

Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah

BETH REPORTER

ADAR-NISAN 5777

MARCH 2017

Purim Extravaganza!

Saturday, March 11

Beginning at 6:30 pm

Everyone is invited to join the festivities!

Pasta Dinner - 6:30 pm / Megillah Reading - 7:00 pm
Costume Parade * Ice Cream Social

Open to the Community

RSVP required for Dinner—Dinner sponsors welcome



TBOBT and the Sol Sern Memorial Program
presents :

The Comedy of Joel Chasnoff
Sunday, March 19 at 3:00 PM

Joel has performed in nine countries, for the USO in Japan and Korea, and on Israeli late-night TV. Hilariously funny!!

The program is free and open to the public.

Refreshments will be served!

This program is made possible by a HEART Grant from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders
and by the Sol Sern Memorial Fund of TBOBT.

Pesach Community Seder



Join the TBOBT family for the
First Seder
Monday, April 10

Details to Follow!!



From the Cantor

I'm guessing you either watched or heard about the recent snafu at the Academy Awards ceremony? The presenters, reading from the wrong card, mistakenly announced the winner in the final category of Best Film to be the musical "La La Land," while the real winner was "Moonlight." The whole episode had a surreal feel to it, and may have brought to mind what has been referred to as the "Steve Harvey Moment," when the host of a 2015 beauty pageant crowned the wrong contestant in error.

But I would rather call it a "Purim Moment," because it is exactly the sort of thing that is supposed to happen on this holiday, that is, if we are to take seriously the instruction of the rabbis of the Talmud regarding "*ad delo yada*" – that one should on Purim imbibe sufficiently so that one can no longer discern the difference between "cursed is Haman" and "blessed is Mordechai." "La La Land" or "Moonlight," after a few drinks, what's the difference?

Before going on, let me make abundantly clear that in fact there is much discussion about the "*ad delo yada*" requirement amongst rabbinic scholars, and especially nowadays, the interpretations tend to strongly discourage inebriation. So a few sips of Kedem, maybe, but please don't go overboard....

But most authorities do tend to support the idea of loosening up just a bit on this holiday. Our religious law, or halacha, in general constrains behavior, (albeit in a positive, moderating way). So once a year, it can be good for the soul and refreshing for the psyche to unwind a little, put on a costume, and even act a little *meshugah*. I think this is especially so given the tenor of the times. No matter your view on the politics of the day, with all that's going on, there is enough stress to go around for everyone!

So join us for our **Purim Extravaganza** on Saturday, March 11, beginning with dinner at 6:30 pm, followed by the Megillah Reading, Costume Parade, Ice Cream Social, and yes, just a touch of "*ad delo yada*"!

Purim Sameach,
Cantor Steven Stern



Save the Dates!

Adult Education Committee trip to Reeves-Reed Arboretum in Summit
Sunday, May 7, 2017

Annual Mark & Edith Lief Memorial Program
Sunday, May 21, 2017

Details to follow.

From The Co-Presidents

Shalom Chaverim,

"When Adar comes, joy is increased." The month of Adar which began on February 27th is the 12th and last month of the Hebrew Calendar. It is the most joyful of the 12 months because we celebrate the holiday of Purim which commemorates the triumph of the Jewish people over evil.

It is a well known fact that Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah throws a great party and our Annual Purim Extravaganza is proof. Get your costumes ready. The festivities begin at 6:30 pm on Saturday, March 11 with a pasta dinner. The reading of the Megillah follows at 7:30 pm with raucous noise at every mention of Haman's name. The costume parade is always great fun with prizes for the best costumes.

Finally, we further increase our joy by closing the party with an Ice Cream Social sponsored each year by our much loved TBOBT family members, Myrna and Arny Young.

We also rejoice during Adar because it is the prelude to celebrating the miracles of Passover. Here at TBOBT we believe part of our mission is to bring Judaism's rituals and culture to the greater Jewish Community. Our Annual Community Seder on the first night of Passover brings the most observed ritual in the Jewish calendar to both members and non-members.

The word "Seder" means order. There are 15 specific parts to the Seder and under the guidance of Cantor Stern these steps are as meticulously choreographed as a Bolshoi Ballet. With his usual vast knowledge and sense of humor he creates a meaningful and spiritual Seder for all ages. The "Festive Meal" is always delicious and each year more and more people choose to attend. We have had to turn people away due to lack of space. Please make your reservations as early as possible.

It is fitting that our Annual Sol Sern Memorial Program happens each Adar. This year, on Sunday, March 19 at 3:00 PM we will enjoy the hilarious comedy of Joel Chasnoff, a renowned superstar of Jewish humor. We, who knew Sol Sern, remember him for his great sense of humor.

All of these events require great effort by many people. The Pirke Avot tells us "according to the effort is the reward." I'm sure our people are greatly rewarded by the success of the Purim Extravaganza, the Community Seder and the Sol Sern program. Thank you to each of you who work so hard to make these events a success with a special thank you to Cantor Stern, Bonni Clark, Mariela Hassan, Fern Cammy and the Ritual Committee, Thelma Purdy, and the Sol Sern family.

**B'Shalom
Lillian**

Education Report

Classes continued with the regular subjects of Hebrew, Bible study, prayers and ethics during February, with the added attraction of Tu B'Shevat. All classes attended a Tu B'Shevat Seder and partook of the many fruits of the Land of Israel and the meaning of them. In addition, Dr. Mike Miller and Marty Goldman engaged the students with environmental subjects.

As Tu B'Shevat is the Rosh Hashanah of Trees, Dr. Mike led a discussion of trees with the older students, with the class determining the age of trees and their importance to our overall environment.

Marty Goldman introduced the K'ton class to Energy Hero and discussed the ways of saving energy in our homes. Both discussions brought together the basic Jewish effort of Tikkum Olam with our contemporary life and how our age old effort is important in our modern world. Lively discussions around the question "Does energy conservation and tree conservation heal the world," were held.

We particularly want to thank Michael and Marty for their participation with our school children.

Thelma, Genie, Elaine, and Cantor

Sisterhood President's Message



March is a very busy time for Sisterhood! When Purim is approaching, we get ready by buying items for Shalach Mones. We are proud of the goodies in this year's baskets. Once again, we need volunteers.

On Monday, March 6th, we will be assembling the baskets at 7:30 pm. It usually takes only about an hour. We have a lot of fun and you earn donor credit for assisting. The more people who help out, the quicker it goes. Also, that night, we write out names on the certificates. So if you love to print, you can stay after doing baskets to fill out certificates.

By the way, this year's theme honors the 100th anniversary of Women's League, which oversees Conservative Sisterhoods. Since the Roman numeral for 100 is "C", all of this year's items in the Shalach Mones start with "C" (candy, crackers, chips, chocolate, cookies, cheese).

Finally, I want to alert you that Donor Dinner has been moved from Thursday, May 25th to Thursday, June 22nd at the temple. As always, a special night is planned for Donor!

So have a Happy Purim!
Joleen

Golden Books

To send a Golden Book for any occasion, call:

Joan Oberman (732-381-4322)
Evie Shulman (908-276-6894)
Betty Needleman (908-389-0911)

Cards are sent for \$3.00 and you will receive \$1.50 donor credit, or pick up a pack of 10 cards for \$20.00 with \$15.00 donor credit and send them yourself. They can be picked up from the office.

Please send checks to:
Esther Schlesinger :
(9 Pine Ridge Dr., Edison, NJ 08820)
or call (732) 548-7132 for the amount owed.

Goldenbooks

To Alan Mandelbaum on the passing of his mother:

From: Suzanne & Michael Miller
Diane & Michael Goldstein
Rayna & Allan Warner
Joleen & Bob Fridson
Janie & Jonathan Phillips
Betty & Mark Needleman
Debbie & Arthur Freedman
Edie & Glenn Bloom

To Verna Lemberg on the passing of her husband Seymour Lemberg.

From: Suzanne & Michael Miller
Diane & Michael Goldstein
Janie & Jonathan Phillips

To Richard Lavroff on the passing of his brother Allan Lavroff.

From: Lorraine Itzkowitz



SHOP SMART,
DO GOOD
CHARITY EVENT

WESTFIELD LORD & TAYLOR

ALL SYNAGOGUE MEMBERS CAN SHOP
AND TAKE HOME THEIR PURCHASES
THURSDAY AND FRIDAY (3/30 & 3/31)

TICKETS \$5.00

FOR EVERY \$5 WE SELL, WE MAKE \$5!!!
PLUS ADDITIONAL FUNDS IF WE SELL
OVER 75 TICKETS!

DON'T MISS OUT ON GREAT SAVINGS!!
PRE-SELL PRIOR TO THE EVENT!!!

SAVE \$25 ON A \$100 ITEM
SAVE \$50 ON A \$200 ITEM!
SAVE \$100 ON A \$400 ITEM!

SUPPORT SISTERHOOD — PURCHASE A
TICKET

Special Fund

Donations to Special Fund can be made for any occasion for a minimum donation of \$5.00. You will receive 100% donor credit.

To send a beautiful Special Fund card call:
Genie Berry (732-388-3453).

From The TBOBT Men's Club

The Men's Club thanks Cantor Stern and Howie Silverman for teaching and leading the Worldwide Wrap on February 5th. Everyone enjoyed the breakfast that followed. Pictures are in this bulletin.

Men's Club and the Temple schools celebrated Tu B'Shevat on Sunday, February 12th. Martin Goldman presented to our Kton class an energy conservation project: "Why is my light bulb HOT?" Using incandescent, CFL and LED 40 watt equivalent bulbs, he explained that heat from the bulbs is wasted light energy. The children were encouraged to suggest energy conservation actions which they posted on the board.

Mike Miller with the help of Michael Goldstein led the older students in a discussion: "How old is my favorite tree?" The tree age can be estimated from the circumference of the trunk and the species of the tree using a formula and tables developed by

Audubon Society. Taking a plug from the trunk and counting the rings can damage the tree. The students discussed the importance of trees and conservation and recycling of tree-derived products.

On February 23 Men's Club held an enjoyable game night.

March Activities:

1. Thursday, March 9 at 8:00PM -- Men's Club meeting to prepare Yellow Candles for distribution.
2. March 18 is Men's Club Shabbat. A special program on Keruv is planned. To participate contact Mike Miller at 908 233-9224 or mwmillerchem_102@aol.com
3. Thursday, March 23rd—Game night



TEMPLE BETH O'R BETH TORAH BOARD OF OFFICERS & TRUSTEES MEETING SCHEDULE 2016-2017 Mondays, at 8:00 pm

March 13	Congregation Board
April TBA	Congregation Board
May 8	Congregation Board
June 12	Congregation Board

Please be advised that there is a Congregation Meeting on Monday, March 13 at 7:30 pm for the purposes of reviewing the budget for the ensuing year.

Morning Minyan Services

Sundays at 9:00 AM:
Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah

Thursdays at 7:00 AM:
**Congregation Beth Israel
in Scotch Plains**

If you have any questions, please call Howard Silverman, Fern Cammy or Cantor Stern.



The Temple Office Hours are:
Monday through Friday
9:00 AM—2:00 PM



Happenings



at TBOBT





An anonymous synagogue member has generously donated gift cards to the Sisterhood.



Currently available are \$100 in Trader Joe's gift cards and \$225 in Deli King gift cards. The gift cards are in denominations of \$25 and are limited to \$50 per member. The cards are available for purchase in the Temple office.

Earn Donor Credit while shopping at Trader Joe's or Deli King!!

Remember to buy ShopRite Gift Cards.
5% of the amount of Shop Rite gift cards purchased is tax deductible.



Contact the Temple Office at
732-381-8403, ext 11.



Support Groups at RWJ Fitness & Wellness
Center in Scotch Plains led by
Mindy Cohen.

The following groups meet: caregivers support, cancer support, breast cancer support, and fibromyalgia support. Registration not required and there is no fee. Call 732-499-6193 for more information.



If you need a ride to get to Friday or Saturday services or if you can offer a ride, please let the office know. Thank you.



**Come and Join the
TBOBT Mah Jongg
League!**

We will play at the temple on the first and last Wednesday of each month from 1:00 PM—3:00 PM.

If you haven't played for years or would like to learn how to play, why not join us?

For more information,
please call Audrey Silverman at 732-499-0439.



Support the Temple while you shop.

Sign in on AmazonSmile.com and select "Clark Jewish Center" and Amazon will give 0.5% of your purchases to TBOBT.

Messages from our Members

Dear TBOBT,

Thank you so much for the Shabbat dinner during our recent shiva.

We were overwhelmed by the support of the congregation at the nightly minyans and deeply appreciate our TBOBT family.

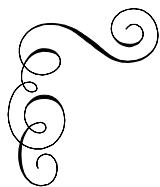
Please accept this donation as we continue to honor the life of our beloved Esther Mandelbaum.

Wendy, Alan, Leslie and Meryl Mandelbaum

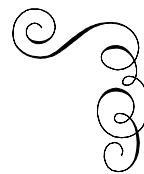
Walter and Joy want to thank and show appreciation to everyone who helped him and offered their kindness at Saturday morning services.

By Sunday Walter was feeling fine, and has felt better ever since.

Walter and Joy



The TBOBT Family expresses condolences to:
Verna Lemberg on the passing of her husband Seymour Lemberg
Alan Mandelbaum on the passing of his mother Esther Mandelbaum
Howard Kastner on the passing of his mother Selma Kastner



**We gratefully acknowledge the following donations
made to TBOBT during the month of February:**

(To make a donation in memory of a loved one or in honor
of a special occasion, call or email the temple office.)

Yahrzeit Fund

Donated By

Steven Hurok
Michael Vogel
Thelma Purdy
Mark Needleman
Michael Miller
Myrna Young
Ida Breitbart
Ida Breitbart
Flora Mae Weiss
Flora Mae Weiss
Bess Berg
Matilda Fink
Sylvia Wolkin
Shirley Coppleson
Shirley Coppleson
Shirley Coppleson
Marlene Plymack
Dr. Gloria Schrager
Carol Tendler
Dr. Eugene Tendler
Ed Leibowitz
Marilyn Weinstein
Evelyn Shulman
Judy Turner
Mark Traum
Paula Hymanson
Alvin Barr
Howard Horn
Judith Gottlieb
Marvin Edelman
Esther Rubinstein

In Memory Of:

Clara Hurok
Aaron Vogel
Esther Kahn
Louis Needleman
Moe Miller
Edith Berger
Sidney Breitbart
Carol L. Sherling
Elinor Karp
Dr. Morton Gittelman
Carol L. Sherling
Elsa Fink
Minnie Strobing
Nettie Throne
Max Coppleson
Isaac Throne
George Berlin
Edith Ogur
Harriet Oelbaum
Max Tendler
Sam Leibowitz
Ida Plotkin
Paul Zinker
Mathilda Solomon
Dorothy Traum
Louis Diamond
Herman Barr
Gertrude Horn
Abby Gottlieb Nudle
Abraham Edelman
Sara Gutwilig

Cantor's Discretionary Fund

Barry Orange: In appreciation

Minyan Breakfast Fund

Verna Lemberg: In appreciation

Ruth Dengrove: In memory of Esther Dengrove

General Fund

General Fund

Stan & Fay Fink: In Memory of Esther Mandelbaum

Lorraine Wallace: In memory of William Hausler

Alan & Wendy Mandelbaum: In appreciation

Dick & Lisa Lavroff: In memory of Esther Mandelbaum

Religious School Fund

Robert Kolker: In memory of Eva Kolker

Dr. Mike Miller: In memory of Paul Miller

Dr. Mike Miller: In memory of Emma Miller

Suzanne Miller: In memory of Greta Bauer

Support Our Advertisers



**PLEASE!!
NOTE**

TBO/BT still has cemetery plots at Beth Israel Cemetery in Woodbridge available.

If you are interested, please call the temple office at 732-381-8403 ext. 11.

Advertise Your Business!

Call us for monthly and yearly advertising rates.

Various ad sizes are available.

Contact Bonni at the Temple Office
732-381-8403, ext .11

LIST OF TBOBT FUNDS FOR DONATIONS

Cantor's Discretionary Fund – is a vehicle by which the Cantor assists individuals and organizations that come to his personal attention in need of additional funds for emergencies, on-going activities or special projects in the US, Israel or anywhere in the world.

Jewish National Fund Trees – certificates can be purchased for all occasions in denominations of \$18. Please contact the temple office, 732-381-8403.

Oneg Shabbat/Kiddush Fund – used for a nosh after Shabbat services. To sponsor an entire Oneg, Kiddush, or Seuda, please contact the temple office, 732-381-8403.

Minyan Breakfast Fund – provides breakfast for the Morning Minyan.

Ritual Fund – is used to purchase religious supplies.

Yahrzeit Fund - It is a tradition to make a donation in memory of deceased loved ones. This fund is used to support all aspects of the synagogue.

Sol Sern Memorial Lecture Fund - is used to provide speakers and refreshments for our annual lecture in memory of Sol Sern.

General Fund – supports all aspects of Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah.

Prayer Books – Please contact the temple office to obtain up-to-date information.

Bikur Cholim and Chesed Fund - is used on behalf of those who are ill or in need of mitzvot of loving kindness.

Harold & Doris Presser Memorial Fund - has been established to assist in the maintenance of the temple facilities and the repair of ritual items.

Yahrzeit Plaques – Honor your departed loved ones with a permanent Yahrzeit memorial plaque in our sanctuary. A light will be lit next to the plaque every year during the week of the Yahrzeit. Cost is \$350.

Information needed: English & Hebrew names, including the father's and/or mother's Hebrew name, and secular & Hebrew dates of passing.

Sanctuary Seat & Pew Dedication – This project honors or memorializes a dear one with a special plaque mounted on the back of a sanctuary seat. Each plaque costs \$180. Dedication of an entire pew (row) includes a larger plaque inscribed with the family name mounted at the end of the row and two individual seat plaques in that row. The cost of an entire pew dedication is \$1800.

Religious School Fund – supports our Hebrew School & K'ton program.

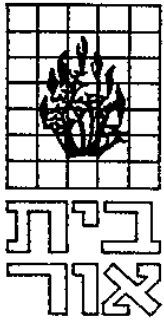
Simcha Tree – Honor your family by dedicating a Leaf (\$180), Rock, or Trunk Letter, on our "Simcha" Tree of Life, for any and all occasions – Births, Weddings, Special Anniversaries or Birthdays, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, or other special honors or events. Call Temple Office for more info.

February
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28

2017 MARCH

April
S M T W T F S
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8
9 10 11 12 13 14 15
16 17 18 19 20 21 22
23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
			7:00p Israeli Dancing 3 Adar		5:33p 8:00p Services 5 Adar	6:52p 9:30a Services 7:30p Musical Cafe Night with PetroGrass 6 Adar
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
9:00a Men's Club Meeting and Program 12:00p Paint & Pour 7 Adar	6:30p Sisterhood Board Pizza Meeting 7:30p Sisterhood Build A Basket 8 Adar		7:00p Israeli Dancing 10 Adar	Fast of Esther 11 Adar	5:41p 8:00p Services 12 Adar	7:00p 9:30a Services 9:36p Purim Extravaganza 13 Adar
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Begin daylight time 9:00a Morning Minyan Purim 14 Adar	7:30p Congregation Meeting 8:00p Congregation Board Meeting 15 Adar		7:00p Israeli Dancing 17 Adar		6:48p 8:00p Services 19 Adar	8:07p 10:00a Adults with Special Needs 20 Adar
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			7:00p Israeli Dancing 24 Adar		6:56p 7:00a Shabbat Dinner 8:00p Services 26 Adar	8:15p 9:30a Services 27 Adar
26	27	28	29	30	31	
9:00a Morning Minyan 28 Adar	29 Adar	Rosh Chodesh 1 Nisan	7:00p Israeli Dancing 2 Nisan	3 Nisan	8:00p Services 4 Nisan	



Temple Beth O'r Beth Torah

111 Valley Road, Clark NJ 07066

732-381-8403

tbethor@gmail.com

www.bethorbethtorah.org

Steven Stern, Spiritual Leader

Lillian Makow & Janice Hymanson, Co-Presidents

Jonathan Phillips, Executive Vice-President

Got a Simcha?

**Birthday? Anniversary?
Graduation? New grandchild?
Host a Kiddush at TBOBT**

**Sponsor a simple Kiddush for \$136
or make a donation of \$18 or more
to the Kiddush Fund.**

**Contact Bonni at the Temple office
732-381-8403 ext. 11
or
tbethor@gmail.com.**



ISRAELI DANCE

Wednesday Nights

\$10.00 per class/ \$45 prepaid for 5

Proceeds go to TBOBT.

Led by Elyse Litt 732-396-8299

Any new dancers should contact:

Elyse via email prior to first class at [dancesfrom-
theheart@gmail.com](mailto:dancesfromtheheart@gmail.com)