



# SONS *of* ABRAHAM

LAFAYETTE, IN  
*Established 1889*

February, 2010  
17 Shevat - 14 Adar 5770

**President: Mark Lillianfeld**

**Send bulletin items to:**

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**Sisterhood co-Presidents:**

**Jo Gartenhaus and Heather Moskowitz**

## **Gratitude, Condolences, and Congratulations**

Heartfelt condolences to **Barney Axelrod** and **Judy and Leo Weitzman** on the death of **Sara Axelrod**, Barney's wife and Judy's Mom. Similarly, we extend sympathies to the **Berman** family on the passing of Kimberly Berman. Many thanks to **Sonya Garfinkel** for arranging the "Sisterhood Lunch-Out" event last month at Christos. Mazel Tov to **Susan and Earl Prohofsky** on the birth of a grandson. The parents are Shana and Joel Prohofsky and the title of the young man's dissertation ... . (May G-d make it so or equally so in happiness.). The same wish goes to the very first grandchild of **Ephraim and Janie Fischbach**, a daughter born to Jonathan and Helenanne Fischbach on January 27, 2010. Many

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thanks to Susan Prohofsky and Heather Moskowitz for their combined efforts in arranging a beautiful Tu b'Shevat Seder for us on January 29. In other congregational news, we note that SOA Past President, David Sanders, is seeking the nomination of the Democratic Party for Member of Congress from the U.S. Fourth Congressional District. February 13 will be a special birthday for Purdue Hillel Director, Philip Schlossberg, a check made out to the Purdue Hillel Foundation would be a great way to celebrate (912 W. State Street / W. Lafayette).

## **Sisterhood to Enjoy Jewish Music**

**Elana Salzman**, recently added and most impressive vocalist of the **Lafayette Klezmerim**, will enlighten members of the Sisterhood with a program of Jewish music that includes a sing-along. If that leaves you anything but absolutely thrilled, you must not have heard the Klezmerim in concert at the Black Sparrow in December. This lady is an entertainer of the first water and she charmed not only Klezmer fans but large numbers of Lafayette denizens who had come chiefly to eat and drink. Of course, any of us would go to **Jo Gartenhaus'** for **ANYTHING** she offers her guests, and **Elana's** program makes this even more of a **MUST NOT MISS** event, so here are the details, folks: Tuesday night, February 16, 7:30 p.m. Don't miss it!

## Bulletin Editor Appointed

Sons of Abraham Congregant, and one-time President, **Mike Adler**, has accepted the editorship of the Bulletin of the Sisterhood Sons of of Abraham. Yours truly will be leaving the editorial post but will occasionally submit some material written or gathered in the unlikely event of an attack of cabin fever. This is really wonderful news for the Sisterhood in particular and the Congregation in general because we have in **Mike** a gentleman of exceptional linguistic capacity, Jewish knowledge, and wit. **Mike's** first issue will be in April, 2010. If you want something to appear in that issue, you ought to get it to him by March 10, 2010 at the following e-mail:

[penmike@embarqmail.com](mailto:penmike@embarqmail.com)». The March issue will be out before then and content for that should come to me by February 15 at [a.garfinkel@comcast.net](mailto:a.garfinkel@comcast.net).

## Cyrelle Simon to Visit Us

Cyrelle Simon, whom we have jokingly named Director of the Sons of Abraham Jerusalem Branch, will be in Lafayette and visiting with friends in the social hall of the shul on Thursday, March 18 from 7:00 p.m. till 10:00 p.m. Any and all who would like to visit with Cyrelle are invited to this event. Cyrelle also hopes to arrange a luncheon on Friday, March 19 at 12:30 p.m. with place to be announced. She also plans to be in shul Friday evening and Shabbos morning because she will be staying over at Loeb House.

## Hillel and Jewish Federation Sponsor Purim Carnival

So you don't like hot dogs and you can't stand hamantaschen, and the whole idea of joyous celebration over the outcome of the Mordecai/ Esther/ Ahashuerus business leaves you cold. OK. OK. So, Be a Shtunk. See if I care. But. Please, Please, Please Stay away from the Hillel JFGL Annual Purim Carnival. Your nasty attitude will just ruin it for those if us who enjoy this amusing way of supporting two really great Jewish groups doing great things for Jews of all ages and nationalities. For the unshtunks among you, bring a few bucks for lottery

tickets and snacks to Hillel / 912 West State Street /West Lafayette between 12:30 and 3:00 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, February 28. Sunday parking in the Second Street University Garage is free (one block north) and you will have a blast. Come have some fun with us!!! Funds generated will be donated by Hillel to the Jewish Federation which, in combination with its Ohio Valley Consortium, does a lot to support Purdue Hillel Foundation. This exercise in reciprocity is an exercise in **Menschlichkeit** 101 as taught to a generation of Jewish scholars by Director Schlossberg.

## Yahrzeits

Name	Hebrew Date	2010
Simon, David	Shevat 17	February 1
Urish, Florence Resnick	Shevat 18	February 2
Lipschutz, Maurice	Shevat 18	February 2
Krushen, Simon	Shevat 23	February 7
Atlass, Rachel R.	Shevat 24	February 8
Miller, Anna	Shevat 24	February 8
Klatch, Ben Zion	Shevat 24	February 8
Leonards, Gerald A.	Shevat 24	February 8
Korenstein, Isadore	Shevat 26	February 10
Moskowitz, David	Shevat 26	February 10

NAME	HEBREW DATE	2010
Grinberg, Samuel Aaron	Shevat 27	February 11
Harris, Gussie	Shevat 29	February 13
Treager, Mark	Adar 2	February 16
Pickus, Ruth	Adar 2	February 16
Jerison, Meyer	Adar II 2	February 16
Lipschutz, Anna	Adar II 2	February 16
Chosnek, Edith	Adar 3	February 17
Weisz, Bertha H.	Adar 4	February 18
Levine, Rose	Adar 5	February 19
Roger, Harry	Adar 5	February 19
Spector, Fred	Adar 6	February 20
Lobstein, Miriam	Adar 7	February 21
Tzucker, John	Adar 7	February 21
Brodsky, Rosa	Adar 7	February 21
Shinker, Malka Molly	Adar 10	February 24
Lowenthal, Beatrice G.	Adar II 10	February 24
Cember, Herman	Adar 11	February 25
Tubis, Joseph	Adar 12	February 26
Gartenhaus, Hannah	Adar 12	February 26
Goodman, Solomon	Adar 16	March 2

NAME	HEBREW DATE	2010
Pearlman, Bara	Adar 17	March 3
Gershovitz, Peretz	Adar II 17	March 3
Goldstine, Frank	Adar 18	March 4
Simon, Esther	Adar 18	March 4
Kalski, Edythe	Adar II 18	March 4
Berger, Harriet Anne Glick	Adar 19	March 5

## Rabbi's Reflections

### Public Places, Pluralism, Women and Israel

“Imagine, if you will, a group of devout Jews who regularly gather to pray at an ancient synagogue. Sometimes they are left alone, but other times they are verbally and physically harassed, spit at, cursed. If this were taking place in a country unfriendly to Jews, we would admire the worshippers’ dedication and perseverance, perhaps publicize their plight. Then, imagine that one day, one of the worshippers is arrested, hauled into police custody for doing nothing more than offending the sensibilities of others, whatever that means. A month later, the leader of the group is questioned by police, fingerprinted and warned that she is at risk of arrest. Imagine the uproar! Imagine if this were Sweden or France or Argentina, and suddenly prayer became a crime. The Jewish defense organizations would broadcast their collective outrage with the speed of a ‘send’ button. So what do we do when these real events happened in Israel, at Jerusalem’s Western Wall?”

This passage is from an on-line January 6 The Forward editorial (to be printed January 15). The issue will not go away. On November 18, police and Western Wall officials arrested Nofrat Frenkel leaving the Kotel (Western Wall) area wearing a tallit (not a big black-and-white one, but a smaller, multi-colored shawl-like scarf around her neck and under

her coat) and carrying a Torah—it had been unrolled but not read because the Kotel Foundation (not the public) complained. She was banned from the Kotel for two weeks and a criminal file was opened. If convicted, she would be a felon and, as a fifth year medical student, she forever would lose the possibility to practice medicine.

Women of the Wall has prayed every Rosh Hodesh (New Moon) since 1989. In 2002, the Israeli Supreme Court upheld their right to pray in the women's area. The ultra-Orthodox failed to pass a Knesset bill overturning the decision. In 2003, the Supreme Court reversed itself on the grounds of public safety, but required that accommodations be made at Robinson's Arch. In 2000, the Masorti movement and the government agreed to use Robinson's Arch for mixed weekday prayers, however services must end by 10:30 AM, or they are fined 30 sheqalim per person. Ten services were held the first year. In 2009, the number topped 450. Finishing by the deadline is impossible. The Masorti movement hopes to expand the hours when they renegotiate later this year.

A women's group planned a Kotel Rosh Hodesh service in 1971. During Hallel prayers, the private security people hired by the Kotel Rabbi started to drag away the women (presumably he worried that police would not move the women). Many men screamed at the Kotel Rabbi that he was like a Nazi, dragging Jewish women through the street. The pulling and service stopped. In 1983, the Religious Affairs Ministry authorized an interfaith mixed prayer service under U.S. Navy Lieutenant Commander Rabbi Arnold Resnicoff. Religious Affairs representative Yonatan Yuval said the ministry was glad to organize such a service for such distinguished visitors and would do so again. When asked if this set a precedent for a U.S. civilian group led by a Conservative, Yuval said it would be impossible. Over the last few years, the Western Wall Heritage Foundation, which answers directly to the prime minister's office, reduced the female praying area by moving the mekhitzah (barrier) farther south (and raised its height). Significant events that used to take place in the ever-shrinking public space adjacent to the prayer sections--the symbolic distribution of ID cards to new immigrants, performances by the Israel Defense Forces choir--have been curtailed or

cancelled by the authorities.

November 28, thousands of secular and religious protesters marched against ultra-Orthodox violence and coercion over a steadily increasing stream of issues. One banner read: "Iran is here – we're sick of haredi violence." At December's United Synagogue convention, Israeli Ambassador Michael Oren called the Frenkel story "widely misreported" for she was just "led away" from the area. On December 22, Ambassador Oren conceded he had misinformed Jewish leaders "based on information he had requested and received from Israel, but which was subsequently proven to be incomplete," and demanded "a full and thorough inquiry so he will not be misled." On January 5, police fingerprinted and questioned Anat Hoffman, leader of Women of the Wall and director of the Reform movement's Israel Religious Action Center, and told her that she may be charged with a felony for violating the Kotel's rules of conduct.

United Synagogue Executive Vice President Rabbi Steven Wernick said, "The harassment of those who are progressive such as we saw with Nofrat Frenkel and now with Anat Hoffman is unconscionable." The USCJ statement remarks that these moves drive "a wedge between our communities at a time when working for unity within Israel and enhancing the connection between Diaspora Jewish communities and Israel should be a primary concern."

The Forward's editorial includes: "These outrages cannot be ignored by American Jews and must be viewed for what they are: another chapter in the ongoing struggle to determine whether Judaism's most sacred site will belong only to a distinct, intolerant minority or whether it can truly welcome all the Jewish people. This is not just an Israeli concern. There's a legitimate question as to how far American Jews can and should go in challenging the Israeli government on internal matters of defense, national security, domestic policy and so on, but this is different. The Kotel is not just another shul to be avoided for the more hospitable one around the corner. It is the iconic national, spiritual, religious heartbeat of the Jewish people, the destination of our prayers, the symbol of our survival. It cannot become the sole province of the ultra-Orthodox."

“Indeed, if Jerusalem...is to remain the capital of Israel, then it must truly be the capital for all Jews. The practices of a small number of fundamentalists--a minority in Israel, in the United States and around the world--cannot be allowed to dictate the religious future of the Jewish people. That is close to happening now, and unless this current destructive trend is stopped and reversed, the precious City of Gold will become a place of alienation to a sprawling Diaspora it, ironically, must count on to survive.”

The U.S. State Department for the first time cited Israel for curtailing basic religious freedom in its latest report on International Religious Freedom. The Conservative and Reform movements, The Forward, and others encourage you to write letters and send e-mails to Israel's ambassador to the United States Michael Oren stressing the need for pluralism and religious tolerance, and to raise it in meetings with other Israeli officials.

## Board To Meet

The Shul Board of Directors will meet at the Shul on Thursday, **February 18, 2010, at 8:00 p.m.** Board meetings are open to all members.

## February

### Candle lighting Times

source: Rabbi Rascoe

Date	Time
Feb. 5	5:55 p.m.
Feb. 12	6:03 p.m.
Feb. 19	6:12 p.m.
Feb. 26	6:20 p.m.

## On the Web

Sonya and I would like you to have a look at the site of Americans United for Separation of Church and State. The url is simply «au.org». We have been members for decades. Americans United has regularly taken part in court cases that argue against, for example, the notion that ours is a Christian nation based and founded on Christian principles. Support is accepted at any level and we hope you will look into doing what you can for this group whose executive directive director, interestingly, is Reverend Barry Lynn.

## Refuah Shelema

Almighty God, we offer prayers for health, complete recovery and long life to **Sarah Raskin, Madelyn Lillianfeld, Fritz Friedlaender, and Barney Axelrod.**

## Sisterhood Offers Happy Day Cards

To commemorate any “simcha” or recognize any other event call Bette Rubinstein at 463-4754 or Iris Treager at 463-2468, They will send your card for a minimum donation of \$5.00. Send your check, made out to Sisterhood Sons of Abraham, to Sonya Garfinkel, Sisterhood Treasurer, 2229 Carberry Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47906.

Recent Mailings:

In Memory of **Sara Axelrod**  
**Sonya and Alan Garfinkel**  
**Harriet and Sid Diamond**

In Honor of the Wedding of Ilana Barash  
**Susan and Earl Prohofsky**

In Memory of Kimberly Berman  
**Harriet and Sid Diamond**  
**Sonya and Alan Garfinkel**

In Celebration of the Birth of the new Prohofsky Grandson

**Harriet and Sid Diamond**  
**Sonya and Alan Garfinkel**

## February Calendar

- Feb. 1: **MONDAY, 1:30 p.m. (Change)** Sisterhood Board Meeting. Home of Sonya Garfinkel.
- Feb. 5: Friday, 8:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services
- Feb. 6 Saturday, 10:00 a.m. Shabbat Services
- Feb. 12: Friday, 8:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services
- Feb. 13: Saturday, 10:00 a.m. Shabbat Services
- Feb. 16: Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. Sisterhood General Meeting. Home of **JO GARTENHAUS (Change of venue) Program: Jewish Music, Elana Salzman**
- Feb. 18: Thursday 8:00 p.m. Shul Board Meeting at the Shul.
- Feb. 19 - 21: Rabbi Rascoe will be in town.
- Feb. 19: Friday, 8:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service
- Feb. 20: Saturday, 10:00 a.m.. Shabbat Service
- Feb. 26: Friday, 8:00 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service
- Feb. 27: Saturday, 10:00 a.m.. Shabbat Service
- Feb. 27: Saturday, 8:00 p.m. Megillah Reading
- Feb. 28: Sunday, Purim
- March 1: **MONDAY, 1:30 p.m. (Change)** Sisterhood Board Meeting. Home of Heather Moskowitz
- March 8: Monday, 7:30 p.m. at the Shul, Joint Sisterhoods and Hadassah Meeting. Hostesses: Sisterhood Board, Speaker: Dr. Stuart Robinson, Continuing Lecturer in Biblical Hebrew, Purdue University. Topic: "Abraham and Moses"

## Rabbi's Calendar

The Rabbi will be in town February 19-21.

## Susan G. Komen for the Cure Tissue Bank Event

**IU Simon Cancer Center April  
25, 2010**

Indianapolis and Lafayette Jewish communities are combining forces to encourage Jewish women, primarily those of Ashkenazi descent, to donate a sample of healthy breast tissue to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Tissue Bank during a special event on Sunday, April 25, 2010. The Komen Tissue Bank is the only major source of healthy breast tissue in the world, which is made available to cancer researchers across the globe. During this event, the 1,000th donor will be announced, a goal many thought could never be reached.

Jewish women are needed to help research due to the susceptibility of some Ashkenazi women to carry a potentially harmful mutation of the BRCA1 gene. To discover what is abnormal, researchers need to know what is normal and thus determine the differences, leading to a better understanding of the breast cancer process.

To encourage Lafayette area women to participate, the IU Center will send a bus to West Lafayette to transport participants to the IU Simon Cancer Center. Additional details on transportation will be available soon. The procedure takes only 10 minutes and is done by a surgeon or radiologist under sterile conditions. Morning appointments will be assigned to Indianapolis volunteers, while early afternoon appointments will be assigned to Lafayette area donors. A detailed questionnaire on personal and family history can be filled out on the bus.

A free kosher lunch will be provided to Indianapolis and Lafayette donors. Door prizes and gifts will be given away. Refreshments will be available all day as will entertainment. Guest speakers at the lunch will talk about breast cancer and mammograms.

Reservations to donate on April 25, 2010 will be accepted at the Komen Tissue Bank beginning March 1 by phoning 866-763-0047. Information on the Komen Tissue Bank can be found at



[www.komentissuebank.iu.edu](http://www.komentissuebank.iu.edu). To join the contingent on the bus call Joyce Field, 765-463-1746 or 765-409-3967, or email her at [jfield@nlci.com](mailto:jfield@nlci.com).

You can help research on breast cancer by volunteering to attend this important event. The procedure is painless and you will leave with the knowledge that you and your friends in Indianapolis, Lafayette, and West Lafayette have collectively made a difference.

## Letter from Jerusalem

Cyrelle Simon

Degrees of Separation

Recently, when I attended an Emunah meeting, a woman whom I slightly recognized said "Do you realize we are somewhat related?" As you can imagine I was really startled. Well, the connection is from my soon to be grandson, Yocheved's fiancée, Yehoshua Wechsler. This lady is his great aunt. Emunah is a Jewish Women's organization similar to Amit, Hadassah, etc. It supports many worthy projects in Israel. I belong to the English speaking chapter, and in fact, many of the ladies hail from Great Britain.

At one of the many Shabbos invitations I have enjoyed, this week's host spent part of his childhood in Seattle. I asked if he knew the Radinsky family. Yes, he said, he grew up with Joey and his father, Rabbi Porush, was Rabbi Radinsky's Hebrew teacher for many years. Connections like this in Israel, I find very pleasant and "nourishing" (geshmack).

### Reunions:

A few more very lovely encounters. I met with Liba Maimon, Shosh Zilberbush, Rachel Minke and Ruti Golan for lunch on Friday. D'vora Givon was unable to come, but sent regards. Each of these families spent very happy times in Laf. when their spouses were on Sabbatical at Purdue. It was good to reminisce. And, as mentioned previously, Jun Miyamoto is moving soon to Baton Rouge, Louisiana

and paid me a goodbye visit. I will miss him. He came to all my family celebrations and gave me helpful advice when asked. I wish him well.

### Remembering Family Members

Recently, Sandy Hasson, Mimi Hasson's sister, and some friends stayed with me for awhile. Sandy was kind enough to accompany me to visit Ed's grave, on a hilltop overlooking a panoramic view of Jerusalem. Sadly, the longtime owner of Hungarian Kosher Restaurant of Chicago was recently interred nearby and Sandy pointed out a custom common to many Holocaust survivors buried here. At the foot of the tombstone were the names of his immediate family who were killed by the Nazis and thus have no graves. Since, our tradition declares "from dust to dust" these relatives are symbolically interred in the Holy Land.



## Shul Board Solicits Donations to Special Purpose Funds

The Chosnek Fund, named for Sam and Edith Chosnek, is for ritual. For example, the fund could be used to repair or replace such things as Torah covers and the like. The Elkin Fund, named for Barry Elkin, is for educational purposes. It might be used, for example, to pay part of the cost of bringing a speaker. The 100th Anniversary Fund, established by Ed Simon, is for capital expenses in building maintenance. This fund provides a naming opportunity for remodeling our sanctuary. The Ha Gomel fund is to celebrate recent recoveries from illness.

### Sons of Abraham Special Funds Donation Form

Enclosed please find my check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_. Please apply it to:

Ha Gomel (recovery) of \_\_\_\_\_

100th Anniversary Fund (Building) \_\_\_\_\_

Elkin Fund (education) \_\_\_\_\_

Chosnek Fund (ritual) \_\_\_\_\_

Donation in honor / memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Is the donor's name to be held in confidence? \_\_\_\_\_

Send check with this form to Sons of Abraham

P.O. Box 2671 / West Lafayette, IN 47996-2671.  
Donations will be acknowledged.

Donor(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Purdue University Jewish Studies Noon Lecture and Discussion Series

Wednesday, February 10 ~ Stewart Center, Room 320 12:30 p.m.. **Victor Raskin**, Professor, Department of English, Purdue University, "The Importance of Being Jewish."

All members of the Purdue University community and the public are cordially invited to attend events offered by the Jewish Studies Program.

<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/jewish-studies/>

