

Tefilagram

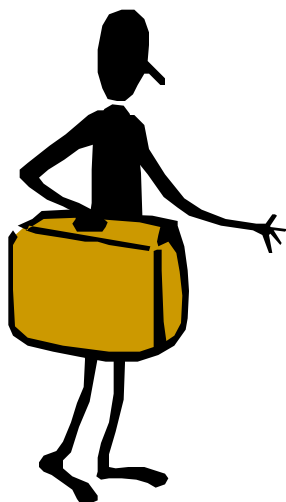
"And they shall build for me a sanctuary that I may dwell in their midst." (Exodus 25:8)

December 2001

Kislev 5762

Shaarey Tefilah Retreat Planned for Next Spring

Shaarey Tefilah Synagogue is planning a Congregational Retreat



The Retreat is planned for May 31-June 2, 2002. The provisional location is at Manning Park Resort, east of Hope.

Accommodations for the two nights are available in the large group chalet at the resort known as The Last Resort. The chalet sleeps 20 to 45 people. Accommodations cost is projected at \$25 per adult per night without food. There is no charge for accommodation for children. Private or more luxurious accommodations are also available at the resort, at a higher cost.

We need to put a deposit on the chalet and must know immediately if we have enough commitments to make the retreat a reality. Please e-mail Robin Friedlander at rfriedl@axionet.com immediately if you plan on going on the retreat.

Please direct questions to either Lynda Rosenberg in the office at 604-873-2700 or to Robin at the above e-mail address.

Kids Clothing and Toy Sale

Check your closets. Scour your attics!
Shaarey Tefilah is planning a fundraiser.

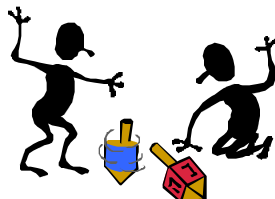
The shul will be holding a sale for used kids clothing and toys. Please collect and box used clothing and toys. We are looking for clean clothes and toys that are in good condition.

Boxes can be delivered to the Shul during office hours, but please call ahead.
Volunteers are also needed to help with the sale. Please call Lynda at 604-873-2700 if you want to help.



Chanukah Party

December 15
at 6:30 pm



Contact the
Shul for details

Getting to know you

By Rabbi Ross Singer

Our Torah teaches that every human being is created in the divine image. Therefore every human being deserves to live a life of dignity (in halachik parlance, Kavod Habriot). Beyond this basic requirement to treat human beings with dignity and respect we have an additional mitzvah to love our fellow Jew.

We have endeavored to make these mitzvot part of our mission here at Shaarey Tefilah. Our general atmosphere is welcoming and warm to both Jews and non-Jews. We have chesed projects that range from visiting the sick to comforting mourners to raising money to cure disease.

We should be proud of our record. Yet we always need to be refining ourselves and improving our commitment to these values.

Recently some board members and I were asking whether we had focused enough on reaching out and loving our own Shaarey Tefilah family. We concluded that while we have some positive activity in that area, there is plenty of room to grow.

I, with encouragement, and assistance from the board

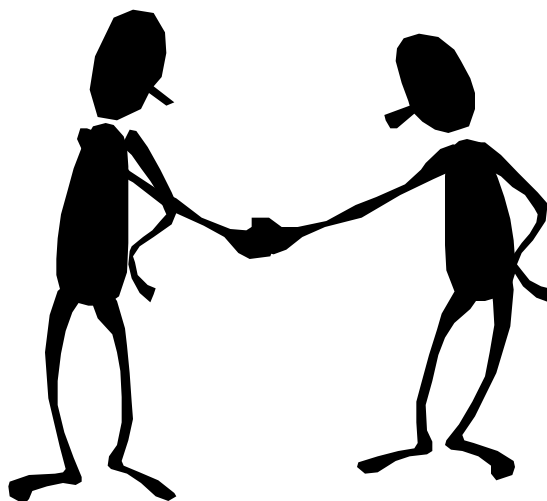
have decided to redouble my efforts to connect with the individuals who make up our membership. We should know each other better. We should spend more time together so that we can better fulfill the mitzvah of loving each other. I would like to take this opportunity to ask for your assistance in the endeavor.

There are two ways in which I imagine our membership at large can facilitate our crystallization as a loving family.

Firstly each of us can extend ourselves by getting to know more members of our family. Let us find one individual or family that we don't know and invite them into our home.

Secondly you can be proactive in allowing me to know you better. As I endeavor to open my home to you, please return the gesture. If you are worried about Kashrut, that can be worked around. It is essential that I, as our community's spiritual leader, have close connections with all of you.

Please help me to fulfill my responsibility. May G-d help us to succeed in our enterprise of growing in loving our fellow Jew and making our community into an even closer family.



Members Observing Yarzheits

Roman Raivich	December 8 (23 Kislev)	Katie Fox	January 7 (23 Tevet)
Michael Gonigsberg	December 9 (24 Kislev)	Rubin Zilberman	January 7 (23 Tevet)
Sheila Hector	December 14 (29 Kislev)	Arthur Dodek	January 8 (24 Tevet)
Katie Fox	December 22 (7 Tevet)	Philip Swartz	January 10 (26 Tevet)
Norman Miller	December 24 (9 Tevet)	Art Hayes	January 24 (11 Shevat)
Bryna Brail	December 31 (16 Tevet)	Dennis Frankenburg	January 28 (15 Shevat)
Bente Thomsen	December 31 (16 Tevet)	Andrea Milman	January 29 (16 Shevat)
Sid Kaplan	January 5 (21 Tevet)	Charles Savedoff	January 31 (18 Shevat)

Welcome New Members

Shaarey Tefilah has been fortunate in the past few weeks to have a number of new individuals and families join our growing congregation. The following are short biographies of our new members, gleaned from information on their membership forms. Please introduce yourself the next time you see someone new at services or at one of our events. We don't like anyone to be a stranger!

Mamush Heayie

Aren Hoffman and Odeyah Pila are engaged to be married! Aren was born on the North Shore and has a degree in economics from UBC. He enjoys skiing, traveling and hiking. Odeyah was born in Montreal, raised in Israel and came to Vancouver in 1997. She is a BCIT student majoring in broadcast and will graduate in June 2002. She enjoys painting, dancing and traveling.

Hilton and Tanya Jacobs are originally from South Africa. They have lived in Canada for ten years and in Vancouver for seven. Hilton is a new business owner, working as a computer consultant. Tanya works at the Jewish Community Centre of Greater Vancouver. They have two children, **Samantha** and **Jamie**. Both children attend Talmud Torah.

Joseph and Lisa Kahn-Tietz are originally from California. They lived in Israel for two years and have been in Vancouver for two years. Joseph is the Executive Director of Jewish Family Service Agency, while Lisa is a counsellor. The couple have three children, **Jordan** (12), **Naton** (10) and **Amiya** (6). The family enjoys hiking, reading, computers, fitness and learning and practicing sign language.

Bradley Kalmek is originally from Johannesburg, South Africa. he has been in Vancouver for two years. He enjoys hiking, reading, computers, fitness and learning and practicing sign language.

Laura Mass is from the increasingly rare species who can lay claim to being a polyglot. She speaks English, Hebrew, Spanish, French, Italian, German, Russian, and sign language. She enjoys reading, computers, fitness and learning and practicing sign language. She also enjoys learning Hebrew and shmoozing with friends.



New Members Kiddush Saturday January 12, 2002

A Kiddush honouring new members of the Congregation will be held following Shabbat services on January 12, 2002. Please join us to greet and extend the typical Shaarey Tefilah warm welcome to our newest members.

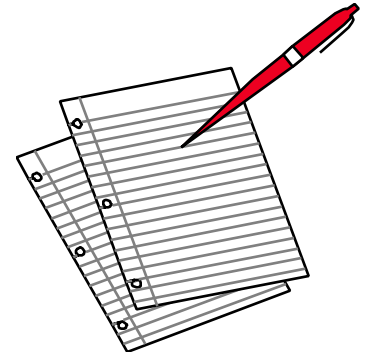
The Tefilagram is the newsletter of Congregation Shaarey Tefilah. All newsworthy information concerning the membership and articles of interest to the Congregation are welcome and appreciated. Deadline for articles is the second week of the current month. Kindly forward submissions by e-mail to tefilagram@shaareytefilah.com or fax 604-877-2224.

Editor
Production & Layout
Contributors:

Art Hayes
Carla Shore and Ethan McNamara
Rabbi Ross Singer, Art Hayes, Lynda Rosenberg,
Jeff Klein, Kim Zipursky

From the President's Pen.....

Fundraising is never easy, but for a small community such as ours it is particularly difficult, but vitally important. For the past few years the Shaarey Tefilah High Holiday Appeal has been a significant source of funds for us. By now you will hopefully have received a letter from me concerning the appeal. If you have already responded, thank you, if not I would ask that you use this opportunity to help reduce the financial shortfall we have this year.



On the subject of fundraising, thanks to Robin and Bev Friedlander who hosted, and those of you who recently helped with our Annual Garage Sale. Although we raised only \$400, every little bit helps.

We are planning a kids clothing and toy sale and we ask you to assemble any such items in good, clean condition that might be suitable. Items can be delivered to the storeroom at the Shul. We are also looking for volunteers to help with this event. Please call Lynda at 604-873-2700 if you can help.

All these fundraising efforts go towards supporting your synagogue, where there are many programs and services that you may be interested in, including :

- On Friday mornings following 7 AM services we have breakfast and a Mishnah class. Come and share interesting rabbinic thought and debate.
- Our Kabbalat Shabbat services are led by our own Ivor Levin. The service is a warm uplifting way to start your Shabbat – Friday nights at 6 PM.
- Shabbat Services , each Saturday at 9AM. This is a great opportunity to sponsor a Kiddush in honour of someone or a special event. Call Lynda at 604-873-2700 to book your Kiddush.
- Youth Programs (Grade 3-7) on Shabbat at 11 AM, younger kids at 11.30 AM.
- We have our Parashat Hashavuah program up and running again. Each Sunday morning following 9 AM services, the weekly Torah portion is discussed, analyzed and interpreted over breakfast and lively banter
- Maimonides and the Soul – Study Group every Tuesday at 12.15 PM over lunch. A great way to take time out of your busy week.
- Tuesday evening class "Honour your Parents" with Emily Singer

Call 604-873-2700 for more information on these and other programs

We are in the planning stages for our first ever Shaarey Tefilah Members Retreat – tentatively scheduled for the Spring of 2002 at the Last Resort in Manning Park. This promises to be a great opportunity to mould our future as a community. I look forward to seeing you there. Anyone wishing to assist in the planning should contact Robin Friedlander.

--Jeff Klein

Volunteers needed to prepare kiddush lunches in the spring

We will not be able to use Bente's excellent catering skills after January. The house committee is seeking volunteers to take turns coordinating and preparing kiddush lunches when shul members request them. There is a small honorarium available. Please contact Bev Friedlander, Kim Zipursky, or Lynda at the office if you're interested.



Op Ed

There are days in our lives when only poetry can reach our hearts. Such is this poem on this day when a grieving city suffers yet another tragedy.

ODE TO NEW YORKERS

As dreams fade
And the mind in turmoil
Fills with fear and sadness
Steers thoughts each day
Toward the unaltered world
Look up at stars
Search for the moon
Sit among autumn trees
Whose changing colors
Feast the eye
As does a glorious sunset.
Quiet the soul
With beauties of nature
Forever there to lessen pain
That man inflicts on man
Throughout all time.

--Carlyn Parker
NY Times Nov. 12/01

Adam Va-Adamah Announces "Eight Days – Eight Actions" Community Chanukah Program

Adam va-Adamah, B.C.'s Jewish environmental group, will be marking this Chanukah with a community program based on the reality that we, too, live in a world in which oil and other non-renewable resources are in increasingly short supply. Our consumption of fossil fuels is simultaneously depleting the earth and overheating it at such a rapid rate that our only hope might lie in a miracle just like happened to the Maccabees. But we can't live our lives waiting for miracles. Instead, there are things we can do with the tools and means we have at hand to solve the energy crisis.

EIGHT DAYS OF CHANUKAH –EIGHT ACTIONS:

Day 1: Let there be sustainable light. Change one regular bulb in your home to a Compact Fluorescent Light. They last ten times as long as standard incandescent bulbs and use only a quarter of the energy to produce the same amount of light – a modern Hanukkah miracle!

Day 2: Turn down the temperature of your water heater to the warm setting (49°C/120°F). Water heaters are the second largest energy users in the home, averaging about 20 per cent of all household energy use. By changing the setting from maximum heat, you'll not only save energy, but also avoid scalding your hands!

Day 3: Lower your thermostat 1.5°C/3°F to reduce your energy consumption by nearly 10 per cent.

Day 4: Skip a car trip. Today, walk, run, skate, bike or take public transport instead of a car. Plan ahead for safe routes and different travel times. Travel smarter & cleaner.

Day 5: Start a scrap paper pile with paper printed on one side. Use the backs for printing drafts of documents, writing notes, making shopping lists, etc. Go one step further by buying recycled paper products

Day 6: Honour Shabbat by turning off your TV, computer, video games or music. Choose at least one item to try keeping your energy use on Shabbat as low as possible.

Day 7: Have a candlelight dinner. Shut off all of your lights for an hour and enjoy an evening of latkes with the Chanukiah glowing (Light a few extra candles as we do not use the Chanukiah as a functional lamp).

Day 8: Rededicate yourself to protecting the earth by writing out a Hanukkah Pledge to last all year. Choose specific actions that will reduce energy use. Then, fulfill the mitzvah of 'publicizing the miracle' of the oil by sharing your rededication with family and friends,

Adam va-Adamah is part of a North America-wide movement to follow Jewish principles that guides us to act responsibly and prudently in dealing with the natural world. For more information, contact Susanna Haas at shaas@sfu.ca, or call 604-872-7380.

Donations, Donations, Donations

Sincere Condolences

To Max and Leona Pinsky on the loss of their father/father-in-law

From Sid and Marie Doduck

From Cliff, Sandra and Hannah Ungar

From Art and Arlene Hayes

From Allan Posthuma

From Brad Freedman and Pam Wolfman

To Bernard Pinsky on passing of father

From Allan Posthuma

From Brad Freedman and Pam Wolfman

To Helen Pinsky on passing of father

From Allan Posthuma

To Dorothy Nixon on loss of husband, Murray

From Sid and Marie Doduck

To Marty and Elaine Nixon on loss of father/father-in-law

From Sid and Marie Doduck

From Art and Arlene Hayes

To Susan Bluman on loss of daughter, Barbara

From Sid and Marie Doduck

To Mr. and Mrs. R. Charnaw on loss of father and grandfather

From Michael and Gwen Epstein

To Mr. and Mrs. Abe Bell on passing of brother/brother-in-law, Ben

From Art and Arlene Hayes

To Norman and Linda Gold on passing of Norman's mother

From Sid and Marie Doduck

To Rafael and Miriam Filisof on loss of son

From Sid and Marie Doduck

To David and Chela Herman on loss of nephew

From Sid and Marie Doduck

To Irwin and Corrine Woodrow on loss of sister-in-law, Esther

From Norman and Sandra Miller

To Gary Woodrow on loss of Esther

From Randy and Cheryl Milner

To Mindel Kagna on loss of son Eric

From Art and Arlene Hayes

To Sylvia Polsky on loss of husband Al

From Art and Arlene Hayes

To Eve Camerman on loss of husband Arthur

From Art and Arlene Hayes



Get Well

To Margaret Stark

From Marie Doduck

To Shirley Kort

From Art and Arlene Hayes

In Memory

In Loving Memory of my husband, Kenneth

From Margaret Stark

Thank You

To Howard and Debbie Jonas for Shabbat hospitality

From Randy Milner

Mazel Tov

To Rob and Susan Hector on new home
From Sid and Marie Doduck
From Art and Arlene Hayes

To Arthur and Judy Dodek on marriage of their son, Noah
From Sid and Marie Doduck
From Ivor and Gaynor Levin
From Irwin and Corrine Woodrow & Family
From Howard and Sunni Stein & Family

To Michael and Gwen Epstein on marriage of daughter, Jordanna
From Sid and Marie Doduck
From Ivor and Gaynor Levin
From Irwin and Corrine Woodrow & Family

To Norman and Evelyn Charach on birth of granddaughter
From Sid and Marie Doduck

To Rabbi Ross and Emily Singer on birth of son
From Sid and Marie Doduck
From Roman and Mina Raivich
From Cliff, Sandra and Hannah Ungar
From Allan Posthuma
From Ivor and Gaynor Levin
From Bente Nathan Thomsen
From Brad Freedman and Pam Wolfman

To Rabbi Ross and Emily Singer on birth of son — donation of Siddur
From Malcolm and Dorothy Lefcort

To Norman and Sandra Miller on engagement of son, Danny
From Roman and Mina Raivich

To Tzur, Ariel, Yaira and Tomir Somerville on their birthdays
From Susan Somerville

To Dr. and Mrs. J. Gelmon on 50th wedding anniversary
From Art and Arlene Hayes

To Art and Judy Dodek on birth of first grandchild
From Art and Arlene Hayes
From Norman and Sandra Miller
From Irwin and Corrine Woodrow & Family
From Howard and Sunni Stein & Family

To Art and Arlene Hayes – Shana Tova – donation of Siddur
From Abe and Sylvia Bell & Jeffrey and Charlotte Bell and Family



To Penny Sprackman on marriage of son, Matthew
From Irwin and Corrine Woodrow & Family

To Rosalie Segal on being honored by Variety Club
From Sid and Marie Doduck

To David Ehrlich on 75th birthday
From Sid and Marie Doduck

To Peter and Cheryl Hochfelder on birth of grandchild
From Mike and Gwen Epstein

To David Ogroskin on his special birthday
From Art and Arlene Hayes

A Hearty Mazeltov to Max and Leona Pinsky and their daughter Rachel on the occasion of her Bat Mitzvah held at Shaarey Tefilah on Saturday December 12, 2001.

Bagel Lovers Wanted!!

Here's your opportunity to order fresh Mount Royal bagels in time for Shabbat and help Shaarey Tefilah in the process! Order a dozen bagels at regular retail prices and \$2 goes towards the shul. Depending on interest, this may become a weekly or biweekly order.

The price per dozen is \$8 (the same price you'll find in stores).

Please order by noon on Thursday by contacting Allan Posthuma at 604-733-4321. Bagels will be available for pickup at the shul from 7:30 a.m. to noon on Friday. Orders must be paid for at time of pickup – no exceptions!

Mount Royal Bagels are baked fresh every day. Their bagels are hand rolled, boiled and then baked under the supervision of the rabbinical council of British Columbia. The following flavors are available:

Sesame Seed (White, Whole Wheat)
Poppy Seed (White, Whole Wheat)
Plain (White, Whole Wheat)
Cinnamon (White, Whole Wheat)

Raisin (White)
Cinnamon Raisin (White)
Multigrain (Whole Wheat)
Onion and Caraway Seed are available up on request.



Attention blood donors!

Shaarey Tefilah's last blood drive was in the summertime, so donors who haven't given blood since then should be eligible again now. Please give blood if you can!



Pinchus Sez

Perhaps a little Jewish humour and maybe a little chicken soup might lighten our heavy hearts. So here's a story, and remember, it's only an old one if you've heard it before.

THE BAR IN THE MIDBAR OR WHEN TO TIE ONE ON

Seems like this fellow was walking through the Sahara desert, and having depleted his water supply was becoming desperate for a drink. Far off in the distance he saw something and hurried towards it hoping to find water. On arriving he was dismayed to find a little old Jewish man seated at a card table with a large selection of neckties laid out on it.

"Please sir," he said to the man. "I'm dying of thirst. Can I have some water?"

"I am really sorry, mister," said the old man. "I don't have any water, but why don't you buy a tie? Here's one that goes nicely with your robes."



"You idiot, I don't want a tie!" shouted the wanderer. "I need water."

"OK," said the little old Jewish man. "So don't buy a tie. But to show you what a nice guy I am, I'll tell you that over that hill there about four miles is a very nice restaurant and bar. Walk that way. They will give you all the water you want."

Thanking him, the nomad walked towards the hill and disappeared. Three hours later he came crawling back to where the little old man was sitting at his table.

"I told you over the hill about four miles – couldn't you find it?"

"Of course I found it," he rasped. "But they wouldn't let me in without a tie."

L'hitraot!

--Pinchus