

GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

Vol. 22 No. 4

July/August 2017



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our Beth Shalom Temple Center family, our '*kehilla*', our community, implies "sacred community". Why is that?

Sometimes I ask myself, "Why are we in business? What's our purpose here at Beth Shalom Temple Center? What's our mission and what's our focus? Why are we all here and, as importantly, why are many of us not here?"

Well, of course we are a place of worship, a synagogue for ritual and prayer. Of course we are also a place to share sadness when a loved one has passed and we seek comfort from each other as well as a place of joy when we celebrate happy occasions.

But...why are we in business? We are a house of study--a "*beit midrash*", a house of assembly, a "*beit kneset*", and also a house of prayer, a "*beit tefilah*". So this tells us who we are but not really why we are in business.

I submit that: We are a sacred community because we choose not to be counting Jews here, but rather to be connecting with Jews here. I suggest the answer as to why we are here is found in many different things and in many different ways, but it's all about the connections. I just know we succeed best when we are in connection with each other.

I submit that: We are in the business of "engagement". Engaging one another in meaningful prayer, song, joy, sadness, laughter, compassion, fun, learning, comfort... We do so because we care about each other and the future of the Jewish people. We must show we care by engaging with one another.

Now, if you don't actively participate in temple life, you used to be more active, or you just haven't considered it yet, if you care, then this message is for you. Choose to care...

Figure out what's holding you back. Make the decision to be part of this. Decide that you really can make some time to help if you want to. You already know it will enrich your life and the life of others so don't be cynical, apathetic, or just too busy--Just believe.

What is your area of interest? Let me know, and I will be happy to put you in touch with someone who can use your help. Think also about your particular talents. Are you organized and detail-oriented? There may be a role for you on either an ongoing or occasional basis within a committee's activities. Are you creative? Maybe some committee could use your help to enliven what it does.

You get the picture. We can always use your help, however you'd like to volunteer!

Merle Sobol

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

GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

**The Official Newsletter of
Beth Shalom Temple Center
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www.bstc.us**

President	Merle Sobol
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 Levine Brill
At Large	Gerald Foigelman

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This is the July/August 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 by phone or email.

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

TEMPLE USAGE SCHEDULING

Before scheduling a program, please
contact Amy Storer. 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.

Sunday, July 2, 9:30 to 10 a.m., **Michael G** at the piano (Before Bagel Breakfast)

Sunday, July 2, 10 a.m., (doors open at 9:30 a.m.) **Bagel Breakfast**. Yiddish Club to follow

Tuesday, July 4, **Independence Day**

Friday, July 7, 7 p.m., **Friday Night Shabbat Services** led by Steve Maron. **Oneg** sponsored by *Ingeborg McDonald*

Tuesday, July 11, **Fast of 17th of Tammuz**, sunrise to sunset.

Tuesday, July 11, 10 a.m., **Sisterhood Meeting**

Friday, July 21, 7 p.m., **Friday Night Shabbat Services. Oneg** sponsored by *Marcia Wiener*

Monday, July 24, 10 a.m. **Board Meeting**

Monday, July 31, sundown, **Erev Tish'ah B'Av**. Start of 9th of Av fast

Tuesday, Aug. 1, **Fast of Tish'ah B'Av**. Ends at sundown

Friday, Aug. 4, **Friday Night Shabbat Services** led by Alan Winfield. **Oneg** sponsored by Ed and Jane Gold

Sunday, Aug. 6, 9:30 to 10 a.m., **Michael G** at the piano (Before Bagel Breakfast)

Sunday, Aug. 6, 10 a.m., (doors open at 9:30 a.m.) **Bagel Breakfast**

Sunday, Aug. 6, following Bagel Breakfast ***The Jewish Journey: America***, film followed by discussion

Friday, Aug. 18, **Friday Night Shabbat Services**

Tuesday, Aug. 22, 29 and Sept. 5, 10 a.m. – 12 noon, **A Taste of Judaism**

Monday, Aug. 28, 10 a.m. **Board Meeting**

MEMBER NEWS & UPDATES

Baruch Habah - A hearty BSTC welcome to our new members. Please add their contact information to your Directory.

Janis Ferraro

Barbara Kowalski

BIRTHDAYS: Happy Birthday to:

July 1	Gary Israel
July 3	Ed Brill
July 5	Michael Gervan
July 6	Louis Simon
July 11	Marcia Wiener
July 14	Fred Legat
July 23	Diane Stein
July 26	Carolyn Simon
July 26	Barry Savitz
July 28	Rosalind Halmos
July 29	Ellen Savitz
July 30	Dot Feldman
Aug. 1	Marilyn Israel
Aug. 2	Donna Wyte
Aug. 4	Alice Tannenbaum
Aug. 16	Werner Lawson
Aug. 22	Dan Galitz
Aug. 25	Helen Beckelman
Aug. 28	Steve Levine
Aug. 29	Maridell Nochumsom
Sept. 6	Melvin Roman

Have a great day and year

Anniversaries: Mazal Tov to:

July 4	Gloria & Tom Clancy
July 7	Larry & Helene Feldman
July 23	Susan & Martin Cohen
July 23	Gene & Diane Stein
July 28	Lisa & Gary Israel
July 31	Janis & Paul Ferraro
Aug. 10	Ruth & Jim Barwick
Aug. 20	Steve & Suenette Maron
Aug. 28	Les & Carolyn Simon
Sept. 2	Ellen & Barry Savitz

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

Meet New Member Nomi Nigrosh Shannon

Nomi moved to Green Valley in July 2016, after living most of the prior 30 years in San Diego CA. Born and raised in Newton, Massachusetts, and my grandfather was a well-known Zionist in New England. Our large extended family were all practicing Jews- except for my parents.

Despite coming from a strong Jewish background, joining BSTC is the first time in my life that I've ever belonged to a temple. While my parents didn't belong to any temple; they observed all holidays. However, I never was exposed to Jewish education.

I have two children: Doug and Laura Shannon, and one grandson. Both of them have been in the film business for many years – I have no idea how that happened! Laura is a Costume Designer and Doug is a Gaffer (chief lighting technician).

At age 40, I received a BA in Psychology, cum laude, then attended Boston University

School of Social Work. However, being a raw food author, chef, teacher and coach has been my world for the past 30 years.

My first book, *The Raw Gourmet* was published in 1999. Since then I've written four more books --Not to mention *shlepping* all over the country teaching live classes with a car full of kitchen equipment, books and a dog. Unlike many people in Green Valley I am not retired, although I no longer work 60 hours a week as I have for the past 20 years."

TRIBUTES

Do you need to send a greeting card? Do you want to support your Temple? Here's a great way to do both. At present, Margaret Bierd will mail a lovely, personalized card to whomever you choose. Here's how you can do it:

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 E-mail it to Margaret and send your check to BSTC)

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

From Nancy Feldman for:

Her brother who lost his mother-in-law, Anna Gulya
Rabbi Shuviel's mother, Hannah
Amy Storer

In Memory of Cyrel Bandy from:

Sid & Riette Smith

Kay Burrows

Dr. Robert Fridrich

In celebration of Jim and Ruth Barwick's granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah from Marcia Wiener

In celebration of the marriage of Edward and Esther Brill's son, Alexander, from Marcia Wiener

Commemorative Items:

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

Memorial 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 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.

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 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 TIDINGS

The Jewish Journey: America

On Sunday, August 6, following the Bagel Breakfast, the temple is showing and discussing *The Jewish Journey: America*. This film, directed by Andrew Goldberg and narrated by Emmy Award-winning journalist Martha Teichner, traces Jewish immigration to America from the earliest arrivals in the mid 17th century through the impact of Nazi rule, Israel's creation and the challenges of 21st century assimilation.

Through personal stories faced by these immigrants whether they came to escape oppression or for economic opportunity, along with interviews with scholars of Jewish history and Jewish writers the many stories of Jewish migration are explored, with a rarely covered look at the actual journeys to get here.

New Temple Brochure Published

A new brochure for BSTC is now available. Re-developed by Nancy Karsh and Steve Levine with significant assistance and patience provided by the Membership Committee, the brochure is replete with images of members engaged in a variety of activities as well as explanation of these activities.

At present you may come across these brochures at the Green Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Tubac Visitor Center, as well as (of course) the Temple library. Additional locations are planned. *Steve Levine*

Jim Click Raffle

BSTC is once again participating in the Jim Click Raffle. If you would like to have the opportunity to win the grand prize of brand new 2017 Ford Explorer Platinum 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. Please contact Marilyn Forstot to purchase your ticket(s). Donation is \$25 for 1 or \$100 for 5. This is a great fundraiser for our temple since 100% of the proceeds stays with BSTC.

A Taste of Judaism

Long held at Temple Emanuel, BSTC will be hosting their three-class introduction to the basics of Jewish spirituality, values and community. The classes will be given from 10 a.m. to 12 noon on Tuesday, August 22, 29 and September 9 and are provided by the Ruth F. and Samuel H. Cohen Outreach Program of Temple Emanuel.

The classes are taught in an open discussion style, giving a fun, vibrant “taste” of the best Judaism has to offer, including tasty foods. The program is free but pre-registration is required.

SISTERHOOD

On Tuesday, July 11, there will be an important *Sisterhood meeting* at BSTC at 10 a.m. to plan a full calendar of events to share with spouses and friends. This year Sisterhood hopes to arrange more outings than in previous years and hopes to take full advantage of the Jewish Film Festival in Tucson as well as live theater.

The format for the annual Mah Jongg tournament in November will be reviewed and refined as well. Please join us. *Susan Cohen*

ART GALLERY

The **first Art Show for the New Year 5778** at the BSTC Art Gallery will be objects and paintings from three cultures that surround us in Green Valley including Native American, Mexican and Southwest Arizonan. If you are a collector of the beautiful arts, fabrics, pots, ceramics, baskets, etc. that decorate your home and might have influenced your own artistic work, please think of sharing them with us.

We have all come to Arizona from different places. This will be another opportunity to *learn about our new neighbors*.

The show will hang from August 30th to October 25th. Please let me know the item, size and a brief description of the piece for labeling **by July 15 or sooner**, *Thank You*.

Marcia Wiener

LINES FROM THE LIBRARY

Come in and see our new and very beautiful maple cabinets that were recently installed. The library will be making very good use of them and they go a long way in adding to the beauty and serenity of our wonderful BSTC library. Come in and see them.

And while you are visiting look for these books that are brand new, just for you and shelved on the library cart.

Life in a Jar: The Irena Sendler Project (Jack Meyer)

The story of a courageous Polish woman who put herself in harm's way countless times in trying to rescue Jewish children who were this saved. Like many others her heroism was suppressed by Communist Poland and remained unknown until three high school girls in rural Kansas stumbled across an enticing reference to her and her rescues. They fashioned her story into a play for a history project naming it *Life in a Jar*. This play while first seen in Kansas went on to be shown in many places in the U.S. and finally Poland. Thus Irena Sendler after more than 60 years became known to the world for the power of one person to change the world. She is now recognized as being among the righteous at *Yad Vashem*.

Pumpkinflowers: A Soldier's Story of a Forgotten War (Matti Friedman) The author, who is a journalist and a former member of the IDF, gives us a very up close view of his experiences in Southern Lebanon as well as a narrative of the last years of Israel's presence there.

The title comes from the name of one of the security zone's lonely outposts made up of fortified lookouts and surrounded by trenches and bare bunkers as well as Israeli radiomen jargon for the wounded (i.e. flowers). (Editor's note: several friends have recommended this book as a must read for me and looking over some of the reviews of this book, including that of the *NY Times*, Amazon, Good Reads etc., I can understand why.)

The Kiddush Ladies (Susan Sovayov) Naomi, Miriam and Becky, now gracefully approaching middle age, have been friends forever. For years they have been chopping, dicing and slicing preparing the Kiddush luncheon for the congregation. As Naomi says “if the soul of their small *shul*, B’nai Israel, rested in the sanctuary, its heartbeat emanated from the kitchen...the service brought them to the synagogue, but the food and the lunchtime fellowship made them a community.”

Suddenly life pitches them some hard curve balls and each, in their own way, deal with the crises facing them. However, a long buried secret deals a nearly fatal wound to their friendship! A "must," read!

A Jew Grows in Brooklyn (Jake Ehrenreich)

How is it possible for the son of parents who spent the World War II years in a Siberian labor camp become a comedian? The author knows of Jews who write Christmas carols! He also does imitations of many "celebs" -Enough said, read it and find out!

Here and There: Leaving Hassidism, Keeping My Family (Chayah

Deutsch) A personal account of a woman raised as a Lubavitcher Chasid in Crown Heights (Brooklyn, NY) who, at a very early age felt estranged from her world and its strictures. Allowed to go to Barnard College she discovers a larger world with which to establish an identity completely alien to her family.

How she went her way, yet maintains ties with her family, makes for a fascinating "read".

Unorthodox: The Scandalous Rejection Of My Hasidic Roots is a memoir by Deborah Feldman of the Satmar sect of Chasidim in Brooklyn, NY. While what Ms. Feldman did was scandalous in the Satmar world, the book itself doesn't provide the drama and intrigue its title suggests. It does, however, provide an insight into this closed off society. (Note this book has been part of our library and can be found in the women's bio section. It is included here because of the subject matter's relationship to Deitch's book).

Remember, the library is a great place to be during these “dog days of summer”. *Sonny Foigelman, Linda Stein, BSTC Librarians*

Fast (Tzom) of Tammuz

Tzom Tammuz, often called by its Hebrew name *Shiva Asar B'Tammuz*, is a minor Jewish fast day commemorating several calamitous events in Jewish history occurring on the 17th day of the Hebrew month of Tammuz. It marks the beginning of the three-week mourning period leading up to *Tisha B'Av* (Ninth of Av). Like other minor fasts, Tzom Tammuz begins at dawn (first light) and ends at nightfall (full dark).

The tragic events occurring on *Shiva Asar B'Tammuz* are laid out in the *Mishnah** and includes Moses breaking the tablets of the Ten Commandments given on Mount Sinai, the priests of the First Temple stopping offering the daily sacrifice (the *Tamid*) because Jerusalem was besieged and they ran out of sheep, and the breaching of the walls of the Second Temple

**Mishnah (repetition)* - the oral law in Judaism in contrast to the written Torah or Mosaic Law. It is said to have been collected and committed to writing about 200 AD and forms part of the Talmud. The Mishnah is the legal commentary on the Torah explaining how its commandments are to be carried out while the Talmud is discussions and commentaries on the Mishnah's laws.

Tisha B'Av

Tisha B'Av (or the "Ninth of the month Av) is an annual fast day commemorating the destruction of both the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem. These events occurred about 655 years apart, but on the same Hebrew calendar date. The Book of Lamentations, which mourns the destruction of Jerusalem, is read. The fast is never observed on Shabbat but is postponed to the next day or the 10th of Av. Since this fast is not a minor one, it starts at nightfall the day before and ends at nightfall the next day. The restrictions on Tisha B'Av are similar to those on Yom Kippur.

According to several Jewish sources, Tisha B'Av commemorates several other catastrophes including the expulsion of the Jews from England in 1290 and the 1492 banishment of the Jews from Spain.

Committee Chairs

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

