

GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

Vol. 22 No. 3

MAY/JUNE 2017



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President's Address

Beth Shalom Temple Center exists because of our membership of course, but more importantly as a result of dedication of our volunteers. Each volunteer, whether it is for a moment of time or for endless hours, every temple volunteer is important to the ongoing efforts to make Beth Shalom Temple Center a special place to be, and be part of.

It is impossible to imagine the temple functioning without its lay leadership. We function because of you and every member has the opportunity to be a leader i.e. any congregant can join one of the many Temple Committees.

Many folks comment that being a Synagogue President is a thankless task. While I cannot speak for all Presidents, I don't feel this is so. I feel thanked and rewarded every time a member comes to a program, or participates in any way whether it is volunteering to do a bagel run or helping clear tables at an *Oneg*. That's not to say I don't like hearing, as I have, members, visitors or potential members coming up to me to say what a warm and welcoming place we have, whether its a Shabbat service or after one of the several successful programs we have run these last several months

It's impossible to list all of you, but I want to say special thanks to those who produce our services, set up and attend Bagel Breakfast, coordinate and participate in our Art Gallery, help with facilities repair, play at the Bagel Breakfast or services, coordinate Sisterhood and Men's Club programs, or holiday celebrations or help with getting the word out about our programs etc. etc. Just look at the list of chairs of the various committees but know that this tells only part of the story as each committee has its members who work to further the goals of that committee and the Temple. So thank you all, individually and collectively.

It's hard to believe that it has only been four months since I took office and a new board was constituted and look what we have accomplished so far. Thank you too to all of you, who have placed their trust in me, shared their ideas and advice and most importantly their friendship.

I can't forget to thank my wonderful wife, Kay for her support and "allowing" me to serve the temple I love.

Merle Sobol

Let's all Pray, Play, and take care of each other.

GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

**The Official Newsletter of
Beth Shalom Temple Center
1751 N. Rio Mayo
Green Valley, AZ 85614
(520) 648-6690
www.bstc.us**

President	Merle Sobel
Vice President	Werner Lawson
Secretary	Barry Weissman
Treasurer	Jo Legat
At Large	Ruth Barwick
At Large	Jerry Belenker
At Large	Michael Benisch
At Large	Esther Brill
At Large	Gerry Foigelman

Editor/Publisher: Esther Levine Brill at
brill.esther2@gmail.com.

This is the May/June issue of the Shofar.
The Shofar is published 6 times a year:
Jan/Feb, March/April, May/June, July/Aug,
Sept/Oct, Nov/Dec.

NEWSLETTER SUPPORT STAFF

Ingeborg McDonald Marilyn Forstot, Mike
Finkelstein, Ed Brill, Margaret Bierd

The editor reserves 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.

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 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,
Yahrzeits and other commemorative gifts
contact Ruth Barwick

For information on the Green Valley
Cemetery, please call Ingeborg McDonald.

TEMPLE USAGE SCHEDULING

Before scheduling a program, please notify
Amy Storer at amystorer@ymail.com. This
will avoid scheduling conflicts. If you wish
to have your program included in the
Shofar calendars, notify the Shofar editor.
Not all scheduled events are included in the
Shofar. Deadline for Shofar copy is the 15th
of each month.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

TORAH STUDY: Saturdays, 10 a.m.

Monday, May 1, **Yom Hazikaron** (Israel's Memorial Day)

Tuesday, May 2, **Yom Ha'atsma'ut** (Israel's Independence Day)

Friday, May 5, 7 p.m., **Friday Night Shabbat Services**

Sunday, May 7, 9:30 to 10 a.m., **Michael G at the piano** (Before Bagel Breakfast)

Sunday, May 7, 10 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 a.m.), **Bagel Breakfast**. Sponsored by *Sid and Ruthann Shapiro in honor of Sid's Birthday*. **Yiddish Club** to follow

Tuesday, May 9, 10 a.m. **Ethical Will Workshop (RSVP by May 5)**

Sunday, May 14 **Lag B'Omer** (starts at sunset May 13 and ends sunset May 14)

Thursday, May 18, **Sisterhood outing to Philbaum's Glass Gallery and Studio. RSVP by May 15.** Meet **9 a.m.** in BSTC's parking lot for carpooling

Friday, May 19, 7 p.m., **Friday Night Shabbat Services**

Monday, May 22, 10 a.m., **Board Meeting**

Tuesday, May 23, sunset, to sunset
Wednesday May 24, **Yom Yerushalayim** (Jerusalem Day)

Monday, May 29, **Memorial Day**

Tuesday, May 30 (sunset) to sunset,
Thursday June 1, **Shavuot**

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Friday, June 2, 7 p.m., **Friday Night Shabbat Services**

Sunday, June 4, 9:30 am, **Michael G at The Piano** (Before Bagel Breakfast)

Sunday, June 4, 10 a.m. (doors open at 9:30 a.m.), **Bagel Breakfast**; Yiddish club to follow

Friday, June 16, 7 p.m., **Friday Night Shabbat Services**

Monday, June 26, 10 a.m. **Board Meeting**

MEMBER NEWS & UPDATES

Baruch Habah - A hearty BSTC welcome to our new members.

Dan Galitz,

Nomi Shannon

Bernard (Bud) Stein

BIRTHDAYS: Happy Birthday to:

May 2	Amy Storer
May 6	Eugene Stein
May 9	Harvey Beim
May 16	Ruth Barwick
May 26	Les Simon
May 30	Madelyn Weig
May 31	Nona Shanon
June 3	Cyrel Bandy
June 4	Jeanette Nathan
June 6	Gail Norton
June 6	Gail Sommers
June 7	Alan Loew
June 8	Bonnie Cavell
June 10	Carolyn Fox
June 18	Steven Abrahams
June 21	Renee Marcus
June 23	Steve Maron
July 1	Gary Israel

Anniversaries: Mazal Tov to:

May 8	Fred & Jo Legat
May 26	Faigee & Clarence Niebow
May 27	Melvin & Dorrie Roman
May 28	Richard & Danielle Wernick
June 7	Shuviel & Esther Ma'aravi
June 8	Dick & Bonnie Cavell
June 9	Michael & Alice Tannenbaum
June 18	Bob & Shirley Nye
June 21	Harriet & Jerry Belenker
June 24	William & Marilyn Forstot
June 30	Irene & Sam Miller
July 4	Gloria & Tom Clancy

May you continue to celebrate in good health, happiness and joy.

Have a great day and year

TRIBUTES**Commemorative Items:**

The following memorial plaques, leaves for the Tree of Life, and other commemorative items are available for purchase:

Memorial plaques, \$300

Sanctuary Chair, \$125

Garden Brick, \$100

Leaf for the Tree of Life, \$100

Garden Bench, \$225

Send specific wording for the plaque, brick, etc. together with your check (made out to Beth Shalom Temple Center) to Ruth Barwick or to BSTC, Attention "Memorial Board" or "Tree of Life," etc. Order forms can be found in the Temple foyer.

TRIBUTES

Do you need to send a greeting card? Do you want to support your Temple? Here's a great way to do both. Amy Storer, will mail a lovely, personalized card to whomever you choose. To do so:

Send your Tribute request and free-will offerings to:

1. Beth Shalom Temple Center, P.O. Box 884, Green Valley, AZ 85622 (mark "Tributes" on the envelope and check)
2. OR send e-mail to Amy at amystorer@gmail.com (and send your check to BSTC)

Amy will receive your request much faster if you e-mail it

If ordering several Tributes at the same time, print the birthday/anniversary page of the Shofar, check off the names of those you'd like to designate for Tribute(s), and mail it in with your check. Tributes may be sent with your own personal greeting for birthdays, anniversaries, get well, condolences, best wishes for the new home, in appreciation, mazel tov, and sympathy upon loss of a pet, etc.

Tributes

Condolences to Cyrel Bandy on the death of Jeff Lawrence from Steve and Myrna Feldman

In honor of Jeanette and Denis Nathan from Donna and David Wyte

Condolences to Cyrel Bandy on the passing of Jeff Lawrence from Mel and Dorie Roman

In Honor of Ed and Esther Brill from Jeff Macklis

Condolence to Cyrel Bandy in honor of Jeff Lawrence from Amy Storer

Get Well Wishes to Mel and Dorie Roman from Ed and Esther Brill

Condolences to John Nemerovski from Mel and Dorrie Roman

Mazal Tov to Irene and Sam Miller on their move to La Posada from Ed and Esther Brill

In Honor of Marcia Weiner and in support of the Art Gallery from Beth Gansky

Good wishes to Amy Storer from Ed and Esther Brill

Yahrzeits

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 notify **Ruth Barwick** (rbarwick16@gmail.com) or send a note to the Temple for her attention including your name, the name and relationship of deceased, and the date of death. Family members must approve additions to the list.



TEMPLE TIDBITS

The Jim Click 2017 Raffle

Beth Shalom Temple Center will again be selling tickets for this raffle. Get a chance to win a 2017 Ford Explorer Platinum as the Grand Prize with a minimum MSRP of \$54,000. Two first class round-trip tickets to anywhere comprise the second place prize and the third place prize is \$5000.

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Tickets are \$25 each or 5 tickets for \$100. All proceeds of the sale go to the temple. Contact the temple at 648-6690 to make arrangements for purchase.

Sponsor an *Oneg* or Bagel Breakfast

We have several ***Onegs*** that need sponsors. Please contact Ruthann and Sid Shapiro who are now coordinating Friday night *Onegs*. They can be reached at ruthannshapiro@me.com. The cost is \$80 and the committee assists in set-up and, along with volunteers, clean ups.

It's a great way to celebrate/commemorate a person or event as well as support the temple.

We also have need of sponsorship for our **bagel breakfasts**. Those are \$100 and Werner Lawson is the Coordinator. He can be reached at wlawson@aol.com

BSTC Procedure Manual To Be Updated

Several years ago, in an attempt to document what each temple committee does to accomplish its mission and tasks, Mike Finkelstein led a group to codify, in some way, the procedures and processes committees use and to assist successive committee chairs

This document was **not** to be set in stone. It was to be a living record of what each committee does and how they go about it.

Merle Sobel, our president has asked Mike to get in touch with chairs of committees for them to review, with their committee, their procedures and to see how they align with what they are doing now and our bylaws.

We know there are many past committee chairs and members who can also provide valuable input. So please look at the list of committee chairs as well as the procedure manual for any suggestions you might have for what should be changed, added, etc. based on your experiences.

Have You Checked Us Out on Facebook Yet?

Just a reminder that BSTC is so up-to-date we have our own Facebook page. Our moderator for this outreach is Danielle Wernick .

So check us out to see what is happening at BSTC or send her content or photos of BSTC events. Danielle can be reached at dvwest1@aol.com and you can get on Facebook by copying and pasting the following link into your browser <https://www.facebook.com/1751BSTC/?fref=ts>

Torah Study

Since ancient times, a weekly portion (*Parashah*) from the *Torah* (first five books of Moses) and an ending (*Haftarah*) from the Prophets is read on *Shabbat* in synagogues around the world. This portion is given a Hebrew name drawn from the opening words of the Torah passage.

BSTC's Torah Study group continues to meet every Saturday morning from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Currently the book of Leviticus, started in mid April, is finishing and the book of Exodus will be begun the last Shabbat of May and continue to be studied over the next six weeks.

Torah Study Fund

Please consider donating to the Torah Study Fund to help defray the costs of our weekly Torah Study. Send your contributions (with notation on check and envelope: Torah Study Fund) either online or by mail to the temple.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Save the Date: Friday November 3, 2017 - Mitzvah Day 2017

Last year over 25 members of BSTC along with some of their friends as well as other faith-based organizations took part in Mitzvah Day. It was the 3rd successful year for this community of caring.

We now need assistance and leadership so that we can have a 4th year celebration of gratitude. Please think of how you can be a vital part of planning as we try to bring this event to our communities. Sign up now by emailing Marcia Wiener at marjoe711@yahoo.com

ART GALLERY

Our summer exhibition starts the beginning of May and will show BSTC's own collection of prints, paintings, fiber art and objects of ritual. This collection has been donated to BSTC over many years to enhance our walls. The exhibit runs through August. Please stop and look at this showing whenever you are at BSTC this summer. Thank you.

Marcia Wiener

MEN'S CLUB

Like your favorite TV shows, the Men's Club Romeos are going on summer hiatus. There will be no more meetings until the fall. However we ask that if you have any suggestions for programs, please get in touch with Gerry Foigelman or Ed Brill.

SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood is planning a guided tour to Philabaum's Glass Gallery and Studio in Tucson and will have an opportunity to admire, if not purchase, some exceptional glass pieces in their gift shop on **Thursday, May 18**. Following our visit we will enjoy a lunch at a nearby restaurant. All who are planning to join us **must e-mail Gail Norton** (abirdwoman@gmail.com) **or** Susan Cohen (martyrxpx@aol.com) **no later than May 15**. The event is open to spouses and friends, and we hope to have a great attendance. We are planning to meet in the BSTC parking lot at 9 a.m. to establish carpools.

This is the last official sisterhood program for the year, however we will spontaneously organize some trips to the Loft Cinema as well as other favored places during the summer. *Sue Cohen*

The Membership Initiative Committee wholeheartedly thanks Sisterhood for their \$250 donation to the new members reception,

LINES FROM THE LIBRARY **A Tale of Two Ships - Part 2**

On November 6, 1948, the Haganah, through an intermediary, purchased a derelict, war-worn ship known as the President Warfield. This purchase was part of the Haganah's plan to rescue refugees after Britain set up a blockade to restrict immigration to Palestine. Soon after Britain announced that anyone captured during the blockade would be sent to detention camps. The Haganah's plan was to buy ships that could slip through the British blockade.

The ship, chosen because it was so derelict looking, was renamed Exodus 1947 and was very instrumental in creating the state of Israel. The Haganah felt that no one would suspect this broken down vessel as useful for immigrants. However, Britain did become aware of its purpose and followed it with British RAF airplanes and naval warships.

During the early hours of July 11 over four thousand refugees, including concentration camp survivors, children who had been in hiding and the sick and elderly, boarded the ship at the French port of Sete. Conditions aboard the ship were dire with overcrowding, including limited supplies and poor sanitation.

On July 18, near the coast of Palestine but outside territorial waters three destroyers ordered the ship to stop, which the Exodus refused. Fighting broke out

Lines from the Library continued..

The bows of the Exodus were rammed, and as a result the Exodus was severely disabled. The British then towed the ship to Haifa and the passengers were forcefully transferred to other ships for deportation to France.

Once docked in France, the immigrants refused to disembark despite the very poor conditions on board and the French government refused to force them off.

The British nation then made an extremely vindictive decision and the ship was sent to Hamburg in Germany's British Zone. Passengers were once again brutally and cruelly taken from the ship and transported to detention camps.

The entire world was horrified at this action, as the many journalists who were covering the story from the start, publicized the heartlessness and viciousness of the British. Their reporting helped to make the plight of these would be immigrants into a symbol of the fight for a Jewish homeland in Palestine

In November 1947 the United Nations voted to partition Palestine and the state of Israel was born. Please read Exodus 1947 by David C. Holly in our BSTC library! There is so much more to be known! *Sonny and Linda, Your librarians.*

DEMONSTRATION OF JETS/ISRAEL – AN ONLINE INTERACTIVE LEARNING MODALITY:

JETSIsrael is an Israel based company that provides an online interactive teaching experience in various Jewish religion and culture topics. The programs are provided through participants' computers as an online interactive seminar. The company is planning to provide a free 20 minute demo to interested members of our congregation entitled "Stones that Speak: An Archaeological/Holiday Tour of Israel". The demonstration will take place through the use of participants' personal computers, at **8 a.m. on May 28th**. Go to <http://www.jetsisrael.com/> for more information about the company. Please email Steve Maron at smaron@uchcaz.org if you would like to participate in this demonstration, including your name and preferred **e-mail**.

ABOUT THE UPCOMING HOLIDAYS IN MAY AND JUNE

Yom Hazikaron (Israel's Memorial Day) honors those who fell fighting for Israel since 1860 when Jews were first allowed to live in Palestine outside of Jerusalem's city walls. In modern times it began unofficially with the establishment of the state of Israel and made into law in 1963. It is not a religious observance but a civic one. It is observed an entire day from sundown the evening before to sundown of the day observed. This year it is from sunset, Sunday, April 30 to sunset on Monday, May 1.

Yom Hazikaron and Upcoming Holidays continued...

The day was first dedicated to soldiers killed in the line of duty but has expanded to encompass security workers and others killed while protecting civilians during terrorist attacks and casualties of political violence and Palestinian attacks

It is never observed on Shabbat but postponed to another day. The day's mood is very different from our own Memorial Day. A striking example is the sounding of a siren at 8 p.m. the evening before and at 11 a.m. the next day. This siren is heard throughout the land and it is amazing to see people stop whatever they are doing and come to a complete standstill for two minutes with each siren blast. Public recitations of prayers in military cemeteries are carried out during the 11 a.m. blast. Another feature of the day is closure of all public entertainment places, e.g. theaters, movies etc. and all radio and television programs are devoted to conveying the meaning of the day.

Yom Ha'atsma'ut (Israel's Independence Day) occurs the day after *Yom Hazikaron* and celebrates Israel's declaration of independence in 1948. This is a joyful day for Israel and is in sharp contrast to the mournful tone of the day before. Public picnics, barbeques and visiting with friends are common aspects of the day.

Lag B'Omer (literally the 33rd day of the *Omer* – which begins at the second Passover Seder and continues for 49 days ending with *Shavuot*). This year it is from sundown on May 13 to sundown on May 14.

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Lag B'Omer provides a break in the semi-mourning of the *Omer* and enables many activities and festivities otherwise prohibited during the *Omer*. In Israel it is customary to have bonfires and the air is scented with the smoke of bonfires. In the US, picnics and sports are common activities.

Yom Yerushalayim (Jerusalem Day) is Israel's national holiday commemorating the June 1967 reunification of Jerusalem and the establishment of Israeli control over the Old City. The Chief Rabbinate of Israel declared *Yom Yerushalayim* a minor religious holiday to thank G-d for victory in the Six-Day War and for answering the 2,000-year-old prayer of "Next Year in Jerusalem."

Shavuot, also known as the Feast of Weeks or Pentecost, is a Jewish holiday commemorating the anniversary of the day that G-d gave the Torah to the Jewish people at Mount Sinai, thus becoming a nation committed to serving G-d.

Shavuot also marks the all important wheat harvest in the Land of Israel. Coming seven weeks after Passover, this year it is observed from sunset on Tuesday, May 30 and ends on the evening of Thursday, June 1. Members of many synagogues customarily remain awake until dawn on the first night to study the Torah. *Yizkor* is recited on the second day. (Note: *Yizkor* is actually recited four to five times a year – the second day of *Shavuot*, *Yom Kippur*, *Shemini Attzeret* the second day of Passover and on the

Shavuot continued...

anniversary of a relative or friend's death.) In this prayer we implore G-d to remember our deceased relatives and friends. It is also common to give *tzedakah* (charity) in the name of the deceased person.

WISH YOU WERE THERE

Community Passover Seder 2017

This year's annual Passover service and Sedar was held on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at the temple and was a wonderful affair. We originally planned for 50 people to attend the Seder but day by day more and more reservations came in and we ended up with 90 people and 2 children. I was glad to see the Wernick's children recite the four questions, and search and ransom the *afikiomen*. (A *half-piece of matzo taken from the middle stack of matzot during the early stages of the Seder and set aside to be eaten as a dessert after the meal*. Many families, in order to help children stay awake and interested during the Seder, traditionally hide the half piece of matzo and allow children to then look for it during the meal. Since the Seder cannot be completed without it, the one finding the *afikomen* "*ransoms*" it back to the *Seder* leader. If you look on Facebook, you will see some pictures from the event.

The meal was excellent and many people had leftovers from their Cornish hen to take home. Kudos and thanks to Alex Legat, the chef and his helper, Sid Shapiro for the fabulous meal. Kudos and thanks also to the many members who helped cleanup and bus tables. They certainly have volunteer time to fulfill their hours for the *Mishpacha Club*.

Everyone worked very hard to put on this affair and it certainly was reflected in the great time everyone had. I look forward to more of these Seders in the future. *Jo Legat* (Editor's note: And thank you to Fred Legat who was in charge of the Seder as well as Jo his able assistant.

FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAM – We Made \$30 Last Month

Thanks to Our BSTC Fry Shoppers

Enroll in the **Fry's Community Rewards Program** and benefit the synagogue with no expense to you. Here is all that you need to do...

1. Visit www.frysfood.com
2. Register your Fry's VIP Card online
3. Search for Beth Shalom Temple Center, or by organization **#77412**
4. Select "Enroll"

That is all you need to do. Fry's will send a percentage of your purchases directly to the Temple. Last month \$30 was donated to our synagogue through this program.

If you are not a Fry's VIP Card holder, just stop by your nearest Fry's and ask for a free application. It will only take minutes to get your VIP Card. *Joyce Finkelstein*

Special thanks to Dr. Marty Cohen who is stepping down from his role as Ritual Committee Chair.

Werner Lawson is **looking for volunteers** to help out with bagel breakfasts. You can email or call him or leave a message on the Temple's phone.

Committee Chair Updates

Committee	Chair(s)
Aesthetics	Tobey Gitelle
Art Gallery	Marcia Wiener
Bagel Breakfast Coordinator	Werner Lawson
Book of Remembrance	Suenette Maron
BSTC Shopper	Mel Roman
Building Reservations	Amy Storer
Caring /	Jo Legat
Cemetery	Ingeborg McDonald
Data Base/Business Manager	Margaret Bierd
Event Updates	Ellen Gold
Facilities	Amy Storer
Finance	Jo Legat, Margaret Bierd
Fundraising Projects	OPEN
Historian	OPEN
Hospitality	Michel Kouhana
Library	Sonny Foigelman, Linda Stein
Memorial Board/Yahrzeits	Ruth Barwick
Membership Initiative	Mike Finkelstein
Membership Coordinator	Steve Levine
Men's Club	Gerry Foigelman, Ed Brill
Oneg Shabbats	RuthAnn and Sid Shapiro
Phone Messages	Joyce Finkelstein
Mishaberachs	Jo Legat
Programs	OPEN
Public Relations	Mike Finkelstein
Ritual	OPEN
Social Action	Jerry Belenker
Shofar / E-Shofar	Esther Levine Brill
Sisterhood	Sue Cohen
Tributes	Amy Storer
Website	Mike Finkelstein

Please consider volunteering to chair/co chair one of these open committees or even to be a member of the committee itself