



# SONS *of* ABRAHAM

LAFAYETTE, IN  
*Established 1889*

November 2010

24 Cheshvan – 23 Kislev 5771

**President: Mark Lillanfeld**

**Send bulletin items to:**

**[penmike@embarqmail.com](mailto:penmike@embarqmail.com)**

**Sisterhood Co-Presidents:**

**Susan Prohofsky & Harriet Diamond**

## Gratitude, Condolences and Congratulations

It is so easy to forget the “little things” we tend to take for granted. For example, our Sukkah “magically” appears each year and vanishes as soon as Succoth ends. In a high tech society, erecting the temporary structure is rather low tech, and requires manpower. For this we extend appreciation to Hershel Krushen, Jeffery Scott (AKA Scotty) and his son Sam for their labors, both in erecting and taking down and storing the Sukkah. Some belated thanks: To Sonya Garfinkel and Harriet Diamond for compiling the information for the Sisterhood Calendar and Directory and the New Year Greetings booklets, and to Alan Garfinkel and Sid Diamond for doing the typing for same; to Sonya Garfinkel for hosting the Sisterhood Opening Tea; to Gabi Cramer for hosting Game Night before Selichot service; to Gisela Friedlaender and Harriet Diamond for shopping for the Break the Fast supplies and to Isabel Ku who worked hard in the kitchen; to Geri Horwich and Sonya Garfinkel for the Erev Simchat Torah refreshments. A hearty mazel tov to the Moskowitz family on the naming of their granddaughter and a thank you to Heather Moskowitz for chairing the Carry-In Dinner.

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## New address for Rabbi and Marilyn Engel

Rabbi & Marilyn Engel have moved to Phoenix! They have purchased a townhouse a couple of blocks from son, Moshe. Their new address:

7045 North 16th Place  
Phoenix, AZ 85020  
Phone: 765-490-1286

We wish them well and look forward to their return in April for the 30th Annual Holocaust Remembrance Conference.

## Refuah Shelema

We offer prayers for health, complete recovery and long life to Florence Lillianfeld, Harriet Diamond, Johanna Gartenhaus, Marge Aronson, Sonia Barash, Joe Haberer, Madelyn Lillianfeld, Sarah Raskin, Barney Axelrod, Irwin and Iris Treager and Fritz Friedlaender.

## An Early Chanukah!

Heads up – the First Hanukah Candle should be lighted Wednesday, December 1! Chanukah Boutique will be Open Sunday, November 14 prior to the Congregation Meeting and also at the Sisterhood meeting Tuesday November 16.

## Candle Lighting Times

Source: Chabad.org

Friday November 5 6:23 p.m.  
Friday November 12 5:15 p.m.  
Friday November 19 5:10 p.m.  
Friday November 26 5:06 p.m.

## New Members Welcomed!

We're on a roll! For the second consecutive month we are pleased to welcome new members. They are Joe and Ivy Coleman and their daughters Jiana, age 8 and Brynlee, 6. Joe is a mechanical engineer at Caterpillar working on marine engines. The family comes to Lafayette from South Carolina where Joe also worked for Caterpillar. Previous to that, he worked in Peoria, Illinois for – you guessed it – Caterpillar. Ivy is a librarian. She relates that her own upbringing was in a Conservative Shul and she finds Sons of Abraham a good fit for her and the family. Among Ivy's accomplishments is service as a Sunday School and Hebrew School teacher. The family has been in Lafayette for about 3 months and joined us for Kol Nidre and for our recent carry-in dinner. Their stay in South Carolina was brief – just three years – and the Coleman family hopes to make Lafayette their home for many years to come. We look forward to their participation in our many activities!

## Scholar in Residence, Dinner and Congregation Meeting Sunday, November 14, 2010

**SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE - 5:30 PM**

**Rabbi Benjamin Segal** will address the topic:

"The State of Judaism in the Jewish State"  
Followed by Hot Dog Supper (\$5.00 per person) and an important

**CONGREGATION MEETING (7:30 PM)**

## Yahrzeits

Name	2010	Hebrew Date
Sproul, Myrna	November 2	Cheshvan 25
Waldner, Don M.	November 3	Cheshvan 26
Porges, Herman	November 3	Cheshvan 26
Katz, Joseph (Joe)	November 3	Cheshvan 26
Silver, Isador (Ted)	November 4	Cheshvan 27
Slessor, Esther	November 8	Kislev 1
Glick, Isadore	November 8	Kislev 1
Fleishman, M.	November 9	Kislev 2
Suessman, Hildegard	November 9	Kislev 2
Fleishman, Wolf	November 10	Kislev 3
Krushen, Jacob	November 12	Kislev 5
Cember, Lilly	November 14	Kislev 7
Bass, Sara	November 15	Kislev 8
Ben-Ami, Hirsch	November 15	Kislev 8
Urish, Annette Krauss	November 16	Kislev 9
Kaplan, Fannie	November 17	Kislev 10
Nickelsbrrg, Bertram	November 17	Kislev 10
Elkin, Ruth	November 20	Kislev 13
Brodsky, Eli	November 20	Kislev 13
Roger, Bara	November 20	Kislev 13
Bercovitz, Boruch L.	November 23	Kislev 16
Cohen, Dora	November 24	Kislev 17
Title, Reuben Seymour	November 25	Kislev 18
Cember, Arthur	November 26	Kislev 19
Atlass, Moses	December 1	Kislev 24
Segal, Rochel	December 1	Kislev 24
Pearlman, Eleck	December 4	Kislev 27
Fischbach, Julius Leo	December 4	Kislev 27
Waldner, Charlotte	December 5	Kislev 28
Grinberg, Betty Gordon	December 5	Kislev 28

# November Calendar

November 1: Monday 1:30 p.m. – Sisterhood Board Meeting at home of Sue Prohofsky

November 5: Friday 8:00 p.m. – Erev Shabbat Services

November 6: Saturday 10:00 a.m. – Shabbat Services

November 12: Friday 8:00 p.m. – Erev Shabbat Services

November 13: Saturday 10:00 a.m. – Shabbat Services

November 14: Sunday 5:30 p.m. – Scholar in Residence, Hot Dog Dinner and Congregation meeting – 7:30 p.m.

November 14: Chanukah Boutique open prior to Congregation meeting

November 16: Tuesday 1:30 p.m. – Sisterhood Meeting at the Shul – Chanukah Boutique open

November 18 – Thursday 8:00 p.m. Board Meeting

November 19; Friday 8:00 p.m. – Erev Shabbat Services

November 20: Saturday 10:00 a.m. – Shabbat Services

November 26: Friday 8:00 p.m. – Erev Shabbat Services

November 27: Saturday 10:00 a.m. – Shabbat Services

December 1: Wednesday - light first Chanukah Candle

## Corrections

The correct email for Iris and Irwin Treager is [irwintreager@comcast.net](mailto:irwintreager@comcast.net)

The correct email for Mike and Penny Adler is [penmike@embarqmail.com](mailto:penmike@embarqmail.com)

# Sisterhood Activities

The Sisterhood Board Meeting is at the home of **Sue Prohofsky** Monday, November 1 at 1:30 p.m.

A SISTERHOOD MEETING will take place Tuesday, Nov. 16, 12:30PM at the Shul, featuring a Brown Bag Dairy Lunch. Please bring your lunch, dessert and drinks will be provided. An Afternoon of Fun and Games will follow.

**Hanukkah Boutique** will be Open Sunday and also at the Sisterhood meeting Tuesday.

## ***Rabbi's Reflections:***

### ***Thanksgiving and the Successful American***

*I assume everyone knows the story that the Pilgrims instituted Thanksgiving as a harvest festival patterned after Sukkot thanking the Native Americans. We recognize the basic elements: thank God, honor the help of others, eat. We joke similarly about Jewish holidays: God saved us from a disaster, let's eat. The joke presumes the same elements: get together, give thanks, eat.*

*What's the primary thanksgiving meal for Jews? The Pesah Seder, the Passover meal. What stands at the heart of it? A passage from Deuteronomy 26 that all Jews in Temple times knew: Jews would say it when bringing the first fruits to the Temple so they could eat and rejoice. Do we just thank God and eat? Not quite. We start with history: Jacob wandered, went to Egypt, stayed, his descendents grew, became slaves, cried to God, who set us free and brought us to Israel. We donate to the Levite, sojourner, orphan and widow, then we eat and rejoice. The rabbis picked this passage to say at the Seder. Besides being one people knew, it makes observations about success, happiness, thanksgiving, and community. We are not solely responsible for our success, there is a context to everything, and celebrating is best done eating with other people.*

*What is the great American myth of the successful person? The poor person who succeeds. I read*

*an interesting book recently, recommended by a high school student (now in college), **Outliers: The Story of Success** by Malcolm Gladwell. Gladwell observes that while one can grow up poor and succeed, it is virtually never the whole story. Behind the story, family history, culture, social networks and timing must be in place for a person to succeed, and, of course, only then can a person take advantage of the opportunity and put in the necessary hard work. Gladwell simply confirms Francis Lieber's quip, "Self-made men, indeed! Why don't you tell me of a self-laid egg?"*

*Among many stories Gladwell explores is of Jewish lawyers who became big in litigation, especially in mergers and acquisitions. They were born in the Great Depression when fewer children were born. They made it to college with less competition. They entered law after World War 2, were discriminated against, and by necessity went into areas the big name law firms would not. They labored, and were ready when it exploded in the 1960s and '70s. Not only did they have all of this going for them, but they also were not the typical poor. Their immigrant parents had professional skills, like tailoring, which they adapted to earn a living in the U.S., and their children saw them. Jews, used to exile, value knowledge because no matter what happens in life, nobody can take it away.*

*From the Bible through the Pilgrims to Gladwell, certain things simply are true. We are not solely responsible for our success. We need the history, the education, the values, the skills, the insights, the example, the community, and only then the opportunity in order to succeed, of which, of course, we then must seize.*

*Thanksgiving, and any holiday meal, teaches us this lesson on a regular basis. We are not responsible for everything in life, we are not self made successes, and recognizing that and showing gratitude to God and community should be a required component as we celebrate, which of course is best done by eating with other people.*

*Medieval and Renaissance Studies (MARS) has a tradition of meeting on varied Mondays in the school-year for faculty and staff to present their latest research or talk about teaching in a semi-formal gathering over lunch. RS scholars have given talks sprinkled throughout the years; but this*

*year's Fall MARS Mondays Fall 2011 schedule is packed with RS specialists — unplanned, but fortuitous for us.*

## Happy Day Cards

To commemorate any simcha or recognize any other event call **Sheila Wolinsky** at 463-9830 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.



## Latkes

**A pancake-like structure not to be confused with anything a first class health restaurant would put out. In a latke, the oil remains inside the pancake. It is made with potatoes, onions, eggs and matzo meal. Latkes can be eaten with applesauce but COULD also be used to comb your hair, shine your shoes or lubricate your automobile. There is a rumor that in the time of the Maccabees, they lit a latke by mistake and it burned for eight months. What is certain is that you will have heart burn for the same amount of time. It tastes GOOD, but will stop your heart if the grease gets cold.**

## Deadline for December

**Monday, November 22.** Please send materials you would like included in the next edition of the Sons or Abraham newsletter to: [penmike@embarqmail.com](mailto:penmike@embarqmail.com) Please note that because of Thanksgiving activities, this deadline will be **strictly enforced**.

# Shalom from Cyrelle Simon!

**Sam and Mickey Harris recently visited our resident “correspondent” in Jerusalem.**



**Cyrelle and Sam in Cyrelle’s lovely apt. in Bayit Vegan, Jerusalem**



**Cyrelle and one of her grandchildren, Simcha Simon (Rashi and Ruthi’s son), who was visiting at the time. (Mickey and Sam had to leave before 4 p.m., as Shabbat begins early in Jerusalem, and the main street near her apartment gets closed off.)**

# Letter from Jerusalem

## Visitors from “Chutz LaAretz” (Outside the Land)

Recently, I was pleased to host Tamar Elster and then Sam and Mickey Harris. Tamar is the daughter of Pat and Charles who were active in the Lafayette community while Charles taught at Purdue. Tamar is working as a translator from French to English. She and her boyfriend, whom she met at the Young Judea camp, plan to move from New York to California where they will be near Tamar’s parents. Sam and Mickey were also very welcome visitors. They were in Israel on a VIP mission with the governor of Montana sponsored by their son David’s organization, the National Jewish Democratic Council. Catching up on the news of the Shul community was a treat for me.

## A Sad Report

My “mechutan” Dr. Reading Dallal died several weeks ago. He was well known and influential in the Evanston/Skokie Jewish community. Reading was head of the Hebrew Department at Evanston High and was a skillful innovative teacher there for many years. A warm, creative and charming man, he also taught Hebrew and Arabic, (learned in Israel and in his native Iraq) at DePaul University in Chicago. Reading published a book about the life of the Jews in Iraq and he tried to communicate his heritage to his grandchildren. While in high school, Rabbi Audrey Pollack and her sister were students in Dr. Dallal’s classes. Reading leaves his wife, 3 children, including my daughter-in-law, Yael and 15 grandchildren.

## Words

I recently learned 2 new Hebrew words. The color brown is “chum” and brownies (chocolate bars) are “cumiot”. Cranberries, (which I’ve never seen fresh here), because of their tart taste are called “chamutziot” derived from the word “chametz”, vinegar.

## Yahrzeits

Rachel Imenu’s (our mother’s) Yahrzeit falls on the same day as the 15th Yahrzeit of Yitzchak Rabin’s death. I learned that almost 100,000 people came to pray at her “kever” and that although the Egged bus company had prepared a constant stream of buses, the immense crowds were difficult to handle. Biblical scholars had some differences of opinion as to the precise location of Rachel’s kever, but it was finally agreed that the present site is valid. It is about a 20-minute trip from Jerusalem, on the road to Bethlehem. A thin red string from the kever, worn at the wrist, is said to be a good omen for prayers to be answered. Mimi Hasson, David Sanders’ late wife wore one of these wristbands for a long time. Yitzchak Letter Rabin’s kever is located at the military cemetery not too far from my apartment. His daughter and various dignitaries spoke at the commemoration. May his memory be for a blessing.

A trip to Kibbutz LaVie concluded the week of a meaningful visit here by my son Rashi, his wife Ruthie and their family. (One of the important goals of their visit was to commemorate the 4th Yahrzeit of my husband, Ed.) We spent the following the following Shabbos reveling in a restorative, refreshing, and relaxing celebration of my birthday at the LavVie hotel. As the kibbutz is situated in the Galilee, we enjoyed a scenic 2-hour journey northward, quite unexpectedly traveling for about 10 or 15 minutes in Israel’s first rain of the season. Then, we were treated to the sight of a large beautiful rainbow. Amazingly, this occurred on the weekly Shabbos portion of Noah.

With warm regards, Cyrelle

# LJCRS News

Shalom! I cannot believe it is November already! The High Holidays are behind us, and many of our classes are focusing on Shabbat and on the beginning of the Torah. Our preschoolers are making candlesticks and wine glasses, while our upper classes discuss prayer and the meaning of tzedakah. Our Hebrew program is also well underway! If you listen in the hallways you will hear snippets of conversation, led by our devoted volunteer Hebrew teachers, Liz and Juan Wachs.

By the time you read this, all our classes will have participated in Mitzvah Day, going to old age homes, painting benches at the Tippecanoe Battlefield, and decorating bags for Meals on Wheels. This gives them an opportunity to provide service to the community and put the Jewish values of Tikkun Olam and Gmilit Chasadim into practice. We are grateful to our parent volunteer drivers who helped to make this happen.

We have many exciting events coming up for LJCRS, and we hope to get as much community participation as possible.

First, on November 7 is the LJCRS Book Fair. We will be selling all types of Jewish books as a fundraiser for LJCRS. We are looking for parent volunteers to help staff the fair, and hope that Temple members will come to shop! Also, if you would like to donate a book for our library wish list, that would be greatly appreciated!

On November 14<sup>th</sup>, LJCRS will be holding its first annual Havdalah Potluck/Parent meeting. All LJCRS families are encouraged to attend. This will be a dairy potluck with some exciting havdalah activities for the whole families. Following havdalah will be dinner and a short parent meeting. This is a great opportunity for families to get to know one another and for us to get together as a community. We hope you will be able to attend!

On December 5 will be our Consecration ceremony. This marks the beginning of our students' religious educations. Afterwards we will have a joint Consecration and Hanukkah celebration that should be a great time for all!

Finally, we have the following announcement from our board president:

**VOLUNTEER NEEDED:** Organized parent interested in demonstrating dedication to Jewish education by performing Financial Secretary duties of LJCRS. You will be thoroughly trained by current Financial Secretary who is now Board President. Time commitment averages less than 1 hour per week. If interested, please contact Allyson Steselboim at [allyson\\_s@yahoo.com](mailto:allyson_s@yahoo.com).

I look forward to seeing all of you over the next month!

B'Shalom, Elana Salzman

## Shul Board to Meet

The Shul Board is scheduled to meet **Thursday, November 18 at 8 p.m.**

Board meetings are open to all members.

## 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 such things a Torah covers and the like. The **Elkin Fund**, named for **Barry Elkin**, is for educational purposes. It might be used to pay part of the cost of bringing in a speaker. The **100th Anniversary Fund**, established by **Ed Simon**, is for capital expenses related to building maintenance. The **Ha Gomel Fund** is to celebrate recent recoveries from illness.

## Rabbi's Schedule

Rabbi Rascoe will conduct services November 12-13 and 19-20. The Monday class on Synagogue Skills will continue every Monday at 7:30 p.m. at the Shul.

## Jewish Studies Program Noon Lecture and Discussion Series

Wednesday, November 10 ~ Stewart Center, Room 311 ~ 12:30

Jennifer William, Associate Professor of German, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Purdue University, "Tracing Signs of Jewish Past and Present in Post-Wall Berlin."

For security reasons, the seven synagogues in post-Wall Berlin remain unmarked and largely inaccessible to the public, except for during services. In contrast, the *Neue Synagoge*—which was damaged heavily during World War II, largely demolished during East German times, and then partially restored beginning in 1988—stands proud, although not as a place of worship but largely as a museum and historical marker. Which of these structures, the concealed and guarded place of worship, or the (albeit still well guarded) tourist attraction, is representative of the way in which Jews and Judaism fit into the landscape of present-day Berlin? Or, given that the majority of Berlin's Jewish population consists of secular Jews who are recent immigrants, does the answer lie somewhere between the two? Professor William's talk addresses such complex questions by assessing the current state of a Jewish public presence in Berlin, primarily through observations of recent media coverage and of representations of Jewish culture, past and present, through memorials and art.

Jennifer William is an Associate Professor and Chair of German at Purdue. She is a member of the Jewish Studies Program's steering committee, and she teaches a course on Jewish Film. This talk stems from research conducted and observations made during her sabbatical semester spent last year in Berlin.

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

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

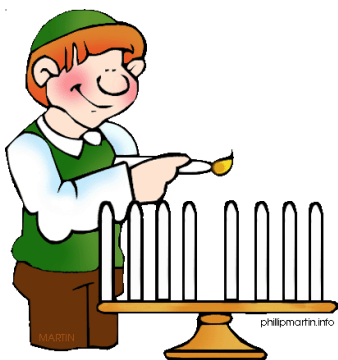
## Medieval and Renaissance Studies at Purdue

Fall 2010 (All sessions 12:30-1:20, BRNG 1284)

- November 8, "ENGL 544: Milton" graduate student presentations
- November 15, "ENGL 544: Milton" graduate student presentations
- November 29, "ENGL 544: Milton" graduate student presentations
- **December 6, Sandor Goodhart (English), "Jewish Hermeneutics in the European Middle Ages"**

You can find this list at the MARS Mondays web page at

<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/medieval-studies/events/marsmondays.html>



1st candle lighting  
December 1st





# Robert A. and Sandra S. Borns Jewish Studies Program Schedule

Sun., Nov. 14 Jewish Film Series screening of "*The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg*" (1998)

6:30 p.m. Whittenberger Auditorium, IMU

Co-sponsored by Indiana University Cinema

*The Life and Times* is an unabashedly celebratory, yet historically sophisticated film, locating the life of "the baseball Moses," a secular Jew from the Bronx who became one of the greatest stars in baseball, in relation to crucial events in the 1930s and 1940s.

Thu., Nov. 18 Jewish Film Series screening of "*Yoo-Hoo, Mrs. Goldberg*" (2009) and discussion with

7:00 p.m. director **Aviva Kempner**

Psychology 101

Co-sponsored by Indiana University Cinema

Kempner's award-winning documentary feature on the life of comedian, performer, and businesswoman Gertrude Berg employs a combination of archival footage and contemporary interviews (including Ruth Bader-Ginsburg), to paint a portrait of Berg that moves beyond biography to speak powerfully about her moment in history.

**\* A discussion with director Aviva Kempner will immediately follow the screening**

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