



MA CHADASH!

What's New! The newsletter of Temple Shalom Synagogue Center, Auburn, Maine

מה חדש!

ק"ק היכל שלום

August 2021, Av/Elul 5781

Bonnie and Larry Faiman Cordially Invite the Temple Shalom Community to our
Seventh-Annual Kiddush Levana Event!



Saturday, August 7th at 7:00 pm On the Patio at Temple Shalom.

Dessert and scintillating conversation will be served.

Please RSVP, 786-4201 or temple6359@aol.com



Shabbat at the Lake

Saturday, August 14th

Service at 10:00 a.m. followed by a potluck lunch.

Address: 48 Waterview Drive, Auburn
(Phone if lost: 576-7927)

Directions - From Hotel Road take East Shore Road. Take the first right which is Waterview Drive. White house with green trim.

FROM THE RABBI



Many years ago, several years after Lisa and I started performing together, we developed a new school assembly program for Arts Horizons, the organization that arranged school performances for us and many other artists. Arts Horizons set up a showcase performance for the new program and its head of programming came to see it. Unfortunately, Lisa and I had not yet worked through some significant differences of opinion about how the program should be presented and, sadly, we were not able to rally together and perform the program

without obvious rancor. Needless to say, the head of programming did not accept our new program into Arts Horizons roster. It took several more years—and a new head of programming—before we could relaunch the program. By that time, we had learned our lesson and made sure to resolve our differences before going on stage. Our new show ended up becoming one of Arts Horizons most promoted programs.

The Jewish world recently observed *Tisha B'av*—the day on the Jewish calendar that commemorates the destruction of both the first and second Temples in Jerusalem. The destruction of the Second Temple by the Roman Empire in 70 C.E. was particularly brutal. What made the Jewish people so vulnerable to the Roman legions, the Rabbis of the Talmud rhetorically ask. *Sinat Chinam*—senseless hatred—was the obvious answer. The Jews at that time were horribly divided and Jerusalem was under the thumb of a large group of fundamentalist thugs that historians call “the zealots.”

Our knowledge of what occurred during that awful period largely comes from the writings of Josephus, a Jewish historian who personally witnessed these events. Josephus describes the two factions jockeying for control of Jerusalem. The more moderate faction was led by the Temple’s high priest Ananus whom Josephus describes as “equal-minded, freedom-loving and a pursuer of democracy.” The zealots on the other hand are pictured as mostly young religious extremists who violently seized control over the sacred spaces of Jerusalem and who engaged in acts of terrorism in order to silence the moderate, democratic leadership. Josephus is convinced that it was the radical and reckless politics of the zealots that doomed Jerusalem.

Ancient history? A similar scenario played out just last week on *Tisha B'av* and at the *Kotel*—the only remaining remnant of the Second Temple where Jews annually congregate by the thousands to mourn its destruction. At the small section of the *Kotel* reserved for egalitarian prayer services (far removed from the main area of the *Kotel* which is under the auspices of the Orthodox Rabbinate), young religiously fundamentalist extremist “zealots” took it upon themselves to forcefully install a *mechitza* (the gender-separating partition found in Orthodox synagogues) during the egalitarian *Tisha B'av* service. According to the Times of Israel:

Worshippers were reading from the Book of Lamentations [traditionally chanted on Tisha B'av] when the activists, mostly teenagers, entered the site, cursing and screaming at the worshippers before installing a partition to segregate the area by gender. Video from the scene showed Conservative leaders pleading with the youths to respect the sanctity of the site but to no avail.

(Continued next page)

(From The Rabbi continued)

As Israel's Foreign Minister, Yair Lapid, put it: "On the day we commemorate the destruction of the Temple, a group of extremists decided to desecrate the holiness of the day and the holiness of the place and start a violent struggle at the Kotel, that's the *Sinat Chinam* [senseless hatred] that led to the destruction of the Temple and our exile. We won't let them destroy the *Kotel*, destroy Israeli society or destroy our relations with the Jewish world. The *Kotel* belongs to every stream of Judaism, and it will be a place where every Jew feels at home."

Those of us who care deeply about Israel's survival can only hope—and pray—that this time around the moderates prevail.

Rabbi Sruli

P.S. On Monday, August 2nd at 6:30 p.m., Rabbi Sruli and Lisa will perform a concert for the Poland Spring Preservation Society at the Gazebo of the Poland Spring Resort. Admission is \$5.

GOOD NEWS/BAD NEWS - Please let us know if you hear news of births and deaths of members or former members of our Jewish Community, so that we may share with others.



- Mazel Tov to Sherie Blumenthal and Gerry Walsh on the birth of a son, Maxwell Henry Blumenthal-Walsh born on June 10, 2021.
- Mazel Tov to Margaret and Hank Meyer on the birth of a granddaughter, Hana Estelle Meyer born on June 26, 2021. Proud parents are Michael Meyer and Ji Young Lee.
- While some may know, many are unaware that Faye and Paul Jeser's son Michael, is in the final stages of a courageous battle with esophageal cancer. Following in the footsteps of his parents (Paul was the L-A JCC Executive Director), Michael has been advocating and fundraising for Jewish causes - and is now seeking to secure his wife and daughter's financial future, as best he's able. If you're able and so inclined, please visit this link and join others in support. **TO SUPPORT MICHAEL'S EFFORT, PLEASE** VISIT THE WEBSITE "[GOFUNDME.COM](https://gofundme.com)" AND ENTER MICHAEL JESER IN THE SEARCH BOX AT THE TOP LEFT OF THE SCREEN.
- Condolences to the family on the recent passing of long-time Temple member Jacqueline Wilner, may the family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.
- Condolences to Phyllis Wilner and family on the recent passing of Stanley Wilner, may the family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



The new normal continues to evolve and impact us in unexpected ways.

I went to my first live funeral this past weekend. It was for Stanley Wilner, may he rest in peace. In the Temple, masks were worn by all. Yet, when we go to the store, virtually no one is wearing a mask, even though the State of Maine policy currently requires unvaccinated to wear masks. The Board wants to ensure we are all safe.

Next weekend (now in a couple of weeks ago as you read this) Olivia Casares will have her Bat Mitzvah. All will wear masks at her service.

I watched a new episode of Law & Order. Everyone was wearing masks and removing them when they had lines.

This is all part of the new normal.

During the first week of August, about 25-30 of my in-laws come to visit for, what we call, 'family camp'. Last year's family camp was canceled. This year we will have fewer people come as we only want those who are vaccinated to come. My mother and father in-law are in their 80's and my mother, who will be at family camp as well, is also in her 80's. We want our parents protected. We want ourselves protected. Although, the CDC says those who are vaccinated are at low risk, there is still a risk, that is avoidable and we have chosen to be more careful.

As time goes on, other variants will emerge, primarily among the unvaccinated. However, there is the risk that one of those variants will break through the vaccine and start to infect a large portion of the vaccinated.

Please, look at the scientific data. Listen to the facts. If you are not vaccinated, get vaccinated. Protect yourself and help protect all of us. Encourage your friends and family who are not vaccinated to look at the facts, not the false information, and get vaccinated....now.

At the Temple, the Board continues to look at the facts. We have developed our COVID policies based on those facts and added in what makes people comfortable. At each Board meeting, we continue to discuss COVID. We discuss how our policies are working and if any changes need to be made.

Your Temple Board is made up of volunteers and we continue to do the best we can during this pandemic.

The Temple is open for in-person Shabbat services, on the patio, if the weather is nice. The at Temple Shabbat services are also Zoomed for those who choose or cannot make it to Temple. We expect to be open for in-Temple services for the High Holidays and hopefully other events before that.

We are not out of the woods yet. Be healthy. Be safe. AND, encourage one unvaccinated person to get a vaccine. Every added person vaccinated makes a difference!

David Allen



SHALOM, SISTERS

Phyllis Graber Jensen

Jody S. Satalo Art and History Pavilion

Exhibition: August 19, 2021 to October 3, 2021

Opening Reception: Thursday, August, 19, 2021 5pm-7pm

First Friday Art Walk: September 23, 2021 5pm-8pm

Shalom, Sisters features 20 photographs of Jewish women and girls affiliated with Auburn's Temple Shalom Synagogue-Center, a community Phyllis Graber Jensen joined when she moved to Lewiston, Maine, in 1992. She presents the lives of women in posed and candid moments, together and alone, some in the environment of the synagogue, others beyond it. The photographs create a collective portrait of Jewish women in Maine who are strong, warm, and spiritually and geographically tied.

Phyllis Graber Jensen is the director of photography and video for the Bates College Communications Office. She has worked for Maine Times and the Boston Herald, where her photographs received recognition from the National Press Photographers Association, the Boston Press Photographers Association, the Associated Press, and the Washington Journalism Review. Her commitment to storytelling has included multimedia projects about Lewiston's public schools and its Jewish community, as well as three films screened at the Maine Jewish Film Festival and an essay anthology on the L-A immigration experience.

MAINE JEWISH MUSEUM

267 Congress Street, Portland, ME 04101

Summer Hours: Sunday through Friday, 11am-4pm **Closed:** Saturdays

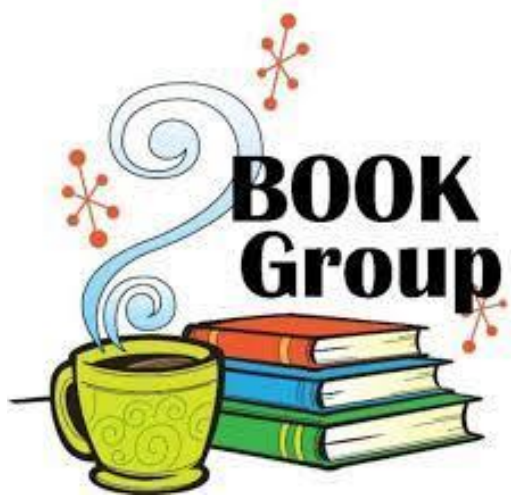
Nancy Davidson, Curator in Residence, nancyd.mjm@gmail.com

Nanci Kahn, Photography Curator, photography@mainejewishmuseum.org

Masks optional. Please maintain 6 feet distance.

Image: The Hat, archival digital print

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!BOOK GROUP NEWS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

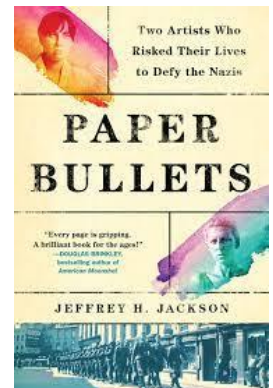


July 12 was the Book Group that never was. Only 3 of us showed up on zoom to discuss *House of Gold* by Natasha Solomons. The consensus was that the book was too long and too much like the Rothschild book we'd just read in February. Having only read 1/3 of the book, I had to agree with this review. And no one had much more to say. Quickest Book Group ever – only 15 minutes. Let's NOT do that again!

Our next book is *Paper Bullets* by Jeffrey Jackson. This book is much shorter and, even though it is non-fiction, it sounds like a much more interesting tale. Here's what Amazon has to say about it:

"Paper Bullets is the first book to tell the history of an audacious anti-Nazi campaign undertaken by an unlikely pair: two French women, Lucy Schwob and Suzanne Malherbe, who drew on their skills as Parisian avant-garde artists to write and distribute "paper bullets"—wicked insults against Hitler, calls to rebel, and subversive fictional dialogues designed to demoralize Nazi troops occupying their adopted home on the British Channel Island of Jersey. Devising their own PSYOPS campaign, they slipped their notes into soldier's pockets or tucked them inside newsstand magazines.

Hunted by the secret field police, Lucy and Suzanne were finally betrayed in 1944, when the Germans imprisoned them, and tried them in a court martial, sentencing them to death for their actions. Ultimately, they survived, but even in jail, they continued to fight the Nazis by reaching out to other prisoners and spreading a message of hope.



Better remembered today by their artist names, Claude Cahun and Marcel Moore, the couple's actions were even more courageous because of who they were: lesbian partners known for cross-dressing and creating the kind of gender-bending work that the Nazis would come to call "degenerate art." In addition, Lucy was half Jewish, and they had communist affiliations in Paris, where they attended political rallies with Surrealists and socialized with artists like Gertrude Stein.

Paper Bullets is a compelling World War II story that has not been told before, about the galvanizing power of art, and of resistance."

Our next meeting will be on MONDAY, AUGUST 9 at 4PM. I'll let you know if it will be via zoom or at the Temple. If you have a preference, please let me know. Remember, as of now the policy is to wear masks in the library.

Many, many thanks to Nancy and Ken Levinsky, who so graciously made a donation to cover the total cost of cleaning our building after being closed for over a year due to Covid. This donation was made in memory of Nancy's parents and long-time Temple members, Adele and Morris Silverman.



WHY I SUPPORT TEMPLE SHALOM

Temple Shalom has been part of my life for almost forty years. When my husband and I decided to move our family to Maine our boys were still little. I didn't know anyone who lived in the area. I sought out a synagogue, it was the logical way to meet people who might have something in common with me.



How fortunate it was that I found Temple Shalom. Rabbi Morris Bernstein welcomed me and my family with open arms. At the time, many members of our congregation had young children and we embarked on the task of forming a Hebrew Day School. We succeeded and had an active school for several years. That experience started a long and fulfilling relationship with Temple Shalom.

Over the years the level of my activity with the Temple has varied. Between illness in my family, having another child, and working in a few different jobs; I wasn't able to give of my time or offer financial support. With the passing of time and with fewer demands on my time, I've fortunately been able to devote more of my time to Temple Shalom.

My association with Temple Shalom has given me the opportunity to establish friendships that have made my life even more fulfilling. Since Rabbi Sruli and his family came to us, they have kindled a new love for Judaism and inspired me to learn and embrace my religion. At the age of 68 I became Bat Mitzvah. I've been privileged to be the lead person for the "kitchen committee".

I support Temple Shalom because being part of this community has enriched my life more than I could have ever imagined. I would encourage anyone who is new to the area, or finds themselves needing a sense of community to join and support Temple Shalom of Auburn, Maine. You'll find yourself among people who will welcome you with open arms, no judgement, and an opportunity to learn and experience the enriching Jewish life that so many members of our community treasure.

Melissa Johnson



Board of Directors' Meeting

Monday, August 9, 2021

7:00 pm

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO

Jacob Allen	Aug	12
Daniel Abromson		14
Stuart Isaacson		15
David Mazur		18
Seth Meyer		18
Danale Jensen		19
Joseph Jensen		19
Deena Weinstein		20
David Allen		22
Hali Isaacson		22
Sam Allen		23
David Gardner		26
Jerrold Cohen		30
Rocky Isaacson		30



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO

Neal & Lesli Weiner	Aug	3
Harvey & Elaine Bell		5
Emily & Annette Macaluso		5
Lewis & Helene Perry		7
Jerrold & Jennifer Cohen		11
Christopher & Mara King		23
Amy & Robert Jensen		31

YAHREZEITEN

Nathan Kutzen	Aug	1
Iris Laskoff		1
Lester Miller		6
Jay Graber		7
Martha Bodenheimer		12
Minette Lezberg		12
Joan "Maude" Olsen		13
Charles Traister		18
Dorothy Miller		20
Ruth Shapiro Miller		20
George Harris		23
Verrill Scott		23
Ann Frankel		26
Arthur Salberg		26
David Krasner		27
Hyman Rubenstein		27
Hele'ne Beth Krasner		31



Ma Chadash/What's New is published monthly by Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center. Temple Shalom is an independent congregation and a member of the Lewiston-Auburn Jewish Federation.

The mission of Temple Shalom, Synagogue-Center is to foster a strong Jewish identity and an active Jewish Community.

Rabbi Sruli Dresdner

Office Manager Julie Waite

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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Cemetery	Henry Meyer
Hebrew School/Education	Allyson Casares
Programming/Social Action	Phyllis Graber Jensen
	Paula Marcus-Platz
Preschool	Allyson Casares

SPEEDY RECOVERY

We pray for refuah sh'leimah – the full and speedy recovery of **Harvey Bell, Rachel Corvi, Lee Jay Feldman, Andrea Finn, Dougie Fleck, Sara Graf, Robert Galumbeck, Isaak Gekhtin, Detlef Gerlach, Ariella Green, Sharon Hemond, Michael Jeser, Suzan Katzir, Lynn Kaduson, Linda Koskela, Henry Lefkowitz, Lee Leveille, Bruce Meyer, Sandy Miller, Alice Richman, Joel Salberg, Bob Scott, Sandy Traister, Neal Weiner, Jack Weinstein, William White,** and all others who are not well at this time. *We like to hear good news! Whenever you*

request that a name be put on this list, please let Temple Shalom know when it can be removed.



Rabbi Sruli is always happy to speak with and meet with members or our Temple. Please call or text his cell phone at 914-980-9509 if you would like to speak with him or to arrange a time for a meeting. You can also call or leave a message at the Temple office and Rabbi Sruli will get back to you.

CONTRIBUTIONS

GENERAL FUND

Toby Haber

In appreciation

Steve Passerman

In appreciation

Lindsey Walker

In memory of Adele Brown

In memory of Mario Nigro

Cathy & Stan Tetenman

To Margaret & Hank Meyer in honor
of the birth of granddaughter Hana
Estelle

In honor of Olivia Casares' bat mitzvah

In memory of Stanley Wilner

Bertha Bodenheimer

In memory of Seymour Tetenman

In memory of Stanley Wilner

To Margaret & Hank Meyer in honor
of the birth of granddaughter Hana
Estelle

Michael Gagne

In memory of Jacqueline Wilner

Phyllis & George Brindis Family

In memory of Jacqueline Wilner

Sharon & Andrew Bodenheimer

In memory of Stanley Wilner

ABROMSON MEMORIAL FUND

Judy Abromson

In memory of Stanley Wilner

FAMILY HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

Margaret & Hank Meyer

In honor of the birth of granddaughter
Hana Estelle

LIBRARY FUND

Sandra & Allen Miller

In memory of Philip Rosenthal

MARCUS MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND

Carla Marcus

In memory of Clara Marcus

In memory of Fannye Roberts

NUSSINOW PRESCHOOL FUND

Amy & Scott Nussinow

In memory of Dorothy Krasner

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Bob & Jackie Laskoff

In memory of George Laskoff

Harriet & Behzad Fakhery

In honor of Larry Faiman being named
Person of the Year

Mitchell Ross

In memory of Howard Kates

In memory of Muriel Ross

RANDALL SILVER LIBRARY FUND

Malca Wilner

In memory of Stanley Wilner

BELL MEMORIAL CHAPEL FUND

BODENHEIMER PASSOVER FUND

CEMETERY FUND

COHEN/LEVOY GARDEN FUND

EVE & GEORGE SHAPIRO MEMORIAL FUND

KITCHEN/BREAKFAST FUND

MINYANAIRES FUND

PRAYER BOOK/PULPIT FUND

SHIRLEY GOODMAN MEMORIAL FUND



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DATED MATERIAL
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Erev Rosh Hashanah
Monday, September 6
7:00 pm

Rosh Hashanah
Tuesday, September 7
9:00 am
Wednesday, September 8
9:00 am

Kol Nidrei
Wednesday, September 15
6:00 pm

Yom Kippur
Thursday, September 16
9:00 am