

# Sinai Temple

## BULLETIN



*Celebrating Israel @ 60*

## For Your Consideration

Rabbi Mark Dov Shapiro

So what do you do mid-morning on a weekday? A congregant recently told me what he does if the going gets tough at his desk and he needs a break. He turns to his e-mail inbox and looks for the daily "ten minute" message of Torah that arrives from our national Reform movement. One day it may be a commentary on the weekly Torah reading. Another day it's a message from Israel. Another day brings an opinion piece on a Jewish matter of current interest.

"I read a few lines," he told me. "And if it looks interesting, I take a few more minutes to read to the end. If not, I get back to work. Either way it barely takes ten minutes, and on the good days I actually manage to learn some Judaism in the midst of a hectic day."

It was a delight to hear this story.

I'm proud that the Union for Reform Judaism provides these daily e-mail resources. (You can learn more by visiting [www.urj.org/torah/ten/](http://www.urj.org/torah/ten/)) For that matter, I'm proud of another Reform initiative. Several weeks ago the Union published an unprecedented book. It's called *The Torah: A Women's Commentary*. This magnificent resource brings together the questions and insights of several hundred Jewish women - scholars, clergy, poets, and other writers. The focus is the five books of the Torah, and every one of those books is analyzed and interpreted by women. The best part of the enterprise is that the women really do find aspects of our most ancient book that men alone have not seen. They don't politicize the text or offer polemics. They just bring absolutely refreshing perspectives to the stories we always thought we knew.

Here's the best news: On Saturday, April 5, as part of our Sinai Temple Women's Weekend, Dr. Judith Plaskow will be teaching us about the commentary. Plaskow is a top notch scholar who helped organize the new book. She is brilliant and we'll be privileged to explore this new literary treasure with her.

### Purim

**Bigger, Bolder, and Better  
Purim 2008**

**Thursday, March 20  
6 p.m.**

### Saturday Torah Study

Saturday Torah Story

At 9:00 a.m.

Every Week with bagels

### Saturday Morning Services

Services at 10:30 a.m.

**Mazal Tov to our Bnai Mitzvah**

February 9 - Benjamin Leavitt,  
Son of Donna Fisher and Robert  
Leavitt

February 16 - Alexandra Rubin,  
Daughter of Cynthia and Rick  
Rubin

### FRIDAY EVENING SERVICES - NOTE THE TIMES - 76-88

**FAMILY SERVICE at 7:00 p.m.**

**February 1**

Songs, prayers, and a fabulous way to build your child's Jewish future.

**KABBALAT SHABBAT at 6:00 p.m.**

**February 8**

Veggies and snacks at 5:30 p.m.

**FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE at 8:00 p.m.**

**February 15**

Music with a special style.

**FRIDAY NIGHT CLASSICS at 8:00 p.m.**

**February 22 & 29**

Shabbat Shalom with a "classic" feel

## Message from President Dave Roberts

With sadness, on December 10th I sent a letter to our members announcing Cantor Mekler's decision not to renew her contract which expires on May 31, 2008. In that letter I promised that our Board of Directors would expeditiously begin to define a plan regarding how to go forward. The Board has met and after considerable discussion of this important issue has outlined the following general path:

1. Marlene Gordon has agreed to chair a committee that will plan how to honor Cantor Mekler for her long and distinguished service to Sinai. Marlene may be contacted at [jnmgordon@hotmail.com](mailto:jnmgordon@hotmail.com).

2. Rabbi Shapiro will take the lead in ensuring that proper planning, tutoring, etc. for the Bar/Bat Mitzvahs scheduled for June are in place. Rabbi has already personally spoken with each of the affected families.

3. A Search Committee has been formed with past president Mel Chafetz appointed as chair. Over the next few months, we will be working closely with the American Conference of Cantors (ACC—the Reform Movement Cantor's association) placement office to identify potential cantorial candidates. The highlights of the process are:

a. We will file Sinai's application with the ACC Placement Office. The application will be posted on the ACC website for interested cantors to review.

b. The Search Committee will review applications and CD's received from candidates.

c. Phone interviews will be conducted with selected candidates. Probably two to four candidates will be asked to meet in person with the Search Committee. Representatives from the Search Committee may observe finalist candidates in their current pulpit.

d. Ideally, the Search Committee will identify one or two candidates who best meet our requirements. The candidate(s) will be presented to the Board of Directors for final approval.

e. Assuming Board approval, a contract with the new cantor would be finalized.

f. We would like the new cantor to begin service at Sinai between July 1, 2008 and September 1, 2008.

g. If for some reason, the above process does not yield an acceptable candidate, the Board has directed that we find an interim cantor for approximately one year, and then repeat the above process.

As we search for a new cantor, we plan to provide opportunities for our members to provide input into the process. During January the Search Committee held two open meetings soliciting input from our members. Your continuing input is welcome. Please feel free to contact Mel or me with any ideas you may have:

**A Delight for Both Kids and Parents  
Purim 2008  
Thursday, March 20 at 6 p.m.**

The Sinai Temple Bulletin is published monthly by Sinai Temple, Springfield, Massachusetts. This is Issue Number 6 for the year 2007-2008.

Mark Dov Shapiro ..... Rabbi  
Emily Sleeper Mekler ..... Cantor, Music Director  
Sheila Shear ..... Director of Education  
Stacey Osowski ..... Community Coordinator  
Andy Chaet ..... SPFTY Advisor

### **Officers**

David Roberts ..... President  
Rina Miller ..... Vice President  
Jeff Cossin ..... Vice President  
Roberta Gang ..... Vice President  
Joel Bertuzzi ..... Treasurer  
Bobi Steingart ..... Financial Secretary  
Ann Jacobs ..... Recording Secretary  
Mike Bader ..... Membership Chair  
Ron Weiss ..... Cemetery Chair  
Scott Sherman ..... Brotherhood

Visit our website: [www.sinai-temple.org](http://www.sinai-temple.org)

## **Mission Statement**

Sinai Temple is a welcoming and inclusive Reform Congregation where our members pursue a continuing journey of Jewish growth. We are guided by the history and traditions of the Jewish people as we encounter the challenges of the modern world. We encourage participation in prayer, life-long Jewish learning, and social justice within a joyful, creative, and compassionate community.

**When a Jew and a Non-Jew are Married:  
Conversations For Mixed Married Couples  
Wednesday, February 27 and  
Thursday, April 10  
7:30 to 9:00 p.m.**

Have you got questions? Have you learned strategies you might want to share with others? Would you simply like to talk about the setting in which a Jew and non-Jew are married and members of Sinai Temple. Join Peter Zimmer, (a former Vice President of Sinai and a skilled group facilitator) for the second session of a discussion group for Sinai members. The group will meet at the Temple. Please RSVP to the Temple office so that we know you are coming. For questions, you can contact Peter through the Temple office.

**Moslem-Jewish Dialogue  
Three Evenings of Conversation  
Between members of Sinai Temple  
And the Springfield Moslem community  
Coming in March**

What do modern Moslems believe? What do they think about us, the world, politics, and meaning? If you would like to share a conversation with Moslems in our area and share some of your own feelings about Judaism with them, this program is for you. Please call the Rabbi or let him know you'd like to learn more. [markdov@sinai-temple.org](mailto:markdov@sinai-temple.org)

**Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah  
Are You Interested in Starting a New  
Class For A New Year?  
Orientation Session  
Saturday, May 3 at 8 a.m.**

Dear Congregants:

As many of you know, it has been my privilege to work with four groups of men and women who have chosen to become Bar/Bat Mitzvah as adults. I think each group of learners will tell you we had a wonderful time together. We were not attempting to become Harvard graduates. We were only attempting to grow and explore ourselves as Jews. If you are at all interested in helping form another Adult Bar/Bat Mitzvah class that could start meeting this coming May & June, please contact me. [markdov@sinai-temple.org](mailto:markdov@sinai-temple.org) Our first informal get-to-know-one-another session will take place Saturday, May 3 in the Oneg Shabbat room. No commitments. Call me and we can see if it's right for you. Rabbi Shapiro

**Rabbi Tammy Kohlberg From Israel  
Visits Sinai Temple  
Thursday, February 7...12:00 – 1:15 p.m.  
and  
Saturday, February 9...9:00 to 10:00 a.m.**

Rabbi Tammy Kohlberg, leader of Congregation Ra-anan from the Tel Aviv suburb of Ra-anana will be our guest teacher this weekend. Rabbi Kohlberg has visited Sinai twice before! She is engaging, creative, and enthusiastic. Last year's Sinai Israel Group visited the Rabbi's congregation for a wonderful dinner and conversation. Rabbi Kohlberg is a cousin of our Temple member, Donna Fisher. The Rabbi will be speaking on both Thursday, February 7 and Saturday, February 9.

**6 for 60 is coming....  
2 Essays + 2 Poems + 2 Short Stories  
That Gave us the State of Israel  
Tuesdays, March 4, 11, & 18  
7:30 to 9 p.m.**

How and why did the State of Israel become the way it is today? What happened at the beginning of modern Zionism? What may happen in the coming years?

Rabbi Shapiro will lead us through an exploration of these important questions as we read SIX classic texts about Israel. This will be a mini-course for those with lots of interest but not so much time to read. It will be melt-in-your-mouth learning on Israel's 60th anniversary. Please contact the Rabbi ([markdov@sinai-temple.org](mailto:markdov@sinai-temple.org)) to let him know you are interested.

**Monthly Morning Service  
Wednesday, February 6  
at 7:30 a.m.**

A chance to start your day with a different focus. We meet on the bimah for a service of 20 minutes. Breakfast follows. Those who need to leave for the rest of the day are free no later than 8:15 a.m.

Future "morning minyan" services will take place on Wednesdays, March 5, April 2, May 7, and June 4.

**Bigger, Bolder, and Better  
Purim 2008  
Thursday, March 20  
6 p.m.**

**IN CELEBRATION OF ISRAEL'S 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY!**  
**JOIN A MULTI-GENERATIONAL BAND AND/OR CHORUS**  
**PLAY AND/OR SING WITH YOUR CHILDREN**  
**OR JOIN ALONE!!!!**

Remember our BIG Sinai Temple Band created 10 years ago for Israel's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary?!! It was SO much fun!! What a great night!!! **NOW**, it's time to celebrate **ISRAEL'S 60<sup>TH</sup> Anniversary!** This time choose to join **EITHER** or **BOTH** the Sinai Temple **BAND** and/or **CHORUS** to perform on **FRIDAY EVENING, MAY 9th!**

~ **INSTRUMENTALISTS:** Sinai Temple members **of any age** who play a musical instrument with **AT LEAST 3 years** current playing experience. **Good music reading and/or improvisational skills preferred.**

~ **SINGERS:** Sinai Temple members, **of any age**, who love to sing and can carry a tune and blend with other singers. **Choral experience, sight reading music and Hebrew reading (not required).**

**Only an 8-WEEK REHEARSAL COMMITMENT for EITHER or BOTH!**  
**REHEARSAL SCHEDULE: Tuesdays: BAND. Wednesdays: CHORUS.**  
**BEGIN: Week of March 24<sup>th</sup>. (Yes, rehearsals April 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>, during Passover)**

**CALL CANTOR MEKLER (736-3619, ext. 14) for further information.**

\*\*\*\*\*

**PARTICIPANTS SIGN UP FORM**

PLEASE FILL IN A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH PARTICIPANT.  
RETURN TO CANTOR MEKLER **NO LATER THAN MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>**

**Name of Performer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Age of Performer: (youth, teen, adult, senior)** \_\_\_\_\_

**What instrument(s) do you play?** \_\_\_\_\_

**What is your vocal range (soprano, alto, tenor, bass)?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you currently playing in a musical ensemble?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Briefly describe your choral or choir experience?** \_\_\_\_\_

**How long have you played the instrument(s)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Circle your music reading ability: Excellent, Good, Average, Fair**

**Circle your overall performance abilities: Excellent, Good, Average, Fair**

## Message from Cantor Emily Sleeper Mekler

I hope you've circled your calendar for the **First Ever Women's Weekend at Sinai Temple** in April. It begins Thursday, April 3rd with the Women's Seder. On Saturday morning, April 5th Professor Judith Plaskow will present the New Women's Torah Commentary, published by the Women of Reform Judaism. The morning will be sponsored by Leah and Gerald Gottlieb. Sunday, April 6th we will be traveling to Mayyim Hayyim in Newton, MA. The rental of the bus has been underwritten by Robyn Newhouse. Remember the ENTIRE Women's Weekend is open to all Sinai women and their Bat Mitzvah age and older daughters or granddaughters. Sinai members are welcome to bring a guest to the Women's Seder.

Also that weekend, though not part of the Women's Weekend, the Shabbat evening April Family Service will include our Annual Rikudiyah. All Sinai Religious School students, Kindergarten through 4th grade will perform the Israeli dances that they have learned during previous weeks of rehearsals. I always enjoy helping to prepare the children for this joyful and educational event. This year it will be even more meaningful because of Israel's 60th anniversary. Please join us!

Remember our BIG Sinai Temple Band created 10 years ago for Israel's 50th Anniversary?!! It was SO much fun!! What a great night!!! Now, it's time to celebrate **ISRAEL'S 60th Anniversary on Friday evening, March 9th!** This time please sign up to join **either or both** the Sinai Temple **BAND** and/or **CHORUS**.

Only an **8-week rehearsal commitment** for either or both! Rehearsals will be on Tuesday evenings for the band and Wednesday evenings for the chorus and will begin the week of March 24th. Call Cantor Mekler (736-3619, ext. 14) for further information.

## Hebrew Success at Sinai!

Thanks to the interest of Sinai adults and thanks to the commitment of three wonderful Sinai volunteers, we have completed another semester of adult Hebrew learning. Our Sinai students were led by: Howard Kalodner, Joan Narmontas, and Laurie Weinberg. Thank you to our volunteer teachers!!

## Message from Brotherhood

A Big Thank You! to those who called or emailed me with expressions of support and interest in the work we are doing to reinvent and revitalize our Brotherhood for next year. Everyone is welcome to give us their thoughts and ideas. We are guided by our new mission statement: **Brotherhood will provide a place for the men of Sinai Temple to have joint experiences as men, and, as an organization, look to be of service to the congregational community.**

In December, Brotherhood was pleased to be able to provide the dreidals and bags of gelt that all of our Religious School students received.

In January we had a very nice breakfast and talk by our Past President Richard Fox on the state of the mortgage industry. If you missed it, we have another **Brotherhood Breakfast** for you on Sunday, **February 10 from 9-11AM**. As always, Brotherhood members are free, guests are only \$5. Everyone is welcome!

We are very excited by our February speaker, Mr. Rob Okun, Executive Director of the Men's Resource Center for Change in Amherst. He will speak on the topic: **Beit Shalom: Peace in the Home: What Can Men Do?**

Many men, Jews and non-Jews alike, don't seem themselves as part of the epidemic of domestic violence plaguing our communities.

If we're personally not abusive, isn't that good enough? Mr. Okun will offer observations aimed at inviting men to move from bystander to actor in challenging domestic abuse and encourage better collaborate with women to prevent abuse.

Please join us for this timely and interesting presentation. RSVP to [secretary@sinaibrotherhood.org](mailto:secretary@sinaibrotherhood.org).

Scott M. Sherman,  
Sinai Brotherhood President  
[president@sinaibrotherhood.org](mailto:president@sinaibrotherhood.org)

## Let my people eat!

It's never too late or too early to think about good cooking and baking. If you were stumped over what to make and how to organize the kitchen side of last year's Seder, the library has got the perfect Passover gift for you. It's called **PASSOVER SEDERS MADE SIMPLE**. The author is Zell Schulman. The book is published by IDG Books Worldwide, Inc. It not only contains recipes for Passover, but a full listing of sample menus for seders of all sorts from Ashkenazic to vegetarian to "ecumenical potluck!" Other Passover materials are waiting to be consumed in the Temple library.



## Message from Director of Education Sheila Shear

*Shalom Chaverim*

Well, anyone who knows me moderately well knows that just the thought of getting on an airplane is cause for much anxiety. This past December I faced that fear and got myself to the URJ Biennial in San Diego. It was an experience not quite like anything I had previously experienced. I learned from our own Reform scholars, I enjoyed entertainment, I met interesting synagogue leaders from all over the U.S, and Canada (including Alaska), but more awe inspiring than anything was the opportunity to spend Shabbat with 5,000 other Reform Jews. That is an experience that can not be described, it is a feeling of such deep spirituality that words do it no justice. So I thank all who encouraged me to go. To our students I offer the ruach (spirit) and knowledge gained as a result of that experience and hope that someday they will not only be able to, but will want to experience this incredible event.

Speaking of worthwhile experiences, our 7th grade students will be lucky to attend a Shul-In at Temple Ohabei Shalom in Brookline this month. I hope this is the first of many youth group experiences for them. In addition, our 6th and 7th grade girls have been enjoying their Rosh Hodesh/It's A Girl Thing, meetings with facilitator Erica Brunette, and our 8th graders finished their first semester engaging in study and activities with some of our own Sinai Temple senior citizens using the SPARK/HeartAction program as a basis for their meetings. Learning at Sinai continues to change and grow as Sinai continues to change and grow. If you have questions or are interested in finding out more about these and other of our wonderful and interesting programs please call or just drop in to chat.

Finally, thank you to the Brotherhood who supplied dreidles and gelt for students in the Religious School during our Chanukah celebrations.

L'Shalom  
Sheila Shear

**March Madness at Sinai  
Purim 2008  
Thursday, March 20  
6 p.m.**

## Announcing A Creative Writing Contest To Celebrate Israel's 60th Anniversary For Students of Sinai Temple Grades 4 – 12

Create an essay...a story...poetry...even the lyrics to a song (You can use a melody of your choice or write your own!

### Age Categories and Prizes

#### *Grades 4 - 5*

Prizes to include \$36 gift certificates to Bertucci's as well as gift certificates to Friendly's.

#### *Grades 6 - 8*

Prizes to include \$50 iTunes Gift Cards as well as gift certificates to Friendly's.

#### *Grades 9 - 12*

Prizes to include an iPod nano with 4 GB (1000 songs), \$50 iTunes Gift Cards plus plus gift certificates to Starbucks.

### Due Date Thursday, March 20

Your completed writing should be in the Temple office by March 20. Purim starts that evening and, during the Megillah Reading, every participant will receive a small gift for entering the contest.

Sinai Temple's 2008 Israel Writing contest is made possible by a gift from the Berman-Snieder Family Fund in Honor of Our Parents.

## Message from SPFTY Advisor Andy Chaet

Shalom,

SPFTY started 2008 with a bang .We have started our regularly scheduled meetings and there is a newfound enthusiasm and excitement with our teens.

I want to commend the group for their great job at the Family Fun and Games Night. Everyone had a great time.

Our February schedule includes our meetings on February 3 (General Business meeting) and February 17 (PIZZA!). Both meetings begin at 5:00 p.m. Please join us.

On Friday night February 8th we are planning a Shabbat Service at the home of a SPFTYite .This will begin at 6:00 pm with dinner and a SHORT service and time to be together on Shabbat. Please join us .Details to follow.

As you can see SPFTY is starting to make some moves forward. Please join us at meetings and feel free to contact Emma Klein, [lsklein@comcast.net](mailto:lsklein@comcast.net), our president, or me, [achaet@yahoo.com](mailto:achaet@yahoo.com).

## Jewish Summer Camping Can Make All the Difference in Preparing a Jewish Child for the Future

Our Reform movement runs two remarkable summer camps in the Berkshires. One is called Eisner; the other is called Crane Lake. Last year several Sinai students attended each of the camps. Your child would love either camp. Scholarships are available for sessions in July or August. Please speak to Rabbi Shapiro as soon as possible.

**The Must-See Event  
Purim 2008  
Thursday, March 20  
6 p.m.**

### Mazal Tov to:

Elaine Geha on the engagement of her daughter, Marla Geha, to Matthew Polly.

Jerry and Beth Green on the engagement of their daughter, Ellen, to Brian Prystowsky.

Elaine Nathan on her engagement to Ken Shusterman.

Talya Cossin on graduating from U. Mass. and taking a position as an English teacher at the Instituto Dr. Chaim Weizman in San Jose, Costa Rica. Talya's school is a Jewish day school with 300 students!

Jim and Barbara Sadowsky as their daughter Margo and her husband Sam Tucker became parents to a baby boy Milo Benjamin Tucker born January 5, 2008.



Rabbi Tammy Kohlberg and Rabbi Shapiro visiting together near Tel Aviv this past summer with our Israel Travel Group.

## Scholarships for Free

If your son or daughter is planning to attend any kind of Jewish program this summer, please take advantage of the Temple scholarship program. Thanks to the Joseph Emanuel, Rabbi Herman Eliot and Adele Biederman Snyder Memorial Fund, scholarships are available in small and larger amounts. We are also thankful to the family of Edna Simon and Judy and Michael Cohen who support summer scholarships as well.

*Your confidential request should go to Rabbi Shapiro no later than March 1.*

## What Are You Doing This Summer

This past summer lots of kids from Sinai Temple attended our Reform Jewish camps in the Berkshires. Here are some of the names of the fabulous kids who were campers.

Perhaps your child will want to join them this summer.

### *Attending Crane Lake:*

Jillian Bertuzzi  
Alex Calabrese  
Hannah Calabrese  
Michela Calabrese  
Jesse Cohen-Lindfors  
Josh Feinberg  
Martin Markenson  
Brian Plumb  
Jeremy Port  
Logan Skole  
Kyle Thomas  
Samuel Weinberg

### *Attending Eisner:*

Rebecca Cohen-Lindfors  
Celia Gibson  
Eric Gibson  
Danielle Goldstein  
Hallie Goldstein  
Hannah Gordon  
Rachel Michaelson

## Judaica Shop Corner

There may be snow and ice outside, but we are thinking Spring and Passover. Your shop is preparing to meet all those needs.

Meanwhile for our B'nai Mitzvah we offer an extensive selection of beautiful tallisim for boys and girls. Also for invitations (and stationery) our capable Ann Rosenfield is ready to offer assistance. Many companies of printed items are available from which to choose. Call Ann at 781-3045.

Thais Fischel 786-9577  
Bobbie Cossin 565-9970

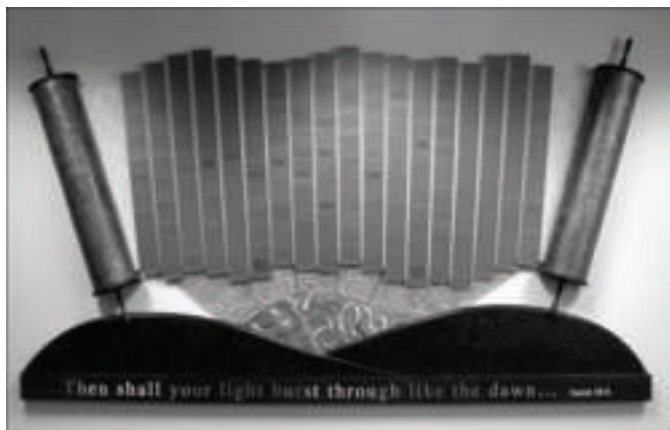
## For High School and College students A Summer Program Making Money; The Susan M. Broh Tikkun Olam Award

This summer Sinai Temple invites students to get involved with tikkun olam - repairing the world. We would like to underwrite students who choose to spend their summer in a project that enriches the world. Interested students can get involved by thinking of a project or an area of interest. (For suggestions, please see below.) An application should be in the mail soon. Those who are selected will be paid a salary of approximately \$7.50 an hour. (College students living outside the Pioneer Valley are welcome to find a project wherever they'll be spending the summer.)

Why is the Temple offering this program? We began this program several years ago to honor the memory of Susan M. Broh, a Temple member who died in September 2001. Susan began her career of "tikkun olam" by dedicating two years of her life to the Peace Corps. After that, Susan devoted her professional and volunteer life to making this world a better place. She believed passionately in the Jewish obligation of pursuing justice. Susan's friends and family have created this program to honor her memory and to encourage other Jews to strive for holiness as Jews must always do.

A full application is available by calling the Temple office.

## Scroll of Life



The Scroll of Life is a work of art in the Oneg Shabbat Room. It was created by Presentations Gallery of New York. The Isaiah quote at the bottom of the Scroll was taken from the Yom Kippur Haftarah as an expression of hope.

The Scroll has space on it so that Sinai members can commemorate either joyous events or memorialize loved ones. Each contribution of a plaque on the Scroll will be used to enrich the life and strength of Sinai. The cost of each plaque is \$200. The inscription may be 3-4 lines with a maximum of 27 spaces per line.

## The Sustaining Membership Program 2007-2008

At Sinai Temple, we have always welcomed everyone regardless of financial situation. No one is turned away from our synagogue because he or she lacks the means to pay full dues. To be as fair as possible, we have taken great care in granting dues abatements, recognizing that a reduction for one must be subsidized by an increase to others. In order to assure that membership remains available to all, and to continue meeting the operating expenses of the Temple, we have reinvigorated our Sustaining Membership program.

This fiscal year (2007-2008) we have turned to congregants who were already paying full dues at their category level and asked them to assume their fair share of sustaining Sinai by voluntarily increasing their financial commitment to the congregation. The results have been gratifying. As of January 1, 2008, 99 households have joined the Sustaining Membership program (paying amounts ranging from \$250 to \$2,500 over their required dues). These households have committed a total of \$54,376.00. We are so grateful for their generosity. Recognition for their sustaining membership support can also be seen on the plaque which is in the Temple lobby.

Thank you for your support!

## Mark your calendar For the Annual Israel Bonds Dinner Wednesday, June 4

Sinai Temple will be joining with all the other synagogues of the Pioneer Valley this coming June for the annual Bonds Dinner.

This year's honoree from Sinai will be George Dickstein. Details will follow.

### Fragrance Free Please

Please refrain from excessive use of perfume and colognes when attending services and events at Temple. Those with allergies can be adversely affected and become uncomfortable when exposed to strong scents. When purchasing bimah flowers for special occasions, please be considerate too and order only non-scented arrangements. Thank you!



**FUN RAISER 2008 -  
A FUNDRAISER IN PEOPLE'S HOMES  
Seven Evenings to choose from**

**Attend spectacular events  
Get to know other congregants  
Raise funds for the Temple  
All events are first come, first-served and  
have limited space.  
The brochure enclosed with the bulletin  
explains how to make reservations.**

*The secret to buying fine wine without going broke!*

Saturday, March 1, @ 7:30pm

At the home of Joel and Betsy Bertuzzi

*Sports Evening: March Madness Begins!*

Saturday March 1, @ 7:30pm

At the home of Richard and Kim Black

*Bon Bons and Bon Mots: Ladies' Tea*

Sunday, March 9, 3-5pm

At the home of Ann Jacobs

*Chamber Magic Show*

Saturday, March 15th @ 7:30pm

At the home of Michael and Gloria Wald

*Not Your Typical Wine Tasting!*

Saturday, April 12 @ 7:30pm

At the home of Jim and Barbara Sadowsky

*Family Magic*

Sunday, April 13, 3-4:30pm

At the home of Stacey Osowski

*Cello and Piano with Boris Kogan and Sofya Shainskaya*

Saturday, May 31 @ 7:30pm

At the home of Gerald and Leah Gottlieb

If you have any questions about these events, please  
contact the members of the Home Events Committee:

Diane Friedberg 567-7653

Bonnie Engelman 565-9992

Linda Berger 1-860-698-6159

**Mmmmm Food!!!**

**A Tasty Opportunity for Purim!!!**

Would you like to eat freshly baked hamantaschen?

Bake hamantaschen?

Help mail hamantaschen to members of the congregation?

If you can say yes to any of the above, here's something sweet to anticipate for Purim next month - March 20/21!!!

**It's called the MITZVAH OF MISHLOACH  
MANOT - THE SENDING OF FOOD!**

This year we're going to fulfill the mitzvah of Mishloach Manot\* by preparing food baskets for our Alumni (Sinai young adults ages 18 to 30) plus new Temple members. We'll also be baking enough hamantaschen for the entire Religious School.

So...here's your chance. You can be part of this great event in several ways....

1. Make a recipe of dough and bring it unbaked to the Temple refrigerator. (We'll give you an easy recipe. See below. OR

2. Come help bake in the Temple kitchen near Purim in mid-March.

3. Help package Mishloach Manot food baskets on a Sunday near Purim. Come to the Temple that morning and we'll give you directions for packaging.

For information, recipes, questions, and if you're free to package the goodies, please call Stacey Osowski at Sinai...736-3619, ext. 13.

P.S. No experience is needed! Just good spirits

P.P.S. Mishloach Manot means "the sending of portions (of food)." It's a Purim custom to share small gifts of food with friends and family.

**A Hamantashen Baking Contest  
Really!!!**

**A Contest for Baking Hamantaschen  
Part of the Megillah Reading,  
Thursday, March 20**

Can you bake? Can you not bake? Looking for something fun to do with your kids?

This is your opportunity. Hamantashen of any size, shape, or flavor are welcome in this contest for the best and most creative hamantashen ever created. Don't be shy. Our jurors are kind. Bring your creation to the Megillah Reading.

## We would like to Stay in Touch:

*Please feel free to be in touch with the Temple members who are in leadership positions this year.*

*This year's Executive members are:*

Dave Roberts	President	860-763-3902
Rina Miller	1st V.P	567-0398
Jeff Cossin	V.P	567-7230
Roberta Hillenberg Gang	V.P.	567-6126
Joel Bertuzzi	Treasurer	567-3524
Bobi Steingart	Financial Secretary	567-6327

*This year's Board of Directors members are:*

2005-2008		2006-2009	
Nick Ciciretti	567-0196	Andy Chaet	747-7107
Diane Friedberg	567-7653	George Dickstein	567-8758
Susan Goldman	567-7474	David Frank	567-6649
Peter Greenberg	567-6877	Laura Klein	567-9618
Howard Kalodner	736-6220	Rickie Leiter	567-5574
Andy Moskovitz	533-9209	Elaine Nathan	788-6793
2007-2010			
Mel Chafetz	860-668-0494		
Marlene Gordon	567-6298		
Steve Katz	525-2998		
Belle Rita Novak	737-1724		
Joel Solomon	567-0073		
Mark Stone	567-0392		
Laurie Weinberg	599-1978		

## Thank you to:

Brotherhood for donating the dreidels and chocolate Chanukah gelt for all of our Religious School students during Chanukah.

## The Memory of the Righteous is a Blessing

All of us at Sinai Temple extend condolences as we remember the following.

Their memories are precious to their relatives, their friends and to each of us who form the community of Sinai Temple.

We remember those who have passed away since December 5, 2007 and up until January 8, 2008:

Shirley Merrill, wife of Edwin Merrill  
Sam Laffer, father of Sherry Leaderman  
Jeanette Levine, mother of Claire Cohen-Stelzer  
Eleanore Libby, wife of Daniel Libby

*This year's Committee Chairs are:*

Adult Education Laurie Weinberg	New Members Jeffrey Cossin
Bar/Bat Mitzvah Barbara Winer	Membership Michael Bader
Brotherhood Scott Sherman	Nominating Linda Kay
Caring Community Lynn Solomon	Personnel Rina Miller
Cemetery Ron Weiss	Religious School Susanne Simon
Dues Bobi Steingart	Ritual Rickie Leiter
Finance Joel Bertuzzi	Shalom Karen Mendelsohn
Fund Raising Diane Friedberg	Social Action Ronnie Leavitt
House Irwin Pers	Technology Howard Kalodner

## The Howard Grayboff Fix-It Fund

To cherish Howard's memory, the Grayboff family established the "Howard Grayboff Fix-It Fund" as he had a deep and abiding love for Sinai Temple.

In 1950, as a young married couple in their early 20's, Lee & Howard wanted to be affiliated with a Reform synagogue. At that time in their life, meeting the financial obligation to the Temple was a hardship. The treasurer of the Temple and the membership chairman were most gracious of Howard's situation and invited him to be a member with deferred payment. Howard declined the generous offer and made a small payment promising to increase it each year. As he left the Temple office he turned to the committee and said, "I might be President of this Temple one day..." Howard served as President of Sinai Temple from 1972-1974.

The maintenance of the Temple building was something that Howard was passionate about. He would stop by on his way home from work or always make himself available as Howard had a talent for being able to "fix" and repair problems that arose and needed attention.

Howard never forgot the generosity of Sinai Temple that night many years ago. From that day forward, the Temple became an important part of his life and his second home. The Fund is available to be used towards the maintenance of the building and or items that need to be replaced.

# Sinai Temple

BULLETIN



1100 Dickinson Street  
Springfield, MA 01108  
(413) 736-3619  
<http://www.sinai-temple.org>

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
SPRINGFIELD, MA  
PERMIT NO.537

**DON'T MISS THIS FUN EVENT!**

## **Sinai Temple** fundraising night at

# **MAJESTIC THEATER**

the

**Sunday, February 10, 2008 at 7:00pm**

***Guys On Ice - The Ice Fishing Musical***

**All Reserved Seat Tickets: \$22 & \$25**

Please call the Majestic Theater Box Office directly to purchase reserved seat tickets for this special Sinai Temple performance.

**Book Now! Bring your friends and come and have fun. See you there.**

**Majestic Theater Box Office (413) 747-7797**

**131 Elm Street • West Springfield, MA**

**Box Office Hours: Monday through Friday 10:00am to 5:00pm**

**Saturday 10:00am to 1:00pm.**

**Tickets (if there are any left!) can also be purchased at the door on the night of the performance.**