

Bulletin

Dayton's Voice of Conservative Judaism

VOLUME 20, NUMBER 6

DECEMBER 2023

KISLEV - TEVET 5784

In This Issue:

- Adopt-a-Family, pg. 4
- Rhythm 'N' Ruach returns, pg. 4
- Welcome New Members, pg. 8

EAT LATKES AND DREIDEL ON!

BETH ABRAHAM HANUKKAH CELEBRATION

Saturday, December 9, 7:00 pm

Come one, come all for our annual Hanukkah celebration! It'll be one crazy night, with:



- Games for all ages
- Latkes & sufganiyot
- Havdalah
- Lighting our Hanukkah menorahs
- A **HOT CHOCOLATE BAR!**



Wear your favorite best (or worst) Chanukah gear, and don't forget to bring your menorah with four candles. No Charge! Please **RSVP to the office.**

If it's December 24th, it must be time for

CHINESE DINNER AND A MOVIE! SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24TH, 5:30 PM

Let's gather for one last fun event for the year! We'll have a delicious buffet of Asian-themed delicacies prepared in our kosher kitchen by Cantor Raizen and crew, then enjoy a film together. Who needs a restaurant when you can get all this at your Beth Abraham home? There will be a special movie for the kids as well.

\$15 per adult/\$10 per child ages 3 to 12/ \$50 max per family

RSVP by December 15!



BETH
ABRAHAM
SYNAGOGUE

The Cantor's Corner *Cantor Andrea Raizen*



"Not by might, nor by power, but by My spirit, says the lord of hosts"

(Zechariah 4:6)

These words are chanted each year in the

haftarah for Hanukkah. The iconic Jewish singer/songwriter Debbie Friedman, z'l, used these words and wrote what became a classic Hanukkah song, "Not By Might." It is a great basis for teaching the holiday of Hanukkah via the value, *Ometz Layv*, or Courage. The literal translation of these words is strength of heart. Heart indicates an internal quality or trait. Therefore, *Ometz Layv* is less about *acts* of courage – displays of power, might and bravery – than it is about who we are in our heart, what we believe in.

The ideal kind of strength and courage we should strive for can be divided into two categories. The first is related to not being fearful. We don't fear when we are willing to turn to God in trust and faith. There are times we may be afraid, as when we are going through a rough time. We may also feel fear when faced with immediate or eminent danger. And we may feel fear in our everyday life in facing work or domestic problems, financial concerns, chronic health issues. Each day may require a renewal of strength and search for courage. And how can we find courage? By keeping our heart (*layv*) turned toward God's spirit and trusting we can make it through. Mustering that faith is *Ometz Layv*, courage.

The second category has to do with living a life of values or virtues, with self-mastery. We read in *Pirke Avot 4:1*, "Who is mighty? Those who conquer their evil impulse. As it is written: 'Those who are slow to anger are better than the mighty, and those who

rule over their spirit than those who conquer a city'. [Proverbs 16:32] We may mistakenly associate courage with might and power. But the kind of might and power that really matter have nothing to do with physical prowess, with pushing others around, bullying or sabotaging another's career or personal life. Real might and power means the incredible endurance, persistence and strength it takes to be a good person. That too, is *Ometz Layv*.

Hanukkah does, of course, celebrate a military victory, and there is no denying that the Maccabees displayed physical courage to fight the Syrian-Greeks. But they needed both the fighting skills and the belief that God was on their side to succeed in battle. They banded together, mustered their courage and stood up for the right to religious freedom. Not only did they stand up to the greater numbers and strength of the foreign army, but they also stood up to fellow Jews who had chosen to discard their Jewish heritage in favor of Greek ways. Truly brave people have heart, and use their physical strength to help others. In *Midrash Tehillim 52:3*, it is asked, "Is this really might, for when someone sees another at the edge of a pit to push the other into it? Or seeing someone on top of a roof, to push the person off? Is this might? When can someone truly be called a 'mighty person'? When there's an individual who is about to fall into a pit, and that someone seizes the individual's hand so that he/she does not fall in. Or, when that someone sees another fallen into a pit and lifts the other out of it."

As we light our Hanukkah candles this year, remember the courageous Maccabees. Because they summoned the courage to act though success was not guaranteed, the miracle of Hanukkah occurred. Like the

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
BEN & STEPHANIE GOODSTEIN
MICHAEL & MARCIA* JAFFE
IRVIN & GAYLE MOSCOWITZ
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

{ PRESIDENT'S CIRCLE }

BETH ADELMAN
MATT & ELAINE ARNOVITZ
MIKE & JOANN CHAMBERS
BILL & MELINDA DONER
DOUGLAS & BETHANY EINSTEIN
DENEAL* & ESTHER FELDMAN
GARY & IRENE FISHBEIN
LYNN FOSTER
JOEL & ANGELA FRYDMAN
RENATE 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 TINCHER
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION
FRIEND OF THE CONGREGATION

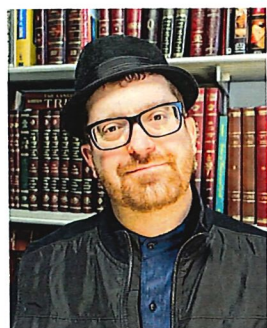
*OF BLESSED MEMORY

Maccabees, may we find the courage to light the flame and rededicate our lives to Torah, tzedakah, and *gemilut hasadim*, deeds of lovingkindness.

LIGHT FROM UNEXPECTED PLACES: UNPACKING OUR HIDDEN HANUKIYAH

RAV AUBREY GLAZER

"I am unpacking my library. Yes, I am. The books are not yet on the shelves,



not yet touched by the mild boredom of order. I cannot march up and down their ranks to pass them in

review before a friendly audience. You need not fear any of that. Instead, I must ask you to join me in the disorder of crates that have been wrenched open, the air saturated with the dust of wood, the floor covered with torn paper, to join me among piles of volumes that are seeing daylight again after two years of darkness, so that you may be ready to share with me a bit of the mood - it is certainly not an elegiac mood but, rather, one of anticipation - which these books arouse in a genuine collector."

— Walter Benjamin: "Unpacking my Library," in *Illuminations*

We all share something of this anticipatory "mood" as we unpack our holiday boxes in search of the hidden hanukiyot of years past. Whether we realize it or not, we are searching along with other seekers, like German-Jewish thinker, Walter Bendix Schönflies Benjamin (July 15, 1892 – September 27, 1940) — why? Because all of us are collectors. And how we all love to have that favorite item in our collection see the daylight after years of darkness. Everybody loves to bring a bit more light into their worlds during the darkest hours of the Winter Solstice, so as Jews our expression of this need through Hanukkah should not be surprising.

Yet there are many surprises. Especially when you begin to unpack that Hanukah menorah (hanukkiyah) from wherever it was stored during the year. And of course, we are all unwrapping gifts, so many of which are likely a good book to read over the dark and cold winter months.

One profound luminary from Eretz Yisrael that I keep returning to is Zelda, as she was known to her wide and diverse readership. Her poetry shines deep light along its unique paths as every word is a marker of a personal, textual journey into the infinite oceanic feeling that soul is always yearning for. Zelda remains one of the most visionary Israelis who continues to influence Hebrew poets to this day and her ability to encapsulate with great economy her own spiritual journeys has affected my own pilgrimages to the Holy Land. Zelda was born in the Ukraine and made aliya in 1926, attending Bezalel Art Academy and teaching in Israeli schools until 1950; she only began publishing her poetry in 1967 at the encouragement of her husband, Hayim Aryeh Mishkovsky. The luminary quality of Zelda's life work shines in this bilingual collection, translated by American poet, Marcia Falk, called, *The Spectacular Difference* by Zelda Schneerson Mishkovsky (HUC, 2008). Zelda's poetry continues to speak to the contemporary seeker - whether from the secular or religious perspective - because she is able to communicate about the journey of her soul - a journey in search of light.

It is uncommon in the prolific volumes of Jewish mysticism to find personal poetic accounts of the ascent of the soul, overflowing with vivid, often dreamlike pictures from

the natural world; and yet, they are overflowing in the poems of Zelda Schneerson Mishkovsky. Perhaps it was because Zelda hailed from prominent Hasidic lineage of the Habad dynasty but was never limited by it that her deeply painterly poetry overflows with mystical-religious imagery that garnered numerous literary awards, including the prestigious Bialik and Brenner prizes. During our current Beth Abraham Kiddush lunch n' learn sessions on Saturdays at 12:30PM, dedicated to studying and reflecting upon her poetry, we discovered just how much Zelda wrote about her deeply mystical experiences in lighting candles. So I share one of many verses from her poem, "All Night I Wept," (1974) as a kavvanah for lighting your hanukkiyah:

*"All night I thought--
Inside my aching chest
Are many creatures
And all kinds of stories.
I must light a candle
And gaze upon them
Before entering the sleep of death."*

As we light each night, a new light again after the year of darkness, may we be ready to share the mood of anticipation which these books arouse in a genuine collector. As we move into this season of light, let us continue to dedicate our time towards clarifying the splendor of our Jewish journeys and "light a candle" for all those creatures, peoples and stories we encounter and hold inside our aching chests to bring more light to all our worlds.

Hag Urim Samiekh!
from Rabbi Aubrey, Elyssa & Talya Sahara (*leBeit Nuria*)



ADOPT-A-FAMILY OUR YEAR-END SOCIAL ACTION PROJECT

As we have done for the past few years, we will help provide holiday gifts for three needy families from the Potter's House, where we partnered for Martin Luther King day last January. A list to sign up to provide a gift is in your weekly News & Notes email, or you can call Ann at the office if you need help. If it's difficult for you to shop but you'd still like to contribute, you can make monetary donations through the office. Please sign up no later than **December 5**, and bring in your wrapped gifts with the recipient's name on them no later than **December 15**.



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 5:30 PM

Rhythm 'N' Ruach, an upbeat music-filled Shabbat experience for families, is back! It meets from 5:30-6:15 PM the second Friday of each month. This month we meet on **Friday, December 8**. Join Cantor Raizen as we usher in Shabbat with songs, prayers, instruments, movement, dance, yoga and more. Everyone is welcome, so bring your friends, parents, grandparents and anyone who is young at heart.



There were a whopping 54 attendees at our Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas? dinners in November, with 6 host homes and 44 guests!



GUESS WHO'S COMING TO
SHABBAS?
A Living Tribute to Bernie Albert

IN THE BETH ABRAHAM FAMILY

We Gratefully Acknowledge...these thoughtful contributions

Bert Appel Fund

In memory of

Rochelle Goldstein, by Henry Guggenheimer

Jonah Chesen, by Henry Guggenheimer

In honor of

Herman Kruk's book, by Alex Kudera

Burick/Kravitz Fund

In memory of

Bertha Sender, by Sharon & Bob Burick & family

Cantor Raizen's Discretionary Fund

In memory of

Joseph Leibovich, by Judy Schwartzman

Jonah Chesen, by Beth Abraham Men's Club

Rochelle Goldstein, by Beth Abraham Men's Club, Ralph & Diane Williams

In honor of

Henry Guggenheimer's birthday, by Ralph & Diane Williams

Speedy recovery

Marc Katz, by Ralph & Diane Williams
David Rothschild, by Ralph & Diane Williams

Cemetery Fund

In memory of

Doris Hulman, by Bruce & Sonia Hulman, Jan Goldman

Jule Hulman, by Bruce & Sonia Hulman, Jan Goldman

Ruth Fiddler, by Harvey Fiddler

General Fund

In memory of

Theodore Schwartz, by Andrew & Pamela Schwartz

Samuel Davis, by Anne Davis

Mark Ginzberg, by Arthur Zeyda

Tamara Zeyda, by Arthur Zeyda

Gennady Zeyda, by Arthur Zeyda

Sammye Harrison, by Beverly Saeks

Rick Pinsky, by Beverly Saeks

Jonah Chesen, by Beverly Saeks

James Froug, by Hugh Rockoff

In honor of

Margaret Maimon's aliyah, by Judy Woll & Ron Bernard

Henry Guggenheimer's birthday, by Edie Pequignot

Lynn Foster's friendship, by Marcie Linder

Esther Feldman's 90th birthday, by Marcie Linder

Matt Arnovitz's birthday, by Edna & Gerald Willis

Speedy recovery

Clara Hochstein, by Roger & Mindy Chudde

David Rothschild, by Judy Woll & Ron Bernard

Ida Pinsky Fund

In memory of

James Froug, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky

Speedy recovery

Marc Katz, by Marlene & Terry Pinsky

Joel Horenstein Fund

In memory of

Robert Okun's father, by Steve & Linda Horenstein

In honor of

Meryl Hattenbach & Joe Beringer's marriage, by Steve & Linda Horenstein

J.W.V. Coplin Fund

In memory of

Murray Borkan, by Frieda Blum

Kiddush Fund

In memory of

George Foreman, by Norm & Kay Lewis

Rav Glazer's Discretionary Fund

In memory of

Ida Appelblatt, by Beverly Louis

Ian Rosenthal, by Beverly Louis

Rochelle Goldstein, by Beverly Louis

David Fuchsman's father, by Beverly Louis

In honor of

Rav Glazer, by Joseph & Susan Adler
Debbie Feldman, Happy Bosses Day;

for the support of Israel, by Ben & Stephanie Goodstein

Clara Hochstein's recovery, by Beverly Louis

Margaret Maimon's journey to Judaism, by Judy Schwartzman & Mike Jaffe

Speedy recovery

Marc Katz, by David & Susan Joffe, Judy Schwartzman & Mike Jaffe, Lawrence Wagenfeld

Ritual Fund

In memory of

Stanford "Shep" Rosen, by Phyllis Rosen

Jack Dorfman, by Tim & Charlotte Johnson

Regina Krochmal, by Jerry Krochmal
Annette Goodman, by Gary Goodman

Ruthe Dorfman, by Tim & Charlotte Johnson

Mitchell Blazar, by Andrew Blazar

Sylvia Blazar, by Andrew Blazar

Sylvia Ellenbogen, by Enrique & Ruth Ellenbogen

Freada Scheller, by Minnette Weiss

Rubin Arnold, by Jim Nathanson

George Lewis, by Jim Nathanson

Robert E. Bernstein, by Carol Bernstein

Bertha Cunix, by Nadine & John Merker

Katherine Miller, by Jaime Miller

Social Action Fund

In memory of

Jonah Chesen, by Robin Straus

In the Beth Abraham Family

Thanks to the following Service Sponsors:

November 4 – Connie Schriber in memory of Ken Schriber

November 11 – Mike Jaffe & Judy Schwartzman in honor of their birthdays

November 18 – The Chambers, Goodstein and Maimon families in honor of their journeys to Judaism.

November 25 – Lois Gross in honor of her special birthday

Congratulations to those celebrating birthdays and anniversaries

December Birthdays

| | |
|----|----------------------|
| 1 | Carol Nathanson |
| 1 | Judah Naziri |
| 1 | Edith Pequignot |
| 3 | Robert Thum |
| 4 | Meryl Hattenbach |
| 4 | Margaret Maimon |
| 5 | Lawrence Wagenfeld |
| 6 | Claire Berks |
| 6 | Marla Merdinger |
| 7 | Liz Musin |
| 8 | Mindy Metz |
| 9 | Steven Rothstein |
| 12 | Felix Weil |
| 12 | Douglas Deutsch |
| 14 | Dena Briskin |
| 15 | Shirley Fisher |
| 16 | Gary Pavlofsky |
| 16 | Michael Freed |
| 17 | Jerome Krochmal |
| 20 | Sylvia Blum |
| 21 | Bonnie Parish |
| 22 | William Schoenfeld |
| 22 | Sara Shuster |
| 23 | Edwin Katz |
| 24 | Allan Spetter |
| 25 | George Barnett |
| 25 | Andrea Scher Rabiner |
| 26 | Linda Shapiro |
| 27 | Mark Gordon |
| 29 | Kenneth Blum |
| 30 | Susan Schear |
| 30 | Marlene Pinsky |
| 31 | Diane Rubin Williams |

December Anniversaries

| | |
|----|-------------------------|
| 10 | Marshall & Donna Weiss |
| 17 | George & Ruth Barnett |
| 17 | David & Lynn Goldenberg |
| 22 | David & Sara Shuster |
| 26 | Dale & Sharon Schiff |

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



WE WELCOME INTO THE WORLD:

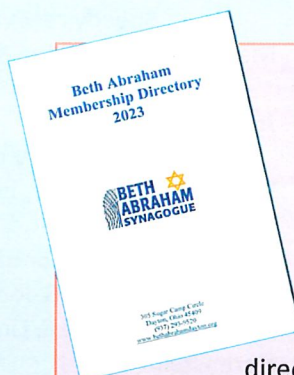
Leora Ruth Sherman, born to Mike and Marcie Sherman, Bernie, Darah, and Eila on 11/26/23

WE WELCOME THESE NEW MEMBERS:

Maureen Barasch
JoAnn & Mike Chambers
Ben, Stephanie & Delainey Goodstein

WE RECORD WITH GREAT SORROW THE PASSING OF:

William "Bill" Bernie
DeNeal "Neal" Feldman



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!

YAHREZEITS

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 December (Kislev - Tevet) we remember:

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| KISLEV | Sarah Riveh Mann | David Eli Alpert | Beverly Jenefsky | Arthur Rosenbaum |
| Adrienne Lisa Abrams | Eerie Maybruck | Victor Appelblatt | Toby Jenefsky | William Rosenberg |
| Nathan Aides | David Michaels | Gilbert Arenstein | Theodore Kahn | Louis Rosenberg |
| Carmen Appel | Joseph Miller | Jennie Arnovitz | Milton Kantor | Evelyn Ross |
| Julius Arnovitz | Ida Milstein | Joe Berger | Carolyn Katz | Sondra Ross |
| Tala Arnovitz | Ellin Oppenheimer | Sylvia Blazar | Toby Katz | Jacob Rubin |
| Shirley Berman | Bella Paster | Hyman Frank Blum | Manny Katz | Jose Sales |
| Rose Bernstein | Gizella Pavlovsky | Naomi Brant | Ella Kling | Reesa B. Schachter |
| Blanche Block | Ida Petler | Harry C. Brook | Marvin Kobel | Ralph Schear |
| Thomas Blum | Lee Pollack | Albert Brotkin | Mary Koff | Sarah Toba Schear |
| Sarah Budnick | Aaron Moshe Pollak | Rachel Burick | Jacob S. Kopell | Sidney Scher |
| Mason Center | Nadine Robins | Claire Charme | Bessie Kopelove | Toby Schuman |
| David Cohen | LaRae Roden | Morris Cherny | Marian Kopelove | Erica Schwab |
| Albert Cohen | Ruben Rosen | Ada Cohen | Leo Koretsky | Morris Seman |
| Rose Dinkin | Rev. Simon Rosenblum | Sam Cohen | Rose Kozen | Sid Shane |
| Paul Dorf | Irma Rosengarten | Ruth Elaine Cohen | Dov Berl Kuhr | Shlomo Eliezer Shapiro |
| Charles R. Dorfman | Fanny Rosengarten | Virginia Cohen | Anna Kuttner | Simon Sherer |
| Morris Dumtschin | Ellen Rosengarten | Gertrude Coit | Edythe Lamden | Sylvia Soifer |
| Ben Eckman | Ada Rosenthal | Joe Cunix | Eda Lederman | Fred Sokol |
| Karl Ehrlich | Helen Rothberg | Yitzhak Czigler | Florence Leffak | Abe Solomon |
| Leo Fox | Rhoda Ryan | Anne Dlott | Rudolf Lehman | James Stefin |
| Bessie Frank | Harold Samler | Isaac Droz | Leonard Leicht | Yvette Stein |
| Molly Frankowitz | Chaye Rachel Scharff | Beatrice DuBro | Morris Levin | Leon Stein |
| Mardelle Friedberg | Else Scheuer | Rose Lillian Edelian | Anna Levine | Bertha Stern |
| Harry Friedman | Louis Schneiderman | Julius Eisenstein | Katie Levine | Walter Stern |
| Philip Froikin | Beatrice Schoenfeld | Rudolf Ellenbogen | Bert Lieberman | Joseph Stoler |
| Robert O. Furth | Dorothy Schottenstein | Herman Ellison | Maurice Lieberman | Morris Stone |
| Helen Gams | Maryann Schriber | Sam Engilman | Richard Lieberman | Meyer Sugarman |
| Max Goffin | Evelyn Schultz | Bessie Faust | Morris Liebman | Michael Sunray |
| Lena Goffin | Elaine Sebel | Frieda Feerer | Abe J. Liff | Carrie Sussman |
| Sophie Goldflies | Esther Segall | Mary Kling Feldman | Benjamin Lifschitz | Max Tanis |
| Jean Goldstein | Dora Shane | Mary Felman | Freda Matusoff | Barry Tannebaum |
| Annette Goodman | William Sharp | David Felman | Isadore Metz | Benjamin Tannen |
| Herman Greenfield | Rebecca Shokler | Elizabeth Fischbach | Hannah Miller | Bella Tannenwald |
| Phillip Gressel | Claire Soifer | Richard Flagel | Albert Miller | Violet Valensky |
| Ben Hochhauser | Anna Stahl | Elaine Foreman | Michael Miller | Ludwig Weil |
| Michael Horenstein | Goldie Lea Stein | Mark S. Foster | Mary Miner | Shaina Risha Weinstein |
| Herbert Jacobson | Louis Tannebaum | Rose Frank | Pearl Mitnik | Edward L. Weisbrod |
| Jeanette Jaffe | Mabel Tannen | Jacob Friedman | Minnie Myers | Edward Weiss |
| Harry Kahn | Jennie Tilson | Gertrude Friedman | Irving Neiman | Isaac Weiss |
| Zelique Katz | Edward Aaron Weinstein | Abraham Froikin | Leon Nizny | Ryka Winter |
| Alan Konowitch | Frieda Cohen Weisbrod | Alan Froug | Kathryn Ostrov | Amanda Wynne |
| Isador Kowalsky | Margaraet Elaine Weller | Rosalyn P Greene | Rabbi Abraham Pollack | Alan D. Yaross |
| Frances Krochmal | Gladys Weltman | Etta Greenhouse | Yetta Papish Pomeranz | Kanee Zappin |
| Teresa Krummel | Louis Werner | Libbie Gurevitz | Ethel Pope | Jean Zeifman |
| Fanny Kizner Kuhr | Sam Wilks | Haini Hammerman | Isador Press | Harry Zeifman |
| Jesse Kuperman | Harriet Winner | Frances Horenstein | Carole Rabinowitz | Harry H. Zimmerman |
| Ethel Kutash | Raymond Zappin | Myer Horowitz | Ruth Fay Rafner | Rose Zwelling |
| Leon Lapidus | Mary Zappin | Evelyn Horowitz | Fannie Razovsky | |
| Roy Lapidus | Hannah Zappin | Eve Hurevitz | Sophie Reingold | |
| Daniel Lee Lehrner | Jacob Zukerman | Freda Hurwitz | Gladys Resler | |
| Sol Levy | | Fannie Jacobson | Harry Rice | |
| Florence Lichtman | TEVET | Julius Jacobson | Glen Rittner | |
| Stanley Mandell | Joseph Adelman | Gertrude Jaffe | Rachel Leah Rosen | |
| Tzemach Mann | Sam Aides | Max Jaffe | Rose Rosen | |

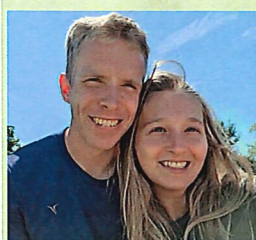
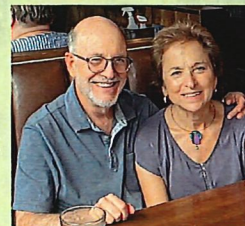


WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Beth Abraham welcomed our new members with a special New Member Shabbat on Saturday, December 2nd. Some are new to the community, while others have been members before.

Maureen (Chudde) Barasch grew up in Dayton and had her Bat Mitzvah at Beth Abraham. She is currently living in Cleveland. She has decided to join as an out-of-town member for burial purposes as she wants to be with her family in our cemetery.

Dr. Neil Katz & Karin Hirschkatz are originally from NY and after living all over the US, they made their home in Dayton 29 years ago. They have been married 41 years and have a son living in Chicago with his wife and 2 kids and an outdoorsy daughter, living in Arizona. Neil is a retired Dr. of Nuclear medicine for the VA, but still works there on occasion. Karin worked as a mobility specialist for the visually impaired, and now in retirement, teaches English to adult immigrants and refugees, which she loves. Karin has been a long-time lay Torah at Beth Abraham and they really feel most welcome here.



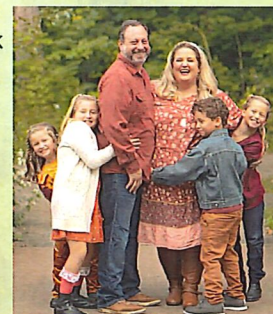
Ryan Lechich & Ofir Ravin were married by Rav Aubrey in July soon after Ryan completed his conversion to Judaism. Ofir was born in Israel and moved to Maryland when she was 3½ years old, and Ryan grew up in Connecticut. They were both studying in Israel when they met in 2020 at a New Year's Covid party. After Ryan completed his masters, he went into the Air Force and came to Dayton. Ofir transferred to the University of Cincinnati and is graduating in December with a degree in marketing and entrepreneurship, and will begin a job at General Electric Aerospace. They first came to a Shabbat Under the Stars program and felt accepted and very comfortable at Beth Abraham.

Meredith (Moss) Levinson came to Dayton when she was 5 years old, and met her husband in kindergarten at Temple Israel. She has written for the Dayton Daily News for more than 50 years. Her columns are featured on Sundays, where she writes about the Arts, and on Thursdays, where her "Make a Difference" column profiles non-profit organizations in our community and their wish lists. When she attends synagogue, she often comes with her son Stephen, his wife Hannah, and their two children. She also has a son, Joel, who lives in Portugal with his wife, Randi, and their two children. Meredith feels very welcome at Beth Abraham, and decided to become a secondary member, joining her friends and family.



Stephen & Hannah Levinson moved to Dayton during the pandemic and have been here 2½ years. Stephen grew up in Dayton, was a writer for the Tonight Show and now is Creative Director at Real Art. An art Teacher, Hannah works at both Hillel and Montessori. They met in New York City and lived there prior to coming to Dayton with their 2 kids, Noah and Dahlia. Along with having family in town, they feel Dayton is a great place to raise their children. They have friends at Beth Abraham and feel the community is inspiring, non-judgmental and growing – they feel welcomed and appreciated.

Paul & Kristan Levy moved to the Dayton area over 20 years ago for work and to be within close proximity of their families, who live in Cincinnati and London, OH, respectively. They met at work while Paul was working as a general and emergency surgeon and Kristan was a surgical intensive care nurse. Today, Paul continues to work as a surgeon while Kristan has focused on the more-than-full-time job of raising their two sets of twin children, 11-year-old sixth graders Caroline and Courtney and 8-year-old third graders Arthur and Eleanor. Paul explained that as Caroline and Courtney approached Bat Mitzvah age, he and Kristan began to feel a need for a "Jewish home base," as well as to have a stable environment where they, too, could learn. Paul and Kristan were encouraged by friends to visit Beth Abraham and after seeing the vibrant religious school and passionate educators, they were hooked. As Paul shared, "[my kids] are fighting over whose class I'm going to attend. They enjoy it enough to want me to see what they're learning... That's pretty cool."

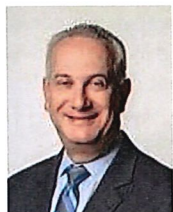


(Continued on next page)

From the President's Desk...

Scott Liberman, Beth Abraham President

As we head into the month of December,



I want to highlight the wonderful programs going on at Beth Abraham and encourage congregants to continue to stay involved. As Rav Aubrey so often mentions, we are

creating a great community of Beth Abraham members and I enjoy the opportunity to hear from so many of you, many for the first time.

Ann and I attended the latest edition of Guess Who's Coming to Shabbas in November and had a great opportunity to meet new people from our Beth Abraham community. Thank you to Brittany Sussman and her young daughter, Shani, for hosting the evening. It was wonderful to meet Brittany and learn her story of how she now lives back in Dayton. We also got to meet Kyle and

Samantha Perkins and their two young children. Finally, joining us that evening were Dale and Sharon Schiff. It was a wonderful evening welcoming Shabbat while meeting new members of our community.

I also want to mention our Journey to Judaism Shabbat, where we welcomed Ben & Stephanie Goodstein, Annie Chambers, and Margaret Maimon as they were called to the Torah for their first aliyah. It was a joyous service as we celebrated and welcomed them to the Tribe.

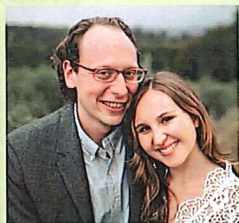
Finally, our New Member Shabbat happening in early December welcomes 26 new members and 8 children to Beth Abraham, and celebrates their commitment to join the Beth Abraham community. What a wonderful time to greet the newest members of our congregation.

All of these events, as well as our upcoming Hanukkah celebration show that we are a vibrant community. Each Shabbat I look forward to seeing our current members, welcoming our newest members, and meeting new potential members of Beth Abraham.

As always, please continue to provide me with feedback, suggestions, and concerns. While we have many exciting things happening, I always like hearing about and thinking about new and better ways to improve upon Beth Abraham's mission. The cooperation between the Board of Directors, our clergy, and our paid staff will continue to provide opportunities to enhance our great community.

Hope you all have a joyous Hanukkah!

Jeffrey Lubow & Anna Trakhter have been together since 1994. They met during a hayride, one year after Anna and her family moved from Ukraine to Dayton, where Jeff has lived his whole life. Jeff works as a technical and creative writer while Anna works as a supervisor in software engineering and computer science. Their son, 15-year-old Eden, attends Oakwood High. Jeff said he feels right at home at Beth Abraham following Rav Aubrey's installation and enjoys his classes as well as loving Cantor Raizen's creativity.



Beau & Megan Shaw met at Columbia University and currently live in New York. Married 4 years, Beau is a professor at NYU and Megan, who is from Oregon, is an attorney. Although Beau grew up in New York, Beau's mother has family in Ohio and he recalls

visiting his grandparents in Piqua, who are now buried at Beth Abraham Cemetery. Beau plans to be buried here as well, along with his parents.

Bill Winner and Diana Poole settled in Dayton 3 ½ years ago, deciding together it was a good place to retire. They previously lived in Colorado, which is where they met.

Diana, originally from Ohio, most recently worked at Goodwill and Bill, originally from Los Angeles, was in customer service. They have enjoyed being members of Beth Abraham and appreciate that people are willing to help out and provide them transportation when needed.

Additional New Members:

Mike & JoAnn "Annie" Chambers

Martin Foster

Ben & Stephanie Goodstein

David & Sara Shuster

Shirley Wahrman

John Wilks

*We regret photos/bios were not available for all who were listed. The Chambers and Goodstein families were featured in last month's Bulletin.

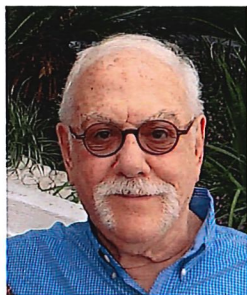
Welcome to Beth Abraham!

Library News — Off the Shelf

Allan Spetter



(Part II of a series on *The Mendelssohns: Three Generations of Genius*)



To be candid, genius in any family often skips a generation. Moses Mendelssohn's son, Abraham, admitted it. He said I have been

known as the son of my father and now I am known as the father of my son. Mendelssohn's son and grandson would live in a very different world. As author Richard Kupferberg describes it in *The Mendelssohns: Three Generations of Genius*, the Jews in Europe would at last be emancipated, but that development came with unintended consequences.

According to Kupferberg, many Jews wanted to be known as Hebrew or Israelite. An increasing number simply abandoned Judaism. Kupferberg says that between 1802 and 1810 about 10 percent of the Jewish community of Berlin converted. For those individuals, particularly among the upper classes, that represented the only path to complete acceptance in Prussian society. While the vast majority of Jews remained faithful, many led Judaism in a new direction, launching the movement that would become Reform Judaism.

Based on their father's reputation and the rapidly changing times, two of Moses Mendelssohn's sons, Joseph, born in 1770, and Abraham, born in 1776, encountered no barriers when they chose careers in banking. Joseph established his own bank in Paris in 1795, and it became one of Germany's most important banks in the 19th century and into the 20th century until the eve of World War II. Abraham joined the firm in Paris in 1804.

After the final defeat of Napoleon in 1815, Abraham, who had taken charge of the bank's operations in Hamburg, came to Paris in 1816 as a member of a commission to determine reparations France had to pay to the allies of the coalition against Napoleon. That same year, Abraham began the process of abandoning Judaism by first

converting his children. That might have made it easier for him to do the same. It took six years for Abraham and his wife to convert in 1822. Then Abraham tried to make the conversion complete by adding a last name. Perhaps Mendelssohn sounded "too Jewish." He became known as Abraham Mendelssohn Bartholdy! That would pose a bit of a problem for his famous son, Felix Mendelssohn, though a Christian, almost always known merely as Felix Mendelssohn. Two of Moses Mendelssohn's three sons converted, except for Joseph, and two of Mendelssohn's three daughters did so as well.

Felix Mendelssohn might be known as the greatest pianist of his era except for the other great pianists of that era, the first decades of the 19th century. Mendelssohn lived in the Age of Beethoven, so it is hard to imagine any other musician being the greatest in any area of music. Mendelssohn, born in 1809, received the best education of the time involving various private tutors. They quickly realized they had a musical prodigy and a mind about as brilliant as his grandfather's in their hands.

Mendelssohn began performing and composing when only nine years old. People began comparing him to Mozart. He had a somewhat rocky start while still a teenager in the 1820s, then received widespread recognition in 1829, still only 20, for reviving the music of Bach. Almost immediately Mendelssohn began a "grand tour" in Great Britain. The British loved the German composers. Handel lived there for almost 50 years until his death in 1759. Haydn made two extensive visits in the 1790s.

Mendelssohn first came to Great Britain in April, 1829. He visited nine more times over the next 17 years. His first performance as a conductor in May received sensational reviews. He remained in Great Britain for six months to recover from a knee injury then toured France and Italy to study art and music. He returned to Great Britain in April, 1832 to a tumultuous welcome.

Mendelssohn soon returned home to Berlin to be close to his family. He remained very close to his sister Fanny, about three years

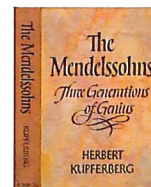
older and also a very gifted pianist. In fact, rumors circulated about their actual relationship until Fanny married in 1829. Mendelssohn did not know what path his career might take until in 1835, still only 26 years old, he received an invitation to take over the Leipzig Symphony Orchestra, one of the most prestigious orchestras in Western Europe.

Mendelssohn's career blossomed in the late 1830s. He developed a very close friendship with another great pianist and composer, Robert Schumann. Celebrities such as Chopin and Liszt came to see him conduct. Mendelssohn accepted an offer from the King of Prussia, Frederick William IV, to join the kingdom's musical hierarchy in Berlin in 1841.

Kupferberg says that the years in Berlin proved disappointing for Mendelssohn. No matter how hard the king tried, the musicians in Berlin remained inferior to those in Leipzig. He left Berlin in 1844, and that same year he met Jenny Lind, the incredible soprano who would become known as the "Swedish Nightingale." He had a professional relationship with Lind for the three years remaining in his life, but speculation believed the relationship had to be romantic.

In 1842, on one of his many visits to Great Britain, Mendelssohn received an invitation to meet with Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. The royal couple actually sang to his music. Mendelssohn had become an idol in Great Britain and this visit cemented his standing with the British public. In 1845, Mendelssohn received an invitation to come to the United States but he declined because of heart problems.

Then his beloved sister Fanny died in May, 1847. Contemporaries remarked that he never recovered from her death. He died less than six months later at the age of 38. Physicians of the modern era believe he suffered a series of strokes brought on by weakness of blood vessels, a condition affecting various members of his family, and almost certainly inherited from Moses Mendelssohn.



SISTERHOOD NEWS

Irene Fishbein

We deeply appreciate the Oakwood Police Department and their commitment to keeping us safe during these trying times. To thank them for their continued support, on behalf of Beth Abraham, Sisterhood provided treats for their entire Public Safety Department following our fall holidays. We will continue with this project periodically throughout the year.



Thank you to everyone who supported our SuCoats Social Action project this fall. We asked and you delivered in a tremendous way. We collected a whopping 260 items from socks to coats for those in need. Many of the hats and scarves were handmade and beautiful! The women's and children's items were donated to the YWCA and men's items to St. Vincent DePaul.

Mah Jongg dates for December are 12/14 and 12/28 from 1:00 – 4:00PM. Please RSVP to Liz Musin.

The Gift Shop is ready and stocked with everything you need for Chanukah. Candles are available in the office for purchase.

Chag Sameach to all!



MEN'S CLUB NEWS

Irwin Dumtschin

Rick Pinsky Sunday Brunch Speaker Series: The first half of the brunch speaker series has ended and will pick up again in February 2024. Men's Club would like to thank Ron and Mindi Wynne and their chickens for contributing the eggs for the brunches. We also recognize and thank our kitchen crew: Ron Wynne, Mike Kimmel, Ralph Williams, Mike Goldstein, Alan Chesen, and Adam Feiner.

Annual Men's Club Raffle Event: The Men's Club is in the process of putting together its annual major fund raiser. The raffle drawings will take place during the Men's Club annual Deli-Dinner and Movie program on Sunday, April 7th. If you have any retail merchandise or professional services that you would like to donate as a raffle or door prize, please contact the Irwin Dumtschin. Be on the lookout for your raffle tickets next month!

Chanukah: Men's Club will again join with Sisterhood in providing the Chanukah gift bags that are delivered to our local congregants.

Men's Club Monthly Meeting: Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 18th at 7:30 PM. Our meetings are open to all, and we welcome all newcomers to join us. Look for the Zoom link in the upcoming News & Notes.

Men's Club wishes everyone a happy and joyous Chanukah, and many happy latkes!

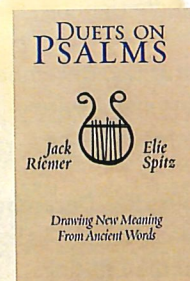


Men's Club's special Veterans Day brunch program with speaker retired Brigadier General Paul Cooper

RABBI RIEMER'S NEW BOOK

Congratulations to our former Rabbi, Jack Riemer, on the publication of his latest book, *Duets on Psalms: Drawing New Meaning from Ancient Words*. Co-written with Rabbi Elie Spitz, it is an exploration of the Psalms with contemporary explanations.

Some of the most important leaders of American Jewish life, such as David Wolpe, Ron Wolfson, heads of the Reform Rabbinical Schools and the University of Judaism have written glowing reviews of the book. It's a wonderful book for those who like to study Bible and/or post-Biblical Judaism.



| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| 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 | Beth Adelman |
| | Judy Chesen |
| | Irwin Dumtschin |
| | Terry Pinsky |
| Staff Writers | Elaine Arnovitz |
| | Irwin Dumtschin |
| | Adam Feiner |
| | 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:** This month, on **December 9**. Monthly Meditations on *Mevarchim haHodesh* (the first Shabbat of the new Hebrew month), 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,
Facebook, or in your weekly News& Notes email

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|---------|------------------------------|---------|
| Friday, December 1 | | Saturday, December 9 | | Saturday, December 23 | |
| Candle Lighting | 4:55 pm | Hanukkah 3 rd Night | | Morning Service | 9:30 am |
| | | Morning Service | 9:30 am | Havdalah | 6:01 pm |
| Saturday, December 2 | | Havdalah | 5:57 pm | | |
| Morning Service | 9:30 am | | | Friday, December 29 | |
| Candle Lighting | 5:57 pm | Friday, December 15 | | Candle Lighting | 5:02 pm |
| | | Candle Lighting | 4:55 pm | | |
| Thursday, December 7 | | Saturday, December 16 | | Saturday, December 30 | |
| Hanukkah 1 st Night | | Morning Service | 9:30 am | Morning Service | 9:30 am |
| Candle Lighting | 5:42 pm | Havdalah | 5:58 pm | Havdalah | 6:06 pm |
| | | | | | |
| Friday, December 8 | | Friday, December 22 | | | |
| Hanukkah 2 nd Night | | Fast of Asara B'Tevet | | | |
| Candle Lighting | 4:54 pm | Candle Lighting | 4:58 pm | | |