



OUR TEMPLE

October 2006

Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom

Vol. 43, No. 2

Notes from the president

Volunteers can bring new activity to Temple

By **Scott Bram**
President

Hello Everyone: The high holidays are upon us. Sukkot and Simchat Torah are right around the corner. Each year we are again asked to renew ourselves. Let's not just talk about it this year! I would ask you to volunteer for some activity at the temple. Try the Food Festival, Religious School as a tutor or assistant teacher, Passover Seder, 100th anniversary celebration, Chanukah

party, Purim carnival, Interfaith Hospitality Network, Opportunity House, Soup Kitchen, Berks Women in Crisis, etc. The list goes on and on!

The rabbi could use some help also. How about helping to teach the confirmation class or organizing a youth group chapter for the Temple. Have I left anything out that you would like to happen at the Temple?

How about joining the Brotherhood

or Sisterhood and reshaping these groups back into the fundraising giants they once were?

Get up and get going! Come in and help out as a family. Support the food certificate program. We can eliminate most of our yearly debt if everyone would fully participate. Make this year the start of a new and exciting level of involvement for yourself. You and the Temple -- Perfect Together!!

From the Rabbi's study

Advice helps bring harvest of happy life

Early in this month we will celebrate the festival of Sukkot. There are a number of different explanations given for why we celebrate Sukkot and the importance of the booths we build.

Rabbi Brian Michelson

One tradition is that the booths (Sukkot) are to remind us of

the time the Israelites spent wandering in the desert. Since they were always moving, they did not build permanent structures; rather, they built dwellings that could easily be taken down for the next leg of the journey.

However, Sukkot is also tied to the fall harvest. It was at this time of the year that

our ancestors lived out in their fields in Sukkah like booths to protect their harvest.

In this spirit, I would like to share a piece I clipped from another source many years ago. I don't even know the name of the original author; however, I think its message can be very valuable to us at this time of the year.

Tips on Planting Your Garden

For the garden of your daily living, plant three rows of peas:

1. Peace of mind
2. Peace of heart
3. Peace of soul

Plant four rows of squash:

1. Squash gossip
2. Squash indifference
3. Squash grumbling
4. Squash selfishness

Plant four rows of lettuce:

1. Lettuce be faithful
2. Lettuce be kind
3. Lettuce be patient
4. Lettuce really love one another

No garden is without turnips:

1. Turnip for meetings
2. Turnip for services
3. Turnip to help one another

To conclude our garden, we must have thyme:

1. Thyme for each other
2. Thyme for family
3. Thyme for friends

Water freely with patience and cultivate with love. There is much fruit in your garden because you reap what you sow.

October Highlights

Sunday, Oct. 1-Monday, Oct. 2 — Yom Kippur (see Page 2)

Friday, Oct. 6 — Sukkot decorating and dinner, 5:30; service, 6:30

Saturday, Oct. 7 — Shabbat service, 10 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 13 — Simchat Torah/Consecration, 7 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 15 — Brotherhood meeting, 9:30 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 27 — Community Shabbat at JCC (see Page 2)

Saturday, Oct. 28 — Tot Shabbat, 10 a.m.

Friday night services at 7:45 unless otherwise noted
Babysitting available for 7:45 Shabbat services. Please check with the office for babysitting at other services.

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Gordon
in memory of
Kate and Nathan Gross

Religious School News**New year gets off to a sweet start for children**By **Judy Synnamon***Religious School administrator*

Our first sessions of Sunday School and Hebrew School went well. We have approximately 55 students in our school from about 34 families. Hopefully you all took the opportunity to visit your child's classroom and met their teacher.

Thank you to the Religious School Committee for providing us with a sweet snack of apples and honey for the New Year on Sept. 17. Thanks also to Ryan Bram for presenting shofar information and blowing the shofar for our Religious School.

Here is a list of our Sunday School teachers this year.

Pre K/K: Dorrie Karp**First Grade:** Missy Glassmire**Second Grade:** Shirley Jacobs**Third Grade:** Yasminah Respes**Fourth Grade:** Rachel Caminsky**Fifth Grade:** Brook Rose**Sixth Grade:** Eve Pardo**Seventh Grade:** Holly Michelson**Confirmation Class:** Rabbi Michelson

Our Tuesday teachers are:

Aleph: Shirley Jacobs**Bet 1:** Beth Bruck**Bet 2:** Yasminah Respes**Gimel:** Eve Pardo**Dalet:** Holly Michelson

We have several exciting family events in October. On October 6 at 5:30pm we will be decorating the Sukkah and continuing the evening with a family service at 6:30 p.m. It is a wonderful evening and a great opportunity to meet other new and continuing members.

Please be sure to join us at our Simchat Torah service on Friday, Oct. 13 at 7 p.m.. At which time we will be conducting our

Consecration service. That is the official welcoming to formal Jewish education for our first graders and new students.

Last, but not least, our fifth grade will be participating in our family service on Shabbat, at 7:45 p.m. Participating in these services gives all the students the opportunity to become comfortable leading prayers and reading in front of a congregation. By the time these students reach their Bar/Bat Mitzvah service, standing before the congregation isn't so intimidating.

Important dates;

Oct. 2: Yom Kippur Children's Service at 1:30 p.m.**Oct. 6:** Sukkah decorating at 5:30pm, Service at 6:30 p.m.**Oct. 13:** Consecration and Simchat Torah at 7 p.m.**Oct. 27:** Grade 5 will be conducting the Service at 7:45 p.m.**COMMUNITY SHABBAT CELEBRATION**

Friday, Oct. 27 at the JCC

Shabbat Service and Dinner

Service: 6 p.m. Dinner: 6:45 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to attend service and/or dinner

Service will be held in lieu of services at all three congregations.

\$14 Adults \$9 Children ages 6-12

Children ages 5 and under free

Reserve by Oct. 20 - your check is your reservation

Make checks payable to the Jewish Federation of Reading.

Send to the Jewish Federation,

1700 City Line Street, Reading, PA 19604

Something's Missing

Perhaps you noticed something was missing from our Rosh Hashanah services: The Choir. We have no director and need revitalization. We need singers and anyone with some experience directing choral or instrumental ensembles. The director need not be an RCOS member.

Contact Rabbi Michelson if you want to help us bring back choral music to our services.

Perpetual Memorials**Week of Oct. 1**

Nathan R. Liever

Sol Greenstein

Gerald Frank

Samuel Sinaink

Dr. Sidney J. Sondheim

Maurice Gumpel

Henry Phillip King

Justin J. Baumann

Week of Oct. 8

Else Gerson-Simon

Leon Klevansky

Hilda Bodenheimer

Nathan Fein

Geraldine G. Salpeter

Week of Oct. 15

Yetta Levitz

Sadie R. Newman

Jacob Morris Cohn

Edith Luria

Theodore Rachlin

Emanuel Jacobs

Jack H. Blumberg

Samuel J. Sondheim

Jane R. Pokrass

Ruth G. Greenberg

Week of Oct. 22

Eve Frankel

Molly Miller

Rebecca Liever

Anna G. Popkin

Oct. 29-31

Joseph Bloch

Lucy Jaschek

Lily D. Heilbron

Morris Eisman

Sophie G. Cohen

Yom Kippur schedule**Mount Sinai Cemetery service:**

Sunday, Oct. 1, 1 p.m.

Kol Nidre, Oct. 1, 8 p.m.**Yom Kippur: Monday, Oct. 2****Morning service: 9:30 a.m.****Children's service: 1:30 p.m.****Study session: 12:15-2:15****Afternoon service: 2:30 p.m.****Yiskor: About 4:30 p.m.****Concluding service: About 5 p.m.**

Brotherhood News

Learn about fairness in insurance

By Art Becker

SPEAKER: "DO INSURANCE COMPANIES TREAT PEOPLE FAIRLY"?

That is the question that Mr. Dale Robbins will discuss at our October meeting. Mr. Robbins is the Regional Manager of Metro Public Adjustment, Inc. Do join us for an interesting and useful presentation...Sunday, October 15 in the Social Hall at 9:30 A.M.

MEMBERSHIP: We are still looking for a few good men and invite you to join us and help us resurrect this organization. Dues are on a Calendar year basis and will be prorated accordingly.

OFFICERS: We need to elect a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer...if you are looking for a challenge, consider volunteering. Contact Marshal Azrael, the current President.

FOOD FESTIVAL: Brotherhood volunteers are urgently needed. Contact Jeri Kozloff.

RICHARD SCHWARTZ, our Treasurer, recently passed away. Dick was a devoted member of the Brotherhood and took his job as Treasurer very seriously. He would often gently scold us for "buying too much food"! He will be sorely missed.

Hospitality network gets off to great start

By Holly Michelson and Janine Ure
Co-Primary Coordinators

In August the RCOS Interfaith Hospitality Network welcomed our first guest family; a mother, Shirley, and her seven year old daughter, Lindsay, into our congregation. Thank you and kudos to the over 40 onsite volunteers who made our week a huge success. We also want to thank those of you who could not attend but generously donated supplies and super market gift cards. Together your contributions made it possible to turn our simple classroom wing into a home.

On Sunday late morning eight volunteers, one from our partner congregation Kissingers Lutheran Church, showed up at RCOS to transform the classrooms. Room #1 was turned into a bright and cheery bedroom complete with night stand, yellow floral linens and roses. Our childcare room became a lounge/living room where our guests and volunteers spent evenings watching videos, talking and playing games with our youngest guest.

Over the course of the week, we enjoyed delicious meals prepared by several local restaurants, the Mart/Walker Family, Naomi Michelson's Girl Scout Troop #716,

and Kissenger's Women's Group. We think that Shirley's favorite meal was the tacos and homemade cookies with the Girl Scouts, but Lindsay definitely enjoyed the pizza and make your own sundaes more.

While the food was great, what truly made the evenings special was the interaction between our volunteers and guests. Lindsay was a little shy around men, but found a good friend in Jack Gernsheimer, who took her for rides on his back and to play at the playground. As promised last year in his sermon, Rabbi Michelson covered the first overnight shift, Holly Michelson did the second, and our president, Scott Bram covered the third. Many of our congregants got their children involved as well. We had two mother/son combinations covering overnight shifts and three mother/daughter combinations who helped prepare meals.

While we all began the week with some trepidation, we created new friendships over the seven days, and it was with many tears we said goodbye. Shirley and Lindsay will always hold a special place in our hearts and we hope that in the near future they will find a new permanent home. We hope all the volunteers felt as inspired by

Special thanks. . .
to the following businesses who provided meals during the first week of the Interfaith Hospitality Network:

The Peanut Bar
Primo's Pizza
New York Bagels
Wyomissing Family
Restaurant

Please think of them when you are dining out.

this experience as we did. We got out of this program so much more than we put in.

On Oct. 22 the RCOS Interfaith Hospitality Network will be in full swing and open to new guests. We look forward to seeing all of you who participated last time and new volunteers are always appreciated. If you wish to make a donation we found that supermarket gift cards are very useful as they allow us to purchase exactly what our guests need. Remember, if you purchase these cards from RCOS the synagogue will benefit as well. See you later this month, Shanah Tovah.

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.

Deadline for October bulletin: Oct. 5

The Temple Online

www.ohebsholom.org

Office: office@ohebsholom.org

Rabbi Michelson: rabbi@ohebsholom.org

Bookkeeper Beth Bruck: bookkeeper@ohebsholom.org

Cantor Leah Holland: cantor@ohebsholom.org

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In memory of my husband, Irvin
Ruth Balis

In appreciation of those who sent
Uniongrams in honor of my special birthday
Roseann Michelson

In memory of Betty & David Gordon
Mildred & Ivan Gordon

In memory of Henrietta Nevitt
Sandee and Neal Nevitt

Sisterhood Florence Frank Offering Fund

To Mrs. Hal Greenberg in memory of
her mother Ann Goldstan
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Brok

To Mrs. Sally Dorfmann in memory of
her mother Ann Goldstan
Mr & Mrs. Robert Brok

Congratulations to Dr. and Mrs. Scott
Bram on their new home
Dr. & Mrs. Eric Zelnick
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Friedman

To Trudy Katz on her special birthday
anniversary
Dr. & Mrs. Eric Zelnick

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs.
Jeffrey Cardinal on their 25th wedding
anniversary
Mr. & Mrs. Naum Ger

To Mr. and Mrs. Lee Meyers in
memory of his father
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Brok
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Friedman
Mrs. Dorothy Schlanger

*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.*

New Building Fund

Wishing Rosalye Yashek happiness in her
new home
Helen Rappoport

Speedy recovery to Shirley Boscov
Helen Rappoport
Harriet Baskin

Wishing Mr. & Mrs. Norbert Salpeter
happiness in their new home
Helen Rappoport

To Trudy Katz in honor of her special
birthday
Shirley & Gene Friedman

To Mrs. Nancy Linton in memory of her
mother
Shirley & Gene Friedman

In memory of Richard Schwartz
Carol & Stuart Cohn
Rosalind Hymen
Harriet Baskin

Music Fund

Speedy recovery to Shirley Boscov
Sylvia Schiff

New Building Landscaping Fund

Speedy recovery to Shirley Boscov
Bob & Kaye Ullman

In celebration of Helmut Sonnenfeldt 80th
birthday
Bob & Kaye Ullman

General Fund

In memory of Richard Schwartz
Mr. & Mrs. Gene Friedman
Patricia A. Schwartz
Gayle & Mike Kastenbaum

In honor of Trudy Katz's special birthday
Mrs. Edna Pollack
E. Jane Sher
Paul & Ruth Isenberg

Speedy recovery to Shirley Boscov
E. Jane Sher

Greater Temple Fund

In memory of Richard Schwartz
Richard & Marilyn McGoldrick

Trudy Katz's 90th Birthday Celebration:

Harriet Baskin
Edith Mendelsohn
Maddy & George Barbon
Sylvia A. Schiff
Anne & Donald Kelly
The Gernsheimer Families of Wyomissing,
Bernville, & New Jersey
Sue & Herb Wachs
Lee & Judy Katz
Rabbi Brian Michelson & Family
Frances Mendelsohn
Sandy & Gary Schiff
Rosalye Yashek
Robert & Yvonne Oppenheimer
Miriam Oppenheimer
Sue & George Viener
Frances Rosenberg
Conrad & Ruth Heisman
Shirley Boscov
Patty & Joe Goldstein
Sonja Cohn & Mary (Trudy's helper)
James Rothstein & Sharon Scullin

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.

Get well wishes to Francine Suknow
Bob & Kaye Ullman

To Louise Wiener in memory of Ann
Goldstan
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Katz

To Patricia Goldstein in memory of
Barbara Krug
Mr. & Mrs. Lee Katz
Maxine & Dick Henry
Sylvia Schiff

Wishing Mr. & Mrs. Norbert Salpeter
happiness in their new home
Maxine & Dick Henry

In honor of Trudy Katz's special birthday
Helen Rappoport

To welcome Sandy & Scott Davis' new
grandchild
Sylvia Schiff

Focus on the Food Festival

Crunch time is here as big day nears

By **Jeri Kozloff**

Sue Gelb said, "This is the time
To remind everybody in rhyme
The Festival's near
So it is clear
You must 'get off the dime'"

Your mission is not hazy
Sell tickets like crazy
Be a Festival boaster
Put up a poster
Bake, don't be lazy."

Do all that you're able
So that each social hall table
Will have many a guest
Saying, "It's the best
That is no Yiddish fable."

October is the critical month in making our Food and Cultural Festival a success. By now we hope you've sent in your volunteer sign-up sheet, sold your 10 tickets and asked for more, and begun baking. Here are some ways you can publicize the event:

- Send an e-mail about it to everyone on

your email list who lives in the area
· Put up a poster at your office or place of work

- Announce it at meetings of organizations you belong to

We've had a wonderful response from everyone in the congregation whom we've asked to help as they have in the past.

Make this the year YOU become more involved in RCOS's largest fund raiser and community outreach occasion. Our future financial health, community stature, and congregational morale depend on it.

Opportunity House lunch

Thanks to those who helped prepare and serve lunch at Opportunity House Sept. 10: Harriet Baskin, Jo Cohn, Mimi and Tom Gavigan, Jack and Jeff Gernsheimer, Mindy Small, Catherine Schultz, Claudia Strauss, and David Walker.

RCOS is next serving lunch at Opportunity House on Sunday, Nov. 12. If you are interested in helping out, please contact David Walker (dwalker100@comcast.net).

Share some culture
at the Temple

Movie Club: "The Bee Season"
starring Richard Gere,
Sunday, Oct. 15 at 4 p.m.

Book Club: "When I Lived in
Modern Times" by Linda Grant,
Dec. 3 at 4 p.m. (a limited supply
of books are available through the
Temple office)

Talmud with Training Wheels II

A beginner's class with Rabbi Michelson

"Meet the Evil Urge"

Tuesdays, October 24, 31 &

November 7, 14, & 21

7:00 - 8:30 PM

\$20 member/ \$40 non-members includes text book

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Member's daughter-in-law wins research prize

The New York Academy of Medicine has awarded its 2006 Lewis Rudin Glaucoma Prize to Dr. Cynthia L. Grosskreutz-Hyman, daughter-in-law of Temple member Rosalind Hyman of Wyomissing, and the wife of Dr. Bradley T. Hyman. She was honored for her discovery of an enzyme that contributes to nerve cell death in the eye in glaucoma, a blinding disease that affects 66 million peo-

ple. Grosskreutz-Hyman and her research team also had success using a drug to deter the cell death in animal models, a treatment that holds promising implications for treatment of glaucoma in humans.

The \$50,000 prize recognizes the most significant glaucoma research published in a peer-reviewed journal during the prior calendar year.

Dr. Grosskreutz-Hyman is co-director of the Glaucoma Service at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary and Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School. She is a practicing ophthalmologist and glaucoma surgeon, and leads an active research laboratory investigating the fundamental mechanisms of glaucoma-induced blindness.

October Simchas

Anniversaries

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Sigal	Oct. 9
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brok	Oct. 10
Dr. and Mrs. Glenn Freed	Oct. 11
Mr. and Mrs. Jason Kraft	Oct. 11
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Seidel	Oct. 13
Mr. and Mrs. Steve Gelb	Oct. 24
Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Schuchart	Oct. 25
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Silverman	Oct. 29


Birthdays

Lauren Cardinal	Oct. 2
Cynthia Gerber Tomlinson	Oct. 2
Hannah Glassmire	Oct. 4
Tristan Haas	Oct. 4
Jane Goodman	Oct. 8
Eric S. Shocket	Oct. 8
Stephanie Zimmer	Oct. 9
David Goodman	Oct. 11
Kaylin Sigal	Oct. 11
Ellen Azrael	Oct. 12
Carol Cohn	Oct. 12
Evan Cooper	Oct. 12

Jodi Radosh	Oct. 12
Sylvia Schiff	Oct. 13
Ruth Spillerman	Oct. 15
Connor Brok	Oct. 16
Carol Freed	Oct. 16
Jake Gunter	Oct. 16
Geraldine Nemirow	Oct. 16
Patricia Goldstein	Oct. 18
Susan Jeffers	Oct. 18
Shirley Friedman	Oct. 19
Morgan Kennedy	Oct. 22
Karen Hogg	Oct. 23
Rebecca Shocket	Oct. 23
Suzanne Wolfe	Oct. 23
Gabrielle SantaRosa	Oct. 24
Peter Gernsheimer	Oct. 25
David Synnamon	Oct. 25
Tobias Walker	Oct. 25
Saul M. Miller	Oct. 26
Joshua Ueberroth	Oct. 27
Wendy Kraft	Oct. 29
Jordan Cardinal	Oct. 30
Shirley Ullman	Oct. 30
Mr. Ronald Hrabak	Oct. 31

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