



## Rosh Hashanah in the Spring?

by Rabbi Martin P. Beifield, Jr.



Rabbi Martin P. Beifield, Jr.  
Sophia and Nathan Gumenick Senior Rabbi

Rosh Hashanah in the spring. It sounds funny doesn't it? And not very likely. To be more specific, *Rosh Hashanah* on Friday night, May 30th. Sounds even less likely. But it's true. Well, sort of. Let me explain. But first an invitation. Please come to services

on Friday night, May 30th, regular time, when we will preview a new service for *Rosh Hashanah*. For the real *Rosh Hashanah*. The one which starts on the evening of September 24th. We need you to come and give us your reaction to it. Your feedback is essential for determining whether or not we do the new service for the real *Rosh Hashanah* in the fall. So what is this all about?

The Central Conference of American Rabbis, the professional association for Reform Rabbis in North America, is preparing a new *machzor*, or prayer book for the High Holy Days. Planning for the new *machzor* has been

underway for many years. The work became more intensive after 2007 when *Mishkan T'filah*, our *Shabbat* prayer book was published. The new *machzor* is called *Mishkan HaNefesh*. It is now in draft form and available to synagogues for use. We've arranged to get copies of the *Rosh Hashanah* evening service so we can try it out on May 30th.

Why a new prayer book? Many of us still recall with affection the "old *Union Prayer Book*." There was a version for *Shabbat* and a version for the High Holy Days. The UPB, which was

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## "Memories of the Last Calisch Confirmation"

The following is an excerpt from an article printed in the *Generations*, scholarly newsletter published by the Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives in May of 1989, by a member of the Confirmation Class of 1945. submitted by David Farris, Director of the Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives (BAM&A)  
Editor's Note: Rabbi Calisch was Beth Ahabah's Rabbi for 54 years, setting a record for longevity that still stands.

*The date of the very first Confirmation at Beth Ahabah is difficult to pin down. There is a familiar photograph of the Reverend Judah Wechsler and five young men taken in 1868 at the "Confirmation," however we are unable to corroborate that this was really a Confirmation as we know it today, or that there had been no earlier Confirmation*

*Class. The absence of females leads one to wish that more information could be found about the religious education available to the families of Beth Ahabah...*

*...Regardless of exactly when Confirmation at Beth Ahabah began or when it took on the basic form we know today, it still bears the style and spirit of our longest-serving Rabbi, Dr. Edward Nathan Calisch. Today's Confirmation, while changed in many ways, still bears his imprint. When Dr. Calisch conducted the last of his fifty-five Confirmations at Beth Ahabah in 1945, I was a member of that class.*

*The earliest photograph of Dr. Calisch's many confirmation classes dates from 1898. He is shown with seven confirmands, all female. Where were the young men of the religious school? Were males Bar*

*Mitzvah only? There is less doubt about the participation of both sexes in subsequent Confirmations as later photographs show both males and females...*

The Last Calisch Confirmation  
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originally published in the 1890s and updated several times during the first part of the twentieth century, was used in Reform synagogues all across the United States including Beth Ahabah. By the 1960s, many people felt that the language and theology of the UPB was starting to feel dated. The UPB was comfortable and familiar but it got harder to say the thees, thous, and thines and to pray for the

coal miners working deep inside the earth.

A new prayer book was in order and in the mid-1970s, Reform synagogues

***Why a new prayer book?  
Many of us still recall with  
affection the "old Union  
Prayer Book."***

all over the country put away their *Union Prayer Books* and started using a new *siddur* called *Gates of Prayer*. Bigger and heavier, the blue *Gates of Prayer* offered modern language and a greater variety of services, each with its own tone and theological nuance. A few years later the red *Gates of Repentance*, the High Holy Day companion to *Gates of Prayer* was published and adopted by most Reform synagogues. It is the prayer book we use at Beth Ahabah.

## **Deepen your experience of Passover and your knowledge of Richmond History**

Join us for a Guided Tour of the  
**RICHMOND SLAVE TRAIL**

The walk begins at the Manchester Docks  
at Ancarrow's Landing and lasts about 2 hours.

This somber and illuminating walk is  
appropriate for teens and adult.

RSVP to the Temple office at 358-6757  
Space is limited

To learn more contact Heather Dinkin  
at [heather.dinkin@gmail.com](mailto:heather.dinkin@gmail.com) or 306-8873

***We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt...***



**Richmond City Council  
Slave Trail Commission**

Preserving and sharing Richmond's slave history

Richmond, Virginia U.S.A.

Times continued to change, though now even faster. *Gates of Prayer* began to feel dated and before the end of the century work began on a new prayer book. When it became available in draft form, Beth Ahabah experimented with the new prayer book. In general we liked what we saw, preferred it to *Gates of Prayer*, and with the generous support from Linda Held Wren and her family, adopted it when the final version became available.

*Mishkan HaNefesh* is a companion volume to *Mishkan T'filah*. It has the same look, feel, and tone. Of course, its content is High Holy Day-ish. We very much want your feedback about the service. We will provide an opportunity after services on May 30th for discussion and a way to give feedback electronically or in written form if you are not able to stay.

Rosh Hashanah in the spring? Maybe not what we expected but important nevertheless. I hope you can join us and tell us what you think.



## A Message from the Executive Director...

Russell M. Finer, FSA, Executive Director

### FUNERAL PRE-PLANNING

I wanted to follow up on what I wrote about in the December/January issue of B'yachad, and remind you that the time of bereavement is not the time to make many of the decisions which survivors must face. The following is offered as a guide to a few key items which form a minimal source of information to help your survivors make the necessary arrangements. I encourage you all to complete the form and keep it in a well-identified location.

— Russell M. Finer, FSA

FULL NAME(S): English \_\_\_\_\_ Hebrew \_\_\_\_\_

English \_\_\_\_\_ Hebrew \_\_\_\_\_

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER(S) \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION OF BIRTH CERTIFICATES \_\_\_\_\_

LEGAL ADVISOR \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION OF WILL \_\_\_\_\_

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY/AGENT \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

POLICY NUMBER(S) \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION OF POLICIES \_\_\_\_\_

HEALTH AND ACCIDENT INSURANCE COMPANY/AGENT \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

POLICY NUMBER(S) \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION OF POLICIES \_\_\_\_\_

BANK ACCOUNT(S)

CHECKING # \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

SAVINGS # \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

INVESTMENT ACCOUNT(S) \_\_\_\_\_

SAFE DEPOSIT BOX: NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATION OF KEY \_\_\_\_\_

LOCATION OF BOX \_\_\_\_\_

REAL ESTATE \_\_\_\_\_

MILITARY SERVICE: BRANCH \_\_\_\_\_ DATES OF SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_ VA CLAIM # \_\_\_\_\_

GOV'T INSURANCE # \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATION OF DISCHARGE PAPERS \_\_\_\_\_

CEMETERY INFORMATION: NAME OF CEMETERY \_\_\_\_\_

DEED # \_\_\_\_\_ # OF PLOTS \_\_\_\_\_ LOCATION OF PLOTS \_\_\_\_\_

FUNERAL HOME OF CHOICE \_\_\_\_\_ LETTER ON FILE \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIVES AND CLOSE FRIENDS TO BE NOTIFIED

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

## PASSOVER AT HOME

by Rabbi Martin P. Beifield, Jr.

Celebrating Passover at home each year can be one of the most meaningful, enjoyable, and memorable Jewish experiences of a lifetime. It involves two parts. One is the *seder*; the other is the food that we eat (or don't eat) during Passover's seven days. First the *seder*. Passover has several important themes. Among them are the exodus of the ancient Hebrews from Egyptian slavery; the meaning of freedom; and the cycle of nature and rebirth of spring. With prayer, music, readings, and symbolic foods, the *seder* explains all of this in rich, step-by-step detail. Participating in a *seder* is the essential ingredient of Passover observance.

### **Seder Setup**

At each *seder*, participants eat several foods which symbolize different themes associated with Passover. The *Haggadah* clearly explains what each means and when to eat what.

All of the symbolic foods are also placed on a "*seder* plate" which the leader refers to at the appropriate times.

While one can use any plate for this, many families own ceremonial *seder* plates which are used just at Passover time. Incidentally, *seder* plates make wonderful gifts, especially for weddings.



In preparing for the *seder*, one must have enough of the ceremonial foods for each participant. If there are many people, it may take a long time to pass the dishes and serve everybody. Instead, it might be helpful to prepare smaller, individual *seder* plates at each person's place.

Regardless of how you prepare, here's what you need:

### **Matzah**

Three full-sized pieces go on a plate (some people have special ceremonial plates for this, too) next to the *seder* plate. When the *Haggadah* tells the leader to break



*The Confirmands of 2014 request  
the honor of your presence  
at their Confirmation Service  
Friday, the sixteenth of May  
at 7:00p.m.*

*Rachel Beal  
Brielle Conley  
Elinor Dinkin  
Joshua Evans  
Rachel Fiddow  
Harrison Fratkin  
Ethan Gale  
Adam Jacobs  
Zachary Jacobs  
Evan Leibowitz  
Madeline McElgunn  
Claire Mendelson  
Adam Rosenfeld  
Monica Rosenthal  
Carly Schwam  
Emma Silverman*

## Barbara & William B. Thalhimer, Jr. Religious School

### Hello Muddah, Hello Faddah, It's time for Camp Sababa!

by Ramona Brand



Ramona Brand  
Barbara & William B. Thalhimer, Jr.  
Religious School Director

Looking for a fun way for your kids to explore their Jewish roots this summer? Come to Camp *Sababa*! For the last three years, kids from all over Richmond have enjoyed the fun way of getting better at Hebrew through singing, dancing, nature, crafts, drama, and special events like Israel Day, *Mayim* (water) Day, and Color Wars. Make sure your child is in on the action! *Sababa* is Hebrew slang for "cool," and Camp *Sababa* is the coolest way for your children to make new

friends over the summer while learning Hebrew!

This year's theme "Jewish Time Travel"

**For whom?** For ALL rising Kindergarten – 6th grade Jewish students Counselor in Training (CIT) Program for rising 7th & 8th grade Jewish students

**When?** Monday-Friday, August 18-22, 2014 from 9am-2pm

**Where?** 601 N. Parham Rd. (Beth-El Religious School)

#### Goals?

- TO HAVE FUN through outdoor activities, music, crafts, games, etc.
- To meet Jewish students from around Richmond
- To review & refresh Hebrew language skills

**Staff?** Education Directors and teachers from the participating schools and

teen *madrichim*

**Cost?** \$75 for all 5 days  
Final Registration Deadline July 18, 2014

For more information or to obtain an application, contact Ramona at [r.brand@bethahabah.org](mailto:r.brand@bethahabah.org) or Sara Rosenbaum at the Federation office at 545-8629 or [srosenbaum@jewishrichmond.org](mailto:srosenbaum@jewishrichmond.org).

Jewish camping builds a foundation for Jewish living. Children who participate in Jewish camps create a positive Jewish self-identity, feel more engaged in community and retain connection to the Jewish community into adulthood. There are many choices for Jewish camping from day camps to overnight camps geared toward a great variety of interests. Check out our camp board in the lobby of the Religious School to see where your children's friends will be this summer!

### Tot Shabbat in the Park:

Friday, April 4

Tot Shabbat in the Park! We will welcome Spring and Shabbat at Joseph Bryan Park at 4308 Hermitage Rd. We will enjoy dinner, singing, music and movement as we celebrate together. After a family friendly service and Oneg goodies, we'll go to the playground.

Pack a picnic dinner!! Oneg goodies will be provided.

Schedule:

5:30pm - picnic dinner in the shelter

6:00pm - service, followed by Oneg

6:30pm - playground time!

Please contact the temple office at 358-6757 or e-mail Lori Lacy at [l.lacy@bethahabah.org](mailto:l.lacy@bethahabah.org) to reserve your spot.

### Religious School Seder:

Sunday, April 6 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

If we only have 50 boxes of Matzah.....**Dayenu!**

If we only have 25 jars of gefilte fish.....**Dayenu!**

If we only have 10 dozen hard boiled eggs.....**Dayenu!**

If we only have 30 bowls of *haroset*.....**Dayenu!**

If we only have 25 filled *seder* plates .....**Dayenu!**

For we are having a *seder* for 150!!.....**Dayenu!**

Please lend your hands and donate seder goods for our annual Religious School Seder! This meaningful and lively event provides a music filled seder for all of our Religious School Students.

Volunteers are needed to make this a successful morning. Please contact Ramona at [r.brand@bethahabah.org](mailto:r.brand@bethahabah.org) to volunteer or donate goods. Set up begins at 8:30 a.m. in the Goldburg Auditorium.

## Confirmation Class Reunion

### Confirmation Class Reunion Planned for May 2

#### Were you confirmed at Beth Ahabah?

**As part of the temple's 225th** anniversary celebration, Beth Ahabah is planning a Confirmation Class Reunion on May 2. All confirmands, from the most recent to those in their 90s, will be honored at a special service and oneg.

The congregation is working to identify and contact confirmands. If you are a confirmand or know of one,



Caption: Congregation Beth Ahabah's first Confirmation took place on *Shevuos* 5659–June 8, 1868. From left, with Rev. J. Wechsler, are Isaac Held, Mark Strause, Emanuel Millhiser, Isaac Thalhimier and Edward Cahn. Photo: Beth Ahabah Museum & Archives

please contact Deborah Greenberg, [deborahkate@verizon.net](mailto:deborahkate@verizon.net). Deborah is being assisted by Bill Thalhimier, [wbt3rd@mac.com](mailto:wbt3rd@mac.com), with Katy Yoffy, [kyoffy@gmail.com](mailto:kyoffy@gmail.com), ages 60 up; Jo Murphy, [jojasmurph@comcast.net](mailto:jojasmurph@comcast.net), 40s and 50s; and Erin Kasoff, [em-kasoff@gmail.com](mailto:em-kasoff@gmail.com), 20s and 30s.

The Confirmation Class Reunion is one of a series of ongoing events in 2014 marking the founding of Beth Ahabah's predecessor congregation, K.K. Beth Shalom, in 1789 as the sixth and westernmost Jewish congregation in the United States.

The Last Calisch Confirmation  
Continued from Page 1.

*...My personal memory of Confirmation goes back to 1939 or 1940. Even though I was only ten or eleven years old, attendance at Confirmation was expected. I was not an exemplary religious school student, but I did enjoy attending services. However, not enjoying services did not exempt one from attending Confirmation. Everyone went. It was truly a congregation-wide event, second only to High Holy Days in popularity and attendance...*

*...Our class in 1945 was a good cross-section of the Congregation: a few descendants*

*of the early nineteenth century German immigrants from Hagenbach, a few from newer families, and a few from the very new families. Seven girls, seven boys. Six members of the class still live in Richmond today. Some of us have made quite a mark in our endeavors: Dr. Calisch instilled in us a sense of responsibility to improve our community.*

*Dr. Calisch. What a command he had of the King's English! Even we children were awed by his brilliance, though we were not always respectful of it. And we did take advantage of his deafness and his advancing years. Still I do not remember him as infirm or unable to handle the class. He was pretty good . .*

*. . . for his age. Our class was no different from those today, only the promise of presents and a party kept the class from becoming completely un-glued...*

*...The class studied the usual subjects, mainly Bible,*

*history, and Judaism. Even to this day, I can remember Dr. Calisch's exegesis and explanation of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. He was a wonderful teacher, but there came that fateful day when he became the taskmaster. It was April. Dr. Calisch came to class and handed each of us a page or two of onion-skin, a copy of the part that we were to recite at Confirmation. It was given to us, we accepted it, and that was that. While some may have written their own parts at some time or another, no one in our class did. It was pure Calisch we were expected to deliver. Unchanged...*

*...There was no class trip. The city was smaller and most of us attended the same school, so we were closer knit and saw each other more frequently.*

*The afternoon of Confirmation arrived. It was like doomsday, I was so frightened. I knew I was going to embarrass my family. And while I really didn't understand it, I wondered what it meant to be Confirmed.*

The Last Calisch Confirmation  
Continues on Page 14.



Rabbi Jesse Gallop and the 2014 Confirmands at Capital Hill.

**B'nei Mitzvah****LIAM JACOB STRUMINGER**

April 5, 2014

Liam Jacob Struminger will be called to the *Torah* as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, April 5th. He is the son of Stacy and David Struminger; and the grandson of Judi and Donald Struminger and Mickie and Burton Cohen.

Liam is a 7th grader at The Steward School where he runs cross country and plays basketball. Liam's Mitzvah Project is helping One Hundred Pounds of Hope, our friend's nonprofit organization that seeks to provide the village of Battambang, Cambodia with educational resources. They are currently building a school and Liam's goal is to provide the children who currently attend in bare feet with flip flops.

His family is so proud of his hard work and dedication in preparing for this special day.

**KNAIDE GREEN**

April 26, 2014

Knaide Green will be called to the *Torah* as a Bat Mitzvah on April 26th. Knaide is the daughter of Carolyn Dean and Lonny Green, and sister to Galen, Stenzler, Thomas, Quinn and Mannix. She is the granddaughter of Janet O'Connor and the late Dr. Philip Dean, and the late Shirley Green and the late David Green.

Knaide is a 7<sup>th</sup> grade student in the International Baccalaureate program at Moody Middle School where she serves as SCA Secretary. She swims for the YMCA and plays in a volleyball league at Richmond Volleyball Club. Knaide loves music and has been playing piano for 7 years. She also plays the stand up bass in the school orchestra. She enjoys school, sports, family time and playing with her dogs Oscar, Max and Milo.

For her Mitzvah Project, she has implemented a program in her school collecting gently used Jeans to donate to homeless shelters.

Knaide's family is very proud of her, and looks forward to celebrating this simcha with her family, friends and the congregation.

**SHANE BISHOP**

May 3, 2014

Shane Bishop will be called to the *Torah* as a Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, May 3rd. Shane is the son of Jodi and Greg Bishop and the older brother of Brett and Blair. He is the grandson of Phyllis and Robert Berman of McLean, and Hattie and Roger Bishop of Roanoke.

Shane is a 7th grade IB student at Tuckahoe Middle School. He enjoys soccer, skiing, tennis, reading, computer technology and hanging out with friends.

Shane is looking forward to sharing this special day with his family and friends.

*Please Join Us for*  
**The 8th Annual**  
**Lewis I. Held**  
**Award Presentation**

**Friday Evening, May 9, 2014**

*The Lewis I. Held Award  
 recognizes an outstanding  
 High School Student.*

*The award will be  
 presented at services during  
 Installation Shabbat.*

**magal tov!**



**CONGREGATION BETH AHABAH &  
ST. JAMES'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
INTERFAITH DIALOGUE**

**WHAT HAPPENS AFTER WE DIE:  
JEWISH AND CHRISTIAN VIEWS ABOUT THE AFTERLIFE**

**SESSION 1:**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23RD AT 7 PM  
THE MICHAUX HOUSE (ST. JAMES'S)  
PRESENTATION BY RABBI BEIFIELD

**SESSION 2:**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30TH AT 7 PM  
THE JOEL HOUSE (BETH AHABAH)  
PRESENTATION BY RANDY HOLLERITH AND ANN DIETERLE

Dinner: Members of Beth Ahabah are invited to join  
the members of St. James's at St. James's regular  
Wednesday night dinner at 6 pm; \$5 per person

**COMMUNITY**

**IN SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES  
OF.....**

**Christopher Glen Wren**

*brother of Matt (Linda Held) Wren*

**Richard Skolnick**

*father of Curtis (Marie) Skolnick*

**Zelda Boley**

**Ruby Levey**

*wife of Bernard Levey*

**Shirley Epstein**

*mother of David (Carolyn) Epstein*

**Carol Davidson**

*mother of Rob (Laura) Davidson*

**Eleanor Aarts**

*mother of Linda (Jeffrey) Pinsky*

**Frances Rothenberg**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO....**

**Jackie Viener** on the birth of her great-grandson, Robert Douglas Sowerby born January 3, 2014. His parents are Courtney & Joe Sowerby.

**Dory & Tim Doyle** on the birth of their twins, David Alan Doyle & Audrey Olivia Doyle, born November 29, 2013.

**Gifts That Make A Difference...*Simchah* or Remembrance**

Charitable Giving in honor of or in memory of a loved one is an important tradition for the Beth Ahabah congregation. Making a gift to the temple offers a positive way to affirm your values and priorities and protect our future Jewish way of life. Honoring a friend or loved one through charitable gifts is often an especially meaningful act of paying tribute to someone special, while assuring that worthwhile giving continues to influence our children, grandchildren and the world around us.

Beth Ahabah has a wide range of donation opportunities available, the list can be viewed on the temple website or you can call the temple office at 804.358.6757.

Thank you for your consideration.





## DONATIONS

### TEMPLE FUND

**Ruth Z. Perel**

#### IN HONOR OF:

**David Greenberg's special birthday**

*Katy & Jimmy Yoffy*

**Rabbi Beifield's special birthday**

*Katy & Jimmy Yoffy*

**Sallie & Billy Thalhimers new granddaughter, Bailey Grace Silverstein**

*Katie & Ken Roeper*

**Jesse Ferguson being cancer free**

*Katie & Ken Roeper*

**Shelly Lubman's speedy recovery**

*Katie & Ken Roeper*

**Terry Schultz's daughter, Hilary Schultz receiving the U.S. Army Intelligence & Security Command's 2013 Soldier of the Year Award**

*Katie & Ken Roeper*

#### IN APPRECIATION OF:

**Dana Isaacoff for chairing the fantastic BAR & exciting 225th celebration**

*Katie & Ken Roeper*

#### IN MEMORY OF:

**Abe Linder**

*Janice & Robert Freed*

*Robert & Gloria Scheinkman & Family*

*Denise & Jeff Keil*

**Samuel Goldstein**

*Ira & Maureen Goldstein*

**Fannie Rosenthal**

*Lynn & Jay Schwartz*

*Heidi Levinson*

*Amy & Lucien Roberts*

*Lewis & Nancy Booker*

*Marshall Butler*

*Elise & Irving Scherr*

*Helen & James Ryan*

*Betty & Leo Dunn*

*Jim & Mary Lou Doherty*

*Amy & Richard Thalhimers*

*Robert L. Burrus, Jr.*

*Marc Villamiel & Alan Rudnick*

*Jeffrey Berenson*

**David Rosenberg**

*Amy & Lucien Roberts*

**Harry Stillerman**

*Fern Cohen*

**Alice Riegel & Frances Burlock**

*Anne Lawver*

**Leon Rudnick**

*Alan Rudnick*

**Milton Meyer, Jr., Mildred Meyer, Milton Meyer, Sr., Lucille Meyer & Rose Binder**

*Milton M. Meyer, Jr. & Mildred B. Meyer Foundation*

**Selma Dascher, my mother**

*Ellen & Bob Lyons*

**Samuel J. Michael, my father**

*Sherlee Michael-Ginsberg*

**Jerome Berenson**

*Carolyn Berenson*

**Rhoda Ebert**

*Barbara Ebert*

**Christopher Wren**

*Katie & Ken Roeper*

**Lillian Straus**

*Judy Markowitz*

**Carol Davidson**

*Jon & Lori Bekenstein*

*Katie & Ken Roeper*

*Janice & Robert Freed*

**Barry Zeichner, our brother**

*Dr. Jerry & Terry Hirsch*

**Charles Stephen Kamsky, our brother**

*Linda & Irvin Seeman*

**Algeese Tarasi**

*Katie & Ken Roeper*

**Mendel Schreiber**

*David Schreiber*

### THE RABBI'S

#### PHILANTHROPIC FUND

**These contributions were received in response to the Annual Appeal:**

*Elise & Irving Scherr*

*Janice & Robert Freed*

#### IN APPRECIATION:

*Cullen & Rosemary Seltzer*

### IN HONOR OF:

**Nancy Meyer**

*Milton M. Meyer, Jr. & Mildred B. Meyer Foundation*

#### IN MEMORY OF:

**Lena Gordon Goldman**

*Elizabeth G. Solomon*

**Abraham Linder, my father**

*Bobbette Newsome*

**Murray Janus**

*Beth & Laurie Janus & Family*

**Ruth B. Lee & Dr. Michael E. Boustany**

*Richard Lee*

**Rae Krupnik**

*Ellen & Enrique Gerszten*

**Carol Davidson**

*Laurie, Adam, Melissa & Lyndsay Nelson*

### CANTOR GOLDMAN MUSIC FUND

#### IN MEMORY OF:

**Fannie Rosenthal**

*Myrna & Morton Norman*

**Harold Abrams, my father**

*Anne Schwartz*

### HEBREW CEMETERY FUND

#### IN MEMORY OF:

**Mary LePage**

*Betty Sue LePage*

**Allan Creeger**

*Betty Sue & Todd LePage*

### BIMAH FLOWER FUND

#### IN MEMORY OF:

**Sadie M. Levinson, Frank F.**

**Levinson, Jean P. Sugerman &**

**Joseph R. Sugerman**

*Heidi Levinson*

**Harold Levinson**

*Heidi Levinson*

### RESTORATION FUND

#### IN MEMORY OF:

**Simon Komins**

*Allen Finer*

An armed security guard is on duty at Hebrew Cemetery on the first and third Sundays of the month from Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Donations Continue from Page 9.

**PRAYERBOOK FUND**

**IN MEMORY OF:**

**Alfred & Nellie Wolff**

*Carmen & George Wolff*

**MUSEUM & ARCHIVES**

**IN HONOR OF:**

**The Recovery of Mary Ellen Jackoway**

*Bonnie & Mike Eisenman*

**IN MEMORY OF:**

**Hilda Wallerstein Fleisher**

*Stanley & Helen Miller*

**Fannie Straus Rosenthal**

*Sara Belle & Neil November*

*Harriette & Erwin Will*

*Ralph A. May*

*Zippi C. Goldstein*

**Allan David Creeger**

*Sara Belle & Neil November*

**Dr. Abe Linder**

*Audrey Holtzman*

*Philip Holtzman*

*Beth & Steve Cohen & Family*

**Zelda Boley**

*Jean Goldman*

**THE HERBERT HELTZER**

**FUND:**

**In Honor of the Recovery of Mary Ellen Jackoway**

*Millie & Herb Heltzer*



Members of JeRafty enjoyed an afternoon of fun at Laser Quest.



*Thinking of Buying or Selling?  
Call me 1st!*

**STEVIE  
WATSON**

*Ranked Top 1%  
In the USA!*

**754-4551**

**Insist on Stevie!**



**UPCOMING DEADLINES**

Editorial submissions & advertising in B'Yachad

**May/June issue due  
Friday, March 28**

**July/August Issue due  
Friday, May 23**

**September Issue due  
Friday, July 25**

For more information about advertising in the bulletin, contact Russ Finer in the Temple office, 804.358.6757  
Please submit editorial and camera ready ads to Susan Morgan at [smorganpr@comcast.net](mailto:smorganpr@comcast.net)



## SISTERHOOD

by Meg Marshak, president

Sisterhood is busy preparing for several events and meetings.

Last Friday evening was Sisterhood *Shabbat*. We had a wonderful dinner prepared in our honor by the Brotherhood. Men do make good cooks!! The service was meaningful and we have heard lots of encouraging remarks about the four Jewish women who spoke about their own experiences. A big thanks to them and the Rabbis and Sarah Beck-Berman for helping with the service. The women's choir sang beautifully and Natan wrote an anthem just for us. I am sure we will hear it again. We had many women who lead part of the service and they did a wonderful job. A big thanks to the participants, congregation and clergy for a great Sisterhood *Shabbat*.

April 25th to 27, our Sisterhood will host the Women of Reform Judaism Mid-Atlantic District's Interim meeting. All of the activities are being held off the Temple site but we may have some new faces at services on Friday night. If anyone can help with some of the final preparations, just let me know. We will need some nice goodies baked for Friday night *Oneg* and Saturday we will need someone to help get the lunch ready. Let me know if you can help us with these needs. The meetings will be held on the West End, at the Markel Center.

Sisterhood elections will be coming up soon. They will be held in April. If you are interested in lending a hand in the works of Sisterhood, please let me know what committee and/or office you might like to hold. The nominating Committee will be doing their work soon. Elections will be held in May. If you have ideas for program-

ming that you think would interest other women please let Beryl Holzbach know of your ideas.

The Picnic for the 225th Celebration is in its final planning stages. We have booked an area of Maymont Park for the first Sunday of Religious School. This picnic is being co-sponsored by Sisterhood, Brotherhood and Temple. It will feature 225 years of history and old fashion fun. Watch for more information in the new over the summer. We may be asking for help with some of the games and activities. It will be important that you RSVP, so that we have enough food and materials for activities during the picnic hours.

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## A Message from the Religious Practices Committee

by Rachel Schmidt

For the past 3 years, I have served as a member of the Religious Practices committee. The committee consists of the Rabbis and an assortment of interested congregants. It includes choir members and regular or semi-regular service attendees.

Our mission is to facilitate spiritual experiences for the congregation primarily through worship. In addition, we serve to provide feedback to the Board of Managers and the rabbis to explore issues surrounding the spiritual life of our congregation. We make

suggestions for change or no change in conjunction with the rabbis. When appropriate, we present such recommendations to the board for approval.

The issue that gets the most attention however is the music. Comments such as the following: "Why don't we use the organ?" "Why do the melodies keep changing?" "Why don't the melodies change?" "Why not include a guitar or other instruments?" "Why doesn't the choir sing more often?" "Have more music during worship." The numbers of reasons are as varied as to why people come to worship. What speaks to a Baby Boomer will

not speak to a younger member. Generational differences often come into play. The goal is for congregants to find meaning in services either through the message in the sermon, the liturgy in the prayer book or through the varied melodies in our music.

As congregants attend more services, the "new melodies" will become familiar and lend meaning to worship. The Religious Practices committee continues to explore ways to make our worship more meaningful...the music is at the top of our list. Let us know your ideas.



by John Marshak

It has been a quiet month or so with but three activities for Brotherhood. The first was the Sisterhood *Shabbat* dinner. As has become the tradition, Brotherhood pays for, prepares and serves the meal for the congregation before the Sisterhood planned service. This allows them to concentrate on creating the service. Similarly, the Sisterhood takes care of a meal for the congregation before the Brotherhood planned service. This activity was under the leadership of Nello Williams. The Thursday night before, four Brotherhood members assisted him in the preparation for the meal to feed seventy-five. Hours before the 6:00 p.m. start time, they gathered, again, to do the actual cooking. It was an excellent meal and no one could say they left feeling hungry!

The next activity was Beth Ahabah Game Night. Under the direction of Alan Corbett, twenty congregants gathered to enjoy an evening of

board-type games and comraderie, not to mention the snacks and beverages. Most participated in two different games. Voices were heard all evening long debating answers to questions or weighing options. It was a fun filled night for all. As you read this, it is hoped you will consider joining us when we offer this activity next year. The more, the merrier.

Lastly, we put on the Purim Carnival at the JCC. It seems like hundreds of kids come down to the gym in costume to play any of the fifteen or so games to earn tickets which are in turn for prizes.



Now for upcoming events. On April 13<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding a Men's *Seder* in the Joel house. This is not to replace the traditional *Seders* held in many homes. The meal will be participant-provided with traditional dishes assigned. The service will be abbreviated in order to permit open ended discussions including life experiences participants wish to share.

On April 27<sup>th</sup>, Beth Ahabah will be holding its annual *Mitzvah Day*. Among its various function, CARITAS provides furnishings for those that leave the shelter and move into their first apartment. Brotherhood will be sponsoring and participating in a furniture assembling project for them. It will be held in the Goldburg Auditorium. Any adult or child (with adult permission/supervision) is welcome to participate. Last year, the kids, particularly, found great pleasure in using the tools in the assembly process.

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Beth Ahabah Cares is looking for volunteers to make bereavement telephone calls to members who have recently had the loss of a loved one. Training will be provided and your personal satisfaction will warm you time and time again. To volunteer or get more information, contact Lori Skiles at 804.346.2684 or llskiles@verizon.net

the middle *Matzah* and hide one half as the *afikomen*, it is referring to the *Matzah* on this plate. In addition, each participant will need four bite-sized pieces during the *seder*.

### Parsley

Everybody needs one sprig which is dipped into salt water. Some people have bowls of salt water on the table, others “pre-dip” the parsley. In addition, a sprig of parsley goes on the seder plate.

### Bitter Herbs

This is horseradish. Each person needs two small pieces. In addition, a large slice of the root goes on the seder plate.

### Charoset

This is more commonly pronounced with the old fashioned spelling: *charoses*. The accent for both is on the middle syllable. *Charoset* is a mixture of chopped apples, raisins, nuts, cinnamon, and wine. Some people make it as a paste but most just chop the apples into small pieces. Each person only needs a spoonful but many families place bowls on the table for later. In addition, *Charoset* goes on the seder plate.



### Wine

Traditionally, people drink four cups of wine during the seder. These days one sets a better example for children by sipping four times. The *Haggadah* tells you when to do this and when only to raise the cup and replace it untasted. One also places a ceremonial cup on the table for the prophet Elijah. After dinner, the *seder* explains the meaning.

The large *seder* plate also contains two other ceremonial items. One is a roasted egg, which just sits on the plate and is not explained. Some families give each participant a hard boiled egg but don't look too hard for directions about eating it. The *Haggadah* won't tell you. The other is a roasted lamb shank the meaning of which is contained in the *seder*.

The parsley is dipped and eaten early in the *seder*. Later people eat a piece of *Matzah* alone, then a piece of horseradish with *Matzah*, then a *Matzah* sandwich of horseradish and *Charoset*. Except for the sandwich, there is a prayer for

each. The *Haggadah* will guide you through all along the way.

### Haggadah

Everybody attending the seder needs a *Haggadah* so they can follow along and actively participate. One person serves as leader and should plan out the service in advance. The *Haggadah* is a mini-library; the leader should pick and choose keeping in mind the length of the *seder* and who is at the table. There are lots of different *Haggadahs* and it can be a challenge to find one which is appropriate for your group. The Internet is the place to go.

Now, the foods we eat and don't eat all week. The rules are fairly simple and straightforward but when it comes to eating, each family “dots its own i's and crosses its own t's.” During Passover we do eat *Matzah*. We don't eat *chametz* - bread, cake, pasta, and cereals. More precisely, we do not eat foods which are leavened or made from five leavened grains: wheat, corn, oats, rye, and spelts (don't ask!). Some people don't eat legumes because they swell up when cooked, i.e. they act like a leavened product. Most people, including Israelis, eat legumes.

There are lots of variations and extensions of these rules and anyone who wants to know more should call the Temple office which will put you in touch with one of our designated Passover mavens.



Wishing you, your family and friends  
a joyous and beautiful Passover

The officers, board of trustees, clergy  
and staff of Congregation Beth Ahabah

## Museum & Archives

The Last Calisch Confirmation  
Continued from Page 6.

*Would I be changed? I dressed, taking special pride in wearing a great blue paisley tie given to me by Pearl and Sam Stern. We drove to the Temple.*

*Almost before I knew it, it was my time. Dr. Calisch had told us time and time again: "Hold your head up, speak slowly, speak slowly." My head was up, I was trying to speak slowly, and ... I missed a couple of words. I finished well, but I do not remember how, after that stumble.*

*We finished our parts. Each Confirmand went to Dr. Calisch. We had joked beforehand that he would plead with us to make a good pledge to the Temple when college was over. He spoke with that great voice of his, and asked me to continue with my studies, to do well, and to be proud of my Judaism. It seemed sad as I knew I was almost the last student he would talk to at Confirmation.*

*Afterwards, I went down the steps and joined my family. The recessional was next, and then down to the social hall for the punch, cookies, handshakes, smiles, kisses, and the utter relief that it was over. Another Confirmation done. Fourteen new members*

*of the covenant, all ushered to that point by a wonderful teacher, a powerful role model, leader and influence on the Confirmands and on the families of Beth Ahabah.*

Visit the Museum & Archives to read the article, "Memories of the Last Calisch Confirmation," in its entirety,

### Trivia



Gustavus Myers, a prominent Jewish attorney during the Civil War and grandson of silversmith Myer Myers, met with President Abraham Lincoln when he visited Richmond on April 5, 1865. Lincoln was assassinated nine days later.

## Treasures from the Collection



### Franzblau Matzah Cover

This is a hand embroidered cotton *matzah* cover from the home of Mrs. Reba Cohn Franzblau. It shows the symbols of Passover and would have been used on the *Seder* table. The inscriptions relating to each symbol are in both Hebrew and English.

Reba Cohn Franzblau was the daughter of Joseph Cohn, who had the distinction of being the last reader at K.K. Beth Sholome before it closed its doors in 1898. Her husband was Rabbi Isadore Franzblau, who served as the assistant rabbi at Congregation Beth Ahabah from 1927 to 1929.

## Beth Ahabah MUSEUM & ARCHIVES

### Currently on Exhibit in the Galleries:

- **Justice Wheels**
- **The Entertaining Mrs. Calisch**
- **That You'll Remember Me:**  
**Jewish Voices of the Civil War**
- **Commonwealth & Community**

### Museum Hours:

**10 am to 3 pm Sunday - Thursday**

The Museum & Archives is located next door to the temple office at 1109 W. Franklin Street. For more information about the archives, to make an appointment to research in the archives or set up a group tour, please contact 804.353.2668.

## Volunteer at BAM&A

BAM&A depends on volunteers like you who love history and are interested in learning more about the history of the Richmond Jewish community. Help catalog and file new acquisitions, assist with gallery tours.

For more information about the volunteer opportunities at BAM&A, call David Farris at 804.353.2668.



## Who's Who: Corporal Hilary Schultz

U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command's  
2013 Soldier of the Year

Exerpts from an article by Gregory Rips, [www.army.mil](http://www.army.mil)



Corporal Hilary Schultz

Working hard, never settling and always reaching for a higher level are recurring themes for Cpl. Hilary Schultz, the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command's Soldier of the Year...

Her quiet, unassuming manner belies the burning drive within this young Soldier, which helps to explain how Schultz has accomplished so much in just three years of service.

Schultz, a voice language analyst with the 717th Military Intelligence Battalion, 470th MI Brigade, joined the Army after graduating with honors from the University of Maryland at College Park in 2008...

"She is aggressive, motivated and standards based," said 1st Sgt. Aaron Parker, "She demands excellence from herself...She is the future of Army leadership."

Hilary is the daughter of Congregation Beth Ahabah member, Terry Schultz and sister of Elizabeth and Jennifer.

**CALENDAR INFORMATION  
IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE,**  
please check the calendar  
online at [bethahabah.org](http://bethahabah.org)

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### APRIL:

<b>WED 02</b> Midweek Hebrew	5:30 p.m.
<b>FRI 04</b> Tot <i>Shabbat</i> at Bryan Park	5:30 p.m.
<i>Family Shabbat Service with Etz Chayim Choir</i>	7:30 p.m.
<b>SAT 05</b> Bar Mitzvah of LIAM STRUMINGER	10:30 a.m.
<b>SUN 06</b> Religious School	9:15 a.m.
<b>MON 07</b> <i>Midrasha</i>	6:30 p.m.
<b>WED 09</b> Midweek Hebrew	5:30 p.m.
<b>FRI 11</b> <i>Shabbat</i> Service	7:30 p.m.
<b>MON 14</b> JTown Seder	6:00 p.m.
<b>FRI 18</b> <i>Shabbat</i> Service in Gumenick Chapel	7:30 p.m.
<b>MON 21</b> <i>Midrasha</i> (Confirmation Class Only)	6:30 p.m.
<b>WED 23</b> Midweek Hebrew	5:30 p.m.
<i>Interfaith Dialogue with St. James's</i>	7:00 p.m.
<b>FRI 25</b> <i>Shabbat</i> Service Commemorating Yom HaShoah	7:30 p.m.
<b>SAT 26</b> Bat Mitzvah of KNAIDE GREEN	10:30 a.m.
<b>SUN 27</b> Religious School	9:15 a.m.
<i>Mitzvah Day</i>	11:00 a.m.
<b>MON 28</b> <i>Midrasha</i> (Confirmation Class Only)	6:30 p.m.
<b>WED 30</b> Midweek Hebrew	5:30 p.m.
<i>Interfaith Dialogue with St. James's</i>	7:00 p.m.

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## Yom HaShoah



Yom HaShoah is the day when we remember the victims of the Holocaust. It is the day of remembrance and is observed on the 27th day of the Hebrew month of Nisan, a week after the seventh day of Passover and a week before Hom HaZikaron (Memorial Day for Israel's fallen soldiers). The commemoration was selected by the Israeli Parliament (the Knesset) on April 12, 1951.

American Jews observe Yom HaShoah in various ways including synagogue services. We generally recite the Kaddish (prayer for the dead) and often survivors themselves speak to us of their experiences. The overwhelming theme is remembering...recalling the victims and remembering so that this tragic atrocity can never happen again.

This year we will commemorate Yom HaShoah with music presented by Jocelyn Adelman and the Beth Ahabah Adult Choir.

**Please Join Us for Shabbat Services  
on Friday, April 25, 2014**