

Chai~Lights



June/July 2010

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Keys Jewish Community Center

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CHAI-LIGHTS is the
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Keys Jewish Community Center
P.O. Box 1332
Tavernier, Florida 33070
chailights@keysjewishcenter.com

President's Message Alan Beth



This summer marks the end of another successful educational year for our young KJCC students and our not-so-young students! We thank our teachers and students. We also congratulate those graduating from high school and college. Several of our college students are receiving scholarship money from the KJCC to help them continue their studies.

Many thanks to Gloria for planning and Bernie for leading the Shavuot study sessions. I look forward to congratulating Max Schrader-Grace at his June 5th Bar Mitzvah. We have another big celebration coming up, too. One of our founding members, Pauline Roller, will achieve her 95th birthday on July 4th. We will combine that celebration with our annual BBQ on July 2nd.

The past six months have just flown by. We have had so much activity at the KJCC: Yiddishkeit nights, lectures, guest speakers, Holocaust survivors, Rabbi's visits, dinner events, 30th anniversary gala, Havdalah evenings, religious classes and our weekly services and onegs.

All of these events were educational and a lot of fun, but came at a cost. We have been providing these programs at no charge. This is a tough year, but during hard times we still need money to

operate. Many of you have been very generous with your time and donations this year. Remember that the KJCC needs not only your annual dues but also your donations. Dues, in fact, cover only 40 percent of our operating budget. Dues notices will be going out very soon. Please be as generous with extra contributions as you can. Those contributions are the reason we can keep our dues so low.

I am thrilled to announce that our Meditation Garden is starting to take fruition. Literally we are planting a seed that will grow into something wonderful. The end result will be a gorgeous garden with native plants and benches. Now, we need a commitment from you to purchase an engraved brick at the Garden's entrance. We have deliberately priced the bricks to make them affordable. This is a wonderful way to both support the KJCC and also honor a loved one, cause, or blessed memory.

My congratulations to Linda Pollack, KJCC's Woman of the Year. I am honored to count Linda as my friend, counselor and mentor. Thanks, Linda, for all your help and congratulations again on a truly well-deserved honor.

My family and I wish you a healthy and happy summer. ◇

June 2010

19 Sivan - 18 Tammuz

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Joyce Peckman	5 Max Schrader-Grace Bar Mitzvah at KJCC—4:00
6	7	8	9	10	11 Jim Boruszak	12
13 Board Meeting Blood Drive At KJCC	14	15	16	17	18 Bernie Ginsberg	19
20 Father's Day	21 Summer Solstice	22	23	24	25 Stuart Sax 6:30 Service	26
27	28	29	30	Names denote leaders of Friday services.		

Nosh

See you in September

With this issue, Chai-Lights goes to its summer schedule. This is a combined June/July/August issue. The next issue will be September, to arrive in late August in preparation for the High Holy Days, which begin in early September. Please continue to send us your news and photos and ideas, so we can consider them for the September issue. Have a safe and happy summer.

The KJCC extends deepest condolences to

The Sachs Family

on the death of Susan's mother,

Louise Baker

TREE OF LIFE

In Honor of David Goldfinger

Happy 75th and Many More!

4/29/2010

Muriel and George Swartz

Dearest Joel & Linda Pollack

Many thanks for your continued support and loyalty to the KJCC

Alan Beth

Our Little Miracle

Liam Jacob Sax

March 19, 2010

Stuart and Lauren Sax

June Anniversaries

	Years
1st	Jim & Rita Williams.....26
1st	Joel Bernard & Joan Stark.....24
5th	Stephen & Carol Steinbock.....27
7th	Richard & Sheila Steinberg.....51
8th	Stephan & Jane Friedman.....14
8th	William & Barbara Weprin.....42
10th	Mark & Sofy Wasser.....15
12th	William & Donna Bolton.....17
12th	Harvey & Beverly Robins.....53
14th	Harvey & Joan Kay.....40
14th	James & Joan Boruszak.....57
18th	Eric Grace & Ruth Schrader-Grace.....16
20th	Milton & Joan Wohl.....59
21st	Alan L. Beth & Candace J. Stanlake.....23
23rd	Skip & Rene Rose.....55
23rd	Stuart & Lauren Sax.....36
24th	Robert & Heide Werthamer.....15
25th	Herbert & Elinor Grossman.....53
28th	Lloyd & Rae Susan Wruble.....41
28th	Wes & Rita Conklin.....40

Mezuzah seeks patron

As you see in the pictures in Photo Gallery, and read about in this month's President's Message, our KJCC Meditation Garden is underway. Steve Steinbock, he of the gorgeous garden, heads our efforts. He and Candy have already erected the gate that will be the garden's entrance. Bricks have been laid before the entryway, which offer, as Alan notes this month, inexpensive ways to both commemorate someone or something and also contribute to KJCC. But a gate, at least a Jewish one, requires a mezuzah. Anyone wishing to sponsor the mezuzah, please contact Linda Pollack. We are asking for a minimum donation of \$1,000.

BOOK PLATE

In honor of Joel Pollack's recovery

By Mort and Gene Silverman

June Birthdays

3rd.....	Abraham Rakov
3rd.....	Elanor Forbes
3rd.....	Lorene Solomon
4th.....	Alfred Weihl
4th.....	Scott Kay
5th.....	Dorothy Wolfe
5th.....	Joseph Sachs
6th.....	Donna Bolton
6th.....	Nancy Kluger
6th.....	Suzanne Gilson
7th.....	Jim Nobil
7th.....	Joan Wohl
8th.....	Elaine Solas
9th.....	Zoe Berk
11th.....	Deborah Weiss
11th.....	Linda Feinberg
12th.....	Kevin M. Silverman
12th.....	Michal Kamely
13th.....	Israel Mayk
13th.....	Justin Greenbaum
14th.....	Jennifer Nobil
15th.....	Haley Mayclin
15th.....	William Bolton
16th.....	Peter Kantor
18th.....	Amelia Kasinof
20th.....	Harvey Klein
20th.....	Judy Schmidt
20th.....	Sunne Rego
21st.....	Taryn Nobil
23rd.....	Dale Chasteen
23rd.....	Joseph Goldberg
24th.....	Delaney Rohde
24th.....	Rita Bromwich
27th.....	Frank Emkey
27th.....	Maxwell Schrader-Grace
28th.....	Alan Cooper
29th.....	Arthur Feinberg
29th.....	Robert N. Kwalick
30th.....	Barbara Weprin
30th.....	Bob Friedman

KJCC Calendar Online

Keep up with KJCC events over the summer months by visiting keysjewishcenter.com and clicking on calendar.

July Birthdays

1st.....	Alex Hudson
1st.....	Chely Markowitz
1st.....	Jennifer Gilson
1st.....	Patti Gross
2nd.....	Elissa A. Denker
4th.....	Pauline Roller
5th.....	Ron Levy
8th.....	Erica Morgan Shatz
9th.....	Joyce Peckman
10th.....	Lindsay Gould
11th.....	Steven Hartz
12th.....	Rebecca M. Schur
12th.....	Richard Steinberg
13th.....	Dot Brooking
14th.....	David Gross
14th.....	Paul Eric Bernstein
15th.....	Danna Levy
17th.....	Foster Davidson
17th.....	Robert Werthamer
17th.....	Shira Listman
18th.....	Ellen Coltman
18th.....	Zachary G. Kwalick
20th.....	Carol Laskin
21st.....	Arlington Garrett
21st.....	Brian Smith
21st.....	Joshua Samuel Bernstein
21st.....	Linda Perloff
23rd.....	Carrie Temkin
25th.....	Alan Markowitz
26th.....	Carol Field
27th.....	Marc Bloom
27th.....	Rachael Bloom
28th.....	Lila E. Juenger
29th.....	Bruce Boruszak
29th.....	Candy Stanlake
29th.....	Mary Lee Singer
30th.....	Molly Bloom

BOOK PLATE

**In Memory of Louise Baker,
Mother of Susan Sachs**

By Mort and Gene Silverman

August Birthdays

1st.....	Nicholas Rivera
2nd.....	Marc S. Field
4th.....	Jessica Forman
5th.....	David Kaufman
5th.....	Nissan Mayk
7th.....	Bill Weprin
8th.....	Ilana Gilderman
9th.....	Eric Freundlich
10th.....	Barbara Smith
10th.....	Rozi Graham
13th.....	Brian Gilderman
13th.....	Gina Moritz
13th.....	Stephan L. Friedman
14th.....	Heide Werthamer
15th.....	Danielle Zinner
15th.....	Eileen Kominsky
15th.....	Patricia Isenberg
16th.....	Alan Lindenbaum
16th.....	Alison Thompson
18th.....	Zachary Schrader-Grace
19th.....	Pamela Friedman
20th.....	Amanda Nobil
21st.....	Ashley Solomon
21st.....	Rachel Zinner
23rd.....	Dave Mont
23rd.....	Morris Willner
24th.....	Carl McNew
27th.....	Jaimee Marshall
27th.....	Judy Greenman
28th.....	Bill Ferns
28th.....	Evan Stuart
30th.....	Robert Temkin
30th.....	Sandra Kanarek
30th.....	Sue Ann Weihl

July Anniversaries

	Years
2nd	Douglas & Rozi Graham.....6
3rd	Michael & Lorene Solomon.....21
5th	Erwin & Barbara Kantor.....53
12th	Jason & Debbie Madnick.....15
24th	Dick & Rita Bromwich.....36
29th	Bernard & Elaine Solas.....54

On Saturday, June 5th, 2010 at 4 p.m. at KJCC,



Max Schrader-Grace

will become a Bar Mitzvah. His parents Ruth and Eric cordially invite all members of KJCC to join them, their friends and family, as they celebrate.

August Anniversaries

	Years
7th	Larry & Dorothy Wolfe.....53
7th	Aaron & Judith Schmidt.....55
15th	Paul & Susan Roberts.....42
15th	Richard & Barbara Knowles.....11
16th	Ira & Shirley Stein.....52
20th	Barnet & Ellen Coltman.....50
22nd	Franklin & Judy Greenman28
27th	Israel & Nissan Mayk.....38
28th	Kurt & Nancy Kluger.....22

Important forms will arrive soon

In the next few weeks you will be receiving a package from KJCC which will contain several documents, a Database Information page and of course our annual Yizkor book form. Please fill out these forms carefully and let us know if any personal information—your e-mail, cell phone, or address—has changed, so our database is fully up to date. It is most important that all the documents be sent back to us as soon as possible; we'll soon begin work on two key publications, our annual Membership Directory and the new Yizkor book. Thanks.

-Alan

Congrats to Barbara Gintel

Award-winning photographer and philanthropist Barbara Gintel can now add "Coconut Telegraph Artist of the Month" to her list of accomplishments. The cover of the May issue of Conch Republic Coconut Telegraph features her photo "The Card Sound Man." On page 7 is a lovely photo of her, taken by husband Robert, along with the story of how the shot was obtained. You can see more of their work at www.GintelPics.com

-Joyce Peckman

Don't Forget to Donate

It may be summer, but the need for blood donors never takes a vacation. The KJCC will be having a blood drive over the summer on June 13th. Mark your calendars now for the drives already scheduled for next season on October 10th and December 12th. See you there.

30th Gala DVDs available

DVDs from our 30th Gala celebration, with hundreds of photos shot by Richard Knowles, are now available from KJCC Sisterhood's Gift Shop, for the incredibly low price of \$20 each. (Thank you, Richard and Barbara.) Contact Joan Boruszak at joanborus@aol.com or at 852-0833, or just stop by whenever the KJCC is open.

Service Leaders for July and August

July 2nd--George Swartz

July 9th--Alan Beth

July 16th--Jim Boruszak

July 23rd--George Swartz

July 30th--(early service) Marc Bloom

August 6th--Alan Beth

August 13th--Linda & Joel Pollack

August 20th--Bernie Ginsberg

August 27th--(early service) Sam Vinicur

Ongoing Projects and Programs of KJCC

General Donations - can be earmarked to our various ongoing funds; e.g. Holocaust Education Fund, Scholarship Fund, Sara Cohen Memorial Tzedukah Fund, or General Fund. Honorarium and memorial cards can also be requested. Call Linda Pollack 852-8575.

Gift Shop - We have many lovely gift and holiday items on hand and can special order for you as well. Contact Joan Boruszak 852-0833.

Jewish Youth Enrichment Program - will assist in involving our children in Jewish activities. Call Neal Rakov 852-9400.

Sunshine Committee - If you know of any member who should receive a get-well, congratulations or condolence card from the Center, call Rene Rose, 852-3959.

Cemetery Information - If you wish to plan for the very distant future, you can reserve space at the Kendall Mt. Nebo Cemetery in the KJCC section. Call Bea Graham, 852-0214.

Picture Postcards - We have beautiful picture postcards bearing the Millard Wells representation of the KJCC, which was commissioned by Sisterhood. Quantities can be packaged to fit your needs and mailed to you or your gift recipient. The price is \$36 per hundred but we will sell lesser quantities. Contact Joan Boruszak, 852-0833.

Oneg Shabbat Sponsor - To schedule your special date with Sisterhood, call Joyce Peckman, 451-0665.

KJCC Tree of Life Leaves and Rocks, Sanctuary Seat Plates, Yartzeit Memorial Plaques, Bookplates for Siddurim. Call Linda Pollack to arrange your donation, 852-8575.

JNF Trees in Israel - A gift of a tree, or two or more, makes a long-remembered way to honor a loved one, a relative, a friend or an occasion. Both Israel and the KJCC benefit. Call Nancy Kluger, 852-4353.

Chai-Lights Mitzvah - Place a greeting or notice in Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 852-8575, to make your donation.

Advertisement in Chai-Lights - Your business ad will appear in every issue of Chai-Lights. Call Linda Pollack, 852-8575, for the low annual rates.

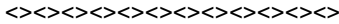
Call the names listed above for assistance or send your request and check to the KJCC, P.O. Box 1332, Tavernier, FL 33070. Recipients of your gifts will be notified by card and listings will appear in Chai-

In Memoriam Summer 2010

In Memory Of

Samuel Segal

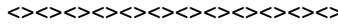
By Paul & Barbara Bernstein



In Memory Of

William Owen

By Nancy L. Cohn



In Memory Of

Esther R. Cohn

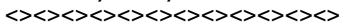
By Nancy L. Cohn



In Memory Of

Lois Owen

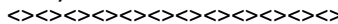
By Nancy L. Cohn



In Memory Of

Louis R. Coltman

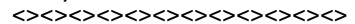
By Barnet & Ellen Coltman



In Memory Of

Evelyn O. Coltman

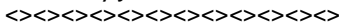
By Barnet & Ellen Coltman



In Memory Of

Betty Weiss

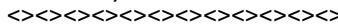
By Janice Gorson



In Memory Of

Saul Elson

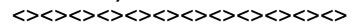
By Bea Graham



In Memory Of

Rose Caspi

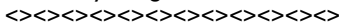
By Mollie Gross



In Memory Of

Kathe Gross

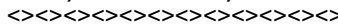
By Margaret Gross



In Memory Of

Samuel Horn

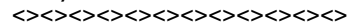
By Ron & Dorothy Horn



In Memory Of

Rose Kantor

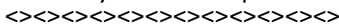
By Erwin & Barbara Kantor



In Memory Of

Arthur Klimpl

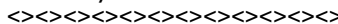
By Michael Klimpl



In Memory Of

Esther Kwalick

By Teresa Kwalick



In Memory Of

Bill Kwalick

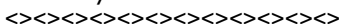
By Teresa Kwalick



In Memory Of

E. Enrique Astray-Caneda

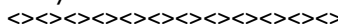
By Teresa Kwalick



In Memory Of

Mary Lagrotte

By Mario & Linda LaGrotte



In Memory Of

Robert Lewit

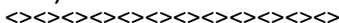
By Wendy Sue Lewit



In Memory Of

Carl C. Reiff

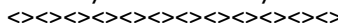
By Rick & Roberta McNew



In Memory Of

Sarah Oshinsky

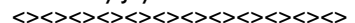
By Gerald Oshinsky



In Memory Of

Leslie Peckman

By Joyce Peckman

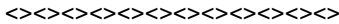


In Memoriam Summer 2010

In Memory Of

Ben Horwitz

By Pauline Roller



In Memory Of

Leon Kirschenbaum

By Medina Roy



In Memory Of

Wally Steinberg

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg



In Memory Of

Rose Fine

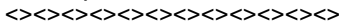
By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe



In Memory Of

Robert L. Cline

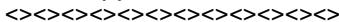
By Meredith A. Cline



In Memory Of

S. Marshall Gorson

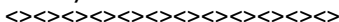
By Janice Gorson



In Memory Of

Phyliss Bloom

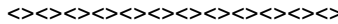
By Marc & Ellen Bloom



In Memory Of

Morris Rose

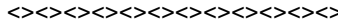
By Skip & Rene Rose



In Memory Of

Mae Rubin Rear

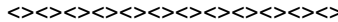
By Myron & Myrna Rubin



In Memory Of

Leonard Tobin

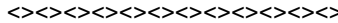
By Andrew M. Tobin



In Memory Of

Gussie Fierberg

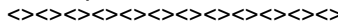
By Shirley Boxer



In Memory Of

Ruth Richardson

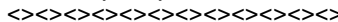
By Meredith A. Cline



In Memory Of

Max Gould

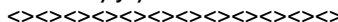
By Maryon Gould



In Memory Of

Fred Ross

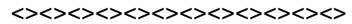
By Joyce Peckman



In Memory Of

Milton Lang

By Skip & Rene Rose



In Memory Of

Jan Finer

By Stuart & Lauren Sax



In Memory Of

Irma Weihl

By Alfred & Sue Ann Weihl



In Memory Of

Louis Boxer

By Shirley Boxer



In Memory Of

Frank Ferns

By Bill & Freda Ferns



In Memory Of

Julius Haber

By Margaret Gross



In Memory Of

Gordon Present

By Marjorie Present



In Memoriam Summer 2010

In Memory Of

Emanuel Gross

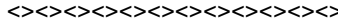
By Mollie Gross



In Memory Of

Jason Grossman

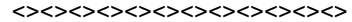
By Kenneth & Jerri Grossman



In Memory Of

Sylvia Hershoff

By Jay & Nancy Hershoff



In Memory Of

Jacob Ratchik

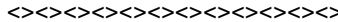
By Ron & Dorothy Horn



In Memory Of

Margaret Isenberg

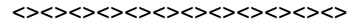
By Henry & Patricia Isenberg



In Memory Of

Sydney Emsig

By Lawrence & Pearl Jacobs



In Memory Of

Sidney Kaplan

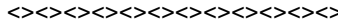
By Ronald & Deborah Kaplan



In Memory Of

Catherine Kaplan

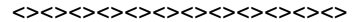
By Ronald & Deborah Kaplan



In Memory Of

Otto Kluger

By Kurt & Nancy Kluger



In Memory Of

Irwin Kwalick

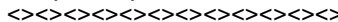
By Teresa Kwalick



In Memory Of

Kitty Roemer

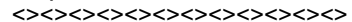
By Harvey & Susan Schwaid



In Memory Of

Sylvia Sachs

By Morton & Gene Silverman



In Memory Of

Sally Taks

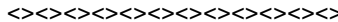
By Mel Taks



In Memory Of

Ida Estrin

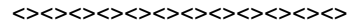
By Ralph & Lillian Tallent



In Memory Of

Alfred Eichler

By Lawrence & Judith Weber



In Memory Of

Arthur Ray

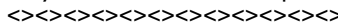
By Sheldon & Carole Weiss



In Memory Of

Harry Weprin

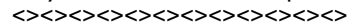
By William & Barbara Weprin



In Memory Of

Jessie Beerman

By William & Barbara Weprin



In Memory Of

Seymour Werthamer

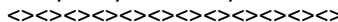
By Robert & Heide Werthamer



In Memory Of

Frieda Feinberg

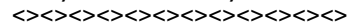
By Larry & Dorothy Wolfe



In Memory Of

Henrietta Zinner

By Donald & Nancy Zinner

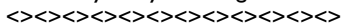


In Memoriam Summer 2010

In Memory Of

Stanley H. Klipper

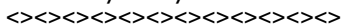
By Mary Lee Singer



In Memory Of

Bernard Strean

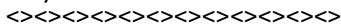
By Shelby Strean



In Memory Of

Jack L. Sachs

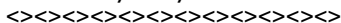
By Morton & Gene Silverman



In Memory Of

Franne Alter

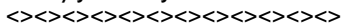
By Barry Alter



In Memory Of

Priscilla Leshin

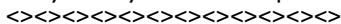
By James & Joan Boruszak



In Memory Of

Mark Sands

By Murray & Claire Cooper



In Memory Of

Harriet Feinberg

By Arthur Feinberg & Patrice Gerard



In Memory Of

Mollie Z. Cohen

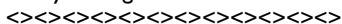
By Richard & Sheila Steinberg



In Memory Of

Mack Swartz

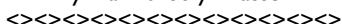
By George & Muriel Swartz



In Memory Of

Joseph Wasser

By Mark & Sofy Wasser



In Memory Of

Joseph Goldstone

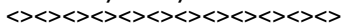
By Robert Jay & Gloria Auston



In Memory Of

Irene Sinner

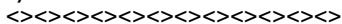
By Shirley Boxer



In Memory Of

Robert Davidson

By Foster Davidson & Carol Laskin



In Memory Of

Shaul Hadid

By Bill & Freda Ferns



In Memory Of

Ben Steinbock

By Stephen & Carol Steinbock



In Memory Of

Milton Swartz

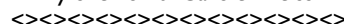
By George & Muriel Swartz



In Memory Of

Edith Ray

By Sheldon & Carole Weiss



In Memory Of

Isaac Berman

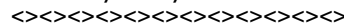
By Sylvia Berman



In Memory Of

Gary W. Cohn

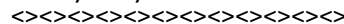
By Nancy L. Cohn



In Memory Of

Dorothy Schafer

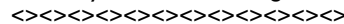
By Barry & Natalie Dorf



In Memory Of

Jess Ginsberg

By Bernard Ginsberg



In Memoriam Summer 2010

In Memory Of

Jeanette Gould

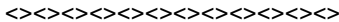
By Maryon Gould



In Memory Of

Florence Grossman

By Herbert & Elinor Grossman



In Memory Of

Irving M. Horowitz

By Robert & Eileen Hermann



In Memory Of

Charles Kantor

By Erwin & Barbara Kantor



In Memory Of

Dorothy Marmar

By David & Pamela Marmar



In Memory Of

Beryl M.O. Present

By Marjorie Present



In Memory Of

Selma Smith

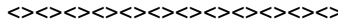
By Steven & Barbara Smith



In Memory Of

Richard Gould

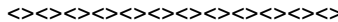
By Maryon Gould



In Memory Of

Margaux Rene Grossman

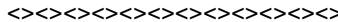
By Stuart Grossman



In Memory Of

Manuel Hershoff

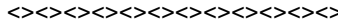
By Jay & Nancy Hershoff



In Memory Of

Arthur Kaplan

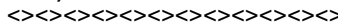
By Frank & Sandy Kaplan



In Memory Of

Gizella Reiff

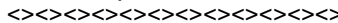
By Rick & Roberta McNew



In Memory Of

Millie Prober

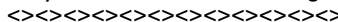
By Mel Prober



In Memory Of

Meyer G. Cohen

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg



In Memory Of

Henry Kirschenbaum

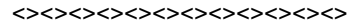
By Marilyn Greenbaum



In Memory Of

Esther R. Horowitz

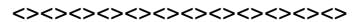
By Robert & Eileen Hermann



In Memory Of

Chanoch Levy

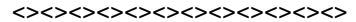
By Michal Kamely



In Memory Of

Eva Raub

By Harvey & Judith Klein



In Memory Of

Erik S. Persoff

By Jim & Lynn Nobil



In Memory Of

Howard Shutan

By Stuart & Lauren Sax



In Memory Of

Erik S. Persoff

By Richard & Sheila Steinberg



Contributions to KJCC

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who support the Keys Jewish Community Center by remembering and honoring their friends and loved ones through their generous contributions. All donations made after the fifth of the month will appear in the following month's Chai-Lights. When you make a donation, please signify the fund it is to go to and the recognition of the name or names to be listed.

<i>Book Plates</i> Silverman, Mort & Gene	<i>In Memory of</i> Louise Baker	<i>Meditation Garden</i> Sax, Stuart & Lauren Steinbock, Steve & Carol	<i>In Memory of</i> Sam & Babe Sax Susan Cimkowski
<i>Book Plates</i> Silverman, Mort & Gene	<i>In Honor of</i> Joel Pollack's recovery	<i>Tree of Life</i> Beth, Alan Sax, Stuart & Lauren Swartz, George & Muriel	<i>In Honor of</i> Joel & Linda Pollack The birth of Liam Jacob Sax David Goldfinger's 75th Birthday
<i>General Fund</i> Begam, Delores Congregation Emkey, Gerri Lippman, Lillian Margulies, Stan & Jenny	<i>In Honor of</i> pray for Britt David Goldfinger's 75th birthday Mort Silverman's recovery	<i>Yartzeit Contributions</i> Gilderman, Larry & Stephanie Grossman, Stuart Incociati, Estelle Mishaan, Marilyn Schur, Lee Steinberg, Richard & Sheila Steinberg, Richard & Sheila	<i>In Memory of</i> Albert Gilderman Morris Grossman Louis & Dorothy Biderman Margie Haddad Bob Schur Saunders Cohen Joel Cohen
<i>Holocaust Education Center</i> Goldfinger, David & Toby	<i>In Honor of</i> Holocaust survivors		
<i>JNF Certificates Sent By</i> Gould, Maryon Gould, Maryon	<i>In Honor of</i> Joel Pollack's recovery Mort Silverman's recovery		

Did You Know ???

...that you can place an advertisement in Chai-Lights for an entire year for only \$120?

... that you can remember a loved one with a yahrzeit plaque? A candle will be lit on the memoriam date and at Yizkor services four times a year, including Yom Kippur.

Contact Linda Pollack at 852-8575 for more information .

YEDA VE'TORASHA

Yardena Kamely



Growth Through Teaching and Learning

We have come to the end of our Hebrew school-year 5770. Sitting together at our Ulpan Class end-of-the-semester lunch (a pleasant "*shevet achim gam yachad*,") everyone felt that it was a good year for our Adult Education activities. We felt a sense of satisfaction and motivation to continue next fall with our studies. The students gave the teacher (me) many ideas of what they'd like to study in our Hebrew classes and hear in the lecture series. For me, Adult Education at the KJCC is a precious gift I am receiving, because it is about a rich experience of teaching *and* learning: we all are students and teachers.

Pilpul ha'talmidim in Hebrew means, literally, "discussions with students." The word "Torah" in Hebrew is derived from a root which means "to teach." The meaning of the word is, therefore, "teaching." Our rabbis say that to attain wisdom for living, teaching needs to be a basic way of life. Why? Because if you can't teach an idea, then you don't really know it yourself. Until you share an idea, it's not yours. It remains but a hazy notion in your imagination. Transmitting the idea to others makes it real.

I am mindful of the fact that we teach what we most want to learn. I am always interested in human relationships and ways of life. Several times, in some of my lecture series, I tried to talk about *Kabbalah* and the thoughts of Jewish mysticism on certain psychological topics. I was not satisfied with my attempts; but I am trying again.

Kabbalah literally means "receptivity," and the teachers say it is the art of learning to

receive. In his book "Endless Light" (1997), David Aaron writes that when he first began study of the *Kabbalah*, he stumbled upon the learning center of a great Kabbalistic master. He went in. The place was crowded. The master was speaking, but suddenly he stopped. He had noticed David coming in, pointed at him and motioned him to come forward. The teacher spoke with a soft voice, and only asked David a few innocuous questions. Then he held out an apple in his hand and dramatically raised it before the student, dangling it by its stem.

"This great man wanted to give me an apple? I had no idea what this was all about. I reached to take the apple. But the whole crowd shouted, 'No!' I became flustered and withdrew my hand. He offered the apple again, and again I tried to take it. Again the crowd yelled 'No!' Then I saw that people were motioning for me to cup my hand and hold it beneath the apple. I did so. The great Kabbalist smiled and dropped the apple into my hand. He then bent over and, in a tone that seemed to admonish me, whispered in my ear, 'What have you been learning?' Before I could answer, he turned and walked away."

The master was trying to show David that he had not yet learned the real meaning of the *Kabbalah*. When you are offered a gift, do not *take* it; instead, make of yourself a space that can *receive* it.

In our Hebrew classes students ask me about the meaning and origin of certain Hebrew words. These are the best questions for their teacher, who gets motivated and enthused.

siastic exploring the Hebrew root of the word. One of the words we explored, for example, was *shalom*. We know that the greeting *Shalom*, means peace. Peace has a meaning that comes from the same root and has an interesting psychological aspect. We know the expression *shlom bayit*, which means "peace at home or in your household," or the question *mah shlomcha? Mah shlomech?* Meaning: "how are you?"

When can people say that they are in peace with themselves? Psychology deals with questions about the Ego and the Self of a person. The *Kabbalah* also asks the question:

who am I? A person has a heart attack and suddenly begins to see his body as an enemy, and thinks: I am not my body; so, who am I? He sees through the eyes of his Ego and, by asking the question, he is about to begin the process of psychological and spiritual growth, a long learning process. The *Kabbalah* teaches that, as long as the Ego insists on breaking the world into separate pieces, setting one against the other, there can be no peace outside and therefore no peace inside. You feel as if you are at war.

The Hebrew word for peace, *shalom*, is also the word for completeness. David Aaron writes: "The soul is never complete or at peace in the ego. Although the ego thinks it is complete, self-defined, and self-confined, that is an illusion. The irony is that he who thinks he is complete, *shalom*, and independent of others, lives an illusion and is truly incomplete. However, he who knows he is incomplete and interdependent with others is upon

the path toward true completeness."

Shalom *talmidim*—students; Shalom *chaverim*—friends. Have a wonderful *chofesh*—vacation, literally meaning "freedom," this summer. Don't forget to practice your Hebrew, continue to think about additional studies that can be of interest for our Adult Education classes, and send me your suggestions. I look forward to seeing you again in our classes after Rosh Hashanah. Teaching and learning together has been an experience of growth. Thank you for this wonderful gift. ◇



KJCC GIFT SHOP




NEED CARDS? NEED GIFTS?
COME TO THE KJCC GIFT SHOP FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS!

WE HAVE THE FOLLOWING:

- HOUSE GIFTS
- BAR AND BAT MITZVAH GIFTS AND CARDS
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- YARZEIT CANDLES-ELECTRIC AND NATURAL
- plus JEWELRY, MEZUZAHs, SEDER PLATES, MATZOH SWEEPERS,
CHALLAH PLATES, CHALLAH KNIVES AND MORE

If you do not see what you want, we can order it for you.

Call Joan Boruszak 852-0833.

Sisterhood Joyce Peckman



On May 2nd, fourteen hungry women met at the Pilot House for a leisurely brunch, as our last formal Sisterhood meeting of the season. The mimosas were good, the company even better. Gigi, Marsha, Bea, Gene and Nettie were at one end, while Roberta, Sofy, Joan S., Pauline and I were at the other. In the middle, relaying conversation between the two ends, sat Rene, Gloria, and both Linda Ps. We missed those of you who were busy or traveling, but it was great to have some of you who don't generally come to meetings. I am pleased to say that no Temple business was discussed. Sometimes it's just about food and friends.

One of the pleasurable jobs of Sisterhood president is the presentation of a gift to a boy on the cusp of leaving childhood as he celebrates his Bar Mitzvah. I have enjoyed watching Max Schrader-Grace grow in poise, creativity and self-confidence during his years in our Sunday school. I wish him and his family only the best as he takes his place June 5th as a worthy young man in the Jewish community.

Even though our next regularly scheduled meeting isn't until September, the gift shop remains open and active, with the addition of the wonderful DVDs of the 30th Anniversary Dinner, available for the very low price of \$20. Richard Knowles seemed to be everywhere with his camera, and the results are well worth owning. (There are literally hundreds of pictures.) You can e-mail Joan Boruszak, or stop by whenever the KJCC is open.

Sisterhood continues to provide for the Oneg Shabbat throughout the summer. Sponsoring a Friday night oneg is a time-honored way of adding sweetness to someone's memory, as well as a great way to honor a birthday, engagement, graduation, safe return, or just the joy of being with friends. You can

either send a \$50 check to Sisterhood, or pick up a challah, a bottle of Manischewitz, cake and/or fruit and some creamer. Just let me know, as I'm coordinating the dates. Come to Friday night services, then stay for wine and challah, coffee, cake and schmoozing. (And don't forget to clean up...the KJCC is our home.)

The July 4th BBQ will actually be on Friday, July 2nd. See the ad on page 16 for details.

We've had a terrific season, from Rosh Hashanah through Shavuot. There were delectable brunches and dinners for holidays. We had a colorful Purim Megillah reading, and two very different yet equally marvelous community seders. We had unforgettable Yiddishkeit nights, two theatre events and a fabulous 30th Anniversary dinner dance. We have memories of the Fashion Show that almost wasn't (in a great restaurant that now isn't). All of these and more were only possible due to the hard work and dedication of all of us who organized, set up, prepared, cooked and cleaned. Thank you.

As some of us prepare for a summer of swimming and fishing, and others head off for all corners of the country and around the world, we do remain connected. I know that people will be meeting in Maine and Israel, and communicating by letter, phone and Internet. We are already thinking about next season. We will probably be going to see "Avenue Q" in Coral Gables, and thinking of other fun activities. Please call or e-mail me with your ideas and concerns. My e-mail is joyce@adoctorsbag.com, and my cell phone is 305-240-1000. Sofy can be reached at betweentwotrees@msn.com. Her cell number is 305-332-1500.

We wish you a safe and happy summer. ◇



**KEYS JEWISH
COMMUNITY CENTER**

JULY 4TH

Shabbabaque

AND

95th Birthday Party

For Pauline

DATE: FRIDAY, JULY 2, 2010

PLACE: KJCC

TIME: 6:30 PM BARBECUE DINNER

TIME: 8:00 PM SERVICES

TIME: 9:00 ONEG/BIRTHDAY CAKE



World Jewish Report

Medina Roy



Observing the Sabbath saved his life

Michael Schudrich, Poland's Chief Rabbi—who was born and raised in New York City—along with a Jewish delegation from Poland, managed to escape imminent death when they refused to violate the Sabbath and fly with Poland's President Lech Kaczynski. On April 10th, the plane carrying the President, his wife and 95 other top government officials crashed, and all aboard were killed. The plane was en route to a city in Russia to mark the 70th anniversary of the murder of 20,000 Poles by the Soviets at the Katyn Forest. The reason the Jewish delegation was going in the first place? They planned to say *Kaddish* at the commemoration ceremony.

(www.israelnationalnews.com, 4-11-10)

But she can't drive

Rachel Lester, a 15-year-old Orthodox Jewish girl, has become the youngest person ever elected as a public representative in Los Angeles. Rachel, a high school sophomore, was elected to the South Robertson Neighborhood Council, a heavily Jewish religious neighborhood and one of 90 neighborhood councils in Los Angeles. She defeated her opponent, a college-educated family man, by a vote of 144 to 13. She credits her win to contacts via e-mail and Facebook. She begins her two-year term in June, but she'll have to get a lift to her council meetings since she is not old enough to drive. (www.jta.org, 4-21-10)

"Kosher" jokes

A United States District Judge in New Jersey recently ruled that comedian Sunda Croonquist can continue making fun of her Jewish mother-in-law. Croonquist is part Swedish, part African-American and is mar-

ried to a Jewish man. She was sued two years ago by her in-laws who were offended by her jokes. And to make things even more interesting, Mark Zafrin, her husband, was her defense attorney. The judge ruled that her jokes fell under the category of protected free speech since they were nothing more than her opinion. Croonquist credits her beginnings in comedy with a chance encounter with legendary Jewish comedian Jackie Mason. (*The Forward*, 5-6-10)

The "Mitzvah" Lady

Clara Chaya Hammer, a Jerusalem woman who made sure that the city's needy always had a proper Shabbat dinner, died in March just shy of her 100th birthday. Hammer was known around the world as "The Chicken Lady of Jerusalem." It all began when she stood in line at the butcher shop and noticed a young girl in front of her who was taking home a bag full of chicken fat and skin. The butcher explained that there were many children in the family and the father was on dialysis. They had run up a tremendous bill and all the butcher could give them was the fat and the skin. Hammer told the butcher to give the family two chickens every week and she would pay for it. For the next 30 years, Hammer single-handedly spearheaded a fund providing free chicken (or a substitute meal if they happened to be vegetarian) every week to the needy.

Hammer was born in Russia in 1910 and survived a pogrom in the Ukraine. She fled with her family to Romania and later they made their way to Palestine, living in a tent for three years. Among her many awards was an honorary "doctorate in kindness" from

Yeshiva University. A daughter and great-granddaughter will carry on her legacy. The monthly butcher bill comes to about \$10,000. (www.cnn.com, 5-8-10)

You've gotta be kidding...

The United Nations has elected Iran to a four-year seat to its Commission on the Status of Women. Iran will now sit on a commission which, according to its website, is dedicated to "gender equality and advancement of women." As word spread of Iran's election to the commission, a group of over 200 Iranian (yes, Iranian) activists circulated a petition to the U.N., endorsed by over a dozen human rights organizations, asking that member states oppose Iran's election. The petition presents this picture of the status of women in Iran: "Women lack the ability to choose their husbands, have no independent right to education after marriage, no right to divorce, no right to child custody, have no protection from violent treatment in public spaces, are restricted by quotas for women's admission at universities, and are arrested, beaten, and imprisoned for peacefully seeking change of such laws." One of Iran's senior clerics even went so far as to say that women who wear revealing clothing are to blame for earthquakes because they "lead young men astray, corrupt their chastity and spread adultery in society, which (consequently) increases earthquakes." (www.foxnews.com, 4-29-10 and www.washingtonpost.com, 5-4-10)

Victim list "a must"

Israel's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial Museum is on a mission to gather and finally list the name of each and every Holocaust victim. So far, fewer than four million names have been accounted for. The museum states that just because one may know of a family member, acquaintance or neighbor who perished it does not necessarily mean that that individual is in the Jerusalem data base. Referrals to this worldwide effort can be made to www.yadvashem.org. (*Dateline: World Jewry, May 2010*)

In Memoriam

Avigdor Arikha, Israeli painter and a major figure in modern art, died at the age of 81 at the end of April. His work was influenced by his experience, at age 12, as a Holocaust survivor where he would sketch scenes from the concentration camp onto salvaged scraps of paper. Arikha went on to become one of Israel's most important contemporary artists. He began as an abstract artist but renounced it in the mid-1960s in favor of realism. His portraits of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother and writer Samuel Beckett, a close friend, are well known. Born in Romania in 1929, Arikha turned to drawing in order to cope with life in a Ukrainian labor camp. Seventeen of his sketches survived the war and came to the attention of the International Red Cross during a camp inspection. Soon after, he was permitted to leave with a group of children already cleared for release. He and his sister were sent to Palestine and lived on a kibbutz. Arikha was seriously wounded in Israel's War of Independence. Recognizing his talent, supporters in Israel financed him and insisted he go to study at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. Arikha's works are in permanent collections around the world, including the National Portrait Gallery in London and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. (www.washingtonpost.com, 5-5-10)

A new street in Beverly Hills

A street in Beverly Hills, California was officially renamed "Herzl Way" on May 2nd to honor the 150th anniversary of the birth of Zionist founding father Theodor Herzl. Mayor Jimmy Delshad, an Iranian-born Jew, came up with the idea of renaming the street after his personal hero following a visit to Herzliya, Israel, a sister city to Beverly Hills. It is one of the few streets in Los Angeles named after a foreigner and the first time a street has been named to commemorate a historic Jewish leader.

Herzl was born in Budapest, Hungary. He became a writer and a journalist and covered the 1894 trial of French Army Captain Alfred Dreyfus, a Jew famously and wrongly accused of treason and sent to Devil's Island. The trial

exposed Herzl to European anti-Semitism, an experience that pushed him to believe that Jews needed to create their own state. In 1897, he convened the First Zionist Congress, and later served as president of the Zionist Organization. Herzl died in 1904, 44 years before the Jewish homeland he dreamed of declared independence. (*The Forward*, 5-5-10)

More proof of global warming...

The sighting of a grey whale off the coast of Herzliya, Israel has stunned scientists in what is believed to be the first time the giant mammal has been seen outside the Pacific in several hundred years. The whale is believed to have traveled thousands of miles from the north Pacific after losing its way in search of food. "It is...one of the most important whale sightings ever," said Dr. Aviad Scheinin, chairman of the Israel Marine Mammal Research and Assistance Center, which identified the whale. "...there haven't been any grey whales in the Atlantic since the 18th century." Scheinin said the whale probably reached the Atlantic through the Northwest Passage, the Arctic Sea route that connects the Pacific and Atlantic oceans, which is normally covered with ice but has been melting. "This is very important ecologically because of the change of habitat. It emphasizes the climate change that we are going through," Scheinin said. (*www.telegraph.co.uk*, 5-11-10)

A new beginning

More than six decades after its destruction in the Nazi *Kristallnacht* pogrom of November 1938, the White Stork Synagogue in the Polish city of Wroclaw has been rededicated following several years of renovation. In 1938, Wroclaw was known as Breslau and was part of the German Reich. Before World War II, Breslau was home to one of the largest Jewish communities in Germany. The White Stork Synagogue opened in 1829 and got its name from an inn, which had previously stood on the same spot. The synagogue was turned into a warehouse after the Nazis ransacked it. After the war, Poland's Communist authorities seized control of the synagogue and it

was only returned to the Jewish community a decade ago. Wroclaw now has a very small Jewish community. (*World Jewish Congress*, 5-12-10)

No more fungus among-us?

Israeli scientists from Tel Aviv University are working with carnivorous plants that could heal fungus infections and save lives. Researchers say that when the plant traps an insect, an enzyme is released which contains organic nutrients that have been found to have better healing effects than existing anti-fungal medications. The research teams from Tel Aviv University's chemistry and plant sciences departments have published early results in a respected world biological journal. The study notes the potential to save thousands of lives. (*Dateline: World Jewry*, May 2010)

Did you know...

-The Philadelphia Jewish Exponent has been named "Best Overall Weekly Newspaper" in the state of Pennsylvania. The honor was bestowed by a chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists for work done in 2009. (*www.jta.org*, 4-23-10)

-Avner Netanyahu, the 15-year-old son of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, won third place in the 2010 International Bible Contest, which was held on Israel's Independence Day. Sixteen teenagers from around the world took part in the prestigious competition. (Bet our very own Joyce Peckman could have taken top spot; not too long ago, when she was 12 or 13 years old, she was a national finalist in a Bible contest in New York City.) (*The Jerusalem Post*, 4-20-10)

-Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with Lord Jacob Rothschild and other members of the Rothschild family in mid-April to thank them for their pledge to donate more than 150 million dollars for the construction of a new National Library in Jerusalem's Kiryat HaLeom government complex. The new library will replace the one presently located in an old and outdated building on the Givat Ram campus of Hebrew University. (*www.israelnationalnews.com*, 4-18-10) ◇

Photo Gallery

Max Schrader-Grace in the final stages of preparation for his Bar Mitzvah June 5th. At top he stands before the KJCC Holocaust Torah with mom Ruth. Below and below center he Works with Morah Gloria On his lessons.



Aboard a sunset cruise on a square-rigger at Gilbert's Marina in Key Largo. Zoe's where she loves to be, at the helm. Gloria and Joyce just enjoyed the sights and the sounds and the sea air. Avast. Aaaargh.

The final Sisterhood gathering of the year took place on Sunday, May 2nd at The Pilot House, left. Following tradition, it was a non-working luncheon, a social outing before the annual summer diaspora.



Amara Ellen was born April 30th to Lisa Romaro and our son, Fred. She weighed 7 pounds, 3 oz. Bob and I were there for the birth.



-Eileen Hermann



At left, below, and below left, scenes from Medina's annual luncheon on May 16th for Yardená's Ulpan classes. Marc, Candy, Bernie and Jerry W. were out of town. Carl Roy doesn't come to class, but hey, it's his house.



KJCC's Sunday School students get to see, literally, the fruits of former labors, as mangoes begin to appear on a tree they planted. Zach makes sure we don't miss seeing a budding pomegranate.



The bottom four photos are from our May 18th Shavuot celebration of the giving of the Torah at Mt. Sinai. Bernie read the Ten Commandments



directly from the Torah, and then read and explained the Book of Ruth. Zach and Moira actually got



sound out of the shofars.



Steve Steinbock, left, is hard at work creating the gate he designed for KJCC's new Meditation Garden.



The KJCC Board and Sunday School students gather at the gate of our Meditation Garden, above, as Gloria leads a prayer of blessing for what we all believe will become a very special place. Most are standing on the new brick entryway. The enlarged photo at left shows a sample of bricks available for purchase by KJCC members.



At left, Bernie and Medina at the oneg they jointly sponsored on May 14th, their shared birthday. (There is no truth to the rumor that they're twins, though they did both grow up in the same town, Far Rockaway, New York. Hmmm.)



At left, Moira Knowles shows her very full tzedakah box to teachers Gloria and Yarden.



Thomas Davis Smith was born March 2, 2010 to former KJCC Bar Mitzvah boy Brian Smith and his wife, Carrie, weighing 6 lbs. 6 ounces. His proud grandparents are Steve and Barbara Smith.



Mother's Day, 2010. Gloria and brother Mark are with their mother Bea, above. Above right, Candy and Alan took time from work on their Tampa house to enjoy a Mother's Day outing. Lee Schur is with family in Chicago, right. Below are assorted motherly products of Joel and Linda Pollack's extended family.



-This Month in Jewish History-

June

1242 – Pope Gregory IX and King Louis IX (Saint Louis) decree all copies of the Talmud to be confiscated in Paris. Study of the Talmud, they believe, is the reason for the Jews' stubbornness. Twenty-four cartloads of Hebrew manuscripts are publicly burned.

1541 – Jacob Pollack, the first important Polish-Jewish Rabbinic scholar, dies. His major contribution is to help establish the Talmudic method of study called "Pilpul." Many are frustrated over the years by the complex hair-splitting and disciplined logic of *pilpul*, and this type of Talmudic study also helps give rise to Chasidism. But it also helps refine and sharpen the Jewish mind and prepare it for eventual entry into the larger European world.

1594 – Roderigo Lopez, a Marrano, is hanged in England. Arriving in England as Francis Drake's prisoner of war, he rises to become Queen Elizabeth's physician. Accused by court intrigue of being a Spanish spy trying to poison the Queen, he is arrested. Initially the Queen refuses to carry out the death sentence, but finally consents. Throughout his trial he is vilified as being a Jew.

1648 – In Poland, bitterness over heavy-handed Catholicism by the Jesuits and taxes collected by some Jews for the nobles helps ignite the Cossack uprising. Led by Chmielniki, their victories over the Polish army encourage the serfs to join them. Jews, hated even more than the Poles, are massacred in almost every town. In ten years over seven hundred Jewish communities are destroyed and between one hundred and five hundred thousand Jews are killed. Many see the Cossack Uprising as a major cause of the messianic movement, which soon followed.

1815 – Napoleon, who has emancipated Europe's Jews by tearing down ghetto walls, is defeated at Waterloo. Fearing a return to

their previous legal status, Jews send a Christian attorney to act on their behalf at the Congress of Vienna. An agreement is reached whereby Jews are "given rights in proportion to accepting the duties of citizenship." It is the first time that Jewish rights become enshrined in European Treaty Law.

1849 – Article 84 of the new Danish Constitution negates discrimination of "any person on the basis of religious grounds." Ninety years later the Nazis will discover that Danes are true to their word.

1888 – The Jewish Publication Society of America (JPS) is founded, its purpose to publish in English books of Jewish interest. Important authors include Israel Zangwill, Leo Baeck, Cecil Roth, Jacob R. Marcus, and Louis Finkelstein.

1920 – The Haganah, the pre-Israel Self-Defense Force, is formed during a meeting of the *Ahdut Avodah* party. It is dedicated to "havlagah," or pure self-defense.

1936 – Leon Blum becomes the first Jew elected premier of France. A socialist, Blum institutes the 40-hour workweek and many important social reforms. Parliament does not support his financial program and his government lasts but one year.

1967 – After weeks of bombardments from the Golan Heights, the closure of shipping lanes by Egypt and the departure of all U.N. observers, Israel attacks in what becomes known as the Six-Day War. Initially, young King Hussein of Jordan does not join the fighting, but when his forces cross the cease-fire line at Government House, Israel retaliates. On June 7, 1967 at 10:15, with the radio confirmation, "The Temple Mount is in our hands," the Israeli flag is raised above the Western Wall, its first time under Jewish sovereignty for almost two thousand years. ◇

“Nusach” and “The Greatest Gift”

Our Ritual Chair Studies the Meaning of Music in Services

by Gloria Avner

I have just finished writing 36 small essays and sending ten voice-mail chants of morning, “minchah,” and “arvit” weekday prayers to Hebrew College in Newton, Mass. When I signed up to take an on-line course in “Introduction to Nusach,” thanks to financial assistance from KJCC, the word “Nusach” was familiar to me, but in a vague way. One of my favorite quotes has long been “When you want to talk to God, pray. If you want God to listen, sing.” I envisioned Jewish music and chanting. It turned out to be much more.

Though this was a course specifically about weekday liturgy, I thought I would learn melodies that would be useful both in teaching Sunday School and in adding to my knowledge of Jewish ritual (for me personally, yes, but also in my role as KJCC Ritual Chair). My goal was to be able to apply at least some of the learning to enriching our Erev Shabbat services. Little did I know that that I would be learning about everything from ancient paths of Jewish migration to history of Siddur development, the amazing intricacies of Hebrew grammar and why and how Jewish services are organized the way they are. In the course of studying the distinct scales and motifs of the three specific Ashkenazi “Nusach” that are used in weekday chanting, my respect for our heritage has grown by leaps and bounds.

A Nusach can refer to a whole way of life as well as a formula for chanting prayer. A Nusach for chanting is a pattern, not just a specific scale; each Nusach is tied to a differ-

ent “all-white-key” scale developed in Medieval times, having specific motifs within that scale that help the chanter decode words into meaning, comprehensible prayers of thanks, beseeching, and lessons for generations of Jews to hear, participate in, and, in doing so, to remember who we are.

I have learned that all rules, patterns, intricacies, and symbols exist to serve one function—the sharing of meaning. Scholars from the 8th century B.C.E. until the present have done their intricate best to take the oral traditions surrounding the gift at the core of our religion—the Torah—and reveal them and their importance to our people. In a pre-literate world the Torah was the record of Jewish history and ethics that united us. It

has served the same purpose through the present day, enabling us to survive every potentially catastrophic event from the destruction of our Temples and the Babylonian exile to the Inquisition in Spain, the pogroms in Russia, assimilation in every culture where Jews established roots, and to the Holocaust.

Those who wished to exterminate Jews and Judaism understood that outlawing the Torah, desecrating it in any manner possible, was key to destroying the culture. It is a tribute to Jewish scholarship that the Dead Sea Scrolls, copied by hand millennia ago, are nearly identical with our Torahs of today.

Here is a summary from discussions I had over many office hours with Cantor Neil Schwartz, the extremely gifted teacher of this course, very generous with rich material, his research, and his time:

“When you want to talk to God, pray. If you want God to listen, sing.”

We pray to give thanks, to praise, and to petition. Many of our prayers, the *Sh'ma* paragraphs and the *Amidah* in particular, have several sections within them dealing with Creation, Revelation, and Redemption. We pray to the creator of all things, *Adonai*, who has revealed and gifted the Torah and its *mitzvot* to us. We acknowledge our ancestors, our *Avot* and *Imahot*. We pray in a group in order to increase the energy of our prayers and to acknowledge our connection to each other and our culture. We pray at specific times because it helps develop the habit of praying and increases power through regular repetition. We pray in Hebrew because the language connects us to all Jews who came before us and to Jews throughout the world. We chant because music takes us deeper; it also makes words, especially the poetic words of the Torah, easier to say and to remember.

So how does learning “Nusach T’Fillah” make prayer more meaningful? Just as *Ta-Amei Mikra* (the symbols for trope) tell the Torah reader the traditional ways to chant *Parashot*, there are specific ways to chant prayers from the Siddur, many of which come from the Torah. This may sound simplistic, but much of the symbology is about punctuation. Making meaning clear is the first goal. You have to understand basic Hebrew grammar to be able to chant. You must decode what words belong together, what are major thoughts or modifying phrases, and identify the parts of speech in a sentence. Then you can know when pauses occur and which words need the most force. A phrase ending in a comma has a different motif than one where we come to a complete stop. We as congregants recognize these motifs through familiarity; they’re in our ear, whether we think we know it or not. There is in each Nusach one specific motif, or arrangement of notes within its scale, that is used purely for the blessing at the end of the prayer, sealing it and summarizing the main

***A Nusach
can refer to
a whole way
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prayer.***

point of the prayer. We at KJCC almost always join forces in chanting this “Baruch Atah Adonai” segment. We recognize it almost intuitively because we have heard it time and again.

The Nusach serve another important function. They tell us whether the service is weekday or Shabbat, whether the service is morning, *minchah*, or *arvit*, and which part of the service is being chanted. They differ by holiday, particularly the “Shalosh Regalim.” And for High Holidays. There are also specific Nusach used for chanting different *Megillot*. I know. It sounds daunting. And it was.

We learned Study Mode Minor, Pentatonic Mode, and Low *Ahava Rabah*, all of which are used for different prayers in weekday services. Some of you have heard me chant the Haftorah in *Ahavah Rabah* on Friday Shabbat services. (I intend to keep doing it until as a congregation we are able to do it together.) Much as I like reciting the *v’ahavtah* in Hebrew, *chanting* it not only uplifts us but also totally changes its meaning. By putting the accent on chanting the last rather than second-to-last syllable we recapture the original meaning. Instead of saying “You loved God,” we acknowledge the command and exhortation, “You shall love the Lord your God,” as it is intended in the covenant between God and our people.

There is so much more to share. Here are just two small examples: each Kaddish serves to end a section of the service and to indicate which Nusach will be used in the next section. Additionally, each Nusach, and each motif within the mode, helps convey a mood as well as time and meaning. All of this intensifies the praying experience.

I intend to continue this learning and look forward to studying Shabbat Nusach in the Fall. The Shabbat melodies, more relaxed and decorative than the perfunctorily chanted weekday Nusach, will make possible much more sharing with you. ◇

-This Month in Jewish History-

July

1099 – Godfrey de Bouillon enters Jerusalem at the head of the First Crusade, drives Jews into the synagogue, and sets them afire while marching around the synagogue singing, "Christ, we adore thee." This marks the end of Jerusalem as a Jewish center for centuries.

1263 – Pablo Christiani, a new Christian, convinces King James of Aragon to force a theological debate between him and Moses ben Nachman (Nachmanides). Jews fear that no matter the outcome, they will lose, so they plead with Nachmanides to withdraw. The King orders him to continue. Although the outcome is predictable (the Christian "wins"), the King is so impressed that he rewards Nachmanides with a large cash gift. Two years later Nachmanides is convicted for publishing his side of the debate. Although not severely punished by the King, he decides to leave Spain and settles in Eretz-Israel.

1605 – A Jesuit missionary traveling though China writes a letter describing his meetings with Ai T'ien, a Chinese Jewish teacher. Most of what we know regarding the Kaifeng Jewish community is from this correspondence.

1654 – Jacob Barsimon leaves Holland for New Amsterdam, to become its first Jewish resident. A few months later, other Dutch Jews sailing home from Brazil accidentally join him, when kidnapped by pirates and then rescued by a Dutch Navy ship. Taken to the closest Dutch port, New Amsterdam, they become the original 24 now-legendary New York families called the Grandees.

1656 – Baruch Spinoza is excommunicated in Amsterdam, accused of denying the being of Angels, the immortality of the soul and that the Torah was given by God. Offered leniency, Spinoza refuses to apologize. The council forbids anyone to communicate with him

in any fashion or to read any of his books.

1776 – During the American Revolution there are fewer than 2,500 Jews total within the colonies. More than six hundred fight in the war, including the great-grandfather of future Supreme Court Justice Benjamin Cardozo.

1873 – The Union of American Hebrew Congregations, the first American Reform group, is launched in Cincinnati under the leadership of Dr. Isaac Meyer Wise.

1882 – *Rishon Lezion* is founded by ten families in Palestine. Baron Edmund de Rothschild, in response to the Russian pogroms and a plea by Rabbi Samuel Mohilever, agrees to help the new *Moshava*. It is the beginning of Rothschild's deep involvement with settlement activities.

1942 – Adam Czerniakow, the leader of the Jewish council of Warsaw, the *Judenrat*, commits suicide. He leaves behind a diary of over 1,000 pages, chronicling the formation of the ghetto up to the beginning of the forced transports. When ordered by the Germans to provide them with a list of names for deportation, his response is a list of his own name written hundreds of times. The day before his suicide, the Nazi officer in charge of the deportation procedure threatens to shoot his wife if he doesn't cooperate. In his suicide note he writes: "I am powerless, my heart trembles in sorrow and compassion. I can no longer bear all this."

1976 – In what becomes known worldwide as The Entebbe Rescue, 256 hostages from an Air France plane are held prisoner at the Ugandan capital's airport. After eight days they are rescued by Israelis under the command of Yonatan Netanyahu, the current Israeli Prime Minister's older brother and the only Israeli to die in the operation. The United Nations condemns Israel for violating Ugandan sovereignty. ◇

-This Month in Jewish History-

August

1243 – After a ritual murder accusation in Bavaria, fifteen Jews are tortured to death. In a purposeful affront to Jewish law, their corpses are left in the street for a fortnight before burial is allowed.

1321 – Jews in France are accused of encouraging lepers to poison Christian wells. This directly leads to the graver accusations of the same kind during the Black Plague a generation later.

1393 – King John I of Portugal, to prevent "backsliding" by converted Jews, prohibits them from living in the same quarter or even eating together. He is known in Portuguese history as John the Great.

1447 – Following a fire in Posen (Poland) where the original charter granting Jews "privileges" had been written by Casimir the Great, Casimir IV renews all of Jewish rights, making his law one of the most liberal in Europe. The charter is revoked less than a decade later.

1670 – Holy Roman Emperor Leopold I evicts Jews from Vienna, sells the Jewish quarter for 100,000 florins and has it renamed Leopoldstadt in his honor. The synagogue and *Bet Midrash* become St. Margaret's Church.

1840 – British Foreign Secretary Lord Palmerston, in a letter to his ambassador in Constantinople, writes: "There exists...among the Jews...a strong notion that the time is approaching when their nation is to return to Palestine. I strongly recommend to the Turkish Government...to encourage the Jews of Europe to return to Palestine."

1917 – The Jewish Legion of the British Army is established. Championed by Zev Jabotinsky, it is based on the Zion Mule Corps.

Although initially against the idea, most of the leadership of the *Yishuv*, including Ben-Gurion and Ben-Zvi, join after the Balfour Declaration. Over 2,700 men from around the Jewish world volunteer for the Legion. Many see action against the Ottomans in 1918.

1919 – Hungary limits the number of Jews in commerce, law, medicine, and banking. An estimated 5,000 Jews convert to Christianity in the weeks before the law goes into effect.

1925 – From an original proposal by writer Nahum Shtif, European intellectuals such as Albert Einstein and Sigmund Freud establish YIVO (the Yiddish Scientific Institute) in Vilna, Lithuania (then Poland). Its goal is to promote scholarly research in Yiddish, especially on Jewish life and history in Eastern Europe. It also standardizes Yiddish spelling and gathers thousands of documents on Jewish culture and folklore from much of Europe.

1930 – After the 1929 Arab riots in Palestine, Sir John Hope-Simpson is sent by Colonial Secretary Lord Passfield to look into Arab economic complaints. He decides that Palestine has no industrial prospects, and recommends the cessation of all Jewish immigration and a settlement freeze. His report forms the basis for the infamous Passfield White Paper.

1943 – Led by a small group of prisoners using primitive weapons and pistols, inmates at Treblinka attack the guards and burn down the barracks. Between 300 and 500 prisoners escape, though most are either captured or turned over by Polish peasants. The German government decides to close the camp.

1944 – Anne Frank, 15, is arrested with her parents and sister in Amsterdam. Anne is sent to Bergen-Belsen, where she dies in March 1945. ◇

A Sad, Sad Story

The Period of Communal Mourning From Tammuz to Tisha B'Av

by Gloria Avner

It all started on the 17th day of Tammuz (June 29th this year), over 2,000 years ago. That is the day the walls of Jerusalem's sacred Temple were breached, leading ultimately to the Temple's destruction on the ninth day of Av, Tisha B'Av (July 20th this year). For these three weeks, every year, we embark on another Jewish journey, a process not unlike the counting of Omer. This time, though, we are counting tragedies. We go from the minor fast of 17 Tammuz through a period known as "*bein ha-mitzrayim*," "between the straits" (as in dire), an increasingly mournful time, culminating in the second most serious fast in the Jewish calendar, just behind that of Yom Kippur.

Tisha B'Av marks the time when both our Holy Temples were destroyed, and exile, persecution and spiritual darkness descended. But there is more. Here is what happened, starting in Biblical times and moving on to the present.

The Mishnah, the foundational canon of Jewish oral tradition, tells of five tragedies that befell our ancestors on each of the fast days (*Mishnah Ta'anit 4:6*):

- *On the 17th of Tammuz* the tablets [containing the Ten Commandments] were broken; the daily sacrifice was discontinued; the walls of Jerusalem were breached; Apustamus, a Greek officer, burned a Torah scroll; and an idol was erected in the sanctuary of the Temple.

- *On the Ninth of Av* it was decreed that the generation of the desert would not enter the Land of Israel; the first Temple was destroyed; the second Temple was destroyed; Betar, the last Jewish stronghold after the destruction of Jerusalem, was conquered.

These are the bare bones of the tragedies.

Books could and have been written on each.

As we leave Tammuz behind and enter into Av, we become less and less joyful. In fact, joy itself, and any kind of soothing, happy-making luxury, from getting married to applying lotions to wearing new clothes to getting haircuts and making love, are all prohibited.

The last nine days of these three weeks, culminating in the actual fast of *Tisha B'Av*, are an even deeper period of mourning, during which traditional Jews avoid eating meat. As the 9th comes closer, the restrictions become more and more serious, until the complete 24-hour fast itself arrives, when we sit on low stools, observing "shiva" for the whole community and the tragedies that have befallen us.

Tisha B'Av is observed as a day of communal mourning, expressed through fasting and the abstention from pleasurable activities and extraneous diversions. A whole literature of dirges, beginning with the Biblical Book of Lamentations (a book of poetry bemoaning the destruction of Jerusalem by Babylon), has been created to serve the needs of the Jewish community at this time.

We go within. We fast, just as Esther did, and we hope and we pray, that we, too, shall be spared from impending death and destruction. It is not the same fasting and praying we soon will be engaged in at the end of the Ten Days of Awe when we observe Yom Kippur. That is a time for *individual* prayer and fasting, for focus on individual consequences of behavior, for individual redemption. This is a time for *communal* fasting, for mourning what has befallen our people at this season of the year, over and over again. And for doing our best to make sure such does not happen again. ◇

Stained Glass of KJCC

We worship in a sanctuary adorned by beautiful art that tells a rich story all by itself, of our history and our ideas.

One of the enduring qualities of Judaism—at least since 586 B.C.E., when the first Temple was destroyed, the elite of Judah were deported to Babylon and, in the ultimate expression of adaptability in the throes of turmoil, synagogue Judaism was created—is its lack of dependence on place. There is no central site of worship. Anywhere with an Ark and a Torah can become a synagogue; ten adults constitute a community, and ritual worship can begin. Many of us remember, or have seen in our travels, the tiny, dark, claustrophobic little slits of structures that served our parents or grandparents in Europe or Philadelphia or New York or Baltimore.

But that doesn't mean Jews don't like grand buildings full of light and space and beauty. For many years the ban on graven images led rabbis to accept architectural art but not visual art. We were instructed to keep our God in our hearts and minds and imaginations, but not before our eyes. But in the modern age rabbis have relented. Many synagogues now boast elaborate works of visual art. There are still no depictions of

God, but we now see many of the symbols of Jewish history or the familiar icons of Jewish life.

It's been just over eighteen years—chai—since the current KJCC sanctuary was dedicated. Inserted into its roofline windows is a

beautiful and original matched collection of stained glass art created by Miami artist Lisa Ruggles. We all see the huge Shield of David above the front door; it needs no explanation. But how many of you know that the others all represent one of Israel's tribes? How carefully have

you looked at the detail and symbolism of our stained glass? With this issue of Chai-Lights we begin a series discussing our stained glass windows, and begin with the triangular glass art that sits on either side of the *bemah*, to the left and right of the *ner tamid*.



One of two beautiful, back-lit stained glass windows above the *bemah* at KJCC, by Miami artist Lisa Ruggles.

A striking feature of both stained glass pieces above the *bemah*, as well as in several others around the sanctuary, is the bold and vibrant depiction of the sun. It is, of course, heaven's light illuminating the earth, but it is also emblematic of the famed Florida sun-

shine pouring through our sanctuary windows.

On the left, as the congregation faces the Ark, two animals of great symbol swim in the sun's rays—a fish and a dove. In ancient cultures the fish was occasionally a symbol of immortality. In Mesopotamian mythology there was a fish-monster that was killed by their god Marduck, a story similar to the slaying of the Leviathan by the Biblical God. Because they seemed inexhaustible, fish became used as a fertility symbol, which led to their also becoming symbolic of life itself. Jacob blessed his children, that they should multiply like fish in the sea. One legend of the

Messiah says that it will come in the form of a

giant fish from the sea. It's easy to see that from symbolizing fertility the fish has also come to represent abundance, and from abundance, prosperity.

Fish are also prevalent in designs of Havdalah (the brief ceremony ending Shabbat each week) spice boxes. The ceremony closes with the words "May He Who separates the sacred and the everyday, forgive our sins and cause

our children and our money to multiply like the sand." Being a symbol for abundance, the prevalence of fish in Havdalah designs makes perfect sense. Fish are also closely identified



The other stained glass creation above the *bemah* in KJCC's sanctuary. Note that there are six lights, not seven.



This menorah carving is from Beit She'Arim in Israel, 3rd century C.E.

with Purim. The plates used for sending food gifts (*mishloah manot*) are often shaped like fish. Even the month in which Purim takes place is symbolized by fish; its zodiac sign is Pisces.

The dove has long since been a universally understood symbol of peace. So this window incorporates three major wishes of Jewish thought and practice: light, the source of life, emanating from the heavens, to warm and enlighten; abundance and prosperity represented by the fish, and peace, a concept and longing so important to the Jewish people that as a word it also means hello and goodbye.

The window design above the *bemah* to our right is also several symbols in one. The most immediate image is that of a tree, a potent symbol in Judaism as well as the mythology and literature of every other known culture. And its symbolism is always the same: on a basic level it is life itself, a living and replenishing provider of food; on the next level it represents and satisfies other needs, for shelter and shade and privacy and fuel. Ultimately the tree serves the spirit as well. To the mystics it is the unique earthly resident with its roots firmly in earth and its

arms reaching and sometimes entering the heavens. Its structure, with a central core and related branches diverging off and extending from that core, is surely the world's most oft-applied metaphor.

But look closely at our window, and you'll see that there are six branches extending from the tree, and each has a flame at its tip. So the tree is also a candelabrum, a menorah, the ultimate symbol of Judaism. A menorah? With only six candles and not seven? After the destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem in 70 C.E., a rabbinic tradition developed to not copy anything that had existed in the Temple. Menorahs (or, more accurately, *menorot*) for hundreds of years were depicted with only six candles lit; the seventh would be capped with something other than flame. It is only recently that rabbis have decided to again depict *menorot* with seven lit candles or oil cups.



One of the most famous of all menorah depictions, it's on the Arch of Titus in Rome, one of the items being looted by Romans from the destroyed Temple in 70 C.E.

It is said that there were seven *menorot* in the Temple, the *Beit HaMikdash*. The Kohanim, tenders of all things ritual, lit the *menorot* every evening and cleaned them out every morning, replacing the wicks and the olive oil used for the flame. Only one of the seven, according to the Talmud, was left burning all day. (Although the Roman-Jewish historian Flavius Josephus claimed that three

were left burning.) The one left burning was the westernmost one, called the *Ner Elohim* (the lamp of God). The *Ner Tamid* (literally the "forever" lamp or candle) now illuminated in every synagogue is in honor of the Temple's *Ner Elohim*.

So why do we at KJCC have a menorah above our *bimah* and the Ark? Because the *Ner Elohim* stood before the Ark in the Temple in Jerusalem.

The menorah appearing on the emblem of the modern State of Israel was copied from the relief of the Arch of Titus in Rome, which had been erected to commemorate the successful suppression of the Jewish revolt, the conquest of Jerusalem and the destruction of the Temple. (Looked at carefully, the relief clearly depicts Roman soldiers looting the menorah from the Temple. There's also a great irony to the huge and grandiose arch, in that little Judea in three wars almost fought mighty Rome to a standstill, lasting far longer and inflicting more damage than the great Mediterranean power Carthage had not very long before. There was no arch erected after the conquest of Gaul or Britain.)

So on today's Israel flag, the menorah copied from the Arch of Titus is clearly a symbol of defiance, and of continuity. Despite Rome and its symbolic brethren, and exile, and the disbelief of history, the Jewish nation lives and continues to pursue the possibility of redemption and offer itself as an example, to be, as proclaimed in Isaiah, "a light unto the nations."

Next time you're at KJCC, glance up at the stained glass images above the *bimah*. They're beautiful, yes, but they also represent some of the ideas at the very core of Jewish worship. ◇



This menorah is on a coin from the last Hasmonean king, c. 40 B.C.E.

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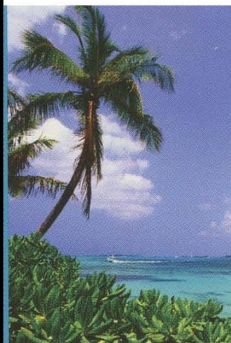
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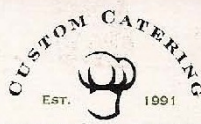
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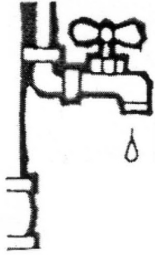
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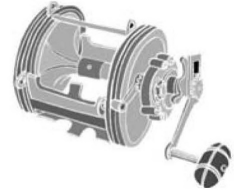
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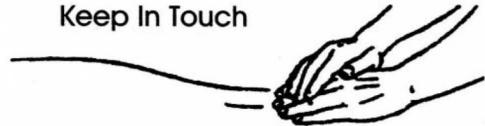


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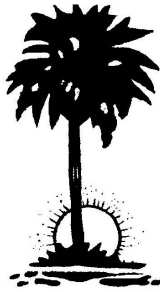
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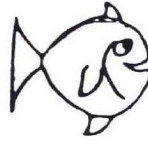
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