



OUR TEMPLE

September 2007

Reform Congregation Oheb Sholom

Vol. 44, No. 1

Notes from the president

A confession to begin the year

By Herb Karasin

President

It is still very early in my term, and this is good. I probably haven't had time yet to make any major blunders or to offend anyone in a big way. I realize I could be wrong in these assumptions. Let me be clear, I do not want to do either of these. I will try my best not to, but, I have to let you in on a secret — I am not infallible. This will no doubt come as a surprise to most of you; all of you, with the exception of my wife, of course. She knows better. But most of the rest will want to believe that they have chosen as a president someone who can do no wrong. Truthfully, I

would like to believe it myself. But, I also know better — my wife has explained this to me, many times. I almost believe her. So, at any rate, I feel better having made this confession. I feel, at a minimum, you deserve honesty from me.

Not that it is my intention to deliver only the minimum. I will try to do more than that. But right now let me explain something else about myself — I have never before been president of anything. This no doubt will come as a great shock to you — but it is true; I've never been elected as the head of any organization of any type. The only election I can recall having won took place when I was around

7 years of age. I was elected king of some sort of festival at the summer camp I was attending in the Poconos. The girls elected the king and the boys voted for queen. But, once again you deserve the truth; I should mention that my older sister was a counselor in the girls side of the camp and therefore was in control of a large voting bloc. I won. And until now, I have never won any other election. Of course, I don't recall ever having run for anything, but that is not the point. Rather, you should know that I am a political neophyte. So now the entire truth is out; you have elected a fallible first-timer.

Continued on Page 2

From the Rabbi's study

Weekend offers chances to meet new cantor

As we prepare for the upcoming High Holidays, I want to take this opportunity to introduce our new Student-Cantor, Joanna

**Rabbi Brian
Michelson**

Alexander. I know that you will be as thrilled as I am to welcome her to Oheb Sholom.

Joanna is entering her fifth and final year as a student at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion's School of

Sacred Music. She expects to be invested in May. She has previously served as a Student-Cantor at Temple Beth El of Northern Westchester and at Community Reform Temple in Westbury, N.Y. In addition, Joanna serves as president of the School of Sacred Music Student Body.

Joanna received a bachelor of arts in religious studies from New York University. She has worked as a religious school

teacher and with the Hillel Foundation at Syracuse University. Joanna is originally from the Chicago area, but now calls Brooklyn home. She is married and her husband, Jacob, teaches chemistry at Barnard College.

Our first opportunity to welcome Joanna will be on the weekend of September 7-9. The schedule for that weekend is as follows:

Friday, Sept. 7 at 6 p.m. along with the Membership Committee's wine and cheese tasting

Saturday, Sept. 8 at 10 a.m. — Shabbat morning services

Saturday, Sept. 8 at 8:30 p.m. — Our annual Selichot study and service

Sunday, Sept. 9 — Our first day of Religious School

Please join us over this special weekend to welcome Joanna and to make her feel a part of the Oheb Sholom community.

September Highlights

Wednesday, Sept. 5 — Sisterhood meeting, 10 a.m.

Friday, Sept. 7 — Shabbat service, 6 p.m., with Wine/Cheese Oneg

Saturday, Sept. 8 — Shabbat service, 10 a.m. Selichot, 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 11 — Religious School fundraiser at Isaac's, 6 p.m.

Wednesday-Thursday, Sept. 12-13 — Rosh Hashanah (details inside)

Sunday, Sept. 16 — Cemetery service, 1 p.m.

Friday-Saturday, Sept. 21-22 — Yom Kippur (details inside)

Wednesday, Sept. 26 — Sukkot decorating, 6 p.m.; Service, 7 p.m.

Saturday, Sept. 29 — Tot Shabbat on the farm, 4 p.m.

**All services at 7:45 p.m. unless otherwise noted
Babysitting available for 7:45 Shabbat services.**

*Bulletin sponsored by
Barbara Nazimov
in memory of Heather Nazimov*

Religious School News**Welcome to another year of fun and learning**By **Judy Synnamon***Religious School administrator*

I'd like to welcome everyone to Religious School 2007-08. The first day of Sunday School will be Sept. 9, and the first day of Hebrew School will be Tuesday, Sept. 11. It is so important to your children that you have shown this commitment to a Jewish education, a strong Jewish identity and that both are worth giving up sleeping in on a Sunday and Tuesday afternoon secular activities.

We have about 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.

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

Pre K/K: Dorrie Karp

First Grade: Susan Jeffers

Second Grade: Missy Glassmire

Third Grade: Hannah Copeland

Fourth Grade: Rachel Caminsky

Fifth Grade: Brook Rose

Sixth Grade: Eve Pardo

Seventh Grade: Holly Michelson

Confirmation: Rabbi Michelson

Our Tuesday teachers are:

Third Grade: Susan Jeffers

Fourth Grade: Beth Bruck

Fifth Grade: Brooke Rose

Sixth Grade: Eve Pardo

Seventh Grade: Holly Michelson

I urge you to read and become familiar with the Religious School Manual. This has Religious School policies, protocols and curriculum. You will also receive a calendar of dates for this year's classes, services and events. You will be reminded of special events by my monthly articles in the Temple newsletter and flyers. Please check the bulletin board outside of the school office for the daily curriculum of each class and announcements for the School. I hope you

will utilize the topics in the daily curriculum overviews as points of discussion with your children. Also, please plan on attending the Family Services with your children. You are your child's most influential role model in their commitment to Judaism.

Please keep the lines of home-school communication open. Talk to your child's teacher to find out how your child is doing. You will be receiving a report card in January and one at the end of the year. The teachers have been told to report any concerns to parents as soon as they arise and I encourage you to do the same. If you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or me. You are invited and encouraged to attend Religious School Committee meetings. The co-chairs are Linda Bram and Cindy Silverstein. Please let them know of your interest.

I welcome your input, ideas and suggestions. We are looking forward to a great year.

PRESIDENT*Continued from Page 1*

With all of that out in the open, let me talk about the future; about what we can do together. You may have noticed the emphasis on one word in the preceding sentence. I emphasized it because it is the most important word in the sentence. Now that you are aware of the sad fact that the president is a novice and has flaws, it becomes more important to realize that this is a joint endeavor and we must all work together if we are to have the year we all deserve. The more we do together, the better this is going to turn out.

I would like to see our small community grow, if not in numbers, then in cohesion, enthusiasm and energy. Of course numbers are important; but we should know that at whatever numerical level we will exist, the more important considerations are the quality of what we give and, hence, get from our community experience. Naturally, we must be primarily concerned about the continued viability of the Temple; but we should not lose sight of the important reasons for which we all have come together as a congregation. As I see it, we want to jointly live and experience Jew-

ish life as a community. That goal is both broad and good. It encompasses learning and teaching, social action and activities, moral and spiritual growth, camaraderie, mutual help and support, reverence for our history and ancestors and building our future and that of our children. This list is not in order of importance and I have no doubt left out a few -- or a few dozen. But, I am sure you get the point. In any event, as indicated above, we can only do this together. So, with determination, mutual respect, and a desire to live and laugh, let's do it.



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Have you considered remembering the Temple in your will?

Focus on the Food Festival**Getting ads is easier than you think****By Jeri Kozloff**

"How to Handle a Mortgage"

With apologies to Lerner and Loewe

*How to handle a mortgage?**There's a way, I will tell you how.**Work to get ads for the program**The time to do it is NOW.**How to do it? You beg me tell you,**Do I threaten or cajole or plead?**Do I fool or play the sad solicitor?**Say I smiling, no indeed.**How to handle a mortgage?**Mark me will I will tell you friend.**One way to handle a mortgage is to get ads,**Simply get ads,**Merely get ads... get ads... get ads.*

Getting ads for the Food Festival program is so important, for the first "Focus" article of the year I'm presenting a reprise of this "Camelot" adaptation. This month our focus should be on ad solicitation. Every dollar of ad proceeds goes toward paying off the principle of our mortgage. What could be better than that?

"No," you say, "I can't do that. I don't feel comfortable asking for ads." It's not as hard as you think. Here are some ideas to make it easier.

Get an ad from:

- Your own business or professional organization

- Your financial adviser, doctor, dentist, accountant, insurance broker

- The stores you patronize

- Landscape and home maintenance businesses you use

Think of yourself as offering an opportunity for your prospect to make members of our congregation and the wider community aware of their products and services. And remember, it never hurts to ask.

Early bird special rates are available for ads placed by Aug. 31. Final due date is Sept. 15. If you need more forms, contact jdkoz@comcast.net.

Florence Frank Offering Fund

Get well wishes to Mrs. Rae Rudnick

Mrs. Dorothy Schlanger

To Mrs. Phyllis Knoblauch in memory of her husband Sidney

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Friedman

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brok

To Mrs. Eleanor Gould in memory of her daughter

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brok

To Mr. and Mrs. George Eligman in memory of Ruth Jacobs

Mr. and Mrs. Gene Friedman

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brok

To Mr. and Mrs. Stuart Zager in memory of his mother

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brok

To Mrs. Barbara Silverberg in honor of her grandson

Mrs. Hilde Gernsheimer

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.

Can you share Shabbat dinner. . .

with Joanna Alexander, our new student cantor?

Please contact Jeri Kozloff at 610-373-4400
or jdkoz@comcast.net to volunteer.

Joanna will be with us on the following weekends:

Dates marked * are First Friday of the month,
meaning dinner is after the 6 p.m. service.

September 7-9*October 26-28****November 16-18****January 25-27****February 22-24****March 28-30****April 11-13****October 12-14*****November 2-4****January 18-20****February 8-10****March 14-16*****April 4-6****May 16-18****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: Sept. 5**The Temple Online**www.ohebsholom.orgOffice: office@ohebsholom.orgRabbi Michelson: rabbi@ohebsholom.orgBookkeeper Beth Bruck: bookkeeper@ohebsholom.orgCantor Joanna Alexander: cantor@ohebsholom.org

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In gratitude from the 100th
anniversary service
Roz Hyman

In honor of the naming of our
grandchild, Gabriel Stephen
Shore
Pat & Joe Shore

In memory of David Marine and
in thanks for the meals delivered
to them by RCOS
Iris and Leon Lonker

In memory of Viola Schneider
Nancy Knoblauch

In memory of Lillian E. Cohn
Hal Cohn

A donation has been received from
Cindy Chronister

In memory of Nathan Gross
Mildred & Ivan Gordon

In honor of Danielle's Hebrew
naming
Jodi & Lee Radosh

In gratitude for the many
birthday wishes
Dorie Karp

In appreciation of the good
wishes we received for our
anniversary
Barb and Dave Bender

In memory of my mother,
Matilda Miller, and my sister,
Martha Miller-Hoffman
Saul Miller

In memory of Fred Garfinkle
Ruth and Hal Cohn
Marge Lonergan

In memory of Herb Jacoby
Lorri & Yoni Oziri

In honor of the naming of my
son Joshua
Irene Sileski and family

Building Fund

In honor of Barbara Silverberg
becoming a grandmother
Harriet Baskin

In memory of Ronald Horowitz
Harriet Baskin

Thank you to Linda Bram from
her warm-legged friend
Roz Hyman

Thank you to Donna Oaks for her
Italian meatballs and so much more
Roz Hyman

In memory of Ruth Jacobs
Helen Rappoport

In celebration of Edith
Mendelsohn's 90th birthday
Eva H. Bartos

Greater Temple Fund

In memory of Ronald Horowitz
Lorri & Yoni Oziri
Jeff & Lynn Driben

In memory of Sidney Knoblauch
Roger S. Schein
Rose Marie DeNunzio
Janet E. Vroman
John Bremen & Lara Frohlich
Millicent Rudnick
Bernard & Frances Wolnak
Ruth Balis

In memory of Austin Kutscher
Barbara C. Silverberg

In celebration of Edith
Mendelsohn's 90th birthday
Albert Diamond

Shirley Jacobs Religious School Fund

In memory of Ronald Horowitz
Irwin J. Goldstein
Dr. Marvin & Elyse Diamond

Capital Campaign Fund

In celebration of Edith
Mendelsohn's 90th birthday
Sue & George Viener

Landscaping Fund

In celebration of Barbara
Rosenzweig's birthday
Anne & Alan Seltzer

In memory of Beth Caster's mother
Anne & Alan Seltzer

In memory of my mother, Etta Burns
Barbara Singer

General Fund

In celebration of Edith
Mendelsohn's 90th birthday
Rabbi Brian & Holly
Michelson & Family

Edwin & Charlotte Jacobson
Frances C. Rosenberg
Selma Cutler
Susan Miller
Pearl Mendelsohn
Rosalie Goldstein
Edith Blanck
Ellis & Lita Schein
Annabel R. Klein
Norma Greenberg
Ron Greenberg
A. Terry & Steve Burroughs
Doris M. Sheeder
Sharon Scullin & Jim Rothstein
Harry & Bernice Saft
Shirley Berman
Harold Sherman & Debbi
Bienstock
Toby & Bernie Mendelsohn
Zelda & Bill Cherner
Meyer & Grace Lewis
Paula Cherner & Lisa Karlin
Linda & Richard Pottern
Sari & John Inledon
Elaine & Allen Krause
Abby B. Strunk

Claire E. Cooper
Sidney & Phyllis Symons
Ruth Goldser
Fred & Barbara Boesch
Amy Besser
Pam & Steve Mendelsohn
Ken & Jeri Mendelsohn
Amy S. Hollowbush
Ann R. Boyd
Daniel & Marilyn Garlen
Stanton & Frances Katsoff
Bob & Doris Brok
Phyllis Gramlich & Ray
Mendelsohn
Saul & Esther Lubar
Mae Marlowe
Carl Cronrath
The Bram Family

In memory of Sidney Knoblauch
Sue & George Viener
Berna Sherman & Family
The Bram Family

In memory of Ruth Jacobs
Nancy Knoblauch

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 Fred Garfinkle
Helen Rappoport

For David Walker's speedy recovery
Sylvia Schiff

In memory of Marvin
Friedman
Helen Rappoport

In memory of Ruth Jacobs
Lynn & Norbert Salpeter
Edna Pollak

In honor of Rae Rudnick
Sylvia Schiff

In memory of Sidney Knoblauch
The Mendelsohn Family

Perpetual Memorials

Sept. 1-8

Osker Hekler
Dr. James Holzman
Dr. Joseph A. Liefert
Alan Baskin
Rosa Weil
Bernard L. Simmons
Anna Stern
Jack Loeb Stein

Albert Fried
Bertha Whiteson
Joseph Marcus
Sitta Goldstein
Florence E. Frank
Samuel B. Cohen
Marsha Salpeter
Sara Holzman
Sally Fromm Cohen

Sept. 9-15

Vivian Schachter
Solly Gernsheimer
Josephine Katz
Robert Katz
Dr. Frederick P. Pokrass
Sadie Gilbert

Sept. 23-30

Malcom Spinrad
Manfred Jakobs
N. John Kelner
Charlotte F. Levy
Theresa R. Cohn
Ignatz Whiteson
Isabel Sondheim
Bertha Eisman

Sept. 16-22

Lawrence Diamond

High Holy Days 5768

Selichot

Saturday, Sept. 8: Program, 8:30 p.m.; Service, 11 p.m.

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Wednesday, Sept. 12, 8 p.m., followed by reception hosted by Sisterhood

Rosh Hashanah

Thursday, Sept. 13, 10 a.m.

Rosh Hashanah Family Service

Thursday, Sept. 13, 4 p.m. (designed for children up to Grade 2)

Tashlich Service

Thursday, Sept. 13, 5:30 p.m. (Creek at Reading Public Museum)

Annual service at Mt. Sinai Cemetery

Sunday, Sept. 16, 1 p.m.

Yom Kippur: Kol Nidre

Friday, Sept. 21, 8 p.m.

Yom Kippur, Saturday, Sept. 22

Morning service, 9:30 a.m.

Children's service, 1:30 p.m.

Study session: 12:15-2:15 p.m.; Afternoon service, 2:30 p.m.

Yiskor, 4:30 p.m.; Concluding service, 5 p.m. (approximately)

September Simchas

Anniversaries

Mr. & Mrs. William Wolf	Sept. 1	Vivian Schneider	Sept. 8
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Stein	Sept. 2	Margery Gilbert	Sept. 10
Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Spillerman	Sept. 3	Cantor Gerald Miller	Sept. 11
Mr. & Mrs. David Goldstein	Sept. 4	Trudy Katz	Sept. 14
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Nemirow	Sept. 4	Robert Brok	Sept. 21
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffry Gernsheimer	Sept. 5	Sharon Zamrin	Sept. 21
Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Jacobs	Sept. 5	Beth Anne Wolf	Sept. 24
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Jeffers	Sept. 18	Tandy Goldstein	Sept. 26
Mr. & Mrs. Stewart Goodman	Sept. 30	Rosalye Yashek	Sept. 26
Steven Levine & Frances Komisar	Sept.30	Frances Komisar	Sept. 28

Birthdays

Merryl Eisenberg	Sept. 2	Richard Roeberg	Sept. 28
Gene Friedman	Sept. 3	Ruth Balis	Sept. 29
Deborah Zelnick	Sept. 6	Barbara Nazimov	Sept. 30
Gerald Jeffers	Sept. 8	Sidney Symons	Sept. 30

NEWS FROM THE UNION

High Holidays Filled with Justice

For ideas on ways to make your family's holiday observances filled with *tzedek* (justice), *tzedakah* (righteousness) and *gimilut chasidim* (acts of loving kindness), take a look at "Days of Awe: A Social Action Guide for the High Holidays."

This guide from the Commission on Social Action has ideas for individual and family action from Rosh HaShanah through Sukkot. To view the guides, go to: www.rac.org/holidayguides.

Set Sail for Biennial

Sail south by southwest this December to join the 4,500 Reform Jews in sunny San Diego at the Reform Judaism Biennial Convention.

The Biennial promises to provide inspiring worship, exciting speakers, workshops and other learning opportunities. Come to San Diego and help set our course for the future of the Movement.

Register today at www.urj.org/biennial.

Books and Music for the Holidays

Log on to URJ Books and Music today and choose from a vast array of resources that will enhance your High Holiday experience. Everything from Jewish text to children's stories, sheet music to award winning albums, URJ Books and Music is the one place that you can find everything you need for this Yamim Noraim.

www.urjbooksandmusic.com

Name Recovery Project

Since 1955, Yad Vashem has worked to fulfill its mandate to preserve the memory of the 6 million Jews who perished in the Holocaust by collecting their names, the ultimate representation of a person's identity.

Today, millions of victims still remain unidentified. Learn what you can do to help the Yad Vashem's Shoah Victims' Names Recovery Project by www1.yadvashem.org/names/whyCollect.htm. Every name that is collected is a life that will be honored for generations to come.

The Law and the Land: Affinity Trip for Attorneys

Register now for The Law and the Land, ARZA's affinity trip to Israel for attorneys, their business partners, spouses and significant others, Nov. 1-11.

The 10-day trip includes two days of Continuing Legal Education courses on Israeli law, taught by the faculty of Tel Aviv University Law School and accredited in New York State for 14 credits. The course is also eligible for credit in all other states with mandatory CLE requirements.

Meet with Supreme Court Judges, senior Ministry of Justice officials, military judges, rabbinical judges, Muslim Family Court judges, private practitioners, and lawyers engaged in civil rights, human rights and terrorism litigation.

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To find out more, call (212)650-4096, email mschuchman@arza.org or visit www.arza.org/travel/mission/attorneys_trip.

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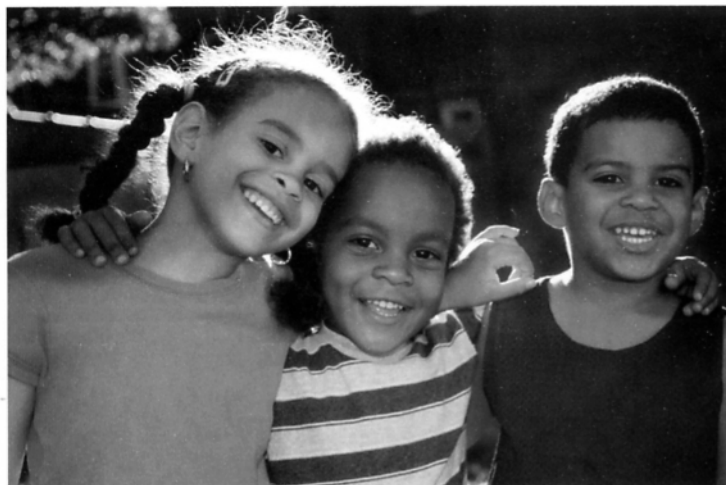
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