



Chai Times

Temple Beth Emet of Burbank

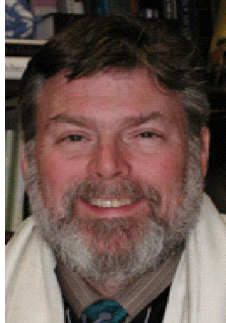
Mark H. Sobel, Rabbi | Mark Greenfield, President

600 N. Buena Vista St. Burbank, CA 91505
(818) 843-4787 Fax (818) 557-7240
www.TempleBethEmet.com Office@TempleBethEmet.com

APRIL, 2009

Rabbi Says:

"It is incumbent upon every generation to celebrate Passover as if they had personally left Mitzraim"



The Passover Haggadah

This month we will commemorate two events of timeless magnitude for our people. One could be considered the greatest triumph of our people as we become physically free and begin the path to spiritual freedom and the other represents the greatest of depths for our people where we were enslaved, tortured, executed and the spirits of countless millions damaged beyond repair. I am, of course, talking about Passover, which will be celebrated on April 8th and 9th by families all over the Jewish world (our community Seder will be on Saturday April 11th). We will sit together and recount the outgoing from Egypt, the Bar Kochba Rebellion, the Spanish Inquisition, and the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising as we utilize the Haggadah as our guidebook. There will be great joy as we remember who we are and what our freedom struggle has meant to the world. We, who have given the world the 10 Commandments containing the Sabbath Day and the concept of equality under the law, will be proud of our accomplishments and our identity.

On April 21st, we will have a second commemoration, this time we too will sit together and recount an Exodus, this one, though, is an exodus from humanity to inhumanity from acceptance to intolerance from therapy to torture from sanity to insanity and from life to death. We will view the gifts we have given the world here, too. Terms like "special handling," "resettlement," "ethnic cleansing" and, of course, "The Final Solution." The world is once again changed by our experience.

(Continued on page 3)

Friday, April 3rd – 7:30 PM
Shabbat Services
Jr. Choir Performing

Saturday, April 11, 6 PM
Temple Community
Seder

Be our guest! There will be no charge, but reservations are required! 843-4787

Tuesday, April 21, 7:45 PM
Burbank Days of
Remembrance

First Presbyterian Church
521 E. Olive Ave.
Temple member
Major General John Harrel
will be the featured speaker

Temple Beth Emet is going to Israel
December 27, 2009 to
January 10, 2010

If you are interested in going, call the Temple office and leave your name with Lucy or Sylvia.

President's message



Dear friends and fellow temple members,

In a few short weeks we celebrate Pesach and I couldn't help but think about this as I sat at our temple board meeting last week. Can you imagine if, instead of dealing with today's problems, we were back in Egypt, facing the problems that Moses confronted!

Moses: "Listen, ya'll. We have to get out of here! Now!"
 First elder: "What do you mean 'now'? I'm really busy. Maybe next month."
 Second elder: "Moses, what's the rush? I mean, this is a tough time and my wife would kill me if we leave before her bread rises. Someone else can go. We'll catch up later."
 Moses: "You don't understand. This is urgent. This exodus won't work unless we all participate and work together."
 Third elder: "Who are you to tell us that we should leave permanently. We could just take a little trip and come back later. Maybe we could take a bunch of little trips?"
 Moses: "G_d says that little trips won't work. It's gotta be a major effort by everyone!"

Following that very meeting, I received a thought-provoking email from a board member regarding issues discussed. In it she asked, "What good is voting and making decisions if there is never any follow through? There was a great forward movement "talk" at the meeting, it was refreshing! Let's capitalize on it and hold people accountable." I happen to agree with her sentiment!

(Continued on page 5)

TEMPLE BETH EMET CONTACTS

President.....	Mark Greenfield.....	818-749-2839
Gift Shop	Fran Bernstein	818-920-0426
Havurah.....	Ruth Glick	818-780-9134
Host an Oneg	call Temple	818-843-4787
Men's Club.....	Jerry Engelberg.....	818-843-4787
PTA.....	Beth Rosen.....	818-843-4787
Reach Out.....	call Temple	818-843-4787
Singles Group.....	call Temple	818-843-4787
Sisterhood Membership	Ruth Glick	818-780-9134
Temple Enrichment.....	call Temple	818-843-4787
Temple Membership	Ruth Glick	818-780-9134
Temple Usage	call Temple	818-843-4787
Tributes	John Eisinger.....	818-842-5439
Ways and Means.....	Lisa De Luca.....	818-843-4787
Youth Group	call Temple	818-843-4787
Publicity.....	Yvonne Beltzer.....	818-848-6204

Rabbi William M. Kramer Z"L* Rabbibill.com
 *May his memory be a blessing."

CHAI TIMES TempleBethEmet.com

Chai Times is a free, monthly newsletter delivered by mail or available on the Temple Beth Emet website.

Article submissions are welcomed and may be emailed directly to the **Chai Times** at

Office@TempleBethEmet.com

or by delivery to the Temple office. Articles will be published based on space available, relevant content, and at the discretion of the Editing Staff, Temple Officers and Directors.

Tribute Cards

Tribute cards are always in order for happy or sad occasions. These cards are a wonderful way to remember or honor someone. The cost of our Tribute cards is now \$3.00 each.

If you would like to send a card, just contact our Tribute Chairperson, John Eisinger at 818-842-5439, and he will do the rest.

If you have any suggestions or ideas on how we can better serve our members, Temple President, Mark Greenfield would like to hear from you. He can be reached at (818)749-2839 or you can call Temple office at (818) 843-4787.

Temple Beth Emet Officers and Board Members for 2008-2009

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Ira Goldstein

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Yvonne Beltzer Vicki Margolin
Neil Margolin

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Jodi Gross Andrea McKinnon
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Barry Verdi Craig Weisman

Rabbi Says: (Continued from page 1)

The questions are, how has the world been changed by our experiences and has the world been able to use these two aspects of our history to make for a better world? Truly, I am not sure it has. Ethnic cleansing still occurs throughout the world. People are being tortured for no other reason than that they are from a different ethnic group or religion or even geographic region of the same country. Freedom for many people is still elusive.

Personally, of late, I have been a victim of a form of Anti-Semitism I did not expect. On more than one occasion in my classroom, Armenian students have told me that "Jews were responsible for the Armenian Genocide." As a good teacher, I investigated and sure enough this untrue, evil, and potentially deadly rumor is being circulated in that community. And as we learned from Josef Goebbels, Nazi Minister of Propaganda, "If you repeat a lie often enough, people will believe it." So now we are ourselves accused of committing genocide. It reminds me of the blood libels of years past where we were accused of using Christian children's blood to make Matzo. To us, who have an aversion to blood in our food, the absurdity was only surpassed by the level of belief that people were willing to give the LIE. Here, too, we were victims of the genocide as the Turkish leadership sought to harm the early Zionist settlers in Israel. Yet the lie persists. How do we overcome the lies that continue to be fomented about our people?

We have to do more than we have done in the past. We need to invite people from other communities, especially the new immigrant ones, to learn, worship, sit, talk and discuss with us about their triumphs and their tragedies, their joys and their sorrows. We must welcome people's questions about who we are, where we have come from and how we have acted during our own times of trauma. We must look to include, not exclude; we will seek to join, not separate; we shall love, hate and, most of all, we passionately celebrate together the completeness of Shalom. Hag Pesach Sameach.

B'ahava,
Rabbi Mark

We acknowledge with thanks,
donations from
Michael & Linda Carmody and
Mr. & Mrs. H. Carmody.

April Yahrzeit Donations

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In loving memory of **Jose Villarreal**

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Barbara Moore

In loving memory of **Jim Moore**

Gilda & Michael Siegel

In loving memory of **Marcia Siegel Tanzman**

Temple Member Chai Lights

Temple Beth Emet rolls out the welcome mat for two new members:

Sue Schohan
and
Linda Margulis

We are delighted that you have joined our Temple Beth Emet family!

Thanks to all, wish we could have been there. This past weekend Mimi led the Burbank Girls Under 10 soccer team to five straight wins to claim the California Section Championship ...scoring all 3 goals in a 3-2 double-overtime victory over Canyon Country in the gold medal finals game. Burbank GU-10 All-stars are one of only four teams left state-wide that will vie for out-right California champion in Davis, California near San Francisco. It's been 10+ years since any AYSO team has advanced this deep into the state finals.

And, we were thinking of our friends at the Purim carnival in-between games; while three of our four children enjoyed the wonderful carnival.

Thanks again to all that put in their energies and love,

Mark, Mimi and Tiger family

Special thanks to the parents of Grades 2 and 3 for co-hosting the Oneg Shabbat on March 13th, especially **Laurie Kiersten, Margaret Goldfarb, Sandra Lewin and Mary Langer.**

Mrs. B's class did a fabulous play during the service. The children were wonderful and we were delighted!!

Mitzvah of *bikkur holim*

We would like to know if you are ill, in the hospital (or being treated at home), not as an exercise in gossip, but as an opportunity for *bikkur holim*, to extend a helping hand or a word of encouragement to the sick person. Yet it is quite possible you are not yet ready to share the private fact of being sick with us. We are ready, whenever, you are ready.

***Debbie Lubell had surgery**

***Maurine Gold had cataract surgery**

***Lisa De Luca fell and broke her leg**

We wish them a speedy return to good health!

**Remember the sick with cards,
calls and visits.**

Temple Beth Emet Community Needs

- ◆ Are you in need of employment?
- ◆ Are you in need of someone to employ?
- ◆ Do you need help with chores?
- ◆ Do you have housing needs, vehicle needs or miscellaneous needs?

This column was created to assist members in finding help with their needs. If you would like to place an announcement in this column, call the office and describe the need in 25 words or less, leave a suitable telephone number and your first name. We will post it in the next month's Chai Times for two issues.

**Please let us know if you are in need of a job or if you are in need of someone to employ.
Call the Temple office.**

**Employment wanted
Eager college student looking for part-time/full-time employment.**

Contact the Temple office if you have employment needs.

Sisterhood

Sisterhood has a wonderful gift shop that has been stocked beautifully by Fran Bernstein for the Passover holiday. If you see something you like ask Lucy or Lisa De Luca and we will be very happy to serve you.

Sisterhood is struggling a bit to find happy helping hands for serving Friday night Onegs, B'nai Mitzvahs and special occasions like our Passover dinner. If you would like to volunteer to help (even if you are not in Sisterhood) let the office know we would love the gift of your time.

Our next Sisterhood meeting is set for **Sunday, April 5th at 10AM** in Blum Hall. All are welcome. We are especially looking forward to having the sisters with experience attend.

Sisterhood will start to create a nominating committee so we may fill the officers positions available. There will be a list of positions and the responsibilities on the temple website.

Wishing you a wonderful Pesach,
Lisa De Luca

President's Message (Continued from page 2)

At that meeting, like many others, a number of good ideas were presented. Although a few members are already doing a tremendous amount of work, when other people were asked to take on leadership roles or at least participate in making the ideas into reality, no one readily volunteered. Instead, they sat on their hands, silent. So how do we "hold people accountable" when so many members are so involved in their own priorities that they are willing to bring forward ideas but are not willing to implement them? This is the question that has bothered me for many years. I believe that the answer is in examining how we set our priorities. When I saw problems, I raised the issues and then set about solving them through creating and running activities for the temple. Ask yourself: is the temple important to you? Obviously, nagging and cajoling don't increase participation. Blaming other people for something not done doesn't work either. Examine your priorities. If this temple is important to you, put your thoughts into action. Participate!

Sincerely,
Mark Greenfield
President Temple Beth Emet

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE – 2009

Tuesday, April 21, 2009


"We Did Fight Back: The Jewish and Russian Partisan Armies"



The Burbank Days of Remembrance Commemoration, Yom Hashoah, will take place this year on Tuesday, April 21 at 7:45 PM at First Presbyterian Church, 521 E. Olive. The event is sponsored by the Burbank Human Relations Council together with fourteen Burbank churches and the two Jewish Temples.

The speaker this year will be Temple member Major General John Harrel. His topic will be "We Did Fight Back: The Jewish and Russian Partisan Armies", based on a forthcoming book he is writing. Rabbi Mark Sobel will be the Responder.

There will be a Memorial Candle Lighting by survivors of the Holocaust, a Kaddish and readings by representatives of the sponsoring religious organizations. Music will be provided by First Presbyterian Church choir, Cantorial Soloist Sharon Mack and Robyn Kreisberg.

A reception will take place following the program. There is no admission charge and the public is invited. All Temple members are encouraged to attend this inspiring program. For more information, call Sylvia Sutton at 818-842-3935.

2009		April		5769
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	
			1	
5 10:00 AM <i>Sisterhood meeting</i>	6	7	8 6:15 PM Cribbage Club <i>Erev Passover 1st Seder</i> <i>Anniversary - Warsaw Ghetto Uprising</i>	
12	13	14	15 6:15 PM Cribbage Club	
19	20	21 7:45 PM Yom Hashoah First Presbyterian Church 521 E. Olive Avenue Burbank Days of Remembrance	22 6:15 PM Cribbage Club	
26 9:30 AM <i>Men's Club Meeting and breakfast</i>	27	28	29 6:15 PM Cribbage Club <i>Israel Independence Day</i> 	
3	4	5	6 6:15 PM Cribbage Club	

2009			April			5769		
Thurs			Friday			Saturday		
2			3 7:30 PM Shabbat Services <i>Jr. Choir Performing</i>			4 9:00 AM Religious School 11am Children's Seder		
9 <i>1st day of Passover 2nd Seder</i>			10 7:30 PM Shabbat Services			11 <i>No Religious School</i> 6:00 PM—Community Seder		
16			17 7:30 PM Shabbat Services Oneg Shabbat hosted by the Smith Family			18 9:00 AM Religious School <i>Spencer Smith Bar Mitzvah</i> 		
23			24 7:30PM Shabbat Services			25 9:00 AM Religious School Movie after religious school 		
30			1 7:30PM Shabbat Service			2 9:00 AM Religious School		
7			8 7:30 PM Shabbat Services			9 9:00 AM Religious School		

April Yahrzeits

NAME	REMEMBERED BY	DATE	NAME	REMEMBERED BY	DATE
<u>April 3 at Temple</u>			<u>April 24 at Temple</u>		
Margot Palmer	Marlene Dreyfuss	Apr. 1	Anna Osbaum	Marjorie Jacobs	Apr. 19
Charles Jones	Lois Jones	Apr. 2	Doris Linger	Alexander Linger	Apr. 19
Matilda Bayer	Fred Bayer	Apr. 2	Joseph Friedman	Congregation	Apr. 20
David Levinson	Congregation	Apr. 3	Louis M. Phillips	Harvey Phillips	Apr. 21
			Herbert G. Sommerfeld	Monica Pink	Apr. 21
			Anthony Mendez	Elizabeth Postal	Apr. 21
			Suzanne Galland	Pamela Franklin	Apr. 21
			Ruth Noakes	Toby Berman	Apr. 22
			Ben Zimberoff	Carla Berman	Apr. 22
			Lena Green	Harland Green	Apr. 22
			Mario Guzman	Lila Tepper	Apr. 23
			Ronnie Avarbuch	Mitzi Rattner	Apr. 23
			Adelaide Jacobs	Rosslyn Block	Apr. 23
			Miriam Dubinsky	Bennett Kayser	Apr. 23
			Sara Levin	Eugene Levin	Apr. 23
			Mary Cohen	Lisa Levitt	Apr. 24
			Leah Fine	Mimi Dudley	Apr. 25
			Miriam Grunner	Shirley Abramson	Apr. 25
			<u>May 1 at Temple</u>		
			Bernard Marcus	Valerie Bernath	Apr. 26
			Harvey Scher	Merle Scher	Apr. 26
			Louis Mehlman	Phyllis Mehlman	Apr. 27
			Milton Kleinberg	Frances Kleinberg	Apr. 28
			Milton Dacher	Bernice Dacher	Apr. 28
			Alex Kanigher	Talbert Kanigher	Apr. 28
			Helen Stein	Russell Beck	Apr. 29
			James Craig Sloves	Myra Sloves	Apr. 29
			Robin Garrett	Norma Resnick	Apr. 29
			Ida Nemzer	M/M Marvin Nemzer	Apr. 30
<u>April 10 at Temple</u>					
Philip Levinson	Congregation	Apr. 5			
Edith Lapidus	Barry Verdi	Apr. 5			
Samuel Mintz	Bernard Berman	Apr. 5			
Ann Goldstein	Ira Goldstein	Apr. 8			
Florence Doreen Perl	Melinda Swiecicki	Apr. 9			
William Saunders	Jan Burns	Apr. 9			
Phillip Rocklin	Sandra Phillips	Apr. 10			
Mary Kahn	Howard Kahn	Apr. 11			
Pauline Zober	Maurine Zober Gold	Apr. 11			
Roberto Rachilewski	Silvia Berger	Apr. 11			
<u>April 17 at Temple</u>					
Fannie Zimmer	Congregation	Apr. 12			
Meyer Frank	David Frank	Apr. 13			
Rose Mardarossian	Monica Pink	Apr. 15			
Hedwig Prinz	Ruth Prinz	Apr. 16			
Selig Alter Levy	Eve Levy	Apr. 16			
Sonja Murez	Herbert Murez	Apr. 17			
Harry Stein	Bernice Dacher	Apr. 18			

CIVIL WAR (1861 - 1865)

Following is a letter written by a Jewish Confederate soldier, Isaac J. Levy of the 46th Virginia infantry, from camp in Adams Run South Carolina, describing to his sister how he and his brother Ezekiel ("Zeke") observed Passover while in the army.

Adams Run April 24, 1864

Dear Leonora,

No doubt you were much surprised on receiving a letter from me addressed to our dear parents dated on the 21st which was the first day of Passover. We were all under the impression in camp that the first day of the festival was 22nd and if my memory serves me right I think that Ma wrote me that Passover was on the 22nd. Zeke was somewhat astonished on arriving in Charleston on Wednesday afternoon to learn that that was the first Seder night. He purchased Matzot sufficient to last us for the week. The cost is somewhat less than in Richmond, being but \$2 a pound. We are observing the festival in a truly orthodox style. On the first day we had a fine vegetable soup. It was made of a bunch of vegetables which Zeke brought from Charleston containing new onions, parsley, carrots, turnips, and a young cauliflower; also a pound and a half of fresh beef, the latter article sells for four dollars per pound in Charleston. Zeke E. did not bring us any meat from home. He brought us some of his own, smoked meat which he is sharing with us; he says that he supposes that Pa forgot to deliver it to him. No news in this section at present. Troops from Florida are passing over the road enroute for Richmond. 'Tis probable that we will remain in this department and were it not for the unhealthy season which is approaching, [we] would be well satisfied to remain here. We received this morning Sarah's letter of the 18th and are truly sorry to hear that her sight is affected and trust that in a few days she will have recovered entirely her perfect sight.

Love to all,
Your affectionate brother
Isaac J. Levy

Did you know that there are more than 30 different positions (Board, Committees, Coordinators) that make our Temple operate? If we equitably distrib-

**Together
we can make a
difference!**

uted those responsibilities among our entire membership, that would mean that once every 5 years YOU would need to assume one of these governing responsibilities! Please call the office, to learn more about any of these task or to let us know what you are interested in doing. Together we CAN make a difference!

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VP
Recording Secretary
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Board Member

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Youth

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Executive
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Education/Religious
School
Membership
Ritual Committee
Ways & Means/ Fund-
Raising
Usage and Calendar
Building / Maintenance
Nominating

Thanks to everyone for making the Purim carnival so successful -- especially:

- **Confirmation Class (Aleesa, Ezra, Katy, Zoey, Carly)**
- **Teaching Assistants (Sara, Cody, Barry)**
- **Teachers (Shirley, Bernice, Laurie, Roni, Martin, Mahnaz, Sheila)**
- **Jerry Engelberg** **Lucy Rafaeli**
- **Stacie Barlow** **Margaret Goldfarb**
- **Henry & Jodi Gross** **Naomi Aronoff**
- **Scott & Elaine Fishman** **Mark Greenfield**
- **Joseph & Ana Fischer** **Jeannie Mintz**
- **Michael & Ava Silverstein**

(If I overlooked someone, please accept my heartfelt and humble apology!)

We had more than 15 activities ongoing with plenty of opportunities to get win tickets. With everyone's help, the kids had a fabulous time and took home some pretty cool stuff.

IRA L. GOLDSTEIN

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Ralph's grocery store has changed their community contribution/Ralph's Reward program. Even if you have signed up for rewards in the past, you must to do it again. You may do so in store or go to this link: <https://customer.ralphs.com/ManageCommunityRewardsStep1.aspx> and you will be directed through the sign in process, it is very easy! We are listed as Burbank Temple Beth Emet. Every time you shop and use your rewards card, the temple will get a percentage of the total. No easier fundraising than this!!

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Anniversary**

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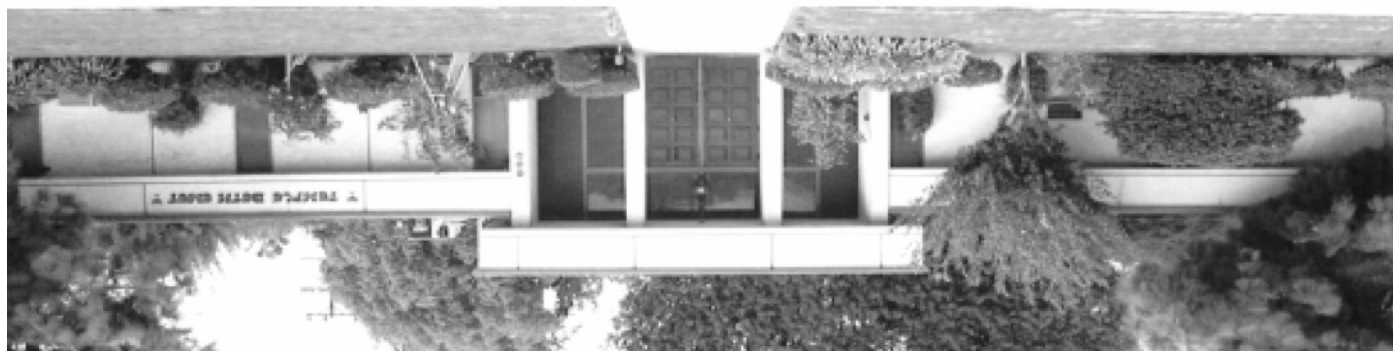
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