



# e-Koleinu

A Publication of the American Conference of Cantors  
This issue: "Vidui: A Vision of the Future"

Koleinu Online

August 2010

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**Preparing for the  
Yamim Noraim:  
Our Own Spiritual  
Preparation  
(an ACC/CCAR/URJ  
teleconference)**



For ACC and CCAR members  
Wednesday, August 18, 2010  
Noon ET  
Co-hosted with CCAR and URJ

Presenters: Rabbi Rachel Cowan,  
Rabbi David Levy and Cantor  
Benjie Ellen Schiller.



## From our President by Susan Caro

When Jacob and Esau meet for the second time on the banks of the Jabbok River, Jacob presents Esau with a series of gifts, saying, "To see your face is like seeing the face of God, and you have received me favorably." Jacob describes his contact with his brother as nothing less than revelation; for him, seeing Esau was as if he were looking upon God, a reminder to himself that even Esau is made in God's image! This revelation serves me well as my own benchmark for the array of my daily encounters, striking me of particular importance at this time of year.

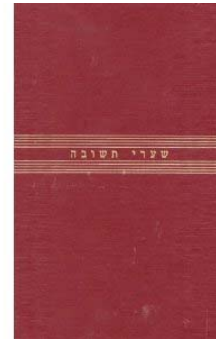
[Continued ...](#)

*Periodically, Koleinu presents articles written from a variety of our members' perspectives. Please note that member submissions do not necessarily reflect the views of the leadership of the ACC, but rather are intended to foster collegial discussion.*

## Vidui: 'Fess Up by Judith Ovadia

I have a confession: there have been times when, between ensuring that the choir, organist, rabbi, and lay participants know what they are supposed to be doing, worrying about the less-familiar music, and trying to pace myself, physically and mentally to endure, I have neglected my personal religious obligations during Yamim HaNoraim. Especially in the first year of a new pulpit, when the High Holidays often feel like a belated audition in front of the entire congregation, my mind and my heart have not always been directed toward the work of Teshuva. I will dare to presume I am not the only one who has transgressed in this way.

[Read more...](#)



In these weeks, there is much that we do as clergy that is focused on preparing our communities physically and spiritually for the Yamim Noraim. What about ourselves? What will we each carry in our heart and soul, to be leaders of integrity and inspiration in these days?

Both as individuals and in our clergy teams, this teleconference presents us each with an opportunity to hear from esteemed colleagues in our work about how we can prepare our hearts and souls for these coming Days of Awe-moments of transformation in our own prayer and in our team work.

Call-in information:

Domestic Callers: 1-888-537-7715

International Callers: 1-334-323-9858

Enter the pass code when prompted: 11740738#

## Convention Survey Still Open for Responses

Don't forget to respond to the ACC-GTM Memphis [Convention Survey](#). It will close for responses this Friday, August 6, 2010.



**Boston 2011:**  
**history, knowledge,**  
**personal growth**  
**by Dr. Alan Mason, co-**  
**chair**

The four co-chairs of the 2011 ACC GTM Convention spent four days in Boston recently, becoming familiar with the Sheraton Back Bay Hotel, some of the local flavors of this historic



## ACC/GTM Memphis Convention Wrap Up!

After two busy years of preparing, the ACC/GTM Memphis 2010 Convention has come and gone.

**We want to thank everyone who helped as make it a success:**

All our colleagues who attended

Everyone who contributed to our fundraising efforts

Our committee chairs and members

Inspirational scholars

Marvelous and knowledgeable workshop leaders

**Below is a list of some of our favorite highlights:**

Sharing a taste of Memphis' 3 B's: Blues, Barbecue & Brew

Watching ACC & GTM Presidents serve as Peabody Honorary Duckmasters

Getting a real sense of the Memphis spirit of community

Sharing with and learning from our colleagues and scholars

Experiencing the beauty, warmth & hospitality of Temple Israel

Experiencing the Jewish musical soul of Memphis in concert at Temple Israel

Enjoying surprise visits by Elvis (thank you, Don Croll!)

The Monday night dinners on the town, when we all had the opportunity for some relaxed socializing with colleagues

The 'Tear Down the Walls' concert presented by Rick Recht Sunday night, seeing everyone move beyond their musical comfort zone to become involved in the music and the cause

The tours of the National Civil Rights Museum and the Church Health Center

Sharing in fantastic new solo and choral compositions

Being incredibly moved by music during T'fillah

The premier of Russell Nadel's Young Composers Award winning selection

The warmth and camaraderie among all our colleagues who performed, and who were recognized for their excellent service and contribution

neighborhood, and some of the wonderful sites of this interesting part of the country. Three Scholars in Residence are almost confirmed, and a draft of the convention schedule is already off the ground. A very exciting location is being considered for Saturday evening's fundraiser, and two stunning temples are being considered for the Tuesday evening concert. We are anticipating a large enrollment at the 2011 Convention, and an early availability of materials needed for registration will allow for more time to plan registrant's involvement in T'filah, Concerts, and Peer Workshops. In the next few weeks we promise to share more information, as the planning process unfolds.

For more information - or to get involved in Convention planning - please contact:

Cantor Randall Schloss  
([raschloss@gmail.com](mailto:raschloss@gmail.com));

Cantor Sergei Schwartz  
([cantor@templebethshalom.info](mailto:cantor@templebethshalom.info));

Dr. Alan Mason  
([dralanmason@hotmail.com](mailto:dralanmason@hotmail.com));

Rachel Gottlieb Kalmowitz  
([rgk@tbeonline.org](mailto:rgk@tbeonline.org))

### **ACC Simchas: Our conference rejoices with ...**

Ellen Stettner and husband Ron on the birth of their first grandson, Torin Linder Kane, on June 1 2010

Jessica and Steven Epstein on the birth of their baby, Emma Rose, on June 1, 2010

Gabriella Arad and Joshua Burrows on the birth of their baby, Maia Hermina Burrows, on July 4, 2010

### **Our conference offers condolences to ...**

Ray Gilbert on the death of his beloved wife Joyce, z"l

Hasha Musha Perman on the death of her beloved mother Florence, z"l

The collegiality and shared interest between ACC cantors and GTM soloists, composers, and accompanists

And of course, we continue to appreciate hearing your comments, favorable or not, following the convention. If you have not responded to the post-convention survey which you recently received by email, we urge you to do so!

We look forward to being with all of you again next summer in Boston!

B'shira,

John Kaplan, Barbara Margulis, Alan Mason, Victoria May  
ACC/GTM Memphis 2010 Convention Chairs

## **Highlights of the Executive Board Meetings June 27 and July 1, 2010**

Acknowledgement of e-votes to:

1. Endorse "Repeal of 'Don't Ask Don't Tell'" Letter
2. Accept 2010 SSM graduating class: Tifani Katof Coyot, Galit Dadoun-Cohen, Maria Dubinsky, Leah Holland, Jason Kaufman, Donna Mashadi Azu, Rollin Simmons, Raina Sirotty Flowers and Star Trompeter.  
Approve certification of Lynda Drescher and Leslie Friedlander

The 2010-2011 budget was accepted by the Board and presented to the Plenary. A motion to donate a portion of any surplus in the ACC operating budget to the ACC Endowment Fund was passed.

Amendments passed to the Convention protocol documents:

1. Amended 2c Protocols: The concert chair, with the fund raising chair and overall convention chairs is responsible for presenting a budget for the concert expenses, including music, musicians, sound, lights, etc. The amount of funding for the concert expenses is determined by the amount of funds available from underwriting, fund raising, donations from host congregations, and ticket sales. The concert chair and committee and responsible for obtaining copyright and mechanical right permissions. All invoices are sent to the ACC office for payment. Whenever possible, permissions should include video recording of the performance and sales to the ACC-GTM membership.

2. Amended 2e Protocols: Every effort should be made to select cantors who haven't been featured in concerts or t'filot during the past two conventions or Shabbat service leaders/concert soloists at the national biennial.

Membership Committee tasks forces are developing programs which reach out to our membership through our Caring Committee, a Project Pool, and special programming for our Retired members/Vatikim and Cantors having to relocate.

## **Highlights of the 2010 Plenary Sessions**

Full minutes and reports for the plenary are available to members [online](#).

In addition to welcoming into ACC membership the 2010 graduates from HUC-JIR SSM (see Board Highlights) and those Certification candidates voted into ACC membership by Executive Board e-vote (see Board Highlights), the plenary welcomed Michele Gray-Schaffer and Jon Sobel, both of whom finished the certification process earlier in the year; the Certification process is now officially completed.

Highlights of the Committee/Personnel presentations:

Jacque Shuchat-Marx and her family, on the death of her beloved brother-in-law Elliott Friedman, z"l

Gail and Henry Karp on the death of Gail's beloved father Seymour Frank Posner, z"l

John Kaplan on the death of his beloved uncle Richard Henry Adelson, z"l

The family of our esteemed colleague, Louis Danto, z"l

Gloria Hernandez (ACC office staff), on the death of her beloved mother,

Gloria Maria Garcia Chambers, z"l

**Journal of Synagogue Music: A Gift from the Cantors Assembly**  
by Joe Levine, Editor JSM

As the editor for the annual publication of the Cantor's Assembly, I am especially proud that we include many Reform Cantors & Temple Musicians on our mailing list, & that a number of Reform thinkers have contributed noteworthy articles over the years.

In this capacity, it is my pleasure to inform you that the Journal is now distributed free of charge, in the hope that its scholarly contents will reach as many interested readers as possible. This is in line with sociologist Alvin Toffler's dictum: "knowledge is the only commodity which increases when shared" (Future Shock, 1970).

Towards that end, [please find the virtual edition of the Journal of Synagogue Music 2010--themed around Yiddish Song--with the compliments & friendship of the Cantors Assembly](#). We hope that this will bear great benefit for our profession and for the furtherance of Jewish Liturgical Music.

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Follow us on Facebook

Gail Hirschenfang (Endowment): Our endowment is now under new management).

David Goldstein (Pension and Insurance): As always, members are urged to review their financial planning choices carefully; members are encouraged to consider participating in the long-term disability plan, as it has "own occupation coverage."

Bruce Ruben (Director of HUC-JIR SSM): There are 9 students in Israel; the new core-curriculum is finished and in place.

Susan Caro (Torah Project): Congregation Kol Ami Emanu-el in Plantation, FL is donating a Sefer Torah to the ACC. A Torah restoration campaign will culminate at the Boston, MA Convention 2011 when the Torah is dedicated.

Linda Ecker (Treasurer): The ACC 2010/2011 Budget passed.

Sharon Kohn (CCPD): A program of tracking hours of learning is being developed.

Evan Kent via Susan Caro (CCAR Machzor): New machzor will be in the same format as Mishkan T'filah. The ACC is represented on the advisory group and there will be other opportunities for cantors in the near future.

Convention 2011 - Boston (Randall Schloss, Sergei Schwartz, Rachel Gottlieb Kalmowitz (GTM), Alan Mason (GTM)): June 26-30, 2011. Attendees are encouraged and urged to stay at the Convention hotel (Sheraton/Back Bay) because (1) the ACC has negotiated excellent rates that include meeting rooms and other amenities and (2) in order to get those excellent rates, the ACC commits to the hotel to filling a certain number of rooms; if we do not reach those numbers which happens if attendees stay elsewhere, there is great financial loss to the ACC.

Convention 2012 - Portland, OR (Mark Goldman): Red Lion Hotel, Portland, OR

Jayson Rodovsky and Aryell Cohen (Guild of Temple Musicians): The GTM, our affiliate, having considered applying for their own incorporation, will be instead remaining a financial subsidiary under the ACC's not-for-profit status.

ACC member Email Signature Campaign: ACC members who add "ACC" and a link to the ACC website in their email signatures and who enter by sending email to Rachel Roth (rroth@accantors.org) with the evidence of such will be entered into a drawing for complimentary registration to the Boston, MA, or Portland, OR Convention.

**Chai Donations**

(as of July 22, 2010)

In honor of Ruth Liora Sharlein, and Cantor Darcie and Jeff Sharlein - Susan Caro

In honor of Cantor Kay Greenwald and her Adult Bnai Mitzvah Class of 5770 - Hazel Anker, Donna Blank

With great joy and gratitude for the birth of our first grandson, Torin Lander Kane: Ellen Stettner and Ron Kane

In honor of Cantor Rollin Simmons' investiture: Louise Treitman

In honor of Barbara and Richard Lustig's 50th wedding

and Twitter, find out the latest news, post greetings on the walls or just say hi!

[Find us on Facebook](#)

for the ACC Page

and link to the American Conference of Cantors-Guild of Temple Musicians Convention Page

**Twitter:**  
accantors

## Quick Links

[Pay Your Dues ONLINE!](#)

Click here for informaion on the ACC's [Pension Plan](#)

[Make a Chai Fund Donation](#)

For a complete look at the upcoming programs from the ACC, visit the [ACC Calendar](#)



anniversary: Rebecca Garfein, Mike Gellman, and Max Gellman

In honor of Diane and Lew Bernstein: Rebecca Garfein, Mike Gellman, and Max Gellman

In honor of Janet and Richard Neuberger's 55th anniversary: Rebecca Garfein, Mike Gellman, and Max Gellman

In honor of the birth of Emma Rose Epstein: Sharon Kohn

## 2009-2010 Placement List August 3, 2010

Please refer to the [members' only Open Placement List](#) for more information.

### COMPLETED PLACEMENTS

1. San Bernardino, CA - Cong. Emanu El (250) ltd. service 8/10/09 - Jennifer Bern-Vogel
2. Tacoma, WA - Temple Beth El (295) Educator-Cantor 1/8/10-Leah Holland
3. Cardiff by the Sea, CA - Temple Solel (867) 12/30/09-Billy Tiep
4. Santa Maria, CA - Temple Beth El (55) HHD 3/19/10-Rebecca Fletcher
5. Manchester, NH - Temple Adath Yeshurun (303) HHD 2/23/10-Shira Nafshi
6. Woodland Hills, CA - Temple Kol Tikvah (271) 12/2/09-Tifani Coyot
7. Gambier, OH - Kenyon College Hillel (150 single members) HHD 2/3/10-Karen Webber Gilat
8. Naples, FL - Temple Shalom of Naples (554)3/5/10-Donna Mashadi Azu
9. Cheshire, CT - Temple Beth David (204) HHD 4/5/10-Bill Wood
10. Columbus, OH - Temple Israel (590) 2/1/10-Star Trompeter
11. Santa Ana, CA - Temple Beth Sholom (520) Nearly Full Time 2/22/10-David Reinwald
12. Columbus, GA - Temple Israel HHD (140) 4/29/10-Leslie Friedlander
13. Morristown, NJ - Temple B'nai Or (589) Limited Service 1/28/10-Galit Dadoun-Cohen
14. New Orleans, LA - Touro Synagogue (570) INTERIM 3/5/10-Jason Kaufman
15. Sylvania, OH - Congregation Shomer Emunim (530) 3/3/10-Raina Siroty Flowers
16. Rockville Center, NY - Central Synagogue of Nassau County (295) INTERIM Limited Service 2/8/10-Rachel Berney Kohlbrenner
17. Cumberland, MD - B'er Chayim (69) HHD 4/30-Janet Leuchter
18. Aspen, CO - Aspen Jewish Congregation (210) 2/18/10-Rollin Simmons
19. Silver Spring, MD - Leisure World of Maryland HHD (200 Jewish residents) 5/26/10-Susan Berkson
20. Syosset, NY - North Shore Synagogue (722) 3/11/10 (cleared by the JCPC to Tier I)-Maria Dubinsky
21. Northridge, CA - Temple Ahavat Shalom (571) INTERIM 3/31/10-Jen Roher
22. Madison, CT - Temple Beth Tikvah HHD (320) 4/22/10-Maria Dubinsky
23. Bristol, TN - B'nai Sholom Congregation (51) CIR 4/15/10-Deborah Bard
24. Portland, OR - Congregation Neveh Shalom-USCJ-(984) 3/11/10-Deborah Bletstein
25. Franklin, MA - Temple Etz Chaim HHD (140) 5/13/10-Irving Spenadel

### PLACEMENTS REPORTED TO THE JCPC

1. Floral Park, NY - Temple Sholom - Spiritual Leader, Josee Wolff

2. Catskill, NY - Temple Israel of Catskill - HHD + Cantor-in-Residence, Elizabeth Goldmann
3. Morrison, CO - Congregation B'nai Chaim - HHD, Karen Kumin
4. New York, NY - Brotherhood Synagogue, Marina Shemesh
5. Wilmette, IL - Beth Hillel Congregation B'nai Emunah (USCJ), Pavel Roytman
6. Bayshore, NY - Sinai Reform Temple - HHD, Carla Reynolds
7. Syosset, NY - North Shore Synagogue - HHD, Alane Katzew
8. Napa, CA - Congregation Beth Sholom of Napa Valley - HHD, Aviva Rosenbloom
9. Ocala, FL - Temple Beth Shalom - HHD, Donna Faye Marcus
10. Des Moines, IA - Tifereth Israel Congregation (USCJ), Linda Shivers

Please note: Dates are those of original entry into placement.

Please feel free to contact the ACC with your questions or comments ([info@accantors.org](mailto:info@accantors.org)).

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Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM, Central Time

Friday 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM, Central Time

The office is closed on Saturdays, Sundays and all Jewish and legal holidays.

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Penny Kessler, Editor ([penny.kessler@gmail.com](mailto:penny.kessler@gmail.com))

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