

# THE MESSENGER

CONGREGATION  
B'NAI ZION

Shevat/Adar 5770  
February 2010

BNAI ZION

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

*"I think that this must have been the first time in history that a plane was diverted because of the fear of tefillin!"*



As I write this article for our synagogue's bulletin about the World Wide Tefillin Wrap that Congregation B'nai Zion is participating in with hundreds of Conservative congregations throughout the world, a news bulletin is sent my way which confirms the belief that "timing is everything." This appeared in the Dow Jones News-wire on January 21, 2010:

*"A U.S. Airways flight was diverted after an Orthodox Jewish teenager began praying and using a box which contains verses, setting off concerns among skittish crew members... Just before 9:00 A.M. the crew decided to divert the flight which was bound from New York's LaGuardia Airport to Louisville, KY and decided to land in Philadelphia to address their concerns. J.J. Klaver, a special agent with the F.B.I. said the 17 year old unveiled a phylactery, a leather box worn during certain Jewish services and also known as tefillin, early in the flight. All 15 passengers on the plane were "re-accommodated" and the teen was detained. The young man, Caleb Leibowitz of White Plains, NY was travelling with his 16 year old sister, Dalia, to see*

*their grandmother in Louisville when the airline attendant spotted his tefillin, questioned him, and became concerned."*

I think that this must have been the first time in history that a plane was diverted because of the fear of tefillin!

Actually it's a good thing that Caleb was not part of the religious community which wears two different sets of tefillin in their morning worship. Historically there has been more than one type of tefillin. Eventually, the two dominant authorities were Rashi and Rabbenu Tam. The only difference between these great sages is the order of the Biblical passages which are found in the scrolls in the tefillin. Today the overwhelming majority of Jews only wear the Rashi version, but there are still some religious Jews who own both sets, and wear Rashi's at the beginning of the morning service, and then switch to Rabbeynu Tam tefillin towards the end.

The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism initiated the "Worldwide Tefillin Wrap" ten years ago through the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs to encourage members of its affiliated synagogues to put on tefillin at morning services. Those who have

never laid tefillin have the opportunity to learn how to fulfill this Mitzvah. Some have forgotten how to do it and need a refresher course. Some women have never even considered wearing tefillin and yet we know of Rashi's daughters, and of Bruriah, a female scholar in the Talmud, and of course women Rabbis, Bat Mitzvah students, and others who are wearing tefillin today. As of today over 145 congregations have joined ours in being part of this special day.

We will gather in the chapel on Sunday morning February 7 at 8:30 A.M., and those who are

*con't on p. 2*

### Inside this issue...

Candlelighting and Services	2
President's Message	3
Sisterhood	4
Family Education	6
Simchas	7
Yahrzeits	8
Donations	9, 10
Blast from the Past	11
Calendar	12

experienced in wearing tefillin will assist those who are not. Both Rabbi Rebecca and myself will be offering educational materials and explanations regarding the tefillin. At 9:00 A.M. we will have a family participatory service which will be followed by a sumptuous breakfast. It should be an exciting, educational, and enjoyable experience for everyone and I hope that as many people as possible will attend from every age group of our synagogue. We participated in this event about 5 years ago and it was a huge success. Believe it or not, there are actually a few tefillin jokes. For example, do you know where tefillin are made? Of course you do, in a "phylactery factory." What do you call 10 Jews who are wearing tefillin even though they are skinned and boned? Obviously, that is "filet minyan." Finally did you know that Snoop Dog, or as I call him Snoop "Kelev" thought that the World Wide Tefillin Wrap was a new song by Matisyahu. In all seriousness, please come to this fantastic program and if you have a pair of tefillin at home, old or new, please bring it on Sunday morning, February 7. I look forward to seeing you there.

*Stephen A. Leon*  
Rabbi

## Continuing Education at B'nai Zion

**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 (833-1391) for more information.

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

**Everything you ever wanted to know about Judaism but were afraid to ask** (with Rabbi Leon)  
For adult students who have had a Bar/Bat Mitzvah as well as those interested in completing an adult B'nei Mitzvah  
Sundays from 10:00 – 11:00 AM

**Rapping with the Rabbi**  
A confirmation class for post Bar and Bat Mitzvah teenage students  
Sundays from 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

\*Schedule subject to change

## CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

### Friday

February	5	~	5:25 pm
February	12	~	5:32 pm
February	19	~	5:38 pm
February	26	~	5:43 pm
March	5	~	5:48 pm



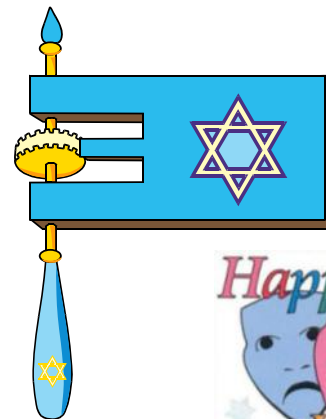
## SYNAGOGUE SERVICES

**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 FEBRUARY 15**

Articles and pictures should be emailed to the synagogue office at  
[bnaizion.congregation1@gmail.com](mailto:bnaizion.congregation1@gmail.com)

Congregation B'nai Zion ❖ 805 Cherry Hill ❖ El Paso, Texas 79912 ❖ 915-833-2222  
[www.congregationbnaizion.org](http://www.congregationbnaizion.org)

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



*"One Hundred Ten Years ago, the founders of Congregation B'nai Zion had a vision — a synagogue that would serve the Jewish population of El Paso with a place to pray, a place to celebrate, and a place to grow physically and spiritually."*

One Hundred Ten Years ago, the founders of Congregation B'nai Zion had a vision — a synagogue that would serve the Jewish population of El Paso with a place to pray, a place to celebrate, and a place to grow physically and spiritually. What menches! What foresight. What an idea. They forged a foundation for their descendants to build on that not only exists today, but flourishes. They envisioned a congregation based on Conservative Judaism where each member could feel comfortable with their level of observance and still fit in. These are the ideals we honor to this day. So what benefits did these visionaries see for our congregation over a century ago? What inspired the early congregants to be members of the infant CBZ? Why should we be members of CBZ in this day and age? The answer is the same today as it was in 1900. Community! We need a place to gather and worship. We need a place to have life cycle events. We need a place to learn from our Rabbis.

The shul is here for everyone in our community. Our shul is here on the high holidays for those that only wish to come to synagogue during that time of year and for those that worship regularly. It is here on Shabbat for those who come only on special

events' Shabbats and for those that come every week. The shul is here for you when you need a bris or baby naming, a bar or bat mitzvah, a wedding, and even a funeral. Every day the lay staff and rabbis of CBZ work hard to be here for you.

This year we are working particularly hard on enhancing our programming so there is something for everyone. Our successes in recent months are contagious and with each new program we strive for a higher success. Catch the CBZ fever! Come to a Shabbat service. We have three each week. No, not three Shabbats, rather three services each Shabbat. Almost everyday of the week there is some sort of activity going on at the shul. Try one. This is what our synagogue founders envisioned. Something for each member. For some, it is only one thing and others it is many things. We are here for those things that are pertinent to you. This is why you should be a member.

Thank you for allowing me to be your synagogue president this year.

**Jeff Weislow**

Congregation B'nai Zion President  
[jweislow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jweislow@sbcglobal.net)

THANK YOU

**We thank the following members for sponsoring the Oneg Shabbat this past month:**

~ Sara Scoggin in honor of father, Carl Scoggin's conversion to Judaism

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

~ Tibor & Ann Schaechner in memory of sister, Magda Schaechner, who perished in the Budapest ghetto during the Holocaust

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

~ Rachel Frank in memory of father-in-law, Saul Frank, and mother-in-law, Freida Bohn Frank

~ Felicia Rubin in memory of husband, Irving Rubin

~ Dr. Sol and Ronnie Heller in memory of grandparents, Jacob and Clara Heller

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

~ Natalie Scoggin in honor of husband, Carl Scoggin's conversion to Judaism

~ Tanny Berg and children, and Leah Chayes and children in memory of mother and grandmother, Sara Berg



If you are interested in sponsoring a Friday evening Oneg Shabbat, Saturday morning Kiddush Lunch, Saturday afternoon Seudah Shlesheet, or Sunday morning Bagel Breakfast in honor or in memory of a loved one, please call the synagogue office for more information or to make arrangements. We appreciate your support!



# SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*"In the middle of February we will be sending out the lists for the Purim Baskets.  
YES - it's that time of year again when you can remember friends and  
family with Shalach Manot."*



Sisterhood members began 2010 with our annual Sisterhood Shabbat on January 23rd. It was a very inspiring service and I want to thank all the women who made it so special by doing their part.

On Sunday, the 24th, along with Hadassah, we discussed the story of Sarah and her life enduring the horrors of the Holocaust. The novel, "Sarah's Key," by Tatiana de Rosnay is a work of fiction, but brings to life the inhumane conditions that took place in 1942. Needless to say, it was a very emotional discussion.

Coming up in February the Sisterhood members, along with their families, will be running, walking or sleeping for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. For the past several years Sisterhood has supported this race. Please join our team and have fun walking and talking for this worthwhile cause. You can sign up on line or call the synagogue office for information.

## B'nai Zion Sisterhood Drive a Meal Participation

Once again, this past December members of B'nai Zion Sisterhood and many of their families delivered hot lunches to needy El Pasoans on our assigned Drive-a-Meal route. 37 people were quick to volunteer and invariably reported "getting back" more than they gave.

These kind people were: Eileen Armour, Sheri Cohen, Linda Corral, Brenda Ehrlich, Martha Eisenberg, Ruth Erlich, Judy Grodin, Ann Gronich, Lindsay Gronich, Tony Gronich, Ellyce Kimmelman with sons Jaiden and Asher, Joan Korn, Rebecca Korn, Robin Krasne with sons Seth and Zach along with Julie Miller and Jeffrey, Monica Kupetz, Autumn Mitchell, Lisa Mitchell, Helen Pearlmuter, Annalie Rollins, Marcia Schwartz, Nancy Shiloff, Beverly Swift, Cathy Weislow, Rachel Weislow and Barney, and Jackie Zehden with son David.

We look forward to our 4th annual Drive-a-Meal Project next December!

**Marcia Schwartz**  
Drive-a-Meal Chairperson

Give Purim baskets to your friends and family with Sisterhood's Fundraising project. Watch your mail for more information.



In the middle of February we will be sending out the lists for the Purim Baskets. YES - it's that time of year again when you can remember friends and family with Shalach Manot. I'm asking ahead of time, please get your lists back to the synagogue in a timely manner so we can be sure to have enough goodies for everyone.

On February 19, our synagogue will be overrun with USYers from the Southwest region. We will be hosting the 2010 Spring Kallah for the first time in many years and Sisterhood will be supporting these teenagers — like good Jewish moms do best — feeding them. This is a big undertaking for our fledging chapter, so I'm asking all of you to please volunteer to help when one of our kids calls on you. Todah Rabbah and Muchas Gracias

**Annalie Rollins**  
Sisterhood President



*It's a race  
but everyone wins!*

**Sunday, February 21**

**8:30 AM**

**Cohen Stadium**

(Carpools available)

Join the

**"Congregation B'nai Zion Sisterhood" Team**

Include your friends and family, too!

Register online at [www.komenelpaso.org](http://www.komenelpaso.org)  
Type in "Congregation B'nai Zion Sisterhood" as the name of the team. Race packets will be mailed to online registrants only.

Most Sisterhood participants registered last year for the 5K Non-Competitive Run/Walk. You can also choose from a 1 mile run/walk, a 5K timed competitive run, or "Sleep in for the Cure" (which requires no running or walking!)

Mailed individual entries must be postmarked on/before February 13 to guarantee processing before race day.

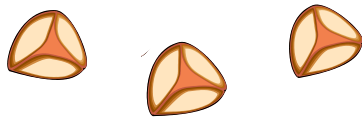
# Celebrate Purim



**Saturday, February 27**

following Havdalah (~6:30 PM)

Megillah reading  
Costume parade & contest  
Hamentashen and other refreshments



**Sunday, February 28**

8:30 AM morning services  
followed by the reading of the Megillah

9:00 AM – noon  
Family Purim Celebration  
Hamentashen baking contest  
Megillah reading  
Carnival

and more!



**Sunday, February 7**

beginning at 9:00 AM

Everyone is invited to

- ◆ put on tefillin  
(we will teach you if you don't know how)
- ◆ participate in an interactive service and educational program
- ◆ eat a delicious bagel brunch

**Check out the  
congregationbnaizion.org  
Online Photo Gallery**



Talmud Torah and family holiday events  
BZUSY activities  
\*  
B'nai Zion Sisterhood programs  
\*  
The Cantor David Leon Biblical Garden  
\*  
with more to come!

*If you have any photos you would like to include in the gallery, please share them with the Shul office by e-mailing [bnaizion.congregation1@gmail.com](mailto:bnaizion.congregation1@gmail.com)*



**Save the Date:  
Friday, March 5**

**Services begin at 6:15 PM  
followed by a delicious family  
Shabbat dinner**

# FAMILY EDUCATION MESSAGE

*"Tefillin is a personal mitzvah - you put it on your own body, but the World Wide Wrap gives us the opportunity to make Tefillin into a communal mitzvah as well."*



## Why Tefillin is the Perfect Educational Mitzvah

On Sunday, February 7, Congregation B'nai Zion will participate in the World Wide Wrap, a program of the Conservative Movement's Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs. One may ask, why Tefillin? Why is *this* something that we are focusing on? Isn't tefillin outdated? I don't pray in the morning, so why should I bother learning to put it on? Isn't it something that men (generally old men) do?

In my mind, putting on Tefillin is one of the best mitzvot you can do from an educational standpoint. The best in educational research tells us that we should try to speak to our learners in many different ways, not just have people sitting at desks reciting out of books. Tefillin, especially in the context of the World Wide Wrap, allows people to experience Judaism and mitzvot on a variety of levels.

First, on a purely physical level, Tefillin is a mitzvah you can literally feel. In very few other places in Judaism do our mitzvot take such a literal form. The Torah tells us to bind the words upon our hands and between our eyes, and we do it. Wearing Tefillin changes the way you experience prayer. It is harder to drift off because you have something on your arm and head literally pulling you back to the words, to the text, to the community and what is in your heart. Tefillin is a mitzvah you can feel.

Tefillin promotes not just the use of our bodies during prayer, but our voices as well. Try putting on Tefillin for the first time, or for the first time in a while. Or, if you are a regular Tefillin wearer, bring intention to the moment when you put it on. Once you are in a room full of people wearing tefillin, the quality of prayer changes. People sing more loudly and are more connected to the words they are saying. Try it - at the World Wide Wrap.

Tefillin is a personal mitzvah - you put it on your own body, but the World Wide Wrap gives us the opportunity to make Tefillin into a communal mitzvah as well. We will help people put on their Tefillin and when you look around the room, everyone else will be wearing it too. This takes it from a personal, private prayer experience with Tefillin, to one that involves our whole community, increasing our connections to one another and to the words and meaning of the prayers.

I hope everyone will join me in putting on Tefillin on Sunday, February 7. At 8:30AM, we will be instructing people how to put it on and doing some teaching about Tefillin. The service will start at 9AM,

with lots of participation from our children and a delicious breakfast will follow. Hope to see you there!

**Rabbi Rebecca Rosenthal**  
Director of Education

## Mazel Tov to our Minyanaires

The following children have attended at least 10 Shabbat morning services:

Sam Cohen  
Eddie Madero  
Mara Sias  
Sadie Swartz\*

Isaac Weislow\*  
Emerson Valenzuela  
Rene Valenzuela\*  
Victoria Valenzuela\*

\*Indicates children who have attended 18 or more services, and are in the Minyanaires Hall of Fame

[WWW.RAMAHOUTDOORS.ORG](http://WWW.RAMAHOUTDOORS.ORG)

**RAMAH OUTDOOR ADVENTURE**  
אתגר ברמה  
AT RAMAH IN THE ROCKIES

**THE ADVENTURE BEGINS  
SUMMER 2010**

More than a summer camp, **RAMAH OUTDOOR ADVENTURE** is your doorway to spectacular summer experiences as you discover the **PRISTINE WILDERNESS** of the **ROCKY MOUNTAINS** and face new challenges in a breathtaking setting, with a supportive Jewish community. Join us for an **UNFORGETTABLE SUMMER** with activities in **ROCK CLIMBING, HIKING, WHITewater RAFTING, HORSEBACK RIDING** and More!

JOIN US! SUMMER 2010!

ONE, TWO AND FOUR-WEEK SESSIONS AVAILABLE  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE  
CALL 303-261-8214 FOR MORE INFORMATION

## FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 02 Eileen Licht   | 08 Lynette Brown  | 18 Leslie Grodin   |
| 03 Bernard Fenenbock<br>Dr. David Metrikin                        | Nina Hirsh<br>Elizabeth Levy<br>Harriet Roth<br>Rosa Schuller | 22 Esther Chu  |
| 04 Aida Galanter<br>Joyce Jaffee<br>Gary Nadler                   | 09 Dori Fenenbock<br>Dr. Jeffrey Weislow                      | 23 Susan Eisen<br>Alicia Nadler<br>Karen Yellin          |
| 05 Loretta Fertel<br>Eitan Lavi<br>Dr. Jorge Perez<br>Jane Warach | 11 Gershon Ettinger   | 25 Stewart Chernon                                       |
| 06 Sonia Goodman<br>Ethel Schwartz                                | 12 Dr. Irvin Goldfarb   | 26 Dr. Margaret Negrete                                  |
| 07 Samuel Ellowitz<br>Genie Sias                                  | 13 Dov Emil Kupfer  | 27 Ruja Cohen<br>Wendy Rothschild                        |
|   | 14 Dr. Anthony Gronich  | 28 Jennifer Ehrlich<br>Charles Kovan<br>Lawrence Mandell |
|   | 15 Lisa Rosenbaum   |  |
|   | 16 Elena Konig<br>Sara Politi<br>Greg Rubin                   |  |

## FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

- 01 Anthony & Robin Furman  
David & Brenda Goldman
- 04 Randy & Lupe Lewis
- 06 Bernard & Selma Chasens
- 09 Julio & Malka Sidransky
- 19 Steve & Karen Kaplowitz  
Jeffrey & Wendy Siegel
- 20 Richard & Eileen Armour  
Domingo & Esther Ruiloba
- 22 Jaime & Alejandra Cherem  
Gershon & Barbara Ettinger
- 26 Saul & Norma Sidransky  
Dr. Scott Stein & Dr. Margaret  
Negrete

A Stone Plaque

in the

*Doris Eisenberg Garden  
Of the Living*

has been dedicated  
in honor of

**Cliff and Martha Eisenberg**

by  
their children

S  
I  
M  
C  
H  
A  
S

The Reader's Podium  
on the upper bimah  
of the main sanctuary

and

A leaf on  
*The Tree of Life*

has been dedicated  
in honor of

**Irvin and Alicia Nadler**

on their 60th wedding anniversary  
and in honor of Alicia's special birthday

by  
their loving friends

*Chaplain's Catering*

**Gerry Chaplain**

3950 Doniphan, Suite P (915) 585-0595  
El Paso, TX 79922 chaplainscatering@att.net

**We want to celebrate with you!**



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

# FEBRUARY YAHRZEITS



- 2/1 (Shevat 17)**  
Hedwig Eichenwald  
Bina Schlusselberg  
Carl Weil
- 2/2 (Shevat 18)**  
Morris Schottland
- 2/3 (Shevat 19)**  
Rudy Burgheim  
Rose Naparstek
- 2/4 (Shevat 20)**  
Ben Dubin  
Joseph Fleisher  
Edith Hirsch  
Albert Stark
- 2/5 (Shevat 21)**  
Sam Fox  
Louis Golden  
Herbert Roth  
Fred Scheiner  
Rebecca Sheffer
- 2/6 (Shevat 22)**  
Seretta Baron  
Greg Cohen  
Kathleen Green  
Cecelia Silbert  
Charles Silbert
- 2/7 (Shevat 23)**  
Aida Fleischer  
Zalman Goldberg  
Jacob Horn  
Ruth Kaplowitz
- 2/8 (Shevat 24)**  
Benjamin Levenfus
- 2/9 (Shevat 25)**  
Al Hirsch  
Shirley Weil
- 2/10 (Shevat 26)**  
Vincent Ravel  
Fannie Yaker
- 2/11 (Shevat 27)**  
Anna Kimmel  
Lee Mason  
Alfred Plaut  
Cillia Schlusselberg  
Shimon Schottland  
Mary Sliom
- 2/12 (Shevat 28)**  
Sadie Winograd  
Chaim Wintroub
- 2/13 (Shevat 29)**  
Maurice Celemenski  
Morris Galatzan  
Irving Gulbas  
Abe Silberg  
Harry Stein  
Lynette Veta
- 2/14 (Shevat 30)**  
Samuel Geller  
Elsie Gottlieb  
Sigmund Weiser  
Ethel Wintroub
- 2/15 (Adar 1)**  
Marilyn Bloch  
Sarah Brody  
Gracia Harari  
Rosa Ovetzky  
Fanny Ratusnik
- 2/16 (Adar 2)**  
Moe Gold  
Rosa Jenö  
Molly Silberg
- 2/17 (Adar 3)**  
Rachel Binetsky  
Anna Glatstein  
Frank Klein  
Pearl Wildstein
- 2/18 (Adar 4)**  
Elizabeth Becker  
Rose Greenberg  
Janhoc Grunberger  
Myles Heller  
Barbara Kleinfeld  
Alvin Wilson  
Frank Zlabovsky
- 2/19 (Adar 5)**  
Nathan Goldman  
Sadie Green  
Lillian Horn  
Harry Licht  
Mary Rubin
- 2/20 (Adar 6)**  
Sophia Chame  
Lawrence Chonoles  
Ruth Novick  
Ysrael Schutz  
Rosa Svarzbein
- 2/21 (Adar 7)**  
Joshua Batkin  
Albert Esquenazi  
Gussie Kligman  
Gladys Krug
- 2/22 (Adar 8)**  
Samuel Armour  
Yehoshua Binetsky  
Motel Burman  
Irene Galatzan  
Erich Hirsch  
Janice Kent  
Josef Leibovitch  
Jack Neumark  
Benjamin Pulner  
Blanche Vorenberg
- 2/23 (Adar 9)**  
Ana Dembovicius  
Herbert Dubin  
Lilli Hemsani  
Benny Kravitz  
Olga Rose
- 2/24 (Adar 10)**  
Faye Ehrlich  
Nathan Kasper  
Rose Licht  
Jack Morgan  
Bertha Roberstein  
Solomon Sabal  
Joseph Schuller  
Anna Tarlowe
- 2/25 (Adar 11)**  
Simon Askenazi  
Sam Bellman
- 2/26 (Adar 12)**  
Isadore Kahn  
William Kurman  
Mollie Nitka  
Morris Rubinfeld  
Moshe Schlusselberg  
Rose Wasserzug
- 2/27 (Adar 13)**  
Mathy Chayes Pottok  
Rose Geller  
Jennie Mochon  
Dora Moscow  
Rose Schoichet  
Mordecai Sidransky  
Kurt Spier  
Benjamin Suchoff
- 2/28 (Adar 14)**  
Sondra Cohen  
Abraham Englander  
Bob Furman  
Sol Juda  
Marcus Rosen  
Gadola Schochat  
Louis Wasserzug

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

*Martin*  
SINCE 1935

FUNERAL HOMES

In Memory of  
William A. Martin

WEST

128 N. RESLER  
EL PASO, TEXAS 79912  
(915) 584-1234

# DONATIONS

## Ben and Florence Schoichet Memorial Fund

in appreciation of aliyahs

*Bernie and Molly Goldberg*

in honor of Archie and Elinor  
Siegelman on their 60th wedding  
anniversary

*Bob and Blanche Brown*

in memory of Eddie Sochat

*Bernie and Molly Goldberg*

*Bob and Blanche Brown*

in memory of Jennie Weinberg,  
mother of Wendy Rothschild

*Bob and Blanche Brown*

in memory of Ruth Dula

*Bob and Blanche Brown*

## Building Fund

a very happy 80th birthday  
to Sam Ellowitz

*Seymour and Joan Becker*

## Cantor David Leon Biblical Gardens

congratulations to Allan and Amy  
Goldfarb on the engagement of  
their daughter

*Robert and Leslie Beckoff*

yahrzeit for husband, Max Schechter

*Shirley Schechter*

in honor of Sam Ellowitz on his  
80th birthday

*Dr. Larry Gladstone*

*Sam and Lenore Kobren*

## College Connection Fund

in memory of Sarah Schwartz

*Moises and Dora Margolis*

## David Erlich Tzedakah Fund

in honor of Aviva Kotkowski  
on her 80th birthday

*Ruth Erlich*

condolences to the family of  
Betty Farah

*Ruth Erlich*

*Dr. Andrew and Robin Erlich*

condolences to Frances Blumenthal  
on the loss of her brother, Herbert  
Schwartz

*Ruth Erlich*

in memory of Jennie Weinberg,  
mother of Wendy Rothschild

*Ruth Erlich*

happiness in your new home to  
Jerry and Stanlee Rubin

*Ruth Erlich*

yahrzeit for parents,  
Louis and Idelle Rubin

*Byron and Donna Rubin*

condolences to Dr. Lloyd Mark  
on the loss of his wife

*Ruth Erlich*

in memory of Ruth Dula

*Allan and Amy Goldfarb*

*Ruth Erlich*

condolences to Bryan Schonberg  
on the loss of his father

*Chaim and Marilyn Silverstein*

*Herb and Brenda Ehrlich*

congratulations to Allan and Amy  
Goldfarb on the engagement of  
their daughter

*Ruth Erlich*

## General Donation Fund

in honor of Archie and Elinor  
Siegelman on their 60th wedding  
anniversary

*Arlene Ellenburg*

## Goodman Family Memorial Fund

a very happy birthday to  
Bernadine Belkin

*Evelyn Goodman*

in honor of Jack Eisenberg  
on his 60 years with AFIC

*Evelyn Goodman*

in honor of Norma Aaronson  
on her birthday

*Evelyn Goodman*

## Jr. Congregation Torah Fund

in honor of Archie and Elinor  
Siegelman on their 60th wedding  
anniversary

*Dr. Sol and Ronnie Heller*

happiness in your new home  
to Dora Roe

*Dr. Sol and Ronnie Heller*

in honor of Lillian Silberman  
on her special birthday

*Dr. Sol and Ronnie Heller*

a happy anniversary to  
Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum

*Dr. Sol and Ronnie Heller*

a very happy birthday to  
Vivian Siegel

*Dr. Sol and Ronnie Heller*

## Kiddush Lunch Fund

in memory of Blanche Wilenken,  
mother of Genie Sias

*Felicia Rubin*

in memory of Edith Frankel,  
mother of Felicia Rubin

*Randy and Lupe Lewis*

in memory of Ruth Dula

*Felicia Rubin*

in memory of Sarah Schwartz

*Randy and Lupe Lewis*

## Marla Stein Memorial Fund

yahrzeit for mother, Blanche Felsen

*Sharon Stein*

## Marvin Nadler USY Room Fund

congratulations to Allan and Amy  
Goldfarb on their daughter's  
engagement

*Irvin and Alicia Nadler*

in memory of Jennie Weinberg,  
mother of Wendy Rothschild

*Irvin and Alicia Nadler*

in memory of Marla Stein

*Irvin and Alicia Nadler*

in memory of Ruth Dula

*Irvin and Alicia Nadler*

in memory of Steven Krisel

*Irvin and Alicia Nadler*

yahrzeit for mother, Vivian Katz

*Bob and Carol Teplitz*

# DONATIONS (con't)

## Rabbi's Fund

in memory of Blanche Wilenken,  
mother of Genie Sias

*Rose Holland*

in honor of the 60th wedding  
anniversary of Archie and Elinor  
Siegelman

*Irwin and Ina Kurland*

happiness in your new home  
to Dora Roe

*Irwin and Ina Kurland*

yahrzeit for husband, Frank Slusser

*Rita Slusser*

condolences to Stanley Goldman  
and David Goldman on the loss  
of their brother

*Irwin and Ina Kurland*

in memory of Herbert Schwartz

*Irwin and Ina Kurland*

yahrzeits for father, Irving Rubin,  
and grandparents, Louis and Idelle  
Rubin

*Marvin Rubin*

yahrzeit for son, Jerry Kellen

*Henry Kellen*

in honor of Jerry Rubin's being  
named a Sun Bowl Legend

*Irwin, Ina, Beth and Shayna Kurland*

yahrzeits for mother, Helena Kellen  
and sister Sonia Gruenberg who  
perished in the Holocaust

*Henry Kellen*

in honor of Louis and Miriam  
Rosenbaum on their wedding  
anniversary

*Irwin, Ina, Beth and Shayna Kurland*

congratulations to Rachel Leon on  
receiving her master's degree

*Irwin, Ina, Beth and Shayna Kurland*

in memory of Ruth Dula

*Rose Holland*

in honor of Sam Ellowitz on  
his 80th birthday

*Jerry and Stanlee Rubin*

yahrzeit for brother-in-law,  
Sam Holland

*Rose Holland*

best wishes for a full recovery to  
Sara Hauptman

*Irwin, Ina, Beth and Shayna Kurland*

## Ruth and Ted Carr Cemetery Fund

yahrzeit for father, Harry Goldberg

*Abe and Annette Goldberg*

in memory of Jennie Weinberg,  
mother of Wendy Rothschild

*Robert and Leslie Beckoff*

yahrzeit for sister, Mary Diamond

*Abe and Annette Goldberg*

yahrzeit for grandfather, Max Dubin

*Abe and Annette Goldberg*

in memory of Ruth Dula

*Martin and Bonnie Colton*

*Mr. and Mrs. Harris Hatfield*

*Robert and Leslie Beckoff*

*Sandy and Judy Grodin*

*Tibor and Ann Schaechner*

*Marc, Ruthlee, Melissa, Michael and*

*Robyn Rose*

condolences to Bryan Schonberg  
on the loss of his father

*Robert and Leslie Beckoff*

yahrzeit for grandmother, Yochel Kofsky

*Herb Kofsky*

## Siddur Fund

in honor of Beverly Robinson on her  
special birthday

*Dr. Sol and Ronnie Heller*

## Talmud Torah Fund

in memory of Bertha Zditowski

*Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum*

in memory of Blanche Wilenken,  
mother of Genie Sias

*Jon and Sheri Cohen*

happy anniversary to  
Dr. Sol and Ronnie Heller

*Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum*

*Warren and Claire Pulner*

a speedy recovery to Eddie Lavis

*Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum*

a very happy birthday to our friends,  
Esther Kishk, Julio Sidransky, Marvin Roth  
and Sarita Heller

*Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum*

happy anniversary to our friends, Harris  
and Muriel Kaplan, Robert and Sara  
Shiloff, Irvin and Alicia Nadler, Martin and  
Dorene Napastek and Nat and Linda Holzer

*Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum*

in honor of the wedding  
anniversary of Louis and Miriam  
Rosenbaum

*Warren and Claire Pulner*

in memory of Pola Kimmelman

*Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum*

congratulations to Rabbi  
Stephen and Sharon Leon on  
the graduation of their daughter,  
Rachel, from UNLV

*Dr. Jeff and Cathy Weislow*

a speedy recovery to  
Ronnie Heller

*Warren and Claire Pulner*

in memory of Ruth Dula

*Dr. Jerry and Marcia Schwartz*

*Herb and Brenda Ehrlich*

mazel tov to Sam Ellowitz  
on his special birthday

*Louis and Miriam Rosenbaum*

condolences to Genie Sias  
on the loss of her mother,  
Blanche Wilenken

*Richard and Eileen Armour*

yahrzeit for brother, Sid Zaben

*Richard and Eileen Armour*

## Teens to Israel Fund

yahrzeit for grandfather,  
Samuel Metzger

*Dr. Boris Kaim*

## USY Fund

in memory of Blanche Wilenken,  
mother of Genie Sias

*Dr. Jerry and Marcia Schwartz*

*Kenneth and Joan Korn*

yahrzeit for sister, Karen Licht

*Kenneth and Joan Korn*

*Our synagogue  
thanks you so much  
for your donations  
and support.*

# "BLAST FROM THE PAST"

Thank you to Mary Ann Fox Plaut, B'nai Zion Librarian, for the following information that corrects some of the information in "Blast from the Past" in the November "Messenger." The first rabbi of B'nai Zion was actually **Rabbi Nathan Shechter**. Rabbi Shechter, *zekher tzadik livrakha*, served as rabbi from 1903 until 1920 when he became ill. He passed away in 1921, and is buried in our cemetery.

Originally from Kiev, Ukraine, he served as rabbi of a shul in Columbia, S.C., before relocating to El Paso. His name first appears in the El Paso city directory in 1906, but according to his obituary, he came here in 1904. Rabbi Shechter is listed on the Columbia, S.C. 1900 U.S. Census as "rabbi." On the El Paso 1910 U.S. Census his occupation is listed as "Jewish rabbi." The following article appeared on page three of *The El Paso Herald* newspaper dated Thursday, November 23, 1916:



## "B'nai Zion Congregation Re-elects its Clergymen"

At a regular meeting this week of Congregation B'nai Zion on North El Paso Street, both of the Hebrew Orthodox clergies of this temple were unanimously re-elected.

Rabbi Nathan Shechter was re-engaged in the honored capacity of Rabbi and Rev.\* G. Bursetown was retained as minister\* of the congregation and principal of the El Paso Daily Hebrew School. Both clergies are cooperating for the same cause to strengthen orthodoxy in Israel's faith, and will both henceforth deliver sermons in their synagogue every Saturday at 10 AM.

This coming Saturday, November 26, the theme of the sermon by Rabbi Nathan Shechter will be, "The Three Patriarchs," and that of Rev. G. Bursetown's sermon will be "The Birth of Civilization."

\* Years ago, the word "minister" was commonly used for cantors and other synagogue functionaries; the title "Rev." preceding the name would have been correct under these circumstances.

Not recognizing Rabbi Shechter as "rabbi" seems to stem from an item BZ historian, Hymer Rosen, *zikhrono livrakha*, found in the B'nai Zion archives many years ago. It seems that the congregation had been actively seeking the services of someone who could perform the duties of *schoichet* and *mohel*. When Rabbi Shechter learned of this, he offered his services and was appointed **Rabbi** of Congregation B'nai Zion. He might also have been a *schoichet* and *mohel*. All that matters to us today is that he was very definitely an ordained rabbi, and was indeed B'nai Zion's first rabbi.



## Merrill Lynch

Walter Chayes  
Vice President  
Senior Financial Consultant

4669 North Mesa  
534-3110



Century Plaza 5857 N. Mesa 833-0170 www.alvarela.com

**Congregation B'nai Zion**  
**805 Cherry Hill**  
**El Paso, TX 79912**  
**(915) 833-2222**

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
 US POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
 EL PASO, TX  
 PERMIT NO. 1421

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**B'nai Zion Officers and Staff**

Rabbi	Stephen A. Leon
Administrative Director	Annalie Rollins
Administrative Assistant	Rebecca Korn
Director of Development	Sam Kobren
Educational Director	Rabbi Rebecca Rosenthal
Youth Advisors	Rebecca Korn
	Joseph Ruiloba
President	Dr. Jeffrey Weislow
1st Vice President	Debra Pazos
2nd Vice President	Dr. Parviz Neiman
3rd Vice President	Fred Hirsh
Treasurer	Jaime Kimmelman
Secretary	Esther Kuchinsky
Sisterhood President	Annalie Rollins
Newsletter Layout & Editor	Joyce Gronich

February 2010				Shevat/Adar 5770		
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Talmud Torah 4:00 pm	4	5 Shabbat B'Yachad 5:30 pm Shabbat services 6:15 pm	6 Shabbat services 9:30 am Jr. Congregation 10:30 am Children's Services 10:45 am Mincha 5:20 pm
7 No Talmud Torah World Wide Wrap 8:30 am	8	9	10 Talmud Torah 4:00 pm	11	12 Shabbat services 7:30 pm	13 Shabbat services 9:30 am Mincha 5:30 pm
14 Talmud Torah 9:00 am	15 Presidents' Day	16	17 Talmud Torah 4:00 pm	18	19 SWUSY Spring Kallah Shabbat services 6:15 pm	20 SWUSY Spring Kallah Shabbat services 9:30 am Mincha 5:35 pm
21 SWUSY Spring Kallah Race for the Cure with Sisterhood and Talmud Torah	22	23	24 Talmud Torah 4:00 pm	25	26 Shabbat services 6:15 pm	27 Shabbat services 9:30 am Mincha 5:40 pm Megillah reading ~ 6:30 pm
28 <b>Purim</b> Megillah reading 8:30 am Talmud Torah Purim Celebration 9:00 am	1 March	2	3 Talmud Torah 4:00 pm	4	5 Shabbat Across America services 6:15 pm followed by dinner	6 Shabbat services 9:30 am Mincha 5:45 pm