

## GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

Vol. 21 No. 4 Beth Shalom Temple Center July/August 2016

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dear BSTC Members,

The Board of Directors is undergoing a change of leadership due to the resignation of President Sig Friedman effective June 15, 2016. As First Vice President, I will step into Sig's position as your new President. There is no question that I will have a lot to learn quickly; however, we have an outstanding Board to give me guidance and leadership. We expect no noticeable changes in temple affairs and expect that the temple will run smoothly during this transition. In the meantime, we will be looking to chair and staff a couple of committees and ask that you consider in which ways you would like to help out. The most critical committee to be chaired and staffed will be the Hospitality Committee, and the Board is willing to help with ideas of how to make this committee easier to manage and run. Please notify me or another Board member if you are interested in joining the Hospitality committee. I look forward to the challenges and the honor of serving as your President.

Amy Storer BSTC President

**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	Amy Storer	398-4747
Vice-President	Werner Lawson	648-0057
Secretary	Barry Savitz	610-220-9654
Treasurer	Myrna Feldman	399-9399
At Large	Cyrel Bandy	625-9378
At Large	Sam Miller	207-6649
At Large	Merle Sobol	300-6770
At Large	Barry Weissman	908-800-3350

The BSTC Shofar- Editor/Publisher: Esther Brill – brill.esther2@gmail.com

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.

**Deadline** for article submissions is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

**NEWSLETTER SUPPORT STAFF**

Ingeborg McDonald, Marilyn Forstot, Irene Case, Mike Finkelstein, Ed Brill

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**

Any mail that is 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, or to purchase leaves for the Tree of Life and all other commemorative gifts, call Judy Lugers at 444-3740. Information and/or question on Yahrzeits should also be directed to Judy.

For information on the Green Valley Cemetery, please call Ingeborg McDonald at 648-6329.

**TEMPLE USAGE SCHEDULING**

To avoid scheduling conflicts, please notify Dorrie Roman at 648-8361 before scheduling a program. To have your program included in the Temple e-bulletin and Shofar calendars, notify the Shofar editor. Not all scheduled events are included in the e-bulletin or the Shofar.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### Saturdays, 10:00 a.m., Torah Study

Sunday, July 3, 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.,  
**Michael G at the piano** (Before  
Bagel Breakfast)

Sunday, July 3, 10:00 a.m., (Doors  
open at 9:30 AM) **Bagel Breakfast**,

Monday, July 4, **Independence Day**  
Celebrate and Enjoy

Tuesday, July 12, 10:00 a.m., **Sisterhood  
Meeting** at BSTC followed by a  
luncheon. RSVP by July 9

Wednesday, July 13, 9:45 a.m. Men's Club  
**Romeo Breakfast** at El Patio

Friday, July 15, 7:00 p.m.,  
**Friday Night Service**, led by the  
Mussmans

Sunday, July 24, **Fast of Tammuz** –begins  
at 4:07 a.m. and ends 7:51 p.m.

Monday, July 25, 9:00 a.m., BSTC  
**General Board Meeting**

Sunday, August 7, 9:30 to 10:00 a.m.,  
**Michael G at the piano** (Before  
Bagel Breakfast)

Sunday, August 7, 10:00 a.m., (Doors  
open at 9:30 AM) **Bagel Breakfast**,

Saturday, August 13 (7:02 p.m.) – Sunday,  
August 14, (7:32 p.m.), **Tisha B' Av**

Friday, August 20, 7:00 p.m., **Friday Night  
Service** led by the Mussmans

## MEMBER NEWS & UPDATES

### BIRTHDAYS: Happy Birthday to:

July 1	Gary Israel
July 3	Ed Brill
July 4	Becky Charboneau
July 5	Michael Gervan
July 6	Louis Simon
July 11	Marcia Wiener
July 23	Diane Stein
July 26	Carolyn Simon
July 26	Barry Savitz
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.25	Helen Beckelman
Aug.29	Maridell Nochumsom
Sept.6	Melvin Roman

*Have a wonderful day and year*

### ANNIVERSARIES: Mazal Tov to:

July 7	Larry & Helene Feldman
July 23	Susan & Martin Cohen
July 23	Gene & Diane Stein
July 28	Lisa & Gary Israel
Aug 10	Ruth & Jim Barwick
Aug.13	Becky Charboneau & Kent Blumenthal
Aug.20	Steve & Suenette Maron
Aug.28	Les & Carolyn Simon
Sept.2	Ellen & Barry Savitz

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

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## TRIBUTES

### **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. In the memo portion identify the specific tribute, e.g. Memorial Board” or “Tree of Life,” etc. Order forms can be found in the Temple foyer. *Judy Lagers, Chairperson*

### **Commemorative Cards**

Do you need to send a greeting card? Do you want to support your Temple? Here’s a great way to do both. Judy Lagers, BSTC Tributes Chairman, will mail a personalized card to whomever you choose. Here’s how to 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!)
2. OR send e-mail to me at [jlagers@yahoo.com](mailto:jlagers@yahoo.com) (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 Tributes, and mail it in with your check. Tributes for all occasions may be sent with your own personal greeting

I'll receive your requests much faster if you e-mail it or send it to my home address. *Judy Lagers, Chairperson*

## **The Following Tributes Have Been Received**

### **IN MEMORY/SYMPATHY**

Deb Shine on the loss of the family’s mother, Roslyn Sirota, from Ingeborg McDonald

### **GET WELL**

Ruth Gosman from Donna & David Wyte

### **MAZEL TOV**

Dr. Trish Sandstrom on her graduation as a veterinarian from Donna and David Wyte

## **Yahrzeits**

Beth Shalom Temple Center will provide reminders of yahrzeits, and the name(s) of your loved ones and Kaddish will automatically be recited 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 me (jlugers@yahoo.com) or send a note to the Temple for my attention including your name, the name and relationship of the deceased, and the date of death. Family members must approve additions to the list.

## **Donations Have Been Received From:**

Gerry & Sonya Foigelman for Sonny's father, Leo Abramowitz, and Gerry's mother, Rose Foigelman

Marcia Wiener for her husband, Joseph Wiener; her grandmother, Bertha Nurnberg, and her mother, Mollie Nurnberg

Louis Simon for his aunt, Lilly Libowitz

Dr. Trish Sandstrom, DVM for her brother, Bernard J Finch

Fran Gordon for her husband, Bernard A. Gordon

Dorrie & Mel Roman for their son, Jon-David Koppel

Larry Feldman for his grandmother, Hermine Kornfeld

Sherry Hoffman-Blum for her father, Seymour Hoffman

## **A Refuah Sh'leimah to:**

Dr. Trish Sandstrom who broke her hip

Mike Tannenbaum who dislocated his shoulder

## **PROGRAMS AND EVENTS**

### **BSTC Art Gallery**

You still have time to visit this summer's exhibition of our permanent collection of prints, paintings and fiber art. This collection has been donated to BSTC over many years. The exhibit runs through August. Also, don't forget to look at the small art in the showcase.

Our first exhibition in the fall will be *Journey to Israel – 2016*. This exhibit will give our community a chance to talk about - THE LAND, THE PEOPLE and THE ART.

The Art Gallery, in preparation for this exhibit, is calling for the loan of *Israeli objects* you are willing to share and appear in the showcase. **Contact Marcia Wiener at marjoe711@yahoo.com or 520 232 3599 before AUGUST 15 2016 and** let her know the type and size. *Marcia Weiner*

## TEMPLE TIDBITS

### BSTC's Membership Initiative

Beth Shalom Temple Center is the sole Jewish religious and social center south of Tucson serving Green Valley, Sahuarita, and the Santa Cruz Valley. Founded 21 years ago from the merger of the Green Valley based Jewish Community Foundation and Jewish Friendship Club, our temple has traditionally served a predominantly retired population. Over the years, however, more working age individuals and families have moved into the area. Some have chosen to join the temple.

Nevertheless, we feel we need to grow our BSTC membership in order to thrive and flourish well into the future.

To address this issue, a Temple Center task force has been meeting since February 2015, generating ideas to bring in new members and to encourage retention. Some of those ideas include:

- Have an open house
- Restart an annual new member tea
- Restart a Mentoring Program, whereby each new member would have a current member "buddy"
- Save seats for new members/prospective members at each table at Temple programs
- Include a little bio about a new member and a current member in the every Temple newsletter
- Post ads in local papers about upcoming activities
- Visit retirement villages and community clubhouses in the area to talk about possible membership.
- Become a sponsor of, and have a booth at, local town events.

Our membership resources and age have limited our ability to carry out these ideas solely with volunteers. After much discussion with temple members and our board, and with the encouragement of Stu Mellan of the Jewish Federation, we have decided to hire a part time membership coordinator. This individual would specifically work on identifying and recruiting **new members**, as well as spend time and effort engaging **current members**.

We have applied for, and have received a very generous \$5000 grant from the Jewish Community Foundation through the Ida and J. Patricia Brodsky Memorial Endowment Fund, to partially finance our efforts. In addition to the grant, the temple, the Men's Club, the Sisterhood, and many individuals have pledged or contributed monetary support.

We have already drafted a job description and formed a search committee.

Our plan is to try this out for two years, evaluating progress along the way.

Please *contact Mike Finkelstein* at mfinkel2@cox.net or 393-0317 if you would like to discuss this effort further.

## Contemplated Dues Increase Avoided

Concerned with declining membership, the BSTC Board met in November 2015, and approved the hiring of a membership coordinator using a three legged fiscal approach as follows:

1. One third of the money to come from a grant from the JCF for which the synagogue would apply
2. One third to come from donations from various individuals
3. *One third to come in the form of a dues increase only if the other two conditions were met*

This approach was seen, as a way for the Board to not have to raise membership dues to fund this position if we did not meet the other two criteria. In other words, we did not want to raise your dues until we had the other funds in our hands. We tried to be as frugal as we could.

Today, as noted in the above article, we have more than met the first two items of our 3-legged approach, i.e. receiving grant money from the Jewish Community Foundation of Southern Arizona and two extremely generous donors. In addition, the Men's Club and Sisterhood have assisted with additional funds. Lastly, we have allocated the income from our Jim Click Fund Raiser to this project.

As a result of this cooperative approach we have met our goal and **will not** have to ask the membership to pay an additional \$40 per member to complete the dues requirement for the 2016 calendar year.

If you have any questions please contact Myrna Feldman, Treasurer. BSTC Board

## Results of Ritual Committee Survey

Typical of many surveys, two-thirds of our members did not respond. One reason that can be posited is that those not returning surveys do not attend services and therefore felt they couldn't / or didn't need to answer the questions. Of course this is just supposition.

There were all kinds of worthwhile suggestions that were mostly "in synch" with each other as regards to Services - type and length as well as music. The committee is discussing these responses and recommendations will be made to the Board.

However, what came through loud and clear was that respondents like being part of BSTC and want to participate. Members also indicated that any change needs to be gradual. Stay tuned to further details.

## Would You Like To Help The Temple?

I'm looking for several people...MEN or WOMEN...yes **you**, who would like to help the Hospitality Committee with the Bagel Breakfasts and the Oneg Shabbats. It doesn't have to be a continuous stint...just let me know that you are available. Contact Barry Weissman, Hospitality Committee at [908-800-3350](tel:908-800-3350) or by email at [green.valley250@gmail.com](mailto:green.valley250@gmail.com) Thank you.

## **New Committee Chairs**

Several committees now have new chairs. They include Danielle Wernick, Membership Chair; Barry Weissman, Bagel Breakfast Chair; Cyrel Bandy, Fundraising Chair for the Jim Click auto raffle; Suenette Maron, Book of Remembrance and Sam Miller, Facilities Chair. Sam is the person to contact if you note any problems around or inside the temple. Sam will then make arrangements with Randy Drenning for follow up.

In addition to new chair people, Joyce Finkelstein has been appointed to the Board.

## **BSTC's New Credit Card System Now Available On our Website**

BSTC has now made it easier for us, through PayPal, to pay our bills, sign up for activities and to even donate money and it's all on line and very user friendly. Just follow these steps and you will see that we are now in the 21<sup>st</sup> century:

1. Go to our website (bstc.us) and press "*Member Login*"
2. This takes you to the next page, which asks for:
  - a. *Enter User Name*
  - b. *Enter Password*
  - c. Hit Submit and you will be brought to our Members page
3. Page down until you see 3 boxes with the PayPal Logo and pick the box you want. If you want to pay for a specific activity, type that in or any other activity in the *Event Name and Date* box, if it's for dues--use the *dues* box and for making a donation to a fund or for someone, just type that in the *Donation* box.

*Note – there is a separate guest donation box for non-members on the main page. If you are a member please do not use that one.*

You do not have to pay with a PayPal account if you do not have one. As you page down, you will see a selection of credit card logos. Choose the card you want to use. Or just sign up for a PayPal account for future use.

This is very user friendly, try it... make a contribution. Thank you, *Gary Friedman*

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## **Sisterhood**

On Tuesday, July 12, there will be an important *Sisterhood meeting* at BSTC at 10:00 a.m. to share recommendations for events and field trips and establish plans for our Mah Jongg tournament in November. Following this all-encompassing meeting we are all going to enjoy a fabulous lunch at the Mountain View Cafe courtesy of a friend. Please **RSVP** by July 9 to Susan Cohen (martyrxpx@aol.com) **only if you are going.** *Susan Cohen*



## **Torah Study Fund**

BSTC has created a Torah Study Fund for the express purpose of having professional leaders teach Torah. Currently, once every month, either Michael Mussman or Rabbi Miri Fleming, lead the BSTC Torah Study. Please consider making a donation.

## **Torah Study**

BSTC make it easy to study the Torah weekly. The BSTC Torah Study group meets every Saturday morning at 10:00 a.m. (for about 2 hours with a break) to study and discuss the weekly Torah portion (*Parsha*). In each of the weekly readings, the portions are named after the first word or distinctive phrase in the passage.

You are welcome to attend whether or not Torah Study is a new experience for you. Since we don't take attendance you are welcome to come as little or as often as you like.

During the month of July and until the beginning of August, the **Book of Numbers** (***Bamidbar*** – In the wilderness...) will continue to be studied. Starting August 13 the study of Deuteronomy (***Devarim*** – The words...) begins.

When Torah Study ends, the *Mishaberach* (Prayer for Healing) is sung followed by the Mourner's *Kaddish* for loved ones who have died during the last 11 months as well as for those having Yahrzeit.

You can request that your email address be added to the BSTC Torah Study email list to be notified weekly of the facilitator, information about the weekly Torah Portion /*Parsha* and the *Haftarah* (section from the Prophets read on Shabbat at the conclusion of the weekly Torah reading).

For questions, or to be placed on the email list, or to add names to the Mishaberach and/or Mourner's Kaddish lists please email [BSTCebblast@aol.com](mailto:BSTCebblast@aol.com). *Irene Case*

## **Weekly E-Blast Information**

Weekly E-Blasts include reminders for upcoming events and are sent to the email addresses of all BSTC members. If you have not received an e-blast, please contact [BSTCebblast@aol.com](mailto:BSTCebblast@aol.com) and let Irene Case know. Keep in mind that the WEEKLY e-blast covers only one week at a time. To ensure your program/event is announced way before it is scheduled send your information to the Shofar editor ([brill.esther2@gmail.com](mailto:brill.esther2@gmail.com)) so she can put it in the newsletter and monthly e-bulletin. Deadlines for the Shofar are the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

## **Fast (*Tzom*) of Tammuz**

Tzom Tammuz is a minor Jewish fast day commemorating the breach of the walls of Jerusalem before the destruction of the Second Temple. It falls on the 17th day of the Hebrew month of Tammuz and 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).

## **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 10<sup>th</sup> of Av. Since this fast is not a minor one, it starts at nightfall the day before and ends at nightfall the next day.

## **Calling All BSTC MEN**

Please join us at BSTC Men's Club as we enter our sixth year. From our founding at the beginning of 2011, we have striven to offer a wide variety of activities to build camaraderie and support our Beth Shalom Temple Center.

To join or renew membership, contact membership chairman, Mike Finkelstein; go on our website and pay online or mail a \$15 check for the annual dues (Beth Shalom Temple Center, P.O. Box 884, Green Valley, AZ 85622), marking "Men's Club membership" on the check and on the envelope. You will receive additional information, an invitation and a statement in your mail soon.

There is a Gaslight Theater Program, "Frankenstein" scheduled for *November 16th*. Contact Gary Friedman if you would like to attend this performance.

The Men's Club, in conjunction with the Sisterhood is again planning to co-sponsor the Chanukah Party this year.

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## **Wish You Had Been There....**

### **Sisterhood Tour of Tohono Chul Park in Tucson**

Our Sisterhood enjoyed a wonderful docent-led, afternoon tour at Tohono Chul Park in Tucson, this past April (the ideal time to see everything in full bloom). There is a variety of gardens including a Zen garden, an extensive herb garden, native plants and trees, plants indigenous to New Mexico and Mexico, magnificent flowering ground cover, and even trees and shrubs in a symbiotic relationship, thriving in the beautiful landscape of this scenic park-garden. Hummingbirds were seen feeding off exotic blooms, and a splendid cardinal was clearly soaring above the treetops as we admired his dashing arced-flight. In fact, this Edenic place is a haven for a rich diversity of birdlife as well as rabbits, and other wildlife that appear to be totally enraptured by their surroundings. Three lovely gift shops and a fine museum awaited our more leisurely moments, not to forget the magnificent, on-site nursery whose well informed employees dispensed useful information on cultivating one's home garden. A wide assortment of plants and trees are for sale along with easy care instructions. To end our stroll through the gardens we savored a truly epicurean lunch at the Bistro Cafe on the premises. This was a perfect way to unwind and replenish for all of us. *Sue Cohen*

## **The BDS Movement--Boycott, Divesting Investments, and Sanctioning the Jewish State of Israel**

On May 22, the political and economic attacks on Israel known as the "BDS" movement advocated by Islamic and other groups across the United States and Europe were discussed at a BSTC forum. The speaker Ken Miller, an archeologist and expert on Israel's history and current status, included in his talk the myths and facts about Israel, dispelling the most pernicious fabrications advanced by many influential Arabs regarding the alleged Israeli "apartheid" condition under which the Palestinians live in Israel. Mr. Miller noted BDS supporters call for a boycott of Israel, its products, and those who deal with or represent Israel. They also call for organizations to divest themselves of investments in firms that do business with Israel, and seek other punitive actions.

Mr. Miller gave a broad and all-encompassing history of Israel's nationhood noting that Israel's policies and practices are based on the continuous national security issues that it faces as a small nation, and are not intended as a form of religious or ethnic discrimination. It was remarked that Israeli public relations is weak since not enough speakers have engaged in countering this anti-Israel movement. Mr. Miller agreed but assured us that this is a challenge the Israelis are taking more seriously even in the midst of their daily surprise knife and bomb attacks.

The conclusion of his talk had a more positive note: he showed the audience a chart of all the academic institutions in the United States who had considered going along with this Boycott, and what actually happened after a vote was taken in each instance. Thankfully, only three schools out of many voted for the Boycott!! We had the privilege of hearing Mr. Miller's thoughts thanks to the efforts of our congregant, Jerry Belenker. It is not easy to schedule events with individual speakers who are in great demand, and Jerry made this a reality for all of us.

*Sue Cohen and Jerry Belenker*

**Note:** The BSTC Program Committee and Men's club are planning additional forums.  
cSuggested topics should be sent to Merle Sobol or Jerry Belenker

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## **MEET OUR MEMBERS**

### **Larry Feldman**

I was born in Cleveland, Ohio but grew up in California where I attended college. After graduation, I worked as a surveyor's apprentice, and then later sailed on the USS Constitution to Spain. I also did a stint in the United States Marine Corps and served in Ethiopia and Morocco.

Upon discharge I dawdled a year in Europe, and ended up living in Israel, where I remained until returning to the United States after the October War.

In the U. S., I attended the University of Arizona and was graduated with a degree in Asian Studies with a major in Chinese. I went to the University of Michigan for my Master's and was graduated with a degree in Library Science.

I worked as a Library Administrator at Yale University and then the University of Massachusetts in Amherst for 34 years. Upon retirement, I moved with Helene, my wife of 53 years to Tubac.

I enjoy archaeology, as well as horse management and training. I am presently working with horses at the Hurford Ranch in Tubac where I am caring for two mini-horses.

### **Helene Feldman**

I have been a member of BSTC for ten years and have appreciated all of the Jewish experiences offered to me as a member, board member and treasurer of Sisterhood.

I was a teacher for 25 years in Ohio, Michigan, Massachusetts and Arizona, teaching pre-school through fifth grade. I was also an assistant children's librarian for five years in an elementary school in Amherst, MA.

My volunteer work includes working in various ways at the Tubac Center for the Arts, a reader at the Montessori School, and docent and gift shop volunteer at The Tubac Presidio in Tumacacori.

My interests are gardening, reading, and knitting for our eight month old granddaughter.

I especially enjoy the Shofar.