

Beth Shalom Temple Center



GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

July/August 2024
Vol. 29 No. 4

President's Message

First, Happy Fourth of July. For me this holiday has been, along with Thanksgiving, the quintessential holiday as an American. In politics my guiding principle has been what's good for America, but somehow with the events of October 7, I need to consider what is good for us in politics in America and as a Jew.

It is a known fact that antisemitism has been on the rise exponentially. My parents moved from a small town in Maine to New York so that we can be raised with Jewish values and experiences. Rightly or wrongly, we were taught that what we did reflected on us as Jews. I still remember so called friends when they were angry at me saying "don't play with Esther, she killed Christ," or a neighbor in a thick, Italian accent telling my mother "Go back where she came from" and I don't think she meant Bath Maine.

While teaching at Long Island University (LIU), I was targeted by a professor there for protesting his lack of willingness to provide make-up exams for students who missed because of the High Holidays. He had a letter campaign against me, with references to giving precedence to "Moishe" and not Juan because of their ethnicity.

Recently, reading "Phillip Roth's *The Plot Against America*, I was struck by passage about the protagonist who escaped the Holocaust to come to America, wondering why he should support a Jewish homeland in Israel, *America was his homeland*.

October 7 changed a lot of our perceptions. Without Israel and support for Israel, the words of Elie Weisel saying "Never Again" is not so evident anymore. Without Israel, whether we disagree with its politics at times or not, there is a sense of real threat of annihilation once again. Israel is a country surrounded by many more thousands of people threatening its existence.

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Message from Rabbi Norm Roman

RANDOM SUMMERTIME THOUGHTS

"Summertime – and the livin' is easy . . ." So say the lyrics. But triple-digit heat (even if it's dry!), allergy season, the warnings of a new COVID variant, and the everyday ups-and-downs of life all leave their marks on us. I wish you patience, good humor, and strength as you cope with the next few months, and I pray that your livin' will be easy!

Here are some random thoughts and plans that are keeping me busy these days:

- ◆ The High Holy Days for 5785 are now only about three and one half months away. That means planning, practicing, preparing, outlining, studying, reading and writing. If you are interested in having an "honor" on Rosh HaShana or Yom Kippur, please be in touch with me or Suenette Maron. The Ritual Committee will be assigning parts and Aliyot based initially on those who volunteer.
- ◆ Beginning with a first gathering immediately after the July 7th Bagel Breakfast, anyone who wishes to learn more about our Worship Music – with singing or instrumentally playing along – as well as gaining an understanding of the Service's choreography, is welcome to join me and some friends in an informal opportunity of making your participation in Shabbat and Festival Prayer more meaningful. Knowledge of music or of Hebrew is not necessary! The goals are an enhancement of our Congregational experience and enrichment of each person's knowledge. There will be further opportunities as the Summer and Fall arrive, too.
- ◆ Additionally, other Adult Education programming will resume in August and September. In response to several requests, there will be a 4-part series of

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The GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

The Official Newsletter of
Beth Shalom Temple Center

Mail to: PO Box 884
Green Valley, AZ 85622

Location: 1751 N. Rio Mayo
Green Valley, AZ 85614
(520) 648-6690

www.bstc.us

Office Hours:

Monday & Friday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday: noon to 4 p.m.

President	Esther Levine Brill
VP	Gary Friedman
Treasurer	Ricki Letowt
Secretary	Gary Melton
At Large	Gloria Clancy
At Large	Mike Finkelstein
At Large	Harry Segal
At Large	Laurie Sherman
At Large	John Unger

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Editor: Stacy Laetsch

This is the July/August issue of the Shofar. The Green Valley Shofar newsletter is being published electronically only and on a bimonthly basis.

Print subscriptions can be ordered for \$18/year or go to: bstc.us to view and print archived volumes.

NEWSLETTER SUPPORT STAFF: Mike Finkelstein, Jane Gold, and Les Bakke

The editors reserve the right to edit contributions for grammar, length and content. Community and member news will be published only as space permits. Community or member events that conflict with Temple events will not be publicized in the Shofar.

PAYMENTS MADE TO BSTC

- ◆ BSTC accepts ZELLE to bstcgv@gmail.com
- ◆ Credit cards/PayPal link is available on the BSTC website.
- ◆ Checks are always welcome! Please memo for the program/event for which you are paying.

MAIL TO THE TEMPLE

To expedite delivery, any mail sent to the temple should be addressed to: **P.O. Box 884, Green Valley, AZ 85622**. Sending mail to the Rio Mayo address may result in a loss or delay. To expedite delivery please include the name of the person you wish to contact on the front of the envelope.

- ◆ For information on the *Memorial Board* and *Yahrzeits* contact Joyce Finkelstein by phone or by email.
- ◆ For information on *Tributes* items, contact Gary Melton.
- ◆ For information on *Commemorative Items*, contact the office.

TEMPLE USAGE SCHEDULING

Please turn in the Facilities Reservation Form (on the website or from the rack in the temple lobby) to reserve space. Contact the BSTC office at (520) 648-6690 with any questions.

Not all scheduled events are included in the Shofar. To include your program in the Shofar calendars, please notify the Shofar editor. Deadline for Shofar copy is the 25th of the month prior to the publication date.

The following commemorative items are available for purchase to honor or memorialize:

Memorial Board Plaques \$300 • Leaf for the Tree of Life \$100 • Sanctuary Chair \$125

Garden Bench \$225 • Garden Brick \$100

Send specific wording for the plaque, brick, etc. together with your check made out to BSTC, Attention “Memorial Board” or “Tree of Life,” etc. Order forms can be found in the Temple foyer or contact the office.

The volunteer chairing this committee will mail a personalized card to whomever you choose.

SEE SOME SAMPLE CARDS ON THE BSTC WEBSITE.

For an acknowledgement card to be sent **All Tributes MUST include the following information:**

1. **Name** of EACH recipient
2. **Address** of EACH recipient (*Addresses for temple members living in Green Valley need not be submitted with your request; however, if your recipient has more than one address, please specify which address*)
3. **Type of Tribute:** Happy Birthday, In Honor Of, With Sympathy, etc.
4. **Names of ALL who are sending** the Tribute including name of spouse, if appropriate.
5. Send your Tribute request and free-will offerings to: BSTC, P.O. Box 884, Green Valley, AZ 85622 (mark “Tributes” on the envelope and check memo line!)

Tributes since last publication:

- ♦ From Fil Ficks: **in memory of:** David Wolpert
- ♦ From Suenette and Steve Maron: **happy 80th birthday to:** Michael Gervan
- ♦ From Suenette and Steve Maron: **happy 50th anniversary to:** Bobbie and Jack Vishner
- ♦ From Ingeborg McDonald: **happy 80th birthday to:** Michael Gervan
- ♦ From Gary and Toi Melton: **happy 80th birthday to:** Michael Gervan and Ed Brill
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **healing thoughts to:** Harry Segal
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **healing thoughts to:** Gary Melton
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **healing thoughts to:** Gary Friedman
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **healing thoughts to:** John Unger on his upcoming surgery
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **healing thoughts to:** Marty Cohen
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **healing thoughts to:** Sherry Hoffman-Blum on her recent surgery
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **healing thoughts to:** Jo Legat’s son on his upcoming surgery
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **healing thoughts to:** John Evans
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **condolences to:** Laurie Sherman on the death of her uncle
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **condolences to:** Marlys Fiterman on the death of her partner, Marlys Rechkemmer
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **happy birthday to:** Michael Gervan on his 80th birthday
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **happy 50th anniversary to:** Jack and Bobbie Vishner
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **mazel tov to:** Kent J Blumenthal and the Stand with Israel Committee on being awarded a microgrant from the Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona Weintraub Center
- ♦ From Esther Levine and Ed Brill: **all the best to:** Ruth and Jim Barwick on their upcoming move to Atlanta

Beth Shalom Temple Center will provide reminders of yahrzeits, and the name(s) of your loved ones will automatically be recited for Kaddish at the appropriate Sabbath Services according to the Hebrew calendar.

If your yahrzeits are not yet on the current list and you wish them to be, please email Joyce Finkelstein (or send a note to the Temple for her attention) including your name, the name and relationship of deceased, and the date of death.

Yahrzeit Donations:

Remembered by	Relationship	Yahrzeit
Ruthann Shapiro	For her mother	Rosella Herman
Serene Rein	For her mother	Frances M Leavitt
Ingeborg McDonald	For her friend	Donald Weisbaum
Ruthann Shapiro	For her father	Norman Herman



BSTC ACTIVITY CALENDAR

BSTC continues to Live Stream Services on YouTube. Links are emailed to members.

Schedule of Services, Meetings, Classes & Events			
Day	Date	Time	Event
WED	7/3/24	10am	BSTC Book Club
SAT	7/6/24	10am	Torah Study—BSTC & Zoom
SUN	7/7/24	10am	Bagel Breakfast <i>sponsors: Ed & Esther Brill</i>
TUE	7/9/24	10am	Sisterhood Meeting @BSTC
WED	7/10/24	9am	Men's Club Meeting at El Patio
THU	7/11/24	9am	Long Range Planning on Zoom
FRI	7/12/24	1pm	Dine & Laugh Gala Mtg@BSTC
SAT	7/13/24	10am	Saturday Shabbat Service
TUE	7/16/24	1-4pm	Sisterhood Summer Mahjong Tournament
FRI	7/19/24	9:30am	Program Committee Mtg
SAT	7/20/24	10am	Torah Study—BSTC & Zoom
MON	7/22/24	10am	BSTC Board Meeting @BSTC
SAT	7/27/24	10am	Torah Study—BSTC & Zoom
SAT	8/3/24	10am	Torah Study—BSTC & Zoom
SUN	8/4/24	10am	Bagel Breakfast <i>sponsor: Michael Gervan</i>
WED	8/7/24	10am	BSTC Book Club
FRI	8/9/24	1pm	Dine & Laugh Gala Mtg@BSTC
SAT	8/10/24	10am	Torah Study—BSTC & Zoom
TUE	8/13/24	10am	Sisterhood Meeting @BSTC
WED	8/14/24	9am	Men's Club Meeting at El Patio
FRI	8/16/24	9:30am	Program Committee Mtg
FRI	8/16/24	7pm	Friday Night Shabbat Service
SAT	8/17/24	10am	Torah Study—BSTC & Zoom
SAT	8/24/24	10am	Torah Study—BSTC & Zoom
MON	8/26/24	10am	BSTC Board Meeting @BSTC
SAT	8/31/24	10am	Torah Study—BSTC & Zoom

RECOMMENDED:

Please check the Active Calendar on the BSTC website (bstc.us) for any updates.

President's Message continued

Without Israel, I believe we would be in a much more precarious position.

Along with Kent J. Blumenthal and his wife, Becky Charboneau, we represented BSTC at a program at the Tucson Jewish Community Center "United Against Hate: A Department of Justice Community Initiative- An Evening with the Jewish Community. Along with 200 participants we heard panel discussions and presentations from a wide variety of individuals, including the FBI, Pima County Sheriff's Department, The Tucson Police Department and the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Besides getting statistics on the rising reports of anti-semitism – that even presenters admit, is not the whole picture, we learned about the distinction between a hate crime and a hate incident. Except for my experience at LIU, the examples I gave above were hate incidents. The full extent of the campaign against me at LIU, which I have not gone into in this column, would have been considered a hate crime.

One thing that was really brought home to us, whether antisemitism manifests itself as a hate crime or hate incident, it needs to be reported. Call 911 if its immediate threatening, or otherwise to the FBI, local police, sheriff's department or even the Jewish Federation. Many times, hate incidents may show a pattern of behavior that can be used in prosecution of hate crimes.

We at BSTC are very lucky to have Kent J. Blumenthal and his Stand with Israel Committee who tirelessly work to get the word out about antisemitisms and the falsities reported about the ongoing conflict in Israel and the terrorists who aim to empty Israel of Jews by driving us "from the river to the sea" not only in Israel, but around the world.

Kudos need to go out to Kent also for applying and receiving a micro-grant from the Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona. The name of the project is "Stand with Israel! Advocacy Handbook" and will provide a way other synagogues and local Jewish organizations to establish similar committees" to defend itself against antisemitism that enables Hamas, Hezbollah, Houthis, Iran, and other radical terrorist regimes intent on Israel's destruction". The grant also supports the establishment of a website whereby our letters and others, can be filed thus providing a repository for us and other organization to access and use.

Included in the manual will also be a brief chronology of Eretz Yisrael's history from biblical times to the present conflict to inform the uninformed that Jews have lived in the land for millennia and that Israel is indigenous to the area and is *not an apartheid state, or any of the other epithets thrown at it.*

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Benefits from this project include increasing the number of voices that stand against antisemitism and support Israel by countering anti-Israel and antisemitic editorials, opinions and articles published by news media outlets, as well as to informing and educating non-Jews of historical truths regarding Israel and antisemitism. It also will provide a web-based forum for pro-Israel advocates and writers to post and share 'Letters to Editors,' 'Opinions,' and 'In My View' communiques that have been submitted for publication to local and national news media outlets. The expected date for completion of this wonderful project is October 1, 2024.

Let us continue this wonderful journey together,

Esther Levine Brill
President



Message from Rabbi Norm Roman continued

- ♦ **(point continued:)** discussions centered on other Books of the Tanach (Hebrew Bible), to complement our weekly, Saturday morning Torah Study Group. Tentatively, we are planning to begin with Proverbs. Watch for more information, and the Zoom link.
- ♦ The crisis in Israel is constantly on my mind, as it is, I am certain, on yours. We all feel the anguish, pain and frustration (the words seem almost too trivial) that we know are in the hearts of our brothers and sisters in Eretz Yisrael. We pray daily for the safe return of hostages, for the end of hostilities, for sanity and calm to replace death and destruction.
- ♦ I am grateful to BSTC's 'Stand With Israel Committee' for providing all of us with information, clarity, and the voices by which our feelings, souls and consciences can be strengthened. Please continue to show your support for our People through financial contributions when possible, through maintaining personal contact (phone calls, emails, etc.) with those whom you know – whether in Israel or in our own community, as they are suffering and feeling alone as well – and keeping up-to-date with analyses and true accounts of the situation.
- ♦ [I recently learned of a unique program by which Retirees especially, can provide much-needed help to young Israelis. "English B'Yachad" (B'Yachad means 'together') offers a Volunteer in Israel FROM

HOME experience: arranging individualized English tutoring to help Israeli young adults improve their confidence and fluency in English, in order to better succeed in high-tech jobs.

- ♦ "As an EBY tutor, you experience Israel in a very special way – by getting to know Israel through your students as they navigate the Israeli labor market, experience fluctuations in the security situation, celebrate Jewish and Israeli national holidays and share family and life events."
- ♦ For more information, search:
<https://skillvolunteerisrael.org>
608.469.0458
mgamoran@skillvolunteerisrael.org
- ♦ Finally, with great pride and excitement for all of us in Green Valley and at BSTC, a reminder to save the date of Wednesday evening, October 23rd (Simchat Torah), for our Ceremony of Welcoming and Dedicating our new Torah Scroll!

Shalom,

Rabbi Norm Roman



MEMBER DIRECTORY UPDATES

The 2024 Membership Directory is updated and posted on the Members Only page of the website when new information is received.

Printed copies of the directory are available for members upon request. Please email Stacy at bstcgv@gmail.com (or, call the office) for a copy.

- ♦ **New member:** Bonnie Vadnais
Green Valley, AZ 85614
- ♦ **New email address:** Linda Stein
- ♦ **New email address:** Gloria Clancy
- ♦ **Corrected phone number:** Harry Segal
- ♦ **Corrected email address:** Steve Maron

(Continued next column)

TEMPLE TIDINGS

THANKS AGAIN TO PAST MEMBERS

Pam Weston, daughter of long ago BSTC members Yeta and Aaron Weston, generously donated funds from her parents' estate to pay for the recent maintenance done to the automatic door system on the front doors of BSTC. Thanks again, to all the Weston Family!

UPDATE ON LIFE MEMBER

BSTC Life Member, Serene Rein, shared the following information:

Bill Liebson, also a Life Member of BSTC, is now 99 years old. He and Serene became Life Members simultaneously after attending a Board meeting many years ago. They both enjoyed the Yiddish Club very much.

Bill's family moved him recently from La Posada to a memory care place in Oro Valley, where he can be closer to them. If anyone want the address to write to Bill, it is offered below.

Bill Liebson
Oro Valley AZ 85755

MEMBER PASSING

Originally shared via email by BSTC member, Martha Wolpert: on May 17, 2024 her husband, BSTC member David Wolpert passed away. David's funeral, which included full honors, took place at the Arizona State Veterans Cemetery in Marana on May 21, 2024.

MORE SAD NEWS

As this issue of the Shofar was being prepared, Rabbi Norm shared that Marlys Rechkemmer, the partner of BSTC member, Marlys Fiterman, passed away on June 26th at Banner Hospital after a brief but very serious illness. At this time we have no information about funeral or visitation plans. As we learn more, those will be announced to the congregation by eblast.

BOARD NOTES

The most recent Board Meeting was on Monday, June 24, 2024 at 10am.

The BSTC Board meets at BSTC for the General Board meetings at 10am on the fourth Monday of each month. The approved minutes and financial reports are posted for review on the website and on the hallway bulletin board. All BSTC members are welcome to join General Board meetings. Member comments are entertained at each meeting. Check the active calendar for any updates.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ART GALLERY

The Art Gallery's current exhibit is Bev Lake's personal collection of Jewish art through the summer. Please view the pieces and please **VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITES** as Bev is planning to donate some pieces to the Dine & Laugh Gala—Celebrating 30 Years of BSTC auction where you may then have the opportunity to bid to own it! Inquire in the office if you have any questions.

CARING COMMITTEE

Who to Call?

Do you need to let the congregation know about an important life event? Are you interested in making calls to other members? If you have any prayer requests, know of any of our members who are sick and/or in the hospital, or would like to make phone calls, please contact Gary Melton, chair of the BSTC Caring Committee. Please call or email.

NEW COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

BSTC member, Laurie Sherman, has graciously volunteered to expand the PR Committee. Please see her message beginning in the next column:

Enough! Embracing Shabbat in a Consumerist World

John and I did not grow up celebrating Shabbat, but we've recently created a Shabbat observance that works for us. Inspired by Rabbi Norm's services, members of the congregation and also the Scandinavian ethic of 'Enough,' we've been incorporating these principle into our lives, and especially on Shabbat.

In 2019, global advertising spending surpassed \$590 billion, exposing individuals to nearly 10,000 marketing messages daily. The core mission of marketing is to instill a sense of inadequacy in consumers, urging them to purchase products to achieve fleeting happiness. Contrasting this, the Talmud's Ben Zoma states, "Who is wealthy? He who is happy with his lot." Similarly, Seneca observed, "It's not the man who has too little but the man who craves more who is poor."

A poignant illustration of this is when Kurt Vonnegut remarked that a wealthy host made more money in a day than Joseph Heller ever would from *Catch-22*. Heller responded, "Yes, but I have something he will never have: Enough."

Shabbat embodies this principle of enough, offering a time to pause and appreciate life's intrinsic perfection. It reminds us that joy comes from cherishing what we have, not from endless accumulation. In a world driven by the pursuit of more, Shabbat invites us to find wealth in contentment and peace in knowing we already have enough.

FIRST Meeting: Monday, July 15, noon. Light lunch, at Beth Shalom Temple Center

We are excited to invite you to join the newly formed Communications Committee at Beth Shalom Temple Center. As a valued member of our community, your skills and insights would be immensely beneficial as we work to enhance our temple's communication strategies.

Our first meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 15th, at noon, and we will provide a light lunch. Even if you can only attend this initial meeting, your thoughts and suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

During our meetings, we aim to discuss the diverse skills and interests each member can bring to the table. By leveraging our collective strengths, we can brainstorm innovative ways to support and promote

our temple. Here are some key areas we plan to focus on:

1. ****Skill and Interest Mapping****: Identifying each member's unique skills and how they can contribute to our communication goals.
2. ****Media Outreach****: Creating comprehensive media lists and developing relationships with local and regional media to expand our reach.
3. ****Branding and Image****: Enhancing our temple's brand through consistent and engaging messaging across all platforms.
4. ****Content Creation****: Developing compelling content for newsletters, social media, and our website to keep our community informed and engaged.
5. ****Event Promotion****: Effectively promoting temple events to increase attendance and participation.
6. ****Training and Development****: Offering training sessions to improve our communication skills and stay updated on the latest trends and tools.

As a small but dedicated committee, we can significantly impact our temple's visibility and community engagement. We need members who are passionate, creative, willing to learn and share their expertise. In return, you will gain valuable experience in communications and the satisfaction of contributing to the growth and success of our temple.

We anticipate meeting once a month for about an hour, with additional meetings scheduled as needed for specific projects. Your participation, even occasionally, would be invaluable.

Please RSVP as soon as possible, if you can attend the meeting on July 15th at 12 noon, by email.

We will have a light lunch for you!

We are looking forward to your positive response and to working together to make a difference for Beth Shalom Temple Center.

Warm regards,

Laurie Sherman



E-SCRIP

RAISE RIGHT is a national program offering name brand gift cards for purchase (sometimes at a discount) and *raises funds for BSTC without costing anything extra!*

Please contact Joyce Finkelstein with questions or for help.



FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAM

1. Visit www.frysfood.com
 2. Register your Fry's VIP Card online
 3. Search for Beth Shalom Temple Center, or by organization #MH533
 4. Select "Enroll"
- That is all that you need to do. Fry's will send a percentage of your purchases directly to the Temple. If you are not a Fry's VIP Card holder, just stop by your nearest Fry's and ask for a free application.

HOSPITALITY

Members are invited to **sponsor an Oneg** in honor of any special event or holiday—or just to do it! To sponsor Onegs are \$25 per service. Please contact the office or one of the BSTC Hospitality Chairs.

Bagel Breakfasts are the first Sunday of each month at 10am. Michael G is at the piano from 9:30 to 10. **Food events MUST HAVE YOUR RSVP by the Friday prior to ensure there is enough food.** The cost is now **\$12 for Members and for \$15 for Non-members.** To ensure there is adequate food and that enough tables are set up, any member who just shows up without having pre-reserved a space will be required to pay the non-member price, and any non-member doing the same will be charged \$20 per person.

JIM CLICK RAFFLE

The **2024 Jim Click Raffle** is underway! ***Tickets are \$25 each or 5 for \$100—back by popular demand!*** The grand prize is a Brand NEW 2024 Jeep Wrangler Rubicon 4x4 Plug-in Hybrid! Second prize is two round-trip, first-class plane tickets to anywhere in

the world (some restrictions apply). Third prize is \$5,000 in cash. Please contact Ed Gold or call the BSTC office for more information. ***So far, BSTC has raise \$325 in this year's raffle.***

LIBRARY

Jane Gold is the New BSTC Librarian!

Jane has completed weeding through the Fiction, Jewish Humor, and Travel sections. She and Rabbi will be working on the Religious section together.

Jane is also updating the policy and procedure for use of the space and any donations.

Please contact Jane with any questions or donations.

BSTC Book Club

The BSTC Book Club meets at BSTC every first Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. All members are welcome. Contact Laura Unger for more information.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

Welcome to new member, Bonnie Vadnais!

New members who have not done so in the past, please submit a digital photo of yourself and brief profile in order to allow the rest of the membership to know a little bit about each of you. Send your photos and write-up of your background, interests, and any Jewish activities you particularly enjoy to Mike.

Member Photos

BSTC welcomes photos from our members to be shared in the Shofar and/or on our social media platforms. Send pictures to Mike with details.

Anyone interested in joining this committee please contact Mike Finkelstein.

MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club meets at El Patio Restaurant at 9am on the second Wednesday of each month.

Contact Arnie Krohn with any questions or for more information.

PROGRAMS

GALA UPDATE:

The **Dine & Laugh fundraiser program** is scheduled for Saturday night, **November 9, 2024**. Monthly meetings see plans continue for this major fundraising event.

Laurie Sherman and John Evans are planning a class in Improvisation, to get all of us in the spirit for the November 9 entertainment.

We have created a unique BSTC email for gala communications: bstcgala2024@gmail.com

We need more volunteers to help those who have stepped up to take on various roles in planning the Gala. Currently, assignments are as listed below:

Co-chairs: Pat Naselow and Mike Finkelstein

Initial invitation letters are going out in June: Mike

Donors: Connie Greenwald

Tribute Book: Laura Unger

Bid Number Issuers or Silent Auction assistants: Debbie and Harry Segal

Entertainment: Sue Cohen, Steve Maron

Sponsors: Pat, Gary Friedman

Other Program News:

We recently sent out a survey to members, to gauge their interest in future BSTC. The ideas being considered include:

- ♦ A day trip to Nogales, AZ, to include a stop at the Jewish cemetery and other locations
- ♦ A multi day tour of Jewish Los Angeles or Jewish New York City
- ♦ A presentation of our temple members' recent Conversos trip.
- ♦ Folk Music Program by our rabbi

- ♦ Two presentations led by one of our members: Use your Brain to Improve Decision-making and Problem-Solving and Use your Brain to Improve Decision-making and Problem-Solving

- ♦ A Genealogy presentation by a BSTC member

Contact Mike Finkelstein with any questions or suggestions, or if you would like to join the Programs committee.

PUBLIC RELATIONS—now the Communications Committee. Please see message there to join!

RITUAL

The new Ritual Committee co-chairs are Suenette and Steve Maron.

The BSTC schedule of services for the summer and early fall of 2024 is listed here:

- ♦ Saturday, July 13, 10am—Shabbat Services
- ♦ Friday, August 16, 7pm—Shabbat Services
- ♦ Friday, Sept 6, 7pm—Shabbat Services
- ♦ Saturday, Sept 14, 10am—Shabbat Services
- ♦ Friday, Sept 20, 7pm—Shabbat Services

The High Holy Days begin on Wednesday, October 2nd with Erev Rosh HaShana services at 7pm. The full High Holy Day service schedule will be published in the September issue of the Shofar.

SECURITY

"If you see something, say something!"

Please contact Gary Friedman with any security questions or concerns.

Gary Friedman

BSTC Security

SISTERHOOD

The Sisterhood continues to meet every second Tuesday of the month at 10am at BSTC.

On Tuesday, July 16th from 12:30 to 4pm is the Summer Mahjong Tournament!

SOCIAL ACTION

The Social Action Committee is currently working on several initiatives, and we are inviting participation from Temple members.

- ♦ **Green Valley and Sahuarita Food Banks.** We continue to collect food for our local food banks. Items most needed include peanut butter, cereal/oatmeal, macaroni and cheese, ramen, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned beans, canned protein, rice, and pasta. There is a collection box in the Temple lobby.
- ♦ **Project Angel Heart,** a Tucson-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization collecting new pajamas for foster children and other children in need. Larger-sized girls' garments and preemie sizes are most needed. In addition, new or gently used books are always welcomed. Again, a donation box is available in the Temple lobby.

TORAH STUDY

Torah Portions are included for members in the table below. Torah Study meets every Saturday and has begun gathering again at the Temple at 10am, still including out-of-town members via our Zoom virtual platform. All are welcome. The link has been emailed and does not change. Contact the office if you need it.

WEBSITE—bstc.us

There are links on the password protected page to the Board meeting minutes and financial reports, both current and archived, and *the most updated member contact information directories are also available here.*

The active calendar is also there, as well as on-line payment option details are there.

Please email bstcgv@gmail.com or call the office at 520-648-6690, with any questions.

MONTHLY TORAH PORTIONS			
Portion (Parashat)	Date	Torah	Haftarah
KORACH	July 5-6, 2024	Numbers 16:1-18:32	I Samuel 11:14-12:22
CHUKAT	July 12-13, 2024	Numbers 19:1-22:1	Judges: 11:1-33
BALAK	July 19-20, 2024	Numbers 22:2-25:9	Micah 5:6-6:8
PINCHAS	July 26-27, 2024	Numbers 25:10-30:1	I Kings 18:46-19:21
Mattot-Mas'ei	August 2-3, 2024	Numbers 30:2-36:13	Jeremiah 1:1-2:28
DEVARIM	August 9-10, 2024	Deuteronomy 1:1-3:22	Isaiah 1:1-27
VA-ETCHANAN	August 16-17, 2024	Deuteronomy 3:23-7:11	Isaiah 40:1-26
EKEV	August 23-24, 2024	Deuteronomy 7:12-11:25	Isaiah 49:14-51:3
RE-EH	August 30-31, 2024	Deuteronomy 11:26-16:17	Isaiah 54:11-55:5



Happy Birthday to:	
Gary Israel	1-Jul
Ed Brill	3-Jul
Kimberly Lisk	3-Jul
Becky Charboneau	4-Jul
Art Drucker	4-Jul
Michael Gervan	5-Jul
Larry Gravitz	8-Jul
Stuart Lisk	11-Jul
Josh Migdal	11-Jul
Marcia Wiener	11-Jul
Ina Gravitz	13-Jul
Shari Rosenbloom	13-Jul
Gene Nudelman	18-Jul
Lynn Liebling	23-Jul
Diane Stein	23-Jul

Marilyn Israel	1-Aug
Donna Wyte	2-Aug
Robert Lipson	6-Aug
Jane Gold	8-Aug
Beverly Lake	9-Aug
Emanuel Shaham	12-Aug
Marlys Fiterman	13-Aug
Lynne Roman	13-Aug
Ann Cohn	18-Aug
William Katz	19-Aug
Dan Galitz	22-Aug
John Unger	22-Aug
Bobbie Vishner	25-Aug
Don Janklow	31-Aug



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Happy Anniversary to:	
Tom & Gloria Clancy	4-Jul
Larry & Helene Feldman	7-Jul
Larry & Ina Gravitz	15-Jul
Martin & Susan Cohen	23-Jul
Gene & Diane Stein	23-Jul
Gary & Lisa Israel	28-Jul
Kate & Harry Wolf	29-Jul

Ed & Jane Gold	7-Aug
Barbara & Andrew Katz	10-Aug
Becky Charboneau & Kent Blumenthal	13-Aug
Lynn & Don Janklow	16-Aug
Steve & Suenette Maron	20-Aug
Bunny & George Tarquinio	21-Aug

COMMITTEE	CHAIR/CO-CHAIR
Aesthetics	Tobey Gitelle
Art Gallery	Marcia Wiener
Art Gallery (co-chair)	Bev Lake
Book of Remembrance	Suenette Maron
BSTC Shopper	Laura Unger
Calendar & Reservations	BSTC office
Caring	Gary Melton
e-Scrip	Joyce Finkelstein
Facilities & IT	Les Bakke
Facebook	Jane Gold
Finance	Ricki Letowt
Historian	Gloria Clancy
Hospitality	Ricki Letowt
Hospitality/Bagel Breakfast	Mariann Katz
Hospitality/Oneg	Cris Hager
Jim Click Raffle	Ed Gold
Library	Jane Gold
Long Range Planning	John Unger
Memorial Board /Yahrzeits	Joyce Finkelstein
Membership	Mike Finkelstein
Men's Club	Arnie Krohn
President	Esther Levine Brill
Programs	Mike Finkelstein
PR/Communications	Laurie Sherman
Rabbi	Norman Roman
Ritual (co-chairs)	Suenette & Steve Maron
Security	Gary Friedman
Shofar	BSTC Office
Sisterhood	Sue Cohen
Social Action	Connie Greenwald
Tributes	Gary Melton
Website	BSTC Office