



# BAT YAM MATTERS

Number 100

January 2019

Tevet/Sh'vat

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

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

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### **JANUARY 2019 BAT YAM WORSHIP**

Services on January 4, 11, 18, and 25 (*Simcha Shabbat*) 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.

I am pleased to announce that the guest speaker at the January 4 *Shabbat* services will be Ms. Ruby Russell. Her topic will be Generation Z's relationship with Israel – a generation that has never known a world without a Jewish state and that is so far removed from the Holocaust. Ms. Russell will share some of her personal experiences while forming a relationship with Israel as a teenager and exploring her own Jewish identity. Additionally, I will speak about the direction in which my generation is pulling the future of Israel, and I will emphasize the importance of engaging all generations in conversation about Israel.

Ruby Zeviit Russell is a sixteen-year-old high school student from Boston. She attends the Cambridge School of Weston and is an alumna of the Alexander Muss High School in Israel. Ms. Russell has worked as an intern for the Jewish National Fund, StandWithUs, and The Jewish Women's Archive. She shares her voice as a proud Jewish social justice advocate through speaking, writing, and poetry. She has been a finalist at the Louder Than a Bomb Massachusetts poetry slam for two consecutive years, as well as a finalist at Boston's nationally recognized youth poetry slam venue, Yung House, in 2018. She is a co-head of her school's Jewish Affinity Club and Interfaith Club. She is an awarded participant in Junior Statesman of America conferences and an organizer for Model United Nations conferences. In the future, Ms. Russell aspires to work in the field of politics and international affairs.

*Rabbi Stephen Fuchs*

## ***IN MEMORIAM...MIRIAM BAILEY AND ROSELYN KRAUS***

*Bat Yam* mourns the loss of Miriam Bailey on December 5 at the age of 74 and Roselyn Kraus at the age of 101 on November 28.

Miriam actively contributed to the *Bat Yam* family and its activities for many years. She was a dedicated *Bat Yam* Trustee and chair of the Caring Committee. With great humor and brisk efficiency, Miriam organized several *Yom Kippur* Break-the-Fasts and synagogue potluck dinner events. After she moved to Fort Myers from South Bend, Indiana, she assisted Sanibel and Fort Myers residents and *Bat Yam* members with their moving plans as an executive at Vernay Movers. She leaves her son Dennis and daughter-in-law Marye. Rabbi Fuchs conducted a moving memorial service at *Bat Yam* for her on December 14. Condolences can be sent to Dennis and Marye Bailey, 548 Broadway Street, Niles, MI 49120.

Roselyn first came to Sanibel to spend the winter in 1985 and was one of the founders of *Bat Yam*. Her remarks and photograph are included in the books *We the Resilient: Wisdom for America from Women Born Before Suffrage* and *I Waited for 96 Years*, in which these women looked forward to the election of the first woman president. Roselyn's daughter Beth Marcus has passed along this final message from Roselyn: "Bat Yam was my home away from home. As I reflect on my last visit there last year, it was for me a living and learning institution. As a group, the congregation was filled with warmth...giving people caring for one another...a joy to behold, nourished by the rabbis, one after another. May you all have happy, long lives with your families in good health." Condolences can be sent to Beth Marcus, 1440 Sherwood Road, Highland Park, IL 60035.

### **BAT YAM HOSTS A FILM FOR JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL**

On Sunday, January 27, *Bat Yam* will host a film, *The Oslo Diaries*, as part of The Jewish Film Festival of Southwest Florida, sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties. It will be shown in the SCUCC sanctuary at 3:00 p.m.

According to a summary of *The Oslo Diaries* in the Federation's newsletter, *L'Chayim*, "The year is 1992, and Israeli-Palestinian relations are at an all-time low. In an attempt to stop the bloodshed, a small group of Israelis and Palestinians meet in Oslo – secretly and against the law. The unsanctioned meetings that changed the Middle East forever are chronicled only by the negotiators' diaries." There will be a discussion after the film is shown.

Tickets at \$12 each may be ordered online at [www.jewishfederationlcc.org/jff2019](http://www.jewishfederationlcc.org/jff2019) or purchased at the door. For further information contact Debbie Sanford at [debbiesanford@jfflcc.org](mailto:debbiesanford@jfflcc.org).

## **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.

### **January 5**

The Seven Species and their Remarkable Nutritional Value – Dr. Ellen Feingold

### **January 12**

Medicine in the Bible – Dr. Michael Derechin

### **January 19**

Medical School Admission Practices, Quotas for Jews, and So Forth –  
Dr. David Berger

### **January 26**

Sex, God, Christmas and Jews: What Intimate Emails Reveal  
about Judaism and Jews – Gil Mann, guest presenter (see bio below)

### **February 2**

Jewish Ancestry – Arthur Sissman, guest presenter (see bio below)

### **February 9**

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

### **February 16**

Medicine in Iran – Dr. Parvis Sadighi

### **February 23**

Outstanding Jewish Women – Renee Sugar

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.

**Gil Mann** has lectured in more than seventy cities, is the publisher of *Being Jewish* magazine, writes the syndicated column "Jewish E-Mail," and is the author of *How to Get More out of Being Jewish Even If....* He lives in Golden Valley, Minnesota.

**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 had been 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 Co 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.

## **CELEBRATING AT *SIMCHA SHABBAT***

It was a magical moment for me on December 14 when, after a magnificent *Torah* reading by Esther Pokedoff, Lois Lorsch, and Vickie Fuchs, we had the joy of blessing Alan and Edina Lessack in celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary. Then, during his presidential announcements, Alan asked if others were celebrating, and a goodly number were.



Previously, Alan had mentioned that Rabbi Myra Soifer would on a regular basis have a special acknowledgement of those celebrating, and people really appreciated it.

So with thanks to Rabbi Soifer and our president, I would like to announce that, starting in January, the last *Shabbat* of every month will be called *Simcha Shabbat*.

During the service we shall call up to the front any of our worshippers who are celebrating a birthday, anniversary, or any other happy occasion that month. If you have been away from the island during the month of your celebration, we want to hear about it the first month you are back.

I hope this new/old innovation adds to the warmth and joy that I have found to be hallmarks of worship at *Bat Yam*! At our first *Simcha Shabbat* on January 25, we want to hear about all the joyful events that have occurred in our lives since the beginning of the season. I hope many of you will add to the joy of our services.

*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

December was a month filled with the spirit of *Chanukah* and highlighted by our Friday night service, which was brightened by the *chanukiah*s brought by our own members and placed on either side of the beautiful and impressive large one made by Dr. David Berger.

Also, we remember December because we experienced the loss of two women of valor. Our beloved Miriam Bailey, who played many critical roles in the life of the temple, and Roselyn Kraus, a bright and outgoing woman who passed away at age 101. She loved her annual stay on Sanibel and never missed a service. May both of their memories be forever a blessing.

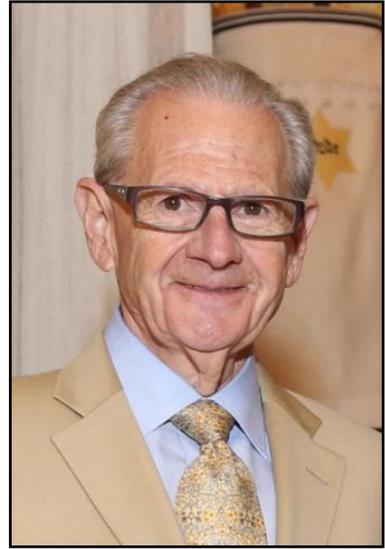
As the weeks move on, more of our members are arriving, with more than seventy-five in attendance at the *Chanukah* service.

The tragic shooting of innocent people at the Tree of Life synagogue was a sad but important reminder that we must ensure the safety of members and guests when they come to services. Led by Michael Hochschild, meetings were held with the police department. On the day of the shootings, they contacted both the rabbi and me to provide security. The city continued to provide this support *gratis* until the end of December. At our December board meeting, Michael presented the costs to provide security by the police department at every service and class throughout the year. This amounts to \$13,000. The board will be sending out a bill to cover this non-budgeted expense. Whether you are a full or part-time resident, I am certain you realize that the security of our members and guests is our highest priority.

In January, we will host the very first film from Federation's Jewish film festival on Sanibel. *The Oslo Diaries* will be shown in the SCUCC sanctuary on Sunday, January 27, at 3:00 pm. Tickets are \$12 each and may be purchased online at [www.jewishfederationlcc.org/jff2019](http://www.jewishfederationlcc.org/jff2019) or at the event. For several years, Edina Lessack has been working to get Federation to show one of their films on Sanibel. Now that they have agreed, I urge you to come and to invite friends and neighbors to join you. If we can provide a large audience for this film, we can get future ones scheduled. It's so much easier to go to SCUCC than to the Regal Theatre in Ft. Myers.

*Shalom,*

*Alan Lessack*





*The Chanukah celebration on December 9 with chanukiahs brought by congregants*

## **SAVE THESE DATES...**

...for *Bat Yam's* Passover Seder at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, April 19, at the Sanibel Community House. Watch future issues of *Bat Yam Matters* for additional details.

...on Sunday, March 10, Israel (Izzy) Tapoohi, the CEO of Birthright Israel, will speak at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary of SCUCC, providing an overview of the Birthright Israel organization.

## **THANKS TO THE DECEMBER ONEG SHABBAT HOSTS**

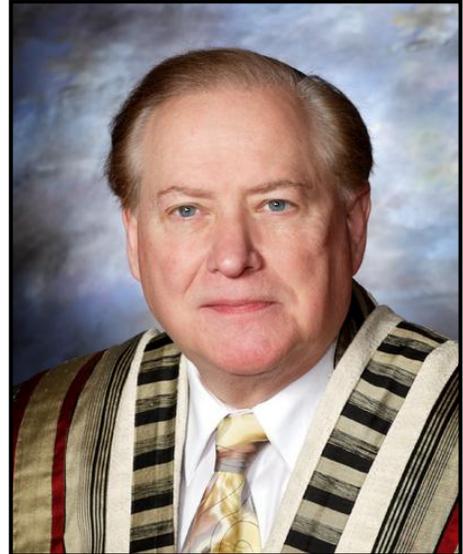
December 7     Don and Karen Bachman, Sandra and Stuart Berke  
December 14    Vickie and Rabbi Stephen Fuchs,  
                      Esther and Martin Pokedoff, Lois and Howard Lorsch  
December 21    Esta and David Berger  
December 28    Cheryl and Barry Fulmer, Myra Klahr

## FROM OUR CANTOR

### **CANTOR SIMON ANNOUNCES BAT YAM'S FUN(D)RAISING EVENT IN FEBRUARY**

**Meet "The Pastor" in "Three Cantors and a Pastor"**

On 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 Tora* 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.



Cantors Herman and Shammash were featured in past issues of *Bat Yam Matters*. The special pastor guest singer is our host church's senior pastor, the Rev. Dr. John H. Danner. Rev. Danner began his tenure at SCUCC in January of 2010. Prior to coming to Sanibel, he served churches in the Northeast, most recently in Westport, Connecticut. Ordained in 1980, John has degrees from Bradford College (where his concentration was in theater), the University of Maine, Bangor Theological Seminary, and Boston University.



John studied voice at Bradford with Barbara McCloskey and has performed with a variety of choral groups and in many recitals. He has directed productions of *Godspell*, *Man of LaMancha*, and *Carnival*, among several other musicals and plays. He has written several children's musicals. He has had articles published in *The Christian Century* and other periodicals and is a contributor to three published collections of liturgical and devotional resources. He is a weekly blogger; his posts can be seen at [www.periwinkleponderings.blogspot.com](http://www.periwinkleponderings.blogspot.com). He is also a reviewer with Speakeasy.

He is married to Linda Bradbury-Danner, and they have three children and a stable of grandchildren.

## **FUCHS AND DANNER PRESENT “TWO PERSPECTIVES” THREE-PART COURSE IN JANUARY**

Rabbi Stephen Fuchs and the Reverend Dr. John H. Danner, Senior Pastor of *Bat Yam's* host church, will jointly teach a series of three classes on Wednesdays, January 9, 16, and 23, in SCUCC's Fellowship Hall. Each week's class will be presented twice, at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. The topics will be Messianic Hopes in Our Respective Religions on January 9, Forgiveness and Grace on January 16, and How We Each Respond to Questions About Death and Afterlife on January 23.

### **NEW BAT YAM GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

In response to needs expressed by members of the congregation, *Bat Yam* is starting a Grief Support Group that will meet in the SCUCC library from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month, beginning January 2. 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 group facilitator. Please mark your calendars for Wednesdays, January 2, February 6, March 6, April 3, and dates thereafter TBD. Everyone is welcome. Please encourage those you feel could benefit to attend. For questions, contact Ellen Feingold at 302-345-7187 or [ellenfeingold@gmail.com](mailto:ellenfeingold@gmail.com).

### **TALENT NEEDED FOR PURIM CELEBRATION**

We shall celebrate *Purim* at our *Shabbat* Eve service on Friday March 22. Last year's *Purim* celebration was a wonderful event. If you wish to lend your talent to this year's celebration, please come to our study and planning session at the home of Rabbi Stephen and Vickie Fuchs, 1839 Farm Trail, at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, January 10. Participants will choose a song they love, pick a *Purim* story character, and write a song that reflects their part in the *Purim* story. It will be loads of fun! If you wish to join us please let me know you are coming by sending an email to [stephenfuchs@gmail.com](mailto:stephenfuchs@gmail.com).

*Rabbi Stephen Fuchs*

### **DONATE PAPER GOODS MONTHLY**

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 helps local families.

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HOST ONEGS**

Hosts are needed for February 15' and co-hosts are needed for February 22. Please contact Myra Klahr at 917-270-4905 or [lingosmart@gmail.com](mailto:lingosmart@gmail.com) if you wish to volunteer for these dates.

## **RABBI FUCHS TO OFFER SERIES OF CLASSES IN FEBRUARY**

On Thursdays, February 14, 21, and 28, from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. in Fellowship Hall at SCUCC, 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."

## **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 eighteen years, will participate in the program. Other participants are Dr. Stephen Wilczynski and Rabbi Dr. Michael J. Schorin, co-chairs of the Gulf Coast Medical Center Ethics Committee.

According to Rudin, "As developments in medical technology and science accelerate, society, state government, rabbis, and, most importantly, families are often not prepared for the critical decisions required in the face of such rapid change. Of special concern are key end-of-life issues including do-not-resuscitate procedures, withdrawal and withholding of life support systems, the legal definition of death, medical power of attorney documents, organ transplants, and ageism."

## **RABBI FUCHS TO SPEAK AT JEWISH DAY OF LEARNING PROGRAM IN NAPLES**

On Sunday, January 20, Rabbi Stephen Fuchs will speak at the third annual Jewish Community Day of Learning, which is sponsored by the Jewish Community Relations Council of the Jewish Federation of Greater Naples. The theme for the day's program, which begins at 9:15 a.m. and ends at 2:00 p.m., is Building Hope. Rabbi Fuchs' topic will be "Prisoners of Hope." The other speaker is David Prager, Southern Regional Director for the Simon Wiesenthal Center. The event will be at Temple Shalom, 4630 Pine Ridge Road in Naples. The cost is \$18. For reservations, call 239-263-4205 or contact Renee Bialek at [rbialek@jewishnaples.org](mailto:rbialek@jewishnaples.org) or [info@jewishnaples.org](mailto:info@jewishnaples.org).

## **JOINT SCUCC-BAT YAM ISRAEL TRIP SOLD OUT; WAITING LIST CREATED**

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 case there are 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 Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ and marked "Israel Trip") to Sandy Simmons, SCUCC, 2050 Periwinkle Way, Sanibel, FL 33957.

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

## **SHARED SCHOLAR PRESENTATIONS JANUARY 24 AND 25**

The Rev. Dr. Philip Newell will present his Shared Scholar lecture on Thursday, January 24, at 7 p.m. in the SCUCC sanctuary. His topic will be "Faiths Finding Faith in Each Other." A reception and book signing will follow. (*The Shared Scholar lecture is usually scheduled for Sunday afternoon, so please note the change of day and time for this event.*) Dr. Newell will also lead the Shared Scholar Seminar on Friday, January 25, at 10 a.m. His topic for the seminar will be "A Celtic Vision of the Sacred Earth." Lunch at no charge will follow the seminar.

It is necessary to sign up for the luncheon seminar, either by contacting *Bat Yam's* Shared Scholar Committee members Marcia Rudin or Renee Sugar, or by contacting the SCUCC office at 239-472-0497. There are very few places left.

Dr. Newell, an ordained Church of Scotland minister, is a poet, peacemaker, and scholar internationally acclaimed for his work in the field of Celtic spirituality. In 2011, he received the Contemplative Voices Award from the Shalem Institute in Washington, D.C., in recognition of his commitment to spirituality and peacemaking. He divides his time between Edinburgh, which is his family home, and his many speaking engagements throughout the English-speaking world.

Formerly Warden of Iona Abbey in the Western Isles of Scotland, he is now Companion Theologian for the American Spirituality Center of Casa del Sol at Ghost Ranch in the

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high desert of New Mexico. He is co-founder of *Salva Terra: A Vision Towards Earth's Healing*. His Ph.D. is from the University of Edinburgh. He has authored more than fifteen books. For more information, visit [www.salvaterravision.org](http://www.salvaterravision.org).

The Shared Scholar Committee is co-sponsored by *Bat Yam*; Captiva Chapel by the Sea; First Church of Christ, Scientist, Sanibel-Captiva; Saint Michael and All Angels Episcopal Church; and Sanibel Congregational United Church of Christ. *Bat Yam's* sponsorship is provided by the Leo Rosner Foundation in honor of June Rosner. For more information about these events, contact SCUCC at 239-472-0497 or visit [www.sanibelucc.org](http://www.sanibelucc.org).

### WHERE IN THE WORLD IS RABBI SOIFER?

Summer vacation here officially began on December 15th, but school has been in "wind-down" mode for some time now. I took advantage of the greatly diminished schedule to teach a class on *Chanukah* to my 6th graders. They loved playing *dreidel* with peanut m&m's!! And there's a great pic, on my blog, of the Pope photographically presiding over my lesson! Mother's Day here was December 8th and, like in the States, it's a very big deal. Moms rock! ... pretty much everywhere. My little town is reputed to have the largest Christmas tree in all of Central America. It's not an actual tree, but rather 100 feet of wired lighting. After a lot of cranes at work in the town's church center, the official lighting also took place in the evening of the 8th. We now became quite the traffic-laden tourist stop, including on December 17th when there was a major Christmas parade here. Meanwhile, my little rental was surely the only place in town with a *mezuzah* on the doorpost, a *chanukkiah* in the window, and twinkly Jewish star lights strung across the front entryway. Hope everyone's *Chanukah* was great and that the new secular year will bring blessing to us all!

Rabbi Myra Soifer

[You can follow Rabbi Soifer's Peace Corps activities in Panama on her blog, which can be reached by going to [WhereintheWorldisMyra.wordpress.com](http://WhereintheWorldisMyra.wordpress.com).]

### BAT YAM TZEDAKAH COMMITTEE CONTRIBUTES TO CALIFORNIA FIRE VICTIMS

Salessa Berk, Chair of *Bat Yam's Tzedakah* Committee, announced that the committee has donated \$500 to the Jewish Federation of Los Angeles to aid victims of the recent California wildfires.

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

Adele Anish, Russ Bilgore, Joel Edinburg, Don Herman, Barry Litofsky, Martin Pokedoff, Alan Saltz (son of Jocelyn and Peter Saltz), Carol Scheiber, William Schlackman, Orlene Shimberg, Frank Siegel, Arlyn Stein, Irwin Stein, Renee Sugar, and Joel Sugar

### **JANUARY YAHRZEITS**

January 5	Rabbi Murray Saltzman, husband of Esther Saltzman
January 6	Elisabeth Abrams, mother of Marcia Rudin
January 6	Janet Printz Kaplan, mother of Josephine Schneider
January 10	Bella Buckstein, mother of Esther Pokedoff
January 15	William Smith, father of Alan Smith
January 19	Morris Hoffman, grandfather of Kathy Zoss
January 20	Leon Michaels, father of Myra Michaels Fisher
January 26	Sidney Abraham Hecht, father of Helane Smith
January 30	Rose Salus, mother of Edina Lessack

### **SAVE THESE DATES**

Wednesday, January 2 (7 p.m.) – Grief Group session  
Wednesday, January 9 (10 a.m. and repeated at 7 p.m.) – Joint Clergy Class:  
Messianic Hopes in Our Respective Religions  
Wednesday, January 16 (10 a.m. and repeated at 7 p.m.) – Joint Clergy Class:  
Forgiveness and Grace  
Sunday, January 20 (9 a.m.) – Rabbi Fuchs speaks at Jewish Community Day of  
Learning in Naples  
Wednesday, January 23 (10 a.m. and repeated at 7 p.m.) – Joint Clergy Class:  
How We Each Respond to Questions About Death and Afterlife  
Thursday, January 24 (7 p.m.) – Shared Scholar Lecture  
Friday, January 25 (10 a.m.) – Shared Scholar Luncheon-Seminar  
Sunday, January 27 (3 p.m.) – *The Oslo Diaries* (film in Jewish Film Festival of The  
Jewish Federation of Lee and Charlotte Counties)  
Sunday, February 3 (3 p.m.) – Lee County Board of Rabbis bioethics program  
Wednesday, February 6 (7 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 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 p.m.) – Grief Group session  
Sunday, March 10 (3 p.m.) – Israel Tapoohi (CEO of Birthright Israel) lecture  
Wednesday, April 3 (7 p.m.) – Grief Group Session  
Friday, April 19 (6 p.m.) – *Bat Yam* Passover Seder  
April 29 to May 10 – Joint *Bat Yam* and SCUCC trip to Israel

# CONTRIBUTIONS TO BAT YAM

## General

Alan Fisher  
Cheryl and Barry Fulmer  
Bluma and Don Herman  
Beverly and Bernard Lubetkin  
Maxine and Stuart Marder (guests, in appreciation of *Shabbat* services)  
Marcia and Rabbi James Rudin (in honor of Lois Lorsch's birthday)  
Brenda and Arnold Zaltas

## In Memory of Miriam Bailey

Joyce Jacobs  
Miriam Kaplan  
Edina and Alan Lessack  
Marcia and Rabbi James Rudin  
Peggy and Frank Siegel  
Kathy Zoss (for the music fund)

## In Memory of Roselyn Kraus

Hope Bernstein (friend)  
Maida Hoffman

## In Honor of Lois Lorsch, Vickie Fuchs & Esther Pokedoff Being Called to the Torah

Edina and Alan Lessack

## In Honor of Lois Lorsch Being Called to the Torah

Howard Lorsch

## In Honor of Esta and David Berger's Fiftieth Anniversary

Esther and Martin Pokedoff

## In Honor of Salessa and Marvin Berk's Anniversary

Esther and Martin Pokedoff

**Tzedakah Fund** – Myra Klahr; **Music Fund** – Bluma and Don Herman

## ***Yahrzeits***

Linda and Joel Edinburg for *Yahrzeits* of Joel's parents, Murray and Zelda Edinburg  
Edina and Alan Lessack for *Yahrzeit* of Edina's brother, Marvin Joel Salus  
Barry Litofsky for *Yahrzeit* of Barry's wife, Francine Litofsky  
Norma and Jack Kohn for *Yahrzeits* of Jack's father, Harry Kohn,  
and Norma's mother, Goldie Bialy  
Beverly and Bernard Lubetkin for *Yahrzeits* of Bernard's daughter, Susan, and  
Beverly's father, Joseph Kannu  
Kathy Zoss for *Yahrzeits* of Kathy's mother-in-law Urbana Escandon and  
father-in-law Francisco Rebon

## BAT YAM MEMBERS IN THE COMMUNITY

Rabbi James Rudin will deliver a BIG ARTS Talking Points lecture at the Strauss Theatre on Tuesday, March 12, at 10:00 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 BIG ARTS Winter Academy series. The first, covering the topic "Dynastic Political Families: Adams, Kennedy, and Bush," will be 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 Wednesdays, March 6, 13, and 20, from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. The price for each three-week series 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 reservations.

*Bat Yam* member Edina Lessack will be appearing in a reading of Noel Coward's *Blithe Spirit* on Saturday evening, January 26, at the Strauss Theater. Contact BIG ARTS for tickets.

## MISCELLANEOUS...

- The *Bat Yam* membership committee needs volunteers to help staff the welcome table at the door during the coming 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**

Shirley Frank, Cheryl Fulmer, Norma Kohn, Barry Roth,  
Miriam Bailey\*, 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

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