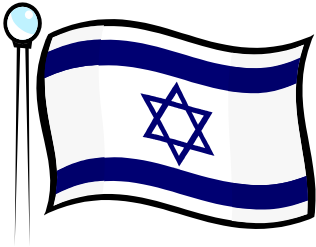


# Temple Beth Joseph Bulletin

May-June-July-Aug 2016

Nisan-Iyar-Sivan-Tammuz-Av 5776

Herkimer, New York



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## *From the Rabbi's Desk*

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### From Servitude to Freedom

The Hebrew month of Nisan is here & that can only mean one thing - preparations for Pesach. Purging the house of of any hamatz, selling off whatever we can't eat, cleaning countertops & stoves, all the tasks required to kasher a Jewish home for this week long festival conspire to force the observant Jewish household into spring cleaning, like it or not. There are other dimensions to this holy time but, it seems, they all center around eating. Seders, the ritual meals consumed on the first two nights of the Pesach festival, are joyous occasions, sumptuous feasts lacking for nothing except, perhaps, a bit of challah to soak up the gravy.

During the Passover seder, the Jew is required to read & study the rabbinic cogitations on the story of the Exodus, the departure from Egypt at the time of Moses. It is assumed that the participant already knows something about this story, though, the ancient sages suggest that we have, at the ready, explanations of this story appropriate to every age group & educational level. After all, internalizing this tale is essential to being Jewish. What, then, is this story really about? Is our study of the Haggadah, the ritual recipe for the seder, meant to be a 2 minute rehash of the 10 plagues, the parting of the seas, a couple of songs, then let's eat affair? I think not.

The core concept of the Passover festival &, consequently, the seder, is a celebration of freedom. The older I become, the more aware I become of how ephemeral the gift of freedom is. These days, the news is full of examples of people denied their freedom because of their political beliefs, their religious beliefs, the color of their skin, & a host of other assorted reasons. How lucky I am to be living in this place at this time under these conditions; others are not so fortunate.

Freedom is a gift from God. To the extent that it is synonymous with liberty, freedom is described in the Declaration of Independence as an unalienable right bestowed upon us by a beneficent creator. We can not give it away nor can anyone take it away. Freedom, or liberty, as a gift from God is the chief message of the Haggadah. Thomas Jefferson & our ancient sages agree on that point. Our retelling of the Exodus, in most traditional Haggadahs, starts out with the statement: "We were slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt but the Lord our God brought us out from there with a strong hand & an outstretched arm. And had the Holy One, Blessed be He, not brought our ancestors out from Egypt, then we, our children, & our children's children would still be enslaved to Pharaoh in Egypt." Notice the text specifically states that God brought us from slavery to freedom - not Aaron, not Moses, not any prophet or angel. God is the provider of freedom. Pharaoh, as some despots do, thought he could take it away.

Later in the Haggadah, the sages discuss 4 Biblical verses, Deu.26:5-8. Though often ignored by the "2 minute rehash

then let's eat" folks, the rabbinic commentary on verse 8, "And the Lord brought us out from Egypt with a strong hand & an outstretched arm...", emphasizes the point: "Not by means of an attending angel, nor by a fiery one, nor by means of an emissary, rather - the Holy One Blessed be He, in His glory, by Himself..." It is not Moses who liberates the people nor is it Pharaoh; it is God. It is not by the hand of the Angel of Death that the firstborn are slain, but by the hand of God. Why God should demand the lives of the firstborn of Egypt in reparation for enslaving the people of Israel is a good conversation topic for your seder table. Only God bestows freedom &, therefore, only God can take it away.

Later in our seder, just before the meal starts, the ancient sages share another profound thought. They claim that in every generation, all human beings are obligated to look upon themselves as if they had come out from Egypt since not only were our ancestors redeemed by God but us along with them. The Hebrew word adam is really not specifically Jewish, it refers to any human being. Why this word instead of Israelite or Jew is another good topic of conversation for the seder table.

The sages obligate us to imagine ourselves as participants in the Exodus, as being redeemed from slavery & granted our freedom, that unalienable right bestowed upon us by a beneficent creator. Because we have received redemption, because we are free, the sages assert that therefore, we are also obligated to thank, to praise, to laud, extol, to exalt, to esteem, to bless, to admire, & to glorify the one who wrought all of these miracles for our ancestors & for us, bringing us from slavery to freedom, from sorrow to joy, from mourning to festivity, & from darkness to a great light, & from servitude to redemption.

I suspect there are many around the world who would long for such a redemption, who wonder from day to day whether or not they can praise their God as they wish without forfeiting their lives or the lives of their family & loved ones. Many a Jew once found themselves in just such a situation. Therefore, when I think of how lucky I am to be graced with the precious gift of freedom, which others have fought & died to preserve, I can certainly spend a few minutes praising God from whom that blessing flows. I think Thomas Jefferson might agree.

-shalom uverakha-  
(peace & blessing)

Rabbi Ronald B. Kopelman



## *President's Message*

Hi everyone!

As we come through this somewhat strange winter with its yoyo temperatures, spring is on its way, and our activities at TBJ escalate along with the temperature. Pesach is on its way. We are getting ready for this festival, and the TBJ Family Seder. This is a chance for all of us to get together and see each other at an occasion that is both a religious and a social occasion, so think about joining us for the festivities and the special holiday food.

We continue to have services on Friday night, so think about joining us for the service, and visit during the Oneg Shabbat. We enjoy seeing everyone, and want to see you too!

The President's Brunch is also coming soon. Everyone is busy selling tickets, so don't forget to sell yours. Then come, and enjoy the food, the raffles and the entertainment. If you have a special dish, consider making it for this special occasion.

We look forward to seeing you at TBJ!!!

Chelly Cohen  
President

## **TBJ Birthdays and Anniversaries**



*(Please notify me of omissions or corrections)*

### **May**

2nd Michael Castle, Sr.  
4th Heidi Grossman  
5th Rachel Luck  
13th Lisa Mason  
14th Marian Pachman  
25th Rebeccah Socolof

### **June**

1st Tal Saraf  
5th Elliott Cummins  
7th Ivy and Jesse Bailey (A)  
7th Judy Golden  
10th Marian & Jack Pachman (A)  
12th Larissa and Theodore Davis (A)  
13th Nathan Davenport  
16th Brian Maser  
16th David Laymon  
18th Melissa Golden  
18th Jean and Ron Brandwein (A)  
21st Chyle Grossman  
22nd Gavriella Davis

### **July**

4th Toby Maser  
12th Florence Cummins  
13th Jillian Belfance  
16th Marty Helfand  
20th Kalman Socolof  
20th Marty & Elliot Helfand (A)  
21st Jacob Grossman  
24th Alana Basloe  
29th Duane Sidney

### **August**

2<sup>nd</sup> Andy Luck  
14th Marsha & Irving Mason (A)  
21st Nancy & Howard Berg (A)  
22th Randy Castle  
26th Rebecca Grossman  
28th Ben Golden  
29th Jordan Laymon  
31st Vicki & Kal Socolof (A)

### **A message from the family of Dakota Basloe to the TBJ family**

The family of Dakota Basloe would like to invite all of our members to attend the Friday night and Saturday morning services for Dakota's Bar Mitzvah on July 15th and 16th. We are very excited to have Dakota be called to the Torah on Saturday morning, 7/16. He has worked hard to get ready and had a special amount of help from Rabbi Kopelman, Toby Maser, Kal Socolof, and Chelly Cohen. Due to limitations, we are not able to invite all our friends and fellow members to the party on Saturday night so Friday night and Saturday morning will be the best time for us to have everyone share in this very special occasion with Dakota.

Friday night service on July 15th begin at 8:00 PM and will be followed by an oneg  
Saturday morning services on July 16th will begin at 9:00 AM and be followed by a Kiddush Brunch

## **Donations to the TBJ Bethanne Basloe Flower Fund**

Sympathy to:

Rabbi Kopelman and family - loss of father/grandfather  
Marcia Levin Roth - loss of brother  
Reeder family - loss of wife, mother, grandmother  
Maser family - loss of husband, father  
Harry Reeder - loss of sister

Get well to:

Marsha Basloe  
Dennis Maser  
Elliott Cummins  
Annette Reeder  
Ronald Williams

## **Donations to the JTS Torah**

Sympathy to:

Rabbi Ronald Kopelman – loss of father, Jerome Kopelman  
Harry Reeder – loss of wife, Annette Reeder  
Toby Maser – loss of husband, Dr. Dennis Maser  
Harry Reeder – loss of sister, Lelo Feinschil



## **Donations to Temple Beth Joseph**

John & Judy Schomer  
Jerome Socolof & Kate Gigliotti  
Michelle & David Berger  
Elliott & Marty Helfand  
Joan & Joel Seif  
Sandy & Jerry Goldberg  
Don & Mary Ellen Fenner  
Heidi Foote  
Norman & Ann Seigel  
Judy & Mel Oster

Charles & Rita Manning  
Joe & Evie Basloe  
Benjie Tecler  
Steve & June Schild  
Michael & Mackenzie Silverman  
Renee & Richard Rubin  
Gladys & Don Gottlieb  
Ted & Betty Sidelko  
Gary & Sylvia Grippe  
Larry & Sondra Klein

## **Sisterhood News**

I know we only meet 4 times a year, but can someone tell me why holidays often fall on the dates we choose to get together? We actually found a date in April, and had a relaxing, delicious dinner/meeting at the Phoenician Restaurant. The current Board of our Sisterhood will remain the same for the next fiscal year.

We are lucky enough to have an abundance of funds in our Flower Fund. Members at our last meeting voted to start a fund earmarked for educational and conference purposes. The balance of funds in excess of \$1500 will be transferred from the existing Flower Fund to this new fund. As we use money for flowers for the Holy Days and sprucing up the outside, new donations will replenish the Flower Fund before adding to the educational fund. Donations will also be accepted to the Educational Fund.

The International Northeast Region will be hosting a region conference in Montreal on August 21, 22, 23. There aren't many details out yet, but time and guidance to enjoy the city is definitely on the agenda.

Dinner meeting in June---watch for details

*Barbara Kopelman, Sisterhood President*

**Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 5/6/2016**

May 8, 2016	Nisan 30	Beatrice Widder
May 8, 2016	Nisan 30	Rhea Berger
May 9, 2016	Iyar 1	Barnett Golden
May 9, 2016	Iyar 1	Sidney Katz
May 10, 2016	Iyar 2	Esther Cummins
May 12, 2016	Iyar 4	Mary Galinsky

**Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 6/3/2016**

June 4, 2016	Iyar 27	Howard Blaugrund
June 6, 2016	Iyar 29	Monte Silverberg
June 7, 2016	Sivan 1	Betty Simon
June 9, 2016	Sivan 3	Fran Markow

**Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 5/13/2016**

May 14, 2016	Iyar 6	Samuel Sugarman
May 14, 2016	Iyar 6	Nathan Myers
May 14, 2016	Iyar 6	Samuel Klein
May 15, 2016	Iyar 7	John Gluskin
May 16, 2016	Iyar 8	Samuel Glasser
May 18, 2016	Iyar 10	Leona Halle
May 18, 2016	Iyar 10	Simon Saperstein
May 19, 2016	Iyar 11	Sidney Goldberg

**Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 6/10/2016**

June 11, 2016	Sivan 5	Abraham Katzoff
June 12, 2016	Sivan 6	Jack Becker
June 12, 2016	Sivan 6	Anna Sitrin
June 12, 2016	Sivan 6	Zalman Levin
June 12, 2016	Sivan 6	Bessie Goldrich
June 13, 2016		Karl Kupfer
June 14, 2016	Sivan 8	Florence Markow
June 14, 2016	Sivan 8	Elsie Myers
June 15, 2016	Sivan 9	Sarah Samuels
June 16, 2016	Sivan 10	Isidore Soroka
June 16, 2016	Sivan 10	Samuel Goldberg

**Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 5/20/2016**

May 21, 2016	Iyar 13	William Sugarman
May 22, 2016	Iyar 14	Ralph Gutman
May 22, 2016	Iyar 14	Genevieve Grodman
May 25, 2016	Iyar 17	Helene Levin
May 25, 2016	Iyar 17	Molly Nemerow
May 25, 2016	Iyar 17	Frances Saed
May 26, 2016	Iyar 18	George Silverman

**Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 6/17/2016**

June 19, 2016	Sivan 13	Margarete Wolff
June 19, 2016	Sivan 13	Fannie Soroka
June 20, 2016	Sivan 14	Isidore Siegel
June 21, 2016	Sivan 15	Phoebe Meranus
June 22, 2016	Sivan 16	Earl Golden
June 23, 2016	Sivan 17	Emanuel Maser
June 23, 2016	Sivan 17	Dorothy Heller
June 24, 2016	Sivan 18	Esther Blaugrund

**Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 5/27/2016**

May 28, 2016	Iyar 20	Samuel Rosenkrantz
May 28, 2016	Iyar 20	Harry Levin
May 29, 2016	Iyar 21	Esther Burack
May 29, 2016	Iyar 21	Diane Rosenfeld
June 2, 2016	Iyar 25	Freda Zager
June 2, 2016	Iyar 25	Leo Heller

**Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 6/24/2016**

June 25, 2016	Sivan 19	Louis Goldberg
June 25, 2016	Sivan 19	Florence Wohlman
June 28, 2016	Sivan 22	Henrietta Klein
June 28, 2016	Sivan 22	Anna Kohn
June 30, 2016	Sivan 24	Melvin Nemerow
June 30, 2016	Sivan 24	Rhoda Samuels
July 1, 2016	Sivan 25	Yenta Grodman
July 1, 2016	Sivan 25	Toby Lord

<b>Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 7/1/2016</b>			<b>Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 8/5/2016</b>		
July 4, 2016	Sivan 28	Dorothy Sharon	August 6, 2016	Av 2	Sarah Goldstein
			August 7, 2016	Av 3	Celia Woloshin
			August 7, 2016	Av 3	Rabbi Samuel Wrubel
<b>Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 7/8/2016</b>			August 7, 2016	Av 3	Dorothy Ciocca
July 9, 2016	Tammuz 3	Bloomah Cohen	August 7, 2016	Av 3	Syrel Kappel
July 12, 2016	Tammuz 6	Bernard Elow	August 9, 2016	Av 5	Rebecca Silverberg
July 15, 2016	Tammuz 9	George Rush	August 12, 2016	Av 8	Joseph Hammer
			<b>Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 8/12/2016</b>		
<b>Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 7/15/2016</b>			August 13, 2016	Av 9	Stella Posner
July 16, 2016	Tammuz 10	Harry Nemerow	August 15, 2016	Av 11	Lewis Harkavy
July 18, 2016	Tammuz 12	Sarah Rothblum	August 16, 2016	Av 12	Goldie Elowsky
July 20, 2016	Tammuz 14	Ida Castle	August 16, 2016	Av 12	Ann Moskowitz
July 20, 2016	Tammuz 14	Rose Helfand	August 16, 2016	Av 12	Saul Myers
July 22, 2016	Tammuz 16	Roslyn Savlov	August 17, 2016	Av 13	Gerald Levin
			August 18, 2016	Av 14	Samuel Woltag
			August 19, 2016	Av 15	Samuel Rosen
<b>Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 7/22/2016</b>			<b>Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 8/19/2016</b>		
July 24, 2016	Tammuz 18	Henrietta Woltag	August 20, 2016	Av 16	Marian Nemerow
July 26, 2016	Tammuz 20	Elaine Heller	August 21, 2016	Av 17	Dora Bloom
July 26, 2016	Tammuz 20	Jack Rubins	August 21, 2016	Av 17	Abraham Abrams
July 27, 2016	Tammuz 21	Mollie Golden	August 24, 2016	Av 20	Sheldon Basloe
July 28, 2016	Tammuz 22	Allen Goldstein	August 24, 2016	Av 20	Alice Lovenheim
July 28, 2016	Tammuz 22	Mathilde Halle	August 24, 2016	Av 20	Leonore Shapiro
July 29, 2016	Tammuz 23	David Nathan	August 25, 2016	Av 21	Natalie Gennis
<b>Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 7/29/2016</b>			August 26, 2016	Av 22	Samuel Wolff
July 30, 2016	Tammuz 24	Rose Basloe	<b>Yahrzeits to be read Friday, 8/26/2016</b>		
July 31, 2016	Tammuz 25	Fred Cohen	August 28, 2016	Av 24	Ruth Bennett
July 31, 2016	Tammuz 25	Adolph Jacobs	August 28, 2016	Av 24	Bertha Gordon
August 1, 2016	Tammuz 26	Anna Basloe	August 29, 2016	Av 25	Pincus Woltag
August 2, 2016	Tammuz 27	Esther Soifer	August 29, 2016	Av 25	Robin Gant
August 3, 2016	Tammuz 28	Morris Markow	August 31, 2016	Av 27	Walter Blum
August 5, 2016	Av 1	Nathan Jacobson	Sept. 1, 2016	Av 28	Estelle Goldstein
August 5, 2016		Josephine Howard	Sept. 2, 2016	Av 29	Herta Reeder
			Sept. 2, 2016	Av 29	Anna Weber

# May

# 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1  Omer 8	2 TBJ Board Meeting 7:30PM  Omer 9	3  Omer 10	4  Omer 11	5  Omer 12	6 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 7:49 PM	7  Omer 14
8 	9 TBJ Congregation Meeting 7:30 PM Omer 16	10  Omer 17	11  Omer 18	12  Omer 19	13 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 7:57 PM	14  Omer 21
15  Omer 22	16  Omer 23	17  Omer 24	18  Omer 25	19  Omer 26	20 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 8:04 PM	21  Omer 28
22  Omer 29	23  Omer 30	24  Omer 31	25  Omer 32	26  Omer 33	27 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 8:11 PM	28 Auf Ruf Jerome Socolof 9:00 AM  Omer 35
29  Omer 36	30  Omer 37	31  Omer 38	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11

Notes:

# June

# 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 Omer 39	2 Omer 40	3 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 8:16 PM	4 Omer 42
5 Omer 43	6 TBJ Board Meeting 7:30 PM	7 Omer 45	8 Omer 46	9 Omer 47	10 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 8:21 PM	11 Erev Shavuot 7:30 PM Lite candles at 9:29 Omer 49
12 Shavuot 	13 Shavuot & Yizkor	14	15	16	17 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 8:24 PM	18
19 President's Brunch 11-1 	20	21	22	23	24 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 8:25 PM	25
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9

Notes:



# July

# 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	1 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 8:24 PM	2
3	4 TBJ Board Meeting 7:30 PM	5	6	7	8 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 8:22 PM	9
10	11	12	13	14	15 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 8:18 PM	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 8:12 PM	23
24	25	26	27	28	29 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 8:05 PM	30
31	1	2	3	4	5	6

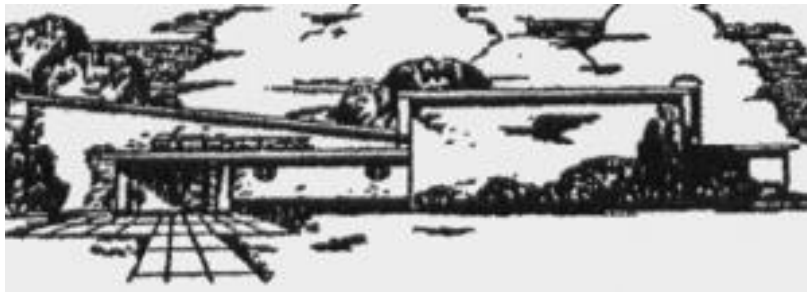
Notes:

# August

# 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 TBJ Board Meeting 7:30 PM	2	3	4	5 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 7:57 PM	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 7:47 PM	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 7:36 PM	20
21	22	23	24	25	26 Ma'ariv Shabbat Service 8:00 PM Lite candles at 7:25 PM	27
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10

Notes:



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President – Rochelle Cohen

1<sup>st</sup> Vice Pres – Heidi Grossman

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres – Joan Seif

Treasurer – Toby Maser

Recording Sec – Kalman Socolof

Corresponding Sec – Judy Golden

Trustee – Vicki Socolof

Robert Basloe

Nancy Berg

Past President – Toby Maser

Sisterhood Pres – Barbara Kopelman