah is also on that list, having seen his first child, Sophie, now 5 and my niece, being born while he and his wife Rachel were living in the house next door to the Temple.

May B'nai Abraham continue to serve as a place of birth and rebirth for all those, rabbis included, who walk through our doors.

Kol tuv,
Rabbi Alex (Lazarus-Klein)

58 Crosswicks * PO Box 245 * Bordentown, NJ 08505 * (609) 298-1527 * www.bnai-abraham.org

**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 Lowry
Financial Secretary	Rita Nissim
Record. Secretary	Ellen Wehrman
Corres. Secretary	Mimi Geller
Trustees:	
	Jill Popko
	Susan Giachetti

**SHABBAT SERVICES, YAHRZEITS
ONEGS**

Friday, December 30th Shabbat Services 7:30PM We will remember Charles Hicks, Maternal grandfather of Sara Blann. **Chanukah Program**, Curtis & Kim Aubry and Brian and Maribeth Epstein Oneg hosts families. Light Candles 4:27PM

Friday, January 6th Shabbat Services 7:30PM Light Candles 4:30PM

Friday, January 13th Shabbat Services 7:30PM We will remember Lawrence Bowker, husband of Linda, father of Jonathan, Rodd Eudell, friend of Linda Bowker, **Oneg Shabbat hosts families Tom & Susan Giachetti & Deena Kobrin**

Light Candles 4:38PM

Friday January 20th Light Candles 4:45PM

Saturday, January 21st Shabbat Morning Services 9:30AM We will remember Blanch Cantor, father of Ray Cantor, husband of Paul, Ethel Speiser, mother of Bernie. **Luncheon hosts families Ted & Joanne Lutz and Jay & Elaine Trackman.** Adult Ed to follow

Friday January 27th Tot Shabbat Services 6:00PM, Adults Services 7:30PM We will remember Bernard Zeichner, father of Stan, Julius Bloom, father of Randye, Jennie Groveman, Ella Kessler, mother of Henry. Minnie Gutstein, Rose Wasserman, mother of Linda Bowker, Ida Josephson, mother of Sam,

Light Candles 4:54PM

Hebrew and Religious School Info

No Hebrew school on January 1st, 15 and 22nd.

Snack Assignments for the year

January	Linda Osman
February	Bonnie Friedman
March	Deena Kobin
April	Melissa Fatori
May	Debbie Schulkin

Adult Education Program

The "Jewish Alive and American" will be on Sunday, January 8th and Saturday, January 21st. Please contact Rabbi Alex to let him know you are interested in this very informative discussion.

Special Project

If you or someone in your family made a physical donation. i.e. torah cover, plaque, candlesticks, etc., to the Temple or Sisterhood, please call Elaine Trackman with any information. We are compiling a list of items that have been donated over the past years

WE NEED YOUR HELP – There is a sculpture hanging on the back wall of the sanctuary. Does anyone know who donated this to the Temple. 298-1316 *Elaine*

Tot Shabbat News

Tot Shabbat met on December 23 to celebrate Hanukkah. In addition to our usual family friendly service, the children heard the story "The Eight Nights" by Jane Bearman and made their own gelt holders. They also helped decorate the synagogue, sang the dreidel song, and played Hot Dreidel (instead of Potato) where the person left holding the dreidel received our applause and all received gelt and prizes.

A big thank you goes to the Hebrew School for putting up the bulk of the Hanukkah decorations. The Temple looks incredibly festive!

Our next Tot Shabbat will be on January 27 when we focus on Mitzvot (good deeds). Mark your calendars for February 24 when we celebrate Purim and March 31 when we learn about Passover.

For more information about Tot Shabbat or to join our pot luck RSVP list please speak to Rabbi Alex or call Sharon Dauber 291-9169. In addition, if there is anyone who would be interested in contributing or leading a craft idea or story reading we would love to hear from you.

Sharon Dauber 291-9169

Hebrew School Happenings

This year we are trying to make Hebrew school even more creative and meaningful. It's a big plus that we have more helping hands with Livia Popko, my sister Abbie and me.

Here are some highlights from the fall: We wrote poetry about Shabbat to share with the community at a Saturday morning service. For Thanksgiving, the kids made little turkeys out of construction paper, and wrote what they were thankful for on each of the feathers, in Hebrew, with help with translation from the advanced class. The students designed Chanukah cards which may be printed by the Sisterhood. In December we made tzedaka boxes for each family to donate to. We invite all the students to bring in donations for their boxes each Sunday. Susan Giachetti has generously offered to match what the students donate!

We're enjoying working with the kids and we hope that your kids are also having a positive experience.

--Samantha Shain

Social Action

Food Pantry donations are encouraged! Please contribute non-perishable items to the box in the temple near the stairs.

The Sunday/Hebrew School students will be preparing bag lunches for the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen in the coming weeks. The teen group is planning to volunteer to serve food there as well in the near future.

Volunteers are needed for food delivery for HomeFront on Thurs., Dec. 29 -- please contact Marcy Schwartz and Rick Shain if you are available to help (324-0571).

Teen group news!!!

The teen group continues to be very active, with dynamic plans for the coming months. In December they gathered in Princeton to watch and discuss the film "Save." In late December they volunteered at the Trenton Area Soup Kitchen to serve the mid-day meal. Please join us for the next events.

January events:

Saturday, January 7: Jewish Comedy Night, 8 PM- 10:30 PM

Sunday, January 22: Ice Skating, 2 PM.

Around our Temple and Sisterhood

The Temple and Sisterhood communities extend our condolences to Neil and Karen Nissim and Sheila Lamonsoff on the recent passing of Dr. Norman Lamonsoff, Karen's father and Sheila's husband. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Glad to see Sid Morginstin up and around.

Speedy healing to Rita Nissim. Rita recently broke her foot but is hobbling around as usual.

Speedy healing to Rabbi Alex. He broke his wrist on his honeymoon.

A Loving Tribute to Rabbi Steven Tucker from Joanne and Ted Lutz

November 25, 2005 Friday Services Temple B'Nai Abraham Bordentown, NJ

There are those few times in one's life when the news of a death or a tragedy is so overwhelming and profound that I believe it causes, not just an emotional, but a physical change in our being. It is the realization that the world will not be quite the same as before. Like hearing of the deaths of John Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Jr., or Robert Kennedy, this change in one's psyche enables us to remember the news, and where we were when hearing it, for the rest of our life.

The news of Rabbi Steve Tucker's death was an event of that magnitude for Joanne and me. There are a few very special people who share their time on this earth with us and cannot be replaced when they leave; a loving parent, child, or spouse; or a rabbi that helps you to see the beauty in your religion and in the world. Judaism and the world are now poorer places with the loss of this beautiful human being.

Steve Tucker served as our Rabbi from 1985 – 1987. It was my good fortune to be president during this time. Steve and Gabrielle were just starting their family then. Steve was the first Rabbi to live next door, and I took care of seeing to his accommodations and living needs. So we became very close friends, and, Steve and Gabrielle, and Joanne and I spent much time together.

Steve officiated my son Dan's Bar Mitzvah and, four years later, when our student Rabbi was away during the summer, it was Steve Tucker who taught my son Steve his bar mitzvah lessons, even though he was no longer the Rabbi at B'nai Abraham. I

remember his adult education classes, attended by Sister Florence from Poor Clare's

Monastery. I think that Sister Florence was admonished back at the Monastery for having too much fun on her night out.

Although Steve went on to lead much larger congregations, and was president of the Pacific Southwest chapter of the Rabbinical Assembly, he had a very special fondness for Temple B'nai Abraham. Joanne and I had the honor of having him and Gabrielle as house guests last year when they were in New Jersey. Steve spoke fondly of Temple B'Nai Abraham, saying he came to admire our capacity for change, which he had to advocate for at other temples.

Rabbi Tucker's death is a true tragedy. Everyone who knew him is asking how could it be. Steve gave so much to so many. He was always there with his infectious smile, humor, and intellect. Did we all take just a little from him without giving anything back? Did God need him even more than we did?

His legacy at Temple B'Nai Abraham will live on. Joanne and I and our family, Steve and Kaitlin, and Dan would like to donate a print by the artist Ben Shahn to the Temple in his memory. I hope that the officers and congregation will accept this with a new respect and understanding for those in our past that have contributed so much to our Temple.

Steve, we will never forget you and I hope that you are at peace. Thanks for all that you did for our Temple and our family. We pray that your family, Gabrielle, Sam, Jon, and Ezra get the strength from each other that they will need for forgiveness, understanding, and comfort.

Shalom
Ted & Joanne Lutz

Membership List

Everyone should have received the new membership list by now. It includes all temple, sisterhood, and Hebrew School members. Please review all of your information carefully. If you note any errors, please call Betsy Ramos (298-0437) or e-mail her (bramos@capehart.com) with the changes.

Betsy G. Ramos

DONATIONS

Elaine Zeitz Building Fund

Bea Bagan

In Honor of Rabbi Alex & Ashirah's marriage
from Michael & Sharon Dauber

Temple

In Memory of:

Dr. Norman Lamonsoff –

Alan & Alice Swartz
Sarala C. Mundassery
Michael & Sharon Dauber
Sandra & Howard Barsky
Doris & Michel Morren
Monica Grippo
The Hedgepeth-Williams Staff
Pat Budzinski
Joanne Bandy
Vickie Cohen
Kelly Vogel
Carol Tanner
Sandi Arnold
Arlene Kandrac
Edward Butler
Carlos Bell
Mandy Lehrman
Barbara Ricketti
Gayle Banks
Earline Greene
Carolyn Ollio
Gregory Green
Luc Miller
Josephine Miller
Kimberly Cardona-Garcia
Keisha Gaymon
Wendy Larmonie
Gloria Wilkerson
Julia Cabey
Dora Smith
Kathy Brewer
Juanita Gonzalez
Sherri Cohoon
Lisa Kata-Ballman

In Memory of:

Rabbi Steven Tucker

Eileen Gale
Randy Bloom & Michael Scolaro
Jay & Elaine Trackman

In Honor of:

Rabbi Alex and Ashirah's marriage

Marcy Schwartz & Rick Shain & daughters

Birth of son James Tanner to Millemann Family (Tot Shabbat Family)

Michael & Sharon Dauber

Yahrtzeit

In Memory of:

Issac Grassian – Marty & Rita Nissim

Myer Gale – Robert Gale

Sisterhood Joy and Sorrow

In Memory of:

Rabbi Steven Tucker

Sol & Shyrle Kushner, Berny & Arlene Speiser

Steven Affrime's aunt

Sid & Charyl Morginstin

Ben Ehrlich – Gaby & Kevin Manley

Dr. Norman Lamonsoff

Ted & Joanne Lutz

Sol & Shyrle Kushner

Jay & Elaine Trackman

Jeff & Barbara Streisfeld

Is & Phyllis Kamer

Jeff & Phoebe Nissim

Marcel & Lee Nissim

Francis & Karen Sutter

Sid & Charyl Morginstin

Renee Harrison

Mildred Shemesh

Mimi Geller

Robin & Tony Zak

Randy Bloom & Michael Scolaro

Henry & Rhoda Kessler

Victor & Betsy Ramos

Amy Nissim & Jeffrey Kagan

Rejoicing with you:

Rabbi Alex and Ashirah's marriage - Linda Bowker

To Barbara Lehman on the marriage of your Son David to Laura Sugerman- Linda Bowker

High Holiday Donations/Pledges

Michael and Sharon Dauber
Sandra Cohen
Leonard Black

**The JRF Mid-Atlantic
Region's 8th Annual**

Torah & Chocolate:

**An Evening of Adult
Jewish Learning**

**Havdalah, Engaging Classes,
Delicious Desserts***

Saturday, January 14, 2006

At the Reconstructionist
Rabbinical College, Wyncote, PA

Doors open at 6:30pm

*Send us your favorite chocolate recipe!!! Include with it a little blurb not only about the baker, but also about your Reconstructionist community. We will then put these recipes together in a Torah and Chocolate cookbook we will distribute during the event. And, for those of you who are able to bring your dessert on that Saturday night, you will receive free admission to our event and be entered into our bake-off contest. In this way, we seek to not only improve the quality of our desserts, but also learn more about who we are and what we have to offer one another. All recipes should be sent to Rabbi Alex Lazarus-Klein at alazarus@jrf.org.

**Check back soon for registration
information and session descriptions.**

Go to www.jrf.org/midatlantic.

For More Information Contact: Rabbi Alex
Lazarus-Klein, Mid-Atlantic Regional Director
215-782-8500 ext. 25, alazarus@jrf.org

Super Market Gift Cards

OY! We're starting to feel like our Mothers. Is constant nagging and kvetching the only way we can get you to do what you should?!

Our **Supermarket Gift Card** program is by far the easiest, most pain-free way to raise money for Temple B'nai Abraham. It costs us nothing...nada...epis to make literally thousands of dollars for the Synagogue. Yet only five or six families consistently buy and use the cards for their regular grocery needs. What is the problem, folks? Please let us know so we can make it even easier if we can.

The Temple gets 5% of every grocery dollar you spend! It's pretty close to a sin not to participate (guilt intended).

RIGHT NOW...Send us an E-Mail, give us a call, or drop a check in our front door mail slot and we'll deliver or mail you your cards good at any Acme (Sav-on, Albertsons, Osco, Jewel) or ShopRite store. They're the size of a credit/debit card and even simpler to use at checkout. Just swipe it --- you don't have to punch in a PIN or even sign anything. Talk about painless.

Here's an idea! If you would like us to send you a reminder e-mail every month, we'll be happy to do it. Just let us know. So get started...right now!

P.S. MANY THANKS to those of you who continue to participate on a regular basis. Please keep it going.

Marsha & Joel Dowshen
502 Farnsworth Ave.
Bordentown, NJ 08505
(609) 298-5306

Sisterhood Meeting and Event Dates

February 13	Yoga
March 6	Women's Space Speaker
May 8	Sisterhood Meeting-Game Night
June 12	Covered Dish

Sarah Seidel Sisterhood is planning a fund raiser for the spring. We are looking for volunteers to join us in preparing for a High Tea, possibly around Mothers Day. Please give Eileen Gale (291-0220) a call with your ideas and let us know you will be joining us at our next planning session, time to be announced soon.

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.

- 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 Lowry & 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 Randy 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.

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.

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.

An Invitation from Kevin Smith

I love to tell the story of when I was a Second Lieutenant in the Air Force, early in my brief AF career, I would go out on tour with the Show Band from Wright-Patterson AFB's Logistics Command Band where I was deputy commander. One night the guys (they were enlisted members and I was the only officer) invited me to play poker with them. I said "OK, on one condition: if I lose you guys keep my money, but if I win, I won't take yours. The money goes to Jeff's bachelor party" - one of the players was getting married. So I wound up winning pretty well, and the guy had one heck of a party while on the road. And that reminds me of why I'm writing this item for our newsletter...

Speaking of poker, so you think you've got a good poker face? Can tell the difference between a flush and a full house? You can bluff the IRS out of those back taxes? Test it out with B'Nai Abraham's newly-forming poker party...Len Klepner, Mike Rosen and I, seasoned, crafty, cagey gamblers all, are interested in taking your money, er, uh, that is, in forming a weekly or monthly poker get-together for penny-nickel-dime fun, dealer's choice, sandwiches and beverages, fun bonding and yiddishkeit...rotating among participant's houses, or maybe the shul if it's more convenient... So who's with us? Give Kevin Smith a call at 917 776 0919 or email me at ksmith610@comcast.net . Maybe we'll even pool the winnings for tzedakah or a shul party!

Shalom, Kevin

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.

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. You may also sponsor our existing Siddur at a cost of \$35.00.

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
January 1 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL Eight Lights in the evening	2	3	4	5 Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM	6 Shabbat Services 7:30PM	7
8 Religious School 9:30 to 10:30 10:30 to 12:30 Adult Ed 1PM	9 Sisterhood Board Meeting 7:30PM at Rita Nissim's home	10	11	12 Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM	13 Shabbat Services 7:30PM	14 Torah and Chocolate 6PM
15 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	16	17	18	19 Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM Temple Board Meeting 7:30	20	21 Services 9:30am Luncheon Hosts families Lutz & Trackman Adult Ed to follow
22 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL <i>Building Committee meeting 7:00PM</i>	23	24	25	26 Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM	27 Tot Shabbat Services and Pot Luck Dinner 6PM Adult Services 7:30PM	28
29 Religious School 9:30 to 10:30 10:30 to 12:30	30	31	February 1	Feb. 2 Hebrew School 4:30PM to 6:30PM	Feb. 3	Feb 4 Services 9:30am Luncheon Hosts families Zeichner & Fattori
Feb. 5 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	Feb 6	Feb 7	Feb 8	Feb 9	Feb 10 Shabbat Services 7:30PM Oneg hosts families Ramos & Elizabeth Marsh	Feb 11