



CONGREGATION
Beth Ami

4676 MAYETTE AVENUE, SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95405

Shofar

707-360-3000

JANUARY 2011

TEVET | SHEVAT 5771

Halayla Hagadol The Big Night Saturday, January 29

Seven big dinners, one Big Night

Join us for an evening of food, fun, and friendship when Congregation Beth Ami holds **Halayla Hagadol**. Halayla Hagadol means Big Night, and that's just what we have planned. Instead of just one dinner party, you can choose from a menu of seven spectacular culinary experiences to be hosted by CBA members.

Inspired by the film *Big Night*, various members of our Congregation will wear their toques on January 29 and offer imaginative themed dinners in the hope that you, their honored guest, will join them. Are you a fan of superb French cuisine? Perhaps you favor exotic Moroccan or Indian fare. Wine pairings? A dinner prepared by three professional chefs? Or, want to enjoy the Bounty of our County?

The evening begins at Beth Ami with a brief Havdalah service to be followed by a pre-reception that includes some great door prizes and hors d'oeuvres. Guests then depart for their chosen dinner venues. Parents can take advantage of childcare at the synagogue where the Beth Ami USY will be holding its own Kids Big Night with popcorn, games, and a movie.

Halayla Hagadol is Beth Ami's big fundraiser of the season. Prices are \$54, \$90, \$126 and \$150, *prix fixe*, but seating is limited so read your invitations that will be arriving by mail shortly, and choose your dinner reservations quickly. If you can't attend you can still support CBA by submitting a "tip" and becoming a Virtual Chef.

May we have the pleasure of your company? Save the Date! Call 360-3000 for more information.



Mid-Year General Membership Meeting Tuesday, January 11 7:00 pm

This meeting will highlight findings and recommendations of the Task Force for the Future of CBA. The meeting will be in the Friedman Center, refreshments will be served.

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We're on Facebook!

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www.facebook.com then search for
Congregation Beth Ami, Santa Rosa**

Hours of Operation

Beth Ami Main Office

Monday-Friday 10 am-4 pm

Library

Sundays from 9 am-12 noon

Tuesdays from 4-6 pm

Gift Shop

Sundays from 10 am-12:00 pm

Thursdays from 11 am-1pm

Tuesdays from 4-6 pm

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Call the office at 360-3000 to leave a message for:

► Leanne Schy, Torah/Haftarah Readings

► Andrea Nett, Catering Director

Congregation Beth Ami Mission Statement

Through celebration, learning, prayer and community, we seek to enrich our lives, transform our hearts, help heal the world and sustain our Jewish heritage.

Congregation Beth Ami Vision

A vibrant, growing campus for Jewish living where the joys of Jewish values and rituals are made accessible and relevant to the everyday lives of our members.

A flourishing, prospering congregation enjoying the wholehearted support, commitment and involvement of all our members.

Deadline for February Shofar: January 17

All editorial submissions must be received in the Shofar box in the Beth Ami office or via email on or before the deadline. All submissions are subject to editing for clarity, brevity and content. Please submit articles as Microsoft Word documents via email attachments. Contact Karen Gould, 360-3000 or newsletter@bethamirs.org with corrections, concerns or questions.

The Shofar is a periodical issued monthly except for a combined June & July issue. It is published by Congregation Beth Ami, 4676 Mayette Avenue, SR, CA 95405. All members in good standing receive the periodical free. Yearly subscriptions are \$25.00.

This month's issue is: Volume 16, Issue 5

Issue Date: January 1, 2011



RABBI'S REMARKS

Rabbi George Schlesinger

Dear Friends,

Below is an abbreviated version of my D'var Torah at our Town Hall meeting on December 14. I sincerely hope these words are taken to heart.

I've done a great amount of thinking over the last month. Beth Ami has been an all-consuming concern. And in the course of this past month, I've probably uttered the words "Beth Ami" more times than in many, many months combined. So I began to think about their meaning.

"Beth Ami"... "house of My people." What does it mean to be "My people"? Of course, we know who "My" is. With a name like Beth Ami, we're saying, "This is a house of God's people." So if you were to try to describe "God's People" (i.e. the Jewish people) to someone, what would you say were the characteristics that exemplify the Jewish people and what examples of their behavior would you present?

Of course, the Torah repeatedly describes the Jewish people as "stiff-necked" or stubborn. Some would call this "willful" others might call this "rebellious." Clearly, though, we have several examples in the Torah when God is ready to wipe out the Jewish people and relents only because Moses intercedes. The incident of the Golden Calf is merely the most well-known of these occasions.

But I proceeded to think even beyond those examples of the behavior of God's people. What did I find?

Cain kills Abel.

Jacob takes advantage of Esau to procure the "birthright" and then deceives his father Isaac in order to steal the blessing of the firstborn.

Joseph's brothers throw him into the pit and then sell him into slavery.

Korach, Moses' cousin leads a rebellion against the leadership of Moses.

David's son Amnon rapes his half-sister Tamar, the full sister of Absalom. In retribution, Absalom kills Amnon and then David banishes Absalom for years. Absalom leads an armed rebellion against his father, David, forcing David to flee for his life.

The initial fighting lead by Judah Maccabee was not against pagan Hellenists but against other Jews who wished to assimilate Hellenistic culture into Judaism.

The Zealots and Sicarii were assassinating Jews in the streets of besieged Jerusalem if they believed they were Roman collaborators.

The rabbis of Babylonia burned Maimonides' books claiming he was a heretic.

The Chassidim and the Misnagdim issues mutual edicts of excommunication against each other.

Israel is sharply divided today between Labor and Likud, between "Dati" and "Chiloni" the religious and the secular, between settlers and peace advocates.

And when I thought of all this and everything that has now happened at Congregation Beth Ami over the last month, I think...Mazal Tov! We've finally made it. We've finally sunk

to the level of infighting and self-destruction that has marked our people from the very beginning and from which we seem incapable of escaping. We've finally "paid our dues" and can be proud of our status as part of "God's people." We're finally at each other's necks.

But then, as I learned at my meditation week in 2003, there can always be "another story." We don't have to look at the worst; we can look for the best.

So, what are the other stories?

Abraham and Lot argued and separated, but when Lot was kidnapped, Abraham risked his life to rescue him.

After 20 years apart, Jacob returns to Canaan fearful of Esau only to be greeted with warm embraces and tears of joy at their reunion.

In spite of all that his brothers had done to him, Joseph finally reveals himself to his brothers with tears and forgiveness.

Although Miriam spoke harsh words of bigotry and hatred towards Moses' wife Tzipora, when she was afflicted with leprosy, rather than gloating or feeling superior, Moses prayed to God for her healing.

After the Maccabees rededicate the Temple rather than excluding the assimilationists from the Jewish fold, Judah proclaims the annual festival of Chanukah, the first ever Jewish celebration recognizing a military victory, a practice of the Hellenist world.

Jews from all over the world and of every "stripe and color" rallied together during Israel's wars of Independence, the Sinai Campaign, the Six-Day War, and the Yom Kippur War.

The Jewish World rallied in support of the Soviet Union. Jewish children around the world engaged in the Soviet Twinning project for their Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremonies... leaving a chair empty on the Bimah reminiscent of the Chair of Elijah at every bris.

Jews from Ethiopia were rescued by the airlifts from Israel in Operation Solomon, Operation Moses, and Operation Joshua and Jews around the world praised Israel.

When Jews were finally let out of the Soviet Union to arrive in Israel or the United States, communities welcomed them into their midst, shared their lives with them and integrated them into a new society.

So you see, there are two sides to God's people. There is that part of God's people that has never been at peace and tranquility, that has fought and argued and then there is the part that has worked in unison and in harmony to create a better world for the Jewish people and for the entire world.

We are Beth Ami...House of My People. Which part of God's people will we choose to be? Which part of our history will we work to fulfill? In the Garden of Eden, God gave human beings freedom of choice. We now have a choice to make of our own. We stand at a crossroad and must decide. What will we be? Who will we be?

So very often I quote Hillel's great statement: If I am not for myself, who will be? And if I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when? The third part of Hillel's statement always seems a bit irrelevant. Tonight, however, I think it most relevant. We have a choice to make. What will we be? Who will we be? And if not now, when?



EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our new member:

Ivan Barta. Ivan is a resident of Petaluma, a long time friend of Beth Ami and owner of Barta Hide Co. in Petaluma.



Attention

late-night readers

Beth Ami is looking into an Evening Book club. Are you interested? Please contact Adrea Moss at 707/526-6081.



Mazal tov to:

John and Ronnie Rosenbach on the birth of their first grandchild, Ramona Pearl Schesser Rosenbach born December 4. Proud parents are their son, Dan Rosenbach and daughter-in-law, Stacey Schesser. Proud great grandmothers are Phyllis Kaplan and Fanny Rosenbach.

Misheberach

Bless those in need of healing with refu'ah sh'layma
The renewal of body, the renewal of spirit
David Butler, Leo Gurevitch, Helen Margolese, Lydia Ross

Congregation Beth Ami offers sincere condolences to:

Carl Servin upon the passing of his father on Friday, December 10.

Ongoing programs at Beth Ami

Contemporary Jewish Issues with Rabbi Schlesinger, Sundays, 11 am, resumes Jan. 9.

Hebrew

Private lessons or small classes tailored to the traveler, scholar, or Hebrew school dropout.
All faiths, all levels, all ages welcome. Esther Baruch, 528-2265 or esther@pacific.net.

ALEF isn't enough; Bet isn't tough!

Study Modern Hebrew from the source with a native Israeli. All levels, the easy way, including prayers and chanting Torah tropes. Call Ahuva Simon-Sa'ar, 545-2454.

Israeli Folk Dancing

Tuesdays, 6:30 pm, Friedman Center. For more info contact Leanne Schy, 528-4874 or Leanne@sonic.net.

Midrash Study with Rabbi Schlesinger

2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 10 am

Torah & Talmud Study with Rabbi Schlesinger

Thursdays, 7 pm, Friedman Center Board Room.

Rosh Chodesh gatherings

SHEVAT: TU B'SHEVAT SEDER

Sunday, January 23 with Religious School

ADAR I: MOON MAVENS PURIM COSTUME CREATION

Thursday, February 3 at 7 pm

No Rosh Chodesh gathering in March

NISSAN: PRE-PASSOVER SPECIAL EVENT

Sunday, April 3 at 12 noon



The 28th Annual Book Discussion Series 2010-2011

Happy New Year, all ye bookworms! Our first discussion in 2011 will be held on Wednesday, January 5 in the Multi-purpose

Room of Congregation Beth Ami. Please note the slight change in the sequence. We will discuss *Letters from the Earth*, by Mark Twain. Our discussion leader will be Ethel Schy.

Future topics will be:

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 4) <i>Ten Green Bottles</i> , by Vivian J. Kaplan. | Feb. 2 |
| 5) <i>Natasha, & Other Stories</i> , by David Bezmozgis | Mar. 2 |
| 6) <i>When a Crocodile Eats the Sun</i> , by Peter Godwin | Apr. 6 |
| 7) <i>Prophet's Wife</i> , by Milton Steinberg | May 4 |
| 8) <i>The Help</i> , by Kathryn Stockett | June 1 |
| 9) <i>Crossing Mandelbaum Gate</i> , by Kai Bird | July 6 |

New members are always welcome.

Any questions? Call Susanne Batzdorff at 538-9731 or email her at sbatz@sonic.net.



EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

USY 2011 event calendar

Board Game Night	January 8 (6:30-9:00 pm)
Lox Box Sleepover	February 5-6 (8 pm-noon)
Parent committee Meeting (parents only)	February 6 (10:00 am)
Intensive Study Seminar (regional)	February 18-21
Simcha Sunday	February 27
USY Shabbat Dinner	March 4
Fire and Ice	April 10
Leadership event (TBA)	May 1
May Convention (regional)	May 27-30
Elections/SF trip	June 5

Saturday, January 15 at 10 am
Tot Shabbat with Lauren Kalmanson

eScrip update

Nancy Sherman



THANKS TO ALL OF OUR SUPPORTERS! Welcome to our newest Beth Ami participants: **Erik & Lorraine Aho and Billy & Suzie Friedman.**

For the first ten months of 2010 (latest data reported), eScrip supporters have collectively contributed \$1497. to Beth Ami. If you are not a part of this easy way to help our congregation, join us NOW. Then go shopping at participating eScrip merchants, including Safeway & Oliver's Markets and a portion of your purchases will be donated directly to Beth Ami.

If you are not yet on eScrip, here's how to sign up: go to www.eScrip.com and designate Congregation Beth Ami in Santa Rosa, ID#136921119 to receive contributions. To sign up offline, there is a form in the office as well as on our website. Just fill it out and return it to the office and we will sign you up.

For Oliver's Markets, sign up at the store for their Community Card and it will be linked to eScrip.

If you need help to sign up or have any eScrip questions, contact Nancy Sherman at 538-9388 or enshermn@pacbell.net or call Lauren Newman at 525-9029.



All open General Board meeting minutes are available in the office once approved by the board. Please contact the office to obtain copies.



Are you making smart decisions about your money?

This free, women-only event on **Sunday, January 9 at 10 am** will be presented by Winship Wealth founding partners and Beth Ami Community Nursery School parents, Craig and Melissa Slayen.

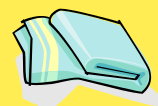
Religious School mitzvah project

The Religious School upper classes

This year, as in years past, we will be donating supplies to the Interfaith Transitional Housing Project, a facility that aids those less fortunate in attaining a higher standard of living (after being homeless). We are gathering:



gently used books
twin bed linens
towels
new toiletries



(no prescription drugs or medicines please)

Both childrens' and adults' supplies are needed, so please bring whatever you can!

Please bring in these things to classroom 14 or the main office. We will keep tallies of all goods received, and will donate them all at the end of our school year in May. This project has met with enthusiasm and success in previous years, and we hope it continues to do so this year!

**Thank you so much
for all your help!**

CONGREGATION BETH AMI | JANUARY 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
NS Closed for Winter Break	NS Closed for Winter Break	NS Closed for Winter Break	NS Closed for Winter Break	NS Closed for Winter Break	NS Closed for Winter Break	NS Closed for Winter Break
USY International Conference in Tampa, Florida @ Tampa, Florida	USY International Conference in Tampa, Florida @ Tampa, Florida	USY International Conference in Tampa, Florida @ Tampa, Florida	USY International Conference in Tampa, Florida @ Tampa, Florida	USY International Conference in Tampa, Florida @ Tampa, Florida	USY International Conference in Tampa, Florida @ Tampa, Florida	USY International Conference in Tampa, Florida @ Tampa, Florida
	Office Open 10am-4 pm	Office Open 10am-6pm	Office Open 10am-4 pm	Office Open 10am - 4pm	Office Closed	New Years Day 10am - Shabbat Services 12:30pm - Potluck Luncheon
					7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Services 8:30pm - Oneq	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	NS Closed - Teacher In-Service	Office Open 10am-6pm	Office Open 10am-4 pm	Office Open 10am - 4pm	Office Open 10am-4 pm	10am - Shabbat Services 12:30pm - Potluck Luncheon 6:30pm - USY Board Game Night
	Office Open 10am-4 pm	4pm - Religious School - Grades 6:30pm - Israeli Dancing @ The 7pm - Executive Committee	10am - Library Book Club Mtg. @	6:30pm - Chaverim - 11th/12th	6pm - Shabbat Dinner 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Services 8:30pm - Oneq	
	6:30pm - Chaverim - 9th Grade					
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9:30am - Religious School - All 10am - Women's Workshop - 11am - Contemporary Jewish	Office Open 10am-4 pm	Office Open 10am-6pm 4pm - Religious School - Grades 6pm - NS Parenting Class @ 7pm - Membership Meeting @	Office Open 10am-4 pm 7pm - Core Team Mtg. @ Multi-	Office Open 10am - 4pm	Office Open 10am-4 pm 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Services 8:30pm - Oneq	10am - Shabbat Services 10am - Tot Shabbat @ Room 12:30pm - Potluck Luncheon
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:30am - Morning Minvan 11am - Contemporary Jewish	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Office Closed	Office Open 10am-6pm 6:30pm - Israeli Dancing @ The 7pm - CBA Board Meeting @ CBA	Office Open 10am-4 pm	Office Open 10am - 4pm 6:30pm - Chaverim - 11th/12th	Office Open 10am-4 pm 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Services 8:30pm - Oneq	10am - Shabbat Services 12:30pm - Potluck Luncheon
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9:30am - Religious School - All 11am - Contemporary Jewish 11am - RS & Rosh Chodesh Tu	Office Open 10am-4 pm	Office Open 10am-6pm 4pm - Religious School - Grades 6pm - NS Parenting Class @	Office Open 10am-4 pm	Office Open 10am - 4pm	Office Open 10am-4 pm 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Services 8:30pm - Oneq	10am - Shabbat Services 12:30pm - Potluck Luncheon 6pm - "Halavla Haadola -The Big
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
9:30am - Religious School - All 11am - Contemporary Jewish	Office Open 10am-4 pm 6:30pm - Chaverim - 9th Grade	Office Open 10am-6pm 4pm - Religious School - Grades 6pm - NS Parenting Class @ Beth 7pm - Executive Committee	Office Open 10am-4 pm 10am - Library Book Club Mtg. @	Office Open 10am - 4pm 6:30pm - Chaverim - 11th/12th 7pm - Rosh Chodesh Women's	Office Open 10am-4 pm 6pm - Tot Shabbat 6pm - Shabbat Dinner 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Services 8:30pm - Oneq	10am - Shabbat Services 12:30pm - Potluck Luncheon 8pm - USY Lex Box Sleepover @

PRE-ORDER YOUR LOX BOX TODAY!

SONOMA COUNTY USY'S ANNUAL FUNDRAISER
FOR SOCIAL ACTION AND TIKKUN OLAM

Enjoy your Superbowl morning with a Lox Box made by SCUSY!

Each box has a breakfast for two

Including bagels, cream cheese, lox, sliced onions,
sliced tomatoes, fruit, tea, and a sweet treat!

**All proceeds benefit USY's social action and tikkun olam projects
including our local Kid Street Learning Center.**

**Boxes will be ready for pick up on Superbowl Sunday,
February 6th from 9am-12pm,**

at Congregation Beth Ami

Call Sarah Stein at (858) 361-3954 for more information

Please cut out bottom and send cash or check
(made payable to SCUSY c/o CBA) to
Congregation Beth Ami
4676 Mayette Ave. Santa Rosa, CA. 95407

RESERVE YOUR LOX BOX TODAY!

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

____ One Lox Box \$15

____ Two or more \$12 a piece

- () I will pick up at the Synagogue on February 6th (between 9am-12pm)
() I'm really not in the mood for breakfast, but here is my donation instead \$_____
() I would like to sponser a box and have it delivered to _____

**Deadline for all orders is
February 1st.**

**DELIVERY AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST
TO THOSE IN NEED. CONTACT SARAH AT (858) 361-3954**



PRESIDENT'S PAGE

Patty Bernstein,
President, Board of Directors

Moving forward

On Tuesday, December 14, congregants participated in an open forum facilitated by Michael Saxe-Taller, organizer for the North Bay Sponsoring Committee (in which Congregation Beth Ami is actively involved.) The board felt that it was critically important for everyone to hear what people were thinking and feeling—so we listened carefully to the messages presented.

Though the formal notes from our two able note-takers have not been transcribed as of this writing, I'd like to share some of the points/questions/statements/feelings that I heard expressed at that meeting.

- ▶ Everyone should have more information about Task Force recommendations.
- ▶ We all need to learn how to work more effectively with a Task Force.
- ▶ What is the process for making decisions?
- ▶ Mistakes were made, but volunteers acted in good faith.
- ▶ We need greater transparency on Board matters.
- ▶ We need to move on, to rebuild trust and regain strength.
- ▶ Better communication is essential.
- ▶ More people need to be involved in the business of the congregation.
- ▶ CBA's financial viability must be made clear to congregation.

It was clear that everyone involved with our Beth Ami community cares deeply about its health and well-being—and that the December 14 meeting was not going to be the end of our conversation.

The dialogue will continue at our January 11 mid-year meeting, when we'll take a closer look at the Task Force recommendations and talk about where to go from here. Please come and be part of the momentum of Beth Ami moving forward.

CAROLYN'S COMMENTS

Carolyn Metz, Executive Director



Passing through the eye of the needle

As I look forward to welcoming Shabbat, I have been reflecting on the past weeks at Beth Ami and the trauma to our community that we've all experienced. I feel very much as if we've come through the "eye of the needle" and we're on the path to healing the wounds, and for that I am very thankful. Now, I want to be sure all members are informed and updated to the present.

Tuesday night at Beth Ami we had a town hall meeting of membership. There were approximately 120 people in attendance, including Rabbi Schlesinger and Paula, Board Members, Task Force members, Program Directors (BACNS and FC), and members, all whom I was very pleased to see. It was a hard but valuable meeting:

- ▶ Rabbi Schlesinger and Paula were issued a deep public apology by Board President, Patty Bernstein.
- ▶ It was announced that Rabbi Schlesinger and the Board will enter into negotiations for the part-time rabbinic position to begin August 1.
- ▶ The bulk of the meeting was spent listening to congregants.
- ▶ People wanted to know what happened. I described the process of the past eight months, from A – Z: from engaging a consultant, creating the Task Force, doing the work of the Task Force, ending with the Board's decision to pursue one of five recommendations presented by the Task Force, to where we are now. I made it clear that the decision to not renew Rabbi's contract was not a recommendation of the Task Force.

The result is that we now have lots of members who are very engaged and want to be involved in making decisions about Beth Ami's future; we have a Rabbi who will be treated with respect and now has options to consider; Task Force recommendations will be revisited by the Board and new "sub-groups" created to further investigate each of the four desirable options—we may end up with aspects of each of them; business as usual at Beth Ami is not an option; healing has begun. Any one of you interested in playing a more active role, please, if I don't already know that, talk with me, email me, execdirec@bethamir.org.

Recently I asked Rabbi how he is doing, and he replied, "As good as can be expected." That's as good as it gets today, and G-d willing, tomorrow will be better. It feels as if we have made it through the eye of the needle.

P.S. Many of you will be on winter break during the next several weeks. Be safe, have fun, come back renewed. **Please plan to join the Board at the mid-year meeting on January 11, 7:00 pm.** The bulk of the meeting will focus on Task Force recommendations and moving forward to learn more. We welcome your involvement!

Beth Ami Judaica Gift Shop

A great place to shop for
Judaica gifts & ritual items



SUNDAYS
10 am-12:00 pm

TUESDAYS
4-6 pm

APPOINTMENTS, 360-3000



CHAVURAH COMMUNIQUE

Arnold Drake

After a spirited meeting at the end of 2009, we re-launched the Congregation Beth Ami Chavurah program in early 2010.

We have a Shabbat Dinner Chavurah, a Family Chavurah, two “traditional” Chavurot, and one Chavurah attempting both study and Tikkun Olam.

Our Shabbat Dinner Chavurah, led by **Shari and Alan Kafton**, has met once a month this year to enjoy a peaceful Shabbat dinner together.

Our Family Chavurah, led by **Nancy and Ed Sherman**, had a robust monthly schedule. Some of the successful events included ice skating, visits to Train Town and the Sonoma County Art Museum. Most of the children participate in our Religious School, so they have had a very busy schedule.

Chavurah Aleph, led by **Ruth and Ira Rosenberg**, has met monthly in member’s homes. Several meetings were dedicated to learning about each other. At one meeting they discussed the building of the Tabernacle in the desert, and the building of spiritual community. At another they discussed the Simon Wiesenthal Center’s document, “Top 10 Anti-Israel Lies.” At another, they discussed the altercation with the so-called flotilla of rescue boats. They discussed the High Holy Days, and attended Rabbi Naomi Levy’s talks and had lunch together afterwards.

Chavurah Gimmel, led by **Roz Edelson and Stan Feingold**, met eight times. Some of their activities included attending the Absolute Music Valentine’s Day Concert; viewing and discussing the Haggadot collection of one of their members; viewing one member’s Israel trip; canoeing, kayaking and picnicking on the Russian River; visiting a farm for a bbq; and sharing Sukkot and Shabbat potluck dinners.

Chavurah Bet, led by **Mieneke and Arnold Drake**, has met monthly. They met with the volunteer coordinator of Santa Rosa, and after vigorous discussion, helped clean up a garden area for a local charity. Professor Michael Ezra, head of the Jewish Studies program at Sonoma State, spoke at our Chavurah and later spoke at Congregation Beth Ami during a Shabbat program. We discussed Passover and Shavuot, had a Havdalah service with a visiting rabbi, had a picnic after Tashlich, then conducted second night Rosh HaShanah services. One member led us in an evening exercise in the Human Loom, and later led us in a visit to the Sonoma County Art Museum. At a “post Chanukah” party we planned next year’s agenda.

There are still several synagogue members who would like to join a Chavurah, but we do not have a spot for them. We would like to find enough new members to form a new Chavurah. Currently we are choosing new leaders for next year, and deciding our programs and plans.

If you would like to join a Chavurah this year, please contact me or the office.

We look forward to a second successful year!

January 2011 • CONGREGATION BETH AMI SHOFAR • page 9 • www.bethamir.org

NEWS FROM THE NORTH BAY SPONSORING COMMITTEE

Ellen Mundell

Over two years ago Beth Ami made a commitment to participate as a member of the North Bay Sponsoring Committee, an organization of religious institutions that work to strengthen their own congregations while also working with each other to foster change in the community. (The Core Team is what CBA is calling its in-house planning committee for the North Bay Sponsoring Committee.) As part of this process, Community Conversations at Beth Ami have taken place continually during these last two years including individual meetings, small group gatherings and two whole congregational conversations that helped prioritize members response to the survey.

The May 25 Action Assembly hosted by Beth Ami at the Friedman Center made a statement to the community that the North Bay Sponsoring Committee will have a strong voice on issues of concern. (Immigration reform, police and community relations, jobs and the economy, education, mental health services are some of the issues being researched now by committees of the NBSC.)

As Beth Ami works on a plan and process for a sustainable future, the Core Team will continue to meet the second Wednesday of each month to fulfill our commitment to the NBSC to work for the common good and to represent the members of our congregation. Community Conversations specific to the future plans for Beth Ami will probably also continue to be part of our agenda. **Barbara Tomin and Heath Winer** are presently chairing the Core Team. Barbara recently attended a five-day training for community leaders and will do a teaching for the Core Team at our next meeting on January 12 at 7:00 pm. Other Core Team members are participating at the county level with members of the nine congregations that make up the NBSC.

Please consider participation on the Core Team if you want to help foster communication, relationship building and a healthy future for Beth Ami. Our membership in the NBSC also gives you a way to impact the well being of our whole Sonoma County community. THIS IS OUR SOCIAL ACTION. Contact Barbara, Heath or Ellen Mundell for more information.

Heath Winer, heath@humanloom.com

Barbara Tomin, btprojects@sonic.net

Ellen Mundell, emundell@sonic.net





RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REPORT

Pnina Loeb, Director

What an eventful month we've just finished. There were over 200 in attendance (from the Religious School, Nursery School, PJ Library, and our CBA families and friends) at the dazzling Chanukah Party. With so much schmoozing, chanting Brachot, singing Chanukah songs, eating latkes, enjoying fabulous entertainment, dancing, and general merriment, the high spirits carried us through to the end of Chanukah.

Our monthly potluck breakfast began the following Sunday morning, and was followed by a field trip to the Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco. It was inspirational as we watched and spoke with the soferet who had almost finished her first complete Torah. We then enjoyed a picnic lunch, and spent the rest of the afternoon at KRON with an exciting and detailed tour given by Mark Burnette. Thank goodness for the winter break so we can calm down and relax a little.

Happy New Year! I hope that you've all had a restful and rejuvenating time off and are ready for Tu B'Shevat, Purim, and then Pesach! We have the Promise Haggadot available to order. They make a superb addition (or beginning) to your Jewish home celebration library. They will be personalized with your name(s) and are geared toward families who would like a fairly short Seder. The Haggadah is written in English, Hebrew, and is also transliterated. We have sample copies in the Religious School office for you to peruse at your convenience. This is a RS fundraiser, so please place your orders early. Please see the flier on the facing page. **May you have Shalom Bayit always (peace in your home).**



*Face painting and fun at the annual Chanukah Latke Party
(photos 1 and 2)*



*Religious School field trip to the
Contemporary Jewish Museum and
KRON TV-4 in San Francisco
(photos 3,4,5)*



BETH AMI'S PUSHKE

Alfred Batzdorff

We are delighted with the revival of the weekday morning minyan at Beth Ami, albeit only once a month, on the third Sunday. It is attended by a small, but dedicated group of congregants who find comradeship and companionship in this "Chavurah". On their way out to the *Shulchan Aruch* (set table) of bagels, juice and coffee, they drop their contribution into the *pushke* (collection box), never giving a thought to where all these riches go.

Years ago, the Minionairs determined to use these funds for the support of the Conservative Yeshivah at the Fuchsberg Center in Jerusalem. Of course, at that time, we still met three times a week and the pushke filled up considerably faster, but we want you to know that even our more meager contributions are much appreciated, and, whenever the pushke is full and we send in its contents, we always receive an appreciative acknowledgement.

Last March, Rabbi Libeau wrote:

The staff, faculty and students of the United Synagogue Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center and its Conservative Yeshiva want you to know how sincerely we appreciate your support for our valuable work. I want to thank you personally for your recent \$57 contribution.

We're blessed this year with 80 Nativers and the largest enrollment ever in our Conservative Yeshiva.... What better proof can be offered for the vibrancy of the Conservative Movement.

We hope you feel great pride in your *tzedakah* contribution which is indispensable to our success. Scholarship funds assist all of our students. For most, participation would not be possible without financial aid.

Please plan to visit the United Synagogue Fuchsberg Jerusalem Center when you are next in Israel.

And in October, his successor, Rabbi Jerome Epstein wrote:

I want to thank you for your thoughtful contribution of \$72 to the Conservative Yeshiva and I want you to

The Promise Haggadah

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Introducing the Promise Haggadah. It is a unique gift idea for your family and friends. Imagine your family and friends completing an entire Seder without skipping essential Passover elements. The Promise Haggadah is a beautiful, complete and concise Haggadah the entire family will enjoy and absorb.

- It is a forever keepsake for family and friends
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- 18% of all sales are donated directly back to Beth Ami Religious School
- Haggadot are \$11 each
- Orders can be made from December 2010 through April 2011
- Haggadot will be produced with personalization and returned to Beth Ami two weeks prior to Passover.
- All checks are made payable to Beth Ami.

For more information check out the website:
<http://www.promisehaggadah.com/index.html>
 Also contact: Laura Alexander
cheerful@sonic.net or 837-8695

To place your order fill out the following information and attach your check made payable to BETH AMI:

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Method of Payment:		
Phone Number:		
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know that your support makes a great difference in our ability to attract and support students.

We began our 16th year in September with over 70 students who are studying Jewish texts and look for ways to apply the values to their lives.... Thus, any support that we receive makes a direct impact on these young people.

This shows you how much good your Pushke contributions create, so please continue to be generous. And if you are not one of our 3rd Sunday Minionairs, you can still put an occasional dollar in the Pushke. It is easy to find in the bookshelf to the left of the Bemah. But if you join us for Morning Prayers you get a triple reward: An inspiring service, an opportunity to leave something in the Pushke, and a delicious breakfast.

P.S. You can see the full text of the Yeshiva letters in the Beth Ami Library.



ISRAEL FROM THE LEFT COAST

Bob Raful

As part of our program to celebrate Israel Independence Day a couple of years ago, we were excited to welcome Joe Hyams, CEO of HonestReporting (HR). HR is the world's largest media watchdog organization dedicated to ensuring that Israel is represented fairly and accurately in the media. HR monitors the media, exposes cases of bias, promotes balance and effects change through education and action.

All this came to mind when an HR press release popped up on the email inbox. "On Tuesday, December 14, over 200 participants gathered at Jerusalem's Inbal Hotel for HonestReporting's first ever one-day conference under the theme—**Reclaiming the Narrative: Fact or Fiction.**"

A summary of the day: "Outlining the threat to Israel from the international campaign of delegitimization..." (Keynoter Melaine Phillips, London; a vigorous supporter of Israel in British columns and broadcasts).

"Explaining the campaign of Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions against Israel and those responsible" (Dr. Jonathan Rynhold, a senior researcher and lecturer at Bar-Ilan University).

After three other well-known government and military experts, the final Keynote Speaker "...was award-winning Israeli Arab journalist Khaled Abu Toameh, addressing the question as to whether the Palestinians are prepared for peace. He concluded that this was not the case, in light of internal divisions amongst Palestinians, irreconcilable differences between Fatah and Hamas, the weakness of Palestinian President Abbas and the continuing reluctance to accept Israel's very right to exist in the region."

Training in practical advocacy skills were covered by ...Neil Lazarus, an internationally acclaimed expert in the field of Middle East, Israel advocacy and effective communications. Lazarus called on the audience to be history makers and not bystanders through getting involved and taking action.

Hyams presented a wrap-up... "One of the most important things to come out of this conference was not simply getting 200 people to listen to an array of top speakers but to be empowered to do something on behalf of Israel. HonestReporting has been at the forefront of harnessing the platforms of new media such as Facebook and YouTube. If 200 people leave this conference with some more skills and the encouragement to do even just one simple action online then this will be a great achievement for Israel's benefit.

The Anglo community living in Israel is an amazing grass-roots resource. We have seen from the incredible number attending this conference that the enthusiasm and dedication is there — we hope that this will be the first of many future conferences where we will be able to channel this energy into real activism for Israel."

You can join over 175,000 subscribers worldwide by going to www.honestreporting.com.

Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

NURSERY SCHOOL NOTES

Caroline Calvert & Robyn Fisher-Tachouet
Nursery School Co-Directors

Welcome back everyone!

We hope you all had a fantastic winter break. Just before we left, I heard overheard one child saying to another, "I'll see you when we get back...let's have more fun, okay?" That pretty much sums up how the first half of the year went at our preschool. During the second half of the year, we have continued the enhancements to our outdoor play yard (thank you to all of the parents who helped!). Come by and check it out if you have a minute...it's looking really good!

We are thrilled to be offering three parenting classes beginning in January which are all free of charge and open to the public. Please RSVP to 360-3030 if you are interested in attending either (or all) of the following:

Parenting Classes

**January 11:
The Power of Positive Parenting**

**January 25:
Raising Confident, Competent Children**

**February 1:
Raising Resilient Children**



All classes will be taught by the fantastic staff from The Parents Place and will take place from 6-7:30 pm in the social hall at Beth Ami.

We are also busily getting ready for our upcoming fundraiser to be held on Saturday, February 26. We are extremely grateful to both the Parent Committee and the community in general, for everything everyone involved is doing to help make this event a tremendous success. Thank you, thank you, thank you...we hope to see you there!

As always, thanks for the continued support,



Save the Date!

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Tot Shabbat Service
and Family Shabbat Dinner
February 4 at 5:00 pm
Details to follow



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MITZVAH MOMENTS

Tish Levee

SOS—Save our Shul. As you're probably aware, we're facing a severe financial challenge at Beth Ami; this year's estimated deficit is \$80,000. Many of the mitzvahs I suggest can also save you money. I'd like to suggest donating all or part of those savings to the shul. Often we feel our individual actions can't make a real difference, but when combined with others' actions, they can be significant. Each month I'll feature a mitzvah that also saves you money.

Bal Tashchit—not wasting resources. Gas prices are rising again, so gas saving tips are timely. However, we need to save gas all the time. Not only is gasoline a finite resource, every gallon used adds 19 pounds of CO₂ to the atmosphere. One way to save—stop idling your engine! Idling for more than ten seconds can use as much fuel as driving five miles. Idling for ten minutes a day uses more than 27 gallons of gas a year—at \$3.19/gallon, that's more than \$86.00 a year. (If 100 members of cba did this, it would offset more than 10% of this year's projected deficit.) Modern engines don't need warming up; as a matter of fact, excessive idling causes wear and tear on your engine and reduces its life. If all Americans idled their engines one minute less a day, we'd save over 92 million gallons of gas a year.

Celebrate Tu b'Shevat, January 20

- ▶ Plant trees. Go to <http://www.jnf.org/> or call 800-542-8733 to help replace over five million trees destroyed in the Carmel fire.
- ▶ Save trees by reducing your use of virgin paper. If every household used just one roll of recycled toilet paper, it would save **297,000 trees** and 122 million gallons of water, while reducing landfill by 1.2 million cubic feet—the equivalent of 1400 garbage trucks.
- ▶ Recycle paper. Each year, in the U.S., we throw away the equivalent of one billion trees worth of paper. Each ton of recycled paper can save 17 trees, 380 gallons of oil, 4,000 kilowatts of energy, 7,000 gallons of water, and three cubic yards of landfill space. Those seventeen trees can absorb 250 pounds of CO₂ while burning the ton of paper they produce would *create* six times as much CO₂.
- ▶ Take your own shopping bag. In less than an hour, a busy supermarket can use 700 grocery bags, the number a 15-year old tree can make. One supermarket could use six million paper bags a year.



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LITERARY LINES

Gabor Por

In November the library's collection grew with half a dozen volumes, mostly donated by members of our congregation. Three of them are novels centering around family life. I will introduce them in chronological and length order, which happen to coincide

Sandi Toksviss' *Hitler's Canary* tells the story of a family during the 10-day rescue of the Danish Jews during the High Holy Days of 1943. You may not want to read any more books on the Holocaust, but this book is unique in several ways. It is told from the perspective of a 12-year-old girl and written in a way that is suitable both for adults and younger readers. The youthful humor in the narrator's voice will make you smile. You may also appreciate its nuanced perspective, showing that there were bad and good people both amongst Germans and Danes and it wasn't always easy to tell the difference.

Elliot Feldman's *Sitting Shiva* covers much more than the seven days of traditional mourning period after the then 30-year-old protagonist's father passes away in 1976. The book is a combination of a series of flashbacks about coming of age in a dysfunctional family and an amateur investigation of how the father died. The book is dark, not just because it centers around death, but also because the protagonist's childhood was so unhappy that every evoked memory is a painful one. Nevertheless, I recommend it as a deconstruction of the shiva ritual and the reconstruction of Detroit.

Three Daughters is Letty Cottin Pogrebin's first novel. She is the cofounder of Ms. magazine and the author of several nonfiction books, including the highly recommended *Deborah, Golda, and Me: Being Female and Jewish in America* that the library has. If you want to read a dynamic, intelligent book, with engaging characters this is it. The father of the three sisters, a revered rabbi, returns from Israel to the US for his 90th birthday. On this occasion a reconciliation is attempted between him and his daughters. The three women's temperaments, life choices and life styles are radically different and it is a fun process to get to know them. This is an entertaining, informative and inspiring novel.

Finally I would like to draw your attention to biography by Hillel Halkin, published by Schocken/Nextbook: *Yehuda Halevi*. Halevi, best known for "The Kuzari," one of the greatest Hebrew poems, was an example of the synthesis of religion and culture that defined the golden age of medieval Spanish Jewry. This book paints a vivid background of Andalusia for the fascinating life of Halevi and attempts to solve the mystery surrounding his death.

I hope you find time to read in your ever busy life and visit the library for any of these or our thousands of other books.



JANUARY 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 December 31st and January 1st

January 1	Dean Fleming	Father of Andy Fleming
January 1	Junietta Pollock	Mother of Julia Pollock
January 1	Edith Volkmann	Sister of Evelyn Gurevitch
January 2	Henry Rosenblatt	Brother of Miriam Rubinstein
January 3	Mary Lastofka	Sister of Susy Raful
January 3	Goda Tyutinman	Mother of Adolf Tyutinman
January 4	J.J. Fitzgibbons	Husband of Andrea Goodman
January 4	Joe Leavy	Brother-in-Law of Evey Abramowitz
January 5	Ruth Baruch	Mother of Esther Baruch
January 5	Verne Paule	Husband of Raynore Paule
January 6	Ruth Susnow	Mother of Nancy Fleming
January 6	Sylvia Bernstein	Aunt of Marc Bernstein
January 7	Ethel Levine	Mother of Ruth Mazner

Announced on January 7th and 8th

January 9	Raymond Lachman	Brother of Vivian Salmon
January 9	Charles Feingold	Father of Stanley Feingold
January 9	Henry Rich	Husband of Elsie Rich
January 10	Munja Pipkin	Mother of Sheyna Bakman
January 10	Paula Rubin	Niece of David Rubin
January 10	Max Schiffman	Brother of Elsie Rich
January 11	Elizabeth Carlson	Daughter of Sylvia Sucher
January 11	Lewis Magnus	Grandfather of Howard Glickman
January 11	David Myerfeld	Grandfather of Patty Bernstein
January 12	Erna Biberstein	Mother of Susanne Batzdorff
January 12	Eleanor Marshall	Mother of Carolyn Metz
January 14	George Waldman	Grandfather of Barbara Whitaker

Announced on January 14th and 15th

January 15	Simon Kovar	Grandfather of Gary Herzberg
January 16	Sylvia Bernstein	Aunt of Marc Bernstein
January 16	Nomi Lev-Yahm	Mother of Vivian Klein
January 16	Ira Hayes Rosenberg	Father of Ira Rosenberg
January 19	Lillian Margolese	Mother of Arthur Margolese
		Grandmother of Michelle Zygielbaum
January 19	Isac Rijnveld	Stepfather of Mienieke Drake
January 20	Florence Alexander	Grandmother of Abraham Alexander
January 20	Mariya Antonovsky	Mother of Olga Pekker
January 20	Marguerite Connors	Mother of Tish Levee

Announced on January 21st and 22nd

January 22	Hershel ben Yacov	Father of Evelyn Gurevitch
January 23	Mark Gurevitch	Brother of Leo Gurevitch
January 25	Sheyna Morse	Mother-in-Law of Myrna Morse
January 27	Quintin Brown	Father of Anne Brown
January 27	Freda Weiss	Mother of Mortimer Weiss
January 28	Erwin Batzdorff	Father of Alfred Batzdorff
January 28	Milton Jekel	Brother-in-law of Elsie Rich

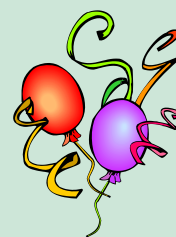
Announced on January 28th and 29th

January 29	Harry Goldblatt	Father of Dolores Trichter
January 29	Helen Keller	Mother of Ruth Weiss
January 29	Aaron Ramsey	Grandson of Mazie Miller
January 30	Rayfield Helman	Father of Judith Helman
January 30	Hillel Shiffman	Father of Elsie Rich
January 31	Zisley Bas Mendel Laib	Mother of Leo Gurevitch



Anniversaries in January

2	Abe & Laura Alexander
2	Karen Brodsky & Mark Dierkhising
3	Paul & Joyce Kobetz
6	Rael & Debbie Bernstein
7	Mort & Ruth Weiss
17	Susan Miller & Jerry Lakins
18	Mark & Jacqueline Sutter
21	Art & Helen Margolese



Birthdays in January

1	David Rubin
2	Vanessa Riggs
2	Sarah Tyutinman
3	Marg Ballo
5	Jack Wegman
6	Abraham Alexander
6	Mienieke Drake
9	Tish Levee
11	Julie Kellogg
14	Fred Marvan
16	Erik Aho
16	Emma Schlesinger
16	Ricki Streitfeld
17	Patrick Riggs
17	Paula Schlesinger
18	Seymour Boorstein
22	Arthur Margolese
26	Karen Brodsky
27	Ronald Welch
28	Bill Friedman
28	Bob Raful
28	Abigail Zoger
31	Rosalind Herritt
31	Stephen Nett



COMMUNITY EVENTS



Jewish Community Federation Centennial Celebration

Power of One

Monday, February 7
5:00-9:30 pm

Fairmont San Francisco

The Jewish Community Federation will celebrate 100 years of giving with the signature Women's Philanthropy event, Power of One! For the first time this event will be open to the entire community, men and women, sons and daughters! The keynote speaker, Alison Levine, is no stranger to risk-taking. She has survived sub-zero temperatures, hurricane force winds, sudden avalanches, and a career on Wall Street. Surprisingly, Alison was born with a life-threatening heart-condition. She has challenged herself to become one of the most experienced female mountaineers in the country and has seen the summit of Mt. Everest as well as the geographic North and South Poles. Her 20 year business career encompasses healthcare, technology and finance and she holds degrees in social and behavioral sciences as well as an MBA. Currently she is the founder of a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the lives of women in Africa by training them as trekking guides and porters in their local mountains. She is young, vibrant and tells a great story!

For more information, Stephanie Rosenbaum, Director of Women's Philanthropy, 650/852-9020 ext 8002, stephanier@sffcf.org or www.jewishfed.org/event/power-one.

Simcha Sunday & A Taste of Yiddish Culture, February 27, 12-4:30 pm

Klezmer Dance Party, 4:30-5:30 pm

The JCC's festival celebrating all things Jewish, will be held this year on **Sunday, February 27, 2011**. Once again at the **Santa Rosa Memorial Veterans Building**, from noon to 4:30 pm, you can meet old friends and new, see what amazing Jewish resources Sonoma County has to offer, be entertained and of course, eat, eat, eat! Amba Falafel, certified kosher, will be offering delicious middle eastern vegetarian fare for sale in addition to the JCC's offerings of hot dogs, blintzes, kugel, cookies, cakes and hot and cold beverages.

The entrance fee for Simcha Sunday of \$5 per adult (children under 13 are free), enables the JCC to bring this amazing event to the entire Sonoma County Jewish community and beyond. Your entry fee of \$5 gets you a Yiddish song performance with **Sharon Bernstein** in the main hall and the free children's program directed by **Gerry Tenney** with hands-on activities. Look for free samples of Straus Family Creamery's wonderful organic ice cream, hourly drawings for free door prizes donated by our vendors; and shop for Judaica art and gifts, jewelry and more.

New this year – We're joining with **KlezCalifornia** to bring you a taste of Yiddishkayt. There will be a variety of 90-minute workshops on Yiddish singing, language and history and klezmer music, techniques and tunes along with a closing **Klezmer Dance Party**. Bring your instruments and wear your dancing shoes! \$15 for one workshop; \$25 for two; \$35 for three. Teen discount and scholarships will be available for workshops.

Schedules, times and presenter information coming soon. Ticket sales for Simcha Sunday and the Yiddish culture workshops will be available to purchase online beginning in January 2011.

For more information or to get involved, please contact Karen Gould, 528-4222 or kareng@jccsoco.org.

Jewish Community Contacts



Hadassah/Trees for Israel

Rose Ann Premi, 537-9208

Hillel of Sonoma County

Lindsay Folkerth, 795-5464, www.sonomahillel.org

Jewish Community Center, Sonoma County

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

Jewish Community Federation

Kirsten Miller, 568-6207, www.sffcf.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



JFCS Food Pantry in need of food

The Jewish Family & Children's Services food pantry is running a bit low. We could use peanut butter, tuna, milk (both soy and low fat), low sugar boxed cereal, pastas. We have plenty of soups and canned beans. We'd also be happy to accept cash donations earmarked for our food pantry. Thank you so much for all you do to help us meet the needs in our community.

~Diana Klein, 571-8131 or dianak@jfcs.org

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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 sent 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.

GENERAL FUND

A generous donation

Darrell Watkins

In memory of Dave Ballo's mother

Melvin Decker & Judith Stern

In memory of Abraham Schwaber

Fredrika & Brian Gross

In memory of Dr. Eduard Vrijdaq

Arnold & Meineke Drake

In memory of my mother, Pearl Monoson

Rosalie Schweit

Happy New Year to all

Speedy recovery to Susanne Batzdorff

Pat & Bill Thomas

In memory of my mother,

May Tannenbaum

Pat Thomas

In memory of my mother, Alma Shapiro

Raynore Paule

In memory of my husband,

Kenneth Lipfield

Arline Thomas

In memory of my mother,

Zahra Hazan-Oikine

Therese Becraft

In honor of Sheyna Bakman's birthday

Betty & Harold Kale

In memory of Gertrude Cohen

Betty Boyd & Eli Cohen

In memory of my husband, David Kerben

Claire Miller

Todah Rabah, a big thanks to

Helen Margoese on her many years serving in the Gift Shop

Continuing better health for

Helen Margoese

Mazal Tov to the Rosenbach families on

the birth of their granddaughter

Welcome to new members: Jeanne Levin,

the Wegman family, Alan Shotkin, Eleanor

& Sydney Bergman, the Clark family,

Margo Budman, the Rosenbach family,

and Jeff Richman & Pnina Loeb

Grateful, heartfelt thanks to all those

congregants that called, sent cards, spoke

a word of condolence and gave donations

concerning David's mother's death

The Ballo family

A thoughtful donation honoring the shiva minyan

Anonymous

In memory of my mother, Anna Barta

Ivan Barta

In honor of Dick Gold's birthday

Susy & Bob Raful

In memory of my brother,

Cemen Nenchenko

In memory of my stepmother, Chaya

Rachel bat Baruch Penkovich

In memory of my father,

Nochem Kanckin

Sarah Tyutinman

In memory of my mother,

Goda Tyutinman

Adolf Tyutinman

In honor of Lillian Judd's birthday

In honor of Florence Metz's birthday

Lindsay Kvam

In memory of Jacob Goldman,

Ethel's father

Stuart & Ethel Schy

In honor of Jonathan Sutter's Bar Mitzvah

The Sutter family

On the occasion of Paul's birthday

Paul & Sasha LaHaye

In memory of Carl Servin's father

Congratulations to Lindsay Kvam on

completing her nurse's program.

Juli Scherer

In memory of Carl Servin's father

In honor of Pat & Bill Thomas - good

neshumahs

In honor of Betty Kale - a good neshumah

In honor of Natalie Friedman - a good

neshumah

In honor of Sylvia Sucher - a good

neshumah

Speedy recovery to David Butler

In honor of Bob & Susy Raful - good

neshumahs

In appreciation of Alan & Shari Kafton

In appreciation of Alan Krubiner & Jane

Meyer

In memory of Benjamin Strudler

Susan Miller

GIFT OF ISRAEL FUND

In honor of Jonathan Sutter's Bar Mitzvah

The Sutter family

LIBRARY FUND

In memory of my mother

Evelyn Gurevitch

NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

In memory of Dave Ballo's mother

In honor of the birth of Rosalie Schweit's great grandson

The Brosbes

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of our brother and uncle

Leonard Klein

Lillian & Dennis Judd

In memory of my daughter-in-law,

Nina Nekrasova

Sheyna Bakman

In memory of Vivian Kearns

Vivian Salmon

In memory of my mother, Bella Steinberg

Ina Price

In memory of my father, Howard Blau

Shari Kafton

In memory of my father,

Samson Hochfield

Malvina Tsipan

In appreciation for Jonathan's

Bar Mitzvah

The Sutter family

In honor of Rabbi & Paula Schlesinger - for healing

Susan Miller

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FUND

A generous donation

Darrell Watkins

SIMCHA BOARD

Leaf \$360

Small Stone \$1000

Large Stone \$2500

We also provide the opportunity for you to memorialize loved ones



YAHREIT BOARD
A plaque is \$450



EVENT REGISTRATION - MONTHLY SHABBAT DINNERS

- ☐ Friday, January 7, 6 pm
☐ Friday, February 4, 6 pm

of Beth Ami Member Adults _____ @\$14= _____

of Non-member Adults _____ @\$18= _____

of Youth: (ages 5-12) _____ @\$7= _____



Children ages 1-4 are free!

☐ I/We would like to make a contribution to the following event: _____

for someone who would otherwise be unable to attend in the amount of \$ _____

☐ I will pay by credit card ☐ I will pay by check

Total enclosed or to charge: \$ _____

Names of all attendees: _____

Phone: _____

Credit Card Information:

Circle one: Visa MasterCard Acct # _____

Expiration date: ____/____ Security Code: _____ Zipcode: _____



Mail, fax or bring this form with payment to:

Congregation Beth Ami
4676 Mayette Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95405
Phone: 360-3000
Fax: 360-3003
office@bethamISR.org

A Shabbat Meditation

Posted on August 13, 2010 by Rabbi Naomi Levy at www.rabbinaomilevy.com

I long to change the world, but I rarely appreciate things as they are.
I know how to give, but I don't always know how to receive.
I know how to keep busy, but I don't know how to be still.
I yearn to succeed, but I often forget what is truly important.
Teach me, God, to slow down. May my resting revive me.
May it lead me to wisdom, to holiness, to peace, and to You.
Amen.



Congregation Beth Ami

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

JANUARY SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday Evening, December 31

(Candle Lighting: 4:42 pm)

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, January 1 • 25 Tevet

9:30 am Torah Study

10:00 am Shabbat Vaera Services

Potluck lunch following services

(Havdalah: 5:43 pm)

Friday Evening, January 7

(Candle Lighting: 4:48 pm)

6:00 pm Family Shabbat Dinner

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, January 8 • 3 Shevat

9:30 Torah Study

10:00 am Shabbat Bo Services

Potluck lunch following services

(Havdalah: 5:49 pm)

Friday Evening, January 14

(Candle Lighting: 4:55 pm)

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, January 15 • 10 Shevat

9:30 am Torah Study

10 am Tot Shabbat with Lauren

10:00 am Shabbat Shirah/Beshallah Services

Potluck lunch following services

(Havdalah 5:56 pm)

Friday Evening, January 21

(Candle Lighting: 5:02 pm)

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, January 22 • 17 Shevat

9:30 am Torah Study

10:00 am Shabbat Yitro Services

Potluck lunch following services

(Havdalah: 6:03 pm)

Friday Evening, January 28

(Candle Lighting: 5:10 pm)

7:30 pm Shabbat Evening Services

Saturday, January 29 • 24 Shevat

9:30 am Torah Study

10:00 am Shabbat Mishpatim Services

Potluck lunch following services

(Havdalah: 6:11 pm)

Sunday Morning Minyan: Sunday, January 16 at 8:30 am

Starting with February 6, the Sunday Morning Minyan will meet on the first and third Sunday of each month.