

INSIDE THE TRUMPET

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Mishkan Torah Synagogue, Greenbelt, Maryland

May 2011

MORE CHANGES: NOW IT'S JRF & USCJ!

by Steven Mirsky, President

Dear Friends,

Last month I discussed the safety and security grant that financed our new windows, a noticeable change at Mishkan Torah. The winds of change have also swept JRF and USCJ.

Last year, JRF proposed a merger with the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (RRC) to form one organization. At the 2010 JRF plenum, a vote in favor resulted in further discussion and revision to the plan for this merger. The new organization would have a board with both lay and rabbi members and achieve some financial efficiency by reducing overhead. On April 10, a special meeting of the JRF plenum was held in Philadelphia, where the final vote by all congregations was held. The motion passed by a vote of 495 to 11. This new combined organization would have one executive, one board



and staff. Some board members will be from the RRC, some lay members will be required to donate a minimum amount to the movement, and other lay members will not have this financial obligation. This new organization's goals are to: cultivate leadership, enhance Jewish learning, and foster Jewish living. For now, this combined JRF-RRC is referred to as the "Jewish Reconstructionist Movement" or JRM. Current plans are for the JRM to be operating by the end of 2011 or 2012. One further note on this change: the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association (RRA) will remain a separate organization, although leaders will serve on the JRM Board.

On March 13, the USCJ Board of Directors voted to accept a strategic plan that had been developed by a planning commission and a consultant in 2010. This plan acknowledges that Conservative Judaism has been losing congregations, losing members, and not attracting as many young people. This plan proposes to inspire prayer, sustain Jewish learning,

nurture spiritual and religious growth, promote leadership, ensure educational excellence and encourage and build new *Kehillot*. The plan uses the term *Kehilla*, which was coined to reflect sacred community rather than synagogue or congregation. Highlights of this 24-page plan include the following: (1) help *Kehillot* reinvent themselves for the 21st century; (2) create a unified vision for Jewish education; (3) encourage and nurture the next generation of *Kehillot* leaders; (4) review current U.S. programs and the Fuchsberg Center in Israel for restructuring and streamlining; (5) create a new name for USCJ; (6) rename all congregations and synagogues *Kehillot*; (7) work closely with all Conservative Jewish organizations; (8) seeking three groups of leaders: philanthropic investors, thought leaders, and organizational leaders (all Board members make annual contributions of \$10,000); (9) governance from a general assembly representing each *Kehilla*, in addition to a Board of Directors, CEO, Executive Committee, and other committees; (10) revamped district organization and operations; (11) attract more revenue from philanthropic investors; (12) **change and reduce synagogue dues**; and (13) improve financial management.

Continued on page 7

DON'T MISS THESE EVENTS:

MAY 7: **KETER SHEM TOV HONORING RICHARD ROSENZWEIG**

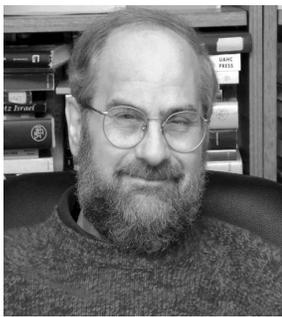
MAY 15: **YOUNG PERFORMERS FINALE WITH JOSHUA ROSEN ON FRENCH HORN**

JUN 26: **MEMBERSHIP MEETING INCLUDES ELECTION OF OFFICERS.**

RABBI EXPLAINS SIGNIFICANCE OF COUNTING THE OMER

At our *seder* this year, one of the participants asked me about counting the days of the *omer*. Why, she asked me, do we continue to perform this ritual that seems so irrelevant to urban and suburban Jews in early 21st century America?

On one level, she was absolutely correct. Strictly speaking an *omer* means a “sheaf of grain.” In biblical times, an *omer* of new barley was offered at the Temple in Jerusalem on the second day of *Pesach*, the first harvest festival of the year. Barley is the quickest ripening grain, and the most fertile – so it is the quintessence of the fruitfulness of the land. Until they brought this offering, our ancestors were forbidden to eat



from the new barley harvest. Each day from then until *Shavu'ot* – seven weeks later – they would bring a sheaf of barley to the Temple and present it before the altar.

Later in the spring the wheat crop would be

ready. The period that marked the passage between the two harvests became known as the “counting of the *omer*.” Just as it was forbidden to eat of the new grain crop until the *omer* was offered on Passover, the daily meal offerings in the temple could not be made from the new grain crop until after the offering of two loaves of bread on *Shavu'ot*. Because the *omer* period marked the harvest time, it was intimately connected with our ancestors’ concern for a successful crop. The offerings that began and concluded the *omer* expressed not only their hope for the harvest; it also expressed their thanks to God for the land and its bounty.

JOY TURNS TO MOURNING

In Temple times, the period of counting of the *omer* was a joyful time. But after the destruction of the Second Temple, when the Jews were exiled from their land, the period of counting the *omer* turned into seven weeks of semi-mourning: No haircuts; no banquets; no music. And no weddings!

The reason for this change from gladness to gloom is obscure, but theories abound. Scholars of an anthropological stripe claim the ban on

weddings is borrowed from a pagan belief that demons stalk the earth in the spring, casting their evil eyes on marriages made in May. Others, of a more pious bent, say that we mourn because we can no longer bring offerings to the Temple. Others say the mourning is for Bar Kochba’s failed rebellion against the Romans and for the 24,000 students of Rabbi Akiva who perished in the fighting. Another camp holds that the students actually died in a plague that struck on the first day of the *omer* in about 130 CE – a plague brought on, according to the Talmud, by the students’ jealousy and lack of respect for one another. In the Middle Ages this observance of mourning was reinforced by the persecutions and massacres of Jews in the Rhineland during the First Crusade (in May and June of 1096). Another later influence was the massacre of Ukrainian Jewry in 1648, which also took place during the *omer* period. On the other hand, both Maimonides’ *Mishneh Torah* (written in Egypt in the 1100’s) and the *Mahzor Vitry* (an early *siddur* compiled in France at roughly the same time) appear altogether unaware of such mourning customs.

LAG B’OMER

The obscurity of the reason for mourning is borne out by the discussion concerning the minor festival *Lag b’Omer*. *Lag b’Omer* occurs on the thirty-third day of the *omer* count (Iyar 18). The name comes from the numerical values assigned to the Hebrew letters *lamed* (30) and *gimmel* (3). *Lag b’Omer* today is a minor festival celebrated usually by picnics and other outings during which mourning practices are suspended. There is also an old custom whereby children play with bows and arrows on this day. The most frequent explanation of *Lag b’Omer* is that the plague that killed Akiva’s students ended on this day. (Others, presumably of a more pessimistic nature, hold that it was merely suspended on that day.)

Continued on page 3

RABBI'S COLUMN . . . from page 2

If we look at the *Shulkhan Arukh* (the classic code of Jewish law), we find a divergence of opinion between its authors, Rabbi Joseph Karo and Rabbi Moses Isserles, about *Lag b'Omer*. To make a long story short, Karo believed the mourning period of *omer* should end completely on *Lag b'Omer*. Isserles, for his part, states the more familiar tradition that the thirty-third day of the *omer* marks merely a suspension of mourning.

In addition to the unclear origins of the custom of mourning during the *omer* and the general lack of clarity about how to observe these customs, over the past several generations we have also witnessed a general downplaying of fasting and asceticism among American Jews. As early as 1950 the Rabbinical Assembly's Law Committee, the body that regulates religious practice for the Conservative movement, ruled that the prohibition on weddings and the other mourning practices need no longer apply. (However, the Law Committee still maintains the mourning practices during the week between *Pesach* and *Yom ha-Shoah* – the day that commemorates the Holocaust.)

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COUNTING

But why was it important to continue counting the days from the bringing of the *omer* until Shavuot? The rabbis shifted the meaning of *Shavu'ot* to commemorate the anniversary of our receiving the Torah at Sinai. Accordingly, new reasons emerged for linking the holidays.

In the eyes of the Kabbalah – Jewish mysticism – *Pesach* became the time of Israel's "betrothal" to God; *Shavu'ot* the "wedding day." And, reasoned the mystics, just as a bride eagerly counts the days between her engagement and her wedding, so will Israel continue to count the days between Passover and *Shavu'ot*, when we were finally united with God through our acceptance of the Torah.

Others see in *Shavu'ot* the culmination of the experience of the Exodus. From this perspective, the consequence of the deliverance from Egypt was not simply to free a people but to transform them into a holy nation. As the rabbis saw it, just as responsibility without freedom is slavery, freedom without obligation is license. And as the incident of worshipping the golden calf shows, this kind of irresponsibility leads to anarchy for the community and spiritual death for the individuals who comprise it.

COVENANT IS SEALED

The covenant between God and Israel, which began in Egypt, is then clearly spelled out in all its details at Sinai and is accepted by the Israelites. Sinai is the answer to the question "For what purpose were we freed from Egypt?" Sinai gave us goals to strive for and obligations to fulfill. They transformed us from *avdei pharaoh* – slaves of Pharaoh – to *avdei Hashem* – servants of the Lord. Thus *Pesach* without *Shavu'ot* would have been incomplete, and the *omer* is the chain that links the two together.

KARP SCHOOL LAG B'OMER CELEBRATION

MAY 21 AT 7 P.M.
GREENBELT NATIONAL PARK

☆ HAVDALLAH

☆ BONFIRE

☆ DAIRY/PAREVE POT-LUCK DINNER



GRAND FINALE CONCERT TO FEATURE FRENCH HORNIST JOSHUA ROSEN

by Jeffrey Rosen

Mishkan Torah will be the only place to be on Sunday, May 15, 2011 at two in the afternoon when French hornist Joshua Rosen will present the grand finale of the Ways and Means Committee's epic Young Performers Series. Joshua will perform a full concert of thrilling French horn favorites. A social hour and light refreshments will follow. Joshua expects several other musicians to participate, and there will doubtlessly be a Mishkan Torah surprise or two along the way.

The concert will bring the Synagogue's Young Performers Series to a glorious conclusion. The Ways and Means Committee has been sponsoring and presenting the Young Performers Series as the incarnation and capstone of its "From Generation to Generation" theme for this year. Joshua will be following prior Mishkan Torah Young Performers tenor Benjamin Greenfield and violin virtuoso Sarah Saviet, whose prior concerts were met with thunderous standing ovations and great acclaim. The Young Performers Series has delighted every member of the prior audiences, and has been a transcendent cultural highlight in the history of the Synagogue.

Joshua's planned concert should be a worthy companion to its predecessors. Joshua is planning to perform a number of French horn showpieces. The highlight will be one of the zeniths of the entire French horn repertoire and a guaranteed audience pleaser, Mozart's Second French Horn Concerto. The concert will further feature the world premiere of a new work. Joshua has set the Hebrew text of the "I Will Espouse You" segment of the *Book of Hosea* for French horn, piano, and tenor. Ben Greenfield will reprise his unforgettable performance in the first of the Young Performers Series by singing the tenor part. In keeping with the theme, Mishkan Torah's one and only Cantor Phil Greenfield will serve as Master of Ceremonies. In addition to Ben, Joshua will be joined by well-known local pianist and collaborative artist Andrew Kraus, and by Towson State University tubist Basil Chiasson for some of the pieces. Such music making will bring the Young Performers Series to a noteworthy conclusion, and is simply not to be missed.

The concert will mark Joshua's return to the Mishkan Torah stage. He last appeared at the

"Hail to the Chiefs" dinner in 2010 where he played Mozart's Third French Horn Concerto, interpolating the familiar "Hail to the Chief" theme into the climactic cadenza. Last May, Joshua presented his senior recital at the Levine School of Music which a number of Mishkan Torah members attended. There, he premiered an original setting of an Ogden Nash poem for French horn, piano, and tenor. Ben Greenfield was the soloist on that occasion as well. He also played his original



arrangements of two opera arias for French horn and piano and a Strauss French horn concerto as well.

Joshua literally was raised at Mishkan Torah as the son of long-time Mishkan Torah members Jeffrey and Sara Rosen. He came of age in the horn-blowing department as one of Gary Kohn's High Holiday *shofar* blowers. Joshua has been in various Mishkan Torah shows since he was five and played Groucho Marx to his brothers Louie and Armin and his mother playing Harpo, Chico, and Margaret Dumont respectively. Joshua became a Bar Mitzvah at Mishkan Torah in 2005 and attended the Karp Family School. He attended and graduated from Shores Hebrew High School, where he studied with Saul Oresky, among others.

Continued on page 13

MAY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

1	<i>Yom Hashoah</i>	
6	<i>Erev Shabbat Family Services</i>	7:30 p.m.
7	<i>Shabbat Parshat Emor: Keter Shem Tov Honoring Dick Rosenzweig</i>	9:30 a.m.
8	Yiddish Club	10 a.m.
8	<i>Mother's Day Breakfast</i>	11 a.m.
9	<i>Yom Hazikaron</i>	
10	<i>Yom Ha'Atzma'ut</i>	
13	<i>Erev Shabbat Services</i>	8 p.m.
14	<i>Shabbat Parshat Behar</i>	9:30 a.m.
15	Joshua Rosen Concert	2 p.m.
20	<i>Erev Shabbat Services</i>	8 p.m.
21	<i>Shabbat Parshat Behukotai</i>	9:30 a.m.
21	Karp School <i>Lag b'Omer</i> Celebration at Greenbelt Park	7 p.m.
22	<i>Lag b'Omer</i>	
27	<i>Erev Shabbat Services</i>	8 p.m.
28	<i>Shabbat Parshat Bamidbar</i>	9:30 a.m.
30	Memorial Day	

MAY YAHRZEITS

May 6

Esther Yedid*
Sarah Brand
Hilda Baren*
Harry Levine
Mollie Rubenstein*
Irving Wallach*
David Cohen
Eva Englander*
Joseph Peltz
Reuven Baumgarten*

Rebecca Glassman

Helen Rosenteur*
William Kohn
May 13
Morris Finkelstein*
Felix F. Axelrad*
Jacob Spector*
Esther Stoler*
Annie Citron*
Dorothy Sura Rogal
Lynda Ann Silverman*

Arnold Edwin Silverman

Allan Searle
Emma Schneider
May 20
Pauline Singer*
Hesse Cohen*
Joseph Schlosser
Pincus Klein
Ruth Tenenbaum*
Philip Mintz*
Murray Herschler

Irving Brenner

Clara Schwartz*
Mollie Bukzin*
May 27
Lloyd T. Darr
Marilyn Haber
Joan Schabb
Dr. Louis Fishman
Dr. Hans Wodak*
Jacob Shapiro

JUNE PREVIEW

1	<i>Yom Yerushalayim</i>	
3	<i>Erev Shabbat Family Services</i>	7:30 p.m.
4	<i>Shabbat Parshat Naso</i>	9:30 a.m.
5	Yiddish Club	10 a.m.
7	<i>Erev Shavuot</i>	
8	First Day <i>Shavuot</i>	
9	Second Day <i>Shavuot</i> : <i>Yizkor</i> recited	
11	<i>Shabbat Parshat Beha'alotcha</i>	9:30 a.m.
17	<i>Erev Shabbat Services</i>	8 p.m.
18	<i>Shabbat Parshat Shelach</i>	9:30 a.m.
19	Father's Day	

MIRSKY REPORTS ON NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS' CHANGES . . . from page 1

Both of the aforementioned changes have common themes and motivation including the need to connect with more unaffiliated young Jews and improve finances. Both movements are seeking to re-invent some aspect of their organization and become more in tune with Jewish life in the 21st Century. Although Mishkan Torah does not have a representative on the USCJ Board, we did vote on April 10 at the JRF plenum (we are entitled to 5 votes based on our size).

What do these changes in USCJ (new name not yet announced) and JRM mean to us? In the short term, I do not see any changes in our relationship with the Conservative and Reconstructionist Movements. It remains to be seen whether the USCJ strategic plan can staunch the loss of members and Kehillot and attract more young people. The jury is out as to whether the combined JRF-RRC (JRM) will result in improvements in the movement, education, leadership, and finances. Impacts of these changes, if any, should become more apparent over the next 5 to 10 years.

SECURITY NEWS UPDATE

During the last few weeks, two events occurred that involved the safety of American Jewish institutions. In the Los Angeles area, a pipe bomb was set off at a Lubovitcher chabad building. Authorities identified a homeless Jewish man as the suspect. A nationwide alert was sent out and the suspect was captured in Cleveland. Apparently this individual had been visiting the chabad house for meals.

Closer to home, on the first night of Passover, Beth Shalom in Potomac had its windows shot out by unknown individuals with pellet guns. In this case, some nearby commercial properties were also victimized in the same way. Fortunately, in both instances no one was injured.

However, these attacks constitute a reminder that Jewish institutions in the U.S. are vulnerable to senseless acts of violence. As we continue to improve the safety and security of Mishkan Torah, please be assured that the lessons learned from these incidents will be applied to our program.



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MISHKAN TORAH GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGES THE FOLLOWING DONATIONS

Yahrzeits

Jan Bloom & Judy Briskman for Marcella Levine
 Debbie & Ed Brenner for David Blum
 Jerry & Yvonne Brodsky for Beatrice & Raymond
 Brodsky
 Gladys Chasnoff for Abe Chasnoff
 Joel Cohen & Ethel Harris for William Harris
 Shalom Fisher for Ethel Fisher
 Judy & Robert Goldberg-Strassler for Joseph
 Strassler
 Ira Kalfus for Hannah Kalfus
 Dan & Madeline Lowery for Paul Awrich
 Steven, Janet & Rachel Mirsky for Fay Mirsky
 The Panitz Family for Esther Panitz
 Carole & Norm Silverman for Elaine Braverman
 Sid & Irene Spector for Richard Bruce Axelrod
 Linda & Dave Spevack for Joseph Shander & Gert
 Spevack

Sustaining Fund

Jeffrey & Sara Rosen, Don & Sheila Anderson for
 the piano fund

Keter Shem Tov in Honor of Richard Rosenzweig

Angie Carmel
 Richard Cember
 Estelle Donin
 Harriet M. Epstein
 Arlene Gottlieb & Chaz Miller
 Marylin & Henry Jordan
 Steven & Janet Mirsky
 Jeffrey, Sara, Armin, Louie & Joshua Rosen
 Diane & Mort Tuckman

JRF Award in Honor of Dan Lowery

Janet Davis
 Carl & Becky Hirsch
 Mishkan Torah Mahjongg Maniacs

In Memory of ...

Seymour Oresky by Neil Dachis
 Arlene Scheifer by Marsha & Alan Goldfine

In Honor of ...

Don Juran's 70th birthday by Arlene Gottlieb &
 Chaz Miller
 Sarah Saviet & family by Debbie & Ed Brenner

Matching Fund/Chairs

Debbie & Ed Brenner
 Marcie Lissauer

Matching Fund/Homeland Security

Marcie Lissauer
 Diane & Mort Tuckman

Young Performers Series:

Joshua Rosen Concert

Impresario

Ralph & Phyllis Mollerick
 Jeff & Sara Rosen

Benefactor

Dan & Madeline Lowery

Contributor

Mishkan Torah Mahjongg Maniacs
 Steve & Janet Mirsky
 Irv Wartell

THANK YOU

Thank you to my Mishkan Torah family who supported me in my recent JRF honor. Many wished me "congratulations." Others made donations. And nearly a dozen attended the dinner. One literally came with broken bones. It was truly exciting to be honored by so many people for whom I have the deepest respect and admiration. It was a highlight that I shall never forget.

It was an honor that I did not seek but I accepted it reluctantly. I felt as if many others were more or just as deserving. I felt that others would have valued it more. But I discovered that Mishkan Torah has some very persuasive people.

But I found that I was wrong on so many of my preconceptions. Judaism teaches personal reflection. Taking a day to reflect on your accomplishments makes one more dedicated to the effort. I felt like a character in "The Wizard of Oz" who was recognized for something I had all along but neglected to give myself the acknowledgment.

So, in the future, when a persuasive Mishkan Torah person comes to you and asks you to be a honoree, swallow your pride and set aside your reservations. Smile and accept the honor. You'll be rejuvenated by the experience.

There's no place like Mishkan Torah!

Dan Lowery

SISTERHOOD SAYS. . .

by Irene Spector

It's May - the beautiful month of lovely flowers and lots of pollen for sneezing purposes. But that will not bother us - we still have so many exciting events on the calendar. As for previous activities, I hear from very reliable sources that the 8th Annual Vintage Jewelry Sale was a huge success, as usual. Thanks go to Eva Choper and all those who helped with the sorting, evaluating, and pricing the scores of pieces donated for this event. (Thanks also to all of the donors without whom the sale could not take place.)

And, believe it or not, the fun hasn't ended for this year yet; there's more to come:

Saturday morning, May 7: This will be a special Shabbat celebration, the **Keter Shem Tov** honoring Dick Rosenzweig for all his help to Mishkan Torah over many years. Sisterhood members who want to help with catering should call Robin Olson.

Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m. Although this is not a Sisterhood event, I encourage everyone to attend Mishkan Torah's third Young Performers Concert series starring Joshua Rosen, French Horn player extraordinaire.

Thursday evening, May 26 at 7:30: (A three-for-one event) Come to our annual ice cream social, our election meeting, and, what has become our special tzedakah activity, making Linus Blankets for kids. Call Niki or Eva for more information. [The slate of officers will be found on page 10]

Saturday evening, June 4: Donor Event - "**Capitol Steps**," a political satire comedy group at the Ronald Reagan Building in downtown Washington (see below). Make sure you don't miss this event - it will be truly enjoyable! If you have earned donor, it will be free. If you have not yet earned donor, call to see how you can join us. Call Phyllis Oresky or Debbie Brenner for more details.

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

Mitzvah cards: Call Becky Hirsch for speedy efficient service. Remember that donor credit is given for all cards.

Catering: Call Alyce Strasser (after 10:30 a.m. please) to help you as you plan your *simcha*.

Gift Shop: Call Alyce Strasser to arrange an appointment to select that special gift for that special person (you!).

RHYME TIME

'Tis May, 'tis May the merry month of May.

The Pesach dishes and pots and pans have all been put away.

The children have all gone home and the house is quiet again;

But we miss all the schmoozing and sharing and look forward to doing it again.

ABOUT THE CAPITOL STEPS

The Capitol Steps began as a group of Senate staffers who set out to satirize the very people and places that employed them.

The group was born in December, 1981 when some staffers for Senator Charles Percy were planning entertainment for a Christmas party. Their first idea was to stage a nativity play, but in the whole Congress they couldn't find three wise men or a virgin. So, they decided to dig into the headlines of the day, and they created song parodies & skits which conveyed a special brand of satirical humor.

Since they began, the Capitol Steps have recorded over 30 albums, including their latest, *Desperate Housemembers and Barackin' Around the Christmas Tree*. They've been featured on NBC, CBS, ABC, and PBS, and can be heard 4 times a year on National Public Radio stations nationwide during their *Politics Takes a Holiday* radio specials.



SISTERHOOD ANNOUNCES 2011-2012 SLATE

Below is the slate of officers for the Sisterhood Board for 2011-2012. On Thursday evening May 26, please plan to attend the annual ice cream social, elections and *tzedakah* activity (we will be making Linus Blankets for children who are ill). We will accept other nominations from the floor on this date and vote for officers.

Please note that the Publicity Chair is still open. This job consists of sending out periodic reminder notices via e-mail, putting notices in the Trumpet when necessary, advertising fund raisers in print and on-line media, and making the occasional flier. It is not a difficult or time consuming job and training will be provided.

The current chair, Jackie Kling, will be available throughout the year to help with the transition. To learn more about this position, feel free to contact Jackie at execvp@mishkantorah.org.

President: Debbie Brenner

Past President: Diane Tuckman

Vice Presidents: Judy Gallant & Jan Bloom

Treasurer: Joan Goldenberg

Financial Secretary: Annie Haber

Corresponding Secretary: Janet Davis

Recording Secretary: Harise Poland Wright

Trumpet: Irene Spector

Donor: Phyllis Oresky & Chana Mason

Catering: Alyce Strasser

Catering Callers: Marla Goldberg & Robin Olson

Gift Shop: Alyce Strasser

Mitzvah Cards: Rebecca Hirsch

Phone Tree: Lois Darr

Publicity: OPEN

Karp School Liaison: Diane Rubinstein

Programs: Eva Garin & Niki Kohn

Fifth Annual Mishkan Torah

Men's Club

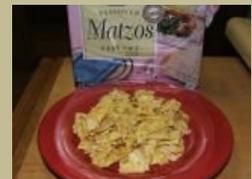
Mother's Day Breakfast

Sunday, May 8 at 11 a.m.

Pancakes, Matzah Brei, Coffee, & Juice

Free to all Women Members

Of Mishkan Torah



NEW SHAVUON REFUAH SHLAYMAH POLICY ADOPTED

by Steve Mirsky

Every Shabbat the *Shavuon* includes a list of people for whom we pray for speedy recovery from illness, the *Refuah Shlaymah*. Every name is read aloud and a special *Mi Sheberach* is recited. Although the member originally requesting the name on the list is asked to notify the office when that name should be removed, the member has not always remembered to do so. Unfortunately, this omission has caused situations in which we either no longer need to pray for that person's speedy recovery or we should be saying *Kaddish*.

At the April, 2011 Executive Board meeting, the Board approved the following new Refuah Shlaymah Policy:

Starting on July 1, 2011, all names currently on the *Shavuon Refuah Shlaymah* list will be removed unless a member contacts the office and requests that it be inserted.

This [information] can be communicated by phone or e-mail. There will be two categories for names: short term and long term. Short-term names will be kept on the list for 4 (four) weeks while long-term names will be retained for 12 (twelve) weeks. When you leave the message, please indicate the category.

There will be no indication on the printed list of the category. It will be the responsibility of the member who requested the name to renew after the 4 or 12 week time period. If the office does not hear back by then, the name will be removed.

The office phone number is 301-474-4223.

The office e-mail address is: mishkantorah@yahoo.com

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

SAVE THE DATE!

JUNE 26 AT 11 A.M.

Mishkan Torah's Annual Membership Meeting has been scheduled for Sunday, June 26 at 11 a.m. The Nominating Committee will present the new slate of officers for election, financial statements will be provided, and our budget will be presented for the coming year.

IF IT'S A JUDAIC PRESENT YOU WANT,

THE SISTERHOOD GIFT SHOP

HAS WHAT YOU NEED.

CALL ALYCE STRASSER FOR APPOINTMENT

(AFTER 10:30 A.M. PLEASE!)

Several of our donated large-type copies of *Sim Shalom*, our Shabbat prayer book, **are missing**. If you happen to know where any of these are, please return them to the office.

WAYS & MEANS

by Angie Carmel

The Ways & Means Committee reminds everyone to please donate canned and packaged nonperishable foods for the Greenbelt Food Bank.

The Keter Shem Tov honoring Richard Rosenzweig will be held on May 7. This is an opportunity for us all to thank Richard for his tireless support of Mishkan Torah over many years. As you know, his beloved mother, Ethel, was our first honoree and now we have come full circle in our L'Dor V'Dor Series. We look forward to sharing the celebration with you.



Our third and final Young Performers Showcase will be held on Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m., starring Joshua Rosen on the French Horn, Ben Greenfield performing Joshua's original composition, and Cantor Phil Greenfield as Master of Ceremonies. Please see the flyer elsewhere in this Trumpet, as well as Jeff Rosen's very creative article. This is a must-see event and reservations are already pouring in.

COMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 7: *Keter Shem Tov*, honoring Richard Rosenzweig.

Sunday, May 15 at 2 p.m.: Our third and final Young Performers' Showcase, starring our own Joshua Rosen. This is our final Showcase, so let's make it another huge success.

Sunday, June 26: Coffee Klatch before Membership Meeting.

FUTURE PLANNING

Ways & Means Committee has already begun making plans for next year's events. Please mark your calendars for September 17.

Anyone with suggestions for a program in the 2011-12 year, please talk to me or any other Ways & Means member.

The *Trumpet* is published by Mishkan Torah Synagogue
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770
(301) 474-4223 www.MishkanTorah.org

Rabbi	Jonathan Cohen	
Cantor	Phil Greenfield	
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PLEASE CONSULT THE LATEST SYNAGOGUE DIRECTORY.

Please submit articles, pictures, suggestions, and flyers to
Trumpet@MishkanTorah.org
by the twentieth of each month unless announced otherwise.

ROSEN CONCERT TO BRING SERIES TO SMASHING CLIMAX . . . from page 4

Joshua is completing his freshman year at the Chicago College of the Performing Arts. There he is studying French horn performance and education under Dale Clevenger, a three-time Grammy winner and principal French horn of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra for forty years.

Joshua has been active in a number of ensembles and orchestras in the Chicago area, most recently appearing with the Horn Ensemble from the Chicago College of the Performing Arts at a charity concert in Wheaton, Illinois on April 10 under the direction of Mr. Clevenger. Joshua has additionally studied with James Nickel of the National Symphony Orchestra, Phil Mund of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, and Brad Gemeinhardt of the Metropolitan Opera.

In high school, Joshua played with the District of Columbia Youth Orchestra and rose to the position of principal horn during his final year. As a senior, he was a Young Associate with the National Symphony, and had the honor of playing with that orchestra. He was also the principal French horn for the Chamber Ensemble at the Levine School of Music. Joshua was the drum major and student conductor for the band during his senior year at Northwood High School and won the school's award for Best Instrumental Music Student. He attended summer sessions in French horn at Brandeis University and Interlaken, and spent two summers at the Kinhaven School of Music in Weston, Vermont. He played with the Rockville Brass Band while in high school. Joshua has played at the White House and the Millennium Stage and the Concert Hall at the Kennedy Center. Joshua has also written and appeared in a number of comic sketches by the Comedy Academy of Montgomery County, and has had some of his works recently published. He has written and performed original songs for the Comedy Academy while accompanying himself on the banjo and the keyboard. Joshua enjoys playing heavy metal music on the keyboard as well, and has been in a number of rock bands.

Joshua's forthcoming concert completing the Young Performers Series is simply not to be

missed. Tickets for the entire event, including entrance to the social hour, are only fifteen dollars if reserved or purchased before May 9, 2011. Tickets may be purchased afterwards or at the door for eighteen dollars. You may order tickets directly from the Synagogue or make reservations online at the Synagogue's website at www.MishkanTorah.org/ypcs. To make things even easier, you may use the flyer appearing elsewhere in this issue of "The Trumpet."

There will be a beautiful souvenir book for this concert, as there was for the two previous ones. You may show your further support of Mishkan Torah and the Young Performers Series by making an additional donation at one of the levels set forth on the flyer and have your name appear in the book, whether or not you can attend the concert.

WOBUS, SONNEN TO PERFORM AS THERAPISTS "JAM FOR JAPAN"

Nadine Wobus and Carolyn Sonnen will be performing with other music therapists in a benefit concert called "Jam for Japan" on Sunday, May 22 at 4 p.m. at the Smith Theatre, which is part of the Performing Arts Center at Howard Community College in Columbia, MD. This event is sponsored by the HCC Music Department.

No tickets are required. Donations to the American Music Therapy Association Disaster Relief Fund will be collected at this event to support the relief efforts of music therapists in Japan to help the victims of the earthquake and tsunami. Donations can also be made online at AMTA's website: www.musictherapy.org.

For further information, contact Nadine.

WHICH OF THESE FINE YOUNG MEN, SONS OF BEN, Z" L, & ETHEL ROSENZWEIG, Z" L, IS RICHARD?



**FIND OUT DURING SERVICES SATURDAY, MAY 7
AS WE HONOR DICK ROSENZWEIG WITH THE 10TH ANNUAL KETER SHEM TOV AWARD.**

**MISHKAN TORAH SYNAGOGUE
10 RIDGE ROAD
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