

ChaiLights

The newsletter of Temple Beth Tikvah
April 2019

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Purim was hoppin' at TBT on Friday, March 22!

The gragers were loud, play well received and hamentaschen delicious!

Much thanks to the Not Ready for Chai Time Players! Rabbi Schloss, Stuart Eisen, Myrna Reingold, Charles South, Anna Oliver, Nancy Schwartz, Nancy and John Harris, Corinne Blancas, Mike and Cinnamon Howell, EJ Nowinski, and Joe Wallack. I enjoyed writing the play and having it come to life!

Happy Purim,
Deb Nowinski



President's Message

There are so many people to thank who have worked tirelessly for TBT during the month of March (and always!) A huge thank you to Myrna Reingold and Jon Zelon, who always make our monthly musical Shabbats special. We don't say "thank you" enough, to them. To Deb Nowinski, who wrote our Purim play, and to all of the folks who took part in it: Joe Wallack (it's good to be king), EJ Nowinski (Haman: booo!), Deb (Esther), Charles South and John Harris (King's subjects/dice players), Corinne Blancas (Vashti), Mike and Cinnamon Howell (palace guards), Nancy Harris (card girl), Myrna, Rabbi, and Anna Oliver (Persian Idol contestants), and Nancy Schwartz (narrator). The MOST fun for me (Mordechai) was pre-performance, when so many people who have known me for many, many, many years, did not know who I was. (Me, Stuart) Great fun was had by both the actors and our fantastic, "gregarious" audience.

And speaking of Purim: our annual carnival with Shaar Hashalom was a great success. Thank you to committee members Dave Salinsky, Jill MacGregor and Nancy Harris. Also big thanks to School of Rock (EJ Nowinski) and the magic show of Professor Chromedome (Ed Sheinberg). Our major sponsors, Houston Jewish Funerals and Jewish Herald Voice also deserve lots of recognition, as do all of our TBT members who sponsored events at the carnival and worked on setting up, tearing down, schlepping, and taking charge of booths during our shift. It takes so many people to put on an event of this magnitude, and it just can't happen without everyone of you. I know everyone had a great time!

And so, turning the page of the calendar to April, "the next big thing" is Passover. Our annual community seder will be held on April 19th, at

6:00 at Bay Oaks Country Club. Be on the lookout for another sign-up link for this great event. The food is always good, the setting beautiful, and the fun and companionship marvelous. And...you don't have to wash the dishes! In addition, Joe Wallack is organizing a silent auction. Come prepared to bid on some cool stuff! I hope you will join us!

I recently had visits with both HPD and PPD officers about the security of TBT. The HPD officer took 360-degree (I don't know where the symbol is!) photos of our entire property, inside and out, and put them on a disc. This disc will be available to HPD officers, should they need to respond to a crisis situation. It can also be used by us for insurance purposes, to document our property, and I will be making a copy available to PPD. The visit from our friendly PPD officer was for the purpose of giving us recommendations for security enhancements. His report will be used when preparing the grant application for Homeland Security. It will also be useful in showing us some of our perceived vulnerabilities. This is the second time that we have had such an assessment. Some of the recommendations from the first report have been implemented.

I hope everyone has a great month of April and I look forward to seeing you at the seder!

Stuart




Rabbi's Message

Spring has sprung, and we heartily thank Deb Nowinsky for writing our Purim spiel this year which

was great fun to both perform and watch and to all our Purim players!
And thanks to everyone who worked so hard to make our joint Purim carnival with Shaar HaShalom another successful one!

Jessica Morales, Jan Kruschen, Jill MacGregor and I recently went to the Clear Lake Islamic Center to show TBT's solidarity with them in wake of the devastating terrorist attacks on the mosques in Christchurch, delivering the cake pictured below. We enjoyed visiting with one of the Imans and some CLIS members, and Jan and I stayed for most of their prayer service afterwards. They were so appreciative of our reaching out to them during this time.

Since our first Havdalah and wine gathering was so well received, let's gather again for another one before Passover, Saturday evening, April 13th, this time at VINO E Formaggio Café, 20801 Gulf Freeway, Webster. They have live music and also food for purchase (so we

don't need to bring our own this time ) and they said we can do Havdalah during a music break. Shabbat ends at 8:12 pm so we will have our ceremony at the first music break after that. Let's plan to gather there by 7:30.

Adult Ed this month is as follows:

- Sundays April 7 from 10 to 11 at TBT. We will begin our discussion with chapter 9 of the book Rise Up and Kill First.
- April 14 we will meet at Shaar HaShalom to hear Yitzhak Brook, author, physician, & Israeli Embassy representative, in his talk titled, In the Sands of Sinai: a Physician's Account of the Yom Kippur War and the after effects on the State of Israel. Please see Stuart's email sent to us on Friday March 22nd so you can register for this free talk.

- No class April 21 - Second day of Passover
- April 28 I will be teaching at Clear Lake Presbyterian Church from 10 to 11:15 about the similarities and differences between Judaism and Christianity. TBT members are invited to attend! It's at 1511 El Dorado Blvd.

Looking forward to our TBT seder this year on April 19th and EACH ONE YOU OF YOU, YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS joining us for it.

Eljay and I recently got together with Mel and Sherry, and they look

forward to seeing and celebrating with us at our seder



Finally planning ahead, our next Torah study will be Saturday May 4th at TBT from 10 to 11 am. We will be studying Ahrei Mot Torah portion.

Wishing a speedy recovery to Mel Bogus, Sy Camille, Susan Bialer-Sullivan, Marianna Buchner, and Joan Gittleman.

Happy Passover,
Rabbi Deborah

TBT and Shaar Hashalom congregants had a great time together at the 2019 Purim Carnival on March 24. Thank you to those who planned the event, assisted with set up, clean up, and running the booths, as well as those who attended to support this important fundraiser. Many of

*the kids are already asking about next year's
carnival!*

Michael Harris' Mitzvah Project

For his bar mitzvah project, Michael will be working with Bay Area Turning Point. They provide assistance and shelter to domestic violence and sexual assault victims - women, children and men. We will have a donation box at the temple to collect the items listed below. Please also see the links below to view their web site or to make a donation.

<http://www.bayareaturningpoint.org/>

<https://give.idonate.com/bay-area-turning-point/donate>

Sisterhood News

Let's start with the birthdays!



April

Rabbi Deborah Schloss (7th)



May

Our lovely "Aunt" Rita (7th)

I typically list several months of birthdays at a time and just to be sure, let's review from the beginning of the new year:

Some parents, who some years ago just might have "celebrated" Passover or Easter in the Spring, and thus had these lovely ladies born to their families in January and February...



JANUARY

Myrna Reingold (3rd)

Dana Johnson Philibert (9th)

Marsha Waxman (10th)

Priya Fink (14th)

Jill McGregor (21st)

Margot Vickers (21st)

Audrey Dunegan (30th) I do remember yall telling me a secret about what a BIG year this was/is for Audrey



FEBRUARY

Ruth Meirson (14th)

Pica Kahn (21st)

Other Sisterhood/TBT Dates for your calendar:



Monday, April 22 - Earth Day

Be good to the earth and it will be good to you!

Be sure to mark you calendars RIGHT NOW because you will NOT want to miss this annual event of all events...

Thursday, April 18th @ 6:00 pm - Charriet's Charoet making Chappy Hour

Come anytime 6PM or later and stay until we empty the wine bottles...into the apples, of course! What did you think I meant!! LOLLLLLL

Bring your favorite beverage and nosh to share. Come enjoy a kitchen filled with conversation and much laughter!!! It's a night NOT to miss! If your children are old enough to use an apple peeler they can help in the kitchen, if not, they can watch TV or bring a game for them to play. More details in April.

The TBT Sedar is the following evening, Friday, April 19th, which also happens to be Good Friday this year!

****If you can help set up the banquet room tables for the sedar starting at 1:30 on Friday afternoon, please contact Harriet or me and let us know!**
Thanks in advance for your help!

Kudos to Corinne Blancas for being nominated for Teacher of the Year! She's an outstanding teacher with CCISD . It's quite an honor to be recognized by your colleagues and administration for your expertise, passion and commitment. Congratulations!

Healing prayers are with the following Sisters:

Susan Bialer-Sullivan

Leah Eisen

Marsha Henderson

Book Club

April 28 @12:15 p.m.

***Pachinko* by Min Jin Lee**

in TBT Library (Jean Cahn Reviews)

May 19 @ 12:15 p.m.

***Manhattan Beach* by Jennifer Egan**
in TBT Library (Jeannie Sheinberg Reviews)

TBT Board of Directors

President – Stuart Eisen

Executive VP – Cinnamon Howell

Ritual – Deb Nowinski

Finance – Paul Hamer

Education – Cori Novy

Membership – Christine Paul

Treasurer – Charles South

Communications – Erin Moeller

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Social Action – Jill McGregor

Member at Large – Jerry Cahn

Secretary – Scott Vickers

Men's Club – Ed Sheinberg

Sisterhood – Harriet Hayes

Spiritual Leadership

Rabbi Deborah Schloss

rabbi@templebethtikvah.org

Office hours by appointment

Oneg Sponsorship

The TBT Oneg Fund provides catered onegs for musical shabbats and occasions when there is no sponsor.

To sponsor an oneg or donate to the fund, please contact [Joe Wallack](#).

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