

*Search for Your New Favorite Tchochke and More
at Temple Chaverim's Summer Fundraiser!*

SIMPLE TREASURES

COMMUNITY GARAGE & CRAFTS FAIR



SUNDAY, JULY 15TH 9^{AM}-2^{PM}

RAINDATE: SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

VENDORS: SPOTS AVAILABLE FOR \$36 OR \$54.

All merchandise profits go directly to vendors. For more information or to rent a spot, contact Karen Bressner at karen.bressner@gmail.com or 917-836-2207 or Rosemary at rosemary@templechaverim.org
To donate merchandise, please contact Alyssa Feller at fellup@aol.com



RABBI'S MESSAGE

RABBI JONATHAN L. HECHT, Ph.D.

SUMMER'S HERE AND THE TIME IS RIGHT TO EXPLORE JEWISH CULTURE

It's summer! Why not take advantage of some of these great exhibits not too far from home. **The Jewish Museum** (1109 5th Avenue, corner 92nd Street), contains one the largest collections of Jewish culture in the world. This summer there is an exhibit on the French artist, Edouard Vuillard. The Natanson brothers, sons of prosperous Polish-French Jewish bankers, invited Vuillard to exhibit his art in the offices



of their political magazine, *La Revue Blanche*. They gave Vuillard his first big break. Later, Vuillard joined up with the Bernheim-Jeune gallery managed by Jos Hessel, whose gorgeous wife, Lucy, entered into a four decade long artistic and personal relationship with him. Among Vuillard's paintings are portraits of the Jewish art dealer Sam

Salz, banker David David-Weill, chairman of the family investment bank Lazard Freres, and art collectors Henri and Marcel Kapferer. Among the paintings, two family portraits, one of Madame Jean Bloch and her children and the other, of Claude Bernheim de Villers, stand out. A number of the people portrayed in these paintings perished in Auschwitz.

The Center for Jewish History (15 West 16th Street) is home to five partner organizations: The American Jewish Historical Society, the oldest national ethnic historical organization in the United States, the American Sephardi Federation, Leo Baeck Institute, Yeshiva University Museum and YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. There are eight exhibits on view. The best one is the Yeshiva University Museum exhibit *Trail of the Magic Bullet: The Jewish Encounter with Modern Medicine, 1860-1960*. It is only on view through August 12, so don't miss it. It tells the story of how modern medicine emerged in the second half of the 19th century and the role that Jews played in developing innovative medical technologies and new theories of disease. For Jews, the field of scientific medicine presented new opportunities, new challenges, and new ways to engage with modernity. Did you know that Jews comprised 50% of the physicians in Berlin, 60% in Vienna and 70% in Warsaw at the beginning of the 20th Century? Did you know that a Jewish doctor, Paul Erlich, is considered the father of chemotherapy and coined the phrase "magic bullet"? This exhibit contains medical instruments, artifacts, documents, letters, photographs, and video. I also enjoyed *New York Places/Jewish Spaces: Life in the City, 1700-2012*, on view through August 31 at the Center for Jewish History, which describes the identity of New York Jews by exploring the spaces we have created.



Continue downtown to the **Museum of Jewish Heritage** (36 Battery Place). There are three Special Exhibitions: *Emma Lazarus: Poet of Exiles*. Lazarus is famous for the "The Great Colossus" the poem engraved on the Statue of Liberty; *Filming*

the Camps: *From Hollywood to Nuremberg* is incredible, but not for children; and, *Let My People Go! The Soviet Jewry Movement, 1967-1989* (on view through August 5). Don't miss the Core collection which tells the story of modern Jewish life from the century before the Holocaust to Jewish renewal after the war.

Why not take a short road trip to Philadelphia? The **National Museum of Jewish History** opened there just two years ago. It tells the story of the 350 years of Jewish life in America. The Only in America® Gallery/Hall of Fame celebrates the lives and achievements of Jewish Americans who exemplify how America has given us extraordinary opportunities. There is a special exhibition entitled *To Bigotry No Sanction: George Washington & Religious Freedom*. On display is George Washington's historic letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, Rhode Island. Written in August 1790, and exhibited here for the first time in a decade, it represents a courageous statement by America's first President, which underscored the new nation's pursuit of religious liberty for people of all faiths. In this letter he affirmed his commitment to a government that "gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance."



Today, we enjoy freedom of religion, but in early America you could not assume that this would be true. Between the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the ratification of the Bill of Rights, Americans engaged in an intense debate about the nature and limits of religious liberty. It is really moving to see this exhibit and then visit the Liberty Bell a few doors down the road.

Have a great summer, and, if you get a chance to go, let me know what you think of these exhibits!



Mazel Tov to Rabbi Hecht!

Dr. David Ellenson, President of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, confers honorary degree of Doctor of Divinity upon Rabbi Hecht.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BRUCE STEIFMAN

TO MY FELLOW MEMBERS...

So here we are -- heading into the lazy, hazy days of summer! I would like to introduce myself as Temple Chaverim's new president and tell you a little about my family and how I evolved from member to board member to president.

I am married to Jody for twenty-six years and have been living in Old Bethpage for twenty-five years with our eighteen year old daughter, Jordyn who has just finished her first year at Ohio State University. We joined Temple Chaverim in 2000, just after the building was finished. I joined Men's Club, and Jody joined Sisterhood. We started to meet our Chaverim family and before I knew it, I was the chair of the Long Range Planning Committee, while Jody had become active with Sisterhood. Not coming from a religious background, Jody, Jordyn and I felt at home with our new-found family, our community of friends.

Temple Chaverim started out as a small "hamish" synagogue with less than one hundred families, meeting in someone's living room, the Plainview JCC for Tot Shabbat and in a church for the holidays. With a dream and a powerful desire to have a place to call our 'own', we moved forward to find a location and then to build our temple on top of the hill.

You know what they say, "Build it and they will come," and come they did. That small hamish congregation grew from 100 to over 200, and then within a relatively short period of time we were a congregation of over 500 families.

WOW!! Great? Yes? No? Here was the dilemma: who were we as a congregation? What happened to that hamish feeling where everyone knew everyone? Did we lose our identity? What did we stand for and where did we want to go? How big did we want to become?

At this very point in time, we were introduced to the Alban Institute and a program that they had initiated called "Synagogue Vision and Planning." As chair of Long Range Planning, I made a commitment along with our clergy, staff and 60 congregants to engage in a



conversation that began the process of searching for a Shared Vision/Mission Statement after viewing the tape "What Size Should We Be?" and realizing that the Temple's rapid growth had changed the dynamics and demographics of the congregation.

While at the Scheidt Seminar in Atlanta, GA this past April along with one hundred presidents-elect in attendance from all over the United States, I created a poster that depicted the Synagogue Vision and Planning process. The circles in the above illustration represent those sixty congregants who ranged from senior citizens to families with children, and people from our Hebrew High, along with clergy, staff and board members.

This diverse group of temple members was engaged in a very personal, soul-searching process of defining what Temple Chaverim meant to them. It was creative, passionate and painstaking, making sure that every word and sentence described the correct thought, feeling and idea as it was perceived. Eight months later, we had tuned and fine-tuned five statements into one comprehensive shared vision for our temple.

This Vision Statement which hangs on the walls of our synagogue, is handed out at our Friday night and Saturday morning services, resides on our website and is stated in our Connections newsletter, simply states who we are as a Reform Jewish Synagogue and defines our vision in the areas of Worship, Education and Community.

Most importantly, every committee must ask themselves, "Are we living and fulfilling the Temple's "Shared Vision?" The Vision is "ALIVE."

I am humbled and grateful at being given this opportunity to serve my Chaverim community and look forward to worshipping with you.

LIFELONG LEARNING FOR ADULTS

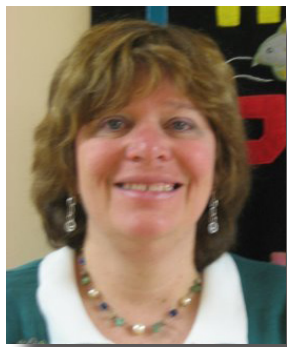


LIFELONG LEARNING (formerly Adult Education) will be offering classes and programs on lots of different days during the week.

Keep your eyes open for new class offerings, including a "Beginning to Read Hebrew Class," which will be on Tuesday nights.

In January, there will be an ISRAEL FILM FESTIVAL on Monday evenings, where we will feature four films from Israel and a discussion led by Rabbi Hecht.





PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

DEBBYE BRANDELL

THOUGHTS FOR OUR HIGH SCHOOL AGE CONGEGRANTS

The Community Hebrew High School Graduation service was held May 14th at Temple Chaverim. It was a very spiritual student led service and one of my favorite services of the year. I'd like to share Talia Schwartz's graduation speech with you.

As teenagers, there are few things in our life that we get to chose. Our parents make us go to school, our teachers choose what we will learn, and our grades decide our future. With Hebrew High School, it seems we've found the exception to that rule. Once the average Reform Jew becomes a bar or bat mitzvah, their parents recognize that they are an adult...A Jewish adult at least. And what power comes with this honor, you may ask? That 13 year old Jewish adult gets to decide whether or not to continue Hebrew school. After months of tutoring and lessons to prepare their Torah portion and service, many young adults see their bar or bat mitzvah as the end of their Jewish education. Luckily for me, my parents still saw me as their little middle schooler and not a Jewish adult, and decided that I would participate in Hebrew High School, and that I would like it. If this was the case in any other household of the families in front of me tonight, I can assure you that every single person in this graduating class is as thankful as I am for being brought in to this program, regardless of how forceful.

For me Hebrew High School is the only class I attend purely for the knowledge it brings. Unlike high school, there are no grades and no boundaries. You can learn about anything as long as you are willing to ask. Not only is there such a wide variety of classes, from cooking and dancing to debate class, but the staff here is truly comprised of educators, not just teachers. The only way to fail a class in Hebrew High is to fail yourself by not opening up to learn anything. There are few places that I can go and feel absolutely no pressure. Community Hebrew High School is one of those places. There is absolutely nothing like it. God said that all man was created equal, and although it may not feel that way in the complicated world of high school, it does hold true here. Each and everyone of us has been lucky enough to learn and grow together, and I will be forever grateful for the lessons and experiences that I have gained from this program. If there was one thing I could say to any child debating whether or not to join Hebrew High School, I'd say do it. If there were one thing I could say to any parent of a child debating, it would be make sure they do it. It's an experience they will never regret and it's probably a mitzvah as well.

Mazal Tov to our CHHS graduates Zoe Finn, Melissa Ilgner, and Talia Schwartz and their families!!

Look for our Teen Engagement Program coming Tuesdays this fall!!!

Have a happy, relaxing, and safe summer! See you in September!

B'NEI MITZVAH FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2012

Sept 1	Jake Brandwein	Oct 6	Samuel & Hannah Goldberg
Sept 8	Cassandra Resnick	Oct 6	Tyler Cohen
Sept 8	Jake Leeser	Oct 6	Erica Kam
Sept 8	Jordana Lewis	Oct 7	Madison Bass
Sept 15	Ethan Cohen	Oct 13	David Weissman
Sept 15	Jyllian Solomon	Oct 20	Danielle Stein
Sept 29	Emily Blank	Oct 20	Julia Cohen
Sept 29	Zachary Korowitz	Oct 20	Justin Max
		Oct 27	Jordan Applebaum
		Oct 27	Samantha Shapiro
		Oct 27	Bailey Klein

Welcome to our New Assistant Rabbi!

Temple Chaverim is proud to announce that Debra Bennet has been named new Assistant Rabbi effective July 1, 2012. Rabbi Bennet comes to Temple Chaverim with a wealth of experience in the area of Jewish education, pastoral care and involvement in numerous Jewish social action issues.



Prior to coming to Temple Chaverim, Rabbi Debra Bennet was the Principal of the Religious School at Temple Am Echad in Lynbrook and the Rabbi Educator at Temple Beth Torah in Melville. In addition she participated in the Leadership Institute for Congregational School Educators in developing new programming for Jewish Religious schools. Rabbi Bennet's background will certainly enhance our current religious and youth programs.

Rabbi Debra Bennet was ordained by the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion in New York in May 2007. She and her husband, Marc, currently reside in Old Bethpage with their two young children.

Rabbi Bennet will be available throughout the summer on Tuesdays & Thursdays or by appointment.



STRETCHING ON SUNDAY!

Our 5th grade classes enjoy Aleph Bet Yoga led by Robyn Smith

What's in a Title? A lot!

You have heard the question: What's in a name? A name is an identifier, given to us at birth. Titles and degrees are different. They are things we earn. You were given your name and earned your High School degree.

Of course, most people don't stop after High School. They go to college and earn a Bachelor's degree. Some people go on to graduate school for a Master's, Medical, Law, or Dental degree.

A title usually says something about the person's training or qualifications. When someone is called Doctor, we hope that he or she has gone to an accredited Medical School. When someone is called "Rabbi" we hope that he or she has the appropriate training that goes along with that title.

What is the training that goes into becoming a rabbi? For Reform Rabbis, there is an academic degree, a Masters of Arts in Hebrew Literature, and a religious degree called Ordination. The seminary that awards these degrees is Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR).

Hebrew Union College was founded in 1875 in Cincinnati by Isaac Mayer Wise. Wise understood the need for a liberal and pluralistic seminary of higher Jewish learning that would produce rabbis who were thoroughly trained. When he arrived in the United States, there was just one ordained rabbi and many "free lancers," people who had minimal training and had not gone to any recognized seminary.

In 1950 Hebrew Union College merged with the Jewish Institute of Religion, founded by Stephen S. Wise in New York. Today there are campuses of HUC-JIR in New York, Cincinnati, Los Angeles and

Jerusalem. HUC-JIR also trains cantors, Ph.D.s in Jewish studies, educators, Temple administrators, and archaeologists.

Sadly, in recent years there has been a reemergence of "free lancers," people who have minimal training at non-academically accredited seminaries. Some of these "seminaries" have no building, library or classes. They are run by a free lance rabbi who gives out ordination to people with very little training. Unfortunately, most Jews cannot differentiate between the fully qualified rabbis and the "free lancers." They meet a person who says that he or she is a rabbi, and they don't ask any more questions.

You should know what kind of training your rabbis and your cantor have! Rabbi Hecht was ordained at HUC-JIR in 1987. He received his Master of Arts in Hebrew Literature (MAHL) in 1986. In addition, he received a Ph.D. in Jewish History from New York University in 1993 and was awarded a Doctor of Divinity this year from HUC-JIR. Rabbi Lobel and Rabbi Bennet were ordained at HUC-JIR in 2007. They each received their MAHL degrees in 2006. Cantor Hyman received his Masters degree in Sacred Music from HUC-JIR in 1999 and was invested as a cantor there in 2000.

We are so proud that our Rabbis and Cantor are fully trained and have been recognized by, and admitted into, their professional organizations: the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the American Conference of Cantors, which provide ethical supervision and oversight over all their members.



Jewish Spirituality & Relaxation Class

Are you looking for a few minutes of peace?
Are you seeking your life's purpose?

Join us for strategies to relax & simple tools you can use to find inner peace. The class will help you quiet the mind (yes, you can) & listen to your own heart. You will learn breathing techniques, enjoy a guided meditation and a fun discussion.

Wednesdays 10:00 am - 11:30 am
Alternate Thursdays 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm
Meets During July, August and September

A TASTE OF CAMP

EISNER CAMP FOR BOYS ENTERING 3RD THROUGH 6TH GRADES

Experience a Taste of Eisner Camp

Summer 2012 Only!

- ✓ Sports instruction and clinics in baseball, soccer, basketball, lacrosse and more!
- ✓ Amazing activities, from art and music to nature and our challenge course!
- ✓ A welcoming community that embodies the values of Reform Judaism!
- ✓ A brand-new camper cabin and fantastic Eisner counselors!

ONLY \$600 A SESSION

WED, 6/27 - SUN, 7/1
TUES, 7/3 - SUN, 7/8
TUES, 7/10 - SUN, 7/15

To register, visit eisner.urjcamps.org/register
Questions: contact us at eisnercranelake@urj.org or 201.722.0400

EXPERIENCE SHABBAT

GET YOUR HANDS DIRTY

HIT A BULLSEYE

OPEN HOUSE AT CRANE LAKE & EISNER CAMP

including guided tours and lunch with Rabbi Hecht and Cantor Hyman
Thursday, August 9, 2012

Because of camp I...
Ike tang Jewish!

INTRODUCING ROBYN SMITH OUR YOUTH ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR



Robyn Smith is a religious and music educator, tutor and youth engagement worker with more than 12 years experience. Born and raised on Long Island, she has taught religious school and worked with youth groups in Old Bethpage, Roslyn Heights, Wantagh and Plainview, including here at Temple Chaverim. She has also taught religious school and tutored Bar/Bat Mitzvah students in Syracuse, Hoboken and NYC. Robyn employs out-of-the-box creativity with both formal and informal education, which has included Aleph-Bet Yoga for Hebrew classes, the year-long Jewish Identi-Tree for Judaica classes, and introducing new music to young people at Junior Congregation. She is constantly growing and learning through a network of 35 educators in the US and Israel, the result of the June 2011 "Teacher Trek" through Israel, for which she was selected. She spent 12 days learning about Israel, its education systems and methods. Prior to her work in Jewish Education and the Youth Movement, Robyn was a marketing and publicity executive in the music industry, where she worked with both mainstream and Jewish artists including Matisyahu, Y-Love, Miri Ben-Ari, Aesop Rock, Kosha Dillz and Israeli MC Shi 360. Robyn's education includes MBA studies in Marketing and Media Management at the Stern School of Business at NYU, and receipt of her B.S. in Public Relations from The S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University.



*WISHING OUR CHAVERIM TEMPLE YOUTH
A GREAT SUMMER!*



MICHELLE
CHALFEN

Looking back, we had a terrific year for our youth. We had fun lounge nights filled with eating, learning and getting to know each other better.

We want to wish Rabbi Lobel good luck in the future, but more importantly we want to thank him for all of his hard work for the youth of our temple. He will truly be missed.



BETH TABAK

We would like to welcome Rabbi Bennet to our congregation, and we look forward to working with her. We would also like to introduce Robyn Smith who will also be working closely with our youth.

Remember to join CHATY next year and stay connected. We look forward to next year. Have a wonderful summer.

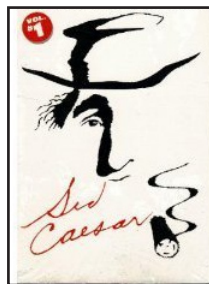
For information about CHATY and opportunities in the Youth Committee at Temple Chaverim, contact Beth Tabak, Youth Co-chair: Bethjon@optonline.net and Michelle Chalfen, Youth Co-Chair: Michntodd@verizon.net



SOCIABLE SENIORS ROCHELLE POTASH

OUR SUMMER BREAK

Sociable Seniors ended its 8th season on June 7th with Bobbie Ruth, singer-guitarist who presented her entertaining program "A Musical Tribute to Peggy Lee." After a summer break for the months of July and August, Sociable Seniors will resume on September 6, 2012 with Ira Epstein presenting his program on Sid Casar. As you all know, this was one of the best TV shows ever done.



With every new season comes change. As I leave my position as chair of this program, I will confidently turn over my responsibilities to the new chairs, Florence Halperin (photo below) and Phyllis Spisto. I know they will continue to bring entertaining and informative programs each month. Your continued support to this program has made it so successful. As always a delicious light lunch will be served. Cost is \$9 for members, \$12 non-members. To make a reservation, call the Sociable Seniors RSVP line at 516-367-6100, ext 103.



Get Ready for our new HIGH SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM

TUESDAY NIGHT LIVE!



Led by our new Assistant Rabbi Debra Bennet and involving our Youth Engagement specialist, Robyn Smith, Rabbi Hecht, Cantor Hyman and Debbye Brandell, students will meet every week, from 6:15pm to 8:15pm. There will be dinner, CHATY programs, workshops, leadership training opportunities, travel programs, Tzedakah projects and more. Rabbi Hecht will also be teaching a Confirmation Class for 10th Graders.



MEMBERSHIP LISE MAYER

CONGREGANT RELATIONS

SHEILA SCHROEDER



Are you getting the most out of your membership? According to our recent survey, most people join Temple Chaverim to provide their children with an outstanding religious education--but Temple Chaverim offers so much more. When you join, you:

- ◆ belong to a sacred caring community made up of congregants, clergy and staff who help celebrate life's joys and ease its sorrows;
- ◆ forge pastoral relationships with dedicated clergy, who provide many services such as: counseling and support in times of both spiritual and personal need; assisting your children and teens through recommendations to camp, college and Birthright programs; officiating at funerals of household members and providing support, as well, when an member of your extended family passes on; and are available for meaningful conversations exploring personal and religious issues;
- ◆ have a spiritual home in which to celebrate holidays and life cycle events such as weddings, baby-namings, and bar mitzvahs;
- ◆ are a member of an educational community, which provides a varied array of programs and classes to enrich, educate and involve everyone in your household
- ◆ can explore a wide range of interests and social connections, through Temple Chaverim's many committees and groups.

Now that you've joined, join in! For more information about any of our programs or activities, call Executive Director, Sue Gold at 516-367-6100, Membership Chair, Lise Mayer at 516-931-0639 or Congregant Relations Chair, Sheila Schroeder at 631-691-2095.

MEMBERSHIP COUPON

Help Spread the Word About Temple Chaverim!
Simply clip this coupon and pass along to a friend or family member who might be interested in joining our congregation.

FRIEND OF A FRIEND

CHAVERIM
COUPON

I am interested in joining Temple Chaverim and was referred by _____.


Name: _____

Address: _____


Telephone #: _____

Email : _____

Present this coupon when you join Temple Chaverim and your friend will receive a special Thank You!



<http://www.facebook.com/templechaverim>



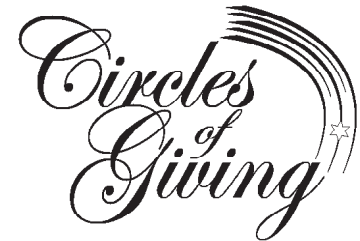
COLLEGE CONNECTION

Are you a college student or do you have a student in your family who would like to keep up with Temple Chaverim news? College students will receive regular eblasts as well as periodic items of special interest from the temple. Ask for an application form from Louise Sunshine (lsunshine@templechaverim.org) at the temple's Religious School office.



FUNDRAISING

KAREN BRESSNER



As we come together during the holiest time of the year, we ask you to make a contribution to Temple Chaverim's High Holy Day Appeal and to join the Circles of Giving program. If you are already a member of Circles, why not increase your participation to the next level?

TOP TEN REASONS YOU SHOULD JOIN CIRCLES OF GIVING...

- #10 -Your name will be part of the Circles list in Connections;
- #9 – Your name will be part of the Circles of Giving plaque in the temple lobby;
- #8 – You will receive a special certificate of appreciation;
- #7 – You will be invited to the Circles Wine & Cheese reception;
- #6 – Circle of Distinction and Excellence level members are invited to a special Shabbat dinner and Friday night service in their honor;
- #5 – Circle of Excellence members receive a special plaque for their home or office;
- #4 – Your contribution helps fund programs and events at Temple Chaverim which we could not otherwise afford through dues alone;
- #3 – Circle of Excellence members receive 2 free tickets to Casino Night 2013;
- #2 – Being a member of Circles is a great example of giving for you to show your children and grandchildren;
- #1 – Getting personal satisfaction from helping your temple!**

Vacation with Temple Chaverim

Still room on our third trip to Israel!

BUILD YOUR CONNECTION TO ISRAEL AND TO THE TEMPLE



Are you ready for a trip that will truly change your life? Every Jewish person should go to Israel at least once in their lives. From a Jewish perspective, you will come back transformed. Ask any young person who has gone on Birthright, or anyone who has attended one of our NFTY in Israel programs, and they will tell you that they never looked at being Jewish the same way. A trip to Israel helps you see that Judaism is not just a religion... being Jewish is about belonging to a people. You go to Israel to visit your family, not just some foreign country. There is no better way for families to go to Israel than on a congregational trip. You get to go with your Rabbi, and with other families from our Temple. and build bonds and connections to Israel!

Our next trip to Israel will be this December and it is filling up fast. The dates are Dec.20-30, 2012, and the cost is \$3099 (land only), per person. Airline ticket prices fluctuate on a daily basis but are approximately \$1800 pp. There are discounts for children (sharing a room with two adults) and Bar and Bat Mitzvah students. If you are interested, you can find the itinerary, and sign up, online at www.arzaworld.com. To find our trip, fill in the search box with the word "Plainview" and press "go." If you have any questions, call Rabbi Hecht at 516-367-6100.

These photographs, part of our award winning "Impressions of Israel" exhibit, were all taken during Temple Chaverim's previous trips to Israel.



WELCOME TO THE SISTERHOOD SHOP

*Every purchase supports the synagogue ...
whether you shop on-line on our website at*

judaicabeautiful

*or stop by the Judaica Shop. There are countless items to choose from!
To view some of the items on display in our shop, check us out on*

facebook

PRIME VOLUNTEER POSITION AVAILABLE

Make your own hours and volunteer from home in the comfort of your PJs as assistant to the editor of the Connections newsletter. Writer/proofreader needed to assist with new seasonal publication. Get to know your fellow chaverim; become involved in temple life without being overwhelmed. Phone (631-691-2095) or email (sweetsheila624@aol.com) Sheila Schroeder.

Temple Chaverim Survey Results

In early 2012, the Long Range Planning Committee sent out a first-ever congregational survey -- developed with input from several committees -- to all member households. The excellent response rate of over 60% of households -- about 2-3 times higher than most voluntary surveys -- suggests that our congregation was enthusiastic about providing candid feedback on their opinions and behaviors to help shape the future of Temple Chaverim. Thank you to the many of you who provided your input.

Results were independently analyzed by Marketing Research and Marketing Professionals and presented to the Board of Trustees in February. In the following weeks, several informational sessions with committees were held which highlighted the congregation's feelings about our strengths, as well as areas to improve or optimize.

Key learning suggests that the top reasons why households joined were Bar/Bat Mitzvah and Education followed by Religious Holidays and Practices. Interestingly, top reasons for remaining a member focused on some of the same reasons along with the Clergy and Family Feeling/Intimacy/Warmth of the Temple. Our Clergy received exceptionally high ratings on all dimensions (e.g.,

knowledgeable, approachable, reliable, accessible, trustworthy, etc.) in addition to being recognized as one of our major strengths.

Further, Temple Chaverim also got very high marks on Making an Impact on One's Life. Office staff also received strong scores. While the Content of Emails and Connections was well regarded, our Website and Phone System weren't. Also, many said they did not know the Board and felt they could be more accessible. Many did not know our activities, suggesting an opportunity to increase awareness and involvement. We learned that top ways to Encourage Volunteerism are to allow people to choose Topics of Personal Interest and to Personally Invite People to Participate.

Several other areas were evaluated and action plans are being developed with the relevant staff/volunteers. This survey will serve as a benchmark to measure our progress in the coming years.

Again, thank you for sharing your candid feedback. It will make a real difference in our Temple of friends!

Submitted by Robin Pearl, Long Range Planning Committee

HOLY CRAPS, FUN WAS HAD BY ALL!

The Fundraising Committee under the leadership of Karen Bressner brought Casino Night to Temple Chaverim. The atmosphere was lively and energetic with games and entertainment. In the Ballroom one could try one's luck at Blackjack, Roulette, Texas Hold'em, Craps and Slot machines. We were entertained in the Lucky Chai Lounge. The music of Hyman & Pinfinkle, Jesse Oelbaum, Mark Berezow and That 70's Band were amazing and enjoyable.



Temple Chaverim Honors Veterans

This year for the first time, congregants of Temple Chaverim participated in the Plainview Old-Bethpage Memorial Day Parade. Rabbi Jonathan L. Hecht explained that Temple Chaverim chose to march "to say 'thank you' to those people who serve and protect our freedoms, including freedom of religion." Karen Bressner, an organizer of the parade group added, "It's a wonderful opportunity for our Temple Chaverim community to show support for Plainview-Old Bethpage." Congregant Allen Mayer commented that it was fitting to honor our veterans on Memorial Day as this year it was also the Jewish holiday Shavuot, one of the four occasions of memorial prayer in the Jewish calendar. After the parade the group continued the festivities with a bagel breakfast in the park. Bruce Steifman, incoming President, smiling as he looked around, summed up the good time, "I think that this is the start of an annual tradition!"
by Lise Mayer



A HEARTY MAZEL TOV TO OUR AWARD WINNING STUDENTS!



Sam Hecht and Erica Koplitz received the Robert A. Belfer Family Fellowship Award from UJA on June 3, 2012. This fellowship was established by Laurence Belfer, Chief Executive Officer of Belfer Management, LLC, in memory of his father. Fellows attend programs of study and travel in Israel, and, upon their return, complete community service projects which teach others about Israel. 160 students applied for the Fellowship, and only 39 were given. Past recipients include Temple Chaverim student, Melissa Ilgner.

Parade Photo (L-R) : Darlene Friedman, Karen Bressner, Fred Krellenstein, Vicki Eaton, Meryl Wittenberg, Marla Krellenstein, Allen Mayer, Elise Hahn Rubin, Elliot Wittenberg, Cantor Bradley Hyman, Rabbi Jonathan Hecht, Bruce Steifman, Jody Steifman, Robert Herenstein, Lise Mayer, Leslie Herenstein

Thank you to our members for their generous donations for the period March 7, 2012 through May 31, 2012. Every effort was made to ensure accuracy. We apologize in advance for any errors or misspellings.

Adult Education Fund

Paul Hirschstein
Gerald and Susan Hirschstein

Rabbi Hecht's Discretionary Fund

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The 50th Wedding Anniversary of Carol and Burt Minov
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The marriage of Phyllis and Meyer Steinberg
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Rabbi Lobel
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Mr. Jerry Horowitz and Ms. Bernice Small

Burt and Carol Minov's 50th Anniversary
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IN MEMORY OF
David Kovensky
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Sunshine Fund

Rabbi Jonathan Hecht
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The birth of Kasey Gettleman
Marilyn Gettleman

IN MEMORY OF
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Burt and Carol Minov
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David and Lisa Frenkel
The Bat Mitzvah of Jayme Shoshana Schrank

Philip and Lisa Schrank
Our 50th Anniversary
Burt and Carol Minov
The Bar Mitzvah of Matthew Watling

George and Lauren Watling
The Bat Mitzvah of Jessica Tyler Ortsman
James and Ilysa Ortsman

The Bar Mitzvah of Daniel Scott Gulotta
Stephen and Barbara Gulotta
The Bar Mitzvah of Ryan Scott Kirschner

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The Bat Mitzvah of Sarah Madelyn Beth Giliot
The Giliot Family

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Betty Lewis
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Betty Lewis
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The Bar Mitzvah of Max Egert
Manny and Bobbie Egert

Esther Pinsky
Howard and Elise Rubin



Welcomes Our New Members!

Darin, Pamela, Emily and Brooke Germanton
Michael, Rachel, Alexandra, Amanda and Sage Rosenberg
Adam, Sharon, Chloe and Hailey Goldberg
Mitchell, Lori, Zachary, Spencer and Lindsey Keschner
Brian, Lauren, Brandon and Ethan Sackstein
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Phillip, Adrienne, Steven, Alexa and Lauren Katz
Craig, Brittney, Hunter and Olivia Scott
Phyllis Spisto

MEMORIAL LIST

MARCH 20, 2012 - MAY 31, 2012

- Morris Weitzman, father of Robin Fontanetta, passed away on March 22, 2012
- Robert "Bob" Slotnick, father of Robin Klausner, passed away on March 30, 2012
- Selma Buckler, mother of Debby Sorkin, passed away on April 14th, 2012
- Spencer Reis, 7th grade student (Plainview J.C.), passed away on April 15, 2012
- Jacqueline Greengarten, mother of Demetria Torres
- Maxine Steckler, passed away on April 20, 2012
- Marilyn Lewis, mother of Bonnie Pantell, passed away on April 25, 2012
- Esther Pinsky, grandmother of Steven Pinsky, passed away on April 29, 2012
- Miriam Hanania, mother of Gail Wurtzel, passed away on May 23, 2012
- Paul Landsburg, step-father of Hope Becker, passed away on May 27, 2012

MEMORIAL PLAQUES

MARCH 20, 2012 - MAY 31, 2012
Howard Rothman - February 21, 2011
Dorothy E. Levy - June 6, 1998

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**Congratulations to our new Connections Editor,
Sheila Schroeder**

**Look forward to a brand new edition
of Connections in the Fall!**

Message from Debbie Wells,

Communications Committee Chairperson

It has been my pleasure and privilege to serve as Communications Committee Chair for so many years. One of the highlights for me was creating Connections with a wonderful team of people. We have a lot to show for our efforts, including an award from Graphic Design: USA, but more importantly, the knowledge that this newsletter has really helped "connect" us to each other. As I leave my post this year and move on in a new leadership role, I look forward to seeing the exciting directions the committee will take in the future.

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**TEMPLE CHAVERIM
HIGH HOLY DAYS SCHEDULE
2012-5773**



Sunday, September 16

8pm - Erev Rosh Hashanah Services

Monday, September 17

9:00 am First Day Rosh Hashanah Services
1:30 pm Young Children's Services
(open to the community)
3:00 pm Tashlich at Wantagh Park
(open to the community)

Tuesday, September 18

9:00 am Second Day Rosh Hashanah Services

Tuesday, September 25

8:00 pm Kol Nidre

Wednesday, September 26

9:00 am Yom Kippur Services
Noon Community Yizkor Services
2:00 pm Young Children's Services
(open to the community)
3:00 pm Torah Study
3:00 pm Teshuvah through Jewish Meditation
with Donna Bloom
4:30pm Afternoon and Concluding Services

**STAY TUNED:
NEXT YEAR WILL BRING EXCITING
CHANGES TO TEMPLE CHAVERIM**



Come September, we will be trying some new things at Temple Chaverim! The first Friday Night of each month will look very different. Next year, instead of one service at 7:30 PM, we will have two services:

EARLY SERVICE - 6:00PM TO 6:45PM

LATE SERVICE - 8:00PM TO 9:15PM

The Early Service will be a full service, filled with music and prayer, and a story or teaching of Torah. The Late Service will be a full service, include participation by the Bar and Bat Mitzvah children of the week and their families, a Torah reading, and a Sermon. Birthday blessings and pins will be given out at both services! The Early and the Late Service will take place only the **FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH**, the other Shabbatot will be at the regular 8:00 PM time.

Tot Shabbat is moving to Sunday Mornings and will now be called "STAY, PLAY AND PRAY," and it will be led by Rabbi Hecht, Cantor Hyman and Debbye Brandell. The first one will be Sunday, September 30, at 9:00 AM.

Throughout the year there will be **SPECIAL SHABBATOT SERVICES**: Guitar Shabbat, Senior Shabbat, Israel Shabbat... and something we haven't tried yet: Visual Tefillah Shabbat. Visual Tefillah does not use the prayer book. Instead, we project the prayers and the words to the songs and texts that we are studying onto screens at the front of the Sanctuary. Come and try this out with us!



Wanted: Mitzvah Makers! All you need is a smile.

Can you say "Shabbat Shalom?" Be a greeter before Friday night services!

For info, please contact Lise Mayer (516-931-0639) or Sheila Schroeder (631-691-2095, sweetsheila624@aol.com).



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