

Hol Kneseth Israel

"The Voice of Kneseth Israel"



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WE NEED A FEW GOOD ADS

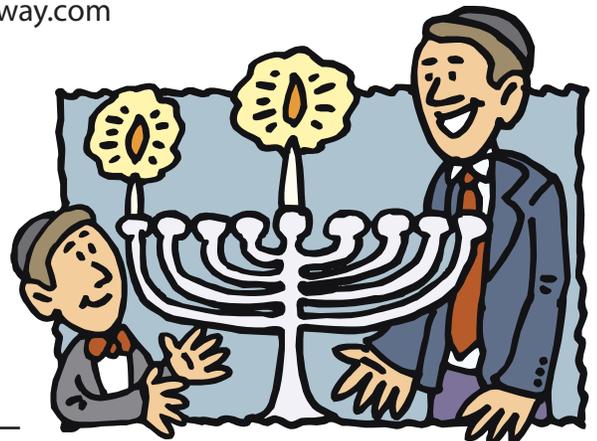
Advertisers in the issues of *HaKol* in 2006 are receiving renewal letters for their ads for 2007. We're very proud of *HaKol*. Production Designer Jana McFarlane keeps every issue fresh, exciting and professional. We think it reflects the enthusiasm, energy and range of activities that will make CKI a special place to be for many years to come.

We've worked hard to keep *HaKol* affordable while looking like "a million bucks." Each year, however, our costs of production continue to rise. We rely on our advertisers to offset our costs. If you, or someone you know, has interest in placing an ad for *HaKol* for 2007, you may contact Zahava Raz at the synagogue office for further information. *HaKol* is a great way to reach a growing and dynamic Jewish community in the Fox Valley.

Ron Razowsky
HaKol Editor
ronrazowsky@wowway.com

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From the Rabbi's Study...

Rome and Jerusalem

From the time of Sinai, we had always kept a light burning in a *Menorah* outside the Temple's Holy of Holies. But in the year 168 B.C.E., that light went out.

Three years later, when we re-dedicated the Temple and celebrated the first *Chanukah*, we re-lit the *Menorah*. Its flame lasted a long time, but in the year 70 C.E. the Romans came and put it out again.

This time the destruction was permanent. All that remained of the ancient *Menorah* was a stone engraving on an arch of the emperor Titus, showing Roman soldiers carrying the *Menorah* away.

Titus built the arch to celebrate his victory over the Jews. But his engraving

of the *Menorah* betrayed him, preserving the very thing he had tried to destroy.

“Titus built the arch to celebrate his victory over the Jews. But his engraving of the *Menorah* betrayed him.”

For over time Titus' empire decayed and fell. Through the centuries other kingdoms rose to take its place, and fell in turn. But the Arch of Titus remained, along with its image of the captive *Menorah*.

When the Jewish people came back to the land, we remembered the time long ago when we recovered the *Menorah* from the Greeks and how it was miraculously re-lit on *Chanukah*, only to be lost later to the Romans. We looked to the Arch of Titus, and from its image we re-drew the form of the ancient *Menorah*. We set olive branches on either side of it, and established it as the Seal of the State of Israel.

Thus from the conqueror's own monument our living people reclaimed our lamp, as if to say to the long-vanished battalions...“We're back!”

Chag Urim Sameyach. Have a very happy *Chanukah*.



A Message from Our President

December has always been one of my favorite months for perhaps sentimental as well as spiritual reasons. It brings back memories of my parents taking me to see the holiday lights and window displays in downtown Chicago. But the most vivid memory I have is decorating our home for *Chanukah* and the excitement that made me feel; the anticipation of the *Chanukah* lights, the smell of latkes cooking, *Chanukah* gelt, family gatherings and yes, of course, presents!

I must admit that to some degree I still retain some of those child-like feelings for this time. However, I now realize that what I enjoyed most was the anticipation of the holiday rather than the actual event itself. This was a time for light during a period of great darkness, something many of you can relate to this time of year who rise early and leave work late!

On the day I composed this I had just heard a presentation by our own **Dr. Roddy Frankel** concerning what can be described as a stark example of the

darkness that has been spreading in the world. He spoke of and presented clips of Palestinian leaders and individuals spewing hatred toward Israel and Jews in general. One of the clips featured a panel of three very brave Palestinians who have chosen to speak out about the threat of radical Islamic groups. Perhaps the most striking aspect of this particular segment was the parallels drawn by one of the panel members between the Nazis and these fundamentalist groups; they have no respect for borders or sovereignty and for them, the ends justify the means. They continue to present a very real threat, not only to Israel, but to all Jews and Western Civilization in general.

By now you might be asking, “Ok, maybe all that is true, but what does that have to do with *Chanukah*?” To answer that question we need to look at the meaning of the holiday. Many of us associate it with the miracle of the oil which lasted for eight days. However, I believe the real significance is what it says about the resilience of the Jewish people and their love and commitment towards their beliefs and traditions. It

also speaks to their willingness to fight for their freedom even when faced with a formidable enemy. Today we face such an enemy, one perhaps even more difficult to fight against because they are not limited to any one nation. Their fervent commitment to our destruction must be matched by an equal determination on our part to support the State of Israel, and equally important to continue as a people.

(continued on p. 5)

Ha Kol Information

Kol Kneseth Israel is published monthly by Congregation *Kneseth Israel* of Elgin, Illinois. It is mailed to CKI members via first class postage.

Non-members who would like to receive a copy may do so by forwarding a yearly donation of \$18 (*Chai*) to cover cost of production and mailing.

Make checks payable to CKI.



All material for the January issue is due NO LATER than December 10, PLEASE.

All items should be emailed to ronrazowsky@wowway.com

Ha Kol Editor:
Ron Razowsky

Design/Production:
Jana McFarlane



Torah School News

"...and the winner for Best Lighting is...CHANUKAH!"

(Applause, cheers, music playing "Light One Candle!")

"Accepting the award is Judah the Maccabee."

"Oy! IT'S A MIRACLE!"

Thank you to everyone who made this possible, especially the Jewish soldiers – the Maccabees – 'whose power grew as their numbers increased, who caused the Syrians to choose a truce, and who had the strength to resist after others lost their will.' And to God – who 'perhaps gave us the faith to light that one cruse of oil when we knew it would not be enough.* And to all of you who continue to believe and to light the holy candles of *Chanukah!* The miracle is in our human spirit! 'Come light the menorah!'"

And so Judah the Maccabee knew. He knew that the light from this tiny flame could survive and could show all the potential of what can be. There was not darkness; there was light. And that light allowed all to look deeper and to discover the soul and the human spirit.

And *Chanukah* is all about light – not about the material trappings with which we have decorated the holiday. There's something more here – something that connects to God, the soul and the lights – and something we can see in the faces of the children as we stand around to kindle these tiny flames.

I remember reading that the flames of the *menorah* are small and silent. We light that first candle, and it is so subtle. Actually, we barely notice it. But as *Chanukah* progresses and the *menorah* fills, these small and silent flames combine, become brighter, and strengthen our sense of spirituality and closeness to God. It's at candle-lighting time that I remember I do have a soul – that deep inside there is something else working besides the joy of eating latkes and spinning dreidels.

Our children are like those candles. As we work with them, we try to kindle their imaginations. We try to ignite

their knowledge base. We try to strike their faith in order to give them a sense of who they are, and what they want to do in life. And when all is lit, we try to make the children dig a little deeper inside to feel the brightness of the soul, to try to get in touch with that inner flame.

Just look at what's happening this month. So much of it is such fun that we don't even realize we're digging deeper. But each activity, like each candle, offers a sense of identity and a blanket of spirituality. Small and silent at the beginning, it eventually all comes together to burn brightly!

It's the month of the *Chanukah* Bazaar! Let the children shop for something little for someone. No matter what, it is a nice way to teach them how it feels to give. Come to Junior Congregation on the 9th and to Family Services celebrating *Bet* class on the 15th. At that service, we will have a dairy *oneg* with a few selected *pareve* items. And then – the *piece de resistance* – FOOD! The Men's Club's annual Latke Lunch – grease and all – is on the 17th.

And above all, why not poke your heads into the classrooms during the month as children learn and create and dig deeper? See how our teachers "kindle the lights!"

Last year, I wrote some blessings to say over the candles each night to give *Chanukah* a greater spiritual reconnection. Well, by special request, I am reprinting those blessings and hope that you will say them this year as you stand around the table with your children to light these amazing candles. Try to see in them the subtleties of life. Use them to teach your children that it's about "how little things can make a profound difference, and it's about discovering the soul in the flame"* – just how the Maccabees overcame the most daunting of foes.

- On the first night say, "I light this candle for my parents / my children."
- On the second night as you light the new candle say, "I light this candle for others in my family." Then repeat the first one as you light the "old" candle.

- On the third night, "I light this candle for my friends" and repeat one and two...
- On the fourth night, "I light this candle for my teachers and others who help me" and repeat one, two, three...
- On the fifth night, "I light this candle for all the ways I help others" and repeat...
- On the sixth night, "I light this candle for all my blessings" and repeat...
- On the seventh night, "I light this candle for world peace – for *tikun olam*" and repeat...
- On the eighth night, "I light this candle for God" and repeat all.

And on the last night, look at all the candles as they silently burn, remember all you repeated as you kindled them, and feel the difference. IT'S A MIRACLE!

Thank you, Judah the Maccabee, for bringing us the "Best Lighting" and for helping us understand a little better the words of the proverb, "For God's candle is the soul of Man."

Applause, cheers, music playing "Light One Candle!"

Happy Chanukah CKI from Torah School!

L'chaim,

**(Chanukah: Eight Nights of Light, Eight Gifts for the Soul – Shimon Apisdorf)*

B'nei Mitzvah Parent Seminar

with Rabbi Kohn

**10:30 am
Sunday, December 10**

Sisterhood News

One of the first things I learned as a parent is that children who are busy in healthy, positive activities, don't have time to get into trouble. Well, those of us who are active Sisterhood members definitely don't have time to get into trouble. What a great start to our programming year! And we know that this pace is going to continue!

Our Opening Luncheon combined education (on wise financial investment), nourishment (because of the yummy and healthy lunch) and fun (Bunko). It doesn't get any better than that!

Then we welcomed our new members to the CKI family. That's always a special time. I can remember the New Member Shabbat when my family was welcomed. It's so special to pass on that good feeling.

And then there was the Corned Beef Lunch. You know, this project is always a lot of hard work. But there's something wonderful about working with your friends and making a difference. At the time that this bulletin was written, the sale had not yet taken place. Therefore, we can't name all the key participants. So, at this time, a BIG THANK YOU to all our corned beef sandwich sellers, makers, deliverers and eaters! You all played a part in making this annual event a success for Sisterhood.

Just around the corner are the Sisterhood *Shabbat*, Friday night December 1 and the annual *Chanukah Bazaar*. We look forward to seeing you there!!

And looking farther into the future ... we will be discussing the book, *Those Who Save Us*, by Jenna Blum, at our January 9 meeting. This book was selected by both Women's League book club and Oprah, so we know it has to be thought-provoking. Don't forget to read it before our meeting. Join us for some goodies and companionship on a cold winter's night.

Looking forward to seeing you at our functions!

Tina Wolf and Sandi Phelan

Jenna
Sandi

UPCOMING EVENTS

December 1st – Sisterhood Shabbat.

Please join us as we commemorate the founding of Sisterhood with a *Shabbat* dinner and service.



December 2nd – Chanukah Bazaar Set-up. Come lend a hand and get a sneak peek at all the new merchandise.

December 3rd – Chanukah Bazaar. Check out all the great gifts for family, friends, and teachers!

January 9th – Sisterhood meeting at CKI, 7:00 pm. Book discussion of *Those Who Save Us* by Jenna Blum.

CHANUKAH BAZAAR: HELP & SHOPPERS WANTED!!

- **Set-up:** Saturday, December 2nd, at 6:30 pm
- **Gift wrapping:** Sunday, December 3rd, at 10 am
- **Shopping Assistants (for children):** Sunday, December 3rd, at 10 am
- **Take down:** Sunday, December 17th, during *Torah School*

We have many new and exciting items in ALL price ranges. Both religious and non-religious gifts are available for family, teachers, and friends.

Children should prepare their lists and plan to do as much of their shopping at CKI as possible. A form to help you and your child(ren) plan their purchases will be handed out in Sunday School to your child(ren). Please fill out the form and return it with your child(ren) on Dec 3rd, along with the amount to be spent. Volunteers are on hand to help them with their selections. Gift-wrapping is provided to help keep their selections secret, if desired.

The Gift Shop is open to adults also on that day, starting at 9:00 am. Items continue to be on display until the start of *Chanukah*.

If you have any questions or would like to help, contact Tina at 630-377-1287.

Don't forget the
MEN'S CLUB

LATKE LUNCH

Sunday, December 17th

New! Improved! Yummy!

See enclosed flyer!



USY and Kadima News

Last month, our USYers helped Sisterhood with Corned Beef lunch preparations, and had fun at CHUSYFEST and at *Beth El's* annual Turkey Dance. Our Kadimaniks had fun on their Miniature Golf outing.

This month, USY will help set up Sisterhood's Hanukah Bazaar on Saturday, December 2 at 6:30pm. Immediately following at 7:30pm, USY & Kadima will meet at City Skate (in downtown Elgin on the civic plaza) for an evening of outdoor Ice Skating. Towards the end of the month, one of our USYers will attend the International

Convention in Boston. There is no USY Board meeting scheduled for December.

Looking ahead to January – the USY Board will meet at 8pm on Monday, January 8. Then on Sunday January 14, immediately following *Torah School*, USY and Kadima will enjoy a joint program at Gameworks in Schaumburg.

Happy *Chanukah* to all!

Maureen Rosenfeld, *Youth Chair*
847-888-1950 or JustSayMo18@cs.com

CKI COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

ADULT EDUCATION - Barbara Sharf
BY-LAWS - Malcolm Morris
CEMETERY - Ben Rifken
ENDOWMENT - Charles Zimmerman
FUND RAISING - Anita Hornung (New Donor Tree)
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MEMBERSHIP - Sue Johnson
PUBLICITY - Melinda Abrams and Marcie Monteith
RITUAL - Don Lesser
SOCIAL ACTION - Sherry Wiesman, Fern Raben and Tina Wolf
YOUTH ACTIVITIES - Joe & Maureen Rosenfeld

To contact a Committee Chairperson,
call CKI at 847-741-5656



President's Message (cont'd from p. 2)

The continued growth of our own Jewish Community here at CKI is a definitive statement of that commitment. When you participate in a *Shabbat* service, attend a community event like Café CKI or a make a *tzedakah* contribution to the Synagogue, you strengthen your own Jewish life as well as our community. Speaking of contributions (yes you knew I was going to find a way to bring this up) this would be a great time to make one to the Synagogue. And the timing couldn't be better with the end of the tax year coming up! Perhaps the most important *Chanukah* gift you could give this year would be the one for your own Jewish Community.

I hope that this Festival Lights finds you all in good health and joy. To quote a Peter, Paul and Mary song, "don't let the lights go out."

Perry Pitzele
President

Hadassah News

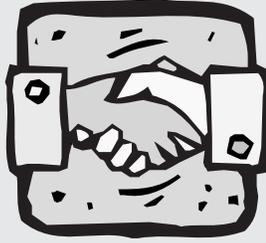
The Elgin Chapter of *Hadassah* cordially invites you to our **Sunday, December 3rd** meeting, at 1:30, at the **Elgin Historical Museum**, to view and enjoy a personal tour through the exhibit of Jewish History in Elgin. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome!

Parashat HaShavu'a – Weekly Torah Portions

December 2 11 <i>Kislev</i>	<i>Va'Yetzei</i> – Genesis 31:17-32:3 <i>Haftarah</i> : Hosea 11:7-12:12	Page 181 Page 195
December 9 18 <i>Kislev</i>	<i>Va'Yishlach</i> – Genesis 35:16-36:43 <i>Haftarah</i> : Ovadiah 1:1-1:21	Page 214 Page 222
December 16 25 <i>Kislev</i>	<i>Va'Yeishev</i> – Genesis 39:1-40:23 First Day of <i>Chanukah</i> New Month <i>Tevet</i> begins Thursday & Friday <i>Maftir</i> : Numbers 7:1-17 <i>Haftarah</i> : Zekhariah 2:14-4:7	Page 238 Page 805 Page 1270
December 23 2 <i>Tevet</i>	<i>Miketz</i> – Genesis 43:16-44:17 8th Day of Hanukkah <i>Maftir</i> : Numbers 7:54-8:4 <i>Haftarah</i> : I Kings 7:40-50	Page 265 Page 809 Page 1274
December 30 9 <i>Tevet</i>	<i>Va'Yiggash</i> – Genesis 46:28-47:27 <i>Haftarah</i> : Ezekiel 37:15-28	Page 283 Page 291

We're Growin'!

Congratulations to Dr. Joe Rosenfeld and his membership committee as our CKI family grew by **18 new memberships** last month! A November 3rd service celebrated our growth. We welcome our new members and look forward to meeting and getting to know each of you.



David Ashkenz and Roselle McLaughlin – Palatine

David, Mindy, Adam and Nicole Bear – St. Charles

Marc Bear, Akvile Baran and Joshua Bear – South Elgin

Michael and Rachel Bloomberg – Schaumburg

Steve and Sylvia Eagels – West Chicago

Shari Heiss – Elgin

Mark and Alysa Hwalisz – St. Charles

Fatima Izel – Elgin

Martin and Amy Kammerman – Lake in the Hills

Leonard Kofkin – Lake in the Hills

Duane Kotter – Lake in the Hills

Donald, Nancy, Kathryn, Gayle and Bridget Ann Moore – Carpentersville

Reinhold, Sheri, Matthew and Jenna Mussar – Des Plaines

Steve and Laura Newman – Batavia

Rosemarie Smith – Crystal Lake

Marc, Deborah, David and Danielle Stone – Hampshire

Henriette Strutz – Lake in the Hills

Ian, Helen, Gwyneth and Evelyn Wiseman – Wayne

Blue Book Update!

A new Blue Book is being prepared and any corrections, changes, additions, etc., should be sent to **Phyllis Lesser** at **PhyllisCKI@aol.com** or to the CKI Office.



Jim Rickert provided an entertaining evening of acoustic guitar, harmonica and vocals in October for Café CKI's Fall Folk Night, sponsored by the Men's Club.

Photo by Shirley Simon

Shopping Tsores?

In case you can't find that item you're looking for at the Sisterhood Chanukah Bazaar, don't forget you can do your holiday shopping from the comfort of the chair in front of your computer by **linking to Amazon.com through CKI's own webpage!**

Amazon.com offers great prices on a wide-range of items: books, CDs, DVDs, tools, cookware, electronics, apparel, you name it. And as long as you get there through the **link** on the right side of **ckielgin.org**, we can earn a percentage of the total sale (it won't cost you one cent more!).

While you're at it, why not **bookmark ckielgin.org** so that whenever the urge to shop strikes, you can help support programs here at CKI with only a couple of clicks. Happy shopping!

amazon.com.



A Measure of Time

by Jonathan Kohn

“**A**nd there was evening, and there was morning, one day.” Already in its first paragraph the Bible starts to measure time, but its very first attempt is filled with difficulty, as well as with history and insight.

Note how imprecise the reference is. “One day.” It does nothing to anchor us down. Which day? Most people reciting this verse from memory misquote: “The first day.”

But that’s our English, Euro-American view of time. Our language has a clear past, present, and future tense. Hebrew doesn’t work that way.

Hebrew schools sometimes teach that Hebrew does work that way, and they may instruct kids to conjugate verbs as past and present and so on, but real grammarians refer to Hebrew tenses differently, as perfect and imperfect, rather than past and future, and there’s a reason for this.

(Hebrew speakers generally have no present tense. Instead of “he walks” they say, “he a walker.”)

If you have past, present, and future, as in English, then you’re looking at the past from the standpoint of the present. From where you stand, everything in the past is already done. All seven days of God’s creation are complete, and you can count them in order.

But if you don’t have past and present, then your only standpoint is the action as it unfolds. When you’re talking about the first day, you have to speak as if the second day hasn’t happened yet. And if the second day hasn’t happened yet, then the only day that you have can’t be called the first. It can only be called—one day.

It’s hard to translate Hebrew words without translating Hebrew grammar as well. A Hebrew speaker and an English speaker treat time differently. In English time is more static, and in Hebrew it’s more dynamic. English gains in precision and Hebrew in poetic resonance. The Prophets spoke in Hebrew.

The Rabbis who wrote the *Talmud* and codified Jewish law struggled to give the language the kind of exactness that comes naturally in English. The Bible was written in scrolls, and the law codes in books with pages. To get to the end of a scroll you have to roll it. Books are more static. You don’t roll a book.

We find this contrast everywhere. Take any simple declarative sentence. In English, it begins with a noun; in Hebrew, with a verb. (It was said of the British jurist Jeremy Bentham that if grammar permitted he would have said, for the sake of precision, not that a bell rings but that it “makes a ringtion.”)

These same qualities appear even in the very spelling of Hebrew and English words, respectively. The Hebrew alphabet, as every beginning student knows, has no vowels. The words are written in general outline, with dots and dashes filling in around them as vowels only when absolutely necessary. When the Greeks received the alphabet from our neighbors, the Phoenicians, they found this form of writing intolerably incomplete, and they quickly fashioned vowels into letters to include in their alphabet. Ancient Greek writing is

correspondingly far more precise, leading early on to such disciplines as geometry and Aristotelian philosophy that came into Judaism only much later. Biblical Hebrew had no patience for that. Dash those vowels, it seems to say—there’s work to be done.

In this linguistic point, in fact, we see the roots of a basic difference between Judaism and its Jewish-Greek half sister, Christianity. Is it more important to have the right ideas or a history of right actions? Do we accept justification by faith or justification by works? Is the Bible a book of statements or of commandments? The answer seems to depend on whether you read Scripture in Greek translation, as did the early Church, or in the original Hebrew. Hebrew, based on verbs, tends more toward the active, and Greek, with its more prominent nouns, toward the reflective.

Does this brief discourse cover all that we can derive from the phrase, “one day”? Of course not. In the end we may never divine all its mysteries. But we haven’t yet even begun to consider “And there was evening, and there was morning.” There’s much more to be done. Please join us in future issues of *Ha Kol*, as our measure of time marches on.

What a Month!

The November order for Fundability was the highest month on record. Thank you to all those who participated and encouraged friends to place orders. Let's continue the momentum this month. While *Chanukah* begins shortly, it is not too late to order certificates for late celebrations or for gifts for teachers, co-workers, paperboys, beauticians, or other friends. If you don't know what to buy for a gift, try a certificate: Let Us Entertain You, Chili's, Panera, Wendy's, Borders, Blockbuster, Bed Bath and Beyond ...

See the enclosed insert, or visit our website, ckielgin.org for a complete list of available certificates!



Academic Scholarship Program

Approximately \$500,000 in scholarship funds will be available from the **Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago** for Jewish college and post-graduate students in need of financial assistance for the 2007-08 academic year.

Eligibility requirements include:

- full-time graduate enrollment primarily in a "helping profession,"
- or vocational or undergraduate training in the helping sectors requiring no graduate education for employment,

- or studies in the arts or sciences,
- or communications at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana,
- or law.

Applicants must be legally domiciled in the greater Chicago metropolitan area or, in some cases, Cook County or Northwest Indiana. Jewish Vocational Service administers the scholarship program and personally interviews all applicants before April 20.

To apply, go to www.jvschicago.org and click on Scholarship Services. For additional information or questions call the JVS Scholarship Secretary at (312) 673-3457 or e-mail: jvsscholarship@jvschicago.org

The application deadline is February 15, 2007.



MILK AND HONEY

- Outside the United States and Canada, Israel has the largest number of NASDAQ listed companies.
- Israel has the highest average living standards in the Middle East. The per capita income in 2000 was over \$17,500, exceeding that of the UK.

More next month...

CKI BOARD MEMBERS

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IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT,

Paul Glaser

The "CKI SENIORS"

Lox & Bagel Luncheon

Mark your calendar:

Tuesday, December 12
12:00 noon at CKI



RSVP to Phyllis Lesser

(847) 741-8784 or phyllisCKI@aol.com

Please respond **DEFINITELY NO LATER THAN**
Thursday, December 7th.

If you will be paying by check,

PLEASE, make it out for \$8.00 payable to "Cash"

JUDAISM 101

Can you name ten different benefits that we get from keeping Kosher? Can you give two reasons why *Brit Mila* takes place on the eighth day? Can you identify what is the most important verse of the *Torah*? Can you tell how the page of a rabbinic text is different from that of a novel? Do you know why we're allowed to move heavy objects on *Shabbat*, but not to light a match? Can you explain what a six-pointed star has to do with being Jewish?

Join **Rabbi Kohn Tuesday evenings, 7:30 to 9, beginning December 12th**, for this wide-ranging class, and

rediscover your Judaism with fresh eyes. "Judaism 101" is a required course for conversion candidates, and it is open to everyone and free of charge.

Even when we have studied many years, there is so much more to learn. As Hillel taught, "Don't say, 'When I have time I will study.' What if you never have time?"

Now is the time, Tuesday evenings 7:30 to 9 beginning December 12th, here at CKI.

I Learn About God a poem for children

by Howard Bogot and Daniel B. Syme

(Recited by our own **Ellie Evans** at the end of our *Yom Kippur* services, just before *Ne'ila*.)

I learn about God...
when I wake up each morning
when I taste a juicy red apple
when I smell a beautiful flower
when I cuddle a new puppy
when I sit alone and think
when I see a butterfly come out
of its cocoon
when I spend time with my family
when I pray
when I grow taller and stronger
when I am proud to be me
when I feel safe
when I solve a problem
when I help a friend
when I read a Jewish book
when I hear a bird chirp
when I watch the rain
when winter follows fall
and summer follows spring

when I get a big hug
when I do something new, all by myself
when I try my best
when I know right from wrong
when I do a *mitzvah*
when I say *Shema*
Shema Yisrael Adonai Eloheinu
Adonai Echad.
Hear, O Israel, the LORD is our God,
the LORD is One.
These are some of the times when
I learn about God.



Honorable Menschen...

...to **BILL McFARLANE** for the chairs in the synagogue office.

...to **JANA and BILL McFARLANE** for the lounge chair in the library.

...to **ARTHUR SHANKMAN** and **MEN'S CLUB** for planning a great night of fun and song at Café CKI!

...to **TINA WOLF** and **BARB RAZOWSKY** for planning a beautiful New Member *Shabbat*.

...to **PAUL GLASER** for, once again, organizing and facilitating our annual CKI Blood Drive.

From the CKI Seltzer Music Endowment Committee

Neshama Carlebach in concert!

Make your Father's Day 2007 plans now. Invite your parents, children and relatives to celebrate Father's Day 2007 (June 17th) in Elgin. Be uplifted by the magical music and spirituality of Neshama Carlebach. Tickets will be available in January.

Carlebach CDs will be available in the CKI gift shop.

Volunteers for the music committee are welcome.

Call Barbara Maring at 847-888-1793 or 847-931-1818 or Arthur Shankman.

Donation Information

I/We would like to make a donation to the following CKI fund:

Fund: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please indicate In Honor of
 In Memory of

Make your check payable to: Congregation Kneseth Israel
 330 Division Street, Elgin IL 60120

Consider a gift to the **Congregation Kneseth Israel Endowment Fund** through one of our income for life plans:

CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUSTS in which you transfer funds into a trust or mutual fund that pays you income.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES in which you purchase an annuity and receive income.

All have significant tax advantages.

For further information, please call or write:

Charles Zimmerman, *Chairman*, phone 847-741-5656
 Congregation Kneseth Israel Endowment Fund, 330 Division Street, Elgin, IL 60120

Special Funds

The following funds are available for your generous donations:

Abraham M. and Anna Rose Seltzer Music Endowment Fund – Jewish cultural enrichment programs

CKI Education Fund – Support *Torah* School

Clara Wechter Education Fund – Support *Torah* School

Endowment Fund – See the President

General Fund – For multi-purpose use

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund – Needs decided by Rabbi

Lee Miller Book Fund – New books for Library

Lillian Roth Scholarship Fund – See the President

Major Gifts – \$5,000 and up. See the President

Memorial Plaques – \$300.00

Prayer Book Fund – *Siddur* is \$25; *Chumash* is \$60

Shalom Academy – Pre-school Jewish Education

Simon C. & Ruth L. Kaplan Torah Fund – Repair of *Torah* scrolls

Sisterhood Flower Fund – Pulpit flowers

Sisterhood Vision Fund – Large-type *Siddur* \$50

Tree of Life – Leaf is \$100; Rock is \$1,000

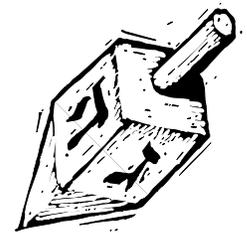
USY/Kadima Youth Group – Support for programs for our United Synagogue Youth

December Birthdays

- 2 Roselle McLaughlin Ashkenaz
- 3 Norman Agins
- 3 Noah Myrent
- 4 Amy Fosco
- 6 Michael Schwartz
- 7 Rachel Bloomberg
- 8 Kimberly Koloms
- 8 Gwyneth Wiseman
- 9 Laurie Winner
- 10 Geoffrey Lindow
- 11 Jared Epstein
- 12 Donald Moore
- 17 Benjamin Schillmoeller
- 17 Max Bush
- 18 Ken Jacoby
- 18 Teddi Stanczak
- 19 Robin Seigle
- 21 Malcolm Morris
- 22 Riva Kohn
- 23 Michael Finger
- 23 Marina Fink
- 23 Ian Goozh
- 23 Lisa & Stuart Kravis
- 25 Leonard Winner
- 27 Erin DiSilvestro
- 28 Alyssa Lynn Kendall
- 29 David Barrash
- 29 Debbie Abrams
- 31 Marc Zemel

December Anniversaries

- 8 Pearle & Ed Brody
- 8 Elizabeth & Jack Fishman
- 17 Nancy & Charles Zimmerman
- 18 Steven Lekah & Marina Fink
- 20 Mike & Debbie Poper
- 23 Adrienne & Gerald Himmelfarb



Acknowledgements

Generous Donations

CKI EDUCATION FUND

Donation

Katherine Guzman

To Susan (Merdinger) & Scott St. Pierre – Mazal Tov on your wedding!

Fern & Ron Raben

Donation

Kathy Guzman

THANK YOU

Thank you Herb Gross for donating tefilin to CKI

In Our Family

R'FUAH SH'LEIMAH – GET WELL

Fern Raben

Ben Rifken

Rose Goldstein

Lisa Schulman

Sarah Frisch

Lora Seigle

Nancy Zimmerman

Sherry Wiesman

May God bring speedy and complete healing to you and all others who are ill among the people of Israel.

Greeting the Bride

"For me, *Shabbat* is a very different night. It separates the week. It's the night to say the week is over, and it's a night that we're home together as a family. And that we know exactly what we're doing and that is that. There is no rushing around. There are no appointments and nobody is running away to other people's homes, the movies, etc. It's just a quiet night and we know what it is going to be."

— Carl Albert

in *The Art of Jewish Living: The Shabbat Seder*

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Saturday, December 9, at 5 p.m.

Enjoy a dairy potluck

Call Fely Arnold or Sue Goozh and let them know what you'll bring

Fely: 847.931.1188 or fely@querubin.com

Sue: 847.985.4313 or suegoozh@comcast.net

*or Life After Fifty (LAF)

We Send You To Hebrew School Because...

- **Because** if you didn't go and later found out all that you had missed, you'd probably be mad at your parents.
- **Because** Judaism is precious and beautiful and important and your parents want you to share in it and be connected to it.

More next month...

The Ever-Present CKI Wish List

You will see that we have removed "chairs for the office" from our Wish List. Thanks to **Bill McFarlane** for making that wish come true!

- **Couches for the library**
- **Canopy for over the parking lot entrance into the synagogue**
- **10 table-top, movable desks and chairs for the 6th grade classroom**
- **And...** many of our **large round and long tables** are really beginning to show their age and use. Several are no longer usable, and others are on their way out. Also, they are heavy and cumbersome. There are now tables that are large but lightweight and easy for just one person to move. We'd love to either start a fund for the eventual purchase of new tables for the social hall or have someone underwrite the purchase of these tables. Please let us know.

Thank you, in advance, for anything you can do to make any of our wishes come true!



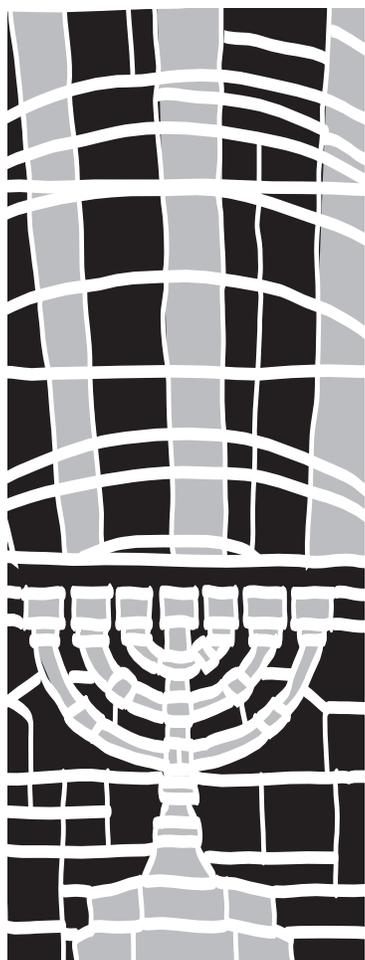
The Rabbi taught students the proper handling of the lulav and etrog in preparation for Succot.

Photo by Herb Gross.

Yahrtzeiten

We recall with loving memory those whose *yahrtzeiten* are commemorated during the coming weeks, and those whose names are read in the Synagogue at Friday evening and Saturday morning Shabbat services during the month of **December**. It is appropriate for members of their families to be present when these names are read.

Dec 2	Dec 2	Zelda Sklute*	Dec 9	Dec 9	Rabbi Abraham Rose*	Dec 23	Dec 25	Rhea Herzberg*
Dec 2	Dec 2	Paul Greenberg*	Dec 9	Dec 11	Bessie Strickman*	Dec 23	Dec 25	Earl Lesser*
Dec 2	Dec 3	Herman Boskind*	Dec 9	Dec 11	Clara Wechter*	Dec 23	Dec 25	Idelle Sherman*
Dec 2	Dec 3	Rose I. Goodman*	Dec 9	Dec 11	Augusta Hass	Dec 23	Dec 26	Rachel Polis*
Dec 2	Dec 3	Evelyn Schack*	Dec 9	Dec 12	Anna Herzberg	Dec 23	Dec 27	Nathan Breen*
Dec 2	Dec 4	Sylvia Hymen*	Dec 9	Dec 12	Leo Cooper*	Dec 23	Dec 27	Lillian Grosken
Dec 2	Dec 5	Dr. Joseph Bachrach*	Dec 9	Dec 12	Dr. Wilbur Simon*	Dec 23	Dec 27	Beatrice Wohl Shatzkin*
Dec 2	Dec 5	Adolph Frisch	Dec 9	Dec 12	Clare Mell*	Dec 23	Dec 29	Sylvia Glaser
Dec 2	Dec 5	Joseph Silins*	Dec 9	Dec 13	Fanny Kleiman	Dec 23	Dec 29	Sarah Hymovitz*
Dec 2	Dec 6	Micky Burstein*	Dec 9	Dec 13	Mordechai Ableman*	Dec 23	Dec 29	Ida Pearl Goldstein*
Dec 2	Dec 6	Abraham Goldstein	Dec 16	Dec 16	Rose Schwartz*	Dec 30	Dec 30	Libby Goldstein
Dec 2	Dec 6	Ida Kreeger Marks*	Dec 16	Dec 17	Esther Iseberg*	Dec 30	Dec 30	Foster Poper
Dec 2	Dec 6	Anna Raffelson*	Dec 16	Dec 17	Meyer Moshe Kohan Ghadosh*	Dec 30	Jan 1	Erika Lindow*
Dec 2	Dec 7	Frank Brodsky*	Dec 16	Dec 20	Leo Greenberg*	Dec 30	Jan 1	Mary Dreyer
Dec 2	Dec 7	Ann Hyman Swerdlow*	Dec 16	Dec 20	Anna Singer*	Dec 30	Jan 1	Julia Nichol
			Dec 16	Dec 20	Sadie Salstone*	Dec 30	Jan 2	Michael Glaser
			Dec 16	Dec 21	Bessie Wiener	Dec 30	Jan 2	Hyman Miller
			Dec 16	Dec 21	Charles Rogoff*	Dec 30	Jan 3	Celia Flowers Reback*
			Dec 16	Dec 21	Beverly Fishman	Dec 30	Jan 3	Louis Meyer*
			Dec 16	Dec 22	Helen Louise Rys	Dec 30	Jan 3	Sarah Cohen*
			Dec 16	Dec 22	Helen Cooper*	Dec 30	Jan 3	Frances Ruth Hayden*
			Dec 16	Dec 22	Suzanna Massouda Levi*	Dec 30	Jan 3	Harold Durchslag
			Dec 16	Dec 22	Esther Flowers*	Dec 30	Jan 4	Frances Krause
			Dec 23	Dec 23	Nancy Ashcraft	Dec 30	Jan 4	Benjamin B. Baker*
			Dec 23	Dec 24	Leah Kahn	Dec 30	Jan 5	Lillian Salk Stein*
			Dec 23	Dec 24	Sarah Shatz*			



There are two dates listed above on our *yahrtzeit* list.

The first is the **day of the service at which the name are read**.

The second is the **actual date of the *yahrtzeit*, and memorial candles should be lit on the preceding evening**. An asterisk after a name indicates that a plaque is affixed to the Memorial Tablet.

KINDLE THE SHABBAT CANDLES

Dec. 14:03 PM
Dec. 84:02 PM
Dec. 154:03 PM
Dec. 224:05 PM
Dec. 294:10 PM

NOTE: Shabbat ends one (1) hour after candlelighting time on Saturday night.

A Request From Our Treasurer

Please assist us in our bookkeeping. In order to ensure that each check sent in goes to the proper account, please be sure to write a note indicating what the check is for. Below are two copies of a form to assist you now and in the future.



Name _____

Phone Number _____

Please check off what the enclosed check is for and put down the amount allotted to that fund.

	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Dues _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Assessment _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Religious Education _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Event (please specify which one(s)) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Donation to (please specify which fund) _____	
In Honor of _____	
In Memory of _____	
Total Submitted	

Name _____

Phone Number _____

Please check off what the enclosed check is for and put down the amount allotted to that fund.

	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Dues _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Building Fund _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Assessment _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Religious Education _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Special Event (please specify which one(s)) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Donation to (please specify which fund) _____	
In Honor of _____	
In Memory of _____	
Total Submitted	

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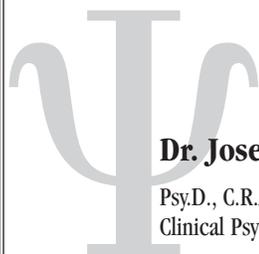
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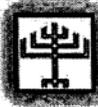
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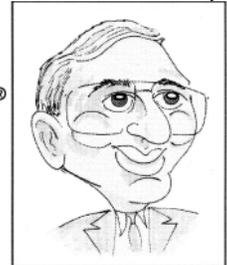
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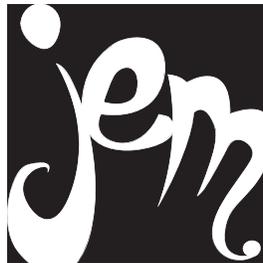
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December 2006

Shabbat Services: **Friday evenings** **7:30 pm**
Saturday mornings **9:30 am**

1	<i>Ima & Me</i> Sisterhood Shabbat CHUSY 8th Gr. Shabbaton	10:30 am 7:30 pm	11	ORDER FUNDABILITY CERTIFICATES	
2	<i>Chanukah Bazaar Setup</i> USY assists with Bazaar set-up USY & <i>Kadima</i> ice skating at City Skate, Elgin	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	12	Senior Lox and Bagel Luncheon Sisterhood Meeting Judaism 101	noon 7:00 pm 7:30-9:00 pm
3	CHANUKAH BAZAAR <i>Hadassah</i> Meeting at Elgin Historical Society	9-noon 1:30 pm	15	<i>Ima & Me</i> Family Shabbat - Bet <i>Dairy Oneg</i> <i>Chanukah</i> – Light first candle	10:30 am 7:30 pm
4	Confirmation Class	6:30 pm	16	<i>Chanukah</i> – first day	
5	CKI Board Meeting	7:30 pm	17	LATKE LUNCH	After School
8	<i>Ima & Me</i>	10:30 am	18	PICK UP FUNDABILITY CERTIFICATES Winter Recess begins Dec.18 –Classes resume January 3	
9	Junior Congregation & Tot Shabbat <i>Dalet</i> in Sanctuary 9:30 am <i>Alef, Bet, Gimel</i> in Library 10:00 am Tots in 1st grade room 10:00 am 50+ Club: Tour of Walter Arnold's studio and dairy potluck 5:00 pm		21-29	USY International Convention - Boston	
10	CHANUKAH BAZAAR <i>B'nei Mitzvah</i> Parent Seminar	9-noon 10:30 am			

Drs. Albert & Frieda Simon Adult Study Group
Sunday mornings 10:00 AM