



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 & Debby Weiss

5766-5767

APRIL

2006-2007

Dear Temple B'nai Abraham Community

While food historians generally attribute the creation of the sandwich to John Motagu, 4th Earl of Sandwich in 1762, the actual idea of putting two pieces of bread with something spread in between actually comes from our very own Passover Seder. I am, of course, referring to the Hillel Sandwich, that we eat right before the meal and involves the combination of Matzah (bread being off limits for obvious reasons) and Maror, or bitter herbs.

The tenth item on the order of the Seder, Korech is a rather strange custom indeed. After all, there are many more appealing sandwich combinations than bitter herbs and Matzah. So, why do we do it?

The Hillel sandwich actually stems back to an argument in the Talmud about when we should eat the bitter herbs and when we should eat the Matzah. This is a little like the peanut butter and jelly debate today (i.e. some people prefer just jelly, some peanut butter, some both). For these Talmudic rabbis, some felt we should eat Matzah first, some Maror, and some, namely Hillel, thought they should be eaten together. As, Maror is symbolic of the slavery and Matzah symbolic of our freedom, the argument comes down to how one should effectively recreate the Exodus from Egypt using our culinary senses.

However, the basic idea of Hillel's sandwich or any sandwich is that a combination of flavors works better than a single flavor. How true in the rest of our lives as well! And, this is actually keeping with current educational theory that posits that activities that reach a variety of your senses and use a variety of teaching methods create a more complete educational experience.

For synagogue life, this means that an effective synagogue does not just meet the needs of one demographic, i.e. service goers, but must be able to reach out to multiple groups. This is especially challenging for a small synagogue like our own, where we have limited staff and volunteer time. Yet, even still, in looking at our calendar (which in addition to being in the back of the newsletter is also on-line at bnai-abraham.org), we can pat ourselves on the back for our ability to reach out to multiple groups on any given month. Whether it is our regular weekly services, Hebrew school, a knitting group, movie night, Tot Shabbat, Sisterhood, Board Meetings, we really can be proud of what we are able to accomplish with such a small group of people.

In my day job, the organization I work with, Jewish Outreach Partnership, organizes a program called Synaplex Philadelphia. Synaplex is a national program created by the STAR Foundation for Synagogue Renewal. The goals for Synaplex are to force synagogues to think outside of the box when putting together their Friday and Saturday activities. Typically once a month, participating synagogue (currently 16 in the Philadelphia area), hold wine tastings, Torah Yoga, outside speakers, visiting bands, game nights, and a bevy of other ways to bring in the non-service going population. The key to this is to make sure their programming is layered, i.e. one program overlapping with the next and thus ensuring that multiple groups have a chance to meet one another.

At B'nai Abraham we currently have a program once a month that works exactly like this - that being, our Tot Shabbat. Over the past three years, thanks to Sharon Dauber's incredible energy and foresight, we have gone from 2-3 families on any given Shabbat to 7-9. That means it is not unusual for us to have 16 kids and 14 adults, eating together, having a short service, listening to a story and working together on a craft. My favorite part of this is seeing the new families interact with the regular service goers that start appearing at 7:15. There we really have one program overlapping with another – just like a sandwich, perhaps even a Hillel Sandwich.

Chag Pesach Sameach (Happy Passover),

Rabbi Alex

**Temple B'nai Abraham
Officers for 5766-67**

President	Betsy Ramos
Exec. Vice Pres.	Charlie Weiss
Religious VP	Michael Rosen
Financial VP	Jennifer Carton
Secretary	Eileen Gale
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Religious School Chair	Susan Giachetti
Membership/Outreach Chair	Stewart Warren
Building Committee Chair	Stan Zeichner
Adult Education Chair	Rick Shain

**Sarah Seidel Sisterhood
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Co-Presidents	Bonnie Friedman & Debby Weiss
Treasurer	Shira Lowry
Financial Secretary	Rita Nissim
Record. Secretary	Ellen Wehrman
Corres. Secretary	Mimi Geller
Trustees:	
	Susan Giachetti
	Melissa Fattori

**SHABBAT SERVICES, YAHRZEITS
ONEGS**

Friday, March 30th Tot Shabbat/Pot luck dinner 6PM, Adult services 7:30PM. We will remember Charles Herzog, father of Madge Rosen; Frances Epstein, mother of Rhea Goldman; Bess Light, mother of Patricia Light-Tolomeo **Light Candles 7:03PM**

Friday April 6th Shabbat Services 7:30PM. We will remember Jack Harrison, brother-in-law of Renee Harrison. **Light Candles 7:10PM**

Friday April 13th Shabbat Services 7:30PM. Rabbi Julie leads. We will remember Albert Dowshen, father of Joel Dowshen; Flora Grassian, mother of Rita Nissim; and Ida Reichlin, founding family member. Oneg hosts Marty & Rita Nissim and Neil and Karen Nissim Families **Light Candles 7:18PM**

Friday April 20th Tot Shabbat/Pot luck dinner 6PM, Adult services 7:30PM. We will remember Belle Rosen, mother of Gerald Rosen; and Harriet Hicks, maternal grandmother of Sara Blann. Interfaith Pulpit Exchange. Rev. Jay Rambo, First Baptist Church, will be our guest clergy. Oneg Shabbat to follow. **Light Candles 7:25PM**

Friday, April 28th **Light Candles 7:32PM**

Saturday April 28th Shabbat Morning Services 9:30AM We will remember Frances Novak, grandmother of Ray Cantor; Mary Gross, aunt of Shyrla Kushner; and Philip Kushner, father of Sol Kushner. Luncheon hosts Fechter and Aubry Families.

Friday May 4th Shabbat Services 7:30PM We will remember Louis Benson, father of Charyl Morginstin. Oneg hosts William & Rona Goldberg and Brian & Bethann Goldberg. **Light Candles 7:39PM**

AROUND OUR TEMPLE NEWS

Sunday April 1	Religious School Model Seder
Tuesday April 3	Community Seder 6PM
Saturday May 12	Murder Mystery
Wednesday May 16	Congregational Meeting
Wednesday June 13	Congregational Meeting

The Temple and Sisterhood communities wish a hearty Mazel Tov to Arlene and Berny Speiser on the birth of twin grandsons, Adam and Parker Szymanski.

Tot Shabbat News

Tot Shabbat met in March to celebrate Shabbat and Passover. In addition to our potluck dinner, service and story reading, the children learned the Dayenu song and made their own afikomen bags.

Tot Shabbat will meet again on April 20 from 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. when we celebrate Yom Ha'Atzmaut, Israeli Independence Day. The children will be decorating Israel shaped magnets to commemorate the day.

The final dates on our calendar will be May 18 when we celebrate Shavuot, and June 8 when we learn about Havdallah. If you haven't been before it's not too late to join in the fun!

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

Congregational meeting May 16th. We encourage all to attend. Policy is decided at these meetings. Your input is greatly appreciated

Social Action

The bar and bat mitzvah class continues to deliver hot meals to families in transitional housing at a local motel once a month. The students have been a great help, adding a friendly greeting and a smile to the meals at each motel room door.

Anyone who would like to help out with local community social action, please call Marcy at 324-0571.

Marcy Schwartz

2005-2006 Host List for Oneg Shabbats Luncheons and Sisterhood Meetings

April 13 Marty & Rita Nissim and Neil & Karen Nissim

April 20

April 28 Luncheon Fechter and Aubry Families

May 4 William & Rona Goldberg and Brian & Bethann Goldberg

May 12 Luncheon Madge & Jerry Rosen and Marcia and Michael Rosen

June 11 Sisterhood Covered Dish Randye Bloom & Marsha Dowshen

June 15 Osman Family in honor of Bat Mitzvah

June 29 Member of the Year Rhea Goldman and Is & Phyllis Kamer

NOTE

If an Oneg is canceled due to inclement weather, your responsibilities may be moved to another date. If the date assigned to you is not a good date for you, **YOU** are responsible for finding a replacement.

Temple B'nai Abraham Community Seder

The community Seder is Tuesday April 3 at 6pm. Please arrive on time so we can begin on time. We will be celebrating Passover with over 30 congregants and guests. The dinners will have been ordered by the time this newsletter reaches you. If you have any questions please call or email. kimaubry@gmail.com and 609-841-8965.

Checks are to be made out to Temple B'nai Abraham and sent to Kim Aubry at 930 Hamilton Ave. Roebling, NJ 08554

Knitlers Group has been cancelled for March.

We will meet every fourth Monday at the home of Betsy Ramos. Please join us for a fun evening of kibitzing and knitting on April 23rd.

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 on-temple member, please provide their name and address

Memorial Plaques

Memorial plaques are available at \$200 each. To order, please send the following information IN WRITING to Sid Morginstin, plaque chairman, (PO Box 8101 Trenton NJ or e-mail Sidmorgy@verizon.net. (1) English name of deceased (2) Hebrew name of deceased. (3) Date of death in the English calendar. Once the plaque has been put up, you will be billed. Plaques will not be moved from one board to another.

Cat's Meow Temple 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. Contact Eileen Gale at 291-0220.

SARAH SEIDEL SISTERHOOD NEWS

Grounds for Sculpture – April 29th 9:30am

Please meet at the temple at 9:30am so that we may carpool or at the grounds at 10:00am. Admission price is \$12.00 per adult.

Grounds for Sculpture is a 35-acre sculpture park and museum. It is comprised of landscaped grounds and historic, renovated buildings which feature changing exhibitions of contemporary sculpture. There are two casual restaurants to choose from. For more details about Grounds for Sculpture go to www.groundsforsculpture.org.



Beautiful Judaica is now being offered. For the month of April, in honor of Israeli Independence Day, 10% discount on all pieces.

148 Farnsworth Ave
Bordentown, NJ 08505

ph: 609.298.4456
silkantweed@aol.com

Store Hours - Open 12:00pm every day except Monday.

Thank you to everyone who contributed or helped out with Jeff and Nicole's B'nai Mitzvah and, in particular, Charyl Morginstin, who again contributed her wonderful brownies. Especially with the unexpected snow, that weekend was extremely hectic and I appreciated all who helped out with food, clean up, snow shoveling and moral support.
Betsy Ramos



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Everyone will receive 10% off of all orders and 10% will be donated to Temple B'nai Abraham.

The Hebrew School wishes to thank Anthony's Pizzatown on Route 130-206 North for giving a generous discount on the pizzas bought for the Purim carnival. Anthony's is celebrating their 25th Anniversary and they have a variety of Italian dishes besides pizza. To order, call 298-0109 or 298-0247.

"Thank You Anthony's"

Hebrew and Religious School Notes

The theme for the last two months (April and May) will be Israel. The students will create maps out of candy, and visit different cities through activities. For example, the students will visit Jerusalem by visiting the wall and writing messages. The students will begin preparing for Hebrew School Graduation.

Donations

Temple

Yahrtzeit

In Memory of

Rebecca Shemesh by Marty & Rita Nissim

Charles Herzon by Gerry & Madge Rosen

In Honor of

B'Nai Mitzvah of Nicole and Jeffrey Liebman by Rich, Sam and Abbie Shain and Marcy Schwartz

Sid Morginstin and Michael Rosen by Betsy and Vic Ramos for pinch hitting as leaders of the services on Friday night of Jeffrey and Nicoles B'nai Mitzvah.

Sisterhood

In Memory of

Dr. Jerome Urken:

Marcel and Lee Nissim

Randy Bloom and Michael Scolaro

Judith Miller by Jeffrey and Barbara Streisfeld

Rejoicing with you

Betsy and Vic Ramos on B'nai Mitvah of Nicole and Jeffrey Liebman by Randy Bloom and Michael Scolaro

Happy Birthday Renee Harrison by Is and Phyllis Kamer

Arlene and Berny Speiser on the birth of twin grandsons, Adam and Parker, to daughter Amy by Sid and Charyl Morginstin, Jay and Elaine Trackman, Eileen Gale.

Get Well Wishes

Steve Benowitz by Is and Phyllis Kamer

Is Kamer by Marcel and Lee Nissim, Renee Harrison

Supermarket Gift Cards

This month \$4,600. worth of gift cards were sold making the Temple \$230. Thank you to the following who participated: G. Rosen, Morganstin, Gale, Ramos, Cantor, Dowshen, Trackman, Giachetti, Bloom, R. Goldman, Wehrman, Chudoff. Please those who are not on the list just take a moment and give me a call 298-5306, or send in your envelope.

Thanks, Marsha Dowshen,

April
Nissan-Iyar 5767

Come One, Come All.

*Back by popular demand and the need to raise money for
the Temple!*

*Temple B'nai Abraham's own Murder Mystery. So Secret, we
can't tell you what the theme is yet. Watch for an all temple
e-mail.*

Save the date: M.A.Y 12th.

*Yummy desserts, and wine and cheese included in the price of
\$20.00. Invite your friends for the social event of the year.*

Who knows, YOU (or your friends) could be the murderer.

*Contact Eileen Gale or Debbie Weiss to volunteer for clean up, set
up, decorations or desserts. Eileen at 291-0220 or Debbie at 208-
2084.*

*Checks are to be made out to the Temple and sent to the Temple,
c/o of Eileen Gale*

