



BETH EL NEWSLETTER

The Heights Synagogue

January, 2008

טבת \ שבט 5768



Rabbi Moshe Adler

Every morning
is like a new
reincarnation
into this world.

Let us take it then
for what it is
and live
each moment
anew.

Paul Brunton

*Note: We will NOT
have a Kabbalat
Shabbat service and
dinner on February 1.*

False Letter, True Sentiments

In a past issue of this Newsletter, I cited passages from a letter supposedly sent by Martin Luther King to a friend who denigrated Zionism. The letter had Dr. King countering that anti-Zionism is anti-Semitism, since it denies the very right of Israel to exist and thus deligitimates the right of the Jewish people to express its nationhood in its historic homeland.

Since that time, however, it has come to light that Dr. King did not write the letter in question. Though it was said to have appeared in the August 1967 issue of the *Saturday Review*, no such letter had in fact appeared there. As the *Saturday Review* was a weekly and not a monthly, there were four August 1967 issues, and none of them contained anything by Dr. King.

Though the letter in question was a hoax, however, Martin Luther King's support for Israel was genuine.

The Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism has published an article (<http://www.rac.org>) by Stuart Appelbaum, President of the Jewish Labor Committee. Applebaum cites a letter written by King in September, 1967, to Adolph Held, former president of the Jewish Labor Committee, after Held contacted him regarding press accounts of a conference in which Dr. King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference participated. Applebaum writes:

At the meeting, strongly worded resolutions blasting Zionism and embracing the

position of the Arab powers had been considered. Dr. King explained that, beyond offering opening remarks, he had no part in the conference. But, Dr. King said, had he been present during the discussion of the resolutions, "I would have made it crystal clear that I could not have supported any resolution calling for black separatism or calling for a condemnation of Israel and an unqualified endorsement of the policy of the Arab powers. Israel's right to exist as a state is incontestable," Dr. King wrote. He then added, almost prophetically, "At the same time the great powers have the obligation to recognize that the Arab world is in a state of imposed poverty and backwardness that must threaten peace and harmony."

Referring to the stake U.S. oil companies have in the Middle East, Dr. King went on to note that "some Arab feudal rulers are no less concerned for oil wealth and neglect the plight of their own peoples. The solution will have to be found in statesmanship by Israel and progressive Arab forces who in concert with the great powers recognize fair and peaceful solutions are the concern of all humanity and must be found."

...In a March 25, 1968 speech to the Rabbinical Assembly, Dr. King said, "Peace for Israel means security, and we must stand with all our might to protect its right to exist, its territorial integrity. I see Israel as one of the great outposts of democracy in the world, and a marvelous example of what can be done, how desert land (*continued on p.3*)

Beth El - The Heights Synagogue builds vibrant Jewish community.

We welcome all in participatory, traditional, egalitarian worship and learning.

Rabbi Moshe Adler ♦ Saturday Morning Services at 9:15, 3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118 ♦ ☎216-320-9667



Jack Valancy

**QUESTIONS? CONCERNS?
COMMENTS?
COMPLAINTS?**
Please do not
hesitate to contact
your President by
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President's Perspectives, January 2008

Out of the Mainstream, Into Our Hearts

A *New York Times* article on the recent growth of *minyanim* (independent prayer groups) brought back memories of our congregation's early days, almost ten years ago ("Challenging Tradition, Young Jews Worship on Their Terms", November 28, 2007, <http://www.nytimes.com/2007/11/28/us/28minyan.html>).

The article described how *minyanim* are challenging established Jewish notions of prayer, community, and identity to give their members an experience they are not finding in mainstream Jewish institutions. I observed many parallels between *minyanim* and **Beth El – The Heights Synagogue**.

We both create spiritual and communal relationships. There's a joyfulness to our worship, learning, and breaking of bread. In many ways, we are making our faith more accessible and meaningful. As the article notes, rather than taking Jews out of the synagogue pews, we are taking them out of their beds on Saturday mornings.

Like *minyanim*, we lead services ourselves. We are egalitarian, fully including women and men. Many of us have strong Jewish educations, and together, we have the cultural capability to create and sustain our congregation.

We worship traditionally on Shabbat and holidays, and develop practices that respect our members' personal preferences. We are meeting the challenge of celebrating the liturgy competently by developing the talents of our members. We offer resources and tutoring to those who want to learn to lead services and read Torah.

Although we do not play instruments on Shabbat and holidays, music permeates our services, kiddushes, and social events. The *kavanah* (spirit) and *ruach* (energy) of both

our musically-talented and musically-limited members and friends makes a joyful sound!

Yet, in some ways, **Beth El – The Heights Synagogue** is different. In our earliest discussions, we agreed that our fledgling congregation needed a rabbi to serve as its religious leader. We are fortunate to have Rabbi Moshe Adler, a scholar who fills many roles, including *posek* (decider of *halakah* [Jewish Law]), Ritual Committee advisor, service leader, Torah reader, teacher, writer, pastoral caregiver, and all around good guy.

Minyanim tend to be led by young, urban Jews. Many of these groups are unclear how they might evolve as participants have children and move to the suburbs. In contrast, we have always been diverse in age, interests, occupation, residence, and means. As we grow together, some of us are becoming parents, our kids are becoming independent, and many of us are or are becoming grandparents – and even great grandparents. We celebrate simchas together and care for each other during difficult times.

Like many *minyanim*, we began worshipping in rented quarters. Once established, though, we began searching for our permanent home. Our synagogue has become the gathering place of our vibrant Jewish community.

A quote in the *NY Times* article might have described the enthusiasm and energy we felt in the summer of 1998 when we explored forming our congregation: "We were all looking to go back to Jewish summer camp — the ease of community, this feeling of 'go ahead and try it, try a reading' — and we found it." That enthusiasm and ease of community continues today. We offer many different paths to become engaged and involved as we grow together spiritually. *(continued on page 3)*

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Carol Bruml, Editor – Telephone 216-932-9155, E-mail: news@bethelheights.org
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<http://www.bethelheights.org/>

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(False Letter, True Sentiments, continued from p.1)
can be transformed into an oasis of brotherhood and democracy. Peace for Israel means security and that security must be a reality.”

Were Dr. King alive today, I think he would recognize that, just as Israel is the scapegoat of the Arab nations, the Palestinian people are pawns in their ongoing power game. He would affirm his support of both Israel and the Palestinians, and would advocate the kind of solution that would bring peace and security to both peoples. I think he would deplore radical Islam’s violent use of religion in the furtherance of a political agenda.

And I think he would still survive the misuse of his name by would-be admirers.

(Out of the Mainstream..., continued from p.2)
Join us for weekly Shabbat morning worship and stay for our bountiful kiddush. Bring your kids to our Junior Congregation or drop them off in our babysitting room. Come to our next Kabbalat Shabbat services and dinner (January 4), Lunch and Learn (January 12), and Learners’ Services (January 26). Fill a winter’s night with laughter at Comedy Night (January 26). Learn at our Scholar in Residence Program (February 8 and 9). Check for more details about these and our other great programs elsewhere in this newsletter.

Like *minyanim*, **Beth El – The Heights Synagogue** is a sacred community with practices reflecting the morality of Judaism. Together, we continue building our home for participatory, traditional, egalitarian worship and learning. We welcome all.



Photos by Miriam Palevsky. Additional photos available at <http://www.bethelheights.org/gallery>

Jews and Christians Repairing the World

Rabbi Adler will lead a seminar on *Judaism, Christianity, and Repairing the World*, as part of the Jewish community’s annual *Hodesh Limud*, A Month of Study. We will explore the messianic idea in the two faiths, where they differ and where they are the same, as well as the teachings of the two faiths on love, repentance, and humanity’s role in furthering G-d’s plan.

Sessions will take place at Beth El - The Heights Synagogue on Sundays January 20, January 27, and February 3, 2008, from 2:00 to 3:30 PM.

For registration and further information, contact Lynn Liebling, Adult Jewish Learning Activities Coordinator, Siegal College at 216-464-4050, ext. 150; e-mail lliebling@siegalcollege.edu; or visit <http://www.hodeshlimud.org>.

Happiness cannot be traveled to, owned, earned, worn or consumed.

Happiness is the spiritual experience of living every minute with love, grace, and gratitude.

Dennis Waitley

Your Turn: Our Members Write

The January Newsletter introduces a new feature which gives you the opportunity to write for publication. Your editors welcome submissions from members of all ages on topics of Jewish interest. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and length, but will contact you if major revisions are necessary. We hope you enjoy this month's essays.

Israeli Appeal and Treat

By Stephanie Gordon

Fundraising for Melabev and hugs from Shelley Birkner and Cheryl Birkner Mack ended our "magical" ten-day trip to Israel. My daughters Merle, Rachel, and I hiked for Melabev along the rim of the Ramon Crater, climbed Jabel Harut, a relatively steep hill with a commanding view of the Crater, descended into Parsat Nekarot, the horseshoe valley, crossed the famous spice route, then climbed down boulders into a small canyon. The smartest thing I did was to wear my Keshet cap with visor so I was forced to keep my eyes on the terrain under my feet rather than look what was ahead of me.

In Jerusalem our meeting point was Gan Paamon close to where Cheryl and Shelley live. Suddenly, I had a flashback to Desota Avenue, Cleveland Heights where I would often see Cheryl wheeling Shelley to shul. Here she was in Jerusalem where it is much hillier. Shelley is jubilant to be with her sister and family. Cheryl beamed, content with her job and her life in Jerusalem. Both send their love to their friends at Beth El - The Heights Synagogue.

Melabev serves the elderly with Alzheimer and dementia symptoms. The average age of participants is past 80 and one third

of them are Holocaust survivors. Melabev operates five day care centers, four in Jerusalem and one in Beit Shemesh. Their Nathalie and Isidore Friedman Memory Center at Shaare Zedek provides assessment and home care. Melabev funds support groups for English speaking spouses and adult children, facilitates courses for professionals at the Geriatric Institute (in conjunction with Shaare Zedek), and offers respite services.

In the absence of government funding, Melabev is totally dependent on grants and contributions to maintain – and to expand – services for families who need their help. Please consider a US tax-deductible contribution. Make checks payable to "American Committee for Melabev" and send: c/o Elaine Rubinstein, 7827 Ampere Ave., North Hollywood, CA 91605-1853, U.S.A.



Marvin's Red Eggplant Spread

[You've all enjoyed it and clamored for the recipe, so here it is! Don't need this much?!...You do the math!]

- 4 pounds Tomato & Eggplant (purchase the mixture from Issi's Place, 14431 Cedar Road)
- 3 cups carrots, sautéed
- 4 cups roasted red peppers (3 12-ounce jars)
- 1 Tablespoon fresh garlic, chopped
- 1 teaspoon liquid smoke
- 2 Tablespoons hot sauce

Sauté carrots. Process carrots and peppers in food processor. Mix all ingredients together. Refrigerate.

On Schools in Israel

By Cheryl Birkner Mack

I still don't feel like I understand the school system, but I'm not sure that will happen any time soon. When I was in Israel in 2000-2001, one of the courses I took was on understanding the Israeli school system. I wish I had paid more attention. In the spring of 2006, when we began making arrangements for the girls' schools, I began to understand a bit more. What follows is an account of how we found Aliza and Esther appropriate schools and the teaching I am doing, as well.

Knowing that Aliza would need to change schools this year, we didn't spend a lot of time worrying about her placement for last year. Rather, we quickly settled on the school that Esther attended for the second half of third grade when we were here in 2000-2001 for Aliza. We ruled out the school Esther first attended, which was and is closer to our home because of the problems we had there – primarily with an uncaring principal. So Aliza attended the Evelina de Rothschild Elementary school for 6th grade last year, while Esther started at the Evelina de Rothschild junior high-high school. The schools are on separate campuses (about three miles apart) and have separate administrations; the only connection between the schools, other than the name and the fact that both are girls-only, is that students in the lower school are guaranteed placement in the upper school if they choose. Evelina is one of the oldest schools in Jerusalem. It was started over 100 years ago by the Rothschild family (which contributed to the establishment of many institutions during the early resettlement of the land of Israel). Evelina was the daughter of Baron Lionel, the first Jewish member of the British Parliament, and the wife of Baron Ferdinand Rothschild. She died in childbirth one year after her marriage in 1865, and a hospital and this school were founded in her memory.

Aliza, despite her excellent Hebrew, was a bit overwhelmed by the completely Hebrew environment. Although she loved her English classes and made friends among the English speakers. Just before Hanukkah we heard about a program that was beginning for new immigrants. It was an Ulpan (intensive Hebrew instruction), which focused on school vocabulary – terms like *denominator* and *reproductive system* aren't routinely covered in language courses in the US – and Israeli culture. Aliza and other English- and French-speaking elementary school children were picked up from their schools mid-morning three days a week and bussed to a school where they were served a hot lunch and taught language and math, then driven home. She really enjoyed the program and it improved her confidence and vocabulary greatly

Esther, on the other hand, was underwhelmed last year. She

found her classmates less than serious about schoolwork and prayer (which starts every morning at religious schools). She found teachers who did not challenge her, especially in several subjects in which Esther had learned the same material a year or two earlier in Cleveland. So she was bored and unhappy much of the year. Finally, after Pesah, we found out about a high school Ulpan, which is a five-minute walk from our home. While we didn't feel she really needed the language instruction, we knew that the hardest classes there (in contrast to Cleveland where they were the easiest) were Literature and History because of the volumes of reading required in them. The Ulpan could and did give her a chance to catch her breath. Evelina was willing to transfer Esther to the Ulpan, so she finished the year on a more positive note.

This year the girls are both in new schools – new not only to us, but brand new programs. We are very pleased.

I started teaching as a substitute in Michlelet Ort last November. Filling in for two teachers, I taught 10th, 11th, and 12th grade classes. Both teachers returned to work by January. At the end of the month, I replaced a teacher at the Junior High who left for another position. There I taught 7th and 9th grade. I also taught a class of 9th grade boys at a Yeshiva from January through June. Since the boys at the Yeshiva studied “important” subjects like Talmud, Jewish Law, Bible, etc., English was taught at the end of the day – Monday from 3:40 until 5:20 and Thursday from 5:30-7:00. The number of students in each class was large (in the junior high, 37 and 44 respectively). The classrooms were barely large enough to accommodate that number of students, and students regularly had to search nearby classrooms to bring in additional tables and chairs.

I am teaching English in an ORT Junior High this year. The school's English coordinator was born in Croatia and has lived in Israel for about 30 years. The other English teachers at my school are from France, the Ukraine, and Russia, and a native Israeli. This makes me fairly valuable as the only native English speaker. They refer all questions on pronunciation and word meaning to me. I must admit that their English is on a high level and they actually know more about grammar than I do. I am catching up, though! I've borrowed books on grammar and I'm reading them, along with my textbooks, while waiting at bus stops.

This is only part of the information Cheryl submitted. She would be delighted to share the entire story with folks who send their e-mail address to her at cbm55@juno.com.

Short Stories by Jewish Authors

Steve Stern Wows Us!

As we continue with our studies of short stories by Jewish authors, we are endlessly amazed with what we discover. *Lazar Malkin Enters Heaven* brought a literary prize to contemporary author Steve Stern in 1987. And no wonder! Stern has coupled his research into turn-of-the-century Jewish Memphis with his own creative energy with astounding results: a collection of stories about the Pinch – the mythical Jewish neighborhood and the characters who inhabit it – stories for serious contemplation that are laced with marvelous wit. Based in reality yet taking on the fanciful, Stern’s work is fascinating! The yes/no, did he/didn’t he, questions remain for us to consider.

SSBJA Reading and Discussion Group will meet on Sunday, December 23, 7:00-8:30, when they will focus on the hilarious short stories of Woody Allen that were written in the 1960s-1970s. New participants are welcome. Please contact Sondra Jacobs, 216-397-1481, or sondrajacobs@sbcglobal.net.

Jon Kabat-Zinn

The little things?

The little moments?

They aren’t little.

Summer Camp

With the snow flying, it’s not too early to start thinking about summer camp. If you have a child who will be attending a four-week, overnight, denominational camp for the first or second time, there is money available from the JECC to help defray the cost. Call Marilyn Malkin at 216-932-1949 or e-mail Marilyn at mxm74@case.edu for details.

Thanks for Hanukkah Party Help! תודה!

Merry Lugasy – and all who attended – would like to extend thanks to those who helped with the Hanukkah Party on December 9: David and Teri Tomberg, Beth Wachter, Mick Miller, Maya and Tali Lugasy, Debbie Smith, Menachem Shocham, Ditte Wolin, Vicki Rosales, Jessica Palevsky and friend John, and everybody else who pitched in to make this a holiday celebration filled with light and great food. A special thanks to Michael Bloom for providing live music for singing, dancing and Hanukkah enjoyment for all.

REGISTRATION — Fees and RSVP

Adele Reinhartz, Scholar-In-Residence ♦ February 8-9, 2008

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone(s) _____
E-mail _____



Please send check to Beth El-The Heights Synagogue, 3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118.

Registration deadline is February 1, 2008.

FEES for all events

- Family (including children) \$60
- Single (including children) \$35
- Single event \$20

RSVP

- Friday evening adults ____ children
- Saturday lunch adults ____ children
- Saturday evening adults ____ children



Scholar in Residence

ADELE REINHARTZ

From Scripture to the Silver Screen

FRIDAY NIGHT — Join us for Kabbalat Shabbat at 6 p.m., followed by dinner and an interactive talk on **Ten Reasons to Read Your Bible.**

SHABBAT MORNING— Join us for our regular service at 9:15 a.m. Special extended *dvar torah* on **Who is Plony Almony? — The Jewish John Doe and Other Extras(?) in the Bible.** Followed by a kiddush lunch and informal discussion.

SATURDAY NIGHT— Join us at 7:30 p.m. for havdalah, dessert, movie snacks, and our Feature Presentation of **Jesus of Hollywood: Scripture on the Silver Screen.** Extensive movie clips show how Jews and Judaism are presented in Jesus movies.

COST — \$35 per person, \$60 per couple/family for the entire weekend. Single event: \$20 per person.

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY; talks are aimed at adults and teens. Programming and sitting for children will be provided. All events are at Beth El—The Heights Synagogue, 3246 Desota Ave., Cleveland Hts., OH 44118.

For more information, call Mia or Joe Buchwald Gelles at 216-321-6717. Registration deadline February 1.

Adele Reinhartz, Ph.D., is Professor of Classics and Religious Studies, University of Ottawa, specializing in first century Judaism and Christianity. She also lectures and writes on Bible and film. Her books include *Jesus of Hollywood* (2007); *Scripture on the Silver Screen* (2003) which looks at use and misuse of the Bible in contemporary Hollywood films; *Befriending the Beloved Disciple: a Jewish Reading of the Gospel of John* (2001); and *Why Ask My Name* (1998), a study of anonymous figures in the Jewish Bible. She's also an active Conservative Jew, enthusiastic singer, and wife and mother of four children. And she's got a cool Canadian accent.



NEWS FROM BETH EL

חדשות

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

Eleanor Roosevelt

Refuah Sh'lema to: רפואה שלימה! !

- Lynda Siff

Thanks for Rainy Day Fund Contributions to:

- Claire and Matthew Lee
- Merry Lugasy
- Casey and Leah Stella
- Connie Sussman
- Ieda and Marvin Warshay

Thank you for help with mailing the December Newsletter to: תודה! !

- Sue Klein
- Alicia Rosales
- Jillian Rosales
- Vicki Rosales
- Blanche Valancy

Thanks for Contributions to: תודה! !

- Chuck and Miriam Collister, in memory of Mary Valancy Z"l.
- Robin Dubin and Richard Krueck, to the Birthday Club for December and January.
- Annie and Charlotte Horner, in memory of Mary Valancy Z"l.
- Harvey and Sondra Jacobs, in honor of Blanche Valancy's milestone birthday.
- David Kazdan and Laura Gooch, in honor of Blanche Valancy's birthday and Lynda Siff's recovery.
- Sue Klein, to the Birthday Club, in honor of Ditte Wolin's birthday.
- Madav IX Foundation, a supporting foundation of the Jewish Community Federation of Cleveland, which is sponsoring the February Scholar in Residence Program.
- Honey Massey, to the Birthday Club, June.
- Jerry and Michelle Miluk, in memory of Mary Valancy Z"l.
- Joe and Lila Newman, to the General Fund and to the Birthday Club, in honor of Joseph Newman's birthday.
- Laura and Marty Rabinowitz
- Marsha Raviv, in honor of Rabbi Moshe and Nili Adler
- Marla and Joseph Shafran Foundation
- Blanche and Jack Valancy

Thanks for the donation to: תודה! !

- Etol and Julian Kahan for the gift of a JPS Commentary on the Haftarah, edited by Michael Fishbane. The JPS Commentary combines depth with clarity of style. Drawing on both classical and modern commentary, it provides an understanding of each Haftarah's content; its larger context within the prophetic book from which it is taken; and its relationship to the day's Torah portion. It makes engaging reading for anyone, and is especially recommended for someone who is preparing to read the Haftarah. (Since we have only one copy, it must be used in the synagogue and cannot be taken out.) The book was donated in memory of Rabbi David Genuth Z"l.

Herzl Live!
 Performed by Nate Arnold
at the
First Lunch and Learn of 2008
Saturday, January 12



Commemorating the 60th Anniversary Year of the State of Israel
Don't miss this special performance.

Nate Arnold has been performing historical impersonations since 1984.

He is a volunteer at the Maltz Museum and owner of Arnold Equipment Company and Arnold Appraisal.

CALENDAR, JANUARY 2008

טבת \ שבט 5768

Sunday, December 23, 7:00-8:30 PM – Short Stories by Jewish Authors Group will focus on humorous stories by Woody Allen. (See page 6 for details.)

Tuesday, December 25, 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon – Third Annual Community Pancake Breakfast

9:30 AM – Join us for **Morning Minyan** before breakfast!

Approximately 11:00 AM – **Special illustrated program on Jewish Graphic Novels**, presented by Wendy Wasman. \$14/adult (16 and over), \$5/child (15 and under). Walk-ins welcome! (See flyer, December newsletter, downloadable.)

Friday, January 4, 5:30 PM – Kabbalat Shabbat services, followed by dinner at 6:30 PM.

Reservations and prepayment due by December 28 for the dinner. (See flyer, December newsletter, downloadable.)

Saturday, January 12,

Approximately 10:30 AM – **Learners' Service**. Meet in the library off the balcony. Explore the meaning and history of prayers, customs and holidays. Practice praying at a slower pace. Ask questions and get answers.

Rejoin the main service for the d'var Torah.

After services – **Lunch and Learn with Nate Arnold**, who will perform his impersonation of Herzl, in commemoration of the state of Israel's 60th anniversary year. (See page 8 for further details.) Free. Babysitting provided.

Saturday, January 19,

After services – **Monthly Birthday Kiddush**, in honor of all congregants who celebrate their birthdays this month.

Movie Night.

6:15 PM – **Havdalah and a potluck dinner** (see related article, page 10)

7:30 PM – **Film, Turn Left at the End of the World (Sof Ha'Olam Smola)**. This is a 2004 Israeli film, highly recommended by our film critic Menachem Shoham. It takes place in a development town in the Negev.

A review of the movie is available at <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0374279/>.

Saturday, January 26,

Approximately 10:30 AM – **Learners' Service**. (See description on January 12.)

7:36 to 9:30 PM – **Comedy Night**. See page 10 for details.

Yahrzeits, January 2008

Fannie Fromson	23 Tevet 5717	Max Fromson	10 Shevat
Celia Sobel	23 Tevet	Blumi Zavelowitz	10 Shevat
Joe Silver	25 Tevet 5733	Louis Sobelman	11 Shevat
Lillian Ratner	23 Tevet	Dorothy Neuger	11 Shevat
Sylvia Tucker	25 Tevet	Fannie Levine	13 Shevat
Charles Robert Bruml	25 Tevet 5755	Pinkas Zavell	13 Shevat
Rosalyn Louise Berkman	26 Tevet	Mary Malkin	17 Shevat
Morris Givertz	27 Tevet	Charles Auerbach	17 Shevat
Alfred Adler	28 Tevet 5751	Isadore Fromson	17 Shevat
Henry Gelfand	29 Tevet	David Muszynski	18 Shevat
Louis Jacobs	29 Tevet 5730	Gayle Kuhr Sharpe	18 Shevat
Harriet Feldman	2 Shevat	Anna Genuth	18 Shevat
Victor Reiss	3 Shevat	William Berkman	19 Shevat
Theresa Siegler	3 Shevat	Abraham Margolis	19 Shevat
David Carr	3 Shevat	Howard B. Cohen	19 Shevat
Mordechai Lugasy	4 Shevat	Mathilda Mendelow	19 Shevat
Rudolph Landesman	6 Shevat	Rose Reiss	20 Shevat
Ziskind Alex Simon	6 Shevat	Abe Lipoff	21 Shevat
Isaac Bruder	7 Shevat	Helen Haskin	23 Shevat
Eugene Goodman	7 Shevat	Sam Cohen	24 Shevat
Ethel Newman	7 Shevat		



Become a Birthday Club Honoree:

Donate \$25 per birthday celebrant to the Kiddush Fund, accompanied by a note stating who is to be honored, and what month.

All proceeds go toward defraying the cost of the Kiddush.



Movie Night is Back!

Look for changes this year that will enhance movie night. We will be doing events in January, February, and March; the February movie night will be the closing event of the Shabbaton with Prof. Adele Reinhartz.

The changes are: Movie nights this year will be held in members' homes. We will be combining movie night with a dairy/pareve potluck dinner in January and March. If you keep a kosher kitchen, you may bring something cooked; if not, bring cold fruit, vegetables, salad (undressed), or packaged dessert with heckscher (kosher certification).

We will not be doing a children's movie. Last year we had very few children at movie night, so we're making it an adult evening this time around. Children are welcome for the potluck. If you want to bring your kids for the whole event, call Joe Gelles (216-321-6717) – we may try to do a kids' movie if there is enough interest.

There will be no charge for the movie, but any contribution to help cover the cost of a new screen and the purchase of the movies for this project will be welcome.

Saturday, January 19 – 6:15 PM. Havdalah and a potluck dinner at the home of Linda Tobin and Steven Pepper, 2440 Euclid Heights Blvd. Film, *Turn Left at the End of the World (Sof Ha'Olam Smola)*, at 7:30 PM. This is a 2004 Israeli film, highly recommended by our film critic Menachem Shoham. It takes place in a development town in the Negev. A review is available at <http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0374279/>.

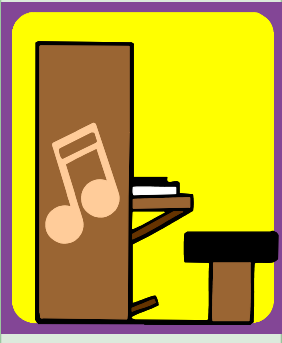


Comedy Night



The third annual Comedy Night is scheduled for Saturday, January 26, 2008, 7:36 PM in the social hall at Beth El - The Heights Synagogue at 3246 Desota Ave. in Cleveland Heights.

Have you never been to a Comedy Night? It's simply people getting together, having fun for a couple of hours, singing a variety of songs of a comical nature, as well as performing some short skits. This may include songs from Allan Sherman to Tom Lehrer and Flanders and Swann, and a lot in between. Our own Bill Bruml will accompany us on the piano.



So how does it work? Just e-mail Scott Wachter at wachter@nacs.net, or call 216-932-5964 by January 10. Tell us you're coming, so we have an idea how many people will attend. Better yet, send Scott the lyrics or name of a song you feel will fit the genre of the evening and we'll include it (piano music would be helpful). Kids are expected to sing along with everyone else; there will be no babysitting available. Some of the songs may have an adult theme, so some sensitive explanations may be required for some of the kids (and adults). The evening is free, but donations at the door are appreciated. Snack food, beverages and lyrics will be available. Come and enjoy an evening of self-generated entertainment. We look forward to seeing you there.