

# Bulletin

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

VOLUME 20, NUMBER 5

NOVEMBER 2023

HESHVAN - KISLEV 5784

## In This Issue:

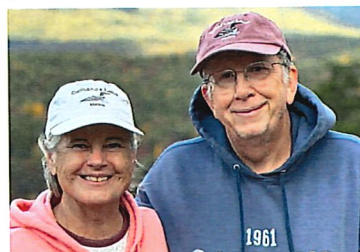
- Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas? - pg. 4
- Hanukkah Save the Date - pg. 4
- Social Action Update - pg. 11

## CELEBRATING THE JOURNEY TO JUDAISM NOVEMBER 18TH SHABBAT

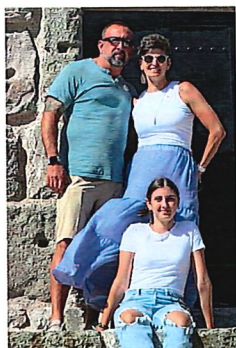
Please join us for Shabbat services on Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> as we honor and celebrate the following individuals who have completed their conversion and are joining our Beth Abraham family.

### JoAnn (Annie) Chambers:

JoAnn became interested in learning more about Judaism when visiting her niece, who is Jewish by choice, and participated in numerous Shabbat dinners and attended services with her in Nashville at Congregation Sherith Israel. She first visited Beth Abraham last fall, and immediately felt at home. She decided to become a Jewish person by choice after realizing that her heart and soul are Jewish by Nature, and describes Judaism as embracing "a way of living and being, as a culture, as a philosophy, as a history of a people, and much, much more. Judaism is a way of shalom, a totality of being in both spiritual and physical realms." JoAnn is already an active part of our community, and looks forward to contributing "to the totality of All Beings, one *mitzvah* at a time."



JoAnn & husband Mike



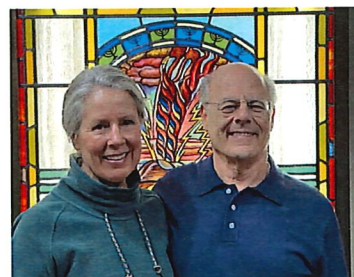
Ben, Stephanie, & Delaney

### Ben and Stephanie Goodstein:

Ben states that his father was an Orthodox Jew, and as a child Ben studied both Judaism and Christianity. Stephanie was raised Catholic. About 7 years ago Ben began looking into Judaism as he had fond memories of going to shul regularly with his great grandfather. He studied for about a year on his own, and eventually discussed it with Stephanie. They decided to start attending services and studying with Chabad. Ben writes: "We are grateful for all that we learned there, but knew that Beth Abraham would be a better fit for us and (daughter) Delaney." They began attending Beth Abraham in March of this year and studying with Rav Glazer. Their family appreciates the welcoming nature of Beth Abraham, and they look forward to becoming "more involved in life and *mitzvot*" here.

### Margaret Maimon:

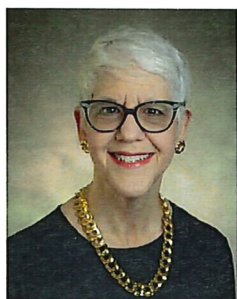
Margaret's initial interest in Judaism began with her Jewish husband, Walt Maimon. She states: "I did not need to convert to share his Jewish life. I explored conversion because I was drawn to the religion." For her, Judaism's ancient rituals, traditions and laws provide a guide to a meaningful way of life. Margaret describes her process as a journey; more than study or reading a body of literature. "It is a story of shared conversations, shared beliefs, and shared experiences with the Beth Abraham congregation." She is excited about this first step of the journey and looks forward to seeing where she will go from here. Like JoAnn, Margaret has also become an active volunteer.



Margaret & husband Walt



## The Cantor's Corner Cantor Andrea Raizen



Several years ago I was talking to my mother on the phone shortly after she returned from my 5 year old great-nephew's birthday party.

The party featured science related activities, like making their own "slime" and doing a variety of experiments. My mom watched at one station where the children were anxiously awaiting the outcome of an experiment and suggested that they say the "magic word" to hasten the result. Expecting to hear "*Abracadabra*," she was surprised to instead hear, "please." It made me chuckle as I suddenly remembered all the words to a song on my Captain Kangaroo album from my early childhood. "There are two little magic words that can open any door with ease. One little word is thanks and the other little word is please." I know these children didn't learn it from the beloved Captain, but I am heartened to know it is still part of childhood training.

After a month of Jewish holidays in the fall, I always look forward to a good old American Thanksgiving in November. I enjoy the feeling of celebrating a holiday at the same time and in the same way as my neighbors. With just a few adjustments in the menu to accommodate the issues of *kashrut*, the feasts are almost identical. But, hopefully, the holiday for all of us is more than turkey, mashed potatoes, pumpkin pie and football.

The idea of giving thanks is nothing new to us as Jews. Our liturgy is full of expressions of thanksgiving. The very first words that we recite upon awakening in the morning are "Modeh Ani," "I am grateful," or an even better translation, "I thankfully acknowledge." The many forms of the Hebrew *l'hodot* in our prayers help direct our thoughts to the role that God plays in our lives. Our prayers help us to stop and take

note of the wonders of creation. Jewish prayer is crafted in such a way that, although we are offering praise to God, it asks us to examine ourselves and determine if our actions are a reflection of God's love and caring for us. It inspires us to be an extension of God's work in the world, sensitizing us to others and their needs. Along with thankfulness goes gratitude. The Hebrew expression for gratitude is *hakarat hatov*, "recognizing the good." This implies that practicing gratitude means to recognize the good that is already ours. As we read in *Pirkei Avot*, "Who is rich? He who is happy with what he has." This does not mean that we should not strive to better ourselves, rather we should focus more on what we *do* have than what we *don't*.

Sometimes we need to go beyond prayer to understand the struggles of others and inspire us further to take action. Many of you might remember an event called the "Food Stamp Challenge." It was an annual program that challenged people to purchase and eat food for a week, using only the monetary equivalent of what one would receive through the US federal government Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Those benefits for years equaled about \$6.50 per day. This was no easy task, but certainly a way to drive the point home. As Thanksgiving approaches, this is a good time to remember that in Dayton, 1 in 4 children experience food insecurity. As you plan and prepare your Thanksgiving meals, please remember to pick up a few extra items to keep our

food barrels full for our local foodbank. *Hodu l'Adonai*, Give thanks to Adonai, and I wish you all a happy Thanksgiving.

### BETH ABRAHAM



#### GIVING SOCIETIES

##### CHAI SOCIETY

MIKE FREED  
STEVEN & LINDA HORENSTEIN  
TERRY & MARLENE PINSKY  
ALLAN\* & BRENDA RINZLER  
NORM & MARY RITA WEISSMAN

##### RABBI'S MINYAN

LARRY & CINDY BURICK  
BRUCE & DEBBIE FELDMAN  
DAVID & SUSAN JOFFE  
MARC KATZ & JULIE LISS-KATZ  
EDWARD & MARCIA KRESS  
MICHAEL & ELLEN LEFFAK  
ALLEN LEVIN  
DONALD & CAROLE MARGER  
LEE & PATTI SCHEAR  
ANDREW & PAMELA SCHWARTZ  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

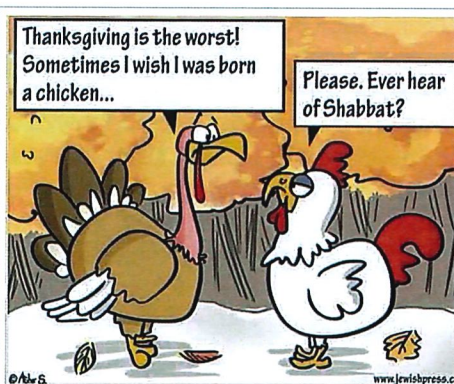
##### CANTOR'S CHOIR

ADAM & TARA FEINER  
MICHAEL & MARCIA\* JAFFE  
IRVIN & GAYLE MOSCOWITZ  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

##### PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE

BETH ADELMAN  
MATT & ELAINE ARNOVITZ  
BILL & MELINDA DONER  
DOUGLAS & BETHANY EINSTEIN  
DENEAL & ESTHER FELDMAN  
GARY & IRENE FISHBEIN  
LYNN FOSTER  
JOEL & ANGELA FRYDMAN  
RENAE FRYDMAN  
MICHAEL & ROCHELLE\* GOLDSTEIN  
SAMMYE HARRISON\*  
STANLEY & SUSAN KATZ  
NORM & KAY LEWIS  
SCOTT & ANN LIBERMAN  
DAVID & JOAN MARCUS  
ALAN & MYRNE MOSCOWITZ  
WALTER RICE & BONNIE BEAMAN RICE  
REX & LOUISE TINCER  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION  
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

\*OF BLESSED MEMORY

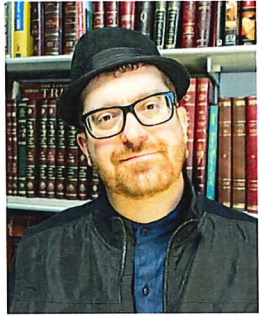




## WHAT A “COLD AND BROKEN” HALLELUJAH FEELS LIKE SUNG TOGETHER

RAV AUBREY GLAZER

There was something in the air when we gathered in concentric circles on the

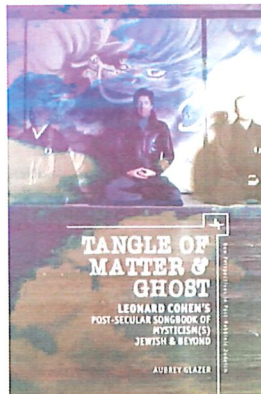


Bima one week after the Simchat Torah massacre in Israel and sang fragments from “Hallelujah” - it was

indeed “cold and broken” but at the same time cathartic and healing. Written by Montreal’s iconic poet and singer-songwriter Leonard Cohen, he redrafted these lyrics over and over again and yet it has become for many a truly contemporary classic that gives it the power of a canonical prayer. Or is it heresy to make such a claim? Moreover, how does it sweeten the pain we feel now, especially during the loneliest month on the Hebrew calendar, MarHeshvan (aka November)?

“Hallelujah” was a sleeper hit for Cohen. When originally released it was panned in the USA but drew strong interest from generations of devoted listeners in Canada, Europe, and Israel. It is now even sung in Hebrew, Arabic, and Yiddish! Truth be told, when I began writing my book on Cohen’s post-secular poetics, *Tangle of Matter and Ghost* (2017), I did not see the need to devote a chapter to “Hallelujah” as it had already been discussed by several cultural critics and recorded more than 80 times by many different artists. However, just before Cohen’s passing on November 7, 2016, I had a change of heart; I was convinced that Cohen’s “cold and lonely Hallelujah” needed to be reexamined since it dovetailed so powerfully with his final death-bed psalm, “You Want it Darker” (2016), which also explores the possibility of discovering meaning amidst the pain and suffering of life (and death).

“Hallelujah” purportedly has at least fifteen (and maybe many more lost) stanzas, of which very few verses made it off the editing room floor into the version most of us recognize. Cohen performed the first version on the world tour supporting the release of the record *Various Positions* (1985) and then the second version on his 1988 and 1993 tours, releasing it again on *Cohen Live* (1994) as well as *Live in London* (2009) and *Live in Dublin* (2013). Contrary to urban legend, Jeff Buckley did not write the other verses in his angelic cover of the song; it is only that Cohen never performed both versions as one merged piece - that was first done by John Cale (with Cohen’s blessing and eventually recorded by Cale on the tribute album, *I’m Your Fan*).



Of all the stanzas, I think the one that most satiates our appetite “for something like religion,” as Cohen once described his work at a Jazz festival, is found here in the following words:

“Maybe there’s a God above  
As for me, all I’ve ever seemed to  
learn from love  
is how to shoot at someone who  
outdrew you.  
But it’s not a complaint that you  
hear tonight,  
It’s not the laughter of someone  
who (claims to) have seen the light  
no, it’s a cold and it’s a very lonely  
Hallelujah!”

It is Cohen’s willingness to confess his uncertainty, doubt, and pious agnosticism - what I refer to as his avowedly “post-secular” inclination - that calls out and speaks so profoundly to listeners today. While there were many who claimed that modernity was the ultimate realization of secularism and that the enchantment of religion was dead and gone, Cohen insisted that there remained a hunger for spiritual *re-enchantment*. Interwoven with references to the biblical figures of King David (the “sweet singer”) and Bathsheba, and Samson and Delilah (who “cut your hair”) - ranked amongst the more complicated and compromised characters in the Hebrew Bible - Cohen invites us to explore the precariousness of human life, including our capacity to act as both heroes and scoundrels in the same breath. Further, Cohen opens for us a discussion on the act of prayer amidst the messiness of life. Is there a God- “Maybe...” If so, why is it that love and hate, violence and peace constantly compete for ascendancy? What is the seeker to do in such a world - cry out in lament (“complaint”)? Assume the triumphalist posture of “someone who (claims to) have seen the light?” No, the only thing Cohen can do is utter his “cold” and “very lonely” Hallelujah- for what is, what is not, and for what could be. This posture of pious agnosticism allows Cohen to respond to his critics- inner or outer - who question his experimental and tentative life quest (including an intensive period of Buddhist study and practice):

“You say I took the Name in vain;  
I don’t even know the name.  
But if I did, well, really, what’s it to  
you?  
There’s a blaze of light in every  
word;

(cont’d on page 5)





## HANUKKAH CELEBRATION SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars now for **Saturday, December 9** (the third night of Hanukkah) at 7:00 PM as we come together for our Beth Abraham Hanukkah family celebration! More information to follow!



## SIGN UP BY NOVEMBER 3RD!

### GUESS WHO'S COMING TO SHABBAS?



For Beth Abraham members, please join in for this fun Shabbat dinner at other member's homes, on **Friday, November 17th**. Enjoy meeting fellow Beth Abraham members while having Shabbat dinner together.

You can choose whether you want to be a guest or a host. Remember, there are only two expectations for our hosts:

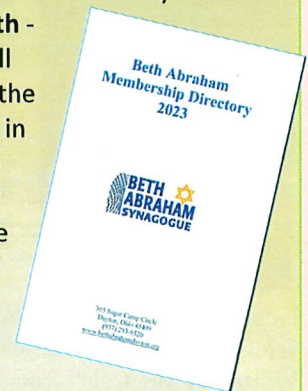
1. to provide a pareve or dairy dinner; and,
2. to recite the brachot for the candle lighting, the wine, and the challah.

As always, we need many more guests than hosts to make the program successful, so don't be shy...Be our guest! Links to sign up are in the weekly News & Notes email. Please sign up no later than **November 3rd**.



## DIRECTORY TIME!

Have you moved in the last year? Changed your phone number or added a cell number? Please check your listing in last year's directory and make sure it is correct. Let us know if you have changes by **December 7th** - we'll be getting set to roll out the latest edition of the Beth Abraham Directory in January, and we want to make sure we have your correct info. Just give the office a call or shoot us an email!



## YOM KIPPUR APPEAL REMINDER

Did you enjoy the High Holidays at Beth Abraham, in person or streaming? Excited about the upcoming year? If you have forgotten or not yet sent in your Yom Kippur Appeal, it's not too late! As we hope for 100% participation, any amount is welcomed and appreciated. Thank you.



Sunset in the Sukkah had great attendance this year!



# IN THE BETH ABRAHAM FAMILY

## We Gratefully Acknowledge...these thoughtful contributions

### Cantor Raizen's Discretionary Fund

#### **In memory of**

**Rochelle Goldstein**, by Miriamne Krummel & Matt Adkins

#### **In honor of**

**Henry Guggenheimer's birthday**, by Ralph & Diane Williams

### General Fund

#### **In memory of**

**Ruby Pilder**, by Bert & Wanda Pilder  
**Malcolm Block**, by Barry & Janet Block & family

**Alvin Fuchsman**, by Scott & Ann Liberman

**Rochelle Goldstein**, by Gary & Irene Fishbein, Jerry & Joanne Hillelson, Judy Woll & Ron Bernard, Irvin & Gayle Moscovitz, Marc Katz & Julie Liss-Katz

#### **In honor of**

**Matt Arnovitz's birthday**, by Edna & Gerald Willis

**Henry Guggenheimer's birthday**, by Edie & Janel Pequignot, Bob & Suzanne Thum

**Amy & Marshall Lachman's glazing adventure**, by Andi Scher Rabiner

#### **Speedy recovery**

**David Rothschild**, by Judy Woll & Ron Bernard

### Gerald Wilks Fund

#### **In honor of**

**Anne Burke's birthday**, by Howard & Sue Ducker

### Ida Pinsky Fund

#### **In memory of**

**Ida Goodman**, by Carole & Donald Marger

### Joel Horenstein Fund

#### **In memory of**

**Irving Fishbein**, by Mary Ann Oppenheimer

**Joseph Y. Tuck**, by Audrey Tuck

**Helene Sureck**, by Dena Briskin

**Larry Briskin**, by Dena Briskin

**Helga Landau**, by Henry Guggenheimer

**Sylvia Wall**, by Henry Guggenheimer

#### **In honor of**

**Henry Guggenheimer's special birthday**, by Dena Briskin

#### **Speedy recovery**

**David Rothschild**, by Steve & Linda Horenstein, Dena Briskin

### Kiddush Fund

#### **In memory of**

**Joseph Frankowitz**, by Adele Krug

#### **In honor of**

**Renate Frydman**, by Miriamne Krummel & Matt Adkins

### Rav Glazer's Discretionary Fund

#### **In memory of**

**Barbara Guggenheimer**, by Henry Guggenheimer

**Rick Pinsky**, by Jennifer Schriber

#### **In honor of**

**All the volunteers who made the High Holiday services run so smoothly**, by Susie & Eddie Katz

### Ritual Fund

#### **In memory of**

**Hannah G. Miller**, by Mindy Metz & Heather Metz

**Marian Plotnick**, by David Plotnick & family

**Sarah Lewis**, by Norm & Kay Lewis

**Annette Rennemann**, by Ann & Scott Liberman

**Mary Louise Dreety**, by Phil & Louisa Dreety

**Sally Wasserman Cruz**, by Carol Nathanson

**Charles Feldman**, by Bari & Steve Blumhof

**Hal Feldman**, by Bari & Steve Blumhof

**Albert Kravitz**, by Myron Stayman

**Jack Tilson**, by Myron Stayman

### Sanderow-Tannebaum Fund

#### **In memory of**

**Rochelle Goldstein**, by Barbara Sanderow

### Social Action Fund

#### **In memory of**

**Rifke Pomeranz Krummel**, by Miriamne Krummel & Matt Adkins

**Jonah Chesen**, by Miriamne Krummel & Matt Adkins

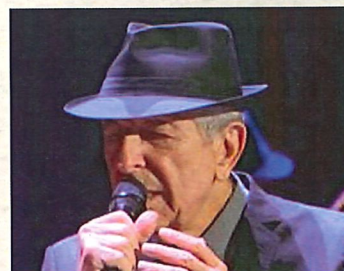
### (cont'd from page 3)

it doesn't matter which you heard, the holy, or the broken Hallelujah!"

Cohen insists that there are revelations to be discovered along the winding path of life—between Mount Sinai and Mount Baldy (where he lived as a Buddhist monk off and on through the years in retreat)—when eternity utters a moment, when we truly see the "blaze of light" hidden in "every" word. Cohen, the high priest

of heresy, invites us to embrace our broken heartedness while holding out hope for healing and greater holism. Like the Hasidic master Rabbi Menahem Mendel of Kotzk taught over 150 years ago, "there is nothing as whole as a broken heart." This broken wholeness in need of healing is what was palpable that Shabbat together and echoes through the loneliest month on the Hebrew calendar that marks the Montreal bard's yahrzeit 6<sup>th</sup> of MarHeshvan, 5777 (November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2016) - that

enduring power of Leonard Cohen's "holy" and "broken Hallelujah."





## In the Beth Abraham Family

Thanks to the following Service Sponsors:

**October 7** – In honor of Henry Guggenheimer's 95th birthday by Dena Briskin & the Guggenheimer & McCloskey families

**October 14** – No sponsor

**October 21** – In honor of Rav Glazer's first year at Beth Abraham by Garry and Mindy Greene

**October 28** – The Vandersluis family with prayers for peace in Israel

**Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries  
in November:**

### November Birthdays

3	Lynn Goldenberg
4	Sandy Sloane-Brenner
4	Maya Liner
5	Penney Fraim
7	Dahlia Levinson
8	Meredith Levinson
9	Jody Pollack Blazar
10	Michael Jaffe
11	Alan Moscovitz
11	Francine Shuchat Shaw
12	Ken Krochmal
12	Wanda-Lea Pilder
14	Eric Sussman
14	Benjamin Goorskey
15	David Plotnick
18	Rabbi Bernard Barsky
18	Michael Goldstein
19	Howard Michaels
19	Diana Poole
19	Stephen Levinson
20	Linda Brotkin
21	Judy Schwartzman
21	Lois Gross
21	Anna Trakhter
23	Sanford Wolfe
23	Patti Schear
24	Renate Frydman
24	Laurie Braverman

25	Norm Lewis
26	Bella Freeman
27	Eden Lubow
27	Shirley Frankowitz
27	Philip Goldstein
28	Enrique Ellenbogen
29	Brenda Rinzler
30	Roger Chudde

### November Anniversaries

7	Richard & Erika Zawatsky
10	Michael & Marcie Sherman
18	Steve & Taryn Wagenfeld
26	Todd & Jody Sobol
29	Timothy & Charlotte Johnson
30	Adam & Tara Feiner

\*\* If your birthday or anniversary is not listed above, please call the office so we can put it in the database

### WE RECORD WITH GREAT SORROW THE PASSING OF:

Adele Reingold  
Ian Rosenthal, brother of Bonnie Parish

## A THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH AND BULLETIN VOLUNTEERS

So many visitors, as well as members, describe Beth Abraham as being memorable and meaningful to them because of our welcoming nature. One important part of that is the dedication and hard work of our many kiddush and Bulletin volunteers. We want to let you know how much you are appreciated; it just wouldn't be the same without you! Our kiddush Captains, helpers, shoppers and *mashgiachim* all are dedicated to making Beth Abraham a welcoming place by chopping, sauteing, mixing and assembling a hearty meal each week. Bulletin volunteers assist in assembling, folding, and preparing the Bulletin for mailing once a month. On a few occasions we've had to change days for this process at the last moment, but they never let us down!

In addition to performing a *mitzvah*, everyone has a good time volunteering. Their help means so much to us. We can always use a few extra hands – let us know in the office if you'd like to join in the fun!



Bulletin volunteers take a quick break for a photo!



# YAHREZITS

*This list represents yahrzeits for this month as listed in Beth Abraham's database. If we have missed a name, please call the Synagogue office at (937) 293-9520 and let us know so we can update our records.*

## ***This November (Heshvan - Kislev) we remember:***

<b>HESHVAN</b>	Rachel Kaplan	Sherman L. Saeks	Harold Bloom	Frank Isack	Harry Rubin
Frank Adelman	Sylvia Katz	Jacob Schneider	Pauline Brill	Abe Jacobson	Jennie Sachs
Ida Appelblatt	Leonard Katz	Kenneth Schriber	Isadore Brown	Gerald Jacobson	Irene Sachs
Gladys Atkins	Clara Klass	Louis Schriber	Si Burick	Gunther I. Jacobson	Shirley Sadow
Robert E. Bernstein	Joseph Klausner	Eva Schultz	Charles R. Carlisle	Morris Kahn	Sarah Saeks
Lawrence Blumberg	Samuel Kramer	Ted Schwartz	Rebecca Center	Bertha Kahn	Hyman Saeks
Murray Borkan	Regina Krochmal	Miriam Schwartz-	Robert Chernick	Minnie Kaplan	Morris Sassov
Chayim Isaac Brauer	Orville Kuhr	man	David Chesen	Sarah Katz	Oscar Scheuer
Bernice Brown	Walter Kurland	Ben Shirer	Sarah Chudde	Lilli Kirchheim	Frances Schneider
Saul Layb Chodos	George Layton	Libbie Shottenstein	Clara Cohen	Blanche Kisch	Sarah Schwartz
Jennie Cohen	Frieda Leet	Benhamin Siegel	Mollie G. Cohen	Louis Klebanow	Bertha Sender
William Cohen	Gertrude Lefkowitz	Isabelle Stecker	Sylvia Cooper	Leo Koenigsberg	Fannie Shalf
Bertha Cunix	Isabel Lerner	David Stern	Abe Coplan	Ben Kopelove	Joseph Shutly
Mary Deutsch	Irvin Lieberman	Melvin Sumner	Joseph Dreety	Moses Kopelove	Benjamin Singer
Anna Deutsch	Dorothy Liss	Temple	Danny Duberstein	Ralph Kopelove	Kenneth M. Speert
Ruthe Dorfman	George Lubin	Herbert Tomchin	Shirley Dunn	Murray Krueger	Betty Starkman
Norma Dreety	Ilene Marshall	Edith Tracht	Joseph Ellison	Myra Jean Lapinsky	Irving Stein
Louis Dubro	Pearl Mason	Henry Wahrman	Sety Farache	Joseph Leibovich	Ruthe Stein
Alan Michael Effron	Chaya Bluma	David Weinstein	Selma Farnbacher	Naomi Leven	Anna Stoolman
Sylvia Ellenbogen	Maybruck	Ethel Wilks	Ruth Fiddler	Loretta Leven	Eva Summer
Tili Faiga Ellison	Tessie Meyer	Rose E. Wilks	Ruth Frankowitz	Carol Levitan	Jordan Tilson
Abraham Ellman	Samuel Miller	Abe Wilks	Rebecca Friedman	Sadie Levy	Melvin David Verson
Hal Feldman	Irving Miller	Ada B Wolfe	Arlene Furst	George Lewis	Fred Weber
Belle Feldman	Elsie Mintz	Neil Zwelling	Sarah Furst	Lillian Liberman	Frances Weil
Mollie Felman	Ann Moran	Ruth Zwerner	Harry Gaffin	David Liberman	Hyman Weinhaus
Louis Fink	Lester Myers		David Garber	Howard Liss	Lillian Weinstein
Howard Fischbach	Lillian Newhouse	<b>KISLEV</b>	Tillye Garlikov	Rose Litt	Rose Weinstein
Anna Fishkind	Abraham Parker	Jodi Abrahamson	Harry Gilfer	Rose Mann	Jacob Weinstein
Sam Fleat	Donald Pinsky	Helen Abromowitz	Lillian Glasman	Isaac Mathews	Jane Wilks
George Foreman	Leo Pollack	Bernard Appel	Michael Goldberg	Sandra Monblatt	Blanche Wyke
Manuel Freeman	Bernard Precker	Frieda Appel	Dorothy Gordon	William Nides	Edna Zakem
Fred Gertzman	Nathan Prigozen	Rubin Arnold	Mat Grinker	Vernon Pavlofsky	Nathan Zimmerman
David Goldsmith	Dorothy Rabinowitz	Jack Arnovitz	Morris Groban	Leatrice Phillips	Max Zwelling
Louis Goldstein	Irwin Reingold	Rosetta Aronson	Mary Gutmann	Goldie Rabinowitz	
Abraham Gordon	Jennie Rich	Meyer Aronson	Rose Halberstein	Esther Reich	
Bernard Gutmann	Stanford Rosen	Sadie Auster	Christopher Hayden	Sam Rosenbaum	
William Handler	Aaron Rosenkrantz	Joseph Balshone	Dora Horwitz	Elizabeth Rosichan	
Howard Hillelson	Albert Rosenthal	Max Beloff	Morris Horwitz	Ronald Ross	
Sadie Joffe	Berthold Rothschild	Mary Bessel	Jake Hulman	Shlomo Rossow	
Bobbie Kantor	Gerald Rubin	Mitchell Blazar	Abraham Hyman	Erika Roth Green	



## **SHOPPING EARNS MONEY FOR BETH ABRAHAM**

Don't forget - you can help raise funds for the synagogue without sending us money! Here is info to sign up if you haven't already done so. If you need help, call the office and we'll be glad to assist you.

**Kroger Shopping:** go to [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards) and follow the prompts to register your card. **Beth Abraham's ID # is 85475.**

**DLM Shopping:** go to [www.dorothyane.com/goodneighbor](http://www.dorothyane.com/goodneighbor), and enter your name, DLM card number and **Beth Abraham's ID #798.** This card must be renewed every year.

**CARS:** Do you have a car you would like to donate? Call the toll-free CARS number (855-500-7433) and CARS handles the process from there. **All these are easy ways to help Beth Abraham!**



## From the President's Desk...

Scott Liberman, Beth Abraham President

**Below are Scott's remarks made at Kol Nidre:**



So, it was thirty-five years ago, when I was a first-year law student at UD, that I first found myself in the upstairs balcony of Beth Abraham on Salem Avenue. I

remember feeling comfortable here with the familiar melodies and prayers for my first High Holidays in Dayton. I remember the greetings from Helen and Jerry Jacobson after the service and remember the Ritz crackers and apple juice as the first food to break the fast.

Or it was sixteen years ago when Susie Katz, Ellen Leffak and I sat in Ellen's office having a first telephone interview of Cantor Raizen, who would become the religious school teacher to my two daughters.

Or it was one year ago, when Rav Aubrey and Elyssa first came through those doors to surprise the congregation just in time for Rosh Hashanah.

You each have at least one of these...a "first time" memory from Beth Abraham. Whether it was the first time you attended a Beth Abraham service, the first time you met someone new in shul, the first time you heard a new melody - a *niggun* or a verse of Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah*, the first time you read Torah, the first time you sponsored a Shabbat kiddush, or the first time you heard me tell you what national day is being observed.

Yom Kippur is a day of reflection, introspection and transformation - a day when we turn our gaze inward to examine our lives, which is woven with the threads of those unforgettable first moments and enduring memories. In the grand narrative of Judaism, we find ourselves rooted in a history defined by significant "first times." From the

moment of creation to the exodus from Egypt, from the revelation of the Torah at Mount Sinai to the dedication of our holy Temples, these monumental milestones serve as markers of our first identity as a people. They shape the framework of our beliefs, the foundation of our faith, and the spirit of our community.

As we gather on Yom Kippur to reflect on the past and seek forgiveness for our transgressions, let us pause and remember the countless personal "first times" and memories that have brought us to Beth Abraham. Recall the warmth and togetherness of the many Shabbat services and events that have happened over the years, and in particular, this past year. Remember the joy and energy that Joey Weisenberg brought to us. "Now how does that *niggun* start?"

Remember the energy of those Shabbats Under the Stars this past summer. Recall Rav Aubrey's educational classes.

Remember the Graeter's challenge for counting the Omer. And remember the milestones of birthdays, anniversaries, and special occasions that we observe each Shabbat.

Rosh Hashanah brought many people to Beth Abraham for maybe their first service in our beautiful building...or maybe the first time in a while. As we welcomed both new and old members, my hope is that we all are experiencing and enjoying another "first time" at Beth Abraham and realize what many of us have realized for years, that this is a warm and inviting community.

My challenge to this congregation and community is that we continue to experience this Beth Abraham journey of "first times" for new members, old members and visitors alike, even as we change from how things used to be. While I no longer break the fast with those first Ritz crackers, I am happy to

have those memories.

Our beautiful *Kol Nidre* prayer chanted by Cantor Raizen was not just a prayer; it was a moment that invites us to confront the changes that life brings. Change is inevitable, and often it is these very changes that define our journey. Rav Aubrey challenged us to examine our spiritual goals for the new year. I personally equate this to the creation of my spiritual strategic plan, which ultimately forces me to accept change to better myself and my community.

At Rosh Hashanah you heard a prayer for our Beth Abraham community so beautifully given by Tara Feiner and Norm Weissman which also suggested that each of us create a spiritual roadmap for ourselves, our community and our synagogue. This spiritual journey that actually began when you experienced your "first time" memory at Beth Abraham has never really gone away over the years. We have had our highs and our lows, but during all of it, we were a community on a journey. A journey that does change, builds on the past - our legacy, and we have adapted to those changes and are open to new "first time" experiences. In the words of singer Bob Dylan, "For the times they are a-changin'"

We intend to continue to celebrate our legacy and continue the journey but recognize that we have to accept the concept of change. After sixteen wonderful years, we will recognize and celebrate our beloved Cantor Andrea Raizen and all of her *ruach*, (spirit), and the devotion to Beth Abraham that she has brought us. Thank you Cantor Raizen and we look forward to expressing our appreciation in many more ways in the coming months.

But where one Beth Abraham door closes, other doors will open. We will  
(cont'd on pg. 9)



(cont'd from pg. 8)

continue to explore different ways to pray, learn, sing, and be a community together in a way that gives everyone a sense of celebrating their "first times." We started our second year with our spiritual leader, Rav Aubrey, where we recently experienced a joyful Installation weekend. We continue to be inspired and amazed by his unique perspectives, teachings, and energy that he has brought to both our Beth Abraham community and the Dayton community at large. How many new "first times" have each of you experienced from him? So, thank you Rav Aubrey.

As we engage in the strategic planning process, my hope is that you all recognize that these changes, while inevitable, are good and prompt us to think about our legacy - the mark we leave on this world, and the ways in which we can make a difference, while giving us new experiences. Thanks to the Beth Abraham Board of Directors who have provided leadership towards this need to proceed with our strategic planning.

I have encouraged you the past two years to consider how you can use your time, talents, and treasure to support our congregation during these ever-changing times. Your time, whether it's engaging in the community conversations for our strategic plan, or spending a few extra moments in prayer and reflection, is a precious gift that can have a lasting impact. But I challenge you to take it

one small step further. Consider coming to at least one Shabbat service a month to be inspired by Rav Aubrey's interesting drashes – (perhaps more props in the future?), or to hear a familiar melody from Cantor Raizen, or to learn about upcoming events during my announcements.

Your talents, whether in music, education, or leadership, can help us grow and flourish as a community. Be a Shabbat greeter or learn to read Torah or Haftorah. Come be a kitchen cook at least one Friday a month. Or bring us new ideas for events or outreach.

And finally, your financial support, your treasure, ensures that we have the resources to sustain our synagogue and continue our important work.

On the second day of Rosh Hashanah, Rav Aubrey gave us homework to do. As part of his challenge, he asked us to determine what spiritual resources would be needed and how can Beth Abraham provide you with support to become the "new you." Along with his request to figure out who the "new you" is, I, too, have homework for you. Please read my Yom Kippur Appeal letter again, in which I state that we are striving for 100% participation this year. No gift is too small and each gift helps us to provide resources to hopefully help you become the "new you" that you want to become. Beth Abraham wants to be here to help this community on its

journey as a whole and on your personal journeys.

And whether this is your "first time" to give to Beth Abraham or you are a regular supporter, I know that such gifts will help us to continue the legacy of this synagogue and community. My hope and prayer for this congregation is that we can continue to give new and old members alike, new "first time" experiences at Beth Abraham for many years to come.

In closing, let us remember that while the High Holidays might be your **first** step toward meaningful change, compassion, and unity at Beth Abraham, please do not let it be your last. I look forward to exploring many new "first times" together as one congregation where we can inscribe a new chapter of purpose and connection in the future of Beth Abraham synagogue.

May this Yom Kippur be a time of deep reflection and renewed commitment for us all. *G'mar Hatima Tova*. May you be sealed in the Book of Life for a year filled with blessings, growth, and the steadfast dedication to making positive changes in our lives and our beloved community.



Bi-weekly mahjongg sessions are drawing quite a crowd!

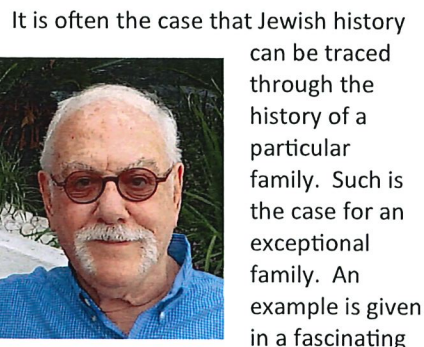
Cantor Raizen led a meaningful program during Sunset in the Sukkah.





# Library News — Off the Shelf

Allan Spetter



It is often the case that Jewish history can be traced through the history of a particular family. Such is the case for an exceptional family. An example is given in a fascinating book by Robert Kupferberg with a title that tells all, *The Mendelssohns: Three Generations of Genius*. This is an absolutely incredible family history. They may have changed the course of European history and in fact of world history.

There are many "legends" about the founder of the "dynasty", Moses Mendelssohn, but all the legends might be true. He overcame many obstacles to become one of the great minds of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Born in 1729 in poverty in the ghetto of Desau, in the kingdom then known as Prussia, in what would today be Germany, Mendelssohn suffered from a physical malformation - he had a hunchback, and he stuttered. At the age of 14, somehow he managed to walk 80 miles to Berlin, then the capital of Prussia. The young man with a brilliant mind sought a secular education, not the typical education for Jewish boys limited to religious subjects. He thrived in Berlin even as a teenager. He already knew the new Chief Rabbi of the Berlin Jewish community. Word

spread rapidly in the Jewish community of a "boy genius" and he attracted a "circle" of intellectuals. Each man in the circle seemed to have a specialty. For instance, one member taught Latin to Mendelssohn.

In 1750, when Mendelssohn turned 21, he found a real job as a tutor to the children of a wealthy merchant. At last he did not have to worry about his finances, especially after the merchant made him a partner. He had enough leisure time to begin to write. Among his skills, he had a gift for languages. He is considered the first Jewish individual to write and publish in German, not in Yiddish.

As his reputation grew, Mendelssohn emerged as an unofficial spokesman for the Jewish community. He even developed a special relationship with the monarch, Frederick the Great. Then, in 1767, he published his "magnum opus," a masterpiece titled *Phaedon*, or the Immortality of the Soul. It immediately established Mendelssohn as one of the foremost philosophers in Europe. It is not for "mere mortals" to read and understand.

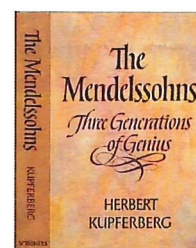
It is based on the writings of the ancient Greek philosopher Plato about the death of his contemporary, another ancient Greek philosopher, Socrates. Any educated individual in Europe would have read Mendelssohn's book. People called him

the German Socrates or the modern Plato. At the beginning of the 1770s, Mendelssohn realized that he had become the first Jewish individual in the modern era who could speak for all the Jews of Europe.

In 1779, Mendelssohn published a version of the Bible in German, an attempt to build a bridge between Jews and Christians. Many rabbis severely criticized the publication because they didn't want Jews to move into the wider world. Kupferberg insists that with this Bible, Mendelssohn launched the Jewish Enlightenment, or *Haskalah*. His frail body worn out, perhaps from the constant pressure of being the most important Jewish individual in Europe, Mendelssohn died in January, 1786, only 56 years old.

Mendelssohn did not live to see the era of great change which began only three years after his death. The French Revolution began in July, 1789. In 1791, French lived up to the rallying cry of the revolution, Liberty, Equality, Fraternity, when France became the first nation in Europe to accept Jews as completely equal citizens.

Mendelssohn had demonstrated the potential of the Jews if given equal opportunity and freed from the ghetto.



## NEW MEMBER SHABBAT

We'll be honoring all those who have joined Beth Abraham this year at our annual New Member Shabbat on **December 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Please join us for this meaningful service as we welcome them to our family. Next month we'll highlight each of them in our Bulletin so you can learn more about them.

## MEN'S CLUB NEWS

Irwin Dumtschin

**Monthly Meetings:** Men's Club will continue to hold their meetings virtually on Zoom for the time being. The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Monday evening, November 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7:30 PM. Our meetings are open to all, so come join us. Look for the Zoom link in the upcoming News & Notes.



## SISTERHOOD NEWS

*Irene Fishbein*

Sunset in the Sukkah was a huge success with more than 40 women attending. Thanks to Cantor Raizen for sharing a wonderful and thought-provoking program with us. Many thanks to our personal caterer, Judy Chesen, for planning a delicious menu. In addition, we thank Linda Brotkin, Claudia Birch, Celia Diamond, Tara Feiner, Irene Fishbein, Hindy Gruber, Liz Musin, Connie Roberts, Louise Tincer and Diane Williams for helping with preparations, greeting, set up and clean up. As always, no Sisterhood event at Beth Abraham comes together without the help of Ann, Dennis, and Elaine. Thanks so much for all your support.

We are wrapping up our social action project, "SuCoats," and will be delivering donations to the YWCA and St. Vincents at the beginning of November. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to far – we have filled up our table, bins, and coat racks. Please remember the men and boys when bringing in your final contributions. Whether your items are handmade, or store bought, it is all greatly appreciated. Monetary donations are also always welcome.

Our next Mah Jongg game is on November 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00 PM in the pod. This month we will also play on the 5<sup>th</sup> Thursday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>, since Thanksgiving falls on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday. We will continue teaching newbies and offering refreshers as long as needed. Please contact Liz Musin if you're interested in joining us.

Our next Sisterhood meeting is Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 AM on Zoom. The link will be in News & Notes on October 30<sup>th</sup>. Please join us. With Hanukkah around the corner, don't forget to visit the Gift Shop. Please contact Connie Roberts for information.

## SOCIAL ACTION UPDATE

*Beth Adelman*

These past few months have proven again what a generous congregation we have. In August, in honor of Rav Glazer's installation and in conjunction with the Ruth & Fred Scheuer Life Enrichment Series, we collected school supplies for Crayons to Classrooms. Kol Nidre brought our annual collection for the Foodbank with barrels overflowing. Members also volunteered at the Foodbank for a car drive through. Thanks to Bonnie Rice for coordinating this through the JCRC and in collaboration with the local synagogues.

Sisterhood's "SuCoats" project has again proven our generosity. Coats and cold winter items have filled the lobby tables and coat racks.

Our plans for the upcoming holiday season will be supporting 1-2 families with clothes, household items, and toys. More information to follow.

We appreciate everyone's generosity!



## RICK PINSKY SUNDAY SPEAKER SERIES CONTINUES THIS MONTH

The Men's Club sponsors this engaging series of speakers each year. They invite everyone to join them for these upcoming events. Brunch begins at 10:00 am and costs \$8 per person.



- Nov 5** Franklin Lewis – *The Jewish Comedians (in partnership with Temple Israel)*
- Nov 12** Ret. Brig. Gen. Paul Cooper – *The Birth of the Israeli Air Force (in partnership with Temple Israel)*
- Nov. 19** Jim Charters – *Dayton Inventions*



Synagogue staff had a good time modeling some of the donated scarves and gloves for "SuCoats."



Rabbi	Aubrey L. Glazer, PhD.
Cantor	Andrea S. Raizen
President	Scott Liberman
Vice President	Matthew Arnovitz
Vice President	Tara Feiner
Vice President	Beverly Louis
Vice President	Julie Liss-Katz
Treasurer	Alan Chesen
Secretary	Irene Fishbein
Men's Club President	Irwin Dumtschin
Sisterhood President	Irene Fishbein
Chevra Kadisha President	Ted Cooper
Rabbi Emeritus	Samuel B. Press, D.D.
Cantor Emeritus	Jerome B. Kopmar, D. Mus.

#### Bulletin Staff

**Editor**  
 Elaine Arnovitz  
**Layout, Design & Proofreading**  
 Ann Rismiller  
**Photography**  
 Elaine Arnovitz  
 Dennis Day  
**Staff Writers**  
 Elaine Arnovitz  
 Irwin Dumtschin  
 Irene Fishbein  
 Rav Aubrey Glazer  
 Scott Liberman  
 Cantor Andrea Raizen  
 Ann Rismiller  
 Allan Spetter

### LIVESTREAM LINK

The link for all livestreamed services through StreamSpot is:  
<https://venue.streamspot.com/72a802ed>

The printing of this publication is funded by private donations

## SHABBAT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- **Shabbat Learning - Niggun Circle:** Monthly Meditations 2nd Saturdays, following kiddush lunch. Interactive spiritual singing of wordless melodies, along with meditations through contemplative study.
- **Shabbat Learning -** Studying, discussing and reflecting on the spectacular poetry of Israeli poet Zelda Schneerson Mishkovsky.

### Times for Shabbat Candle Lighting & Services

Online service links can be found at [www.bethabrahamdayton.org](http://www.bethabrahamdayton.org), Facebook, or in your weekly News& Notes email

#### Friday, November 3

Candle Lighting 6:15 pm

#### Saturday, November 4

Morning Service 9:30 am

Candle Lighting 7:13 pm

#### Friday, November 10

Candle Lighting 5:07 pm

#### Saturday, November 11

Morning Service 9:30 am

Candle Lighting 6:07 pm

#### Friday, November 17

Candle Lighting 5:02 pm

#### Saturday, November 18

Morning Service 9:30 am

Havdalah 6:02 pm

#### Friday, November 24

Candle Lighting 4:57 pm

#### Saturday, November 25

Morning Service 9:30 am

Havdalah 5:58 pm

