

AM CHAI UPDATE

DECEMBER 2010– FEBRUARY 2011 > WINTER EDITION

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE AM CHAI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

WEBSITE: WWW.AMCHAI.ORG

EMAIL: INFO@AMCHAI.ORG

From The Pulpit

The winter is upon us. We will once again be complaining about cold weather, snowstorms, bad climate... We will once again be consuming greasy *latkes*, spinning the *dreidl* and most importantly lighting the *menorah*.

The *hanukkiyah* (*menorah*) is my favorite symbol not only of our beloved festival but also of the winter itself. The most unpleasant part about the winter is not cold. It is the darkness that bothers me the most. Many studies in sociology and social psychology suggest that the highest number of depression cases and suicides falls on this time of the year (especially December). It should not be surprising to us: it is dark, cold and lonely in this world.

And then there is this little light of the *menorah* – a light in the dark. The *menorah* tells us that even in the darkest moment of the year (or of our lives) there will always be the light. And the light will grow – one candle, two candles, three candles...The light will shine again. This gentle message of optimism is the most valuable lesson of the *Hanukkah*. Have a bright winter!

RABBI MICHAEL TILLMAN

SERVICES

ALL SERVICES ARE HELD AT THE DEVONSHIRE,
1515 BARRINGTON RD., HOFFMAN ESTATES
CALL (847) 604-4060
THE AM CHAI TELEPHONE WITH ANY QUESTIONS

Friday night, **December 17, 2010** 8 PM

Friday night, **January 7, 2011** 8 PM

Friday night, **January 21, 2011** 8PM
(TuB'Shevat Service)

Friday night, **February 4, 2011** 8PM

Friday night, **February 18, 2011** 8PM

BAGELS & LOX WITH THE RABBI

*Sunday morning, **January 9, 2011** 10 AM

*Sunday morning, **February 20, 2011** 10 AM

*(Both are Adult Discussions without the Rabbi)

PRIOR TO EACH BAGELS & LOX DISCUSSION, ALL
MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE DETAILS & FURTHER INFO
SENT BY E-MAIL

Birthdays

Dec 8	Megan Placko
Dec 8	Alexandria Rabe
Dec 10	Denise Wehrenberg
Dec 11	Albert Goldberg
Dec 12	Averil Reisman
Dec 15	Maissie Rabe
Dec 15	Estelle Baron
Dec 18	Kris Sudrovech Ami
Dec 24	Stephen Rubin
Dec 24	Michael Zider
Dec 31	Marc Henry
Jan 4	Rick Rabe
Jan 5	Alan Bass
Jan 6	Kathy Goldberg
Jan 6	Barry Goldstein
Jan 9	Marvin Michnik
Jan 13	Kathleen Henry
Jan 15	Olivia Goldberg
Jan 16	Dick Zittler
Jan 17	Matthew Isaac
Jan 18	Howard Ecker
Jan 19	Art Reisman
Jan 23	Ruth Lorinczi
Jan 27	Aaron Ginsburg
Jan 27	Eugene Kliensky
Jan 30	Fred Weiner
Feb 5	Cindy Placko
Feb 19	Jordan Bass
Feb 21	Shira Zider
Feb 26	Marlene Zider
Feb 28	Breana Remack

Anniversaries

Dec 20	Mary Jo & Joseph Rotstein
Dec 24	Evelyn & Robert Miller
Feb 13	Nancy & Michael Reich
Feb 14	Estelle & Robert Baron
Feb 23	Frances & Leonard Plotzker

THANKS

...To **Joe & Mary Jo Rotstein** for sponsoring an *O'neg Shabbat* on September 3, 2010.

...To **Ron & Arlene Bass** for hosting a *Sukkot Service and Breakfast* on September 26, 2010.

GET WELL

Ellen Karpel
Arlene Weisberg

CONDOLENCES

...To **Ron Bass** on the passing of his mother.

...To **Alex Raab** on the passing of his wife, Anita.

CONGRATULATIONS

...To **Alan & Helen Isaac** on the birth of their grandson

THE FOLLOWING LOCAL BUSINESSES
DONATED GIFTS AND GIFT CARDS TO OUR
RECENT PIZZA PARTY. AS A SHOW OF
THANKS PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE
ESTABLISHMENTS AND SAY YOU HEARD
OF THEM THROUGH OUR AUCTION.

CULVERS
ROSEBUD
UNO'S
BINNYS
STARBUCKS
MIDAS

JOHN BARLYCORN
LOU MALNATI
BUONA BEEF
WEBER GRILL
PILOT PETE
BONEFISH GRILL

The Prez Sez

These past *High Holidays* have come and gone and we are left with pleasant memories of the wonderful services. We were blessed with the music provided by our beautiful choir led by **Art Reisman** and the spiritual leadership of **Rabbi Misha Tillman**. I think everyone agreed that the room we were in provided a wonderful atmosphere for our thoughts and prayers. Our hope is that we will be able to utilize this room once again next year.

I would like to personally thank our members for the financial support they provided in response to our *Yom Kippur* appeal. Your contributions show that there is a definite desire for us to try and maintain our presence as a synagogue in the area.

I also want to thank once again all the members who helped in setting up the room for our services and the take down at the end. Your work is greatly appreciated. I also want to thank **Bob Miller** for his hard work in putting together our **Gino's Pizza Party** and silent auction. **Bob** put in a great deal of time and effort in getting donations and arranging the dinner. Due to his hard work and your support once again we were able to have a successful fundraiser.

Hope everyone has a *Happy Chanukah* and that we see you at services in the coming weeks.

Al Goldberg

Membership Musings

Hello Again,

It's happening!! We have new members. All of our talk and ads do work. We would like to welcome our new members, **Jack and Pamela Budrow, Melinda Budrow, Marilyn Davis, Jonathan and Andrea Fox, Barry and Judy Goldstein, Edward Manjarez, Alex Raab, Garry and Lauren Rosenfeldt, Sarah Rotstein, and David and Sharon Wille**. Welcome to our Congregation.

Now we have to keep this movement going. With this economy we now have we have a lot to offer, such as activities, Holiday Services, and Friday Night Services. You are doing a great job keep up the good work. Remember MEMBERSHIP is the key to our success.

Shalom,

Dick Zittler

FAMILY NEWS

IF THERE IS ANY NEWS REGARDING YOUR FAMILY THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH OUR CONGREGATION, YOU WILL FIND A LINK AT OUR WEBSITE. JUST FILL OUT THE INFORMATION AND IT WILL BE FORWARDED TO OUR MEMBERS AND THE RABBI IF DESIRED.

The Ritual Corner

Our Holiday Services went very smoothly. Although that is of no surprise to many of those in attendance, our new members were able to participate in what the rest have come to accept as normal Holiday procedure. For that reason it is why we are able to attract new members. The *Selichot* Service was enjoyed by all that attended.

Much appreciation goes out to those that contributed to the success of our Services. They are...**Rabbi Tillman** for his leadership through spiritual prayer and guidance; **Art Reisman** along with the *Choir* for their ability to transform musical notes into sounds of beautiful prayer. The ritual team of **Karen Arnet, Ron Bass, Bill Os, Mike Reich, Joe Rotstein, Steve Wagner, Jerry Weisberg** and **Dick Zittler** for their determination in creating a Synagogue atmosphere. **Ron Bass, Joe Rotstein** and **Al Goldberg** for assisting in the *Torah* reading; **Joe Rotstein** for producing the *Shofar* sound. All the participants involved in the reading of *Haftorah*. **Jane Michnik** for creating the Holiday activities booklet; **Arlene Bass** for her delicious *Challah*. Also all those who handled an *Aliyah* and the many who came in order to just pray.

Sukkot had a fantastic turnout and was much enjoyed by all. Our appreciation to **Ron** and **Arlene Bass** for the use of their home for the *Succah*. Also to **Bill Os** in helping **Ron** set it up and to **Rich & Cindy Placko** along with **Rick & Laura Rabe** who helped **Ron Bass** dismantle it.

Shemini Azeret and *Simchat Torah* were much enjoyed by all who attended. Much appreciation goes to **Marv** and **Jane Michnik** who supplied the *Taffy Apples* for both festive Holidays.

Please try and remember the bi-monthly Friday Services that we schedule and mark them on your calendar. Also include our Sunday Breakfast functions that we put on several times a year. I will look forward to commiserating with you at some of our scheduled gatherings.

Wishing everyone a happy *Chanukah!*

Cliff Kelman

YIZKOR LIST

Please call (847) 604-4060 or email info@amchai.org with any new names you would like included on our *Yizkor* List. All names on last year's list will be repeated this year. All names will be displayed on boards at the *Yom Kippur Yizkor Service* and they will be read aloud during the *Yizkor* service.

ANYONE WISHING TO SPONSOR

An O'NEG SHABBAT

PLEASE CONTACT

THE RITUAL COMMITTEE

(847) 604-4060 or info@amchai.org

We're also looking for homes to host a Bagels n' Lox Discussion with the Rabbi.

Yahrzeit Dates

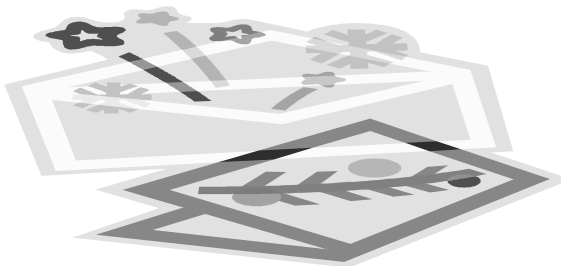
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A LOVED ONE'S Yahrzeit RECALLED AT A FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE?

PLEASE CALL (847) 604-4060 OR SEND AN EMAIL TO

INFO@AMCHAI.ORG TO NOTIFY RITUAL OF THE DATE & NAME OF THE PERSON TO BE REMEMBERED SO THAT YOU CAN BE ADVISED OF THE SERVICE. (Yahrzeit WILL BE SAID FOR YOU, IN THE EVENT YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE SERVICE.)

TRIBUTE CARDS

FROM AM CHAI



CARDS AVAILABLE FOR BIRTHDAYS,
CONDOLENCES, BAR & BAT MITZVAHS,
etc

YOU CAN PURCHASE A PACKAGE OF
FIVE CARDS WITH ENVELOPES FOR A
\$20.00 DONATION

OR WE WILL SEND A CARD FOR YOU FOR
A CONTRIBUTION OF \$5.00

You can order tribute cards 24/7 on
our website www.amchai.org – click
on Fundraiser & Tribute Cards and
see the various types of cards. Then
fill out the order form & send your
order online

or you may contact:

MICHAEL REICH

By phone

or by email at

amchai_mr@yahoo.com

**THEY SENT TRIBUTE
CARDS**

August through October 2010

CONDOLENCES

Ron & Arlene Bass to Carolyn Kaplan
Al & Sharon Goldberg to Ron & Arlene Bass
Al & Sharon Goldberg to Mr. & Mrs. Richard
Placko

Al & Sharon Goldberg to Mr. & Mrs. Rick Rabe
Al & Sharon Goldberg to Alexander Raab
Barb & Neil Henry to Ron & Arlene Bass
Barb & Neil Henry to Mr. & Mrs. Mark Kaplan
Barb & Neil Henry to Carolyn Kaplan
Barb & Neil Henry to Mr. & Mrs. Ed, Marty,
& Alan Kaplan

Richard & Eileen Ginsburg to Ron & Arlene
Bass

Richard & Eileen Ginsburg to Bonnie Tandy
Michael & Rhoda Kamin to Ron & Arlene Bass
Marvin & Jane Michnik to Ron & Arlene Bass
Mary Jo & Joe Rotstein to Ron & Arlene Bass
Mary Jo & Joe Rotstein to Alexander Raab
Michael & Nancy Reich to Ron & Arlene Bass
Averil & Art Reisman to Ron & Arlene Bass
Jerry Weisberg to Ron & Arlene Bass
Richard & Sharon Zittler to Ron & Arlene
Bass

CONGRATULATIONS

Al & Sharon Goldberg to Helen & Alan Isaac
Barb & Neil Henry to Helen & Alan Isaac
Barb & Neil Henry to Mr. & Mrs. Steve Henry
Mary Jo & Joe Rotstein to Helen & Alan
Isaac

Michael & Nancy Reich to Helen & Alan Isaac
Richard & Sharon Zittler to Helen & Alan
Isaac

GET WELL

Barb & Neil Henry to Phil Leboy
Ron & Arlene Bass to Ellen Karpel

**PRUDENTIAL AMERICAN
HERITAGE REALTY**

OVER 30 YEARS OF SERVING THE
NORTHWEST SUBURBS

EILEEN GINSBURG

(847) 806-8331 (direct line)

(847) 364-6030 (office number)

Email: eginsburg@juno.com

A member of the Am Chai Congregation

RS

Painting
Improvements
**Complete
Decorating**

FREE ESTIMATES

*Complete Exterior
Painting/Staining &
Wallpapering, Inside
Painting
Including
Venetian Plaster
Faux French
Antique Trim Finish*

Call

Joe Remack @ (847) 212-5237

Insured > over 20 years in NW Suburbs

A member of the Am Chai Congregation

AM CHAI UPDATE
*1515 N. Barrington Road
Hoffman Estates, IL 60169*