

Temple Beth Elohim

A blend of faith and friendship for over 100 years

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Volume 15 Issue 2

November/December 2017

Cheshvan/Kislev/Tevet (5778)

The Rising Star

P.O. Box 571 Georgetown, SC 29442

843 283-7145

tbe@chaitrack.com



“Author, Author!”

by Richard Dimentstein

We are always pleased to share the special accomplishments of our members and members of their families. We’ve announced births, marriages, renewals of vows, graduations, and special honors. Never, during my tenure as editor of *The Rising Star*, have I had the pleasure of announcing that the works of TWO of our members have been published.



Henry Lowenstein

Dr. Henry Lowenstein is a professor of Management and Law at Coastal Carolina University. He is the author of *The Rescue Man*.

Over the past four months, the book has been on amazon.com’s “Top 100 Kindle” (e-book) and in the “Top 10 in Military History-Regiments and History of the Pacific Northwest.

As a result of this research, the U.S. Dept. of Defense (DPAA) has established a project to locate and recover the plane off the Philippine Coast, and within recent weeks was officially joined by the Philippine Coast Guard as one of their missions. It will be a major national and Idaho story if successful.

[more information on p. 7 – BOOKS]



Jana Hletko

100 Plus Things to Do with Your Grandchildren: A How-To Guide for Grandparents, by Grandparents (with Lynn Zacny Busby) is Jana Dube Hletko’s

third book in her “grandparents” series. This one is designed to help grandparents make lasting memories for themselves and their grandchildren. There are over 100 creative ideas of things to do. The book is organized into three sections: Indoors; Outdoors; and On the Go. There are recipes, craft ideas, game directions, and suggestions for places to visit. The authors provide hints throughout the book to assure positive experiences. They provide lists of useful resources. This is truly a great guidebook for all grandparents to have on their bookshelves.

This book is available at amazon.com.

From the Ritual Chair....

Suzan Cohen

Chanukah is for me a curious holiday. It's probably one of the best known Jewish holidays; even most non-Jews have heard of it even if they're not sure what it is. Some think of it as the Jewish Christmas, and, indeed, many Jews have adopted many Christmas-like customs, such as exchanging gifts and putting up decorations. Such a celebration is quite ironic for a holiday that commemorates a successful revolution against assimilation and the suppression of Jewish religion.



Ritual Chair Suzan

While *Chanukah* is a holiday, it's not a holy day, certainly not in the same sense that *Rosh Hashanah*, *Yom Kippur*, *Sukkot*, *Passover*, and *Shavu'ot* are. We are commanded by the *Torah* to observe these holy days. On the contrary, *Chanukah* is not mentioned anywhere in the *Tanach*; the story of the revolt is told in the Book of Maccabees, which Jews do not accept as scripture. *Chanukah* is, however, mentioned in the Babylonian *Talmud*:

On the 25th of Kislev begin the days of Chanukah, which are eight...these were appointed a Festival with Hallel [prayers of praise] and thanksgiving (Shabbat 21b).

While there is much to enjoy about *Chanukah*, the only religious observance related to the holiday is the lighting of candles, and this also is mentioned in the *Talmud*:

[continued on p. 4 – CHANUKAH]

Happy
Thanksgiving!

128messages.com

TEMPLE BOARD MEETINGS

Check our website for date, time and place. Members are encouraged to be present.

Want to advertise in *The Rising Star*? Call Richard Dimentstein at (843)232-1451. Any life cycle events? Contact Annette Vinik, annettevinik@hotmail.com.

Temple Beth Elohim Board of Directors

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TEMPLE MEMBERS, please note: You have access to membership information by going to www.chaitrack.com. If you need a user name and password, contact Annette Vinik, (1)(843)564-5489.

Let us fervently pray for the comfort and recovery of our dear temple members and friends and for the continued strength of their caregivers



Susan & Brian Berry Dr. Eric Heiden
Richard Horowitz Meyer Rosen



Tree of Life



Name _____ Phone _____
Address _____

Inscriptions may be up to 3 lines with 20-25 characters per line. Use a separate sheet if you wish to order more than three leaves.

Leaf 1 _____

Leaf 2 _____

Leaf 3 _____

A check for \$_____ (\$36 per leaf) has been enclosed. Checks should be made payable to **Temple Beth Elohim**.

Thanks for your support.

Mail to: TBE, PO Box 571, Georgetown, SC 29442

Let us pray together for the speedy recovery and complete restoration of health of
SHANE FINKEL
grandson of Carrol Sallas

CHARITY DRIVES

We have set up two receptacles in our social hall. One is for clothing items. The other is for non-perishable food, toiletries and sundries. All that we collect will be donated to a local shelter or food pantry.

Please remember this when you are removing things from your drawers, closets and cabinets.

The Temple Beth Elohim Gift Shop Is Now Open

Each and every Friday, before *Shabbat*, we will be selling Judaic items such as *mezuzah*, *yahrzeit* lights, ceramic trivets, Chanukah candles, and an assortment of unique objects d'art. Joy Birnbaum and Carrol Sallas will be on hand to act as customer service representatives.

BIRTHDAYS



NOVEMBER

17 Meyer Rosen
22 Mike Specht
28 Dyan Cohen

DECEMBER

9 Rob Goldman
17 Nancy Koppel
19 Herb Feinberg
20 Roberta Schwartz
24 Jay Ard
24 Steven Schwartz
25 Phil Aarons
25 James Bennett

ANNIVERSARIES



NOVEMBER

2 Donna & Tom
Llewellyn
6 Dyan & Alex Cohen

DECEMBER

21 Debbi & Webster Jones



Sylvia Herman

Sylvia Speaks of Jewish Culture

An Investigation of Origins and Variations

In 1654, twenty-three Jews arrived in the Dutch colony of New Amsterdam from Recife which had been taken by the Portuguese. Governor Peter Stuyvesant believed the colony should be only for those who worshipped as he did. Quakers, Baptists and Presbyterians who had drifted into the colony had been asked to leave.

Stuyvesant asked the Jews to leave and they refused. He wrote to the managers of the Dutch West Indies Company requesting to expel them. The Jews wrote to friends in Holland describing their plight. Jewish leaders in Holland (well represented in the DWIC) citing the bravery of the Jews in the defense of Brazil and that by accepting these loyal people, the richer and greater the Dutch settlement would become. The result was that the Jews were allowed to remain provided they took care of their own poor.

While they gained many of the rights of citizens, they were not allowed to open retail shops, practice their crafts, nor open a public house of worship. Not until after the British captured the city in 1664 were all rights gradually won.

CHANUKAH

[continued from p. 2]

Our rabbis taught the rule of Chanukah: ...on the first day one [candle] is lit and thereafter they are progressively increased...[because] we increase in sanctity but do not reduce (Shabbat 21b).

There is a specific ritual related to the candle lighting: candles are arranged in a special *menorah* that holds nine candles: one for each night, plus a *shamus* (servant) at a different height. On the first night, one candle is placed at the far right. The *shamus* candle is lit and three *berakhot* (blessings) are recited: *l'hadlik ner* (a general prayer over candles), *she-asah nisim* (a prayer thanking God for performing miracles for our ancestors at this time), *she-hekchianu* (a general prayer of thanksgiving that marks the beginning of any holiday). After reciting the blessings, the first candle is then lit using the *shamus* candle, and the *shamus* candle is placed in its holder. Candles can be lit any time after dark, but before midnight. The candles are normally allowed to burn out on their own after a minimum of ½ hour, but if necessary, they can be blown out at any time after that ½ hour. Each night, another candle is added from right to left (like the Hebrew language). Candles are lit from left to right (because you pay honor to the newer thing first). Why the *shamus* candle? The *Chanukah* candles are for pleasure only; we are not allowed to use them for any productive purpose.

On *Shabbat*, *Chanukah* candles are normally lit before the *Shabbat* candles, but may be lit any time before candle lighting time (18 minutes before sunset). Candles cannot be blown out on *Shabbat* (it's a violation of the sabbath rule against igniting or extinguishing a flame). Because the *Chanukah* candles must remain burning until a minimum of ½ hour after dark (about 90 minutes total burning on *Shabbat*), make sure your candles on that night are big enough to last long enough.

Many thanks to the Judaism 101 website (<http://www.jewfaq.org>) for teaching me a few new things!



South Carolina Jewish Merchants Project

The Jewish Historical Society of South Carolina (JHSSC) has partnered with Historic Columbia and College of Charleston to undertake a state-wide survey of Jewish merchants, past and present. The foundational product of the survey will be a database available on the JHSSC's website. This database, we hope, will capture the impact of Jewish businessmen and women on communities, large and small, as well as the networks of family and friends that led Jewish men and women to call this state home.

We invite you to visit our website - <http://jhssc.org/resources/merchants/> - and participate in the project by filling out one or more surveys.

If you would like to learn more about the Jewish Merchants Project or are interested in helping us research merchants, please contact Katharine Allen, kallen@historiccolumbia.org. For general inquiries about the JHSSC, contact jhssc@cofc.edu.

Photo Caption:

Surasky Brothers, Aiken, SC 1924

Image courtesy of Special Collections, College of Charleston Libraries

DONATIONS

Miriam & Louis Drucker to the General Fund for the High Holidays
Elizabeth Fogel to the General Fund in memory of Abe Fogel
Johanna & Rob Goldman to the General Fund for the High Holidays
Rosa Lee & Eric Heiden to the General Fund
Brenda & Dick Rosen to the General Fund
Cecile Vinik to the General Fund



HERBERT SOLOMON

We, the Members of
Temple Beth Elohim

mourn the recent death
of two of our own



SHELDON GERSHMAN

We thank members and friends for their generous donations in memory of **HERB SOLOMON**

Deborah Kublin Coffman
Edith & Robert Comeau
Richard Dimentstein
Johanna & Rob Goldman
Marcia Katz
Deb Pentecost & Art Kaufman
Kathleen & Richard Kenneway
Sandra & Barry Kronick
Faith McCardle
Susan & Lonnie Richman
Ellen & Ronald Vignone
Annette & Gene Vinik
Sheila & Henry Weiss

We thank members and friends for their generous donations in memory of **SHELLY GERSHMAN**

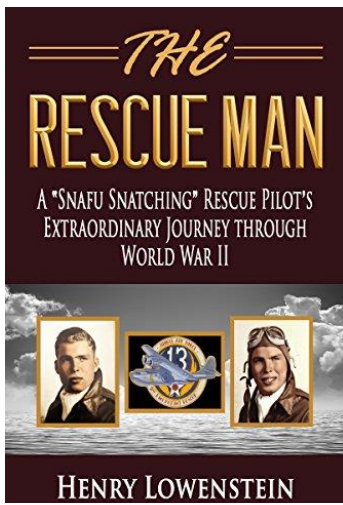
Jay Ard
Jill & Al DeMarchi
Richard Dimentstein
Deb Pentecost & Art Kaurman
Donna & Tom Llewellyn
Michelle & Gerald Napoleone
Susan & Lonnie Richman
Carrol Sallas
Annette & Gene Vinik
Van Doren Waxter, LLC

Our New Safety Measure

The side door of our synagogue (High Market Street) will be locked once services begin at 7:30 p.m. Worshippers are asked to proceed to the main entrance (Screven Street). If this is a hardship, then please ring the doorbell to the right of the doorpost and someone will let you in.

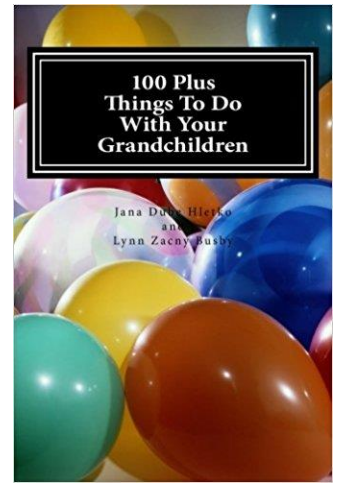
Mi Shebeirach List

A prayer for healing is chanted at each *Shabbat* service. The leader of the service will read from a list and then invite the congregation to call out names that are not on this list that is read weekly. If you wish to have a name added to the weekly list (or removed), you must submit the name to Art Kaufman (art@arthurdkaufman.com)



Books

[continued from p. 1]



THE RESCUE MAN presents the extraordinary and unique journey of a World War II-era rescue pilot, First Lieutenant Frank Philby “Bud” Hayes, from his childhood in Idaho through his training for and service during World War II. Bud helps tell this story himself through his letters and records, which are this book’s main foundation and reveal tales of excitement, trials and tribulations, achievement, heroism and ultimately tragedy and mystery. The U.S. Army Air Force’s Second Emergency Rescue Squadron that Bud served in saved over seven hundred downed pilots during the war, making them responsible for thousands of children and grandchildren being alive today. Nevertheless, history has left Bud’s incredible story, and that of his squadron, largely untold until now.

Paralleling this book’s focus on Bud and his rescue squadron, this book also tells the interrelated broader story of major pre-, mid- and post-World War II events occurring in the U.S., Europe and the Pacific. This includes little known, but significant, stories like that of a turf war between the U.S. Army Air Force and the U.S. Navy over who would be responsible for performing rescue missions during World War II, all while their servicemen’s lives hung in the balance. In this book, World War II’s events help tell Bud’s story, and Bud’s events help tell World War II’s story. Or as this book’s preface states it, the book “tells history through a biography and presents a biography in the context of history.”

As members of Bud’s greatest generation continue to pass on from our lives, it is important that we preserve their unique and sometimes never-before-heard stories about World War II. This is one such story. It is the untold story of Bud, of his Second Emergency Rescue Squadron and of their involvement in and relation to the events of World War II. The story is as extraordinary, unique and powerful as it ultimately is tragic and mysterious. Thanks to Bud and his rescue squadron, over seven hundred men returned home from war with the opportunity to start families and pursue their American dreams. Will Bud also come home?



Let's Learn More About Shirley & AJ

by Jana Hletko

The biggest news Shirley & AJ Giegerich have received lately is they are new parents. Molly, a six-month old Maltese/Havanese mix puppy, arrived at All for Paws Rescue and immediately came to Shirley's attention. The bond was quick and the Giegerich family now numbers THREE.

Moving to South Carolina was quite a switch for AJ & Shirley. Besides living on five acres of land in Chester, New York with no nearby neighbors, AJ worked all the time. After working in the rock and roll industry and travelling with Barry Manilow and Linda Ronstadt for many years, he was working as a stagehand on Broadway. His hours were long and his commute was time-consuming. He found that job extremely fulfilling, but one day, "I figured out that I could retire and still eat," he said.

Working in theater provided AJ with instant gratification. He misses parts of his old life. "Working on a Broadway play is like putting a puzzle together. Collaborating with creative people and getting it all to work is great fun," AJ said. However, he said it took him about two minutes to adjust to retirement.

Shirley has continued her work as a massage therapist. Though she had planned to retire when they moved, she found she missed working with people. She now works out of her home and enjoys the flexibility of the part-time work. She finds it gratifying to help people physically and emotionally. "I love being a massage therapist and wasn't ready to give it up entirely," Shirley said.

The Giegerichs stay very busy. They live in Allston Plantation, which they say is a very social community. They love to read, go for walks, kayak, work out at HealthPoint. They also enjoy eating out and going to the movies. Shirley said, "Unfortun-

ately, when we go to the movies at the Strand Cinema in Georgetown, I can't have popcorn. That's really hard for me."

AJ is a gardener, furniture restorer, and a motorcycle fan. "There is always something to do," he said

They decided to move here because their daughter and her family were in Mt. Pleasant. However, they have since moved to Pennsylvania due to a job promotion. Shirley and AJ will stay right where they are. "We can't chase them around the country. And we love Pawleys Island," Shirley said. Their two grandchildren love to visit the beach, and they are allowed to fly as unaccompanied minors. Though that is expensive, Shirley & AJ love their time with them. Their son is in Florence where he teaches at Francis Marion.

After "googling" local Jewish temples, they visited Temple Beth Elohim. AJ & Shirley immediately felt at home and have been members for about two years. AJ was brought up Catholic but enjoys attending services with Shirley.

Though Shirley was a *bat mitzvah* and her grandparents were orthodox, she and AJ consider themselves spiritual, not really religious. They love that Beth Elohim makes it so easy to assimilate. The people are warm and welcoming.

When asked what they would like temple members to think about them, AJ jokingly said, "We would like to be considered pillars of the community. We are generous, funny, compassionate." Yes, they are.





Yahrzeits



NOVEMBER

- Tillie Drucker Gershman grandmother of Michele Bennett
- 1 Jeanne Richman mother of Lonnie Richman
- 1 Sophie S. Levkoff grandmother of Susan Berry
- 1 Ruby Fogel Levkoff friend of Temple Beth Elohim
- 2 Bernard Goldman father of Eileen Kramer
- 2 Sarah C. Weiss member Temple Beth Elohim
- 4 Mannes Baruch friend of Temple Beth Elohim
- 5 Herman Gold member Temple Beth Elohim
- 7 Charles Zelesnick great grandfather of
Craig Lieberman
- 9 Beatrice Berest Gershman
mother of Michele Bennett
- 13 Arnold H. Franzblau father of Adele Franzblau
- 14 Irving Snyder member Temple Beth Elohim
- 14 Terry Zucker friend of Lynn Vinik
- 15 Joan Davidson sister of Michael Davidson
- 15 Anne L. Schneider mother of Debbie Smith
- 16 Charlotte Berest Rosenfeld
aunt of Michele Bennett
- 17 Arnold Kane friend of Temple Beth Elohim
- 18 Thelma Barson sister of Ruth Feinberg
- 18 Herbert Dimentstein father of Richard Dimentstein
- 19 Jerome Sallas husband of Carrol Sallas
- 19 Sylvia Charen Hirsch grandmother of Debbi Jones
- 22 Milton Levkoff uncle of Dick Rosen
- 25 Sanford Levkoff uncle of Susan Berry
- 25 Sarita Gerson grandmother of Henry Lowenstein
- 26 Charles Chaplin member Temple Beth Elohim
- 26 Frances Brilliant grandmother of Bonnie Linado
- 28 Bernard Levine father of Nancy Koppel
- 29 Mort Weinberg step-father of Eric Heiden
- 29 Rose H. Weinberg mother of Eric Heiden

DECEMBER

- 6 Bari King Heiden wife of Eric Heiden
- 10 Philip Lewenthal grandfather of Meyer Rosen
great grandfather of Susan Berry
great grandfather of Dick Rosen
grandfather of Debbie Smith
grandfather of Susan Berry
member Temple Beth Elohim
- 11 Albert M. Schneider brother of Ruth Feinberg
mother of Jana Hletko
father of Alex Cohen
aunt of Dick Rosen
mother of Marilyn Horowitz
father of Henry Lowenstein
husband of Marcia Katz
mother of Lynn Davidson
grandmother of Marsha Green
grandfather of Marcia Green
grandmother of Debbie Smith
grandmother of Susan Berry
member Temple Beth Elohim
- 11 Jennie Lewenthal sister of AJ Giegerich
father of AJ Giegerich
mother-in-law of Bonnie Linado
grandfather of Craig Lieberman
- 13 Irving Simon
- 15 Sally Dube
- 18 David A. Cohen, Jr.
- 21 Lois R. Levkoff
- 22 Nettie Rosen
- 22 Murray Lowenstein
- 22 Ivan Katz
- 23 Sarah Ross
- 24 Gertrude Green
- 26 Samuel Green
- 26 Fanny L. Schneider
- 27 Gertrude O. Abrams
- 29 Meg Giegerich Irving
- 31 Arthur Giegerich
- 31 Mickey Linado
- 31 Morris Lieberman



Any corrections or additions please contact Annette Vinik at (1)(843)564-5489 or at tbe@chaitrack.com . Names are read every Friday night for *yahrzeits* of the upcoming week.

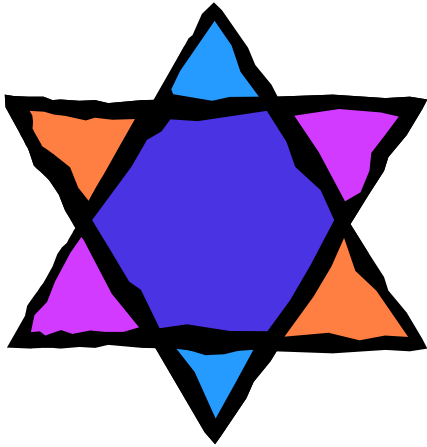
New Memorial Plaques

Plaques are displayed permanently on our *Yahrzeit* Board and are lit on the death anniversary of the honoree. Any member who would like to memorialize a loved one should speak with one of our Board members.

Beth Elohim Cemetery

Cemetery plots are for sale in our unique, historic resting place. The Cemetery Committee, chaired by SEYMOUR BIRNBAUM, has prepared the appropriate documentation for the purchase of gravesites.

Call the temple (843 283-7145) and request for copies of Burial Rights, Rules and Regulations, Fee Schedule, and a schematic of burial plot locations. All plots include perpetual care and will be available to current members of Temple Beth Elohim and to Non-temple members at a higher cost.



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Membership/Publicity Chair: Joy Birnbaum (Annette Vinik)
Cemetery Chair: Seymour Birnbaum (Gene Vinik)
Finance Chair: Art Kaufman (Gene Vinik)
Sunshine Committee Chair: Tish Richter
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Web Page: Joy Birnbaum
Special Events: Donna Llewellyn, Tom Llewellyn, Bonnie Linado
Website (www.templebethelohim.net): Joy Birnbaum
Photography: Rosa Lee & Eric Heiden