

# HaKol

The Voice of  
Congregation Kol Emeth  
5130 W. Touhy Avenue  
Skokie, Illinois 60077  
847-673-3370  
KolEmethSkokie.org

January - February, 2010  
Tevet/Shevat/Adar, 5770



## Message From The Rabbi

"Purim zenen alle shikurim nichter." This Yiddish saying, which means "on Purim all drunks are sober", expresses the strange upside-down quality of the holiday of Purim. On Purim, the holiday on which the Talmud tells us we should get so drunk that we cannot tell the difference between the phrases Blessed be Mordecai and Cursed be Haman, i.e. the holiday on which the sober get drunk, on this holiday the Yiddish saying tells us, the drunks are sober. (Before you rush out to stock up on alcohol in preparation for inebriation, I hasten to add that Maimonides, puritanical here as in other areas, "explains" that the Talmud merely means one drinks enough to fall asleep and it is then that one does not know the difference between Blessed be Mordecai and Cursed be Haman.)

And the Megilla of Esther, the scroll we read on Purim, does indeed speak of an upside-down world in which a plot to exterminate all the Jews in a large and mighty empire, a plot hatched in the royal palace by Haman, the chief minister to the king, and written into law by the king, is foiled by the king's beautiful wife, Esther, a Jewish woman who has kept secret her Jewish identity on the instructions of her uncle Mordecai. Not only is the plot foiled, but by the end of the story the Jews are fighting back with such vigor that non-Jews in the kingdom are converting to Judaism in great numbers.

It turns out that Esther was an inspiration to the Marranos, those Spanish Jews who, centuries ago, outwardly adopted Christianity to escape death, but secretly continued Jewish practices. They were thrilled to read a story which begins with Jewish denial, but ends with Jewish triumph and even mass

conversions to Judaism. Since it was dangerous for them to be seen celebrating Purim itself, they had to be content with observing the Fast of Esther which precedes Purim. In fact a superstition grew up among the Marranos that observing this and other fasts would help secure a woman a good husband!

Fortunately we do not have to hide our Jewishness as the Marranos did. We can and should celebrate Purim

openly, and rejoice in the story in which, as we are told near the end of the Megilla, "it was turned for them from sorrow to joy, from mourning to a holiday."

Happy Purim!

**Rabbi Barry Schechter**



### Services

Friday Evening	8:00 p.m.
Saturday Morning	9:30 a.m.

### Minyan

Sunday Morning	9:15 a.m.
Monday, Wednesday and Thursday Evenings	7:40 p.m.
Levinson Memorial Chapel	

Refer to calendar for holiday service times.

# Message From The President

As winter descends upon us for the next few months we at Kol Emeth have a chance to look back at what Kol Emeth means to us. When it is too cold or snowy to spend much time outside and darkness occurs in mid-afternoon and we contemplate whether or not we should make a visit to the synagogue for a minyon or to attend a service on Friday night or Saturday morning, I think about what I shall miss. I shall of course miss the opportunity to pray as a Jew in complete freedom from any oppressor. I shall miss the opportunity to spend time with my second family -the Kol Emeth family- and join with them not only in prayer but enjoying the pleasure of their company. I miss the chance to give comfort to those who have a yahrzeit. I shall miss the sharing of an Oneg Shabbat or Kiddush with my Jewish family. And so I think about which warmth is most important to me - that of my physical home and my well-being or that of the Kol Emeth family?

And so I ask - with whom shall I share my most precious gift- the gift of time? That is one gift I will always have to give and never worry about its expense. And so as these dark and cold winter days and nights approach I ponder this dilemma. Of course I want to stay healthy but I want to keep our synagogue healthy too. So I decide that my gift of time must be shared. I will be kind to myself and to the synagogue that I care for so much. So I will find time for both. And it will be such a joy to share that time with you as it always has been during the fourteen years that I have known most of you. Our Kol Emeth family is a very special one. Let us celebrate our synagogue and each other and give ourselves and our synagogue our most precious gift-- the gift of time.

As always,

**William Raffeld**  
Your president.

## Congregation Kol Emeth Sends Deepest Sympathy To:

**Herbert Daitchman** - On the loss of his beloved wife and Kol Emeth's dear friend **Marilyn Daitchman**

**Yona Gelfond** - On the loss of her beloved mother

**Edith Winston** - On the loss of her beloved husband **Dr. Leonard Winston**

## Yahrzeit/Yizkor Donations

**Nata Andinysh**

**Helen Applebaum**

**Howard Aronson**

**Nissin Behar**

**Joe Berezin**

**Harry Besser**

**Richard Bloom**

**Maureen and Norman Cohen**

**Helene Colen**

**Barry Curtis**

**Marlene Iser**

**David Jorbin**

**Fern Katz**

**Shirley and Al Kleifield**

**June Korey**

**Ellen Marchi**

**Ruth Margolin**

**Herman Nussbaum**

**Esther Peven**

**Irina and Dmitriy Polevoy**

**Lee and Brad Price**

**Phyllis Myers Projansky**

**Zelda and Irwin Rich**

**Anne Solar**

**Muriel and Melvin Weinstein**

**Eileen Yedlin**

**Eleanor Zeff**

Should you wish to honor the memory of your beloved departed with a permanent Memorial Plaque, please contact the synagogue office at 847-673-3370 for additional information.

# Sisterhood News

The Sisterhood has been involved in a lot of programs. There were several book reviews led by **Selma Katz**. In addition to a program sponsored by the Men's Club and Sisterhood, featuring Lynn Hazan, **Sarine Rohde** was deservedly recognized and honored for all she does to keep our Synagogue going.

We hope everyone had a chance to see and buy the various items on display for Hanukah that the Sisterhood was selling. Also, there are still Entertainment Books available for \$20.00.

Please remember to think about sponsoring an Oneg Shabat or Kiddush for a special celebration or just for "no reason."

**Helene Colen**

# Men's Club News

As usual the combined Men's Club and Sisterhood evening was a success. Over fifty members and guests were treated to an evening of Jewish storytelling and song by popular Lynn Hazan. It was time well spent.

The first Men's Club Sunday breakfast of the season will be held on February 7, 2010 with a prominent guest speaker to be announced in a future flyer.

The Men's Club is a vital part of all aspects of our congregation. If you are looking to get involved in synagogue activities, **JOIN THE MEN'S CLUB!**

The Men's Club would like to wish the Kol Emeth Congregation a Healthy and Happy New Year and to all the "Snow-birds," go and come home in good health.

**Herman Nussbaum**

# Important News About HaKol Mailings

Now that we are on the Internet and have our own Web Site (KolEmethSkokie.org) members whose email address is on file will no longer receive their bulletins via snail-mail. This will save printing costs, postage costs and office labor costs.

As in the past, you will receive an email that will announce that the new HaKol is ready. Included will be a link to Kol Emeth's website newsletter page. Once there, with one click, the new newsletter will automatically download to your computer. You can then read it on screen (as large as you care to make it) and/or print it out on your own printer.

If you wish a traditionally printed version, as before, you may pick up one the next time you come to shul for a minyon or to a meeting. Obviously, those members who do not have computer capabilities will continue to receive their newsletter by mail.

Should this new policy be problematic for you, please contact **Sarine** in the office. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated and we all thank you.

**Roger Fischhoff and Sarine Rohde**

## Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

9 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

9 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

**Remember... HaKol's deadline is the 10th of the month prior to publication. Thanks!**

# We Celebrate... We Pray... We Remember...

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Ilona Hartman**

## PRAYER BOOK & PLATE

**Lorri and David Rosen** - In memory of Marilyn Daitchman

## CHUMASH AND PLATE

**Anita Robbins** - In honor of her grandson Michael's Bar Mitzvah

## MAZEL TOV TO

**Jacqueline Balter** on her "Special" Birthday

**Elayne and Arnold Jacobs** on the birth of their granddaughter Alexandra Charlie Jacobs

**Fred Levin** on being Men's Club "Man of the Year 2009"

**Lynda and Ron Orlean** on their daughter Randy's wedding

**Anita Robbins** on grandson Michael's Bar Mitzvah

**Jean and Marvin Rosenblum** on the birth of their grandson Andrew Nissin Rosenblum

**Lee Shandling** in honor of her granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah

**Sheila Wexler** on her grandson Jordan Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah

**Jan Zinman** on her "Special" Birthday

## CONGREGATION WANTS TO WISH A SPEEDY RECOVERY TO

**Joyce Avers**

**Marcia Nussbaum**

**Sol Boris**

**Marvin Nussbaum**

**Sheldon Cooper**

**David Rosen**

**David Jorbin**

**Lorri Rosen**

**Shirley and Al Kleifield's** daughter **Ilisa Kleifield**

## DONATIONS IN MEMORY OF

**Herbert Daitchman** in memory of his beloved wife **Marilyn Daitchman**

**Edith Winston** in memory of her beloved husband **Dr. Leonard Winston**

## GENERAL & SIMCHA DONATIONS

**Nata Andinysh** - Donation to the Synagogue

**Jacqueline Balter** - In honor of her "Special" Birthday

**Roberta and Donald Charous** - Simchat Torah Pledge for Rabbi's Auction

**Burton Greenberg** - In honor of his new home

**Ilona Hartman** - Donation to the Synagogue for the New Year

**Elayne and Arnold Jacobs** - In honor of the birth of their granddaughter Alexandra Charlie Jacobs

**Fred Levin** - In honor of being Men's Club "Man of the Year 2009"

**Lynda and Ron Orlean** - In honor of Randy's wedding

**Lee and Brad Price** - Simchat Torah Pledge for Rabbi's Auction

**Hilda Reich** - Simchat Torah Pledge for Rabbi's Auction

**Anita Robbins** - In honor of grandson Michael's Bar Mitzvah

**Sarine Rohde** - For being honored on Monday November 23, 2009

**Jean and Marvin Rosenblum** - In honor of the birth of their new grandson

**Lee Shandling** - In honor of granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah

**Rivka and Brian Weiner** - Simchat Torah Pledge for Rabbi's Auction

**Sheila Wexler** - In honor of grandson Jordan Goldberg's Bar Mitzvah

**Ina and Arnold Weiner** - Simchat Torah Pledge for Rabbi's Auction

**Dyna Wise** - Simchat Torah Pledge for Rabbi's Auction

**Florence and Melford Wolf** - Donation to the Synagogue

**Jan Zinman** - In honor of her "Special" Birthday

## DONATIONS FOR SPEEDY & COMPLETE RECOVERIES

**Joyce Avers**

**Ilisa Kleifield**

**Sol Boris**

**Marcia Nussbaum**

**Sheldon Cooper**

**Marvin Nussbaum**

**David Jorbin**

**David Rosen**

**Shirley and Al Kleifield** -

**Lorri Rosen**

Speedy & Complete recovery for daughter

*Conscience is what hurts when everything else feels so good.*

*Love is grand; divorce is several hundred grand.*

*The cardiologist's diet:*

*If it tastes good, spit it out*

*Wife: "What are you doing today?"*

*Husband: "Nothing"*

*Wife: "You did that yesterday."*

*Husband: "I wasn't finished."*

*The secret of a good sermon is to have a good beginning and a good ending; and to have the two as close together as possible.*

*Submitted by Len Colen*

## Hebronics

*Question: "What time is it?"*

*English answer: "Sorry, I don't know."*

*Hebronic response: "What am I, a clock?"*

*Remark: "I hope things turn out okay."*

*English answer: "Thanks."*

*Hebronic response: "I should be so lucky!"*

*Remark: "Hurry up. Dinner's ready."*

*English answer: "Be right there."*

*Hebronic response: "Alright already, I'm coming.*

*What's with the 'hurry' business? Is there a fire?"*

We appreciate and encourage newsletter contributions from all our congregants but, hard copy (paper) submissions will no longer be accepted. If you are unable to submit electronically, please contact **Sarine** in the office. All emails must be sent to [hakol@KolEmethSkokie.org](mailto:hakol@KolEmethSkokie.org). Articles must be sent by the 10th for the following month's newsletter.

Ha Kol is compiled by **Sarine Rohde** and edited by **Roger Fischhoff**.

## "One Book"--Kol Emeth

The Program committee has planned a wonderful Shabbos evening on Fri. March 12. We'll have an early service at 6pm, dinner at 7pm and then a book review and discussion led by **Selma Katz**.

The "One Book" we'll all be reading is *Wandering Stars* by Sholem Aleichem. We're celebrating his 150 year birthday with this program. It's a special book about shtetl Jews and the Yiddish Theater.

Theodore Bikel writes that the novel is a tribute to the peculiar folk who had no other home than the makeshift stages of the Yiddish Theater. The book is full of laughs and pathos. The characters are unique with wonderful names like Getzel ben Getzel, Yuckel ben Fleckel, Sheyne Shenkle and Holzmach.

Books are available in the office for \$18.00 (cheaper than Amazon) and at Amazon.com or bookstores and libraries. Be sure to get Aliza Shevrin's translation. Should be a great evening. Start reading!

## Please Take Special Note

Our bank is now charging a \$25.00 fee for checks that are returned for whatever reason. This does not pertain to only NSF checks. So please make sure that your check is good.

Thank you.

## Important Announcement

If you have need for a Notary, please contact **Sarine** in the office (847-673-3370). For a donation of a minimum of \$1.00 to Tzedaka, **Sarine** will notarize for you. However, you do need to sign the form in front of her.

Congregation Kol Emeth  
5130 W. Touhy Avenue  
Skokie, IL 60077

Address Service Requested

Rabbi

**Barry Schechter**

President

**William Raffeld**

Vice President/Treasurer

**Michael Okmin**

Vice President/House

**Leonard Colen**



**Tu B'Shevat**  
**The Rosh HaShanah of Trees**  
**January 30**  
**טו בשבט**

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U. S. Postage  
PAID  
Skokie, IL  
Permit No. 84

## Oakton College Announces FREE Jewish Literature Series

Do you like to read?

Do you like to talk about books you have read?

If the answers are "yes" you will be glad to know that Oakton College is offering an experimental series in Jewish Literature starting soon.

The course will meet on five Wednesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30 and is led by Benjamin Goluboff who teaches English at Lake Forest College.

The series is offered at no charge to residents of Oakton area. You can register at the A L L office on the first floor at the Skokie campus. Once you are registered you can borrow the books from the Oakton Library. All at no fee.

The menu consists of:

January 27 .....

February 17.....

March 24.....

April 14.....

May 5.....

LOST IN TRANSLATION by  
Eva Hoffman

THE CENTAUR IN THE GARDEN  
by Moacyr Scliar

OUT OF EGYPT by Andre Aciman

KATTERSALL FALLS  
by Alegra Goodman

EXODUS from the Old Testament

(Submitted by Al Saper)

# THANK YOU... THANK YOU...

**Lynn and David Charous** – Thank you to all our Kol Emeth friends for their best wishes on our recent marriage.

**Barbara Eres** – Thank you to all whom so thoughtfully remembered me on my Birthday with Leagrams. Your warmth and generosity are appreciated.

**Sheila Herckis** – I want to thank **Rabbi Schechter** for his visits and to everyone for all their concerns with donation letters, cards and most of all phone calls during my recovery from my accident. It was a very hard road to recovery but I did it and I am on my way to complete and full recovery of my left arm. Thank you all once again for your thoughtfulness.

**Elayne and Arnie Jacobs** – Thank you for all the good wishes and donations for our anniversary and on the birth of our granddaughter Alexandra Charlie Jacobs.

**Dave Jorbin** – I want to thank everyone for the good wishes for my speedy recovery and to the Rabbi for his visit.

**Leona Katzman** – So I didn't see too well before, but now I'm seeing better – A very hearty thank you to all for the get well wishes after my recent eye surgery. See you in Shul.

**Anita Robbins** – I was so pleased and surprised by so many letters in honor of my grandson Michael's recent Bar Mitzvah. I want to thank everyone for their good wishes and kind thoughts, which were greatly appreciated. Thank you.

**Sarine Rohde** – I want to truly thank everyone for my wonderful Leagrams, cards and phone calls to help me celebrate my birthday. Whenever I say Kol Emeth is my family, it truly is. Thank you each and every one of you for making my birthday so pleasant for me. I also wish to thank **Rabbi, Shelly Cooper and Sheila Wexler** for honoring me on Monday evening November 23. I can not believe how many people came to Synagogue and gave up so many other things to honor me. **Shelly** your poem was terrific and **Sheila** you know how I feel about you, Sisterhood and, of course, Kol Emeth. Kol Emeth has

been **Bob** and my family for many years and once again it was there for us Monday evening. All I can honestly say to each and every one of you (especially those of you who had other plans and cancelled them) is **THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING AND HONORING ME SO BEAUTIFULLY!**

**Lorri Rosen** – Once again the Kol Emeth Family has wrapped me in the warmth of their phone calls and letters upon learning I had taken a horrendous face forward fall trying to get to my car on our driveway. I am still baffled by how it happened but I did have my coat shortened.

A special "Thank You" to my cousins **Marilyn and Shel Cooper** who took me to H.P.E.R. and waited with me until my daughter could come down from her office and hold my hand while I endured 13 stitches above my eyebrow. Thank You! Thank You!

**Jean and Marvin Rosenblum** – We want to thank the members that made donations in honor of the birth of our grandson Andrew Nissin (The Miracle) Rosenblum.

# Your Custom Calendar Is Just Moments Away!!!

All calendars are now available on [kolemethskokie.org](http://kolemethskokie.org) any *time* you want and in any *form* you want.

Go to [KolEmethSkokie.org](http://KolEmethSkokie.org) and click on the calendar link under the main photo and you will see a list of the next two weeks' events. Click on the link at the bottom and you'll see a list of the following two weeks.

If you wish to see the month at a glance just select "view by month". Click on anything in blue and you'll see all the details of the event.



You can also focus in on any specific type of events by clicking to the right of "all categories" and selecting the category you are interested in. The calendar will then only show that category.

Now go down to the bottom and click on printer friendly version and print your custom calendar.

