



BSBI Annual Meeting Wednesday, May 12, 2021 7:30 PM

Please join us via Zoom for the BSBI Annual Meeting
on **Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 7:30 PM.**

We are looking forward to sharing all the successes of the past year and
a glimpse into what is planned for the future!

We look forward to “seeing” you and joining as a community.

There will be an election at the Annual Meeting to fill the open at-large position on the Board of Directors. The Nominating Committee has nominated Jay Bigman for that position.

**If you have any questions about the congregation, please feel free to email us at
steiglfest@sbcglobal.net or jgs@hksflaw.com
Jack and Dawn Steigelfest**

TEMPLE TOPICS

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BETH SHOLOM B'NAI ISRAEL
400 Middle Turnpike East, Manchester, CT 06040
(860) 643-9563 www.myshul.org

Clergy

Rabbi: Randall J. Konigsburg

Rabbi Emeritus: Richard J. Plavin

Staff

Office Manager: Judy Sawtelle

Marketing Coordinator: Tova Haley

Bookkeeper: Shari Haley

Education Director: Rabbi Alan Lefkowitz

Maintenance Specialist: Dave Pastula

BSBI Board of Directors

Co-Presidents: Dawn & Jack Steigelfest

Executive Vice President: Russ Benblatt

Co-Vice Presidents of Finance: Alan & Hope Igdalsky

Co-Vice Presidents of Membership: Sally Ivaldi & Merle Cohen

Vice President of Ritual: Steve Cohen

Co-Vice Presidents of Education: Rebecca Rumbo/Bea Brodie

Vice President of Fund Raising: Ken Wichman

Vice President of Administration: Ron Abrahams

Vice President of Buildings & Grounds: Ed Reilly

Vice President of Cemeteries: Liza Mandel

Recording Secretary: Steven Wollins

Immediate Past President: Phil Margolis

Sisterhood Representative: Brina Abrahams

Brotherhood Co-Representative: Manny Lerman

Brotherhood Co-Representative: Glenn Blumenstein

Board of Trustees Representative: Gordon Brodie

Member At Large: Steve Cohen

Member At Large: Jay Bigman

Member At Large: Spin Zucker

Co-Chairs, Personnel: Gayle Block/Mike Turk

Chair, Social Action: Carol Hatch

Chair, Youth Activities: Ilene O'Neil

Chair, Adult Programming: Debbie Benblatt

Legal Counsel: Bruce Beck

Services

Monday through Thursday: 7:00 PM

Friday: 6:00 PM

Saturday: 10:00 AM

All service times are as listed above unless otherwise noted in the calendar.

The entire community is welcome to attend any of our services. Services are virtual. Zoom information will be included in emails.

You may contact us via e-mail at:

Rabbi Konigsburg: rabbenu@myshul.org

Judy Sawtelle: admin@myshul.org

Tova Haley: programming@myshul.org

Shari Haley: accounting@myshul.org

Rabbi Alan Lefkowitz: RLWRSDirector@myshul.org

AFFILIATED WITH THE UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

Call the Rabbi!

Rabbi Konigsburg visits the local hospitals on a regular basis. An important part of his duties is to bring comfort and healing to those who are sick. Due to privacy laws, the hospitals can't tell him if one of our members has been admitted. He could be just down the hall, but if he doesn't know someone is there, he will not know to make a visit.

Please call the Rabbi if you or someone you know is in the hospital so a timely visit can be made: **860-643-9563**

Upcoming Events!

Due to COVID-19, all events are subject to change.

Please visit www.myshul.org for all updates on upcoming events.

We appreciate your understanding during this unprecedented time.

Sunday, May 2

9:30 am: Brotherhood Meeting & Speaker

Monday, May 3

7:50 pm: Sisterhood/Hadassah Book Club

Tuesday, May 4

12:00 pm: Lunch & Learn

Tuesday, May 11

12:00 pm: Lunch & Learn

Wednesday, May 12

7:30 pm: BSBI Annual Meeting

Sunday, May 16

9:30 am: Last Day of Hebrew School

6:00 pm: Shavuot Evening Service

Monday, May 17

10:00 am: Shavuot Service

7:00 pm: Shavuot Evening Service

Tuesday, May 18

10:00 am: Shavuot & Yizkor Service

7:00 pm: Shavuot Afternoon Service

Sunday, May 23

Sisterhood Adventure Walk

Tuesday, May 25

7:30 pm: Sisterhood Board Meeting

Saturday, May 29

10:00 am: Delilah Miller Bat Mitzvah



Faith, Hope, Prayer



It was a hard letter to read. A woman who was raised Jewish by a Jewish father in a Reform congregation grows up, attends college, draws closer to her Judaism. She learns Hebrew, learns to read Torah, learns to participate in her congregation. She joins a Conservative congregation. She knows that there are some who might not consider her

Jewish. Her Rabbi, in a kind and gentle manner lets her know that she will have to undergo conversion if she wants to read Torah for the congregation. But to “convert” would only make her father angry that her synagogue does not consider her Jewish. What should she do?

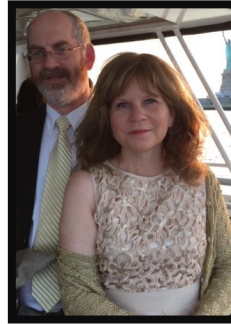
There are two different answers to this young woman. First is the practical. Knowing her background, that she has studied her Judaism and is an active participant, all she would really need is to go to the mikvah and affirm/confirm who she wants to be and how she wants to practice her Judaism. This was not her choice; it was her father’s choice, and now she has to decide how to address the issues that he has left for her. Whether or not she tells him of her decision, either now or later, is her personal decision.

But on the other hand, I think of the “Dreamers,” those in this country, brought to the United States as children by parents who came illegally. Can they find a path to citizenship in the only country they have ever called home? This young woman is in the same situation; can Judaism bring her in to the only faith she has ever known? In this case, the answer is certainly, but we need to make it all legal once and for all. It is not good for her to remain in this limbo. She could go back to Reform Judaism where she will be accepted, but she no longer belongs there any more than a “Dreamer” belongs in their so called “country of origin.” Why can’t Conservative Judaism consider her a member as the Reform do?

The short answer, we are not Reform Judaism. We live within Jewish Law, and in its kindness, Jewish Law has a place for young women like her, to go to mikvah and settle her legal status. All of life has rules. I cannot say if Jewish Law is better or worse than other laws. It is the one we have chosen for our lives. We cannot just ignore it when it is inconvenient any more than we can ignore speed limits when they are inconvenient. We are judged by how well we live inside the law, not by how successfully we break the law.

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Words from the Co-Presidents



The Temple Bylaws provide that the congregation will have an annual meeting once per year, on a date to be designated by the president between April 15th and May 15th. This year the meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 12th. Due to the ongoing health restrictions, the meeting will be held entirely through the Zoom platform. We can all hope that this will be the last year that we are prevented from meeting in person for this event.

Every two years, officers and other members of the Board of Directors are elected at the annual meeting. Because we had elections last May, most members are in the middle of their two year terms. With the passing of Barry Baron, of blessed memory, we have one opening for election at this upcoming meeting. The nominating committee has nominated Jay Bigman to complete the remaining year of this at-large position on the Board.

Other than providing that each member eighteen years of age or older shall enjoy the privilege of a vote at the annual meeting, the Bylaws do not dictate what happens at an annual meeting beyond elections to the Board. It has been a recent tradition that there is information shared about the state of our community, and we expect to continue that tradition. Beyond that, it is early April when we write this column, and we have some planning to do.

We welcome questions at the annual meeting, and we will do our best to provide answers, either in the moment, or when we have them. But you do not have to wait until the meeting to ask. We hope you feel comfortable asking any questions you may have on an on-going basis.

The life of BSBI has a cycle. Each annual meeting brings a close to the prior year and a sense of renewal for the coming one. As the hours of daylight get longer and green returns our world, this year in particular we also enjoy the rebirth in our synagogue life. We hope to see you at the annual meeting in May and increasingly in person throughout the coming year.

Jack & Dawn Steigelfest, Co-Presidents

RLWRS Update

I recently heard the Paul Anka song, popularized by a Frank Sinatra song, "My Way," With the opening lines: "And now the end is near..." With the approach of May, we begin to think about the ending of our Religious school year. While we begin our vacation from this unusual school (zoom) year, I do not like to think that Jewish life and Jewish living is coming to an end. I would like to think that we are giving our child and families the tools with which they can live a joyous Jewish life.

We have had many discussions on what it means to be Jewish, focusing on our important Jewish values that apply to our everyday life. Through our prayers, we have focused on breathing, hygiene, taking note on how we treat our bodies, on speaking, on listening and bringing inner peace to ourselves.

We have explored "I'shon harah," usually translated as gossip and the harm it can bring or the effects of "embarrassing others in public."

We have also, very often, heard the sentences, "They've got to deal with me!" or "I am going to give them a piece of my mind!" With a need to take a tough stand with others when all we want is to communicate. Without needing be confrontative we should be willing to compromise, being with each other in a kind way, which is what is required of us. There is a great quote and song: "Kol Yisrael areveem zeh la-zeh, All Jews are responsible for one another!" This is the Jewish position. There is so much power in our language, and how we speak. Our Siddur refers to "creating our world" by the words we speak. Our tradition speaks of greeting everyone with a cheerful face. "Do not speak idly; one who speaks without attention and uses words without care speaks shallowly, listens poorly, gives bad advice, falls easily into gossip. Such inattention causes harm; dishonors yourself and others." In many places we find teachings like, "Be careful with words, choose your words carefully, say little, do much and receive everyone with kindness." These words of our tradition were written a long time ago, and the timelessness of them continue to speak to us today.

So, as we enter our summer recess, keep focused on our Jewish values. In these times when our people are being threatened around the globe, we need to be diligent with each other, more loving, kind, and responsible for each other. Our tradition also says, "Love peace and act peacefully, speak truth to each other and establish peace!"

Wishing you all a peaceful and healthy summer.

It has been a joy for me to serve as principal of the RLWRS, a special todah/thank you to Rabbi Konigsburg, Bea Brodie, and Rebecca Rumbo for their support.

PLEASE NOTE: We will have our 7th grade graduation, honoring our students, our teachers, our High school, and college graduates on Friday May 14th at 6:00 PM at our Shabbat service.

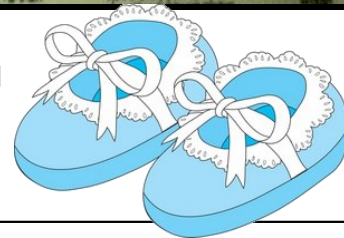
RLWRS Education Director
Rabbi Alan Lefkowitz

BSBI Community

Mazel Tov! Jane Zimmerman announces the birth of her granddaughter, Liv, on April 11th. She joins her siblings, Eyal, Maya and Idan, in Carmit, Israel. Her parents are Mollie and Avihai Benoni.



Mazel Tov to Rima & David Riedel on the birth of their grandson, Kaleb Noah Riedel-Deutsch



Faith, Hope, Prayer Continued

Unlike the legal process of United States, Judaism does not leave people who want to be Jewish in limbo. If someone wants to come in and be a part of our faith, there is a path to Jewish citizenship. The Supreme Court in Israel just affirmed the validity of that path. Life is always messy; Judaism tries to help us avoid much of the mess. We ignore the advice and example of our ancestors at our own peril. We always have choices to make. I believe that if we choose our path in life using the choices made available to us by our faith, we will always be surrounded by loving friends, family and community. Judaism does not wish to leave any Jew behind. Anyone who wishes to join us is welcome. Just be prepared to live by the rules.

Rabbi Randall Konigsburg

Delilah Miller Bat Mitzvah May 29th, 2021

Delilah lives in Coventry with her Mom, Dad, and brother Eli. She attends 7th Grade at Captain Nathan Hale Middle School in Coventry where she enjoys art and plays clarinet. Delilah is a hard-working student who has made Honor Roll each marking period throughout Middle School.

In her free time, she is a baking queen and loves to whip up treats for her family. When not busy baking, she is very crafty and is looking forward to building her craft room. Delilah loves summers at the campground, time swimming, boating and paddle boarding on the lake. In addition to all of this, she is quite the world traveler and loves visiting her family and friends in England and Europe each year.



Delilah is an animal lover and dog whisperer who has taken responsibility for caring for many foster dogs from puppies to older guys in need of a new start in life. She loves all animals including her gecko, Ziggy, and is a horse

rider too. Delilah plans to continue caring for animals by donating money to a local animal rescue as part of her Bat Mitzvah. As an adult, Delilah plans to continue working with animals and children in need.

Todah Rabah from Steven D. Cohen, BSBI Brotherhood Keeper of the Flame - 2021

I am humbled, honored, and grateful to all my Brothers at BSBI for their years of friendship and for selecting me as this year's BSBI Brotherhood Keeper of the Flame. I am also very grateful and appreciative of the many BSBI friends who honored me by emails, phone calls, donations and/or congratulatory messages in the published booklet celebrating the honorees in our region. The list of those who received this award in prior years is impressive, and I am proud to now be among them. It is noteworthy that this year's KoF program emphasized honorees who helped their congregations best confront the adversity of Covid-19, its horrors and its constraints. It is important to recognize that much of what brings such recognition in life results not from working alone, but from working with many other dedicated friends and colleagues. This past year of Covid brought much pain and tragedy to our community and the world, but at the same time a great many BSBI congregants along with our dedicated clergy and staff collaborated to keep our BSBI flame burning. I am proud to have closely worked with so many of you. Thank you for this honor and Yasher Koach to everyone who helped us through this challenging time. I look forward to the day when we can again greet each other within the walls of BSBI.

Shalom,

Steve Cohen, Vice President - Ritual

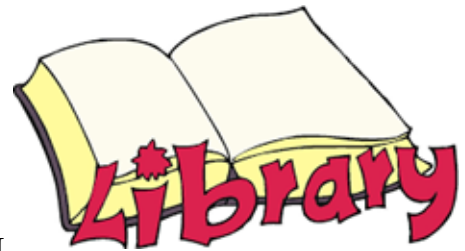
Rabbi Richard Plavin Library

David Alter, Librarian

I want to add something new to the monthly Library article for the Chai Lights bulletin, a book review by a congregant. The library invites you to share your thoughts with others about a book that you enjoyed. The book review should contain either Jewish content or be by a Jewish author. The book can be from our Library collection or not.

The Library catalogue can be accessed by logging onto the BSBI website, scrolling down on the right side of the home page and click on the Library name under the picture of the books, [Rabbi Richard Plavin Library](#).

Email your brief book reviews to me at library@myshul.org. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.



Social Action Update

Spring is here! Our major project is Jessie's Garden. If you would like to participate in planting, weeding, or harvesting, please contact Brina Abrahams for more information.



Carol Hatch,
Chair, Social Action

Important: Update Your Contact Information!

- * Have a new cell number or gave up your landline?
- * Want to be added to our e-mail list to get our bi-weekly announcements, sad news notifications and other important information related to the congregation?
- * Think you signed up to get e-mails but haven't received any?
- * Planning on moving or getting a new e-mail address?
- * Have a child who has gone off to college and would like to keep up to date with life at BSBI?

Please notify Tova Haley directly regarding **ANY** changes or issues by calling 860-643-9563 ext. 100 or by sending an e-mail to programming@myshul.org.

REMEMBER: We cannot reach you if our records are not up to date!

This Month in Jewish History By Rabbi Konigsburg

19 Iyyar – 20 Sivan

19 Iyyar - The Haganah was officially converted into the regular Israeli army on this date in 1948.

26 Iyyar – War breaks out between Israel and several Arab nations on this date in 1967. The Egyptian army base at El-Arish in the Sinai Peninsula was captured that day, and the next day Gaza, Latrun, and Qalqilya were also captured. Jordan would accept a ceasefire on the third day. Egypt and Syria would accept the ceasefire on the fourth day, but it will be two more days until the "Six Day War" would end with Israel on the banks of the Suez Canal, in possession of the Old City of Jerusalem and in full occupation of the Golan Heights.

Sivan 5 – Israel bombs the nuclear reactor in Baghdad on this date in 1981.

Sivan 20 – Israel officially annexes the Old City of Jerusalem and unites it with the New Jerusalem on this date in 1967.



Celebration

Dates

in

May

Birthdays

Jayden Raymond-5/1
Robin Kohler-5/1
Stuart Horn-5/1
Lorin Pasternak-5/2
Mitchell Wurmbrand-5/2
Joshua Abrahams-5/3
Richard Guttman-5/6
Linda Grodofsky-5/7
Corinne Fisher-5/7
Seth Marks-5/8
Carl Mandell-5/9
Evan Carlson-5/10
Beverly Ladue-5/10
Aaron Bayer-5/11
Alexander Shongut-5/12
Sherry Shamash-5/13
Delilah Miller-5/14
Tobi Krutt-5/15
Rabbi Richard Plavin-5/15
Daniel Cohen-5/16
Samuel Zwillich-5/17
Irma Menschell-5/17
Randi Friedman-5/19
Glenn Blumenstein-5/19
Abraham Bayer-5/20
Rabbi Randall Konigsburg-5/20
Samuel Krutt-5/20
Philip Bayer-5/20
David Abrams-5/22
Rebecca Rumbo-5/23
Norma Cantor-5/23
Sarah Poutre-5/23
Brenda Lerner-5/23
Sharon Woodley-5/24
Mimi Kalman-5/24
Scott Brennan-5/27
Bernie Krutt-5/28

Anniversaries

Melvin & Elyse Spielberg-5/3
Barry & Renny Resnick-5/8
Richard & Carole Guttman-5/12
Stuart & Esther Horn-5/17
Robert & Ilene O'Neil-5/17
Jeffrey & Sandi Garfield-5/25
Loren & Sharon Reichlin-5/25
Russ & Deborah Benblatt-5/29
Herb & Ellie Flink-5/31




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- ✓ Great People

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Towards The Purchase of
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or more (excluding items prohibited by law).
Limit one per family. Good at any ShopRite.
Effective thru Dec. 31, 2021



Have a *simcha* you want to share with the
congregation?
Make sure to notify Tova at programming@myshul.org
so she can include it in the bulletin!

**If we have overlooked a special date please contact us at: 860-643-9563 ext. 100
so that we may celebrate it in the future.**



Sisterhood Speaks

Mimi Kalman, Editor



What's Ahead for Sisterhood?

Monday, May 3, 7:50 pm

NOTE: Change of time.

Hadassah/Sisterhood Book Group, Zoom

Sunday, May 23, 11:30 am

Please note the new time!

Socially Distanced Adventure Walk

Tuesday, May 25, 7:30 pm

Sisterhood Zoom Board Meeting

Tuesday, June 22, 7:30 pm

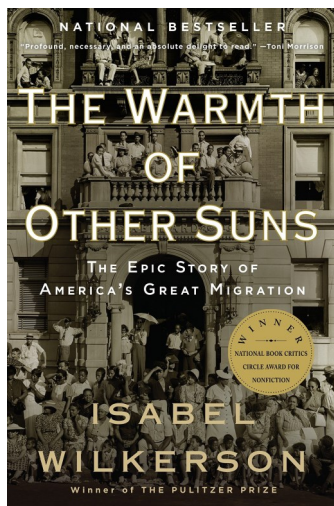
Installation and Sisterhood Zoom Board Meeting

Anytime: Yoga with Adriene on YouTube.

Hadassah/Sisterhood Book Group

Greetings Fellow Readers,

Our next book discussion will be on May 3rd at 7:50 pm. We will read *The Warmth of Other Suns* by Isabel Wilkerson. This book has been chosen by The Jewish Community Relations Council of Jewish Federation as part of a series of community-wide programs about racism.



The Mary Cheney Library reference desk will have a limited number of copies on reserve for the BSBI book group. Please check the following website regarding an interview with the author taking place just before our meeting. We'll plan to discuss both the interview and the book at our zoom. We may start a little late depending on the length of the interview.

<https://streicker.nyc/winter-spring-2021>

We look forward to seeing you on May 3rd.

Maxine Lerman and Myrna Spector

Virtual Annual Torah Fund Event- Recording

Was April 13, 2021, 4:00 pm

If you missed this wonderful program because of the time it was on, 4:00 pm, we want you to know that it was recorded, and the Zoom link to it is being sent to all. We know that the time was not convenient for all, but we had to accommodate our speakers. It was 10:00 pm in Germany.

We had two exceptional speakers, Dr. Sandra Anusiewicz-Baer, the COO of the Zacharais Frankel College of Potsdam, Germany, and Karen Engel, one of the Rabbinical students at the college. They were informative and inspirational, and the program should not be missed.

Your contributions to Torah Fund support the Conservative/Masorti seminaries in New York, Los Angeles, Jerusalem, Buenos Aires and Potsdam, Germany. Your gift helps educate our future Conservative/Masorti clergy, educators and more.

Each year a special pin is designed to thank the donors of a gift of \$180 or more. This year the pin is devoted to B'Yachad (Together). You can make this donation with one check, or pay

monthly, \$18 for ten months or \$36 for five, and I will be happy to keep track of your monthly payments.

Send your checks, in any amount and made out to Torah Fund, to me, Mimi Kalman, 163 Scott Drive, Manchester, CT 06042.



**Susan Margolis and Brina Abrahams,
Programming Chairs**

Mimi Kalman, Torah Fund Chair

YOGA ON YOUR OWN

Yoga with "The Queen of Pandemic Yoga" Adriene (Mishlar)!

What: Yoga (no cost to you)

When: Anytime

Where: In your home

Why: A 10–40-minute session can help with anxiety, calming, feeling rejuvenated

How:

-Access YouTube on any device

-Search "Yoga" or "Yoga with Adriene" (I recommend that instructor)

- There will be a multitude of results to choose from: Yoga for Stress Relief; Wake up Yoga; Flexibility; Yoga for Kids

- Have fun and relax!!

Margie Partney

Sisterhood Speaks Continued

Installation, June 22, 2021

Our Nominating Committee is busy working on obtaining Sisterhood Board members for next year. If you are called, please say yes. You will be working with a dedicated group of women who care about supporting BSBI. Our new slate will be installed on June 22, 2021.

Sally Ivaldi and Judy Meyer
Nominating Committee Chairs

Knit & Kvetch

To our Knit and Kvetch group, please continue to work from home on hats, mittens, and afghans. If you need yarn, get in touch with me, as I have some at my house, and we can make arrangements for pick up.

If anyone would like to start knitting or crocheting for us, please do. It's a mitzvah!

When we can safely meet in person for our monthly meetings, we will be in touch.

If you have any questions, you can call me at 860-649-6551 or email me at Irannefink@gmail.com. Remember we can always use yarn or monetary donations to continue our mitzvah. It doesn't have to be a huge amount, \$5.00 goes a long way towards buying yarn. We do appreciate all donations of yarn, however please no wool. Our items need to be machine washable, so we can only accept 100% acrylic.

Please make sure that all donation checks are made out to BSBI Sisterhood and marked "Knit and Kvetch" on the memo line. If they are be left in the BSBI office, please ask them to put the checks in the Sisterhood box.

Any questions, call me at 860-649-6551 or at IRANNEFINK@AOL.COM.

Anne Fink

Adventure Walk

Note our new time of our Sunday, May 23rd, Adventure Walk, to 11:30 am, weather permitting. We decided to give the sun a little time to warm us up. As before, we must stay socially distanced and wear masks.



Family members and spouses are welcome to join, socially distanced from those not in the family bubble.

So meet us in BSBI's parking lot by 11:30 am, we will decide where

we are going and off we will go!

Margie Partney

Torah Fund Cards

- Condolences to Jane Zimmerman in memory of her mother, Natalie, and condolences to Sally Abbey in memory of her husband, Louis, from Judy and Harold Meyer.
- Condolences to Sally Abbey in memory of her husband, Louis, from Mimi Kalman.
- Condolences to Jane Zimmerman in memory of her mother, Natalie, and Mazel tov to Diane Keyser for being chosen Woman of Distinction from our sisterhood, from Cal and Elaine Vinick.

To order cards for all occasions contact our Torah Fund Card Chairperson

Lynn Cohen at (860-298-0457) or
cohenlynn334@gmail.com

Brotherhood Corner

Glenn Blumenstein, Brotherhood President

Mother's Day...Every Day

If you know me even a little, none of this will surprise you...and you also know that I often talk about the concept of "gratefulness." Why? It's simple. I married a woman much too smart, talented and beautiful for me. The expression, I believe, is "out of my league." She has, over the years, showered me with love and support well above what could ever be considered reasonable for me to expect. What's even more, is that this amazing woman loved me enough to make me a father...and not just once. And that's a job that has filled me with more than my fair share of love and joy. So on behalf of the entire BSBI Brotherhood, I want to wish every wife and mother in our little universe, the happiest of Mother's Days. Even though the greeting card industry has only created this one holiday just for you...know that all of us are grateful for you each and every day of our lives.

Happy Mother's Day!

Join Us May 2, 2021 – 10:00 am

(Zoom Link to Follow)



Itzhak Brook, MD

A Physician's Personal Account of the Yom Kippur War

Itzhak Brook, M.D., M.Sc., is a Professor of Pediatrics at Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington DC. He was born and raised in Haifa, Israel and earned his medical degree from Hebrew University, Hadassah School of Medicine, in Jerusalem. He served in the Israeli army as a medic in the Six Day War in 1967 and as a battalion physician during the Yom Kippur war in 1973.

The presentation includes a description of the historical background of the Yom Kippur War and its effects on the Israeli society, as well as Dr Brook's personal experiences and challenges as a battalion physician in the Sinai. He will address the physical and psychological traumas his soldiers had to cope with, the effect of religion on them, the cost of war in human life and suffering, and the daily struggle for survival in the difficult war which threatened Israel's existence.

SAVE THE DATE!



September 1st, 2021

**The Abitz-Angel Memorial Golf
Tournament is coming back for 2021!**

Stay tuned for more updates!

Sign Up for Our Mailing List

<https://aamgtgolf.com/>

Leave a Jewish Legacy



IRA Assets and Qualified Charitable Distributions

BSBI would like to encourage charitable donations, to help our congregants optimize their charitable giving and to reach their charitable goals. On behalf of the Endowment Board of Trustees I would like to review some of the benefits of gifting Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs) to the Endowment. The QCDs may also be used to pay Synagogue dues as well as contribute to the Hineni Society.

Donation of "Qualified Charitable Distributions" (QCD)

In legislation at year end 2016, Congress made permanent qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) from individual retirement accounts.

What are QCDs?

A QCD permits direct transfers to a qualified charity (or charities) totaling up to \$100,000 annually of tax-deferred IRA savings. QCDs offer advantages over taking a taxable IRA distribution and then contributing the proceeds of that distribution to a charity. That's because taxable IRA distributions must be included in adjusted gross income. Importantly, QCDs automatically satisfy required minimum distributions (RMDs) for the year when the QCD is made. That's a real advantage for a charitably minded IRA owner who doesn't depend on some or all of the RMD for living expenses.

What are important things to know about QCDs?

Only individuals who've attained age 70 ½ or older on the date of distribution may make QCDs. The charitable organization must be an organization that qualifies for a charitable income tax deduction of an individual. The Beth Sholom B'nai Israel Synagogue and the BSBI Endowment qualify as such organizations. The BSBI Endowment and Synagogue will be required to provide the same contribution acknowledgement to the owner of the IRA required claiming a charitable tax deduction. Failure to obtain the acknowledgement will quash the QCD. QCDs may be made from any IRA or individual retirement annuity, but not from a simplified employee pension, a simple retirement account, or an inherited IRA. Among other benefits, the use of QCDs for charity may reduce taxable income, reduce state and federal tax, reduce taxation of social security, reduce supplemental IRMMA payments to Medicare parts B and D. Individuals and couples with low as well as high incomes may benefit by contributing QCDs to charity.

Examples of using QCDs for charitable giving

There are several attractive options for the use of QCDs for charitable giving. For example one can use the QCD to pay Synagogue dues and contribute to Hineni. Another example of optimizing the use of QCD is to establish a **perpetual endowment** fund. By making a QCD donation to the Endowment of BSBI, the donor may create a \$25,000 endowment for BSBI. This endowment may be given over the course of a number of years to reach the level necessary to provide perpetual support of a \$1000 to **Hineni**. By adding to the donation annually the donor could reach a \$45,000 over a number of years. This amount would support a **perpetual Hineni donation at the \$1800** per year level. Details of further possibilities and arrangements for payment can be obtained from the Endowment members or via email noted below. Since the use of QCDs for charitable giving can have specific tax advantages the donor should consult their tax advisor prior to making a QCD contribution. Some plans require significant lead time to process the paper work, so advanced planning may be necessary.

For further information, contact a member of the Endowment Committee. You may reach out to the BSBI Endowment at BSBIEndowment@myshul.org or directly to Roy Filkoff or Jeff Wasser. Remember to discuss this and all other tax matters with your tax advisor before taking any action.

Sincerely,
Jeff Wasser, MD
President of the BSBI Endowment

Will this be the year to leave YOUR Jewish legacy?



*Do you have a will?
Have you considered a bequest to BSBI?*

Join those members of our Jewish community who have come together to build endowments and legacies to secure a bright Jewish future for BSBI.



For more information, please email:
BSBIEndowment@myshul.org

Endowment Foundation

Scholarships	Rabbi Leon Wind Religious School	Adult Education	Community	General Endowment Fund	The Time is Now, The Need is Great! Endowments are an opportunity for each of us to provide for our synagogue on a continuous basis by creating a permanent tribute to our values and principles. Our synagogue is here for you as you experience life's greatest joys and greatest challenges. <i>The Endowment Foundation</i> *These funds can also be used in Rabbi Leon Wind Religious School
Gloria Byk Fund	Bayer/Davison Fund	Sylvia A. Cheikin Fund	Berkman Family Fund	Israel and Lillian Abramovitz Fund	
Ann and Emanuel Hirth Fund	David Sherman Foster Fund	Clare-Kramer Fund	Klemens-Wiener Fund	Sheldon and Doris Adler Fund	
Maxine & Efrem Jaffe Fund	Hochberg Family Fund	Ruth and Sidney Cohen Fund	Gordon Barshay Lassow and Jay Joshua Lassow Fund	Louis and Sadye Apter Family Fund	
Seymour B. Kaplan Fund	Jacobs Family Fund	Jack Goldberg Fund*	Esther Margulies Lessner and George C. Lessner Fund	Clare and Herbert Bernstein Fund	
Sonia and Max Karp and Anita Karp Treston Fund	Rose Jaffe Fund	F. Ruth and S. I. Kummer Fund	Jerome and Louise Nathan Fund	Raymond Bernstein Fund	
Joseph Kopman Fund	Katz-Robbins Fund	Fay and Benjamin Levy and Max Mandel Fund*	Ella and Herman Plavin Fund	Nathan Chesler Fund	
Anne and Leon Kramer Fund	Ruth Podrove Melton Fund	Aida S. Nesselroth Educational Enhancement Fund*	Plepler Family Fund	A. Elmer Diskan Fund	
Max Lundy Fund	Barney, Jean, Rachel, and Sarah Moses Education Fund	Saul and Carol Nesselroth Fund for Israel Advocacy	Jay E. Rubinow Fund	Ruben Fialkoff Fund	
Laurie Margolis Fund	Gertrude and Abraham Podrove Fund	George and Lillian Sandals Fund	Rita and David Schmerler Fund	Morris and Ann Firestone Fund	
Cantor Israel and Irene Tabatsky Fund	Podrove - Resnick Fund	Ruth and Jack Sandals Fund	Leonard Seader Fund	Rhoda Goldstein Fund	
Marsha and Samuel Yules Fund	Martin L. Rubin Fund	Rabbi Jeshaja and Hilde Schnitzer Fund	Shapiro Family Fund	Edith Gottlieb Fund	
Pauline and Isadore Zackin Fund	Nat N. and Gertrude Sturm Schwedel Fund	Saul and Rebecca Silverstein Fund	Eileen & Fred Stern Family Fund	Leo and Shirley Juran Fund	
Diane and Jeffrey Wasser Ramah Scholarship Fund	Berdine Spector Stoltz Fund	Weil-Braunsberg Fund*	Blanche and Robert Stone Fund	Kahaner Family Fund	
		Elliott and Eveleen Zimmerman Library Fund	Continuity Fund	Ethel and Nathan Kasowitz Fund	
			Program Enhancement	Marcus Family and Bula Family Fund	
			Beth Sholom B'nai Israel Operating Fund	Irving and Ethel Mehlman Rose Fund	
Religious	Youth	Maintenance/Capital Improvements	Memorial Park		
Max and Sally Glaiber and Joseph and Gertrude Snider Fund	Anna Brita Chilberg Fund	Bayer-Marlow Fund	Temple Beth Sholom Memorial Park Fund	Irma and Merwin Meridy Fund	
Howard Gold Fund	Nellie Katz Cohen Fund	Elaine and Leo Charendoff Fund	Congregation B'nai Israel Memorial Park Fund	Rita Oshinsky Fund	
Bernard and May Kahn and Eli and Rose Lerman Fund	Murray H. and Celia D. Novins Fund	David S. and Norma C. Garber Fund		Phair Family Fund	
Rubinow-Schwolsky Fund		Miriam Barshay Lassow and Herman Lassow Fund		Reichlin Family Fund	
Rebecca Ann and Herman Seidman Fund		Capital Improvement Fund		Pauline and Nathan Rubin Fund	
Irene and Henry Springer Fund				Israel and Shirley Snyder Family Fund	
Diane and Barry Weinbaum Fund				Gloria and Robert Weiss Fund	
Rabbi Leon Wind Fund				Edythe and Abraham Zubrow Fund	
Irene and Abraham Zimmerman Fund				Max Zucker Fund	

For information about establishing an Endowment Fund or leaving a bequest, contact Dr. Jeffrey Wasser BSBIEndowment@myshul.org or Rabbi Konigsburg 860-643-9563 x101.

Contributions from Thoughtful People

Thank you to those who support BSBI by remembering and honoring friends and loved ones with generous contributions.

Donations appearing in the newsletter may not reflect all donations received prior to publication. Listings are as current as the newsletter deadline allows.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

In memory of Bernie Menschell on the occasion of his *yahrzeit*, from Irma Menschell

F. RUTH & S. I. KUMMER FUND

In memory of Mark Lavitt from Janet Kendall

GENERAL FUND

In honor of my birthday from Sharon Woodley

For the continued good health of Maddy Turk from Ronald & Brina Abrahams

Get Well to Marshall Grodofsky, Glenn Blumenstein, Sally

Ivaldi, Rabbi Marshal Press, from Ronald & Brina Abrahams

In honor of Ken Wichman, with thanks, from Dottie Buch and Emily and Pete Buch

In memory of Victor Irwin Moses; in memory of Sylvia Weg from Alan & Hope Igdalsky

In memory of my mother, Rebecca Silverstein, from Barbara Silverstein

In memory of Jane Zimmerman's beloved mother, Natalie Zimmerman, from Bea and Gordon Brodie

In memory of Natalie Zimmerman from Carl and Cruz Mandell

In memory of Philip Edelson; in memory of Natalie Levine, from Dr. Brenda Lerner

In memory of Sylvia Weg; in memory of Natalie Zimmerman from Dr. Kenneth Wichman

In memory of Albert Donn from Elliot Donn

In memory of Natalie Zimmerman from Elly and Steve Cohen

In memory of Merle Lassow's brother from Eveleen Zimmerman

In memory of Mark Lavitt from James & Judith Nothem

In memory of Louise Nathan from Jeff & Diane Wasser

In memory of Natalie Levine from Lewis & Shirley Segal

In memory of Ellen Kloehn, we were good friends for years and spent many enjoyable times with her and Ed. She will be greatly missed, from Lisa Cousineau

In memory of Ed Borgida from Michael & Madeline Turk

In memory of Edmay Tardiff; in memory of Edward Borgida from Mimi Kalman

In memory of Rose Rittow; in memory of Natalie Levine from Mr. David Engelson

In memory of Natalie Levine from Mrs. Joan Baron

In memory of Ellen Kloehn from Richard & Barbara Cousineau

In memory of Ellen Kloehn from Rita & Francis Slasinski

In memory of Barry Baron, good friend, husband, father and grandfather; in memory of Natalie Levine, mother of Michelle Konigsburg; in memory of Ellen Kloehn, wife, mother and friend; in memory of Harriet Sushitzky, mother of Sally Ivaldi, grandmother of Debra Carlson & Michael Ivaldi, great grandmother to Evan & Lucas Carlson, on the occasion of her *yahrzeit*, from Sally Ivaldi
In memory of my dear friend Ellen Kloehn; in memory of Sylvia Weg; in memory of Edmay Tardiff, from Sandi Phair

In memory of David Werbner from Sidney Werbner

In memory of David Gamzon on the occasion of his *yahrzeit* from William Gamzon

In memory of Eva Keyser on the occasion of her *yahrzeit*, from Arnold & Diane Keyser

In memory of Frances Altman on the occasion of her *yahrzeit*, from Elly and Steve Cohen

In memory of Mimi Witkin on the occasion of her *yahrzeit*; in memory of Daniel Ginsburg on the occasion of his *yahrzeit*, from Harold & Judy Meyer

In memory of my husband, Meyer Malkin, and his father Morris Malkin, on the occasion of their *yahrzeits*, from Milly Malkin

In memory of Harold O. Shapiro on the occasion of his *yahrzeit*, from Ellen Marmer

In memory of Anna Graber on the occasion of her *yahrzeit*, from Marilyn Greenwald

In memory of Meyer Malkin on the occasion of his *yahrzeit*, from Neil Malkin

In memory of Sarah Fisher on the occasion of her *yahrzeit*; in memory of Myer Mittleman, loving father of Corrine Fisher, on the occasion of his *yahrzeit*, from Norman & Corinne Fisher

In memory of Sylvia Jacobs on the occasion of her *yahrzeit*, from Ronald & Susan Scherick

GORDON BARSHAY LASSOW & JAY JOSHUA LASSOW FUND

In honor of the Lassow Family from Lee S. Lassow

LEONARD SEADER FUND

In memory of Natalie Levine from Sissy Seader

MAX & SALLY GLAIBER AND JOSEPH & GERTRUDE SNIDER FUND

In memory of Dorothy Snider on the occasion of her *yahrzeit* from Rebecca Snider Miller

NICHUM AVAYLIM FUND

Yizkor Donation in memory of all my loved ones from
Eveleen Zimmerman

In memory of Jane Zimmerman's mother, Natalie
Zimmerman, from Emily Buch

RABBI EMERITUS' DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of Mary Louise Lloyd on the occasion of her
yahrzeit from Ted & Teresa Lloyd

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of Steve Cohen's tribute for the keepers of the
flame from Herb & Elinor Flink

In memory of Natalie Levine from Alan & Hope Igdalsky

In memory of Natalie Levine from Alan & Lea Schmerler

In memory of Natalie Levine from David & Carol Hatch

In memory of Natalie Levine from Dr. Kenneth Wichman

In memory of Natalie Levine from Florence Cole

In memory of Natalie Levine from Harvey & Roberta
Weiner

In memory of Natalie Levine from Irma Menschell

In memory of Natalie Levine from Lewis & Shirley Segal

In memory of Natalie Levine from Michael & Madeline Turk

In memory of Natalie Levine from Mimi Kalman

In memory of Natalie Levine from Mrs. Gail Freedman

In memory of Natalie Levine; in memory of Sylvia Weg
from Rima Riedel

In memory of Natalie Levine from Neil & Sandi Brooks

In memory of Natalie Levine from Rahim & Sherry Shamash

In memory of Natalie Levine from Richard & Elise Carlton

In memory of Natalie Levine, beloved mother of Michelle
Konigsburg; in memory of Muriel Kravetz, beloved mother
of Elise Carlton, from Ronald & Brina Abrahams

In memory of Natalie Levine from Sandi Phair

In memory of Natalie Levine from Sylvia Cheerman

In memory of Natalie Levine from Theodore & Barbara
Zupnik

Thank you, Rabbi Konigsburg, for your weekly calls from
Diane and Jeffrey Wasser

In memory of Louis Chorches on the occasion of his
yahrzeit, from Samuel Chorches

REBECCA ANN & HERMAN SEIDMAN FUND

In memory of Rebecca Ann Seidman from Eveleen
Zimmerman

REICHLIN FAMILY FUND

In memory of mother-in-law, Vivian Zeligson, from Loren
& Sharon Reichlin

RITA & DAVID SCHMERLER FUND

In memory of Sylvia Weg; in memory of Edmay Tardiff
from Alan & Lea Schmerler

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In memory of Sylvia Weg from Mrs. Sharon Chesler

YOUTH ACTIVITIES FUND

In memory of Jane Zimmerman's beloved mother, Natalie
Zimmerman, from Micki Starr



Donation Submission Guidelines

Clearly print or type the following information and enclose it when you send in your donation payment:

Your name and address as you want it to be printed

Which fund(s) you would like your donation applied to

The purpose of the donation, including the full name of the person you are honoring and your relation to
them (parents, siblings, etc.), if applicable

The name and address of who you would like to receive the acknowledgement

Please note: If you are including multiple dedications on one check, each dedication should be at least a
minimum of \$10, and please specify how much you would like to go to each fund.

All checks should be made out to BSBI and sent to the synagogue at **400 East Middle Turnpike, Manchester, CT
06040**. If you are donating to an Endowment fund, note the name of the fund on the memo line. Please allow
some time for the donations to be processed and receipts sent out. If you have any questions regarding
donations, please contact **Judy Sawtelle** at admin@myshul.org.

May 2021 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 (19 Iyyar) 34th Day Omer 10:00a Shabbat Services 8:30p Community Havdalah Service 8:30p Havdalah Sunset: 7:48p
2 (20 Iyyar) 35th Day Omer 9:30a Brotherhood Meeting & Speaker 9:30a Hebrew school K-7	3 (21 Iyyar) 36th Day Omer 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv 7:50p Sisterhood/ Haddassah Book Club	4 (22 Iyyar) 37th Day Omer 12:00p Lunch & Learn 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv	5 (23 Iyyar) 38th Day Omer 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv	6 (24 Iyyar) 39th Day Omer 4:30p Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv	7 (25 Iyyar) 40th Day Omer 6:00p Friday Night Services Zoom 7:37p Candle Lighting Sunset: 7:55p	8 (26 Iyyar) Shabbat Mevarchim 41st Day Omer 10:00a Shabbat Services 8:38p Havdalah 8:40p Community Havdalah Service Sunset: 7:56p
9 (27 Iyyar) 42nd Day Omer Mother's Day 9:30a Hebrew school K-7	10 (28 Iyyar) Yom Yerushalayim 43rd Day Omer 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv	11 (29 Iyyar) 44th Day Omer 12:00p Lunch & Learn 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv	12 (1 Sivan) Rosh Chodesh Sivan 45th Day Omer 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv 7:30p Annual Meeting	13 (2 Sivan) 46th Day Omer 4:30p Hebrew school Gr 3-7 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv	14 (3 Sivan) 47th Day Omer 6:00p School Shabbat Services Zoom 7:44p Candle Lighting Sunset: 8:02p	15 (4 Sivan) 48th Day Omer 10:00a Shabbat Services 8:45p Community Havdalah Service 8:45p Havdalah Sunset: 8:03p
16 (5 Sivan) Erev Shavuot 49th Day Omer 9:30a Hebrew school K-7 Last Day of Hebrew School 6:00p Shavuot Evening Service 7:46p Candle Lighting Sunset: 8:04p	17 (6 Sivan) Office Closed Shavuot 10:00a Shavuot Service 7:00p Shavuot Evening Service 8:47p Candle Lighting Sunset: 8:05p	18 (7 Sivan) Office Closed Shavuot Yizkor 10:00a Shavuot & Yizkor Service 7:00p Shavuot Afternoon Service 8:48p Havdalah Sunset: 8:06p	19 (8 Sivan) 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv	20 (9 Sivan) 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv	21 (10 Sivan) 6:00p Friday Night Services Zoom 7:51p Candle Lighting Sunset: 8:09p	22 (11 Sivan) 10:00a Shabbat Services 8:52p Havdalah 8:55p Community Havdalah Service Sunset: 8:10p
23 (12 Sivan) 11:30a Sisterhood Adventure Walk Sunset: 8:04p	24 (13 Sivan) 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv Sunset: 8:05p	25 (14 Sivan) 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv 7:30p Sisterhood Board Meeting Sunset: 8:06p	26 (15 Sivan) 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv	27 (16 Sivan) 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv	28 (17 Sivan) 6:00p Friday Night Services Zoom 7:57p Candle Lighting Sunset: 8:15p	29 (18 Sivan) 10:00a Delilah Miller Bat Mitzvah 8:58p Havdalah 9:00p Community Havdalah Service Sunset: 8:16p
30 (19 Sivan)	31 (20 Sivan) Office Closed Memorial Day 7:00p Mincha/ Maariv					

Please note that calendar times are listed as posted in the office as of the date *Chai Lights* goes to print. Any schedule changes after this time will be posted on the online calendar at myshul.org and included in the bi-weekly announcements. These sources will have the most up to date information on events.



BSBI has been given the opportunity to accept donations of vehicles through a partnership with Vehicles For Charity to process donated

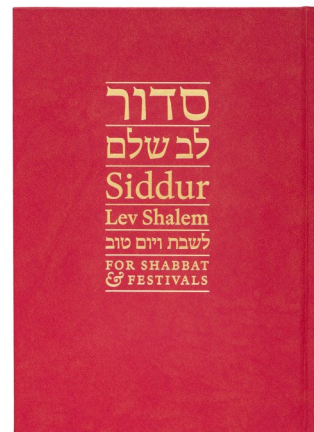
vehicles. Consider donating your unwanted vehicle in support of BSBI. It is easier and faster than selling it on your own, and you may qualify for a tax deduction! Donors say it is a satisfying way to make a larger donation than they normally could.

Vehicles accepted by this program include: unwanted car, truck, boat, motorcycle, RV or recreational vehicles.

For more information go to:

<https://www.vehiclesforcharity.org>

We have now made the switch to the new *Siddur Lev Shalem*! Similar to the *Machzor Lev Shalem* we use on Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, *Siddur Lev Shalem* includes informational side notes and extra readings on each page to help everyone get more out of Shabbat *te-phillot* (prayer). We are now offering opportunities to dedicate these siddurim in honor of people or events in our lives or in memory of loved ones. A siddur can be dedicated for just \$50 a book. If you would like to see a copy of the new siddur, they are available for inspection at the synagogue.



Beth Olam Cemetery

The lock at Beth Olam has been replaced and now no key is required. The combination is 1818.

There is a reminder near the lock in case you have forgotten the combination.



Please follow the directions below to use the new lock:

- The lock is located under the black weatherproof cover
- Pull the lock over the black weatherproof cover
- Turn the number to 1818-line them up with the red line
- Lock will pull apart
- When done, reattach the cable to lock it
- Turn at least one number to secure lock
- Replace the lock under the black weatherproof cover

Don't Forget to Check Out MyShul.org!

Our website has all the latest information on upcoming events, class and event registration, secure online donations, and shopping opportunities that support BSBI!

If you would like to send in any pictures, videos, or upcoming event information, please email programming@myshul.org.



Beth Sholom B'nai Israel

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THE JUNE/JULY CHAI LIGHTS DEADLINE IS **MAY 10TH**

PLEASE SEND ALL ARTICLES TO **PROGRAMMING@MYSHUL.ORG**

Tikkun Leil Shavuot



Join Rabbi Konigsburg as he leads a 6:30 am class with his son, Rabbi Hillel Konigsburg of Congregation B'nai Torah in Georgia, as well as many other clergy and Jewish educators. This program, presented by the Rabbinical Assembly, is a 24 hour Torah Study-a-thon, and will take place from May 16th at 12:00 PM – May 17th at 12:00 PM EDT.

Access to the experience is FREE for all, regardless of synagogue affiliation or organizational participation. A YouTube link

will be made available via social media and all synagogue/organizational mailing lists.

For more information including a schedule of programs,
go to [Conservative/Masorti Tikkun Leil Shavuot 5781 | The Rabbinical Assembly](#)