

THE VOICE

Bimonthly Publication of Congregation Beth Israel, Meridian, MS

Sanctuary Update

Building Chair Ann Stewart advises that most repairs programmed for the sanctuary have been completed. These were required due to the age of the structure and design deficiencies. A dehumidifier and a sump pump are major updates; plus efforts to super-seal windows, should go a long way to prevent flooding and moisture in the future. Some dirt moving remains to be done.

Board of Trustees

Linda Miller—*PRESIDENT*
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Perry Goodman—*2ND VICE PRES.*
Sheryl Davidson—*SECRETARY*
Lewis Rosenfeld—*TREASURER*
Len Maith—*TRUSTEE*
Helen Meyer—*TRUSTEE*
Linda Davidson—*TRUSTEE*

☆☆☆☆☆

David S. Goldstein—*RABBI*

1968: Year of Stamina and Perseverance

45 years ago, during the night of May 27, the relatively peaceful existence of the Meridian Jewish community was shattered when our synagogue was bombed by a group of Ku Klux Klan members from Jackson.

But instead of devastating or dispersing “the flock”, the dastardly act had quite the opposite effect: It re-invigorated the Jews of the area and knitted them into an even tighter group with even closer relations with their gentile neighbors. The congregation, through its president A. L. Cahn issued a statement that it would continue to object to racial violence.

Local officials and the local press denounced the attack and expressed their support for the Jewish community.

Shavuot Holiday Is Celebrated May 15th



Shavuot...

...is the Hebrew word for “weeks” and refers to the Jewish festival marking the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, which occurs seven weeks after Passover. In ancient days it began as an agricultural festival, with offerings brought to the Temple in Jerusalem. Today, it’s a celebration of Torah and Jewish education, as well as choosing participation in Jewish life.

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Your Activities Calendar for May & June 2013



<i>May 2013</i>						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	<u>3</u>	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<u>12</u>	13	14	<u>15</u>	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	<u>24</u>	25
26	<u>27</u>	28	29	30	31	

May 3: Shabbat Service w/Rabbi Goldstein
5:30pm: Schmooze 'n Snack
6:00pm: Service in Sanctuary

May 12: Mother's Day

May 15: Shavuot-Sivan 6

May 24: Shabbat Lay Service

6:00pm: Rosenbaum Hall

May 27: Memorial Day (observed)



<i>June 2013</i>						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<u>16</u>	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	<u>28</u>	29
30						

June 16: Father's Day

June 28: Shabbat Lay Service

6:00pm: Rosenbaum Hall

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Words From Our President

IN MY TIME

When I was three I heard a mean, frightening voice on the radio and every adult in the room fell silent. Instinctively, I knew to be silent, as well. It was the voice of Hitler and I didn't like it. When I was five, I saw a flag at half staff and asked why. I was told that the President had died. I got on the bus for a dime, but others paying the same amount had to sit in the back where I wasn't allowed. I was an observant child and I listened keenly. And I asked why? When I began teaching after college, not one of my 7th graders knew who Hitler was.

The generation ahead of mine experienced the Depression, WWII, the "Happy Days" after those, but usually stuck to thrifty ways, while their children had little fear of hunger, but maybe feared "The Bomb" or Polio. The generation after welled in protest of the Viet Nam War, flaunted long hair, psychedelic visions, free love, pot. No one before them understood it all. And since then we have seen the Generation Xers, Ys and, and Millennials. We've witnessed revolutions and evolutions in media, technology, politics and in a lifetime, the world has shrunk -- even the planet has been seen from afar. Still there are wars and the same struggles. Now North Korea looms once more and few can remember the 48th parallel or its importance. I knew when I was in

4th grade.

My generation was privileged to reap the benefits of their parents, but may not have recognized the cares of their parents. For them, Elvis was a mystery -- as deep as Kim Kardashian is to me. If nothing else, after watching Jay Leno his entire life, just try Jimmy Fallon -- a gigantic leap across generations.

And here are my concerns for this Congregation: As we become fewer, how do we speak across and for the generations now left? We have children who are the only Jews of their generation in this town and parents who must exert themselves far harder for religious education than those who had SEFTY or BBYO. We have a few 20-50 year olds who live busy lives with few Jews as daily contacts. There are some who didn't have Jewish backgrounds who contribute to our group and seek to understand. There are some whose memories of the Congregation are comforting. What are we to rely on and how do we meet the needs of groups spread thinly? Will it be our understanding of history or will it be our religious and ethical teachings? What will unite us as we become the representative of Judaism to the community at large and how will we support one another? How do we "walk in each other's shoes" when the shoes are of different age and size? I don't have the answers, but I may not have asked the right questions. I just know that observing and listening to each other will be a good start.

Shalom,

Linda Miller

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From Our Rabbi's Desk

42

Shannie and I just returned from seeing the new movie, 42. Both of us loved it. It's not a perfect retelling of Jackie Robinson's first year in the major leagues with the Brooklyn Dodgers. But, it was good enough for me. Growing up near New York I followed most of Robinson's career with the Dodgers and always felt a special affinity for the "Robinson Dodgers". Maybe part of that was because I saw a parallel between the small minded hatred and prejudice Robinson experienced, and the prejudice and hatred we Jews had endured for so much of our history. As a kid I identified with him.

Robinson's response to bigotry was to hold his head high with dignity and to prove his worth on the ball field. We Jews, too. All too many have been the provocations we endured in our history – the exclusions and the marginalization – and yet we endured and succeeded. Jewish history is in large measure the story of a people regarded as the "other" and not the "self". Jackie Robinson most assuredly was "other" in the early years of his baseball career. Today he is "self", the personification of the national past time.

He was my hero. Not because he resisted retaliation against those who hated him. That was not what singled him out for me. But, because he was the quintessential ball player

and athlete, gifted and graceful. Talented beyond words. He was pure electricity on the base paths. I was never aware that he was Black, only that he was great.

Some observers have qualified him as the second most important figure in the struggle for civil rights. For me, at least second; maybe first.

Rabbi David Goldstein

Shavuot Food [or any time!]

Cheese Blintzes Casserole

Batter:

6 eggs
½ cup melted butter
1½ cups sour cream
½ orange juice
½ cup sugar
1 cup flour
2 tsp. baking powder

For filling:

8 oz. cream cheese (softened)
1 egg
1 pint cottage cheese
1 tbs. sugar
1 tsp. vanilla

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350°
2. For the batter, mix wet ingredients until combined
3. Mix in sugar, flour and baking powder
4. In separate bowl, mix together filling
5. Pour half of batter mixture into a 9x13 inch baking pan
6. Top with all of the filling
7. Pour the rest of the batter on top
8. Bake for 45 minutes or until golden
9. Top with sour cream

Servings: 12



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CBI Constitution Update

It has been brought to our attention that a small bit of updating is in order for our congregational constitution.

References here are to ARTICLE II, Section 2.1 (f); ARTICLE III, Sect. 3.1; and ARTICLE VIII, Sect. 8.3, all of which refer to the *Union of American Hebrew Congregations*.

A name change for the national organization was voted at the organization's 2003 biennial where all member congregations had a vote. The organization is now known as

UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM

Accordingly, CBI members will be asked to approve these updates during the next annual meeting of members.

New Security for Lay Service

Beginning with the Shabbat lay service on April 26th, our security person will be on duty during the entire service, much as we enjoy for more formal services in the sanctuary.

Specifically, the Rosenbaum Building will be unlocked at 5:30 pm for any lay prayer service, with lock-up of the property upon conclusion of service.

Food & Drink In Sactuary

Additional occurrences of food and drink and containers have been noted in the sanctuary. A very strict ruling against this was passed by the Board of Trustees last year and was widely promulgated.

Hopefully, members (children and adults) will adhere to this prohibition. Necessary clean-up and bug infestation are issues for which we have no personnel.

Deeds of Loving Kindness

Congregation Beth Israel gratefully acknowledges receipt of these kind and thoughtful contributions:

Scott Strasser makes a very generous donation in honor of his late grandparents, Sy and Barbaree Rosenbaum.

Barbaree Rosenbaum Heaster commemorates Rosie Mogelson with a contribution.

Welcome, New Member

Congregation Beth Israel is delighted to welcome a new membership:

Dr. & Mrs. Harry Kleinman
Lake Charles, LA

Karen Kleinman is the daughter of Lew and Morele Rosenfeld.

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Yahrzeit Observances

Kaddish is the most caring and respectful way we can manifest our everlasting love. Kaddish is the way we can actively demonstrate the Jewish soul is never forgotten.

✧✧Kaddish recited Friday, May 3rd:

Ike A. Rosenbaum, Annie Wigransky Rafkin,
Edward E. Reisman III, Louis Turitz, Ollie D. Maith

✧✧Kaddish recited Friday, May 24th:

Jack Ledner, Irving S. Rothenberg,
Ralph Jonas Lischkoff, Amy Feibelman, Joseph Ades,
Ike M. Rosenbush, Joseph Goldberger,
Louis Herman Arky, Donna H. Rosenbaum,
Minnie Kramer, Abraham Spritzer-Wilmen,
Esther Dumont, David Bergauer, Albert Herzog,
Ruth Davidson, Betty Ost Weinstein, Dorothy Lerner,
Harry Ades, Oscar C. Strauss, William S. Adler,
Isadore Dravin, Allan S. Jacobs, Harry C. Strauss,
Sophie G. Meyer

✧✧Kaddish recited Friday, June 28th:

Karleen Klein Rose, Mark Savage,
Lynette Cohen Robinson, Sam M. Feltenstein,
Sarah Leah Feinstein, Louis H. Threefoot, Harry Rice,
Julia R. Threefoot, Pauline Zindler, Samuel Abramson,
Janice Dveirin, Sollic Cohen, Eve Kramer Kogon,
Leo Zindler, Ida Radzyeneska, Theresa Rosenbaum,
Herman Weinstein, Rachel Weinstein,
Lewis M. Rothenberg, Sidney Wigransky,
Isaac Simon Ascher, Max O'Mell, Anna Posner,
Etta Kogon, Edward Maximullian Steele,
Julius Jacobson, Aaron Moses Potasnic,
Mildred Kaplan Simon, Pauline Klein, Margaret Loeb,
Betty David Morlar, Kutcher T. Klein, Carrie Rosenbaum,
Herbert L. Arky, Ida Mushlin, Abraham Lewis Simon,
Max Harnick, William Lerner Jr.,
Rebecca Meyer Feltenstein

Chai Lights: Birth Days & Anniversaries

The Congregation takes great delight in wishing these celebrants the best of everything. Many happy returns of the day.

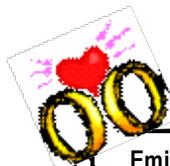
◎ BIRTH DATES ◎

Bob Merson--May 1
Lew Rosenfeld--May 4
Alex Loeb--May 18
Rhonda Loeb--May 19
Wyatt Davidson--May 22
Tammy Stewart--May 26
Len Maith--May 27
David Goldstein--May 28
Morele Rosenfeld--June 16

◎ ANNIVERSARIES ◎

Perry & Robin Goodman--June 8
Jay & Sheryl Davidson--June 12
Allan & Ann Stewart--June 17
David & Shannie Goldstein--June 21
Harold & Barbaree Heaster--June 23

Mazel Tov!



Emily Giles and Scott Strasser announce
their engagement in Meridian, Mississippi.
Mazel Tov!

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May Sisterhood Meeting

The May meeting of the CBI Sisterhood was held at Northwood Country Club and hosted by Linda Davidson. She welcomed Emily Giles, Scott Strasser's fiancé.

Jan Maith delivered updated membership booklets which now include the Sisterhood Prayer; 2013-2014 Jewish Holiday dates; and member' address, phone number and e-mail address information. These were immediately put to use in the recitation of the Sisterhood prayer. Everyone was delighted by Jan's surprise gift.

Dorothy Dveirin, Treasurer, indicated that the treasury is in good shape; all members are paid up. She also reported that the fire department asked for a contribution of at least \$25 for its school program. Jimmie Kay moved to send them that amount. Ann seconded. Motion passed.

Morele Rosenfeld moved to spend \$100 for Care Lodge. Jan Maith seconded. Motion passed.

New Business: Ann Stewart told of housekeeping duties left unattended after both pre-service Schmooze sessions and Lay services. Service attendees should assist with removing all wine glasses, extinguishing candles, and setting the thermostat before leaving. It was noted that on a couple of occasions women had been left alone to close the building and that was not a good situation. Sheryl Davidson suggested that our se-

curity personnel might add lay services to its schedule. Morele moved that Sisterhood cover the cost of hiring security for lay services until a CBI Board Meeting was called; Sheryl seconded. Motion passed .

Ann also reported on the conditions of our Torahs. One is extremely old and, according to the rabbi, not useable. A burial ceremony was discussed; or finding a temple or synagogue that might need it; or investigating repair costs; or donating it to a local museum.

Linda Davidson sadly spoke of the recent death of Rosie Mogelson. She was born in Meridian and lived most of her life here until some years ago. She was remembered fondly by those who knew her.

The meeting was adjourned followed by a brunch with lots of good conversation.



Details showing re-worked window following installation of exterior glass protective coverings over the sanctuary west wall mosaic window. Arrows point to super-sealant applications.

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