

THE MESSENGER

CONGREGATION
B'NAI ZION

Kislev/Tevet 5770
December 2009

R A B B I ' S M E S S A G E

"As we gather to light the chanukiah on Friday evening December 11, the 25th of Kislev, I hope that we as Jews will continue to lead the world in fighting hatred, racism, religious discrimination, and intolerance wherever it may exist."



It is good to be home. It is hard to believe that I have been away from Congregation B'nai Zion since October 13 and just returned on November 22 in time to write this article for the December Messenger. As many of you know, I have been on a "Sabbatical," writing a book and visiting many communities and several synagogues. Over the next few months I am sure that I will have the opportunity to share some of these experiences with you personally. As we approach the festival of Chanukah this month, I would like to begin by telling you a few of the adventures of our journey that I believe are related to the holiday. The first stop on our journey was in Cape Town, South Africa. One of the most important places which we saw as part of our visit was Robben Island, where Nelson Mandela spent most of his 27 years as a political prisoner. Because of his opposition to apartheid and his leadership in that endeavor, Mandela and hundreds of others were incarcerated at that prison. The tour to that facility was led by two individuals who were directly related to the struggle against racism in South Africa. One was a 23 year old guide who spoke with passion of many of the heroes who had been arrested, persecuted, imprisoned and even assassinated because of their involvement in the

cause to end apartheid. Our tour was the first one which he led as he was starting his new career on that very day. He was very personable and knowledgeable about the history and geography of the island.

When we arrived at the actual prison, he left us in the hands of an older man who was 70 and had actually been a prison-mate of Mandela for over a decade. The first thing which he told us was that this young tour guide's father was hanged for trumped up charges because of his activity as a protester against apartheid. The former prisoner showed us the exact cell which was occupied by Mandela, which was the standard cell for all the black prisoners. He demonstrated how it was so small that at night with just a blanket and a pillow, sleeping on the cold floor. Each prisoner had to tap the next inmate so that they could even turn over or move in concert with each other. We also saw the prison menu which discriminated on the basis of one's race, the amount and quality of food each prisoner received. When Sharon asked this gentleman how long he was a prisoner at Robben Island, he responded, "Only 10 years." Besides the moving talks of both speakers, we also learned about a Jewish South African parliamentarian named Helen

Suzman, who was one of the leading rights activists and the sole representative of the opposition party, the Progressive Party, in parliament during apartheid. The former prisoner attributed the release of Nelson Mandela and the other political prisoners, and prior to that, the improvement of conditions at Robben Island, to the courage and dedication of Helen. At the Jewish Museum and Holocaust Learning Center in Cape Town there are articles about this Jewish heroine who passed away in January 2009.

When we consider the story of Chanukah this year, my wife and I will be thinking of Helen Suzman, Nelson Mandela, our guide and the

con't on p. 2

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former prisoner of Robben Island. These current heroes who fought against discrimination and hatred, in many ways represent the courage of the Maccabees, who were the heroes of the Chanukah story. They fought for justice and freedom, and with their courage and fortitude risked their lives for the survival of our people and our faith nearly 2300 years ago. The hatred that the Syrians had for the Jews because we were different reminds us of the same bigotry which was demonstrated toward the blacks of South Africa in modern history.

On Friday evening, October 16, I was invited to speak about "The Crypto-Jews of the Southwest" by Rabbi Malcolm Matitiani of Temple Israel, Green Point, South Africa. I believe that it was probably one of the only times in the history of South African Jewry that this subject was addressed at a synagogue. The congregants received my sermon quite well and it was a real honor for me to participate in the service. There was a choral trio of 3 women who led the chanting of the liturgy of the service. Many of the melodies were the same as the ones we chant at Congregation B'nai Zion. A few of the members of the Shul told me that the discrimination against the B'nei Anousim reminded them of the apartheid policies in their country which they fought to eradicate. I even brought with me the "Toma Todo," a 6-sided top used in Mexico as a gambling game, which is so similar to the dreidel we spin at Chanukah. The opportunity to speak at Temple Israel was a memorable experience for me.

As we gather to light the chanukiah on Friday evening December 11, the 25th of Kislev, I hope that we as Jews will continue to lead the world in fighting hatred, racism, religious discrimination, and intolerance wherever it may exist. May the lights of Chanukah bring that day closer when all people will learn to live together in peace. It is good to be home for Chanukah.

Stephen A. Leon
Rabbi

HAPPY CHANUKAH



CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Friday

December 4 ~ 4:44 pm

December 11 ~ 4:45 pm

December 18 ~ 4:47 pm

December 25 ~ 4:50 pm

January 1 ~ 4:55 pm



SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

Daily ~ Monday thru Friday 7:00 am
Monday thru Thursday 6:30 pm

Friday evening 6:15 pm
(unless listed otherwise)

Saturday morning & Holidays 9:30 am
Saturday Mincha ~ please check calendar
(followed by Seudah Shlesheet & Ma'ariv)

Sunday (unless Holiday) 8:30 am & 5:00 pm



The Messenger is published monthly, except July and August
DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE MESSENGER IS DECEMBER 15

Articles and pictures should be emailed to the synagogue office at
bnaizion.congregation1@gmail.com

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www.congregationbnaizion.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Please keep the synagogue in your thoughts when it comes to holiday giving. We have many tikun olam projects ongoing that need your help and support."



It's December, and Chanukah is almost here. We just celebrated Thanksgiving and there is plenty to be thankful for here at Congregation B'nai Zion. The officers and board of directors have been meeting and have great plans for our shul. Many of our committees have met and are also making plans for the rest of this year, as well as next year. One of our primary concerns is the Jewish education of our children. On this front we are working hard. Our Talmud Torah is going strong and improving all the time. If you haven't seen what our children are doing, make a point to visit. There are many programs that congregants are invited to and I hope you will attend. The children will be having a Chanukah program this month. This might be a good time to come see them.

Our social action committee is forming and will be planning some social events for this winter and spring. If you would like to help, this might be a good way. To

join in on the planning fun, call the office and volunteer.

I would like to thank all of the people that helped lead services over the last two months. The services were great. We had a variety of people davening. There were literally dozens of members who stepped up to the plate and helped. A hearty yasher koach to all who participated. There were experienced daveners, first time daveners, and even the USYers who lead an entire weekend of services. It was nothing less than awesome!

I hope you and your families have a great Chanukah and a safe, healthy secular new year. Please keep the synagogue in your thoughts when it comes to holiday giving. We have many tikun olam projects ongoing that need your help and support. I also hope you will consider giving of some of your time to volunteering at the shul. Call the office for opportunities for you to help.

Jeff Weislow

Congregation B'nai Zion President
jweislow@sbcglobal.net

Last Night of Chanukah Family Dinner

brought to you by B'nai Zion Sisterhood



Friday,
December 18
following 6:15 PM
Shabbat Services

\$6.00 per person

(no charge for children under 5)

Brighten the holiday for a 10–17 year old at Southwest Key by bringing an unwrapped gift to the synagogue office the week of Chanukah

Community Hanukkah Family Event

Join B'nai Zion Talmud Torah and Temple Mt. Sinai Religious School families for a morning of songs, games, learning, and delicious food.

Sunday, December 13
check in at 9:15 AM
B'nai Zion

Please bring a new, wrapped gift to be donated. Gift should be marked with child's gender and age. For every gift you bring, you will be entered into a raffle to win great prizes!

All are welcome!

RSVP to Rabbi Rebecca at bzeducation@gmail.com

Continuing Education



**Jerusalem's
Hartman Institute
is coming**
College Level Course
in El Paso

Weekly Torah portion class with Rabbi Rebecca
Mondays at 9:15 AM in the Memorabilia Room

Israeli dancing with Dora Roe
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in the Friedman Social Hall

CBZ Harmonizers led by Bill Radcliffe
Thursdays from 6:45 - 7:30 PM
Everyone is qualified and encouraged to participate in learning simple harmony to Saturday morning Musaf service prayers. Contact Debra Pazos for more information.

Honorable Menschen
Wednesdays at 10:00 AM in the Memorabilia Room

**Multi-denominational Hartman Institute's
world-renowned faculty via DVD (hartman.org.il.)
Study with leading scholars from Jerusalem
right in El Paso**
**Take your knowledge to a new level
Learn what Jewish texts teach about
"leadership and crisis."**
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Begins Jan. 18
\$36 Tuition - includes texts
Visit jewishelpaso.org for details
or call 584-4437**

Say YES to Merry Mitzvah. YOU can make the difference.

Please help The Jewish Community Relations Council help others with an act of loving kindness. We will be providing holiday gifts to folks serviced by the Clinica Guadalupana in the far east colonias of El Paso County. Anyone can help.

- 1) Buy only the food items on this shopping list, and pack them in the container provided. Be sure the box will close flat. Fold over, but don't seal. We will seal them. Involve your friends and associates.
- 2) Deliver items with forms to JCC, BZ or TMS by Dec 18.
- 3) Enjoy that Merry Mitzvah feeling.

list at jewishelpaso.org

Good Food Shopping List: (no glass please)

- o 1 lb. bag of pasta
- o 2 16 oz. cans soup (chicken noodle or beef vegetable)
- o 1 (plastic jar/can) spaghetti sauce
- o 4 4oz. cans tomato sauce
- o 4 boxes macaroni & cheese
- o 2 16 oz. cans corn
- o 2 16 oz. cans green beans
- o 1 lb. bag pinto beans
- o 1 lb. bag white rice
- o 2 16 oz. cans fruit
- o 2 cans of tuna
- o 1 (plastic) jar peanut butter
- o 1 box of saltine crackers
- o 1 box of powdered milk

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We thank the following members for sponsoring the Kiddush lunch this past month:

- ~ Arlene Feinberg in memory of husband, Herbert Feinberg
- ~ Jon and Sheri Cohen, Eitan and Audrey Lavi, Dora Roe, Ray and Genis Sias, Rick and Paige Teplitz, and Richard and Jackie Zehden in honor of BZUSY Shabbat
- ~ Marcel Schuller in memory of father, Albert Schuller

We thank the following members for sponsoring the Seudah Shlesheet this past month:

- ~ Felicia Rubin in memory of father Naftali Frankel
- ~ Dr. Arvin and Beverly Robinson in memory of parents, Herman Morgan and Bluma Robinson
- ~ David and Tita Kaplan in memory of mother, Esther Freifeld
- ~ Irma Katz and family in memory of father and grandfather, Juan Roberstein

We thank the following members for sponsoring the Bagel Breakfast this past month:

- ~ Art and Linda Corral in memory of father, Eric Rose
- ~ Bertie Siegelman in memory of husband, Leon Siegelman, and parents, Morris and Yetta Siegelman and Ben and Mary Koortz
- ~ Annalie Rollins, Marlene Benz, Dr. Michael and Sharna Epstein, and Sherman and Sandra Levenson in memory of mother, Ida Epstein

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01 Asher Benattia
Manon Daugherty | 17 Annette Goldberg
Dorothy Grodin |
| 02 Joyce Gronich
Irvin Nadler | 18 Lucy Garcy
Dr. Idelle Greenberg |
| 03 Gayle Belford | 19 Robin Gold
Judith Pollak
Mollie Shapiro |
| 05 Simma Leslie | 22 Miriam Goldfarb |
| 07 Hal Ettinger
Linda Fruithandler
Aviva Kotkowski | 23 Allan Goldfarb |
| 08 Rita Slusser | 24 Norman Gordon
Joel Yellin |
| 09 Bernadine Belkin | 27 Joel Kleinfeld
Beth Kurland |
| 11 Ori Rosen
Gerald Rubin | 28 Natalie Scoggin |
| 12 Marlene Levine
Phillip Rothstein | 30 Martha Benattia
Jeannette Fenenbock
Saul Frank
Esther Ruiloba |
| 13 Norma Aaronson
John Garcia | 31 Irving Schecter |
| 14 Carl Goodman
Joyce Lieb | |
| 15 Warren Pulner | |
| 16 Joan Korn
Dr. Richard Novick
Felicia Rubin | |

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

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- 07 Dr. Leonardo & Sylvia Svarzbein
09 Ignacio & Guadalupe Ramos
11 Daniel & Elinor Siegelman
13 Cesar & Debra Pazos
14 Dr. Melvin & Ronnie Fox
15 Thomas & Sandra Dula
17 John & Elaine Garcia
21 Aaron & Sylvia Wechter
24 Marvin & Rhea Dinesman
26 Milton & Joan Cherno

A leaf on
The Tree of Life
has been dedicated
to

Albert & Shirleen Askenazi

in honor of their
wedding anniversary
November 28, 2009

by
their children and grandchildren

Chaplain's Catering

Gerry Chaplain

3950 Doniphan, Suite P
El Paso, TX 79922

(915) 585-0595
chaplainscatering@att.net

We want to celebrate with you!

מזל טוב

MAZEL TOV

Please contact the Synagogue office to share
news of December graduations, academic or
professional accomplishments, or other simchas.



Merrill Lynch

Walter Chayes
Vice President
Senior Financial Consultant

4669 North Mesa
534-3110

SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



"If you haven't already done so, please send in your Sisterhood dues so you can be a part of this dynamic and generous group of women. Happy Chanukah!"

"This is the Day the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." Psalm 118:25. Sisterhood has many activities to be glad about. Our first of two game days with Hadassah was fun. Twenty five women of all ages came together to enjoy a wonderful lunch and to play Mah Jong, Pan, and Scrabble. The laughter and camaraderie was infectious. Many thanks to Marcia Schwartz for putting it all together. In November we teamed up with the Sisterhood of Temple Mt. Sinai and had a tour of our Mikvah and a lesson covering all aspects of its use with Rabbi Rebecca. We finished the evening with refreshments and a question and answer session. It was nice to see everyone at the joint book discussion with Hadassah. Different opinions were voiced and the story line of "The Invisible Wall" was examined as if it existed today. It was very interesting to hear what everyone had to say. November 13-14 saw our USY students conduct services. They did an awesome job. Some of the parents pooled resources and sponsored the Oneg Shabbat and Kiddush lunch to honor the kids, and the honor was well deserved.

December will again be a busy time for Sisterhood. Chanukah will be here soon along with potato latkes and dreidels. Check out our gift shop with items for every age group. Especially look for the Latke server - what a bargain! December is the month our Sisterhood steps up to the plate (no pun intended) and volunteers for Drive a Meal. What a Mitzvah to deliver hot meals to the elderly shut-ins. It only takes approximately two hours out of your day, especially when you partner up with a friend. Don't forget to pickup your Merry Mitzvah boxes, fill them and return them to the synagogue before December 18, so families who may often go without can have a good holiday season. If you haven't already done so, please send in your Sisterhood dues so you can be a part of this dynamic and generous group of women. Happy Chanukah!

Annalie Rollins
Sisterhood President



OPEN: Wednesdays, Fridays, Sundays
10am - noon



- Candles
- Menorahs
- Bakeware
- Cookbooks
- Jelly Bellies
- Decorations
- See's Candy
- Meshugah Notes
- ...new this year...

No Limit Texas Dreidel game! The Texas hold 'em with a dreidel spin!

Save the Date

Sisterhood Shabbat
Saturday, January 23, 2010

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DECEMBER YAHRZEITS



12/1 (Kislev 14)
Jeffrey Chernick
A. Milton Feinberg
Abraham Kimmelman

12/2 (Kislev 15)
Ida Epstein
Leona Goldfarb
Rachel Lipson

12/3 (Kislev 16)
Alexander Jaffee
Leo Kenoffel
Joseph Ovetsky

12/4 (Kislev 17)
Ethel Feiner
Jon Heller
Louis Pulner
Rosa Rosen
Adolf Weiss

12/5 (Kislev 18)
Mark Kupfer

12/6 (Kislev 19)
Joseph Reiter

12/7 (Kislev 20)
Sadie Aaronson

12/8 (Kislev 21)
Cecilia Feiner
Bashe Schlusberg
Gitel Zameret

12/9 (Kislev 22)
Jennie Chasens
Isedore Goodman
Mary Gross

12/10 (Kislev 23)
Samuel Goldberg
Dora Hughes
Bertha Roth

12/11 (Kislev 24)
Florence Drucker
Eva Garcy
Sylvia Heim
Milton Roth

12/12 (Kislev 25)
Goldie Cohen
Mollie Goldstein
Mario Leiferman
Jacobo Svarzbein
Louis Thompson
Ahida Wiener

12/13 (Kislev 26)
Lee Levy

12/14 (Kislev 27)
Israel Fleisher
Josef Gumbel
Bessie Thompson
Sam Weiss

12/15 (Kislev 28)
Michael Dinesman
Harry Finke
Fannie Schmalholz

12/16 (Kislev 29)
Joan Feinberg
Sonya Gruenberg
Helen Kellen
Rose Levit
Leonard Worthman

12/17 (Kislev 30)
Isidore Erlich
Malka Fahn
Sophie Liebman

12/18 (Tevet 1)
Isidore Goldberg
Doris Jacobson
C.L. Scoggin, Sr.

12/19 (Tevet 2)
Helen Englander
Necha Silver
Lillian Wagner

12/20 (Tevet 3)
Harry Goldberg
Taube Goldfarb
Julia Weiss

12/21 (Tevet 4)
Saul Frank
Leopold Gluck
Isaac Margolis

12/22 (Tevet 5)
Dave Frommer
Mary Koortz
Helaine Rosen

12/23 (Tevet 6)
Mannie Blaugrund
Morris Gluck
Martin Kozberg
Dorothy Lewis

12/24 (Tevet 7)
Florence Cohen
Lee Gladstone
David Lederman
Oscar Lozabnick

12/25 (Tevet 8)
Esther Levy

12/26 (Tevet 9)
Baila Feldman
Madelyn Klein
Yochel Kofsky

12/27 (Tevet 10)
Leo Chayes
Mary Diamond
Anna Gordon
Sam Holland

12/28 (Tevet 11)
Daniel Berger
Isidore Dockswell
Herman Klee
Rebecca Morgan
Helen Roth

12/29 (Tevet 12)
Isidore Dembofsky

12/30 (Tevet 13)
Joseph Goldstein
Ethel Reed
Mark Reed

12/31 (Tevet 14)
Saul Kleinfeld

**Some Things are Enduring,
Like Understanding, Dignity, Service and Family**

Martin
SINCE 1935

FUNERAL HOMES

**In Memory of
William A. Martin**

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EL PASO, TEXAS 79912
(915) 584-1234

FAMILY EDUCATION MESSAGE

"The message of Hanukkah is a joyful one – that small can persevere over big and that in a time of darkness, we can find light."



Promoting an Attitude of Gratitude at Hanukkah

Ask most children what their favorite Jewish holiday is, and the immediate answer you get will be Hanukkah, usually followed by a chorus of cheers. Hanukkah is beloved by children for many reasons. Of course, presents play a role, but it is also a cheerful holiday, full of good food and songs, and an absence of a need to spend a lot of time in services. Perhaps this is the reason that many adults embrace Hanukkah as well.

The message of Hanukkah is a joyful one – that small can persevere over big and that in a time of darkness, we can find light. These messages come out of the traditional observances of Hanukkah – the menorah, telling the story, even playing the dreidel game, which reminds us of the great miracle that happened.

However, since gifts play such a large role in our Hanukkah observance, I believe it is also our responsibility to promote a message of gratitude in this time. It is easy for us, and for our children, to take gifts, say a perfunctory “thanks” and move on. We should do more, for ourselves and for our children, to promote a feeling of real gratitude for the gifts we have – material, spiritual, physical and emotional.

With that in mind, I would like to share with you what I am grateful for this year. I encourage everyone to sit down with their families and do the same exercise on Hanukkah, so that we can all remember the many gifts we have been given. I am grateful for:

- My family. They support me and nourish me.
- The kids from Talmud Torah. They are happy and enthusiastic and are learning so much each week.
- The families of Talmud Torah students who make the choice to bring their students each week – I could not do it without you.
- All families, in this community and outside of it, who make the commitment to giving their children a Jewish education and to live a Jewish life.
- The teachers of the B'nai Zion Talmud Torah, who give of their time, love and passion each week.
- The community of B'nai Zion, for embracing me and the work that I do and for being so kind to my family.
- Families and individuals who step into this building for the first time. It is a difficult thing to do and I appreciate so much the effort that it takes to cross the threshold.

There are many ways to show your gratitude this Hanukkah. You can do what I just did – make a list and share it with the people in your community. You can find somewhere to volunteer one night during Hanukkah – make that your family gift. Instead of getting something, you get together to give to someone else. I

imagine that family time will also feel like a gift to you. After you light the menorah, have everyone present go around and say something they are thankful for in that moment. Brainstorm with your family how you can create an attitude of gratitude. I think you'll find you will be grateful that you did!

Talmud Torah Update

With all the holidays over, things have been a lot calmer at Talmud Torah this month. However, this doesn't mean we stopped learning or having a great time. We had three terrific family programs during the past month, and parents of all our students got to participate. As we told you about in the last issue, our youngest students participated in a program about Noah's ark and the mitzvah of taking care of the earth and all God's living creatures. Our fifth, sixth and seventh graders participated in a workshop about talit and tefillin and were able to try on tefillin and practice tying tzitzit knots. Our third and fourth graders got to write their own midrash about Jacob and Esau and present it to the rest of the school during tefillah. It is wonderful to have parents and children learning together and we look forward to continuing these programs next semester.

Our wonderful teachers have also been doing exciting things in the classroom. Some other highlights of the first semester include: making family trees in Esther Kuchinsky's hey and vav (5th and 6th) class, taking a tour of the synagogue in Lisa Mitchell's gan (K) class, and researching and creating brochures about Israel in Joseph Ruiloba's zayin (7th) class.

Talmud Torah Has a New Logo by...Jacob Grodin

Jacob Grodin, a sixth grader in Talmud Torah, has drawn our new Talmud Torah logo. Seven students submitted logo designs and all Talmud Torah students were given the chance to vote on the winning logo. You will see this logo displayed on materials from Talmud Torah from now on. Mazel Tov to Jacob! Thank you to Brynne Blaugrund, Bailey Dickerson, Sam Cohen, Seth Krasne, Zach Krasne and Carley Reiter for submitting logos. They were all beautiful. You can see the winning logo, along with the runners up, displayed on the Talmud Torah bulletin board.



winning logo

Rabbi Rebecca Rosenthal
Director of Education

Save the Date! Shabbat Club

Friday December 5th
5:30pm – Shabbat B'Yachad Service
(interactive, musical service with
Rabbi Rebecca for kids ages 0-6)

Saturday December 6th
10:30am – Junior Congregation
10:45am – Children's Services
Followed by a special kids Kiddush,
Rabbi's blessing and lunch.

Havdalah and a Movie

Families are invited to return for Mincha
(4:50pm), a light dinner and havdalah,
followed by a movie for the kids

Parents are welcome to leave their children (ages 5
and above) for the movie and return for pick up.

"Raise Your Paws for Peace"

This year BZUSY is raising money to help the Humane Society of El Paso and animals in need. Our fundraiser event is to sell silicone bracelets for a \$2.00 minimum donation. I believe that Tikkun Olam also includes helping the ones that can not help themselves. Every day animals are euthanized due to a lack of space, food, and family to provide for them. These creatures can not defend themselves nor have they had an option or a say in their future. We can help these peaceful animals in need. Time is precious, especially through the eyes of a puppy or kitten that needs a little longer to find a "forever" home. A cat wants to meow at a mezuzah and a dog wants to chase its tail dreidel-style; they deserve an opportunity to live life in peace and happiness. By donating a few dollars and getting a bracelet, you will be repairing the world one paw at a time.

Ruff and Meow – Peace Out!
Victoria Teplitz,

BZUSY Social Action/Tikkun Olam VP

If you would like to buy a bracelet or make a contribution, please contact any BZUSY board member and become a fan on Facebook for "Raise Your Paws for Peace"

"God is gracious and kind, patient and very loving, good to everyone, compassionate to all creatures." Ashrei – Psalm 144



USY NEWS

Ten USYers from our synagogue attended the Fall Kallah (convention) for the Southwest Region of USY in October held at a campsite in Ft. Worth. Below are some excerpts from their impressions of the weekend.

Rebecca Korn
USY Co-Advisor

BZUSYers Tell All About Fall Kallah

"I have attended many Young Judea conventions in the past, but nothing compares to the amazing experience that I had at this past convention. I made more friends at one USY convention than I did at all the Young Judea conventions. I am looking forward to our chapter hosting the Spring Kallah because I know it will be amazing and I can't wait to see all of my friends!"

Chelsea Kidd

"I would like to thank the synagogue for making our Fall Kallah trip possible. This was an awesome experience for me. I loved the camp site; it was green all around and it had a beautiful lake flowing through it. I met and made a lot of Jewish friends. My favorite part was the bonfire. I wish I could relive that wonderful experience."

Maggie Lara

"I had an amazing time at SWUSY's Fall Kallah! First off, I would like to thank B'nai Zion, BZUSY, SWUSY, and especially Becca for helping me attend the convention. There was a great atmosphere where everyone could relax and meet all of the amazing people from around the region. At the senior auction, Joe and Stephen donated \$35 for Tikkun Olam to throw pies at my face. Sunday morning, with everyone watching, they both slammed one pie each on both sides of my head and whipped cream got everywhere, especially in my ears and I could not hear anything until I got my ears cleaned out! Saturday night's bonfire was calming but fun. We all ate s'mores and some of us stood around and sang songs; it was all very soothing and one more way for everyone I had met to bond together."



Yamit Lavi

"This was the first time I have ever attended a USY convention. Let me tell you, it was a BLAST! Shabbat services were absolutely amazing by the beautiful, crystal-clear lake. I felt so at home praying with fellow USYers. Hippie day was a total success! We dressed up as if it were the late 60's and early 70's, and hung out together playing guitar. Saturday night we all tie-dyed SWUSY stock T-shirts and acted crazy during a fun dance. I loved making new friends who are Jewish and who understand my beliefs. I sure hope that more USYers from our region will check out the next Kallah (in El Paso) to see just how fun and wonderful an experience this is! It's worth it to make the effort to attend and to make tons of great Jewish friends, just like I did!"

Shayna Kurland

"Fall Kallah was far out man, totally psychedelic and gnarly bro! Ok, enough with the hippie talk, but this convention had to have been the best so far. The activities and the talks we had were amazing. For me, the most memorable moment was Havdalah, while watching the most beautiful sunset I have ever seen – a truly amazing way to end Shabbat. I honestly cannot wait to host Spring Kallah. I'm so excited and only wish to make it the best of the best. Thank you to our synagogue for making it possible for so many of us to go on this trip, and to Joe Ruiloba and Becca Korn for putting up with our shenanigans at our meetings and events and for being great USY advisors."

Joseph Roe

DONATIONS

Ben and Florence Schoichet Memorial Fund

in memory of Sarah Schwartz
Sandra Shahvar

Building Fund

yahrzeit for mother, Ruth Delfiner
Vivian Siegel

Cantor David Leon Biblical Gardens

yahrzeit for brother, David Koortz
Bertie Siegelman

in memory of Edith Dorenfeld
(Colorado Springs)
Bertie Siegelman

yahrzeit for father, Emil Reisel
Jay and Dr. Mimi Gladstein

yahrzeit for mother, Estelle Skoloff
Dan and Elinor Siegelman

yahrzeit for father, Morris Siegelman
Dan and Elinor Siegelman

in memory of Sarah Schwartz
*Albert and Shirleen Askenazi
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in memory of Sarah Schwartz
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speedy recovery to Mimi Lait
Ruth Erlich

in memory of Sarah Schwartz
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condolences to Harold Crowson, Jr.
on the loss of his mother
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in memory of David E. Goodman
Susan Eisen

yahrzeit for mother-in-law and
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congratulations to Dr. Mimi Gladstein
on receiving a recent book award
Susan Eisen

congratulations to the Richard
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on the birth of a grandchild
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in honor of 60 successful years of
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*Louis, Cindy, Josh, Aaron and Bryan
Cohen*

happiness in your new home to
Jerry and Stanlee Rubin
Susan Eisen

good health to Julian Borschow
Susan Eisen

condolences and deepest sympathy
to Kenneth Dean on his loss
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Susan Eisen

best wishes for a speedy recovery
to Mimi Lait
Susan Eisen

in memory of Sarah Schwartz
Jack Eisenberg

in honor of Vivian Siegel
on her special birthday
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a speedy and complete recovery
to Dr. David Metrikin
Irma Katz and Stephanie and Damian

in memory of Edith Frankel
Jon and Reva Nathanson

a speedy and complete recovery
to Elena Goldman
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babies*

in appreciation of Dr. Jeff Weislow for
his efforts while Rabbi Leon is away
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best wishes for a speedy
recovery to Joan Feiner
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yahrzeit for father, Moe Levenson
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a speedy and complete
recovery to Jim Payne
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Ethel Schwartz

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a happy special birthday
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yahrzeit for Boris Zditowski
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a speedy and complete recovery
to Dr. David Metrikin
Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum

a very happy birthday to
Dr. Sol Heller
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a speedy recovery to Elena Goldman
Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum

yahrzeit for Eric Rose
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a very happy birthday to Fred Licht
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yahrzeit for Herbert Feinberg
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a very happy birthday to Ina Kurland
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a speedy and complete recovery
to John Lawful (Scottsdale, AZ)
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in honor of the wedding anniversary
of Marvin and Lisa Rosenbaum
Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum

a very happy special birthday
to Ronnie Heller
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in memory of Sarah Schwartz
Alice Kasner
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Dr. Boris and Fifi Kaim

yahrzeit for friend, Rebecca Basrawi
Dr. Boris and Fifi Kaim

in memory of Sarah Schwartz
Bob and Jane Warach
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**Our synagogue thanks
you so much for your
donations and support.**

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December 2009				Kislev/Tevet 5770		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 Talmud Torah 4:00 pm	3	4 Shabbat B'Yachad 5:30 pm Shabbat services 6:15 pm	5 Shabbat services 9:30 am Jr. Congregation 10:30 am Children's Services 10:45 am Mincha 4:40pm Family Havdalah followed by movie
6 No Talmud Torah	7	8	9 Talmud Torah 4:00 pm Visit from Camp Ramah 5:00pm - 6:30pm	10	11 Chanukah begins at sundown Shabbat services 7:30 pm	12 Chanukah Shabbat services 9:30 am Mincha 4:40 pm
13 Chanukah Community Family Chanukah Event 9:15 am	14 Chanukah	15 Chanukah	16 Chanukah Talmud Torah 4:00 pm	17 Chanukah	18 Chanukah Shabbat services 6:15 pm "Last night of Chanukah" family dinner	19 Chanukah (last day) Shabbat services 9:30 am Mincha 4:45 pm
20 Talmud Torah 9:00 am	21 Winter begins	22	23 No Talmud Torah	24	25 Shabbat services 6:15 pm	26 Shabbat services 9:30 am Mincha 4:50 pm
27 No Talmud Torah	28	29	30 No Talmud Torah	31 New Year's Eve	January 1, 2010 New Year's Day Shabbat services 6:15 pm	2 Shabbat services 9:30 am Mincha 4:55 pm