



July 2010/*Tammuz-Av* 5770 Volume 5, Number 11

### SHABBAT SERVICES



On Friday, July 16, we will have a “campfire” Shabbat service at the home of Arlene Cohen, 38 Grandview Drive, Orleans, led by Rebecca and Mike Holmes. Please bring your own chair as well as fruit or pastry for the Oneg Shabbat. We invite you to share your own camp stories and songs. In the event of inclement weather, services will be at Chapel in the Pines.

#### Directions:

Once in Orleans, take Main Street toward Nauset Beach. At the Barley Neck Inn take the left fork onto Beach Road. Granview is on the left, just after the Cottonwood Cottage Colony. It is a private drive. If you get to the Ship Knees Inn you have gone too far! Arlene's house is at the end of the road on the left. Please park on the road rather than in Arlene's driveway.

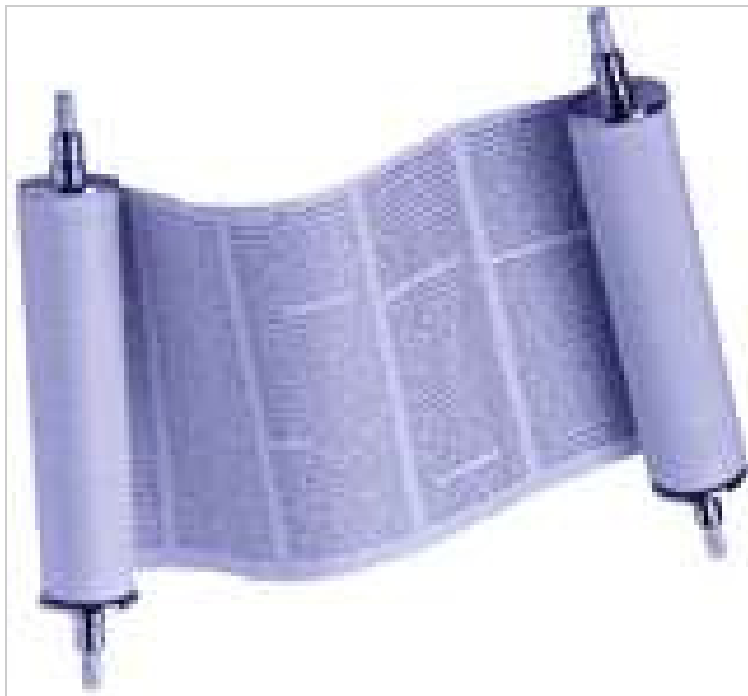
Note: No service on July 2<sup>nd</sup> due to holiday weekend festivities and traffic.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It was standing room only at Chapel-in-the-Pines on June 4th when we welcomed a recently donated *Torah* to our *Havurah*. With over 70 people in attendance, Rabbi Deanna Douglas led us in a combined *Shabbat* and Dedication Service. We were joined by members of the Nauset Interfaith Association. The *Torah* entered the sanctuary under a *chuppah* held by the former presidents of *Am HaYam*. Rabbi Douglas read from the Book of Numbers, and we all joined her for the final words of the *parasha*, words that we recite at every service. Alice Weiss graced us with her beautiful poem, written specially for the occasion. Cantor Bruce Malin's rendition of the prayer for healing brought tears to many eyes. As we concluded the service with our final song, Tree of Life, the words rang out with special meaning. "It is our tree of life and we will hold fast to it." All those who support our *Havurah* are indeed happy.

I would like to thank all our members and friends who joined us on this very special *Shabbat*. I still can not find words that truly convey all that I felt that evening. It will be a night that I will always remember. And to everyone who helped plan and who participated in the service, know that I am forever grateful for your assistance and support. We have planted a tree of life here on the Cape; let us grow in many ways with it.

*Judy Keller*



## TORAH DEDICATION SERVICE

On Friday, June 4, *Am HaYam's* new *Torah* was dedicated in a lovely ceremony led by Rabbi Deanna Douglas and *Am HaYam* President, Judy Keller. The following poem was written and read by Alice Weiss.

### **This Torah,**

its parchment sheets sewn loosely  
side by side with kidskin laces,  
inscribed and rolled in spools  
and wrapped in heavy brocade  
as if it were winter drapes  
folded and stored for the summer  
and placed on some early spring  
morning in a flat in the older section  
of a once walled city  
on a high closet shelf behind  
a set of hat boxes tall enough to hide it,  
from the searches of an occupying army,  
but  
when the bombs fell and exploded  
into the high facades of stone houses  
debris rains for days  
burning holes in the roof shingles  
blocks away and the draped scroll,  
never certainly safe, now the target  
of an ongoing drip of plaster tinged  
rainwater,  
leaving its history in swathes on the  
pages,  
clouds of danger washing off,  
dissolving the ink used to inscribe the  
words.  
Yet the writing remains;  
letters absorbed in the  
invisible sinewy tissue of the parchment  
delicate as shadows, insistently grip-  
ping the page,  
hold on for dear life, and later,

when the hat boxes tumble into the  
arms  
of a young woman on a footstool,  
perplexed by her mother's strange van-  
ity  
in keeping so many hats and on a shelf  
so far above her head, discovers be-  
hind them  
the long heavy cloth wound object and  
calls to her husband to carry it down  
unfolding the moldy old cloth and find-  
ing  
the scroll intact, carries it to  
friends of her mother's who have sur-  
vived the wars,  
hidden and retrieved themselves  
who nod silently, as if in reading the  
scroll  
they also read the mud and the rubble,  
the flights,  
the stumbles into unknown countries,  
the scroll bearing, like they do, in their  
sinews  
the blessed indelible stain  
the delicate shadow of the people  
holding on to them for dear life.  
They wait silently until sunset and then  
rise together with the scroll to praise  
its wonders:  
the undying kernel ,  
the undying tree of the life of the peo-  
ple.

*Alice Weiss*

## ADULT EDUCATION

"The Red Orchestra: the Story of the Berlin Underground and the Circle of Friends Who Resisted Hitler" at the Wellfleet Library, Thursday, July 15, 8:00 p.m.

The Wellfleet Library and *Am HaYam* are co-sponsoring a talk by Anne Nelson, author of "Red Orchestra: the Story of the Berlin Underground and the Circle of Friends Who Resisted Hitler." After the Nazi takeover in Germany in 1933, a group of German artists, academics, and writers decided to take a stand. Their initial concern was to break through the information blockage of censorship and media control, to find out what was really going on in their country. But as the crimes of the Nazis mounted, so did their resistance activities -- culminating in infiltrating the upper echelons of the Nazi regime, providing support for persecuted Jews, gathering evidence of war crimes, and spying for the U.S. and the Soviets. Its members were varied, including Christians, Jews and Communists, and almost half of them were women. The New York Times praised the book for its "deep sympathy and unsentimental compassion... with its story of a tiny band that somehow managed to summon the wild courage to take a stand against a barbarous status quo."

"Jewish Soul American Beat" at Brewster Ladies Library, August 5 at 7:30 p.m.

Dr. Gerald Sorin will explore the fate of American Jewish identity -- will it face evaporation or reinvigoration as a result of intermarriage and assimilation? Or is there a return to Jewish identity and tradition among young people that portends a future of vitality and strength? Dr. Sorin will introduce the film, "Jewish Soul American Beat," which explores this new Jewish landscape in America, featuring interviews with Arthur Hertzberg, Tony Kushner, Cynthia Ozick, Rabbi Alexander Schindler, Elizabeth Swados, John Zorn, and scenes of a synagogue service with standing room only, a *Yiddish* Cabaret, jazz club, feminist *Seder* and a gathering for intermarrieds and converts, and will then facilitate a discussion on the topic.

Gerald Sorin taught American and Jewish Studies at the State University of New York at New Paltz for 35 years from 1965 to 2000. He is the former Chairman of the History Department (1986-1996) at SUNY, New Paltz, and continues there, since 1989 as the founding director of the Louis and Mildred Resnick Institute for the Study of Modern Jewish Life. In 1994 he was awarded the State University's highest rank -- Distinguished University Professor. He is the author of nearly 200 articles and seven books, his latest, is *Irving Howe: A Life of Passionate Dissent* (2002), a biography that was awarded the Saul Viener Prize by the American Jewish Historical Society for Best Book in American Jewish History.

(Jessica Dill has become the chair of the newly formed Membership Committee. Therefore the Board is now looking for volunteers to serve on the Adult Education Committee and for a Chair of that Committee. Please contact either Jessica or Judy Keller if you are interested.)

Adult Education Programs Scheduled for Summer 2010			
August 26	Stephen Van Evera	Israel and the Two State Solution	Brewster Ladies Library
September 26	Joan Leegant	Wherever You Go – a novel about extremism in Israel	TBD

### AM HAYAM BOOK CLUB

The new Am HaYam Book Club is up and running. The next meeting will be on Thursday, July 8, 10 AM, at the home of Judi and Jay Bloom, 80 Lombard Lane, Wellfleet. The book to be discussed is Abraham Joshua Heschel's first important work, *Maimonides*. Please rsvp to Judi and Jay at 508-255-0055 or judijay@comcast.net.

### YIDDISH GROUP - *Mamaloshen* (the mother tongue)

When you were a child, didn't you sit at the kitchen table with mama, papa, *bubbie* and *zadie* and hear *mamaloshen*? At the Yiddish Club - *mamaloshen* - some of us remember enough *Yiddish* and speak it, while others mostly listen. We enjoy the language, sharing our culture, history, song, poetry and reminiscing. We would love to have you join us. Call Sandy at 508-255-5419 with any questions or for location and directions.

*Sandy Chernick*

### 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.

### SUPERMARKET GIFT CARDS

*Am HaYam* helps the Interfaith Homeless Prevention Council by selling its Shaw's and Stop and Shop gift cards at face value and the Council earns 5% of the value. You use them like cash at the supermarkets. It does not cost you anything. Sandy Chernick 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.

### 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 except during the months of July and August. We will not meet in September this year due to the time of the High Holy Days. We will have our annual planning meeting at my home on Thursday, October 21, 7:30 PM.

*Bernice Simon-Wolfson, Chair, Rosh Chodesh*

## TORAH STUDY 2010 /2011

(All sessions are at the Brewster Ladies Library at 10:30 AM unless otherwise noted.)

Rabbi Alan Ullman

- Tuesday, August 31
- Saturday, November 13, Havdalah, Study and Potluck Dinner (TBA)
- Sunday, December 26
- Sunday, January 30
- Sunday, February 27

Rabbi Deanna Douglas

- Sunday, October 17
- Sunday, March 27
- Sunday, April 24
- Sunday, May 15

## BOOKPLATE DONATION

You may not realize that many of our prayer books are still available for dedicatory bookplates, and that virtually your entire donation for that purpose is a contribution to the wonderful programs and services provided by our committed Board and imaginative creative committees. Please don't overlook this opportunity for performing a true bargain *mitzvah*.

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.

*Gene Saklad*

*In memory of*

Jonathan Daniel Cohen, beloved son of Arlene Cohen

George & Renate Wasserman  
Gene & Joan Saklad

## 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*

Saskia Maxwell Keller, daughter of David Keller and Mary Maxwell, on her *Bat Mitzvah*.

Milly and Murray Beer on the *Bat Mitzvah* of their granddaughter, Hannah Julia Trippodo. Hannah is also the grandniece of Bernice Simon-Wolfson and Elly Alford.

Judy and Steve Underberg on the *Bat Mitzvah* of their granddaughter, Rachel Underberg-Davis.

*Condolences to*

Sylvia Furash on the loss of her beloved husband, David Furash.

## DONATIONS

*In memory of*

Jon Cohen, beloved son of Arlene Cohen

Miriam & Peter Selig  
David & Shira Sands

Our parents and our beloved daughter, Elyse

Michael & Gail Andrews

Sandi's sister, Doris Eisenberg

Mark & Sandi Vandercar

*In honor of*

The acquisition of the new *Torah* and many thanks for the beautiful *Shabbat* dedication service.

Ira & Bernice Wolfson

*Am HaYam* acquiring its own *Torah*.

Mark & Sandi Vandercar

*In appreciation of Am HaYam*

David & Marjorie Becker  
Sandra Fox

## DATES TO REMEMBER

No services	Friday, July 2	
Independence Day	Sunday, July 4	
Independence Day observed	Monday, July 5	
Book Club	Thursday, July 8	10:30 AM
<i>Yiddish Club</i>	Thursday, July 8	1:00 PM
<i>Rosh Hodesh Av</i>	Monday, July 12	
Adult Ed Program	Thursday, July 15	8:00 PM
<i>Shabbat Service</i>	Friday, July 16	7:30 PM
<i>Tisha B'Av</i>	Tuesday, July 20	
<i>Yiddish Club</i>	Thursday, July 22	1:00 PM
Board of Directors	Sunday, July 25	7:30 PM
Women's Torah Study	Tuesday, July 27	2:00 PM

### WOMEN'S TORAH STUDY

The Women's Torah Study group meets monthly year round on the fourth Tuesday of each month at members' homes. We recently completed Genesis (the first book of the *Torah*) and are currently reading Exodus. 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 with the location and directions. If you would like to be added to that email list, please let me know. The July 27th meeting will be 2-4 PM at the home of Anne Katz-Jacobson, West Yarmouth.

*Rebecca B. Holmes*



## 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 HaYam* 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*.

## LOOKING AHEAD TO AUGUST:

- Adult Education, Thursday, August 5, 7:30 PM
- *Shabbat* Service, Friday, August 6, 7:30 PM
- *Yiddish* Club, Thursday, August 12, 1:00 PM
- *Shabbat* Service, Friday, August 20, 7:30 PM
- Board of Directors, Sunday, August 22, 7:00 PM
- Women's Torah Study, Tuesday, August 24, 2-4 PM
- *Yiddish* Club, Thursday, August 26, 1:00 PM
- Adult Education Program, Thursday, August 26, 7:30 PM
- Torah Study w/Rabbi Ullman, **Tuesday**, August 31, 10:30 AM

**Happy Fourth of July!**



## AM HAYAM ANNUAL MEETING REPORTS (addendum)

The following committee reports were made at the Annual Meeting in May but were not printed in the June newsletter. They are summarized below.

### RITUAL COMMITTEE

High Holiday Services:

Services were conducted beautifully by Rabbi Deanna Douglas and Cantor Liz Anker with help from Shira and Greg Sands and the Zamerei singers. The Kol Nidre service for Yom Kippur also featured Elizabeth Schultz on the cello. Paul Biegelsen served as an additional cantor for the Kol Nidre prayer. The Ritual Committee provided planning and support; while Barry Worth led the setup and take down activities at the Federated Church in Orleans.

The customary break-the-fast at the conclusion of the Yom Kippur service was canceled for lack of volunteers to help with setup and cleanup. However, a small break-fast was provided, and some volunteers stepped up to help organize the break-fast for the 2010 services. The start time for the Ne'ilah service will also be delayed to come closer to sundown.

*Sukkot and Simchat Torah:*

*Sukkot* was celebrated at the home of Steve Berrick and Cindy Fox on Friday, October 2. Once again, this was a wonderful event, in spite of the wet weather. Cantor Malin conducted *Shabbat* and *Simchat Torah* services at Chapel in the Pines on October 16. Attendance was very good.

*Am HaYam* Community Passover *Seder*:

The *Seder* was held at the United Methodist Church in Orleans on Tuesday, March 30, 2010. Approximately 70 people attended. Many thanks to Deborah Jacobs for taking reservations and coordinating the food arrangements. Thanks also to Judi Bloom, Florence Selding, Arlene Cohen and Rebecca Holmes who conducted the *Seder*, and thanks to Shira Sands who managed the setup and takedown, and to Arlene Cohen for all her assistance. More publicity about parking at and near the church is needed for next year.

The *Chanukah* celebration was combined with *Shabbat* services and led by Paul Biegelsen.

The *Bar Mitzvah* of Robby Ostrer was observed on Saturday, March 27, 2010 at the Chapel in the Pines. Paul Biegelsen conducted the service and read from the "new" To-

*rah*. Robby chanted his *maftir* from the *Torah*, and then read the *haftarah*. This was the inaugural use of the *Torah* which *Am HaYam* had received from the Scarsdale Synagogue. Steve Berrick and Cindy Fox were instrumental in helping Robby to write his *d'var Torah*. They also helped with setup and restoration of the chapel. Judi Bloom and Steve Berrick acted as *gabbaim* during the *Torah* reading. *Am HaYam* donated a new *tallit* for Robby, and Judi Bloom presented a *Kiddush* cup and *Bar Mitzvah* certificate to him.

Saskia Keller and her family celebrated her *Bat Mitzvah* at Chapel in the Pines on Saturday, June 5, 2010. Saskia was tutored by Judi Bloom and Paul Biegelsen. She also received help from Rabbi Deanna Douglas who officiated at the service. Saskia read a significant portion of her *Torah* portion, *Shlach L'Cha*, from our "new" *torah*. Saskia was well prepared and did extremely well. Judi Bloom and Paul Biegelsen were *gabbaim*, and Judi Bloom presented a *Kiddush* cup to Saskia on behalf of *Am HaYam*.

The *Purim Shpiel/Shabbat* Service was well attended with over 40 enthusiastic participants. Everyone agreed that this was one of the best *Purim Shpiels* ever. Thanks to Judy Keller for another great job.

The ritual committee arranged for *Erev Shabbat* services year-round at Chapel in the Pines and recruited service leaders.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paul Biegelsen

## FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES

For several years, *Am HaYam* has paid the tuition for two teachers from the Lower Cape to attend "Facing History and Ourselves" which has grown into a national organization that involves teachers in the study of racism, anti-Semitism and other forms of prejudice. The organization is rooted in the study of the Holocaust and other genocides.

Last summer two teachers attended the week-long Summer Institute in Brookline, one from Harwich High School and the other from Nauset High School. The program title was "Holocaust and Human Behavior." A letter of appreciation from the Harwich teacher said in part, "I would call it the best professional development experience that I've had" and "the Holocaust is an inexhaustible subject, though you think you know what happened, you never really do." The Nauset teacher wrote, "You can't teach the Holocaust from a book or from pictures, there is no pulse there - it has to do with compassion." She closed with a poem she wrote based on her experience. The poem ends with:

How do you put into words: Love, Freedom, God, Mother?  
How do you put into words the murder of Love, Freedom, God, Mother?

Both teachers felt that this workshop will have a positive impact on how they teach and interact with their students.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ira Seldin, Chair

## NAUSET INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION

Florence Seldin, Gene Saklad, and Judy Keller represented *Am HaYam* in leading parts of the program at the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, which was held Sunday, November 22, at Orleans United Methodist Church. Once again, Shira Sands and other members of *Zamarei HaYam* participated in the combined choir.

After last year's very successful breakfast meeting at The Church of the Holy Spirit in Orleans, this year's Martin Luther King, Jr. observance was held January 18 at the same location, and also included breakfast. Employing a video excerpt from one of Dr. King's sermons in which he noted specific things which gave him strength, those at each table enumerated those things which gave them strength in the face of challenges.

The Nauset Interfaith Association was pleased to co-sponsor a well-attended and compelling Holocaust Remembrance observance on April 15. Details of that program are in Sharon Leder's report.

Because the Nauset Interfaith Association is a contributing member of the National Religious Campaign Against Torture, it is represented in NRCAT's Participating Members Council. Gene Saklad continues to serve as liaison. At a Shabbat service in June (Torture Awareness Month) he adapted one of NCRAT's interfaith prayers against torture. On May 26, there was an interfaith collaborative program scheduled, based upon a new NRCAT video, entitled, "Ending U.S.-Sponsored Torture Forever."

In addition to ongoing efforts in the complementary areas of investigation and legislation relevant to the treatment of detainees in U.S. military custody, the agenda for 2010 also includes efforts to safeguard civilian prisoners against abusive practices throughout the United States, and to induce the Federal government to develop components of foreign policy to influence other governments known to utilize torture and other abusive practices to adopt reforms.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gene Saklad

## THE "YELLOW PAGES" OF AM HAYAM

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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.