



June-August/Sivan-Tamuz-Av-Elul
2012/5772

Rabbi's Message Reb Moshe

Our moving bar/bat mitzvah celebration on May 5 was spectacular. We

celebrated ourselves in the bosom of our community. We were the *mishpokhe* and we recognized how much our offspring, TBZ, reflected our visions, our successes and aspirations. As in all of our *b'nei mitzvah* celebrations at TBZ we exhibited our contagious brand of joyous celebration along with opportunities for reflection and thanksgiving. The generosity of our community permits us to meet our financial obligations and to again end our fiscal year on June 30 more assured of our stability. (There is still time to receive your gift).

June goes by in a flurry, as summer becomes a reality. Graduations, weddings, *bar/bat mitzvahs* and other joyous occasions that will be celebrated. Many of us will be planning vacations and family trips. Some of these will be to the mountains, others to the sea, some will travel to foreign lands, some to family reunions near and far. Simply put, many of us will be on the move. How do we retain our connection to the Jewish community while we are away?

For those of us who will remain in the immediate area, TBZ always offers a

cool place to be physically and a hot place to be spiritually. We are here every *Shabbat* and on August 3rd we will receive the *Shabbat* in the open air of Summit Park.



But even while away, with a little forethought, one can easily be conscious of the *Shabbat*. On Friday evening we can create a zen-like, yet romantic setting with flowers, candles, flowers, *challah* (or two rolls of any kind). With the offerings of blessings of gratitude followed by a special

meal, this minimal effort can yield peace and tranquility wherever you are. It can even be done in a restaurant setting.

Whether in Katmandu or Cape Cod we carve out moments of specialness, *kedusha*, with *Kiddush* and *motzi*, the blessing over wine. If you don't have a prayer book I'd be glad to send you a copy of the *Kiddush*.

You will be surprised how these small acts can enhance a sense of togetherness for both families and individuals; how they provide a feeling of connection to all in our local and world community who are performing these *mitzvot* as well.

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חזקנו
KOLEINU

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TBZ
An Unorthodox Shul

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Mitzvot are vehicles for connection to not only the Divine but to our past and our future.

Via *mitzvot* we can overcome feelings of alienation and be brought into greater harmony with the Universe, the Divine and to the Earth. *Berakhot*, blessings, over what we eat and do, inform us of our deep connection to all of these three things; they provide a way to raise up the mundane into the sublime. Imagine, holding a cup of wine in your hand and acknowledging the miracle that begins with a grape cultivated by the efforts of so many, including the care of the vintner as part of a chain that connects your lips touching the rim of your cup to the verdant earth seeded to bring those grapes into existence. Rabbi Max Kadushin once called this feeling "normative mysticism", the capacity, in a moment, via a *berakha*,

to experience a sense of the deep interconnection of all reality, while in the process of our daily lives.

All of this in a *berakha*? So much in the capacity of our consciousness to expand through praise and gratitude? This is the essence of our existence as Jewish human beings. This is what wards off despair and kindles and rekindles our light within, the light that gives us the capacity to withstand the trials life hands us.

This deep felt hint at possibility that lies ahead of us never goes on vacation.

My family joins me in wishing all of you a peaceful, invigorating and nourishing summer.

Reb Moshe



Thank You

...to outgoing Presidents Fran Adams and Jonathan Klein

At our TBZ Bar/Bat Mitzvah celebration, as we acknowledged not only our Rabbis and ourselves for the last 13 years of growth and accomplishment, we also paid tribute to our two wonderful out-going presidents who have so ably guided us these last three years. We thank you Fran and Jonathan for getting us through difficult times. Both of you have exemplified *misirut nefesh* –soulful giving to our community. We wish you many years of health and continued association with TBZ and we hope you will share from your experience with those coming after you.

...to Ken Wexler

When we began our rejuvenation of the community that has become TBZ, we also began renovating the building that has become home to this community. Ken Wexler brought his professional expertise to this task, as well as his heart. After 13 years Ken is stepping down as chair of the committee. We thank him for the countless hours he spent both maintaining our building, and modernizing it to stay current with our ever-changing needs. Among (many) other things, Ken supervised the renovation of our lovely (and air-conditioned) Sanctuary and directed the complete overhaul of the ground floor. We now have a brightly lit Community Room and Meeting room which are the container for our community, as vital a part of our communal life as is the Sanctuary. As he passes the reins into the very capable hands of John Daniels, he has promised to remain involved and on call. Thank you Ken.

...to John Daniels

While John is stepping off the Board, he is stepping way up as chair of the Building Committee. It is not uncommon to see him, still in his office clothes, mowing the back lawn. Thank you for taking this on, John.

...to Deborah Chassler

Deborah, one of our TBZ pioneers, is leaving her long time position on the Board where she has for many years contributed her wisdom to our deliberations. She also recently concluded her tenure as Chair of Synagogue Practices. However, she is not going far. We will still see Deborah on *Shabbat* mornings at the *bimah*, as *leyner* and *gabbai*. The "page lady" as she is called by some of our kids, will continue to organize our Torah readers. Thank you Deborah.

And a warm welcome to newly elected Co-Presidents Jenni Seicol and David Cherenson, and new Board Members Beth Silverberg Marx and Elana Steinberg. You will hear more from all of them as time progresses.



Mazel Tov!

מזל טוב!



- To our newest Torah readers.
- To Sophie Rosenbaum and Michael Strom on their wedding.
- To Sheine Wizel and Joel Kershner on the marriage of their daughter, Beth Kershner to Daniel Alvarez.
- To Thalia and Doug Krakower on the birth of their son, Noam.
- To Lisa Lovett and Julie Reuben on the *bat mitzvah* of their daughter, Charlotte.
- To TBZ on our *bar/bat mitzvah*.
- To Suzie Schwartz, our Beit Rabban coordinator, on her marriage to Jojo Jacobson.

Officers and Board Members

Our Rabbis

Reb Moshe Waldoks, *Rabbi*
Rav Claudia Kreiman,
Associate Rabbi

Co-Presidents

David Cherenson
Jenni Seicol

Treasurer

Fran Kantor

Secretary

Roger Zimmerman

Members

Term Ending April 2014

Steven Lipman
Rachele Rosi-Kessel
Amit Segal
Mona Strick

Members

Term Ending April 2013

Evelyn Frankford
Sue Kahn
Larry Kraus
Reggie Silberberg, Vice Chair

Members

Term Ending April 2012

David Breakstone
Molly Silver
Beth Silverberg Marx
Elana Steinberg

Past Presidents

Gabriel Belt
Irwin Pless
Howard Cohen
Myra Musicant
Enid Shulman
Jay Zagorsky
Fran Adams
Jonathan Klein

Synagogue Staff

Bob Perlman, *Executive Director*
Jeralyn Ellowitz, *Office Manager*
Ed Kleiman, *Bookkeeper*

Yeladim Program

Becky Wexler
Joanna Lubkin
Suzie Schwartz

Beit Rabban Staff

Becky Wexler, Joanna Lubkin,
Suzie Schwartz, Laura Held,
Miriam Diamond, Micah Shapiro

Committee Chairs

House and Capital Projects

John Daniels

Adult Learning

Reggie Silberberg
• Jewish Book Club: Dave Woodruff
• Men's Study Group: Steve Lewis

Development

Sue Kahn
Carol Kamin

Finance

Fran Kantor

Synagogue Practices

Lauren Garlick
Molly Silver

Membership

David Cherenson
• Dinners: Ginni Hamburg

Kiddush/Oneg

Ava Berinstein

Garden

Rick Bankhead

Israel Committee

Evelyn Frankford

LGBT

Mark Blogier and Lisa Lovett

Hesed

• *Bikkur Cholim*: Deborah Stang
• Senior Outreach: Katie Britton

Social Action

• *Tikkun Olam*: Leora Faiber
• Family Table: Maurice Medoff
• Literacy Project: Kim Meyers

Yeladim

Katherine Gergen Barnett
Evonne Meranus

Koleinu

Enid Shulman, Editor

Condolences

- To Rachel Cailleff on the death of her brother, David William Cailleff.
- To the family and friends of longtime TBZ member, Florence Shapiro.
- To Leonard and Barbara Jacobs on the death of Lenny's mother, Shirley Jacobs.
- To Larry Kraus and Sara Smolover on the death of Larry's father, Allan Kraus.
- To Jack Eiferman and Fern Fisher on the death of Jack's father, Irving Eiferman.
- To Richard and Judith Wurtman on the death of Richard's brother, Stuart Wurtman.
- To Rav Claudia and her family on the death of her grandparents, Sofia and Juan (Chona) Wolynski.

May their souls be bound up in the Bonds of Eternal life.

**HaMakom yenakhem otam im shear avlei Tziyon
vYrushalayim.**



Rav Claudia and Vice President Joseph Biden at the Rabbinical Assembly Convention in Atlanta.



Co-Presidents' Message

David Cherenson
& Jenni Seicol

We begin our first column as your new Co-Presidents still basking in the glow of TBZ's amazing 13th year celebration. There was such a great turnout for this wonderful event, and we heard from many of you how much you enjoyed it. Some people said it was their favorite day ever at TBZ! What made it so special, and why?

First and foremost, we were together. This seems obvious, but it is also essential. There is something powerful about being with other people to share an experience, one that may vary for each of us, but within which there is a common bond that connects us, not only in the present moment, but also deeply with the past and far into the future. This is the beauty and wisdom of Shabbat. And we get to repeat it each week, strengthening that bond and deepening that connection.

Whether we get inspiration from study and ritual practice, resonate with

the vibration of heartfelt singing, sink into the renewing quiet and calm of meditation, or just like to schmooze and eat, there is something joyous and special that happens when we do these things together, something that can't be reproduced in quite the same way on our own. Each week in our sanctuary and community room, there is a little bit of magic that happens, an alchemy that depends on and is affected by each of us.

There were over 250 people in our sanctuary on this special day when we celebrated our 13th year. It felt like it does at TBZ during the High Holidays. There was a buzz, an excitement, an extra level of joy and happiness.

As we shared this beautiful day with you, we wondered and dared to imagine what it would be like to have this many of us come together often. It would be transforming!

From a place of joy and love, and of deep respect and appreciation for each of you, we ask you to consider making the celebration of Shabbat at TBZ a part of your life. Those of us who know the beauty and power of this experience want to share it with you.

We are so grateful for the amazing teamwork that made our 13th-year celebration such a success. So many people contributed to making this day special – with their time, their money, and their skill. There were efforts large and small, but each made a difference. This was a shining example of the hands-on nature of our community, and the sense of ownership so many of us share. If you would like to find a way to be more involved, please let us know and we will help you!

Finally, what made this day feel so right was the balance of honoring the past, looking to the future, and, most of all, celebrating the present. We thank everyone who helped create and sustain TBZ during the past thirteen years. We ask all of you to help participate in building the road ahead, in whatever way you can contribute. And we invite you to join together as we celebrate our success along the way.

B'Shalom,

Jenni and David



Development Committee Update

Thank You!

Our May 5th celebration was successful on so many fronts. From a Development Committee perspective, we appreciate the outpouring of support and generosity as TBZ members and friends paid tribute to our past co-presidents and celebrated the past, present, and future of our TBZ community. To date we have received almost 150 gifts totaling over \$31,000 in response to this milestone, greatly exceeding our expectations and helping us to meet our fundraising target for the year. Your gift will help TBZ continue to be the vibrant and joy-filled community we all love and for that we are so grateful. .

Thank you all for making this such a success.

Sue Kahn and Carol Kamin, Development Committee Co-Chairs



ברוכים הבאים

**Welcome to Our
Newest Members!**

Jonathan Solomon and Irene Abrams

Alison Work

A Special Thank You!

- Elise Dwortzan and Ginni Hamburg each for bringing our bulk mail to the Newtonville Post Office.

Message from Rav Claudia

Dear Haverim & Haverot,

First of all I would like to thank you all for your warm support and words of comfort after the passing of my grandparents. I had the privilege of sharing something of their life experience with the community before they died, as we commemorated Yom Hasho'ah and then again after I came back from the shiva in Israel. As this sharing has been very meaningful to me and as many of you expressed interest in learning more about my grandparents, I decided to devote this column to their story and journey.

My grandparents were representatives of a generation of Jewish transition. They were born and raised in the great Jewish center which was Europe, a center that effectively ceased to exist during their lifetime. Most of North-American Jewry is an outgrowth of that center, but with fourth and fifth generation American Jews, there are fewer and fewer people who remember Jewish life as it was in the "old country". We often talk about the memory of the Sho'ah, and how it will be preserved when the generation of survivors is no longer with us. But it is important to remember that these people were



not only witnesses to the destruction of European Jewry. They are also the last experiential link to the vibrant Jewish life in the communities and congregations of European Jewry before the Second World War. It is to that generation and to its memory that I dedicate this description of my grandparents' journeys.

My grandparents Chona (Juan) and Sophia Wolynski or as I called them Zeide and Baba, were born in the town of Sopotkin (Belarus) close to the city of Grodno, in 1921 & 1922. They knew each other from high school and both families owned grocery stores.

My Zeide left Sopotkin for Buenos Aires, Argentina in 1938 at the age of 17. He was following in the footsteps of his uncle, and left with the intention of eventually bringing the rest of the family, his brother and parents, to Argentina. A year later my Baba left her town with her father Shmuel to go to Montevideo, Uruguay. Her mother Gittel did not want to leave her Jewish town and stayed in Sopotkin with her son. Eventually she realized she needed to leave, but by that time it was too late and they were not allowed to do so. Both of my grandparents' families died in the Shoah, leaving my grandparents alone in strange land.

My Baba remembered her friend who had also left for the same area of the world and looked for him through ads in the Yiddish newspaper. This was a common way Jews searched for relatives and friends after the war. In this way they found each other, they eventually married, and my Baba joined my Zeide in Buenos Aires where they

lived for close to 40 years.

They learned Spanish, and came to love living in Buenos Aires. They loved the music, the food and the culture. My Zeide eventually owned a furniture factory and made a good living. They had four children: my mother, Susy, was the eldest followed by my uncle Gaby, my aunt Sarita and my uncle Sergio. They were involved in the Jewish community and raised their children with Zionist values. My uncle Gaby and my aunt Sarita made aliyah to Israel, which convinced my grandparents to follow later with their youngest son. By this time my mother was already married to my father and living in Chile. Though they missed living in Argentina, my grandparents enjoyed almost 30 years together in Israel. They lived mostly in Tel-Aviv and were very involved in B'nai Brith, Wizo and other organizations, especially those where other Argentineans were active.

Naturally, the death of my mother in the terrorist attack on the AMIA center in Buenos Aires was very painful for my grandparents. I made Aliyah not long after, and during the ten years I lived in Israel I spent almost every Shabbat with them. Having them in my life and spending time with them always comforted me, and they told me numerous stories about my mother in her younger years. Shabbat at their home brought the family together in ways I will always remember.

I was blessed to have my grandparents present when I was ordained as a rabbi in Jerusalem. Their pride in my achievement merged with my pride at having them there with me.

In the last years of their life they moved to an assisted living facility near Natanya

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Rav Claudia with her
grandparents, Chile 1986

...From previous page

in the north of Israel. My Zeide had a stroke 3 years ago which left him greatly debilitated. Despite the fact that he could not walk or speak much my grandparents kept each other company and spent their days together. My Baba was diagnosed with lung cancer three months ago, and they were then visited daily by my sister Marianella and my uncles & aunt who cared for them. My Baba died on Wednesday April 25 and my Zeide passed away on the 6th day of her Shiva. The death of both of them together was painful and exhausting, emotionally and physically for the family, but at the same time it felt profoundly beautiful to witness their love once more. It felt like after 67 years together, and

after the 3 years my Zeide fought to stay close to Baba, he decided to let go and join her.

It was a blessing to be with my family, and 8 of the 10 grandchildren who live scattered around the world were able to come for the shiva. This felt like yet another gift from our grandparents who brought us together to celebrate their lives.

I feel very blessed that my grandparents were an influential part of my life and that I have so many memories of them.

May their memories be a blessing,

Rav Claudia



Adult Learning at TBZ

by Reggie Silberberg, Adult Learning Committee Chairperson

During the summer we offer fewer learning opportunities but we never stop completely. Reb Moshe will be teaching a course on the Birth of Jewish Denominations, and Rav Claudia's Women's Study will continue to meet. Our Shabbat Afternoon Meditation mini retreats will carry on and we will feature a day-long meditation retreat in June. The TBZ Book Club will also continue to meet.

Our full schedule will resume in the fall with our annual learning for the High Holidays. Wishing everyone a wonderful summer that nurtures you body, heart, mind and soul.

Why TBZ is Unaffiliated:

The Birth of Jewish Denominations with Reb Moshe

Wednesdays, May 30, June 6, 13, 20,

7:00 – 8:30 pm in the chapel

Women's Study Group

with Rav Claudia

Wednesday, June 13,

7:30 – 8:30 pm on the third floor

Meditation

Day-Long Sunday Meditation Retreat

June 10, 9:30 am – 4:30 pm

Just Right Farm, about 1.5 hours from Boston.

Contact the TBZ office for registration:

617-566-8171 ext. 14.

Shabbat Afternoon Meditation Retreats

June 30, July 21, Aug. 11

1:30 – 5:30 pm in the sanctuary



TBZ Jewish Book Club

In April we gathered to discuss *Urban Exodus: Why the Jews left Boston and the Catholics Stayed*, by Gerald Gamm. We were hosted by Suzanne Gelber and had a lively discussion. Many of us told of our experiences living in similar situations. The book contains histories of some of the major synagogues in our area.

The next book to be read is *The Emigrants*, by W. G. Sebald, translated by Michael Hulse. We will meet on **Sunday, June 3, at 7:00 pm**, at Susan Golberg's house. Please come and join us.

For information about the book club, contact David Woodruff, davewoodr@aol.com

From the Membership Committee:

Tour of the Vilna Shul

Sunday, July 1, at 1:30 pm

The Vilna Shul, Boston's Center for Jewish Culture, is the last remaining immigrant era synagogue in the city of Boston. Built in Beacon Hill in 1919, it has become the place for people from around Boston and around the world to connect with the Boston Jewish historical, cultural and spiritual experience. By weaving together Jewish history, culture, and spirituality, the Vilna Shul energizes a sense of American Jewish pride and creates an approachable space to discuss Judaism.

TBZ will host a tour of the Shul by docent Judith Klau. Please note that the tour will involve some walking and stair climbing. Details will be announced.

Let's Have Coffee!

Come chat with the Rabbis and meet other members, in a more intimate setting, at the home of a TBZ member. Get to know each other a little better and maintain closer contact with our Rabbis.



Monday, June 11

Tuesday, June 19

Tuesday June 26

Call Jeralyn in the office for more information.

(617) 566-8171

Walk for Hunger

by Marilyn Paul









With over seventy people donating and over 35 people walking, TBZ raised over \$5,000 to support the hungry people of Massachusetts. Thank you so much for your generosity and your time. We had a fantastic time walking on a cool day. Families, singles, older and younger, we represented some of the diversity of TBZ. Phyllis Brawasky, the Faiber family, the Gergen Barnett family, Susan Kahn, Robert Kaim, the Kraus-Grosman family, Mishy Lesser, Zoe Levitt, Lisa Lovett and friends and family, the Margalit family, the Marx Silverberg family, Luba Naumova, the Ribner family, the Paul Stroh Family, Barbara Sternfield, Amy Sweigenberg and Rebecca Weintraub all walked

and Evelyn Frankford came to cheer us on as we stopped for a delicious snack at TBZ.


Our contribution is important to Project Bread. The Status Report on Hunger in Massachusetts 2010, the state's annual report card on hunger, revealed that over 660,000 people in Massachusetts are at risk for hunger — a 20% increase over the previous year. More of us need to get involved with this important way to raise money for Project Bread. Please mark your calendar for next year's Walk for Hunger and join us and 43,000 other people who participate. It is a very satisfying way to get to know others at TBZ, get a good walk, and to make a solid contribution at the same time.



June

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Save the Date - June 30</p> <p>Join us on Shabbat as Reverend David Killian of All Saint's Parish shares a few words with us. Rev. Killian is retiring at the end of June after more than 20 years serving the Brookline Community.</p>						
3 5:00 pm, Board Meeting	4	5	6 4:00 pm, Beit Rabban 7:00 pm, Why TBZ is Unaffiliated w/Reb Moshe (see pg. 6) 7:30 Tikun Olam Group (see pg. 10)	7	8 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 	9 Parshat Beha'alotcha Bar Mitzvah - Alan Karchmer 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services (babysitting available)
10 10:30 am, Yeladim End-of-Year Celebration (See pg. 11) 	11  7:30 pm, Member Coffee (off-site)	12	13 7:00 pm, Why TBZ is Unaffiliated w/Reb Moshe (see pg. 6) 7:30 pm, Women's Study Group with Rav Claudia (see pg. 6)	14	15 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 	16 Parshat Shlach Graduation Shabbat Aufuf Jonathan Golden 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services 11:30 am, Yeladim Services 1:00 pm, Bnei Mitzvah Group 1:15 pm, Men's Group
17 Father's Day 7:00 pm, Rosh Hodesh Group	18	19  7:30 pm, Member Coffee (off-site)	20 7:00 pm, Why TBZ is Unaffiliated w/Reb Moshe (see pg. 6)	21	22 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 	23 Parshat Korach Bat Mitzvah Sophia Barrett 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services (babysitting available)
24 10:30 am, Tikun Olam Group (see pg. 10)	25	26  7:30 pm, Member Coffee (off-site)	27	28	29 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat 	30 Parshat Chukat 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services

August

Sunday	Friday	Saturday
1 1:30 pm, Tour of Vilna Shul	3  5:00 - 8:00 pm, BBQ & Baruch - off-site 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	4 Parshat Vaetchanan Chaverim Shel Shalom 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services
8	10 BBQ & Baruch (RAIN DATE) 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	11 Parshat Elkev 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services
15	17 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	18 Parshat Re'eh 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services
22 7:00 pm, Board Meeting	24 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	25 Parshat Shoftim 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services
29 Tisha B'Av	31 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	

Barbecue & Baruch

Friday, August 3, 5:30 pm
at Corey Hill Park
(Rain Date: August 10)
Free and open to all.



Sign up to volunteer go to:
<http://www2.mysignup.com/cgi-bin/view.cgi?barbecue>

Shakespeare on the Common



TBZ's annual outing to Shakespeare on The Common is **Sunday, August 12.**

This season's play is *Coriolanus*. We will meet at TBZ at 5 for a 45 minute pre-performance talk by our own resident Shakespearean scholar, Judith Klau.

Then we will take the T in town together for the **7:00 pm** performance.

"May not be appropriate for all ages. Parental discretion is advised."

July

Sunday	Friday	Saturday
1 1:30 pm, Tour of Vilna Shul	6 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	7 Parshat Balak 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services
8	13 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	14 Parshat Pinchas 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services
15	20 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	21 Parshat Matot-Masei 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services
22 7:00 pm, Board Meeting	27 6:00 pm, Kabbalat Shabbat	28 Parshat Devarim 9:00 am, Torah Study 10:00 am, Shabbat Services
29 Tisha B'Av		

Tikkun Olam

"As Jews, we believe that all human beings are made in the image of the Divine, that all are endowed with equal and infinite value." American Jewish World Service (AJWS)

Anchoring ourselves in this belief, the Tikkun Olam Group (TOG) has fortified itself with great energy and commitment this year. Our goal is to identify projects that:

- promote our humanity and our "divineness"
- promote the well-being of those with whom we are in community
- honor equality and value amongst and within us all

A gargantuan task? ABSOLUTELY!—in its whole...but in manageable chunks and in connection with others? DOABLE!

Following is a summary of this year's efforts in the areas of food justice, sustainability, and caring for ourselves and our earth:

- On 11/6/11, we participated in the Global Hunger Shabbat – an action organized by AJWS to work towards ending the global food crisis. Mark Dwortzan delivered a powerful *Dvar Torah* that challenged us to face the crisis and to take action.
- We have nurtured our relationship with GBIO and worked together for social justice. By building bridges and coalitions between different faiths, cultures, traditions, and socio-economic groups, we create a greater awareness of and impact on a variety of issues compromising the quality of life and care among residents of this state.
- On 4/22/12, a number of TOG and TBZ members attended the Boston Jewish Food Conference – "Sowing the Seeds of Sustainability." TBZ was a proud organizational partner of this effort. The event was sponsored by Hebrew College, CJP, and Beantown Jewish Gardens. We learned about agricultural dimensions of the Jewish calendar cycle, eating ethics and kashrut, contemporary Jewish spiritual practice, locally sourced Kosher vegetarian food options, composting options for institutions, food justice and access, models of Community Supported Agriculture (CSA), and sustainable simchas.
- We co-sponsored the Walk for Hunger with the Yeladim Committee—supporting the chair, Marilyn Paul. TBZ had over 30 walkers and raised almost \$5,000! TBZ pledges annual support to alleviate food insecurity in our state.



• On 5/20/2012, we are sponsoring: A Work and Learn Afternoon in the Gardens of Gaining Ground Farm (GG). 12 TBZ members will be volunteering at this community farm that grows and donates more than 23,000 pounds of fresh food to area meal programs and food pantries. By volunteering at Gaining Ground we will help provide high-value, healthy, fresh organic produce to people who may not get anything like it. We are excited about this event and the promise it holds as a link in our efforts for food justice and sustainability.

- We are exploring the politics of food production, justice, and access—educating ourselves about policies such as the Farm Bill. This very complicated piece of legislation affects every step in the food chain, from growing it to accessing it for our tables.

TOG is committed to sustainability and stewardship of our earth and ourselves. Our goal is to move forward at TBZ across generations and across committees. By working together with a shared vision and through collective action we will achieve undeniable impact

"It takes a village" ...let us join forces as TBZers to match Reb Moshe's and Rav Claudia's description of a community that integrates faith and action. *"In Judaism, love of God is never a mere feeling: it belongs to the sphere of ethical action."* (Leo Baeck)

Please join the Tikkun Olam group at our next meetings:

- **June 6 at 7:30 pm**
- **June 24 at 10:30 am**

Contact Judy Schechtman with any questions or to say "I'll be at the next TOG meeting!"
j_schecht@hotmail.com or 617-965-8324



Save the Date

June 16 Graduation Shabbat

Please submit the names of your graduates to office@tbzBrookline.org.

We will list their names in our announcements, read them on Shabbat, and all graduates will be called for an *aliyah*.

Pinat Yeladim: Children's Corner

Katherine Gergen Barnett, Evonne Meranus
Co-Chairs, Yeladim Committee

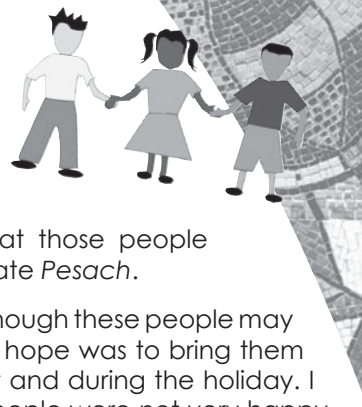
Report from Pesach Deliveries at 1550 Beacon Street

By Ella Meranus

Hi my name is Ella Meranus, and in early April, I went with my Dad and Gabriel, Amira-Skye, and Mark Gergen-Barnett to deliver Pesach bags to our friends at the 1550 Senior Center. At first, I was a little nervous, because I didn't know what the people would be like. But as soon as we got there, I knew it would be fun. The people there were very sweet, and some offered

us treats. When we gave them the bags, it felt like we were doing something right, and that those people would be able to celebrate Pesach.

I also thought that even though these people may not be the happiest, our hope was to bring them joy both at that moment and during the holiday. I recognized that some people were not very happy that they were receiving charity. Some seemed sad to be living alone. Bringing them happiness along with the bags made me feel good.



Fourth Annual TBZ Annual TBZ Community Retreat was a Success!

By Rachele Rosi-Kessel and Jane Liebschutz,
Co-Chairs, Retreat Committee

Once again, children and parents, singles and teens, gathered at Prindle Pond in Charlton, MA, on March 16-18, for fun, games, learning, food and relaxation. The theme this year was, "Building and Strengthening Our Community." By simplifying the program and limiting the number of participants, we were able to have a more relaxed and intimate experience. Highlights of the retreat included very spirited tefilah (prayer) for adults and children alike, led by Rav Claudia, Suzie Schwartz, Micah Shapiro and Ben Madsen. Micah's percussion and Ben's guitar infused playful energy throughout the weekend, at services, the campfire, and during workshops. This year's talent show was a big hit, with many kids exhibiting their expertise in music, comedy, drama and other more difficult to categorize talents (ask Sarah Mautner to pick up clothes with her toes sometime when you need a belly-splitting laugh). Adam Klauber led an amazing hike and scavenger hunt that stimulated kids and adults to stretch their limits. We also had yoga with Devorah and Evonne, a book group also led by Evonne, an adult talent show mc'd by Cindy-jo, music and dance with Michael KG, and learning with Rav Claudia. The teens had a meaningful program with BBYO staff member Shayna Matzner, and Reb Moshe joined the community for seudah shlishit and Shabbat menucha. The food, supplied by a new caterer this year, was a big hit, with minimal waste at the retreat's end.

The increased coverage of babysitting throughout the retreat by our wonderful staff of Meirav Schatz, Allison Knight, Eli Zimmerman, Rebecca Kaim, and Miranda Bachman gave kids and adults additional opportunities for play and relaxation. The children especially benefited from an extended time to gather with their peers in outdoor play. Scooters and soccer balls, frisbees and havdalah candles all brought us together in a wonderful celebration of our community.

With each retreat, people who are regular attendees deepen their relationship with other TBZ members. For new attendees, it's often the first time many have had time to really get to know other members, and many vowed to return the following year. Participants numbered 114 this year (57 adults and 46 children). With 11 staff members, our numbers were completely manageable and the ideal size for our location. Suzie Schwartz's organizational skills facilitated the smooth functioning of the entire process, allowing both lay and professional leaders to lead and relax at the same time.

As chairs of the retreat committee for past two years, we have both learned a lot from the experience, deepened our own commitment to TBZ, and feel blessed that we could serve in such a joyful capacity. What better job than to create a restful Shabbaton for our friends at TBZ! Thank you all for coming and for making the retreat the wonderful weekend it was.



Beit Rabban Tzedakah Project

Our Beit Rabban tzedakah project this year was Birthday Wishes, a fabulous organization that works hard to provide birthday parties for children living in homeless shelters locally and throughout Massachusetts. With help from Birthday Wishes staff and Beit Rabban parent Jenny Berz, we have spent time as a community and in our classrooms discussing what it means to be homeless, what Judaism says about homelessness and how we can help.

In our final month of Beit Rabban we dedicated much time engaging in this project. May 30 was a mitzvah day.

Students spent the first hour in their classrooms learning more about what Judaism and Jewish texts say about homelessness and in the second hour they gathered together to do hands on social justice work for Birthday Wishes.

We are grateful to Jenny Berz, mother of Noah and Sara who helped us connect with Birthday Wishes and organize this program. As we begin planning for next year's Beit Rabban, we will be looking forward to our next Tzedakah project.

Save the Dates

JUNE 10, 10:30 am-12:30 pm

**Annual End-of-Year Celebration
Picnic at Summit Park**

(in case of rain we will meet at TBZ)



JUNE 2 & 16

Last Tfilot Yeladim before summer break

JUNE 9 & 23

Babysitting

Yeladim programs will resume in September.
Stay tuned for our 2012-2013 calendar

BEIT RABBAN 2012-2013

Information about enrolling in the Beit Rabban program for 2012-2013 will be available soon.

If you have questions, please contact Suzie Schwartz at beitrabban@tbzbrookline.org

Strengthening Our Community

TBZ's Bnei Mitzvah Gift: The Next Phase of Structural Change

By now, most of you know that TBZ is deeply involved in a process of structural change. At the April 29th Community Meeting, a summary of the proposed new TBZ Bylaws was presented, which will change our board and committee structures. If you would like to read the entire proposed Bylaws, they are posted on our website (<http://www.tbzbrookline.org/>).

This proposed structural change results from a charge to the Board's Leadership Development Task Force in the fall of 2010. The Task Force was asked to find ways to promote greater involvement and participation by TBZ's membership in all aspects of our functioning. This direction was reinforced by expressions of great interest on the part of members at coffees in the spring of 2011 and at the fall 2011 Community Meeting.

In response to this desire to promote greater participation, the proposed Bylaws specify term limits for board members and committee chairs; these provisions will require a constantly-replenishing supply of people, where we all work to bring new people into activities and leadership.

This is our Bnei Mitzvah milestone.

One of the more significant changes proposed is to the composition of the Board of Directors [Article III]. A Board of 15 persons is proposed to replace the current 23-member board, to be comprised of two Co-Presidents, five Vice-Presidents, and eight additional 'At-Large' individuals, all elected by the Congregation.

Directors and officers are generally elected to a two-year term and there is a term limit of two terms.

The responsibilities and duties of the officers are also specified in much greater detail than in the current Bylaws (Article IV). Each of the five Vice President positions are responsible for one of the following activities: (i) Finance and Administration, (ii) Programming, (iii) Ritual Practices, (iv) Member Relations, and (v) External Relations.

A robust Committee structure is contemplated and fourteen specific committees are listed, including an Operating and Nominating Committee which is intended to focus on the more day-to-day aspects of the synagogue. Provision is also made for Development, Leadership Development and Strategic Planning Committees.

We would like to thank the task force for its incredible work, in particular co-chairs **Evelyn Frankford and David Chersonson, and Jack Eiferman.**

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Kiddush and Oneg Sponsors



- Sheine Wizer and Joel Kershner IHO the *yahrzeits* of Sheine's father, David Wizer Szewc, and her grandmother, Rosa Pearl Winter.
- David and Betty Buchsbaum IHO the *yahrzeits* of David's father, Joseph Buchsbaum, and Betty's father, Max Sanders.
- Jonathan and Tamar Duke-Cohan in celebration of TBZ's Torah readers.
- Julie Arnow and Michael Rosenbaum, and Carol and Steven Latz, IHO the wedding of their daughter and niece, Sophie Rosenbaum to Michael Strom.
- Irwin and Gloria Pless IHO the *yahrzeit* of their friend Harry Rosenbloom.
- Stewart and Elanah Uretsky IHO TBZ.
- Lilly Pelzman, Jeff Borenstein, Joshua, Benjamin, and Anna, IHO the birthday of their mother and grandmother, Zina Pelzman.
- Lisa Lovett and Julie Reuben IHO the *bat mitzvah* of their daughter, Charlotte.
- The TBZ Community IHO our *bar/bat mitzvah*.



The High Holidays are right on time this year.

(As in not before Labor Day and not in mid-October.)

IT'S NOT TOO SOON TO START PLANNING.



**SATURDAY, SEPT 8 at TBZ: Selichot Service, co-sponsored by KI
Classes from 9:30 pm, Tefilot with Rabbi Ebn Leader at 11:30 pm**

Sunday, Sept. 9: High Holiday Prep Day



Sunday, Sept. 16: Erev Rosh Hashanah

Tuesday, Sept 25: Kol Nidre

Monday, Sept 17: Rosh Hashanah Day 1

Wednesday, Sept 26: Yom Kippur

Tuesday, Sept 18: Rosh Hashanah Day 2

LOOK FOR A PACKET OF INFORMATION MID-JUNE AND SIGN UP EARLY!

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