

CBT Nu'z



Sivan~Tammuz 5770, June 2010 * Congregation B'nai Torah, Olympia, Washington, U.S.A.

Understanding Judaism: the Task is Ours CBT Can Help

To most outsiders, and many Jews, the Jewish religion; its customs, observances, and holidays are mystifying. We often wonder why our prayer books open from right to left as opposed to left to right; why we have all of these arcane holidays spread throughout the year; why we pray in a strange language that few Jews understand; and why we wear strange vestments while praying.

There are many aspects of the Jewish religion that have perplexed both Jews and non-Jews for many centuries. For many of us religious practices have been hardwired into our psyches. We pray as automatons, rarely giving thought to what our prayers are saying, what the weekly parshat is all about, and what are the reasons underlying our religious practices. When asked why we do certain things, we often respond that it is because it is the “Jewish way” we pray or observe our religion. For many, that answer works, but should it?

It is my personal belief that CBT can help us overcome our limited knowledge by serving as a source of Jewish knowledge. There are a number of directions that this should take. First, the monthly Learner’s Minyan provide an opportunity for the entire congregation to become better informed regarding individual prayers and practices. Secondly, the rabbi’s Sunday morning educational sessions provide a similar opportunity to probe one or another aspect of our religion. Third, focusing the weekly drashim on explorations of the parshat and its relation to contemporary life can make the Torah readings more relevant to our lives. In the end however, I think that it is incumbent upon each of us to determine that course of inquiry which best enables the individual to broaden their understanding of Judaism.

Annual Meeting

The CBT Board has set the 2010 Annual Meeting for Sunday, June 20th, starting with a nosh at 3:00. At the meeting, I will present an overall report regarding the activities of and challenges facing CBT, the election of officers for 2010-2011; adoption of the budget for the coming year; a report by Lowell Cordas on the problems associated with our water system; and an overall discussion of our religious services; activities; and what the members would like to see in future years. This discussion is intended to enable all of the members to comment about our “little Shul in the woods,” and share their thoughts. As we look to the future it is important that we be mindful of the views and needs of our members.

Nominations: On behalf of the other members of the Board, I would encourage all members to consider volunteering to serve as a CBT Board member. There are 4 Board positions open; President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. We are especially in need of volunteers to serve as Vice President in that the current VP has indicated that she will not be seeking re-election to that position. Interested members should contact me, by June 12th.

Respectfully Submitted

Stan Finkelstein

Tea & Tsoras

This is our next meeting for Tea and Tsoras. We will meet at 6 pm.

June 8

Saigon Rendezvous

117 5th Ave SW

Olympia

360-352-1989

Let me know if you have any questions or requests.
Sue Cordas – slcordas@yahoo.com - 360-456-7367

June CBT Yahrzeits

- 24 Sivan ~ June 6: Ray S Hall, father of Lori Elgin
- 28 Sivan ~ June 10: Roy S. Marks, father of Cindy Engel
- 28 Sivan ~ June 10: Morris Harry Kossis, grandfather of Alan Corwin
- 29 Sivan ~ June 11: Fannie bas Meyer, mother of Jerry Braverman
- 5 Tammuz ~ June 17: Wilma Margolin, mother of Carrie Margolin
- 11 Tammuz ~ June 23: Paul Tubman, husband of Betty Tubman
- 12 Tammuz ~ June 24: Annie Hildebrandt, grandmother of Laurie Elgin
- 16 Tammuz ~ June 28: Sally Miley, mother of Donna Albert
- 17 Tammuz ~ June 29: Ruth Seigel, sister of Paul Tubman

June CBT Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 20 Lowell and Sue Cordas Anniversary
- 20 Bill and Carol Jolly Anniversary
- 25 Larry and Sharon Perrin Anniversary

DONATIONS

Donations to the Synagogue from Alan Corwin, in memory of Alan's: uncle, Norman Kossis; grandmother, Selma Cohn; grandfather, Morris Kossis; grandmother, Fannie Kossis; father, Alexander Corwin; daughter, Lisa Anne Corwin; wife, Robin Corwin

From Larry and Sharon Perrin, in memory of Nathan Perrin

From Stan and Marjie Finklestein, two donations to CBT: to the Kiddush Fund in Honor of Sue and Lowell's hosting of the Pizza Party, and to the Pump House Fund in Honor of the Marriage of David and Olympia Finklestein

Donations are always needed. Checks should be made out and mailed to:

**Congregation B'nai Torah
CBT Treasurer, P.O. Box 11432
Olympia, WA 98508-1432**

Current funds include:

Adult Education Fund, Building Fund, Pumphouse Fund, Kiddush Fund, Loan Fund,
Megillah Esther Fund, Memorial Book Fund, Morris Belling Leadership Fund,
Newsletter Fund, Prayer Book Fund, Youth Education

[If you make a donation please let the editors at CBTnuz@live.com know](mailto:CBTnuz@live.com)

so that we can make sure you are acknowledged promptly.

Tuna Minestrone with Parmesan Cheese

Ingredients:

1 (6.4-oz.) pouch or 2 (2.6-oz.) pouches or 2 Cans (5-oz.) albacore tuna (if using cans, drained and chunked)
1 (15-1/4 oz.) can kidney beans, drained
1/4 cup tomato paste
1/2 tsp. salt
1/2 cup small shell pasta, uncooked
3 cups fresh Romaine lettuce, cut crosswise in 1-inch strips
1 (14-1/2 oz.) can ready-cut, Italian-style tomatoes, undrained
1/8 tsp. ground red pepper
1 tsp. Italian herb seasoning
4 cups veggie chicken-flavored broth (k-parve, such as Telma from mix)
2 cups Italian-style frozen vegetables (zucchini, carrots, cauliflower, Italian green beans, lima beans)
freshly grated kosher Parmesan cheese

Directions:

In a 4-quart saucepan, combine broth mixture, tomatoes with liquid, kidney beans, tomato paste, herb seasoning, salt and red pepper; bring to a boil over high heat. Add pasta and frozen vegetables; simmer 8 minutes. Remove from heat; add tuna and romaine. Serve with cheese.

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Serves: 8

SISTERHOOD 2010: AN UPDATE

The Olympia Jewish Women's Sisterhood is on the fast track. Mark your calendars for some great meetings coming up soon:

Tuesday, June 15: 6:00 p.m. Potluck at the beautiful Rose Garden at Priest Point Park

The Sisterhood typically meets the first Tuesday of each month and needs new ideas and energy for upcoming programs and activities. Join us for exciting new developments!

Naomi Obie, Naomiobie@Gmail.Com, 360-456-4254.

Membership Renewals - If you haven't done so, please bring your membership renewals up to date with a check for \$18 to Beth Dubey, 624 Carlyon Ave. SE, Olympia, WA 98501

Are you Jewish? Are you a woman? Do you like to eat, learn, and stay connected? Do you enjoy the company of other Jewish women? Do you live in, around, or near Olympia, Washington? Do you agree that 10 Jewish women in a room will have 12 different opinions?

If you answered yes to all the above, please read on ...

The Olympia-area Sisterhood is alive, well, and growing. With 20-25 semi-regulars who generally make it to most monthly meetings (!), it's a casual, flexible, guilt-free group of Jewish women who just like to get together, have fun, and stay connected through our shared heritage and culture.

For those who may be curious and contemplating checking us out, here are some frequently asked questions about Sisterhood:

Do meetings have a format? Sometimes – but not always. We try to maintain a balance between *planned* meetings with interesting programs and projects and *unplanned* meetings when we just relax, schmooze, and – of course – eat. We always welcome ideas for fun and interesting meetings.

Do we meet in peoples' homes? Usually – but not always. (The June meeting – our annual picnic – is taking place June 16 in the Rose Garden at Priest Point Park.) Having a meeting at your home is *not* a requirement of Sisterhood membership.

Are all the women in Sisterhood affiliated with a local congregation? No! Sisterhood includes women who belong to various congregations – or no congregation. We represent all movements of Judaism as well as all age groups, backgrounds, stages of life, and political beliefs. We pride ourselves on our diversity and how refreshing it is to hear, accept, and understand varying points of view.

Is there a membership fee? We each pay dues of \$18 a year – more at your own discretion. Funds are used to purchase gifts for bar and bat mitzvahs at both local congregations, plus we occasionally help to support Jewish families who are experiencing a challenge or crisis.



How long a commitment must I make? How much time will this take? Sisterhood members are all busy and overextended – just like you – with multiple responsibilities and commitments. That's why we've kept Sisterhood a relaxed, flexible, come-when-you-can format. Remember: NO GUILT! Just enjoy!

To learn more about Sisterhood or check out a meeting, or if you have an idea for an interesting discussion or program, contact Naomi Obie: naomiobie@gmail.com, or 360-456-4254. We'd love to hear from you!



JUNE 2010 ~ SIVAN-TAMMUZ 5770



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Please submit your articles and information to: cbtnuz@live.com		1	2	3 7:00 pm Men's Torah Study	4 2pm Shul Cleanup ~~~~ 8:43 pm	5 Shlach 9:30am Regular Service
6	7	8 Tea & Tsoras 6:00 pm <i>Saigon Rendezvous</i>	9	10 7:00 pm Men's Torah Study	11 2pm Shul Cleanup ~~~~ 7:30 pm Eve. Service 8:48 pm	12 Rosh Chodosh Tammuz Korach
13 Rosh Chodosh Tammuz	14	15 Sisterhood Potluck 6:00 p.m. <i>Rose Garden at Priest Point Park</i>	16	17 7:00 pm Men's Torah Study	18 2pm Shul Cleanup ~~~~ 7:30 pm Evening Service with Rabbi Maslan 8:51pm	19 Chukat 9:30am Regular Service with Rabbi Maslan w/kosher dairy lunch
20 Father's Day 3 pm Annual Meeting	21	22	23 CBT Nu'z Deadline	24 7:00 pm Men's Torah Study	25 2pm Shul Cleanup 8:53 pm	26 Balak 9:30 am Learner's Minyan w/Kosher Dairy Lunch
27	28	29 Shiva Asar B'Tammuz Fast Day 2:57-9:50 pm	30	C	B	T

July Services: July 3rd at 9:30 am, July 9th at 7:30 pm, July 16th at 7:30pm, July 17th at 9:30 am, July 24th at 9:30 am, July 31st at 9:30 am

Congregation B'nai Torah (CBT)

**3437 Libby Road
Olympia, Washington**

Affiliated with the Conservative Movement

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Olympia, WA 98508-1432

Phone: (360) 943-7354

WEB site: <http://www.bnai-torah-olympia.org>

To be placed on our mailing list or to receive membership information, please contact Carolyn Cubert at (360) 459-3572

If you have Calendar details (or other newsletter info) please email cbtnuz@live.com

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