



**Ma CHADASH!** מה חדש!

What's New! The newsletter of Temple Shalom Synagogue Center, Auburn, Maine ק"ק היכל שלום

May 2016/Nisan/Iyar 5776



**THURSDAY, MAY 26-5:30 TO 7:30**

**BONFIRE!**

**HOT DOGS-VEGGIE BURGERS-MARSHMALLOW  
ROAST**

**DRUM CIRCLE-GAMES AND STORIES**

**FOR ALL AGES!**

**MEET AT THE TEMPLE SHALOM FIRE PIT  
(NEAR THE MEGA-MENORAH)**

**RSVP'S ENCOURAGED**

## FROM THE RABBI...



Hi Everyone.

This month we get to celebrate Lag BaOmer!

Imagine a young boy in an Old-Country cheder (one-room Hebrew school), expected to sit and study from morning to night, six days a week, with the only break being Shabbes—where you get to spend most of the day in shul. Or, a young boy in a Yeshiva (many-roomed Hebrew school) in Queens, NY (me), expected to sit and study from morning to night, six days a week, with the only break being Shabbes—where you get to spend most of the day in shul. (Full disclosure: we were released early on Friday so we had at least a couple of hours to ride our bikes, etc.).

But one day of the school year, hopefully a nice day, in May, cheder and yeshiva children got to close our religious books and play—outdoors! In a park! Where we got to see our Rebbes play softball!

That was Lag BaOmer. A day whose significance we barely understood but looked forward to the entire year. As I grew older, I became aware of other Lag BaOmer celebrations, most notably, around the gravesite of the Talmudic sage, Shimon Bar Yochai, considered to be the father of all Kabbalistic teaching. In Meron, an ancient Israeli town in the Galilee, thousands upon thousands of Hasidic, Yeshiva, and other Jewish men and women annually gather around huge bonfires, and the singing and dancing—and drinking—goes on all night. Additionally, old-country and modern Israeli children customarily shoot at each other with (toy) bows and arrows.

Although, the origins of this Holiday are somewhat obscure and confusing, the message is consistent. Disunity brings destruction—specifically, the Roman exile and destruction of the Second Temple in Jerusalem. Lag BaOmer comes, therefore, to promote unity. For Cheder and Yeshiva kids, unity is fostered through the playing of outdoor games. For lucky Israelis, by dancing in Meron. And for us, by bonding as a community around our very own bonfire, singing, drumming and storytelling—on Thursday, May 26 at 5:30. Don't miss this very special—outdoor—happening.

May we bask in the glow of a holy Lag Ba'Omer fire for many years to come.

Rabbi Sruli



***Rabbi Sruli is always happy to speak with and meet with members or our Temple. Please call Rabbi Sruli on his cellphone at 914-980-9509 if you would like to speak with him or to arrange a time for a meeting. You can also call or leave a message at the Temple office and Rabbi Sruli will get back to you.***

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello, but not goodbye! Yes, this is my last article as President of the Board of Directors of Temple Shalom. But one ending is another beginning, and I'm so excited about the future of our Temple. David Allen will be taking the reins as your new President, and I'm sure he will be a dynamic leader. I will be staying on the Board and taking over as Secretary.

I am so honored to have been given this chance to be at the helm during our transition between rabbis, from a time of relative stagnation to one of joy and growth. I am so grateful for the support of our Board and the strength of our membership. And I am so thankful that Rabbi Sruli chose our community to be his new home. I have been President for 5 years, but it has been these last 2 years that I am most proud of. With the arrival of Sruli and his family we have seen a revitalization within these walls that has spread out into Lewiston/Auburn and other Maine towns. Music certainly is a universal language.

And thank you, readers, for allowing me to write about whatever was on my mind, every month! You have been most encouraging, and very gracious listeners. So there's one last thing I've been thinking about that I'd like to share with you all. In today's world, there's not a lot of opportunities for the very young and the very old, and all those in between, to interact. (Can you tell I just had a birthday?!) As witnessed at our well-attended Passover seder, the Temple is one such place where we all gather. Participation in organized religion allows us to interact in a meaningful way and creates stronger multi-generational connections. Respect for your elders and caring for others can be learned right here within the religious institution. Consider this a benefit of membership and a reason to bring your family here throughout all of life's stages. Make it a new tradition!

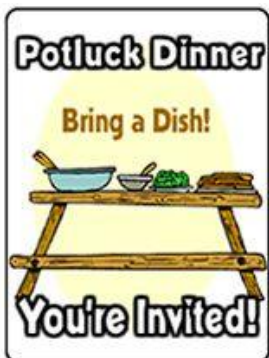
Today rabah.....Lesli Weiner

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## “OUR STORIES”

FRIDAY, MAY 6 at 6:00 PM

starring  
Babs Shapiro, Estelle Rubinstein  
and Dot Fishman



FRIDAY, MAY 6 at 6:00 PM  
Pot Luck Supper

Shabbat Music, Storytelling, Dessert

RSVP by Monday, May 2nd  
Bring main dish or side  
Dessert is provided

# Annual Meeting

CALLING ALL MEMBERS!  
TEMPLE SHALOM'S  
ANNUAL MEETING  
SUNDAY, MAY 15  
6:30 PM

Our year in review  
Changing of the guard  
Vote for new Board members  
Secret reveal: Person of the Year!

Make your own sundaes

Entertainment by:

## The Merimanders

Established in 1958, the Merimanders are the oldest and only all-female a cappella group at Bates College

RSVP by May 9

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### SPEEDY RECOVERY

We pray for refuah sh'leimah – the full and speedy recovery of **Deborah Frank Burdo, Michelle Lisi Deloro, Fleck Family, Christie James, Elizabeth Johnson, Mark Johnson, Bethany Kornstadt, Leonard Bell, Dennis McCreery, Sandy Miller, Richard Rau, Joel Salberg, Roger Sutherberg, Toby Wallach, Neal Weiner, David Wyman,** and all others who are not well at this time.

We like to hear good news! Whenever you request that a name be put on this list, please let us know when that name can be removed.



## PASSOVER SEDER A HUGE SUCCESS!

This is the first year Cathy and I were unable to attend our community Seder. We are sorry we were not with our congregational family.

The families of Temple Shalom gathered together on the second night of Passover for our annual community Seder. We had 130 people attend.

This year was another year of the Musical Seder! Rabbi Sruli, Rebbitzen Lisa, and their sons, Aaron and Zack, led the families in a combination of a traditional Seder with music, song, and dancing. Their family brings much love and warmth to our congregational family.



Mike Gagne, our adopted congregational family member, and his staff prepared and served a wonderful meal. We are grateful to have them as part of our community.

Aaron and Ellen Burke were again kind enough to pick up and deliver the wine to the Temple.

Because of the generosity of some of our members, we were able to keep the price very affordable. We thank the following for their kind donations: Fredda and Ken Wolf, John Isaacson, Marilyn Simonds, Jackie and Surfer Baruch Laskoff, Sheri and Joel Olstein and Paula and Tom Platz. We also wish to thank 3 anonymous donors who have made contributions for the past few years. Alvin Miller of Arizona also helped us out. Alvin is the son of the late James and Ruth Miller. We also received a generous donation in honor of Leonard Bell from an anonymous donor.

We also extend our thanks to Joe Moscinski and Julie Waite for all their help in handling many of the details of the Seder. Joe was kind enough to make a trip to Levine's in Peabody to pick up our order. As always, Julie did a great job coordinating all the details.

Please feel free to let us know your comments about the Seder. You may leave your comments with Julie or you can contact me at [stettnman@gmail.com](mailto:stettnman@gmail.com) or call me at 998-2767.

We need both your participation and financial support to continue our Jewish heritage in central Maine.

Thank you.  
Stan Tetenman

## SHABBAT SERVICES REMINDER

Shabbat morning services begin at 9:30 am each week. We have a prayer service from 9:30 to 10:30 followed by Torah Study from 10:30 to 11:30. Please feel free to attend either or both segments.

In accordance with sacred Jewish tradition and practice, times are approximate.







**Deepen your connection to Israel and its people on the National Young Leadership Summer Mission to Israel.**

Experience *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) through the extraordinary work of Federation and its partners. Open your eyes to how you, too, can make an impact. It's a trip with purpose—a mission that will inspire you.

**Mission Highlights**

- Spend 2 days in Tel Aviv, 2 days in Northern Israel & 3 days in Jerusalem
- Meet dynamic Israeli leaders shaping the highest levels of business, government, technology and the military
- Experience the impact of Federation on the lives of Israelis through special site visits, private tours and hands-on service projects
- Follow your passion and get an inside look at Israel's economy, food & wine culture, art & architecture, fashion scene or high-tech industry
- Meet young adults from across North America and make lifelong friends as you travel Israel and see its beauty

For more information, please contact [Lisa Robbins](#)



**The Jewish Federations<sup>®</sup>**  
OF NORTH AMERICA

# !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!BOOK GROUP NEWS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Some exciting news: Our Rebbetzin, Lisa Mayer, has agreed to lead the discussion for our next book. It's titled *ReVisions: Seeing Torah Through a Feminist Lens* by Rabbi Elyse Goldstein. But I want to make one thing perfectly clear: Book Group is not just for women! All our members are welcome to participate, and I hope you will.



We decided to read this book even though it was not readily available in the Maine library system. Amazon has it for your kindle, or you can order it used for as low as \$0.01 (plus \$3.99 shipping). So order your book NOW so you'll have time to read it before our next meeting, which is MONDAY, MAY 9 at 4 PM.

This is how author Rabbi Goldstein explains what she means by 'ReVisions':

"I use the title *ReVisions* for this book because I want readers both to revise—in the classic definition of reexamine and alter—and to see the text anew, to have a new vision, a 'revision,' of Torah.... It begins with the notion that women see the text differently than men do, ask different questions and bring different answers.... This book is not about rewriting the Torah. It is about rereading it." Rabbi Elyse Goldstein—woman, rabbi, scholar, and feminist—challenges and defends, rereads and reinterprets the ancient text, revealing to modern readers a way to see Judaism anew, for a new vision—a "revision"—of the Torah. Goldstein boldly brings the Torah into a contemporary context at the same time she honestly reconciles its past.

You may notice that I am writing this article backwards, with our next book first, because I am so excited about having Lisa join us. But I do want to tell you about the book we read for April because we are recommending you read it. *The Marriage of Opposites* by Alice Hoffman is a beautifully atmospheric work of historical fiction set in the 19th century on the tropical island of St. Thomas where the reader learns about the life of Rachel Pomie, who later becomes known as the mother of the famous painter Camille Pissarro, a father of Impressionism. There were so many topics to discuss including religion, race, class, forbidden love, family, and of course, marriage. The mystical world of the island juxtaposes with the Jewish traditions of Paris. I dare not give away any more as I know you are going to want to read this one!

Attending were Malca Wilner, Adele Silverman, Margaret Meyer, Elinor Goldblatt, Bertha Bodenheimer, Babs Shapiro, Helene Perry and me, Lesli Weiner. I also want to say that Anne Allen came to give us a tutorial on accessing tubl.ca on our kindles. This site offers free ebooks for as long as the author agrees. Then it disappears from the site. Thanks so much Anne! .....lesli

## Yahrzeiten

If you are observing a yahrzeit and are planning to come to Thursday morning minyan to say Kaddish, we urge you to contact **Bob Laskoff** ([ral@laskofflaw.com](mailto:ral@laskofflaw.com)) and let him know so that he can include that information in his weekly reminder email. It is your responsibility to call friends and neighbors to make sure there are enough people for the minyan.




We all enjoy our Thursday morning Minyans and breakfast schmoozes.

**HELP!** We need volunteers to shop and setup. A sign-up sheet is in the kitchen.



**COLBY COLLEGE, JUNE 17 - 19, 2016**

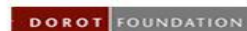
For more information visit our website:  
<http://web.colby.edu/mainejewishlifeconference>  
 and find us on facebook 



CENTER FOR  
 SMALL TOWN  
 JEWISH LIFE



Jewish Community Alliance  
 of Southern Maine



**Please remember to register by March 31st to take advantage of the EARLY BIRD SPECIAL of just \$36/day (\$45/day from April 1 to May 20, \$60/day after June 1). Scholarships are available. Housing: Available in Colby dorms (\$60 for the weekend) or at the Best Western Plus Hotel in Waterville).**

**Food: Kosher food with vegetarian options is provided. Note dietary restrictions on your registration form.**



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

James & Susan Lifter	May	10
Daniel & Kristine Rausch		15
Sam & Bob Allen		21
Matthew & Janet Zidle		25



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Laurence Faiman	May	1
Jessica Teich		1
Mazie King		2
Stuart Cohen		3
Miriam Sofia Cohen		5
John Calloway		9
Jennifer Cohen		9
Jenna Wise		9
Mimi Baumhoff		15
Amelia Ross		16
Susan Shapiro		16
Lucas Rau		19
Alison Fakhery		21
Mark Johnson		25
Greg Levinsky		26
Brian Ablitz		30
Mitchell Ross		31



## MAY 2016 YAHRZEITEN

(Yahrzeits begin at nightfall on the evening prior to the date listed below)

Lillian Schneidman	May	1
Betty Cohen		3
Steve Bieringer		7
Burton Wilner		8
Leonard Plavin		9
Louis Silverman		12
Herman Kleeger		16
Wilfred Goodman		17
Stephen Steinman		19
Richard Wilner		19
Morris Amsel		21
Eve Shapiro		25
William Leavitt		29
Beatrice Garber		29



MaChadash/What's New is published monthly by Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center. Temple Shalom is an independent congregation and a member of the Lewiston-Auburn Jewish Federation.

The mission of Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center is to foster a strong Jewish identity and an active Jewish Community.

Rabbi Sruli Dresdner

Office Manager Julie Waite

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Personnel	
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Nursery School	Allyson Casares
Fund Raising	

Temple Shalom office hours are  
9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Monday-Thursday

Telephone: 207-786-4201

Fax: 207-786-4202

[www.templeshalomauburn.org](http://www.templeshalomauburn.org)

E-mail address: [temple6359@aol.com](mailto:temple6359@aol.com)

Rabbi Sruli: [djsruli@gmail.com](mailto:djsruli@gmail.com)

Telephone: 914-980-9509

# CONTRIBUTIONS

## GENERAL FUND

Elinor Golblatt

In memory of Michael Wise

In memory of Burton Wilner

In memory of Richard Wilner

Sandy Traister & Family

In memory of Michael Wise

Marianne Wise

In memory of Michael Wise

Babs & Michael Shapiro

In memory of Michael Wise

Jerryanne LaPerriere

In memory of Michael Wise

In memory of Cathy Plavin

Michael Gagne

In memory of Michael Wise

In memory of Cathy Plavin

Helene & Lewis Perry

In memory of Ida Perry

In memory of Abraham Perry

Tom & Paula Marcus-Platz

In memory of Cathy Plavin

Tom Reeves

In memory of Dr. Helene Reeves

Harriet & Steve Passerman

In memory of Michael Wise

In memory of Cathy Plavin

Cathy & Stan Tetenman

In memory of Michael Wise

## BODENHEIMER PASSOVER FUND

Anonymous Donor

In honor of Leonard Bell

## CEMETERY FUND

Sylvia Day

In memory of Frances Smullin

## EVE & GEORGE SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND

Harriet & Steve Passerman

In memory of Eve Shapiro

In memory of Miriam Passerman

## NUSSINOW NURSERY SCHOOL FUND

*Funds are used to support the Temple Shalom Nursery/Preschool*

Lois & Ben Barr

Speedy recovery to Leonard Bell

In memory of Elaine Baker

In memory of Michael Wise

Amy & Scott Nussinow

In memory of Rose Nussinow

In memory of Murray Nussinow

In memory of Sheldon Nussinow

**LIBRARY FUND**

Sandra & Allen Miller

In memory of Paulyn Rosenthal

**RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND**

Penelope Markle

In memory of Jacob Markle

Jonathan Berent

In memory of Gertrude Berent

James & Susan Lifter

In memory of Helen & Leslie Rosenthal

**SHIRLEY GOODMAN MEMORIAL FUND**

*For interior decoration and maintenance*

Joel Goodman

In memory of Michael Wise

Wayne & Jo Ann Goodman

In memory of Michael Wise

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**COHEN/LEVOY GARDEN FUND**

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**MITZVAH FUND**

**PULPIT/PRAYER BOOK FUND**

**RANDALL SILVER LIBRARY FUND**

*Thank  
you*



## Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center

74 Bradman Street  
Auburn, ME 04210-6330

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DATED MATERIAL  
MAY 2016

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U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Auburn, ME  
Permit #4

## MAY AT TEMPLE SHALOM

Sunday, 5/1	10:00 am	Hebrew School
Thursday, 5/5	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Friday, 5/6	6:00 pm	"Our Stories", potluck supper, musical service – RSVP!
Saturday, 5/7	10:00 am	Family Shabbat Service
Monday, 5/9	4:00 pm	Book Group
	5:15 pm	Program Committee Meeting
Thursday, 5/12	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 5/14	9:30 am	Shabbat Service
Sunday, 5/15	10:00 am	Hebrew School
	6:30 pm	Temple Annual Meeting
Thursday, 5/19	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
Saturday, 5/21		No Shabbat Service
Sunday, 5/22	10:00 am	Hebrew School
Thursday, 5/26	7:00 am	Weekday morning minyan & breakfast
	5:30 pm	Lag Ba'Omer Bonfire & Cookout – RSVP!
Saturday, 5/28		No Shabbat Service
Monday, 5/30		Memorial Day - Office Closed

