

# AM CHAI UPDATE

MARCH 2006 – MAY 2006 > SPRING EDITION

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

WEBSITE: [WWW.AMCHAI.ORG](http://WWW.AMCHAI.ORG)

EMAIL: [INFO@AMCHAI.ORG](mailto:INFO@AMCHAI.ORG)

## From The Pulpit

We are entering the spring holiday season amidst growing tensions in Eretz Israel and around it...the shock of Hamas coming to power in Palestine...the ever increasing threat from Iran...the persistent chaos in Iraq.

Yet I think that not only should we not sound alarm and cry murder, but I maintain that we simply need to breathe a sigh of relief. Now the situation is clear. Now there are no doubts. Now we know that the Palestinians are not partners in negotiations, but rather our mortal enemies. We know that any attempts to make a deal with the Iranians are doomed to fail. This means that at this juncture the Israeli society as well as the Jewish community at large will undergo a consolidation in the face of a growing threat.

One of the primary lessons of Purim is that it is only through our commitment to our people that we can beat the enemy. Without Esther's loyalty to the community the defeat of Haman would be impossible. The lesson of Pesach is that if our striving for the values of freedom is strong enough then no enemy (the Pharaoh's army) should be feared.

While the danger is real, our sense of community is also real, our Jewish values are real. So let us celebrate our redemption on Purim and our liberation on Pesach with a joyous heart and sing Am Yisrael Chai!

*Rabbi Michael Tillman*

## SERVICES

**ALL SERVICES ARE HELD AT THE  
DEVONSHIRE, 1515 BARRINGTON RD.  
HOFFMAN ESTATES (847) 604-4060**

Friday night, **March 3** 8 PM

Friday night, **March 17** (Purim) 8:00 PM

Friday night, **March 31** 8 PM

Friday night, **April 14** (Passover) 8 PM

Friday night, **April 21** (Yizkor) 8 PM

Friday night, **May 5** 8 PM

Friday night, **May 19** (Lag B'Omer) 8 PM

## BAGELS & LOX WITH THE RABBI

Sunday morning, **March 12** 10 AM

Sunday morning, **April 23** 10 AM

Sunday morning, **May 21** 10 AM

**PRIOR TO EACH BAGELS & LOX  
DISCUSSION, ALL MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE  
DETAILS & FURTHER INFO SENT BY E-MAIL  
OR BY POSTCARD IN U. S. MAIL**

# ***Birthdays***

|               |                         |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| <u>Mar 6</u>  | <u>Barbara Henry</u>    |
| <u>Mar 6</u>  | <u>Staci Singer</u>     |
| <u>Mar 9</u>  | <u>Alison Garelick</u>  |
| <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Joshua Placko</u>    |
| <u>Mar 14</u> | <u>Alex Wolf</u>        |
| <u>Mar 18</u> | <u>Sharon Zittler</u>   |
| <u>Mar 19</u> | <u>Zach Zider</u>       |
| <u>Mar 20</u> | <u>Richard Ginsburg</u> |
| <u>Mar 23</u> | <u>Joseph Rotstein</u>  |
| <u>Mar 25</u> | <u>Sandra Marcus</u>    |
| <u>Mar 29</u> | <u>Ryan Aronoff</u>     |
| <u>Mar 29</u> | <u>Evelyn Miller</u>    |
| <u>Mar 31</u> | <u>Daniele Richmond</u> |
| <u>Apr 4</u>  | <u>Richard Placko</u>   |
| <u>Apr 7</u>  | <u>Sharon Klinsky</u>   |
| <u>Apr 12</u> | <u>David Henning</u>    |
| <u>Apr 17</u> | <u>Jeffrey Goldberg</u> |
| <u>Apr 17</u> | <u>Julie Remack</u>     |
| <u>Apr 18</u> | <u>Sanford Ginsburg</u> |
| <u>Apr 18</u> | <u>Jacob Reich</u>      |
| <u>Apr 21</u> | <u>Corey Novick</u>     |
| <u>Apr 24</u> | <u>Todd Isaac</u>       |
| <u>Apr 26</u> | <u>Laura Rabe</u>       |
| <u>Apr 28</u> | <u>Vicki Gallo</u>      |
| <u>May 1</u>  | <u>Ronald Bass</u>      |
| <u>May 2</u>  | <u>Eileen Aronoff</u>   |
| <u>May 2</u>  | <u>Leija Schulwolf</u>  |
| <u>May 3</u>  | <u>Jessica Ecker</u>    |
| <u>May 3</u>  | <u>Helen Lubin</u>      |
| <u>May 3</u>  | <u>Michael Reich</u>    |
| <u>May 3</u>  | <u>Kadmier Stampfer</u> |
| <u>May 6</u>  | <u>Karen Arnet</u>      |

|               |                             |
|---------------|-----------------------------|
| <u>May 9</u>  | <u>Jacob Remack</u>         |
| <u>May 17</u> | <u>Edwin Marcus</u>         |
| <u>May 19</u> | <u>Deborah Novus-Furlan</u> |
| <u>May 20</u> | <u>Iralee Cronin</u>        |
| <u>May 20</u> | <u>Mala Rotstein</u>        |
| <u>May 22</u> | <u>Howard Nicker</u>        |
| <u>May 22</u> | <u>Steve Stone</u>          |
| <u>May 23</u> | <u>Dianna Schneidman</u>    |
| <u>May 23</u> | <u>Marilyn Schwartz</u>     |
| <u>May 25</u> | <u>Sandi Rotstein</u>       |
| <u>May 28</u> | <u>Alan Isaac</u>           |

# ***Anniversaries***

|               |                                       |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|
| <u>Apr 8</u>  | <u>Sharon &amp; Dick Zittler</u>      |
| <u>Apr 9</u>  | <u>Leija &amp; Irv Schulwolf</u>      |
| <u>Apr 10</u> | <u>Karen &amp; Donald Arnet</u>       |
| <u>Apr 17</u> | <u>Sandi &amp; Rubin Rotstein</u>     |
| <u>Apr 22</u> | <u>Denise &amp; Darren Wehrenberg</u> |
| <u>May 1</u>  | <u>Carolyn &amp; Jeffrey Goldberg</u> |
| <u>May 12</u> | <u>Helen &amp; Alan Isaac</u>         |
| <u>May 24</u> | <u>Mary &amp; Howard Ecker</u>        |
| <u>May 29</u> | <u>Geraldine &amp; Bernard Apple</u>  |
| <u>May 31</u> | <u>Sharon &amp; Albert Goldberg</u>   |

## **CONDOLENCES**

To Molly Zider on the loss of her husband, Sydney

## *Membership Musings*

Hello Again,

I have a feeling that this is going to be a year of record membership. I wish that I could tell you that if you rejoin or joined as a new member I could give you a trip to Mexico, or a toaster, or an electric blanket. I am, very sorry, no can do. What I can give you is fantastic High Holiday Services with a great Choir, Friday Night Services with songs, a quarterly bulletin from a famous Editor, and a Rabbi with great Spiritual and communication skills. Now you must agree that the latter is better than a trip to Mexico. You don't have to worry about the water, or burning your toast, or getting fried in an electric blanket. I also forgot to mention that you have a great group of people as your Board of Directors, including myself. Membership in our Congregation keeps the Conservative movement alive in the Suburbs. Our dues are very reasonable, so what are you waiting for. Be part of our family, keep it alive. GET YOU JEWISH FIX FOR '06.

Shalom,

*Dick Zittler,  
Membership VP*

**ANYONE WISHING TO  
SPONSOR AN  
O'NEG SHABBAT  
PLEASE CONTACT  
THE RITUAL COMMITTEE**

1-847-604-4060 or [info@amchai.org](mailto:info@amchai.org)

## Yahrzeit Dates

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A LOVED ONE'S  
Yahrzeit RECALLED AT A FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE?  
PLEASE CALL (847) 604-4060 OR SEND AN EMAIL  
TO  
[INFO@AMCHAI.ORG](mailto:INFO@AMCHAI.ORG) TO NOTIFY RITUAL OF THE DATE  
& NAME OF THE PERSON TO BE REMEMBERED SO  
THAT YOU CAN BE ADVISED OF THE SERVICE.  
(Yahrzeit WILL BE SAID FOR YOU, IN THE EVENT  
YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE SERVICE.**

## **PRAYER BOOK DRIVE**

*Due to increased membership, Am Chai purchased 12 new prayer books. A donation of \$30.00 will put your name inside the front cover along with anyone's name that you want to honor. For further info, call (847) 604-4060 or email [info@amchai.org](mailto:info@amchai.org).*

# The Prez Sez

On Friday night (Jan. 20) **Sharon** and I were attempting to get to services through a driving snow storm. As we navigated through West Dundee and not knowing whether or not we could make it, I decided to call the Devonshire to make sure anyone else was there. To my surprise the receptionist at the Devonshire cheerfully said there were about twenty people attending.

We got to services at the time **Rabbi Tillman** was getting ready to discuss that week's Torah portion. He was discussing the commitment Moses was giving to God. I thought of the commitment the members of Am Chai had given tonight being out in the snow storm to pray together. Commitment is also shown in other ways, such as working as board members for our congregation. There has been some discussion recently about possibly aggressively advertising for new members and starting up a Hebrew school. This will only work if there is some new blood brought onto the board.

We have been very fortunate these past couple of years to have many new families join our congregation. I ask that anyone interested in becoming more involved in our Congregation or wishing to present ideas for our future growth, contact me. There will be some board positions opening up in our upcoming elections in May.

On behalf of the congregation I would like to express our condolences to **Molly Zider** on the passing of her husband **Sydney**. Many thanks to Mr. **Burt Cohen**, father of **Arlene Miller** who donated a Torah cover from his synagogue that recently closed.

*Al Goldberg*

## Ritual Corner

Our mild (so far) winter is gradually turning into spring, a time when we psychologically nurture the quest experience more palatable days of longer sunlight. To help us get through the season's transition there are coming up amongst our normal Friday night services – Purim, Pesach (which includes Yizkor), and Lag Ba'Omer. Let's not forget our monthly Sunday Bagels 'n Lox Brunches with the Rabbi, which includes good food to nosh on as well as an interesting topic to munch on for discussion.

Remember, if you cannot think of a reason to sponsor and host an Oneg Shabbat, just call me and I will think of a good reason for you. I am always looking for homes to host the Sunday functions, so please keep me in mind. Our High Holiday Prayer Book Drive has already furnished 12 new books to the Congregation. Each book was donated in memory or in honor of a particular person. So, if you're looking for a way to honor or memorialize someone, keep the Prayer Book Drive in mind.

I'm looking forward to seeing more of you at the up and coming services and functions over the next three months. I want to wish everyone a wonderful Purim and of course a Happy Passover.

*Cliff Kelman*

## **TRIBUTE CARDS**



FROM **AM CHAI** >

CARDS AVAILABLE FOR

*BIRTHDAYS, CONDOLENCES,*

*ANNIVERSARIES, GRADUATIONS*

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**FOR ANY SPECIAL OCCASION! YOU  
CAN PURCHASE A PACKAGE OF  
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FOR A \$20.00 DONATION.  
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\$5.00.**

Contact: *Mary Jo Rotstein*

**(630) 462-9899**

## **NORTHWEST SUBURBAN WALK WITH ISRAEL SOLIDARITY DAY PLANNED**

Am Chai Board Member **Steve Wagner** urges all members to mark May 7, 2006 on their calendars. Bring friends, family, neighbors, and anyone else to the 2006 Israel Solidarity Day Northwest Suburban Walk at:

**Twin Groves Junior High School**  
2600 N. Buffalo Grove Rd., Buffalo Grove

**8:30am-10:00am:** Registration

**10:00am:** Kickoff and 5.8K Walk With Israel and Family Walk

**11:30pm:** Food and Entertainment:  
**Featuring** entertainer Rick Recht

### **Parking Information:**

There will be NO parking at Twin Groves Junior High School. Satellite parking with shuttle service available at Stevenson High School Lots B & C.

Buses are available. If you are planning to attend, you may pre-register online at <http://juf.org/walk/register.asp>. Our Congregation will have its own staging area where we can all meet. For more information call the Israel Solidarity Day Hotline at (312) 444-2905 or [IsraelSolidarity@juf.org](mailto:IsraelSolidarity@juf.org)

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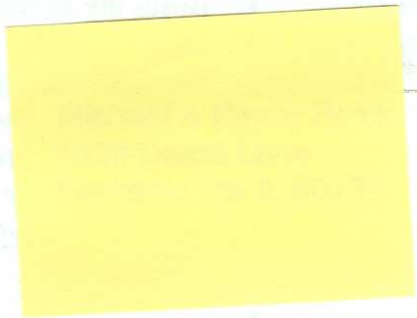
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