JULY/AUGUST 2017 5777

# BETH AMI AT SIMCHA SUNDAY 2017









# **Congregation Beth Ami**

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facebook.com/CongregationBethAmi

# Office and Gift Shop Hours

Mon.–Thurs. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Fri. 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

#### **Mission Statement**

Congregation Beth Ami enriches our lives, transforms our hearts, helps heal the world and sustains our Jewish heritage. We are deeply rooted in Jewish tradition and welcome all to our community through celebration, learning, education, and prayer.

#### **Personnel**

#### Rabbi Mordecai Miller

707-889-6905 rabbi@bethamisr.org

Judy Gunnar, Administrator

360-3011 administrator@bethamisr.org

# Elizabeth Jarlsberg, Office Manager

707-360-3000 office@bethamisr.org

### Diane Lennox, Bookkeeper

bookkeeper@bethamisr.org

#### Priscilla Lowell, Early Education Director

707-360-3030 ns@bethamisr.org

#### Amanda Plourde, Nursery School Assistant

707-360-3030 ns@bethamisr.org

#### Rick Concoff, JCC Teen Program

707-823-3916 rickc@jccsoco.org

#### Ben and Tara Winkler, Shofar Newsletter

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### Bonnie Boren, Gift Shop

707-360-3022

bonniegboren@gmail.com

#### Andrea Nett, Friedman Center Director

707-360-3021

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#### **Edythe Smith, Invitations**

707-538-3698

# Officers & Board of Directors, 2017–18

#### Henry Cohn, President

cohnhs@gmail.com, 292-3261

# Myrna Morse, VP, Personnel & Administration

mrm75@att.net, 539-5457

# David Ballo, VP, Facilities

klezhead@yahoo.com

# Mel Decker, VP, Development meldecker5@gmail.com, 540-0614

# Bonnie Boren, Jenny Levine-Smith, Co-VPs, Youth & Educa-

tion

rs@bethamisr.org

#### Carolyn Metz, Secretary

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#### Betty Boyd, Treasurer

bettyboyd@informingscience.org, 537-2211

#### Laura Alexander, immediate Past President

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#### **Members Ex Officio**

Judy Gunnar Priscilla Lowell Judy Kupfer Rabbi Mordecai Miller

### Members at Large

#### **Arnold Drake**

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#### Simone Bessa

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#### Jessica Singer

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#### Jeffrey Sternfeld

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#### **Bobbie Rosenthal**

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#### **Carol Swanson**

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Deadline for Sept./Oct. 2017 Shofar is Aug. 15



#### ד"סב

In creating the universe one of the first acts of the Divine Creator is to make distinctions: light and darkness, day and night, heaven and earth, dry land and seas, plants, birds, fishes and animals after their kinds, Shabbat and the rest of the days of the week. On further reflection, it appears that making distinctions is the very essence of claiming to know something. The more you know about a subject, the more capable you are of seeing differences between what's good and what's not so good—where others may be oblivious. An expert wine-taster, for example, is so aware of subtle distinctions in the wine that he or she may be able to distinguish thousands of wines one from the other, not only by variety, but by region and vintage. This vast knowledge puts such individuals in a position to rate the quality of these wines. There may well be disagreement between experts when it comes to the finer points, but I would suspect that there is an overall consistency in their judgements.

Obviously, in various degrees, this kind of expertise applies to every discipline: the ability to draw distinctions and set up a scale of values. This is the very nature of judging.

Drawing distinctions isn't limited to professions and disciplines; whenever we face any kind of decision we are called to make judgements. As we have seen, the validity of any judgment is proportional to amount of information and the familiarity with that information—call it experience—that one has.

At the same time there's always the subjective side of judging, too.

A woman is speaking to her friend, "I heard both your children got married last year. How are they doing?"

Her friend, "I'm afraid only one of them really did well. Stephen's wife is so needy. He's constantly having to cater to her. She expects

to eat out three times a week, she sleeps until 10 o'clock in the morning and then spends the rest of the day shopping. She's always buying clothes and jewelry."

"So how's your daughter?"

"Oh! She married such a wonderful man. He takes her out for dinner three times a week and she gets to stay in bed until late morning. She spends her afternoons at the mall, meeting her friends and keeping her wardrobe in style. Can you imagine a more thoughtful husband?"

Truth is, it's so easy to overlook our own subjectivity—regardless of the knowledge we (think) we have.

Some questions:

- Am I looking at all or both sides of the situation?
- How would I like it if that judgement were made about me?
- Do I have different relationships with each of the two (or more) sides?
- How do I react if someone disagrees with me?

As I've said so often, "I'm an expert when it comes to everyone else!"

May your summer be safe and enjoyable!

# Simcha Board Tree of Life

Honor thy mother...also thy aunt, uncle, cousin, child, best friend, teacher with an engraved leaf on our Simcha Board, commemorating any joyous occasion, bestowal

of an bonor, or cause for thanksgiving.

Leaf—\$360

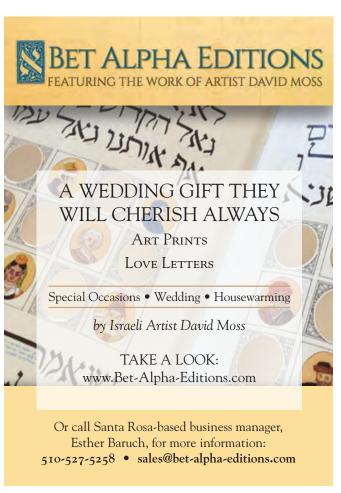
Small Stone—\$1000

Large Stone—\$2500

We also provide the opportunity for you to memorialize loved ones.

Yahrzeit Board

**Plaque—\$450** 









# **EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# Big Israeli Dance News

We will dance on a wood floor starting the end of August!

We'll be dancing in Room 25 in the Person Senior wing of the Finley Community Cen-



ter. The Israeli folk dance class will be in their catalog, so everyone will have to register and pay for 6 to 7 classes at a time with santarosarec.com.

The catalog is not out yet, but I'm expecting to be listed for 7 sessions every other week from August 30 to November 29, and a winter listing from December 13 to February 21. Classes will range from \$17 (for Santa Rosa Residents) to \$27 dollars for 6 sessions. Though we are in the Senior Center, all ages are welcome.

Hours are every other Wednesday 7 to 9:30 p.m., with beginner lessons 7 to 7:30 p.m.

Make sure you contact santarosarec.com to get the catalog if you don't already get it. I will also send out notice on our email list when the catalog comes out. Perhaps we'll get more people from the catalog, and I hope our knees will be happy with the floor—Room 25 is a nice big dance studio with a built-in sound system.

In the meantime, we will meet in the **Beth Ami Social Hall July 12 and 26.** I hope to see you on the dance floor!

#### **Judd Holocaust Memorial**

On Sunday, May 28, the Dennis Judd family unveiled as a gift to the community, the Lilian



and Emil Judd Holocaust Memorial, adjacent to the Beth Ami cemetery area, at the Santa Rosa Memorial Park. Three benches and a four-spigot fountain for ritual hand washing fulfill a dream that Lilian had to beautify the area. The 5ft x 5ft mosaic wall, created by artist Leslie Gattmann, holds the names of Holocaust victims from the Judd family, along with the poem, We Remember Them, and a passage from Elie Weisel reminding us that "we are the privileged custodians of their memory." Myrna Goodman, professor emeritus at Sonoma State and director of the Alliance for the Study of the Holocaust and Genocide, spoke at the dedication about our responsibility to honor the memories of victims, as well as working toward a more peaceful world.

The Judd Holocaust Memorial is the center panel in a 3 panel wall that creates a peaceful, sacred space at the cemetery. The plan for the walls on the adjacent sides will be to welcome community members who also lost family in the Holocaust to submit their names also to be remembered. The 2 walls could hold up to 300 names, written in hand-painted calligraphy on tiles similar to those used for the Judd Memorial. Sixteen tiles will fit into each of the two walls. The artist, Leslie Gattmann, will work with each family to design their tile. The wall will be framed with broken tile and mirror in the same manner as the existing Judd Memorial. If you are interested in participating in this project, either by making a donation or by memorializing family names, contact Leslie at lgattmann@msn.com.

# **Monthly Shabbat Dinner**

Welcoming New Administrator Judy Gunnar & Guest Speaker Paul Gullixson, Press-Democrat

Our next Friday evening Shabbat Dinner, July 7th, will feature an official welcome to Judy Gunnar, Beth Ami's new Administrator. We



are excited to tell you that Paul Gullixson, editorial page editor of *The Press Democrat* will be our guest speaker that evening. He will be speaking about the process of gathering news and the issues of 'fake' news. He may cover other



topics and is prepared to answer questions. Here's a brief biography:

Paul Gullixson is Editorial Director for *The Press Democrat* in Santa Rosa where he manages the editorial and op-ed pages. He also oversees the content and production of the opinion pages on PressDemocrat.com, the newspaper's website. Among his responsibilities, Paul writes editorials, a twice-monthly column and co-authors a blog titled *Inside Opinion*.

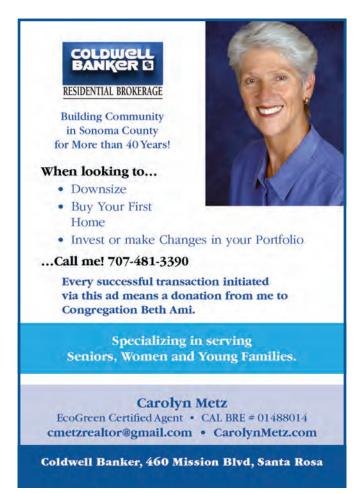
Before coming to *The Press Democrat* as an editorial writer in 1998, he served as Peninsula Bureau Chief for the *San Francisco Chronicle*. Prior to that, he was editor of the *Palo Alto Weekly* and worked for the *Peninsula Times Tribune* before it went out of business in 1993. Paul also is 14-year board member and past president of the California First Amendment Coalition, based in San Rafael.

He has received a number of awards for editorial writing and column writing from the California Newspaper Publishers Association and the San Francisco Peninsula Press Club and is a past recipient of the *New York Times* Co. Chairman's Award for editorial writing.

Paul is a native of Palo Alto and a graduate of the University of Oregon School of Journalism. He lives in Santa Rosa with his wife, Tamara, his 10-year-old daughter, Clara, and his 14-year-old son, Christopher. In his spare time, he enjoys backpacking, going on adventure trips with his family—such as their trip

to Costa Rica this summer—is a leader in his son's Boy Scout troop and follows his daughter's Santa Rosa United soccer team all over kingdom come.

Ahuva Simon Sa'ar has kindly volunteered to prepare our Shabbat Dinner so that we can keep the price for adults at \$16. Children age 5 and under are free! \$16 for member adults, \$8 for children ages 6–17, with a family maximum of \$40. Non-members are \$18 per adult, \$8 for children ages 6–17, and 5 & under free. Please RSVP at 707-360-3000 or office@bethamisr.org. If you do not have a reservation we may not be able to serve you. To make sure everyone can enjoy a full dinner, we must have your reservation by noon on the Wednesday before the dinner.





#### Save The Date

HaLayla HaGadol means *The Big Night* and at Beth Ami has referred to our series of wonderful fundraisers in which congregants act as hosts for fabulous meals. So what shall we call it when we go eat fabulous meals during the day? How about *Se'udah Gedolah* which means *The Big Feast?* 

Six hosts are offering various meals at their homes on Sunday July 23rd at various times and at various prices with various menus.

Bonnie Boren and Phil Weil—8 guests, 11:30 a.m., \$36 per person. A summer brunch for 8 friends. Please join Bonnie Boren, Phil Weil and Barbara Boren for a refreshing yet filling meal including a cold soup, salmon quiche, fruit medley, dessert and who knows what else. If the weather permits, that is, if it is not too warm, we will dine on the deck.

**Rabbi Miller and Susan—8 guests, 5:30 p.m., \$100 per person.** Chicken and ribs! Sounds like eating with your fingers will be delicious and kosher.

Carolyn Metz—Pancakes & ? 12 Guests, 11 a.m. \$100 per person. You are invited for an untraditional Pancake Breakfast at my house, in my garden. This dairy meal will feature Carolyn's famous pancakes with real maple syrup (and maybe by that time, real local blackberries!), an egg & cheese frittata, fresh fruit, and other delights I haven't thought of yet. After pancakes, we will retire to the park and play croquette, or for those less focused, enjoy a Sunday stroll walk along the creek and back. Dress for sun, wear your favorite big hat, and bring your robust appetite.

**Rick Goldberg—8 guests; 10 a.m. \$100per person.** House made, water boiled, NY style bagels. house made Nova-style lox, house made organic natural cream cheese, scrambled

eggs w/caramelized sweet onions, fresh fruit platter, coffee, chilled rose wine. All this from a renowned professional chef with amazing skills and an amazing kitchen.

Leanne Schy and Mark Stoelting—8 guests, 10:30 a.m. \$100 per person. Shakshuka from the Jerusalem cookbook, Tahitian vanilla coffee cake, mimosas, and other good stuff.

**Judy and Mel—10 guests, 3 p.m., \$100 per person.** A meal of hand chosen fish specialties and more flown to Santa Rosa from *The Sturgeon King* Barney Greengrass in New York—there's *no* California food like this!

# **Judy Gunnar, New Administrator**



I have just this July stepped into the shoes of your Administrator and while they are a little tight, they are getting more comfortable every day! I am humbly grateful you have put your trust in me to administer this beloved organization.

Beth Ami is not only a business or simply an institution; it's a community of caring people who span generations to include, celebrate, nurture and inspire what it means to be a Jew—whether you are 2 or 102!

My door is always open to your suggestions as well as your concerns. I will do what I can to make sure we find a solution. No organization can succeed without the collaboration of its stake-holders. I recognize that in order to succeed, I will have to depend on the concerted cooperation of all.

Please consider volunteering, participating, and davening with us. In my many years of volunteering, I have always felt I received more in return than the effort I put out. I look forward to many joyous years of being with you as family and friends!



It is the day after the Annual Membership meeting and my election as President of Beth Ami for the 2nd time in my life. The first time was almost 20 years ago—the 3rd year after becoming a member of the shul. I appreciate the confidence and support of the many members who encouraged me to become President again. Being President of the shul brings challenges and responsibilities, but at the same time it is rewarding. My first experience as President was wonderful and deepened my connection to Beth Ami and its members.

Many of you know me and others may not. So, for my first article as President, I am sharing a bit about myself.

I was born in San Francisco and was the third of 4 children. I have lived in San Francisco and the North Bay for my entire life, except for the years I served in USAF. My parents, Willy and Carol z'l, fled Germany separately to Shanghai, married there, and lived in the poorest of conditions for almost 10 years. I never got to know any of my grandparents-my paternal grandfather died in World War I and my paternal grandmother was murdered at Trawniki—one of the lesser known concentration camps near Auschwitz. My mother's parents were divorced—my maternal grandmother fled to Shanghai with my mother and came to the United States with my parents. She died when I was about 2 years old so I have no memories of her.

Many years ago a book was published entitled *Twice Blessed—On Being Lesbian or Gay and Jewish*. I am a proud American Gay and Jewish man. If you were fortunate enough to attend our *Sukkah of Shalom* about 1–1/2 years ago, you would have heard about my journey as a Gay man. I may be thrice-blessed because I am also a vegetarian.

I attended the University of San Francisco and graduated summa cum barely with an Accounting degree. I was one of the about 6% of CPA candidates who pass the entire exam at the first sitting. I attribute my academic success to my mother who became involved in setting me on the correct path in my early grammar school years when, suffice it say, I was not the most diligent student.

I have worked in public and private accounting for a Fortune 500 company and smaller companies. I was also fortunate to work for almost 4 years in the non-profit sector at the Jewish Community Center of San Francisco. Now, I am approaching the twilight of my career and if all goes as planned, I will retire in February 2018.

I am a classic social introvert. For those of you familiar with the Meyers Briggs Personality test, the scale does not extend far enough to measure my level of introvertedness. It is a challenge to be an introvert in an extroverted world. In social settings, I may at times appear aloof when in reality my introverted personality has taken a dominant role.

Reading is one of my greatest pleasures. I own more books than I will probably ever read in this lifetime. I enjoy outdoor activities. On my recent vacation to Kauai I hiked, kayaked, snorkeled and went zip lining. Among the outdoor activities I enjoy is gardening and the rose is my favorite flower. No genre of music moves me more than opera.

I was a raised in a religiously-observant home, but not to an excess. Candles were lit on Friday nights and periodically we would attend Shabbat services. Keeping us home from school on both days of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to attend shul was the norm regardless of what may be happening at school. Our family belonged to a congregation founded by German Jews who immigrated to Shanghai. The congregation had a large elderly population. My parents were part of the



younger generation. We were one of the few families with young children. The Rabbi was advanced in years and had been tortured by the Nazis. He preached in German. I understand and speak German, but not the type of German that is used in sermons. Whenever the Rabbi preached, it felt like an eternity. I remember on multiple occasions my father standing up in the middle of the Rabbi's sermons and waving his finger communicating to him that he had talked long enough.

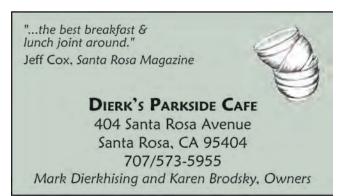
My Jewish education was virtually non-existent. Our Sunday school had 6–8 students—we were all taught in one class. There were 2 students, and I was not one of them, who excelled in Hebrew and received more attention and praise than those of us who really needed more help in learning.

My Bar Mitzvah was literally a traumatic experience on multiple levels and left a lasting scar that still causes me pain to this day. My only desire was to get through that day and then run away as far as possible from the synagogue. My only participation for many years was attending the Yamim Noraim. It would be 30 years, until I arrived here at Beth Ami that I would stand in front of the shul and lead a portion of services. I owe a debt of gratitude to Rabbi Slater for creating a safe environment and encouraging me to slowly peel off the scar tissue.

I never ceased being Jewish, although no one could have faulted me if I has chosen to never again have association with a synagogue. What pulled me back to eventually become President of Beth Ami and now to do so for a 2nd time? There are 2 teachings that stand out in my mind. I was exposed to the lessons of Rebbe Levi Yitzak of Berditchevone of the most pious men who ever lived and most likely one of the 36 tzadikkim believed to roam the world at any time. The other comes from more recent literature and the hands of Elie Wiesel, z'l. On the dedication page of his book, A Jew Today, is a quote from his grandfather Dodye Feig, z'l, who perished in the Holocaust. The words are simple and profound: "You are Jewish, your task is to remain Jewish. The rest is up to G'd." I hear those words over and over again, almost like a lament. It is a cry from my grandmother and the 6 million who perished in the Shoah to: never forget us. And, I hear the voices of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and Sarah, Rebecca, Leah and Rachel challenging me to carry and pass the torch of Judaism to future generations.

I hope that in one way or the other you too hear the same lament and that working together over the next two years we establish a path for Beth Ami so that it continues to be a light unto our feet and for generations who come after us.







Our Summer program has officially begun as has my new role as the Director of the Nursery School! After teaching here for years I have stepped into my new role and am enjoying my new perspective. Watching and listening to our wonderful and talented teachers work alongside these spectacular children is a both a gift and a joy.

Summer Program started this last week on the 12th and this was the start of four, two-week Summer sessions. The Summer Program is a wonderful last hurrah for those of our children that are moving on to kindergarten. It is also an exciting change of pace and group for those that will be back next year and a very special opportunity for our new friends to make their transition into our school community.

Our Summer program is in some ways an extension of the year. Our curriculum is still being guided by the interests of the children and we still get to celebrate Shabbat as a school community every Friday. In other ways, it is a whole different world for the kids.

We are a smaller group during the Summer, as many of our families go away for vacations. This smaller group setting allows for some truly unique to Summer experiences. We have more opportunities for play outside, for mixedage play and because it gets *so* hot, we let the kids get *really* wet! Most days you can hear the excitement, the squeals and screams of pure joy as our kids run under the hose to cool off, or run through the sprinkler we set up on the grass.

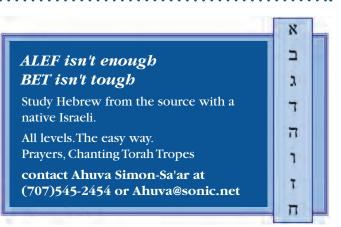
We enjoy the coolness of the shade our beautiful trees give us as we play, run, splash and at times, just sit and relax on the grass.

The quieter, smaller group allows us to move at a much slower pace and that's just what Summer is all about, isn't it? Just a change of pace. A refreshing and welcome change of pace.

Registration for fall continues over the Summer and we have a few spots left in Fall, so don't hesitate to e-mail or call me for more information about our school. The 2017–18 school year starts on Monday August 21st.

Wishing you a wonderful start to Summer!







Rabbi Nachman said, "Even if you can't sing well, sing. Sing to yourself. Sing in the privacy of your home. But sing."

# Some Benefits Of Singing

#### Physically

- Singing exercises our lungs. It tones up our intercostal muscles and our diaphragm.
- It can improve our sleep.
- We benefit our hearts and circulation by improving our aerobic capacity and we decrease muscle tension.
- Our facial muscles get toned.
- Our posture improves.
- We can become more mentally alert.
- Sinuses and respiratory tubes are opened up.
- There is a release of pain relieving endorphins.
- Our immune system is given a boost enabling us to fight disease.
- It can help reduce anger and depression and anxiety.

#### **Emotionally**

- Increase in self esteem and confidence.
- It increases feelings of wellbeing.
- It enhances mood.
- Useful as a stress reducer.
- It is uplifting spiritually.
- It can increase positive feelings.
- Encourages creativity.
- It can be energizing.
- It evokes emotions.
- Promotes bonding.
- It is healing.

My wish is for everyone to sing and bring out joy in your family and with your friends!

Religious School has a plan to bring special guests each month to teach us songs on Friday afternoons.

#### Mark Your Calendar

Piper Lefson's Bat Mitzvah is August 12th Religious School begins Tuesday, August 22nd. Friday, August 25th, is a welcome dinner.

Pre K class on Fridays will begin September 1st from 1:15–2 p.m.

Registrations are due by now, no later than August. Drop by my office, check the website, or call 707-360-3000, Ext 5.

Tuesday—Judith Helman returns to teach Hebrew for students in grades 3rd–7th.

Thinking of a trial with Religious School, contact Judy Kupfer to discuss details.





# Larry Gregg

Bujinkan Santa Rosa Dojo

Traditional Martial Arts -Self Defense

phone: 707 481-7370 email: srbd@att.net

web: santarosabujinkan.com





# ISRAEL FROM THE LEFT COAST

An Israeli Experience by Deborah Rothenberg Bob Raful

Our friend, Deborah, a Jewish Family Service volunteer, lives in Petaluma.

She has been a featured speaker at recent Yom HaShoah Programs—about our Matriarch Betty Kale and her own Father's unusual survivor story.—Bob Raful

Israel, the land of my forefathers. This is the place where I feel nourished, where I can be me. Last month I went back for 2-1/2 weeks. Converging from three continents, my two brothers, two sisters, and I assembled to share in a family simcha, the wedding of one special cousin.

Within days of arrival, we were itching to eat our favorite foods. I recommended a place in the old city of Jaffa, a restaurant I had tried once and would dream of for years. It served typical Middle Eastern cuisine and was run by Israeli Arabs. Even before a menu was brought, they filled our table with plates of delectable goodies, from humus and pita to pickled carrots and onions, garlic roasted eggplant doused in tahini and balls of crisp green falafel.

But something was different this time around. The vibe was wrong, the waiters standoffish and very unfriendly, nothing at all as I had remembered. And we were unaware that their unrest was growing, too distracted by our hunger and this wonderful spread. I was wearing a tank top purchased a few years ago, one I frequently wear. I was attracted to it for its delicately feminine look, a faint, but subtle, design of yellow-cream swirls on a background color of linen. I never imagined the swirls to have meaning. Different waiters approached us one at a time. They would eye us and then return to their work. A few moments later, a gang of ten Arab workers stood

all around us, serious faces, eyes staring like daggers. In broken English, and looking at me, one said: "Do you know what it says on your shirt?"

"What?" I replied. "It says nothing. It's just a design."

"The name of our prophet is written there," he exclaims with disdain. I look down and for the first time I notice that the pattern I saw was, in fact, Arabic script. "We will not allow you to wear it here, in fact, take it off, it must be destroyed!"

I was stunned, caught off guard, and feeling somewhat threatened. "You can't take my shirt, I argued, I don't have another!"

"There are shops all around us, have one of your friends go out and buy you one," he says harshly. With that my two sisters left coming back with a replacement 10 minutes later. I went in the back and changed shirts but, upon my return, I was confronted by them again. "Where is the other shirt?", the leader insisted.

"It's here in this bag," I showed him, "but I won't wear it here anymore."

"You can't keep it, it must be burned," he said as he snatched it out of my hand! Needless to say, we all lost our appetites. We paid for what we had consumed and walked out.

Israel has always been a safe haven for me. I don't know why; it is surrounded by those who want it destroyed. But it is where I feel amongst my own. We never saw it coming. We just wanted some tahini and falafel. I never intended to disrespect anyone and don't really know if this could have been averted. However, If there is a moral here, it is to scrutinize more closely the clothing one elects to wear while traveling abroad and be respectful of customs and traditions of others.



# **USY REPORT**

# Recollections of USY International Convention

Submitted by Miriam Lane

Max Cohen, Sonoma County United Synagogue Youth Chapter President 2017–2018, has written about his experiences during International Convention 2016 in Baltimore, Maryland

USY's International Conventions are some of the best experiences I have ever had with my Jewish community. Being in one location surrounded by upwards of 800 other Jewish teens is amazing and very inspirational. I instantly felt the need to learn about all the different Jewish cultures practiced throughout the United States. Hearing their stories and making connections and friends is just a bonus to the extraordinary activities that we get to do while learning about our Jewish identities. These activities are all connected under a certain theme that changes each year and is always some positive spin on our world. Whether it's helping people less fortunate or learning about what you can do in your community to help thrive, the lessons and experiences stick with you.

By being with all these similar people I realize that in Sonoma County, we are just a few pieces to this immaculate puzzle. IC is sort of that superglue that coats the pieces to stick them together. When I'm there both with the people from my own region and others around the United States, it feels as if the puzzle is complete. In those moments, I see just how connected each community is within their own synagogue. It seems as if all the communities that are separated by thousands of miles are together as one large community. Undoubtedly IC will last as one of my best memories and I will have these friends that I still talk to today, months after IC has ended.

#### Have You Heard?

Our CBA/Sonoma County chapter of United Synagogue Youth (aka SCUSY) won a 2016/2017 Chapter of Excellence Award & Program of the Year Award at this year's New Frontier Regional Convention. It was held at the Flamingo Hotel, May 19th–21st with over 100 teens attending from throughout the Bay Area, Sacramento & Reno. Mazel tov to the outgoing SCUSY Board for their accomplishments: Daniel Sherman, President; Noa Landau-Camarillo, Exec; Max Cohen, Membership/Kadima; Alexandra Glickman, SATO; Nick Alexander, Communications.

Daniel Sherman has been elected to the 2017/2018 New Frontier Regional Executive Board as Membership/Kadima Vice-President.

Many of our USY'ers have participated in the four Regional USY events held each year (run magnificently by our Regional Executive Director Sarah Miller, who has just been promoted to Regional Teen Engagement Director, Northern Pacific Region) as well as our International USY convention. Over the last 2 years, through our scholarship fund (recently renamed the Harris Jewish Youth Program Fund), we have provided 24 scholarships. This helped enable our teens to attend these amazing events that include t'fillah, education, tikkun olam & social experiences.

If you would like to support our teens in attending future USY conventions as well as other Jewish youth programs, please make your contributions to the Congregation Beth Ami Harris Jewish Youth Program Fund. USY'ers are the future of our community.





# Services at Beth Ami

Please join us for services. For additional information or to verify the times, call the office at (707) 360-3000.

#### July Shabbat and other services

**July 1 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m.** Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

July 7 (Fri.)—6–6:30 p.m. Shabbat evening services 6:30–7:15 p.m. dinner (Reservations necessary\*)

**July 8 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m.** Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

**July 14 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m.** Shabbat evening service

**July 15 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m.** Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

**July 21 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m.** Shabbat evening service

**July 22 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m.** Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

**July 28 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m.** Shabbat evening service

**July 29 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m.** Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

#### August Shabbat and other services

**August 4 (Fri.)—6–6:30 p.m.** Shabbat evening services **6:30–7:15 p.m.** dinner (Reservations necessary\*)

**August 5 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m.** Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

**August 11 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m.** Shabbat evening service

**August 12 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m.** Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

**August 18 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m.** Shabbat evening service

**August 19 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m.** Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

**August 25 (Fri.)—7:30 p.m.** Shabbat evening service

**August 26 (Sat.)—9:30 a.m.** Shabbat morning service followed by dairy potluck

\*Reservations necessary by noon the preceding Wednesday. Call the office at (707) 360-3000 or email office@
BethAmiSR.org to make your reservation and arrange payment.

#### **Daily Daven**

#### Sundays & National Holidays—

**8:30 a.m.** Morning Minyan in the Chapel followed by a light breakfast on the 1st and 3rd Sunday

**Mon.–Fri.—7 a.m.** Daily Daven in the Chapel except for Jewish and Secular holidays

**Sun.-Thurs.—6–6:30 p.m.** Daily Daven in the Chapel except for Jewish and Secular holidays

SHABBAT DINNER RSVP			
Shabbat Dinner:	Name		
☐ Friday, July 7	Phone		
☐ Friday, August 4	I want to volunteer for (indicate which event)		
# of Beth Ami Member Adults@\$16 =	Total amount enclosed		
# of Non-member Adults@\$18 =	_ □ Check □ Visa/MC		
# of Youth (ages 6–17)@\$10 =	Credit Card #		
# of Families@\$46 =	Expiration Date/		
Please return payment and forms to:	Billing Zipcode		
Congregation Beth Ami 4676 Mayette Ave. Santa Rosa, CA 95405			

# Mazel Tov to our New and Continuing Board Members and Officers!

- Henry Cohn, President
- Myrna Morse, VP of Administration
- Mel Decker, VP of Ways & Means
- Dave Ballo, VP of Facilities
- Bonnie Boren, Co-VP of Youth & Education
- Jenny Levine-Smith, Co-VP of Youth & Education
- Carolyn Metz, Secretary
- Branagan
- Simone Bessa
- Betty Boyd, Treasurer
- Arnold Drake
- Irvin Klein
- Leanne Schy
- Jessica Singer
- Bobbie Rosenthal
- Carol Swanson
- Richard Kahn
- Jeff Sternfeld

# Todah rabah to our retiring Directors and Officers

- Russ Gurevitch
- Barbara McGee
- Juli Scherer

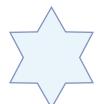


Happy 95th Birthday to Evelyn Gurevitch!
You look Fabulous!!

















# GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CONGREGATION

The next time you are looking for a meaningful way to celebrate a joyous occasion, remember a loved one, or comfort a mourner, please consider a donation to Congregation Beth Ami. When you make a gift, a card is send to the honoree or the family and your donation is proudly acknowledged in the Shofar. The minimum donation for each occasion is \$7.50. Congregation Beth Ami truly appreciates your support.

# **Capital Campaign**

In honor of Laura Alexander, Richard Kahn, Betty Boyd & Arnold Drake

—Leanne Schy & Mark Stoelting

# Children's Education Fund

In memory of Rose's mother, Barbara Garam —Jonathan & Rose Batzdorff

In memory of Sandor Garam

In memory of Sandor Garam
—Jonathan & Rose Batzdorff

#### **General Fund**

In memory of Henry Herskovic

—Arnold & Karen Herskovic

In memory of Harry Drake
—Arnold & Mieneke Drake

A generous donation

—Bruce Maxwell

In memory of Marge's parents, Oscar & Betty Mann —David & Margorie Ballo

Thank you to the Seder helpers! —David & Margorie Ballo

In honor of Evelyn Gurevitch's 95th birthday—*Edith Newman* 

Get well soon, Jan Harris
—Edith Newman

In appreciation of Susanne Batzdorff for her leadership at the book group—*Elisabeth & David Van Nuys* 

In honor of Judy Gunnar's appointment as the new synagogue administrator—*Elisabeth & David Van Nuys* 

A generous donation—*Elise Watkins* In memory of my father, Rabbi Samuel Jones—*Esther Frankenstein* 

In memory of my sister-in-law, Marlene Jones—*Esther Frankenstein*  In honor of Whitey Sterman's birthday—*Evelyn Gurevitch* 

In honor of Edith Newman's birthday—*Evelyn Gurevitch* 

In memory of Israel Senzer

—Howard & Adrea Moss

In memory of Ronit's grandfather, William Speigleman

—Howard & Ronit Glickman

In memory of Ronit's mother, Gail Negrin—*Howard & Ronit Glickman* 

In memory of Elizaveta Gaiger
—Iosif & Marina Voulfson

In memory of Lillian Judd

—Ivan Barta

For participation in services — Ivan Barta

A generous donation from the Israeli Folk Dancers

—Leanne Schy & Mark Stoelting

Thank you to Lee Feinstein for the fabulous Omar counting tapestry

—Mark & Carol Rosen

Thank you to Barb McGee, Rabbi Miller, and Anne Brown & Richard Kahn for a fabulous Seder dinner —Mark & Carol Rosen

Thank you to Jeffrey & Janet Stein-Larson, Ahuva SimonSa'ar, and Richard Kahn & Anne Brown for setting up the kitchens for Passover —Mark & Carol Rosen

In memory of my father, Rabbi Samuel Jones—*Maurice Jones* 

In memory of my wife, Marlene Jones—*Maurice Jones* 

In loving memory of my husband, Everett Shapiro—*Phyllis Shapiro* 

In memory of my father, Abe Shapiro—*Raynore Paule* 

In honor of Al Batzdorff's continuing good health

—Richard Kahn & Anne Brown

In memory of Shneer Antonovsky, father of Olga

—Semyon & Olga Pekker

Happy Birthday to Evelyn Gurevitch—Stuart & Ethel Schy

Happy Birthday to Edith Newman —Stuart & Ethel Schy

In memory of Abraham Abbot Schy—*Stuart & Ethel Schy* 

Mazel Tov to the Batzdorff family on the new baby—Stuart & Ethel Schy

In memory of Bertha Schy, mother of Stuart, grandmother of Leanne Schy—Stuart & Ethel Schy

A generous donation —Susan Bindman

# General Fund Shabbat Lunch

In memory of Lillian Judd
—David & Margorie Ballo

#### **Harris Fund**

Mazel Tov to Judy Gunnar on her appointment as Synagogue Administrator—*Edee Sternfield-Squires* 

In honor of the birth of Ronnie Rosenbach's grandson, Asa Duke Rosenbach —Edward & Nancy Sherman

In memory of Jonathan Simkovitz— Michael Schloss & Julie Simkovitz

# Israel Programming Fund

In memory of Bob's Uncle, Lou Stein—*Robert & Susy Raful* 

In memory of Bob's Aunt, Anna Stein—*Robert & Susy Raful* 



# GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CONGREGATION

Continued...

# Jill Tager Nursery School Scholarship Fund

In memory of Meara Fitzgibbons
—Geoffrey & Deborah Perel

# **Library Fund**

In honor of Evelyn Gurevitch's 95th birthday—*Edee Sternfield-Squires* 

#### Malk Fund

In memory of Henry Herskovic

—From Esther Herskovic,

Arnold & Karen Herskovic

In honor of Edith Newman's birthday—*Phyllis Shapiro* 

In memory of Gloria Glickman's dear mother, Ann Tausk —*Phyllis Shapiro* 

Wishing Bill Friedman a speedy recovery—*Phyllis Shapiro* 

In memory of Jeff Sommer's mother—Phyllis Shapiro

# Nursery School Donation

In memory of Meara Fitzgibbons — Phil Weil & Bonnie Boren

In memory of Richard Kalmanson —Phil Weil & Bonnie Boren

# Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Speedy recovery to Lenore Holloway

—Gerald Lakins & Susan Miller

Speedy recovery to Billy Friedman — Gerald Lakins & Susan Miller

A generous donation
—Jeffrey & Janet Stein-Larson

In memory of Susan's aunt, Esther Laufer—*Jerry Lakins & Susan Miller* 

In memory of Susan's father, Benjamin Miller

—Jerry Lakins & Susan Miller

In memory of Margaret Close
—Joseph & Signe Minuskin,
Joslyn Metzger

in memory of my father, Richard Hyman—*Judi Hyman* 

In memory of Bessie Tsipan —Malvina Tsipan

In honor of Janet & Jeffrey
Stein-Larson's anniversary
—Richard Kahn & Anne Brown

# Religious School Donation

In memory of Ruven Miller —Eli & Yona Miller

In memory of Garrett H. Rosenberg, Ira's cousin and business partner —*Ira & Ruth Rosenberg* 

In honor of Ahuva Simon-Sa'ar's great work in the kitchen
—Richard Kahn & Anne Brown











# Please Support Our Advertisers

Contact Congregation Beth Ami Office office@bethamisr.org for details about advertising in the Shofar. Thank you!



# **July Yahrzeits**

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death. Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day. All yahrzeits observed at Beth Ami.

Announ	ced on June 30 & July 1	Annour	nced on July 21 & 22
July 2	Pearl Dove, Sister of Betty Franks	July 22	Charles Sternfeld, Father of Edee Sternfeld-Squires
July 5	Bessie Hartzman, Grandmother of	July 23	John Ballo, Father of David Ballo
July 5	Cheryle Miller Jean Inman,	July 23	Jeanette Friedman, Grandmother of
July 6	Mother of Lee Feinstein Bella Levine, Former Mother-in-law	July 24	Joslyn Metzger Louis Shapiro, Father-in-law of
	of Gussie Levine		Phyllis Shapiro
July 7	Lillian Cohen, Mother of Leonard Cohen	July 25	Louis Estrin, Grandfather of Charlene Bornstein
July 7	Ellen Jane Rosenthal, Mother of	July 25	Ronda Heard, Sister of Stanley Feingold
	Bobbie Rosenthal	July 26	Amelia Olchovy,
	ced on July 7 & 8		Mother-in-law of Raynore Paule
July 10	Barney Abrams, Father of Patty Bernstein	July 27	Saul Gordon,
July 11	Samuel Weiss, Father of Mort Weiss & Grandfaher		Father-in-law of Marjorie Gordon
	of Dan Weiss	July 28	Avraham Levanon, Brother-in-law of
July 12	Esther Morse, Sister-in-law		Ahuva Simon-Sa'ar
	of Myrna Morse	July 28	Abraham Olchovy,
July 12	Joseph Robinson. Father of Myrna Morse		Father-in-law of Raynore Paule
July 14	Leon Pelta, Father of Esther Pilch	July 28	Ursula Schussheim, Mother of Karen Herskovic
Announced on July 14 & 15 Announced on July 28 & 29			
July 16	Itzak Pelta, Uncle of Esther Pilch	July 29	Netka Taubner, Mother of Susy Raful
July 17	Joseph Leeb, Father of Bill Leeb	Aug. 2	Lotte Batzdorf, Mother of Alfred Batzdorff
July 18	Stanley Friedman, Husband of	Aug. 3	James Mattson, Son of Tish Levee
	Natalie Friedman	Aug. 4	Anita Herman,
July 19	Morton Goldstein, Father of Marilyn Diamond		Grandmother of Howard Glickman

# July Birthdays

- 1 Paul Zygielbaum
- 5 Rad Sommer
- 6 Lauren Newman
- 9 Caryn Fried
- 16 Henry Cohn
- 16 Andrea Nett
- 17 Terry Gurevitch
- 18 Dr. Michael Mundell
- 19 Connie Goldman
- 20 Marilyn Diamond
- 20 Rhonda Rosenbach
- 25 Maurice Jones
- 28 Patty Bernstein
- 30 Susy Raful
- 31 Lee Mehlman

### July Anniversaries

- 6 Paul & Lee Feinstein
- 12 Andrew & Susan Brown
- 14 Chanah & Richard Robinson
- 25 Michael & Rayme Shapiro

### **Jewish Community Contacts**

#### **Hillel of Sonoma County**

Ilana Stoelting, (707) 795-5464 www.sonomahillel.org

#### JCC, Sonoma County

Beth Goodman, 528-4222, www.jccsoco.org

#### **Jewish Community Federation**

Barbara Levinson, 568-6207, www.sfjcf.org

#### **Jewish Community Free Clinic**

Donna Waldman, 585-7780, www.jewishfreeclinic.org

#### Jewish Community Relations Council

Suzan Berns, 415/957-1551, www.jcrc.org

#### Jewish Family & Children's Services

Diana Klein, 571-8131, www.jfcs.org/sonoma-county



# **August Yahrzeits**

Secular dates correspond to Hebrew date of death. Observance of yahrzeit begins at sundown the previous day. All yahrzeits observed at Beth Ami.

#### Announced on Aug. 4 & 5

- Aug. 5 Herbert Newman, Father of Carol & Michael Newman and Husband of Edith Newman
- Aug. 6 Abe Gerstein, Husband of Dorothy Gerstein
- Aug. 6 Fredrick Marshall, Father of Carolyn Metz
- Aug. 8 Sylvia Goldman, Mother of Ben Goldman
- Aug. 8 Sylvia Williams, Mother of Lenore Holloway & Bonnie Gee
- Aug. 10 Alice Miller, Mother of Susan Miller
- Aug. 10 Pearl Nathan, Mother of Asher Nathan

#### Announced on Aug. 11 & 12

- Aug. 13 Vladimir Zelichenok, Brother of Rimma Rivkin
- Aug. 16 Willy Cohn, Father of Henry Cohn
- Aug. 16 Sarah Pelta. Aunt of Esther Pilch
- Aug. 16 Julian Streitfeld, Brother-in-law of Ricki Streitfeld
- Aug. 17 John Rosenbach, Husband of Rhonda Rosenbach
- Aug. 18 Rose Volpert, Friend of Ahuva Simon-Sa'ar

#### Announced on Aug. 18 & 19

- Aug. 19 Emil Tsipan, Husband of Malvina Tsipan
- Aug. 20 Norman Bressick, Father of Sanford Bressick
- Aug. 21 Oscar Pinsky. Father of Dorothy Gerstein
- Aug. 22 Josephine Sherman, Mother of Edward Sherman

#### Announced on Aug. 25 & 26

- Aug. 26 Sarah Estrin, Grandmother of Charlene Bornstein
- Aug. 26 Joseph Raful, Father of Robert Raful
- Aug. 27 Martin Klein, Brother of Ricki Streitfeld
- Aug. 27 Ernest Rosenthal, Father of Bobbie Rosenthal
- Aug. 30 Myrna Drake, First Wife of Arnold Drake
- Aug. 30 Joyce Vrobel, Mother of Laura Alexander
- Sept. 1 Dorothy Drain Grandmother of Janet Stein-Larson

### August Birthdays

- 1 Tad Shapiro
- 4 Suzie Friedman
- 4 Frederic Schloner
- 7 Mortimer Weiss
- 8 Howard Moss
- 8 Mark Rosen
- 10 Ivan Barta
- 12 Lyla Nathan
- 14 Francie Rogovin
- 14 Stuart Schy
- 15 Michael Shapiro
- 21 Gabor Por
- 24 Signe Minuskin
- 25 Susan Miller
- 26 Marc Bernstein
- 29 Larry Klapow
- 29 Paul Kobetz

### August Anniversaries

- 5 Arnold & Mieneke Drake
- 11 Michael & Lauren Newman
- 12 Brian & Fredrika Gross
- 12 Dan & Blair Pleasant
- 12 Liz & Dan Weiss
- 14 Jeff Richman & Pnina Loeb
- 16 Bill & Kim Cordell
- 19 Karen & Arnold Herskovic
- 25 Sanford & Jo Anne Bressick
- 25 Len & Elly Cohen

# Address service requested

# July Shabbatot

### July 1

Chukat Candle Lighting: 7:49 p.m. Havdalah: 9:26 p.m.

#### July 8

Balak

Candle Lighting: 8:19 p.m. Havdalah: 9:24 p.m.

#### **July 15**

**Pichas** 

Candle Lighting: 8:16 p.m. Havdalah: 9:20 p.m.

#### **July 22**

*Matot-Massei* Candle Lighting: 8:12 p.m. Havdalah: 9:15 p.m.

#### July 29

Davarim

Candle Lighting: 8:06 p.m. Havdalah: 9:08 p.m.

# **August Shabbatot**

# August 5

Vaetnachanan Candle Lighting: 7:59 p.m. Havdalah: 9 p.m.

### August 12

Ekev

Candle Lighting: 7:51 p.m. Havdalah: 8:51 p.m.

#### August 19

Re'eh

Candle Lighting: 7:42 p.m. Havdalah: 8:41 p.m.

#### August 26

Shoftim

Candle Lighting: 7:32 p.m. Havdalah: 8:30 p.m.