



Temple B'nai Abraham

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The Temple Shofar

Sarah Seidel Sisterhood

5765-5766

JUNE

2005-2006

Almost exactly 8 years ago in 1999, I found myself driving to the suburbs of Philadelphia in search of a new path for my life. While I had grown up in the area, this would be my first visit to the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College located in Wyncote, PA. Housed in an old mansion, my first impression was one of warmth and welcoming. The Director of Admissions at the time was Rabbi Rena Spicehandler, a tiny woman with boundless energy. Sitting in her cozy office, I felt immediately at home.

After listening to my story, she said something to effect of, "Whether you know it or not you followed the perfect path to rabbinical school." Having, up until that point, been unsure of what I wanted to do with my life, I felt very comforted in knowing I might have been actually following a plan.

A week later my application was in and within a few months I was starting classes as a rabbinical student. For me, RRC was the perfect combination of a "Heymish" (read - down-to-earth) environment with a rigorous course of study.

Unbeknown to me, around the same time B'nai Abraham was undergoing a similar process of its own. Becoming a member of the Reconstructionist movement, meant an intensive process of self discovery and real soul searching. And, while my process was significantly quicker, the end feeling was one and the same. For, both B'nai Abraham and I, have found a real home in the Reconstructionist movement.

Luckily for us, not only has Reconstructionism provided for us a movement as "Heymesh" as our own community, but the central institutions in the movement - RRC, The Jewish Reconstructionist Federation (JRF) and the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association (the RRA) - are only a hop-skip-and a jump on the Turnpike away from us.

This June, RRC will welcome in a new cadre of rabbis into the movement. 14 freshly minted rabbis will take on the challenge of not only making for a stronger Reconstructionist community, but more importantly a stronger Jewish community.

This is one of the most unique graduation ceremonies anywhere and provides real insight into what it means to be a Reconstructionist. If you don't believe me go see for yourselves. This year graduation will take place at Keneseth Israel, 8330 Old York Road, Elkins Park, at 2 PM on Sunday, June 11. For more info go to www.rrc.edu and check out their snazzy new site.

I want to wish everyone a wonderful beginning to your summers. I'd also like to extend a Mazel Tov to our B'nai Mitzvah students - Danny Barman, Brittany Friedman and Gary Bergman. I especially want to bid the Bergmans a fond farewell as they head to Arkansas this summer. They have been an important part of our Bordentown family and will be missed. Mazel Tov also to Len Klepner on receiving Member of the Year, Bonnie Friedman on her conversion and Corrine Naomi Nissim on her baby naming.

Kov Tov

Rabbi Alex

Temple B'nai Abraham Officers for 5765-66

President	Betsy Ramos
Exec. Vice Pres.	Charlie Weiss
Religious VP	Robin Affrime
Financial VP	Jennifer Carton
Secretary	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 and Debby Weiss	Bonnie Friedman
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 May 26th Shabbat Services 7:30PM We will remember Joseph Harrison, father-in-law of Renee Harrison, Harry Pierce, father of Ira Pierce, Jacob Mervish, father of Shyrlie Kushner, Oneg Shabbat hosted by Barman Family in honor of son Daniel's Bar Mitzvah Light Candles

8:01PM

Saturday May 27th Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Barman 9:30AM

Friday, June 2nd Shabbat Services 7:30PM Hebrew School Graduation We will remember George Segal, friend of Michael Bergman. *Oneg sponsored by the Hebrew School parents* Light Candles 8:06PM

Friday June 9th Tot Shabbat Services 6PM Pot Luck Dinner **Adult Services 7:30PM** **Member of the Year Program. Honoree Len Klepner.** *Oneg hosts Randye Bloom, Marsha Dowshen, Sandy SchwartzBird, Marcy Schwartz-Shain, Charyl Morginstin..* We will remember Benjamin Weinman, father of Sara Bergman, and longtime Temple family member George Groveman. Light Candles 8:10PM

Friday June 16th Shabbat Services 7:30PM We will remember Genevive Maza, aunt of Sandra Cohen and Fannie Bloom, mother of Ida Reichlin. *Oneg host Bonnie Friedman in honor of Brittany's Bas Mitzvah* Light Candles 8:13PM

Saturday, June 17th Bas Mitzvah of Brittany Friedman 9:30AM

Friday June 23rd Shabbat Services 7:30PM We will remember Edith Trackman, mother of Jay Trackman. Light Candles 8:15PM

Friday, June 30th Shabbat Services 7:30PM We will remember Aaron Cohen, grandfather of Sandra Cohen. Oneg hosts Michael and Sara Bergman in honor of Gary's Bar Mitzvah. Light Candles 8:15PM

Saturday July 1st Bar Mitzvah of Gary Bergman. 9:30AM

Hebrew and Religious School Info

No Hebrew School on Sunday May 28. Hebrew School ends on June 2, where the students will be leading the services and receiving end of the year certificates.

"Parking on grassy area"

Many of us park on the grassy area next to the synagogue - those brave enough to risk losing a muffler. However, please do not park on this area when the ground is wet. It leaves deep ruts on the ground that have to be fixed and reseeded.

Tot Shabbat News

Our last Tot Shabbat of the year will be June 9 when we learn about the Torah in honor of Shavuot.

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.

May 26 th	Barman Family
May 27	Bar Mitzvah Daniel Barman
June 2	Hebrew School Graduation-Hebrew School Families
June 9 th	Tot Shabbat and Member of the Year Program Randye Bloom, Marsha Dowshen, Sandy SchwartzBird, Marcy Schwartz, Charyl Morginstin
June 12	Covered Dish - Randye Bloom & Marsha Dowshen
June 16	Bonnie Friedman
June 17	Brittany Friedman Bat Mitzvah,
June 30	Sara and Michael Bergman
July 1 st	Gary Bergman Bar Mitzvah

AROUND THE TEMPLE NEWS

MANY MAZEL TOVS THIS MONTH

Bonnie Friedman on the occasion of her conversion to Judaism.

Robin Afrime Teacher of the Year at Boudinot School in Burlington, NJ.

Sam and Abby Shain Students of the Year at MacFarland Junior High School

Brittany Friedman Student of the Month at MacFarland Junior High School and the invite by John Hopkins University to partake in the SATS.

Student Graduates Sam and Abbie Shain, Ben Bergman and Sarah Marsh from MacFarland Junior High School, **Jeff and Nicole Liebman** from 6th grade moving up to Norther Burlington. Any others that I may have missed, we wish the best to you also.

Member of the Year Len Klepner. We will honor Len at services and Oneg on June 9th.

All the B'nai Mitzvahs this month-Brittany, Daniel, and Gary.

Hats off to **Greg Rosen** on his super guest performance with the Brass Tacks Swing Band at the Bordentown Community Concert on Friday, May 19th. We are all proud of him.

n honor of Gary Bergman's Bar Mitzvah on July 1st, Sara & Michael invite the congregation to join them at Friday night services and Oneg Shabbat on June 30. In addition to celebrating the bar mitzvah, this will mark the end of a 16 year association with the Temple, as they are moving out of Bordentown over the summer.

We wish the **Bergmans** all the best to them in their new community in Arkansas. They will be missed.

Thankk you Sandy SchwartzBird for sending along a web site for Bar and Bat Mitzvah parents to peruse. Go to: <http://www.bnaimitzvahguide.com>.

**CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING ON JUNE 14
PLEASE MAKE EVERY
EFFORT TO ATTEND AT
7:00PM**

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 (Chumashim)

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.

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

Memorial Plaques

Memorial plaques are available at \$200 each. If you would like to order one please send the following information IN WRITING to Sid Morginstin, plaque chairman, (PO Box 8101 Trenton NJ or e-mail: leadstamp@aol.com). (1) English name of deceased (2) Hebrew name of deceased. If you do not have the Hebrew names, provide the English names. The Rabbi and Sid will do their best to get Hebrew names. (3) Date of death in the English calendar. . DO NOT include payment. Once the plaque has been put up, you will be billed.

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.

RELIGIOUS ITEMS BURIAL

No doubt we all have old kippot, prayer books and what ever else sitting in our homes. I am often asked what should be done with them? The proper course of action is to bury them in a cemetery. If you have any of these, please place them in a small box labeled "TO SID: FOR BURIAL". Place the box in the temple (or, drop it off at my house: 849 East Drive Bordentown -- leave it by the BACK door). Once I get a large enough accumulation, I will bring it to Rabbi Leverton of the Chabad of the Windsor for burial. On the kippot: The rule is, once it has been used, it must be buried. If a kippah has never been used it may be thrown out. On books: Nowadays with recycling, one might think that it would be better to place the books with our paper recycling. I did raise this point to a couple of rabbis. All stated that the books must be buried..

Sid Morginstin

SARAH SEIDEL SISTERHOOD

The Sisterhood Pot Luck Supper is June 12th. To help raise funds for the synagogue, we will sell tickets for a chance to win an enormous scrapbooking gift basket! The prize would be worth \$261.00 if purchased at a local craft store, but we will sell 3 tickets for \$5! This is such an exciting opportunity that you might want to collect money for tickets from friends and family who can not attend, or purchase a lot of tickets. The collection includes many, many stickers, dimensional stickers, Disney stickers, alphabet stickers, metallic stickers, a beautiful 12X12 scrapbook, 2 multi packs of 12X12 paper, patterned paper, different adhesives, 3 frames, decorative punches, a complete alphabet stamp set (upper and lower case!), and much more. This is months of fun, even if you have never scrapbooked before!

The list of food items for the pot luck covered dish is on a separate page. Please check out your dish to bring.

The slate of officers will remain the same with one exception. Melissa Fattori will be nominated for the Board as a Trustee, replacing Jill Popko. We will vote on the slate at the covered dish.

Donations

Temple

In Honor of:

Bonnie Friedman's conversion

The Shain/Schwartz Family

Baby girl, Corine, to the Nissim Family

The Shain/Schwartz Family

Yahrtzeit

In Memory of:

Joseph Harrison Renee Harrison

Rita Hodes Randy Bloom and Michael Scolaro

Trudie Urken Rhoda and Henry Kessler

Sisterhood

In Memory of:

Dr. William Cohen Renee Harrison

Manny Garber The Schwartzberg Family

Get well Robin Afrime

Jay and Elaine Trackman

Charyl and Sid Morginstin

Rita and Marty Nissim

In Honor of

Bonnie Friedman Elaine and Jay Trackman
Randy Bloom and Mike Scolaro

Ira Susswein's birthday Phyllis and Is Kamer

Len Klepner Charyl and Sid Morginstin
Eileen Gale

Member of the Year Len Klepner

Len Klepner will be honored as our member of the year on Friday night, June 9, 2006. Len has provided invaluable services to our Hebrew School, as well as to the synagogue in general. He has taught at the school for a number of years as both a paid teacher and now as a volunteer. He specializes in teaching the fundamentals of Hebrew and foundations of Judaism. Len has served as a board member (trustee), Religious Committee member, and Building committee member. He has also functioned as an assistant gabbai, substitute rabbi or cantor, run services, helped build the Succot, and filled any role needed in the religious life of the Temple. He also "knows everything" about Judaism and will answer any question by anyone (at any length!). Please join us on June 9 to honor him for his years of services to Temple B'Nai Abraham.

Presidents Message

Our next congregation meeting will be held on June 14 at 7:00 pm. We want your input so please come out to the meeting. We expect to have a building committee report at that time. Also, as this meeting, we will be passing our budget for next year which does not include any dues increase. However, it does include a mandatory participation in our supermarket voucher (gift card) program. While we are still finalizing the details, the plan is to include an assessment for the gift cards (which will need to be paid at the time that your bill is paid). This assessment will be based upon a sliding scale depending upon whether a member is a single, family, or Hebrew School family. Assuming the set amount of gift cards are purchased by the end of our fiscal year, the member would then receive a credit, cash, or perhaps additional gift cards equivalent to the monies paid through the assessment. We will be distributing a more detailed explanation to our members with your dues bill. I would like to thank all of our members for their patience with the Board this year. With so many new members on the Board, there has been a learning curve for all of us to determine the extent of our responsibilities, as well as how best to serve the congregation. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the Board members for their hard work and dedication. Last, I would like to thank all of the members of the Sisterhood for their tireless efforts to keep things running smoothly, as well as their financial support to the synagogue.

**CONGREGATIONAL
MEETING ON JUNE 14
See you there!**

Yahrtzeit for the Summer Months

July

July 7, Bernard Black, father of Leonard Black
July 8, Anna Harrison, mother-in-law of Renee
July 9, Solomon Schaffer, father of Rhoda Kessler
July 10, Joseph Josephson, father of Sam Josephson
July 11, Jack Roth, father of Elaine Trackman
July 11, Oscar Wasserman, father of Linda Bowker
July 17, Max Light, father of Patricia Light-Tolomeo
July 20, Abraham Zeitz, father of Carl Zeitz
July 22, Lester Bird, father-in-law of Sandy SchwarzBird
July 29, Beatrice Busch, mother of Phyllis Busch
July 29, Bernard Shain, father of Betsy Ramos
July 30, Lulu Cohen, grandmother of Sandra Cohen

August

August 5, Alice Mervish, mother of Shyrle Kushner
August 6, Lou Rosenberg, father of Ellen Wehrman
August 13, Abraham Kaiser, father of Eileen Gale
August 11, Elaine Zeitz, wife of Carl Zeitz
August 14, Louis Rosen, father of Gerald Rosen
August 25, Norman Goldman, father of Bonnie and Jeff Goldman and father-in-law of Rhea Goldman

Bonnie Friedman has so graciously accepted this editor's request to tell us about her conversion to Judaism. Thank you Bonnie for this wonderful incite to you and your family.

On May 5, 2006 I made my official conversion to Judaism. It was a wonderful and significant event on my spiritual journey. I am so grateful to this congregation, Rabbi Alex and my family for all of their support, education and enlightenment throughout this process.

My first introduction to Judaism was through my relationship with my in-laws, Richard and Theda Friedman – Dad and Mom. For over fourteen years they have been a shining example of Jewish values, traditions and celebrations. They honored me by allowing me to take their Hebrew names as my parents. I am now Leah Tovah bas Reuven v Toba Chaya.

For the past four years we have been affiliated with Temple B'nai Abraham and again I was introduced to a warm and welcoming diverse group of people living the values that I share. Being an active member of this congregation gave me a pragmatic opportunity to begin to form my own Jewish identity and to find a place within the rich history of an amazing people. This community has also provided me, and my family with connection to our local community and the world community, and has provided a channel for volunteer work and participation in Tikkun Olam.

Con't.

I have studied with Rabbi Alex for the past two years and that has been invaluable in my personal process of "fitting" into my Jewish identity. He has graciously given his time and knowledge with compassion and sensitivity despite his very hectic schedule and many significant life changes. He coordinated all the necessary events leading to the conversion and took time to be present at the Mikvah to provide blessing and support when I took "the plunge". Elaine Trackman and Len Klepner thoughtfully agreed to participate in the Beit Din on May 4, 2006. I asked that they be part of the counsel along with Rabbi Alex because I respect each of them - Len for his Judaic knowledge and commitment to education and Elaine for her knowledge of tradition and her ability to incorporate it into the present moment. They both asked me questions of the heart and listened to me speak from my heart – an intimate and noble undertaking. I thank them both for the important part they played in this process.

My conversion is an end of one phase and perspective of myself, but it is only the beginning of the next phase of self-discovery and enlightenment. I hope to one day learn Hebrew and I look forward to developing a greater understanding of Judaism by participating in Torah study. In fact, as my commitment to continued learning, I would like to initiate a Torah study group. Anyone who is interested in Torah study, please contact me via e-mail at fbonnieart@aol.com or by phone at 609-291-1506.

I think one of the best moments since my conversion was at Friday night services on May 19th when I walked into the sanctuary a little late (yes, I now officially operate on Jewish time) and was able to make the Minion! Wow – it is very cool to count and even cooler to be able to give back a little of the abundance that has been given to me. I know the next great moment will be when I go up to the beamer and read my first Aliyah, especially when I can do that honor at my beautiful daughter Brittany's upcoming Bat Mitzvah on June 17th.

A side note about Brittany.

Brittany Friedman, 7th grade, McFarland Junior High School student was recently honored with an award for Student of the Month. Brittany is a high honors student, who takes an 8th grade math class. Last year she placed in the 98th percentile in the nation for math. She was invited by John's Hopkins University to participate in the SAT's and scored extremely well. She is active in Chorus and theater and has been preparing for her Bat Mitzvah which will take place on June 17th. As her mother, I am very proud of her accomplishments and, more importantly, of who she is - a compassionate, kind and loving person full of wonder and joy!

Mazel Tov to both you and Brittany.

SARAH SEIDEL SISTERHOOD
ANNUAL COVERED DISH SUPPER
MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2006

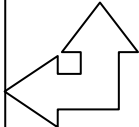
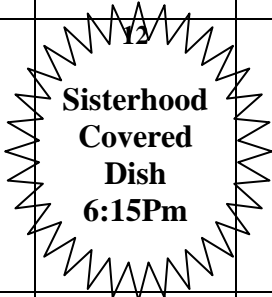
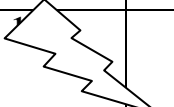
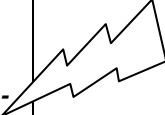

6:15 pm

If you cannot attend, are unhappy with the dish that you are assigned, or are bringing a guest [\$5.00], please make a quick phone call to Marsha Dowshen [298-5306] or Randye Bloom [298-6485] to let us know- that is the only way to make the covered dish a successful meal for all who attend. Thank you.

Robin Afrime	blintzes
Kim Aubry	bread and butter
Sara Bergman	rugelach
Randye Bloom	ice, seltzer, milk
Phyllis Chudoff	macaroni & cheese casserole
Sharon Dauber	chocolate chip cookies
Marsha Dowshen	tabouli
Randi Fechter	asparagus
Bonnie Friedman	deviled eggs
Eileen Gale	kugel
Mimi Geller	lemon squares
Susan Giachetti	eggplant parmesan
Nina Glanz	sour cream twists
Bonnie Goldman	anything chocolate
Rhea Goldman	green bean salad
Renee Harrison	plain tuna salad
Phyllis Kamer	spinach salad
Shyrle Kushner	your choice
Shelia Lamonsoff	dessert
Marlene Lavine	your choice
Patricia Lite-Tolomeo	leafy green salad
Shira Lowry	your choice
Joanne Lutz	two gals of iced tea & fresh lemons
Charyl Morginstin	brownies
Karen Nissim	dessert
Rita Nissim	spinach soufflé
Linda Osman	hummus and pita
Freda Pollack	appetizer of choice
Jill Popko	fruit dessert
Betsy Ramos	dessert
Madge Rosen	cake
Marcia Rosen	cheesecake
Debbie Schulkin	cheese and crackers
Marcy Schwartz	fruit salad
Bettie Schwartzberg	assorted olive bar
Sandy SchwartzBird	main course with salmon
May Silver	entrée of choice
Arlene Speiser	plain tuna salad
Elaine Trackman	Greek salad
Yelena Uzlyaner Masoti	white wine
Ellen Wehrman	baked pasta dish of choice
Debra Weiss	whitefish salad

PLEASE BRING APPROPRIATE SERVING DISH AND UTENSILS

TEMPLE FUNDRAISER- It is time to compile the community booklet for Yom Kippur that lists the names of family and friends whom you wish to honor or remember on

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
May 28th No Religious School Rosh Chodesh Sivan	MEMORIAL DAY			1 Hebrew School 4:30-6:30PM	2 Shabbat Services 7:30PM Hebrew School Graduation Oneg Hosts Hebrew School Families	3
4 Building committee meeting 7PM	5	6	7	8	9 <i>Tot Shabbat and Pot Luck 6PM</i> <i>Adult Services 7:30</i> <i>Member of the Year Len Klepner</i> <i>Oneg hosts R. Bloom, M Dowshen, M. Schwartz, S. SchwartzBird C. Morginstin</i>	10 <i>Join us for this celebration at 7:30PM</i> 
11	12 	13 	14 ALL MEMBERS CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 7PM 	15	16 Shabbat Services 7:30 PM Friedman family Oneg Hosts in honor of Brittany's Bat Mitzvah	17 Morning Services 9:30AM Brittany Friedman's Bat Mitzvah
18	19	20 	21	22	23 Shabbat Services 7:30PM	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Shabbat Services 7:30PM Oneg Hosts Bergman Family in honor of Gary's Bar Mitzvah	July 1 Morning Services 9:30AM Gary Bergman's Bar Mitzvah