

BULLETIN

April President's Message

Friends,

How's it going? I'd like to know. As you're reading this, Passover will just have started. You probably attended a seder and heard someone ask the Four Questions. The first question: Ma nishtana haleila hazeh mikol haleylot? How is this night different from all other nights? I'd like to ask you, ma nishtana hashanah hazot mikol hashanim? How is this year different from all other years?

We spent a bundle and installed an elevator at our main door. We have several members who have mobility problems, but, to date, I'm only aware of one member actually taking advantage of the lift. Where are the rest of you? Oh, and by the way, we could really use a couple of thousand more dollars in donations to finish paying for it.

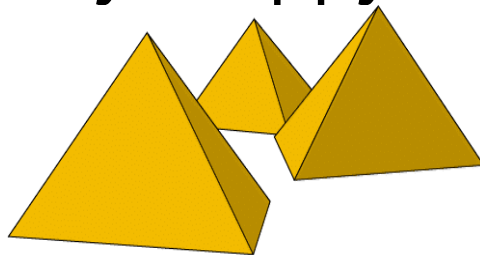
Next month we will have our annual membership meeting. At the meeting we'll hear from the various committee chairs, vote on the budget, and will elect officers and Board members. At the last annual meeting, we voted to hire Rabbi Goldberg. Have you had an opportunity to come and hear the Rabbi? We've been having an increased number of joint services with Temple Beth Am, some at our shul and some at Beth Am. This year we are once again having joint Passover services with Beth Am and Beth David. Having lots of joint services has meant that our building has stood empty at times when there would usually be a service here, but we have also benefited by having more attendees for services and a greater likelihood of a minyan. How do you feel about these changes? Have you been coming to services more often? Less often? Should we continue having joint services as often in the coming year? Please send me an email at just_a_gabbai@frontiernet.net or give me a call at (585) 313-1272 to voice your opinion.

If you have some free time, please consider visiting those of our members who are at the Jewish Home. Esther Solomon, Maxine Gold, Tamar Rogachefsky, and Ella Finkleman live there. In addition, Ben and Muriel Hobel and Harry Rogachefsky are currently getting rehabilitation services at the Jewish Home. Please stop in to see them.

B'shalom,

Leon Metlay

Have a very happy Passover!



**The BHBI Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Sunday, May 23rd.
More information about the meeting will appear in next month's bulletin.**

BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – APRIL 2010

Friday	April 2	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service at Heather Heights in Pittsford Light candles at 7:19 PM
Saturday	April 3	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat /Passover Morning Services with Temple Beth Am at Beth Am with Rabbi Goldberg officiating
Sunday	April 4	9:00 AM	Service and Discussion
Monday	April 5	9:00 AM	Joint Passover 7 th Day Services with Temple Beth Am and Temple Beth David at BHBI
		8:00 PM	Joint Passover Erev 8 th Day Services with Yizkor together with Temple Beth Am at Beth Am with Rabbi Goldberg officiating Light candles after 8:24 PM
Tuesday	April 6	9:00 AM	Joint Passover 8 th Day Service with Yizkor together with Temple Beth Am at BHBI with Rabbi Goldberg officiating Passover ends at 8:25 PM
Friday	April 9	8:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am at Beth Am Light candles at 7:27 PM
Saturday	April 10	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Blessing for the new month. Torah: Shemini
Sunday	April 11	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Monday	April 12	7:30 PM	Monthly Meeting of the BHBI Board of Trustees
Wednesday	April 14	7:30 PM	Small Shul Collaborative Torah Study Session at BHBI
Friday	April 16	8:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Light candles at 7:35 PM
Saturday	April 17	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Tazriah-Metzorah
Sunday	April 18	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Friday	April 23	8:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 7:43 PM
Saturday	April 24	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Acharei-Kedoshim
Sunday	April 25	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Friday	April 30	8:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 7:52 PM

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO MAKE A DONATION
TO HELP US PAY FOR THE WHEELCHAIR
LIFT!**

PLEASE MAKE YOUR DONATION TODAY

Name(s): _____ Donation Amount: \$ _____

Send this form to BHBI, 1369 East Ave., Rochester, NY 14610 along with your special donation for the wheelchair lift today!





FROM THE RABBI'S DESK

By
RABBI GEOFFREY GOLDBERG

April 2010

I returned this morning to *Maimonides: the Life and World of One of Civilization's Greatest Minds* (2008) by Joel L. Kraemer, Professor Emeritus in the Divinity School at the University of Chicago. I wanted to refresh my mind on the chapter entitled, "The Physician." It is well known that in Cairo, Egypt, Maimonides (1138–1204) worked as a physician, serving not only the royal court and eminent persons in the highest strata of society, but also the poor and needy in the Jewish community as well. His extensive medical writings show the breadth of his approach towards medicine, the need to heal the whole person, to heal the soul as well as the body, the importance of mental and psychological considerations as well as the overall environment affecting a person's life.

Kramer writes, for example, "The physician must concern himself with external matters affecting the patient. If the patient is poor, the physician must supply him with food, medicine, and whatever is needed to restore his health. Maimonides' "medical humanism" conformed with the ancient idea that medical care was an act of *philanthropia* (love of mankind) and *humanitas* (humanity)."

If Maimonides were alive today, I wonder what his thoughts would be about the proposals for health reform which are currently engaging America (and as I write, the House of Representatives is about to vote today on its health bill). Twenty-first century America is vastly different from twelfth-century Egypt, but how would Maimonides apply the principles of *philanthropia* and *humanitas* to the solving of our current health care crisis? If, according to Maimonides famous "Ladder of Charity" the highest degree was to help the impoverished get employment, how would he have formulated the highest degree of caring for the sick in society *in his time* and how would we translate that into the conditions *in our time*?

Care for the sick has always been of great importance in Judaism. When we pray for healing, for *refuah*, our prayers also include the doctors, nurses, assistants, medical researchers and all who, directly or indirectly, work to heal the sick, for they are God's instruments in the search for healing. A prayer for healing is not only recited publicly during the Torah service, but is also one of the intermediate blessings of the Daily Amidah. The opening words of this *berakhab*, "Heal us, Eternal One, and we shall be healed" is derived from a verse in Jeremiah 17:14, "Heal me, Eternal One, and I shall be healed." In the concluding phrase God is referred to as *rofei*, "Healer." In Modern Hebrew this word means a "doctor," but in the *berakhab* here God is seen as the Supreme Healer, for while permission to heal is granted to physicians (and all who assist them), the power of healing is understood as ultimately coming from God.

While in most rites the *hatimah* (the formulaic conclusion) of the *berakhab* is worded "Praised are You, Eternal One, Healer of the people Israel," this in no way precludes prayers for healing on behalf of gentiles. Indeed, in some ancient formulations of the *hatimah* (Jerusalem Talmud *Berakbot*. 2:4; *Sifrey*, Deut. To Deut. 33:2) the wording is entirely generic, concluding simply with "Praised are You, Eternal One, Healer of the sick (*rofei ha-holim*). Anyone who privately concludes the *berakhab* thus should feel free to do so.

In his *Guide of the Perplexed* Maimonides wrote, "The Torah as a whole aims at two things, the welfare of the soul and the welfare of the body, *tikun ha nefesh ve-tikun ha-guf*." I am sure Maimonides understood this as applying to all.

Rabbi Geoffrey Goldberg

THE RABBI GOLDBERG FUND

Contributions to the Rabbi Goldberg Fund enable us to engage Rabbi Goldberg to lead additional services at BHBI during the year. Whenever the funds in the Rabbi Goldberg Fund reach a predetermined level, we will schedule an additional service with Rabbi Goldberg. To contribute to this purpose, please send a check in to BHBI with a notation that the contribution should be used for the Rabbi Goldberg Fund.

TORAH STUDY

Join congregants from Temple Beth Am, Temple Beth David and BHBI for our monthly Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study session at BHBI on Wednesday evening, April 14th at 7:30 p.m. The discussion is always lively and engaging!

Yahrzeits

At the following Shabbat Services, we will read the names of our late loved ones whose Yahrzeits will occur on that Shabbat or during the following week.

April 2-3	Nissan	April 9-10	Nissan-Iyar	April 16-17	Iyar	April 23-24	Iyar
David Morris*	20	Arthur Weinberger	26	Louis Goldman*	3	Samuel Sanow*	10
Jacob Weinrib*	20	Alexander		Beverly Honickman	4	Harry Cominsky*	11
Beatrice Goldstein*	21	Greenbaum*	27	Hyman Goldberg*	6	Dr. Murray Cowen	12
Benjamin Ritter	21	Esther Gurian*	27	Morton Lewis	6	Chasa Tillie Yablin*	12
Yetta Levine*	22	Ethel L. Goldstein*	28	Albert Bernstein*	7	Johanna Schild*	13
Evelyn Maimon	23	Rose Lewis"	28	Harry Gordon*	7	Haskell Isaac Smith*	15
Simon Finkelstein	24	Hyman Rothschild*	29	Minnie Rothbard	9	Samuel Lederman*	16
Blanche Levitz	25	Louis Goldberg*	1			Samuel J. Weisenberg*	16
Louis Priceman*	25					April 30-May 1	Iyar
Dorothy Riwkin*	25					Libbie Goldberg*	18
Samuel B. Spiller*	25					Samuel Gastel*	21
						Pauline Hobel	22

* Denotes name memorialized on BHBI Memorial Plaque

We pray that our mourners will be comforted among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem and that the memory of the deceased continues to be a blessing to all who knew them.

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

Memorialize a friend or loved one by purchasing a BHBI memorial plaque. For more information, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Matthew Honickman on being accepted to MIT. He will start there in the coming fall semester.

AMAZON.COM

The next time that you want to buy something from Amazon.com go to the BHBI web page at www.BHBIRochester.org and click on the Amazon.com link. Each time you make a purchase after linking to Amazon.com from our web page, BHBI gets a percentage of the purchase. Buy gifts or something for yourself or your family and support BHBI at the same time!!

<p><i>Rochester's Jewish Funeral Home</i></p>  <p><i>Establishing a New Tradition</i></p> <p>BRIGHTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL, INC.</p> <p><i>Graveside, Temple or Chapel Services.</i></p> <p><i>Now respectfully maintaining the PARSKY records.</i></p> <p>427-8520</p> <p>Jarrod M. Krieger owner & 4th generation Rochesterian www.BrightonMemorialChapel.com</p> <p>3325 Winton Road South S/W corner of Jefferson & Winton Rds</p>	<p>RUHL FUNERAL HOME</p> <p>2793 CULVER ROAD ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14622</p> <p>TEL. 585.342.8111 IF NO ANSWER 585.739.2655</p> <p>DOUGLAS M. RUHL FUNERAL DIRECTOR</p> <p>DMRUHL@ROCHESTER.RR.COM</p>
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So far our TOPS Gift Card fundraiser has been quite successful. Remember, TOPS Gift Cards are now available through BHBI in \$50 denominations. To purchase TOPS Gift Cards, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or by e-mail at stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

TO OUR DONORS -- THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WHEELCHAIR LIFT FUND

*Cathy and Winston Block
Robert and Rise Levine*

TORAH FUND

In memory of Max Levy
Paul and Rose Israel

THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH

March 13	Katharine Metlay in memory of her sister, Julie Feuerberg
March 20	The Congregation
March 27	Winston and Cathy Block in memory of Winston's father, Max Block

DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO IS UNAFFILIATED AND INTERESTED IN JOINING A CONGREGATION?

Let them know about BHBI's special free 3 month trial membership (available to prospective first-time new members only). Have them contact BHBI at 244-2060 or BHBI@frontiernet.net and we will be happy to give them information about BHBI and this great offer!!

EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration

Hear a first-hand account of the liberation of the Buchenwald concentration camp from Dick Arnold who at age 19 was a Jewish American soldier who was among those who liberated the inmates of the camp in 1945. He will speak at this year's Yom Hashoah commemoration at the JCC on Sunday, April 11th at 3:30 p.m., 65 years to the day after the liberation of Buchenwald. An advance program for teens will be held from 2:15 to 3:15 p.m. featuring Mr. Arnold and a panel of teens who have been on trips to Poland.

Earth Day

The Rochester Jewish community is joining with other local faith communities and the Monroe County Department of Environmental Services to help the environment on Earth Day, Sunday April 25th. From 1 to 4 p.m. that day, the items listed below can be brought to the Jewish Community Federation's parking lot (441 East Avenue) and next door to the Third Presbyterian Church parking lot (4 Meigs Street) as indicated. Volunteers will be waiting to unload your car.

Items Collected at the Jewish Community Federation, 441 East Avenue:

Clean No. 5 Plastics

Pharmaceuticals — including outdated, unwanted and unusable prescription and non-prescription medications

Electronics — From cell-phones and hair dryers to computer monitors and TV's. These items contain hazardous materials such as lead and cadmium and need to be recycled properly. Accepted equipment: computers, monitors, typewriters, printers, circuit boards, fax machines, audio/visual equipment, cell phones, video game systems, microwaves, computer accessories. There will be a \$10 charge to drop-off televisions.

Items Collected at Third Presbyterian Church, 4 Meigs Street (Corner of East Avenue):

Sneakers — These will be recycled and reused to make running tracks for schools in poor neighborhoods.

Shoes and Boots — They will be reused locally by area migrant workers.

Clothing — Both children's and adult sizes will be collected for the benefit of Flower City Habitat for Humanity.

OFFICE: The synagogue office is checked regularly for mail and messages. The synagogue phone is 244-2060. For urgent issues, call Steve Teitel at 473-5741 or Stan Schaffer at 473-8072. You can also e-mail us at BHBI@frontiernet.net

WANT TO REMEMBER OR HONOR SOMEONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION?

Consider sponsoring a kiddush or making a donation to any one of our funds (General Operating, Kiddush, Library, Torah, Rabbi Aaron Solomon Scholarship, Our Youth, Special Events, Rabbi Goldberg Fund or the Sam Malina Memorial Fund). Please indicate which fund you would like your donation to go to and we will send out an acknowledgement card as you indicate and print an announcement in this bulletin. A standard sponsored kiddush at BHBI costs just \$40 while a larger enhanced kiddush is just \$50.

BULLETIN CONTENT

What do you enjoy reading in the BHBI Bulletin? Is there something that you would like added (or taken out)? If so, please let Stan Schaffer know. We always appreciate feedback.

DID YOU MISPLACE YOUR BULLETIN?

Don't worry. BHBI Bulletins going back several months can now be found on our web page: www.BHBIRochester.org

WANT TO GET YOUR BULLETIN HOT-OFF-THE-PRESS? Consider having us e-mail it to you!

Contact Stan Schaffer at: stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

Congregation Beth Hamedresh-Beth Israel
1369 East Avenue
Rochester, NY 14610