

AM CHAI UPDATE

SEPTEMBER 2009– NOVEMBER 2009 > FALL EDITION

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

WEBSITE: WWW.AMCHAI.ORG

EMAIL: INFO@AMCHAI.ORG

FROM THE PULPIT

This past July I visited *Carpentras* – a small town in southern France. It is famous for two reasons. First of all, it holds a world famous truffles market in November. Secondly, it has the oldest synagogue in France (est. 1367). Since it was not November, I decided to visit the *shul*.

The building itself is very ordinary. However, once you enter the synagogue you are pleasantly surprised by the simple but elegant interior. The sanctuary itself is about half the size of our room at the *Devonshire*. In other words, the space is very small, and so is the community – about 100 individuals. Yet this synagogue has survived throughout the centuries. Why is it so viable?

The answer is in its size. Smaller congregations do have tighter communities. Rabbis have an opportunity to get to know every family in the *shul*. That in itself makes the life of the synagogue sustainable.

I often tell people how different the Jewish life was in the old country. Here in the US synagogues are like churches – the bigger the better. In Europe even in the major cities they were usually small, but there were many of them. For example, in the city of *Vilna* (*Vilnius*) there were 102 synagogues. Even now *Vilnius* has population of less than one million.

Here at *Am Chai* – for better or worse – we are the old country type of synagogue. We are small, but everybody knows everybody else. And this is why we are a great congregation. We offer what others only talk about in their brochures and on their websites – the feeling of being part of the family.

I wish all at *Am Chai* - *Shana Tova u-Metuka* – a good and sweet New Year! May our family prosper for many years to come!

RABBI MICHAEL TILLMAN

HIGH HOLIDAYS

SERVICES TO TAKE PLACE AT

BLOCKED

ROSH HASHANAH

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2009 @ 7:30PM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2009 @ 9:30AM

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2009 @ 9:30 AM

YOM KIPPUR

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2009 @ 6:30 PM

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2009 @ 9:30AM

SERVICES

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

Friday	September 11	8 PM
	(<i>Selichot Service</i>)	
Friday	October 9	8 PM
	(<i>Simchat Torah</i>)	
Saturday	October 24	9:30 AM
Friday	October 30	8 PM
Saturday	November 7	9:30 AM
Friday	November 13	8 PM
Friday	November 20	8 PM

BAGELS & LOX WITH THE RABBI

Sunday, **September 13** 10 AM

Sunday, **October 4** (*Sukkot Holiday*) 10 AM

(None scheduled in November)

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September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	September 1	2	3	4	5
6	7 Labor Day	8	9	10	11 8 PM Sabbath Services	12
13 10 AM - 12 PM Sunday Morning Bagels 'n Lox with the Rabbi	14	15	16	17	18 7:30 PM - 9:30 PM Erev Rosh Hashonah Service	19 Rosh Hashanah Rosh Hashonah Service (begins 9:30 am)
20 Rosh Hashonah Service (begins 9:30 am)	21 Tzom Gedaliah	22	23	24	25	26
27 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Erev Yom Kippur Service	28 Yom Kippur Yom Kippur Service (begins 9:30 am)	29	30	1	2	3 Sukkot
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

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October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27 6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Erev Yom Kippur Service	28 Yom Kippur Yom Kippur Service (begins 9:30 am)	29	30	October 1	2	3 Sukkot
4 10 AM - 11 AM Sukkot Observance	5	6	7	8	9 Hoshanah Rabba 8 PM Sabbath Services	10 Shemini Atzeret
11 Simchat Torah	12  Columbus Day	13	14	15	16	17
18 Rosh Chodesh (Tishri & Heshvan)	19 Rosh Chodesh (Heshvan)	20	21	22	23	24 9:30 AM Sabbath Morning Service
25	26	27	28	29	30 8 PM Sabbath Services (Lay Svce)	31  Halloween
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

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November 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Daylight Saving Time Ends	2	3	4	5	6	7 9:30 AM Sabbath Morning Service
8	9	10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13 8 PM Sabbath Services	14
15	16	17 Rosh Chodesh (Heshvan & Kislev)	18 Rosh Chodesh (Kislev)	19	20 8 PM Sabbath Services (Lay Svcs)	21
22	23	24	25	26  Thanksgiving	27	28
29	30	1	2	3	4	5
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat

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Birthdays

Sep 8 Jean Saucier
Sep 13 Frances Plotzker
Sep 15 Aaron Zider
Sep 21 Sandy Alter
Sep 22 Brendan Ginsburg
Sep 24 Rita Zider
Sep 29 Nancy Reich
Oct 1 Mary Jo Rotstein
Oct 2 Geraldine Apple
Oct 8 Jamie Rubin
Oct 9 Melanie Wagner
Oct 16 Mollie Fischer
Oct 16 Todd Isaac
Oct 17 Dorothy Bass
Oct 18 Angela Stone
Oct 23 Darren Wehrenberg
Oct 25 Donald Ami
Oct 26 Robert Baron
Oct 27 Warren Goldberg
Oct 27 Rubin Rotstein
Oct 29 Eric Goldberg
Oct 30 Helen Isaac
Oct 31 Roberta Weiner
Nov 1 Mary Ecker
Nov 2 Michael Tillman
Nov 4 Rick Stone
Nov 6 Amanda Reich
Nov 7 Arlene Bass
Nov 8 Marc Zider
Nov 11 Amy Goldberg
Nov 16 Irv Schulwolf
Nov 21 Evan Karpel
Nov 22 Clifford Kelman
Nov 23 Deborah Henning
Nov 26 Carolyn Goldberg
Nov 27 Wayne Schneidman

Anniversaries

Sep 4 Arlene & Ronald Bass
Sep 7 Sharon & Steve Stone
Sep 14 Ellen & Evan Karpel
Sep 18 Julie & Joe Remack
Sep 22 Arlene & Jerry Weisberg
Oct 14 Kathy & Warren Goldberg
Oct 18 Eileen & Richard Ginsburg
Nov 3 Jean & Brian Saucier
Nov 12 Laura & Rick Rabe
Nov 17 Angela & Rick Stone
Nov 21 Sandra & Edwin Marcus
Nov 28 Supriya & Eugene Klionsky

Thanks for Sponsoring Kiddush

Sharon & Al Goldberg/Arlene & Ron Bass
May 16 and June 6
Cindy & Rich Placko ----- Aug 15

Thanks to O'neg Shabbat Sponsors

Sharon & Al Goldberg -----June 12

Thanks to The Sponsors of Breakfast With The Rabbi

Arlene & Ron Bass ----- May 17
Cindy & Rich Placko ---- Jun 14

CAN YOU BLOW THE SHOFAR?

Am Chai is looking for someone who can
blow the *Shofar* for the coming *High
Holidays*. Contact *Cliff Kelman* at
(847)604-4060 if you have experience

The Prez Sez

Judging from how cool the weather was in July you would think it is time for the *High Holidays*. Since I am preparing this on August 1st there is no guarantee that the weather will stay this cool. The only thing guaranteed is that on Friday night September 18th our services will begin at a church in Mount Prospect. It certainly is unfortunate that we do not have a building of our own but we find ourselves very fortunate to have a community that is willing to open their doors to us.

Thru the efforts of **Rabbi Tillman** and **Father Bernie** we have a rather large room to hold our services. There is really no limit to how many members we will be able to accommodate. If you know of any people that are looking for an enjoyable spiritual experience this year, show them the way to *Am Chai*. As you know our dues structure is reasonable, our Rabbi is both knowledgeable and entertaining, and we offer a choir that is outstanding.

We always ask for your support but this year is more critical than ever. We need your help in increasing our membership. We want to be able to continue our identity in the Northwest suburbs for many years to come. **Sharon** and **I** wish all of you and your families a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Al Goldberg

Membership Musings

It's *High Holiday* time again. If you are not a member and are reading this newsletter, we have a deal for you. We are the most reasonable Congregation in the area.

\$500.00 for a family membership, \$250.00 for a single membership, \$175.00 for a senior membership.

These prices include *High Holiday* tickets! This year again free to our membership we offer the best Choir in the area. Friday night services and Saturday services are also included in the package.

Our young handsome Rabbi will also conduct one of the best *High Holiday* Services you will ever attend. Our President will also be on the *Bema*, perspiring as he does every year.

You don't want to miss all this activity so join today. Look on the internet www.amchai.org for all the details. You can even join on-line, send an e-mail, or call our answering service at 847-604-4060 and leave a message.

Shalom, and Happy Holidays,

Dick Zittler

P.S. If you are already a member you are aware of this great deal, so tell your friends and family.

Ritual Corner

Here we are again with our summer season well into its final stage and the *High Holiday's* just about three weeks away. It does not seem like almost a whole year has come and gone. Services in July and August were warmly attended by members.

In September the holiday period will begin with a *Selichot* Service on Friday the 11th. It will continue with *Rosh Hashanah* starting on Friday the 18th followed by *Yom Kippur* on Sunday the 27th. The holiday period always brings out a very stimulating sermon by **Rabbi Tillman**. And of course we will have the beautiful renditions of prayer by our Choir led by **Art Reisman**. It can easily be a totally moving experience. It is a time in which we can all reflect on the past year - the joys and sorrows, the highs and lows that helped make up the year. With that said we all can look forward to the coming year, hopefully more joy and less sorrow. To finish out the holiday period there is *Sukkot* held on Sunday October 4th. Let us not forget *Simchat Torah* on Friday October 9th.

As a small Congregation we can all easily refer to *Am Chai* and its members as a family. Thus our Friday evening and Saturday morning Services are times to share with our very own extended family. We can look forward to other holidays throughout the year to enjoy each other's company.

During April we enjoyed the social fundraising event that was well-attended. Hopefully, we will have more of them this year.

If you have any ideas for this type of function please let us know. Remember, I am always looking for members to sponsor a Friday evening *Oneg Shabbat* or Saturday morning *Kiddush* as well as others who will host a Sunday function.

Wishing everyone a Blessed *La Shana Tova!*

Cliff Kelman

YIZKOR LIST

Please call (847) 604-4060 or email info@amchai.org with any new names you would like included on our *Yizkor* List. All names on last year's list will be repeated this year. All names will be displayed on boards at the *Yom Kippur Yizkor* Service and they will be read aloud during the *Yizkor* service.

**ANYONE WISHING TO HOST an
O'NEG SHABBAT**

PLEASE CONTACT

THE RITUAL COMMITTEE

(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**

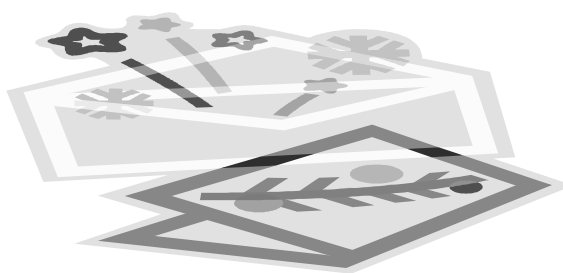
**REMEMBERED SO THAT YOU CAN BE ADVISED OF
THE SERVICE. (Yahrzeit WILL BE SAID FOR YOU,
IN THE EVENT YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE
SERVICE.)**

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

TRIBUTE CARDS

FROM AM CHAI



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BAR & BAT MITZVAHS, etc

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

MICHAEL REICH

By phone

or by email at

amchai_mr@yahoo.com

THEY SENT TRIBUTE CARDS

May through July, 2009

CONDOLENCES

Al & Sharon Goldberg to Mr. &
Mrs. Barry Olesker

Al & Sharon Goldberg to Nancy
Stallman

Alan & Helen Isaac to Stewart &
Judy Reiner

Alan & Helen Isaac to Irv Reiner

Alan & Helen Isaac to Mr. & Mrs.
Bob Reiner

Jim Langerman/Arlene Patrasso to
Joe & Josie Barbaro

CONGRATULATIONS

Michael & Nancy Reich to Al &
Sharon Goldberg on their 45th
wedding anniversary

Barb Henry to Al & Sharon
Goldberg on their 45th wedding
anniversary

Helen & Alan Isaac to Al &
Sharon Goldberg on their 45th
wedding anniversary

Richard & Sharon Zittler to
Michael & Nancy Reich on the
marriage of son Jacob

GET WELL

Richard & Sharon Zittler to Jane
Michnik

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