

THE KEHILLA

VOLUME 5

ISSUE 4

APRIL 2009

NISAN 5769

Yiddish Food Festival Meeting

Sunday, April 5 at 10:30 at Mt. Sinai Synagogue

Library Report

We are grateful that the Judaica Library continues to receive book donations both fiction and non fiction. Last year Anlee Breckman from San Francisco visited our synagogue and Phyllis Bloomberg gave her a tour of the building. This year she sent a box of ten books to Phyllis for the library. Others also continue to contribute newly published and not so new interesting books. I heartily recommend some of the following:

“You’re Lucky You’re Funny” by Phill Rosenthal, the creator and producer of Everybody Loves Raymond.

“Defiance” the story of the largest armed rescue of Jews by Jews During World War II.

A novel “Sarah’s Key” by Tatiana de Rosmay, New York Times bestselling author.

A mystery by Fae Kellerman, “The Burnt House”.

“Jacob’s Legacy” by David Goldstein, about our genetic history.

“Tree Cups of Tea”, New York Times best seller by Greg Mortenson.

“The Pledge” by Leonard Slater, fantastic, exciting, and true story of Israel and America.

Little known, “Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean” by Edward Kristler.

These are all part of the most recent twenty books going into our synagogue’s Judaica Library. The library is still open twice a week, Sunday mornings 10:00 A.M. to 12:30 and Wednesday afternoons 1:00 P.M. to 4:00. Or you can call Dorothy at 632-4253.

Purim Baskets

Thank you to everyone that participated in our first Purim Basket Project. A special thanks to everyone that helped plan, design, make, and deliver the baskets. Without your cooperation this project would never have worked. Good things happen when we work together.

Matzah Fund

Cheyenne Lodge # 883 B’nai B’rith is collecting their annual Matzah Fund. Jewish communities throughout the world traditionally collect funds to support the poor and needy. Leaders of the communities were put in charge of collecting funds to meet these needs. Our community, with G-d’s help and yours, will continue this Mitzvah. The money collected here is distributed to over 40 charities in the U.S. and Israel. Please help with this worthy endeavor and make your donation before Pesach. Make out your check to the Matzah Fund and send it to Jeff or Lester Weinstein.

Thank you for your continuing support.

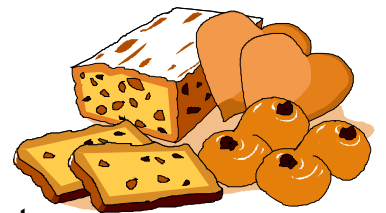
Sincerely,

Lester Weinstein

Sell Your Chametz

In preparation for Passover, it is customary to eat up our *chametz* so we have as little of it in our possession as possible before the holiday begins. It is particularly kind to give what’s left to a food bank. However, sometimes we still have *chametz* that we want to keep for after Passover. Since we are not allowed to have it in our possession, one solution is to “sell” it to a non-Jew. You can accomplish this yourself by simply making arrangements with a neighbor or co-worker who “buys” your food for a token amount. In actuality, you keep it locked away during the festival. Afterwards, you buy it back (don’t forget this step!) If you don’t feel comfortable asking someone, I am willing to be your sales agent. Simply pick up the phone and call me at 307-630-1926 before Tuesday, April 7th. I will sell your *chametz* for you and buy it back when the holiday is over.

Rabbi Arinna Moon



Synagogue Wish List

Teacher’s copy of Hebrew teaching texts for adults \$40

Case of wine for Kiddush \$50

Friday night dinner \$50

Kehilla printing and postage \$100

Color laser printer \$400



ARINNA'S ARENA

Dear Congregants,
Spring has officially begun and with it comes our Passover season. It is a time to give thanks for new growth (have you noticed the irises near the front door of the synagogue?) and for the occasion of cleaning out our physical and spiritual *chametz*.

The month of Nisan is the first month of the Hebrew year and a time of starting over with a clean slate. This year we have the opportunity to say a special blessing that only happens two or maybe three times during the span of our lives: *Birkat Hachamah*, The Blessing on the Sun.

What is this special blessing and why does it happen so rarely? Once every twenty-eight years, the sun returns to the position it occupied when it was created at the beginning of the fourth day of creation: "And God made the two great lights: the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night and the stars. And God placed them in the sky of the heavens to give light on the earth, and to rule over the day and over the night, and to divide the light from darkness; and God saw that it was good. And it was evening and it was morning, a fourth day" (Gen. 1:14-19). Our Sages used this opportunity to institute a special prayer acknowledging God's might and the creation of the world. The source for saying this blessing comes from the Talmud (*Berachot* 59b): "The Rabbis taught: Anyone seeing the sun at its turning point... should say 'Blessed is He who made the Creation'. And when is this? Abaya said: every 28th year." According to Hebrew tradition, the sun was placed at the spring equinox at the beginning of the fourth day of creation i.e., Tuesday at 6:00pm. The change of season from winter into spring is the 'turning point'. Whenever the sun again reaches this starting point at 6:00pm on a Tuesday, then *Birkat Hachama* is said.

This year, the blessing is said on Wednesday morning, April 8th. It is customary to make an announcement in the synagogue the night before. In the morning, from the moment the upper arc of the sun first appears until the full disc of the sun is visible takes about 2 ½ minutes. The blessing should be said during this time. Anyone can say it and it is preferable to have a minyan. The actual prayer is: "Blessed are you Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who has made the work of creation." This blessing is surrounded by other readings from Torah and Talmud and particularly from Psalms. If you would like the full text of the prayers, go to www.kehillaton.com. I'll also make copies available at the synagogue.

The Blessing on the Sun will not be said again until the year 2037. I encourage you to take this opportunity to be grateful for God's creation of our beautiful world. May this new beginning be one of joy for you and your family.

Rabbi Arinna Moon

Sermons and Teachings

The Rabbi's sermons and selected teachings are available on the website on the Rabbi's page. Go to www.mtsinaicheyenne.org.

How to Reach the Rabbi. The Rabbi will be in town April 8 – 12 and April 23 – 26. She can be reached any time on her cell phone: (307) 630-1926 or by email: rvleahshira@gmail.com.

Mt. Sinai Synagogue
Located at 2610 Pioneer Avenue
307-634-3052
On the web at: www.mtsinaicheyenne.org
e-mail: info@mtsinaicheyenne.org
Website Provided by:
David Lerner and Wyoming Network

Join us for:

Community Passover Seder
Thursday, April 9 at 5:30 p.m.

Mah Jongg Sunday, April 19 from 3:00 to 4:30

Bea's Folk Dancing class Sun. at 1:30

Friday Shabbat Service 7:00 p.m.

Saturday Shabbat Service 9:00 a.m.

Saturday study group when Rabbi is in town 3:30 p.m.

The Sisterhood Meeting

The second Sunday of the month.

The Synagogue Board Meeting

The third Wednesday of the month.

Adult Hebrew Class

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.

Recent Donors

Marv & Millie Goldhammer
Morris & Harriett Gardner
Joe Golden in memory of his mother, Barbara Golden
Joe Golden Pledge
Mark Feldman pledge
Michael Smith in memory of Harry Smith
Morris & Harriett Gardner pledge
Dennis Smith dues
Robert Donin
Mildred Eichenwald in memory of Slava Kantor
Babs Klein dues
Babs Klein in memory of her father, Dr. William S. Klein
Babs Klein in memory of Richard Everette Mudrow
Les Ball annual pledge
Sue & Dan Dyer dues
Stuart & Elizabeth Wolf annual pledge
Carol Serlson dues
Susan & Emil Abraham pledge
Tim Solon pledge
Dorothy Feldman pledge
Rosalyn Baker pledge
Rosalyn Baker in memory of her son, Richard Georgio
Roz Kaufman in memory of Dora Wolf
Norman Stark pledge
Rayette Reece annual pledge
Gary Freidman in memory of Faye Marchick Friedman
Anna Slutzky dues
Anna Slutzky in memory of her husband, Louis Slutzky
David Friedberg donation to Sisterhood
Rose Levin annual dues
Aaron Bregman in memory of Morris Bregman
Dr. Jean & Sally Halpern pledge
Done & Helen Gerstein pledge
Bob Donin in loving memory of his mother, Yetta Ruth Donin
Helen Zigmond dues
Sherri & Warrie Means pledge



To Bob Donin, Lea Gancz, and Jason Bloomberg I apologize for missing your birthdays as well as any others that I have missed. I do not have everyone's birthday so if I miss you it is probably because I don't have yours in my list.

April birthdays include:

Nathan Weinstein
Erin Dunn

If you know of a birthday coming up please let us know. We don't want to miss anyone.



Day of Giving

The fourth annual Cheyenne Day of Giving will be held this year on May 8th. This non-profit organization is sponsored by local congregations and supported by business and community groups. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for Cheyenne residents to come together in an effort to help the sick and the economically disadvantaged.

Our congregation will be participating in this community social action project. Here's what you can do. 1) During the month of April, bring items of non-perishable food such as pasta, cereal, peanut butter and canned goods to the synagogue. 2) During the month of April, bring personal care items such as regular and trial-size shampoo, conditioner, and lotion; razors, toothbrushes and toothpaste, bar soap, deodorant, and diapers to the synagogue. 3) We need a couple of

volunteers to drop off these items to the Kiwanis Community House in Lions Park on Friday, May 8th. All of the food and personal items go to benefit these local charities: Needs, Salvation Army, Comea House, Safehouse Sexual Assault Services, Wyoming Coalition for the Homeless, Bethel Outreach Ministries, and Cheyenne Interfaith Hospitality Network. 4) On the Day of Giving go to the Kiwanis Community House between 8:00 and 5:00 and donate blood and/or register as a potential bone marrow donor or organ/tissue donor.

Helping the poor and disadvantaged is an important mitzvah in Jewish tradition. You can help fulfill this commandment through your participation. Please be generous. Other Cheyenne citizens need your help. Thank you.



Thank you to all that participated in the Shabbat Across America! Even though we live in such a sparsely Jewish area we can still participate in the greater Jewish community.

Mah Jongg players wanted!

Have you been looking for friends to play with? Have you always wanted to learn? Are you just curious? The Mt. Sinai Sisterhood Mah Jongg group will be starting up again. Come join us on Sundays from 3 to 4:30 PM. For more information please contact Phyllis at Sisterhood@mtsinaicheyenne.org.

WALK IN MY SHOES
A fund-raiser for the
WYOMING COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS
PRESENTED BY
Beacon Hill Baptist Church
Saturday, June 13, 2009
Walk begins at the WCH building
907 Logan Avenue
Check in time 8:00 a.m. Walk begins at 9:00 a.m.
PRIOR TO WALK DAY REGISTRATION - \$12.00
REGISTRATION ON DAY OF WALK - \$15.00
FOR QUESTIONS: BETTYANN, 632-6248 OR
VIRGINIA, 634-8499
GHOST WALKERS WELCOME

Ghost Walkers are those who have a conflict on that day, and can't walk, but want to help. Ghost Walkers are eligible for the door prize drawing.

April Yahrzeits

Yetta Ruth Donin – Wednesday, April 1 – 7 Nisan
Sarah Shapiro – Wednesday, April 1 – 7 Nisan
Michael Wolf – Thursday, April 2 – 8 Nisan
Harold Rubens – Friday, April 3 – 9 Nisan
Sam B. Levine – Saturday, April 4 – 10 Nisan
Herschel Saphir – Tuesday, April 7 – 13 Nisan
Edith W. Fox – Tuesday, April 7 – 13 Nisan
Annie Stark – Tuesday, April 7 – 13 Nisan
Chester Waldman – Wednesday, April 8 – 14 Nisan
Julia Weisman – Thursday, April 9 – 15 Nisan
Dan Bergman – Thursday, April 9 – 15 Nisan
Alex Semryck – Friday, April 10 – 16 Nisan
Molly R. Ban Bommel – Saturday, April 11 – 17 Nisan
Robert A. Persky – Saturday, April 11 – 17 Nisan
Sam Stark – Saturday, April 11 – 17 Nisan
Isadore Pasternack – Saturday, April 11 – 17 Nisan
Morris Gardenswartz – Saturday, April 11 – 17 Nisan
Charles Rosenberg – Monday, April 13 – 19 Nisan
Lena Gallensky – Monday, April 13 – 19 Nisan
Elsie Spaulding – Monday, April 13, – 19 Nisan
Fannie Vinokur Smith – Tuesday, April 14 – 20 Nisan
Ben Wolf – Tuesday, April 14 – 20 Nisan
Esther Rose Veta – Tuesday, April 14 – 20 Nisan
Pearl S. Vissenberg – Tuesday, April 14 – 20 Nisan
Lottie Levine – Wednesday, April 15 – 21 Nisan

Rose & Resa Gancz – Thursday, April 16 – 22 Nisan
Leah Gancz – Thursday, April 16 – 22 Nisan
Mary Jacobs – Thursday, April 16 – 22 Nisan
David Herman – Thursday, April 16 – 22 Nisan
Sam Veta – Friday, April 17 – 23 Nisan
Abe Nathenson – Friday, April 17 – 23 Nisan
Paul Smith – Sunday, April 19 – 25 Nisan
Selma Klein – Monday, April 20 – 26 Nisan
Louis Jultak – Monday, April 20 – 26 Nisan 5769
Mildred Veta Weiss – Monday, April 20 – 26 Nisan
Fred Brown – Monday, April 20 – 26 Nisan
Martin H. Graber – Monday, April 20 – 26 Nisan
Yehoshua Shapiro – Wednesday, April 22 – 28 Nisan
Haskell Cohen – Wednesday, April 22 – 28 Nisan
Goldie Nathenson – Thursday, April 23 – 29 Nisan
Ruth Mae Moskowitz Rose – Saturday, April 25 – 1 Iyar
Sarah Benson Rotstein – Sunday, April 26 – 2 Iyar
Harry Gross – Monday, April 27 – 3 Iyar
Lester Gardenswartz – Monday, April 27 – 3 Iyar
George S. Kaufman – Monday, April 27 – 3 Iyar
Jay Udevitz – Monday, April 27 – 3 Iyar
Abraham Harvey Fox – Wednesday, April 29 – 5 Iyar
Paula Kaufman – Wednesday, April 29 – 5 Iyar
Dr. Esmond F. Graber – Wednesday, April 29 – 5 Iyar

Yiddish Food Festival

Remember to put the date on your calendar, May 17th, 2009.

Rosalyn Baker 630-5466



Wish List Is this your mitzvah? Please consider a donation for one or more of the following items.

Teacher's texts for Adult Hebrew \$40 • Friday night congregational dinner \$75 • Case of wine for Kiddush \$50

Toner cartridge for the printer \$90 • Toner cartridge for the copier \$150 • Color laser printer \$400

I would like to make the following donation to Mt. Sinai Congregation:

My name _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

anniversary • birth • graduation • appreciation • birthday • marriage • bar or bat mitzvah

The contribution amount _____

Make checks payable to Mt. Sinai Congregation and mail to P.O. Box 1012, Cheyenne, WY 82003

The following is a list of funds to which contributions can be made. Please circle your choice.

B'nai B'rith • Gift Shop • Library • Yiddish Food Festival • Rabbi Fund • Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Endowment Fund • Trust Fund • Building Fund • Cemetery Fund • Uri Neil Window Fund

Other _____

Please send acknowledgment to _____

To donate to Sisterhood, Hadassah, or Jewish Women International contact Lila Gallensky.

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Mt. Sinai
Congregation
P.O. Box 1012
Cheyenne, WY 82003