



The Shofar

November, 2014

Congregation House of Israel

8 Cheshvan - 8 Kislev, 5775

Upcoming Events

Sat	Nov 1	Torah Study with Lex Rojas
Fri	Nov 7	Erev Shabbat Service led by Rabbi Richard
Sat	Nov 8	Torah Study
Fri	Nov 14	Erev Shabbat Service led by Rabbi Richard
Sat	Nov 15	Torah Study
Fri	Nov 21	Erev Shabbat service led by Rabbi Shelly
Fri	Nov 28	Erev Shabbat service led by Rabbi Shelly

Shofar Highlights

From the Rabbi	Page 3
Sisterhood	Page 3
From the President	Page 4
ARZA - World Union	Page 4
Sukkot/Simchat Torah pictures	Pages 6/7
Western Wall Bat Mitzvah	Page 8

Schedule Information

For your information, Rabbi Richard will be in attendance on the following dates:

- Nov 6 through Nov 16
- Dec 11 through Dec 21
- Jan 1 through Jan 11
- Feb 5 through Feb 15
- Mar 5 through Mar 15
- Apr 2 through Apr 12
- May 7 through May 17



Mazel Tov

**Congratulations to
Cynthia Rephan**

on being named the 2015 CHI recipient of the Tikun Olam Award.

A heartfelt Thank You for all she has done for CHI and all we hope she will do in the future.

Thank You

We would like to thank the following donors (as of October 22, 2014)

General Fund

Bill and Kathryn Eisenkramer

In loving memory of Hubert Eisenkramer

Bill Ginsburg

In loving memory of Lois, Alfred and George Ginsburg

Paula and Rich Alan

Theda and Errol Friedman

Tony Hoffman

David and Joanne Reagler

In loving memory of Carrie Davis and Rachel Reagler

Diane Icenhower

Ilye and Esther Weinstein

In loving memory of Lewg Volfson

Amir and Patricia Aharonov

Building Fund

Hal and Sue Koppel

Jackson House Fund

David and Joanne Reagler

Louise Levi

Karen and David Reagler

Jerry Tanenbaum

Sharon Ball

Jerry Rephan

Louis and Betty Kleinman

Shelly and Carol Kleinman

Larry and Carol Levi

Sisterhood Fund

Carol and Shelly Kleinman

In honor of Ruth Sedler receiving the Woman of the Year Award

The Shofar

Published monthly by:

Congregation House of Israel

PO Box 20802

300 Quapaw

Hot Springs, AR 71903

(501) 623-5821

Website: <http://hschi.org>

Editors: Carol and Shelly Kleinman

Webmaster: Shelly Kleinman

Editorial Assistance: Anita Williams

Email to: info@hschi.org

Mail to:

Carol Kleinman

1 Coria Trace

Hot Springs Village, AR 71909

Submissions due the 15th of the prior month.
Distributed free to members, prospective members,
local clergy and other interested parties.

Editors note: The following email was sent by Ross Sedler to Ed Berkin following the construction of this years sukkah:

Dear Ed,

The Sukkah we built under your leadership and guidance looks as good as ever. Whenever Shelley and I re-assemble it, the fond memories of its first build are brought to mind. We surely miss your sharp mind, humor and contributions to the community.



Davar

“A Matter for Discussion”



The holiday season, perhaps our most joyous together, has passed. Fall has arrived with cooler weather, shedding trees and lots of football games.

The secular year has begun, or perhaps the interlude of the holy days is over. It

depends upon how you relate to Judaism. Rabbis tend to see life through a religious prism; congregants via a secular lens. Traditional Jews go from Shabbos to Shabbos; secular Jews look forward to the end of the week. For some four decades I've tried to encourage the first perspective. Judaism is best appreciated through the lens of study and observance. If we see the High Holy Days only as the “primary time” to affirm our ties to our heritage, we inevitably become peripheral Jews, missing out on the depth of meaning and life understanding Judaism provides us. Through every time, every period -- through life and death -- our religion is there, both to absorb the most difficult questions we pose and to provide comfort and solace when we are bereft.

Abraham Joshua Heschel, the greatest Jewish philosopher of the 20th century, once said: “We pray to God for the strength to ask the right questions.” Yes, dear friends, the answers are rarely forthcoming, but the questions, asked faithfully, can lead to understanding about ourselves, our families, and our place in the world. How do we deal with success, failure, and loss -- particularly loss in our lives? Judaism allows us to ask those questions and does not shy away from the difficulty they present. We are a religion of the every day, which makes us a religion for every age, realistic, pragmatic, and hopeful, all at the same time.

Don't be strangers now that the “season” has been completed. Community participation is not a “good thing,” but one of our most important mitzvos. Contribute to our synagogue with your hearts and your souls, and we will continue to thrive as a Jewish community that practices “from generation to generation.”

Sisterhood



Our new year – 5775 – was off to a wonderful start with lunch at Country Club Village hosted by Kathy Klein. What a lovely place that is – and the food was great!

Our November 3rd meeting will be hosted by Joanne Reagler and Patti Fleischner.

Our guest speaker is Dr. David Smith who is a licensed clinical social worker. This promises to be an informative and interesting meeting. Obviously it will be a question and answer discussion.

Our Yom Kippur services were beautiful (thank you to Rabbi Richard and our visiting cantor, Lex Rofes). One of the highlights for me was a short recording of our beloved friend, Gene Kirsch, playing the Kol Nidre last year. What an incredible talent!!

Our Sukkot potluck was a total joy. Thank you to everyone who brought food to share.

And, to end the holidays, we all joined in for Simchat Torah. So fun to see everyone holding the Torah and marching around the sanctuary. A special thank you to Yossi Baron and Oded Grenman for reading from the Torah.

So, now we are back to “regular stuff.” We will continue working at Jackson House (if you are interested in participating in this mitzvah, please contact Sharon Waxler at shrnwaxler@gmail.com. There has been discussion of having a monthly Mah Jong game at the temple. If you are interested, please let me know, litelady1@yahoo.com.

Lastly, thank you to Barbara Morgan for taking on the incredible task of organizing our CHI library. We will finally have a listing of all the great books we have as well as their organization in proper sections.

As always, thank you to everyone for all that you do. CHI is a better community because of YOUR commitment and hard work.

From the President



The Mensch Society

We are calling on you to reach out and spread the word! This month, Congregation House of Israel will launch a new membership drive - *The Mensch Society* - to communicate with our friends outside the

Hot Springs area. This effort will only be successful with everyone's participation.

Our mission has two parts:

1. Build a "Friends of CHI" list. We are asking each member of the congregation to send in the names and addresses of anyone they know who has a connection to CHI. This list could include anyone who has been a past member, children who went to religious school, those who have celebrated a Bar or Bat Mitzvah or wedding here, and people who have family who are buried in our Jewish cemetery.
2. Personalize an appeal letter. This membership drive concept has been successfully used by congregations across the United States. We know we have many friends who are willing to support us – they simply need to be asked by people who they care about. We have Mensch Society letters typed up and they need just one addition before mailing – your brief, handwritten note.

Think of this as a way to reconnect with old friends, reminisce and find out what they are up to. We will devote part of the bulletin to highlight different friends, and once the effort is complete, we will list them all. With everyone's participation, this will be a fun and interesting membership drive.

We know this is a big project, but it is one that has important and meaningful implications for our congregation and will be made possible if everyone does his/her part. Please take a minute, build that friend list, then send it to us by email at info@hschi.org. We would appreciate having all names and addresses sent by Monday, November 3rd. We will then print the appeal letters and return them to you for personalization. Our goal is to have all letters in the mail by December 15.

ARZA - World Union

Shaping Israel's Soul is Up to Us

By Rabbi Bennett Miller

Earlier this month, Jews the world over poured into synagogues to "afflict our souls" on the holy day of Yom Kippur - to search within ourselves to atone, forgive, and ultimately emerge renewed.

K'lal Yisrael (the community of Israel) is afflicting its own soul right now, too. Both real and existential struggles are being fought on many fronts, and the outcomes will determine much about the future of Israel and the Jewish people. Will gender equality be the norm - where men and women can pray and live as equals? Will our society respect and treat fairly all denominations, regardless of our level of observance? Will we see lasting peace - security and stability for Israel?

Together with our congregations and families, Reform Jews in the United States are doing everything we can to support our brothers and sisters in Israel. At the same time, we must prepare to return to the daily work of ensuring that the Israel we see on the other side of this conflict is the one that you and I envision - one in which the ideals of pluralism, equality, and peace help to secure prosperous, fulfilling Jewish lives for us all.

Just one year from now, the next World Zionist Congress (WZC) will convene in Jerusalem. This "Parliament of the Jewish People" will debate critical issues in helping to fulfill the dreams of the founders of the Zionist Movement - a pluralistic and democratic Jewish State in Eretz Yisrael, our people's homeland. This debate, too, will be a deciding moment for the shape of Israel's soul.

Luckily, the democratic process allows each one of us to have a voice in that discussion. ARZA, representing Reform Judaism, selects delegates for the WZC based on the proportional outcome of the WZC elections conducted by the American Zionist Movement (AZM). The composition of the WZC has both financial and policy implications in Israel, as resources are allocated based on the number of seats a party holds and the policy positions of those parties.

Continued on page 9

Religious School

All is well. Louis, Tillie, and Cooper are starting to learn blessings for Bar/Bat Mitzvah. We are using trope trainer and starting to schedule weekly work outside of religious school to practice.

All kids are working to learn all the blessings recited during Shabbat evening services using the Reform Judaism.org website. It lists Hebrew, transliteration, English, and a recording of chanting of the prayer.

Next special day (once a month) will be Halloween weekend – Lex will be in for his ISJL Fall visit, and will lead the programming. It promises to be scary.

We are reading a chapter from the novel, *Number the Stars* which is a work of historical fiction by American author Lois Lowry. It is about the escape of a Jewish family from Copenhagen during the Occupation of Denmark in the Second World War in order to evade the Holocaust.

The story centers on ten-year-old Annemarie Johansen, who lives with her family in Copenhagen in 1943. She becomes a part of the events related to the rescue of the Danish Jews, when thousands of Jews were helped to reach neutral ground in Sweden and avoid being deported to concentration camps. She risks her life to help her best friend, Ellen Rosen, by pretending that Ellen is Annemarie's late older sister Lise, who had died earlier in the war. Lise had been killed as a result of her work with the Danish Resistance. The story's title is taken from a reference to Psalm 147, in which the writer relates that God has numbered all the stars in the universe. It ties into the Star of David, worn by Ellen on her necklace, which is symbolic to the story.

The novel was awarded the Newbery Medal in 1990 as the "most distinguished contribution to American literature for children." Lois Lowry traveled to Copenhagen to conduct research and interviews for the book. She took the photo of the girl used for the cover. That cover was used on many editions of the book.

We are working on Hebrew, and picking and choosing fun and enriching programs from the ISJL curriculum for both 3rd and 5th grade.

No Place For Hate

By Joanne Reagler

During the summer of 2014, Holocaust Project members began contacting schools in Hot Springs area about adopting The Anti-Defamation League program "No Place for Hate." The previous year we attempted to contact Jr. High Schools with little success. This year we contacted elementary and intermediate schools.

The Park IB Elementary principals and counselors were very interested - Becky Rosburg and Leslie Whalen at the Park Intermediate School. Diane Smith and Renee Tester of the Park IB Elementary schools were also very interested and contacted Mrs. Craft, the Superintendent of the Hot Springs School District who approved of the program. If the program is as successful as we think it will be, Mrs. Craft will present it to all the schools in her district.

Each school will have a Diversity Club and will be presenting anti-bullying programs and anti-cyberbullying. The program stresses diversity of all and non tolerating discrimination. Everyone in the schools will sign a "Resolution of Respect." The students and faculty choose three programs to promote respect and will receive a banner to fly on the school grounds designating it as a "No Place for Hate" campus.



Happy Birthday to Jacob and Zev Kleinman

Sukkot

Thank You to all our photographers - Sharon Ball, Patti Fleischner, Ross Sedler and David Reagler



Simchat Torah



Women of Wall Push for Bat Mitzvahs at Western Wall

'Mom, I Want a Kotel Bat Mitzvah' Ads on Buses



Jerusalem — (Haaretz) — Defying regulations by Western Wall rabbinic authorities, members of Women of the Wall smuggled a tiny Torah scroll into the women's section of the Kotel Friday morning, in what the feminist prayer group said was the first reading from the Torah by women at the holy site in 25 years.

The tiny scroll, measuring just 28 centimeters in length, was smuggled inside in a talit bag an hour before the group, which numbered around 100 worshippers, began their monthly prayer service on the first day of the Jewish month.

During the service, Sasha Lutt, a 12-year-old girl from Be'er Sheva, read from the Torah with a piece of magnifying plastic as part of her bat mitzvah, marking the first time a "full" bat mitzvah ceremony has ever been held at the Kotel, Women of the Wall said. "I feel happy that I had a real Bat Mitzvah, and not just a party," Lutt said to Haaretz after the service.

The Western Wall Heritage Foundation does not allow worshippers to bring their own Torah scrolls to the premises. About 300 Torah scrolls are stored in the men's section at the wall for use during male-led services, but Rabbi Shmuel Rabinowitz, who heads the foundation, has not allowed Women of

the Wall to make use of one of the scrolls at their own services in the women's section. The group has tried to sneak in Torah scrolls in the past, with little success.

Earlier on Friday morning, the group tried to walk through the Mughrabi Gate entrance to the Kotel while one of their members was holding a Torah scroll, but were stopped by security guards and police, who told them it was against the rules to bring in scrolls from outside. After a back-and-forth amid a heavy media presence, the activists demanded to see Rabinowitz and ask him to use one of the Kotel's scrolls. They were told that the rabbi was not there. In the end, they backed down and entered without the scroll.

In the middle of the services in the women's section, however, the activists held up a tzitit and laid out the tiny Torah scroll they had smuggled in earlier on a table underneath it. A couple of policemen looked on from the side throughout, but did not interrupt the services.

Lesley Sachs, the executive director of Women of the Wall, said that this marked the first time in 25 years that women have read from the Torah at the holy site. "I'm just so excited, this is just something so obvious and natural, and it is unbelievable that we had to sneak it in."

Having managed to sneak in the scroll, will Women of the Wall smuggle it in every Rosh Chodesh? "Hopefully, we have to see. We have to be so creative every month, it's just unacceptable," said Lesley Sachs.

Rabbi Rabinowitz, in a statement, condemned the group for carrying out what he called "a deception," according to the Ynet news website. "A small group of Women of the Wall carried out a deception this morning; after they were prevented from entering with a large Torah scroll – they cunningly took a small Torah into the women's section [of the Western Wall]," Ynet cited him as saying.

100 Years Ago in the Forward

Rising star Rudolf Shildkraut is in awe over Yiddish theater superstar Eugene Mogulesco. Shildkraut first saw Mogulesco perform in Romania, when Shildkraut was a child. During a visit to the offices of the Forverts for a discussion about theater, Shildkraut called Mogulesco “a genius.” He said that he has come up with a plan to perform “Shylock” in Hebrew. “I saw a children’s group perform ‘Joseph and His Brothers’ in Hebrew and it was electrifying. I realized then that I must perform ‘Shylock’ in Hebrew.” When Shildkraut explained this plan, his eyes lit up and his arms flailed up and down with excitement. “I cannot come up with the words to express my thirst for this project,” he said.

75 Years Ago in the Forward

As attacks in Palestine on Jews and retaliatory attacks on Arabs continue, the English-language press has taken note that, although the British would like the two parties to negotiate with one another, the Arab side absolutely refuses to sit down with the Jews. Apparently, any Arab who attempts to meet with Jews is branded as a traitor and threatened with death. Reports indicate that one of the main obstacles to peace is the Grand Mufti of Jerusalem, Haj Amin Al-Husseini, who has consistently fomented violent attacks on the Jews of the Yishuv. Other Arab notables in Palestine, who often represent large, wealthy families, do not seem to have the interests of the Arab masses in mind.

50 Years Ago in the Forward

As the number of anti-Jewish attacks rises throughout Argentina, the country’s Jews are beginning to worry. The central organization of Argentine Jews, known as DAJA, is in the midst of holding emergency meetings regarding the problem of rising anti-Semitism in Buenos Aires. In the four most recent attacks, none of the perpetrators were caught and no one, not even the police, has any idea who they might be. The president of DAJA, Isaac Goldenberg, has said that the attacks, especially those on synagogues and on Jewish-owned businesses, do not seem spontaneous and has called for more vigilance on the part of the Jewish community regarding these matters. Goldenberg has met with the Argentine Minister of the Interior and the Buenos Aires Chief of Police, but no action has been taken.

ARZA - World Union

Continued from page 4w

In short, these elections are the strongest way for North American Reform Jews to promote and encourage the progressive ideals of social justice, equality and democracy in Israel itself and help build the kind of Jewish state we all know is possible. A Jewish state that holds true to the ideals of religious pluralism, the growth of Reform Judaism in Israel, women’s equality in all areas of life, democracy, a solution to the ongoing conflict and so much more.

ARZA, representing Reform Judaism, is asking every North American Jew who holds these values dear to stand with us. The WZC Elections are vital to the future of Progressive Judaism in Israel and to the relationship between Jews of North America and Israel. Here is what we hope you will do in the coming weeks:

The fate of Israel and the soul of *K’lal Yisrael* are not yet sealed. Let us join together, and let our voices be heard.

Rabbi Bennett Miller, senior rabbi of Anshe Emeth Memorial Temple in New Brunswick, NJ, is the national chair of ARZA, and also serves on the Board of Governors of the Jewish Agency for Israel. He also earned his doctorate from Princeton Theological Seminary in 1988.



Westley Kleinman, following in his dad’s footsteps and blowing the shofar for Yom Kippur

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Anniversaries

Alfred and JoCarroll Lewald	Nov 3
Shelly and Carol Kleinman	Nov 4
Steven and Clarissa Kirsch	Nov 26
Michael and Sharon Waxler	Nov 27

Birthdays

Louise Levi	Nov 3
Jay Stoyanov	Nov 5
Anita Williams	Nov 10
Louis Kleinman	Nov 14
JoCarroll Lewald	Nov 17
Dana Grenman	Nov 20
Sarah Schulman	Nov 22
Jerry Tanenbaum	Nov 26
Lenny Mendel	Nov 27
Shelly Baron	Nov 28
Harriett Marcus	Nov 29

Refuah Shelemah

The following people are in our thoughts and prayers:

- John and Leslie Jamieson
- Jerry Arnstein
- Ellen Rephan
- David Major
- Barbara Diebel

Please offer prayers that they all have a full and speedy recovery.



Thumbs-up

TO:

- **Barbara Morgan** for taking on the task of rearranging and organizing our CHI library.
- **Lex Rofes** for the incredible job he did as Cantor for the High Holidays
- Everyone who donated food or money to Jackson House
- **David Reagler** for leading our Religious School classes
- All our members who brought food for our Break-The-Fast.

Oneg Thanks

Thank you to the following for sponsoring an Oneg during the month of November:

Nov 7	Carol Levi Karen Reagler
Nov 14	Anita Williams Joanne Reagler
Nov 21	Cheryl Cohen Marilyn Blumbeks
Nov 28	Kim Baron Carol Crow-Nanez

Reminder: If you are scheduled for an upcoming Oneg and need to change dates, bear in mind that it is YOUR responsibility to find someone to switch with and to advise Carol Kleinman of the change.

Remembrance: November Yahrtzeits

~ Zichronam Livracha - May their memories be for blessing ~

Kaddish Recited November 7

Leland H. Williams

Father of Dennis Williams

Ella Falk

Grandmother of Louis Kleinman

Dr. Martin Lax

Father of Gary Lax

Rachel Leah Goltz

Grandmother of Susan Siegel and Diane Goltz

Louis Benedict

Mose Klyman

Bea Sherman

Delmar Gilham

Simon Mendel

Yetta Davis

Kaddish Recited November 14

Joseph Wolken

Grandfather of Brad Wolken

Al Ginsburg

Father of Millie Baron

Joyce B. Boswell

Mother of Anita Williams

Anne G. Miller

Pauline Ragland

Etie Naomi Hurwitz

Esther S. Schwartz

Kaddish Recited November 21

Jacob Koppel

Father of Hal Koppel

Alan R. Klompus

Father of Stuart Klompus

Mollie Forshberg

Mother-in-law of Betty Forshberg

Leon Peterson

Father of Cheryl Cohen

Mamie Gottlieb

Ralph Mendel

Jennie H. Gottlieb

Fannie Meirers Gross

Kaddish Recited November 28

Adolph Korngut

Father of Fred Korngut

Bella Reich

Clara Meyer Rosenzweig

Morris H. Guggenheim

Fletcher Young

Maurice Feinberg

Ephraim L. Glosser

Condolences

We mourn the loss of Dale Tollefson, beloved father of Sharon Waxler

Memorial Plaques

If you are interested in a wonderful and meaningful way to memorialize a loved one, you may purchase a memorial plaque to be installed in the memorial niche in the Temple sanctuary. The cost for each plaque is \$250.00, and it takes approximately a month for completion once the order is placed.

For more information or to order a plaque, please contact Sue Koppel at 501-624-3986, or email at suebob@cablelynx.com

Congregation House of Israel - Board of Directors

Rabbi Richard Chapin
501-623-5821
rabbi@hschi.org

Mary Klompus, President
501-655-244.3
maryklompus@gmail.com

Hal Koppel, Treasurer
501-525-3238
hjkkrew@yahoo.com

Sue Koppel
501-282-0820
suebob@cablelynx.com

Yossi Baron
501-262-4474
ybaron@oaklawn.com

Carol Kleinman, Sisterhood
501-922-3194
litelady1@sbcglobal.net

Assoc. Rabbi Shelly Kleinman
501-922-3194
rebshelly@hschi.org

Mark Fleischner, Vice President
501-321-2441
mark@laurays.com

Anita Williams, Secretary
870-245-7533
anitabwilliams12@gmail.com

Ruth Sedler
806-789-9362
sedlerbk@aol.com

Jerry Tanenbaum, ARZA-World Union
501-262-9772
jerryhotsprings@usa.net

Michael Waxler
501-545-0101
mwax60@gmail.com

Stuart Fleischner
501-262-5308
toothshucker@hotmail.com

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to
Congregation House of Israel
PO Box 20802
Hot Springs, AR 71903