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## *A Message from Our President*

This is my last official message as President of Beth Shalom. In large part, it reiterates my remarks made on Yom Kippur this past September. Many congregants asked me if I could provide copies of my speech because they were interested in what I had to say or found it difficult to hear me clearly. In any case, that gave me an idea. I would edit those remarks and present a final 'tour de table' to you on what we have accomplished and where we are going.

Clearly, the issue on most people's minds is our plans to introduce mixed seating in this sanctuary. The historic vote in May gave us a strong mandate to investigate and implement the best way to achieve that significant change. Our proposal was to create a synagogue for the future – one that accommodated families who wanted to sit together and pray together and one that gave young girls and women an expanded role within Judaism. While many of you saw this move as one to Conservative Judaism, our proposal was to seek an affiliation with the Traditional movement, which sits between Orthodoxy and Conservatism. The big issue around Beth Shalom since the beginning of time and depending on your perspective has been the question of whether a mechitza was necessary or whether our existing mechitza was sufficient. Regardless of how any of us feel, from an Orthodox Union (OU) perspective, the current mechitza is not sufficient.

Although you may not think much has happened since May, much work has been proceeding. We have prepared a package of constitutional amendments that will permit family seating. We will also introduce provisions to allow young women to chant a haftorah for their Bat Mitzvah. That is it – plain and simple. At the same time, the plans included the preservation of an Orthodox minyan in the Bait HaMidrash on a daily basis and that is being accomplished through the creation of ODOM (the Ottawa Downtown Orthodox Minyan).

In May, when more than 70% of the votes were cast in favour of change, a message was sent by those who love Beth Shalom that they want to see it survive and grow. Our proposals are designed for that express purpose: to strengthen the ability of our shul to survive and flourish. To do that, we believe we must be responsive to the needs of the Jewish community. Many new

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professionals move to Ottawa with young families and do not know many local people at first. We want to attract them and family seating is a very attractive feature. And a large proportion of our existing members, as demonstrated by the vote, favour family seating as well. To ease the transition to this new environment, there should be some flexibility in the timing of the introduction of other elements of the package of amendments.

The new Beth Shalom will have family seating in this sanctuary and will preserve existing Orthodox standards relating to kashrut, marriage, conversion and burial. On Yom Kippur, I announced that we were targeting to have everything ready for Chanukah, a symbolic time for the rededication of the sanctuary.

For those of you who have supported this notion for years, I ask you to show your support financially as well. A few generous members came forward last year with major donations to pay for the replacement of our roof and you can see the recent progress with the removal and filling in of the outdoor swimming pool. A yasher koach to Stan Levine, who was the driving force behind this project and who made it possible. Unfortunately, parking there must await the settling of the earth and paving, but it is a visible sign of progress. To achieve many of our other proposed modernization goals, we will need your renewed commitment to the capital campaign launched a few years ago and put on hold while we debated our future.

When we pave the old swimming pool area we will also repair and repave the entire parking area. At the same time, we must proceed to modernize our heating and air-conditioning systems, kitchen and washrooms, enhance the auditorium and make the front entrance wheelchair accessible. There will be other improvements, all of which will require serious consideration of plans and costs to achieve them. We are rebuilding and we will have a modern synagogue at the end of the day. I urge you all to become partners in these efforts.

With a modern building and both modern and traditional services, we will truly be the shul of the future. There has been much interest expressed in the “new” Beth Shalom, and even in this period of transition a good number of new members have joined our ranks.

It is wonderful to have new members, but we must also work to retain our existing members and continue recruiting. Our membership committee, under the direction of Ralph Paroli and Kinneret Globerman, has proposed a campaign to attract new members, and we will seek your cooperation to ensure that those recruitment efforts will succeed. We are confident that our future orientation will attract a large number of younger families and newcomers to Ottawa. As well, you can help by inviting friends and newcomers to attend Shabbat services with you. Or you can encourage them to attend one of our functions. Once they come here, they will feel the magic and appreciate the many benefits of being affiliated with us.

As usual, we were able to offer a variety of exciting programs over the year, including family Seders for Passover and Tu B'Shevat, children's Chanukah and Purim parties, the community Chanukah Ball under the chairmanship of Dr. John Kershman, and a wonderful celebration of Ethiopian Jewry with a marvellous Shabbat dinner prepared and served by several families from our congregation. To recognize their contributions and ensure future events to celebrate their rich heritage, we created an Ethiopian Jewish Heritage Fund and I urge you to consider that fund when making donations in memory of a loved one or to honour someone. Thanks to our program committee chaired by Sabina Wasserlauf and to Muriel Wexler and many other volunteers for all their hard work in making our events so successful. Of course, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge the daily efforts of Issie Rose and Murray Zloten to ensure there is always a breakfast for the congregants who *daven* at our *Shacharit* Services.

Our bulletins and calendar contain much useful information, and are done in a highly professional manner. Yasher Koach to Kinneret Globerman and Ralph Paroli again and to their bulletin committee for all their hard work. And thanks to Rabbi Benzaquen, Ralph, Kinneret, and Rabbi Braun for putting together the beautiful Jewish art calendar for this current year. My

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thanks go out to our generous sponsors and to Harvey Slipacoff and Issie Rose who worked so hard to secure those sponsors.

These programs and publications are first-class efforts to establish outreach to our membership. It is important that we expand the membership base so that more people can appreciate what we have to offer. And among those things to be appreciated is our marvellous gift shop under the direction of Cathy Levine, who continues do so such a wonderful job.

We have an opportunity to build a stronger future for our shul family– a future where we will worship, learn, celebrate and remember in a newer, stronger and more vibrant Beth Shalom. We are closer now to achieving that vision. But this can only be accomplished through cooperation without confrontation. We must work together to accomplish our objectives within the parameters of the mandate given us.

I offer my personal thanks to everyone who has worked to move us forward. That includes our office staff, building staff, members of the Executive, the Board of Governors and the tireless volunteers who readily give of their time. In particular, the Executive has endured countless meetings and phone calls on the many difficult decisions that we have faced over the past couple of years. Thanks again to Allan Baker, Ruth Freiman, Harold Sachs, Ian Sadinsky, Jack Shapiro and Sabina Wasserlauf for putting up with me.

Let us all work together to ensure a strong future for our synagogue and for our children. Let us do what is necessary to ensure that our nation's capital continues to have a strong downtown shul. Our vision will not be achieved without hard work, but I believe we are up to the task.

I thank each of you for having allowed me to serve as your president during these challenging times. The journey has certainly not been boring. And to those who now take up the reins of leadership, I extend my sincere wishes for success.

At this time, Natalie, Alison, Paula and I want to wish all of you and your families a happy and healthy Chanukah.

**Tom Gussman**  
President<sup>☆</sup>

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Chanukah (first candle) .....	Nov. 29
Chanukah Ball at Agudath Israel .....	Nov. 30
Beth Shalom Chanukah Party .....	Dec. 1
Chanukah (last day) .....	Dec. 7
Fast of 10 <sup>th</sup> of Tevet .....	Dec. 15
Tu B'Shvat dinner.....	Jan. 17
Tu B'Shvat.....	Jan. 18
Fast of Esther .....	March 17
Purim Party .....	March 17 (at night)
Purim .....	March 18
Pesach 1 <sup>st</sup> Seder.....	April 16
Pesach 2 <sup>nd</sup> Seder .....	April 17

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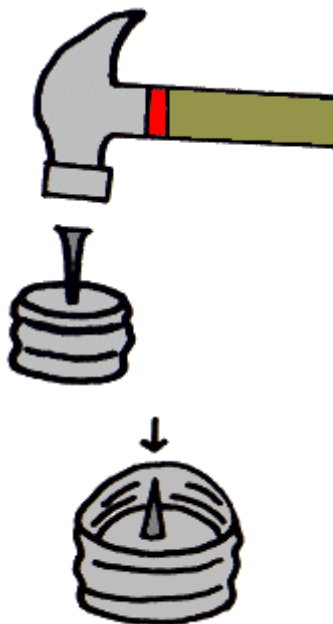
## CONDOLENCES

We express our deepest condolences to the families of Moe Geltman, Sol Carlofsky, Anna Saslove, Florence Weisz, Rose Finkelstein, Lionel Tanner, Fred Schlessinger, Al Bloom, Rita Appel, Lil Lang, Louis Woolf, Albert Rivers, and Morris Cantor.

## KIDS' PAGE

### Chanukah Craft - Blocks Menorah

[http://www.akhlah.com/holidays/hanukkah/Hanukkah\\_crafts/Hanukkah\\_block\\_menorah.asp](http://www.akhlah.com/holidays/hanukkah/Hanukkah_crafts/Hanukkah_block_menorah.asp)



#### Materials

- 10 blocks to spell out Chanukah, and two others
  - 9 metal bottle-caps
  - hammer and small nail
  - Piece of wood for the base
  - 9 carpet tacks
  - wood glue
1. Paint or stain the wooden base.
  2. Glue the wooden blocks in place.
  3. With a nail, punch a hole in the bottle-caps and stick the tack into it.
  4. Cement the bottle-caps and tack onto each block.
  5. For the Shamash (the two blocks on top of one another), you can use a piece of balsa wood and cover the letter and draw a Star of David on it.

*Note: You can use pre-made candle bases from a hardware store.*



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For more crafts, please go to the following site:

[http://www.akhlah.com/holidays/hanukkah/Hanukkah\\_crafts/hankkuah\\_crafts.asp](http://www.akhlah.com/holidays/hanukkah/Hanukkah_crafts/hankkuah_crafts.asp)

## Turkish Fritters with Sweet Syrup: Bunelos

Posted by : Karen Selwyn

<http://www.cyber-kitchen.com/rfcj/category.cgi?category=HANUKKAH>

The *Boston Globe* had an article about Chanukah cooking which consisted of recipes from readers in the Boston area. The following recipe from Fran Putnoi of Cambridge, MA is for Fritters in Syrup. It is a variation on the fritter recipes because it uses mashed potatoes rather than flour for the dough.

Putnoi got the recipe from her Turkish grandmother, Victoria Corri, a Sephardic Jew.

### *Turkish Fritters with Sweet Syrup: Bunelos*

- 2 russet potatoes, peeled, boiled, and mashed
- 2 eggs, lightly beaten
- ½ cup grated Parmesan or Romano cheese
- 1 cup matzo meal
- salt and freshly ground black pepper to taste
- olive oil, for frying

*For sugar syrup:*

- ½ cup sugar
- 1 cup water
- 2 teaspoons freshly squeezed lemon juice

Allow the potatoes to cool slightly. Place them in a bowl with the eggs, cheese, matzo meal, salt, and pepper. Stir the ingredients until smooth.

In a large, deep sauté pan, heat ½ inch of olive oil till hot but not smoking. Drop two tablespoons of batter at a time into the hot oil, and fry on all sides until golden brown. Place on a baking sheet lined with brown paper. While still hot, drizzle bunuelos with the sugar syrup (recipe follows), honey, or cinnamon-sugar. Serve at once.

Place the sugar, water, and lemon juice in a saucepan and bring to a boil. Stir to dissolve the sugar. Turn the heat to low and simmer for 15 minutes.

Serves 6.

Source: "*Latke recipes to make sure your Hanukkah spuds aren't duds*" Julie Riven *The Boston Globe* (on-line edition), 12/09/98.\*

## Beverage: Flaming Tea

Posted by: Beth Greenfeld

<http://www.cyber-kitchen.com/rfcj/category.cgi?category=HANUKKAH>

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I just read this, this morning, in "The Jewish Festival Cookbook." I got this paperback for, I think, thirty cents in a used bookstore, and it's got all kinds of interesting stuff:

"In old Russia symbols embodying the use of light for the Festival of Chanukah were very popular, and none more so than Flaming Tea. There was quite a bit of drama in this ceremony.

"Well in advance of serving the Flaming Tea, great cones of sugar were broken into pieces. These were piled high on a dish. Then tall glasses of tea, poured from a samovar, were passed around, each with a shot of brandy and a generous lump of sugar. Each person would dip his sugar into the brandy, then place it on a teaspoon held over the glass. Lights were then turned out as a lighted taper was passed among the guests to light the brandy-dipped sugar. As the glow spread from one to another, songs were sung and then all together the flaming cubes were dropped into the waiting glasses." ☆

**INEZ & JOE ZELIKOVITZ TREE OF LIFE**

The following leaves were purchased on the Tree of Life:

In honour of the 35<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary of  
**RICKI and BARRY BAKER**  
By their friends  
June 18, 2002

**In support of Junior Congregation and  
Simchat Torah - 2002 – 5763**  
Cathy, Stanley, Mira and Michael Levine



## ***Abe Carlofsky: A Man of Substance***

*by Ian Sadinsky*

About 10 years ago, a group of about 300 leading kidney doctors, technicians, and nurses were at a conference describing their latest operations and research. At the end of the session, the moderator said: "None of this work would have been possible without the support of Abe Carlofsky and his family."

A very embarrassed Abe Carlofsky came up to the front of the hall, confused by all of the attention. "After all," said Abe, "I'm just a non-entity compared to all of these brilliant people." Typically, Abe seems almost unaware of how much impact his contributions and support have had, not only for the medical professionals, but for all of the patients who have benefited from his generosity.

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The Carlofsky family is legend in Ottawa and elsewhere for their charitable works. The family has donated no less than six rooms at the Civic Hospital – at the Heart Institute, in Surgery, Orthopedics, Neurology, Nephrology, and a family consulting room. Over at the General Hospital, they have made generous donations for research into disease of the eye (this support led to the invention of an artificial cornea).

The Cancer Society, Hillel Lodge (the Carlofsky Social Room and Carlofsky Family Consulting Room), and Diabetes Research have also been major recipients of support from the Carlofsky family. Rummaging through his memoirs, a researcher found Abe had donated \$150,000 to the Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem for a CAT Scan. He also donated equipment for the trauma section. Just part of an extensive legacy!

Abe's approach has always been to give himself, but also to help raise money from others.

“Anybody can write a cheque, but I campaign as well.”

Abe has always been a hard worker. Born in Ottawa in 1912, the son of David and Hannah Carlofsky, Abe worked for 41 years for the federal government (Supply and Services, Treasury, Agriculture). His government service was interrupted by World War II. Abe joined the Air Force and went to England where he worked at air dome control (helping the aircraft take off and land). One memorable day, a plane crashed while making a landing. While firefighters and other rescue workers stood around in fear, Abe went into the flames three times to pull out three airmen alive. His reward? He was censured for damaging public property (his uniform) and had to pay for a new outfit!

Abe's work for Beth Shalom has always been tireless but low key. As the “unofficial” head of the House Committee, Abe replaced all of the carpets in the Main Sanctuary and did a lot of work in repairing the Rabbi's house. With Gloria Trainoff, he helped build the shul office in the old JCC building. For his work, Abe was one of the first recipients of the Ted Metrick Award for service to Beth Shalom.

One memorable Kol Nidre service, in his presidential address, the late Jack Aaron broke into tears reflecting on the work Abe had done in re-upholstering the seats and shining the brass on the Menorah and elsewhere.

An avid golfer for many years at the Rideau View Golf Course, Abe is now a reluctant retiree, keeping his mind active in synagogue and community activities.

In his own view, Abe is a “non-entity”, but the record shows that in his life, he has been a unique individual – ethical, honourable, generous, and hard-working – a true man of substance. ☆



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**BAR MITZVAH:**

- Mazel Tov to Jonathan Sherman, son of Randi and Ian Sherman, who will celebrate his Bar Mitzvah on Saturday, December 28, 2002.

**ENGAGEMENTS:**

- Mazel Tov to David Rotenberg, son of Chuck Rotenberg and Rebecca Rotenberg, grandson of Evelyn Rotenberg, on his engagement to Aviva Aptowitzer, daughter of Naomi and Isaac Aptowitzer of Calgary and granddaughter of Hadassah Aptowitzer.
- Mazel Tov to Lesley Jill Tavel, daughter of Sunny and John Tavel, granddaughter of Bertha Palmer, on her engagement to David Burstein, son of Goldie and Jimmy Burstein of Toronto.

**BIRTHS:**

- Mazel Tov to Susie and Mark Charendoff of New Jersey on the birth of their daughter, Rachel Maya. Proud grandparents are Barbara and Sid Cohen and Lil and Nat Charendoff of Toronto.

This issue is dedicated by  
**Mr. Abe Carlofsky**



*Photo by Elly Bollegraaf*

In loving memory of his dear parents,  
**David and Hannah Carlofsky**

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In loving memory of his dear sisters,  
***Freda Carlofsky, Rose Carlofsky Breakstone and  
Anne Carlofsky Flesher***

In loving memory of his dear brother,  
***Sol Carlofsky***

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