

NEWSLETTER

SARAH SEIDEL SISTERHOOD

February, 1983

A Message from the Rabbi Keeping A Kosher Home

Our decision to keep Kosher was not made in a fleeting moment of spiritual emotion, for during the months prior to our decision and commitment, I again remembered all the reasons that had previously prevented me from keeping Kosher. As I sorted these things out in my own mind, I began to realize that I was the one who was creating my own problems. It wasn't because of the expense--certainly unkosher meats are also high priced--It wasn't because I lacked cabinet space--I have more cabinets now than I ever had before--it simply boiled down to whether or not I wanted to make that little bit of extra effort.

Our home is now a Kosher home. It is most difficult to describe the difference it has made for me, and for us as a family. Our children are now aware every day of their lives that they are different. Every time that the refrigerator door opens, and they have to hesitate for a moment to remember which spoon or which dish to use, they know that they are different--that they are special--that they are Jews.

Is it difficult keeping Kosher? Not at all! The transition is unbelievably easy. I still remember the night we decided to Kosher our pots and silverware. In the beginning I placed the labels on the outside of all cabinet doors. Now that we are familiar with which is which, I keep the labels inside.

We know that keeping a Kosher home is right for us. We also know that this will not guarantee solutions to the many problems that our children face growing up in today's world. But, at least Tom and I have given our children "footsteps to follow."

from the bulletin of Congregation Knesset
Israel, Pittsfield, Mass.

The next meeting of the Sarah Seidel Sisterhood will be held on Monday, February 14, 1983. Since our meeting was very successful and brief when held in the sanctuary last month, we will try that again on Monday, promptly at 8:00 PM. The board meeting will precede the regular meeting, also in the sanctuary, at 7:00 PM. Our guest speaker for the evening will be Bordentown's and Sarah Seidel Sisterhood's own Marsha Dowshen. Marsha is an accomplished potter and will be demonstrating her technique as well as discussing the finer points of creating your own clay wares. Our hostesses for the evening will be your very own top officers Rhoda Kessler and Candy Singer.

TODAH!! THANK YOU!!

A very special thank you to all those unsung heroes (male) of the Spaghetti dinner. Not only did you serve promptly and with a smile, the kitchen never looked so good.

As for the ladies, once again, the food was delicious, beautiful to look at and, even better, ample enough for some of us to reap the reward and take some home. Thank you.

Thank you to Elaine Trackman and Ida Reichlin for, once again, supplying the Johnstone ladies and gentlemen with Chanukah cookies, gelt and decorative cans. Thank you to all those who baked and added the warmth of the holiday.

MOZEL TOV!! CONGRATULATIONS!!

A hearty mozel tov to Cantor Merganstin, father of Sid, on his recent celebration as a cantor for 60 years.

We gratefully acknowledge contributions to the Temple Memorial Fund: Mr. & Mrs. Henry Kessler in memory of Ella Kessler.

Mr. & Mrs. Herman Gutstein in memory of Minnie and Harry Gutstein.

Mrs. Beatrice Busch in memory of Minnie Kaufman.

Our deepest condolences are extended to John and Ruth Prins on the recent loss of John's father.

We also extend our condolences to Florence Lapin on the loss of her sister, Elizabeth Remsen.

IN CASE YOU DIDN'T KNOW...

Charyl Merganstin is busy making barrette sets for her donor project. The decorated barrettes sell for \$3.00 a set and you can order yours by calling Charyl at 298-2891.

Our own Ida Reichlin is on the mend! Glad to hear you're feeling better and hope to see you at our next meeting.

Shabbat services are held every Friday evening at the synagogue beginning at 8:00 PM.

Please join us on February 11th at 8:00 PM as the rabbi will be leading the services marking the anniversary celebration of Mr. & Mrs. Louis Rosenberg; their 50th wedding anniversary. Ellen Wehrman, the Rosenbergs' daughter, will sponsor this joyous occasion with food and drink. We hope you will all make an effort to attend. Louis has been our "cantor in residence" for many years and is a most cherished member of our community.

This is a surprise for Louis and his wife, so please do not tell. It should not be too difficult to keep this secret since we are not sending Louis his February newsletter until March.

Services will also be held on Saturday, February 12th, beginning at 9:15 AM. Please join us.

The groundhog's shadow noted that Spring is just around the corner. What happened to Winter?

Candy Singer

