

June/July 2008 **Newsletter** *Iyar/Sivan/Tamuz 5768*

Temple *Sholom* of Floral Park

263-10 Union Turnpike, Floral Park, NY 11004 718-343-8660

www.templesholom.info

Rabbi Shelley Kovar Becker

Paul Trolio, President

Ruth Gerver, Exec. Vice President

*affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism
patron of the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion*

FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY

I am sitting amidst keepsakes, mementos and too much detritus as Marty and I pack up the apartment we have lived in for 12 years and get ready to move to another place on the Upper West Side of Manhattan.

As we have rediscovered possessions in the back of closets, we have made some easy decisions to discard, but we have also kept some objects, papers, things that make us laugh or speak to how our lives have unfolded from when we were beginning as a couple. It is a nerve-racking process, this cleaning out, yet there is some excitement attached to moving and starting in a new place. It is both a continuation and a renewal.

And, of course, this makes me think of the possibilities for the Temple. If we are fortunate enough to move into a new place we will face some of the same decisions. But it too will be a continuation and a renewal. Imagine walking through the streets of the community singing and carrying our Torah scrolls to a new home! I look forward to being with you on that occasion. Our commitment to our Temple family is clear. When we complete a book of Torah we say: Hazak, hazak v'nithazake - be strong, be strong and let us be strong together. Therefore let us say those words now aloud and softly in our hearts and make our dream a reality.

I am on vacation for the month of July. However President Paul Trolio can reach me in an emergency.

Please note: As of June 1 my new home office phone number is: 212 877 3036.

Rabbi Shelley Kovar Becker

A call for prayer books - if you have any blue *Gates of Prayer* at home that belong to the Temple, please return them. We are in need of them. If you have any Red *Torah Commentaries* that belong to the Temple, we would like those back too. Thank you.

Rabbi Becker is only at the Temple Office part time. Please call at her home office: 212 877-3036 or send her an e-mail (rskb@aol.com) to make an appointment with her or to change an appointment you have with her.

If you need to reach Rabbi Becker in an emergency call her at her home office.

PLEASE do not set the time of a funeral, at which you want her to officiate, before contacting her.

On the third Saturday morning of each month at 10am, we have an informal service, followed by a sweet *kiddush* and we continue with *Torah* study. You don't have to know Hebrew for these sessions to learn and enjoy *Torah*. You are cordially invited to join us - please RSVP to the office.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

It has been over a month since you have seen this Newsletter and there are many reasons for that, but the biggest reason is that we just did not know what to say or how to say it. That seems unusual for those who know me; for those who get my seemingly endless stream of letters and announcements; and for those who realize that I will always try to tell you more than less; which is apparently an overcompensation of what used to be the norm rather than the exception at our congregation over the past decade or so.

I think I finally know what to say and how to say it and it can be summed up in one word - courage. After three congregational meetings during the month of June; after three series of voting events; and after three times of you being asked to summon the courage to overcome all of our fears you answered the challenge every time. Incredibly, virtually every single vote that was put before you during the month of June was passed with a 90% or higher affirmative response.

These issues were never about standing up against those that did not share the majority point of view regarding our future; this was always a question of whether or not we could stand up against the sum of all of our fears - walking together as a congregational family into an uncertain future. We all know that there are no guarantees in life; yet what I am certain of now is that all of you have the requisite courage to succeed; the requisite courage to build a better life for our congregation; and the requisite courage to accept all of the challenges and benefits that the future has in store for all of us. I am also certain that your courage allowed me to continue down many paths that I reluctantly traveled; traversing the deep

abyss of my own fear knowing that all of you were waiting patiently for me on the other side.

What your united voices have allowed is to begin taking those necessary and meaningful steps to improve our congregational lives. A few days ago, the land surveyors were at the new property making the drawings that will allow our architect to begin creating design options for our new Temple home. At the same time that this was occurring, Ruth and I were signing all of the necessary documents that will allow us to close on our new Temple property; to provide some operating capital to keep us going until our existing Temple property is sold; and to give us the foundation of a strategic plan that will allow us to continue as a congregation without having to worry about the origin of our next dollar.

We will never underestimate the courage that it took for all of you to approve the plan that your leadership put in front of you over the past several months. And you should never underestimate that your approval, gave the leadership of this congregation the ability to negotiate from a position of strength and not weakness; being able to reject bids from a non-Jewish congregation that were certainly not in our best interest. They are now coming back to us with a revised proposal. Also, we anticipate that Chabad of Great Neck will be delivering a proposal and we expect that this will be a challenging negotiation as well. As everyone knows, negotiating at this level exploits weakness and you, by your actions, have strengthened our position.

Also, your approval of this plan has allowed us to aggressively market our property with an ad in the NY Times over the last weekend in June generating 8 - 9 new leads with two of those leads already walking through our property - many of which are community facilities.

So we are indeed moving ahead with confidence that only standing up for the courage of our convictions can bring. And yes, you will hear more from us, and likely in the very near future, as we finally begin to start having more fun planning for our new Temple home.

Shalom,

Paul

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL

Hello all,

After a successful year, school trip, and wonderful participation by our students at the *Shabbat* service on May 23rd, we're on vacation!

Here is what I am thinking for next year - Hebrew school for pre *Bar/Bat mitzvah* age will continue to meet on Tuesday afternoons with special monthly *Shabbat* morning programs (for you, Matthew, Jonathan and new students who join us). For those who are post *B'nai mitzvah* and those about to be - Adam, Nathaniel, Ryan, Emily - you are invited to form the new Temple Youth Group. We will study together but also be doing more trips and other activities. And this group will meet only once a month on *Shabbat* or on an occasional Sunday. I will be formulating this in more detail and contacting all of you.

Meanwhile, as you enjoy the summer break, don't lose the gains you have made in your studies - come to services to practice your Hebrew, read through the Bible to see what happens in the Book of Numbers and Deuteronomy!

Rabbi Becker
rskb@aol.com

As of June 1 NEW HOME OFFICE
PHONE: 212 877 3036

*****SISTERHOOD NEWS*****

Sisterhood closed out an active year with our traditional Year end dinner. More than thirty women had a delightful dinner at Uncle Bacala's, in Garden City Park. We were entertained by Barbara Allen's stories of the realities of life in the 21st century. We all laughed as she explained how things have changed since we were all young. On behalf of Sisterhood, thank you to Shirley Snyder and Muriel Gorochow for arranging this delightful evening.

Sisterhood will be back in the fall with new activities and events.

Please remember our ongoing Tzedakah projects: collecting hotel toiletries for the families at Ronald McDonald House and eye glasses for New Eyes for the Needy.

Please Call Dale, at 1-718-343-8037 to Sponsor an Oneg Shabbat.

Please share your simcha with our congregation, the cost is \$60.

Have a Great Summer !!!

Dale, Gerty, and Maxine
Your Sisterhood Presidents

Our Year End Sisterhood dinner on May 28 was well attended and enjoyed by all (that's what you all told me!) Our entertainer was Barbara Allen- music, fun and witty.

Thanks to Muriel Gorochow for helping with reservations/ Thank you Mollie Rogers for treating everyone to wine and toasting to many more years of Sisterhood together. A special thank you to all who attended.

Shirley Snyder

Please remember to bring your Sisterhood Dues of \$36 for Temple members and \$50 for non-Temple members.

Sisterhood's Ongoing *Mitzvah* Projects are listed in subsequent pages.

ONEG:

Mae Rossin 718-359-0297
Dale Demner 718-343-8037

Sponsoring an *Oneg Shabbat* is really easy. Just call Dale Demner at 1-718-343-8037 and pick a *Shabbat* date. Share your *simcha* with all your friends at the Temple. The cost is \$60 (without a sheet cake). The cost of sponsoring the flowers is \$35.

Happy Summer Birthday to...

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| Catherine Abrams | Michelle Pruskin |
| Pearl Grossman | Peter Kisting |
| Jack Leff | Daniela Printz |
| Matthew Printz | Judy Diorio |
| Douglas Rossin | Paul Trolio |
| Aileen Zim | Barbara Fleisher |
| Kevin Lynch | Dawn Oakley |
| Gary Rosenthal | Mae Rossin |
| Andrea Sabel | |

Happy Summer Anniversary to...

Larry & Nancy Abraham
Sheri & Stuart Jacobs
Philip & Helen Kaplan
Matthew & Daniela Printz
Robert & Esther Printz
Barbara & Gary Rosenthal
Paul & Roni Trolio
Jeanne & Stephen Levine
Mae & Sam Rossin

(If we missed your birthday or anniversary, please let us know)

Yahrzeit Donations

In Memory of: Remembered by:

| | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| Morris Peaceman | Harriet Peaceman |
| Howard Peaceman | Howard Peaceman |
| Anna Laufer | Maxine Baden & Family |
| Goldie Dubow | Gerald & Harriet Dubow |
| Max Dubow | Gerald & Harriet Dubow |
| Mike Elias | Ruth Samuel |
| Angela Shear | Jessica Sher |
| Fred Breslin | Gerald & Harriet Dubow |
| Herb Goldstein | Robert & Ester Printz |
| Arthur Printz | Robert & Ester Printz |
| Sophie Goldstein | Robert & Ester Printz |
| Leonard Schoen | Hermine Elias |
| Norman Elias | Hermine Elias |
| Ferdinand Schoen | Hermine Elias |

If your Yahrzeit donation was received after we went to press, it will be included in the next issue.

GENERAL FUND

- Donation from Lorraine & Barney Bragin in honor of Temple Sholom

LARRY WOLF FUND -DONATIONS

In Memory of: Remembered by:

| | |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| Alan Richman | Jayne Richman |
| Ida Weisser | Gerty Wolf & Family |
| Samuel Weisser | Gerty Wolf & Family |
| Pearl Wolf | Gerty Wolf & Family |
| Lena Weisser | Gerty Wolf & Family |
| Family of Rose Cipolla | Gerty Wolf & Family |

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

- Donation from Harold & Debbie Abramowitz to wish Mae Rossin good health and best wishes
- Donation from Florence Isaacs in honor of Rabbi Shelley & Marty Becker

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Shirley Snyder's name was inadvertently omitted from the list of people who obtained ads for our Journal this year. Thank you, Shirley!

NORC-WOW News

NORC Arthritis Exercise classes on Thursdays at 11:30AM, except in the summer.

A Reminder!

Memorialize your loved ones by putting up a bronze *yahrzeit* plaque on our Memorial Board in the sanctuary. In this beautiful way, your loved ones will be remembered by you, and the *yahrzeit* will be recognized each year at services by the Rabbi. You will be notified in advance of the anniversary date each year, so that you may attend.

The price of each engraved plaque is \$150. If you desire a 24-inch plaque at the bottom of the board, the cost is \$1000.

For further information on any plaques call Harriet Peaceman at (718) 343-6444.

Phone Squad List

To all congregants: Our e-mail communication list is in place. PLEASE CHECK YOUR E-MAIL DAILY. All those who haven't given me their e-mail address will get a phone call.

Ruth: 718-343-4239

The Deadline for the next Newsletter is July 28th. Leave all contributions in the Newsletter mailbox or email to newsletter@templesholom.info
THANK YOU, Gary Savage

If you have Internet access and can read the newsletter on your computer instead of getting a copy via the post office, send a note to newsletter@templesholom.info and we will e-mail you when the newsletter is ready. It will save us time, printing costs, and postage.

Bring in your used inkjet and laser cartridges - all brands. It's an easy fundraiser. Our recycler, Cartridge World at 2052 Hillside Avenue, pays us for each cartridge.

Please call the Temple on the first of each month if you want to keep a name(s) on the "get-well-list" recited at Friday services. Names are listed for one month only and are not carried over unless you call. Call at any time to add names.

NOTE: The *mishebeirach* list is published each week in our *Shabbat* service booklet. Please be sure any name(s) you list may be made public. If you would like to add a name



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