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Chai Lights

The monthly newsletter of Temple Beth Tikvah

12411 Park Shadows Trail
Houston, TX 77058
281-286-1717

March 2018/
Adar/Nisan 5778

TBT Board of Directors

President – Stuart Eisen
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Finance – Paul Hamer
Education – Cori Novy
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Member at Large – Jill MacGregor
Secretary – Scott Vickers
Men's Club – Ed Sheinberg
Sisterhood – Nancy Schwartz

Spiritual Leadership

Rabbi Deborah Schloss
rabbi@templebethtikvah.org
Office hours by appointment

Friday Services

Services are held at 6:30 p.m.
on the first Friday of each
month. Services begin at 7 p.m.
on all other Fridays.

Oneg Sponsorship

The TBT Oneg Fund provides catered onegs for Musical Shabbats and for occasions when there is no sponsor. To sponsor an oneg or donate to the fund, please e-mail [Joe Wallack](mailto:Joe.Wallack@templebethtikvah.org).

7th Annual Clear Lake Purim Carnival

The 2018 Clear Lake Purim Carnival was a big hit thanks to Jack Sasiene and his committee of dedicated volunteers. Our TBT families had a great time joining with other local synagogues for food, shopping, and games. Thanks to everyone who sponsored and attended the event to help make this major fundraiser a success! We are already looking forward to next year's fun.

Right, Julia MacGregor makes it to the top of the rock wall.

Below, Daniel Moeller, Aiden Blancas, and Michael Harris tired themselves out in the bounce houses.



President's Message



March is here and spring is right around the corner. That means Purim and Passover! Thank you to everyone who so generously sponsored games for the Purim Carnival. It is one of the biggest fundraising events of the year, and thanks to Jack and his committee, this year's carnival was the best one, ever!

Passover preparations are also underway. The date of our congregational seder is March 30, at Bay Oaks Country Club. Look for reservation form at the end of this newsletter.

I hope that you have taken a few minutes to read the job descriptions of our Board (also listed later in this newsletter). As you will see, the operations of the temple are broken down into bite-sized pieces, so that working together, we can provide the services and opportunities that you all expect from us. It is my hope that some more of you will step forward to take a small leadership role. Many of us on the board have given many years of service, but we can't do it forever! (I've been on the board for most of the past 18 years!)

Since I assumed the presidency, one of my major points of focus has been our security. You have probably noticed the cameras that have been installed, with a few more coming. Several of us have attended meetings addressing security concerns of synagogues, sponsored by the ADL, and featuring HPD and Pasadena PD, as well as FBI. In order to take the next steps in making TBT as safe as possible, Don Maierson has taken on the chairmanship of a "Safety Committee", also involving Jerry Cahn, Jessica Morales, Shawn Dunegan, and Mardy Schwietzer. They will be addressing many areas, including fire safety, tornado preparedness, lock-down procedures, and others. Many thanks to Don and his committee. When they are further along in the process, we will announce and post our safety instructions.

As always, I look forward to seeing you all at services and all of our TBT events. Have a great month of March!

Stuart Eisen

Rabbi's Message



We had a lot of excitement around our beading class last month so I've decided to take it to the next level. On Wednesday evening April 18 or 25 (let me know which date works better for you if you are interested and we will go with the one most convenient for most!). We will have an interfaith snack potluck with our Muslim female counterparts from the Clear Lake Islamic Center followed by a beading class. The beading teacher is amenable to driving down again if we have 8 students total.

I am looking forward to our Passover seder on March 30 with Jon and Myrna providing the music. Please see sign up (see the form later in this newsletter), and thank you for promptly getting in your registration form! I'm delighted that my parents will be in town for this seder.

Our hearts continue to go out to all affected by the terrible, tragic school shooting in Parkland.

Warmly,
Rabbi Deborah

Men's Club

Please remember that we always welcome new members!

Send **Jed Login** or **Ed Sheinberg** an e-mail if you have ideas for an activity, suggestions, questions or concerns.

The men's club encourages suggestions for speakers to present at some of our 2018 meetings.

If you'd like to volunteer to pick up bagels or contribute any other way, drop Jed a line at TBTMen@jlogin.e4ward.com.

Ritual News

Happy March, TBT Family!

March has us hoppin' as we began the month partying with PURIM at Shaar Hashalom and will end it with Passover at Bay Oaks – First Night Seder Community Celebration.

Please read this through so you won't miss a moment of the fun to come!

PASSOVER March 30th 6 P.M.

It's that time of year again when we get out of Egypt, retell the oldest oral story in history and wonder where did Moses get the gefilte fish in the middle of the desert? This year, we celebrate on the **FIRST NIGHT at BAY OAKS COUNTRY CLUB at 6 p.m.** Attached to this is our REGISTRATION FORM and heading up this event is **Jill Macgregor**. There are two ways to register & pay. **ALL THE INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THIS IS ON THE FLYER AND REGISTRATION FORM.** **Please fill out the registration by March 15th!**



The following is the schedule for our Shabbat Services

March 9th – Musical Shabbat with Myrna and Jon- 7 p.m.

March 16th – Joint Service with Shaar Hashalom at Shar Hashalom- 7 p.m.

March 23rd – Torah service with Rabbi Schloss- 7 p.m.

March 30th – PASSOVER at Bay Oaks Country Club – 6 p.m.

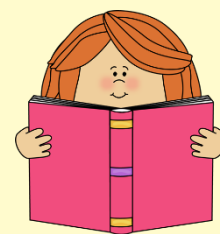
With so much to do, there is something for everyone! Looking forward to celebrating with YOU!

Deborah Nowinski- denowinski@gmail.com
VP/RITUAL

Book Club

The Book Club Schedule for the next three months is as follows:

- March 25: 1pm at Michele Moliver's home for a review of Laurie Frankel's, *This is How It Always Is*
- April 22: 12:15pm at TBT Library; Judith Reviews Sholem Aleichem's, *Tevye the Dairyman and The Railroad Stories*
- May 20: 12:15pm at TBT Library; Pica reviews Madeleine Albright's, *Prague Winter*



For the March meeting, there will be two drivers: one leaving from the Temple and the other leaving from Barnes and Noble Parking Lot. Be sure to reserve your "car seat" in advance.

Shalom,
Judith Oppenheim

Sisterhood News

It was great to see familiar faces Sunday, February 18th at "Yom Limmud, A Day of Jewish Learning for All Ages", hosted this year by Congregation Emanu El. If you didn't make it this year, WOW, you missed some thought provoking and inspiring sessions! Ask me about a few of the ones I attended: "Forgiveness-The Gift You Give Yourself", "The Art and Soul of Meaningful Mitzvot", "Anti-Semitism 2018 / Looking Back-Moving Forward" just to mention a few. Sisterhood continues to be committed to paying for Sunday School Teachers to attend this educational and enjoyable day of learning. Whether you're a man, woman, single, married or attending with a friend, there's something to interest everyone. Plan ahead. Plan to attend next year.

Sisterhood activities:

- March 29 - Charoset prep at the home of Harriet Hayes, show up at or any time after 6 PM. Feel free to bring beverages and/or a snack to share if you desire.
- March 30th - Help requested for 1 PM to take the decorations over to Bay Oaks to help set up. Please text, call or email me to let me know if you're able to come decorate and prep the tables.
- April (date tbd), Brunch at Sundance Grill located in Waterford Harbour (host, Corinne Blancas)
- May (date tbd), Ladies Luncheon to honor Mother's Day (host, Marsha Henderson)

Upcoming opportunities:

I recently attended a Self Defense Class presented by PsyCombat. The instructor grew up in Israel and served in the IDF. He is an expert in his field and was an outstanding instructor. I learned a great deal about how to be prepared to defend yourself if necessary while presenting yourself as only attempting to diffuse the situation. This class is for women and men so husbands and friends of both sexes are invited to attend. This course is also available for children at a different time if there's interest. Please contact me asap to let me know if you are seriously interested in attending one or more sessions. I would like to schedule sessions (maybe 3 or 4 Sunday afternoons at TBT) this summer. If we have several sessions over a couple months we are more likely to practice and make this part of our muscle memory...meaning we'll use it if needed without having to think about what to do!! I need to schedule this with the instructor well in advance so I wanted to find out the level of interest first. The cost will depend on the number of sessions to which we commit. I will tell you that the fee is reasonable, especially for what you get out of the short sessions.

We have an opportunity to shop and tour Celebration Company in Houston. I had a private tour recently and am now hooked on shopping there - great gifts and you're contributing to our Jewish Community in many ways. This is a MUST DO...realllllly! Let's go for brunch then tour and shop, or shop then have lunch...who's interested? Contact me...Nancy Schwartz 832-725-8062, text, call or email me at nanceschwartz@gmail.com

How about more jewelry making - beading jewelry or making glass mezuzas...again, let me know of your interest. We have some talented beaders now and I have someone who teaches small groups how to make beautiful mezuzas. AND, we might be overdue for another rock painting party for adults. Please respond asap if interested and I'll get some optional dates back to you.

Shalom and be well,
Nancy Schwartz

Happy birthday

To the following sisterhood members:

March 7 - **Harriet Hayes**
March 25 - **Tracie Bein**
April 7 - **Rabbi Deborah Schloss**

Religious School

Our religious school children enjoyed playing Chutes and Ladders with our visiting fellow Rachel Fraade from the Institute of Southern Jewish Living. February 23-25 was her last of three weekends with us this year. Next year we will welcome a new fellow from the Institute.



**To submit a photo or article to next month's ChaiLights newsletter,
please e-mail [Erin Moeller](mailto:Erin.Moeller@chailights.org) by Friday, March 23.**

TBT is going to Israel this December!

Join your TBT family for another unforgettable trip.

For more information, please see

<http://proposals.authenticisrael.net/preview/zMnjbbbbc>



TBT NEEDS YOU

Do you know that TBT's membership is approximately 75-80 families, and our board has 14 positions? So, about 20% of our membership is on the board. With such a small pool to draw from, it is vitally important that more of our members agree to serve for a term or two. There's also nothing preventing two adults from the same family serving at the same time, either!

The **VICE PRESIDENT OF EDUCATION** shall coordinate, organize and be responsible for implementing the Education Program sponsored by this Synagogue. The VICE PRESIDENT OF EDUCATION must be Jewish.

*The **EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT** shall be the 1st Vice President. The duties of the EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT shall be to aid and assist the President in the fulfilling of the presidential duties. The EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT shall run meetings in the absence of the President. The EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT must be Jewish.

It shall be the duty of the **CHAIRMAN OF COMMUNICATIONS** to oversee production and mailing of newsletters, fliers, and to provide information to the community about congregational activities.

It shall be the duty of the **CHAIRMAN OF FUND RAISING** to oversee fund raising activities as directed by the Board.

It shall be the duty of the **PARLIAMENTARIAN** to provide guidance to the Board on etiquette and procedures in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order. The Parliamentarian is a non-voting position.

*It shall be the duty of the **CHAIRMAN OF THE SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE** to oversee social action activities of the Temple and report to the board.

*These positions will be up for election in May



COMMUNITY PASSOVER FIRST NIGHT SEDER!

MARCH 30TH, 2018 ~ 6pm ~ Bay Oaks Country Club

Advance Tickets Available (deadline MARCH 15TH)

In addition to the Seder Dinner & Live Music & Silent Auction!!!

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR COMMUNITY SEDER: FIRST NIGHT
OF PASSOVER**

**COME CELEBRATE WITH OUR TBT FAMILY! BRING YOUR FRIENDS &
FAMILY!**

Come & Share this traditional Seder with the oldest Oral Story Ever Told with
Rabbi Schloss and Music By: Myrna & Jon!

Bay Oaks Country Club 14545 Bay Oaks Blvd, Houston, TX 77059

A buffet that would make Moses kvell:

Matzah Ball Soup, Bay Oaks Signature Salad, Pecan Crusted Tilapia with Mango
Pico, Passover Brisket Seasonal Vegetable Medley, Roasted Garlic Fingerling
Potatoes. **Desserts provided by Sisterhood and TBT Members**

2 Bottles of WINE at each table & GRAPE JUICE PROVIDED BY CATERER

PLEASE FILL OUT THE ATTACHED RESERVATION FORM AND YOUR CHECK:

TBT 12411 Park Shadows Trail, Houston, TX 77059

Checks payable to: TBT Passover
Or PAYPAL paypaltbt@gmail.com

ITS IMPORTANT WE GET A GOOD COUNT FOR THE CATERERS!



RESERVATIONS- Bay Oaks Country Club/March 30th 6 p.m.
Please register by March 15th

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

TICKETS Adults: _____ @ \$48 per member = \$_____

_____ @ \$54 per non-member = \$_____

Children (6-13yrs): _____ @ \$18 per child = \$_____

Little Ones: (under 6yrs): _____ @ no charge = \$_____

Total # _____ Total \$ _____

Prepayment required to reserve your seats. CHECK IN WILL BE AT THE DOOR FOR SEATING.

SEATING: If you wish to sit with a group...must provide 8-10 names (and payment) to reserve table. Seating will otherwise be assigned.

I would like to create the following table:

1 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____

5 _____ 6 _____

7 _____ 8 _____

9 _____ 10 _____

THERE WILL BE NO TICKETS ISSUED. **Complete your reservation by March 15th:**

FOR INFORMATION, QUESTIONS or SPECIAL NEEDS:

PLEASE CONTACT: Jill Macgregor Jill.Macgreg@gmail.com 281.684.0109

Two ways to register & pay:

1. Send the registration & check payable to TBT/PASSOVER 12411 Park Shadows Trail Houston 77058 c/o Jill Macgregor

2. You can pay thru paypalibt@gmail.com and email/scan the form to Jill or mail it- make sure if you Paypal you mark it for Passover

We Look Forward to Seeing YOU at Passover!