



# The Menorah

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## Notes from the Rabbi: Ethan Seidel Learning to Accept Help

This time of year, I make matches: those who need *sedarim* with those who have room at their tables. It's a fun part of my job, but it's not as easy as you might think. There are two main reasons, interrelated I'd say, that *seder* matches are hard: it's not always easy to find folks willing to host, and it's even harder to find folks willing to accept another's hospitality.

We live in an age in which we value our independence highly. Not that there's anything wrong with independence, of course: who doesn't crave it? And yet, that value of independence (and its close relative, self-reliance) rests uneasily with several other important values we hold:

1. We also crave community, as well we should. But communities are all about relying on each other in times good and

bad. Desiring to live in a community is admitting that we need one another, that we are not fully independent.

2. We also value truth. We know that acknowledging the reality of a situation is crucial to any kind of happiness, at least in the long term. Denial is a recipe for self-alienation and depression. However, when we overly value self-reliance, even praising it as the ultimate good, we are tempted to deny some of our basic human needs. We can

*(Continued on page 2)*



## President's Column: John List Being Together and Working Together

Looking back on the month of Adar, I want to share with you some highlights for me from the Retreat and the Community Input Opportunities related to Lifelong Learning.

### The Retreat

I very much enjoyed the Retreat because of the community feeling created by so many of us being there together. I took advantage of the weekend to have fun, relax, spend time with friends, make new acquaintances, and join with others in communal prayer.

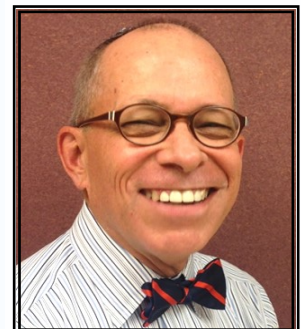
In addition to the prayer and enjoyment, I appreciated the time we spent working together on ways to improve TI. Included in the weekend was time set aside for us to focus on seven interest areas suggested

by members of TI on pathways to make TI more vibrant.

We self-selected into seven visioning groups facilitated by TI members who had shown particular interest in the following issues:

- Pepping up Religious Services (Rabbi Jason Kimelman-Block)
- Leadership Development (John List)

*(Continued on page 3)*



## Notes from the Rabbi (continued)

see our need for others as a failure to live up to our highest values. And so we do not ask for help when we need it, because to do so would be an admission of failure.

Now you may say: "No one in our community really believes that they are completely self-reliant!" In a way, you are right. Perhaps no one in our community would go that far. But the imagined "shame" of needing a place for a *seder*, and the reluctance to ask me to help them find a match, is to my mind evidence that, at least subconsciously, there are those who have trouble admitting that it is OK to be in need.

Now I do have some folks willing to provide a place or two at their *seder*, but not many. In our community of a little

over 300 families, I'll probably get 10 or 15 offers to host, if past years are any guide. It feels like a low turnout – only 5% of our families willing to welcome another – not a complete stranger, but a member of the community! – to their table.

There could be many reasons for this: I'd guess that the wide variety of practice may make some worried that they cannot offer their *seder* because it's not short enough, or long enough, or vegetarian enough, or kosher enough.

And another reason is, I know, that some of you have already reached out to those in need in the community – I thank those of you who are a step ahead of me. It's so much better to reach out, so that a person in need of a *seder* doesn't even need to ask!

But could another reason for the relatively small number of hosts on my list be that we don't want to admit that people in our own community are needy? In a way, if you believe too much in self-reliance, offering help to another can even (at least subconsciously) feel like a criticism of the other: "Can't they help themselves?" We don't like to put anyone down, and we end up not helping.

God willing, we live most of our lives self-reliantly. But no one birthed themselves, or will see to their own funeral. And in between these bookends, our lives are constantly changing, with low points from which we need help to emerge.

If this is a hard time, reach out for help. If this is a good time, reach out to help another. Your *seder* will be enriched in ways you cannot know.

To let me know if you have room at your *seder*, or need a *seder*, email me at: [eseidel@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:eseidel@tifereth-israel.org).

Rabbi Seidel

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*Tifereth Israel is a traditional egalitarian congregation affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism*

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### **Visits by Rabbi Seidel**

Are you homebound, or hospital-bound, and would like a visit from Rabbi Seidel? Or do you know of someone in the congregation who could use such a visit?

Please let Rabbi Seidel know, either by phone at 202-882-1605 x 302. or by email at [tirabbi@tifereth-israel.org](mailto:tirabbi@tifereth-israel.org).

## President's Column (continued)

- Improving Synagogue Communications (Katie Benton-Cohen)
- Supporting the Caregiver (Susan Finston and Cynthia/Jeff Peterman)
- Dues Structure (Francie Krantzberg)
- Becoming a Sanctuary Congregation (Ari Ne'eman)
- Enhancing Youth Participation (Kim Levone and Jennifer Kefer)

Each group had several hours of interesting discussion, culminating in concrete action items for the near future. If you are interested in any of these topics, please contact the person who moderated the session

to see how you can comment on or be a part of the goals/actions in these initiatives to enhance our community

### Getting Your Thoughts

A valuable and important part of working together at TI for me has always been listening to feedback and using that to always strive for improvement.

Last summer, the TI Board restructured the staffing for Lifelong Learning (LLL) by creating a part-time Director of Education (Rina Rebibo) and a part-time Director of Community Engagement (Wilhelmina Gottschalk). LLL encompasses learning and activities for our youngest participants (such as Tot Shabbat) to our adult education and programming activities.

In order to foster getting together to hear your thoughts as to what you like, what you want us to improve and general observations about LLL, we have set up Opportunities for Community Input by hosting two open meetings.

As always, you can also share your thoughts in writing by emailing them to [Nu@tifereth-Israel.org](mailto:Nu@tifereth-Israel.org) or we can talk personally by phone or in person.

### We Have Chosen TI

What I have always valued about TI is that it seems to me that we at TI appreciate the value of being together: it's how we daven, how we find help, how we find enrichment and education, and, I also want to stress, how it can be our process to find improvement.

## Youth and Family Corner

### Wilhelmina Gottschalk

Tifereth Israel always seems to be bustling. With all the programs, classes, services and activities around the synagogue, it's hard to be bored around here.

During the month of Nisan, you might get a real taste of that action when all that excitement leaves the synagogue and descends upon...your kitchen! But don't worry. We're not sending all of our teens and tweens to your place. However, the best youth activities this April are happening away from Tifereth Israel.

On **April 2**, USY and Kadima are playing laser tag way up in Gaithersburg. There are a limited number of spots available, but getting there will be a lot more fun if you register with a friend and carpool! <https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/laser17>.

Two weeks later, on **April 16**, Kadima is celebrating Hol HaMo'ed

Passover with a trip to Duckpin Lanes Bowling Alley.

Did you know that it's a traditional Jewish activity to go out and have fun with friends and family during the middle days of Passover? There will even be Kosher-for-Passover snacks (and we're not talking matzah!). [https://tinyurl.com/kadimabowling\\_sunday](https://tinyurl.com/kadimabowling_sunday).

Finally, once the Passover dishes are put away, there is an all-day trip to King's Dominion for all regional youth group members. \$87 will cover bus transport, supervision, and park entrance fees. More information is at <http://seaboardusy.org/calendar/usy-kadima-kings-dominion-day-2/>.

Stay tuned for more exciting programs. In May we're back inside the walls of TI, cooking up trouble.\* *\*Trouble, tzedakah, casseroles... we're definitely cooking something in May.*

## Passover Dinner

Join us for Passover Shabbat Dinner

**Friday, April 14**

Services at 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner to follow

**Deadline:**  
**Thursday, April 6 at noon**

Sign up at:

[tiferethdc.shulcloud.com  
/event/passover2017](https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/passover2017)

## New Members Jared Garelick

### Daniella Taveau

Daniella was born in Israel but grew up in Silver Spring, an alumna of Blair High School. After earning an MBA degree Daniella has worked as a regulatory and trade strategist, in the government for a number of years and now at the law firm King & Spalding.

Daniella enjoys singing. She studied voice at the University of Maryland as an undergraduate and considered a career singing opera. She maintains a connection to the music world by serving as chief operating officer of The Embassy Series, a concert series presented in conjunction with foreign embassies in Washington, held at the embassies or ambassadorial residences. It is currently in the midst of its spring season.

Daniella lives in Silver Spring with her husband, **Bertrand Taveau**, and their son, **Jonah**. Jonah, who is ten, is studying at TI's Himmelfarb Hebrew School.

Welcome to this month's featured new member!



## Rabbi A. N. Abramowitz Fund

The Rabbi A. Nathan Abramowitz Fund was established in 1980 to celebrate the Rabbi's 20 years of service to TI and was enlarged in 1996 when Rabbi Abramowitz completed 36 years of service.

Part of its mission is to honor youth who spend their summer or part of a school year in a program to enhance their Jewish education. To qualify, the youngster may attend a camp recognized for its Jewish educational component (such as Camp Ramah, Capital Camps, and Moshava), participate in an educational program in Israel (such as USY Pilgrimage or Ramah Seminar), or take part in a United Synagogue Youth Wheels Trip. If you have a child participating in one of these programs, please fill out the online form at <http://tinyurl.com/2017ANA>.

The Fund also awards scholarships based on financial need to facilitate participation in qualifying programs. Families who would like information about scholarships should contact Rabbi Abramowitz. All such applications and inquiries are kept strictly confidential. To apply for the scholarship program, please print the online form at <http://tinyurl.com/2017ANAscholar> and return it to the TI office. Applications for 2017 are due by **Friday, April 28**. An additional application is required for the scholarship program.

Awards are made each spring. The Fund depends on your support and welcomes contributions in any amount.

### **Funeral Practices Committee Always On-Call**

Haverim of the Funeral Practices Committee are on call to provide counsel and services to synagogue members and their dependents.

In the event of a death, prior to contacting the funeral home, please contact one of the following haverim, Rabbi Seidel, or the TI office (202-882-1605).

<b>Shelly Heller</b>	h: 301-942-1836 w: 202-994-5906
<b>David Cohen</b>	h: 301-652-2872
<b>Marcia Goggin</b>	h: 301-593-8480 w: 301-754-1963
<b>Bruce Heppen</b>	h: 301-299-3255 c: 202-997-1890 w: 703-417-8983
<b>Ann Kline</b>	h: 301-946-2693 c: 301-346-9862
<b>Robert Rovinsky</b>	h: 202 237 1036 c: 202 815 8707

## TI Centennial, 1916–2016

### Cynthia Peterman



It's hard to believe that next month we will conclude the celebration of TI's Centennial year. It's been a terrific year with our grand opening, historical exhibition, monthly programs, and tributes to some of the members who helped to define the community we are today.

In March **Louise Kelley** gave the *drash* for Kol Nashim Shabbat that focused on the important role Sisterhood has played in our history and today. It was followed by a SHALEM panel with our own **Barbara White** and **Rabbi Avis Miller**, who were joined by **Maharat Ruth Balinsky Friedman** and **Rena Fruchter**, from across the street at Ohev Sholom.

They spoke about the changing roles for women in Judaism. We had such a large audience that we had to move the program into the sanctuary, and despite the late hour many

stayed afterward to speak with the panelists. I hope you have enjoyed the programs this year. But wait! There's more!

**April 1: Andrew Reamer** will offer a tribute to his uncle, **Edward Reamer**, for whom our chapel was named.

**April 8: Shelly Heller** will give the *drash* on the "Jewish Response to the Digital Age." Shelly is Professor of Computer Science at GWU. In addition, **Eve** and **Aaron Cohen** will offer a tribute to their father, **David (Carla) Cohen**.

**TI Centennial Gala & Rabbi Seidel's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**May 5-6:** Our programming year is ending in grand style. Join us for Shabbat services and dinner on Friday May 5, and morning services and SHALEM programming on Saturday,

May 6, featuring our Scholar in Residence, **Rabbi James Maisels**, founder of the Or haLev Center for Jewish Spirituality and Meditation..

**May 7:** Dress up and join us on Sunday, May 7 for our **Centennial Gala** and salute to **Rabbi Seidel**. The Gala begins at 6 p.m. and includes music by Trio Sefardi, cocktails and dinner, and a roast of Rabbi Seidel by our very own roast master, **Jared Garelick**. You'll have your very own Centennial Commemorative Book to take home.

Get your tickets through Shulcloud at <https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/Gala2017>.

### Rabbi Ethan Seidel

When Rabbi Seidel was hired in 1992, he and his family were already known to the TI community. The Seidels joined TI in 1982. The monthly Bulletin (precursor to *The Menorah*) ran the following announcement:

"Ethan is a computer programmer at a local time sharing company and Rachel is a special education teacher at Montgomery Blair. The Seidels met at Oberlin and were married a year ago at TI, where Rachel's parents belong (the Breslows). Ethan is spending his spare time ... applying to rabbinic school and brushing up on his Hebrew with Rachel. In the short time the Seidels have belonged to TI, Ethan has led some of the Torah services during the High Holidays and the retreat. We look forward to more of his participation while he still has amateur status."

Rabbi Seidel was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary in 1988. Since coming to TI, he has promoted many initiatives designed to enrich our own community while expanding our reach to other communities.

- Outreach to the deaf and hearing impaired. Rabbi Seidel supported the creation of a special class in the Himmelfarb Religious School for deaf children, as well as hiring an interpreter for Shabbat and holiday services.
- Twinning TI with the Muslim Community Center for programs and dialogue.
- Welcoming Ethiopian Jews.
- Forging a relationship with Rabbi Herzfeld and Ohev Sholom across the street.
- Offering TI as a site to incubate Jewish businesses such as Soupergirl and Kol Foods.
- Supporting and participating in a variety of social justice efforts such as the Walk for the Homeless with Emory Beacon of Light Church.

We are so proud to celebrate Rabbi Seidel's 25 years and look forward to many more! Sign up on Shulcloud to honor Rabbi Seidel on this important anniversary: <https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/galadonation>.

## Himmelfarb & Chai School Happenings

Rina Rebibo

### What a Month!

March was an energizing experience! The B'nei Mitzvah cohort had a great time at the annual retreat. Various activities kept us busy and we enjoyed eating s'mores by the bonfire, learning, doing morning Yoga, watching 'Praying with Lior' and most importantly, bonding with each other.

The next week we celebrated Purim by making *mishloah manot*, baking Hamentaschen with the Rabbi, and having fun.

The following week Kitah Alef and Kitah Gimel celebrated bringing in the most canned goods for the Kitah Gimel Food Drive with a Pizza Party. Finally, we held our annual Open

House which brought in a handful of new students!

### Pesah is Coming!

We have been busy preparing for the holiday. Each class has been learning the Four Questions and various other parts of the Haggadah. Some classes have also made craft projects to use on Seder nights.

**School will be closed** for the holiday on the following dates: **Sunday, April 9; Wednesday, April 12; and Sunday, April 16.**

### Three Big Yomim, (Days)

When we return from Pesah break, we will have school-wide program-

ming for **Yom HaShoah, Yom HaZikaron** and **Yom Ha'Atzma'ut**.

Thanks to a grant from the Centennial Fund, on **Wednesday, April 26**, Die Freyliche Knaidlach, a Yiddish singing group, will be performing songs from before World War II.

In addition, members of the group, who are Holocaust survivors, will share some of their personal stories. This program will run from 5:30-6:15 p.m. and is open to anyone who would like to attend.

On **Sunday, April 30** we will have a school-wide program to honor Israel's Memorial Day & Independence Day.

## Children's and Youth Activities at Retreat (photos by Rina Rebibo)

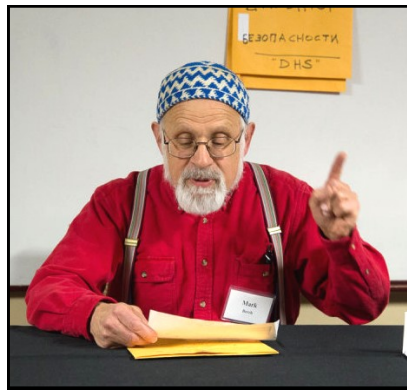


### HIAS Sign

The TI Social Action Committee is moving forward, subject to Board approval on April 3, to acquire and display a 5 x 8 foot HIAS banner, with the wording "Our People Were Refugees Too" in front of TI.

This is a follow-up to both the March 24 demonstration on the front steps and our assisting a Syrian refugee family. **Ann Cohen** has graciously offered to order and pay for the sign.

# TI Pearlstone Retreat, March 3-5 (photos by Jeff Peterman)



## Social Action at TI: Larry Baizer Syrian Refugees and Sukkot in Spring

### Aiding a Refugee Family

**Alice Burton**, one of the TI'ers working with the family reports:

"The family is very appreciative and grateful for our help. Both the parents and children are learning English quite rapidly with the help of a retired ESOL teacher. We have also been able to supply the family with a computer as well as dental care generously offered by a congregant's dentist. They still have many needs and we are grateful for your offer to help."

On **April 26** there will be a social action meeting during which this

project will be discussed and future planning developed. Please come; we need your help.

The meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. at the home of **Gene** and **Esther Herman**, 511 New York Avenue in Takoma Park. Please RSVP to [Gene511@aol.com](mailto:Gene511@aol.com). Thanks to all for your support.

### Yachad Sukkot in Spring

Yachad brings communities together by preserving affordable homes and revitalizing neighborhoods throughout DC and the greater metropolitan area. Volunteers can participate in



"Sukkot in Spring," a Yachad program in which synagogues and other Jewish community groups make repairs in a home alongside the homeowners.

The project will likely be scheduled for the first or second Sunday in May and we will be paired with a team from another local congregation. Please contact Larry Baizer at [lbaizer@yahoo.com](mailto:lbaizer@yahoo.com), for more details and scheduling.

## The Ethics and Law of Birth and Death in a Jewish State

On **Sunday, April 30**, in commemoration of Israeli Independence Day (Yom Ha'Atzma'ut), the Institute for Science and Judaism and Tifereth Israel will present a lecture by renowned Israeli bioethicist, Professor **Noam Zohar**.



Professor Noam Zohar

He will speak on legal and ethical rules and practices in Israel governing medical interventions before conception through birth and again as death approaches.

A light breakfast will be served at 10 a.m., followed by the lecture at 10:30 a.m.

Although the state of Israel is formally a secular democracy, Jewish religious tradition deeply informs Israeli law and bioethics touching upon the sanctity of human life, including, for example, fertility assistance and stopping artificial respiration.

Professor Zohar will explore the seemingly discordant components of these rules and practices in light of their roots in Jewish religious teachings, which, he argues, resolve the apparent paradoxes. He will also ask to what extent those religious teachings are consistent with the values and institutions of a liberal, democratic state.

Noam Zohar received his MA in Jewish Thought and his PhD in Philosophy (Ethics) from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He is currently Professor of Philosophy at Bar Ilan University, and has been a visiting Member at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton and a Fellow at Harvard University.

Dr. Zohar's work focuses on bioethical issues related to rabbinical interpretation and philosophy of *halakhah*, and on moral and political philosophy. At Bar Ilan, he founded and chairs Israel's only graduate program in bioethics.

Professor Zohar is a member of Israel's National Bio-ethics Council, and has served on various national commissions and advisory boards.

He edited *Alternatives in Jewish Bioethics; Quality of Life in Jewish Bioethics* and co-edited the four-volume *The Jewish Political Tradition*.



## Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers

### Barbara Raimondo

#### Opportunity of a Lifetime!

Have you enjoyed reading *Nayes un Mekhayes* over these last 11 plus years? Maybe you've thought, "Hey, that column is so clever! I'd love to write that!" Well here's your lucky chance.

Your Faithful Columnist is passing the torch. Yes, dear readers, next month will be the last you will read from YFC. It's been real! Interested in taking over? Contact *Menorah* editor, David Cohen.

Now, onto the news of the moment.

#### Here

**Myrna Goldman** and her intrepid travel companion, sister **Harriet**, took a cruise from Hong Kong to Shanghai. They took city tours of both Hong Kong and Shanghai on either end, particularly enjoying a visit to the old Jewish section of Shanghai. Amazingly, Shanghai's traffic seemed quite manageable for a city of 24 million because of the public transportation system.

Stops on the cruise included Taipei, Taiwan; in Japan: Naha, Okinawa; Kobe and Osaka; Hiroshima; and Nagasaki. They visited a model folk village near Seoul, South Korea. In China, besides Shanghai, the stops were in Dalian and the Great Wall, where they did manage to climb some of the stairs.

In Japan, they enjoyed purple yam ice cream and some beautiful gardens with cherry and apricot blossoms, in addition to the sobering monuments and exhibits in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. In South Korea, they tried to eat kimchi. The weather varied from the 60's to the 30's, but at least there was no snow!

**Barbara** and **Howard White** recently spent a wonderful two weeks in Israel, where they attended the

Jerusalem wedding of their oldest granddaughter, **Raizel Sober**, to **Elad Adler**. Raizel is the daughter of the Whites' daughter **Ilana Elzufon** and the late **Rabbi Moshe Sober**. Both Raizel and Elad are studying to become engineers.

Barbara and Howard also went to a number of *Sheva Brakhot* where they enjoyed being with family, old and new. They also spent a day in Tel Aviv with their son **Avi** and his partner **Adrienne**, who had come in from New Jersey for the celebrations.

#### There

**Myriam Rofrano** has been accepted into the Masa Israel Teaching Fellows Program for the 2017-2018 school year and will be moving to Petah Tikvah in August 2017. This 10-month fellowship for college graduates offers participants the opportunity to receive a certification to teach English in Israel through a partnership with the Levinsky College of Education.

The fellowship is a joint initiative of Israel's Ministry of Education, Masa Israel Journey, and The Jewish Agency for Israel. Mom and Dad are very proud of Myriam and look forward to visiting her in Petah Tikvah.

#### Everywhere

**Alan Landay** has had a busy few months, what with ski trips at opposite ends of the continent, one in Maine and one in British Columbia, and last but not least, a half marathon in Virginia Beach. Lots of craziness – getting lost in the back country when you think the cross country skiing will be three miles but it turns out to be seven, 13-hour bus rides, and running in the worst kind of rain. But he survived, obviously, and plans to do more of the same in the future. Go, Alan!

#### Sad News

**Gail Kefer**, mother of TI member **Joshua (Jennifer) Kefer** and grandmother of **Ari** and **Dori**, died on Sunday, March 12, after a short illness. She was 74.

Her husband and Joshua's father, **Marvin Kefer**, died the next day, March 15, after a long illness. He was 74. The Kefers were married for 51 years. Their joint funeral services were held in New York.

**Phillip B. Abraham** died on Friday, February 17, in Austin Texas, at the home of his son **Mark** and family. Phillip was born in 1931, in Romania. As a youth, he joined *HaShomer Hatza'ir*, made *aliyah* to Palestine in 1947, and became a member of Kibbutz Ein Hashofet.

He served in the Israeli Defense Forces and graduated from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem with a degree in physics. He came to the United States to study, earned his PhD in physics from The University of Maryland and worked at Raytheon, the Naval Research Laboratory, and the Office of Naval Research.

Phillip is survived by his daughter, **Dr. Susan Abraham**, his son, **Mark (Rita) Abraham**, and two grandchildren. Phillip was the longtime friend and husband of **Naomi Morse**. They were married at TI in 2002. He was buried in Austin, Texas.

May their memories be for a blessing.

And now for the meaning of last month's word, *vicissitude*: a favorable or unfavorable event or situation that occurs by chance.

Thanks to all who sent me news, sent me to others who sent me news, or otherwise helped sniff it out. Send items for next time to baraimondo@

(Continued on page 10)

## Kol Nashim

Esther Herman



### Kol Nashim Shabbat

The service on March 18 was extremely well-attended. **Louise Kelley** gave the *drash* that recounted the history of the Sisterhood of TI and consequently the history of women at TI.

After a several-year hiatus, during which the TI women decided not to cook and prepare *kiddushim* as their primary role in the synagogue, the Sisterhood was resurrected as Kol Nashim, with a primary duty to provide educational programs for the TI community.

The afternoon program panel about roles of women in Jewish practices was so well attended that the attendees moved from a filled chapel to the sanctuary. Panelists were **Rabbi Avis Miller** (panel chair); **Barbara White**, who spoke about her progress from being a bystander in a

male-dominated TI to being able to fully participate in all services; two members of Ohev Shalom, the National Capital Synagogue, **Rena Fruchter** and **Maharat Ruth Balinsky Friedman**, who gave moving accounts of their own participation in Orthodox Judaism.

### Book Club

The next session is scheduled for **April 25**, location to be determined. See article below for details.

### Game Night II

Our second Game Night, co-sponsored with Gevarim, which began with a Havdalah service, was held on March 25. A good time was

shared by all who attended. Several games were played, and progress was made on the giant jig-saw puzzle that has been moved from place to place since the last Game Night.

### Hillwood Museum Tour

Sign-ups are underway now for the **Sunday, May 21** trip to the Hillwood Museum. There are only reservations for 20 persons. The fee is \$18, which includes free parking. Join us on this beautiful spring morning at 10:30 a.m.

## Nayes un Mekhayes (continued)

gmail.com, with "Nayes un Mekhayes" in the heading, or to P.O. Box 466, Washington Grove, MD 20880. This brings to a close a penultimate edition of Nayes un Mekhayes for TI'ers.

**Editor's Note:** *It has been my great pleasure to work with Barbara during my eight years as Menorah editor, and I deeply regret her imminent departure from these pages. I have had the privilege of getting to read her newsy, witty and amusing (and always on-time) columns before anyone else could, and have emitted many a chuckle as I have perused and edited them (they have needed very little of the latter!). She will be sorely missed. My deepest thanks for her efforts to build a more informed and connected TI community.*

— David Cohen

The Kol Nashim book club discussed Nathan Shaham's *The Rosendorf Quartet* at our March meeting, giving almost equal attention to the book's inventive narrative structure and its insights into the varieties of unwilling *aliyah* in the mid-30s. Few books make such excellent use of a sequence of first-person narrators, each with his or her own point of view that echoes or invalidates the others.

Our next meeting is **April 25**, location to be determined. We are reading *GI Jews: How World War II Changed a Generation* by Deborah Moore. Many of us grew up in the postwar world, with parents and relatives who had served in the war. This book explores how those experiences shaped their generation and Jewish life in the US. It's not available in libraries or as an electronic book, so you'll have to purchase one of the many used copies.

For **May 16** we read *The Education of H\*Y\*M\*A\*N K\*A\*P\*L\*A\*N*, by Leo Rosten (using the pseudonym Leonard Q. Ross in some editions). It's just as funny as you remember, and if you have never read it you have a treat coming.

For **June 20** we read *The Jew in the Lotus – a Poet's Rediscovery of his Jewish Identity in India*, by Roger Kamenetz.

We'll choose readings for July through at least the end of the year at the April 25 meeting.

We meet from 7:30 until 9 p.m. or we run out of things to say. Our meetings are open to everyone, whether you finish the book in time or not.

If you can volunteer to host any of the upcoming meetings, please let me know, and send your book suggestions.

## KN Book Club

Jessica Weissman

## Gevarim

### Andrew Reamer



#### Movie Nite@TI

From March through May, Movie Nite@TI is presenting the opening episodes of three recent popular Israeli TV series. The second, on **April 23** at 7:30 p.m. in the Cherner, is *Srigum*, a drama series which deals with the life of religious young singles in Jerusalem. The presentation is free and nosh is four dollars.

The third series will be *Arab Labor* (May 21), a comedy about Amjad, a Palestinian journalist and Israeli citizen in search of his identity.

#### Video Course on Medieval Jewish Civilization

Gevarim and the Adult Education Committee present *Jewish Civilization from Mohammed to Spinoza*, a Great Courses series of video

lectures by Professor David Ruderman, University of Pennsylvania. The next session will be on **Sunday, April 30**, in the Mollie Berch Library.

**Allan Tulchin**, Adult Education Committee chair and Shippensburg University history professor, will show lectures entitled "Understanding Medieval Anti-Semitism Patterns of Jewish Culture" and "Notes on the Medieval Jewish Family." The lectures run from 10:15-11:15 a.m. and discussion follows until noon. Previous attendance is not required. The audio for previous lectures is available on TI shulcloud.

#### Talmud Study

Rabbi Seidel teaches large sections of Tractate *Brakhot* approximately twice a month after Shabbat lunch from 1:00 to 1:45 p.m. in the Reamer

Chapel. We read and discuss the text in English (photocopies are provided). The next sessions are scheduled for **April 8** and **29**. Even if you've never studied Talmud before, you might enjoy dropping in on our ongoing exploration of this tractate of the Talmud.

## Gala Sign-Up & Donations

TI'ers are urged to sign up for the Centennial Gala on May 7, and to purchase entries in the "TI Centennial Book" and commemorative placques for the Tree of Life. The gala will also honor Rabbi Seidel on his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as TI's rabbi.

To sign up and make donations, go to <https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/gala2017> and then click on the appropriate links.

Gala Tickets: \$54

Entries in the "TI Centennial Book"

- Individual Line - \$18
- Quarter Page - \$36
- Half Page - \$72
- Full Page - \$120

Tree of Life Placques:

- Leaf - \$180
- Cloud - \$720
- Rock - \$1800

Combination Tree of Life Leaves & Entries for "TI Centennial Book"

- Two-Page Spread & Leaf - \$325
- Full Page & Leaf - \$270
- Half Page & Leaf - \$225
- Quarter Page & Leaf - \$200

## SHALEM

### Jessica Weissman

Our series of Centennial SHALEM talks continued in March with a panel on the "The Changing Place of Women in Judaism," moderated by **Rabbi Avis Miller**. Along with Avis, speakers were TI's own **Barbara White** and two women from Ohev Shalom.

**Maharat Ruth Balinsky Friedman** spoke about her role as Maharat, and **Rena Fruchtman** charmed the audience with her account of the changes she has witnessed and taken part in. The overflow crowd,

Including many visitors from Ohev Shalom, took part fully and asked many questions that drew thoughtful answers from the panel.

The SHALEM talk on **April 1** focuses on libraries. We honor **Michelle Sumka**, TI's librarian for the past

several years. Also, the new Silver Spring branch of the Montgomery County library opened not long ago, in a gorgeous new facility.

**Audrey Smith**, who is a member of the Silver Spring Library Advisory Committee (LAC), leads a panel of county library executives, representatives of the LAC and Friends of the Library to showcase the variety of programs available there.

DC and Maryland have reciprocal library privileges, so all TI'ers can make use of what's available at the branch.

Finally, if you have a suggestion for a SHALEM program or want to lead a program, please let me know. Openings are available starting in July, and all we need is you.

## April Highlights at Tifereth Israel

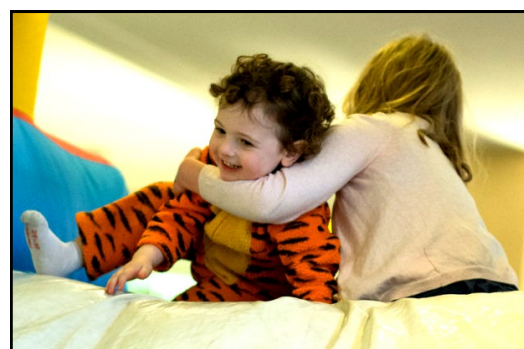
- April 1** Centennial Tribute to Edward Reamer, Andrew Reamer, at Shabbat Morning Service  
SHALEM, TI and Silver Spring Libraries, Michele Sumka and Audrey Smith, following Kiddush
- April 3, 24** Monday Lunch & Learn  
*Parashat HaShavua*, 11 a.m.; Lunch, 12 noon
- April 8** "Jewish Response to the Digital Age," Shelly Heller; Centennial Tribute to David (Carla) Cohen, Eve and Aaron Cohen
- April 8, 29** Talmud Study, Rabbi Seidel, 1:00-1:45 p.m., Reamer Chapel
- April 10-18** Pesah (see Pesah Schedule, page 15)
- April 23** Movie Nite, *Srigum*, 7:30 p.m.
- April 25** KN Book Club, *GI Jews: How World War II Changed a Generation*, location TBD, 7:30 p.m.
- April 26** Die Freyliche Knaidlach will perform pre-WWII Yiddish songs, 5:30-6:15 p.m.
- April 30** "Jewish Civilization from Mohammed to Spinoza," Allan Tulchin, 10:15 a.m.-noon, Library  
"The Ethics and Law of Birth and Death in a Jewish State," Professor Noam Zohar, 10:30 a.m. (light breakfast, 10 a.m.)  
Himmelfarb School program honoring Israel's Memorial Day & Independence Day

For further details on these and other TI events go to our website at [www.Tifereth-Israel.org](http://www.Tifereth-Israel.org), Facebook at [www.facebook.com/TiferethIsrael](http://www.facebook.com/TiferethIsrael), or Twitter at [www.twitter.com/TiferethDC](http://www.twitter.com/TiferethDC).

# Megillah Reading, March 11 (photos by Jeff Peterman)



# Purim Carnival, March 12 (photos by Jeff Peterman)



## Passover Schedule

Sunday, April 2	9 a.m.	Passover Food Deliveries to needy people in the Jewish community. Sign up online at <a href="http://tinyurl.com/PesachDeliveries">http://tinyurl.com/PesachDeliveries</a> .
Thursday, April 6		Noon Deadline for April 14 Passover Shabbat Dinner reservations. Sign up online at <a href="https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/passover2017">https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/passover2017</a>
Sunday, April 9	9:15 a.m.	Morning Minyan, followed by Sale of Hametz
Monday, April 10	7 a.m. Evening	Service and Siyyum for First Born, followed by Final Sale of Hametz (no sales after 8:30 a.m.) First Seder
Tuesday, April 11	9 a.m. Evening	First Day of Passover, Morning Holiday Service, followed by simple Kiddush Second Seder
Wednes., April 12	9 a.m.	Second Day of Passover, Morning Holiday Service, followed by Kiddush sponsored by Mark & Mona Berch
Friday, April 14	6:30 p.m.	Shabbat and Holiday Evening Service, followed by dinner (see April 6 above for sign-up details)
Saturday, April 15	9 a.m.	Shabbat Hol HaMo'ed, Morning Service
Monday, April 17	9 a.m.	Seventh Day of Passover, Morning Holiday Service, followed by simple Kiddush
Tuesday, April 18	9 a.m. 11 a.m. 12 noon	Eighth Day of Passover, Morning Holiday Service Yizkor Service Kiddush Lunch
Saturday, April 22	5 p.m.	Post-Passover Beer Tasting with Rabbi Seidel. Sign up online at <a href="https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/beer17">https://tiferethdc.shulcloud.com/event/beer17</a>

## Upcoming Friday Night Minyan Assignments

### April 7

Bruce Friedland & Jenny Bryant  
 Arthur & Diane Friedman  
 Judy Galat & Geoff Thale  
 William & Miriam Galston  
 Stephen Garber & Lynne Snyder  
 Jared Garelick & Ellen  
 Kramarow  
 Andrew & Allegría Gelfand  
 Seth Glabman & Martha Hare  
 Rick Glaser & Sheryl Gross-  
 Glaser  
 Howard Gleckman & Ann Kline  
 John & Marcia Goggin

### April 21

Eliot & Traci Goldberg  
 Joseph & Dody Goldberg  
 Myrna Goldman  
 Paul Goldman & Debbie  
 Pomerance  
 Tom & Lisa Goldring  
 Paul & Rachel Goldstein  
 Michael Gotthelf & Rachel Vile  
 Stan Grabia & Varda Fink  
 Lee & Jenni Grabel  
 George & Marjorie Greenberg  
 Henry & Melea Greenfeld  
 Larry Greenfield & Melanie  
 Gross Greenfield

### April 28

Abraham & Dena Greenstein  
 David Greisen & Jessica Bell  
 Franca Brilliant  
 Leah Weinryb Grohsgal & Corey  
 Goettsch  
 Stefan Gunter & Lisa Goldberg

Eitan & Aviva Gutin  
 Jonathan Halpern  
 Eliot Harrison & Wendy Blake-  
 Coleman  
 David Hart & Lois Frankel  
 Michael Heimowitz & Dori  
 Gillman  
 Larry Held & Sara Feinstein  
 Matt & Linda Heller  
 Steve & Shelly Heller  
 Bruce Heppen & Bonnie  
 Suchman

### May 12

Eugene & Esther Herman  
 Carolivia Herron  
 James & Annie Hershberg  
 William Hodos  
 Gayle & Erik Hope  
 Hedy Howard  
 Neil Hyman & Rachel Decter  
 Hyman  
 Anita Isicson  
 David & Shana Jacobs  
 Leonard Jewler & Andrea Rosen  
 Harvey Kabaker & Andrea Kline  
 Steven Kalish & Anita Bolt  
 Mark & Sarah Kass  
 Joshua & Jennifer Kefer  
 Kenneth Kellner & Nina Bronk  
 Kellner

### May 19

Rabbi Jason & Devora  
 Kimelman-Block  
 Alexandra Kincannon & Paul  
 Moorehead  
 Shemaya & Dori Klar  
 Morris Klein & Naomi Freeman

Aaron Kofner & Anat Shahar  
 Roger Kohn  
 Allan Kolker  
 Edward Koren & Claudine  
 Schweber  
 Michael & Lisa Kraft  
 Anita Kramer  
 Joshua & Francesca Kranzberg  
 David & Amy Kritz  
 Richard Kruger & Naimah  
 Weinberg  
 Matthew Kunkin & Hilary Sachs  
 Simcha Kuritzky  
 Susan Laden  
 Alan Landay  
 Robert Lande & Jeri Roth Lande

### May 26

Alexander Laufer & Jennifer  
 Siegel Laufer  
 Jen Lav & Susan Gilvin  
 Michael & Iris Lav  
 Mitchell Lazarus & Judith  
 Shapiro  
 Beverly Lehrer  
 Elihu Leifer  
 Ken & Rachel Lemberg  
 Steve LeVine & Nuri  
 Nurlybayeva  
 Wylie & Kim Levone  
 Mark Lewis & Janet Nesse  
 Martin Libicki & Denise Mazorow  
 Dan Liebman & Lis Davis  
 Lisa Traiger  
 Michael Linden & Rebecca  
 Melsky  
 Fred Lipschultz & Rabbi Devorah  
 Lynn  
 John & Lynne List  
 John Lister





## Donations (continued)

### Yahrzeit Donations (continued)

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