

Congregation Kehilat Shalom NEWS

A Welcoming Jewish Reconstructionist Community

Editor—Karen Bartels
karen.bartels@comcast.net
home phone 609-921-1811

Newsletter of the Congregation Kehilat Shalom of Belle Mead, NJ **May 2016** Nisan — Iyyar 5776

Bulletin from the Board—Marc Rosenberg

Ah, Spring. Time to reflect on the winter that stubbornly hung on far too long and look forward to the warmer weather. At CKS, we can also reflect back on a great year and look forward to finishing it out with a flourish.

Cruisin' CKS

On Saturday night, April 9, we set sail on the good ship CKS. Our annual fundraising bash was wonderful. The transformation of the building made you feel like you were on a cruise ship; the food was terrific, the DJ was great and, best of all, we grossed over \$14,000 for CKS. Thanks to our "captain" Debbie Gartenberg, and her hearty crew who secured so many nice donations for the auction, marketed the event, arranged for entertainment, built our cruise ship (including a gangway and chandelier!) and prepared the delicious food. This was the seventh year of our fundraising extravaganza and each year is better than the last. Who knows what theme will await us next year, but you can be sure it will be a great time!



Kehiloft

Speaking of end-of-year festivities, there are three big Kehiloft events coming up, the first of which is the Lag B'Omer Field Day on May 1, from 11:30 to 1:30. Join us for outdoor games, activities, food, and fun for all Religious School students.

Also, Kehiloft invites everyone to their talent show on May 15 from 11 till noon. You won't believe how talented our kids are! There is still time to sign up for the talent show. Contact Karen Fridkis at kehiloftprincipal@kehilatshalomnj.org. And, Kehiloft Graduation is on June 17th. Please come and support our teens as they lead services and we say goodbye to our senior, Gabe Rubinstein.

Siyyum

The religious school's annual Siyyum end of year commemorations will be held on May 22. This year we are delighted to have the group, Musical IQ, presenting their Drum Orchestra Program. All ages are welcome to participate and celebrate all that has been achieved. It's a chance for all members, not just parents, to tell our students and our teachers, "Well done!"

Annual Membership Meeting

Add your voice and contribute to the planning for future of our community! After the Siyyum, also on May 22, at noon, CKS will hold its annual membership meeting. We will discuss our accomplishments over the past year, plan for the next and get input from the congregation. At the meeting, we'll cover the budget, provide an update on the proposed sale of land that we own adjacent to CKS, elect new Board members, and recognize some outstanding congregants for their contributions this past year. Please show your appreciation for their efforts by attending this very important meeting. Watch for more information in the mail.

Learn More

Want to learn more about CKS activities? Besides this newsletter and our weekly e-mail blast, why not "like" the CKS Facebook page and bookmark the CKS website (kehilatshalomnj.org)? Both are very well done and while the website has our official calendar and other congregational news and information for you to browse, the Facebook page is your place to interact with other congregants and friends, or just follow along with the life of our community. It's a great way to keep in touch with CKS over the summer.

On a Personal Note

Next month marks the end of my four-year tenure on the Board. My family has been a member of CKS for more than 30 years and we look forward to many more years of participation. A big thank you to Rabbi Susan; the three presidents I served under: Stacy Anderson, Susan Waskow, and Bob Neusner; and to all the dedicated Board members and committee chairs I have worked with during this time. CKS is in great hands.

Marc Rosenberg, Trustee

Congregation
Kehilat Shalom
253 Griggstown Rd.
Belle Mead, NJ 08502
Phone: 908-359-0420
Fax: 908-359-8848

Rabbi

Susan Falk
rabbi@ksnj.org

President

Robert Neusner
president@ksnj.org

Administrator

Robin Bengochea
admin1@ksnj.org
robin@ksnj.org

Religious School Principals

Ann Kanarek (K-7)
principal@ksnj.org
Karen Fridkis (8-12)
kehiloftprincipal@ksnj.org

Lay Cantor

Kate Mende-Fridkis

Board of Trustees 2015-2016

Officers of the Board

1st Vice President

Steve Weinstein

2nd Vice President

Leonard Edelstein

Past President

Susan Waskow

Treasurer

Gregory Corsan

Financial Secretary

Deborah Gartenberg

Recording Secretary

Amy Rosenthal

Corresponding Secretary

Sheryl Rosenberg

Trustees

Jill Fraticelli

Michael Galkin

Ron Lubin

William Ries

Marc Rosenberg

Iris Rubinstein

Affiliate: Jewish

Reconstructionist Federation

Published by:

Calli-Graphics

Proofreader: Shana Bartels

CKS Donations

CKS gratefully acknowledges the generosity of our members and friends.

General

- ♥Lisa Roe
- ♥Diane & Harry Hawk
In memory of Estelle Bartels
- ♥Gayle Roger
- ♥Marc & Harlene Rosenberg
In memory of Estelle Bartels
- ♥Heidi Brim

Cruisin' CKS –

Our Event was a Great Success!
The Cruisin' CKS Planning Committee sends many thanks to everyone who helped make last month's event a success.

Many of you donated items or services to our silent and live auctions, sold ads, attended the party (great turnout!), bought 120 raffle tickets, purchased 15 bottles of wine that were donated for the Mystery Wine Station, and so much more. All told, our gross income was better than last year – over \$14,000!

With so many members from our community contributing in so many ways, the event was financially and socially successful. Thank you all for supporting our synagogue and its members.

From the Cruisin' CKS Planning Committee

Remember CKS when you donate:

Dues only cover a portion of the CKS operating budget. Consider making a donation in memory of a loved one, honoring an accomplishment, or recognizing a friend or colleague.

Robert M. Fass

Sales Associate
Relocation Certified

Callaway Henderson
Sotheby's International Realty
1325 Route 206, Suite 30
Skillman, NJ 08558
o 908.874.0000 c 609.577.8909

bfass@callawayhenderson.com
callawayhenderson.com

Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated



Shabbat Community-Wide Dinner

The Kent family will be hosting an Italian dairy dinner (pizza and pasta buffet) for the entire congregation on **Friday, June 24th at 6:30 pm** in honor of their son Matthew's bar mitzvah. Services begin at 7:30 and the Kents are also sponsoring the Oneg after services. We would love to have you join us. In order to have enough food we request that you kindly RSVP to Terry@Luminationsgroup.com no later than June 17th with the number of dinner guests. If you or one of your family have special diet restrictions please call Lisa Kent before the RSVP date of June 17th.

Matt's bar mitzvah will be a lovely Mincha service the following afternoon, June 25th at 4 pm. Please join us on Saturday too. We are happy to have you at any and all events!

CKS Book Club

Tuesday, May 17 - To be selected
All meetings will be at 7:30pm at CKS

2016-2017 Board Nominations/ Annual Meeting

This is an exciting time in the life and growth of our community. In order to continue to sustain our positive direction, we ask for everyone's participation and support. Consider nominating yourself or someone you know for a Trustee position, and join us on **May 22 at 12:15 pm** for the Annual Membership Meeting where you can voice your opinion about decisions that will impact our synagogue and community.

To nominate yourself or someone you know for a Trustee position contact one of the members of the nominating committee:

Susan Waskow, chairperson, 609-462-5351,
susan.waskow@gmail.com

Jill Fraticelli, 908-295-2034, jillfraticelli@comcast.net

Judy Forster, 908-715-6419,
judithforster4@gmail.com



Message from the Rabbi

NOW GO AND STUDY: ADULT EDUCATION AT CKS



There's a famous story in the Talmud in which the great first-century Rabbi Hillel is mockingly challenged by a stranger to teach him all about Judaism while standing on one foot. Hillel's response is swift and concise: "Simple," he says. "First, 'Love your neighbor as yourself' and second, 'You shall love Adonai your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your might.' This is the foundation, and all the rest is commentary. Now, *tze u-lemad*, go and study."

The expression, *tze u-lemad*/go and study, is the Jewish call to participate in the rich tradition of Jewish study and life-long learning of our texts, our history, our rituals and laws, philosophy, and theology... and the possibilities are endless!

It's been a great year at CKS for adult education, and we are hoping to make next year even better. We began the year with a guest speaker from T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights, who did a wonderful job outlining the issues of human trafficking and focusing in on the work of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers and the strides they have made in improving labor conditions in the Florida tomato fields. We followed up with the award-winning documentary film, "Food Chains" that tells the story of agricultural workers in the United States. This spring, we held a three-part series entitled "Judaism at the End of Life" in which such topics as decision-making and patient self-determination, prayers and rituals of mourning, as well as ideas about the afterlife were presented and discussed. Participation was excellent, and the level of discussion was sophisticated – and sometimes deeply personal. Also this spring, our own member, Emily Bengels, a teacher in Hunterdon County, made a fascinating presentation on a trip she went on with other teachers to learn about education in Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates, three surprisingly different states in the Persian Gulf.

Finally, this year we continued our Saturday morning Torah studies – another great opportunity for adult learning and discussion. Over bagels and coffee, we look at a few verses from the week's Torah portion as a springboard, and soon we are having a discussion about everything from God to current events to personal stories or revelations about our own lives. We plan on continuing these next year, and we hope you will come.

I want to thank Susan Waskow and Scott Strauss for helping make all these education sessions possible. Now fortified with three more members, Richard Rosenberg, Linda Steinberg, and Larry Spinrad, we

are already gearing up for next year – and we want to do our best to meet your needs and get your ideas. You should already have a survey in your email that asks you what you would like to learn, as well as what days/times are best for you. Please take a few minutes to fill it out. (If you already filled out a survey after the adult ed program this spring, you don't have to do it again – unless, of course, you've thought of something new.) What are your interests? Jewish history, literature, music? Discussions on Israel or interfaith life? Would you like to learn more about the Talmud or other Jewish texts, or go back to the basics (Judaism 101)? Would you like to see more outside speakers or films? Do you have an area of expertise that you think would make an interesting class? Please let us know.

I am looking forward to a great new year of learning with all of you.

B'Shalom,
Rabbi Susan

Kindercapers

Now in its 21st full year, CKS's non-sectarian pre-school for children 2½ to 5 years old, offers a unique atmosphere, giving children a chance to explore, create, and most importantly, learn to think and reason.

For more information, call 908-359-0420



Tree of Life

Purchase a leaf for \$54 to celebrate a *simcha!* Each leaf includes three lines of engraving.

Contact Shelley Nord
908-874-8464



The CKS Gift Shop
is open each Sunday
10 am - 11 am

Questions?

Susan Waskow 609-333-1113
or Harlene Rosenberg 908-874-8283





"FIND YOURSELF A TEACHER"

Teachers have always been highly honored in the Jewish tradition. Our teachers are our lamplighters. They ignite the spirit of our young students and make Judaism inspirational and meaningful for them. They not only provide our students with information but offer

them positive and memorable Jewish experiences all year long.

As the school year comes to a close, it is gratifying to look back at all that our students have learned and accomplished. It is thanks to our devoted group of teachers that all of our students have had such a successful year.

Our esteemed faculty:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| Sharon Diamondstein | Joanna Javeline |
| Rabbi Susan Falk | Laura Leibowitz |
| Karen Fridkis | Eric Komar |
| Rena Gitlitz | Yael Shvetz |
| Tracey Weingarten | |

On behalf of the faculty and school, I would like to thank the parents for all your support and most especially, for giving us the pleasure of working with your children.

Thank you to Religious Education Chairperson, Lisa Ries and her committee for their encouragement, support and efforts all year. Many thanks to all the parent volunteers for helping us with our special activities and programs.

SPECIAL "SIYUM" CEREMONY

SUNDAY, MAY 22, 10:00AM

Seventh grade commencement service

On Sunday, **May 22**, we all have an opportunity to celebrate with our seventh grade class at their Siyum ceremony. This special service marks the completion of one segment of our students' Jewish education here at CKS, and the beginning of another, the High School - Kehiloft program.

This is an exciting event for which our seventh graders have been eagerly working. As a culmination of their studies, students will be sharing thoughts on how they can help the world be a better place to live. The theme this year is how we learn and live Judaism. Their presentation, **"Making Good Decisions,"** beautifully explains how each one of us can be a better person and a proud Jew.

Please join us as our seventh grade students "graduate" from Nesyot-religious school and share their thoughts with the congregation.

CONGREGATION KEHILAT SHALOM

extends heartfelt good wishes to the members of the 2016 Religious School 7th grade class:

- Caleb Birnbaum**
- Brendan Feldmus**
- Matthew Kent**
- Paige Kowalski**
- Jacob Schneider**
- Heather Suraci**
- Ellie Witt**

THANK YOU TO OUR MADRICHIM- OUR KEHILOFT TEENS

The Madrichim (high school aides) have been excellent role models for our younger children. You can find them around on a Sunday morning either in the school office or in a classroom. They have been a wonderful asset to our staff, helping in every capacity. I am really proud of the high level of commitment demonstrated by these fine young people. Despite the complexities of their busy schedules, it's wonderful to see how seriously our *madrachim* take their roles in our school. Our *madrachim* provide our synagogue with a genuine source of pride and joy. This year's *madrachim* are:

Madrachim

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Charlotte Birnbaum | Gabi Rubinstein |
| Lea Goldhammer | Hudson Waller |
| Tess Kowalski | Dorothy Waskow |
| Ally Rosenthal | Jack Weitze |

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL REMINDERS:

- Sunday, May 1: Lag B'Omer Field Day** (11:30-1:30)
- Friday, May 6:** Shabbat Mishpachah, 7:00pm
- Sunday, May 15: KRAV MAGA** presentation (*Brandon Alterman* from North Brunswick Martial Arts) will present a brief demonstration of this world famous Israeli art of self-defense; CKS Talent Show
- Sunday, May 22:** Last day of Religious School; 7th grade Siyum ceremony (10am) and special end of the year musical program with **MUSICAL IQ** presenting *Jewish Drum Tales*. All parents are invited to join us for our end of the year celebration, 11:15am - 12:00pm



Kehiloft, the next step in your Jewish journey



Kehiloft has been up to some great things!

First of all, the Lag BaOmer field day is coming up. As our annual project this year, we've decided to throw an outdoor festival for this fun and joyous holiday. We've spent a bunch of our meetings planning for it and it's going to be a blast! With activities such as face-painting, gaga, and field games, there's something for everyone. Make sure you mark your calendars for an afternoon of fun and games on May 1st, starting at 11:30.

In addition to planning for Lag BaOmer, we've also had the opportunity to have a great discussion with Rabbi Susan about Jewish stereotypes. With almost all of us having encountered at least one of these stereotypes, it was interesting to hear how they came to be and what we can do to help end them. Thanks again Rabbi Susan for coming to our meeting!

Lastly, we've been hard at work prepping for our service on Friday, April 29th. We've got a great parsha about Moses and the splitting sea, so it should be lots of fun!

Anyway, back to my chem homework.

Ally Rosenthal

MAY

Sunday, May 1 - 10:30 - 11:30. Orientation to Kehiloft for 7th grade students during RS

Sunday, May 1 - 11:30 - 1:30. School-wide First annual Lag B'Omer Field Day

Wednesday, May 11 - Rabbi Susan leads discussion

Sunday, May 15 - 11:00 - 12:00 Kehiloft hosts Talent Show in Religious School

Sunday, May 22 - 10:00 - 12:00. Siyyum and 7th grade bridge ceremony

Sunday, May 22 - 12:00 - 2:00 Car wash during annual meeting

JUNE

Wednesday, June 1 - Dinner in Princeton

Wednesday, June 8 - Shabbat service prep in outdoor classroom

Friday, June 17 - Kehiloft graduation Shabbat service #4

Sunday, June 26 - Field trip to Museum of Jewish Heritage in NYC

Can you sing? Dance? Juggle?

Do a cartwheel? Tell a joke?

Share your skills with the CKS community,
because the annual

Kehiloft Talent Show

is back! **Sunday May 15, 11:00 to 12:00**

Sign up with a Kehiloft teen to participate.

Law Offices of Brian M. Cige

*Emphasizing Employment Law,
General Practice & Civil Litigation*

- Wrongful Termination
- Discrimination
- Harassment
- Severance
- Unemployment
- Breach of Contract

-
- Automobile Accident and Personal Injury Cases



7 East High Street
Somerville, NJ 08876
908-685-3775

CigeLaw@gmail.com

Jewish LIFE



Margit - Not A23029

a film by Harry Hillard
produced by Peppy Margolis

The 30-minute documentary takes a tender look at the aftermath of The Holocaust - and how one woman overcame its horrors

The Jewish LIFE **Yom Hashoah Community-Wide Observance and Service** will be held **7pm on Thursday, May 5** at Temple Beth-El, Hillsborough. The evening will feature a premiere screening of *Margit - Not A23029*, a new film by Harry Hillard. A memorial service, and conversation with Margit Feldman -- a long-time Somerset County resident -- will follow the film. This program is free and open to the entire community. Please RSVP to the JCC at 908-75-6994 or to Temple Beth-El at 908-722-0674.



Join Jewish LIFE for a **Kosher Food Excursion in Brooklyn with Arthur Schwartz, Thursday, May 12**. Nobody knows kosher cooking and shopping like Arthur Schwartz, and we are very fortunate to have him as our guide for the day! We start the morning with breakfast at Arthur's home with Leah Koenig, author of *Hadassah Everyday Cooking*. Tour Crown Heights, a Kosher supermarket, Artisan Bakehouse and more. Register early...this very special trip is limited to 12 participants. (Fee: \$150/person) Call the Birnbaum JCC at 908-725-6994 x201.

Eddie Shapiro presents **Nothing Like a Dame: Conversations with the Great Women of Musical Theatre, Thursday, May 19, 12 Noon** at the Birnbaum JCC, Bridgewater. (Fee: \$5/person)

The **Jewish Film Series at Temple Beth-El, Hillsborough** will be showing the film *Three Mothers*, **Saturday, May 21 at 7pm**. Suggested donation \$5/person. Call Temple Beth-El to register at 908-722-0674.

If you have any questions regarding Jewish LIFE, and to register for special events, please contact the Shimon and Sara Birnbaum JCC at 908-725-6994 x201. To register for synagogue-hosted classes and special events, please register directly through the host synagogue.

Show your Israeli spirit and support...the annual **Celebrate Israel Day Parade in NYC is Sunday, June 5**.

Jewish LIFE (Learning Is For Everyone) thanks the community for their support throughout the year of our community-wide adult education program. Jewish LIFE returns in the Fall with a new calendar of special events, courses and classes, trips and more.



- ♦ 25 years' experience
- ♦ Virus and Spyware Removal
- ♦ New computer setup
- ♦ Software installation
- ♦ Fair Prices

Jon Bartels
PC WHISPERER

609 921-1811 bartels@gmail.com

RICHARD M. NADLER, DMD, FAGD



425 Amwell Road, Suite 104
Hillsborough, NJ 08844
tel. 908.359.6655 fax. 908.359.121
www.DesignsForDentalHealth.com

Mention you're a
CKS member
when you call!!

MAY 2016



May						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1 Religious School 9 am	2 Mah Jongg 7:30 pm	3	4	5 Exec Committee 7:30 pm	6 7 pm Shabbat Mishpachah Services	7 9:30 am Brenden Feldmus Bar Mitzvah
8 Religious School 9 am	9 Mah Jongg 7:30 pm	10	11 Kehiloft 6 pm	12 Board Meeting 7:30 pm	13 7:30 pm Shabbat Services	14
15 Religious School 9 am	16 Mah Jongg 7:30 pm	17	18	19	20 7:30 pm Shabbat Services	21 9:30 am Jacob Schneider Bar Mitzvah
22 Religious School 9 am Annual Meeting 12 noon	23 Mah Jongg 7:30 pm	24	25 Membership Committee 7 pm Ritual Committee 7 pm	26	27	28
29	30 Memorial Day Mah Jongg 7:30 pm	31				

253 Griggstown Road, Belle Mead, NJ 08502
<http://www.ksnj.org>
 Listserve e-mail: contact admin@ksnj.org
Fulfilling the religious, educational and social needs of our Jewish community since 1982.

May 2016

Deadline for next newsletter:
May 15th

Whom to contact for...	
Adult Education	Susan Waskow susan.waskow@gmail.com
Beautification	Debbie Gartenberg dgart1518@gmail.com
B'nai Mitzvah	Iris Rubinstein
Billing/Payments	Robin Bengochea 908-359-0420
Board of Trustees	Bob Neusner president@ksnj.org
Building & Grounds	Marty Millman
Building Usage/Access	Robin Bengochea 908-359-0420
Congregants' Assistance Fund	Rabbi Falk 908-359-0420 rabbi@ksnj.org
Education	Lisa Ries
Financial Aid	Debbie Gartenberg
Fundraising	Debbie Gartenberg dgart1518@gmail.com
Gift Shop	Iris Rubinstein
Hospitality(Kiddush & Oneg)	Natalie London 908-874-6955
Kinderappers	Natalie London 908-874-6955
Kehi-Loft (Hebrew High)	Karen Fridkis 609-333-1119
Life Cycle (Caring for Each Other)	Sheryl Rosenberg 908-253-7049 swellcourt@verizon.net
Long Range Planning	Ron Lubin
Marketing & Publicity	Jen Rappaport
Membership	Matt Rosenthal
Pastoral Emergencies	Rabbi Susan Falk 908-359-0420
Ritual	Susan Waskow susan.waskow@gmail.com
Technology - Website and Social Media	Amy Rosenthal webmaster@ksnj.org
Technology - Computer and Networking	Michael Galkin 908-281-4499

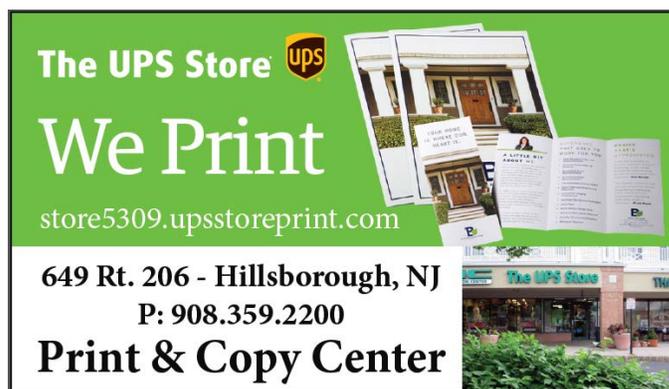
The UPS Store 

We Print

store5309.upsstoreprint.com

649 Rt. 206 - Hillsborough, NJ
P: 908.359.2200

Print & Copy Center



© 2016 by CKS. All rights reserved. Permission required for reuse.

The CKS Newsletter is published monthly, except July.
Deadline is the 15th of each month.
Every effort will be made to publish contributed items, but due to space restrictions, placement and format are at the discretion of the editor.
Advertising Policy. You can advertise in this newsletter to inform the community of your business or profession. Advertising is accepted based on its interest and applicability to our readership. Location in the newsletter is at the editor's discretion. CKS does not necessarily endorse or vouch for the products and services of our advertisers. The newsletter is published 11 times per year (no issue in July). E-mail a file with the art to the editor, or provide camera-ready art on clean, white background. Advertiser responsibility to meet deadlines. Rates are low and must be paid in advance. For information and a rate sheet, please contact the temple office.