



CBT Nu'z



Nisan - Iyar 5769, April 2009 * Congregation B'Nai Torah, Olympia, WA, USA
Website: <http://www.bnai-torah-olympia.org> * email: cbtnuz@live.com

President's Letter April 2009

Happy Passover (Starts sundown April 8th)

Next Board Meeting is Monday, May 4 At 7:00 pm

Dear Members and Friends,

Do you all remember the scene in the movie "Mad Max and Thunderdome", towards the end, where Mel Gibson is standing in the arena with the stands full of young people chanting "tell the story?" It's the story of how they survived and became a community once again. Well, it's our turn once again to tell our story in communities around the world; in homes, hotels, cruises, temples, synagogues, kibbutzim and prisons. Yes, why is this night different from all other nights? And, did you know, that surveys now show that more Jews attend a Seder than participate in High Holyday services?

As is our synagogue's custom, we want to make sure that everyone who wishes has a home Seder to attend. Please let Sue and I know and we will match you with a Seder. Our phone is 360-456-7367. If you know of someone who is not a member but would like to attend a Seder, please refer him or her to us.

How do you get the most out of the Seders you attend? Let me suggest that a little study in advance will help make the Seder more interesting for everyone. Look up a story, an insight, a hasidische tale, a commentary and bring it to wherever you are going. Your insights will undoubtedly be appreciated by others and will stimulate conversation about this great event, which is the goal of the Seder in the first place. Of course, the Internet makes this such a simple task.

Over the years, I've been to many a wonderful Seder; hasidic, orthodox, conservative, moroccan, and vegan. Most were in homes. Maybe the most memorable one was in Shreveport, Louisiana during Basic Training, or was it the one in Saigon, or the one where I met Sue or as a young child where my cousin Gail and I were served very watered down wine for each cup and always fell asleep on the studio couch next to the dining room table shortly after the meal?

Of course, times change and practices vary. I remember the cleaning, the shopping, the food preparation not just in homes, but also in the grocery stores and meat markets in the Jewish neighborhood in Seattle along Yesler and Cherry Streets. Did all that doing enhance the experience of the holiday? I think so. For myself, I do know that the more I put into Passover, the more I get out of it. Something about the doing of it is just as meaningful as the speaking and discussion.

However it works for you, may the story this year be taken closer to heart, that you retain strong pride in who we are as a people despite all of our international political problems and divisions; that deep down a little voice begins to stir suggesting that this becomes the season when you begin to learn more about our traditions and practices.

Chag Sameach

— Lowell

OLYMPIA JEWISH SISTERHOOD

NO SISTERHOOD MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 2009. We hope to see you early in May as we change our meeting date to the 1st Tuesday of the month. May meeting will be on Tuesday, May 5 at the home of Myra Paull. Please see next newsletter or join e-mail list for information on upcoming meetings by contacting Donna Albert at DonnaLen@aol.com.

Sisterhood membership is \$18 per year and provides reference books to local Jewish youth becoming bar/bat mitzvah. Since Sisterhood no longer runs the TBH Gift Shop, dues are our only means of providing these gifts. To check if your membership fee is current for this year (5769 - Rosh Hashanah to Rosh Hashanah) please contact Beth Dubey bethdubey@msn.com.

TEA & TSORAS

Tea and Tsoras has a change of day and week because of Passover. We will meet on Thursday of the first week of April, but the time of 6 pm will stay the same.

April 2
Farelli's Pizza
4870 Yelm Highway SE
Lacey * 360-493-2090

Let me know if there are any questions.
Sue Cordas
slcordas@yahoo.com
360-456-7367

This space for notes
(But please don't write on Shabbat...)

If you are reading this on a computer monitor,
You may need a Sharpie to write in this space...

PASSOVER SERVICES

First Seder will be held Wednesday night April 8.

First day morning services, Thursday April 9, will be held at CBT beginning at 9:30 am.

Second Seder will be held Thursday night April 9.

Second day services, Friday April 10 will be combined with Chabad at their setting beginning at 10 am

Friday evening services at CBT at 7:30 pm April 10

Seventh day services will be held at CBT on Wednesday April 15 beginning at 9:30 am.

Eight day services Thursday April 16 will again be combined with Chabad at their site beginning at 10 am

THANK YOU'S

1. We want to thank our special guests at our Purim Event: Rav Rasta, the Palestinian, the Valkyrie, Samurai Sam and Darth Vader.
2. Thanks to Jay Howard and Molly Vallario for leading the debate " which is better, the Latke or the Hamentasch?" at our Purim Event.
3. Thanks to David Pierik, Jay Howard, Hannah Vallario and Molly Vallario for providing a musical interlude during the Purim Event. A special thanks to David for teaching the young people.
4. A shout out to all of you who cook for our Kiddush's and meals; Tobi, Sharon, Donna, Carolyn, Eleanor, and Sue. And to all those who bring lox, cream cheese, bagels and other goodies.
5. A special thank you to the Beit Sefer teachers this term; Penny, David, Len, Donna, Tobi, and Jon.
6. A kol ha'kavod to all who attend regularly and continue to make our little minyan go.

OHR HADASH

We have received six copies of "*Ohr Hadash, A commentary on Sim Shalom*" (our siddur) by Rabbi Reuven Hammer. Somewhat like Artscroll, this thick volume provides insight, commentary, instruction and the history of our prayers written in a manner reflecting the Conservative approach to Judaism. It is page identical with our Shabbat and Festival Siddur. You can find it in the rear of the sanctuary along with other books from our library that discuss the various aspects of our siddur/ prayer service. We encourage you to look at these while in services remembering to still rise at the correct times, say kedushah, respond to the Kaddish and so on. This is a wonderful reference, but please do not take them from the synagogue. They can be ordered from the USCJ Book Service.

OUR APRIL GALA DINNER WITH SPEAKER

By now you have received tickets in the mail. I hope that you plan to attend. Fill out the lower portion and return it with your payment to Larry Perrin at 6511 Troon Lane SE, Olympia, WA 98501. In turn, please sell a few to your friends and co-workers. One does not have to be Jewish to attend this event. This can be a significant fundraiser for our synagogue and we need everyone to get behind this effort. If anyone asks where the money will go, it will go toward major repairs to our pump house, which is about to be carried away, by the termites, dry rot and mice.

BOOK REVIEW

Want to read a disturbing book about the Israeli/Palestinian conflict that will anger, frustrate, amaze and surprise you? It is titled "*Cain's Field; Faith, Fratricide and Fear in the Middle East*" by Matt Beynon Rees who lives in Jerusalem. I highly recommend it as it challenges many of our assumptions and brings a new perspective to the peace (?) negotiations. His crime novels set in the Palestinian territories are also good reads.

As a journalist, Rees covered the Middle East for over a decade. He was Time magazine's Jerusalem bureau chief from 2000 until 2006, writing award-winning stories about the Palestinian intifada. He also worked as a Contributing Editor to Time and as Middle East correspondent for The Scotsman and Newsweek. Yasser Arafat once tried to have him arrested, but Matt eluded him and continues to work as Jerusalem correspondent for Global Post.

He was born in Newport, Wales, in 1967 and studied at Oxford University and the University of Maryland.

His first crime novel, *The Collaborator of Bethlehem* (UK title *The Bethlehem Murders*), was published in the U.S. in February 2007 by Soho Press. It won the prestigious Crime Writers Association John Creasey New Blood Dagger in 2008, and was also nominated for the Barry First Novel Award, the Macavity First Mystery Award, and the Quill Best Mystery Award. The New York Times called it "an astonishing first novel." It was named one of the Top 10 Mysteries of the Year by Booklist. Colin Dexter, author of the Inspector Morse novels, called Rees's Palestinian sleuth Omar Yussef "a splendid creation." Omar was called "Philip Marlowe fed on hummus" by one reviewer and "Yasser Arafat meets Miss Marple" by another.

The Omar Yussef Mystery series continues with the second book in the series, *A Grave in Gaza*, which appeared in February and became Matt's first bestseller. The Bookseller calls it "a cracking, atmospheric read." The third book in the series, *The Samaritan's Secret*, was published in February 2009.

BEIT SEFER TERM

The final term of our Beit Sefer this year begins Sunday April 4. There is no class on Wednesday April 1st. Wednesday classes will not be held this term due to the amount of school activities our youth participate in. Classes will be held Sundays from 9 to noon. The term ends June 14.



CBT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 8, 2009

The Congregation B'nai Torah board meeting was called to order by President Lowell Cordas. Members present were Larry Perrin and Sharon Perrin.

Minutes from the February board meeting were accepted.

There was no Public Comment.

Treasurer's Report: See attached.

Purim is tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m. The Beit Sefer students will perform some musical pieces.

Review of new prayer books is under way. The board authorized that six copies of Or Hadash be ordered, and they will be available for use during regular services.

Discussion of the Beit Sefer followed. It is recommended that classes be cancelled on Wednesdays and students will only meet on Sundays. Lowell will circulate this among the teachers. Lowell has a meeting on March 16 with the Temple Beth Hatfiloh Education Director to discuss a joint approach toward youth education.

Tom Hussman from Chabad has offered to donate his services to set up a website for the Community Bulletin Board. Lowell is working with the Federation in Seattle to link with them electronically.

Lowell has sent publicity information to Ronda Larson for the April dinner.

We need to determine who proof reads the CBT E-Nu'z before it is finally distributed and verify that everyone who requested a hard copy receive one..

The Constitution and Bylaws have been revised. They will need to be mailed to all members 50 days prior to the annual meeting. Both e-mail and hard copies will be sent out.

Lowell has received copies of the Torah Registration certificates.

CBT will secure a safe deposit box to keep copies of the Torah registration, insurance policy, photo documentation of the shul, security system and codes, deeds and list of who has the keys. The president and treasurer will have the keys to the safe deposit box.

There was a meeting of the Olympia Chevra Kadisha last week. Len and Donna Albert and Sharon Perrin attended the meeting. Sharon e-mailed Sheri Gerson suggesting that members of TBH, CBT and Chabad be involved in planning future Chevra Kadisha events so that there would be an increased feeling of a community Chevra .

Sheri said she would discuss this recommendation with others and get back to Sharon. A mock Tahara is scheduled for late April.

The procedures book was reviewed.

The next CBT board meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 4, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

-Sharon Perrin

Secretary

**Due to travel constraints, Passover and Mother's Day Weekend,
Monday May 4th at 7 pm will be our next Board meeting.**

Notes Regarding Your CBT Nu'z and your Editors

First, I would like to apologize to anyone and everyone who did not receive a copy of the March Nu'z. When Penny and I volunteered to help with this, we did not anticipate all of the many challenges we would face in our personal lives. Not to offer excuses, but we are still new at this and our time got a bit crunched. It will always be my position that this is **YOUR** newsletter, so please e-mail any and all comments, news, etc. directly to cbtnuz@live.com, thank you.

That being said, I would like to ramble for a few paragraphs in answer to "Where are Penny and Bella?" Some of you may have heard that my father, who lives in Gresham, Oregon nearly died a few weeks ago. On learning the initial details (advanced colon cancer) I drove down to Kaiser Sunnyside in Clackamas (just south of Portland) already resigned to the feeling that I was on my way to say goodbye to Dad.

Here's a bit about my dad. A WWII veteran, Robert Vincent Pierik is a published author (*Archie's Dream World*, *Rookfleas In The Cellar*, *The Left-Handed Boy* and numerous children's plays) who earned his Master's Degree in Drama at the University of Oregon and had a full career teaching drama at Arcadia High School (Los Angeles area). Among his students were Walter Koenig (Mr. Chekov from Star Trek) and other celebrities.

When I was four and my brother was three we moved to Oregon, where dad taught drama at Barlow High School. Less than a year later, with his help they had the accreditation they needed from the state—so they let him go. Mom, who has a Master's in Library Science, found a job at Mt. Hood Community College in the tutorial department, which she ran until she was able to get a job working in the library there. It took three people to replace her when she made the move. She was (and still is) also highly active with the Mt. Hood Pops Orchestra as a violist and manager.

So it was dad who fed us Snak'n Cake after school, dad who drilled me with flash cards so I could learn my times tables, even though he didn't like math much. English was where he shone, both in writing and in teaching his beloved craft. He wrote, and taught college-level writing courses and had several part-time teaching positions over the years until a car accident made standing for extended periods impossible for him. I remember helping him grade college English papers when I was in my early teens.

Dad taught my brother and I to be self-sufficient. We both had paper routes for years, did sports, orchestra and Boy Scouts. Between working, borrowing, and with help from my parents I earned my Bachelors degree in Communications (advertising option) with a music minor in Cello performance at the University of Idaho in Moscow in 1989. In my day to day life in Shelton, I work at the newspaper and teach and perform music privately. My brother, a born-again Christian, does fine woodwork and kitchen cabinetry in the Portland area.

Flash forward to the past several weeks. Dad's surgeon, Dr. Moell (I think that's the spelling, pronounced like the circumcision) removed a baseball-sized tumor from dad's colon. The cancer had not spread to any of the 33 lymph nodes tested. For being in his late 80s, dad is recovering okay, but his dementia (from strokes a few years ago) makes safety a challenge if there isn't a family member right there. He forgets where he is and what his health status is, but he's still funny and polite as ever. After he was sent home he fell and had to go to a rehabilitation center due to blood clots in the lungs. I was able to be down there during the surgery and for a weekend of his rehabilitation. Penny and Bella have stayed down there, helping my mom immensely over the past few weeks. It looks like it will be about one more week before mom can look after dad without Penny's help.

My brother, who lives five minutes from the rehabilitation center, has scarcely called or visited dad. I'm sure he has his reasons. His wife Cheryl told me my niece and nephew had been sick. When mom took us all to see "*Race to Witch Mountain*," Don thanked Penny for all her help and complained about the ankle he twisted playing racquetball.

Anyway, enough rambling. Happy Passover, everyone!

-David Pierik, Editor (well, one of them, Penny worked on this newsletter also), 3/19/09

Matzo Almond Brittle

Makes about 1 1/2 lb. Candy

- Active time:15 min
- Start to finish:45 min

Boxes of matzo farfel, very small pieces of matzo (about 1/4 inch wide), turn up in markets around Passover. Farfel is usually used in soups or for stuffing. This brittle can be eaten as candy or sprinkled over ice cream.

- 2 cups matzo farfel
- Vegetable oil for brushing pan (unless using nonstick liner)
- 2 cups sugar
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 tablespoons salted butter or margarine, softened
- 1 1/2 cups sliced almonds (5 oz), [toasted](#)
- Put oven rack in middle position and preheat oven to 350°F.
- Spread matzo farfel in a large shallow baking pan (1/2 to 1 inch deep) and toast, stirring and shaking pan occasionally, until golden, 15 to 20 minutes. Transfer to a bowl, then cool pan and line with a nonstick bakeware liner such as Silpat or with foil (shiny side down). If using foil, brush foil with oil.
- Bring sugar, water, and salt to a boil in a deep 2- to 2 1/2-quart heavy saucepan over moderate heat, stirring slowly until sugar is dissolved. Boil gently, without stirring but washing down any sugar crystals on side of pan with a pastry brush dipped in cold water, until syrup begins to turn golden. Continue to boil, swirling pan occasionally, until syrup is a deep golden caramel. Immediately remove pan from heat and carefully stir in butter with a wooden spoon (mixture will rise up and bubble vigorously). When bubbling begins to subside, immediately stir in toasted matzo farfel and almonds and quickly pour into baking pan, spreading and smoothing with back of spoon before mixture hardens.
- Transfer baking pan to a rack. If using a foil-lined pan, cool brittle to warm in pan, then peel off foil and transfer brittle to rack to cool completely. If using nonstick liner, cool brittle completely in pan. Break brittle with your hands into bite-size pieces, or make into a topping: Break into large pieces with your hands, then put brittle in a heavy-duty sealable plastic bag, seal bag, force out excess air, and lightly pound with a rolling pin into smaller pieces.

Cooks' note: Brittle keeps in an airtight container in a cool, dry place 1 week.

Recipe by Melissa Roberts, April 2004; from www.gourmet.com

PASSOVER EGG SOUP

1 hard cooked egg per person
A pitcher of salt water (1/2 tsp. salt per 1 cup of water)

Serve one egg, shelled, in a small bowl to each person. Mash the egg with a fork and pour salt water over it according to individual taste.

(The children love to do this)

-from Holiday Cooking & Baking at Recipelink.com

FRUITED MATZOH KUGEL

- Yield: about 5 to 6 servings
 - 3 matzohs
Boiling water
 - 2 Granny Smith apples, cored, peeled, and coarsely grated
2/3 cup (160 ml) well mashed firm tofu
1/4 cup (60 ml) organic sugar
1/4 cup (60 ml) black raisins
8 pitted prunes, chopped
8 dried apricots, chopped
2 tablespoons vegetable oil
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon ground ginger
1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1 Preheat the oven to 350 degrees (Gas Mark 4) and lightly oil a 9-inch (23 cm) spring-form pan or an 8-inch (20 cm) glass baking pan.
 - 2 Break the matzohs into small pieces and put them into a large bowl. Soften the matzohs by pouring boiling water over them and immediately drain off all the water.
 - 3 Add the remaining ingredients to the matzos and mix well to distribute all the fruits and spices evenly.
 - 4 Spoon the *kugel* mixture into the prepared spring-form pan and use the back of the spoon to spread the mixture evenly in the pan.
 - 5 Bake the *kugel* for 1 hour, or until the top is lightly browned around the edges. Cool for 10 minutes, then run a knife around the edges of the pan to release the *kugel* before removing the springform collar. Place the springform base on an attractive serving platter and cut the *kugel* into wedges with a serrated cake knife.

- from vegparadise.com



Y A H R Z E I T S

Congregation B'nai Torah joins the following families in remembering loved ones on their *yahrzeit*. *Zechronim Lev'rochah*. A memorial candle should be lit after sundown on the evening before the date given.

8 Nisan ~ April 2 - **Sidney Reba W Pozmantier, sister of Dorothy Levinson**

13 Nisan ~ April 7 - **Herman Cubert, father of Burleigh Cubert**

14 Nisan ~ April 8 - **Isadore Tubman, father of Paul Tubman**

17 Nisan ~ April 11 -- **Abraham Isaac Wisenberg, grandfather of Dorothy Levinson**

19 Nisan ~ April 13 - **Blume Rachel Wisenberg, Grandmother of Dorothy Levinson**

22 Nisan ~ April 16 - **Alexander Corwin, father of Alan Corwin**

25 Nisan ~ April 19 - **Stephen Ross, brother of Betty Tubman**

6 Ayar ~ April 30 - **Annie Singer, mother of Betty Tubman**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

April 3 ~ Jacob Boldt

April 4 ~ Stephanie Zorn

April 7 ~ Marjie Finkelstein

April 16 ~ David Pierik and Penny Wilson Anniversary

April 17 ~ Mimi Silver

April 18 ~ Betty Tubman

April 21 ~ Ric and Cindy Engel Anniversary

April 28 ~ Jim Boldt

DONATIONS

Donations are always needed. Checks should be made out to Congregation B'nai Torah and sent to:

CBT Treasurer
P.O. Box 11432
Olympia, WA 98508-1432

Thank you donors!

See May newsletter for recent donations information.

April 2009 ~ Nisan - Iyar 5769

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tues</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>	
CBT			1 Nisan 7	2 7:00pm Men's Torah Study — Tea & Tsofas 6 pm	3 2pm Shul Cleanup 🕒 7:23 pm	4 9:30am Regular Service w/kosher dairy lunch	
	5 9:00 – 12:00 Religious School	6	7	8 First Passover Seder (evening) Erev Pesach	9 7:00pm Men's Torah Study — Nisan 15 - Omer 1 Pesach 1	10 2pm Shul Cleanup ~~~~ 7:30pm Evening Service 🕒 7:33 pm	11 Pesach III (CH"M)
	12 9:00 – 12:00 Religious School	13	14	15 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">CBT Nu'z Dead- line</div>	16 7:00pm Men's Torah Study --- Pesach VIII Yizkor	17 2pm Shul Cleanup ~~~~ 6:00 Happy Chametz dinner 7:30pm Evening Service with Rabbi Maslan 🕒 7:42 pm	18 9:30am Regular Service with Rabbi Maslan w/kosher dairy lunch ~~~~ 7:30pm Havdalah and Movies
	19 9:00 – 12:00 Religious School	20	21 Yom HaShoah	22 Adar 29	23 7:00pm Men's Torah Study Nisan 1	24 2pm Shul Cleanup Rosh Chodesh Iyar 🕒 7:52 pm	25 10:00am Shabbat Kal w/Kosher Dairy Lunch Rosh Chodesh Iyar Parshat Tazria- Metzora
	26 9:00 – 12:00 Religious School ~~~~ 12:30pm Torah & Stitches	27	28 Yom HaZikaron	29 Yom HaAtzma'ut	30 Iyar 6	(No April sisterhood) Next Sisterhood meeting: Tuesday, May 5	

Please submit your articles and information to: cbtnuz@live.com

LAGE NU'z: HAPPY CHAMETZ, KID KEF HAPPY CHAMETZ

Come one, come all Happy Chametz and welcome the Rabbi Friday night dinner at CBT 6:00PM April 17. We are going to try Friday night Shabbat dinner before services on the weekends that Rabbi Maslan is here. We'll start with April 5 since nobody has their Passover kitchen put back yet. Bring your appetite!

KIDKEF

Kidkef is a program managed by TBH which is funded from the Seattle Jewish Federation and is intended to serve the complete Olympia Jewish community. KidKef is a playgroup for all preschool aged kids. It meets every Tuesday from 10 to noon. During this time, we offer music, art, snack, stories and unstructured opportunities for play. It is free to all, thanks to a grant from the Special Initiatives Fund from the Federation.

Congregation B'nai Torah
P.O. Box 11432
Olympia WA 98508-1432