

Jewish Community of Amherst

קהילה היהודית של אמרסט



Jewish Reconstructionist
Federation 

November 2005

Tishre/Cheshvan 5766

Vol. 4, Issue No. 10

Candle Lighting Times

November 4 ~ 4:21 pm

November 11 ~ 4:14 pm

November 18 ~ 4:07 pm

November 25 ~ 4:03 pm

*Times shown are
18 minutes before sunset
for Amherst, MA*



Special Events

November 20
Craft Fair

November 23
Blood Drive



Meetings

November 1
Tikkun Olam Committee

November 2
Religion Committee

November 3
Board Meeting

November 9
Membership Committee

November 16
Education Committee

Message from Co-President

Jim Wald, 549-0629, jwald@comcast.net

JCA officers do not run on platforms or even in contested elections. Rather, the Nominating Committee is foolish enough to think we are qualified, we are foolish enough to agree to serve, and you are ... well, you approve the slate at the annual meeting in December. Be that as it may, I think it only fair to indicate some of the goals that I have tried and continue to pursue:

- encouraging appreciation for Jewish learning in the broadest sense (the source of our identity)
- strengthening the sense of *K'lal Yisrael*, the unity of the Jewish people
- strengthening our relations with other faiths and our neighbors in Amherst
- strengthening the sense of community within the JCA (the precondition for all the others)



A Message from the Board

Community Meeting (October 16, 2005)

A very well attended meeting, facilitated by Jim Wald, Co-President, with committee presentations by Alan Peterfreund on **Membership**, John Loeb on the **Annual Campaign**, Michael Chernoff on **Finances**, Judi Fonsh on **Parlor Meetings**, and Len Lubinsky on the **Rabbinic Evaluation Process**.

Active participation by members, with many suggestions from the floor, including: the need for outreach and inclusiveness to families—particularly those with young children—and greater integration of children into the community as well as child care for religious services and other community activities; a need for

The autumn offers outstanding opportunities to explore our culture and people-hood. There is a wealth of adult-education classes. This year's Yitzhak Rabin Memorial Lecture (30 October), by Ilan Stavans, is devoted to the future of Jewish identity in the Diaspora. The land of Israel has always been a part of that identity, although the political situation of recent years, with its polarizing debates over occupation and terrorism, has made it more complicated. The regional Reconstructionist *Yom Iyyun*, or day of study (13 November), is devoted to our relationship to Israel (see the announcement in this newsletter on page 5).

Even within the confines of life at the JCA, we need to take a hard look at what unites and divides us. The confluence of festivals of several

continued on page 11



greater sense of welcoming, acceptance, and involvement of interfaith families as they join and thereafter; a greater respect and acceptance for the diversity of Jewish practice within our community; a need for greater openness and transparency from the Board to the community on the rabbinic evaluation process, with greater use of input from the community as a whole; and a more widespread distribution of membership lists; potential development of a community listserv; invitations for and appreciation of volunteer expertise; better public relations efforts; encouragement of Chavurot.

Everybody's presence was greatly appreciated.



THE JCA EDUCATION COMMITTEE PRESENTS:
OUR FIRST ANNUAL

CRAFT FAIR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20TH, FROM 12:30 - 5:00 pm

CERAMICS, JEWELRY, JUDAICA, TEXTILES, HAND MADE SOAP,
PHOTOGRAPHY, WATERCOLORS, MOSAICS, GLASS, AND EVEN PICKLES!

ALSO: A BAGEL, BAKED GOODS AND COFFEE SALE, AND A RAFFLE!

**COME! SHOP! SCHMOOZE! BRING YOUR FRIENDS!
SPREAD THE WORD!**

QUESTIONS? CALL TOBI 549-1795

IF YOU CAN BRING FLIERS TO YOUR PLACE OF WORK, CALL TOBI

WE ARE ALSO ACCEPTING DONATIONS OF HAND-MADE ITEMS TO
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Jewish Community of Amherst, Inc.

742 Main Street, Amherst, MA 01002

(413) 256-0160, fax (413) 256-1588

Religious School (413) 256-0160 ext. 203

email: info@j-c-a.org; On line at: www.j-c-a.org

Rabbi David Dunn Bauer

Rabbi Emerita Sheila Weinberg

Rabbi Emeritus Yechiael Lander (586-1137)

Education Director: Jody Rosenbloom (256-0160 ext. 203)

Co-Presidents: Sara Berger (253-2217), **Jim Wald** (549-0629)

Co-First Vice Presidents: Paul Herscu (253-5011), **Kitty Axelson-Berry** (367-9581)

Second Vice President: (To be determined)

Third Vice President: Eli Kwartler (253-2929)

Treasurer: Michael Chernoff (256-0500)

Membership: Anna Pearce (253-7525), **Alan Peterfreund** (253-5485)

Chesed Committee: Please call the office (256-0160)

Office Administrator: Marcia Howard (256-0160)

Administrative Assistants: Phyllis Miller, Bonnie Webster (256-0160)

Events Co-ordinator: Linda Cooper (256-0160 ext. 207)

A complete listing of committees and chairs can be found on the JCA website at:

<http://www.j-c-a.org/committees.html>

NEWSLETTER

Editor/Graphic Designer: Aaron Bousel

(Voice: 253-3544, Voice & Fax: 253-3846; news@j-c-a.org)

Proofreader: Sarah Thomson

Deadline for the December issue is November 13th

November 2005, Vol. 4, Issue No. 10

Newsletter is published 11 times per year.

Subscription price is included in membership, \$25 per year for non-members.

Rabbi Liaison Committee

The purpose of the Rabbi Liaison Committee is to:

- Further increase the effectiveness of the rabbi-congregational relationship.
- Act as a reliable channel for ensuring that the rabbi hears about the needs and experiences of the JCA membership.
- Provide a conduit so that people who are hesitant about contacting the rabbi directly will have a channel to do so.
- Help the rabbi prioritize anticipated tasks and the unexpected situations that occur daily.
- Expand the range of communication and provide the rabbi with a consistent representative partner with whom to discuss the many decisions and interactions that compose the rabbi congregation relationship.

We encourage you to contact any member of the committee whenever you feel there is an issue that you would like them to consider with Rabbi Bauer.

Aaron Bousel 253-3544

Judy Glaser 253-9607

Haim Gunner 549-0447

Ruth Kane-Levit 548-1083

Eli Kwartler 253-2929

2nd Annual JCA Blood Drive

Wednesday, November 23

8:00 am - 2:00 pm

See page 18 for details.

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Devarim:

Words from Rabbi David Dunn Bauer

{Rabbi Bauer's column this month is excerpted and adapted from his Erev Rosh Hashanah sermon on our communal and institutional identity.}

With the many questions and issues current in the world that pull my attention (all of our attention) in so many different ways, I wasn't sure where to begin our High Holiday focus. A famous passage from Pirkei Avot kept nudging me, though. *im eyn ani li, mi li? uka'asher ani l'atzmi, mah ani? v'im lo akshav, ematai.* "If I am not for me, who is for me? And when I am for me, what am I? And if not now, when?"

In this moment in the JCA's history, we need to consider how best to be for ourselves both as a community and as a Jewish communal institution. Remember, we are the JCA comma Inc.!

We as a community are both the donors and the architects of our own home. Unlike the Israelites in the wilderness, we have no single Bezalel who will teach us the alchemy of creating a *mishkan* light enough for us to carry and strong enough to carry us. The parlor meetings are one means by which everyone can engage.

The call for resources is still open. The call is out for the spiritual, intellectual, and cultural splendor of the community to be brought to our sanctuary. How do we construct the institution of the JCA to reflect the splendor of the community?

What aspect of your Jewish life and identity do you treasure and wish that the JCA, Inc. would carry with you? Is it the riches of secular Jewish thought, Jewish humanism, for which we have not yet provided a chamber? Is it something special about the education of our children? Is it something precious for our oldest generation who have retired? Is it the trove of Jewish philosophy, Jewish art, Jewish music? Is it the splendor of Jewish activism and political engagement? Is it the exploration of the name, nature, or gender of God? Is it the exotic fabric of our mystical traditions? What splendor are you carrying that you want the JCA to carry with you?

v'im lo akshav, ematai? And if not now, when?

Come to the parlor meetings. Share your wealth. Help design the institutional shelter of our community. Our tabernacle is not yet complete.

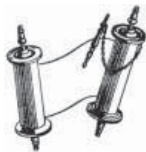


Message from the Parlor Meeting Committee

Parlor Meetings are scheduled to start November 8th and to continue through March, and the committee is pleased to announce that the first set of invitations was sent out in mid October for the November and December meetings. Each meeting will be hosted by a JCA member and will have a facilitator and a recorder, one of whom will usually be a Board member. Rabbi Bauer will attend as many meetings as possible and we appreciate the leadership and wisdom he has contributed as this program has unfolded. We on the committee have also been delighted by, and want to take this opportunity to thank, the many members of our community who have stepped forward to help make this happen -- those who are offering their homes, those who have stepped up to contribute by training or facilitating, and those who have committed themselves to recording and transmitting the thoughts and feelings community members express in the course of these meetings.

The committee discussed thoughtfully and at length whether to invite congregants singly or as partnered membership units, and finally decided on inviting partners together, though we hope the community will continue this particular important discussion at some point in the future.

All JCA members will receive invitations sometime between mid October and January, so watch your mail for a brightly colored postcard! Please, if possible, RSVP using the e-mail address provided, otherwise there will be a phone number you can call. (Trying to allow for contingencies, we have scheduled two extra meetings towards the end of March to have backup times for weather cancellations.) We hope that you will take this opportunity to connect and reconnect with other members of the JCA and to lend your voice to the conversation about where we are and where we will go in the future.



Religion Committee

Judy Young, Co-chair, 549-5139, young@astro.umass.edu

Paul Charette, Co-chair, 860-559-4926, cyclone411@charter.net

November 2/3, Wednesday/Thursday

Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan



Shabbat Noach, Genesis 6:9-11:32

November 4, Friday

5:30 PM

Family service and pot luck supper in the Social Hall

8:00 PM

Regular Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Service Leader: Saul Gladstone

November 5, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer



Shabbat Lekh-Lekha, Genesis 12:1-17:27

November 11, Friday

8:00 PM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

Mak'hela will perform at the service.

November 12, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

D'var Torah: To be announced



Shabbat Vayera, Genesis 18:1-22:24

November 18, Friday

6:15 PM

Regular Kabbalat Shabbat Service

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

November 19, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: Rabbi Bauer

D'var Torah: Rabbi Bauer



Shabbat Chaye Sarah, Genesis 23:1-25:18

November 25, Friday

8:00 PM

Service Leader: To be announced

November 26, Saturday

10:00 AM

Service Leader: To be announced

D'var Torah: To be announced



Check the JCA website at:
www.j-c-a.org/services.html
 for updated religion calendar information.

Contact Info:

Torah Reading:

Eliezer Huber- 259-9994

lhuber@gpsk12.org

D'var Torah:

Gene Stewart- 413-687-9049

gas86_4u@msn.com

Special Weekday Service:

Saul Gladstone- 253-0631

Aaron Bousel- 253-3544

abousel@comcast.net

JCA Office- 256-0160

info@j-c-a.org



JCA FAMILIES

As a long-time JCA member and mother of three, I have recently joined the Religion Committee to focus on making Shabbat and holiday services more welcoming, inclusive and vibrant for families with children of all ages. If you have ideas, suggestions, complaints, requests - I'd love to hear them. Please contact me. Thanks! Chris Benvenuto christinebenvenuto@hotmail.com.

You are needed!

Every Tuesday morning several people meet in the small sanctuary for a morning service. This is a wonderful way to begin your day. The service begins at 7:30 and is over by 8:30. Latecomers are always welcome. Your attendance could make the difference between someone being able to say Kaddish for a loved one or not. Please consider coming when you can.

Religion Committee, continued

**Kiddush and Oneg
Sponsors**

October 8

Merle & Edward Feld, in celebration of Ed's birthday, and in memory of Ed's father, Max Feld

October 22

Jeffrey Cohen & Lori Holder-Webb, in celebration of their aufruf

October 28

Jeffrey Cohen & Lori Holder-Webb, in celebration of their wedding

The Art Committee, in honor of the artists in our community

Please make sure you speak to Linda Cooper and fill out a Kiddush/Oneg sponsor form to assure that the date you want will be reserved.

**Meditation
Minyan**

The weekday meditation minyan continues to meet every Wednesday at 7:30 am in the small sanctuary.

For those with young children....

Friday, November 4th at 5:30 pm

Following the success of our summer picnics the first Friday of each month will now consist of a short service, beginning at 5:30 pm followed by a pot luck supper. As with all pot lucks at the JCA we ask the you bring only vegetarian, dairy or fish dishes. No meat, please.

These were wonderful events during the summer and we hope to keep that feeling alive throughout the year.

.....and for those without young children

At the recent community meeting many members expressed their joy in seeing young children at the JCA. This is a great opportunity to see and meet our young children and their families. Although the event is geared for those with young children, it can also be a real opportunity to make some intergenerational connections and build community. Following the supper there will be a regular Shabbat evening service at 8:00 pm for those who wish to stay.

ALL JCA members and guests are encouraged to attend any or all parts of the evening.

The Jewish Reconstructionist Federation Presents:

Yom Iyyun



DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS SPECIAL DAY OF STUDY ABOUT ISRAEL

Sunday, November 13, 2005 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

A day of learning for anyone who has or is interested in taking a leadership role in discussing and teaching about Israel in their communities. You will have the opportunity to connect with Israel in many ways, from scholarship to culture. Learn about the way new religious expressions are blossoming in Israel today. Part of our time will be spent planning a portion of our Spring shabbaton that will enable us to continue this discussion. This day of learning will be hosted by Rabbi Fredi Cooper, JRF's Director of Congregational Development and Education, and by Dr. Carl Sheingold, JRF's Executive Director.

Information and Registration Online at: <http://jrf.org/events/yomiyyun.htm>

Registration cost is \$54, and includes lunch.

After Oct. 31 registration fee is raised to \$64.

Program will be held at Congregation Ahavas Achim, 84 Hastings Avenue, Keene, NH.

Questions? Contact Rabbi Fredi Cooper:

Phone: (215) 782-8500 x32 Email: FCooper@jrf.org



**SHARE YOUR CELEBRATION
COMMEMORATION
MEMORIAL**

WITH YOUR COMMUNITY.

SPONSOR AN ONEG OR KIDDUSH

Linda Cooper, Events Coordinator will make all the arrangements. Call her at 256-0160 ext. 207

Have you checked out the JCA Judaica Store lately?

Books by JCA members and others, siddurim, chumashim, tallitot, mezzuzot and many lovely gift items.

You can shop whenever the office is open.

Education News

Jody Rosenbloom, Director of Education, 256-0160, ext. 203



What Do People of the Book Do in November, Jewish Book Month?

One of the priority curriculum units for JCA children is studying sacred texts. In the younger grades we read basic bible stories, in mid-grades we start looking at the layers of Torah study, some of the megillot and midrash, and by late primary we have introduced the books of the prophets. We also have a rich cultural heritage in modern literature. Each grade has some story time to look at storybooks and resources of the modern Jewish world. We encourage each household to build their own Jewish library and to that end, we have several opportunities for you. Watch for the BaBaBooks hand out that comes home with older students. From the publishers of BaBaGaNewz (a great Jewish children's magazine we use in 5th & 6th grades) comes a quarterly pamphlet with Jewish books of interest for young readers. You are welcome to order directly from them. In the younger grades we will have a mini-library with a selection of books to take home and share. In the region there will be authors and book fairs to choose from. And watch our email for the annual fundraiser with the Yiddish Book Center. When you buy books from them, mention you are from the JCA and we get a percentage of the sales earnings.

Teacher's Honored with Brunch and Study

On Sunday, November 13 the JCA teaching staff will join their colleagues from across Western Massachusetts for a morning to honor their commitment to teaching our children. This year the event includes a festive brunch, keynote speaker and study session. Sponsored by the Resource Center for Jewish Education, A Harold Grinspoon Foundation Program, participants will gather at the Jewish Community Center in Longmeadow. Keynote speakers, Mel and Shoshana Silberman, bring a tool kit of active teaching and learning to enhance Jewish teachable moments. Dr. Mel Silberman is Professor Emeritus in the College of Education at Temple University where he won its Great Teacher Award. He is author of numerous books including *Teaching Actively: 8 Steps to Spark Learning in Any Classroom*. Dr. Shoshana Silber-

man, EdD is a consultant at the Auerbach Central Agency for Jewish Education in Philadelphia. She has over 30 years experience in Jewish education as a teacher, principal, curriculum developer. The morning will be well spent with teachers and teaching assistants acknowledged for their own contributions, enriching their own skills, and building their network with teachers in the field.

Fundraising Makes a Difference to Minimizing Tuition and Dues Increases!

There are many ways to help out the school as the Education Committee members work hard with parents to bring you these opportunities listed below:

Bring a Friend to our Craft Fair on Sunday, November 20, 12:30-5pm

Buy Dean's Beans JCA Java: Order at the beginning of the month for pick-up at the end of the month. Orders must be accompanied by a check for payment.

And the "no cost to you, but help to us" options:

1. *Collect your General Mills, Green Giant, Pillsbury, Yoplait seals of "Box Tops for Education* and bring them to the JCA. Each box top is worth ten cents and we are eligible for up to \$20,000. Collection boxes are located in each classroom or the front office.
2. *Sign up at Big Y for the Education Points* and indicate the JCA Hebrew School 7373 as your designee. We can earn points toward school supplies and technology based on your purchase of items with point designations.
3. *Designate the JCA as a recipient of Florence Savings Bank's community dollars.* Each customer of FSB gets a ballot due by December 31. If 75 people vote the JCA, we may receive up to \$500.

Jewish Summer Camp Builds Jewish Identity, Join Us for a Morning of Camp JRF Live!

On Sunday, Dec. 4, Rabbi Jeff Eisenstadt, Director of Youth and Camping for the Reconstructionist Movement joins us. Camp JRF is relocating from the Chicago area to their newly purchased camp in the Poconos, only hours away from

continued on next page

Calendar

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Western Massachusetts. During the morning, Jeff will meet with parents, with students in grades 4-6, and lead our learner's minyan. In the afternoon, he will meet with teens. Anyone interested in what the movement is doing with summer camping is welcome to come.

Thank-you

To **Phyllis Miller** for the CD and tape players.

To **Amy Fagin** for donating her calligraphy skills.

Sun, Nov 6	Torah Study Workshop for 6th graders & their parents 10-11:45 am
Sat/Sun, Nov. 12/13	NO SCHOOL-Veteran's Day Weekend & Teacher Education Day
Sat, Nov. 19	Shabbat Shalom (class for 4-6 year olds) 10:30 AM-12
Sun, Nov. 20	Craft Fair 12:30-5:00 PM
Wed, Nov. 23-Sun, Nov. 27	NO SCHOOL-Thanksgiving Break
Fri, Dec. 2	Kedusha LaTorah (Consecration for 1st & 2nd graders) Potluck & Service



Wake up and smell the coffee....

Dean's Beans Organic Coffee

A JCA Education Committee Fundraiser - Happening Monthly



Did you know that coffee is one of the most heavily sprayed crops on earth? Well, now you can purchase organic coffee every month that school is in session for less than at local stores! Dean's Beans Organic Coffee is kosher, supports free trade, the environment and the JCA. Such a deal!

Simply fill out the order form below and mail or bring to the JCA **along with pre-payment** (checks to "JCA"). Forms are also available in the JCA lobby.

Next Due Date: 11/14/05

Pick up Date: 11/20/05 or thereafter during office hours.

Questions/comments: Contact Sue Weinstein (548-9552)

(detach order form and save the above as a pick up reminder)



Dean's Beans Coffee Order Form

Name:

Phone Number:

E-mail (optional):

	# of 1 lb. Bags		\$
	Whole	Ground	
Regular (light/dark blend)			X \$8.00/lb. = \$
Decaf (light/dark blend)			X \$9.00/lb. = \$
TOTAL (payment included)			\$

Committee Reports

Adult Education Committee

Barabara Burkart, Chair

Judith Plaskow challenged the Jewish world in 1992 with the publication of *Standing Again at Sinai*, her argument for the historical and theological basis for full inclusion of women in the evolution and practice of Judaism. To celebrate the release of her recent book, *The Coming of Lilith* - a collection of her essays spanning thirty years - she came to the JCA last month to discuss her ideas which have been so seminal in the evolution of Judaism, and to sign copies of her book. Those of us fortunate enough to attend were reminded of her gifts as a teacher and thinker, and we thank her for sharing her wisdom.

Other classes have also started, such as the Hebrew class being led by JCA member Joe Boucher, a longtime member and frequent Torah reader on Shabbat.

Give yourself a gift of learning this new year. Sign up to learn about Jewish history, language, culture, or practices. All courses being offered have room for more participants. Check your weekly e-mails or call the JCA office, if you don't have your catalogue anymore.

Also - let us know if there's a course you'd like to offer, or one you'd like to take.



Tikkun Olam Committee

Epi Bodhi, Co-chair

Felice Yeskel, Co-chair

Food Collection for Survival Center: Following the example of our neighbor Congregation B'nai Israel, the Tikkun Olam/Social Action Committee begins a year long food collection. We challenge our JCA to collect 5,766 pounds of food this year! The food will be taken to the Amherst Survival Center to be distributed to those in need in our local community. Thanks to your generosity with our Yom Kippur collection we are off to a good start, but still have a long way to go. Let's maintain our spirit of giving to aid the people in our area who are struggling, as their struggle continues all year long. You can help to reach the goal of 5,766 pounds this year. Your contributions will make a difference. We will keep you posted as to our progress. Please make it a habit to bring non-perishable food items when you come to the JCA and place them in the collection box just inside the door. What's needed most now: canned goods (tuna, fruits and vegetables), juice, baby food, tomato products (sauce and paste), soup, beans, rice, sugar, flour, cereal and peanut butter. Thank you.

Have you ever run across a quote or statement that inspires you to action for social justice? The Tikkun Olam Committee is preparing a Friday night

presentation on how we are inspired to actions for social justice. Please send your quotes to apage256@aol.com for use in our program.

Ideas wanted! We'd like to design a committee t-shirt. If you have some creativity to offer, please contact Flo Stern at 549-5972.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 1, 8:30-10 a.m. in the JCA multi-purpose room. New members are always welcome.



World Jewish Concerns and Action Committee

Karen Loeb, Chair

NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM
L'SHANA HABAH B'YIRUSHALIM

It is actually going to take place. Details of the trip and the budget can be found on the JCA website: www.j-c-a.org. The dates are June 4-15, 2006. With the combined input of the WJCAC and the experience of the Reconstructionist movement it promises to be interesting, exciting, pleasurable and even educational. The emphasis is on the variety of Jewish identities in Israel and we will have occasion to interview Israelis from many facets of life as well as see for ourselves how kibbutznikim, Arab Israelis, settlers, and the ordinary Israelis

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The Deadline for the December Newsletter is
November 13th

All submissions MUST be made either by e-mail or e-mail with a file attached. If you do not have access to a computer or email, please contact the editor.

PLEASE RESPECT THE DEADLINE!

Thank you, Aaron Bousel, news@j-c-a.org 253-3544

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live. We shall explore Israel's security situation on the Golan Heights, on the Lebanese border, and visit the 'Security Fence' separating Israel from the Palestinian Territories. We shall visit Masada, Jerusalem, Safed, Acre and major archeological and biblical sites and enjoy kayaking, touring by jeep, and above all, visit the Maalot Meshulam school in Rehovot to meet the Ethiopian immigrant children our Project Rehovot is helping and to stay at Kibbutz Sasa which Haim and Yaffa help found.

The budget for the trip, not including airfare is \$1500. Funding through the Grinspoon Foundation of up to \$1000 per person will be available. If you cannot download the itinerary or want more information about the trip and to find out how to apply for a subsidy from the Grinspoon Foundation, contact Karen Loeb at kloeb@comcast.net A commitment with partial down payment is required by April 1, 2006.

In preparation for our trip to Israel or to amplify your knowledge of these issues so critical to the Jewish future, please join us for the following events:

Sunday, October 30, 2005 1-3:30 PM

"What Crisis? Jewish Identity in the Diaspora in the 21st Century" with Ilan Stavans as keynote speaker and three respondents: Rabbi Andrew Davids, Professor Jules Chametzky and Professor James Young. (See last month's

newsletter for details. Hopefully you will receive this before the end of the month.)

**Sunday, November 13, 2005
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Keene, NH**

Yom Iyyun –organized by the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation

A day of learning about Israel with lots of discussion hosted by Rabbi Fredi Cooper, JRF's Director of Congregational Development and Education, and by Dr. Carl Sheingold, JRF's Executive Director. Part of our time will be spent in planning a portion of the JCA Spring Shabbaton that will enable us to continue this discussion.

Information and registration on line at <http://jrf.org/events/yomiyyun.htm> Cost is \$54 and includes lunch. After Oct. 31, registration fee is raised to \$64. (See page 5 for more details)

**Monday, November 14, 2005 7:00 PM
NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM**

A Talk by Daphan Golan-Agnon, Co-founder of B'Tselem, The Israeli Information Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories. Daphna Golan-Agnon is an Israeli human rights activist and feminist. Her recent memoir, *Next Year in Jerusalem*, describes her work and her struggles as an activist, a mother, and an Israeli. She asks, What kind of Jerusalem do you want to come to next year? Help us make the kind of Jerusalem we dream for it to be. Co-sponsored by the Western Mass. chap-

ter of Brit Tzedek v'Shalom, Jewish Alliance for Justice and Peace.

We welcome all suggestions for programs to help prepare for our visit to Israel. Would you like to have discussions on geography, archeology or modern history? Please let Karen, kloeb@comcast.net or Yaffa, ybg@comcast.net know of your interests and concerns.



Please Note:

Committee and board meetings are open to all JCA members. You need not be a member of a committee to attend a meeting. Please see the front page and the calendar to see when meetings are scheduled.

The **Membership Committee** report is on the following page.

**Christmas Day Volunteers
Needed for Not Bread Alone**

Volunteers are needed to prepare and serve the Christmas Day meal at *Not Bread Alone*,

Two Shifts Available:
Cooking (10:30-12:00) and
Clean-Up (12:00-1:30)

To volunteer, contact
Barbara Pistrang at 256-1737 or
<barbara@jpcr.com>

Space is limited, so please call soon.



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**PIANO
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Membership Committee

Anna Pearce, Co-chair

Alan Peterfreund, Co-chair

As of October 11th, the JCA has 311 members. This includes 19 new and 5 returning members. This represents a net loss of approximately 20 members from 2004.

In September surveys were mailed to all former members from 2004 and 2005, a total of 80 households. With some members returning and some surveys being returned, as of mid-October we had 19 returns or 26%. What we have learned (and what we had been hearing from exit interviews over the past two years) is that there is no single reason for why members leave.

What we do know is that many of the households have been members a long time, have grown children and few have joined other synagogues.

Primary reasons for leaving the JCA (select all that apply)	Percent
Cost of membership	42%
Sense of being disconnected from community	32%
Issues with services	26%
Distance to synagogue	21%
Issues with Rabbi	21%
Moved out of area	16%
Dues structure	16%
Issues with the religious school	16%
Issues with JCA's activities or support for Israel	16%
Children now grown - their involvement was prime connection	16%
Issues with High Holy Day service	5%
Issues with Reconstructionist affiliation	5%
Personal family issues	5%
Involvement in Solomon Schechter School	0%
Issues with lay leadership	0%
Other	16%

In reading the comments, an underlying theme is that many people leave both dissatisfied with some aspect of the JCA and all too often without having had their issues heard and addressed. The upcoming parlor meetings are a critical opportunity to rectify this situation for our current members.

The consequences of losing so many members this past year have been quite stressful on the community. If you are considering leaving the JCA, and we do have an historical average of 5% a year leave, please talk to someone; the Rabbi, our school director, a board member, the treasurer, the membership committee or fellow member. If you are going through changes of personal or financial circumstances, a period when the JCA can be supportive, accommodations will be made to ensure continuity of membership.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The membership committee is preparing a simple membership directory that members will be able to pick up at the JCA in December. IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO BE LISTED, please contact the office by November 15. Plans for a more extensive directory are in the works for next year.

continued from page 1

faiths in October made me turn to Mark Mazower's **Salonica, City of Ghosts: Christians, Muslims and Jews, 1430-1950** (NY: Knopf, 2005). Renaissance Jewish congregations there were cities unto themselves, "constantly splitting apart thanks to the factionalism which seemed endemic to the community," even within ethnic groups, such as "Old" and "New" Sicilians or Spanish Refugees:

"...based in a squat and modestly decorated building, unobtrusive from the street and plainly adorned inside, from which they ran their charity funds, their burial societies and study groups. There they organized the allocation and collection of taxes and agreed salaries for their cantor, ritual slaughterers, the mohel . . . and rabbi. . . .Not surprisingly, such a system was highly unstable. Indeed the Jews were well known for their dissension and often bemoaned the lack of fellow-feeling. Acute tensions between rich and poor, extreme factionalism . . . made wider agreement very difficult."

With few modifications, this descrip-

tion could apply to the JCA or many another Jewish congregation. It should serve as both a consolation and a warning: The divisions and tensions we face are neither new nor unique, but must be dealt with. As the Community Meeting made clear, we, too, have old and new members, with varying needs, desires, social experiences, political values, and liturgical and cultural preferences. For me, two broad points stand out:

I. It has long been said that we need to be "more welcoming." The meeting lent some definition to that phrase: not just being friendly, but ensuring that our institutions and practices really correspond to what members want—from religious pluralism to practical assistance in accommodating the young learners who are the future of the community. Otherwise, why recite the phrase, "teach them diligently to your children"?

II. The corollary is that we need to be more open, better at communicating. JCA members want to have a voice in decisions and be informed of both processes and outcomes.

Even the criticisms were always couched in a tone that reflected energy and dedication. It is this passion that we

want to encourage, this energy that we wish to harness.

Although we choose different formulations for the passage in the *Aleynu* describing the relation between the Jewish people and the divine, we come together again, literally and figuratively, in the closing hope for a world united in common principles. In that spirit, let us remind ourselves that we in the end share a goal. We are one. Every year during the Days of Awe, Jews around the world engage in *cheshbon nefesh* (soul-searching). Such periodic examination is as necessary for the community as the individual.

I feel as if I have done a great deal of talking recently—in this column, at Rosh Hashanah. It is time for us to hear your voices: for the Board to listen and you to speak. We urge you to attend the coming series of parlor meetings (8 November-30 March), meticulously organized by Judi Fonsh and Beth Eisenberg and their committee, with support from the JRF. It is the single most important opportunity to take a hand in the redefinition and renewal of your community.

b'shalom,
Jim

A Personal Story: Kristallnacht in Nuremberg, Germany

On November 9, 1938, German thugs broke into the apartments of Jewish families and with clubs broke everything in sight. They broke the furniture, the chandeliers and the crystal, hence the name Kristallnacht – night of broken glass. Thugs broke into our apartment and frightened my 22-year-old mother, who grabbed a bottle and me and went to a Christian neighbor for protection. I was four months old.

Kristallnacht was the last straw, the red flag that broke the illusions of the Jews remaining in Germany that Hitler's rule would "blow over," as had previous periods of virulent anti-Semitism. All German Jews who could, tried to leave, but they needed passports. My father, a blonde, good-looking, seeded tennis player and an international businessman never lost his passport. His efforts to get my mother a passport had always failed. Why? Because he was a "currency Jew;" he brought money into Germany and the authorities did not want to let him go. The morning after Kristallnacht, my father went to the authorities one more time and told the man in charge, "If you do not give my wife a passport, you will be responsible for her murder." The next day my mother received a passport and the following day we left Germany for France. We arrived in America three years later on August 6, 1941. I was three years old. I had survived the Holocaust, but if you wonder when you see me standing and saying Kaddish for those who have no one to say Kaddish for them, it is for the 1.5 million children, who were not as "lucky" as I and who died in the war. Zachor...Remember (Eva Metzger Brown)

Creative, fun, important positions available!!!!!!!

(for more information on these and other volunteer positions, contact Judy Glaser at 253-9607 or judyglaser@comcast.net)

Lots of fun.....Going Once.....The JCA Auction has for years been an event to which we all look forward as a ton of fun and a great fundraiser for our JCA. We are looking for leadership for the next Auction, to be scheduled by the committee when it begins its work. All the information about how to do the planning and execution is in place from Ellen Koteen, who has so magnificently chaired the past few auctions, (thank you, Ellen!!) and past committee members, several of whom are willing to work on the committee again. If you might be interested, contact Judy.

Having fun....together: Could you help to plan fun events for JCA members of all ages? We need to re-ignite our once active social committee. If you are interested, or might be, call Judy.

Grants-writers/administrators needed: There are several wonderful ideas floating around for which the JCA might be able to get a grant. We need a person with skills and experience in writing grant applications and doing whatever is necessary to follow up. Contact Kitty Axelson Berry, 253-2353,

kitty@modernmemoirs.com. This volunteer job is just right for the person who doesn't want to have a regular, ongoing responsibility.

Does a routine task needed only once a month seem like something you could do for the JCA?? *The JCA can save big bucks in our beleaguered budget if we do the copying of our newsletter in-house...and we now have a copy machine that can handle it! We will begin the copying in December for the January newsletter. We need two teams of three each month to run off the newsletter. We have enough people and just need a couple more to account for illness, etc. !!! Sign up now and complete the team! Call Judy Glaser at 253-9607 or e-mail her at judyglaser@comcast.net.*

Do you know a lot of people in the JCA? Can you help us find the right volunteers for the job? The volunteer committee is looking for a few more people. You might be the right person for this job! Call Judy Glaser at 253-9607 or e-mail her at judyglaser@comcast.net.

If you like to write Working with our new P.R. committee we will get the news about all that the JCA has to offer on the screen inside and outside of the organization. Lots to do! Exciting work! Contact Eli Kwartler, 253-2929 .



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World Jewish Concerns and Action Committee News Brief

The World Jewish Concerns and Action Committee submits articles each month with the intention of presenting varying viewpoints on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The viewpoints expressed are not intended to represent the opinions of the Committee or of the membership of the JCA.

No Sunshine Patriots We

By Leonard Fein
September 16, 2005

Every now and then, it is useful to return to basics. With regard to Israel, and more particularly with regard to how we might respond to young people who wonder why they should care about what happens there, this seems to be one of those times.

We are in a kind of holding pattern; one might call it “between disengagements,” after Gaza and before whatever withdrawal crisis is next.

Some ask: Why not give in to the temptation to shunt Israel to the periphery of our consciousness? Is it so wrong to focus instead on Iraq, or Katrina or even what movie to see this week? Why Israel, always Israel, that distant, confusing, often irritating place?

For my generation, Israel is magical. Mine is a generation that remembers a world without an Israel, for whom Israel’s birth was a transcendent event. But Israel’s birth was, to put it mildly, a while ago.

Now? The current generation of Jews under the age of 60 has no recollection of such a time. Indeed, those under 50 were

no more than 12 during the time of the Six-Day War, those under 40 were 11 or younger when Entebbe happened. And so forth.

Magic? What magic? The siege of Beirut in 1982? The assassination of Yitzhak Rabin in 1995? For one generation, Israel as magic, real and also mythic; for the next, Israel as fact, sometimes mundane, sometimes troubling, entirely earthy.

So, why?

Some say: Because of the Holocaust. We need such a place, just in case. We need to show the world we can stand and we can fight, if we have to.

No, Israel is not mainly an act of spite, of retribution, or even of resilience. Nor is it a safe house; although that is how many intended it, history has played a cruel joke on those who saw it that way.

Others say: Scattered among the nations, and shrinking in number, we decline. Our diverse Diasporas — above all, the North American with its myriad achievements — no longer can make it on their own. Without Israel to give us pride and a spine, to remind and inspire us, we would inevitably sink, eventually vanish — except perhaps for a sturdy few who, like the Amish, would persist as a quaint cult, tiny and essentially irrelevant.

Pride? Inspiration? On balance, yes — but it is a teetering balance. These days, for example, the most recent data show that one in five Israeli families lives in

poverty and, shockingly, that this figure includes nearly one-third of Israel’s children. (By way of comparison, the poverty rate in the most advanced European countries is 10%; the rate of poverty in Israel is higher than in any of the 15 core states of the European Union.) And the rate of inequality in income in Israel is astonishingly high.


Some explain these disparities by pointing out that it is Israel’s Palestinians (20% of the population) and its fervently Orthodox community, with its large number of children, that swell the bottom statistical measures. But that merely shunts the problem to a different sphere: What place is there in Israel for the one of five Israelis who is not Jewish? What are the sources of their generally poor social and economic condition? And how, if at all, to integrate the fervently Orthodox, now separate and unequal?

And how to disentangle religion and state, whose current unholy embrace so obviously corrupts both? And how to reform a political system so removed from the people it allegedly serves? And how to repair an educational system that has precipitously declined in quality?

Now: Are all these reasons to draw close, or to step away?

To draw close: We care about Israel, and we should, because it is the most compelling and consequential collective project of the Jewish people in our time, perhaps

continued on next page

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even of all time. It is the signal undertaking of our people.

Whether the undertaking was necessary or not, whether it was wise or not, is no longer an important question, nor an interesting one; the question comes too late. Whether Israel proves to be a goy k'chol hagoyim, a nation like all others, or an or lagoyim, a light unto the nations, no one today can safely predict — nor is there any need for such a prediction; the question comes too soon. Here Israel is, and its failure would be more than bitter; it would be a poison from which the Jewish people could not and would not

recover.

Plainly, the success of the project we call Israel is by no means guaranteed. There are, obviously, those who are determined to destroy it. Yet whatever one's assessment of the external threat — and surely by now we ought recognize Israel's strength, its capacity to ward off that threat — the project's success depends on more, much more, than successful defense against those who would do it ill. One does not measure the success of so ambitious an undertaking merely by celebrating its series of anniversaries; those who dreamed up the project had more in mind than mere survival. And we have

been partners to their dream.

Why care? Why be devoted? Because the Israelis, with our support, are trying to make a go of it, and because we are not summer soldiers, sunshine patriots. Because Israel has been our project, too, and one does not walk off the construction site with the job only halfway done. Because, finally, for better, for worse, in sickness, in health, as Israel goes, so go the Jewish people.

This article originally appeared in the Forward (www.forward.com), America's national Jewish newspaper.



Operation Rehovot

Yaffa Gunner, Co-Chair

Marilyn Kushick, Co-Chair

Thanks to these donors for their support of "Operation Rehovot," the program that helps immigrant children adjust to life in Israel.

Haim and Yaffa Gunner in honor of Rachel Henderson who will be teaching temporarily in China

Project Rehovot gratefully acknowledges the generosity of Los Angeles donors in honor of The Raasha Rubinsky Salon Concerts by Rita Rubin

Robert and Theodor Primes
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Leon Vickman

Beatrice B. Frierman
Alfred Goldberg, MD and Ruth Goldberg

Operation Rehovot Tag Sale

The figures are in and we raised \$1500 for Project Rehovot, the program in Israel that helps Ethiopian immigrant children adjust to school in its highly technological society. Without the help of so many dedicated people, this event could not have been possible. Besides all you generous people who donated clothes, furniture, kitchen equipment, electronic gadgets, art and toys to the tag sale, we would like to thank all of you who assisted us in this event. Of special mention are Jody Wax and her husband, Thomas Butler, who, once again, generously hosted the event at their home, offered their house as the drop-off site for donations as well as for sorting and pricing. During those planning sessions, and the tag sale, they provided us with refreshments, a kitchen area, and rest room facilities. Their hospitality was extraordinarily kind and generous and our committee would like to thank them for all the time, effort and generosity they contributed in making the tag sale such a success.

Karen Loeb,
Chair, World Jewish Concerns and Action Committee



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Adult Education Courses

Spaces remain in all upcoming courses. Join fellow learners and seekers in exploring different perspectives and practices. All courses will be held at the JCA. Registration and fees are being handled by JCA office staff.

SHABBAT TORAH DISCUSSION

(no prior registration necessary)

Dates: Sat, Nov. 5 for one hour, after Shabbat kiddush - led by Merle Feld

Sat, Dec. 17 for one hour, after Shabbat kiddush - led by Rabbi Ed Feld

* NOTE: Sat, November 26 is CANCELLED due to Thanksgiving *

Fee: None

Materials: None, but please bring food to share for the kiddush

Children welcome

TORAH LUNCHTIME TEXT STUDY CLASS

(no prior registration necessary)

Dates: First and third Thursdays of each month, from noon to 1:00 PM:

Oct 6 and 20, Nov 3 and 17, Dec 1 and 15

Fee: None

Materials: Provided

ETHICAL WILLS

Instructor: Kitty Axelson-Berry

(Please pre-register)

Date: Monday October 10 from 7- 9 PM

Fee: None. Donations to JCA gratefully accepted.

Materials: None

PRAYER AND THE PRAYERBOOK: THE KAVANNAH OF PRAYER

Instructor: Joan Saperstan

Dates: Wed., Oct 19, Nov. 2, 9, and 16; Dec 7 and 14

Fee: \$20 for members of any congregation/ \$30 non-members

Materials: Will be provided

THE ANCIENT ART OF TEFILLIN

Instructor: Rhonda Shapiro-Rieser

(Please pre-register)

Dates: Tues, Nov 1, 8, 15, and 22 from 7 - 9 PM

Fee: \$20/JCA members \$40/non-members

Materials: Bring tefillin if you have a set. Instructor has eight sets to share.

LITURGY AND POETRY: OIL AND WATER?

Instructor: Catherine Madsen

(Please pre-register)

Dates: Wed Nov 2, 16, and 30 from 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Fee: None. Donations to JCA gratefully accepted.

Materials: None.

AND THEN MOSES CRACKED THE HIGH C . . . THE HEBREW BIBLE ON THE OPERATIC STAGE

Instructor: Rabbi David Dunn Bauer

(Please pre-register)

Dates: Nov. 9, 16, and 30 (Note no class Nov 23); Dec 7 and 14 from 8-10 PM

Fee: \$5

Materials: None

CONTACT IMPROVISATION: COME ALIVE, COME TOGETHER

Instructor: Mark Zemelman

(Please pre-register)

Dates: Nov 10 and 17; Dec. 1 and 8 from 7-9 PM

Fee: \$20/JCA members \$30/non-members

Materials: None.

Note: No prior experience required.

MOVING JACOB'S AND REBECCA'S TENT

Instructor: Batya Perman, Ph.D.

(Please pre-register)

Date: Mon., December 5 from 7:15 - 9:25 PM

Fee: None. Donations to JCA gratefully accepted.

Materials: None.

.....also from the Adult Education Committee

We are in the early stages of planning for the spring semester. We now invite anyone who has a passion for something connected to Judaism - art, history, music, culture, language, ritual, etc. - to consider teaching a course through the JCA's adult education program. It's a wonderful way to deepen your own learning while connecting with fellow members of the community. We will be putting the brochure together probably in December (date's not yet set).

For information or help in thinking this through, you can contact any of the committee members: Barbara Burkart (barbruth@comcast.net), Deb Levheim (deb@gigahurts.com), John Clayton (jclayton@english.umass.edu), or Judith Loischild (jloischild@aol.com).



United Jewish Communities and New Israel Fund

With the year-end contributions of Alice Friedman, Frederique Apffel-Marglin and Stephen Marglin and Irene and Norton Starr to the New Israel Fund in September, we are delighted to announce that from October 2004-September 2005 our combined UJC and NIF funds raised \$9,435. This generous response is not only significant materially but is highly symbolic of the concern and support which our community has for the wellbeing of Israel. With this added to our sponsorship of Project Rehovot whose budget requires raising \$11,500 annually we should justifiably be very proud of the fact that we are a caring community for whom Tzedakah and Israel have a high priority.



With the New Year, we begin our annual campaigns anew. This coming year the need is even greater since Israel and the United Jewish Communities have agreed to sponsor the immigration into Israel of the Falasha Mura, the last of the Ethiopian Jews in Ethiopia and to better integrate the entire Ethiopian-Israeli community. This undertaking, called Operation Promise, also includes efforts to help feed poor elderly Jews in the former Soviet Union and efforts to strengthen Jewish identity among young Jews there, is estimated to cost \$160 million. This is in addition to the responsibilities already assumed by the UJC. To those of you yet to respond to our 2005 fundraising letter, please take this additional responsibility into consideration. To those who have contributed this past year, we will be appealing once again in the coming year for your generous support.

Tzedek, Tzedek, Tirdof! Justice, Justice, shall ye pursue!
Shana Tova,
Yaffa Gunner and Elly Bolotin
Co-chairs, UJC/NIF

David Zeller at Temple Israel and the JCA

David Zeller will present a concert entitled *The Four Worlds of Kabbalah, Spirituality in Everyday Life* at Temple Israel Greenfield at 7:30 PM November 10th. Admission is \$10-20 sliding scale

Rabbi Zeller will present *Visions of a Compassionate World, From a Self-Centered World, to A World Centered Self* at the JCA on Friday morning, November 11th from 8:30 AM through 10:30 AM.

This event will be by donation

Musician and teacher of Jewish mysticism, spirituality and meditation, Rabbi Zeller is a pioneer in the field of transpersonal psychology. He helped to establish Yakar Center for Jewish spirituality and meditation in Jerusalem.

David Zeller says that he was raised as an orthodox Jungian and a Reform Jew and now is an Orthodox Jew and a reformed Jungian. He lives with his family in Efrat.

Chesed Committee

The Chesed Committee assists JCA community members in times of joy, sorrow and need. We coordinate volunteers who provide the following services to the community: welcoming new JCA members with a Challah; welcoming new babies with a menorah; providing meals, rides to appointments, errands, and visits for those who are ill or in need. In addition, when there has been a death, we transport prayer books for Shiva minyans and provide a fruit platter or bagels and cream cheese. If you have a need, know of someone in need, would like to join our Committee or be added to our list of volunteers, please contact the JCA office at 256-0160 and a Chesed Committee member will be in touch with you.

Please Note:

Despite our expanded space, our space is so heavily used we have had problems accomodating all those who would like a space for a meeting or an event. To make sure that no one is inconvenienced due to conflicts in space availability, please call the office to check for scheduling as soon as you know of a need for space. While we understand that sometimes these needs develop at the last minute, the earlier we hear of your need, the more effectively we can be responsive to you.

Thank you,
Marcia, JCA Office

2nd Annual JCA Blood Drive

The Chesed Committee will be sponsoring the 2nd Annual JCA Blood Drive (A Celebration of LIFE!) on Wednesday, November 23rd from 8 AM-2 PM. This year we are celebrating the continuing recovery of one of our members who has received blood and was truly inspired by those who gave last year (see below) as well as supporting the work of the American Red Cross in behalf of the victims of Hurricane Katrina and others who are in need of blood nationwide. Our goal is to match or exceed what we collected last year. Please help us spread the word! Appointments are recommended, but walk-ins are welcome. To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-Give-Life (1-800-448-3543.) For more info or to volunteer the day of the Blood Drive, please contact Robin Diamond at 253-0660 or gemmom3@aol.com. Thank you!



To the JCA Community:

As many of you know, one year ago on Yom Kippur my husband Jonathan was diagnosed with leukemia. At the time of his diagnosis and initial treatment members of the JCA and the Chesed Committee in particular were looking for ways to help and support us. The First Annual JCA Blood Drive was a tangible way for people to demonstrate their support and it was a tremendous success. More than a hundred people donated blood on the day before Thanksgiving. The outpouring of love and support sustained us throughout this year. Over the year Jonathan has had numerous blood transfusions, using more than 40 units of blood. As he recovers from a stem cell transplant in April he continues to get transfusions and each time he does I remember the donors who have given him life. I write today to thank you publicly for that gift and to encourage you to participate again knowing that there are many people like Jonathan who desperately need your gift. Judith Souweine

Beit Shalom: Preserving Harmony in the JCA

The Beit Shalom Committee was created to provide a place to resolve rare and particularly difficult conflicts that impact the life of the JCA Community and its members. It is designed to hear the complaint of any individual or group with a grievance that cannot be resolved through the normal (formal or informal) channels. Any JCA member, group of members, or a committee with a grievance who wish assistance can initially contact any committee member: **Eva Metzger Brown**, chair, embrown13@comcast.net; **Haim Gunner**, haim_gunner@yahoo.com; **Josette Henschel**, jhenschel@verizon.net; **Melanie Lewis**, ivechos@aol.com; **Rob Okun**, RAOkun@aol.com. To have a concern formally considered by the Beit Shalom Committee, a written request should be mailed or e-mailed to Eva. The concern will be presented to the committee and Eva will contact the complainant by phone. All matters before the committee will be kept strictly confidential and neither the content nor the names of complainants will be revealed. The guidelines of the Beit Shalom Committee do state that a log will be kept of the date, the nature of the grievance and its final resolution. This information will be shared with the Executive Board and the Rabbi periodically throughout the year. Names of complainants will only be used at their request.

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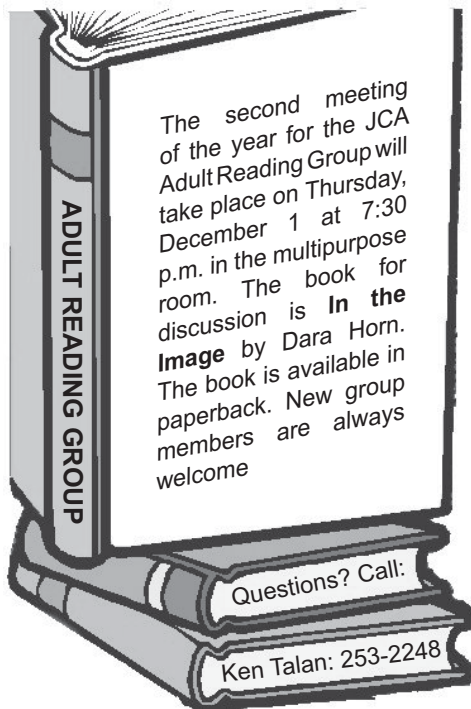
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- ◇ or come in on Sundays between 10:30 and 11:30 when Religious School is in session

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1. Tablets may be installed in memory of a JCA member or in memory of a relative or a friend of a member.
2. Tablets are of solid bass, 8 7/8 x 2 1/2 inches.
3. Tablets will include the name of the deceased in English, the name of the deceased and his or her parents in Hebrew, the date of death in English, and the date of death on the Jewish calendar in Hebrew. (Some information may be omitted if not known or desired, but no additional information may be included. We will assist in getting Hebrew names and dates if necessary.)
4. Annual reminders of the Yahrzeit will be mailed out by the JCA office if desired.
5. A minimum donation of \$100 per tablet has been set by the Board.

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION CLEARLY:

Name of donor: _____ Tel. Day: _____

Address: _____ Evening: _____

Do you want an annual reminder of the Yahrzeit? Yes _____ No _____

Name and address of reminder if different from above: _____

NAME OF DECEASED in English: _____

in Hebrew (or transliterated): _____

DATE OF DEATH: _____

(English)

(Jewish Calendar, if known)

TIME OF DEATH (before or after sundown): _____

PARENTS' FIRST NAMES (in Hebrew if known; otherwise in English)

FATHER: _____ MOTHER: _____

Return this form with your check to the JCA office. Mail should be sent to:

JCA YAHRZEIT

742 Main Street

Amherst, MA 01002

Call the JCA office (256-0160) or Saul Gladstone (253-0631) if you have questions.

Donations

Adult Education

Judy Glaser

Chesed Committee

In Gratitude (Jackie Katz)

In Memory of our parents Dorothy and Howard Segool (The Families of Leslie Spees and Richard & Helene Segool)

JCA General Fund

In Honor of the marriage of Joan Temkin and Paul Goulston (Ronnie Janoff-Bulman & Michael Bulman)

Lewis & Martha Robinson

In Honor of the marriage of Joan Temkin and Paul Goulston (Ken & Kitty Talan)

Ted & Elizabeth Trobaugh

In Honor of Joan Temkin and Paul Goulston's marriage (Judith & Jonathan Souweine)

In Honor of the marriage of Joan Temkin and Paul Goulston (Bob Feldman & Kathy Vorwerk)

Rachel Schwab Rehorka & Gary Rehorka

In Honor of the wedding of Lori Holder-Webb & Jeffrey Cohen (Rabbi Laurie Zimmerman)

In Honor of the marriage of Joan Temkin and Paul Goulston (Barbara & Michael Burkart)

In Appreciation for Gene Stewart's six year leadership of the High Holiday Committee (Barbara & Michael Burkart)

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

In Honor of the marriage of Joan Temkin and Paul Goulston (Judith Glaser & Robert Stern)

In Honor of the recent visit of Isaac Janiak, grandson of Joan Saperstan and Josette Henschel (Judith Glaser & Robert Stern)

In Honor of Eva Brown's recovery from hip surgery (Judith Glaser & Robert Stern)

In Honor of the marriage of Joan Temkin and Paul Goulston (Jane & Dan Giat)

In Honor of Rabbi Sheila Weinberg (Joe Boucher)

In Memory of James Blumgarten (Jeffrey Cohen and Lori Holder-Webb)

Mazel Tov to Joan Temkin & Paul Goulston (Judy & Allen Davis)

Tzedakah Fund

In Memory of Ronnie Boss (Hill Boss)

New Members
 Adele Levine
 Liz Friedman & Peter Kassis and their son Noah
 Paul Roud
 Murray & Peggy Schwartz
 Suzanne & Chris Baxter and their children Elsa and Sara
 Adina Elfant & Joshua Weiss and their children Kayla and Aylee

Mazel Tov
 To Chuck & Cheryl Edgerly on the birth of their daughter
 Julia Anasthasia



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contact:
 Allen Davis (413) 549-0128
 Aaron Bousel (413) 253-3544

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 (Macs and PCs)

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 Cell:413-658-8841
 E-mail:deb@gigahurts.com

Community Announcements

November Lesbian Potluck

The next Lesbian Shabbat potluck will be at the home of Jackie Katz on Friday, November 4, 2005 in Shutesbury at 6:30pm. Call her for directions at 259-3779. No scents, please.



National Yiddish Book Center

The National Yiddish Book Center has extended the new traveling exhibit, *The Wooden Synagogues of Poland: A Lost World Revisited* through March 2006. The exhibit includes a painstakingly handcrafted model of the historic 17th-century wooden synagogue of Zabłudow, Poland. The 4-foot by 4-foot model is accompanied by an extensive array of rare archival photographs and text describing other wooden synagogues destroyed by the Nazis during World War II.

The National Yiddish Book Center will present the exuberant klezmer band **Metropolitan Klezmer**, on Sunday, November 6, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. Reservations are suggested. Tickets are \$10.00.



Western Massachusetts Jewish Genealogy Society

Please join us to celebrate the donation of Jewish Genealogy Reference Books to the Forbes Library Sunday, November 6, 2005 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Forbes Library, 20 West Street, Northampton

Refreshments will be served

Please RSVP before November 1st, if you can join us.

You may email: wmjgs@aol.com or call 413-253-9704 or 413-587-0801



Hadassah

Rabbi Dennis Ross will speak on the topic: *The Hope for a Cure: Jewish Perspectives on Stem Cell Research* at the 60th Annual Donor Brunch Northampton-Amherst Chapter of Hadassah **Sunday, November 6, 2005, 10:30 a.m. Lord Jeffrey Inn, 30 Boltwood Drive, Amherst, MA**

Rabbi Ross is an Associate Rabbi at Temple Emmanuel, Worcester and Director of Concerned Clergy for Choice of the Education fund of Family Planning Advocates of New York State. Rabbi Ross also has a Master of Social Work degree from NYU.

To receive an invitation or make a reservation please call or email

Bobbye Hertzbach - 256-3388
bobbyeth@comcast.net or
 Barbara Goldstein - 549-0555
bhgoldstein@comcast.net



Renewing the Flame of Divine Love: A Hanukkah Workshop in Group Spiritual Direction, offered by Marcia Black and Daniel Berlin

Through meditation, prayer, chant, contemplative listening, and group spiritual direction, Drs. Marcia Black and Daniel Berlin will guide the group toward an experience of Hanukkah as a time of reconnecting with God's Eternal Light.

As one candle lights another, we unite our flames to join the Divine Flame of all Becoming

Where: 29 C Cottage Street
 When: Sunday, December 4, 2005 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM

For more info, call Marcia Black, 253-4102 or Daniel Berlin, 549-2773

Workshop is free



Israeli Author at Smith College

Meir Shalev, celebrated Israeli author, will speak at Smith College on Tuesday, November 8th at 7:30 in the evening in Neilson Browsing Room. Shalev will deliver a talk called *My Russian Grandmother and her American Vacuum Cleaner*, which deals with the ideology and cultural history of the Second Aliyah. Shalev is widely known to be an excellent speaker and story teller.

For directions and a map of Smith College visit:
http://www.smith.edu/about_visiting.php
 Please contact Nava Szwergold with any questions. nszwergero@smith.edu



Florence Melton Adult Mini-School

The Melton Adult Mini-School has just changed the day for the in-coming class this fall. Instead of Tuesday nights (as previously advertised), the class will be offered on Wednesday nights at 7:00 pm. The change in day was made to accommodate potential students who might have other obligations on Tuesday nights (such as Makhela membership).

The Melton Mini-School is offered at two locations: The Springfield Jewish Community Center, and the Solomon Schechter Day School of the Pioneer Valley in Northampton,

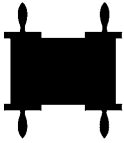
For more information, contact Rabbi Jonathan Perlman at the Springfield JCC, (413) 739-4715 or jperlman@springfieldjcc.org.



Housing Needed in London

Grad. student at London School of Economics is urgently in need of housing in the area of the school. She is the granddaughter of JCA members. Please call 253-9704 or email Friedahow@aol.com if you have a lead.

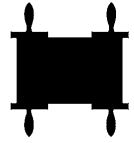




Jewish Community of Amherst

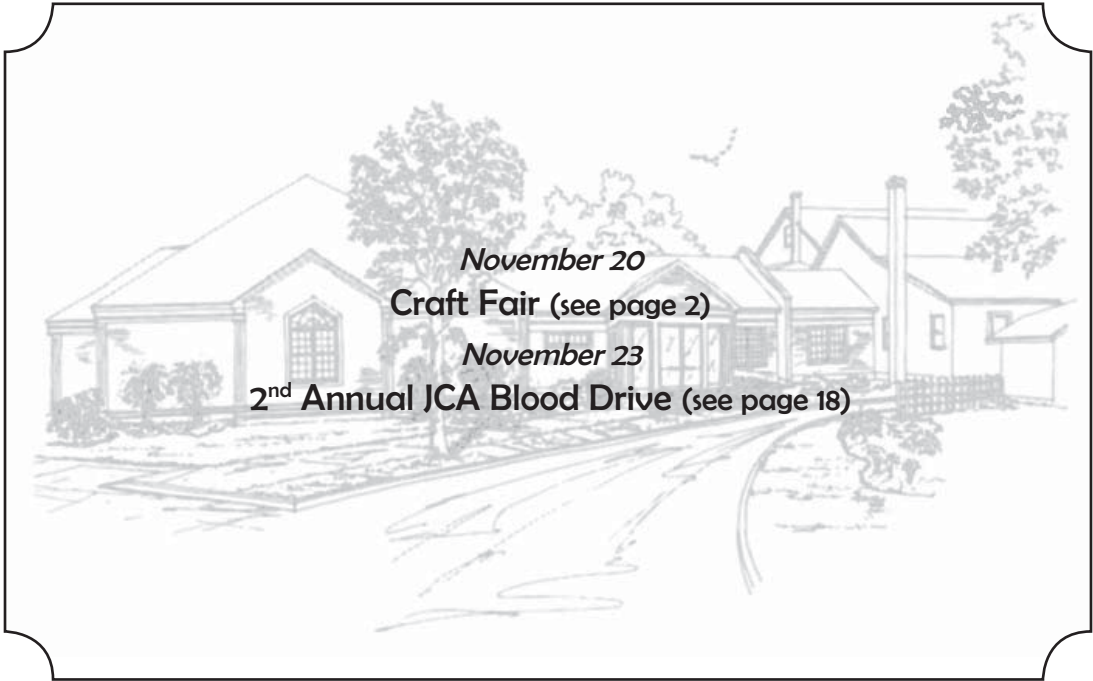
November

29 Tishre - 28 Cheshvan



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 29 TISHRE 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan 8:30 am Tikkun Olam *7:00 pm The Ancient Art of Tefillin	2 30 TISHRE ✠Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 7:30 pm Religion Committee *7:00 pm Liturgy and Poetry	3 1 CHESHVAN Noon Text Study 7:30 pm Board Meeting	4 2 CHESHVAN 🕯️4:21 5:30 pm Short family friendly service, followed by potluck supper 8:00 pm Regular Friday Night Service	5 3 CHESHVAN 🕯️Noach 10:00 am Service Torah Discussion following Kiddush
6 4 CHESHVAN	7 5 CHESHVAN	8 6 CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	9 7 CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 7:30 pm Membership Committee *8:00 pm The Hebrew Bible on the Operatic Stage	10 8 CHESHVAN * 7:00 pm Contact Improvisation	11 9 CHESHVAN 🕯️4:14 8:00 pm Service	12 10 CHESHVAN 🕯️Lech Lecha 10:00 am Service NO 7th GRADE
13 11 CHESHVAN Teacher Development Day NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	14 12 CHESHVAN	15 13 CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	16 14 CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 6:00 pm Confirmation Class 7:30 pm Education Committee	17 15 CHESHVAN Noon Text Study	18 16 CHESHVAN 🕯️4:07 6:15 pm Service	19 17 CHESHVAN 🕯️Vayera 10:00 am Service 10:30-noon Shabbat Shalom 4-6 year olds
20 18 CHESHVAN 12:30 - 5:00 pm Craft Fair	21 19 CHESHVAN	22 20 CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	23 21 CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation 8:00am-2:00 pm 2nd Annual JCA Blood Drive NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	24 22 CHESHVAN 🇺🇸Thanksgiving Day OFFICE CLOSED	25 23 CHESHVAN 🕯️4:03 8 pm Service OFFICE CLOSED	26 24 CHESHVAN 🕯️Chaye Sarah 10 am Service NO 7th GRADE
27 25 CHESHVAN NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL	28 26 CHESHVAN	29 27 CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Minyan	30 28 CHESHVAN 7:30 am Shacharit Meditation			

*Indicates first of a series of Adult Education Classes



November 20
Craft Fair (see page 2)

November 23
2nd Annual JCA Blood Drive (see page 18)

Jewish Community of Amherst
742 Main Street
Amherst, MA 01002

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