



December 2009/*Kislev-Tevet* 5770 Volume 5, Number 4

Join Us for the *Am HaYam*

*Annual Hanukkah and Shabbat Celebration*



*Am HaYam* will celebrate *Shabbat* and the first night of *Hanukkah* on Friday, December 11, 2009 at Chapel in the Pines in Eastham at 7:30 PM. Please join us for an evening of singing, fun and *ruach!* *Am HaYam* will provide the *latkes*, *sufganiyot* (Israeli jelly donuts), *challah*, wine, and beverages. You may also bring a few of your own favorite *Hanukkah* treats. Services will be led by Paul Biegelsen.

RSVP to Paul and Elaine Biegelsen at 508-255-2963 or e-mail your reservation to: [landerbiegel@comcast.net](mailto:landerbiegel@comcast.net) no later than Sunday, December 6, 2009.

Please note that there will be no *Shabbat* service on Friday, December 4, 2009.



## DATES TO REMEMBER

Adult Ed w/Ira Wolfson	Sunday, December 6	1:00 PM
Board of Directors	Sunday, December 6	7:00 PM
Shabbat/Hanukkah	Friday, December 11	7:30 PM
Hanukkah	December 11-19	
Rosh Hodesh Women	Thursday, December 17	7:30 PM
Havurah Conference	Fri-Sun, December 18-20	
Women's Torah Study	Tuesday, December 22	2:00 PM

## SHABBAT SERVICES



*Shabbat* Services are held at the Chapel-in-the-Pines (Samoset Road, Eastham) usually on the first Friday (note change in December to 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday) of the month beginning at 7:30 PM and are followed by an *Oneg Shabbat*. Please bring treats for the *Oneg*. The *Oneg Shabbat* Committee provides *challah* and beverages. Services are led by members of the *Havurah* and each service is different depending on the leader's orientation. If you wish to lead *Shabbat* services, please contact Paul Biegelsen at [landerbiegel@comcast.net](mailto:landerbiegel@comcast.net)

**The *Oneg Shabbat* Committee needs volunteers to help with set up and clean up at *Shabbat* services. Each volunteer serves just 2-3 times per calendar year. It is a great way to help the *Havurah*. If interested please call Marilyn Greenberg or Paula Feinstein at 508-255-9283. Thank you.**

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Light one candle for the Maccabee children, with thanks that their light didn't die..."

I've been thinking about *Hanukkah* for a while now. Actually it has been since September 17 when I heard that Mary Travers of Peter, Paul and Mary fame died from complications of her leukemia treatments. More than any other Peter Paul and Mary song, "Light One Candle" by Peter Yarrow, exemplifies the true meaning of Hanukkah for me. So rather than paraphrasing the song let me share with you the words that we have sung and will sing again this year at our *Shabbat/Hanukkah* celebration on December 11.

Light one candle for the Maccabee children with thanks that their light didn't die  
Light one candle for the pain they endured when their right to exist was denied  
Light one candle for the terrible sacrifice justice and freedom demand  
But light one candle for the wisdom to know when the peacemaker's time is at hand

*Don't let the light go out! It's lasted for so many years!*  
*Don't let the light go out! Let it shine through our love and our tears.*

Light one candle for the strength that we need to never become our own foe  
And light one candle for those who are suffering pain we learned so long ago  
Light one candle for all we believe in that anger not tear us apart  
And light one candle to find us together with peace as the song in our hearts.

*Don't let the light go out...*

What is the memory that's valued so highly that we keep it alive in that flame?  
What's the commitment to those who have died that we cry out they've not died in vain?  
We have come this far always believing that justice would somehow prevail  
This is the burden, this is the promise, this is why we will not fail!

*Don't let the light go out...*

*Judy Keller*



## ADULT EDUCATION

Ira Wolfson, a member of *Am HaYam*, will be presenting an illustrated talk entitled "Palestine from the Birth of Jesus to the Destruction of the Second Temple" on Sunday, December 6, 1:00 PM at the Brewster Ladies Library.

According to Ira, the time of Jesus marks the beginning of not one but two great religions of the West, rabbinic Judaism and Christianity. His talk will provide an overview of the primary social institutions of first-century Palestine as well as an overview of the economic, political and religious responses to the

pressures of Greek and Roman cultural influence and control. The destruction of the Second Temple at the climax of the Great Revolt (66 C.E- 72 C.E.) transformed Jewish religious practice and affected the interpretation of the teachings of Jesus, helping to form Christianity into a new and separate religion.

This talk is the outcome of Ira's long interest in ancient history, which started when he was a young boy and his father read him *The Jewish Wars* by Josephus. Handouts and bibliography will be provided.

## NATIONAL HAVURAH COMMITTEE NEW ENGLAND RETREAT

Celebrate *Hanukkah* at the annual *Havurah* Retreat in Craigville (outside Hyannis) on December 18-20, 2009. Members of *Am HaYam* always get a special rate and are permitted to choose whatever classes and programs they wish to attend (as opposed to signing up for the whole weekend). It is a great opportunity for us as individuals and for our *Havurah* to get new ideas and meet new people. There is an informative article on the homepage of their website: [www.havurah.org](http://www.havurah.org) and links to the program and brochure. For first hand information, speak to Carol Roth who has attended in previous years.

## BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS

The *Am HaYam* Board meets at 7 PM on the fourth Sunday of each month (except for the Annual Meeting in May) at the home of Judy Keller, 96 Tonset Road, Orleans. All members of the *Ha-*

*vurah* are welcome to attend Board meetings. The "November" meeting has been moved to Sunday, December 6. There will be no "December" Board meeting.

## SHAPING OUR FUTURE - PART 2

On Sunday, November 15, 30 members of *Am HaYam* gathered at the Wellfleet Library. After a welcome and introduction by Judy Keller, President, we learned about the founding of *Am HaYam*, as presented by Judy Taylor, about the intermediate years, as described by Shira Sands and Joan Saklad, and a new member's perspective, as expressed by Rebecca Holmes.

We then divided into six groups who among themselves came up with a number of ideas for new programs, new concepts, improved methods, etc. Writing on a large version of post-it notes, Jessica Dill wrote down ideas from each of the groups until we had five sheets of ideas - about 35 ideas or concepts for *Am HaYam* activities! Some ideas were expressed by more than one group and some ideas were quite distinct from the others. As each of the five sheets was filled, it was tacked on a window for all to see.

The next step, which was facilitated by Rebecca Holmes, was to prioritize the ideas without pre-judging them or offering any opinions for or against. Each person was given three large self-sticking dots and asked to put a dot next to the three ideas that most appealed to him/her. Once everyone got the idea of how to do this, we asked them to take

two more dots and put them on their 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> most favorite activity. Back in our seats we could easily see which ideas had the most dots and therefore were favored by the largest number of participants. Finally, Sandy Chernick wrote down the 11 ideas that had the highest number of dots and led a discussion on next-steps - how will we implement the ideas.

A team of volunteers was formed to figure out how to implement all or most of these ideas. The team will be looking for additional volunteers to chair or be a member of the committees that will take the ideas from concept to reality.

There were two themes that prevailed - the importance of having a Jewish community on the Lower and Outer Cape, although it was pointed out that there are members who come from the Mid and Upper Cape; and the desire to keep the *Havurah* growing but without losing the intimacy that comes from a small group - thus many of the ideas that were favorites were based on small group activities.

As we begin to develop and promote some of these programs, we hope you will volunteer to chair or work on a committee and participate in the programs as they come to fruition.

*Judy Keller, Jessica Dill, Sandy Chernick, Rebecca Holmes, Facilitators*

## HINENI GROUP

The meaning of *Hineni* is "Here I Am". The members of *Hineni* want to help during times of sickness, recuperation from surgery, and bereavement. We want to reach out when someone needs help and wants help. If you are in need of assistance please reach in for our help. If you know someone in *Am Ha-Yam* who might benefit from our help, let us know and one of us will ask the

person if they would like some assistance. Ruth Shapiro and Judy Keller will be coordinating *Hineni* for the Social Action/*Tzedakah* Committee. Please don't hesitate to call Ruth at 508-896-3573 or Judy at 508-255-7564 if you have any questions or need help. Please let us know if you want to be a volunteer. We are here...*HINENI*.

## LOCAL (Lower Cape Lunch)

This organization's goal is to help satisfy the physical, social and spiritual hunger of our neighbors in need on the Lower Cape. It is one of the organizations to which *Am Ha-Yam* donates some of its funds through its Social Action Committee.

LOCAL is a relatively new outreach organization functioning under the auspices of the Interfaith Council for the Homeless of Lower Cape Cod. Its purpose is to meet the needs of those in the greater Orleans area who are hungry, whether for food, fellowship or both.

LOCAL serves lunches on Tuesdays and suppers on Thursdays at St. Joan of Arc Parish Center, averaging 30-40 guests at each meal. Judi and Jay Bloom are the liaisons to LOCAL for *Am HaYam*. *Am HaYam* has committed to providing volunteers to assist each month on the 2nd Tuesday for lunch and 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday for supper. Judi and Jay need more volunteers for the program. Volunteers help at 9:30AM to set up and/or 11:30AM to serve lunch and 3:30PM to set up and/or 5:30 PM to serve supper.

Please call the Blooms at 508-255-0055 to volunteer for this *mitzvah*.

## YIDDISH CLUB

The Yiddish Club will not be meeting again until Spring. Most of the members have left for warmer climates. However, if you are still on Cape and have an interest in *Yiddish* language or culture, let's talk! It will be an opportunity to study and prepare for when the "snowbirds" return. Call me at 508-255-5419.

*Sandy Chernick*

## TORAH STUDY

Sunday Torah Study continues at the Brewster Ladies' Library on November 22 with Rabbi Alan Ullman. Sessions begin at 10:30 AM. Please bring pastry or fruit. Sessions are led by either Rabbi Deanna Douglas (D) or Rabbi Alan Ullman (U).

January 31 (U)  
February 21 (D)  
April 11 (D)

May 16 (U)  
June 6 (D)

## ROSH CHODESH

*Rosh Chodesh* is an *Am HaYam* women's group which meets once a month in observance of the beginning of the Hebrew month. The next meeting of *Rosh Chodesh* will be at the home of Bernice Simon-Wolfson. We will explore our own personal Jewish journeys and the program will be facilitated by Rebecca Holmes. Please join us on Thursday, December 17, 7:30 PM. RSVP to Bernice at 508-362-5508 or [bsimwolf@comcast.net](mailto:bsimwolf@comcast.net).

## WOMEN'S TORAH STUDY

The Women's Torah Study group meets monthly year round on the fourth Tuesday of each month at members' homes. Last September we began with Genesis 1:1 (the first book of the Torah) and continue reading in sequence. We read and study in English, using various versions of the Jewish Bible and a number of commentaries. No experience necessary

and you are welcome to join the group at any time. Email announcements will be sent a few days before each session by the host. If you would like to be added to that email list, please let me know. The December 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting will be at the home of Bernice Simon-Wolfson, 2-4 PM.

*Rebecca B. Holmes*



## **SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS**

*Am HaYam* helps the Interfaith Homeless Prevention Council by selling its Shaws and Stop and Shop gift cards. *Am HaYam* sells the gift cards at face value and the Interfaith Homeless Prevention Council earns 10% of the value. You use them like cash at the supermarkets. It does not cost you anything. They also make nice holiday gifts.

Sandy Chernick is the new Chair for this project. She will have the gift cards at Board Meetings and *Rosh Chodesh* (which she usually attends) or you can call her and arrange to get the cards. Call Sandy at 508-255-5419.

## **THE AM HAYAM "SHMOOZE LIST"**

The "Shmooze List" is an informal group of people who wish to share information via email not necessarily related to *Am HaYam*. To join, send an e-mail to [shmoozer@ahycc.org](mailto:shmoozer@ahycc.org). Include your name, address, phone and email address.

A personal note regarding the shmooze list:

Recently, it was my pleasure to utilize the *Am HaYam* Shmooze List to ask on behalf of another member of our *Havurah* for recommendations regarding an electrician. We were delighted to receive four or five names within just a couple of days. As I wrote to her, "This, too, characterizes my kind of *Havurah*, a community of people who are willing to take a moment to share their experience with one another. Clearly, our Shmooze List is well-suited for that function, too."

*Gene Saklad*

## **BOOKPLATE DONATIONS**

To mark a celebratory event, honor or remember a loved one or friend with a bookplate in a prayer book, please send a check for \$18 payable to Am HaYam to: Gene Saklad, 51 Pochet Road, Orleans, MA 02653-3624. Please include name(s) of contributor(s), event being celebrated or memorialized, individual(s) being honored or memorialized, relationship of each honoree to contributor, name, e-mail address and telephone number of contact in case any questions arise. Thanks.

*Todah rabah* for your generous donations during the  
High Holy Days and throughout the year!

## MEMBERSHIP

A member is anyone who participates in *Am HaYam* religious services, programs, and events or who wishes to be on the email mailing list. There are no membership dues. *Am HaYam* is solely dependent on the generous donations of those who attend our events, especially during the High Holy Days, or who make donations to mark special occasions or to remember loved ones and dear friends. Mail donations to: *Am HaYam*, Box 1235, Brewster, MA 02631. **If you wish to have a card sent announcing your donation, please include the name and address of the person for whom you are making the donation. Thank you.**

## MILESTONES

*Mazel tov* to

Bernice Wolfson and Elly Alford on their twin 70<sup>th</sup> birthdays

## DONATIONS

*In appreciation of*

*Sukkot* celebration conducted by the Berrick-Fox family

Jay & Judi Bloom

*In honor of*

Bernice Simon-Wolfson and Ellie Alford on their twin 70<sup>th</sup> birthdays

Rebecca and Michael Holmes

*In memory of*

Eric Douglis

Sherrie Douglis

*In Support of the Am HaYam Community*

Nancy & Elliot Nelson

Milton Teichman & Sharon Leder

Marsha DuBeau

Stanley & Claire Sherman

Bennett & Arleen Schwartz

Marilyn & Paul Schalansky

Mel Scott

Richard Shuman

Nat & Carolyn Magin

## JEWISH FEDERATION OF CAPE COD - Programs of Interest

### Breast/Ovarian Cancer Support Group for Jewish Women

This support group is sponsored by the Jewish Family and Community Services in collaboration with *Sharsheret*, a national organization supporting Jewish women and families facing breast cancer. Meetings will take place at Whitehall Estates, Route 28, Hyanis. Light refreshments will be served. Groups will meet twice a month. Start date to be determined. For more information and to register, please contact Ann-Beth Ostroff, 508-778-5589 or [jc.serve@verizon.net](mailto:jc.serve@verizon.net) or Sharsheret: 866-474-2774, [info@sharsheret.org](mailto:info@sharsheret.org).

Please feel free to call Jewish Family Services or *Sharsheret* at anytime to talk with their professional staff about your concerns! All calls are confidential.

### SHALOM TV

There is a new Jewish television station available on cable. Through Comcast, go to "On Demand". Then choose "TV Entertainment." Scroll to the end of that list and you will find "Shalom TV." There are three categories of programming: News and Israel, Judaism and Culture, and Shalom Center. For more info: [www.shalomtv.org](http://www.shalomtv.org).

### LOOKING AHEAD TO JANUARY

- Shabbat Service, Friday, January 8, 7:30 PM (note change)
- Rosh Chodesh Women, Thursday, January 21, 7:30 PM
- Board of Directors, January 24, 7:00 PM
- Women's Torah Study, Tuesday, January 26, 2 PM
- Tu B'Shvat, Saturday, January 30
- Torah Study w/Rabbi Ullman, Sunday, January 31, 10:30 AM



**THE "YELLOW PAGES" OF AM HAYAM**

ADULT EDUCATION	Jessica Dill	508-255-7771	<a href="mailto:jrdill1@comcast.net">jrdill1@comcast.net</a>
BEREAVEMENT	Paul Biegelsen	508-255-2963	landerbiegel@comcast.net
FOOD PANTRY DRIVE	Carol/Stephen Roth	508-255-5952	croth@primaryconnections.com
HH LOGISTICS	Barry Worth	508-432-8970	brw107@verizon.net
HINENI	Ruth Shapiro Judy Keller	508-896-3573 508-255-7564	<a href="mailto:vista30@verizon.net">vista30@verizon.net</a> <a href="mailto:jkelle47@verizon.net">jkelle47@verizon.net</a>
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL PROGRAM	Sharon Leder	508-896-2395	sharon@teichmangallery.com
JEWISH FEDERATION	Office	508-778-5589	<a href="mailto:jf.cc@verizon.net">jf.cc@verizon.net</a>
NEWSLETTER	Rebecca Holmes	774-207-0285	rebeccabolmes@comcast.net
ONEG SHABBAT	Paula Feinstein Marilyn Greenberg	508-255-9283	<a href="mailto:kyoshipaula@gmail.com">kyoshipaula@gmail.com</a> <a href="mailto:marilynsg@comcast.net">marilynsg@comcast.net</a>
PRESIDENT	Judy Keller	508-255-7564	jkelle47@verizon.net
RITUAL	Paul Biegelsen	508-255-2963	landerbiegel@comcast.net
ROSH CHODESH	Bernice Simon-Wolfson	508-362-5508	<a href="mailto:bsimwolf@comcast.net">bsimwolf@comcast.net</a>
SOCIAL ACTION	Judy Keller	508-255-7564	jkelle47@verizon.net
SUPERMARKET COUPONS	Sandy Chernick	508-255-5419	No email
TORAH STUDY	Alice Weiss Joyce/Dick Bush	508-896-7355 508-430-5444	<a href="mailto:amjweiss@alum.barnard.edu">amjweiss@alum.barnard.edu</a> <a href="mailto:bujoyce2000@yahoo.com">bujoyce2000@yahoo.com</a> <a href="mailto:arbu02645@yahoo.com">arbu02645@yahoo.com</a>
TREASURER	Martin Jacobs	508-896-9456	<a href="mailto:majdebj@aol.com">majdebj@aol.com</a>
WEBSITE	Marc Weiss	508-896-7355	mweiss@alum.mit.edu
WOMEN'S TORAH STUDY	Rebecca Holmes	774-207-0285	rebeccabolmes@comcast.net
ZAMAREI HAYAM (CHOIR)	Shira Sands	508-349-1784	shira77@comcast.net

This newsletter is being mailed electronically by email and is also available on line at the *Am HaYam* website: [www.ahycc.org](http://www.ahycc.org). Check website for last minute information and changes in programs and dates.