

Koleinu

Volume 16 Number 1

Fall 2007/5768

Looking Ahead to a New Year

We have just finished High Holy Day season – that month of Tishrei during which our members throughout the world train their minds, their voices, and their souls for the sacred task ahead. The level of work and stress that comes with our preparation to lead our congregations toward self reflection and – we hope – finding their own sense of the Holy, requires us to come face to face with our own sense of personal mastery as we confront our strengths and weaknesses – laying the groundwork for that very blessed time of year.

In his book, The Fifth Discipline, Peter Senge writes: “People with a high level of personal mastery...have a special sense of purpose that lies behind their visions and goals. For such a person, a vision is a calling rather than simply a good idea. They see current reality as an ally, not an enemy. They have learned how to perceive and work with forces of change rather than resist those forces. They are deeply inquisitive, committed to continually seeing reality more and more accurately. They feel connected to others and to life itself. Yet they sacrifice none of their uniqueness. They feel as if they are part of a larger creative process, which they can influence but cannot unilaterally control. People with a high level of personal mastery live in a continual learning mode. They never ‘arrive.’ . . . Personal mastery is not something you possess. It is a process. It is a lifelong discipline.”

As we look forward together into the New Year, our work as a Conference will offer us the opportunity for increasing our personal mastery through connection, renewal, and collegiality within the organization in support of our service to Judaism. Together, we approach the future with faith, confidence and optimism.

In this spirit, I offer now this prayer for our work as Cantors in our communities and as members of the ACC:

Holy One,

Help us to work effectively with the forces of change that we experience every day in Jewish life, and to see challenges as our allies and opportunities for growth. Help us to have that level of personal mastery that allows us to recognize our own strengths and weaknesses, with the confidence to use our talents wisely and meet

our challenges with clarity. May we recognize the bonds that connect us, and may we all commit ourselves to taking active part in the larger creative process within the Jewish community with which our careers, and our lives, are so intimately engaged. Help each of us to bring our unique gifts to this great endeavor, and may we never grow tired of the process of learning, growth, and service.

Add Your strength to ours, and we will add our individual strengths together.

May 5768 bring peace and blessing to you and all those whom you love.

Kay Greenwald
President



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Israel at 60

By Yvon Shore

5768 marks the 60th anniversary of the establishment of the State of Israel. With it comes the promise of a brilliant year of commemorative programming. Since last spring, the ACC has been working closely with the ARZA Israel 60th planning committee to help coordinate, plan, and implement a national and international effort for this historic celebration. In the coming year we will take a clear look at all that Israel is and all she is not.

Here is some background on ARZA, the guiding principles behind Israel's 60th celebration, and vital information to enable us as members of the ACC participate fully in the events to come.

ARZA's mission, as an affiliate of the URJ, is to make Israel fundamental to the sacred lives and Jewish identity of Reform Jews. As a Zionist organization, ARZA champions activities that further enhance Israel as a pluralistic, just and democratic Jewish state. As we saw from the ACC/GTM mission to Israel in 2006, the growth and vitality of the Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism provides a unique opportunity for the ACC to work in partnership with ARZA.

The ARZA Israel at 60 planning committee includes representation from every URJ constituent. The program focuses on the themes: Renew, Rejoice and Reflect. Through these we will take time for soul searching, pose the difficult questions and ultimately, God willing, rally behind a nation whose accomplishments help to shape who we are as Jews.

RENEW

This will provide our Movement with an opportunity for significant conversations and discussion about the tenor, tone and content of our relationship with the State.

REJOICE

We will celebrate the miracle of Israel's birth and existence, applaud her accomplishments and strive to understand her struggles. As religious Jews and Zionists, this historical reality calls upon us to engage in acts of sanctity and to embed the holy day of Yom Ha Atzmaut in our sacred calendar.

REFLECT

Many Reform Jews feel tremendous ambivalence or indifference towards Israel. There remains much work to be done to create a fully democratic, pluralistic and just society. The Israeli Declaration of Independence calls for both a State for the Jews and a Jewish State. This dichotomy challenges us as Reform Jews as we struggle to reconcile political choices and religious values.

EVENT AND RESOURCE MATERIAL

There will be a Movement-Wide Kick off event at the URJ Biennial this December in which all of the resources and programs will be unveiled. A crown jewel will be the

world premiere of a joint ACC/ARZA music commission, entitled: Or Chadash (L'Artzeinu) We are thrilled that the GTM's own Andrea Jill Higgins signed on to compose this historic setting. It will be voiced for cantor, optional volunteer choir, and keyboard and includes liturgical passages newly reintroduced in Mishkan T'filah. Transcontinental will take orders at the Biennial, though if you cannot attend please make sure to send a member of your congregation to the Transcon booth to place your order!

Save the Date: **May 9-11 2008**. With your help we will have a movement wide Yom Ha Atzmaut celebration. Be sure to reserve the dates of May 9-11 on your synagogue calendar for the Movement wide Yom Ha Atzmaut celebration. Plan to schedule a concert, a choral festival, or special musical tekesim. Through our musical efforts we hope to create an ACC/ARZA fund for cantorial efforts in Israel. You might want to consider making these events joint fundraisers for the ACC and for ARZA.

To help with your music programming, a resource guide of Israeli choral music will be available in time for you to plan all concerts, tephilot, and choral festivals. This list will include information on Israeli themed music available for sale here and in Israel, categorized by voice and level of musical difficulty. We are very grateful to Jayson Rodovsky and Judith Karzen from the GTM for compiling this terrific resource.

Finally, ARZA is publishing a special Israel at 60 resource booklet filled with study guides, text study, cultural elements, and much more, including the GTM Israeli choral music resource list. The ACC contributions include a special tephilah supplement and a three part adult music education program. Cantor Lanie Katzew and I are helping to compile these materials. These booklets will be sent to each URJ congregation who requests a copy. Keep an eye out in Koleinu and on the website and ACC listserve for timely information on when your congregation can sign-up.

As you can see we have a big year ahead of us. You can be very proud of the efforts the ACC has made to add to this wealth of resource materials and special programming. The effort of every cantor to engage in even one aspect of Israel at 60 will have a great impact on the Reform Movement both in North America and Israel. Let us help give voice to the Reform Movement's compassion, concern, and commitment for Israel.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to reach out. I look forward to bringing you updates throughout the year.

Chazak V'ematz!

“Nothing But Nets”

By Tanya Tamarkin

The American Conference of Cantors is excited to announce a partnership with the URJ and the RAC in what we hope will be a movement-wide campaign to combat malaria in Africa.

Stemming from a growing interest in the United Nation’s Millennial Development goals to address global poverty as well as the desire to find tangible projects with which to engage congregations at the grassroots level, the Reform Movement, led by the ACC, CSA, and RAC, will participate in an effort to combat the spread of malaria in sub-Saharan Africa. By making a movement-wide commitment to supply 50,000 mosquito nets, training and educational materials to select African communities, we will be making significant strides toward combating this fatal, yet preventable disease. Contributions will be raised in \$10 increments, for a \$10 donation provides an insecticide-treated family-sized bed net, training and long-term monitoring of the net effectiveness.

URJ is partnering with <<www.nothingbutnets.net>> in this endeavor. Congregations and affiliate organizations will have the opportunity to raise funds and become involved in advocacy efforts of this anti-malaria campaign. Programmatic, fundraising and educational materials will be provided as well as sample activities, step-by-step instructions and CSA staff assistance.

Malaria claims over one million lives each year and remains the number one killer of children under five in sub-Saharan Africa. To combat this growing issue, advocacy organizations are raising funds to provide nets to families in sub-Saharan Africa. Insecticide-treated bed nets work as a protective barrier against mosquitoes and offer long-lasting (three years) protection for families. When individuals step forward to combat this disease, malaria can become both controllable and preventable.

Introducing the ACC’s New Managing Director: Rachel Turry



I want to take this opportunity to introduce myself! I’m so excited to be a part of such a wonderful and dynamic organization. I’m eager to go to work on your behalf as your Managing Director. For anyone I managed to meet in Kerhonkson, it was a pleasure and I look forward to getting to you know better. To everyone I’ll (hopefully) meet at the San Diego Biennial and in San Francisco next summer, I am looking forward to being able to put faces to names in email.

Before coming to the ACC, I was the Temple Administrator of Temple Kol Ami Emanu-El of Plantation, Florida. Originally from Chicago, I moved to Florida to pursue a career in commercial property management, which eventually led to my career choice in the world of Jewish Communal Service. At Kol Ami Emanu-El, in addition to managing the daily operations of the Temple, I oversaw two major construction projects, including the addition of an elementary school wing and swimming pool. A URJ-Member congregation, Kol

Ami Emanu-El is the largest Reform synagogue in Broward County, Florida, with over 1100 family members.

I am a member of NATA, the National Association of Temple Administrators, and I am currently working on my thesis paper for my Fellow of Temple Administration. I serve NATA in several capacities, including as a member of the 2007 Nominating Committee, Membership Committee and as chair of the New Member Welcome Committee.

Upon returning to Chicago, I have returned to my roots in the Chicago-area Jewish Community, rejoining Temple Chai of Long Grove, where my family has been members since I was in kindergarten. A graduate of Indiana University, I am a member of the Journalism School’s alumni association and enthusiastically cheer on the Hoosiers every March in the NCAA Basketball Tournament. I’ve moved to Palatine with my Labrador retriever, Jake, to be near my family who still live in the Chicago suburbs.

I am looking forward to supporting you, the membership of the ACC, in your endeavors as the stewards of Jewish music. Please feel free to call me in the office at 312-491-1034 or email me at rturry@accantors.org. I look forward to hearing from you!

L’shalom,
Rachel

Azkarot — We Remember Them ...

Stephen Dubov, z"l — August 6, 2006

By Mark Childs

Steve suffered a burst aorta last summer and left our world dramatically with his wife Christine at his side. The first thing that Steve Dubov ever said to me was in the Spring of 1987, in food line at the HUC new student orientation dinner. I'll never forget what he said. He said, "Where's the shrimp?"

Steve's life experience before he entered HUC with a preschool aged daughter and a pregnant wife was in stark contrast to his dark curly hair and then svelt 6'2" frame. A cantorial soloist, operatic tenor, Broadway performer, Las Vegas showman, movie background actor, Israel Bonds fundraiser, HUC student, then invested cantor, Steve's combination of personality, humor, youthful energy, and a mind-blowing voice made him a force of nature.

If you didn't know him in New York, or if you didn't know him in Israel, or in New Orleans, or Detroit, or Boca Raton, or just from coming to late night sessions at convention then let me share a few telling qualities that were Steve Dubov.

Steve was a walking lesson in self-confidence. I think I liked hanging out with him so much because every time I did, I learned something about inspiring people with friendliness, openness, and humor. Steve could talk his way into any place or situation.

When he met you, he was best friends with you and your whole family. He was so damned entertaining whether one on one or in front of a congregation or audience. Many of us have his act memorized. "Those Were the Days", "Libiamo", "Ya Got Trouble", "Taint Kosher". He subscribed to the theory that a joke wasn't really funny until five or more tellings. He was a linguist in command of several languages including "Stebrew" and a weird mix of Chinese and Jive.

He was a man of ideas, some cockomamy, some inspired... like an all-kids klezmer band that he actually took to Carnegie Hall. Cantor Dan Singer was Steve's keyboard player in Klezkids.

Steve was all about:

-big hugs,	-partying
-sweat,	-laughter
-onion garlic treif breath	-embarrassing his friends
-corned beef	-warmth
-phlegm	-intensity
-throat clearing	-combating injustice
-stunning high "A"s	-sensitivity to being wronged
-sneaking bottles of wine into banquets, or out of banquets	-creativity
-getting people to sing along	-bringing people together
-loving his family	

His support and in every way his equal is his wife Christine who kept Steve safe and whole and on the right path. His two children Aleksandra and Ariel, to whom many of us feel like uncles and aunts, are very much cut from the same cloth as Steve and have dedicated themselves to honoring his memory.

We recite Yizkor on festivals when we acutely feel the absence of our loved ones. Thank you for the opportunity now, at convention, to remember Steve because it was here each year that I always ran just to be near my best buddy, feed off his life energy, sing loudly, laugh constantly and "live the dash".

Louis Appleton, z"l — August 25, 2006

By Norman Summers

Cantor Louis Appleton was born in Nuremberg, Germany, February 14th 1912. He was married to Herta and they had one child, John.

We met when he came to the School of Sacred Music in 1955, where I was a student in my final year. We became friends. Louis' goal was to graduate and return to German or Vienna, Austria where his family lived, and to get a

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pulpit there. Louis was soft spoken, a gentleman with rather limited vocal resources but excellent musicianship and Cantorial experience from his years of singing in synagogues in Germany. A degree and professional Cantorial Schooling from the only Reform Cantorial School in the world was very important to him as well as for securing a Cantorial position in Germany.

At the age of 43 when he entered the S.S.M. he was one of the oldest students at the school. He took his work very seriously and was highly respected by his fellow students. In his second year he was engaged in a pulpit position which was very helpful to him financially. His wife also secured employment so they both were doing well.

He was graduated in 1960 and later returned to Austria as originally planned, and he had a distinguished career until he retired.

Because he was a very quiet gentleman, he didn't make friends easily and therefore mostly kept to himself. Unfortunately, Louis never attended an ACC Convention and lost contact for the most part with his fellow students from his days at the SSM.

Joseph Rosenfeld, z'l — November 21, 2006

by Michael Shochet

40- years ago, Cantor Joseph Rosenfeld, the Cantor of Baltimore Hebrew Congregation gave me one of his old Mitre Hats.

I didn't know him very well. He wasn't my cantor. But his wife, Sylvia Rosenfeld, was my kindergarten teacher. And one day, when the other kids were off in the corners of the room, playing cowboys, or policemen, or whatever we played back then, I was getting a minyan together so that I could play cantor.

Not knowing that her husband was a cantor, I told Mrs. Rosenfeld I wanted to be a cantor, because of the cantor of my synagogue — another synagogue in Baltimore, and so she had her husband come in to the class, and he brought me this hat....And here I am today.

Cantor Joseph Rosenfeld, sadly, died at age 91 this past November. I never really knew him on an adult level, because he retired from Baltimore Hebrew when I was in college. But I remember him as the cantor at BHC, when my friends became Bar or Bat Mitzvah there.... A very tall, imposing figure, lyrical voice, and I remember that my friends loved him.

But this past week, I called his wife, my old kindergarten teacher, now living in Encino, CA, reminded her of our connections, and told her that I would be honoring Cantor Rosenfeld's memory at this convention. She was delighted and honored, because the ACC was an important part of his life when he was active in the Cantorate.

Mrs. Rosenfeld told me that her husband Joe was born in Russia. His father, a Hebrew scholar and writer. The family immigrated to America when Joe was young, and moved to New York. He attended Yeshiva University, specializing in Hebrew, and he like to sing. Someone heard him and suggested he become a cantor, and so he sought out a teacher and found one in the tutelage of Rabbi/Dr/Cantor Rudinow of Congregation Emanuel.

Cantor Rosenfeld came to Baltimore to take the position of Cantor and Director of the Religious School in 1943...and served that congregation with distinction and honor for 38 years until his retirement in 1981.

Cantor Rosenfeld was one of the first cantor/educators of our time, and became the example for HUC to create the cantor/educator model.

Cantor Rosenfeld loved his work in the religious school, as well as with the bnai mitzvah program. He was a man who loved his profession, had a way with kids, and left an indelible mark on the congregation, and his rabbinic partner, Rabbi Morris Lieberman, with whom he had a wonderful relationship. Mrs. Rosenfeld said they would often

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hear from kids who grew up at BHC, and wanted to stay in touch, long after they became adults. And she told me... even now in her early 90s....she remembers when her husband gave me that hat. How pleased she was to learn that I ended up as a cantor.

Mrs. Rosenfeld was also so appreciative of this moment of memory at our convention. The ACC was an important organization for Cantor Rosenfeld. He, along with his colleague in Baltimore, Cantor Ben Grobani, were among the founders of this organization. Ben Grobani, who was one of the early presidents of the organization, surely had Joe Rosenfeld at his side.

For almost 40 years he was the sweet singer of Baltimore Hebrew, a role model for two generations of congregants. He was beloved by his congregation, his community, and fellow cantors. He was teacher, a cantor, a leader in his community, and most especially, a tzadik and a mentsch. Cantor Joseph Rosenfeld. Zichrono livracha.

Henry Greenberg, z”l – November 30, 2006

By Roz Barak

Henry Greenberg's life began in an Orthodox household near Camden NJ. His family moved to San Francisco when he was 8 years old; he grew up in the former Jewish neighborhood around Webster Street and Golden Gate Avenue. It was at the Webster Street Shul that he absorbed the beauty of Jewish worship. After graduating Lowell High School, he took pre-med courses at UC Berkley, but was gently encouraged to seek another career by a kindly chemistry professor. He served in the army transport service during WWII and after the war married Rachel Sharer, and opened a grocery store in San Francisco. He also worked as insurance agent until retirement in 1992. In his early days as a cantor, Henry worked part time, and then one day, got the call. As a member of the old Beth Israel Synagogue, before it merged with Temple Judea, he was informed that the cantor suffered heart attack the day before Rosh Hashanah, and Henry stepped in to save the day. After the holidays the temple board asked him to be the full time cantor and requested that he give up his insurance career. He said no, but they insisted, so for the next 30 years he was not only a full time cantor but also an insurance agent — as he convinced them.

Henry was a Torah scholar as well as Shaliach Tzibur of Beth Israel Judea and beloved by all of his congregants. He had the bearing of a rather large teddy bear, and he bore a startling resemblance to captain kangaroo, which enabled children to relate to him as a grandfather figure. Henry passed away on November 30th 2006, leaving behind his three children Janice, Jeffrey, and Rabbi David Greenberg. Rachel passed away in 1992, and he eventually married again, his second wife Nancy. He was a kind and supportive colleague and friend to me, a regular host to our monthly Bay Area Cantorial meetings, and a devoted attendee at concerts and events – anything having to do with Judaism and Jewish music. He was delightful, always positive and constantly with that lovely twinkle in his eye. I consider myself blessed to have had such a wonderful colleague.... He is terribly missed by all who knew him and who loved him. Zichrono Livracha.

Merrill Fisher, z”l – December 22, 2006

By Sarah Sager

Merrill Fisher used to come to Cleveland from time to time and would come by my pulpit, Fairmount Temple, in order to connect and feel a collegial presence. Merrill had a gentle, quiet, even diffident manner – and a sweet soul. A graduate of Hebrew Union College, he served as the beloved Cantor at so many congregations, and was the consummate musical professional, studying opera and mastering the art of conducting. Merrill was an esteemed member of the ACC and the Cantor's Assembly, received honorary Doctorate of Music degrees from HUC and JTS and was designated a Fellow of the Cantor's Institute. Those of us who knew him, wished that he might have realized greater fulfillment in his career and yet we were grateful that he served, always, with honesty and integrity, with a love of Jewish music and devotion to God.

Janet's beloved husband for 48 years, beloved father, grandfather and brother, Merrill will be missed.

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Stephen Merkel, z”l – February 18, 2007

By Marshall Portnoy

Stephen and I went way back. Not to the beginning of course. He grew up in a traditional home in Winnepeg, was fluent in Yiddish, and attended a yeshiva in Chicago. He studied voice in Toronto with Louis Quilico and later in New York with a series of teachers. I met him at the Jewish Theological Seminary in the late 1970s; he was a year behind me in cantorial school. We were two of the classically-trained and worldly souls there and we immediately became friends. The next two years we roomed together in the dorm with two other students.

Life with Stephen was always colorful. I remember Sunday feasts in the apartment - the frenetic shopping, preparing and cooking - it was always frenetic with Stephen, but what a cook! He struggled academically, constantly fighting against learning disabilities that had discouraged him from getting a formal undergraduate degree. Stephen was always getting lost, confusing numbers in addresses, miscounting change, and often coped with these things with his ringing laugh. Of course, what lingers about Stephen was that voice. In those days he was flirting with the Helden Tenor fach. I will never forget hearing him sing a scene from Otello at an opera workshop class. The memory of the passion and musical commitment that accompanied that molten lava-like instrument still sends shivers up and down my spine. We both went to the same ENT, the famous Dr. Grabscheid, a doctor to opera singers. I recall sitting in his waiting room while Dr. Grabscheid examined Stephen's throat. Dr. Grabscheid's voice exclaimed through the entire office: "Vot a magnificent organ you have." When Stephen returned to the waiting room, his face was beet red.

I was with Stephen at important times. We were at his investiture and helped him celebrate that important event. My wife Judy and I were with him when his parents died. We drove upstate to tell him personally that his therapist had died. We were with him through his happier moments as well, his achievement of an MSW from Hunter Social Work School, his attainment of 10 years at Westchester Reform Temple, a Passover concert at the 92nd street Y which is often replayed on the Jewish Television Network. In recent years, we drifted apart. Over time he became much closer to many of you in this room than to me. He was brilliant at making close friends. But anyone who ever knew Stephen will remember him with awe for his talent, and with an abiding affection for his gentle and passionate spirit.

Mimi Lerner, z”l – March 29, 2007

By Sara Stock Mayo

I was very honored to be asked to say Azkara for my teacher Mimi Lerner, who died in April at the age of 61 after a long struggle with cancer. Mimi was one of those rare people who made you see the world as she saw it. She was passionate and loving and full of energy and life. It is always hard to imagine such a person getting sick. However, through her illness, Mimi was the epitome of grace in the face of the unknown and blossomed as a person, showing extraordinary courage throughout her illness. She was constantly willing to take on new challenges, including taking up piano lessons just a few months before her death. She continued to worship at Congregation Rodef Shalom, even when she could no longer lead the congregation in song. She continued to enjoy music and nature (her garden was her greatest pleasure) and most of all, her family and friends.

Born Emilia Lipczer on May 20, 1945 in Sambor, Poland, Mimi's family was in hiding from the Nazis until after her first birthday. She later moved to Paris, then the Bronx and graduated with a BA in Music Education from Queens College. After obtaining her Master's at Carnegie Mellon, her singing career, which began as a "hobby", suddenly took off. She made her debut at the New York City Opera in 1979 and performed with many opera companies around the world including at the Metropolitan, La Scala and Washington National Opera, to name a few.

In addition to her operatic career, she chaired the voice faculty at Carnegie Mellon and served as Cantorial Soloist for 25 years at Rodef Shalom in Pittsburgh. When she was diagnosed with heart cancer in 1995, she underwent surgery that involved removing and replacing her heart. In 2001, she returned to the stage in a recital that Pittsburgh music critic Robert Croan described as: "a triumph of artistry, technique and sheer determination over tremendous – and surely also emotional – adversity. She vocalized her part as a personal statement, as if she were composing the words and music herself on the spur of the moment."

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When her son Daniel spoke at her funeral service, it was not with tears, but with pride and admiration in the woman and her accomplishments as an artist, friend, wife and mother. I first met Mimi as a child, attending Middle School with Daniel. I was later re-introduced to her when I took my current position at Temple Sinai four years ago. I needed to learn a lot of music very quickly for the upcoming High Holidays, and sought out Mimi as my teacher. I could never have made it through my first year at my job without Mimi's guidance. She helped me not only work on vocal technique and understanding the text, but she truly helped me evolve as a Cantorial Soloist in my own right. She was warm, compassionate, funny, and very committed to her students' growth.

To quote a student of Mimi's: "Mimi was not only my voice teacher, but she was my mentor and inspiration." Rodef Shalom's Rabbi Emeritus, Walter Jacobs, is quoted as saying: "Some people sing and it is about themselves. Mimi had an engaging personality and invited people to sing. She made people understand the meaning of the words. But, the most striking thing about her was that she was a well-recognized opera star with a great deal of modesty. She held none of the trappings you would normally associate with that. She was accessible to everybody and she listened to what other people had to say." A congregant of Rodef Shalom said this when asked to sum up Mimi: "Not merely her voice, but Mimi herself brought an extraordinary and unique dimension to worship at Rodef Shalom. There was a palpable and enthrallingly enriching spiritual experience to her participation and presence."

Mimi was a valued member of the Guild of Temple Musicians, and a light to her congregation, her audiences and to her family and friends. Anyone who knew her can attest to the internal beauty that shone through in her smile, her eyes, her lusty laugh and most of all, in the gorgeous and rare gift that was her voice. Her light will never truly go out and we, who had the pleasure of knowing her, are all that much brighter for having been blessed by being near that splendid flame. We will always remember her with love.

Member News

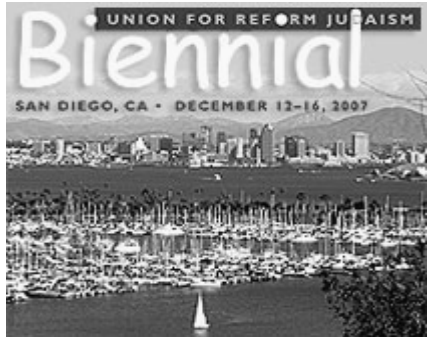
Do you have any poignant or insightful interfaith or synagogue-related experiences with "non-American natives" that you wish to share? Our colleague, Gail Karp, presented a session in Cambridge, MD on November 9, 2007 at a conference for 600 nonprofit executives on the topic: Mastering Differences in Cultural Cultivation, Solicitation & Stewardship. The presentation was intended to share how to be sensitive to social differences and "do well" while "doing good" in your intercultural relations with individuals of foreign descent. The session provided a general perspective on the sensitivity and terminology needed when encountering individuals from other cultures.

If you are able to share a personal story or anecdote regarding the importance of appropriate word selection, nuances of body language or another forms of personal expression that would help enlighten and inform your fellow cantors, please email Gail at <<karpgail@sau.edu>>, and she will compile the experiences in an anonymous, narrative format for publication in a future Koleinu!

Deborah Jacobson is delighted to announce the release of her new CD, *Bimah To Broadway, Act 1: A Music Review*. It is available at <<www.deborahjacobson.com>>.

Hans Cohn's book, "Risen from the Ashes: Tales from a Musical Messenger," has received magnificent reviews and is available from <<www.amazon.com>>

URJ Biennial News: ACC to Co-Sponsor Resolution in Support of Continuing Education Programs



The URJ Biennial will take place in San Diego, California, from Wednesday, December 12 through Sunday, December 16, 2007.

At the Biennial in San Diego, a resolution, co-sponsored by the ACC, CCAR, NATA, NATE, ECE-RJ, PDRJ, PARDeS, and other URJ affiliates, will be brought to the General Assembly to endorse continuing educational programming for the clergy, staff and leadership of URJ Congregations.

The resolution recognizes that in nearly every profession today continuing education is expected, if not required, in order for those in the profession to provide continued expertise in their work. No less should be expected from those who commit themselves to careers in Jewish life. Many of the professional associations within the Movement provide certification programs

and opportunities for continuing education for their members. Professionals should be encouraged to take advantage of such opportunities and acknowledged when they do.

The resolution states further that adult learning should become a movement-wide priority, enabling our professionals, volunteer leaders, and members at large to synthesize Jewish continuing education with everyday living. By doing so, individuals will significantly deepen the meaning of our lives as Jews and will become even more passionate and committed to assuring that our work serves to create vibrant and life-sustaining congregations and communities. In words from the text of the resolution, "We believe in *torah lishmah*, that Jewish learning has value for its own sake and that participation in Jewish learning will enrich spirituality (*k'dushah*), build community (*k'hilah*), encourage repairing the world (*tikkun olam*) and sustain Jewish continuity (*brit olam*)."

The Executive Board of the ACC strongly supports this resolution. It is hoped that a strong statement on continuing professional education will encourage individual congregations to support their clergy, staff and lay leadership as they pursue their path in their Jewish careers.

Make a Donation to

UNION FOR REFORM JUDAISM

The SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
WILD FIRE RELIEF FUND

Southern California Wild Fires

Southern California recently experienced the worst fire storms ever to hit the region. The smoke was described by those on the ground as "the darkness of Egypt" during the Ten Plagues.

For updates and information about our congregations in the affected regions, log on to the Union's disaster relief site <<<http://urj.org/relief/>>>.

Chai Fund Donations

As of October 26, 2007

In memory of the father of Linda Shivers: Marshall Portnoy
In honor of Linda and Mark Ecker on the birth of their grandson: Amy and Ross M. Levy
In honor of Drayson Isaiah Jaffee, grandson of Linda Ecker: Marshall Portnoy
In honor of Jack Mendelsohn for a R'fuah Sh'leimah: Sharon Kohn
In honor of Saralee Avery for a R'fuah Sh'leimah: Sharon Kohn
In memory of Leonard Konigstock, father of my beloved colleague, Linda Shivers: Marshall Portnoy
In honor of the graduations of our children this past month: Ben, PhD – Computer Science, NYU; Brad, MBA – NYU; Abby, M.D. – Jefferson Medical School: Jean and Jon Haddon
In memory of Stephen Merkel: Erik Contzius
In appreciation of Steven Pearlston for sharing his Friday night service compositions: Erik Contzius
In memory of Don Gurney's mother: Emily Sleeper Mekler and Susan L. Levine
In honor of Shelly Merel's "Bar Mitzvah": Linda Ecker
In honor of our new President, Cantor Kay Greenwald, with gratitude for her help and support, and best wishes as she leads our conference: Lauren Bandman
In memory of Neila Picker Radwine: Amy E. Levy
In honor of Ann & Freda Friedman celebrating 90th and 85th birthdays: Linda Ecker
In memory of Jack Mendelson's sister, Shirley Wendroff: Donn Rosensweig
In honor of Linda Ecker: Jonathan Grant
In memory of Shirley Wendroff: Alison Wissot
In memory of Rivka Isachar-Benjamin's brother: Linda Ecker
In honor of Roz Barak's 20th anniversary with Congregation Emanu-El: Mark Goldman, Gershon Silins
In memory of Joan Bernard: Sharon Kohn, Flo Merel
In honor of Rabbi Mark S. Miller's birthday: Jonathan Grant
In honor of Kay Greenwald, Mazal Tov on her Presidency: Amy Levy
In honor of Elena Schwartz and her new job in Monroe, NY: Amy Levy
In honor of Sheila Singer, Mazal Tov on her engagement: Amy Levy
In honor of Guy Bonne and his new job in the Newburgh family: Amy Levy
In honor of the bar mitzvah of David Childs: Jonathan Grant
In honor of Laurie Rosenberg: William Tiep
In gratitude to Barbara Ostfeld: Robert Bloch
In memory of Stephen Dubov: Robert Bloch
In honor of Bob Abelson's many years of service: Robert Bloch
In honor of Dick Botton's many years of service: Robert Bloch
In memory of our beloved Cantor Jerome Frazes: Lynda Casden
In honor of Lisa Segal's ACC Certification: Mark Goldman

What's in your files?

The ACC supports and promotes the artists and composers who provide us with such a wealth of Jewish music. To that end, the ACC seeks to inform and educate its membership so as to encourage the fair and legal use of copyrighted material and intellectual property. In compliance with the ACC Code of Ethics, the illegal reproduction and dissemination of any such material is not condoned.

If you have any questions about this policy, please contact the ACC Committee on Ethics and Appeals.

2007-2008 PLACEMENT LIST— October 22, 2007

TIER I

Up to 599 Member Units (open to all members)

- Miami, FL – Temple Israel of Greater Miami (485) 5/28/07 (*Limited Service*)
- Oklahoma City, OK – Temple B'nai Israel (340) 9/25/07 (*Limited Service*)
- Pennington, NJ – Har Sinai Hebrew Congregation (370) 9/25/07 (*Full or Limited Service*)

TIER II

Up to 999 Member Units (applicants must have been invested/certified in 2005 or earlier)

- Roslyn Hts., NY – Temple Sinai of Roslyn (975) 6/11/07 (**see revised application**)

TIER III

Over 1,000 Member Units (applicants must have been invested/certified in 2001 or earlier)

- 1. Baltimore, MD – Baltimore Hebrew Congregation (1326) 10/16/07

NON PULPIT POSITIONS

- New York, NY – The Curriculum Initiative, Regional Director 8/9/07
- Jerusalem – Director of the Jerusalem Program of the SSM 9/24/07

IN NEGOTIATIONS

- New York, NY – HUC-JIR Associate Dean 6/28/07 in negotiations with a rabbi

POSITIONS FILLED

- Las Cruces, NM – Temple Beth El HHD (150) – William Wood
- Floral Park, NY – Temple Sholom HHD (80) – Lisa Kendal
- Toronto, ON – Temple Sinai Congregation HHD (1790) – Lori Salzman
- Reston, VA – Northern VA Hebrew Congregation (480) – Irena Altshul
- Santa Monica, CA – Beth Shir Sholom (227) – Kenneth Cohen
- Monroe, NY – Temple Beth El (380) – (*Limited Service*) – Elena Schwartz
- Newburgh, NY – Temple Beth Jacob (245) – (*Limited Service*) – Guy Bonne
- Kenosha, WI – Beth Hillel Temple HHD (110) – Menahem Kohl
- Gambier, OH – Kenyon College Hillel HHD – Rivka Isachar-Benjamin
- San Francisco, CA – Cong. Sha'ar Zahav (316) – (*Limited Service*) – Sharon Bernstein
- New York, NY - Shaaray Tefila (1550) *Cleared by JCPC for Tier II* – Judith Rowland

PLACEMENTS REPORTED TO THE JCPC

- Atlanta, GA – Chaplain for JFS – Donna Faye Marcus

CONGREGATIONS WITHDRAWN

- Huntington, WV – B'nai Sholom Congregation HHD (130) – hired soloist

In the Community

Mazel tov ...

- ... to Sharon Kohn and Rick Simon on the birth of their grandson, Edan Lewish Simon on March 6, 2007.
- ... to Tamar and Shmulik (and Nadav) Havilio on the birth of their son, Tal Ephraim, on March 16, 2007.
- ... to Susan L. Levine on her engagement and upcoming marriage to Stanley Goldberg
- ... Melvin Luterman, Cantor Emeritus at Oheb Shalom Congregation in Baltimore, on being honored for 50 years of dedicated service to Jewish music on November 10, 2007.

Condolences ...

- ... to Don Gurney on the passing of his mother, Sarah Gurney, z"l.
- ... to Walter Handelman, Legal Counsel to the ACC Committee on Ethics and Appeals, on the death of his wife, Judy Handelman, z"l.
- ... to Alan Lefkowitz on the death of his father, Nathan Lefkowitz, z"l.
- ... to Jack Mendelson, on the death of his sister, Shirley Wendroff, z"l.
- ... to Nancy Hausman, on the death of her sister, Debbie Hoberman, z"l.
- ... to Lanie Katzew, on the death of her brother, Rick Simon, z"l.

The ACC mourns the passing of our
beloved colleague

Jerome Frazes, z"l

on September 10, 2007

Koleinu

The American Conference of Cantors
213 N. Morgan St., Suite 1A, Chicago, IL 60607
www.accantors.org Phone 312-491-1034

Save the Date!!



June 29 - July 3, 2008

Join your colleagues for a terrific week of study, song, and fun in San Francisco at the Parc 55 Hotel! Watch for the 2008 ACC/GTM Convention Registration information coming this winter.

Upcoming Events & Conventions

December 10-11, 2007

ACC Board Meeting, San Diego, CA

December 12-16, 2007

URJ National Biennial, San Diego, CA

February 6, 2008

ACC Yom Iyun

June 29-July 3, 2008

ACC/GTM 2008 Convention, San Francisco, CA

June 28-July 2, 2009

ACC/GTM 2009 Convention, Chicago, IL

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