



Congregation B'nai Moshe
invites you to
Apples and Honey
New Year Celebration 3

Outdoor Picnic

Sunday, August 29

11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

at Congregation B'nai Moshe



- Crafts and Games
- Hamburgers and Hot Dogs
- Uncle Jim -- The Balloonist
- Music and Song

Bring friends and family
for a sweet ol' time!!



Moon Bounce

HOW YOU CAN REACH US

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September Bulletin Deadline

September *Bulletin* articles are due in the office on August 4, 2010. Stories may be delivered to the office, faxed to (248) 788-0604, or e-mailed to cbminfo@bnaimoshe.org. (If e-mailing, send as text only in the body of your message, please.) Photographs are encouraged to accompany stories when appropriate. Late stories are subject to inclusion on a case-by-case basis.

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR WEBSITE?

www.bnaimoshe.org

We Have Archived Bulletins

Thoughts From Our President

by Kerry Greenhut



By now, I trust you've heard the good news. Our board of directors (for the second year in a row) adopted a budget with no increase in the basic dues structure. Tremendous thanks go to our extraordinary budgeteer Steve Fine, and especially to the entire synagogue staff – clergy, professional, office, and building services. We know our congregation depends on everyone pulling together.

Of course, our big problem in Michigan is our poor economy. Incomes are down, business activity is sluggish, and people are leaving for opportunities in other states.

Revenue from basic dues alone is not sufficient to maintain our operations. Therefore, those who are able to help with additional donations are needed more than ever in this, our 99th year serving congregants and the community.

We are extremely grateful to those who joined the Chai Club at the Silver, Gold, or the new "Platinum" levels. If you are not a Chai Club member and are able to join or if you are in the Chai Club and can move to a higher level, please seriously consider doing so. But, even if you can't afford the full Chai Club commitment, we would appreciate any extra support you can pay above the standard level.

Additionally, we must maintain and increase fundraising efforts from members and beyond. The "Annual Campaign" is always a big part of our budget. Please send in your pledge card and give generously as in the past.

Besides major fundraising events, there are many other ways to provide support through the year and these all add up. These include tribute cards, gold leaves, siddur dedication bookplates, tzedakah boxes, paper recycling, online purchases through Goodshop, and participation in the programs of local merchants who give us a rebate from purchases we make at their stores.

One of the very best ways to support B'nai Moshe is to help our membership grow. With the High Holidays quickly approaching, if you have friends or relatives looking for a synagogue, bring them in for an introduction or pass their names to Chuck Berris or Membership Chair Annette Kaufman who will be glad to give them a phone call.

Now, I'd like to turn to another topic. A central tenet of the Conservative Movement is the support of Israel. We should all learn about Israel, support Israel financially, travel to Israel, and educate others about Israel. Unfortunately, Israel has been in the news a lot for taking legitimate actions in its own self-defense.

The election season will soon be upon us. Campaign mail and phone calls have already started. Political yard signs pop up like mushrooms. Whatever your political persuasion, as you prepare to vote please remember to evaluate the candidates' records on Israel; and, more broadly, consider how each candidate would if elected affect our government's support for Israel as it faces threats to its very existence. This is an obligation to be taken seriously.

Finally, when I finished this column, Elaine asked me if it had any jokes. When I told her "no" she seemed a bit disappointed, so I added one for her. (I hope she gets it.)

A man spoke frantically into the phone: My wife is pregnant and her contractions are only 2 minutes apart!"

"Is this her first child?" the doctor asked.

"No, you idiot!" the man shouted. "This is her husband!"

See you in shul,

Kerry Greenhut

A Word From Our Rabbi

by Rabbi Elliot Pachter



Everlasting Stories

Story 1: A few years ago, my parents were in Israel on a trip run by United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. On Shabbat morning in Jerusalem, as my father entered a shul, he was greeted by a woman who read his name tag, and asked, "Are you the Sidney Pachter from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania?" Answering that he was indeed, the woman then proceeded to say,

"I was on your front porch the day your father died."

While you think about the tearful reunion that ensued between my father and this woman, let me give you the background to this story.

My grandfather died at age 32, when my father was not quite 2 years old. This woman was a friend of my father's older sister, my aunt Florence, and she apparently spent a lot of time at my father's house. This woman eventually grew up, married and made aliyah. And she just happens to be the greeter at the same synagogue that my father, wearing a name tag, entered on a particular Shabbat morning in Jerusalem.

Story 2: At age 13, I first attended summer camp at Ramah, the camping arm of Conservative Judaism. Ramah has eleven overnight and day camps in North America (many which are inclusive of special needs) plus a network of programs in Israel. Growing up in Grand Rapids, I would have been directed to Ramah in Canada. However, in the summer of 1972 there were no available spots for me, so instead I attended the Ramah overnight camp in Wisconsin.

Ramah is a powerful experience, which leaves life long memories. Having been a camper for two years and later a counselor for two years (in Canada) made a strong impression on my Jewish identity and also welcomed me into a loving extended family of thousands of Ramah alumni who share my memories.

I was delighted, though not shocked to discover that one of my Ramah friends from nearly forty years ago, lives nearby and has attended services at B'nai Moshe. More significantly, the son of my newly reclaimed Ramah friend has become my student at the Frankel Jewish Academy. Father and son have participated in our daily minyan, complete with tallit and tefillin.

These two stories reflect on how unpredictable and predictable life can be. On one hand, it seems so random that my father and I both have run into people we haven't seen in many years. What if my father didn't take that trip to Israel? What if he wasn't wearing a name tag? What if he entered a different synagogue that Shabbat, or no synagogue at all? What if the woman had stayed home that Shabbat with a cold?

And what if I had never attended Camp Ramah, or never moved to Metro Detroit? What if my old Ramah friend had also not moved here, or not sent his son to the Jewish Academy? These reunions that we experienced were dependent on a variety of factors.

But there is also predictability to all of this. People who go to Israel and Camp Ramah, who attend synagogues and Jewish schools, are more than likely to increase the odds of having similar encounters. Those who embrace Judaism will create meaningful lasting memories, and will add their personal stories to the exciting and ongoing story of the eternal Jewish people.

A Word From Our Cantor

by Cantor Earl G. Berris



Jewish Life Experiences Should Not End With Summer Camp

We are now into the final month of summer and I hope all our kids are enjoying their vacation from school. Along with many of you, I am a strong proponent of Jewish camps and I hope if your child is at camp this year that you have chosen one of the many camps geared for informal Jewish education and experiences.

Camping is so enjoyable, in fact, that we often overlook its record in inculcating Jewish identity. Particularly for non-Orthodox Jews, the total immersion experience of summer camp is often the greatest single variable leading to lifelong Jewish commitment. The effects of camping on Jewish identity are profound and well-documented.

Why is it that camp — generally associated more with fun than with serious learning — is so powerful an educational format? Operating on a 24 hour 7 day a week basis, camp offers not only substantial formal contact with campers, but also a myriad of informal "teachable moments" when young Jewish children are uniquely accessible, and real life context make learning uniquely memorable. A dispute along the first-base line in a softball game may offer the opportunity for an unforgettable, impromptu lesson on not only sportsmanship, but *lashon ha-ra*, the transgression of evil talk, as well. A swim lesson may provoke a discussion of Lenny Krazelburg, the U.S. Olympic backstroke champion whose training schedule was influenced by his Jewish sensitivities — leading to an enhanced sense of pride in the camper's Jewish identity.

There is broad agreement in the Jewish community about the power and importance of summer camp as a transformational educational experience for our young people. A quality Jewish overnight camping experience is a powerful force for building Jewish community involvement. Summer camps provide a fun learning environment for Jewish youth that is often an ideal setting for instilling Jewish values and positive feelings about being Jewish.

There is considerable debate among Jewish camping professionals about who should be the primary focus of Jewish camping. Many camp directors express the desire to raise the quality of Jewish programming, but have concerns about whom to target, as Jewish life becomes more complex and different levels of Jewish programming appeal to different families. On one end of the spectrum, some believe that the Jewish camping experience should be focused on marginally affiliated families that need Jewish identity building the most. This group believes that it is unrealistic and unproductive for camps to create an atmosphere that is so intensively Jewish that it will frighten off potential campers who are less observant. They feel that camps should attract campers from marginally affiliated families and motivate them to want to continue participation in Jewish life.

At the other end, some believe that the place of Jewish camping is not to provide outreach to the marginally affiliated, but to provide rich and powerful Jewish identity building for those they consider most involved in Jewish life. The purpose of camp for this group is not to accumulate factual Jewish information, but to provide Jewish motivation. The special power of overnight camping resides in its ability to control the atmosphere twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and to make every moment of every day a Jewish moment. One director insists that to offer camping with less than total Jewish intensity is to squander the power of camp.

Continued on page 7



Bat Mitzvah



Lauren Weinberger

Lauren Nicole Weinberger will read from the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday,

August 21, 2010. Lauren is the daughter of Stanley and Diane Weinberger and sister of Danielle. She is the granddaughter of Jack and Shoshana Weinberger, Mary Wolfson and the late Dr. Herman Wolfson.

Lauren will be an 8th grader in the fall at Hillel Day School. Lauren enjoyed volunteering regularly for Yad Ezra and JARC and she raised donations and walked in the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk.

Mark Your Calendar

Simchat Torah Celebration

Save Thursday, Sept. 30 on your calendar as we celebrate Simchat Torah.

All our religious school classes will participate, allowing children of all ages to help



lead the Torah procession on Simchat Torah.

So join us in the synagogue from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. as we celebrate Simchat Torah and march around with the torahs (hakafot). Then from 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. we'll have refreshments

If you wish, there will be a dinner at 6 p.m. for a small fee.

Please contact Gail Gales at (248)788-3600, if you would like to carry a torah, everyone is welcome to participate.

Summer's Almost Over

Now that it's August, remember that school is just around the corner. Don't



forget you can get a discount on classes if you register by Aug. 15.

To register, please bring your paperwork and deposit to the synagogue office. For questions about the upcoming school year, please contact Gail Gales in the school office, (248) 788-3600.

Grateful for Your Support

Thank you all for the wonderful outpouring of support following the death of Barry's father, Albert Kaufman. Whether you attended services, contributed to meals, made donations or gave us a hug, it meant so much to us. B'nai Moshe is the family we have chosen for ourselves and it felt so good to be surrounded by your warmth.

Barry and Annette Kaufman

Thank you to my many friends from the B'nai Moshe family for their wonderful cards, flowers and good wishes during my recent illness.

Seymour Ungar

Kolel Moshe / Family Education

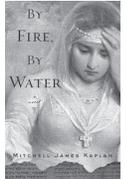
Catch These Summer Reads Before the Season Ends

For your end of the summer reading pleasure this month I am going to highlight the new fiction of Jewish interest, published in 2010 that the library has recently acquired. There are eight new titles to choose from.



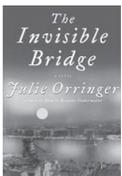
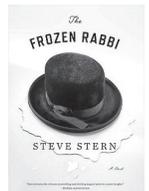
36 Arguments for the Existence of God by Rebecca Goldstein. An atheist with a soul is in for a lot of soul-searching as Cass Seltzer, a university professor specializing in the psychology of religion, contemplates the tumultuous events of his past in this irreverent, witty, yet philosophical, chronicle of his intellectual and emotional struggles.

By Fire, By Water by Mitchell James Kaplan. An historical novel set in 15th-century Spain, amid the Inquisition and the voyage of Christopher Columbus to what the seaman expects will be the Indies. The action centers on the historical figure of Luis de Santángel, chancellor to the king of Aragon and a Jewish convert to Christianity.



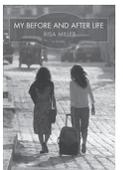
The Fifth Servant by Kenneth Wishnia. Set in 16th-century Prague, Wishnia's outstanding debut convincingly transforms a Jewish sexton Benyamin Ben-Akiva and his rabbinic mentor, the legendary Rabbi Loew, into a plausible pair of sleuths trying to save the Jewish community from an accusation of blood libel.

The Frozen Rabbi by Steve Stern. This madcap, at times surreal novel revolves around Rabbi Eliezer ben Zephyr, whose out-of-body journeys to the realm of the divine result in his being frozen in a block of ice in the Jewish Pale in 1889. What happens when fifteen-year-old son of the couple in whose home the rabbi lies frozen, inadvertently thaws out the ancient man?



The Invisible Bridge by Julie Orringer. This novel is a grand love story set against the backdrop of Budapest and Paris, an epic tale of three Jewish brothers whose lives are ravaged by war, and the chronicle of one family's struggle against the forces that threaten to annihilate it.

My Before and After Life by Risa Miller. Two sisters travel to Israel with the intention of bringing back their father, newly inducted into Orthodox Judaism, whose extended vacation they believe has plunged him into temporary madness. It's a skilled exploration of religion as a personal decision, a profound experience and a source of surprise and wonder.



Something Red by Jennifer Gilmore. Set in the late 1970's-early 80's this novel focuses on an American Jewish family's reactions to the Cold War and other political hallmarks of that era.

Day for Night by Frederick Reiken. A compelling tale in which one thread deftly connects 10 people. The story moves dizzily through Florida, Utah, New Jersey, and Israel, among other places, and includes plot lines involving fugitives from justice, the Holocaust, and the Palestinian/Israeli conflicts.



Save Your Books for Book Swap



After last spring's successful book swap, our B'nai Moshe Sisterhood has decided to do it again. This time, we'll exchange used books on Shabbat morning, Oct. 16. So start saving your gently used books now. We'll begin collecting them on Sunday, Oct 10 and continue through Thursday, Oct. 14. We cannot accept books after that date. For details, contact Susan Greenbaum at (248) 788-3236 or Susan Brohman at (248) 818-0217.

✓ COUNTDOWN TO 100: TIME TO CELEBRATE



As Congregation B'nai Moshe marks its 100th anniversary, we are planning a year-long celebration filled with events and memories to mark this marvelous milestone. Here are a few of the upcoming events to mark on your calendar.

✓ SAVE THE DATE:

Oct. 10, 2010: BUS TOUR

Two buses will take us back to the beautiful former B'nai Moshe on Dexter. If you've a special request, for example an address in the neighborhood where you'd love the bus to pass, please call Susan Friedman (248) 821-6893.

✓ **HISTORY:** We are constructing a history display. Can you help? Do you have photos,

programs, or other B'nai Moshe memorabilia to share? If so, contact Audrey Alperin (248)553-7355 or Carol Pollack (248)661-2786.

✓ **B'NAI MOSHE ON FACEBOOK:** Register for a Facebook account and "Friend" us. (Search: "Congregation B'nai Moshe 100 years".) Here's your chance to network with old and new fellow B'nai Moshe members, reminisce, volunteer, post photos, and more!

✓ **CELEBRATION SHABBAT:** May 21, 2011. Marc Sussman is putting together a morning service with special touches for our special weekend. Call Marc (248)541-3132 with your suggestions for making this the Shabbat of the Century!

B'nai Moshe Annual Picnic



Come and join us on Sunday, Aug. 29 as Congregation B'nai Moshe hosts its annual picnic—Apples and Honey New Year Celebration 3. The party runs from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the synagogue grounds.

The picnic, which is designed for children of all ages, will feature balloon artist Uncle Jim, crafts and a moon bounce. In addition, Cantor Berris will present a short musical program during the picnic.

Of course, what's a picnic without food? We'll have plenty of delicious hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers and turkey dogs on hand to enjoy. We'll also provide side dishes, condiments and refreshments.

All congregants, along with their family and friends, are invited to the festivities.



Dear Manny... Our Minyan Answer Man

Dear Manny,

My Hebrew reading is actually pretty good. I'd like to lead minyan, especially for yahrzeits but never learned how. What can I do?

Signed,

Hesitant

Dear Hesitant,

I have a couple ideas. First, start with the easiest service - Maariv (evening). It has the fewest lines for the leader. The Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs (FJMC.org) sells an inexpensive kit (CD and booklet) that shows what you need to know. Or, just ask Cantor Berris or Barry Levine to teach you to lead any of the services. Either way you go, it will take some practice - but it's easier than you'd think. Good luck!!

Manny

Manny Minyan - Your daily minyan answer man." Got a question about daily minyan? Write to Manny, c/o the B'nai Moshe office.

“Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Hear Ye”

Wanted New Members bring your friends

Reward for bringing in a new member is a \$100 credit on your account after their 2nd year dues are paid.

Start Holiday Preparation With Sept. 4 Selichot Service

Among the ways to spiritually prepare for Rosh Hashanah is to attend the Selichot Service on Saturday night, Sept. 4. Selichot, from the Hebrew word for “forgiveness,” are a series of prayers in which we appeal to God’s attribute of mercy to achieve atonement for our misdeeds. Although this sounds like what we do on Yom Kippur, and it is, we are supposed to begin saying Selichot prior to the arrival of the high holidays.

Sephardic Jews begin reciting Selichot on the first of Elul, a full 40 days prior to Yom Kippur. Ashkenazic Jews begin Selichot on Saturday night, at least three days prior to Rosh Hashanah. Once begun, Selichot are traditionally recited before dawn, prior to each day’s morning service, with the exception of Shabbat and Rosh Hashanah, and concluding on Yom Kippur.

Please join us for Shabbat Mincha and Maariv, beginning at 7:45 p.m. At the conclusion of Shabbat, approximately 8:30 p.m. we will have refreshments and watch the Oscar nominated and award winning film from 2009, *A Serious Man*, which will give us a lot to think about as we prepare for the upcoming High Holy Days. Rabbi Pachter will lead a discussion about the movie.

At 11 p.m., Cantor Berris and the choir will lead us in the moving Selichot prayers, which will conclude at approximately midnight.

Updated Pricing for Seudah Shlishit

Effective immediately, the price of sponsoring Seudah Shlishit will be either \$125 or \$150, depending on what you wish to serve. The final charge will be determined by the synagogue office and will be billed accordingly to your account. If you have any questions, please contact Chuck Berris in the synagogue office at (248) 788-0600.

A Word From Our Cantor *Continued from page 3*

These diverse opinions are not mutually exclusive. The broader the spectrum of camp options, the greater their ability to attract diverse constituencies. Thankfully, those in our community have the option for both types of camps.

Because of the concentrated and compressed camp environment, a friendship formed over a week at sleep away camps is often closer and more enduring than one formed over many months at school. The importance of this in Jewish identity formation should not be underestimated. When kids form circles of camp friends, they often stay close for life. This means attending one another’s bar/bat mitzvahs, weddings, and other *simchas*. It ties them into the Jewish life cycle, and the positive emotions they have for their friends, and becomes associated with Judaism. It behooves us not to let the summer camp experience wane when camp ends and our children return to school. Keep their Jewish activities and lives growing by getting them involved in Jewish youth groups and connecting with our synagogue.

Earn Green By Being Green



Please continue to bring your newspapers and other eligible recyclables to the green and yellow Abitibi Paper Retriever container in our parking lot. Your donations are making a difference.

But we can always use more. Remember the more you bring, the more we earn to help fund various synagogue programs.

Acceptable items include: newspapers, magazines, shopping catalogs, junk mail, white envelopes and office & school papers. However, please do not bring cardboard, cereal cartons, food wrap or containers, tissue products, phone books, plastic or glass.

For details, please call the office, (248) 788-0600.