



SONS *of* ABRAHAM

LAFAYETTE, IN
Established 1889

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October, 2007- Tishrei 19 -
Cheshvan 19

Co-Presidents: George Horwich and Alan
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Send bulletin items to:

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Sisterhood President: July; Sonya Garfinkel and Susan Prohofsky August; Sonya Garfinkel and Jo Gartenhaus; September: Susan Prohofsky and Heather Moskowitz

Gratitude & Congratulations

It has been a while since one of these newsletters came out and it feels a bit strange. Well, we can all be thankful that G-d has inscribed us in the Book of Life, at least for now. High Holiday services have come and gone. Now we begin the flurry of activity **Rabbi Rascoe** mentions in his column of reflections.

Our trusty reporter, **Harriet Diamond**, has not been idle during the break. That is why we have this list of those who deserve gratitude for the garage sale: **Esther Chosnek**, the Chief; **Sonya Garfinkel**, Labor Organizer; **Jim Klatch**, Chief Schlepper; **Rose** and **Joe Haberer**, Gracious Hosts and Dispensers of Tasty Nosherei; and **Michael Kaplan of La-Z-Boy Furniture**, Chief Donor. Also thanks to all who contributed stuff to sell and to all the workers and especially to all the customers. It is true that the **Kaplans'** generosity gave us a fourth of the total revenue (\$1042), but turning everything else that was in that garage into \$792 is nothing short of a miracle. A special vote of thanks goes to **Muriel Harris** whose last minute impassioned electronic appeal for stuff made a real difference. As usual, legal matters were handled by **Dewey**,

Cheatham and Howe. Our July Schlep, Swap and Schmooze event was a success in that we had a great afternoon chatting with other shul members. The event did not attract many others, but we did have fun. Many thanks to those who helped including **Micheal Gold-Vukson** who came by to help set up tables. **Susan Prohofsky** not only hosted the sisterhood Opening Tea, but provided the program as well! Many thanks to her. You recently received the shul High Holiday Bulletin and the Sons of Abraham directory. We owe many thanks to **Harriet Diamond**, **Gwendolyn Slamovich**, **Heather Moskowitz** and **Sonya Garfinkel**. We also thank **Sid Diamond** for his computer expertise. **Harriet Diamond** sold the ads for the book singlehandedly and, thus, paid the costs of the project. Thanks to **Gabrielle Cramer** and **Eyal Barash** for organizing Game Night and to **David Sanders** for leading the Selichot service which followed. We thank **Sam Harris** for his annual efforts as sales agent for ali-yot and changing the parochet. The beautiful flowers which graced the sanctuary for Rosh Hashanah were donated by **Ida Cohen** in memory of her husband **Isadore** and his parents. Similarly, the Yom Kippur flowers were donated by **Sylvia** and **Herman Cember**, in memory of their parents. Special thanks go to **Adam Tessman** and **Tal Adar** for constructing our sukkah. Harriet Diamond and

Gisela Friedlaender arranged the break-the-fast meal and they deserve great praise for their work. We also applaud the fact that Rabbi Rascoe did all of the Yom Kippur services without others to take over for him at times. Mazel Tov to **Daniella** and **Tal Adar** on the birth of their son, to **Leah** and **Shai Hadashi** on the adoption of their son, to the **Wein-gram** family on **Seth's** engagement to **Victoria Cain** and to the **Moskowitz** family on the marriage of **Becky** and **Michael Mickelunas** of Chicago and last, but not least, to the **Blumofe** family on the wedding of their oldest grandchild **Avner Blumofe** to his kalla, **Gittl**.

Rabbi's Calendar

Rabbi Rascoe will be in Lafayette October 19-21. The following two months will have him with us during three weekends each.

October Candle Lighting Times

source: hebc.com

October 3 7:10 p.m.

October 5 7:07 p.m.

October 12 6:55 p.m.

October 19 6:45 p.m.

October 26 6:35 p.m.

Refuah Shelemah

Almighty God, we offer prayers for health and long life to **Cyrelle Simon** and **Sarah Raskin**.

We pray that you comfort and protect **George Horwich** (who will have back surgery in Baltimore during the first week of November) and **Harriet Diamond** (whose partially bionic knee could use some improvement).

Shul Board to Meet

The Board of Directors of the Congregation is scheduled to meet on **Thursday, October 18**, at 8:00 P.M. The meeting is open to all congregants. Shul members may be especially interested in attending the November 15 meeting because a representative of the United synagogues for Conservative Judaism will be visiting

October Calendar

prepared by **Muriel Harris**

Oct. 2: Tues. 1:15 p.m. Chumash study group, at the home of Sue Prohofsky

8 p.m. Sisterhood Board Meeting, at the home of Harriet Diamond

Oct. 4: Thurs. 8 p.m. Erev Simchat Torah, egalitarian service led by Sue Prohofsky and Ephraim Fischbach, hosted by Madelyn Lillianfeld.

Oct. 4 & 5: Thurs. and Fri.: There is presently no scheduled morning service for Shmini Atzeret or for Simchat Torah, unless someone offers to lead the services

Oct. 5: Fri. 8 p.m. Shabbat evening services

Oct. 6: Sat. 10 a.m. Shabbat morning service, an egalitarian service, coordinated by Sue Prohofsky and Ephraim Fischbach. For offers to help with the service, contact Sue Prohofsky by Wed., Oct. 3.

Oct. 9: Tues. 1:15 p.m. Chumash study group, at the home of Sue Prohofsky

Oct. 12: Fri.: 8 p.m. Shabbat evening services

Oct. 13: Sat.: 10 a.m. Shabbat morning services

October 16: Tues. 12:30 p.m. Sisterhood Bunch for Lunch, Shul Banquet Hall. Reservations are absolutely necessary. RSVP by Oct. 12 to Sheila Wolinsky or Geri Horwich. Donation: \$5. It's a "Fun-Raiser."

Oct. 17: Wed. 12:30 p.m. Jewish Studies Noon Lecture, Becka Alper, Beering Hall, Rm. 1232. "Avoiding Shaiget and Skiksappeal: Factors Affecting Jewish Identity Maintenance."

Oct. 19-21: Rabbi Rascoe will be in Lafayette

Oct. 19: Fri. 8 p.m. Shabbat evening services

Oct. 20: Sat. 10 a.m. Shabbat morning services

Oct. 21: Sun.: 7 p.m. Scholar in Residence, Rabbi Daniel Goldfarb. He will discuss "Can We Pray for Someone to Die?" The talk will be preceded by a light supper. Rabbi Goldfarb, a Boston native, is a distinguished lawyer and worked for 25 years as an attorney for Israel's Ministries of Justice and Finance, received his rabbinic ordination from the Jewish Theological Seminary and has served as a scholar-in-residence at synagogues throughout the world. Read about Rabbi Goldfarb on the Midwest USCJ Web site: <http://uscj.org/midwest/>



Rabbi Daniel C. Goldfarb, director of the conservative Yeshiva at the Fuchsberg Center for Conservative Judaism in Jerusalem

Oct. 22: Mon. Jewish Studies Evening Lecture Series. Neil Davison, Krannert Auditorium. "Hemingway's Feminized Jewish Pugilist: Racial Ambivalence and Weak Muscle-Jews"

Oct. 23: Tues. 1:15 p.m. Chumash study group, at the home of Sue Prohofsky

Oct. 26: Fri. 8 p.m. Shabbat evening services

Oct. 27: Sat. 10 a.m. Shabbat morning services

Oct. 30: Tues. 1:15 p.m. Chumash study group, at the home of Susan Prohofsky

Yiddish Kultur Vinkl

presents

Readings From The Works Of Our Literary Mishpoche

- On Saturday, November 3, 8 p.m.
- at the home of **Gisela** and **Fritz Friedlaender**, 150 Colony Rd., West Lafayette

David Bergelson and Abba and Bluma Stolzenberg were noteworthy Eastern European Yiddish literary figures of the twentieth century.

The Stolzenbergs will be discussed and their works read by their grandson, **Adam Abba Tessman**. David Bergelson's works will be discussed by his granddaughter, **Marina Bergelson-Raskin**.

Rabbi's Reflections

Hurry Up and Slow Down

Sometimes, especially in fall and spring, observant Jews feel like they are crazy. Pesah in spring requires tremendous time and picayune procedures. In fall we have, in Diaspora, two days of Rosh Hashanah, one day of Yom Kippur, seven days of Sukkot, two days of Shemini Atzeret/Simhat Torah, for twelve days out of the month, plus Shabbat. Thus every year the classic joke is whether to recite shehechyanu (blessing thanking God that we have reached this occasion) at the end of Simhat Torah.

We wonder why God, who is not nuts, and Jews, who usually are intelligent, fill the first third of the month with heavyweight holidays full of life and death, sin and repentance, too much food and too little food, expensive clothes, etc. Then comes a breather of five days (which I have yet to see) during which we build a sukkah (booth), and buy a lulav and etrog (palm branch and citron) set. Next comes a week of living in the contraption we built—singing in the rain, the snow, and, thank God, sometimes sunshine; eating soup with leaves, chicken with leaves, cake with leaves—often pine as this is Thanksgiving, smile and be grateful. Subsequently, on Shemini Atzeret, we pray for rain (in which we sat on Sukkot). Finally, we dance with the Torah (those things are heavy, our bodies ache, and we are to be joyful on our last legs?).

What does this mean? The answer is to be joyful anyway, thankful nonetheless. Thanksgiving sacrifices will not be abolished in the days of mashi-ah, the messiah (Leviticus Rabbah). Gratitude always is necessary to enter into a serious relationship with God (Deuteronomy; Kaplan). According to the Kotzker Rebbe (Menahem Mendel, early 19th century), joyfulness is a by-product of holiness, so it is natural to be joyful after being purified of sin, and thereby sanctified. Yet this is what is so hard to do.

I am convinced the calendar teaches us a lesson. The joy of Sukkot and the looseness of Simhat To-

rah balance the tensions of the High Holidays. If we live on just the High Holidays, we live a Judaism full of high anxiety and piercing trauma. Judaism is much more: it also is full of intense joy, deep relaxation, and sincere gratitude. I urge you to step off the fast track of life, and discover what you are missing by not moving slowly through life, where we define ourselves by our work, school, and money. Instead, enter the left lane of this High Holiday season that actually teaches you to change to the right lane and appreciate what is around you, to learn to share, be grateful, and enjoy life.

My teacher, Neil Gillman tells this story of once daydreaming in Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel's early Monday morning class. Heschel: "Did you see the trees on Riverside Drive this morning?" knowing full well that he had not left the building. "The trees on Riverside Drive are wearing tefillin (phylacteries). After class, you will go to the Drive, take the tefillin from the trees, and bring them to me." After class, accompanied by his classmates, Neil Gillman dutifully marched up to the Drive and looked at the trees. At each twig's tip, he noticed a small brown curlicue, a prelude to the leaves which would emerge. They did look like tefillin, and he brought them back to Rabbi Heschel. So take some time, be thankful, and appreciate what Sukkot teaches us.

Jewish Federation of Greater Lafayette

The story of the JFGL is different from years gone by. You may be aware that the group was about to close down and disburse its funds because of a lack of leadership. Combining with the Indianapolis federation is not an option available, so closing seemed imminent. Sons of Abraham member, David Sanders, came to the rescue by taking over the group's presidency on the condition that other positions be filled. That is what motivated shul co-president, Alan Garfinkel to take over as campaign director. Read the letter you got. If you cannot find yours, another is readily available from Roxanna Silvian at «jfgl1@juno.com». Read the letter and you will see that donating to JFGL is part of your Jewish responsibility. The next step is to write a check. Remember that some older, established families have left the community in the past year.

We need several smaller donors to replace the generosity they afforded us. We hope you will do your part. Your help is needed.

A New Sign for I-278

Be careful. You could wind up in Indiana.



The news from LJCRS

Joy Steele Morris, Principal

With the new year passing quickly, I'd like to welcome everyone to visit Sunday school: volunteer in a class, substitute or co-teach a class, come to Parent+toddler days, share our community at the school sanctuary service time, come to assemblies, work together at Mitzvah Day Oct 28th, find treasures at the Book Fair Nov 4th,... we're looking forward to seeing everyone.

I'm happy to introduce our teachers for 07-08 and they are: Ilana Feld, preschool; Marjie Gold-Vukson, preK/Kindergarten; Kevin Gibson and Marianne Spicker, 1st/2nd grade; Elizabeth Justice, 3rd grade; Josh Abramsohn, 3rd/4th/5th grades; Chase Foster, 4th/5th grade; Fred Gimble, 6th grade; Phil Fanwick, 7th grade fall semester; Stan Alexander, 8th/9th grade fall semester; Josh Frank is our music specialist this year. Mo Trout will teach a 7th/8th/9th spring mini-course, as will Karen Fanwick. We do need a leader for January-March to organize a special "Israel at 60!" seminar with guest speakers for the 7th/8th/9th graders. Our third grade studies Israel all year and we also will be having a school-wide Israel day in May. Please let me know your interest and ideas:

ljcrs@templeisraelwlaf.org

LJCRS continues to bring Jewish children together with adults mentoring and studying so that we may all "find [our]self a partner" in Torah. As George Robinson discusses in Essential Torah "Torah study connects us with other Jews past, present and future and with Shekhinah." Several new families with children have enrolled this year, as well as youngest members of other families. Welcome. Our aides this year are Aron Frank, Akiva Sanders, Josh Gold-Vukson, Alex Sabol, Eliot Sutor-Feld, and Catherine and Rebecca Howland. As for our teachers and aides, I'd like to note from Lawrence Kushner's *Filling Words with Light*, the Mishnah phrase "Disciples of the sages increase peace in the world." We appreciate your talent and time very much.

Many thanks continue to Laura Starr who has been helping in multiple areas all summer for the school generally, the Art room, the library and the Book Fair. By the way, the Laura Starr Fund Art purchases are hanging in the school wing entrance to see when you visit. The Fund is open this year for additional contributions. An attractive bench for the entrance is another piece it's collections will go toward. Allyson Steselboim will be enhancing her LJCRS Board experience as the new financial secretary. Judy Rhodes thus may yet get to retire after decades of service. Frank Howland has been working to update our computer and system, and continues as treasurer. Thank you. The Board sponsored our teachers' orientation dinner. Thank you all.

Classes began September 9th. Roxana Silvan and I wish you a sweet and healthy year ahead.

A Heartfelt "Shalom Aleichem" to Dara Hill

Muriel Harris

We welcome our newest member, Dara Hill, to the Shul family and look forward to her joining us when she is able. Dara is a graduate student working on a master's degree in Jewish Studies and Philosophy at Purdue, writing her thesis on Levinas and B'reishet. She completed her first two years of college at the University of Pennsylvania (where her father and brother had graduated from The Whar-

ton School of the University of Pennsylvania), and then spent several years in the world of retail business before coming to Purdue in 2003, to finish her B.A. While living in Wabash, Dara enrolled at Purdue and became the first Jewish Studies/Religious Studies major in the Jewish Studies program. She considered going into the rabbinate, but decided instead to work on a master's degree here and will continue her studies for a Ph.D. elsewhere. Her goal is to become an academic and teach at a university. While here, she taught for a year in the Lafayette Jewish Community Religious School.

Dara was born in Highland Park, IL, and then moved to Florida with her family when she was five years old. When she was married, she lived with her husband in Hinsdale, IL, as he completed his medical residency. Because he wanted to be a family physician in a smaller community, they then moved to Wabash.

Dara says she is progressing toward becoming more Conservative in her religious views, and she greatly appreciates our shul's practice of having an egalitarian service on Friday nights, where women's participation honors women's roles, and a more traditional service on Saturday mornings, where the Halacha of the men is honored.

We realize that Dara won't be in Lafayette for years to come, but for as long as she is here, we wish her a stellar career as a graduate student and are delighted to have her as a member of Sons of Abraham Synagogue.

This Is Cute ... No Matter Which Side You're On.

Recently, while going through an airport during one of his trips, President Bush noticed a man with long gray hair and a beard, wearing a white robe and sandals, holding a staff. President Bush went up to the man and said, "Has anyone told you that you look like Moses?" The man didn't answer. He just kept staring straight ahead. The president said, "Moses!" in a loud voice. The man just stared ahead, never acknowledging the president. The president pulled a Secret Service agent aside and, pointing to the robed man, asked him, "Am I crazy or does that man not look like Moses to you?"

The Secret Service agent looked at the man and agreed. "Well," said the president, "every time I say his name, he ignores me and stares straight ahead, refusing to speak. Watch!" Again the president yelled, "Moses!" and again the man ignored him. The Secret Service agent went up to the man in the white robe and whispered, "You look just like Moses. Are you Moses?" The man leaned over and whispered back, "Shhhh! Yes, I am Moses. But the last time I talked to a bush, I spent 40 years wandering in the desert and ended up leading my people to the only spot in the entire Middle East with no oil."

Yahrzeits

Name	Hebrew Date	English Date
Cohen, Sig Loebstein,	Tishrei 21	October 3
Otto	Tishrei 22	October 4
Chosnek, Sam	Tishrei 24	October 6
Goodman, Adele L.	Tishrei 25	October 7
Gartenhaus, Leopold	Tishrei 26	October 8
Stein, Belle Atlass	Tishrei 27	October 9
Cohen, William	Tishrei 27	October 9
Goodman, Samuel	Tishrei 27	October 9
Zaban, Pauline	Tishrei 29	October 11
Bercovitz, Nathan	Tishrei 30	October 12
Berger, I.	Cheshvan 2	October 14
Urish, Abraham	Cheshvan 2	October 14
Kaplan, Sara Riva	Cheshvan 4	October 16
Goldberg, Goldie	Cheshvan 4	October 16
Jablon, Paul	Cheshvan 8	October 20

Zovod, Harry	Cheshvan 12	October 24
Atlass, Harry H.	Cheshvan 13	October 25
Pearlman, Jacob	Cheshvan 13	October 25
Katz, Allan M.	Cheshvan 16	October 28
Friedman _? _	Cheshvan 17	? October 29
Singer, Jacob	Cheshvan 17	October 29
Bercovitz, Sharon	Cheshvan 17	October 29
Glick, Clara	Cheshvan 18	October 30
Elkin, Samuel	Cheshvan 20	November 1
Sternstein, Kadie	Cheshvan 23	November 4
Sproul, Myrna	Cheshvan 25	November 6

United Synagogues for Conservative Judaism

Sons of Abraham is affiliated with a group of Conservative synagogues known by the above name. There are a few good reasons for that affiliation. They include programming like the scholar residence mentioned above. In the past, we had less than a lot of personal attention from the group. However, a new younger staff member has taken over at USCJ headquarters in Northbrook, IL (across and down the street from the Nordstrom outlet store in case you need another reason to visit -- and also there is a store therethat has an impressive line of Israeli kosher products, we are told). Lisa Alter Krule is the new USCJ contact for our congregation and she is coming to visit with the board on the third Thursday of November. I took the liberty of asking her to look at other synagogues and report to us any novel fundraising methods she may have heard of. all members are always welcome at board meetings, but if you have some opinions and concerns regarding USCJ, you might want to make a point of attending.

Congregation Sons of Abraham Sisterhood
P.O. Box 2671
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THE LATEST IN SONS OF ABRAHAM

NEWS FOR: