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Published by Mishkan Torah Synagogue, Greenbelt, Maryland

December 2010

## PRESIDENT REFLECTS ON MATCHING DONATIONS, IP, & IT UPDATES

by Steven Mirsky, President

### SAFETY AND SECURITY MATCHING CHALLENGE DONATION

After reading last month's Trumpet article on our security grant from DHS, a member of Mishkan Torah who wishes to be anonymous, contacted me with an offer to donate funds for further security improvements.



When the Security Committee met and developed a vulnerability assessment, we identified many areas at MT for improvement. The Homeland Security Grant will pay for many, but not all, of these. We had to

prioritize what would fit under the available funds. This very generous member of MT recognized this fact and has made the following offer: Any contributions made to MT for the express purpose of improving our safety and security will be matched one-for-one by this anonymous donor.

The donor also pointed out to me that end-of-calendar-year donations of stocks that have appreciated would benefit MT because, due to our tax free status, we would not have to pay capital gains, whereas the owner would. In today's economy, most bank account, Treasury bill, and CD interest rates are less than 1%. Here is an opportunity for your contribution to Mishkan Torah to immediately result in our receiving a *100% interest rate!* And these funds will be used for improving safety and security! It's a win-win situation!

The only stipulation is that your contribution, in any form you choose (cash, check, or stocks)

must be received by December 31, 2010! So act now. Be the first on your block or in your neighborhood to be able to brag that you made a donation that immediately doubled while supporting a safer and more secure world!

### NEW SANCTUARY CHAIR MATCHING CHALLENGE DONATION

Earlier this spring, I announced another very generous offer by Ed and Debbie Brenner to match contributions expressly for the purpose of purchasing additional new chairs for our sanctuary. Debbie and Ed will match all donations up to a total of \$300.

Again you have an opportunity to realize *100% interest rate* on your earmarked contribution to Mishkan Torah, but you must act soon. This offer expires on December 31, 2010. Simply write a check and mail or deliver it to MT with the note that it is to be used to purchase additional sanctuary chairs. Your donation will sit well with us!

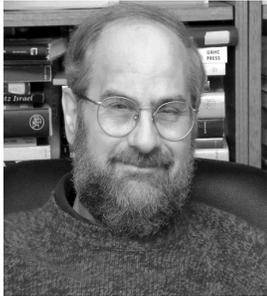
### INVESTMENT POLICY (IP)

At the Special Membership Meeting on our investment policy, held on October 31, a lively discussion ensued that encompassed several aspects of the draft policy, which had been mailed out to members 30 days earlier. Some of the key issues brought up included a suggestion to find an outside certified financial planner and the need for further modification of the language in the policy.

It was also pointed out that it was not necessary to have the membership vote on any policy since the by-laws assign this responsibility to the Financial Committee. This is true with the exception of the Special Funds, Sisterhood, and Men's Club. **Continued on page 7**

## RABBI'S COLUMN

If you're like me – and 80% of Americans of all religious and political opinions are – then you think the lack of respectful discourse in our political system is a serious problem. This is the finding of a poll released in November by the Public Religion Research Institute, a non-profit, non-partisan research and consulting firm that specializes in work at the intersection of religion, values and public life. The poll, which has a margin of error of plus or minus 3 percentage points, was based on telephone interviews conducted Nov. 5-8, after the midterm elections, with 1,022 U.S. adults.



The poll's findings crystallize sentiments expressed by a range of religious leaders, including Richard J. Mouw, president of the evangelical Fuller Theological Seminary and

author of "Uncommon Decency: Christian Civility in an Uncivil World," and Steve Gutow, president of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (often referred to by its initials as the JCPA) – who is a Reconstructionist rabbi.

Alarmed by the 2010 campaign season, which 4 in 10 Americans consider more negative than past elections, Mouw, Gutow and others are calling for a kinder, gentler tone – even on hot-button topics like Islamophobia, homosexuality or abortion. Americans are justifiably afraid and upset about the stagnant economy and terrorism, Gutow said, but he agreed with Mouw that 24/7 cable news channels and the blogosphere have encouraged and magnified negative, fear-based rhetoric. "I don't think this country, and I don't think our community, are going to make good decisions if people can't talk to each other rationally and pragmatically," Gutow said. "We need to lean back, talk to each other, look each other in the eye and respect each other's humanity."

Rabbi Gutow's words echo the JCPA's new "Statement on Civility," prompted by polarizing debate in the American Jewish community over Israel as well as by domestic concerns. The JCPA statement has collected almost 1,200 signatures – among them my own – since it was launched on November 1. In it, we pledge to "treat others with decency and honor and to set ourselves as models for civil discourse, even when we disagree with each other."

In its preamble, the pledge affirms that in American society, and especially in our diverse Jewish community, we value robust and vigorous debate about pressing issues. Such debate is one of the greatest features of our democracy and one of the hallmarks of our people. We revel in our tradition of debate: A frank and civil exchange of ideas helps to inform our decisions, to provoke new ways of thinking, and sometimes even to change our minds.

And yet today, the preamble continues, the expression and exchange of views is often an uncivil, highly unpleasant experience. Community events and public discussions are often interrupted by raised voices, personal insults, and outrageous charges. Such incivility serves no good purpose. When differences spiral down into uncivil acrimony, the dignity of both individuals and the community is diminished, and our precious democracy is weakened. When people holding diverse views cease to listen to each other, it becomes more difficult, if not impossible, to open minds, much less to find common ground.

Therefore, the JCPA pledge calls on Jews – both as individuals and as members of a community – to uphold the basic norms of civil discussion and debate at our public events. It calls on us to guard our tongues and to reject false witness. Such self restraint is not aimed at stifling the free expression of views. Quite the contrary, healthy and respectful dialogue is the only way to protect our freedoms from demagogic abuse. The JCPA pledge calls us always to remember the inherent dignity of every human being, even of those with whom we may strongly disagree. It reiterates the Jewish value of listening carefully when others speak, of seeking to understand what they are saying and of trying to learn from them. **Continued page 3.**

## RABBI'S COLUMN . . . from page 2

The pledge reminds us that the pursuit of civility has deep roots in both the Torah and in Jewish history. For its part, the Bible is an anthology of many different – often discordant – voices. Talmudic study encourages back-and-forth debate. Our Sages saw the fruit of arguments that were conducted *l'shem shamayim*, “for the sake of Heaven.” They fervently believed that great minds, engaged in earnest search and questioning, could find better and richer solutions to the problems they all faced than could any one person or faction operating alone. For this reason, they never insisted on uniformity. Rather, they sought to preserve and thereby honor the views of the minority as well as of the majority. They enunciated a great teaching: *Eilu v'eilu divrei Elohim chayim*, “both this statement and the other are the words of the living God.”

By the very fact of its existence, the Jewish Council for Public Affairs exemplifies this value. Its constituent organizations include the Orthodox Union and the Union for Reform Judaism, as well as the Conservative and Reconstructionist movements.

JCPA serves as the representative voice of the organized American Jewish community. It convenes the “common table” around which member agencies, through an open, representative, inclusive and consensus-driven process, meet to identify issues, articulate positions, and develop strategies, programs, and approaches designed to advance the public affairs goals and objectives of the Jewish community.

The goals of the JCPA are to safeguard the rights of Jews here and around the world; and to further the safety and security of the state of Israel. It also seeks to protect, preserve and promote a just American society, one that is democratic and pluralistic, one that furthers harmonious relations among various religious, ethnic, racial and other groups.

The work of the JCPA, especially in matters relating to democratic pluralism and social

justice, reflects the profound Jewish commitment to *tikkun olam*, the repair of the world. It expresses the conviction that Jews must be active in the effort to build a just society. In its mission statement, the JCPA points to a lesson of history: Jewish security is linked inexorably to the strength of democratic institutions. Thus our community has a direct stake and an ethical imperative to assure that America remains a country wedded to the Bill of Rights and committed to the rule of law, a nation whose institutions continue to function as a public trust, and where public discourse is conducted in a civil manner.

### CALLING ALL TORAH AND HAFTORAH READERS!

We are in need of more readers for Shabbat services. We would love to hear you read Torah and Haftorah. Please consider reading on the anniversary of your Bar or Bat Mitzvah, no matter what your age. Or if you would like to learn how to chant a Haftorah or Torah parasha, please email me and I will help.

Contact Phyllis Oresky at [sporesky@aol.com](mailto:sporesky@aol.com) and I will find a reading for you.

**REMEMBER THE MISHKAN TORAH  
WINTER MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2010 AT  
11 A.M.**

**AGENDA WILL INCLUDE**

**\*NOMINATING COMMITTEE  
NOMINATIONS  
\*SEMI-ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**

## 12-11-10: LUCKY NUMBER FOR SPECTACULAR BEN GREENFIELD CONCERT

by Jeffrey Rosen

Twelve-eleven-ten is the lucky number for the forthcoming Ben Greenfield concert! On December 11, 2010, (12/11/10) at 7:30 p.m., the Ways & Means Committee will present the long-anticipated first event in its Young Performers Series, a full evening concert of musical selections performed by Ben Greenfield. Ben has put together an ambitious and entertaining array of music with Jewish connections. The program will be followed by a social hour with light refreshments.

The Young Performers Series is the capstone event to reflect the Ways & Means Committee's theme for the year: From Generation to Generation. Ben literally grew up at Mishkan Torah as the son of our beloved Cantor Phil and music therapist/singer/flutist Carolyn Sonnen, who has appeared frequently on the Mishkan Torah stage.



Ben attended confirmation and post-confirmation classes at Mishkan Torah, and has frequently shown his command of the cantorial style and liturgy leading parts of numerous services over the years. He has followed in the family tradition by being a part-time cantor at a synagogue in Ohio for the past six years, most recently during the last High Holidays.

Ben was graduated from Baldwin-Wallace College with a degree in vocal performance. Afterwards, he pursued his vocal studies for a year at the prestigious Peabody Institute at Johns Hopkins University. He has performed numerous times at Mishkan Torah events, most recently at the "Hail to the Chiefs" dinner where he thrilled the attendees with his sensitive performance of Tamino's first-act aria from Mozart's "The Magic Flute." Last summer, he performed the entire role of Tamino in a fully-staged production of "The Magic Flute" by the Opera Company of Southern Maryland to sold-out houses.

Ben's performance promises to be a major cultural highlight in the entire history of Mishkan Torah. You will definitely want to be there when Ben takes the stage. Tickets are only \$15 in advance, and will be \$18 at the door in

the unlikely event it does not sell out in advance. You may order your tickets online at the Synagogue's website or by mailing a check to the Synagogue. You may use the order blank/flyer printed elsewhere in this issue of "The Trumpet" if you prefer. Whatever method you choose, be certain to order your tickets now!

You may show your further support of Ben and the Synagogue by making an additional contribution. You may be listed in the Program as a Contributor for \$18; a Benefactor for \$36; a Patron for \$54; or even be an Impresario for \$72 or more. You can add your contribution to your checks at the time you purchase your tickets.

Just remember; you may have heard of those Three Tenors, but Mishkan Torah only needs one to make a memorable concert! Be there on twelve-eleven-ten at seven-thirty for an evening you will not soon forget!

You will certainly not want to miss an event of this magnitude, one which promises to be the precursor of a series of performances by some of the most talented young people in our community. We can't reveal the stars of these upcoming events, but we can assure you that they, too, will be special and spectacular.

Remember to order your tickets now or you may be disappointed at the box office.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**for *Keter Shem Tov***  
**as Mishkan Torah will be**  
**honoring Dick Rosenzweig**

**May 7, 2011**



**MISHKAN  
TORAH**  
INVITES YOU TO



# LIGHT ONE CANDLE

WITH YOUR MISHKAN TORAH FAMILY  
ON THE 4TH NIGHT OF HANUKKAH



**Bring and light your Hanukkiyah!**



**Savor a light meal with made-from-scratch latkes!**



**Delight with the children's songs and skits.**

**Don't miss their "History of Jewish Music"  
performance!**

**Saturday, December 4, 2010 at 6 p.m.**

Adults/Teens \$8

Pre-B'nai Mitzvah \$5

Pre-Kindergarten children are free!

**RSVP (by 12/02/10) to the office at 301-474-4223 or  
[www.mishkantorahsynagogue.org/hanukah](http://www.mishkantorahsynagogue.org/hanukah)**

Consider that an accurate count allows us to purchase food for everyone.

## DECEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1	<i>Erev Hanukkah</i> (First <i>Hanukkah</i> Light)	
3	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Family Services (Third <i>Hanukkah</i> Light)	7:30 p.m.
4	<i>Shabbat Miketz</i>	9:30 a.m.
4	<i>Hanukkah</i> Party	6 p.m.
10	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services	8 p.m.
11	Shabbat VaYigash	9:30 a.m.
11	Young Performers' Showcase featuring Ben Greenfield	7:30 p.m.
12	Sisterhood Lunch and Much	12 p.m.
17	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services	8 p.m.
18	<i>Shabbat VaYechi</i>	9:30 a.m.
19	Coffee Klatch	9:30 a.m.
19	Winter Membership Meeting	11 a.m.
24	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services	8 p.m.
25	<i>Shabbat Shemot</i>	9:30 a.m.
31	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services [New Year's Eve]	

## DECEMBER YAHRZEITS

### December 3

Rose Finkelstein\*  
William Rubin\*  
Frank Haber\*  
Louis Rothbard\*

### December 10

Marilyn Levine  
Lottie Lee Mottzman  
Irma Polk\*  
Sylvia Summer May-Erie  
Lydia Schabb

### December 17

Ida Silverman  
Rhoda Tzemach\*  
Emma Froehlich\*  
Matilda Searle  
Lorraine Siegel  
Paul Ginsburg\*  
Estelle (Esther) Gerson\*  
Mathew H. Ahmann

### December 24

Maxwell Ehrlich\*  
Paul Kugel\*

Robert Feingold  
Philip Minson  
Isidore Reuben\*  
Rosetta Lissauer  
Lois Davis Darr  
Reuben Solomon\*  
Rae Algaze\*  
Dora Feingold  
Harry Horlick  
Jennie Stone  
Harry Morris\*

### December 31

Philip Friedman  
Louis Wallach\*  
Lena Kramer\*  
Rudy Bregman  
Howard Architzel  
Anne Belle Schultz  
Sherry Hyde\*  
Helen Presky  
Abraham Rosenthal\*  
Nathan Diamond\*  
Abraham Barnowsky\*

## JANUARY PREVIEW

1	<i>Shabbat Vaera</i>	9:30 a.m.
7	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Family Services	7:30 p.m.
8	<i>Shabbat Bo</i>	9:30 a.m.
14	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services	8 p.m.
15	<i>Shabbat B'Shalach</i>	9:30 a.m.
17	Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Observed	
20	<i>Tu B'Shevat</i>	
21	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services	8 p.m.
22	<i>Shabbat Yitro</i>	9:30 a.m.
28	<i>Erev Shabbat</i> Services	8 p.m.
29	<i>Shabbat Mishpatim</i>	9:30 a.m.

## MISHKAN TORAH GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS

### Yahrzeits

Jordan Choper for Minnie Choper & M. Solomon Kalkstein

Jordan & Eva Choper for Caecilie Traub

Cheryl & Alan Gerring for Arthur Butler

Marsha, Alan, Adam, Michael, & Leah Goldfine for Hyman & Dorothy Berkowitz

Glenda H. Goodman for Rose Haber

Sam Hofberg for Helen & Norma Hofberg

Sonya Hunt for Dora & Charles Friedman

Fay (Friedman) Messner for Charles & Dora Friedman

Frank Pearlman for Jennie Pearlman

Dick & Verna Rosenzweig for Ethel Rosenzweig & Eva Goldberg

Ellen & Richard Rubin for Jean Morris & Rudy Rubin

Marilynn L. Sheetz for Ada Levy Barnowsky

Lester & Christine Singer for Nathan Singer

Elaine Skolnik for David Skolnik

Sid & Irene Spector for Nathan Singer

Dave & Linda Spevack for Marc J. Spevack

Alyce & Arnold Strasser for Golde Epstein & Max Fuchs

Mort Tuckman for Herman S. Tuckman

### High Holiday President's Club

Janet Davis

### High Holiday Pledge

Don & Sheila Anderson

Joe Gurman

Hal Rappaport

Sharon & Allen Sokal

### Sustaining Fund

Pearl Ellerin in honor of Steve Mirsky and anyone else who assisted in resolving the problem with the fans and overhead lights in the sanctuary

### Building Fund

Ronnie Scotkin & Ed Hickey

### Marc Spevack Fund

Sid & Irene Spector in honor of Linda & Dave Spevack's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

### Scholarship Fund

Janet Davis in memory of Irving Davis

### Sylvia Hendel Family Education Fund

Janet Davis in memory of Sylvia Hendel & Alice Pearlman

### Yizkor

Joe Gurman

Raphael & Susette Panitz

### Young Performers Concert Series

Pearl Ellerin (Impresario)

## PRESIDENT'S REFLECTIONS . . . from page 1

At its November meeting, the Board decided that a simplified investment policy, which does not prescribe any specific investment venue, would be documented. In this manner, the Finance Committee, Special Funds trustees, Sisterhood, and Men's Club have flexibility in future investments.

Please be assured that the general funds that include your dues and pledges will NOT be invested in any risky venue outside of our current practice of fully insured bank accounts. When developed and approved by the Finance Committee, a revised final investment policy will be in a future edition of the Trumpet.

### Information Technology (IT) Committee

As Mishkan Torah modernizes and becomes more accessible through the use of 21st century IT, the Board unanimously voted on the creation of an IT Committee. It will have the responsibility of maintaining all IT activities such as Pay Pal, the MT website, Facebook, and individual MT-related e-mail addresses. The IT Committee Chair is Mark Loewenstein, who is also our webmaster. This committee also includes Phil Williams.

The IT Committee will be responsible for monitoring all IT developments and activities as they relate to Mishkan Torah, as well as recommending and implementing appropriate actions that maintain our internet presence, maximize electronic access, promote communication with both members and prospective members and keep us secure. If you are interested in joining our new IT committee, please contact Mark or Phil.

## SOCIAL ACTION IN ACTION

by Andrea Weiss

The Social Action Committee is hosting its fall Red Cross blood drive on Sunday, December 5 from 12-4. Donors can schedule appointments by calling 1-800-GIVE-LIFE, by going to [www.myredcross.org](http://www.myredcross.org), or calling Andrea Weiss. Walk-ins are welcome, too.

We are also continuing our winter clothing drive to benefit the students at Springhill Lake Elementary School. There is a box in the coatroom designated for donations. Please donate new or slightly used (and clean) children's coats, scarves, and gloves. Hats should be donated new. If you like, you can also send a check to Social Action made out to Mishkan Torah, and we will purchase clothing for you to donate. Ronnie Scotkin and I have been experts at finding bargains on these items.

Volunteers are needed to person the local homeless shelters on Christmas. The Greenbelt Community Church, which houses a homeless men's shelter, needs volunteers between 6:30 p.m. on December 24 to 6:30 p.m. on December 25. They are requesting 4-6 hour commitments overnight and 2-3 hours during the day. St. Matthews Church in Bowie houses a shelter for families and needs two volunteers to spend the night between 8 p.m. December 24 and 7 a.m. December 25. I am aware

that Christmas falls on Shabbat this year— however, there is still a need. Please contact me by email or phone to volunteer.

As always, we are collecting nonperishable food items for the neediest in our community. Please remember to bring a can or box of food with you when you come to the synagogue. There is a basket in the coatroom for donations, which are taken to the Greenbelt food pantry.

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5  
from 12 noon to 4 p.m.**

To schedule an appointment,  
call 1-800 Givelife,  
or Andrea (See Directory).  
Or simply walk in.

**Sponsored by the Social Action Committee.**

## SOCIAL ACTION CHILDREN'S WINTER OUTERWEAR DRIVE

**Please donate new and gently used children's  
coats, hats, scarves and gloves  
Collection box in the coat room**

**Or send a donation check payable to Mishkan Torah  
with "Social Action" in the memo line  
and we will purchase the clothing for you.**



Donations will go to the children of  
Spring Hill Lake Elementary School

## SISTERHOOD SAYS

by Irene Spector

What busy times we are sharing! Our Rummage Sale has just concluded, and what an event it was. After making a nice profit, Sisterhood donated the "leftovers" to several worthy causes. Clothing and shoes were donated for transport to Jamaica and Liberia. In addition, a large donation was given to the National Children's Center who came and cleared all that was packed and ready for them: clothing, and other items such as books, kitchen ware, glassware and toys. Thanks to Barbara Shansby (so organized) and all the helpers who worked so hard to make this a great success.

The Bake Sale at the Rummage Sale featured Paula Volk's homemade goodies and supplemented by baked items by Martha Tomecek and Ed Brenner. It too was very successful! I'm not surprised – the baked goods are so delicious. I hurried to buy the last batch of Paula's peanut butter cookies before someone else bought them. They are so good! .

Our thanks to Alyce Strasser for 25 Hanukkah care packages sent to our children away at college. They are always gratefully received by those who are away from home at that time. Good job, Alyce.

And now moving on, here are upcoming Sisterhood activities. Put them on your calendar. We welcome new members at any time!

**Saturday, December 4:** 6 p.m. **Hanukkah Party**, sponsored by Ways & Means and the Karp family school. **Sisterhood** is contributing the *sufganiyot* (donut holes)! Call Diane Rubinstein for information 301 552-0436.

**Sunday, December 12:** 12 noon. **Lunch and Munch.** Join our cooking class. Call Niki or Eva for details.

**Sunday, January 9:** Time to be announced. **Tour of the Maryland Women's Heritage Center** in Baltimore with our own Linda Shevitz, Director-call Niki for information.

**Sunday, February 27:** 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. **Exercise & "Energy Work" Class** – call Eva for details.

**Saturday, April 2:** 6 p.m. **Havdallah Dinner.** Please call Niki or Eva to learn how you can participate.

**Saturday, April 30:** After Shabbat. **Setting up for Jewelry Sale.** Call Eva Choper (301 474-3766) for details.

**Sunday, May 1: Seventh Annual Vintage Jewelry Sale.** Just in time for Mother's Day. Call Eva Choper for more information.

**Thursday, May 26: Ice Cream Social, Elections, and Tzdekah Activity:** Linus Blankets. Call Niki or Eva.

**Sunday, June 5 or June 12: Donor Event** to be determined. Call Phyllis Oresky (301 622-2928) for more information.

### FRIENDLY REMINDERS

**Mitzvah Cards:** Call Becky Hirsh at 301 345-1029 for her always efficient service. Cards are now available @ \$3.50 or 3 for only \$10. Remember that you get donor credit for all cards bought or sent.

**Catering:** Call Alyce Strasser, our catering maven, at 301 441-1353 (after 10:30 a.m. please). She is always ready to help you plan your simcha.

**Gift Shop:** Call Alyce Strasser (after 10:30 a.m. please) to arrange an appointment for you to shop for jewelry, ceramics, glassware, and ritual objects for any special occasion. Get a head start on Hanukkah shopping as you see all of the wonderful items available for the holiday.

### Rhyme Time

This time of year is lots of fun,  
So much to enjoy for everyone.  
Hanukkah Party with latkes galore;  
Keep them coming – we want more!  
Good to the last bite – what a wonderful  
taste –  
They will never go to waste.  
Well . . . maybe to the waist.

ENJOY!

**MISHKAN TORAH**  
Proudly presents the **FIRST** of Our L'Dor V'Dor  
Generations Showcases

**YOUNG PERFORMERS  
CONCERT SERIES**

STARRING  
**BEN GREENFIELD**  
Singing a delightful variety of Jewish music

**December 11, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.**  
at Mishkan Torah in Greenbelt

**\$15 RSVP Admission / \$18 at the door**

Be a supporter of our Young Performers Concert Series.  
We have different levels to choose from.

All donations will be listed in the Program Book if received by December 5.

- CONTRIBUTOR/\$18
- BENEFACTOR/\$36
- PATRON/\$54
- IMPRESARIO/\$72+

## RUMMAGE SALE ONCE AGAIN SUCCESSFUL

This year we had a very successful rummage sale, and earned more than we have in any year that I've done this. I think this was due to a number of factors, including all our hard work and great marketing, our high quality donations, long hours spent sorting, boxing and pricing, and a bit of luck.

As always, the effort rests on many shoulders—so thanks to everyone who helped by working, donating and/or shopping. Special thanks to the dedicated members who put in many hours this year: Janet Davis, Nancy Gerstel and her friend Stella, Liz Ahmann, Eva, Jordan and Leah Choper, Rhoda Minda Sherman, Irene and Sid Spector, Annie Haber, Mary Kaigler-Schaffer, Melanie Fishkind, Marla Goldberg, Alyce Strasser, Jackie Kling, Carol Levy, Judy Gallant, Harise Poland, Jackie Kling, Aurenna Komisar, Lois Darr and to new volunteers John, Nelly, and Diana Parks.

In addition we appreciate all those who

Barbara Shansby & Debbie Brenner helped with the sale, the clean up and/or some set up: Fran Sanders, Robin Olson, Suzette Panitz, Gail Philips, Eva, Jim and Ethan Garin, Lynn Title, Marcie Lissauer, Nadine Wobus, Ronnie Scotkin, Ed Hickey, Jan Bloom, Ethel and Joel Harris, Niki Kohn, Arlene Gottlieb, Katia Cavigelli, Sam and Lois Fields, and Irv Wartell. Another round of applause for the clean-up crew: Ron Shansby, Ed Brenner, and Mimi Fields (and others already mentioned!). Still more gratitude for help with chair removal: Dan Lowery, Bill Schwartz, Mark Shroder, Martha Tomecek, and Alan Duda. And of course there was Paula Volk's wonderful bake sale.

As you can see, this is a massive effort, and there are so many who helped out in so many ways. Although it's hard to admit, rummage can be fun—and it's because of all the great workers who pitch in every year. I apologize if there was anyone left out—we really do appreciate every contribution to the cause!

### YIDDISH CLUB STARTS TENTH SEASON

Interested in Yiddish?

Please join us for the 2010-2011 Mishkan Torah Yiddish Club!

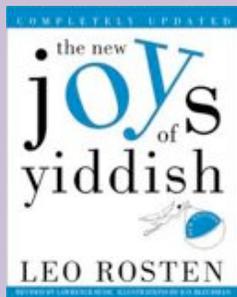
The aim of the Yiddish Club is to experience Ashkenazic Jewish history and culture through the medium of the Yiddish language.

We use a variety of materials such as movies, poems, books, CDs, and newspapers.

You don't have to know how to speak or read Yiddish, and you don't have to come to every meeting.

All you need is a love of Jewish culture and a desire to learn and have fun.

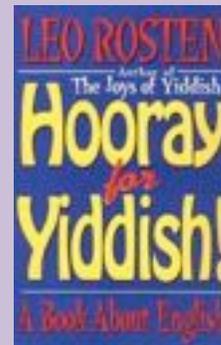
The Yiddish Club will meet at Mishkan Torah from 10 to 11:30 a.m. on the following Sundays:



**December 12**  
**January 9**  
**February 6**

**June 5**

**March 6**  
**April 3**  
**May 8**



For more information, contact Mona Baumgarten  
(mbaumgar@verizon.net or 301-486-4535).

## ADULT STUDY GROUP TO BE LED BY RABBI COHEN

by Mark Loewenstein

Because learning should not only be limited to our children, the Hebrew School parents are starting a new study group that will meet on Wednesday evenings at the same time as Hebrew School. Rabbi Cohen will be leading an exploration of the history and meaning of the prayers that make up the Shabbat and the weekday services. Just about any questions related to this broad topic are fair game. For example, why did the rabbis arrange the prayers in a particular order? And what meaning do these old traditional prayers have for us today?

We plan to meet once or twice a month at 6 p.m. The study group is open to anyone who has an interest in the topic. You do not need to be a Hebrew school parent to attend; we would love to have broader participation. Individuals with **any** prior background are welcome. The only prerequisites are a willingness to learn and have a good time.

Before our meetings, Rabbi Cohen will be providing materials and making them available **on line**. **Just** download the handouts and bring them on Wednesday. You do not need to read the handouts ahead of time. It would also be a good idea to bring a Siddur. Any edition will do (in fact, the more the merrier - we can compare them). If you want, bring a copy of Sim Shalom from the sanctuary.

### STAY INFORMED!

#### JOIN THE MISHKAN TORAH YAHOO GROUP

for up-to-date information on  
Events, Classes, Services, Member News

To join the Mishkan Torah Yahoo group with a Yahoo account:

**<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MishkanTorah/>**

1. **Go to:** **<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/MishkanTorah/>**
2. Click the **Join This Group!** button in the upper-right corner of the group's page.
3. If you're not already signed in to your Yahoo! account, enter your Yahoo! ID and password in the **Sign In to Yahoo!** box that appears.
4. On the Join This Group page that appears, set your membership preferences:
  - The public profile you want displayed to the group
  - The email address at which you'd like to receive group messages
    - How you want group messages delivered
  - The display format for email messages you receive
5. Click **Join** in the lower-right corner of the page.

**OR**

#### Subscribe to the Mishkan Torah Yahoo group's mailing list only

To subscribe to Mishkan Torah mailing list via email:

1. Send a blank email to [MishkanTorah-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:MishkanTorah-subscribe@yahoogroups.com).

To activate your subscription,  
just reply to the confirmation message you receive from the group.

## WAYS & MEANS EVENTS

by Angie Carmel

**Hanukkah Party:** Phil Williams will be making homemade latkes again at the annual Hanukkah celebration December 4. If you attended last year's party, you probably remember how great they were. Please note the flyer located elsewhere in the Trumpet. If you have not already made your reservations, please call me by December 2 so that we can prepare enough refreshments. However, payment should be made at the door.

**Young Performers' Showcase:** We are proud to announce our first concert in the Young Performers' Showcase on December 11, beginning at 7:30 p.m., starring our own Ben Greenfield. Ben will be singing songs with a Jewish connection. This promises to be a sell-out event, so please send your reservations to Mishkan Torah by December 5. Please see Jeff Rosen's article, together with a flyer giving information, which may be used to make reservations, and a form on which donations can be made.

**Coffee Klatch:** Coffee Klatch will be held on December 19, beginning at 9:30 a.m. This is the same morning as the Winter Membership Meeting which will start at 11 a.m.



The *Trumpet* is published by  
Mishkan Torah Synagogue  
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770  
301-474-4223  
[www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)

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PLEASE PHONE THE SYNAGOGUE OFFICE AT 301-474-4223

Please submit articles, pictures, suggestions, and flyers to Arnold Brodsky by the 20th of each month unless announced otherwise.

### Visit the Sisterhood Gift Shop

Get a head start  
on Purim and Passover.  
Be ready for all the  
gift giving occasions  
that come every spring.

For all things Judaica,  
call Alyce: 301-441-1353  
(after 10:30 a.m. please)  
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**Don't Forget To Bring Your Hanukkiot to the Big Party December 4!**

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