

# COMMUNITY NEWS

Vol. 7, No. 2



CHANUKAH ISSUE



December 1954

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**AROUND  
TOWN**

*with Becky*

by Mrs. Samuel B. Gilbert

Dear Readers . . . This issue which normally would be our Chanukah edition, is being dedicated to the 40th Anniversary of the Agudath Achim Synagogue and Congregation.

The Synagogue has been and should be today the spiritual center of our Jewish community from which there flows the life and soul of Jewish living and thinking.

May this 40th anniversary inspire each of us to renew our interest in Judaism and contribute a full measure of our heart and means toward strengthening its concepts. Enable us to transmit to our children their rich heritage through the teaching of Torah.

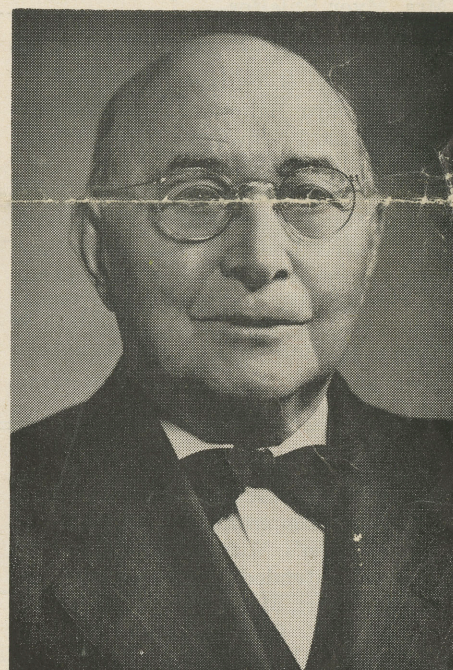
God grant that in the years ahead our Congregation will continue to grow

(Continued on Page 4)

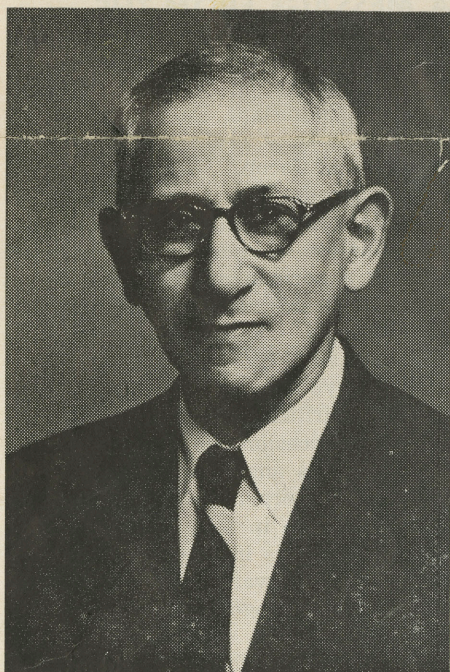
## Charter Members 1914-1954



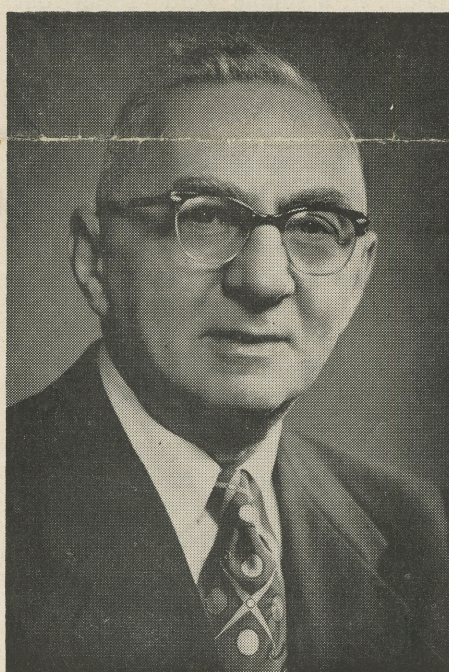
JULIUS HOSTINE



ABE ROSENBERG



ELLIS SAUL



WILLIAM BROWN



JOSEPH MARCUS



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COMMUNITY NEWS

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Agudath Achim Sisterhood Publication

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Sisterhood News

The Agudath Achim Sisterhood had a wonderful representation at the National Women's League Convention. Those who attended with me were Mrs. Samuel Gilbert, Mrs. Leonard Schwartz, Mrs. George Goorin, Mrs. William Goodman and Mrs. Joseph Berkowitz. We found it very interesting and wish that more of you could have been three. At the Convention Mrs. Gilbert suggested to Mrs. S. H. Reichman, Branch President, that she appoint Mrs. Schwartz to replace her as one of the Vice Presidents of the Western Penna. Branch. Congratulations Frieda!

The Sisterhoods coming event is the "Paid up Membership Party" on December 1st. Mrs. Joseph Goldberg and Mrs. Milton Harris, membership chairmen, assisted by Mrs. Joseph Elias, have planned a terrific program for us. Be sure to be there.

We are still continuing the Auction Sales. If you have anything that can be sold, please call Mrs. Abe Marcus or Mrs. Milton Farkas.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the Congregational Dinner on December 5th. Congratulations and great success on your 40th Anniversary.

Mrs. Edward Balter, President

ENTHUSIASM

Enthusiasm is the greatest asset in the world. It beats money and power and influence. It is nothing more or less than faith in action.

SYNOD AND CONGREGATION TO CELEBRATE 40th ANNIVERSARY

The first annual banquet of the Agudath Achim Congregation will be held in the Vestry Rooms of the Synagogue on Sunday, December 5th at 6:00 P.M. The theme of the first banquet commemorates "Our 40th Anniversary."

Under the chairmanship of Morris Flam, elaborate plans are in progress to make this event, which marks a milestone in the history of our Community, one which our members will long remember. Besides the delicious dinner the women of the Sisterhood will prepare, there will be a program befitting such a noteworthy occasion.

Four of the original charter members will be on hand to join in the celebration. They are: William Brown, Julius Hostine, Joseph Marcus and Abe Rosenberg.

During the evening a tablet will be drawn up commemorating the 40th Anniversary . . listing the names of the original charter members. Everyone present will have the opportunity of including his or her name on the tablet, which will be permanently displayed in the lobby of the Synagogue.

This banquet as well as subsequent banquets will be held in conjunction with the Chevra Kadisha. It is traditional that the Chevra Kadisha hold their banquet on the 15th of Kislev. All future banquets will be held as close to this date as possible.

All members and friends are invited to share in this community celebration.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CONGREGATION

Our Congregation is about to celebrate an important landmark in its existence. "Forty years of Worship in the house of Jacob."

Four decades ago a small group of devoted Jews had the courage and the determination to undertake the task of building a permanent "House of Worship" for our community. They laid the Foundation for a Jewish communal, religious and cultural center from which the younger generation shall receive its spiritual nourishment.

On this occasion we should rededicate ourselves anew to the great task that we may perpetuate our great traditional heritage in this modern age of materialism. It is in this spirit that we are looking forward to greeting you and celebrating together this happy anniversary.

Abe Rosenberg, President  
Harry Braun, Vice President

CHANUKAH

The problem of "to be or not to be a Jew" is not confined to our age. There were always those who rejected their Jewish identity by embracing assimilationism. Perhaps this is more our strength than our weakness. Through this process we rid ourselves of the irresolute, the weak, and those fleeced of their reason for existence.

Our fear should be for those unstable ones, who being neither here nor there, have all but denied their Jewishness. These brand us as a vacillating people, straddling a fence of uncertainty before our neighbors. They are non-committal between yes and no to Judaism

Assimilation was the great issue in the days of Judah the Maccabee (165 B.C.E.) Numerous Jews embraced Greek culture and chose happily to forego their Jewish identity. Their clan was swallowed up forever. History condemned them to oblivion. Those, however, who remained faithful, fought fiercely the battle that history immortalized as the first struggle for religious freedom.

Chanukah stands for victory against the wilful annihilation and denial of the Jewish self. Chanukah, in our time practically coincides with a major non-Jewish holiday. This points up the problem of assimilation today. We become aware of fellow Jews who reject their own heritage in favor of another. Thus Chanukah decries the Jew who would forego his identity and annihilate his Jewish self

It is History's ironic trick that Chanukah, past and present, should emphasize the fate of the assimilationist. For this festival commemorates a drama in ancient Israel that resulted in victory with posterity for the strong of faith, and disintegration with oblivion for the weak assimilationist.

We the Jews of Beaver Valley ally ourselves with the strong of faith and posterity.

Congratulations Mr. President and Charter Members

Mr. Abe Rosenberg, a man of good will, charity and 21 consecutive years of service as President of the Agudath Achim Congregation. To you, Mr. Rosenberg and to the Charter members: Messrs. Ellis Saul, Joseph Marcus, Julius Hostine and Wm. Brown, we extend best wishes for good health and long life.

Mrs. Samuel B. Gilbert, Honorary Pres. of Sisterhood, and the Staff of the Community News.

CHANUKAH LIGHTS

On the first evening of Chanukah, Sunday, December 19th, the 24th day of Kislev, the first light at the right is kindled and each successive night another one is added; the additional one is lit first from left to right until the eighth night. The candle lighting was primarily a home service, but it had also become a custom of the synagogue to publicize the occasion for benefit of wayfarers.

Anyone wishing to purchase a Chanukah Menorah can do so by contacting Mrs. Joseph Elias, chairman of the Sisterhood Gift Shop.

Agudath Achim Men's Club

It is an honor and privilege for me as President of the Men's Club, to extend to our Congregation, greetings on its 40th Anniversary.

The Men's Club is just in its infancy, but I know that though membership has not reached its maximum, it nevertheless plays an important part in furthering the spiritual and cultural education of the Congregation as a whole

May G-ds countenance shine down upon us and grant us peace and happiness in the years to come.

Joseph H. Boris, President

Council of Jewish Women

The Beaver Valley Section of the National Council of Jewish Women is happy to join the community in wishing all the best for the Agudath Achim Congregation on the occasion of its 40th Anniversary. The Synagogue is a beacon light in the cultural and religious life of any community . . . and ours has played its important part here. We hope that it will continue to grow and serve our needs as it has in the past.

Mrs. Albert Zonis, President

Beaver Valley Z.O.A.

Greetings and best wishes to the members of the Agudath Achim Congregation on their 40th Anniversary. May this occasion inspire you to join the ranks of Zion and help the up-building of Israel.

Harry Markson, Pres.

Greetings from Beth El

The members of the Beth El Congregation are happy to extend best wishes to the Agudath Achim Congregation upon the occasion of their 40th Anniversary.

May our Community continue to grow in numbers and in spiritual strength in the future, as we have in the past.

Dr. M. F. Pettler, Pres.

☆

In Memoriam

☆

SARAH BERKMAN  
ABRAHAM BORTZ  
SHIRLEY FORMAN  
MARY GINSBERG  
WALTER GROSS

SADIE SIDLER  
MARY STEINBERG  
LOIS RABINOWITZ  
SAM WASBUTZKY

We pray, O Heavenly Father, that Thou strengthen within us such deep and abiding faith that we may reverently and humbly submit to Thine inscrutable decree, in the deep knowledge and feeling that Thou are our loving Father in all that cometh upon us.

Julius Hostine, chairman  
Louis Megdal, vice chairman  
Harry Linder, sec'y  
Leib Salmon  
Abe Rosenberg  
Joseph Marcus  
Harry Markson

Harry Braun  
Harry Gordon  
Jesse Farkas  
Morris Lench  
Milton Farkas  
Abe Marcus  
Leib Zeff



## WITH BECKY (Cont.)

from strength to strength enriching the lives of those who love and work for their House of Worship.

And now to the task at hand . . .

We are happy to record the Stork deposits for your reading pleasure:

A most welcome bit of femininity in the person of Carol Linda, was deposited at the home of Rabbi and Mrs. David Morris. Baby Carol is indeed fortunate in having a big brother, Edward and a darling sister, Beth Susan, for playmates. There isn't THAT much difference in their ages.

Dick and Phyllis Kane are very excited with their first born . . . a cuddly little girl, Alese Daryl. The happy grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Boris Kane.

A sincere Mazel Tov to the families of the Morris' and the Kane's.

### Engagements and Marriages

We are thrilled to learn of the engagement of Jeanette Rosenberg, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Abe Rosenberg, to Sam Neuman of Swissvale. The wedding will take place on Dec. 12th at the Tree of Life Synagogue in Pgh. Rabbi David Morris, B.F. and Rev. Dr. Herman Hailperin, Pgh., will officiate. The couple will make their home at 2720 Shady Ave., Pgh. Jeanette has for many years been the capable Circulation Editor of this publication. We on the staff will miss her. We wish Jeanette and Sam a life of happiness together.

Announcement was made of the engagement of Elaine Rose, attractive daughter of Mrs. Rose Rose and the late Harry Rose, to Stanley Glaser, son of Mr. and Mrs. I. Glaser of Brooklyn, N.Y. The couple will be married in February. The Rose's were former residents of Beaver Falls prior to moving to Brooklyn. Elaine was born here and graduated from the local High School. Congratulations and the best of luck.

Lew and Rose Caplan Kurtz of Burbank, Cal., announce the engagement of their lovely young daughter, Arlene, to Peter D. Bender, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Bender of Burbank. Arlene is the granddaughter of Mr. Joe Caplan and the niece of Ida Cohen and Becky Gerson. She is a student at Valley Junior College. Peter is serving with the United States Army. No date has been set for the wedding. It is hard to conceive the passing of time. Items such as this . . . give us a jolt. We're sincerely happy for all concerned.

A wedding that took place recently in Tuscon, Arizona, will be of interest to our readers . . .

Carolyn May, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter A. May of Tuscon, was united in marriage to William M. Mallon, son of Mr. and Mrs. Abe J. Ballon of Mt. Lebanon, Pgh. William is the grandson of Mrs. Ida Lenkowitz. His mother is the former Becky Lenkowitz. We extend hearty congratulations.

Mrs. Esther Rosen was a visitor in Beaver Falls. She attended the November Sisterhood meeting. We were delighted to see her. Esther proudly boasted about her 4 grandchildren. As well she might. Esther lives in Connecticut.

Mrs. Harry (Mollie) Perilman conducts a knitting class of 3 ambitious young ladies . . . Tammy Gordon, vivacious offspring of Phil and Grace, and Toba and Rita Goldenfeld, charming daughters of Leah and Martin. Mollie says they are doing beautifully and it's a pleasure to instruct such willing students.

Yours truly feels like a "roving reporter" . . . we attended the Board of Governors of B'nai B'rith in Washington, D.C., for the ground breaking ceremony of the Henry Monsky Building and the commemoration of the 300th anniversary of the settlement of Jews in America. Harry Gubits and Samuel Gilbert were representatives from the local B'nai B'rith.

The National Women's League of the United Synagogues of American Biennial Convention, held in Cleveland, O., was attended by Mesdames Edward Balter, Sisterhood President; Joseph Berkowitz, Leonard Schwartz, William Goodman, George Goorin and Yours Truly. The sessions were stimulating and informative. The women who attended will agree it was truly a "woman's world" during the convention. Mrs. Leo (Muriel) Miller who now resides in Cleveland, wishes to be remembered to all her friends here.

We congratulate Mrs. Leonard Schwartz on her appointment as one of the Vice Presidents of the Western Penna. Branch of the Women's League. We know Frieda will do us all proud . . . and will wear her cloak of honor with dignity.

Mrs. Rebecca Unatin is spending the Thanksgiving holiday with her children in Columbus, Ohio.

Myer and Shirley Shleifer spent a week in Boston visiting with Mary Shleifer, Myer's mother and family.

Louis and Sarah Rosenberg were visitors in New York City.

Mrs. Monroe (Pete) Citrenbaum nee Estelle Lee Tamers, has joined her husband at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Pvt. Pete is attending clerical school

at the expense of Uncle Sam. We're happy they can be together.

Bob and Elsie Ann Farkas Simpson have moved into their lovely new apartment in Beaver . . . located at 175 Wayne Street. Bob, who was recently honorably discharged from the Army, is now associated with the Sun Oil Co., in the Sales Trainee Program in Ambridge. We wish them the best of luck. Bess and Jess won't have too far to travel to be with Elsie Ann and Bob.

Mickey, son of Bess and Jess Farkas, is currently stationed in Japan. He is with the Air Force.

On Monday, Nov. 22nd, Mr. Robert McClain, a Beaver Falls Ham Radio operator, picked up a message addressed to Mrs. Herbert A. Gilbert in Ellwood City from Sgt. Herbert Gilbert in Okinawa. The message read, quote, "Am preparing to leave here the early part of December . . . will call Beaver Falls on Nov. 29th. Hope to see you all soon. All my love. Herb." Unquote . . . G-d willing Amen.

We welcome Mrs. Phillip (Grace) Gordon on the staff of the Community News. She is replacing Jeanette Rosenberg as our Circulation Editor. Jeanette is acquiring a new title . . . that of MRS.

We pray for a speedy and complete recovery to all those who are ill.

To Mrs. William (Flo) Cohen and William Harris, we extend our heartfelt sympathy of the loss of their brother, Edward Harris, of Pittsburgh.

Our sincere sympathy goes out to the families who have sustained losses in their midst.

An advance wish for a bright and joyful Chanukah to each of you.

Hope to see you at the 40th Anniversary Dinner at the Synagogue on Sunday, Dec. 5th.

My family joins me in extending congratulations to the Agudath Achim Congregation on their 40th Anniversary and wish them overwhelming success in all their future undertakings.

## ORIGINAL CHARTER MEMBERS

\*Asher Hanauer, \*Max Solomon, \*Morris Gordon, \*William Pyeyfky, \*Moses Solomon, \*Louis Wasbutsky, \*Nathan Rosenberg, \*Simon Berkman, \*Louis Wilkofsky, \*S. J. Rabinowitz, \*Mayer Solomon, \*Joe Solomon, \*Louis Maretzky, William Brown, \*Sam Feinberg, Joe Marcus, Julius Hostine, \*Max Feinberg, \*Peter Pettler, \*Barney Berkman, Abe Rosenberg, Ellis Saul, \*A. Broda.

(\* deceased)