



# BAT YAM MATTERS

Number 101

February 2019

Sh'vat/Adar I

## **BAT YAM – TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS**

*A Jewish congregation serving residents and guests of Sanibel, Captiva, Fort Myers, and surrounding communities, and providing a place of worship in the Reform tradition and creating an extended Jewish family*

---

## **FEBRUARY 2019 BAT YAM WORSHIP**

All February *Shabbat* services will be held in the sanctuary at Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ. Services begin at 7:30 p.m. and are led by Rabbi Stephen Fuchs, with prayers chanted by Cantor Murray Simon accompanied by pianist Abigail Allison.

February 1 – The Reverend Dr. John H. Danner, guest preacher (Annual Pulpit Exchange)  
February 8, February 15, February 22 (*Simcha Shabbat*)

## **THANKS TO THE JANUARY ONGAI SHABBAT HOSTS...**

January 4 - Joan and Howard Charlson, Tanya and Michael Hochschild  
January 11 - Andrea and Jan Smith, Susan Rosenberg and Ken Gerson  
January 18 - Linda Drasnin, Peter and Sue Danford, Judith Adler  
January 25 - Linda and Joel Edinburg and Edina and Alan Lessack

## **SAVE THIS DATE Thursday, March 28**

The *Bat Yam* annual membership meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a potluck dinner and will feature the election of officers and trustees.

## **BAT YAM PASSOVER SEDER APRIL 19**

The *Bat Yam* Passover Seder will be on Friday, April 19, at 6:00 p.m. at the Sanibel Community House. The cost per person is \$50 for members and \$65 for non-members. Children 14 and under are \$25; children under 5 are free. If you wish, bring a Seder plate, Elijah's cup, or *Matzoh* cover for your table. Wine will be served, but feel free to bring own.

**For reservations, contact Annette Pacyga at 941-740-1650 or Lois Lorsch at 516-385-0190.**

The deadline to sign up is April 5.

## **SHABBAT MORNING CLASSES**

*Shabbat* morning classes, held in Fellowship Hall at SCUCC, begin with Hebrew reading instruction taught by Rabbi Stephen Fuchs from 9:00 to 9:30 a.m. They continue with Bible Conversations with Rabbi Fuchs from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., followed by sessions presented by congregants from 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. and Jewish Current Events.

### **February 2**

Jewish Ancestry - Arthur Sissman – guest presenter (see bio) \*

### **February 9**

Jewish History in Key West and Elsewhere in Florida – Marcia Rudin

### **February 16**

Outstanding Jewish Women – Renee Sugar (change from previous schedule)

### **February 23**

Medicine in Iran – Dr. Parvis Sadighi (change from previous schedule)

### **March 2**

Health Tips, Tricks, and Myths – Mort Tavel

### **March 9**

The Oppenheims of Albany (his family) and the Arrival of Reform Judaism – Don Breiter

### **March 16**

Expansion of Women's Rights in Classical Jewish Law – Rabbi Fuchs

### **March 23**

Jews and the Media – Allan Sacks

### **March 30**

Dying on Our Own Terms: How Advance Care Planning Can Put You in Control –  
Daryl Isenberg, guest presenter (see bio) \*\*

### **April 6**

*Siyyum* – end-of-season party and planning for next year's classes

### **April 13**

No classes – there will be a *Bar Mitzvah* that morning.

**Our thanks to Vickie Fuchs for organizing these classes. Please contact her at [vfuchs@gmail.com](mailto:vfuchs@gmail.com) if you want to present a future session.**

(continued on next page)

(continued from previous page)

\* **Arthur Sissman** is a resident of Naples, Florida. As founder of the Jewish Genealogy Special Interest Group, he has built more than eighteen family history trees for his various family surname lines. He has tested his autosomal DNA at all the major DNA testing companies and his Y-DNA at FamilyTreeDNA. Using DNA matching, Arthur has found relatives that were unknown to him and built out a family history tree by 150 persons in ten days. He leads the Jewish Genealogy SIG, the Collier DNA SIG, and the Lee County DNA SIG. He gives talks and leads workshops on how to use the matching features of all the major DNA testing companies and how to begin your genealogical research.

\*\* **Daryl Holtz Isenberg** holds a Ph.D. in counseling psychology, founded the Family Cancer Support Network for children in 1980, directed a statewide clearinghouse of self-help groups, is a Certified Advance Care Planning Facilitator, and currently works to improve care at the end of life.

---

---

### *IN MEMORIAM...*

Former *Bat Yam* member Linda Marsha Weissbluth died in Chicago on January 23. She was the loving wife of Dr. Marc Weissbluth, mother of four, and grandmother of ten. She earned an MA in Russian studies from Stanford University and was an avid 'cellist, gardener, cook, and world traveler. Condolences may be sent to Dr. Marc Weissbluth, 680 North Lake Shore Drive, Apartment 1824, Chicago, IL 60657.

*Bat Yam* member Dr. Barry Litofsky lost his long battle with cancer on January 30. Rabbi Fuchs will officiate at his funeral on the east coast of Florida. A tribute to Barry will appear in the March issue of *Bat Yam Matters*.

---

---

### **PULPIT EXCHANGE: FEBRUARY 1 & 3**

During *Bat Yam Shabbat* services on Friday, February 1, the Reverend Dr. John H. Danner, senior pastor of *Bat Yam's* host church, will be the guest preacher. His topic is "Justice for All, Justice by All"; his text is taken from that evening's *Torah* portion, Exodus 23:1-9. On Sunday, February 3, Rabbi Dr. Stephen L. Fuchs will preach during both the 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. SCUCC worship services. His topic will be "Edifice Complex."

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED...**

#### **...TO SET UP SHABBAT SERVICES**

Please contact Cheryl Fulmer at 732-780-2016 or [Fulmer.Cheryl@gmail.com](mailto:Fulmer.Cheryl@gmail.com) if you wish to take a turn setting up Friday night *Shabbat* services. The housekeeping tasks include turning on and off the lights; preparing the wine, *kiddush* cup, and *Shabbat* candles and carrying the *Torahs* into the church sanctuary when services are held there. A brief period of cleanup after services concludes the duties.

#### **...FOR ONGAI SHABBAT HOSTING**

- Co-hosts are needed for February 8 and March 1.
- Two hosts are needed for March 8 and March 15.

Please contact Myra Klahr at 917-270-4905 or [lingosmart@gmail.com](mailto:lingosmart@gmail.com) if you wish to volunteer for these dates.

## **Immokalee on My Mind**

Recently, when I returned to Immokalee for the better part of three days, thanks to a program sponsored by *T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights* under the able leadership of Rabbi Rachel Kahn-Troster, I learned so much.



Immokalee is where 90% of all tomatoes eaten fresh in the eastern United States are grown. It is one of the state's poorest cities but a scant half hour away from one of the richest, Naples. While many residents of Naples live lives of splendor, life for those in Immokalee is difficult, mired in poverty even after hours of backbreaking work in the fields. They make their living in the vast tomato fields where not long ago rampant sexual abuse, pitiful working conditions, and equally pitiful, sub-poverty wages were the backdrop for their efforts.

Complaints against these abuses met with summary dismissal. The sorry history of farm work in southwest Florida also includes episodes of forced labor in which workers found themselves locked up in windowless and bathroom-less trucks overnight or housed behind barbed-wire enclosures patrolled by armed guards to keep them from escaping. Field foremen often denied workers access to shade, water, and bathroom breaks. There are several documented cases of workers being beaten.

But in the early 1990s, the workers began organizing, determined to change conditions in the fields and to better their own lives. The organization they founded, the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), started by trying to change conditions on the farms directly attempting to get cooperation from the farm owners. But in 2001, they tried an innovative new strategy, holding the giant corporations at the top of the supply chain responsible for human rights abuses and low wages at the bottom.

The Fair Food Program demands that major food retailers pay a penny more per pound of tomatoes (paid directly to workers and aimed at increasing wages) and buy only from growers who had committed to stringent, legally binding human rights monitoring in the fields.

One of the highlights of my three days in Immokalee was visiting the vast tomato fields of Sun Ripe Certified Brands, of Pacific Tomato Growers. There, in a lovely auditorium designed

*(continued on next page)*

*(continued from previous page)*

for worker educational sessions, we met with the company's human resources director, Jessica Castillo, who told us: "When as a child, I saw my mother get up in the middle of the night to go out into the fields and be subject to all of the abuses . . . I never imagined that today I would be here paid by the company to provide mandatory education for workers on their basic rights. I am proud that workers seek out our company as a place to work and know that if they ever have a grievance it will be heard with sympathy and dealt with appropriately."

Unfortunately, Publix, the largest grocery chain in southwest Florida, and Wendy's have so far refused to join the Fair Food Program. I am so inspired by the optimism of the members of the CIW. I love that when CIW's Lupe Gonzalo addressed us, she did not refer to Wendy's as an enemy but as "a future partner" in advancing justice in the fields. To encourage this "future partner" to hasten the day it joins the alliance, I joined seven other clergy people and a group of CIW workers in a demonstration in front of a Wendy's at a busy intersection in Naples. Thousands of cars drove by, and many honked their horns in support.

### **Why does this matter to me?**

Our *Torah* teaches there is no such thing as an innocent bystander in the face of injustice (DT 22:3), that we must pay our workers promptly and fairly (LV 19:13), and that we may not stand idly by while our neighbor suffers. (LV19:16)

Because I take these teachings very seriously, I encourage you to communicate with Wendy's and Publix about the Fair Food Program. Ask to see the store manager and tell them that a penny per pound is a small price to pay for basic human dignity.

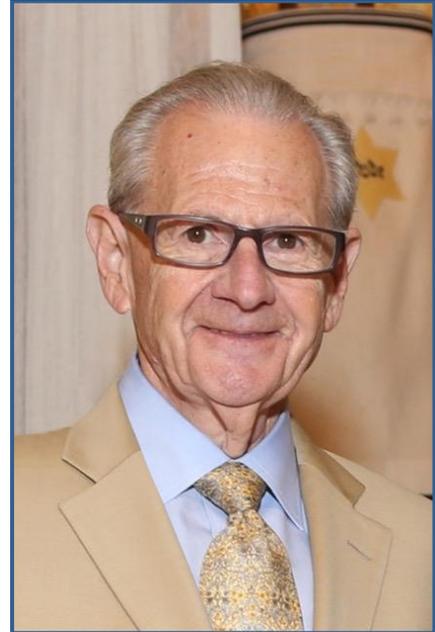
*Your Rabbi,*  
*Stephen Fuchs*  
[stephenfuchs@gmail.com](mailto:stephenfuchs@gmail.com)  
[www.rabbifuchs.com](http://www.rabbifuchs.com)  
twitter: @rabbifuchs6

I invite you to follow my blog at [www.findingourselvesinbiblicalnarratives.com](http://www.findingourselvesinbiblicalnarratives.com)  
(Please note: My website ([www.rabbifuchs.com](http://www.rabbifuchs.com)) has a *Bat Yam* tab that leads to a number of wonderful photos of some events that took place during the past season, including my summer activities in Germany.)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our move from Fellowship Hall to the Sanctuary for services was fortuitous, as the number of attendees at last Friday's service was 120. I see this as a validation of both members and guests wanting to join us for services to hear the rabbi's sermons and the cantor's chanting. Our numbers also have increased at Saturday morning classes when Stephen leads the discussion of the weekly *parsaha* and the very lively discussion that follows. Vickie Fuchs, our adult education chair, has assembled a most interesting series of programs led by our incredibly talented members.

Another new innovation during the month of January was the planting of a beautiful tree in the Memorial Garden behind SCUCC as the cornerstone of our celebration of *Tu B'shevat*. See the photo on the next page. Jews have been celebrating "Arbor Day" for several thousand years.



Also in January, we screened the movie "The Oslo Diaries." This film is part of the Federation's Jewish film festival. Many visitors not associated with *Bat Yam* were in attendance, thanks to the effective promotions by Cheryl Fulmer and Barbara Freeman. Sid Picker, one of our longtime members, led the excellent discussion following the movie with the 80 people in attendance.

Our major program and fundraiser, "Three Cantors and a Pastor," is being chaired by Judith Adler, Janice Block Chaddock, and Elissa Karasin Samet. The event is on Sunday, February 24, at 4:00 p.m.

Please take a few minutes to read our monthly bulletin, and recognize that all of the wonderful programs are the result of efforts by your fellow members. The kudos for our success go to the dedicated members who staff the membership table, those who provide the wonderful treats following services, and those who make our visitors feel right at home. Last, but certainly not least, is thanks to our hard-working officers and board.

*Shalom,*  
*Alan Lessack*



*Bat Yam* members planting a satin leaf tree in the Memorial Garden behind SCUCC in honor of the holiday of *Tu B'shevat* (New Year of the Trees) during a brief service led by Rabbi Fuchs on Sunday, January 20.

## **RABBI FUCHS OFFERS A SERIES OF CLASSES ON THE MINOR PROPHETS IN FEBRUARY**

On Thursdays February 14, 21, and 28 in Fellowship Hall of SCUCC from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m., Rabbi Stephen Fuchs will offer a three-part class titled “Minor in Name Only.” The course will explore the role played in Jewish thought and practice by the so-called Twelve Minor Prophets in the Bible. “They are called, ‘Minor,’” explains Rabbi Fuchs, “not because they are less important than the ‘Major’ Prophets – Isaiah, Jeremiah and Ezekiel – but because their literary record (i.e., the length of their books) is shorter.”

## **DO YOU HAVE AN ITEM FOR OUR MARCH “BAT YAM MATTERS”?**

Submit any items that you’d like included in the next issue of “*Bat Yam Matters*” before February 15 to newsletter editor Marcia Rudin at [marciarudin@aol.com](mailto:marciarudin@aol.com).

## **MAZEL TOV TO...**

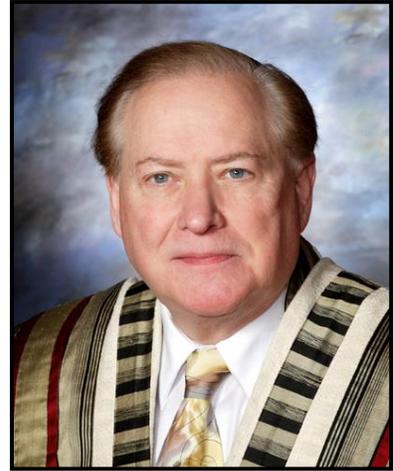
**Bat Yam members Dr. Al and Mickie Kaplan.** Their son Larry, a physician who has taught at Temple University School of Medicine for many years and is currently Associate Dean at the school, was recently selected for the Teacher of the Year award at the university.

## **DONATE PAPER GOODS FEBRUARY 1**

There will be bins outside SCUCC at the first *Shabbat* service of the month for donations for the joint *Bat Yam*/SCUCC Paper Goods Drive. Please donate toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, diapers, etc. to F.I S.H., which provides help to those in need in our community.

## **DON'T MISS CANTOR SIMON'S BAT YAM FUN(D)RAISING EVENT FEBRUARY 24**

On Sunday, February 24, at 4:00 p.m., we will be treated to a musical afternoon titled "Sanibel Celebration: Three Cantors and a Pastor." The singers will be the Rev. Dr. John H. Danner, senior pastor of SCUCC, *Bat Yam's* host church; Cantor Randy Herman of *Bet Torah* in Mt. Kisco, New York; Cantor Elizabeth Shammash of *Tiferet Bet Israel* in Blue Bell, Pennsylvania; and Cantor Murray Simon. Toby Simon will be the piano accompanist. Refreshments will be served afterwards.



**Toby Simon** received a Bachelor of Music Education and Applied Piano degree from Temple University in Philadelphia and a Master of Science in Music Education from Queens College-CUNY in New York City. She was the vocal and choral specialist for the Bridgewater/Raritan Public School System of New Jersey and a choral director for the highly acclaimed Princeton Girl Choir in Princeton, New Jersey.

Prior to teaching music in New Jersey, Ms. Simon was a music specialist in Massachusetts, where she was honored as Outstanding Music Educator by the Massachusetts Alliance for Arts in Education. She also performed with the Boston Symphony as a member of the renowned Tanglewood Festival Chorus and has served as accompanist to many well-known choral organizations and prominent musicians.

### **BAT YAM GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP UNDER WAY**

In response to needs expressed by members of the congregation, *Bat Yam* has started a Grief Support Group to meet the first Wednesday evening of each month from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the library of SCUCC. This is a lay group, so all group matters will be determined by group consensus.

The group's dual goals are healing and companionship. Rabbi Fuchs is the facilitator. Please mark your calendars for Wednesdays, February 6, March 6, and April 3 (dates thereafter to be determined). Everyone is welcome. Please encourage those you feel could benefit to attend. If you have any questions, contact Ellen Feingold at 302- 345-7187 or [ellenfeingold@gmail.com](mailto:ellenfeingold@gmail.com).

## **BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL PROGRAM MARCH 10**

Please join us on Sunday, March 10 for a special afternoon program as we learn about Birthright Israel from Birthright Israel Foundation President and CEO Izzy Tapoohi and Birthright Israel alumna and social activist Erin Schrode.

Birthright Israel began with a bold idea — offer the gift of a life-changing trip to Israel to young Jewish adults between the ages of 18 and 26 — and in doing so, transform the Jewish future. Founded in 1999 by a remarkable group of committed Jewish philanthropists, Birthright Israel Foundation has given this gift to 650,000 young Jewish adults. The program seeks to ensure that every eligible young Jewish adult around the world, especially those less connected to the Jewish community, is given the opportunity to visit Israel on this educational journey.

Birthright Israel is currently offering the gift to 27-to-32-year-olds with limited availability as a pilot program.

The foundation will sponsor a reception following the program.

Israel ("Izzy") Tapoohi is a graduate of Melbourne University in economics, business administration, and accounting and is a certified chartered accountant in Israel. In December 2016, he joined Birthright Israel Foundation as President and CEO, after serving in the same capacity at Israel Bonds since October 2011. Under Izzy's leadership, Israel Bonds' U.S. domestic sales increased from \$600 million per year to more than \$1 billion per year. In 1996, Izzy served as chairman of the board of Africa-Israel Investments, and in 1997 was appointed executive chairman of the board of Bezeq – Israel's telecommunications provider and the largest corporation in the country, with a turnover of \$2.5 billion. He was a member of the British-Israel Business Council and served as a board member on a number of chambers of commerce. He was also a member of the Council and Advisory Committee of the Central Bank of Israel and the Association of Publicly Listed Companies on the Stock Exchange. He previously sat on the Board of Governors of the Weizman Institute.

Erin Schrode participated in Birthright Israel in 2010 and was forever changed by her experience. Erin is an activist, social entrepreneur and writer. As leading voice on sustainability, social justice and millennials, she recently ran an unprecedented campaign for US Congress in California. Since co-founding Turning Green in 2005, she has developed eco-education and action platforms for millions of students.

Erin speaks and consults internationally and is a contributor to many online, print and TV news outlets. She spent the last year in Puerto Rico leading #ChefsForPuertoRico, the island's largest feeding program, serving 3.7+ million meals since Hurricane Maria and investing in local, sustainable agriculture and food systems island-wide.

## FEDERATION PLANS MARCH PURIM BALL

The Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties invites you to a Queen Esther Masquerade Ball on Saturday, March 16, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Miromar Outlets, 10801 Corkscrew Road in Estero.



Cocktails and appetizers will be served. Entertainment and dance music will be provided by Fretless Rock. Costumes are encouraged, but not required. The winner of best costume will be awarded a \$100 gift card for Miromar Outlets. For additional information, contact Debbie Sanford at the Federation at 239-481-4449. Tickets at \$36 per person, available in advance only, can be obtained online at [jewishfederationlcc.org](http://jewishfederationlcc.org).

## SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE FOCUSES ON ASYLUM-SEEKING IMMIGRANTS' NEEDS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Each week at Friday night services, Rabbi Fuchs mentions the “Number 1” *Torah* lesson – welcome the stranger! *Bat Yam*'s Social Action Committee's number one goal is to have our congregation do everything it can to “walk the walk” and not just “talk the talk” of Judaism's teachings. In December, Maria Cardenas from Catholic Charities Immigration Services in Immokalee gave a moving presentation to the *Bat Yam* Social Action Committee on the plight of Immigrant Asylum Seekers in our midst and the work of her organization. Via networking with other island organizations, we have recruited nine attorneys and three medical practitioners as volunteers to support Immigrant Services in Immokalee. We are also working with Rev. Deborah Kunkel from SCUCC to plan a combined Immigration Issue awareness session for our two congregations. We have several other potential projects in the works. Watch your *Bat Yam* emails and future issues of “*Bat Yam Matters*” – there's more to come!

*Garry Weiss,*

*Chair, Bat Yam Social Action Committee*



## A FESTIVE PURIM CELEBRATION

We shall celebrate *Purim* at our *Shabbat* Eve service on March 22. Last year's *Purim* celebration was a wonderful event. If you wish to participate this year, please contact me at [stephenfuchs@gmail.com](mailto:stephenfuchs@gmail.com).

*Rabbi Stephen Fuchs*

## BIO-ETHICS SEMINAR PLANNED FOR FEBRUARY

The Lee County Board of Rabbis is planning a program to discuss contemporary medical ethics on Sunday, February 3, at 3:00 p.m., at the Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties building, 9701 Commerce Center Court, Fort Myers. Rabbi Stephen Fuchs and *Bat Yam* member Rabbi James Rudin are members of the Lee County Board of Rabbis.

Rabbi Rudin, who served on Governor Mario Cuomo's New York State Task Force on Life and the Law for 18 years, will participate in the program. Other speakers are Dr. Stephen Wilczynski and Rabbi Dr. Michael J. Schorin, co-chairs of the Gulf Coast Medical Center Ethics Committee.

## **AN OPEN LETTER TO *BAT YAM* FOUNDATION STOCKHOLDERS**

To keep you informed, we want you to know that all supporting documentation for a 501(c)3 designation by the IRS was submitted in September. A reply should have been received in late December, according to the IRS. The letter has not been received; we presume it was not processed prior to the shutdown. We are holding all funds in *Bat Yam* until we can legally move the money to our account to protect the tax-free value of your contributions. We hope you understand and ask for your patience. Thank you.

*Leonard Minsky, Chair of the Board*

## **REFUAH SH'LEMA, BEST WISHES FOR HEALING TO...**

Adele Anish, Russ Bilgore, Joel Edinburg, Jeanette Kaiser, Martin Pokedoff, Alan Saltz (son of Jocelyn and Peter Saltz), Carol Scheiber, William Schlackman, Orlene Shimberg, Frank Siegel, Arlyn Stein, and Irwin Stein

## **SCUCC-BAT YAM ISRAEL TRIP SOLD OUT WITH A WAITING LIST**

Rabbi Fuchs and Pastor John Danner of SCUCC will lead "Growing and Learning Together," an exciting trip to Israel from April 29 through May 10. The trip will feature visits to numerous historical sites, as well as an examination of Israel's place in the modern world.

The cost of the trip is \$3,070 plus airfare. The trip is sold out; however, a waiting list has been created in the event of any cancellations. If you wish to join the waiting list, please send your name, phone number, and email address with a check for \$250 per person (made out to SCUCC and marked "Israel Trip") to Ms. Sandy Simmons, SCUCC, 2050 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957.

If you have any questions regarding the trip, please contact Barry Roth via email at [barryalanrothatlw@gmail.com](mailto:barryalanrothatlw@gmail.com) or by telephone at 239-313-9591 or Alan Lessack at [allessack@sbcglobal.net](mailto:allessack@sbcglobal.net) or 773-251-8862.

## **WHERE IN THE WORLD IS RABBI SOIFER?**

With school on its three-month summer vacation, January has been a month for studying, planning, even vacationing! I spent a wonderful eight days in Colombia - a beautiful country, with a sadly war- and drug-torn past, that is making amazing strides at renewal and progress. See my blog for lots more on all of that. The Pope came to Panama, at the end of the month, to conclude a worldwide Catholic youth conference here. While the country was filled with young Catholic pilgrims, we Peace Corps volunteers were restricted to our sites, and Panama City was entirely off-limits while the Pope was there. I used this time to work on a weekly English hand-out that I'm going to be offering my teachers when school starts back up. And then, by a wonderful stroke of coincidence, Danny Matt - a former professor, ongoing friend, and THE Number One contemporary authority on *Zohar* - offered an online introductory *Zohar* course for six weeks that conveniently fell during my vacation time. So, here I've been in Panama studying *Zohar* with a major scholar! Who would have thought?!?

*Rabbi Myra Soifer*

Follow Rabbi Soifer's Peace Corps activities on her blog, [WhereintheWorldisMyra.wordpress.com](http://WhereintheWorldisMyra.wordpress.com).

## **FEBRUARY YAHRZEITS**

|             |   |
|-------------|---|
| February 3  | Ethel Berke, mother of Stuart Berke             |
| February 7  | Benjamin Clark, father of Herb Clark            |
| February 9  | Leona Bergstein, mother of Linda Edinburg       |
| February 9  | Irving Salus, father of Edina Lessack           |
| February 10 | Ruth Golden, mother of Beverly Lubetkin         |
| February 15 | Rosalie Goldstein - Smith, mother of Alan Smith |
| February 15 | Rebecca Bleiberg, mother of Mel Bleiberg        |
| February 23 | Abraham Bialy, father of Norma Kohn             |
| February 26 | Frieda Leaf, mother of Evelyn Clark             |

## **SAVE THESE DATES**

Friday, February 1 (7:30 p.m.) – Reverend John Danner preaches at *Shabbat* services  
Sunday, February 3 (9:00 & 11:00 a.m.) – Rabbi Fuchs preaches at SCUCC services  
Sunday, February 3 (3:00 p.m.) – Lee Country Board of Rabbis program on bioethics  
Wednesday, February 6 (7:00 p.m.) – Grief Group session  
Thursday, February 14 (10:30 a.m.) – Rabbi Fuchs’ class “Minor in Name Only”  
Thursday, February 21 (10:30 a.m.) – Rabbi Fuchs’ class “Minor in Name Only”  
Sunday, February 24 (4:00 p.m.) – “A Sanibel Celebration: Three Cantors and a Pastor”  
Thursday, February 28 (10:30 a.m.) – Rabbi Fuchs’ class “Minor in Name Only”  
Wednesday, March 6 (7:00 p.m.) – Grief Group session  
Sunday, March 10 (3:00 p.m.) – Israel Tapoohi (CEO of Birthright Israel) lecture  
Friday, March 22 (7:30 p.m.) – *Purim* celebration during *Shabbat* services  
Thursday, March 28 (6:00 p.m.) – *Bat Yam* annual potluck dinner membership meeting  
Wednesday, April 3 (7:00 p.m.) – Grief Group session  
Friday, April 19 (6:00 p.m.) – *Bat Yam* Passover Seder  
April 29 to May 10 – Joint *Bat Yam* and SCUCC trip to Israel

## **BAT YAM MEMBERS IN THE COMMUNITY**

Rabbi James Rudin will deliver a BIGArts Talking Points lecture at the Strauss Theatre on Tuesday, March 12 at 10 a.m. The topic will be “Why the Civil War Never Ended: New Perspectives on Robert E. Lee.” The price is \$25. He will also teach two BIGArts Winter Academies. The first series, covering the topic “Dynastic Political Families: Adams, Kennedy, and Bush”, will take place on Wednesdays February 6, 13, and 20 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. His second series, on the topic “The Roosevelts,” will be on March 6, March 13, and March 20 from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. The price for each of the three-week sessions is \$80 for BIGArts members and \$100 for non-members. Contact BIGArts at 239-395-0900 or [www.BIGARTS.org](http://www.BIGARTS.org) for tickets for these events.

## **CONTRIBUTIONS TO *BAT YAM***

### **General**

Darlene and Robert Duvin  
Shirley and Byron Frank  
Susan Rosenberg and Ken Gerson  
Ben Yokel

### **Cantor Simon's "Sanibel Celebration: Three Cantors and a Pastor"**

Judy Adler  
Nessa Adelson and Michael Derechin  
Janice Block Chaddock and Ron Chaddock  
Barbara and Barry Epstein  
Shirley and Byron Frank  
Vickie and Rabbi Stephen Fuchs  
Cheryl and Barry Fulmer  
Bluma and Don Herman  
Amanda and Steven Greenstein  
Maria and Peter Hochschild  
Myra Klahr  
Edina and Alan Lessack  
Lois and Howard Lorsch  
Noman Minsky  
Renee and Len Minsky  
June Rosner and Russ Bilgore  
Joceelyn and Peter Saltz  
Elissa Karasin Samet and Michael Samet  
Caren and Bob Schoen  
Toby and Cantor Murray Simon  
Andrea and Jan Smith  
Arnee and Walter Winshall

### **In Memory of Miriam Bailey**

Esta and David Berger  
Evelyn and Herbert Clark  
Sue and Peter Danford  
Barbara and Barry Epstein  
Cheryl and Barry Fulmer  
Bluma and Don Herman  
Miriam Kaplan  
Jeannette Keyser  
Myra Klahr  
Renee and Leonard Minsky  
Carol and Philip Scheiber  
Rabbi Myra Soifer

*(continued on next page)*

*(continued from previous page)*

**In Memory of Roselyn Kraus**

Esta and David Berger  
Barbara and Barry Epstein  
Cheryl and Barry Fulmer  
Bluma and Don Herman  
Miriam Kaplan  
Myra Klahr  
Noman Minsky  
Renee and Leonard Minsky  
Carol and Philip Scheiber  
Rabbi Myra Soifer

**In Memory of Sylvan Joseph Greenberg (brother-in-law to Judith Mayer)**

Marcia and Rabbi James Rudin

**In Hopes of Restored Health to Barry Litofsky**

Edina and Alan Lessack

**In Hopes of Restored Health to Maria Hochschild**

Edina and Alan Lessack

**In Honor of her mother Lois Lorsch's Birthday**

Emily Lorsch

**In Honor of the Fiftieth Anniversary of Esta and David Berger**

Noman Minsky

**Tzedakah Fund**

Edina and Alan Lessack

**Rabbi's Discretionary Fund**

Adult Jewish Learning Collaboration (Temple *Shaarei Shalom*, Boynton Beach, FL)

Janice Block Chaddock and Ron Chaddock

***Yahrzeits***

Myra Fisher for *Yahrzeit* of her father, Leo Michaels  
Cheryl and Barry Fulmer for *Yahrzeits* of Barry's parents, Joseph and Mildred Fulmer, and  
Cheryl's parents, Mayer and Frances Weisman  
Edina and Alan Lessack in memory of Edina's mother, Rose Salus  
Marcia and Rabbi James Rudin for *Yahrzeit* of Marcia's mother, Elisabeth Abrams  
Josie Schneider for *Yahrzeit* of her mother, Janet Kaplan  
Kathy Zoss for *Yahrzeit* of her grandfather, Morris Hoffman

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

- The *Bat Yam* membership committee needs volunteers to help staff the welcome table at the door during next season. If you are able to help, contact Cheryl Fulmer at 732-780-2016 or [Fulmer.Cheryl@gmail.com](mailto:Fulmer.Cheryl@gmail.com).
- To make changes in your contact information on the *Bat Yam* membership roster, contact Brandon Minsky at [Brandon@bitservicesfl.com](mailto:Brandon@bitservicesfl.com).
- Email Cheryl Fulmer at [Fulmer.Cheryl@gmail.com](mailto:Fulmer.Cheryl@gmail.com) with any *Bat Yam* news you wish to have published in *L'Chayim*, the Federation newsletter, and/or local Sanibel newspapers. The *L'Chayim* deadline for any month's issue is midweek of the first week of the previous month. The *Island Reporter* deadline is the beginning of the week before the desired issue.
- Contact Irene Skolnick at [irkul42@gmail.com](mailto:irkul42@gmail.com) or 239-472-2217 for changes to your *Yahrzeit* list or if you have donated to *Bat Yam* but have not received an acknowledgement.
- *Tzedakah* cards that can be used for many occasions may be purchased for \$45 for five cards. Your donations contribute to *Bat Yam's* Tzedakah funds. Contact Renee Sugar at [rsugar05@gmail.com](mailto:rsugar05@gmail.com).

**Please check that your contact information on the *Bat Yam* membership list is up to date. To access the list, go to the *Bat Yam* website (<http://www.batyam.org/>) and click on the membership list.**

**BAT YAM – TEMPLE OF THE ISLANDS**

**Rabbi: Stephen Lewis Fuchs**

**Cantor: Murray E. Simon**

**Officers**

**President: Alan Lessack – 773-251-8862**

**First VP: Barry Fulmer – 732-780-2016**

**Second VP: Michael Hochschild**

**Treasurer: Barry Epstein**

**Corresponding Secretary: Irene Skolnick**

**Recording Secretary: Annette Pacyga**

**Trustees**

**Miriam Bailey\*, Shirley Frank, Cheryl Fulmer, Norma Kohn, Barry Roth, Garry Weiss,  
Esta Berger, Lois Lorsch**

**Past Presidents**

**Mel Bleiberg, Ann Arnoff, David Crown,  
Lois Medinets, Steve Greenstein, Marty Packard, Al Kaplan,  
Jack Cohen, Bernard Lubetkin, Michael Raab, Allan Silberman, Martin Pokedoff**

\* deceased

**BAT YAM**

**Temple of the Islands**

**PO Box 84**

**Sanibel, FL 33957**

**batyamsanibel@gmail.com**

**<http://www.batyam.org/>**