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Congregation Beth Hamedresh – Beth Israel

BULLETIN

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December President's Message

Friends,

I hope you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving. As December starts, Chanukah will come early in the month. We will have our joint Chanukah party with Temple Beth Am at BHBI on Sunday the 13th, the last night. See page 5 of this bulletin for details. I hope to see you there. I also hope to see you at services, as we get into the cold months. Please consider coming a little more frequently to make up for the regular attendees who might be absent.

Again this month, we have a contribution from one of our Board members, Stan Schaffer, looking back at a fateful day in November:

November 10th

Every year when November 10th comes around and I pause and reflect. It's a day like any other day, or is it? For one thing, I'm reminded about November 10th because it's the birthday of a close friend of mine and I always try to remember to wish him a happy birthday. That, however, isn't the reason that I stop to reflect on November 10th. November 10th is also the anniversary of *Kristallnacht*, the 'Night of Shattered Glass' which for me has had a lot of meaning for the past several years. You see, both my parents grew up in Berlin and narrowly escaped Germany just before the beginning of the Second World War. A few years ago, my mother gave video testimony to the Bay Area Holocaust Project in California which tries to record the wartime recollections of the many people living in the San Francisco area who escaped or endured the Holocaust. It wasn't until after I saw the video in which my mother told her story of *Kristallnacht* that I took interest in what happened on November 10th, 1938.

She was 12 years old then. She recalled that on *Kristallnacht*, she, her mother and her brother hid under the beds in their darkened apartment, hoping that their home would not be broken into and, if it were, that they would not be found, while her father (a German veteran of World War I some 20 years earlier) hid in a box in the store room behind his brother-in-law's barber shop. The next morning, inexplicably, thinking the trouble was over, my grandmother sent my mother and her 10 year old brother off by themselves to the Jewish school that they attended (because Jewish students had all previously been expelled from the public schools) which was located in another part of Berlin. Coming out of the subway station by their school, they caught sight of their school building ablaze in flames and were told by a passerby, "Children it is not safe for you here; get back home as fast as you can." That was the moment that my mother's childhood ended and her experience as a future refugee in wartime China and later America began. *Kristallnacht* also marks the beginning of Hitler's war against the Jews that culminated in the Holocaust. So, the next time that November 10th rolls around, take a few moments to stop what you are doing and reflect on how that day changed history and the lives of millions.

Thank you, Stan. As we reflect on the troubles our people had in the past, and we look at the chaos that is happening in so many parts of the world now, I think we will all be ending 2015 with prayers for peace.

Leon Metlay



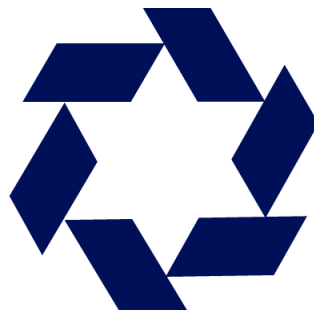
Happy Chanukah!



BHBI CALENDAR OF EVENTS – DECEMBER 2015

Friday	Dec 4	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 4:17 PM
Saturday	Dec 5	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Vayeishev
Sunday	Dec 6	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Friday	Dec 11	7:00 PM	Joint Shabbat Evening Service with Temple Beth Am (at TBK Room 103) Light candles at 4:16 PM
Saturday	Dec 12	9:30 AM	Joint Shabbat Morning Service with Temple Beth Am at BHBI Torah: Miketz
Sunday	Dec 13	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
		5:00 PM	Joint BHBI-Beth Am Chanukah Party at BHBI
Monday	Dec 14	7:30 PM	BHBI Board of Trustees Meeting
Wednesday	Dec 16	7:30 PM	Small Conservative Synagogue Collaborative Torah Study at BHBI
Friday	Dec 18	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 4:18 PM
Saturday	Dec 19	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Vayigash
Sunday	Dec 20	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion
Friday	Dec 25	7:00 PM	Shabbat Evening Service Light candles at 4:22 PM
Saturday	Dec 26	9:30 AM	Shabbat Morning Service Torah: Vayechi
Sunday	Dec 27	9:00 AM	Service, Breakfast and Discussion

Volunteer at the Jewish Federation’s Super Sunday Phone-a-thon
on December 6th (shifts 9 am–12 noon or 11am–2 pm) or at the additional
Tzedakah Tuesday on December 8th from 6:30 – 9 pm.
All shifts begin with a nosh (including latkes and sufganiot for Chanukah),
training, and then phone time. To sign up to participate, go to
www.jewishrochester.org or call Susan Gagnon at 461-0490 x8641.



DONATIONS
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

GENERAL FUND

In memory of Rocco Tripodi
Sue Baker

In memory of Rona Luxemburg
Sue Baker

HIGH HOLY DAY APPEAL

Leslie Toker and Jeff Nidetz

THANK YOU TO OUR KIDDUSH SPONSORS
FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER

- November 7 The Congregation
- November 14 Katharine Metlay in memory of her mother, Fannie Titof
 Steve and Ruth Teitel in memory of Steve's mother, Eleanor Teitel
- November 21 Leon Metlay and Nina Klionsky in honor of Leon's birthday and the birthdays his sister Beth and their nieces, Robyn and Katharine Carney

MAKE YOUR CHANUKAH PURCHASES AT AMAZON.COM
AND SUPPORT BHBI AT THE SAME TIME!

Chanukah is almost here! Why not contribute to BHBI while making on-line purchases? It's easy to make purchases on-line at Amazon.com and support BHBI financially at the same time. Just 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 price. The more you buy in this way, the more BHBI makes!

SMALL CONSERVATIVE SHUL COLLABORATIVE TORAH STUDY

This month's Small Conservative Shul Collaborative Torah Study session will be held at BHBI on Wednesday, December 16th at 7:30 p.m. at BHBI. Come and bring your friends. Everyone is welcome! If you haven't attended before, give it a try – you will definitely enjoy the lively discussion.

IN MEMORIAM

We sadly mark the recent passing of Leon Katzen, a former associate member of BHBI, at the age of 97. Leon was a co-founder of Lacy Katzen, LLP, a large local law firm, and he always prided himself in being a strong supporter of Israel.

AD SPONSORS

We are always looking for additional businesses that are interested in placing an ad in the BHBI Bulletin. If you know of someone whose business or company may be interested, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or by e-mail at stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

SUPER SUNDAY AND TZEDAKAH TUESDAY

Sunday, December 6th is the Jewish Federation's Super Sunday. Please be generous when the Super Sunday volunteer calls you and support our Jewish Federation. If the volunteer can't reach you on Super Sunday, you are likely to get a call from the Federation on Tzedakah Tuesday, December 8th.

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.

December 4-5	Kislev	December 11-12	Kislev-Tevet	December 17-18	Tevet	December 24-25	Tevet
Ida Bobb	24	Morris Kanthor*	3	Merriam Jossem*	7	Joseph Morris*	14
Emanuel Kovel'ski*	24	Morton Fink*	4	David Goodman*	8	Celia Suskind*	14
Sarah Hoffman*	25	Abraham Weinstein*	4	Selma Kauffman Lansky*	9	Dora Rogovin*	15
Hyman Snider*	25	Abraham Stolnitz*	5	Rebecca H. Nusbaum*	10	Nathan Goldberg	16
Hannah Langerman	27	Barbara Bertman*	6	William Silverman*	10	Fannie Sablowsky*	17
Michael Miller*	27	Sigmund Traub*	6	Maurice Bloom*	11	Philip Sanzel*	17
Emma Aranow*	28			Gloria Taxon	11	Joseph Schiff*	17
Karen Cohen	28			Sayde Abelman*	12	Hannah Senzel*	17
				Sol Lazarus*	12	Louis Bernstein*	18
				Fannie Osband*	13	Carl Kleinstein*	18
		Denotes name memorialized on BHBI Memorial Plaque				Rose Needler	18
						Estelle Hirsch*	19
						Shie Schnidman*	19

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

You can also memorialize a friend or loved one on a BHBI memorial plaque. Our memorial plaques are very reasonably priced. For more information, contact Stan Schaffer at 473-8072 or stanschaffer@frontiernet.net

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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

GOODSEARCH.COM

Goodsearch.com is an on-line internet search program that pays non-profit organizations like BHBI a fee every time someone uses their search service. Go to www.goodsearch.com, enter the search term that you want and put in BHBI on the line where it says Who Do You Goodsearch For? BHBI will benefit from each search you make!

BHBI WEBSITE

Have you checked out the BHBI web site lately? If you haven't there is a lot that you're missing. The web site at www.BHBIRochester.org provides information about many aspects of our congregation, lists the BHBI calendar, has electronic versions of this and previous bulletins going back several years, has an extensive history of our congregation along with historic photos, includes photos from several BHBI dinners, picnics and other special events, and has the unique Adon Olam Songbook with information on over 100 melodies for Adon Olam.

EVENTS IN THE COMMUNITY

Jewish Federation Israel Speaker Series: Viva Press to Discuss Cybersecurity

Monday, December 9th – 7-9 pm at Temple B'rith Kodesh

The community is invited to this free event sponsored by the Federation and featuring Israeli cybersecurity expert, Viva Press who will discuss the Israeli role in cybersecurity.

92Y Live: David Gregory with Erica Brown and Rabbi Peter Rubinstein

Monday, December 16th – 7:30 pm at the JCC

\$7 for JCC members, \$9 for non-members

Former NBC News personality, David Gregory, and his friend and spiritual mentor, Erica Brown, who prompted Gregory's interest in Judaism, will discuss faith, identity and leadership with Rabbi Peter Rubinstein. Gregory's new book is titled *How's Your Faith?* and Brown is the author of *Take Your Soul to Work*.

Special Events to Meet the JCC's New Executive Director, Arnie Sohinki

Wednesday, December 2nd – 9-11 am, Bagels & Coffee with Arnie in the JCC's Auditorium A

Wednesday, December 18th – 5-7 pm, Wine & Cheese Happy Hour with Arnie in the JCC lobby



Come One, Come All

To the Joint BHBI-Beth Am Chanukah Party and Holiday Dinner

Sunday, December 13th at BHBI

Snacks and a get together at 5 pm

Hanukkah candle lighting at 5:30 pm

Dinner at 6 pm

Don't forget to bring your menorah.

Cost \$12 for adults, \$8 for children ages 12 and younger (\$36 family maximum)

RSVPs should be received by 5 pm on December 8th

You may e-mail your RSVP to bhbirochester@gmail.com, may call the BHBI office at 244-2060 to leave a message, or may send the completed form below to BHBI, 1369 East Avenue, Rochester, NY 14610.

Name(s): _____

of Adults Attending: _____ @ \$12 each

of Children 12 Years of Age and Under Attending: _____ @ \$8 each

Total amount remitted: \$ _____

OFFICE: The synagogue office is checked regularly for mail and messages. The synagogue phone is 244-2060. For urgent issues, call Leon Metlay at 271-2945 or Stan Schaffer at 473-8072. You can also e-mail us at BHBIRochester@gmail.com

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 Fund, Kiddush Fund, Harry Rogachefsky BHBI Building Fund, Torah Fund, Rabbi Aaron Solomon Scholarship Fund, Special Events 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 years 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

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