

# The Jewish Humanist



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BIRMINGHAM TEMPLE • A CONGREGATION FOR HUMANISTIC JUDAISM



**City or Suburb, Town or Country,  
Wherever You're Going, Whatever You're Doing  
It's the Time to Light the Lights!**

*Judith Freund on Five Good Years*

*Rabbi Wine on Elections*

*Rabbi Kolton on The  
Future of Michigan*

*... and much more!*





# The Birmingham Temple

WHAT IS THE BIRMINGHAM TEMPLE?

An Opportunity . . .

**TO BE PART** of a congregation that supports the beliefs and commitments of Humanistic Judaism.

**TO WELCOME** those who by birth or by choice identify with the history, culture and fate of the Jewish people.

**TO PARTICIPATE** in meaningful experiences of culture, celebration, education and community life.

**TO CELEBRATE** the joyous life cycles of birth, bar and bat mitzvah, confirmation and marriage. To provide funeral and memorial services that protect the dignity and memory of those who have died.

**TO ENABLE** children to learn Hebrew, Jewish history, culture and the ethics and values of Humanistic

Judaism at the Birmingham Temple School of Cultural Judaism.

**TO CONTINUE** opportunities for adult education through courses on Jewish history, culture and philosophy and to celebrate adult confirmation.

**TO ENJOY** many cultural and social events, such as the Art Show, Vivace Music Series, Dinner Club, Singles, Young Adults, Newcomers, Drama Club, Templesingers, Family of Women, Gathering of Men, Memoir Writers, Reading Circle, and Family Club.

**TO CONNECT** to the worldwide movement of Humanistic Judaism through membership in the Society for Humanistic Judaism (SHJ) and the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism (IISHJ).

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If you would like to learn more about the Birmingham Temple, please contact us at 248-477-1410 or visit our Web site: [www.birminghamtemple.org](http://www.birminghamtemple.org).

# The Birmingham Temple

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Main Office: 248-477-1410  
info@birminghamtemple.org  
www.birminghamtemple.org

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Tamara Kolton  
**Founding Rabbi**  
Sherwin T. Wine

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# The Jewish Humanist



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248-477-1410

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9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
248-477-1410

# JUDITH FREUND

Notes from the Executive Director

## Looking Forward, Looking Back

As many of you have heard, I am retiring as executive director of the Birmingham Temple, effective January 1, 2007. The various phases of my life seem like chapters in a book, and at this time I am looking forward to the next phase. One of my goals in the near future is improving my golf game, which has been sorely neglected during my tenure here! I look forward to the fun times of playing golf with my very patient husband!

The past five years have been filled with challenges and memorable experiences. Working alongside so many wonderful people, both board members and temple volunteers in our various organizations and clubs, was certainly rewarding.

It has been a great honor to serve in the capacity of executive director, and I feel privileged to have represented the Birmingham Temple at monthly meetings of the Executive Directors of Detroit, an organization that represents many of metro Detroit's synagogues.

One of the fulfilling aspects of this position has been the opportunity to get to know and work with so many of our amazing temple members. I am so impressed with the level of dedication and hard work of our Art Show leaders and volunteers, Vivace workers, *Humanist* editors, Retreat and Shaw Festival planners, Dinner Club committee, Newcomer welcoming committee,

Birmingham Temple Forum committee members, Sunday Forum schedulers, Boutique chair, Rummage Sale volunteers, Temple Singers, and all the many other clubs and groups that comprise this fabulous Temple. Our hard working custodial staff and front office support, I cannot thank enough.

I would love to list the names of all those who I worked so closely with, but I am told I am not permitted to fill the entire *Humanist* with my list! You all know who you are, who I love, respect and admire, and I want to thank each and every one of you for your friendship, love and support during my five year tenure here in this capacity.

Whenever I finish a good book I am sad to have it end, because I love the story so much. But after a few days, I look forward with enthusiasm and anticipation as I start a new book.

That is how I am feeling about closing my chapter as the Birmingham Temple's executive director – but I know great happiness and excitement are in store. With two granddaughters in Washington, D.C. and twin granddaughters expected in December in Boston, I anticipate much travel in my future! I wish you all of you well and continued growth and success to this amazing place – the Birmingham Temple. □



**"(When) I finish a good book I am sad to have it end, because I love the story so much. But . . . I look forward with enthusiasm and anticipation as I start a new book."**

**Judith Freund**  
Executive Director

## Include the Temple in Year-End Giving

When making your year-end contributions, please remember to include the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Fund. Your gift will help our movement continue to offer an alternative approach to Judaism not found within other branches of Judaism.

Tax benefits to donors include a deduction for charitable donation and the reduction of the donor's estate for estate tax purposes. In addition, the Pension Protection Act recently passed by Congress includes a landmark charitable-giving incentive for 2006 and 2007 that will help those older than 70 \_ make tax-free distributions from traditional or Roth Individual Retirement Account assets.

You can contribute in one of the following ways - or combine them:

- Designate your contribution for the 21<sup>st</sup> Endowment Fund, which provides long term security for the Temple, the IISHJ and the SHJ through the investment pool created by contributions.
- Designate your contribution for the Birmingham Temple Wings Project, which is financing the effort to grow Temple membership.
- Designate your contribution to the IISHJ Rabbinic Training Program, to assure that our movement has rabbis to lead us.
- Designate your contribution to the SHJ University Havura Program, to help the SHJ provide ongoing programs for our youth on college campuses.

Through your support we can preserve Jewish identity in a free, pluralistic environment; teach Jewish history as a human saga and a testament to the significance of human power and responsibility; and advance the philosophy that the freedom and dignity of the Jewish people is linked to the freedom and dignity of every human being.

To make a contribution or for more information, call the Temple office, (248) 477-1410. □

### To Do List

Check antifreeze

Change furnace filters

Buy gifts for Hanukkah

Contribute to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Fund

# JEFF JANNETT

## President's Perspective

### Five Years of Accomplishments

I've gotten very used to the warm smile and energy of Judi Freund. Seeing her at the Temple board meetings, services and special events, enthusiastically greeting us, has always made me feel special. Judi is one of the few people I know who always makes me feel that I'm a true friend. I can tell. She trades little secrets and gossip with Valerie, my wife. Strange, I enjoy this! It's like part of our "schtick."

Judi Freund is going to retire very soon. It's been five years of her efforts that has helped us. Just look at some of her accomplishments! She's helped with the process of transitioning rabbis. The process, as far as most Temple members observed, was deliberate, smooth, and flawless. Rabbi Wine left and we had a rabbinical team. Two years later, Rabbi Chalom moved on to Chicago. Rabbi Kolton then fulfilled her expected role as the new leader. These were really events of historic proportion. Through all this, Judi alleviated fears and conveyed confidence. I know I wasn't the only one who felt things were all right as soon as I spoke to her. I witnessed, time after time, Judi's charisma conveying security to an older member or a new family. Her efforts resulted in retention of membership and new growth. Her projec-

tion of confidence, always with a smile, and her connecting comments with members makes her an unsung hero in my eyes.

I also would like to point out that we made significant building improvements under Judi's leadership. We've got a new roof, new carpeting, and a new canopy over the entrance; new lighting near the driveway; and – you may not be aware of this – new toilets! Anyone who deals with contractors knows the headaches and chaos this entails. Judi did a tremendous job and made it seem like just an everyday routine. Also, let's not forget, she's trained and developed a talented staff and (what we may not have observed) handled so many crises and emergencies that we take for granted that everything is always OK at the Temple.

Now we face another transition for the Birmingham Temple. We'll wish Judi the best and hope we still see a lot of her. One thing I'm certain, she is going to do a superb job of training the new executive director, her replacement, so that person will be fully prepared to take over the reins as executive director of the Birmingham Temple.

Many thanks again. See you, Judi. ☐



**"(U)nder Judi's leadership. . . we take for granted that everything is always OK at the temple. Now we face another transition . . ."**

**Jeff Jannett**  
President



**Daniel Gaber**

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If you are interested, contact Jennifer Wicker by phone at (248) 477-1410 or via e-mail at <info@birminghamtemple.org>.

Rates:

| Size                         | Single Ad | Half Year<br>(per insertion, paid in advance) | Full Year |
|------------------------------|-----------|---|-----------|
| business card (3.5" x 2")    | \$50      | \$45  | \$40      |
| quarter page (3.75" x 5.25") | \$65      | \$57  | \$52      |
| third page (7.75" x 3.5")    | \$82      | \$72  | \$66      |
| half page (7.75" x 5.25")    | \$110     | \$95  | \$88      |
| full page (7.75" x 10.5")    | \$190     | \$170   | \$152     |
| inside back cover            | \$215     | \$190   | \$173     |

We currently publish 10 issues per year.

# TAMARA KOLTON

Thoughts from the Rabbi

## Rebuilding Michigan and Repairing the World

Jennifer Granholm will be the governor of the state of Michigan for four more years. The race was close. But in the end, Michigan voters blamed the failed economy on Washington and not on Lansing. If the Big Three are failing and Michigan's economy is the worst in the nation, it is part of a larger problem tied to the economy of the entire nation. I, for one, am very relieved that Governor Granholm was reelected. But I am not naive. Governor Granholm has a tremendous amount of work to do.

Two weeks ago I had lunch with the governor. Along with about 20 other women, we gathered together to speak to her about what we felt were the top priority issues on the minds of women voters. In the last two weeks of what was turning out to be a close election, the governor was interested in hearing what was on the minds of women leaders in the community. I was honored and excited to speak and listen to key issues facing Michigan.

Governor Granholm sat informally poised on the hearth of a fireplace, listening to women speak. One woman spoke about the need to support women who head their households. These women must work and take care of their children, often with little or no support. Another discussed the need to increase eldercare. Yet another brought up the concern of trans-fat poisoning our children's food. The issues swarmed the room. Governor Granholm assured us that they were all on her agenda. From healthcare to environmental care, she would tend to them all.

It was almost my turn to address her. What did I want to say? What would be my unique contribution to this conversation? I wanted my words to have impact. I did indeed have many concerns. I was concerned about poverty and the many families that will be food insecure this year. I was concerned about drug use and child molestation. In both, Michigan has among the highest rates in the nation. I was there as a rabbi. I decided to talk about healing.

As Jews, we believe that we are born into a broken world and that it is our responsibility to heal the world. We call this Tikkun Olam. Certainly Michigan is in a state of brokenness. It used to be that the country saw the city of Detroit as broken, but now the nation sees the entire state of Michigan as broken. Michigan now has a national reputation of a wounded animal. The problem is that no one wants to go near, let alone relocate their family near, a wounded animal. **The most important thing that we need to do as a state is to begin to behave as a healthy and strong animal. We are not victims. We are a strong and beautiful state.**

Above all, we have this incredible natural resource of fresh water and we can be givers. What we need is one big idea to create a momentum of healing, to give the giant boulder the first big shove in the right direction. Let us pair with a country in the world that needs water. Let us donate money and expertise to nurture a village in need of a water project. In many places in the world, girls under the age of 13 spend most of the day fetching fresh water for their families. They walk long distances with the greatest threat to them being not heat or disease, but rape.

Michigan can rebuild its image and help these villages at the same time. Let us be **The Fresh Water State Bringing Water to the World**. I know it is not in our state budget. Maybe a donor would step forward. It is a great project for a great philanthropist or corporation that cares deeply both about Michigan and the state of our world. Let us behave as a strong and healthy animal – not a broken one; not a victim; but the beautiful and great state of Michigan.

In Judaism, we believe that no matter how bad you have it, you have to give *Tzedaka*. Even if you take *Tzedaka*, you have to give *Tzedaka*. Through the process of giving back, you affirm your dignity.

Jennifer Granholm has another four years. Let us stand behind her and help our great state of Michigan achieve its potential.

Optimism is a choice. Choosing to affirm hope does not mean that you are naive or a Pollyanna. It can mean that you are a realist. No one wants to board a sinking ship. If everyone in the nation believes that Michigan is going down, no one will climb aboard. We need a major image overhaul. We are not **dying in** hard times out here in the Midwest; we are **living through** hard times. There is light at the end of the tunnel. It is the light of good leadership, human ingenuity, and citizens who choose hope. □



**"No one wants to board a sinking ship. If everyone in the nation believes that Michigan is going down, no one will climb aboard. We need a major image overhaul."**

**Tamara Kolton**  
Rabbi



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# The Birmingham Temple

## Join Us for A Hanukka Family Potluck Dinner



**Friday,  
December 22,  
2006**

**6:30 P.M.**

**After dinner  
join us for  
A Hanukka  
Family  
Celebration at  
7:30 P.M.**



**Potato Latkes with Sour Cream &  
Homemade Applesauce will be Provided**

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Birmingham  
Temple**

28611 West Twelve Mile Road  
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Website:  
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**Please return to the temple office by December 18, 2006**

**Name:**

**Dish to pass:**

**Phone Number:**

**Or RSVP to: [info@birminghamtemple.org](mailto:info@birminghamtemple.org)**

**Or Phone: 248-477-1410**

**Number Attending**

**# \_\_\_\_\_**

2006 Hanukka Dinner

# SHERWIN WINE

Very Fine Wine

## Does Election Point America in a New Direction?

I am penning this article four days before the election. The polls are not friendly to the Republicans. They may lose control of both houses of Congress to the Democrats. They are desperate and despondent.

As for the Democrats, they are overwhelmingly hopeful – for the first time since 2000. Although they are clearly divided into the left and the center, although they have articulated no clear vision for the future, although they are still searching for a charismatic figure to lead them into battle – they are the beneficiaries of the incompetence of the Republican administration and the military catastrophe in Iraq. The war has become the central issue in the campaign. Neither the economy nor the issue of ‘values’ have been able to dislodge the war as the chief provocation. Frustration and disillusionment have triggered enormous public anxiety and anger.

Ever since 1964 the Republicans have dominated the politics of America. Two issues made them the majority party. Opposition to communism and black liberation gave them the heartland of our country. Anti-communism won the hearts of many Catholic voters who abandoned the Democratic party because they thought that it was ‘soft’ on Communism. And the civil rights movement broke the Democratic hold on the allegiance of southern whites. In the end, both the south and the west became the new centers of Republican power. The price of victory was that the old Establishment, which was concentrated on the east coast, was replaced by a new Establishment with southern accents and cowboy boots.

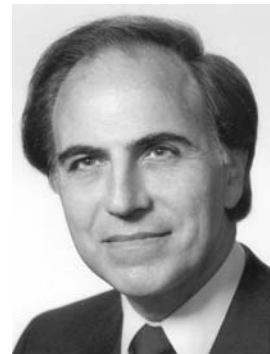
The heartland of America was where the Anglo-Saxon founding race was located. While the coasts

welcomed most of the new immigrants and became a global mixed neighborhood, the heartland retained the historic culture of America. The Republican party had always been ambivalent about immigrants. The lure of cheap labor confronted the danger of too many foreigners. Nativists were an important force in molding Republican opinion. Divided by the Civil War, the nativists were re-united by the campaign for civil rights. North and south came back together again in one large Anglo-Saxon embrace. Since Catholics were joining the ranks, the nativists broadened their self-image to embrace the word ‘white.’

The globalization of America – with all of its traumatic racial and cultural changes – triggered a reaction in the heartland. Evangelical Christianity lay at the center of Anglo-Saxon ‘white’ culture. Its message and church institutions embodied the values that still dominated small-town America and which were fast disappearing in the cultural ‘potpourri’ of the coastal cities. This was the place where the traumatic changes of the sixties were most strongly resisted. This was the place where the United Nations was viewed as a foreign enemy. Out of this ethnic and cultural resistance was born the Religious Right and the siege mentality of go-it-alone Americanism. The politics of guns was not far behind. The fear that a racial and cultural Armageddon was imminent added to the militancy of the nativists. The success of Bush in two presidential elections is based on this Republican embrace of the American heartland.

The Democrats only penetrate this heartland when the Republicans prove dramatically incompetent. But the Democrats cannot articulate the anxieties of the

– Continued on page 15



**“Given comparative birth rates, the population of the United States will, within 40 to 50 years, feature a majority of non-whites. And the Democratic Party is the party of choice for most blacks, Hispanics and Asians.”**

**Sherwin Wine**

Founding Rabbi

## Come Study with Rabbi Wine at the Sunday Forum

10 a.m. - 12 noon Sundays

### Part One

Introduction to Judaism:  
A Humanist Perspective

March 11: Story of Humanistic Judaism:  
Jewish Enlightenment

March 18: Story of Humanistic Judaism:  
Jewish Nationalism

### Part Two

Introduction to Judaism:  
Philosophy of Humanistic Judaism

April 29: Story of Humanistic Judaism:  
American Jewish Experience

May 6: Story of Humanistic Judaism:  
The Movement



# WHAT'S NEW

News, Events, Etc.

## INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR SECULAR HUMANISTIC JUDAISM & QUEENS COMMUNITY FOR CULTURAL JUDAISM invite you to the IISHJ Seminar Dec 8-10, 2006

Topic: *ANTISEMITISM* (Jewish History 132)

Faculty: Rabbi Sherwin T. Wine, Dean of the IISHJ

Jew hatred is over two thousand years old. In modern times it has been turned into a political philosophy which was used to kill six million innocent victims. Once a religious movement, it has now been secularized and thrives on the economic anxieties of an urban industrial culture. Racism and ethnic hostility provide the propaganda of anti-Semitism. In recent years, it has found a new center in the Muslim world of the Middle East.

Rabbi Sherwin Wine will explore the causes and history of antisemitism. He will focus on the roots of the Hitlerian catastrophe as well as its consequences. The resurgence of anti-semitism in recent years will be an important topic, with a special emphasis on its continuing presence in the Western world and its problematic presence in the Muslim world. Rabbi Wine will provide a new and exciting approach to an obsessive issue of the Jewish world.

Please detach and complete the form below. Please send your form and check, payable to **IISHJ**, to The International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism, 28611 W. Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48334, as soon as possible. We look forward to your participation.

**SITE: Glen Oaks Volunteer Ambulance Corps Building**  
257-02 Union Turnpike  
Glen Oaks, NY

Contact: Ed Klein  
Phone: 718-380-5362  
E-mail: [iishj@iishj.org](mailto:iishj@iishj.org) or Ed Klein: [queensccj@aol.com](mailto:queensccj@aol.com)

Please Detach Below

I wish to register for the December 8-10, 2006, seminar on **Antisemitism**.

**Enclosed** is my tuition fee of \$\_\_\_\_\_

Please make payable to **IISHJ**.

Mail check to: I.I.S.H.J., 28611 W. 12 Mile Rd., Farmington Hills, MI 48334 (Tel. 248-476-9532)

- Matriculating Student for full weekend (**\$200, minus \$25 for airfare**)
- Continuing Jewish Education for Credit for full weekend (**\$150**)
- Continuing Jewish Education for Non-Credit for full weekend (**\$100**),
- Non-members: Friday only (**\$40**), 2 Session Saturday only (**\$65**), Sunday only (**\$40**)
- Queens Community for Cultural Judaism member Non-Credit: Full weekend (**\$85**), Friday only (**\$30**), 2 Sessions Saturday only (**\$65**). Sunday only (**\$30**)

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Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

# FROM OUR MEMBERS

## Temple Members Report their News and Views

### The Port Huron Retreat (as opposed to all other retreats)

By Hank Gluckman

Once upon a time, long, long ago, when Humanistic Judaism was a mere gleam in our Rabbi's eye and we were just beginning to haul (we said "schlep," back then) the Torah in the back of our wagon from village to village, looking for a "Promised" land, some sage said, "We ought to have a retreat."

Well!

We looked at each other, this strange group that we had gathered to our tents, and responded with a definite, "Sure . . . but what's a retreat?"

Now, what's the first thing Jews do when confronted with challenge? They form a committee. Which is exactly what we did. And what is the second thing that we do after we form the committee? We immediately nominate the person who made the suggestion as the chairman.

In our case it was four of our Elders who were instrumental in starting our temple: two sisters who were married to two brothers. Susan and Do were the wives of Harry and Stu Velick and they pretty much ran things along with Sherwin Wine, whom they bought over from a foreign land (Canada, where he was working for a congregation in Windsor) to keep an eye on things.

In their infinite wisdom, they chose, as the destination for this retreat, a lovely combination of cheap motel/bowling alley with an indoor pool, called the Port Huron Motor Inn. Most of us felt that this would be a perfect fit since we knew how much Sherwin loved to bowl(!?). We also thought that he might just do a "water service" for Shabbat, but no such luck.

On a bitter winter morning the caravan of (station) wagons started on the long journey to Port Huron laden with all sorts of treasures: bathing suits, Scotch, guitars, vodka, personal pillows, rye, pajamas (?), champagne . . . and Sherwin. When we arrived, we learned that there were open alleys — and so it began.

Long before dinner, long before the Shabbat service, long before the ensuing evening, we bowled. It's too far back to recall final figures, but I would bet that the Velick brothers wiped us out since they were "jocks" and we were intellectual thinkers. Afterward, we all retired to change into our favorite costumes for the evening.

It had been decided — by Sherwin of course — that after dinner there would be a Shabbat service, sort of "free style." Dinner was finished. The service began.

And there wasn't a dry eye in the room. It was so moving — so beautiful — and in such a surreal setting,

that it became magic and never-to-be-forgotten. When we meet now — 43 years later — we can still recall the spirituality of that evening.

Everything from the service on led to hedonism and a release of the endorphins that had built up over the years. It was an evening to be remembered!

Sid and Clair Berkowitz sang so loud that the management knocked on the door to see if someone was injured. Ada Bandelene played guitar and danced. Shelby Brant, who proved to everyone that he was tone deaf, sang bawdy songs. Joel Hepner did his famous rendition of "We Believe in the Best in Man." Bill Wisner, Harry Velick, Joel and I took a cold shower, fully clothed. And Sherwin said a prayer to no one in particular, while Lorraine knitted.

In the morning, on the way to the dining room, the stark reality of the Friday soirée became graphic. Here, there, and everywhere in the freshly fallen snow were glasses, bottles, articles of apparel and some objects which defied description. So, now we had our definition of a "retreat," but none of us would have traded the experience for anything less.

Saturday was spent in discussion groups, which were somewhat chaotic due to the fact that we had never done this before and because many of us were still hung over.

By Saturday dinner, we were ready for Phase II, the "skit." Several of us had written a skit honoring the occasion. If I remember correctly, it took cracks at everyone, but the main "roastee" was Sherwin and, given the fact that he was laughing at this spoof of himself, we were able to ad lib even more than we had written. Within legal limits, we all enjoyed the fun and wit of that event. Some of the songs that came out of that evening had titles like, "Touch of Stardust on Your Matzos," "If I Only Knew a Jew Like You," and the ever-popular "I Can't Get Over You . . . So You'll Have to Get Out of Bed and Answer the Telephone Yourself Blues."

All this before we learned that we were "Humanistic Jews" — something we found out later that year, or the next. The facts are a bit fuzzy 43 years later, so, please, if you read this memoir and feel that it left you out or that it bent some truths a bit, be kind. I don't do this for a living!

There's a lesson here, somewhere. If you have a chance to go on the upcoming retreat — run, do not walk — to sign up. You'll never forget it! □

# MEMOIR

Life Stories from the Memoir Writers

## Survival During the Nazi Occupation of Hungary

By John Gardon

Hiding from the Nazis became quite an art after the Germans occupied Hungary in 1944. We decided that it would be safer if my grandparents, parents and I separated, and hid at different locations. I had to make my own decision when to stay at some more-or-less safe place, and when to move on.

At one instance a gentile doctor friend hid me in a certain hospital in Budapest. This was where I became exposed to the greatest danger I ever experienced in my life. The danger was not due to the police. Not due to the Nazis. It was the U.S. Air Force that came very close to killing me.

An SS armored division was parked in the vicinity of my hospital and the allied intelligence passed on this information to Italy. By the time the bombers came the SS moved out. Unaware of this, the crews of the Flying Fortresses laid down a carpet of bombs hitting every building in the neighborhood. In the cellar of the hospital I saw with horror a huge bomb coming right through. To my relief, it was dud. If it would not have been, I would not be able to tell this story now. After the air raid I moved on fast. Staying in the only erect building in an otherwise devastated neighborhood would have been dangerous.

Years later in America, I found out that one of my friends was in the Air Force, and had participated in this raid. Our standing joke was that he personally almost killed me.

A month before liberation my parents ran out of hiding places and joined me in a hut in the middle of nowhere in the outskirts of Budapest. Not quite in the

middle of nowhere. In this area there were only two houses: the little hut belonging to the couple hiding us and, on the other side of the street, a very luxurious house. The jack-booted Nazi-appearing owner of this house actually had a car, and was driving to-and-fro all the time. We were deadly afraid of the occupant of this house, never dared to be near a window and managed to do our toilet only in the dark of the night. There was no plumbing in our hut.

Finally the Russians came. With a relief we left our hut. What did we see? We saw five families with children exiting from the opposite house. Here is their story:

These people were Czech Jews who came to Budapest in 1938. They had a trustworthy gentile Hungarian friend and provided him the money to build the luxurious house I mentioned earlier. Their arrangement was that this house would have a double cellar to hide people, and that this friend would hide them if and when the Germans came to Hungary. They also bought him a car to be able to bring supplies when this became necessary. The arrangements were made in 1938. In 1944 the friend indeed honored his commitments. These arrangements looked quite safe, except for the little hut across the road. The people hiding in this house were just as afraid from discovery by the occupants of our little hut as we were afraid from them. The relief of our liberation was enhanced by our amusement over our past fears.

I still admire the foresight of these Czech Jews in planning six years ahead, and the steadfastness of their friend. □

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**HuJews Teen/Young Adult Conclave**

**March 16-18, 2007**

Hostel International, Chicago, IL

\$180 Registration

Covers food, lodging, activities  
(deadline 2/9/07) or add \$50 late fee

Plus \$25 non-SHJ member fee

Write To <hujews@comcast.net>

For more information!



Participants at 2006 Hujews Conclave

# SCHOOL NEWS

## Temple School is Cool

### Temple Youth Group Answers the Question

The Jews adapted to their new countries in the Diaspora and yet they retained key aspects of their own heritage. *Which parts of our heritage would you retain if you had to move to a new planet?*

Alex: "My grandma's kugel recipe and all funny sounding Yiddish words like *tush*, *bubbeleh* and *kvetch*"

Tehva: "A menorah and enough candles and matzoh"

Anna: "Enough Jewish food to last you"

Zoe: "The land of Israel and Billy Crystal"

Charlie: "Potato latkes"

Nicole: "Jewish music and apples and honey"

Joey: "A synagogue full of Rabbis – like a barrel of monkeys"

Matt: "The highlights of Jewish writing including the best comedians ever"

Sarah: "The sound your voice makes after you eat a bagel" "Oy"


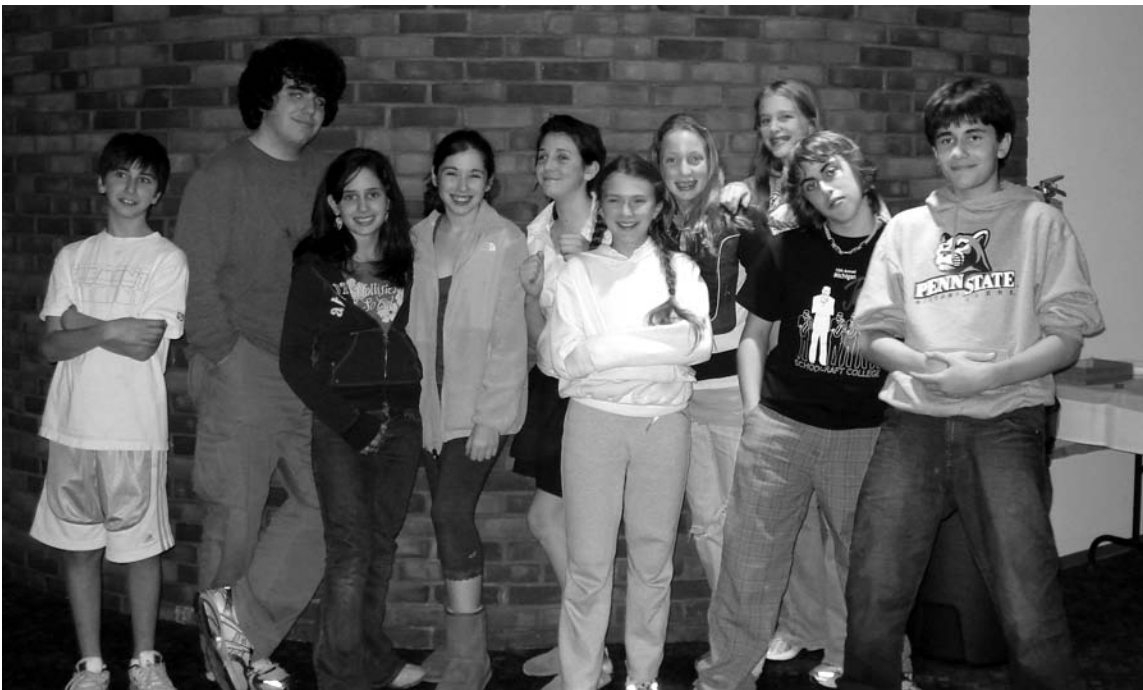
Ann: "A yarmulke because my aunt and uncle wear them and I think of them"

Zack: "I'd take my family with me and all the Hanukka presents I've ever gotten"



**Rebecca Smith**

Principal



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# Mission to Israel

## *A Journey of Discovery*



Eight Days of Special Events  
December 20-27, 2006

Our journey will express our stand of unity with our brothers and sisters in Israel.

Sponsored by the movement of Secular Humanistic Judaism  
Celebrating the First Ordination of Secular Humanistic Rabbis in Israel.

### *Featuring:*

- Two day seminar with Israeli scholars, poets and writers
- Discussions with Israelis confronting the crisis
- Three day exploration of historic sites
- Four days in Jerusalem including seminar
- One day experience in Tel Aviv
- First ordination of Secular Humanistic rabbis in Israel at the Israel Museum
- Encounter with A.B. Yehoshua, Israel's greatest writer
- Celebration of a Secular Humanistic Shabbat in Jerusalem
- The Dead Sea Scrolls 'experience' at the Shrine of the Book and Qumran
- Visits to 'shrines' of Secular Humanistic Judaism
- Quality time with the new Secular Humanistic rabbis of Israel



*Adolfo Roitman*

### *Including:*

- Comfortable accommodation
- Once in Jerusalem, buses or vans will be provided until we depart from Tel Aviv.
- The nine new Secular Humanistic rabbis will be our guides and companions.
- Private Meetings for Board members of the International Federation and the International Institute on Wednesday, December 20

### *Cost*

\$1,200 per person - which includes accommodations (twin room), transportation from arrival in Jerusalem until departure from Tel Aviv, and seminar instruction; \$300 additional for a single room

### *Transportation*

Every mission member will arrange his or her own transportation to Tel Aviv by air, arriving no later than Wednesday morning, December 20. This will enable participants to utilize frequent flyer miles. Taxis are available to take mission members to the first day activities in Jerusalem. Once in Jerusalem, the mission begins.

### *Registration*

Please telephone or e-mail the Institute office (248) 476-9532; <iishj@iishj.org>.  
Sue Luria, the Executive Director, will handle all arrangements.

# SHABBAT CALENDAR

Celebrations for December, 2006 and January 2007

*\*All services begin at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted*

## **December 1**

### **THE BAR MITZVAH CELEBRATION OF ZACHARY KAY**

*Rabbi Kolton*

During the height of the Holocaust in 1944, **Raoul Wallenberg** functioned as an unofficial diplomat. His strategy was delay. He issued thousands of "protective passports" which said the bearer was under the protection of the Royal Swedish legation. He rented 30 buildings where thousands of Jews lived, stockpiled food and medicine, and built up a staff over 400. He pulled thousands of Jews off the death trains, saving them from being shot and dumped in the Danube.

During this special evening **Zachary Kay** will become a bar mitzvah. **He will teach us about the life of his hero, Raoul Wallenberg.** A festive Oneg Shabbat will follow the service in his honor. **Peace** will be the theme of the service.

## **December 8**

### **WOMEN IN THE TORAH**

*Rabbi Kolton*

For Humanistic Jews, the Torah is a book of history and of myth. It is a repository of the best and worst of Judaism. It contains justice, sadness, grief and jubilation. It contains fear, love, heroes and villains.

This Shabbat celebration is an invitation to step inside the ancient tent of Judaism and talk with four compelling personalities from the Jewish past. Who were they? What did they represent? What can they mean to us today? Are their stories worth preserving? What do they mean to a humanistic community like the Birmingham Temple? Come dance with **Sarah, Leah, Hagar and Dinah.** **Jewish Feminism** will be the theme of the service.

## **Procedure for Submitting Material to The Jewish Humanist**

We welcome letters, articles, columns, photos and other items of interest submitted for publication in the *Humanist*. We cannot guarantee in advance whether material will be suitable for publication (nor whether we will have space to use it). We do not edit for content, but submissions are edited for space and style.

To submit a letter, article, column, photo or the like for our February 2007 edition, send your submission **by January 5, 2007**, to editor Diana Lieberman at <dzlz105@aol.com>. Please use "Humanist" as the first word in your subject line.

Send copy as an attachment in MSWord or as plain (simple) text in the body of your e-mail. Photos should be attached in JPEG or TIFF formats.

You also may mail copy (addressed as follows):

*The Jewish Humanist*  
attn.: Diana Lieberman  
c/o The Birmingham Temple  
28611 W. Twelve Mile Rd.  
Farmington Hills, MI 48334

## **December 15**

### **HANUKKA — THE REAL STORY AND MESSAGE OF HANUKKA**

*Rabbi Wine*

The traditional story of Hanukka which appears in the current public presentation of Hanukka is not the real story. The events that led to Hanukka are far more fascinating than the childish story about the miracle of the lights. There is deception and betrayal. There is political intrigue. There is the birth of a new Jewish era. There is a message that goes beyond the "conventional" message of religious freedom.

Come and be pleasantly surprised!

## **December 22**

### **HANUKKA FAMILY CELEBRATION**

*Potluck dinner at 6:30 p.m.*

*Hanukka Family Service begins at 7:30 p.m.*

*Rabbi Kolton*

Hanukka is a time for joy and family. It has become a very special season of the Jewish year. For so many children it is attached to dreidels, latkes, and presents.

But Hanukka is also significant because it is attached to a historical event about a family named the **Maccabbees**. Far from perfect, they were courageous and bold. They did stand up for themselves in the face of great adversity, and they did achieve national independence.

We begin our celebration with a potluck dinner. The Birmingham Temple will provide the latkes! Family Hanukka service will follow. **Courage** will be the theme of the evening.

## **December 29**

### **JUDAISM 101: THE JEWISH LIFE CYCLE**

*Rabbi Kolton*

This Shabbat is the first of a **two-part educational series** offered by Rabbi Kolton. These Shabbats will explore the major aspects of Judaism, their history and meaning. Whether you are new to celebrating Judaism or want to deepen your Jewish education, join us for this opportunity.

During part one Rabbi Kolton will explore the Jewish life cycle from birth to death. She will discuss the Jewish customs and beliefs. Where do we get the idea of "The Chosen People?" Why do Jews break the glass at weddings? Why do many Jews say Kaddish? **The Circle of Life** will be the theme of the service.

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**January 5, 2007**

**JUDAISM 101: THE JEWISH HOLIDAYS**

*Rabbi Kolton*

Our Jewish heritage is rich because of our holidays. The matzoh of Passover, the shofar of Rosh Hashanah, and the dreidel of Hanukka live in us as we live each year of our lives. Our holidays make our lives beautiful and connect us with each other. But there is so much to learn about our holidays!

During this Shabbat Rabbi Kolton will continue with part two of, **"All you needed to know about Judaism."** What is the real origin of Tu Bishvat? How is the Jewish calendar structured around the agricultural year? What myths did the rabbis attach to already existing festivals to change their flavor and focus? **Hope** will be the theme of the service.

**January 12, 2007**

**CEREMONY OF ADULT CONFIRMATION**

*Rabbi Wine*

Graduates of the two-year study program of Humanistic Judaism will celebrate their graduation. They will affirm their allegiance to the philosophy of The Birmingham Temple and share the story of their journey to Humanistic Judaism.

The graduates are:

**Nancy Peshkin, Audrey Pleasant and Debra Weisman**

During the celebration, **Judith Freund**, the outgoing executive director of the Birmingham Temple, will be honored for five years of devoted service to the temple.

**January 19, 2007**

**THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT**

*Rabbi Kolton*

**Guest Leader: Professor Aaron Ahuvia, Department of Management Studies, School of Management, University of Michigan – Dearborn** With Israel, the Palestinian Authority, the United States and the United Nations all supporting a two-state solution, why is peace so difficult to achieve? **Aaron Ahuvia** argues that basic human psychology, and a well-founded lack of trust on both sides, have been significant contributing factors to the continuation of the conflict.

This talk will provide an accessible explanation of current psychological research, show the biases in the ways both sides look at each other, and suggests practical ways of getting past these obstacles to achieve a lasting peace. Because the expected audience will be mostly Jewish, a special focus will be placed on the American Jewish community and what we can do to help Israelis and Palestinians forge a peaceful future. **Peace** will be the theme of the service.

**January 26, 2007**

**A WINTER WONDERLAND**

**Family Service begins at 7:30 p.m.**

*Rabbi Kolton*

Winter is a wonderful time for imagination. Before televisions, computers and Ipods, storytelling was the primary way that children and adults would entertain themselves. Especially during the winter months, when activity was confined to indoors, families gathered around the hearth to share their stories.

During this special Shabbat celebration, we will return to the art of storytelling. Children and adults will be invited to share their family stories and **create our winter wonderland**. **Family** will be the theme of our service. q



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Graduation • Bar & Bat Mitzvah • Wedding • Hostess

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Make the Boutique Your #1 Gift Shop!

Open during regular Temple office hours, during Temple events, and on Friday nights



If you need a babysitter so you can attend Friday night Shabbat services, contact **Rebecca Smith** at least 72 hours before the service. Babysitting is available each Friday evening during Shabbat services. Call (248) 477-1410, ext. 209

**NEED A BABYSITTER FOR SHABBAT?**

# BIRMINGHAM TEMPLE FORUMS

**DECEMBER**

## **December 4**

### **PALESTINE PEACE NOT APARTHEID BY JIMMY CARTER**

Many Jews are angry at the former President of the United States because of his new book about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Is this hostility justified? Is the Carter thesis simply naïve or misguided? Or is it worthy of serious consideration?

### **The Great Migration: The Coming of the Jews to America**

This year is a centennial, the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the arrival of Rabbi Sherwin Wine's father in America. Between 1882 and 1914, more than 2 million Jews left Eastern Europe and crossed an ocean to America. Their saga was the greatest exodus in Jewish history. Come and relive the experience.

## **December 11**

### **THE VOYAGE: THE INCREDIBLE JOURNEY FROM SUFFERING TO FREEDOM**

The immigrant story is a story of ingenuity and courage. Fleeing Eastern Europe to settle in America, Argentina or South Africa was no easy thing. Finding the money to buy the tickets, the uncertainties of the journey and the fear of the unknown made the voyage problematic. Many Jews decided not to leave. It involved too much trouble.

But those who chose to leave often became the unwilling 'authors' of heroic stories. Listening to those stories is an important tribute to our parents and grandparents.

## **December 18**

### **ARRIVING IN AMERICA: THE GREATEST SUCCESS STORY IN JEWISH HISTORY**

Most of the Jews found refuge in America. Anglo-Saxon America, with its secular capitalism and liberal democracy, was a strange land to Eastern European Jews. But they took to radically different America like "ducks to water." The first step was the urban ghetto. But the next step was business and professional success. Never before had so many Jews achieved affluence and power so quickly.

**JANUARY**

## **The New Europe and the Jews**

The European Union now embraces 25 countries, including many former satellites and members of the Soviet Union. Many of these countries contained large Jewish populations before the War. But the Holocaust intervened. And now the Muslims are coming.

## **January 8**

### **FRANCE AND THE JEWS**

France has the largest Jewish community in the European Union, some 600,000. Divided between an Ashkenazi minority and a Sephardic majority from North Africa, the French Jewish world is prospering. But the emergence of 5,000,000 Muslim immigrants has triggered a problematic anti-Semitism, with edges of violence. Given a shared fear of the Muslims, the French Right has cozied up to the Jews. French Jewry is divided on how to respond to these developments.

## **January 15**

### **GERMANY AND THE JEWS**

After the Holocaust, Germany featured a tiny Jewish community of old people. Synagogues were restored by the German government. But there were no Jews. Then, with the fall of Communism, Russian Jewish emigrants found a home in Germany. Today some 200,000 Jews represent a restored community. But the memories of the past cannot help but intrude. Will the Russian immigrants create a Jewish community totally different from the one that preceded it?

## **January 22**

### **HUNGARY AND THE JEWS**

Outside of the Soviet Union Hungary featured the largest Jewish community in Eastern Europe after the Holocaust (100,000). Only the alliance of Hungary with Nazi Germany made this possible. Today Budapest presents a vital and creative Jewish life. But the specter of anti-Semitism survives, especially among those who treasure the Hungarian Rebellion against the Soviets in 1956.

## **January 29**

### **POLAND AND THE JEWS**

At one time the host to the largest Jewish community in the world, Poland is now essentially a land without Jews. Despite that fact, thousands of Poles are still caught up in the politics of anti-Semitism. Thousands of others are caught up in studying and celebrating a Jewish culture that no longer exists. Poland is trapped between nostalgia for its Catholic past and desire to succeed in the world of the new Europe and the global economy. □

**E V E N T**

**What:**  
Birmingham  
Temple Forums

**When:**  
Mondays, Dec.  
4, 11 and 18 &  
January 8, 15,  
22 and 29  
8 p.m.

**Price:**  
Members: Free  
Non-Members:  
\$8 unless  
otherwise noted

## Very Fine Wine

Continued from page 6

heartland because they have become the voice of the multicultural mix of the east and west coasts. They speak with the sound of New York and Los Angeles. Wichita has a hard time relating to that world.

Does that mean that Democratic victories are temporary – that they can win the protest vote in the heartland but that they cannot win the cultural allegiance of the natives? If so, the long-run prospects for the Democratic Party are not good, even if they win control of both houses of Congress in this election.

Actually, the long-run prospects for the Democratic Party are very good. The loss of the South wrought havoc with the Democrats. Foundering for two decades they found a new unstable base in the multicultural mix on the Atlantic and Pacific shorelines. This base is not yet secure; Republican 'renegades' like Schwarzenegger can easily parrot most of the multicultural message and steal the constituency. The coastal population is politically fickle. But the coastal population is becoming increasingly non-white. Most new immigrants do not conform to the racial profile of the historic heartland. Given comparative birth rates, the population of the United States will, within 40 to 50 years, feature a majority of non-whites. And the Democratic Party is the party of choice for most blacks, Hispanics and Asians.

The heartland is indeed under siege. In many places its population is shrinking. Big areas of the Midwest have an aging population. Their children are abandoning the small towns for coastal opportunities. Their place is being taken by a steady flow of Hispanics and Asians who arrive to supplement the blacks who are already there. The heartland will not retake the coasts. The coasts will conquer the heartland. In time, wide areas of the heartland will feature non-white majorities.

What will temporarily protect the Republicans will be unequal voting power. The number of people it takes to elect two senators in Wyoming is far less than the number of people it takes to elect two senators in New York or California. The heartland can achieve power with fewer supporters than their opponents. But, in time, the racial infiltration of the heartland will change it. The unimaginable is happening. The founding race and its white allies will become a permanent minority in this country.

In the long run that prospect spells trouble for the Republicans. What appeared to be a major triumph for the Republicans – the acquisition of the southern whites – is not enough to win against the expanding opposition. Attempts to lock out potential non-white immigrants, whose cheap labor is needed, will fail. The new population will be "manna from heaven" for the Democrats. The Republican present is slowly turning into a Democratic future.

The talk about Obama as the Democratic candidate for the presidency in 2008 is prophetic. He represents the future of the Democratic Party. □

Marilyn's World

I LOVE HALLOWEEN

AS I STOOD AT THE DOOR  
HANDING OUT CANDY  
TO CHILDREN  
I COMMENTED  
ON THEIR COSTUMES,  
"GREAT LION,  
WONDERFUL PIRATE,  
WOW, SCARY MONSTER"

THEN ONE OF THE CHILDREN  
SAID TO ME,  
"GREAT OLD LADY".....



DEC. '06 © M. KOWENS

BUT I WASN'T WEARING A COSTUME!

# LONG TERM CARE

*Each year millions  
of Americans become*

*Disabled due to injury,  
chronic medical conditions,*

*Or simply through the  
aging process.*

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**The emotional impact takes a heavy toll.**

**And since health and disability insurance do not typically cover extended care in or outside the home, the financial and emotional toll can be catastrophic. It's especially difficult for those who thought they were prepared and didn't even realize their financial future was at risk. Long term insurance is the answer.**

**Paul Kadish**

**Certified in Long Term Care**

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# REMEMBRANCES

## December Birthdays

|                  |          |    |
|------------------|----------|----|
| Claire Levine    | December | 1  |
| Dea Farrah       | December | 2  |
| Ronald Milan     | December | 2  |
| Julius Harwood   | December | 3  |
| John Mellen      | December | 3  |
| Arnold Winshall  | December | 3  |
| Cheryl Rives     | December | 4  |
| Estelle Markow   | December | 5  |
| Stephanie Blum   | December | 6  |
| Steven Jacob     | December | 7  |
| Scott Warrow     | December | 8  |
| Doris Luria      | December | 9  |
| Ilene Hirsch     | December | 10 |
| Gavin Levin      | December | 10 |
| Margaret Weiner  | December | 11 |
| Marion Gordon    | December | 12 |
| Ralph Keith      | December | 12 |
| Sandra Landau    | December | 12 |
| Eugene Wagner    | December | 12 |
| Norine Zimmer    | December | 12 |
| Gerald Viedrah   | December | 13 |
| James Harley     | December | 14 |
| Norman Tepley    | December | 14 |
| Riley Cook       | December | 15 |
| Sally Eder       | December | 15 |
| Mark L. Kahn     | December | 16 |
| Rebecca Ingber   | December | 17 |
| Lawrence Altman  | December | 18 |
| Priscilla Molnar | December | 18 |
| Glenn Mellow     | December | 20 |
| Deane Safir      | December | 20 |
| Rudy Simons      | December | 20 |
| Roberta Slade    | December | 20 |
| Cameron Baller   | December | 21 |
| Doris Weil       | December | 21 |
| Barbara Gross    | December | 22 |
| James Reiter     | December | 22 |
| Jennifer Grodsky | December | 23 |
| Marc Shaberman   | December | 23 |
| David Milan      | December | 24 |
| Stuart Rice      | December | 24 |
| Judith Aisen     | December | 25 |

|                 |          |    |
|-----------------|----------|----|
| Bernard Cohen   | December | 26 |
| Elaine Kamienny | December | 26 |
| Robert Alpern   | December | 29 |
| Paul Molnar     | December | 29 |
| James R. Stout  | December | 29 |
| Paula Wolfe     | December | 29 |
| Irving Miller   | December | 30 |



## January Birthdays

|                   |         |    |
|-------------------|---------|----|
| Hank Gluckman     | January | 2  |
| Bennett Greenberg | January | 2  |
| Rachel Kaltenbach | January | 2  |
| Rex Rosenhaus     | January | 2  |
| Ina Stevens       | January | 2  |
| Berta Gardon      | January | 4  |
| David Guard       | January | 4  |
| Ruth Driker Kroll | January | 4  |
| Ruth Hirsch       | January | 5  |
| Tracy Passerman   | January | 6  |
| Sarah Broida      | January | 7  |
| Rachael Gerendasy | January | 7  |
| Gabriel Zeldes    | January | 7  |
| Shel Klimist      | January | 8  |
| Joel Rosner       | January | 9  |
| Sarah Mandlebaum  | January | 10 |
| David Smokler     | January | 10 |
| Loren Daniels     | January | 11 |
| Ethan Reider      | January | 11 |

|                         |         |    |
|-------------------------|---------|----|
| Brad Rowens             | January | 11 |
| Suzanne Dreifus         | January | 12 |
| Morris Goodman          | January | 12 |
| Selma Goodman           | January | 12 |
| Elisa Greenberg         | January | 13 |
| Suzanne Goldstein       | January | 14 |
| Natalie Wilson          | January | 14 |
| Joan Brawer             | January | 15 |
| Nanette Carnick         | January | 15 |
| Lilah Clevey            | January | 16 |
| Elaine Fieldman         | January | 16 |
| Mary Lewis              | January | 16 |
| Kenneth Gitlin          | January | 17 |
| Myra Jacobs             | January | 17 |
| Jonathan Mellow         | January | 17 |
| Ann Henrietta Finkel    | January | 18 |
| Paul Himelhoch          | January | 20 |
| Andrew Ingber           | January | 20 |
| Erika Keith             | January | 20 |
| Susan Warrow            | January | 21 |
| Catie Luria             | January | 22 |
| Noraa Silver            | January | 22 |
| Sharon Dolente          | January | 23 |
| Ned Greenberg           | January | 23 |
| Joan Ober               | January | 23 |
| Leslie Gladstone        | January | 24 |
| Pamela Gordon           | January | 24 |
| Elizabeth Olson         | January | 24 |
| Beverly Siegel          | January | 24 |
| Melissa Viedrah Garland | January | 24 |
| Paul C. Jacobs          | January | 25 |
| Sandy Kaplan            | January | 25 |
| Lucille Arking          | January | 26 |
| Howard Lederman         | January | 26 |
| Daniel Share            | January | 26 |
| Allan Daniels           | January | 27 |
| Jack Driker             | January | 27 |
| Steven Tobocman         | January | 27 |
| Inna Herbst             | January | 28 |
| Ann Kutnick             | January | 29 |
| Debra Luria             | January | 29 |
| Bernard Brawer          | January | 30 |
| Jerry Grodsky           | January | 31 |
| Jim Kaltenbach          | January | 31 |

## December Anniversaries

|                                  |          |    |
|----------------------------------|----------|----|
| Lawrence & Idell Weisberg        | December | 4  |
| Jerome & Connie Rogers           | December | 6  |
| Paul & Priscilla Molnar          | December | 8  |
| Maynard & Lucille Gordon         | December | 10 |
| Nathan Fuchs & Beth Dzodin-Fuchs | December | 13 |
| Allen & Annette Stone            | December | 13 |
| Marlowe & Eli B'sheart           | December | 16 |
| Marty & Barbara Burnstein        | December | 16 |
| Leon & Gloria Fogel              | December | 18 |
| Julius & Naomi Harwood           | December | 18 |
| Brian & Marla McCaffrey          | December | 18 |
| Saul & Helen Forman              | December | 20 |
| Robert & Judith Goren            | December | 20 |
| Stanley B. & Paula Wolfe         | December | 20 |
| Larry & Judy Liberson            | December | 21 |
| Seymour Blustein & Joyce Cheresh | December | 22 |

|                           |          |    |
|---------------------------|----------|----|
| Robert & Susan Citrin     | December | 22 |
| Kenneth & Roslyne Gitlin  | December | 22 |
| Donald & Barbara Sugerman | December | 22 |
| Trudy & Jack Driker       | December | 26 |
| Berta & John Gardon       | December | 26 |
| Paul & Marcia Himelhoch   | December | 26 |
| Barry & Deane Safir       | December | 31 |



## January Anniversaries

|                         |         |    |
|-------------------------|---------|----|
| Judith & Jon Desenberg  | January | 2  |
| Douglas & Joan Mann     | January | 7  |
| Debra & Aaron Silver    | January | 16 |
| Emanuel & Jean Sulkes   | January | 20 |
| Henry & Nancy Gleisner  | January | 24 |
| Maynard & Debra Metler  | January | 25 |
| Samuel & Barbara Reider | January | 27 |
| Rex & Janice Rosenhaus  | January | 29 |
| Morris & Renee Rochlin  | January | 31 |

## Yahrzeits

### December

#### Memorials

Murray Altman  
Tom Banks  
Allen Braver  
Vera Brode  
Milton Broder  
Matilda Citrin  
Sally Clasky  
Mabel Daniels  
Bernard Davis  
Louis Dzodin  
Warren Eder  
Julia Efram  
Betty Evintz  
Irving Feldman  
Ben Feldstein  
Marshall Ferguson  
Michael Forman  
Jerome Frank  
James Frankel  
Belle Freedland  
Israel Fuchs  
Samuel Ginsberg  
Joyce Goldenberg  
Bertha Goldman  
Celia Goldsmith  
Max Gordon

Morris Gordon  
Celia Gorosh  
Alan J. Grossman  
Ida Gus  
Benjamin Heller  
Carol Heller  
Jean Hersh  
Rose Kadish  
Augustus Kahn  
Manya Kahn  
Max Klayman  
Julian Klein  
Herschel Kreger  
Ben Kresch  
Craig Jon Kutinsky  
Leon A. Lask  
Paul Lauer  
Benjamin E. Lerner  
Caroline Lerner  
Ruth Leventyn  
Elinor Levine  
Harold Levine  
Helen Lipson  
Seymour Lipten  
Mollie Littky  
Charles Margulis  
Frances Norris  
Gertrude Oberstein

Stuart Orman  
Buddy Peshkin  
Abraham Pivnick  
Irving Radner  
Jean G. Rattner  
Lily Reider  
Arthur Rice  
Meyer Rivkin  
Alvira Rodgers  
Max Ronis  
Maurice Rosen  
Mania Rost  
Joseph Rubin  
Morris Sasson  
Jerome J. Schneyer  
Nedwin Smokler  
Milton Spickler  
Belle Stevens  
Tavy Stone  
Ida Sweet  
Julian Unger  
Stuart Velick  
Joseph Viedrah  
Mark Waldman  
Edward Warren  
Kenneth Weber  
Tillie Wine  
William Wine

### January

#### Memorials

Fannie Adelson  
Helen Altman  
Arthur Bass  
George Bass  
Carl Berger  
Eva Bergo  
Emily Bone  
Lawrence Bowman  
Mary Brandt  
Jeanette Calfin  
Bess Carp  
Michael Citron  
Bernard M. Cohen  
Moses Cooperstock  
Leila Corn  
Gussie DeRoven  
Rose Desenberg  
William Diamond  
Jennie Dicken  
Wilfred Doner  
Marion Dreifus  
Joseph Efram  
Betty Egren  
Daniel Fox  
Rose Franklin  
Diana Ginsberg

Theodore Glass  
Fay Gold  
Jack Goldberg  
Sam Golden  
Mildred Gross  
Barney Handelman  
Onice Harley  
Maida Hopper  
Ida Kahn  
Gregorio Kleer  
James Klein  
Gussie Krelitz  
Karl S. Kutinsky  
Ana Ladizesky  
Irwin Landau  
Annette Landsberg  
Esther Lax  
Ann Levin  
Fannie Fried Levine  
Louis R. Lightstone  
Geraldine Linden  
Harold Lupiloff  
Mickey Milberger  
Golda Miller  
Dr. Sidney H.  
Mirbach  
Moses Mirbach  
Rene Muller

Marilyn Muroff  
Lillian Nager  
Sophia Pergament  
Helen Perlman  
Sarah Pincus  
Ida Primak  
Charles  
Rosenbaum  
David Rosner  
Gloria Rudner  
Maurice M. Safir  
Samuel Sandler  
Rose Schneider  
Dora Shapiro  
William Shapiro  
Albert Sherbin  
Arvey Shier  
Jean Shier  
Samuel Silver  
Edwin Weiner  
Neil Werner  
Rachel Willis  
Samuel Woolf  
Benjamin Young  
Leon Zechman  
Carolyn Ziegler

# Odds and Ends ...

## Inner Path

Inner Path is a discussion group about human subjectivity and spirituality addressed from varying psychological, philosophical, and scientific views.

Our next discussion will be: **imagination**. What does it mean to consciously employ positive fictions? Why is dogma so dangerous?

Meeting is Sunday, December 10, at 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the home of Joel Brown and Nancy Peet, Bloomfield Twp. near Franklin and Maple. Light refreshments will be served.

Call for information and directions. (248) 855-1472 before 9 a.m. or after 8 p.m. ☐



## Birmingham Temple Reading Circle

On the second Wednesday of every month, the Birmingham Temple Reading Circle meets to discuss a book the group has chosen. The group meets regularly in the temple library at 7:30 p.m., where we exchange opinions of the book and have light refreshments. All temple members are welcome. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 13. We will discuss *The Autobiography of God* by Julius Lester. For questions, contact Linda Kayes at (248) 543-1193. ☐

## *Birmingham Temple Night at the Jewish Ensemble Theatre*



If you are thinking about joining us for the temple's theatre group that attends the Jewish Ensemble Theatre, it is not too late!

¶ Buy your tickets for the second Saturday of the run, **as indicated below**.

¶ Enjoy great evenings of theater and dinner with other Birmingham Temple members.

Remaining plays in the 2006 – 2007 schedule:

- “*Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris*” by Eric Blau & Mort Schuman: December 16, 2006
- “*It Should Be*” by Ted Herstand: February 3, 2007
- “*An Inspector Calls*” by J. B. Priestly: April 28, 2007



If you are not already on the group distribution list, please contact Jerry Lieberman at <glieberman@decisionstrategies.com> or (248) 737-4356 for further information or to be notified about the dining plans for the evening. Make your own reservations with the JET box office at (248) 788-2900, either for the season or for single tickets.



# TRIBUTES

December, 2006 – January, 2007

Birmingham Temple Tributes provide a meaningful way to acknowledge a simcha or mitzvah or honor the memory of a friend or loved one. Tributes benefit everyone—the contributor, the contributee and the temple. If you need more handy tribute envelopes, call Jennifer Wicker at 248-477-1410.

## Education Fund

**In Honor of Audrey and Jerry Bricker, may the next 50 years be filled with love and good health.**

From Carol and Marty Gorosh

**In Honor of Marc and Leeann Landau's Wedding.**

From Ruth Goldman-Sarcus

**In Honor of Jennifer and Jerry Grodsky and the 1st Annual Temple Rummage Sale.**

From Merrill Miller and Nancy Tavalin

## General Fund

**In Honor of Barbara and Donald Sugerman's 50th Wedding Anniversary.**

From Rochelle and Ernest Eick

**In Honor of Audrey and Jerry Bricker's 50th Wedding Anniversary.**

From Rochelle and Ernest Eick

**In Honor of Barbara and Donny Sugerman's Very Special Anniversary.** From Audrey and Jerry Bricker

## Irving Kane Memorial Library Fund

**In Honor of Suzanne and Charlie Paul's 35th Anniversary.** From Dorit and Yossi Ben-Gal

**In Honor of Donald and Barbara Sugerman's 50th Anniversary.** From Peter and Suzan Caplan

## Rabbi Kolton Discretionary Fund

**In Honor of Libby Sherbin's special birthday.**

From Ruth Goldman-Sarcus

**In Honor of Barbara and Don Sugerman's 50th Anniversary.** From Rosalie and Sid Young

**In Honor of Zoe Gaber's Bat Mitzvah.**

From Jody, Daniel and Noah Gaber

## Rabbi Wine Discretionary Fund

**In Honor of Lori Schechter and a big thank you for her help with the Niagara-on-the-Lake trip.**

From Denny and Moe Brown

**In Memory of Florence Eisenberg.** From Pera Kane

**In Honor of Rabbi Wine and his service for Harold Black.** From Linda Weiner and Family

## Sound System Fund

**In Honor of Rachel Kaltenbach's Bat Mitzvah.**

From Rochelle Eick

## Vivace Music Fund

**In Honor of Libby Sherbin's very important birthday.** From Milton and Sandie Landau

**In Honor of Donny and Barbara Sugerman's Special Anniversary.**

From Milton and Sandie Landau

**In Honor of Barbara Sugerman attaining maturity.** From Milton and Sandie Landau

**In Honor of Judy Liberson, in appreciation for her significant contribution to the October Matt Haimovitz concert.**

From the Vivace Committee Members

**In Honor of 50th Wedding Anniversary of Donald and Barbara Sugerman.**

From Ruth Goldman-Sarcus

**Much happiness and congratulations to Audrey and Jerry Bricker on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.**

From Seymour Blustein and Joyce Cheresh

**In Honor of Audrey and Jerry Bricker having a great anniversary.** From Pera Kane



## **YOUR AD HERE!**

Contact the Birmingham Temple  
office about advertising in  
*The Jewish Humanist!*

**(248) 477-1410**

# December 2006

## The Birmingham Temple Monthly Schedule

| <i>Sunday</i>  | <i>Monday</i>  | <i>Tuesday</i>   | <i>Wednesday</i>  | <i>Thursday</i>             | <i>Friday</i>  | <i>Saturday</i>  |
|--|--|--|---|-----------------------------|--|--|
|  |  |  |   |                             | <b>1</b><br>8:00 p.m.<br>Shabbat<br>Celebration —<br>Bar Mitzvah<br>of Zachary Kay<br>– Rabbi Kolton   | <b>2</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Shabbat<br>Study Hour                                 |
| <b>3</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Sunday School   | <b>4</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Monday Class<br><br>8:00 p.m.<br>The<br>Birmingham<br>Temple Forum                        | <b>5</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Tuesday School  | <b>6</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Wednesday<br>School  | <b>7</b>                    | <b>8</b><br>8:00 p.m.<br>Shabbat<br>Celebration —<br>Women in<br>the Torah<br>– Rabbi Kolton   | <b>9</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Shabbat<br>Study Hour<br><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Dinner Club |
| <b>10</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Sunday School  | <b>11</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Monday Class<br><br>8:00 p.m.<br>The<br>Birmingham<br>Temple Forum                       | <b>12</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Tuesday School<br><br>5:30 p.m.<br>Executive Board<br><br>7:30 p.m.<br>Board of Trustees | <b>13</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Wednesday<br>School<br><br>7:30 p.m.<br>Reading<br>Circle | <b>14</b>                   | <b>15</b><br>8:00 p.m.<br>Shabbat<br>Celebration —<br>Hanukka<br>– Rabbi Wine  | <b>16</b><br>No<br>Shabbat<br>Study Hour<br><br><i>Hanukka</i>                 |
| <b>17</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Sunday School<br>&<br>Pre-School<br><br><i>Hanukka</i> | <b>18</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Monday Class<br><br>8:00 p.m.<br>The<br>Birmingham<br>Temple Forum<br><br><i>Hanukka</i> | <b>19</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Tuesday School<br><br><i>Hanukka</i>   | <b>20</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Wednesday<br>School<br><br><i>Hanukka</i>                 | <b>21</b><br><i>Hanukka</i> | <b>22</b><br>6:30 p.m.<br>Potluck Dinner<br><br>7:30 p.m.<br>Shabbat<br>Celebration —<br>Hanukka Family<br>Celebration<br>– Rabbi Kolton<br><br><i>Hanukka</i> | <b>23</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Shabbat<br>Study Hour<br><br><i>Hanukka</i>          |
| <b>24</b><br>No<br>School  | <b>25</b><br>No Monday<br>Night Class<br>or Forum  | <b>26</b><br>No School   | <b>27</b><br>No School  | <b>28</b>                   | <b>29</b><br>8:00 p.m.<br>Shabbat<br>Celebration —<br>Judaism 101: The<br>Jewish Life Cycle<br>– Rabbi Kolton  | <b>30</b><br>No Shabbat<br>Study Hour  |
| <b>31</b><br>No<br>School  |  |  |   |                             |  |  |

# January 2007

## The Birmingham Temple Monthly Schedule

| <i>Sunday</i>  | <i>Monday</i>  | <i>Tuesday</i>   | <i>Wednesday</i>   | <i>Thursday</i> | <i>Friday</i>  | <i>Saturday</i>                              |
|--|--|--|--|-----------------|--|--|
|  | <b>1</b><br><i>New Year's Day</i>  | <b>2</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Tuesday School  | <b>3</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Wednesday School  | <b>4</b>        | <b>5</b><br>8:00 p.m.<br>Shabbat Celebration —<br>Judaism 101:<br>The Jewish Holidays<br>– Rabbi Kolton  | <b>6</b><br>No<br>Shabbat Study Hour         |
| <b>7</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Sunday School &<br>Preschool  | <b>8</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Monday Class<br><br>8:00 p.m.<br>The<br>Birmingham Temple Forum                                   | <b>9</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Tuesday School  | <b>10</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Wednesday School<br><br>8:00 p.m.<br>Reading Circle<br>– Library | <b>11</b>       | <b>12</b><br>8:00 p.m.<br>Shabbat Celebration —<br>Ceremony of Adult Confirmation for<br>Nancy Peshkin,<br>Audrey Pleasant, &<br>Debra Weisman<br>– Rabbi Wine | <b>13</b><br>No<br>Shabbat Study Hour        |
| <b>14</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Sunday School                | <b>15</b><br><i>Martin Luther King Day</i><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Monday Class<br><br>8:00 p.m.<br>The<br>Birmingham Temple Forum | <b>16</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Tuesday School<br><br>5:00 p.m.<br>Executive Board Meeting<br><br>7:30 p.m.<br>Board of Trustees | <b>17</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Wednesday School   | <b>18</b>       | <b>19</b><br>8:00 p.m.<br>Shabbat Celebration —<br>Guest Professor:<br>Aaron Ahuvia<br>– Rabbi Kolton  | <b>20</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Shabbat Study Hour |
| <b>21</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Sunday School &<br>Preschool | <b>22</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Monday Class<br><br>8:00 p.m.<br>The<br>Birmingham Temple Forum                                  | <b>23</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Tuesday School   | <b>24</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Wednesday School   | <b>25</b>       | <b>26</b><br>7:30 p.m.<br>Shabbat Celebration —<br>Family Service<br>“A Winter Wonderland”<br>– Rabbi Kolton   | <b>27</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Shabbat Study Hour |
| <b>28</b><br>9:30 a.m.<br>Sunday School                | <b>29</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br>Monday Class<br><br>8:00 p.m.<br>The<br>Birmingham Temple Forum                                  | <b>30</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Tuesday School   | <b>31</b><br>4:30 p.m.<br>Wednesday School   |                 |  |  |

# The Jewish Humanist

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## •••• The 43<sup>rd</sup> Birmingham Temple Retreat •••• *Five Secrets to Happiness in Life*

– The Edison Inn, Port Huron, Michigan –  
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**Reserve NOW to guarantee your attendance!**

Sign the poster in the Temple entrance and send your pre-registration fee of \$100 to:  
Sue Chalom (4078 Fox Pointe Drive, West Bloomfield MI 48323)

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