



OUR TEMPLE

Notes from the president

Herding Katz

By Herb Karasin
President

I've been told that a common image in some other religions is that of a shepherd herding his flock of sheep. A strong and confident shepherd gently leading his docile retinue, which peacefully follow in a tight bunch, all moving as one. They seem to march in lockstep, all together. No wanderers and no stragglers. No noise louder than the occasional baah. No questioning where they are being led; no suggestions that they go in a different direction, either individually or as a group.

But that picture is of other religions. Here, you won't quite find that image. Rather, here

you will see the picture of the flock going in so many different directions as to defy the physical limit of three dimensions. Here the noise, cacophony actually, is loud and dissonant. Here the shepherd is less leading the way than he is a marker of where not to go. Here, the size and shape of the flock constantly changes; growing and shrinking; switching directions, speed and any sense of coordination. Here the flock gives advice to the shepherd.

And we haven't even gotten to bickering. Sheep don't bicker -- not among themselves and certainly not with the shepherd. Katz, on the other hand, are major bickers (to coin a word). Katz take bickering to new levels.

Some Katz seem to specialize in bickering, to treat it as varsity sport, to major in it.

Then there is offering of advice. Sheep don't offer advice. They seem to trust that the shepherd knows the way to go and how to get there. But Katz? They are free with advice. "Let's go this way." "I know a shortcut." "We always go this way." "We shouldn't go that way." "That hill is too steep, too dangerous, too flat."

Sometime the noise is overwhelming; it drowns out the sounds of the footsteps.

I do not know if the problem is more with the herder or the herdees. However, the end result is that, for the flock to get from point

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From the Rabbi's study

Some good news, and a summertime challenge

It is with great pleasure that I am able to announce that our past student cantor, Leah Holland, will be joining us for another year.

**Rabbi Brian
Michelson**

Leah has been here on and off over this year; however, next year she will be with us for High Holidays and for a regular monthly visit.

I have spoken with Leah and she is very happy to be formally returning to RCOS. She will be entering her final year of cantorial school and

we are fortunate to have her. As I see it, we can play a small role in helping to forge the future of Reform Judaism. I know that you join me in re-welcoming Leah to RCOS.

As we get to the summertime, schedules quiet down a bit and we have the opportunity to do things that we just cannot find time for during the rest of the year. I challenge each of you to use this upcoming summer to do something Jewish that you have not done in the past. Use the time to read a book on a Jewish theme — or join us for our next book

group meeting May 31. Over the past decade the book group has read an impressive list of books together.

If music is more your style, spend some time listening to some of the great new artists who are recording Jewish music. There is everything from traditional Sephardic chanting to kosher gospel music. One of my favorites is Joshua Nelson. He sings Jewish themed gospel music that is beautiful and inspiring. You can find him online at www.joshuanelson.com.

If you are traveling, take the time to see some Jewish sites along your way. There are lots of small Jewish museums all over the country, or take a trip to the United States Memorial Holocaust Museum in Washington.

We all have a tendency to put our Jewish life on hold during the summer months. This year, let it enrich us instead.

May-June Highlights

Friday, May 1 — Shabbat service, 6 p.m., with guest speaker

Saturday, May 2 — Shabbat service, 10 a.m.

Wednesday, May 6 — Sisterhood Fashion Show, 6 p.m.

Saturday, May 16 — Tot Shabbat, 10 a.m.

Thursday, May 28 — Shavuot service and study session, 8 p.m.

Sunday, June 7 — Congregational meeting, 11 a.m.

Services Friday nights at 7:45 p.m. unless otherwise noted

Babysitting available for 7:45 Shabbat services.

**Bulletin sponsored by
Maxine & Dick Henry
in memory of
their beloved daughter Jane**

Religious School News**Another year flies by**

By Judy Synnamon

Religious School administrator

When I was younger, my father warned me that the older one gets, the faster the years fly by. The older I become, the more I have found this to be true. And another Religious School year has flown by.

Thanks to Cindy Chronister, the Religious School Chair and Rabbi Michelson for their guidance and support.

Thanks to the Religious School Committee for their great ideas and assistance.

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered their time and provided us with items requested to enrich our programs.

We are blessed with a wonderful group of students with endless potential. Among many things, they have delighted us with their Shabbat Services and impressed us with their dedication to their mitzvah projects.

And a well-deserved thanks to our teachers who have done a fine job in leading our children in their studies.

Next year in Religious School we look forward to piloting the Chai program in Grades 1 and 4. This program will supplement our curriculum in those grade levels. For more information about the Chai curriculum, please go to www.urj.org

Mazel Tov to Jami Weisberg and her



Third grade taught by Mrs. Pardo has studied Life Cycles this year. This picture depicts the class wedding. Bride and Groom: Casey Horowitz and Tobias Walker; Rabbi: Matthew Eisenberg; Bride's parents: Ethan Rode and Lauren Goldberg; Groom's parents: Matthew Driben and Leah Egolf; Bridesmaid: Audra Nemirow; Ketubah Holder: Chase Weizer; Chupah Holders: Tristan Haas, Jenna Schwarz and Eve Pardo (teacher)

family on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah.

Important Dates to Remember:

Tuesday, May 12: Last day of Hebrew School. Last Isaac's fundraiser for the year

Sunday, May 17: Last day of Sunday School

Friday, May 29: Teacher Appreciation Shabbat Services starting at 7:45 pm.

Temple member authors musical

"The Handsomest Man in America," an original rock musical about Abraham Lincoln and John Wilkes Booth written by RCOS member Samuel Lupowitz, will premier at Genesis Theater in Reading Aug. 7-9.

More details can be found at www.genesiustheatre.org or www.handsomestman.com. Samuel is the 19-year-old son of Robin & Jeffrey Lupowitz of Wyomissing and has just completed his freshman year at Ithaca College in Ithaca, N.Y.

ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER

Editor: Mark Nemirow

Assistant editor: Donna Oaks

To get an item in the bulletin, contact Mark at Marknem@aol.com or 610-370-2533, or contact the Temple office.

Last bulletin until September

Next deadline, Aug. 5

Join us for weekly Torah study

Mondays at noon

Have you considered remembering the Temple in your will?

The Temple Online

www.ohebsholom.org

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Rabbi Michelson: rabbi@ohebsholom.org

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PRESIDENT

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A to point B, they travel through X, Y and Z. They get to see much more of the countryside than the aforementioned sheep. They have to pack for all kinds of weather because when they start a trip they will go through many climate zones.

As my tenure is winding down, I think of the other shepherds. Do I sound envious? I hope not. This is a much more interesting exercise. By comparison those other religions sound boring. Those other shepherds are missing out on a lot. They may want to convert.

**GET READY
FOR THE RUMMAGE SALE**
**We'd like to remind people to start collecting
their rummage,
as this year it will be more important than
ever to serve people in need
in our community.**

**The set-up / collection weeks are July 5 and
July 12 and the sale is July 19, 20 and 21.**

May Simchas

Anniversaries

Mr. & Mrs. Yair Oziri	May 1
Mr. & Mrs. Paul D. Cohn	May 11
Radene Gordon-Beck & Hugh Beck	May 15
Mr. & Mrs. Alan Karp	May 16
Mr. & Mrs. Neal Schneider	May 25
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney L. Symons	May 25
Dr. & Mrs. David Bender	May 28
Mr. & Mrs. Herb Karasin	May 28
Dr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Horowitz	May 29
Dr. & Mrs. Lee Radosh	May 31

Birthdays

Dr. Susana Caro	May 1
Herb Karasin	May 1
Hilde Gernsheimer	May 2
Lin Langlois	May 3
Anne Seltzer	May 5
Catherine Schultz	May 7
Matthew Kohn	May 8
Barbara Perilstein	May 9
Chip Karasin	May 10
Jason Kraft	May 11
Paul Kozloff	May 13
Brett Chronister	May 14

Joseph McIver	May 14
Eve Pardo	May 16
Karen T. Robinson	May 16
Steven W. Levine	May 18
Lee Katz	May 21
Nancy Knoblauch	May 22
Harriet Baskin	May 23
Jennifer Hausman	May 26
Janet Gernsheimer	May 27
Norbert Salpeter	May 27
Janine Ure	May 29
Jeanine Levy	May 31

Book Group

We are reading
"A Changed Man"
by Francine Prose. Next
meeting is
Sunday, May 31 at 4 p.m.

Touch someone's life

Berks Visiting Nurse Association
needs volunteers to provide
companionship to hospice clients.
The usual time commitment after
training is 2 to 4 hours a week.
Call Julie Kraschinsky at
610-378-0481, ext. 3153.

Florence Frank Offering Fund

To Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brok in memory of his
sister Leah Levin
Rhoda Rosenberg
Shirley and Gene Friedman
Mrs. Dorothy Schlanger

Thanks for the expressions of sympathy in the
death of Leah Levin
Robert and Doris Brok.

—
Kindly send Florence Frank Offering
Fund contributions to Mrs. Marilyn
Frank, Phoebe Village, 9 Reading
Ave., Wernersville, PA 19565; or Mrs.
Shirley Friedman, 107 Primrose Lane,
Wyomissing, PA 19610.

Please patronize the Sisterhood Gift Shop...

for all of your Judaic and non-Judaic gift giving. We have a vast array of holiday items in addition to personal items for men, women and children. If you don't see it in the shop, we would be happy to place a special order for you. We save you money while you support the Sisterhood. It's a win, win situation. See you at the gift shop.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Best wishes to Paul Cohn in his new position
Ruth & Hal Cohn

In memory of Leah Levin
Ruth & Hal Cohn
Raie & Gerald Fogelman

In memory of Philip Knoblauch
Nancy Knoblauch

In memory of Ted Roeberg
Mildred & Ivan Gordon
Lita & Ellis Schein
Ruth & Hal Cohn

In memory of Myriam Sapriel
Renee & Harvey Seidel

With thanks for birthday wishes
Lynn Salpeter

In honor of Gabriella Michelson's birthday
Bonnie Friedman & Gerald Miller

In memory of Nat Weisbaum
Bonnie Friedman & Gerald Miller

In memory of Kate Gross
Mildred & Ivan Gordon

With thanks for the use of your Haggadat
Judith Kraines & Neil Hoffman

Building Fund
In memory of Leah Levin
Harriet Baskin

In memory of Bill Wolff
Harriet Baskin

In memory of Ted Roeberg
Sue Schlanger

In memory of the Yahrzeit of Renee Zeisel and Steve Zeisel
Marty & Norma Beckerman

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Herb & Sue Wachs' granddaughter
Conrad & Ruth Heisman
Harriet Baskin

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Hilde Gernsheimer's granddaughters
Conrad & Ruth Heisman
Harriet Baskin

Landscaping Fund

In memory of the Yahrzeits of Philip Satinsky & Norma Perilstein
Michael & Barbara Perilstein

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Herb & Sue Wachs' granddaughter
Michael & Barbara Perilstein

In memory of Leah Levin
Hilde Gernsheimer

In memory of Walter Hamburger
Bob & Kaye Ullman

Library Fund
In memory of Leah Levin
Sue Schlanger

Life of the Temple

In memory of Sara Cohn
Norma Dashe

Music Fund

In memory of Edythe & Joe Stern
Mimi Gavigan

A donation to the choir
Sharon Hrabak

Kennedy House Fund

Easter Dinner donation
Elvina Comess
Harriet Baskin

General Fund

In memory of Ted Roeberg
George & Sue Viener

In memory of Leah Levin
Nancy Knoblauch

In appreciation for all of the good wishes on Caitlin's wedding
Sharon Scullin

Religious School Fund

In honor of the 2009 high school graduates
The Ueberroth Family

The Jane Henry Memorial Fund

The Jane Henry Memorial Fund is not just a camp fund for youth. It will help anyone in need, particularly young people.

In memory of Jane Henry
Jodi, Kelsi, & Lindsi Stoudt

In memory of Edward Rosner
Jodi, Kelsi, & Lindsi Stoudt

In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Hilde Gernsheimer's granddaughters
Sharon Scullin & Jim Rothstein

In memory of Walter Hamburger
Maxine & Dick Henry

Perpetual Memorials

May 1-9
Ernestine Fisher
Irving Imber
Charles Schwartz
Joseph H. Chivian
Nathan P. Cohen
Harry Stern
Emil Bernheimer
William Gilbert
Helen P. Freedman

May 10-16
Mark Freedman
Liebmann Katz
Joseph Goldsmith
Clara F. Israel
Herman Hammel
Harry Sack
Minna R. Austin
Paula Katz
Louis Heibron

May 17-23
Karl Simon
Selma Katz Simon
Ilse Simon
Hortense Grotta
Lena Holzman
Matthew H. Small
Celia A. Cooperman
Jacob Rudnick
Israel Losch
Helen M. Echenberg

May 24-31
Minnie Freedman
Minnie Winston Hirsch
Leah Livingston Winston
Joseph W. Cohen
Simon Knoblauch
Libbie Tamor
Julius Ehrlich
Rachel K. Loeb
Samuel R. Frankel

We would like to thank everyone for their kindness & expressions of sympathy in the recent loss of our father, Ted.

**Richard & Kathleen
Roeberg
and Michael & Linda
Roeberg**

Thank you to everyone for their well wishes sent in honor of my very special birthday.
Nan Kurlancheck

Special thanks to . . .

Sharon Hrabak
for sponsoring the challahs in April.

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