



**BETH ABRAHAM SYNAGOGUE**

# Bulletin

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

## Upcoming Events

- April 3: Brunch and Panel Discussion
- April 3: Community-Wide Mitzvah Day
- April 8: Shabbat With A Beat

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ADAR II - NISAN 5771

## Imagine A Place...

By: Janice Krochmal

Imagine a place where you can enjoy the music of internationally known artists, see both foreign and domestic films, learn with famous scholars, study with friends, reach spiritual highs, see an opera, find comfort, dance, sing, act, and enjoy the company of new and old friends. Imagine this place to be right in your own home. That place, of course, is your home, Beth Abraham Synagogue.

Last month at a programming meeting plans were made for many exciting events for next year. We will continue to enjoy the lively Shabbat With A Beat, as well as the summer favorite Shabbat Under the Stars. You can look forward to our many holiday services and celebrations. Next year we will continue the successful Film Series.

We have a wonderful Scholar-In-Residence planned for the fall. The next Susan and David Joffe Scholar-in-Residence weekend, Dec 2-5, will

feature JTS historian Professor Benjamin Gampel, a brilliant teacher and speaker whose specialty is Judaism in the Sephardic world. He will be speaking on the relations between Judaism and Islam through history.

New for next year is an opera series and a weekend filled with music when our Kaplan Concert artist spends Shabbat with us prior to the Sunday concert. We are excited to bring Argentinian-born Cantor Ramon Tasat to Beth Abraham as a musical Scholar-In Residence. Trained in five different countries, he received a doctorate in voice performance from the University of Texas at Austin. Cantor Dr. Ramón Tasat is the Cantor of Shirat HaNefesh, an emerging Jewish congregation in southern Montgomery County, MD. In addition, he is the president of Shalshetet: The Foundation for New Jewish Liturgical Music. He will add a Sephardic flair to our Shabbat With A

Beat Service, inspire us with ways to enhance our personal Passover celebrations and cap off the weekend as featured artist for our Shirley Kaplan Memorial Concert. Together we can study with Cantor Raizen and Rabbi Barsky learning trope, Torah and more.

We have the opportunity to help prepare meals at a shelter, be part of a book club, *shmooze* at the Men's Club Brunches, and come together at the annual Donor Dinner this fall, when we will be honor Steve and Linda Horenstein.

There is a lot happening at Beth Abraham and there is a place at the family table for you! As a matter of fact, it wouldn't be the same without you. Now is your chance. Be part of the planning, join a committee, plan to attend the events. Together we can make this a great year at our home, Beth Abraham.

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## United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism Transforms Itself

By: Rabbi Bernard Barsky

At the first congregational meeting called to discuss the possibility of relocating Beth Abraham - in 2004, when I was still getting to know you - I was struck by how passionately our membership proclaimed its strong commitment to Conservative Judaism. But trying to define exactly what Conservative Judaism means, and what it means to us, is not so easy. On a national and international level, that ambiguity has taken its toll in declining synagogue membership as well as in a weakened loyalty to our organization, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. The question comes up in Board meetings and budget committee meetings again and again: What do we get for our dues to USCJ?

Led - or rather, pushed - by a group of major congregations around the country, USCJ recently proposed, and in March accepted, an impressive "Strategic Plan for the New United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism." At the heart of the plan is a clear new vision of

what is now being referred to as the *kehillah* rather than the "synagogue" or "congregation."

*Kehillah* literally means "community," and in previous generations many synagogues were referred to, for example, as "K.K. Beth Abraham," which meant *Kehillah Kedosha* Beth Abraham, or "The Holy Community of Beth Abraham." Now USCJ is reclaiming that concept of the synagogue as a holy community by re-appropriating that old and honored usage of *Kehillah*.

In the words of the Executive Summary of the new Strategic Plan, our Conservative *kehillot* are "committed to a dynamic Judaism that is learned and passionate, authentic and pluralistic, joyful and accessible, egalitarian and traditional." This strikes me, by the way, as a pretty good description of what we are creating every day at our holy community of Beth Abraham. But it will be a good thing if we can find support and assistance for this from the new USCJ.

The Strategic Plan calls for a much more active engagement of USCJ in

encouraging and developing existing *kehillot* as well as seeding and nurturing new ones. It emphasizes the critical importance of leadership development for the next generation - which happens also to be a significant issue for Beth Abraham on which we can surely use guidance. And the plan anticipates creating "an integrated, collaborative educational system for children in *kehillot*." With the Conservative Movement boasting some of the best scholars and educators in the Jewish world, and one of the best schools of education in JTS's Davidson School of Education, this proposal for a new Movement-wide educational program is both obvious and long overdue.

Of course, the success of such a plan lies not in its vision but in its execution. And based on recent conversations with USCJ, I am hopeful that Beth Abraham may soon be a testing ground for some of these new initiatives, which seem to embody many of the same goals which our own holy community has already set for ourselves.



# The Cantor's Corner

Cantor Andrea Raizen

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As I write this, we are currently in the middle of the Hebrew month of Adar II. This year of 5771 is a leap year, and we have added an entire month to the calendar. We do so to ensure that the upcoming festival of Passover will fall in the spring. I often breathe a sigh of relief in a leap year since I don't have to start cleaning for Passover so early, but unfortunately it does not seem to make me any more organized, as the date inevitably creeps up and I still go into "panic mode." Even with all the preparation and work that goes into Passover, it still remains one of my favorite holidays.

When asked what the core idea of Passover is, we generally respond with freedom. We were slaves in Egypt for over 200 years. God heard our cries, felt *rachmanus* for us and redeemed us from slavery. But there are other themes equally important to this holiday, one being that of Jewish identity.

In the time of the Passover story the Israelites, according to our rabbis, maintained their identity by keeping their Hebrew names, language and dress. Despite the oppression and seeming abandonment by God, they were able to stay connected to one another through a shared sense of identity and a desire to keep the traditions alive.

There was a time where one's Jewish identity was defined primarily by one's familial lineage. Your parents and grandparents were Jewish, therefore you were Jewish. To assert one's Jewish identity was to assert one's continuity within a community that shared common history, teachings and beliefs. But in contemporary American society, that

type of identity is changing. In a recent article by Yehuda Mirsky in "Jewish Ideas Weekly", he states that "instead of signifying that individuals are what they are in any fixed sense, as in  $x=x$ , 'identity' today is often used to indicate that individuals are what they will themselves to be, over time, and in different ways over time. Resistant to classification by any external standard or institution, one's identity is, rather, a complex truth that emerges from within."

This seems to imply that nowadays one may freely choose a path to Jewish identity. If your identity is defined primarily by experiencing Jewish foods and celebrations, perhaps you are classified as a cultural or gastronomic Jew. Those who prefer to celebrate Jewish identity and culture consistent with a humanistic philosophy of life, independent of supernatural authority, identify as humanistic Jews, and so on. Mirsky also points out that "growing numbers of children of intermarried parents now actively identify themselves as Jews, and a significant proportion do so without either converting to Judaism themselves or relinquishing their other ethnic or religious affiliations. To the contrary: this very personal mixing-and-matching, by reference to no traditional formula or dogma, Jewish or otherwise, is for many exactly what makes their Jewish identity meaningful."

So, what is a Jewish educator to do when faced with the challenge of helping to foster a sense of Jewish identity in one's students? If the idea of "opting-in" or choosing one's identity is to be at all meaningful, it must go beyond simply trying out, or trying on a random set of

Jewish trappings. Choosing one's identity is best accomplished if it involves thinking through and affirming the foundational commitments that ground those choices in the first place. In other words, back to basics. And what better time to begin than at the season of Passover, the time that marks our birth and rebirth as a nation. With the extra time that this leap year has given us, take the time to brush up your Seder skills. Review the order of the Seder, practice the four Questions, sing a chorus or two of Chad Gadya. But more importantly, look inward and ponder your own sense of Jewish identity. *Chag kasher v'sameach!*

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## Shabbat With A Beat - April 8, 2011

Join us on Friday, April 8 at 6:15pm for Shabbat With A Beat, a lively, music filled service, featuring our own "Swabbies" (Shabbat With A Beat Band), and delicious catered dinner. Following dinner Cantor Raizen will talk about ways to liven up your Passover Seder. Dinner is \$18 for adults and \$7.50 for children under 13. Please RSVP to the office at 293-9520 or online at [www.bethabrahamdayton.org](http://www.bethabrahamdayton.org) by Wed., April 6.

# How To Celebrate A Festival Of Freedom

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Rabbi Bernard Barsky

Over the years since the 1960's I've participated in Passover Seders –



“feasts of freedom” - which have celebrated Jewish solidarity with the American civil rights movement, the cause

of Soviet Jewry, feminism, the South African anti-apartheid struggle, East European anti-Soviet uprisings, and Israeli-Palestinian human rights and peace initiatives. If we let ourselves get serious for a moment at the Seder, and briefly ignore the brother-in-law or small children clamoring to be fed, the Haggadah seems to demand our attention to the world outside. We are to invite the hungry to join us, and remember that this year we are still enslaved, only to be free “next year.”

Certainly there have been times in our history when Jews could scarce afford to look beyond ourselves and worry about the freedom of others – times we spent celebrating Seders under threat of blood libel accusations, or hiding from the Spanish Inquisition, or in ghettos or concentration camps or Siberian prisons. But we who now have the rare opportunity to recline at our tables in ease and affluence owe it to the God of freedom to look abroad in the world with eyes wide open and declare solidarity with every bent and broken spirit, declare resistance to every Pharaoh. In other words, as some Haggadahs say, we are not free unless everyone is free.

In some cases close to home, like the civil rights and feminist movements, we are able to acknowledge how implicated we have been in the oppression of others. We awaken our conscience to issues we have ignored, and in doing so we change. As we commit ourselves to the emancipation of others, we become freer ourselves. I think every Seder should be a tool for emancipation and

an exercise in what used to be called “consciousness-raising.” It just isn’t enough to celebrate family and brisket when God has called us to freedom and some very close to us are not yet free.

But other stuff goes on all around us that we simply don’t want to look at or know about. And for me, just about the ugliest thing going on right now in America is the cancerous growth of a prison system that, by comparison with the rest of the world, looks like our own home-grown Gulag. While more than one of every 100 adult Americans is living like a slave in prison, can a Jew play the role of the good Egyptian who looks the other way? Not at my Seder!

In 2008 there were 2.3 million people behind bars in this country, the highest rate of incarceration in the world,

*“We who now have the rare opportunity to recline at our tables in ease and affluence owe it to the God of freedom to look abroad in the world with eyes wide open and declare solidarity with every bent and broken spirit, declare resistance to every Pharaoh.”*

dwarfing by far not only other leading democracies, but also the world’s leading tyrannies. We have 762 prisoners per 100,000 residents. Cuba has 487, Iran 214, China only 118 prisoners per 100,000 residents. With only 5% of the world’s population, America holds 25% of the world’s prisoners in its jails – at a time when American crime rates have actually fallen steadily. Once known as the land of the free, America is now the world’s leading prison nation. The spirit of some cruel Pharaoh seems to stalk the land.

Our synagogue bulletin is probably not the best venue for statistics or analysis of a major social ill or how we got here. But with our Passover mandate of freedom, the synagogue itself and the Jewish community ought to be committed to helping redress this prison slave mentality that has swamped our American and Jewish values over the last thirty years.

I am proud that our friend, Judge Walter Rice, invited me to join the Ex-Offender Re-Entry Task Force that he and County Commissioner Debbie Lieberman convened two years ago, and that meetings of the Faith-Based caucus of that Task Force were held monthly for

over a year at Beth Abraham. More recently, Judge Rice asked me to join the Oversight Board of the new Office of Ex-Offender Re-Entry which that Task Force called into being. Montgomery County’s ambitious goal now is to reduce recidivism in Montgomery County by 50% within five years - in other words, to ensure that people coming out of prison into our community *stay out* of prison. We hope our local program will be a model for the nation, and play a role in tearing down the walls of a huge prison industry.

Judge Rice and I, and Bonnie Rice as chair of our Social Action committee, have long wanted to bring the re-entry issue to the attention of Beth Abraham and the Jewish community, and Bonnie urged that the time before Passover, when we are all preparing ourselves for the celebration of freedom, would be the ideal moment.

On Sunday morning, April 3, the Men’s Club brunch program will be one of the most important of the year. I strongly urge

every one of you to be there. Judge Rice and I, and my extraordinary and impressive friend Rev. Sylvia Moseley, whose life work is dedicated to prison ministry and mentoring, along with an ex-offender and a community businessman who successfully employs ex-offenders, will discuss how successful ex-offender re-entry benefits our entire community, and what all of us can do to help this happen.

It is a commandment of the Torah to uphold a brother who has fallen into straits, and to help him live again by our side, in our community. And as the Torah so often does when God imposes on us an obligation toward others which we might begrudge, it reminds us that “I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt.” We cannot celebrate our own deliverance from the slavery of Egypt and yet turn our backs on others among us who need the deliverance that we can help provide. So saith the Lord God of Israel!

Now *Hag kasher v’sameach*. May your festival be joyous and proper, may your brisket be tender and your matzah balls just the way you like them. And consider well how you can stretch the reach of freedom right here where you live.

## Sisterhood News...

By: Helen Abramovitz

In preparation for Pesach, the April Rosh Chodesh Program on Tuesday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. will feature charoset from around the world. We will be in the kitchen making an assortment of charoset from Europe to the near and far east. Help make the charoset, taste it and take some home. Who knows? Your family may want to start a new tradition.

The Sisterhood and Men's Club Shabbat is on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Stanley Blum will give the D'var Torah. Please come to Shabbat services and support your Sisterhood and Men's Club.

Our wonderful Women of Valor luncheon is on Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Invitations have been mailed. Your R.S.V.P. and payment is due by April 27<sup>th</sup>.

This year's final sisterhood meeting will be Sunday, May 15 at 10:00 a.m. At that time we will vote on new Sisterhood officers. The nominating committee is meeting and would really like to hear from Sisterhood members who are willing to take on jobs for the upcoming year. Being active in our organization is indeed a mitzvah as well as a source of great satisfaction.

Sisterhood's next book club will be Sunday June 26. Information about the book and the time will be announced at a later date.

## SUCCESSFUL EX-OFFENDER RE-ENTRY: WHY IT BENEFITS OUR COMMUNITY

Moses, Jonah, King David, the Children of Israel...all were given second chances.

April 3, 2011 (Sunday)

10:00 a.m. to noon at Beth Abraham Synagogue

Light brunch with program to follow  
\$5.00 per person

Join our panel of experts, as we hear a discussion of the ex-offender re-entry program from the perspective of the judiciary, religious leaders, employers and re-entry participants. Please RSVP by March 30<sup>th</sup> at 293-9520.

## Men's Club News

By: Ira Levine

### Brunch Schedule

**April 3:** "Successful Ex-Offender Re-Entry – Why It benefits Our Community" panel discussion with William Anderson, Rabbi Bernard Barsky, Kevin Brook, the Rev. Sylvia Mosley and Judge Walter Rice. This event is co-sponsored by the Beth Abraham Social Action Committee.

**April 9:** Men's Club/Sisterhood Shabbat services and brunch.

**May 1:** "Keruv, Inter marriage, Interfaith Dating" with Douglas J. Segerman and Gary Smith, KIO Region, Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs. This brunch is free.

**May 8:** Mother's Day brunch.

Cost for brunch is \$5.00. You may RSVP to the office or on the web site.

## Take A Few...

Take a few minutes to share your thoughts about the Federation and its agencies, the important challenges facing the Jewish community, and priorities for services. Visit [www.jewishdayton.org](http://www.jewishdayton.org) and click on the link to access the confidential ONLINE SURVEY APRIL 4-15. Your input will help the Federation respond to your needs and concerns as we plan for the future of the Dayton Jewish Community. If you have no internet access, contact Jodi Phares at 610-1555 ext. 1131 for assistance in completing the survey over the phone.

## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE NEWS & UPDATES

By: Bonnie Beaman Rice

Our paper bin for re-cycling has finally arrived! No **PLASTIC BAGS** or **CARDBOARD** allowed.

We have arranged for a broad selection of Kosher for Passover foods at the Krogers on Stroop Road. Once again, thank you Chaya and Helen!

Please remember to support the Jewish Federation's community-wide Mitzvah Day on April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## WELCOME TO YOUR KITCHEN!

(Now put on an apron and pitch in!)

By: Rabbi Bernard Barsky

Everyone at Beth Abraham knows how our Shabbat lunches have helped transform this congregation into a family. And at the heart of every Jewish family is the kitchen, where our dietary and culinary traditions are passed on from generation to generation and our values of cooperation and community are put into practice.

When there's a mother at home, we take for granted that she will always put nutritious food on the table for us. But at Beth Abraham we're all brothers and sisters together, and each one of us needs to pitch in and help.

We need shoppers to buy groceries for the week's menu. It's no small job, so we need enough volunteers to ensure that no one shops more than once a month at most.

We need more helpers in the Friday morning kitchen rotations, so that the regulars who have been cooking our lunches for so long don't burn out.

And from the ranks of our current kitchen helpers we need a few more Captain Cooks who are familiar with the kitchen, the menus and the routines. Right now there are only three Captains in rotation, and we should have at least four or five to ensure that no one needs to be responsible more than once a month.

In fact, without more volunteers stepping into the kitchen, we could have to reduce the frequency of our lunches.

Help keep our family together around the table for Shabbos lunch. Call the office and tell Annette to put you on the list – to shop, to cook, or to step up to Captain Cook!

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# "So, I was thinking..."

*David Fuchsman, Beth Abraham President*

Have you ever noticed how often the number 40 comes in to play in Judaism? It



rained for 40 days and 40 nights in the story of Noah. The Hebrew people spent 40 years in the desert before being able to enter the land of Israel. And the

spies, who surveyed the land before the Hebrews entered, took 40 days to accomplish their mission.

Moses spent three consecutive periods of 40 days and 40 nights on top of Mount Sinai, and his life was divided into three 40 year segments.

King Saul, King David and King Solomon are all believed to have ruled their kingdom; each for a period of 40 years. Goliath menaced the Israelites twice a day for 40 days before David slew him.

And did you know that a mikvah consists of 40 se'ah (approximately 200 gallons) of water?

So why my sudden interest in all things 40? This Shabbat (April 2<sup>nd</sup>) I will chant the Haftorah I chanted 40 years ago for my Bar Mitzvah. It is also the same portion Alex and Jessica chanted for their Bnai Mitzvah five years ago, and

the portion Jack chanted three years ago for his Bar Mitzvah.

It will come as little surprise to you how different my Bar Mitzvah was in 1971, compared to that of our children. My Bar Mitzvah did not take place in my synagogue, because it was under construction at the time. Jack's Bar Mitzvah, thanks to my good friend Matt Arnovitz, was the first Bar Mitzvah to take place in our completed enough new building.

Although I led the entire service, at my synagogue the Bar Mitzvah boy did not read out of the Torah. And girls still did not have their Bat Mitzvahs on Saturdays. My children not only led the full service, they also read from the Torah, including one of the longest Maftirs of the year.

Our children each gave a D'var Torah. I was not allowed to give a D'var Torah because the Rabbi felt it was inappropriate for the Bar Mitzvah boy to "speak down to the congregation."

Our kids had the DJ, with strobe lights, video clips and the hired dance leaders. I had Uncle Bud playing the accordion, and singing "If I were a Rich Man." Just sayin'. And our children gave away customized t-shirts, bubble gum dispensers, flashing drinking glasses and pens to remember the event; not to mention the 50 varieties of glow

sticks. The guests at my Bar Mitzvah were given no party favors, which was probably a favor in and of itself.

My favorite gift was a cassette player/recorder, my children received Ipods. I received a calculator - my kids received a computer.

So what a difference 40 years makes. But were our Bar and Bat Mitzvahs really that different? In simply having a Bar or Bat Mitzvah, we each carried on a tradition that has continued for thousands of years. We each publicly acknowledged a desire to fully involve ourselves in the Jewish community. And we each created eternal moments for our families, our friends, our congregation and ourselves.

And as for me, the passage of 40 years does make a difference. Gone is the crush on Phyllis Sattler, and in is my love for Randi and our children. Gone are the butterflies, and in is a healthy confidence that comes after many years of getting up in front of an audience. And unlike 40 years ago, this time, at the end of the service, I will get to "speak down to the congregation," when as President I give the weekly announcements from my bima perch, two steps above the sanctuary seating. Yes, what a difference 40 years makes.

## *Beth Abraham to Honor Women of Valor May 4*

*By: Meryl Hattenbach*

Beth Abraham Synagogue will honor seven women for their efforts on behalf of the Jewish and general communities when it holds its second Women of Valor luncheon on Wednesday, May 4 at 11a.m.

The 2011 Women of Valor Honorees are:

- Lynda A. Cohen, *of blessed memory*, Educator, Children's Advocate, Yiddishist
- Marsha R. Froelich, Executive Director, Clothes That Work
- Darlene Gutmann, Community Advocate, Property Developer and Manager
- Renee Rubin Handel, Community Volunteer
- Marilyn Klaben, Arts Advocate, Education Director, The Human Race Theatre
- Carole Rabinowitz, Community Volunteer
- Bonnie Beaman Rice, Community Volunteer, Municipal Court Magistrate

The Women of Valor Committee co-chairs, Melinda Doner and Susan L. Katz, summed up the honorees' achievements by noting that they, as a group, "have fed the hungry, counseled and trained the unemployed, fostered diversity, championed the performing arts, advocated on behalf of at-risk youth, supported wellness activities and promoted social action."

We invite you to support Beth Abraham's Sisterhood and Social Action Committee in our "Caring Is Personal" campaign by bringing travel-size toiletries to the luncheon to be donated to local women's organizations.

The luncheon, a fundraiser for the Beth Abraham Synagogue Sisterhood, is open to the community. Invitations have been mailed.



# Library News-Off the Shelf

By: Allan Spetter

“Perhaps the most accomplished woman speaker in American history.” What else can one say about Emma Goldman? For starters she stands out as the most controversial woman of the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Known as “Red Emma” even though communists in every country turned against her, Emma Goldman carried on a fruitless crusade as an anarchist for more than 50 years, but at the same time she waged a much more important fight to try to guarantee freedom of speech in the United States.

The title of Emma Goldman’s biography in the synagogue library book collection, *Rebel in Paradise*, says it all. Along with millions of others, she came to the United States expecting to find a paradise. When Goldman quickly realized that workers in the United States endured conditions not much better than what had existed in Europe, she became a rebel, fighting against an economic system that provided great wealth for a few and almost nothing for many millions.

Born in Lithuania in June, 1869, Emma Goldman joined an older sister in Rochester, New York early in 1886. Women and children worked for even less pay than men, and she went to work in a garment factory for \$2.50 a week! After contributing \$1.50 to her sister’s household expenses and spending .60 cents on carfare, she had .40 cents left for “other things.” Emma Goldman identified with the harsh realities of life for workers all across the United States.

Unfortunately, Emma Goldman chose a life style that in many ways could only be described as “reckless.” She married in February, 1887 when still only 17 years old and divorced less than a year later. Urged by family members to remarry the man, she reluctantly agreed, only to divorce again within months. It is impossible to tell how many times she married or just had relationships, but she became an outcast in the Jewish community of Rochester and moved to New York in August, 1889.

On the day she arrived in New York Goldman made her way to the legendary Sachs’ Café, the meeting place for radicals of all kinds living on the Lower East Side of Manhattan. “Waves of Russian and Yiddish words caressed her ears,” and Goldman knew she had found

a home. Most importantly, she met Alexander Berkman, the love of her life. The two would lead an almost unreal existence for more than 45 years, until Berkman’s death in 1936.

To begin with, while it may sound like an old joke, no two anarchists could ever agree on anything. While anarchism attracted individuals living on the fringe in the United States and in various European countries, nobody could ever explain how such a society, without government, would work. Berkman, born in Vilna, more than a year younger than Goldman, had been in the United States only a year. They agreed on the use of force to bring about change, and they alienated almost everybody in the process.

A strike at Andrew Carnegie’s steel mill in Homestead, Pennsylvania in 1892 led Henry Clay Frick, manager of the mill, to bring in hundreds of “detectives” to keep the strikers away from the mill. A clash followed, and men died on both sides. Berkman decided to assassinate Frick. Goldman provided aid and support. Berkman may have been the most incompetent assassin in history. He shot Frick three times then tried to finish the job with a knife. Frick lived, and Berkman received a 22-year prison sentence.

Authorities could not find evidence to tie Goldman to the crime but became determined to send her to prison. Her reputation as a public speaker continued to grow. Barely five feet tall and suffering from various illnesses, she had a unique ability to stir a crowd. In the Depression of 1893 she urged workers to take bread by any means if the government would not provide it. Arrested and charged with “inciting to riot,” Goldman went to prison for a year.

Without any training Goldman worked as a nurse while in prison. Perhaps giving some thought to earning a living and helping others, Goldman left for Vienna in 1895, where she would study and be certified as a midwife and nurse. She could not abandon her radical activities. When a crazed anarchist assassinated President William McKinley in September, 1901 and Goldman expressed sympathy and understanding for the assassin, she would be described as a “national enemy.”

Berkman served 14 years in prison. When the United States entered World War I in 1917 Berkman and Goldman went to prison for two years on the charge of advising men to resist the draft. After revoking Goldman’s naturalized citizenship, the government sent her to communist Russia in 1919, along with Berkman, who had never become a citizen. Berkman and Goldman turned against the communists, and the two of them more or less wandered from country to country for the next 15-20 years. Goldman died in May, 1940.

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**Surprise!**

**Louise Tanis**

**You have been caught by the Mitzvah Squad doing mitzvot!**

Unbeknownst to our younger members, you put in many service hours as the Co-President of the Covenant House Guild and as the President of Sisterhood. You are a regular attendee at Shabbat services and so many of our synagogue functions. Whenever a volunteer is needed, you willingly step forward. Most recently, you have been sewing together lap blankets every Thursday morning. This commitment to providing warmth to others, with no thought of recognition for yourself is why we are pleased to recognize you. Thank you for all that you have done and are doing.

Mazel Tov to this month’s mitzvah hero!!!

If anyone knows of others within our Beth Abraham community who quietly and routinely perform mitzvot, please contact our Mitzvah Squad by calling Bonnie Beaman Rice at 264-0202.

## Board of Directors Meeting March 15, 2011

The Board of Directors met on March 15, 2011, and the following people were present: Rabbi Barsky, Elaine Arnovitz, Jody Blazar, Alan Chesen, Mark Feuer, Penney Fraim, Steve Fraim, Mike Freed, Annette Fredenburgh, Joel Frydman, David Fuchsman, Meryl Hattenbach, Marc Katz, Susie Katz, Janice Krochmal, Cheryl Levine, Ira Levine, Norm Lewis, Irv Merdinger, Bernie O'Koon, Bonnie Rice, Lee Schear, Mary Rita Weissman, Ralph Williams. Guests: Kelly Freidman, Joel Vandersluis.

President, David Fuchsman called the meeting to order and presented the agenda. Rabbi Barsky presented a D'var Torah.

David introduced Kelly Freidman, who is now running Bingo for Beth Abraham Synagogue and for Dayton Jewish School. Kelly reported he has been in the job for one year and so far Bingo is up 20% over last year. He moved the DJS game from Linden Ave. to Needmore Rd. and business is better there. He expects Bingo to do much better in the coming year.

David introduced Joel Vandersluis, President of the Hillel Board. Hillel Academy has had declining enrollment over a number of years. At present, 26 children attend K-8. A committee was formed to explore alternatives. The committee concluded that the best plan of action was to create a Hebrew Immersion School, which would be a publicly funded Charter School and open to the public. The length of the school day would allow students to pursue other areas of interest on a daily basis. These other areas could be co-located, and provided by an outside agency. Judaic religious studies are anticipated as one option, coordinated by the surviving Hillel entity. Joel took questions from the board and asked for their support. Ralph Williams moved to offer qualified support to Hillel to apply to become a Charter School. No final support will be given until the Board has the terms of a new lease. Mary Rita seconded. The motion passed.

Lee Schear presented the financial report. Dues are ahead of budget and more income will be coming in from Bingo. Sisterhood donated \$15,000 from the proceeds of last year's Women of Valor event. Although the budget is still in a deficit position, hopefully the efforts of the NOW Campaign and the formation of the Financial Resources Development Committee will close the gap.

Susie Katz, chair of the Financial Resource Development Committee, proposed the following resolution to the Board regarding fund raising events at the Synagogue.

Be it resolved that effective immediately, any and all fundraising activities proposed by any component, group, or constituency of Beth Abraham Synagogue, with the intention of soliciting any/all congregants in an amount greater than \$100, will request approval of that activity in keeping with the following procedures:

1. A written request for approval will be submitted to the Financial Resource Development Committee as reasonably early in the planning process as possible. (A form will be made available for the request)
2. The request will contain a full description of the fundraising activity proposed including; date, time, purpose, individuals leading the effort, anticipated audience/participants/donors, anticipated number of audience/participants/donors, anticipated expenditures associated with the activity, anticipated gross revenue associated with the activity, anticipated net result and ultimate recipient of funds raised.
3. Written response will be forwarded within 30 days of the request or as soon after receipt as possible.

Mary Rita moved to accept the resolution and Mike Freed seconded. The motion passed

Bonnie Rice presented a report from the Social Action Committee. The hamantaschen sale is going very well. On April 3 the committee will discuss the re-entry program at the Men's Club Brunch. April 10 will be a community Mitzvah Day. The Paper Bin has finally arrived and is in the parking lot.

Janet Krochmal described the events planned for Purim this year and encouraged everyone to attend. She asked the board members to please consider being chairs for some of the events planned for the next year.

The Board then went into closed session to discuss holding a Board retreat in April and to discuss issues related to Rabbi Barsky's contract renewal.

David Fuchsman adjourned the meeting.

## LET'S GO SHOPPING!

*By: Chaya Vidal*

Purim is over and Pesach is on our minds. That means doing your Passover shopping at the Krogers on Stroop Road. Back in November members of your Social Action committee met with a Krogers manager and presented him with a list of Kosher for Passover products that we wanted his store to carry. We also presented him with a suggested timetable. In spite of the fact that the store was busy with Thanksgiving shoppers, we were promised that Krogers would come through for our holiday. And indeed they have! Besides the obvious 5 pound boxes of matzoh, you'll see a wonderful array of Passover foods. They have the Kosher for Passover jellies, salad dressings, ketchup, cookies, gefilte fish, soups, potato chips, etc.



Kosher for Passover dairy items include Breakstone's butter, Tempte cream cheese, and Mothers parve margarine to name just a few. Bring your shopping lists to that particular Krogers, and if you get a chance give Manager Kirk Richardson a well deserved thank you for the way he responded to our requests. Remember, the stronger our support for his cooperation, the stronger will be our voice in what we can ask of him next year.

**Beth Abraham Synagogue**  
**305 Sugar Camp Circle**  
**Dayton, OH 45409**

**Address Service Requested**

|                          |                      |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| Rabbi                    | Bernard Barsky       |
| Cantor                   | Andrea S. Raizen     |
| President                | David Fuchsman       |
| Vice-President           | Scott Liberman       |
| Vice-President           | Ralph Williams       |
| Honorary Vice-President  | Joel Frydman         |
| Treasurer                | Lee Shear            |
| Secretary                | Bernadette O'Koon    |
| Men's Club President     | Ira Levine           |
| Sisterhood President     | Elaine Arnovitz      |
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| Cantor Emeritus          | Jerome B. Kopmar     |

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## Times for Shabbat and Yom Tov Candle Lighting & Services

### Friday, April 1

Kabbalat Shabbat 5:30 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 7:42 p.m.

### Saturday, April 2

Shacharit 9:00 a.m.  
Havdalah 8:46 p.m.

### Friday, April 8

Mincha 6:00 p.m.  
Shabbat with a Beat 6:15 pm  
Candle Lighting 7:49 p.m.

### Saturday, April 9

Shacharit 9:00 a.m.  
Havdalah 8:53 p.m.

### Friday, April 15

Kabbalat Shabbat 5:30 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 7:56 p.m.

### Saturday, April 16

Shacharit 9:00 a.m.  
Havdalah 9:00 p.m.

### Monday, April 18

**Erev Pesach**  
Shacharit 6:30 a.m.  
Candle Lighting 7:59 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 19

**First day Pesach**  
Morning Service 9:00 a.m.  
Mincha/Maariv 5:30 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 8:01 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 20

**Second day Pesach**  
Morning Service 9:00 a.m.  
Mincha/Maariv 5:30 p.m.  
Havdalah 9:04 p.m.

### Thursday, April 21

**Chol Hamoed Pesach**  
Morning Service 6:40 a.m.  
Mincha/Maariv 5:30 p.m.

### Friday, April 22

**Chol Hamoed Pesach**  
Morning Service 6:40 a.m.  
Kabbalat Shabbat 5:30 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 8:03 p.m.

### Saturday, April 23

**Shabbat Chol Hamoed Pesach**  
Shacharit 9:00 a.m.  
Havdalah 9:07 p.m.

### Sunday, April 24

**Chol Hamoed Pesach**  
Morning Service 8:30 a.m.  
Candle Lighting 8:05 p.m.

### Monday, April 25

**Seventh day Pesach**  
Morning Service 9:00 a.m.  
Mincha/Ma'ariv 5:30 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 8:07 p.m.

### Tuesday, April 26

**Eighth day Pesach**  
Morning Service 9:00 a.m.  
Yizkor 10:45 a.m.  
Mincha/Ma'ariv 5:30 p.m.  
Havdalah 9:10 p.m.

### Friday, April 29

Kabbalat Shabbat 5:30 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 8:10 p.m.

### Saturday, April 30

Shacharit 9:00 a.m.  
Havdalah 9:14 p.m.

### Friday, May 6

Kabbalat Shabbat 5:30 p.m.  
Candle Lighting 8:17 p.m.

### Saturday, May 7

Shacharit 9:00 a.m.  
Havdalah 9:21 p.m.

If you need transportation to any Beth Abraham Shabbat service or Shabbat event, please call the office (293-9520) at least a few days before the service or event and the synagogue will help you find a ride. If you would like to volunteer to be a driver either on a regular basis or for a particular event, please contact the office at 293-9520. This is a project of the Beth Abraham Social Action Committee.