

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES AND EVENTS

Friday, May 27	7:15 pm Shabbat Eve Service and Oneg Shabbat
Saturday, May 28	10:00 am Bar Mitzvah of Cameron Hyde, son of Caren Feldman and David Hyde
Sunday, May 29	8:00 pm Doc. Film: <i>Who the Jew are you?</i>
Tuesday, June 7	6:30 pm Shavuot – School graduation
Saturday, June 11	10:00 am Bar Mitzvah of Jack Caspi, son of Beth Dranoff and Opher Caspi
Saturday, June 11	pm Bar Mitzvah of Geoffrey Mandel, son of Sandra Epstein & Sandy Mandel

Sunday, June 12 10:00 am
AGM- Breakfast and
speaker

Sunday, June 12 3:00 pm
Creative Writing Contest

FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE

MAY 27, 2011 – 7:30 PM

Please join us on Friday May 27 at 7:30 PM for our monthly Friday night service. Note the earlier than usual time.

Why?

We are pleased this month to welcome the children from the Jewish Heritage School—our Sunday school—and we don't want to keep them up too late. Their families, as well as principal Yodfat Snir and some of her staff will be in attendance as well.

The service will be conducted by Eli Rubenstein and associate cantor Aviva Rajskey. If you haven't yet heard Aviva sing, you are in for a treat. Tom Bellman will accompany the service on guitar. The children have been working with

Aviva and Tom to learn some of the songs and prayers, and are excited to have a chance to sing for us.

There will be refreshments served after the service.

**HABONIM DOCUMENTARY FILM
SERIES**

"Who the Jew Are You?"

Sunday, May 29, 2011

Time: 8.00 pm

Admission: \$10 at the door

Place: Congregation Habonim 5 Glen Park Avenue

Alan Goldman is a disconnected Jew who becomes a new father-only to learn that his new son is not technically a Jew as he married out of the faith. If he could just figure out what relevance Judaism has in his own life, he'd be able to help his son find his place in the Jewish world. This film documents a journey that brings Goldman face to face with a variety of eclectic Jews who have reconnected to their faith.

<http://www.whothejewareyou.com>

With the support of:
Tridelta Financial Partners, the sponsor of the 2010-2011 Habonim Documentary Film Series

**SHAVUOT - GRADUATION - SOCIAL
JUSTICE - FOOD**

What do these 4 things have in common?

On June 7, 2011 at 6:30 PM, all of these will be on display during a special evening at Habonim, put on by the Jewish Heritage School.

- **Shavuot:** The children of the school will be presenting the holiday of Shavuot in songs and skits
- **Graduation:** The school will be holding a graduation ceremony for its level 6 students
- **Social Justice:** The kids in the bnei mitzvah program will be presenting their social justice projects, on such topics as hunger, poverty and the environment
- **Food:** A light dinner of Israeli food will be served

All members of the congregation and the school community are invited to attend. We hope you can make it!

**AGM SUNDAY JUNE 12, 2011 AT
10:00 AM - GUEST SPEAKER (TBA)
AND FREE BREAKFAST**

Habonim's Annual General Meeting will be held on Sunday, June 12th at 10:00 am. Members of the congregation are invited to attend this important gathering. Our bylaws state that a quorum of 35 people is required, so

please help us ensure that we meet that requirement.

To encourage your attendance, this year we are pleased to offer breakfast and an invited speaker in addition to the meeting. At the time of writing this, we have not yet finalized arrangements with a speaker but are certain you will find them engaging.

The AGM is your chance to learn about, among other things, the synagogue's finances, future plans for the building, the Jewish Heritage School, and to elect returning and new directors to the board. It is also an opportunity to ask questions and get involved in the synagogue. To paraphrase a former US president, "ask not what your synagogue can do for you..."

We hope to see you on June 12th!

**VE'AHAVTA CREATIVE WRITING
CONTEST - 10 YEARS & GROWING**

The Creative Writing Contest Coffee House Awards Ceremony is the kind of event that stays with you forever. Do not miss this opportunity to hear first-hand accounts from our contest winners about life on the streets of Toronto.

**Sunday, June 12 at 3pm.
Congregation Habonim,
5 Glen Park Ave.**

Ve'ahavta is proud to host its annual Creative Writing Contest for Homeless and Marginalized. The idea is to empower the homeless and marginalized through their writing to recognize

that they may have the skills to pursue education or writing and perhaps find their way off the street.

When Ve'ahavta first decided to expand the reach of its 9th Annual Creative Writing Contest to the city of Vancouver, it was agreed that such an evolution was in line with the growth that Ve'ahavta has experienced over the past several years. It was quite a success. Last year we received tons of entries from both Toronto and Vancouver. This year in a special 10 year Anniversary of the Contest we are opening the contest not only to Toronto and Vancouver but expanding to Halifax, Nova Scotia. We are excited about welcoming Halifax on board this year and thank the members of the Halifax community who have so graciously worked with us to make this happen.

If you haven't attended the Creative Writing Contest Awards Ceremony before, make a note of the date and time. You are sure to find it a very moving and significant experience.

**HABONIM NEEDS A NEW ROOF – AND
WE NEED YOUR DONATIONS**

Congregation Habonim is facing a bill for \$50,000 to replace the roof (and related work) over the main sanctuary.

For the past 8 years, we have tried to patch away the problems, but as witnessed by the rainy High Holiday season of 2010 (both outside AND inside), we must now take action.

For many reasons, Habonim will very likely be in our current building for at least 5 more years.

As a Congregation that tries to run things tightly, we have an annual budget of a little over \$300,000. That covers all expenses.

The roof costs represent an increase of almost 20%.

There are five bold ways you can help:

1) To help with our financial situation we are **looking at opportunities to rent the building during the week and looking at possibly housing a catering business out of the Habonim kitchens.**

If you know of an organization that might be interested, please contact Gale Wakeam at 416-480-1880.

2) **Habonim is also open to new membership.** If you know someone who would be interested in joining, please have them contact Eli at 416-398-2615 or by email at uiaeli@passport.ca, or invite them out to a Habonim event.

3) Another way you can help relates to B'nai Mitzvah. **If you know of families with children under B'nai Mitzvah age who are not currently affiliated with a Congregation, Habonim can be a great fit.** Many Habonim families first became connected to the synagogue when their children needed to find a home and training for the Bar or Bat Mitzvah. To find out more about the Bar and Bat Mitzvah programs at Habonim contact Eli or Sandra Levy at 416-829-5169. While we are working hard on all of the above initiatives, we still need your help. We know that there are many members who give generously to various charities during the year.

4) **For 2011, please consider making 10% of your charitable contributions to Congregation Habonim.** It is easy to do. Simply go to: www.congregationhabonim.org and click on Donations Page at the top of the page and pay

by credit card. If you would rather send in a cheque, please send it payable to Congregation Habonim and mail it to 5 Glen Park. Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M6B 4J2.

5) One last comment on donations. In 2008, one of our members May Marx, passed away. May was a well known artist who contributed the unique candelabra that graces the right side of the bimah at Habonim.

In her will, she left Habonim \$100,000. This significant donation has had a significant impact on our Congregation over the past few years, supporting our school, our film nights and some of the ongoing building costs that often come up in our building. In honour of Habonim and the example of May Marx, **please think to include Habonim along with other charities in your Will or even consider making Habonim the beneficiary of an insurance policy.** The legacy will be very meaningful to your family and friends and to Congregation Habonim.

Please give me a call at 416-733-3292 x221 or by email at tedr@tridelta.ca if you would like to discuss this further.

Thank you for any help you can provide.

Ted Rechtshaffen, Co-President

416-733-3292 x221

tedr@tridelta.ca

HABONIM HISTORY PROJECT

Congregation Habonim is creating a commemorative poster celebrating the history of the congregation. The poster will reflect Habonim's rich heritage and will include stories about its founding and current members. To help us create the poster, Habonim will be

hosting a "History Harvest" event immediately following the Annual General Meeting (AGM) on June 12, 2011.

Please bring photos, or memorabilia (high holiday tickets, programs, bulletins) and join us to share your stories of Habonim. If you're unable to attend the AGM, please email a story and any photos to: tkorzech@hotmail.com or mail them to:

Congregation Habonim, 5 Glen Park Ave,
Toronto, ON, M6B 3B9,

Attention: **Trisha Orzech.**

Thank you in advance for participating.

OUR INNER LIFE

By Avrum Rosensweig

I've become enthralled by people's inner lives.

Inner life is something I define as what happens inside people which they either do not share with others, or perhaps share with one other person.

My focus on the inner life began when I was speaking to a colleague, who told me that one day she was visiting a very religious Chassidic home, and the woman of the house asked her if she could help her with something downstairs.

The two trotted down the stairs, and walked by the family's laundry room en route to their destination. My friend caught sight of a clothing line strung across the room and was pleasantly

surprised, to see a negligee hanging on the line to dry. I listened to the story and thought that the Chassidic woman's inner life had, unplanned and without fanfare, been exposed to another person, someone who wasn't supposed to have caught a glimpse of that world. And I was pleased to learn that the frum people who, we might believe, are puritanical in nature, may be frolicking about with their spouses, while their wigs and black hats rest quietly on a hook far away from the bedroom.

I have an inner life most of which nobody has ever seen. In there is a boxing rink where I can embrace myself or experience self-loathing. A corner of my inner life is reserved for thoughts about others, sometimes embracing and other times boiling with accusations.

What are the parameters of that rink? Is it square or oblong? Are the colours monochromatic – subtle and peaceful – or is it covered in a kaleidoscope of shades bursting with confetti and streams of ribbons? Is my inner life a silhouette, barely outlined, or does it have a shape?

Deep inside me, and I assume inside you, well hidden away in that place where few if anyone walks, are my discussions with God. There you would find a belief so strong in the ethereal that the backdrop might as well be Mt. Sinai.

And there in another corner you would find a void, an empty hole as nondescript as a shadow; a place where God does not hover, in fact does not exist.

I share this with you because I have been wondering about the words I have written over the last few years encouraging our membership to join us at our Friday night services; to play a stronger role in the spirituality offered at Congregation Habonim.

I considered where those words might have gone, as our attendance has not increased, in fact is getting smaller.

So rather than find the easiest answer – people don't care what Habonim is all about, it is only a shul where people don't need to attend – I went further. I was mindful of my inner life and that of others. I thought about my hanging negligee and yours and it occurred to me that the answer is not simple at all, in fact it is painted in black and it is painted in white, and somewhere within it, are dots and lines that are separated and at the same time connected.

I meditated on Jacob in the Bible who fought with an angel, with himself, with his inner voice and the intimacy shrouding that story, intimacy that the greatest sage in our history could never decipher. In essence I accept the fact I am not invited into your inner voice, just as I invite few into mine.

I am in touch, at least somewhat, with the reality that your spirit is indeed yours with its own battles and its own downy place to rest. All I ask is that you be aware of that place inside of you, of what it shouts and whispers inwardly.

Be gracious through it, firm and stalwart and know that sometimes you will wobble spiritually, like Gulliver when he was a giant. Habonim has a door but it is unlocked.

I am fascinated by people's inner lives, although I realize that I will never ever see them.

B'shalom,
Avrum, Father of Noah

PERSONALIA

Recently we lost a long time member, Edith Rosen,. Edith was to the very end a lady as no other. She was a caring person, being there for others in need, and never complaining.

Her family and friends will miss her very much.

Gerda Gottlieb

DONATIONS

In memoriam:

Remembering with love and sadness our dear son and brother, Richard Morton -
The Morton and Small families

Deepest sympathy to Lillian, Susan and Jeffery and families on the passing of your dear Aunt, Edith Rosen -

Gerda Gottlieb
Ursula Leinung
Paula and Leon Nussbaum

Sincere condolences to Miriam Ostrow on the passing of your sister - Roger and Maureen DeFreitas and family

Deepest sympathy to Eli Rubenstein on the loss of your father, Israel Isadore Rubenstein - Ursula Leinung

In loving memory of John Leinung - Ursula Leinung

In loving memory of Mary Ader - Ursula Leinung

Oneg Shabbat donation:

in remembrance of Robert Wyatt, Jay Rosen's father who died recently - Adrienne Chajes

OUR WEBSITE:

www.congregationhabonim.org

OUR E-MAIL ADDRESS:

office@congregationhabonim.org

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL:

www.JewishHeritageSchool.com

To SPONSOR AN ONEG SHABBAT call

Saundra Levy at (905) 780-9425

**To SEND GREETING CARDS and
DONATIONS**

call Rhoda Sion at (416) 782-9663 or write to
716 - 660 Eglinton Ave. W., Toronto M5N 1C3

**Are you MOVING, CHANGING your
ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER?**

Call Dianne Erdos-Rush at (416) 630-7921
or e-mail to: dijer@sympatico.ca

TO BUY A LEAF FOR EITZ CHAIM

for any occasion call Saundra Levy at
(905) 780-9426 or email at
saundrlevy@sympatico.ca
Leaf \$175

**QUESTIONS OR NOTICES RE
JAHRZEITEN?**

Call Linda Brager at (416) 488-0282

**JAHRZEITEN
APRIL – MAY 2011**

<i>To be read at</i>	<i>Services</i>	
Lewis Finestone	Iyar 28	Jun 1, 2011
Ethel Spector	Iyar 28	Jun 1, 2011
Isadore Haber	Iyar 28	Jun 1, 2011
Hyman Charkow	Iyar 28	Jun 1, 2011
Giselle Pollak	Iyar 28	Jun 1, 2011
Edith Tarshis	Iyar 29	Jun 2, 2011
Allan Lax	Iyar 29	Jun 2, 2011
Lois H. Sufrin-Spigel	Iyar 29	Jun 2, 2011
Guenther H. Orbach	Sivan 5	Jun 7, 2011
Bela Erdos	Sivan 5	Jun 7, 2011
Jack Litvack	Sivan 6	Jun 8, 2011
Zelda Stein	Sivan 9	Jun 11, 2011
Abraham Schalmann	Sivan 9	Jun 11, 2011
Rita Lichtblau	Sivan 10	Jun 12, 2011
Margit Weinberg	Sivan 10	Jun 12, 2011
Tina Patton	Sivan 11	Jun 13, 2011
Harry Chas. Gottlieb	Sivan 12	Jun 14, 2011
Kay Fink	Sivan 12	Jun 14, 2011
Sima Muskat	Sivan 13	Jun 15, 2011
Adolph Weiss	Sivan 13	Jun 15, 2011

Alice Engel	Sivan 14	Jun 16, 2011
Gary Rosen	Sivan 14	Jun 16, 2011
Bella Isaak	Sivan 14	Jun 16, 2011
Irene and Leopold Stamberger	Sivan 14	Jun 16, 2011
George Spitz	Sivan 15	Jun 17, 2011
Emerich Sperlinger	Sivan 15	Jun 17, 2011
Lola Fleischer	Sivan 15	Jun 17, 2011
Abraham Nochomovitz	Sivan 17	Jun 19, 2011
Matthew Emas	Sivan 17	Jun 19, 2011
Moses Goldberg	Sivan 17	Jun 19, 2011
George Lednar	Sivan 18	Jun 20, 2011
John Goldstein	Sivan 18	Jun 20, 2011
Rebecca Persiko	Sivan 19	Jun 21, 2011
Eric Parieser	Sivan 19	Jun 21, 2011
Anne Levy	Sivan 19	Jun 21, 2011
Irving J. Halperin	Sivan 20	Jun 22, 2011

Yolande Jakabb	Sivan 21	Jun 23, 2011
Fancia Gottlieb	Sivan 21	Jun 23, 2011
Ludwig Neubieser	Sivan 22	Jun 24, 2011
David Jakabb	Sivan 23	Jun 25, 2011
Richard Moldauer	Sivan 24	Jun 26, 2011
Isaac Isaacson	Sivan 26	Jun 28, 2011
Samuel Lewkowicz	Sivan 26	Jun 28, 2011
Otto Fleischer	Sivan 28	Jun 30, 2011
Sally Egnal	Sivan 28	Jun 30, 2011
Nigel Walsh	Sivan 28	Jun 30, 2011

In mourning:

Labol Levy; Robert Cook; Bernard Simon;
Rosalyn Borins; Tamarah Buium; Nell Warren;
Oscar Zuker; Israel Rubenstein; Edith Rosen

Information and contributions to THE BULLETIN?
call Erika Erdos at 416-787-0527
e-mail eerdos1@rogers.com

Deadline for contributions to the next Bulletin:
Wednesday, June 15, 2011

Beth Habonim	5 Glen Park Ave.	416-782-7125
	Toronto, ON M6B 4J2	
Religious leaders	Eli Rubenstein	416-398-2615
	Avrum Rosenzweig	416-964-7698
Cantor:	E. Ghan-Firestone	416-665-6927
Treasurer and	T. Rechtshaffen	416-322-0749
Co-president:	Tom Bellman	416-535 6664