



Beth Israel Center

50th Anniversary Celebration

1959 - 2009

5719 - 5769

Remembering our past

Celebrating our present

June 26-28, 2009

FRIDAY EVENING JUNE 26

Shabbat Service 7:30 PM

Conducted by

Rabbi Amy Greenbaum

accompanied by guitarist

Janet Mostow

SATURDAY EVENING JUNE 27

Hors d'oeuvres and Desserts 8:00 PM

Followed by Havdalah Service

Conducted by Rabbi Amy Greenbaum

With entertainment by the Hot Matzos

SUNDAY JUNE 28

10:00 AM Danish and Coffee

11:30 A.M. Welcome and Recognition

- Welcome: Dr. Joan Glickstein
- Stroll down memory lane: Recollections from friends of Beth Israel Center
- Recognition of Beth Israel Center Men's Club Presidents
- Recognition of Beth Israel Center Sisterhood Presidents
- Recognition of Beth Israel Center Presidents
- Presentation by Janet Selsley, Chair of Education Committee
- Presentation by Robby Greenberger, President of Beth Israel Center

12:15 P.M. Lunch

- Hamotzi: Dr. Perry Haalman
- Continue our stroll down memory lane
- Birkat Hamazon: Rabbi Amy Greenbaum
- So long, farewell

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I was 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ when Beth Israel Center was established. I grew up in a small town in New York (Ellenville). I did not get to see and live through the creation of BIC. However, after living through a period in my own life of working, raising kids and doing the daily chores, I recognize that it is an amazing feat to create a synagogue. As I recently learned in *The People of Beth Israel Center - Fifty Years* by Carolee Burack, the number of tasks that were accomplished to create the synagogue was incredible. From organizing and conducting religious services, creating and running a Hebrew and Sunday School, raising the funds, buying property, building the center, furnishing it with a Torah and supplies, down to even casting the stones that the exterior walls are made of, while still holding services and maintaining their daily lives is mind-boggling to me. The people of BIC were, and remain, hard working and dedicated in their commitment to our synagogue.

Today, although our numbers are shrinking, the energy to continue and to support Beth Israel Center seems to grow, even as people get older. Led by our exceptional Rabbi Amy Greenbaum we hold weekly services, celebrate many holidays and have highly educational and spiritual monthly programs. Our religious school, led by Dr. Perry Haalman, is still educating and preparing our children for B'nai Mitzvah and confirmations, even after 50 years of his and his family's involvement and teaching. Unique events such as the annual Tu B'shevat Seder and Hebrew school-prepared and -served Friday evening meals are magnificent. I know that my kids will always have special thoughts of Perry's dedication and commitment to their learning. Our Sisterhood and Men's Club are going strong with programs and events. Sunday evening adult education programs are outstanding with fine speakers who come to inform and educate us in a wide range of subjects.

After 50 years the energy at BIC is still high and we continue to do great things, including the remodeling of our facilities for this event. It is an honor for me to be the current leader of such highly educated and motivated people. I congratulate Beth Israel Center's past and present leaders and members on doing such a fine job and wish everyone the best luck and health in the future.

Robby

PAST PRESIDENTS OF BIC

Dr. Jacques Weiss	1958-1962
Dr. Sydney Friedlander	1962-1965
Dr. Joseph Markowitz	1965-1968
Mr. Jonathan Duker	1968-1971
Mr. Fred Horvitz	1971-1974
Dr. Stanley Glickstein	1974-1976
Mr. Fred Horvitz	1976-1977
Mr. Robert Burack	1977-1980
Mr. Edward Weingart	1980-1981
Mr. Arthur Regal	1981-1982
Mr. Harvey Horvitz	1982-1984
Mrs. Estelle Weissburg	1984-1987
Mrs. Eileen Kaufman	1987-1990
Ms. Barbara Krupp	1990-1992
Mr. Sidney Kaufman	1992-1994
Mr. Sam Balis	1994-1997
Dr. Edward Hillner	1997-2000
Mrs. Toby Exter	2000-2001
Mr. Louis Tamler	2001-2002
Mrs. Toby Exter	2002-2003
Mr. Milton Orkin	2003-2003
Ms. Barbara Krupp	2003-2004
Mr. Ron Weiss	2004-2007
Mr. Robert Greenberger	2007-

SISTERHOOD PAST PRESIDENTS

1959 - 1962	Estelle Weissburg
1962 - 1965	Esther Grosser
1965 - 1966	Irma Leva
1966 - 1967	Myra Berman
1967 - 1968	Charlotte Schwimer
1968 - 1970	Lee Grossman
1970 - 1972	Nancy Tunick
1972 - 1974	Bobbie Duker, Barbara Regal
	Ronna Rosenberg
1974 - 1976	Janice Davidson
1976 - 1978	Janet Roth
1978 - 1981	Ruth Weingart
1981 - 1984	Toby Exter
1984 - 1985	Joanne Freed
1985 - 1988	
1988 - 1990	Arlene Green
1991 - 1995	Shirley Schultz
1995 - 1996	Toby Exter
1996 - 1997	Estelle Weissburg
1997 - 1998	Mary Lee Long
1998 - 2000	Shirley Ravets
2000 - 2006	Ruth Balis
2006 - 2008	Cynthia Weiss, Shirley Ravets
2008 -	Janet Selsley, Dr. Joan Glickstein

MEN'S CLUB PAST PRESIDENTS

1961 - 1963	Irwin Becker
1963 - 1964	Dr. Edward Hillner
1964 - 1965	David Scott
1965 - 1966	Dr. Jack Ravets
1966 - 1967	
1967 - 1969	Earl Parker
1969 - 1970	Robert Burack
1970 - 1972	Martin Krisiloff
1972 - 1975	
1975 - 1976	Irving Selsley
1976 - 1977	Richard Stavsky
1977 - 1979	
1979 - 1980	Dr. Steven Slavkin
2001 - 2002	Dr. Hyman Schultz
2002 - 2004	Dr. Louis Freeman
2004 - 2008	Irving Selsley
2008 -	Dr. Stanley Glickstein

50 Years in a Nutshell

Beth Israel Center began in the summer 1958 as a dream by a small group of local businessmen, professionals, engineers and scientists from the Baldwin, Whitehall, Pleasant Hills and Jefferson areas. The site was the one-room Pleasant Hills Library, which, at that time, was located on the second floor of the old Pleasant Hills Fire Hall on Route 51. A total of 56 original families constituted the congregation that emerged from these beginnings. Along the way, religious services were held in various locations, including the basement of the Presbyterian Community Church, the YMCA, and the Pleasant Hills Middle School.

On February 3, 1959, ten men from this fledgling association filed a petition for incorporation of Beth Israel Center as a nonprofit religious organization and, in March of that year, received our charter from the State. This important minyan included the following:

Mr. Irwin Becker	Dr. Harry Binakonsky	Mr. Jonathan Duker
Mr. Tedric Harris	Dr. Sidney Heller	Dr. Joseph Markowitz
Mr. Emerson Samuels	Mr. Sidney Schwimmer	Mr. Edward Weingart

and our first President, Dr. Jacques L. Weiss. Our first rabbi was Rabbi Robert Kauffman.

In the Fall of 1960, the fledgling congregation purchased five and a half acres on the present site, which included a pigpen. By June 3, 1962, the pigpen was gone and ground was broken for the building, which was dedicated on October 16, 1963. J. Edgar Rosenberg, the chairman of the Building Committee, details the tribulations of this effort in *The People of Beth Israel Center - Fifty Years* by Carolee Burack.

Milestones to the present

- First Bar Mitzvah (ex-BIC) - Jeff Herzog, 1962
- First Bar Mitzvah in BIC - Marc Rosenberg, 1963
- First confirmation class - Nancy Leva and Janet Lukatsky, 1961
- First baby-naming ceremony - Paula Ravets, daughter of Jack and Shirley Ravets - 1964
- Dr. Perry Haalman teaches his first students at BIC - 1964
- First wedding in BIC - Beth Grosser Charness, August 1972
- Mortgage Burning Ceremony - April 12, 1980
- Rabbi Amy Greenbaum becomes our fifth Rabbi - 2003

DONORS

Diamond \$2000+	Joe Weiss and Elliott Weiss
Ruby \$1000 - 1999	Howard and Carol Lang Lila and Wilfred Weiss
Sapphire \$500 - 999	Stan and Joan Glickstein Joe and Judy Weiss
Emerald \$250 - 499	Glen and Rebecca Burack Angela and Steven Kohler Marty and Phyllis Pomerantz
Pearl \$100 - 249	Bob and Carolee Burack Joe and Fran Cohen Temple David Maxine Horvitz Murray Avenue Kosher Robert Kaufman Marvin and Lee Leibson Alan and Bunny Schorr Irv and Janet Selsley
Gold \$50 - 99	Shirley and Ron Barasch Eartique Michael Freed Milt and Magda Orkin Linda Shapiro Pinsky Linda Pomerantz Shirley Ravets Jo Schlesinger and Deborah Knox Ann Schubert Shirley Schultz in honor of Robby Greenberger Elaine Small Robert and Cindy Weiss West Jefferson Hills Historical Society
Friend	Rabbi Chana and Yosef Lipsher Joyce McCutcheon

ATTENDEES

William and Jill Ruben Aul	3805 Chardonnay Ct.	St. Charles, MO 63304
Harry Binakonsky	198 Beal Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Judy Binakonsky Weitzman	103 Pebblestone Ct.	Pittsburgh, PA 15239
Glenn Burack	32 Garden St., Apt 40-505	Boston, MA 02116
Paul Burack	26 Brook Ln.	Ryebrook, NY 10573
Robert and Carolee Burack	327 Challen Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Alan Charness	4705 5 th Ave.	Pittsburgh, PA 15213
Neil and Beth Grosser Charness	1325 Peaceful Pl.	Tallahassee, FL 32308
Scott and Ellen Grosser	856 Park Blvd.	East Liverpool, OH
Joseph and Fran Cohen	6523 Piemonte Dr.	Boynton Beach, FL
Eric and Trish Davidson	19223 Wind Dancer Rd.	Lutz, FL 33549
Jon and Holly Davidson	5760 W. Mill Rd.	Broadview Heights, OH
Stan and Janice Davidson	5845 Seashell Ter.	Boynton Beach, FL 33437
Robert and Marilyn Dropkin	30 Jordan Rd.	New Hartford, NY13413
Jonina Duker	5020 Cloister Dr.	N. Bethesda, MD 20852
Laura Exter Davis	6386 79 th St.	Los Angeles, CA 90045
David and Rachel Exter Berlin	2021 Stillwater Dr.	Gibsonia, PA 15044
Toby Exter	1166 Links Way	Gibsonia, PA 15044
Janan Friedlander Frey	110 Stockton Ln.	Arnold, MD 21012
Fred and Karen Glickstein Edeson	4007 Andrew Ct.	Abingdon, MD 21009
Cathy Glickstein	143 Hoyt St. #1	Stamford, CT 06905
Stan and Joan Glickstein	321 Challen Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Larry and Vera Green	4737 Dolphin Cay Ln. #506	St. Petersburg, FL 33711
Richard and Arlene Green	136 Catskill Ave.	Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Rabbis Alex and Amy Greenbaum	936 Valleyview Rd.	Pittsburgh PA 15243
Robert and Debbe Greenberger	4573 Norwin Rd.	Pittsburgh PA 15227
Perry and Micki Haalman	100 Edgemeade Dr.	Monroeville, PA 15146
Mary Hiller	324 W. Bruceton Rd.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Ed and Bea Hillner	322 Cavan Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Bill and Louise Hunt	2984 Amy Dr	South Park, PA 15129
Nehemiah and Melissa Hunt Moore	947 Bender Rd.	Marietta, OH 45750
Lee and Ellen Jackson	7287 Thornapple Ln.	Solon, OH 44139
Mark and Ellen Jackson Diamond	122 Haverford Cir.	Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228
Selma Jackson	1300 Bower Hill Rd #1325	Pittsburgh, PA 15243
Lisa Kaufman	1751 Hollyrood Dr	Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Daniel and Janet Klein	46 Foster Square	Pittsburgh, PA 15212
Charles and Sara Krifcher	120 Glenwood Dr.	Monroeville, PA 15146
Ronnie Krifcher	10330 Castlehedge Ter.	Silver Spring, MD 20902
Howard and Carol Lang	180 Southvue Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236

ATTENDEES (CONT)

Marvin and Lee Leibson	5142 Leona Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Gary Grossman & Adrienne Kohn	8801 Transue Dr.	Bethesda, MD 20817
Sharon Grossman Ogburn	112-1910 Chesterfield Ave.	N. Vancouver, BC V7M2P5
Jessica Musikar	880 N. Pollard St. Apt 303	Arlington, VA 22203
Robert and Marlene Litman	7768 Campania Dr.	Boynton Beach, FL 33472
Tammy Litman Steinberg	20 Pikes Way	Cheltenham, PA 19012
David Markowitz	308 Lobos St.	Pacific Grove, CA 93950
Jane Markowitz	4900 Brittany Dr. S. Apt 1513	St. Petersburg, FL 33715
Lisa Markowitz	1371 Campbell Rd.	Bethel, VT 05032
Robert Melhado	291 Picture D.r	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Joan Solak	310 James Dr.	Belle Vernon, PA 15012
Jennie Mentser	4628 E. Willock Rd.	Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Milton and Magda Orkin	1222 Terra Mar Dr.	Tampa, FL 33613
Robert and Susan Konig	709 Marigold Ct.	Pittsburgh, PA 15107
Sally Petri	542 Elaine Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Linda Pomerantz	1616 Sir Francis Drake Blvd, Unit C	San Anselmo, CA 94960
Martin and Phyllis Pomerantz	1241 Earlford Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15227
Scott and Ellen Pomerantz Wedner	6598 Rosemoor St.	Pittsburgh, PA 15217
Shirley Ravets	285 Tara Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
J. Edgar Rosenberg	100 Club Dr. West	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Stanford and Rita Rosner	1337 Portview Cir.	Pittsburgh, PA 15227
David and Janet Roth Lukatsky	10 Chaucer Rd.	Nashua, NH 03062
Alan and Bunny Schorr	547 Sandra Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15243
Ann Schubert	5234 Gerry Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Shirley Schultz	500 E. Bruceton Rd Apt 221	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Adam and Julie Selsley	368 W. Highland Dr.	Schenectady, NY 12303
Elliot and Beth Selsley	734 Gregory Dr.	Horsham, PA 19044
Irv and Janet Selsley	332 W. Bruceton Rd.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Daniel and Marsha Shrager	6375 Jefferson Point Cir.	Jefferson Hills, PA 15025
Elaine Small	241 Lynn Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Stephen Small	154 Walnut Tree Hill Rd.	Sandy Hook, CT 06482
James and Doris Teska	175 Lenity Rd.	Belle Vernon, PA 15012
Barry Tunick	1018 Franklin Ct.	Jefferson Hills, PA 15025
Art and Rachel Weinblum	4680 Prescot Dr.	Bethel Park, PA 15102
Edward Weingart	373 Saratoga Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Elliott and JoAnn Weiss	235 Oak Entrance Dr.	Jefferson Hills, PA 15025
Joe and Judy Weiss	223 Caryl Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Robert and Cindy Weiss	1656 Citation Dr.	South Park, PA 15129
Ron and Carolyn Weiss	215 Capitol Dr.	Pittsburgh, PA 15236
Gloria Weiss	500 E. Bruceton Rd., Apt 525	Pittsburgh, PA 15236

CONGRATULATIONS AND BEST WISHES TO

BETH ISRAEL CENTER ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**We wish all of our friends and
former members of
Beth Israel Center many simchas!**

**Joseph Weiss and Family
Elliott Weiss and Family**

*In Loving Memory of Eric David Weiss
We Miss You*