

SISTERHOOD

NEWSLETTER

President: Jackie Martins
914-528-7680

Editor: Candy Wadler
914-962-3715



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Shalom,

While we begin the month of March, we think of spring and newness. We are preparing our *Mishloach Manot* and beginning the fun of Purim frolic. I wish you all a "Hag Sameach". March 16th will be a busy day, packing and delivering our caring packages. Please consider participating in this event. You should contact Maria Handwerger at 245-4894. Community is a concept of working together to achieve success and togetherness for all. I know that you each have special talents waiting to be developed and shared. Think about what you can do to be part of all this activity.

In March we are busy with our *catering* projects. Please join in the fun cooking and getting to know each other. Call me at 914-528-7680 if you are interested in participating. I am so proud of all the Sisterhood women who work together on so many venues!

Congratulations to Sharon Sigler, as our honoree for Torah fund "Woman of the Year". She certainly works hard for Sisterhood and deserves this honor. Please join us at 10:00 am on Sunday April 6th for our annual Torah Fund Brunch. Reservations may be made with Linda Kingsbury. Watch out for your invitation.



Happy Spring!

Jackie



UPCOMING MEETINGS

SUN., MAR. 16TH,
10 AM

Mishloach Manot
Box Packing. Come,
join the fun.

If you can help with the
delivery, please call Maria
Handwerger at (914) 245-4894.



SUN., APRIL 6TH, 10 AM

Torah Fund Brunch
Donation: \$18 to Jewish
Theological Seminary.

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BINGO KITCHEN HONOR ROLL

Donna Deiner & Elaine Boshnack

Thank you to the following Sisters for supporting the BINGO Kitchen:

January 13, 2008

- ☆ Lorraine King
- ☆ Suzanne Stein
- ☆ Ronnie Baimel
- ☆ Sharon Sigler
- ☆ Cheryl Cohen

January 27, 2008

- ☆ Cheryl Cohen
- ☆ Sheri Handwerker
- ☆ Elaine Schanzer
- ☆ Linda Kingsbury



We really could not have done it without your investment of time, help and patience.



Ellen Freebern.....	6
Isabel Mirsky.....	6
Marcia Stone.....	10
Toby Waller.....	10
Evelyn Lenes.....	15
Gill Tritter.....	16
Ruth Reiner.....	20
Laurie Steinmetz.....	26



Lester & Sally Rosenbaum.....	6
Jack & Sondra Goldstein.....	14
Mort & Fran Bensky.....	18
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TORAH FUND: BRUNCH

by Linda Kingsbury

The Torah Fund Brunch will be held on Sunday, April 6th, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Yorktown Jewish Center. Sharon Sigler will be honored as Woman of the Year.

The Torah Fund campaign of the Women’s League for Conservative Judaism supports the Jewish Theological Seminary and other Conservative/Masorti seminaries. At JTS, the Torah Fund has supported residence halls and the library, built the Women’s League Seminary Synagogue and the Women’s League Educational Pavilion, and is now funding scholarships. Gifts to Torah Fund do not stay at the Yorktown Jewish Center but go directly to support students at the Jewish Theological Seminary – our future rabbis, cantors, and educators.

This year’s Torah Fund theme is *Kol Ishah: A Woman’s Voice*, in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the investiture of female cantors in the Conservative Movement. This year’s pin, with its image of a singing woman, is not only a symbol of women’s achievements, but also of the ways the Conservative Movement remains dynamic and relevant. In addition, the *Kol Ishah* theme celebrates the increasing role of women’s voices in the community, as we speak up and make ourselves heard in so many settings – and it calls us to listen to the voices of those women who came before us and made us what we are: Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah, Deborah and Esther, our mothers and grandmothers.

How can you support Torah Fund?

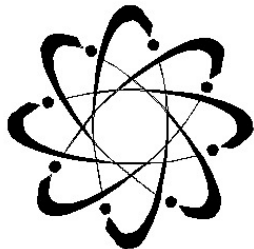
- ☆ Come to the Torah Fund Brunch honoring Sharon Sigler on April 6, 2008. Your entire \$18 donation goes directly to Torah Fund.
- ☆ Make a \$4 donation to purchase a Torah Fund card to send someone.
- ☆ Make an \$18 donation to have a tribute card sent in honor or memory of someone.
- ☆ Make a donation or pledge of any amount, large or small. Donations to Torah Fund are tax-deductible, and many employers will match your gift.
- ☆ You may still become a Torah Fund Benefactor with a pledge of \$180, payable in installments. Each Benefactor receives an attractive Torah Fund pin in appreciation of her support.

Please contact Linda at 736-7020 for more information or to order cards.

SOCIAL ACTION

By Phyllis Cohen

January 29, 2008 – New York – American Jewish Committee Executive Director, David A. Harris, in his national radio commentary, urged listeners to take action for energy independence, and offered several examples of AJC initiatives.



Excerpts of his commentary follow:

“For the sake of America’s security, environment and economy, we need greater energy independence, starting today, not tomorrow. And each of us can play a role.

It's been years ... in coming. And we're not there yet. But America is finally waking up to the danger of our dependence on oil from hostile sources. Political and business leaders are talking about it. The media is reporting on it. These are all good signs. AJC has been leading by example. We were the first non-profit agency to offer cash incentives to our staff to buy fuel-efficient vehicles. ... We're hoping to become one of the first non-profits in the country to be certified green. ... And we've been busy urging our nation's lawmakers to get serious, get bipartisan, and get going on moving our nation forward. Join us in this effort.”

And here are some energy conservation suggestions from our local Teatown Lake Reservation:

- ✧ Consider a household energy audit through NYSEG or Con Ed, which can significantly reduce your home’s energy consumption and carbon emissions.
- ✧ Replace incandescent light bulbs with compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFL’s) whenever possible. Although more expensive to purchase initially, they will last longer and use a fraction of the electricity.
- ✧ Keep your thermostat at 68 degrees or below (ideally 65) in winter, and 74 degrees in summer. Incentive: For every degree in temperature you adjust your thermostat, you decrease your heating and cooling energy use by 10%.
- ✧ Reduce the amount of driving you do by choosing, whenever possible, to: walk, ride a bike, take the train or bus, combine errands/trips, eliminate unnecessary trips, car-pool.
- ✧ Maintain your vehicle for maximum fuel efficiency: Keep your car tuned up, and your tires properly inflated, which improves mileage and extends tire life.
- ✧ Do not idle for more than 30 seconds. Idling uses significantly more gas and produces more toxic pollutants than driving at average speed.

WE CAN TRY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

TELL YOUR LIFE STORY FOR A BOOK!

What a great Sisterhood Fundraiser! You will be interviewed and your very own book created! (15 to 20 pages in bold print text, widely spaced, with colored clip art) Donation to Sisterhood: \$54.00; additional copies at a discount. You must be 70 or older to qualify.

For details and to see a sample copy, call Phyllis Cohen at (914) 245-9004.

CARDS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

TORAH FUND CARDS:
LINDA 914-736-7020





IHO'S

HELEN WEISBERGER

- ✧ My Birthday.
- ✧ My participation in Woman's League Shabbat weekend.
- ✧ My granddaughter Sara Jade's 8th birthday.
- ✧ Lillian Klein's birthday.
- ✧ Anne Rosenblatt's bat mitzvah.
- ✧ My granddaughter Ariana Felice in her Hey Class Shabbat service.

SHARON URBAS

- ✧ Lillian Klein's big birthday.
- ✧ My granddaughter Avital Morris' 14th birthday.
- ✧ My grandson Lev Malmon Ko's 5th birthday (Avinoam and Naomi's son).

PHYLLIS COHEN

- ✧ Lillian Klein's special birthday.

RACHEL SELIBER

- ✧ My son, Brian, who was accepted to Washington & Lee University in Virginia this fall.
- ✧ My son, Daniel, just because.
- ✧ My husband just because.

PEARL FELSENFELD

- ✧ Lillian Klein's special birthday.
- ✧ Sharon Urbas, Happy Birthday.
- ✧ Sharon Sigler, our *Woman of the Year*.

SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING

You shall call the Sabbath a delight. - Bible



Mar. 7	5:35
Mar. 14	6:43
Mar. 21	6:51
Mar. 28	6:58

JEWISH LIVING: HANNAH AND PRAYER

By Anne Lowy

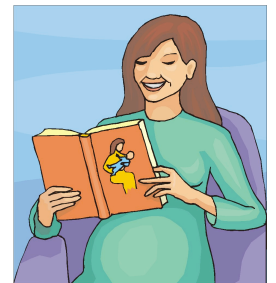
Samuel, one of Israel's greatest prophets, presided over the beginning of the monarchy and has two books of the Torah named after him. Less than a chapter and a half are devoted to his mother, Hannah, yet her story was deemed important enough to serve as the Haftarah for the first day of Rosh Hashanah – and it is to her that I continue to be drawn more than to any other woman of the Bible.



Hers is a familiar story about great yearning and great love that bears retelling because of its deep humanity. It starts with Elkanah the Ephraimite who has two wives, defined by their ability to produce children: Peninnah, the success, and Hannah, the failure. We can already feel Hannah's pain, which is only increased by Peninnah's taunts – though we suspect Peninnah acts out of jealousy since "it was Hannah that he loved" (I Samuel, 1:5).

Despite Elkanah's deep love and devotion to her, Hannah is unbearably sad, to the point where she weeps and cannot eat during their annual pilgrimage to the Temple at Shiloh. She goes to the Temple alone, and there she famously prays for a child, whom she vows to devote to God. Eli the priest is watching her: "Now Hannah was praying in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice could not be heard" (1:13). He jumps to the conclusion that she is drunk, until she explains that she has been simply pouring out her heart to God. She thus becomes the first Jew to pray silently, and because that is the way we say our most heartfelt prayers, we can easily identify with her.

For me, the identification with Hannah became even stronger after I had two miscarriages following the birth of my son Josh. I desperately wanted a second child but didn't know if it was possible. When I became pregnant again, I read the story of



Jewish Living -


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Hannah many times, drawing strength from it, for, as you know, God remembers Hannah and within a year Samuel is born.

If her story were to end there, it would be bittersweet, since she must deliver Samuel to Eli the priest once he is weaned. But God has not finished caring for her: "She conceived and bore three sons and two daughters" (1:21). We leave Hannah surrounded by her other children.



The story of Hannah and Samuel was a great comfort to me, as it has been to many women in similar situations. My Hebrew name is Hannah. When my daughter Rachel was born it seemed like a miracle, just as Samuel's birth must have seemed to my namesake. One of the Hebrew names we gave Rachel is Shamuella, after Samuel, or Sh'muel in Hebrew.



WE SEND OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE FAMILY OF BETTY BUSMAN AND BEVERLY BUSMAN ON THE DEATH OF DAVE BUSMAN.

BUY A&P GIFT CARDS

Buy your Sisterhood gift cards for use at A&P and Food Emporium. Use them to do your holiday food shopping. We earn 5% profit from the sale of these cards, and it costs you nothing, so be sure to pick up your gift cards soon! Call Rachel Seliber at 914-962-6738.



SISTERHOOD CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2007 - 2008



Knitters group every Monday at 9:30 am

March

Thursday 3/13 Board meeting

Sunday 3/16 Mishloach Manot packing and delivery

April

Sunday 4/06 Torah Fund Brunch

Thursday 4/10 Board meeting



MORE IHO'S



LESLIE MANDEL

- ☆ Lillian's big birthday.
- ☆ Jackie's greatness as President.

JACKIE MARTINS

- ☆ My daughter Ellisa's new job with the Federal Government as an adult probation officer.

MARIA HANDWERGER

- ☆ Sharon Sigler for her selfless devotion to the YJC and being chosen Torah Fund *Woman of the Year*.
- ☆ Lillian Klein and Sharon Urbas for their recent birthdays.
- ☆ My boys, Ben & Sam, just because I love you both!

AMY SHIMBERG

- ☆ Jackie Martins for all of her hard work.
- ☆ Sharon Sigler for being named Torah Fund *Woman of the Year*.
- ☆ Sharon Urbas, Elaine Schanzer, Stacy Mitgang and Cheryl Cohen for their work on the nominating committee.

LILLIAN KLEIN

- ☆ My 2 wonderful daughters, Suzanne and Marilyn, and their wonderful husbands, Ira and Richie, for 2 such terrific weekends to celebrate my 85th birthday.



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