



Congregation Sha'arey Ha-Yam

Gates of the Sea

THE BULLETIN

P.O. Box 1268, Manahawkin, NJ 08050 • (609)-698-4459

Website: reformjewishcommunity.org

Items to Note:

- August 9: Tish'a B'Av
- August 10: Dine-A-Round
- August 12: Shabbat Services
- August 19: Shabbat Services

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Message From the Rabbi:

Dear Friends,

There's an ad that runs regularly in my town's local newspaper, placed by someone who calls her business, "The Camp Lady." Maybe some of you have heard of it. Although I never used this service myself, I gather from the ad that this is someone who acts as a consultant, helping families to find appropriate summer activities—mainly camps—for their children. It always amuses me to see that in April and May and June of any given year, "The Camp Lady," runs an ad that says, "It's not too late to start thinking about NEXT summer!" Parents are urged to give themselves plenty of time to consider what their children might be doing a year in advance, and to do the necessary legwork, visiting, thinking, and talking NOW to prepare for the next summer. In a way, this column is sort of like one of those "Camp Lady" ads. It (this column) will appear in August. Like the Camp Lady, though, I want to share some of my own thoughts about summer camps with an eye toward next summer, the summer of 2012, and beyond. (And, unlike "The Camp Lady," my thoughts are free!) This message is not limited to parents but is for everyone who cares about or is involved with Jewish children – grandparents, godparents, aunts, uncles, teachers and friends.

What started me on this topic was a study that recently came across my desk. It was from the National Study of Youth and Religion, based at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Study looked at American youth and their involvement in religious summer camps. Nearly 40% of kids 13-17 have been a camper at least once "at a summer camp run by a religious organization with religious teachings or songs in its programs" according to this study. The study looked at a variety of factors: differences in religious camp attendance across religious traditions; the impact of family income on the decision to send kids to a religious camp; the influence of parental religious service attendance as a factor in the decision; and the young person's own perception of the importance of religion in his or her life. There were some interesting findings.

Teens of Mormon parents are the most likely to attend religious camps (78%). Next were teens of conservative Protestant, mainline Protestant and Jewish parents (at 53, 48, and 43 percent respectively). At the lower end, were children from Catholic families (24%) and other religious traditions (anywhere from 15-24%). As one might expect, family income also appears somewhat to influence camp attendance, with teens from families with higher household incomes more likely to attend than others. Camp, in general, is certainly a more expensive summer option than the local town program, and sleep away camps can be considerably more expensive still. In general, family religious service attendance was

associated with somewhat higher levels of religious camp attendance. Again not surprisingly, those parents who said that the importance of religious faith in their day-to-day life was “extremely important,” “very important,” or “somewhat important” were more likely to send their kids to a religious camp than those who said religious faith was “not very important,” or “not important at all.” It’s also important to mention that the study’s principal researcher noted that some religious traditions place more or less emphasis on the importance of their youth attending religious summer camp and some religious traditions also appear to have developed better organizational infrastructures offering greater supplies of camps within their religious tradition.

What does all this have to do with us? I’ll be upfront about it. I’m here to make the case for Jewish summer camps—day camps or sleep away—and to ask you, like the Camp Lady, to think about them for your children, nieces, nephews, godchildren or grandchildren for the summer of 2012. I speak here as an alumna of Jewish camps myself, as a rabbi who served on the faculty of a Jewish camp, and as a parent who sent her own children to a Jewish camp for many years. My feeling about it is this: all things being equal (by “all things,” I mean the other kids at a camp, the staff, the atmosphere, and the activities), I think that kids can fall in love with any camp. So why not a Jewish one? Or maybe I should start with another question. Why a Jewish one?

Jewish summer camps, particularly sleep away camps, give our kids the chance to do something that is impossible anywhere else, and that is to live in a fully Jewish atmosphere, in Jewish time, in a Jewish community, full-time, for a period of anywhere from 1 to 8 weeks. We have a wonderful Jewish community here at our congregation. But we cannot provide what I described above. Our children and grandchildren are pulled by many other demands and influences: secular school, sports, lessons, and so forth. Only at Jewish camps do these things fall into the background while Jewish learning, growth, and identity formation take center stage. And—at good camps-- these things happen in an environment of fun, friendship, and inspiration. At camp, our kids live and/or are guided by older youth (counselors, CITs) who provide positive Jewish role models. They get to experience Shabbat in its best form, as “time out of space,” resting, relaxing, and learning. They sing, they soak up the atmosphere, they meet Jewish kids and adults from all over the world, they learn Hebrew words and phrases effortlessly, and—in an almost wordless way of profound meaning--they come to know that they belong to and in a community. There is a place for them. Our Reform Movement has one of the most extensive summer (sleep away) camping systems available. There are currently 14 of these camps spread across North America and more are being developed to meet the enormous demand for their services. There are many other wonderful Jewish camp systems as well.

I’ve heard many of the reasons why parents and grandparents hesitate to send their kids to a Jewish camp, and I understand these concerns. But if you want to kick around some thoughts about this in a non-judgmental atmosphere, come and talk to me. I promise I won’t give you a hard sell. But I will listen and I will try to answer your questions honestly and respond to your concerns thoughtfully. I will be happy to be your Jewish “Camp Lady,” but without the ads, and—of course—at no charge.

Have a good month.

Rabbi Kim S. Geringer

**Visit us on the Web For additional
Information ...**

www.shaareyhayam.org

Message from the President:

First of all, I wish to thank all of you for the well wishes and prayers that I received during my recent surgery. As of now, everything went very well and I am on the road to a full recovery.

With the High Holidays quickly approaching, we are reaching out in as many ways as possible to bring new families into our fold. Through the web, word of mouth and a mailing, we hope to attract new members. As an added incentive, The Federation is aiding us by supplying a mailing list of those not affiliated in this area. A letter has been drafted inviting prospective new members and visitors to our services and containing other pertinent information regarding our congregation. Since we are the only reform congregation in the area, all members of our "Temple family" should be encouraging new members to join.

As we move into preparations for the High Holidays, you will soon be contacted by the Ritual Committee under the leadership of Len Feather. The policy of our congregation is to honor as many members as possible with the honor of having an *aliyah* during the High Holidays. Please respond quickly to let the ritual committee know if you can accept your *aliyah*.

As we get closer to the High Holidays, information will be forthcoming concerning our annual *Yizkor* book in which congregants have the opportunity to memorialize loved ones. Plans are also being made for our annual Break the Fast following Yom Kippur services. Detailed information will follow.

Wishing you all good health and happiness,

Sincerely

Aaron Shapiro, President

Join the Sha'arey Ha-Yam Singers

At a recent, Rabbi Geringer announced an idea that she and I have to form a choir for the Congregation. The choir will help lead our Shabbat service music. I am happy to report that several members expressed an interest in the choir. I would be delighted, however, if more people would like to join. Since the choir so far is all female members, the men are welcome to join also. My plan is to meet on some Friday nights (maybe at 6:45) to run through some music and then, if we're ready, perform it that evening. I am also thinking that the choir can perform some pieces at the High Holiday services this year. Happily the Holidays are "late" this year, so we have more time than usual to prepare. If you are interested, please email me at paltland@elliman.com or philipaltland@comcast.net.

Thank You, Philip

Family News

Donations

In Memory of Eric Kreisler:

(The donation of Ms. Cyndy Friedland was inadvertently omitted from the July Newsletter)

Brian, Yvette, Amanda & Nicole Feist

Cyndy Friedland

Lorraine Decker

Sheila & Thomas Plaskon

Joseph & Beverly Stanilious

Nancy Young

Leo & Barbara Omalowicz

Joan Finn

Patrick & Donna Deagan

Barbara Epstein

(We hope we listed all that have donated. If we missed any, we will post it in the next newsletter. Aaron)

A Donation was made by Rita Gold in memory of her sister, Ms. Mickie Rouse.

Yahrzeit August 2011

August 4	Esther Frank, Mother of Rhoda Preissman
August 5	Bessie Kreisler, Mother of Mark Kreisler
August 16	Nathan Sales, Father of Maralyn Riccardi
August 17	Morris Gold, Father of Rita Gold
August 18	Gussie Flaxman , Mother of Joan Silverman
August 19	Lillyan Harmon, Mother of Inez Levine
August 20	Dave Frank, Father of Rhoda Preissman
August 20	Robert Bailen, Uncle to Rosalie Donadio
August 26	Albert Grossman, Brother of Fran Breese

To have the name of your loved one listed in The Bulletin and announced at Services by the Rabbi on the anniversary of their Yahrzeit, contact Phyllis Feather at PO Box 624, Barnegat, NJ 08005 or call **(609) 978-5500**

Thank you so much to members of the Congregation and of course Rabbi Kim for the cards and notes on the loss of my sister Mickie Rouse. As suggested by so many: I will indeed cherish our happy times together . I am blessed with a wonderful niece and 2 nephews, Mickie's children. We will all remember the joy she brought us...

Blessings to you all

Rita Gold

August Birthdays

Kreisler	Rena	16
Daley	Rhonda	29
Levin	David	23

August Anniversaries

Goldsborough	Sandy/Rich	11/96
Polon	Thelma & Hal	20/67

Jewish Heroes

(You don't have to be Jewish :)

(Contributions of information welcome)

(Contributions of information welcome – please send to me at raisele@comcast.net) (Thank you again, Inez, for this article.)

Just in case you weren't aware of this hero!!!

Who Was Haym Solomon? (and thanks to Inez Levine, we are made aware of this great Jew.)

United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a Seal. It took those four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved.

If you look at the left-hand circle, you will see a Pyramid.

Notice the face is lighted, and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the west or decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the Capstone you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that one man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything.

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'IN GOD WE TRUST' is on this currency.

The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means, 'God has favored our undertaking.' The Latin below the pyramid, NOVUS ORDO SECLORUM, means, 'a new order has begun.' At the base of the pyramid is the Roman numeral for 1776. (MDCCLXXVI)

If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn that it is on every National Cemetery in the United States . It is also on the Parade of Flags Walkway at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery.

Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery , and is the centerpiece of most heroes' monuments. Slightly modified, it is the seal of the President of the United States, and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet very few people know what the symbols mean.

The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons: First, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong, and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own. At the top of that shield you have a white bar signifying congress, a unifying factor. We were coming together as one nation. In the Eagle's beak you will read, "EPLURIBUS UNUM" meaning, 'from many - one.'

Above the Eagle, you have the thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we were coming together as one.

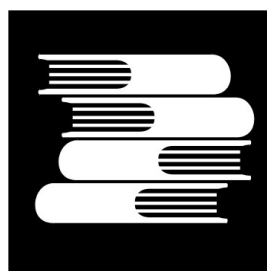
Notice what the Eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and Arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows.

They say that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will usually never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13th floor. But think about this:

*13 original colonies,
13 signers of the Declaration of Independence,
13 stripes on our flag,
13 original colonies,
13 steps on the Pyramid,
13 letters in 'AnnuitCoeptis,'
13 letters in ' E Pluribus Unum,'
13 stars above the Eagle,
13 bars on that shield,*

*13 leaves on the olive branch,
13 fruits, and if you look closely,
13 arrows.*

And finally, if you notice the arrangement of the 13 stars in the right-hand circle you will see that they are arranged as a Star of David. *This was ordered by George Washington who, when he asked Haym Solomon, a wealthy Philadelphia Jew, what he would like as a personal reward for his services to the Continental Army, Solomon said he wanted nothing for himself but that he would like something for his people. The Star of David was the result. Few people know that it was Solomon who saved the Army through his financial contributions but died a pauper. Haym Solomon gave \$25 million to the Continental Army, money that was extremely important to our independence from England .*



BOOK CORNER:

by Rosalie Donadio

Jacob's Legacy:

A Genetic View of Jewish History

by David B. Goldstein

Who are the Jews? Where did they come from? What are the connections between ancient Jews and modern Israelis? The author shows how genetic research yields rich new insights into history identity and what makes a people a people.

This book, a summary of research on genetics of Jewish people, is by a person in the best position to tell the story: a geneticist and a Jew. Goldstein's research deals with tracing heredity as far back as possible, and it is his project that is probing connections between Jews all over the world. He shows it is possible that Jews who think they are descendants of high priests from the days of the First Temple really are, and that Africans who believe they originated with the early Hebrews actually did. He also contrasts genetic descent through males and females and offers an explanation of why hereditary diseases found mostly in Jews may confer an advan-

tage. The technical portions are easy to understand and the book is no longer than it needs to be. It's a fast, jargon-free read and is highly recommended.

Jewish Tidbits

Fran Breese



The Search Is On

We humans chase over the world to find things.

We climb high mountains,



we descend to the nethermost depths of the sea,

we trek to the wilderness



and to the desert.



There is one place where we neglect to search - our heart.

But it is there we will find God.

Rabbi Tzadok HaKohen from Lublin

From: SimpleToRemember.Com JUDAISM ONLINE

Fundraising News

Honey anyone? - We will be taking orders for honey to be sent for the high holy days. This will be sent in a separate email.

Dine A Round - August 10 Bay Front Marina & Grill will give us **30%** please bring in the attached flyer. Sept 21 we will be having dessert at Rita's in Manahawkin from 6 - 9, no flyer needed.

***Join Us for
Shabbat Services ...***

***We Will All Benefit by
Your presence ...***

Fundraising News

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Holiday Boutique - Will happen this Fall, 11/19, if you know of vendors wanting to sell their wares please contact Cyndy or Phyllis Feather.

Sahara Sam's - Tickets still available for the low rate of \$20 each. The indoor water park is a great way to spend time with family!

Raffle Tickets - Our hopes are that you will not only sell or buy the two books you receive, but you will be needing more to sell! 1st prize is \$500 Visa Cash card, 2nd is a \$250 Visa Cash card and 3rd \$150 Visa Cash card. The drawing will be on Oct. 8th (2nd Night Seder). This should give us plenty of time to sell, sell, sell!

Clothing/Shoe Drive - Please save your clothes and shoes to be donated, bag separately. We will start collecting them in Sept. No date set yet on pick up.

Cookbooks and T-Shirts also available.

The Fund Raising Committee is committed to the future of our congregation. If you would like to be a part, have any questions or would like to come to our next meeting (7 pm, 8/8 @ The Otto's home), please contact Dayna at 609-978-6581.

Oneg Sponsorship: Do you or your family have a simcha to share with our congregation? What better way to celebrate than sponsoring an Oneg! We offer several levels that can be sponsored. \$50, \$75, and \$100. Our Onegs include wine, juice, challah and other desserts. The upper levels include fruit and extras to enhance the Oneg. Kindly contact Maralyn Ricciardi at 609-660-0935 or Madelyn Dunn at 609-660-1614 to reserve your date.

Help Wanted!

Congregation Sha'arey Ha-Yam has beautiful logo T-shirts available in all sizes for only \$10.00 apiece. "Recipes to Remember" our very own cookbook is a 3-ring binder with an included easel for free-standing on a countertop. Each cookbook is filled with over 180 recipes with lots of tips, hints and suggestions. The cookbook sells for \$18.00 and makes an excellent gift for friends or family, and is a wonderful keepsake as well. T-shirts and cookbooks are always available at services.

High Holidays Are Almost Here!

Rosh Hashannah Starts Wednesday Evening September 28

Kol Nidre is Friday Evening October 7

Yom Kippur Is Saturday October 8

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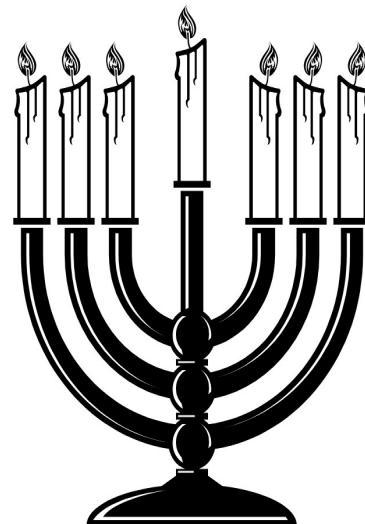
Do Not Delay ... Reserve your Seats Today!

Yizkor Book Forms Have Been Sent Out!Fill Them in and Mail Back!

Sign Up for "Break The Fast Dinner"

2011 SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

August 12	7:30 pm	Shabbat Services
August 19	7:30 pm	Shabbat Services
September 9	7:30 pm	Shabbat Services
September 28	7:30 pm	Erev Rosh Hashanah Services
September 29	10:00 am	Rosh Hashanah Services
October 7	7:30 pm	Erev Yom Kippur
October 8	10:00 am	Yom Kippur & Break the Fast
October 14		Sukkot
October 15	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Alex Dublinsky
November 4	7:30 pm	Shabbat Services
November 5	10:00 am	Bar Mitzvah of Ethan Arrowood
November 18	7:30 pm	Shabbat Services
December 9	7:30 pm	Shabbat Services
December 23	7:30 pm	Shabbat Services



Dine-A-Round

Please bring this with you on
Wednesday, August 10th



96 Bryant Road, Waretown, NJ
609-693-3008

with gratitude **CONGREGATION SHA'AREY HA-YAM**