

AM CHAI UPDATE

DECEMBER 2008 – FEBRUARY 2009 > WINTER EDITION

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

WEBSITE: WWW.AMCHAI.ORG

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From The Pulpit

Remember the Hanukkah story? Not about the miracle, the real Hanukkah story. It is about the Maccabees who fearlessly led the people to victory against a formidable enemy - the Seleucid Greek kingdom. A small group of guerilla fighters overcame a superior in skill and number professional army. Why was it possible?

I submit to you, my friends, that it was no miracle. In fact, it was the will and determination of our ancestors led by great leaders that brought forth the liberation.

We have just elected a new president - an undeniably gifted and charismatic man. The American people (and the entire world) hope that **Barack Obama** is a politician of a new world, of a new generation. Our country with all its economic turmoil does need a leader now. Is **Barack Obama** such a leader?

There were many (including **Obama** himself) who said that this election made history. I personally see nothing historic about the outcome of the election. If we truly are to be color blind, then we merely must say that one candidate beat another on November 4. That's all!

The history hasn't been made yet. It is still to be made. The *Maccabees* made history not because they became leaders, but rather because they led to victory. **Barack Obama** has a great chance to make history and change the United States and its image in the world. Will he become a world class leader and a chapter in school history books or will he turn out

to be a **Mayor Marion Barry** on a national scale? Only time will tell. Let us all hope for a great future for our country. God bless America!

RABBI MICHAEL TILLMAN

SERVICES

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

THE AM CHAI TELEPHONE WITH ANY QUESTIONS

Friday night, **December 5, 2008** 8 PM

Friday night, **December 19, 2008** 8 PM

(Hanukkah Service)

Saturday morning, **December 6, 2008** 9:30 AM

Friday night, **January 9, 2009** 8 PM

Friday night, **January 23, 2009** 8PM

Saturday morning, **January 17, 2009** 9:30 AM

Friday night, **February 6, 2009** 8PM

(TuB'Shevat Service)

Saturday morning, **February 21, 2009** 9:30 AM

Friday night, **February 27, 2009** 8PM

HANUKKAH PARTY

Sunday morning, **December 14, 2008** 11 AM

CALL 847-604-4060 FOR LOCATION

BAGELS & LOX WITH THE RABBI

Sunday morning, **January 25, 2009** 10 AM

Sun. morning, **February 22, 2009** 10 AM

PRIOR TO EACH BAGELS & LOX DISCUSSION, ALL MEMBERS WILL RECEIVE DETAILS & FURTHER INFO SENT BY E-MAIL

Birthdays

Dec 8	Megan Placko
Dec 8	Alexandria Rabe
Dec 10	Denise Wehrenberg
Dec 11	Albert Goldberg
Dec 12	Averil Reisman
Dec 15	Maissie Rabe
Dec 18	Kris Sudrovech Ami
Dec 24	Stephen Rubin
Dec 24	Michael Zider
Dec 30	Jerome Gilbert
Dec 30	Jacob Saucier
Dec 31	Marc Henry
Jan 2	Elias Fried
Jan 3	Rick Rabe
Jan 5	Alan Bass
Jan 6	Kathy Goldberg
Jan 9	Marvin Michnik
Jan 9	Tyler Stone
Jan 13	Kathleen Henry
Jan 16	Dick Zittler
Jan 17	Matthew Isaac
Jan 18	Howard Ecker
Jan 19	Art Reisman
Jan 23	Ruth Lorinczi
Jan 27	Aaron Ginsburg
Jan 27	Eugene Kliensky
Jan 30	Fred Weiner
Feb 5	Cindy Placko
Feb 7	Sharon Stone
Feb 9	Richard Aronoff
Feb 19	Jordan Bass
Feb 21	Shira Zider

Feb 24	Franca Mance
Feb 26	Marlene Zider
Feb 28	Breana Remack

Anniversaries

Dec 20	Mary Jo & Joseph Rotstein
Dec 24	Evelyn & Robert Miller
Feb 13	Nancy & Michael Reich
Feb 23	Frances & Leonard Plotzker
Feb 26	Nancy & Richard Stallman

THANKS

...To Sharon & Al Goldberg and Arlene & Ron Bass for providing the *Kiddush* for the Saturday service, September 29, 2008.

...To Sharon & Al Goldberg for providing the *Kiddush* for the Saturday service on October 18, 2008 and for hosting the Bagels 'n Lox with the Rabbi on Sunday, September 14, 2008.

...To Arlene & Ron Bass for hosting the *Sukkot* service on Sunday, October 18, 2008.

...To Cindy & Rick Placko & Laura & Rick Rabe for co-hosting the *O'neg Shabbat*, Friday, November 7, 2008

...and to Cindy & Rich Placko for the Bagels 'n Lox with the Rabbi on Sunday, November 16, 2008

Get Well Wishes

To Arlene Weisberg recuperating from her recent knee surgery

Congratulations to Evelyn and Bob Miller on the birth of granddaughter, Jillian Blyth, to parents Lauren and Garry Rosenfeldt.

The Prez Sez

As the winter months approach we look forward to the joyous occasion of *Chanukah*. To see the children's eyes sparkle with excitement as they open their presents and have an opportunity to light the candles on the *menorah* is something we look forward to each year. Once again the congregation is having a *Chanukah* party to help celebrate as family. There will be games for both children and adults with a grab bag for the kids. Lunch will be served and there is no charge for this fun filled morning. The party will be at the [] residence. For more information contact the synagogue phone number. Even if your children are not members of our congregation we welcome all your families to attend.

I want to say what a pleasure it was to see all of you at our High Holiday services. From the comments I received everyone seemed to enjoy the services once again. The contribution from **Art Reisman**, the choir and our spiritual leader **Rabbi Tillman** is what makes our services so meaningful. To all members who have supported us with your membership and response to my appeal I have a very big THANK YOU. Please do not be afraid to join us for any of our Friday night or Saturday morning services. We are always looking for more participation.

Al Goldberg

IMPORTANT NEWS REGARDING AM CHAI MEMBERSHIP LISTS

In an effort to protect the privacy of our membership, the Membership Listing, usually published and sent out with the bulletin, will no longer be mailed with the bulletin.

Any member in good standing may request the list by contacting us through our website (www.amchai.org). The list will be e-mailed.

Dick Zittler

Membership Musings

Hello Again,

The Holidays are over. I would like to thank **Steve Wagner** and **Mike Reich** for their help in parking cars and operating the elevator. It's hard to believe but not a single car hit us.

We are still on a membership campaign. We are always looking for new members - young or old, singles or families, and we cannot forget interfaith couples. Membership is a full time activity and word of mouth is very important. We know that there is a big Jewish population in the area but the hard part is to get the word out to them. A lot of people do not know that we exist. Pass the word around and bring in some new members

Shalom,

Dick Zittler

MAHJONG PLAYERS ALERT...

...a mitzvah in the making

Six residents of the *Devonshire* are interested in learning to play the game of Mahjong, according to **Diane Kearney**, the Lifestyle Director at that residence.

Diane requests our help in finding experienced Mahjong players from *Am Chai* who would be interested in training these people in learning how to play the game.

If you'd like to teach six people the rules and how to play the game please contact the editor at writer303@comcast.net or leave a message on the congregation phone (847) 604-4060 for further details.

* * * * *

Am Chai member **Fran Silver** is also seeking a volunteer to assist her in relearning how to play. She has her mother's old set. Contact **Cliff Kelman**, Ritual VP, or the editor of this newsletter for further details.

Ritual Corner

As usual, our High Holiday services as well as *Selichot* services went very well. To help continue the joy of the holiday period we have Friday evening and Saturday morning services as well as our Sunday functions.

This enables us to not only enjoy the surroundings of prayer but to enjoy the company of our Am Chai friends and family.

My expression of gratitude to the following whose involvement helped make our Holiday services so successful.

- **Rabbi Tillman** for religious leadership and creative sermons;
- **Art Reisman and the Choir** for their beautiful renditions of prayer;
- **Karen Arnet, Ron Bass, Bob Miller, Bill Os, Mike Reich, Joe Rotstein, Steve Wagner, Jerry Weisberg and Dick Zittler** for their assistance from beginning to end;
- **Ron Bass, Al Goldberg and Joe Rotstein** for assistance during the Torah reading;
- **Laura Stone** for her spectacular *Shofar* sound;
- **Cindy Placko, Laura Rabe, Davena Day, Warren Goldberg, Britt Wanek and Jodie Rose** for reading *Haftarah* during the Torah portion;
- **Jane Michnik** for creating the brochure;
- **Arlene Bass** for her delicious *Challah*;
- All those that helped me break down the room after services;
- **Al Goldberg** who gave a moving Appeal; the many who accepted an

aliyah and those who just came to pray.

Thank you to everyone for your help in making sure our Holiday Services were MAGNIFICENT!

Sukkot was a huge success with a great turnout. Our appreciation to **Arlene and Ron Bass** for their home to erect the *Succah*. Thanks to **Ron** along with **Rich Placko** and **Rick Rabe** who put it up and dismantled it. *Simchat Torah* and *Shmini Atzeret* were well participated. Thanks go to **Jane and Marvin Michnik** for supplying the Taffy Apples for both festive holidays.

We look forward to seeing you all at the many services on Friday and Saturday along with *Sunday Bagels 'n Lox with the Rabbi Brunch and Discussion*. Wishing everyone a happy *Chanukah!*

Cliff Kelman

ANYONE WISHING TO SPONSOR AN

O'NEG SHABBAT

PLEASE CONTACT

THE RITUAL COMMITTEE

1-847-604-4060 or info@amchai.org

We're also looking for homes to host a Bagels 'n Lox Discussion with the Rabbi.

Yahrzeit Dates

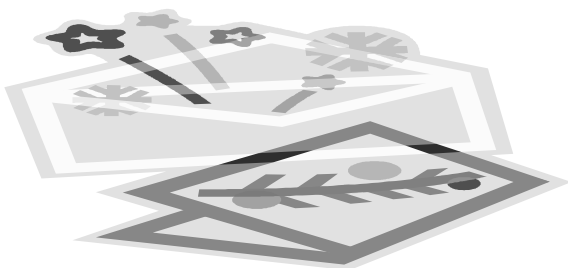
WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE A LOVED ONE'S YAHRZEIT RECALLED AT A FRIDAY NIGHT SERVICE?

PLEASE CALL (847) 604-4060 OR SEND AN EMAIL TO

INFO@AMCHAI.ORG 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.

TRIBUTE CARDS

FROM AM CHAI



CARDS AVAILABLE FOR
BIRTHDAYS, CONDOLENCES, BAR
& BAT MITZVAHS, etc

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Fundraiser & Tribute Cards and see the
various types of cards. Then fill out the
order form & send your order online
or you may contact:

MICHAEL REICH

By phone Blocked in online version of bulletin

or by email at

amchai_mr@yahoo.com

They Sent Tribute Cards!

August through October 2008

Condolences

The Isaacs to the Pignato family
The Isaacs to the Boucher family
The Isaacs to the Cordosi family
The Days to the Pignato family
The Days to the Boucher family
The Days to the Cordosi family
The Ginsburgs to the Parks family
The Bass's to the Brodsky family
The Bass's to Rhoda & Michael Kamin

Births

Barb Henry to Frances & Jim Stavish
Barb Henry to Mary Jo & Joe Rotstein
Barb Henry to Jessica & Kevin Ball
The Isaacs to Mr. & Mrs. Marty Agran
The Isaacs to Dr. & Mrs. Leon Dragon
The Isaacs to Francie & Jim Stavish
The Isaacs to Mary Jo & Joe Rotstein

Recovery

Barb Henry to Eileen Ginsburg
The Isaacs to Ellen Karpel
The Reichs to Eileen Ginsburg
The Reichs to Ellen Karpel
The Zittlers to Ellen Karpel

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