



THE BULLETIN

Congregation Agudas Israel
Rabbi Emeritus Roger V. Pavey

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Hazzan Neil Schwartz

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Bio on page 6



Nicky Gitlin Wins Gold

at the 18th Maccabiah
Games in Israel

See page 5

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Annual General Meeting – Wednesday, September 16, 2009 – 7:30 pm

This page is sponsored by Naomi Rose and Stan Sinai of Toronto.

Deadline for the next Bulletin is October 12, 2009



Folkfest 2009 - another wonderful success.

Thank you to all the volunteers who worked so diligently to make it happen!

This page is sponsored by Micha and Patti Puterman (nee Landa) of Tel Aviv and by Petty Landa of Toronto.

This page is sponsored by Dr. Alan Rosenberg & Dr. Lesley-Ann Crone and family



Editorial

by Steven Goluboff

Having taken the entire summer off as a mini sabbatical, it is not easy getting back into the high gear of impending work and of course preparing a Bulletin before summer is even over. However, I do face the reality that it is time to get back to the real world whether it be school, work or community responsibility. Our summer has not been stellar but there is always next year. The next few months will be highlighted by the world premiere of Martha Blum's *The Walnut Tree* adapted for the stage by well-known Saskatoon Playright Jeffrey Ursell at Persephone Theatre with Congregation Agudas Israel and Saskatoon B'nai Brith as Major Sponsors. There will be a special evening on Saturday September 26th, where our congregation may come together in a pre-performance cocktail hour. Forty tickets are available as part of our sponsorship and will be available through a random draw. The fall and early winter herald our annual United Jewish Appeal Campaign and we will welcome Ami Segev as a guest speaker on October 14th to share with us his insights about the Middle East and fully prepared to answer even the most difficult questions that we might have. The High Holy Days will punctuate the religious aspect of our congregational life and Cantor Schwartz and

the Ritual Committee have strived to provide a meaningful and spiritual experience for anyone who chooses to attend. For the seventh year, we will share a community Breaking of the Fast and encourage all to attend this wonderful end to the High Holy Days. In this issue of the Bulletin, please read Dr. Lou Horlick's second instalment of fascinating insights and descriptions gleaned from Rabbi Pavey's Lunch and

Learn sessions. One does not have to be religious or academically inclined to recognize the pearls of thousands of years of Jewish wisdom. As you all know, Rabbi Pavey has been very ill in recent weeks and we pray for a recovery allowing all of us to benefit from his scholarship. I wish all our readers a Shana Tova and look forward to continuous contributions to the Bulletin in the new year.

FROM OUR CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

The Mission Statement of Congregation Agudas Israel

Congregation Agudas Israel is a spiritual, religious, educational and social home committed to deepening the quality of Jewish life in Saskatoon and district. We are an evolving link in the historical traditions of the Jewish people. We are a progressive, democratic and sensitive congregation responding to the widest spectrum of Jewish thought and practice.

Written at the 2002 Kallah by the members of Congregation Agudas Israel

MAZEL TOV AND CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Nicky Gitlin who won Gold Medals in the 100 and 200 metre sprints at the Maccabiah Games in Israel.

Kayla Hock whose grandson Marshal Young from Regina played on the Canadian Maccabiah Water Polo team, which won a bronze medal.

Kayla Hock whose granddaughters Erin and Miriam Isman, daughters of Clare and Van Isman of Regina, convoked from the University of Alberta. Erin will be teaching in Edmonton and Miriam will attend the College of Law in Victoria, BC.

Cantor Neil Schwartz whose eldest son David completed his Masters Degree in Education from Washington University in St. Louis and will be a teacher-intern at a Jewish day school in Chicago.

Noah and Natan Recht on the birth of a son, Barkai Aaron in Australia.

Jean Scharfstein on the wedding of her granddaughter Danielle, daughter of Briane and Lenny Scharfstein to Kyle Blakely from New Brunswick.

WELCOME AND SHALOM TO:

Ziv and Noga our new Shilchim.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER:

Medbl Lavery (presently a student in Toronto).

THANK YOU TO:

The Estate of the late Reuben Brandt of Toronto for a major gift of \$25,000 intended for the Cemetery. Part of this money will be used for the construction of a garage to safely house our maintenance equipment.

GET WELL WISHES TO:

Rabbi Roger Pavey • Pauline Laimon

Correction July August 2009 Bulletin:
"It should be noted that Gladys Rose was another of the few who served as President for four consecutive years"

THE BULLETIN

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From the President's Keyboard

by David Katzman

We have enjoyed another very successful year. The Annual Community Survey indicated a great deal of pride in our cultural, social and educational programs. A review of the minutes of our congregational Board reveals a great many people sharing their time and resources for the benefit of us all. Financially, we continue to be prudent with a genuine concern for both the present and future needs of Saskatoon's Jewish community. Thank you, Finance Chairman Waldman, for your skillful leadership. The remarkable success of the Silver Spoon and Silver Plate Dinners allow us to fulfill our duty to help others as well as helping our own small community. FolkFest was another huge success, bringing thousands of citizens into contact with our faith and our members. The lawsuits launched by Shir Hadash and CAI have been dropped. We see new faces in our building and even some new faces on our Board. Our Hebrew School continues to offer an excellent experience to every child. Thank you, Principal Scharfstein, for your steady and creative service to our children. The award

winning Bulletin, so expertly and patiently assembled by the tireless Dr. Goluboff, informs and inspires our own members and anyone who reads it. The crowning achievement belongs to Nikki Gitlin, who captured half of Canada's four gold medals at the 2009 Maccabiah Games by winning the 100m and 200m sprints. It is my obviously biased conclusion that our very small community does a lot of things very well. To the many others who work tirelessly and unrecognized on behalf of our community, please know that you make a difference. My term as President concludes at the AGM, September 16th, and I suggest the following issues require our focused attention and resources:

1) Clergy Contract Process Consensus

At the Annual General meeting, we will once again review the process for the contract and intended outcomes. Discussion, disagreement and dissent have been welcomed and encouraged by your Board in creating a transparent, fair and respectful process for considering the Clergy Contract. It is not reasonable to anticipate that every congregant will agree with the decision that will be made by the Board but I do expect every congregant to accept and support the decision. While we obviously

have many bright and capable individuals, our collective decisions must be respected.

2) Membership

At this time, we have a mere 92 Family Units. We continue to lose members faster than we gain them. We have a very successful tradition of fundraising and financial management but we must see increasing membership as equally or even more important.

Our Membership Chair, Simonne Horwitz, has invested a great deal of time and energy with excellent results but we must offer her whatever volunteer and financial support that her committee requires. New and existing members will always need to feel welcome and fellowship when they come into our building and, hopefully, our homes. We must, as someone else wrote, always be good to each other.

3) The Aging Building/Property Redevelopment

Our building is over fifty years old. We need to carefully consider;

- our present and future needs (especially the costs of maintaining an older building)
- the highest and best use of our

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Hazzan's Notes:

by Hazzan Neil Schwartz

A recent Torah portion contained a record of the journeys made by the Israelites during their 40 years of wandering in the Wilderness of Sinai.

We too have been on a journey together in this congregation, and it has taken a lot longer than 40 years. Like so many other North American synagogues founded in the early 20th century by Eastern European and Russian immigrants, Agudas Israel began as an Orthodox synagogue.

We have been a Conservative synagogue for several decades, and like many other Conservative synagogues, our membership is primarily liberal in religious outlook. The Conservative movement itself is moving in that same direction, as rules about women clergy, gay and lesbian clergy, cremation, burial of intermarried couples and outreach to intermarried families are all being dealt with by the Law Committee to reflect modern social realities.

Just as there was complaining and even

rebellion among the Israelites during the 40 years of wandering in the Sinai Wilderness, we also have our share of differing views. There are those among us who wish we would be more kosher in our kitchen, and those among us who find our kashrut rules to be too strict for their liking. Some prefer traditional religious services with our familiar melodies, and others wish we were doing more modern services with new melodies and perhaps even with instruments.

There are those among us who support Israel unconditionally, even if we sometimes disagree with her self-defense decisions, and those among us who might not mind a one-state solution even if that meant an eventual Palestinian demographic majority. There are those among us who find some meaning in regular attendance at services, and others among us who make it quite clear that religious services are not the reason they are members of our synagogue.

As we remember the journeys which our ancestors took over 3,000 years ago, whether or not any of that actually happened the way the Torah says it did, we must keep in mind that "Gam zeh v'Gam zeh divrei

Elohim Chayyim" - "This and also That are both the words of our Living God". We Jews may be quite a diverse People, but no one can accuse us of being apathetic. I am firmly convinced that just as the ancient Israelites finally made it to the Promised Land, so will we continue to find our way forward as a Jewish community with all our disagreements, as we build together for our future.

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Wandering Jews - A Trip of a Lifetime

by Jan Gitlin

Ron and I travelled with Sherwood and Elaine Sharfe to Israel last year. Sherry and Elaine were the perfect people to travel Israel with for our first time. We hooked up with a Mission of mostly Saskatoon friends and began an adventure that included the 60th Anniversary of the State of Israel. That trip was amazing.

We did not expect to be travelling back to Israel the following year. Nicky, our daughter-in-law decided to end her very successful track career by competing in the 100 meter and 200 meter race at the Maccabiah 18



Ron, Jan, Josh, and Nicky with Kfir and Roni and Ziv and Noga, our new shlichim

Games in July and we had to be there. Josh, Ron, Nicky and I boarded the El Al flight with the Canadian Team on July 9th and landed in Tel Aviv 11 hours later. Josh had visited Israel on the March of the Living when he was just 15 and now at 26, he is returning with his wife and parents. Nicky had never been in Israel so it was amazing

to see her face as she made her first step onto Israeli soil.

Before we could get down to serious touring, Nicky had to prepare for her two races.

Monday night was the Opening Ceremonies. It was so grand. We had never experienced such a production. The Prime Minister and President of Israel were both in attendance. The lighting of the maccabiah flame was a very emotional experience.. The scene was set, Nicky ran the following day and

she was hyped.

Nicky's strongest run is the 100meter and "Team Gitlin" wanted her to run a good race. We were nervous, probably more nervous than Nicky. The gun exploded and so did Nicky (she left them in her dust). The 'little one', as the Israeli press called her, took the gold and repeated it in the 200 meter the

next night

The Sunday after her races, we were taken to the air force base where Lior and Karen-or live, to have dinner with all of the arevim. It was amazing to see them all again.

Our friends and family were so supportive, watching her run on 3 continents and through the World Wide Web. It was surreal.

After the competition we were able to get together individually with the Arevim for dinners and visits. We even were able to meet Noga and Ziv at our hotel for lunch. They are so excited to meet the rest of their Saskatoon family.

We toured, went to Masada and the Dead Sea and then the night before we left we attended the closing Ceremonies of the 18th Macabiah games. If I thought the Opening ceremonies were fantastic the closing ceremonies brought us to tears. The singing of the National Anthem was probably the most touching memory we had of the games. It was a fairy tale trip that will stay in our hearts and minds forever.

So much excitement and what a perfect way to end Nicky's career. So many memories.

The Maccabiah Experience

by Nicky Gitlin

Well, it's hard to know where to begin. As I'm sure most of you have heard I recently returned from Israel where I competed in the Maccabiah Games in track and field and was fortunate to win two gold medals in the 100m and the 200m. If you haven't heard, you probably have just not run into Ron, Jan or Josh yet! I have to say it was a pretty surreal experience from start to finish and it is still all sinking in for me.

A long time ago when Josh and I first started dating and my track coach found out Josh was Jewish he asked me "so when are you going to convert so that you can compete in the Maccabi Games?" That was my first exposure to the idea. Having represented Canada at other international competitions in the past, I knew how much fun it is to be part of a team with a strong Canadian and athletic bond and I wanted this experience with the additional and more profound bond of Judaism. No matter how many talks I had had with Kevin Sharfe about what the Maccabi Games were like, nothing could have prepared me for the journey I was about to depart on!

From the moment I set foot in Israel, it was an emotional and spiritual voyage but my Maccabiah experience actually did not start there. It started over 1 year ago when I decided that my track career was coming to end as I began to feel a stronger and stronger pull towards my life with my husband and a budding career. I found out that the next Maccabi Games in Israel, which are held only every 4 years, were going to

take place in July of 2009. This happened to be the 18th Maccabiah and what better way to end my running career than in Israel. So the training began.

I informed my coach that this was to be my last year competing. I began focusing on this goal. My training included 10 hours on the track and 3 hours in the weight room every week, regular physiotherapy and massage appointments and special attention to nutrition. By January my coach felt I was running faster than I ever had. But unfortunately there are barriers to achieving any goal otherwise they are not worth chasing. In practice one Saturday I suffered a hamstring tear. I was afraid that this would stop me from reaching my ultimate goal. So the physiotherapy began. I have never been so devoted to hamstring exercises! And with the help of my physiotherapist, massage therapist, coach and ever supportive husband, I was back on track by May.

The next barrier was actually communicating with Maccabi Canada. Although they are delightfully pleasant

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When Saskatoon Was Just a Hamlet

by Arthur Rose - September 1955

When Saskatoon was just a hamlet, Jewish settlers came to Saskatchewan. In 1882 about 26 Jewish families took up homesteads southeast of Moosomin. The settlement was nick-named "New Jerusalem".

About 1888 another group of Jewish families led by one Abraham Klein settled southwest of Wapella. They helped to establish Wapella.

Jewish agricultural colonies were established - some still existing at Hirsh, Lipton, Edenbridge and Sonensfeld. The Hon. Jas. C. Gardiner taught school in the Jewish settlement of Hirsch. Maybe that's why he always quotes from the Old Testament in his speeches.

Not all Jews were farmers or in colonies. Some worked on the railways then building, others were tinsmiths, painters, furriers and tailors, - others entered trade.

Today Saskatoon has several "Pioneers" who came here in the early 1900's - W. (Bill) Landa, P. Golumbia and H. Sklar.

My wife and I came here as newlyweds in February 1913, following a visit to Saskatoon and western Canada I made in 1912. The Grand Trunk Railway had its terminal at South Saskatoon - 3 miles from the city. From there we came by high-wheeled, horse-drawn coach over frozen trails, past those 3 houses, then and now called "The Three Sisters". There were no taxes or buses.

It was about 40 below zero. The coach was heated by a small coal stove. The only river crossing for traffic was over what's known as the "19th street" or "old Traffic Bridge".

Saskatoon looked pretty bleak through

frosted windows. A derby hat, high button shoes, and spats were poor protection against the weather. But prospects were promising, young hearts gay and people were warm and friendly.

Street cars had just started - were not yet general. Hope was great, but the "land boom" of the few

years preceding was over. Bad times were ahead.

But people were young, there were no pioneers then as now. There were many American, English, Scottish and other nationalities who had come to settle this vast land of hope and promise.

What a land: no trees. Vegetables were few and all were imported. Grow corn, tomatoes, lettuce, berries of flowers here? Impossible: But look at Saskatoon now. We saw trees being planted on many streets where they now provide beauty and shade. The beautiful shrubs and flowers - the vegetable gardens in and around Saskatoon today are due to the faith of those early settlers.

Fine buildings? Fine stores - schools - churches - homes? Saskatoon couldn't boast of many such then. The Saskatoon spirit was strong - finances weak. Old timers will remember the few well built-up streets then, but can only marvel at the many, many more today and the many still to come. Jewish pioneers worked on the railways, they farmed, were artisans, in trade in a variety of occu-

pations.

Though few in number the Jewish folk set about establishing their communal needs: a synagogue, a Hebrew school, a cemetery and burial society, a Relief society to help the needy.

There was no money from frills. Unlike the synagogue and Hebrew School of today and still less like the one in the planning stage for the future, the Synagogue of 1913 was of rough construction inside and out. But the Ark of the Lord was there - the spirit of God dwelt within - the Jew could

offer up praise and prayer to his Maker.

The Cemetery, then rough prairie is a beautiful garden sport now, some 4 miles northwest of Saskatoon. The names on the many well kept graves are but one form of Jewish historical record among the builders of Saskatoon.

The Relief Society, the then Immigrant Aid Society functioned under difficulties but helped many a family become established - usually voting money first and then going out and collecting it from its Jewish members.

Jews were in the British Armies which first came to Canada. Jews were in the vanguard of every early settlement. Jews came to Saskatchewan - to Saskatoon and elsewhere before the province or city were formed. Jews are among all those who are proud to hail the flag and say "This is my country".

Editor's Note: This article was discovered by Gladys Rose, Arthur Rose's daughter-in-law.



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Ami Segev

Military Rank: Colonel (Navy)
Education: BA in Political Science and General History.
MA - Public Administration, Haifa University.

Position Held:

Branch Manager of a Shipping Company
1971-1994 Military service
1973 Won the decoration of distinction for bravery during Yom Kippur War
1994 - 1999 Keren Hayesod National Director, NSW (Sydney), Australia
1991 - 1993 Commander of Missile boats flotilla
1989 - 1991 Commander of the Naval Academy
1987 - 1989 Commander of the Missile Post Squadron
1985 - 1987 Commander of the "Dabur" fast patrol Boat Squadron



Lunch and Learn – Part 2

The Siddur as a Source

(from the classes of Rabbi Roger Pavey)

by L. Horlick, O.C., S.O.M., M.D., FRCPC

We spent a considerable amount of time studying the Prayer Book or Siddur (“order of service”), which is the “text book” of Judaism. It is a miscellany of unrelated items, a veritable “hodge podge”. The siddur is the result of a historical process – an accretion from many sources, ancient and modern. The current text still has the same general structure that it had in the 8th Century AD., yet it remains the text most Jews are acquainted with.

As part of our study, we systematically went through the Prayer Book, trying to establish the meaning of each item, its origins, and its relevance to modern day life. The Psalms were the highlight of our study. Although they are commonly referred to as the “Psalms of David”, none of them were actually written by him. They date to 700 – 900BC, considerably later than King David’s time and were composed for use in the Temple for dances with musical accompaniment.

There are things in the Siddur which the modern Jew would find distasteful and which conflict with modern moral values. Yet it also contains many beautiful things, and to find them one must look below the surface and have an understanding of Hebrew. Modern versions, such as the “Sim Shalom” have cut out some of the mediaeval material which is foreign to our sensibility and has resulted in a “modern Jewish God wrestling” type of text. However it still retains much irrelevant material and its terminology is often archaic. “The Lord is my shepherd” says the 23rd psalm, but what does that correspond to in modern times? My shop steward, the boss, the chairman of the board?

One member of our group asked: “If the purpose of the siddur is to enable us to pray as a community, and it doesn’t fulfil that purpose, should we change it?” “Why do genuinely religious people say that the siddur has nothing for them?” Clearly the siddur is the communal text which “enables” the community in prayer, and we must continue to try to get it right and make it relevant to modern Jewry. There is no Halakhic prohibition to changing the contents of the siddur, as long as the order of service is not altered.

Prayer

Observant Jews feel that prayer is a necessity, “a pouring out of the soul.” “It

serves to strengthen the good in us.” It is not meant to be a “special request” of God. Community prayer enables us to strengthen one another. The Talmud says that prayer is more likely to be effective when it comes from a community rather than from an individual. It is the community caring about its members, as in the prayer for the sick. Prayer does not presuppose a belief in God. It is a spiritual activity – a sense that there is another dimension of being or becoming – a need to search for something outside of one’s self.

One member asked “what does God derive from prayer?” One possible answer that was offered was “we are co-partners with God – he needs us as much as we need him.” Another was “God may not need the praises, but we may need to praise in order to appreciate the beauty and the infinite surprise of life.”

The Sh’ma is the most important prayer in the siddur – everything else leads to this peak of emotion. Sh’ma is a very important concept. It means more than “hear”. It means “listen, understand and do.” The midrash is that the command was addressed to Jacob, and through him to his heirs. It means accepting the burden of God, making a commitment to carry on the Lord’s work, establishing a relationship of trust with God. One of our members, a survivor of the Holocaust stressed the importance of the Sh’ma, not as a call for help, but an affirmation of Jewish faith at a time of martyrdom.

To quote Rabbi Pavey “the whole of Judaism is buried in the Sh’ma-you have to dig it out.”

The Responsa literature

Another source of “sources” are the responsa. These are the answers given by eminent Rabbis to real and imagined questions and recorded in the Rabbinic literature. The question must be specific.

Examples of responsa are the following:

Does the saying of Kaddish require a minyan? A mourner is part of the community and the community is part of the process, therefore Kaddish is best said with a minyan. Although it is permissible to say Kaddish by oneself, it needs to be embedded in the community. Kaddish declares “the holiness of God” – it has nothing to do with death per se (which isn’t mentioned in the Kaddish). It repairs the damage that death has done to the community of Judaism.

Is it permissible to assist a sick person to end his/her life? (The Sue Rodriguez case).

Our sources say it is forbidden to murder. Life should be preserved in principle, but the quality of life has also to be considered. A human being should not be in pain or extreme mental distress. Any method of treatment can be undertaken which improves quality (or allays pain) even if you know that the treatment may shorten the patient’s life (as long as its purpose is not deliberately to kill). Although the Rabbinic literature considers suicide (knowingly entered into) a blasphemy, it states that suicide under overwhelming pain and distress is not a sin, since suffering may prevent a person from making a rational decision.

Is altruism a desirable quality for a Jew? Altruism is a theoretical construct and you must ask what the true motivation of the individual practicing altruism is. “Cui bono?” The altruist says “I transcend the rules; I do things out of sheer love.” Judaism is governed by Mitzvot- and we must observe them whether we agree or not. We must engage in decent behaviour, and we must not manipulate people through our “niceness.” When you do a mitzva you are not patronizing anyone, you are following commandment. Mitzvot do not exist in a vacuum, but are essential to interpersonal and community life.

Christ said “Love your neighbour as yourself.” Judaism says “we will give you a set of guidelines so that you can live with your neighbour, even if you don’t like him.” The Rabbinic tradition distrusts altruism unless it is based on mitzvot. Otherwise it is open to abuse.

Why so many rules and regulations?

At this point, you may well ask, “why so many rules and regulations?” Judaism is replete with rules and regulations, but they always seem to have a purpose. The rules have been created by the Rabbis based on hints in the Torah. They provide a coherent sense of identity (if not taken to extremes which create tribalism.) Within limits they can be redefined or altered. Observance of Mitzvot is the basis of the system and the way in which Judaism defines itself. These rules have practical utility – tell us when to pray, what is permissible, and under what conditions. They provide a structure for life, through the life cycle, holidays, dietary laws etc. We should not abandon these rules wholesale, or we may be forced to live by revelation alone, and “spirituality runs out

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This page is sponsored by Arnold z'l & Claire Golumbia of Vancouver



Sisterhood News

by Karen Dawson, President

It is hard to believe summer is quickly coming to an end - as it always does; too soon.

Although many of us have been away, there has been good activity within our membership.

The kitchen has been busy with parations for Folkfest 2009, and the Gift Shop has been stocked with new items for purchase. We recieved an Award of Merit for reaching our goal in the Torah Fund campaign, and the Shabbat Family dinner this year was a huge success, thanks largely to the efforts of Linda Shaw, Marsha Scharfstein, the

Hebrew school kids and the Fenyes family. An opening meeting for the next season will be held:

Sunday September 06, 2009

1:00 pm

CAI Synagogue

We will be discussing issues of current importance, as well as making plans for the upcoming year. Please do join us!

Swinging into information from our Women's League correspondents, here is a tremendous opportunity for individuals (and families) to participate in Woman's League Israel Mission 2009. If you are interested, please contact one of your Woman's League friends listed below.

We look forward to the upcoming year - and welcome all women in the community to join us for tea and coffee at our meeting on September 06th! See you then!

For Further information, Contact

Women's League Friends:

Judy Horowitz- JHorow116@aol.com

516-850-0474

Anna Tractenberg -

AnnaTract@aol.com 484-433-3619

Women's League Office -

rkessler@wlcj.org 212-870-1260

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A New Siddur

by Hazzan Neil Schwartz

At some point this Fall we hope to begin using a wonderful new Siddur as an enrichment for our "regular" Shabbat services, in addition to our current *Siddur Sim Shalom*. It has many features and options which can greatly enrich our services.

While this Siddur was published by the British Reform movement, it is a traditional Siddur which has much in common with our 1985 version of *Siddur Sim Shalom*. The language is entirely egalitarian in both Hebrew and English, a welcome change!

The first 25 pages are called "*Iyyun T'fillah*", "Engaging with Prayer". These are meditations and readings which can be used by individuals or the congregation to get into the mood for a worship service.

There are more opening prayers and songs for the first 15 pages of the Friday evening service, and then beginning on page 111 the service matches our current Siddur almost exactly. However, the English translations are much more poetic, and everything that we could possibly want to

sing has been transliterated.

On Shabbat morning the first 10 pages are opening readings and meditations, and then the service proceeds in the same order that we already follow. There are a few prayers left out and a few text changes, but I trust that we will get used to these.

There are three different Torah Service options, and we will do the first because it matches the text we have been doing. Among the new readings after the *Haftarah* are prayers for international and interfaith understanding (page 249) and responsibility for justice and the environment.

There are two versions of the *Musaf* Service offered, and we will do the second one because it is similar to what we know. There are a few text changes, and also a few different words in the *Aleinu*, but they will fit the melodies we already use.

The entire rest of this Siddur is supplementary material, more than half of the book. There are more reflections, community and life-cycle prayers, holiday readings, specific life-cycle blessings, home

rituals, over 100 pages of a Study Anthology, and Psalms.

In keeping with Reform practice, the full Readers Kaddish does not conclude any sections of the services. However, there is a Kaddish in the back of the Siddur, and we will use that. The Mourners' Kaddish does appear, with full transliteration. Some of the more traditional texts appear in blue, so we will have them available for our services.

It will be a time of transition for those who regularly attend our Shabbat services, but I am firmly convinced that this Siddur will meet our diverse needs. Those congregants who have expressed discomfort with the language of our current Siddur should be very happy with this new version.

We thank Rabbi Pavey for bringing this particular Siddur to our attention, and for helping us to obtain them. Please share your reactions with me or with members of the Ritual Committee, as we get to know this wonderful new Book of Prayers.

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Hadassah-WIZO News

Canadian Hadassah-WIZO is a volunteer women's Zionist organization that provides material and moral support to enhance the lives of women, children and youth in Israel through its health care, education and social services projects. It fosters and strengthens Jewish ideals and highlights the role of Israel in today's world.



by Linda Shaw

As President of the Sarah Goldenberg Chapter I have regularly been using this Hadassah-WIZO page to inform you of our projects in Israel, of our upcoming chapter events, fundraising drives and news about our members. I hope you found those reports interesting and informative. This month's is different though. This time it's more personal. I am dedicating this page to the memory of my mother, Clarice Buckwold, who passed away June 11th. Why on the Hadassah page? It's because so much of what I am today is a result of my Mom's love for and dedication to this Organization. My Mom had been a Hadassah member since the 1940's - before the State of Israel even existed. She was totally committed to improving the lives of children and women in Israel, through her idealism, her volunteer work and her generous donations throughout her lifetime. She was a "Sustainer" these last couple of years, supporting Hadassah-WIZO

financially but I still have vivid memories of the earlier years - of playing under the tables while my mother sold "treasures" at annual "Whale of a Sales" at the Legion Hall and of later making handicrafts with her for the Hadassah Bazaars. My Mom took her turns on the chapter executive but she was always most comfortable as a doer rather than a leader - working on projects because she truly believed what she was doing or giving was important. When she bought me my Life Membership when I was in my mid-20's I thought she was nuts. Me, a Hadassah member? I tried to talk her out of it. She felt very strongly that belonging to Hadassah was essential for a young Jewish woman. At the time it seemed ridiculous. I have since learned that she was right. She encouraged me to get involved in the Shoshanah Chapter which was made up of new brides, mothers of young children and professional women. My Mom instilled a love of volunteering and helping others in me through her example. She wasn't a feminist yet she showed me the power of women to make

positive changes in the world.

I feel that Hadassah has given me immense personal satisfaction, lifelong friendships with Jewish women, helped me build self-confidence and made me feel that I have made a difference in people's lives. My mother truly was my role model and I am proud to be following in her footsteps.

To the many of you who sent Hadassah cards and made donations to Hadassah-WIZO in my mother's memory, I send my sincerest appreciation. What a wonderful way to honour her by supporting this organization that was so dear to her and by continuing to help others in her name. Thank you.

September is Membership Month so, ladies, be sure to renew your membership or newly join our Sarah Goldenberg Chapter. We'll be launching our Hadassah year with a Pot Luck Dinner at the home of Lesley-Ann Crone Rosenberg on Thursday, September 3rd. Join us for fun, food, companionship and an opportunity to tour her spectacular yard and gardens.

Slate of Officers for 2009/2010

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, September 16, 2009 – 7:30 pm

Officers:

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First Vice-President: Marsha Scharfstein
Second Vice-President: Vacant
Secretary: Michael Gertler
Treasurer: Ron Waldman
Immediate Past President: David Katzman

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B'nai Brith President: Randy Katzman
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Saskatchewan Jewish Council: Arnie Shaw

Hadassah Cards

1. **From Dianne and Gerry Greenblatt**- Sympathy to Linda, Arnie Shaw and family in memory of Clarice Buckwold.
2. **From Jeffery & Jennifer Hesselson**- Sympathy to Linda, Arnie Shaw and family on loss of a mother, grand mother and great grandmother.
3. **From Eileen Soffar** - Sympathy to Linda and Arnie Shaw.
4. **To Linda and Arnie Shaw and Family**- With our deepest sympathy from Mark, Wendy, Mathew and Jacob Ditlove.
5. **To Muriel and Arnold Grobman**. Our deepest sympathy on the loss of our beloved Brenda. May she rest in peace. Love Mark, Wendy, Mathew, and Jacob Ditlove.
6. **To Barry and Allison Grobman, Micah and Sara**. our deepest sympathies on the loss of our beloved Brenda. May she rest in peace. Love Mark, Wendy, Mathew and Jacob Ditlove.
7. **To Brian and Janice Kowall, Ashley, Dan, and Will**. Our deepest sympathies on the loss of our beloved Brenda. May she rest in peace. Love Mark, Wendy, Mathew and Jacob Ditlove.



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Hazzan Neil Schwartz

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Limmud: A Jewish festival of learning in South Africa

by *Simonne Horwitz*

Being in South Africa at the beginning of August has many advantages, although it is winter, the chill is gone and the sun is shining, there is an air of calm as the year is winding down and most excitingly its time for LIMMUD.

Limmud comes from the Hebrew word meaning "to learn," and its name reflects the goal of the organisation which is to allow each Jew to take one step further on their Jewish journey, whatever that may be. Through providing a diverse and often dizzying array of seminars, lectures, workshops, musical performances, panel discussions and textual studies Limmud creates a space in which each Jew can explore various facets of their Jewish identity. In practice this is done through multiple parallel sessions which cover themes as varied as religion, philosophy, politics, Tikkun Olam, history, art, dance and the Jewish link to alternative healing – all going on at the same time.

Limmud began in the United Kingdom in the early 1980s and has since spread to the United States (there are now Limmud's in New York, Los Angeles, Atlanta, and Colorado), in Canada (Toronto) and in Israel, Australia, Hungary, Russia, France, Turkey, Germany and in South Africa.

2009 marked the third Limmud in Johannesburg and Cape Town and the second in Durban. Excitingly, this year I was invited to speak both in Johannesburg and Durban. The latter took place on the 3rd and 4th of August and I flew down to Durban with my friend Marion. The Durban Jewish community is shrinking but they still have an active group of volunteers and organizers and I was constantly amazed at Cookie Isaacs and her team who had every aspect of the conference wonderfully organized with a warmth and friendliness which reminded me of Agudas Israel.

About 200 people gather at the Jewish centre on the two evenings, we were treated to wonderful food and even more wonderful conversation and learning experiences. The smaller intimate nature of the conference meant that we were able to engage more closely with the amazing group of international speakers who had been brought to South Africa by Limmud – more on them later.

In Durban I was invited to present my paper on small communities in North America and how these communities not only survive but thrive. Along a similar vein I was invited to speak at a lunch with the Durban Jewish Council in which we shared ideas about the survival of small

communities and out-reach both within our own communities and among other minority groups.

Finally I was also privileged to be invited to a Holocaust education workshop with Mark Weitzman, the Director of the Task Force against Hate and Terrorism and the Associate Director of Education for the Simon Wiesenthal Center, and the Chief Representative of the Center to the United Nations in New York. Mark is a fascinating speaker with an extraordinary knowledge but what was most impressive was his work to create alliances with various groups to fight broad-based hatred.

In Johannesburg I was asked to present in two sessions, again one on small communities in North America and the second was a Holocaust related panel. The panel was titled "To Go or Not to Go": Some Reflections on Visiting the Terrain of the Holocaust' and the write up for the discussion read:

"For some, Holocaust related tourism may be driven by a strange combination of nostalgia, family history, curiosity or a secular form of pilgrimage. For others, it is a dark shadow, preferably forgotten. In this discussion three different experiences, Acia Lieberman, a Holocaust survivor from Lithuania, revisits her birth place with her family, Mervyn Davidowitz, a South African

psychologist, retraces his grandparents roots in pre-war Poland and Simonne, a South African teaching African history in Canada and leader of youth groups to Poland discuss various aspects of going or not going."

In the lead-up to Limmud Acia, Mervyn and I got to share a great deal of tea, cake and discussions. While Mervyn and I challenged each other on a variety of issues I got to hear another survivors amazing story of life and survival in the ghetto and years of living and hiding in the forest and

her eventual return to Subach in Lithuania almost 40 years after she was driven out.

In Durban there were 40 sessions over two evenings – Johannesburg was like Limmud on steroids, 8 sessions running from 9am until 10pm for 2 days and 6-10 parallel sessions, creating a total of about 140 sessions, an almost bewildering choose. Even given a couple of 'bunked' sessions to catch our breath it would be impossible to report on everything we heard, learned and experienced. But I'll give you a taste – focused on the amazing international guests.

In terms of Torah and Textual study one of the highlights had to be listening to the lilting Glaswegian accent and brilliant discussion of Ruth by Avivah Gottlieb Zornberg. Zornberg who now lives in Jerusalem and lectures around the world

continued on page 11





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gave her late night lecture in a small board room at the Durban community centre. You could have heard a pin drop as this brilliant scholar, who is said to be one of the leading and most respected biblical commentators of our time, spoke about the story of Ruth the quintessential stranger in the biblical canon. She brilliantly unraveled the story of how and why this Moabite woman, who by the very nature of her ethnicity could not become part of the Israelite community, becomes the mother of the royal line of David. I invested in her new book "The Murmuring Deep: Reflections on the Biblical Unconscious".

There were also a variety of new, fascinating movies. A real must see is the German movie 'Just an Ordinary Jew'. The movie focuses on Becker Goldfarb, a fictional character who is a journalist in modern Hamburg, Germany. He then receives a letter from a local school teacher who wants him to talk to his students about being Jewish in Germany today. The rest of the 90 minute movie is a moving and incredibly powerful (and brilliantly filmed) monologue about Jewish identity, the forces of history and the innate connection of Jews to their past. Although set in Germany, narrated in German with sub-titles the movie explores powerful themes for all of us. It made me think and feel in a way movies seldom move me.

Social Activism was also a large part of the conference and this area allowed me to cross paths with two amazing women – Anat Hoffman and Chana Rothman. Both these amazing women teach that there is more than one way to be Jewish and as Chana's song stresses – there is more than one way to be free.

Anat Hoffman, ex-Israeli swimming champion, Jerusalem City Council woman for 14 years, Executive Director of the Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC) Progressive Judaism's social action body, tireless human rights activist and in her own words "professional trouble maker". When most

people become angry, they swear, they might make a phone call and they might talk to those around them but very few do what Anat does. She has campaigned tirelessly for the right of women to pray at the Western Wall and for women's equal pay for equal work. She pushed for the provision of adequate municipal services for the more than 200,000 Palestinian citizens of Jerusalem. She has fought to see that the powerful Orthodox bloc in the City Council does not dictate lifestyle choices for the secular population of Jerusalem and in a city driven by religious differences, she has fought tirelessly for religious pluralism and the rights of those who choose to follow progressive Judaism in Israel. I have never heard a speaker who is so passionate about what is morally right, who is not scared to stand up and fight against the state, the army and rabbinate because she sees and loves what Israel can be. Anat does big things – she fights in a big way for the rights of minorities in Israel – Jews and non-Jews but she has time to inspire and say little things that make such a difference to individuals. Her dedication of her lecture at Beit Emanuel (my South African Shul) to my father and her speaking out about the insanity of a cemetery divided into an orthodox and reform section is an act of kindness and recognition I will never forget.

Anyone interested in human-rights and social justice should have a look at the website of the IRAC

In a very different way Canadian-born singer Chana Rothman, one of the most exciting Jewish artists in the North American music scene today uses her lyrics – in English and Hebrew to address key social and cultural issues. She can rap and do hip-hop with the best of them but listening to her lyrics you see the difference who and what she stands for and how she strives to use her music to build bridges between people. Watching her perform is a real treat, her beautiful spirit and soul are infectious. She also came to our Friday night Chavurah and

used her talent to help us pray in a very beautiful and spiritual way. The final Limmud session I went to was a session with Chana and our friend Jessica Sherman singing songs of social action from South Africa and around the world, it was truly amazing. It is my hope that we will one day bring Chana to Saskatoon to work with our BBYO and do Shabbat services for us.

Limmud in South Africa was not without its fare-share of controversy, after all both South Africa and Israel are politically charged. Some of the Orthodox animosity towards the Limmud program which characterized last years conference still hang over this years conference, but even without the support of some of the Orthodox Rabbinate almost 1000 Jews turned out to enjoy Limmud in Johannesburg! This years most politically charged issue was the presence of South African born David Benjamin, retired Lt Col. and top legal advisor to the Israeli Defense Force (IDF). Benjamin advised senior IDF commanders on Operational Law issues, International Law and the Law of Armed Conflicts and Counter-Terrorism. Benjamin is seen as being guilty of war crimes in some arenas and there were protests outside of the Limmud venue in Johannesburg.


One of Limmud's founding principles is to allow for open debate and hearing both sides of the story. In order to do this Benjamin spoke on a panel with impressive young Israeli attorney Shlomy Zachary. Zachary, who is an expert on International Law, International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Law and represents clients such as Peace Now Settlement Watch and Yesh Din – Volunteers for Human Rights, gave a critique of the IDF's actions in Operation Cast Iron from a human right perspective.

Limmud was a truly special experience and I hope that one day there will be a Limmud-Western Canada!

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*As my father
planted for me
before I was born,
So do I plant for
those who will
come after me.*

from the Talmud

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President's Keyboard... from page 4

property

- developing a consensus on what we want if we do redevelop

We are situated on a very large and valuable piece of land. We may be able to create a mutually beneficial relationship with partners.

4) Support for Peace in Israel and the Middle East

Our congregation is absolutely committed to supporting Israel in her search for permanent safety and security. Our annual United Israel Appeal results have been excellent. Israel is constantly criticized in various media for activities that are intentionally ignored in other countries. Israel's very right to exist is denied by terrorist groups and governments. Arabs and Muslims who accept Israel are branded as traitors. At the same time, the expansion of settlements is, in my opinion, a real impediment to the peace process. I tend to be suspicious of anyone who believes there is a simple solution to conflict in the Middle East. I hope that our congregation can learn more about what is happening in the Middle

East so we can intelligently participate in supporting a peace process for the whole region.

5) Volunteers and Future Leadership

A priority in any successful organization is to ensure an orderly transition from year to year as persons retire or move. We have some new faces at our Board table and in various committees but we must constantly be encouraging younger leadership to step forward. This means, necessarily, that we must give the young leaders an opportunity to lead and we all must accept that things will be done differently. It also means that all of us must continue to praise publicly and criticize privately, directly and respectfully. New leadership, and existing leadership, need our support. Many congregations, Jewish and non-Jewish, are severely hampered by members who think nothing of criticizing and belittling their leaders and fellow congregants behind their backs. Such unethical behaviour is not frequent but when seen it needs to be politely but firmly rejected by every congregant.

I would, once again, like to sincerely thank the members of the Board for their energy, mutual respect and commitment. Every meeting has been interesting, productive and sometimes even entertaining. Our Shlichim, Nim and Shirley, were an endless fount of energy, creativity and caring. I know that all of us are grateful for the time we had with them. I look forward to working with their equally impressive successors, Noga and Ziv. Hazzan Schwartz has enthusiastically served our congregation for two years, trying to please the widest spectrum of Jewish thought and practice, and that is a rather large spectrum. Thank you, Hazzan Schwartz, for your patience and perseverance. Myla Deptuch has also been asked to serve a wide range of expectations and, by all accounts, continues to do be very successful. Thank you, Myla.

Forty-eight months goes by very quickly. I have learned a great deal during that time about being Jewish and about being a leader. My thanks go to everyone who has taken

continued on page 14

This page is sponsored by Dr. Joe & Colleen Golumbia of Sidney, BC

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SHANA TOVAH FROM MERCAZ-CANADA

Steven Goluboff represents Agudas Israel as a member of the Board of Directors of MERCAZ-Canada. If you would like more information about our work please contact Steven.

M E R C A Z -
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Conservative Judaism, represents our movement in the World Zionist Organization (WZO), Jewish Agency (JAFI), Keren Kayemet (Jewish National Fund) and the Canadian Zionist Federation (CZF). We lobby to secure funding on behalf of our Movement's institutions in Israel and around the world. Funding levels (currently nearly \$2.5 million annually) are determined according to votes in the elections for the World Zionist Congress. **THE NEXT ELECTION WILL BE IN 2010.**

The formula is simple: the more members who vote for MERCAZ-Canada in the election in Canada, the more influence the Conservative/Masorti Movement has in the

international Zionist community. This is of critical importance as we carry out our advocacy for religious pluralism in Israel and seek funding for programmes of the Movement. The funds help support our Masorti kehillot in Israel. The Masorti Movement pays a large portion of our Rabbis' salaries, their youth leaders and educational programmes and so much more!

In Canada, your MERCAZ Membership also supports our Matching Scholarship Programme for Canadian youth in such programs as USY Pilgrimage, Ramah Israel Seminar, NATIV and the Conservative Yeshiva.

Your membership in MERCAZ-Canada is crucial. If you are already a member we

thank you very much. Your support is greatly appreciated. **We would love to send you our e-newsletters and other important information, but in order to do this we need your e-mail address, so please forward it our office at mercaz-masorti@intrr.net.** If you are not a member, please join today. We need your support! **You may join on line at www.mercaz.ca or by phoning our office at 416-667 1717 or (toll free) at 1-866-357 3854.**

Shana Tovah U'Metukah.

Marion Mayman
President, MERCAZ-Canada

Lunch and Learn... *from page 7*

very quickly." However only fundamentalists can believe in all the rules and carry them out. They must make sense in terms of our particular relationship with God. For instance, 90% of North American Jewry does not observe kashruth, because they no longer see it as a necessary part of their relationship with God.

Coming to terms with change

Rabbis are traditionally conservative and don't like change – "they have to be dragged, kicking and screaming" toward change. Orthodox Judaism denies change. It cannot tolerate any hint of criticism of the Torah, it denies the validity of textual scholarship or the use of non Jewish sources. Other varieties of Judaism encourage questioning the rules and trying to make them accord with experiences of modern life.

Can the individual in fact interpret Torah for himself, or does he need a spiritual guide? Buber says we need to discuss with others, but we may not hand over to another the autonomy of decision making, nor may we interfere with the autonomy of another's conscience. Liberal Judaism wants you to grow and make decisions for yourself. You may consult a Rabbi, but the ultimate decision is yours. The Haredim think in terms of moral absolutes, they reject the fact that there may be more than one moral choice. They say "everything is in the Torah." "The Torah is always right and you need Rabbis and scholars to help you understand it."

Autonomy and responsibility

The core of Jewish belief is that man is an autonomous creature, and that autonomy is synonymous with moral responsibility. There can be no mystic merging of man with God, as in Oriental mysticism. There is an "I-Thou" relationship. God speaks to humans and humans respond. There is no merging of wills. Man is responsible for his actions. However there is a covenant or contract between God and Man in which Man undertakes to follow a moral code in return for God's protection and rewards. There is a midrash that God peddled the Torah to many different Nations before approaching Israel, but none would have it. Only Israel agreed to accept the Torah and the 613 mitzvot without asking for special conditions. "We will accept it, and then we will concern ourselves about the contents" (observance comes before understanding!) Thus Jews are not the "chosen people", but the choosing people. "God did not choose the Jews, the Jews chose God", (Kaplan).

Having made their contract with God and having accepted the Torah, the Jews have felt free to add to it through the Oral Torah, and to interpret the Torah according to their understanding. The famous midrash concerning the purity of a pot. A conclave of Rabbis is considering the kashruth of a pot. Three say it is kosher, the fourth (Rabbi Eliezer) says it isn't. He is so sure that he's right that he proposes to have God come to his assistance and create a miracle. "Do

you see that carob tree over there? I will call upon God to make it move to another place", and the tree is moved. "Now do you believe that I am right about the pot?", asks Rabbi Eliezer? "No" they answer, "we have taken a vote and we are the majority." "Well then", he says, "I will ask God to perform another miracle to show you that I am right. Do you see that stream, I will ask God to reverse the flow of water in the stream", and indeed that happens. The Rabbis reply, "That's all well and good, but we are the majority opinion and we won't change." Finally, in frustration, he calls on God to speak directly to the Rabbis, and God's voice is heard enjoining them to change their opinion. "Well, are you now convinced?" asks Rabbi Believer. "No" they reply, God gave the Torah to us at Mt. Sinai as part of our contract, and it's now our business and our job to interpret it." It is said that Rabbi Eliezer then approached the prophet Elijah and asked him how God reacted to this decision. Elijah answered, "God laughed." "My children have overcome me" he said.

This midrash tells us that the interpretation of the written Torah (which becomes the Oral Torah) is the responsibility of the entire community and not that of an individual. The continuing growth of Oral Torah represents the adaptation of the tenets of Judaism to modern life.

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Yahrtzeits

September 4/5

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September 11/12

John Ellison
Jacob Chertkow
Harry Hallis
Ken Epstein
Siegfried Gumprich
Leo Bernbaum
Hersh Freifeld
William Caplan
Paul Landa
Samuel Pollock
Mayer Melamede
Joseph Barskey

September 18/19

Alex Pollock
Seymour Buckwold
Sophie Stier
Leib Cooperman
Morris Brook
Esther Adilman
Max Zaitlen
Fraide Katzman
Joseph Rosenberg
Malchem Neumann
Benjamin Goldstein
Yitzhak Bobowsky
Moses Solovey
Lou Churchill
Helen Sugarman
Maurice Medline

Elul 15/16

Sept 4 (15)*
Sept 4 (15)
Sept 4 (15)
Sept 4 (15)
Sept 5 (16)
Sept 5 (16)
Sept 5 (16)
Sept 7 (18)
Sept 7 (18)*
Sept 8 (19)
Sept 8 (19)*
Sept 9 (20)*
Sept 9 (20)*
Sept 9 (20)*
Sept 9 (20)
Sept 10 (21)
Sept 10 (21)
Sept 10 (21)*
Sept 10 (21)*
Sept 10 (21)*
Sept 10 (21)*

Elul 22/23

Sept 11 (22)
Sept 11 (22)*
Sept 12 (23)
Sept 12 (23)*
Sept 14 (25)*
Sept 14 (25)
Sept 14 (25)
Sept 15 (26)
Sept 15 (26)
Sept 16 (27)*
Sept 17 (28)
Sept 17 (28)*

Elul 29/Tishrei 1

Sept 18 (29)
Sept 18 (29)*
Sept 19 (Tishrei 1)
Sept 19 (1)*
Sept 19 (1)*
Sept 19 (1)
Sept 19 (1)*
Sept 20 (2)*
Sept 20 (2)*
Sept 21 (3)*
Sept 21 (3)
Sept 22 (4)
Sept 23 (5)
Sept 23 (5)*
Sept 24 (6)
Sept 24 (6)

September 25/26

Hulda Wormann
Ida Landa
Anna Goorovitch
Lena Adilman
Eva Melamede
Brina Cohen
Grigory Rizhanovsky
Solomon Switzer
Morris Pashkovsky
Israel Chertkow
Jacob Koffman
Louis Sugarman
Rebecca Caplan

October 2/3

Etta Minovitz
Semyon Khafets
Arthur Rapaport
R.B. Bonder
Michael Fingard
Henry Lehrer
Don Adilman
Fanny Tartar
Gertrude Shear
Miriam Sugarman
Naomi Arlinsky
Rae Burt
Moses Glick
Schmuel Bernbaum
Irving Levitt
Saul Katzman
Deborah Solsberg
Minnie Hussman
Bella Sklar

October 9/10

Abraham Katz
Malka Shacter
Freda Bernbaum
Dora Goldstein
Philip Baron
Samuel Badeker
Dorothy Brand
Hannah Weitzman
Sarah Friedman
Abraham Churchill

October 16/17

Bernice Conn
Sydney Goodman
Frances Cutler
Leo Winocour
Meyer Entol
Avram Goluboff
Leo Isaacsen

Tishrei 7/8

Sept 25 (7)*
Sept 25 (7)*
Sept 27 (9)
Sept 27 (9)*
Sept 28 (10)
Sept 28 (10)*
Sept 28 (10)
Sept 29 (11)
Sept 29 (11)
Sept 29 (11)*
Sept 30 (12)*
Sept 30 (12)*
Sept 30 (12)

Tishrei 14/15

Oct 2 (14)*
Oct 2 (14)
Oct 2 (14)
Oct 3 (15)*
Oct 3 (15)*
Oct 3 (15)*
Oct 5 (17)*
Oct 5 (17)*
Oct 5 (17)*
Oct 6 (18)
Oct 6 (18)*
Oct 6 (18)
Oct 7 (19)
Oct 7 (19)*
Oct 7 (19)*
Oct 7 (19)*
Oct 8 (20)
Oct 8 (20)
Oct 8 (20)*

Tishrei 21/22

Oct 9 (21)*
Oct 9 (21)
Oct 11 (23)*
Oct 11 (23)
Oct 13 (25)
Oct 13 (25)*
Oct 13 (25)
Oct 13 (25)
Oct 14 (26)
Oct 14 (26)*

Tishrei 28/29

Oct 16 (28)*
Oct 16 (28)
Oct 17 (29)
Oct 17 (29)
Oct 17 (29)
Oct 18 (30)
Oct 19 (Heshvan 1)

Frances Shaw
Sarah Vogel
Mary Sklar
Pessie Chertkow
Ben Goldstein
Oscar Mazer
Sylvia Caplan

October 23/24

Robert Miller
Leiser Singer
Michael Stier
Melvin Laimon
Jack Milavsky
Asher Lehrer
Esar Katz
Rose Mallin
Labe Rapaport
Bella Spector
Clara Goldenberg
Solomon Waiser

October 30/31

Frank Arshawsky
Dina Teitelbaum
David Hamir
Philip Horlick
M. Kavsky
Clara Hock
Elsie Rose
Tassie Arshawsky
Esther Landau
Sonia Ghitter
Karl Heubsch
Harold Livingston
Morris Sass
Abe Sonnenschein
Peter Brook
Celia Reznick
Rose Davidner

November 6/7

Michla Volansky
Frank Schwartz
Bella Mondrus
Nechi Shore
Mania Winocour
Jack Avol
Liba Newman
Sarah Pollock
Baby Brook
Esther Davidner
Lily Swartz
Richard Rushkin
Bertholt Wormann
Geraldine Jaffe

Oct 20 (2)*
Oct 21 (3)*
Oct 21 (3)
Oct 21 (3)*
Oct 21 (3)
Oct 22 (4)*
Oct 22 (4)

Heshvan 5/6

Oct 24 (6)*
Oct 25 (7)*
Oct 25 (7)
Oct 25 (7)*
Oct 25 (7)*
Oct 27 (9)*
Oct 27 (9)*
Oct 27 (9)*
Oct 28 (10)
Oct 29 (11)*
Oct 29 (11)*
Oct 29 (11)*

Heshvan 12/13

Oct 30 (12)
Oct 31 (13)*
Oct 31 (13)
Nov 1 (14)
Nov 1 (14)
Nov 1 (14)
Nov 1 (14)*
Nov 1 (14)
Nov 1 (14)
Nov 2 (15)
Nov 2 (15)
Nov 2 (15)
Nov 2 (15)
Nov 3 (16)*
Nov 4 (17)
Nov 4 (17)*
Nov 5 (18)*

Heshvan 19/20

Nov 6 (19)*
Nov 6 (19)
Nov 6 (19)
Nov 7 (20)
Nov 7 (20)*
Nov 7 (20)*
Nov 8 (21)*
Nov 8 (21)*
Nov 8 (21)
Nov 9 (22)*
Nov 9 (22)*
Nov 10 (23)*
Nov 11 (24)*
Nov 12 (25)

President's Keyboard... from page 12

the time to encourage and even thank me during this time. Your support meant a great deal. My sincere apologies go to those persons who wanted more than I had to offer; I tried my best to be accessible, reliable and respectful.

I give my best wishes and enthusiastic support to our incoming President, Heather Fenyes. She has worked tirelessly and very successfully in many roles, not the least of which has been as my advisor and leadership partner. I am confident that she will be equally wonderful as our congregational leader. This position has

allowed me to interact with brilliant people and be involved in outstanding projects. I know Heather will enjoy the same opportunities.

Finally, I want to thank my beautiful wife, Susan, who has been my number one supporter and confidante. She has had to hold the fort while I attended various meetings, made and took phone calls, responded to emails and participated in all manner of activities that removed me from our home. We can now do our Yoga stretches together.

It gives me great pride to know that CAI

remains committed to *serving the broadest spectrum of Jewish thought and practice and to providing a spiritual and emotional home to the Jews of Saskatoon and surrounding areas.* We provide for the spiritual, religious, educational, social needs of our members. We care about Israel and providing Tikkun Olam. We do all these things through a transparent and accountable elected Board of Trustees, who collaboratively lead and serve our congregation. It has been an honour to be your President.

THE 2009 B'NAI BRITH JOE ROSENBERG GOLF TOURNAMENT

Unfortunately, due to rather inclement weather, the golf component of this year's classic event needed to be cancelled. However, in the true Saskatchewan, B'nei Brith and Jewish community spirit the party went on at Riverside Golf and Country Club. Sixty four hearty souls attended a wonderful buffet supper and were still the recipients of many prizes, mostly donated by the Rosenberg family and supplemented by the generosity of many others who brought additional prizes. No one went home empty handed. The coveted black leather jacket donated by Mona (nee Rosenberg) and David Rich of Winnipeg and intended for the golfers only was won by Ryan Vancuren, Shaina Goluboff's boyfriend. The evening was also an opportunity to say a sad farewell to Nim and Shirly Solomon who left for Israel the next morning and to honour Nikki Gitlin for winning two Gold Medals in the 100 and 200 metre sprints at the Maccabbia Games in Israel. Grace Goluboff was also pleased to enjoy a weekend with her three sons, daughter in laws and all her grandchildren. We look forward to sunny golf tournament in 2010.



Alan and Lesley Ann with
winner Ryan Vancuren



Cantor Neil drawing for THE
LEATHER JACKET

Maccabiah Experience... from page 5

people they are also frustratingly disorganized. Despite email after email and phone call after phone call, it seemed between all the confusion and misunderstandings that I would never get to Israel. And I almost didn't! At one point Ron, Jan, Josh and the entire Maccabi Canada team were all on a flight to Israel except me! Luckily there was one seat left on the plane in which they promptly put my tush. And for all our troubles the Gitlin's got promoted to Business class! That was a treat!

Finally we were up and on our way. From the moment I set foot in Israel I was in love. We were met by musicians on stilts playing Hava Nagila. The humidity and heat hit you like somebody opened the door to a sauna. For the first time in my life I was surrounded by Jewish people and not just like in Shul

but like a whole city, no wait – a whole country! People were walking around in Kippot and Tsit Tsit, just going about their daily life.

The day of the opening ceremonies was another indescribable day -but I'll try. At this particular Maccabi Games there were 7500 athletes from all around the world from Brazil to Kazikstan; 450 of these athletes were from Canada and I know this goes without saying but all of them Jewish! After meeting with all 7500 people with whom you share this unspeakable bond of sport and culture and religion, you are ushered into a stadium that is vibrating with cheers so loud you cannot even hear yourself think. Thousands more Jewish comrades there to support you in your mission and you want to make every single one of them proud, because they too are your family.

Next came the competition. The morning of my 100m race I donned my team Canada singlet and felt such pride and I thought, 'no matter what happens in the race, I am part of something big'. Before I left for Israel my coach told me that "all the hay's in the barn" meaning, I had done everything I could to prepare my self. Now all I had to do was let it come together. And it did. The race was done. I had won! There are just no words to describe what I felt...joy...disbelief...where's Josh?...did that just happen?...oh my g—d!

People have asked me how I was able to sleep that night and prepare for my race the next day. I owe that to Josh. He kept telling me that my ultimate goal had been achieved



The Gitlins with Ran and Rachelli

and now I should just enjoy the next one as it would be the last. He helped me to relax, gave me a massage and sleep came relatively easy.

The next day, I just tried to keep my routine and do all the same things as the day before. I told myself to just run my own race and not worry about the other competitors. I was able to do this which helped keep me from being tense and I ran another great time. Two gold medals, truly, nothing could top this! Or so I thought. A couple days later as we were basking in sun I received a phone call from one of the delegation members letting me know that I had been nominated for female athlete of the games and I had been chosen to be the Canadian flag bearer for the closing ceremonies. What an honour!

As it turned out, the day of the closing ceremonies they decided to take out the flag ceremonies so I did not actually end up carrying the flag, but that was ok with me because the closing ceremonies were spectacular! They were in the amphitheatre at Latrun. The Israeli talent, the Jewish songs and all the fireworks were the perfect end to an amazing trip. A games I am so proud to have been a part of was over and it was a trip I will never forget.



This Page is sponsored by Toby Rose, Les Klein, Jonathon, Solomon and Benjamin of Toronto

This page is sponsored by Lois & Walter Gumprich of Vancouver

September 2009 • Elul 5769/Tishrei 5770

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|---------------|---|--|---|--|
|  | | 1 Elul 12 | 2 Elul 13 | 3 Elul 14 Hadassah Potluck Home of Lesley Crone Rosenberg | 4 Elul 15 Service 8:00 pm | 5 Elul 16 PARSHAT KI TAVO 10:00 AM *Ron Waldman |
| 6 Elul 17 Sisterhood Meeting 1:00 pm CAI | 7 Elul 18 OFFICE CLOSED | 8 Elul 19 | 9 Elul 20 | 10 Elul 21 | 11 Elul 22 | 12 Elul 23 SEKHOT Max Waldman Bar Mitzvah 9:30 AM *Heather Fenyes |
| 13 Elul 24 | 14 Elul 25 | 15 Elul 26 | 16 Elul 27 Annual General Meeting | 17 Elul 28 | 18 Elul 29 Rosh Hashana 8:00 pm *Heather Fenyes | 19 Tishrei 1 ROSH HASHANAH Hazzan's Sermon 9:30 am Rosh Hashana 8:00 pm *Heather Fenyes |
| 20 Tishrei 2 Rosh Hashana 9:30 am President's Address | 21 Tishrei 3 | 22 Tishrei 4 | 23 Tishrei 5 | 24 Tishrei 6 | 25 Tishrei 7 | 26 Tishrei 8 PARSHAT HA'AZINU SHABBAT SHUVA 10 am *Marsha Scharfstein |
| 27 Tishrei 9 Kever Avot Cemetery Service 11 am KOL NIDRE 7:00 pm | 28 Tishrei 10 YOM KIPPUR / YIZKOR 9:30 am Micha and Neila 4:30 pm Hazzan's Sermon Break the Fast 7:15 pm | 29 Tishrei 11 | 30 Tishrei 12 | <i>What is the noblest pedigree? Loving-Kindness.</i> Solomon Ibn Gabirol | |  |

October 2009 • Tishrei/Heshvan 5770

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|---------------|--|---|
|  | | <i>Experience is a good school but the fees are high.</i> Heine | | 1 Tishrei 13 | 2 Tishrei 14 Sukkot evening Shared Shabbat Dinner 6 pm | 3 Tishrei 15 SUKKOT Day 1 10 am *Lou Horlick |
| 4 Tishrei 16 SUKKOT 10 am Sukkot Party at Hazzan's House 2 pm | 5 Tishrei 17 | 6 Tishrei 18 | 7 Tishrei 19 | 8 Tishrei 20 | 9 Tishrei 21 | 10 Tishrei 22 SH'MINI ATZERET/ YIZKOR 10 am *Franci Holtslander |
| 11 Tishrei 23 Simchat Torah Dancing (with music) 10 am | 12 Tishrei 24 OFFICE CLOSED | 13 Tishrei 25 | 14 Tishrei 26 AMI Segev Obama's Vision for the Middle East 7:30 pm - JCC | 15 Tishrei 27 | 16 Tishrei 28 | 17 Tishrei 29 PARSHAT B'REISHIT BIRKAT HACHODESH 10 am *Randy Katzman |
| 18 Tishrei 30 | 19 Heshvan 1 | 20 Heshvan 2 | 21 Heshvan 3 | 22 Heshvan 4 | 23 Heshvan 5 Traditional Service Oneg Shabbat honouring Nikki Gitlin 8:00 pm *Heather Fenyes | 24 Heshvan 6 PARSHAT NO-ACH 10 am *Steven Goluboff |
| 25 Heshvan 7 | 26 Heshvan 8 | 27 Heshvan 9 | 28 Heshvan 10 | 29 Heshvan 11 | 30 Heshvan 12 | 31 Heshvan 13 PARSHAT LECH L'CHA 10 am *David Katzman |

* Bema Roster