

# The Dove Tale

MAY-JUNE 2022

IYAR-SIVAN 5782

## Features:

Rabbi's Study	2
President's Message	3
Sisterhood	5
Bar/Bat Mitzvah	6
Hebrew School	8
Social Action	10
Men's Club	15
Congregant of the Month	
Mitch Gerson	16
Confirmants	18
OY!	22
Donations	24



*Stained Glass donated by Sam and Gail Goldstein and Joe Hurwitz.*

*Ohev Shalom celebrates the uniqueness of each individual and family and welcomes diversity within our sacred community*



Rabbi Elliott Perlstein

## THE JEWRY IS OUT

One of our congregants mentioned to me that at their snowbird congregation in Florida, the pre-pandemic attendance on Shabbat morning of some 600 to 800 was a little less than 300 when we spoke in late March. There is a Hebrew saying that translates as, “Shared pain provides half the comfort.” Yes, it was comforting to hear that our diminished numbers are not unique.

Our Shabbat morning numbers have never been robust, but on a given pre-pandemic Shabbat morning we would have thirty-five to fifty people at the service. I never really count the house, and I might be inflating this a bit. We are down some fifty percent at least.

Our loss on Friday night is more dramatic. On the Friday evening prior to my writing this, we had six congregants in the Sanctuary in addition to the Bat Mitzvah family. We have had robust crowds for Consecration, Sunday School Shabbat and the like. They are great evenings but don’t have much of a shelf life. The anemic numbers have been the case throughout the fall and winter. I was and still am hoping for a revival in the spring.

Our pre-pandemic Friday night regulars have not returned (yet). Why? It could be that some don’t feel comfortable sitting in a crowd. On that account, there’s nothing to be afraid of. It could be that some don’t feel comfortable sitting with a mask on. I get that. Neither do I. Every time I think we’re getting close to mask optional, the number of infections starts spiking. Additionally, coming to shul regularly is a sort of habit. It’s a good habit for sure. It could be that some have simply gotten out of the good habit and it’s hard to reclaim it.

Some have gotten very comfortable with Zoom or livestream. This was an emergency accommodation during the height of the pandemic and was never intended to be the new version of what it means to be a community at prayer.

*We* have a new emergency today. For the first time in forty-six years, we are facing a Friday evening Kabbalat Shabbat when we don’t have a Minyan in the synagogue.

*I* have never commented on the modest numbers at our Shabbat services. Instead, I would write or speak about how our Shabbat services are the heart of the synagogue and can be wonderfully enriching for our lives. I still believe that, of course, but we are faced with a reality that we need to face head-on as a community, and so I share these numbers with you.

So, at this point in this communication, you have every reason to expect the pitch right about now. Something catchy like **CBS- Come Back to Shul**. We need you. It’s true, we need you so very much, but I don’t think a pitch on paper will do much. My intention in writing the above is to share the present reality with you. Is this reality the new normal, or can we bounce back to our pre-pandemic attendance? I, of course, hope that latter is the case. Some recover quickly and fully from Covid, and others have long term, chronic symptoms. In which category will we fall? Right now, the *Jewry* is out. We each serve on that *Jewry*. My hope and prayers are that the *Jewry* will come back in!

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Diane Pevar



This May marks the return of a wide variety of in-person programming to Ohev Shalom. Shabbat services continue to be held in person and on Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, Sisterhood will return to the sanctuary for its annual Sisterhood Shabbat followed by an extended kiddush.

On Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, please join us for the annual Congregational Meeting as we recognize and honor 18- and 36-year members and present Ohev’s Shalom Award to a deserving member. I’ll be reporting on Ohev’s achievements and accomplishments of this past year and presenting you with a picture of our plans for the coming year.

On Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, our very own Ohev Players present **Oy!**, a hilarious collection of short comedies that will provide us with much laughter and teach us the meaning of many Yiddish words and phrases.

Also on May 15<sup>th</sup>, our PTO will host the Spring Fling for our Hebrew School and Tichon students who have worked incredibly hard this year both in person and virtually.

On Friday evening, May 20<sup>th</sup>, our newly elected officers and board members will be installed during Shabbat services. Please be sure to join me as we thank outgoing lay leaders for their service and welcome new leaders to their positions.

And on May 24<sup>th</sup>, please participate in our semi-annual blood drive sponsored by our Social Action Committee.

Learning through Limmud will continue virtually through the Spring as will evening and Sunday morning minyan. As always, we will also continue to livestream Saturday morning services for those who are distant from us or unable to attend in person.

May also marks my departure from the presidency. Even though the pandemic was in full swing with a lockdown when I took office in May, 2020, none of us could have imagined what the next two years would look like. Words such as “virtual” and “Zoom” were still unfamiliar to most of us. “You’re on mute” was yet to be incorporated as a cultural reference. But here we are, two years later, strong and resilient and returning to our physical campus, to once again worship, learn, socialize, and kibbitz in person.

Unlike my previous columns, I didn’t have a topic for this issue. While I may have hoped for some inspirational message to pass along as I head out the door, what I really want to say to each of you is, “Thank You!”

Thank you to our clergy, faculty, staff, and lay leaders, who worked tirelessly these past two years to ensure that Ohev ran smoothly and thrived despite the circumstances. Thank you to our incredible volunteers who created and ran programming to keep us connected as a congregation. Most importantly, thank you to each of you for making the last two years an incredible experience for me. Despite the challenges that came with the pandemic, we have all pulled together to demonstrate our love for the synagogue and for each other.

Please continue to participate in our synagogue throughout the spring and summer. It’s a great way to ease back into normal synagogue life as well as to reconnect with each other.

Stay safe and be well,

Diane



# Prepare for the future and make informed health decisions



**1 in 2 Jews is at risk for being a carrier for 101 preventable Jewish genetic diseases. Screenings are affordable, accessible, and safe.**

*Dr. Randi Zeitzer, family physician, provides healthcare that honors the traditions of the Jewish community, while advocating for the screening of Jewish genetic diseases.*

Preventing Jewish Genetic Diseases is a program of the Jewish Health Resource Center at Einstein

**Einstein.edu/JHRC | 1.800.Einstein**



## SISTERHOOD NEWS

Spring has Sprung, and flowers are beginning to bloom. This May 6<sup>th</sup> is our Annual Sisterhood Shabbat. We will be in-person and will be having an extended Kiddush. Please join us as we welcome Shabbat together, the Friday before Mother's Day!

Also save the date for our Sisterhood End-of-Year Event, Tuesday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. This will be in-person and you won't want to miss it. Let's get together and schmooze and.... Watch your emails for additional information about the evening. It's open to all Past and Present Sisterhood Members!!

This is the time of year we are planning for next year. Do you have a passion, or some ideas for programs? Give me a shout-out, be a part of our planning team, get involved! Email me: [ivy.graff@gmail.com](mailto:ivy.graff@gmail.com)

We will be back- we are planning in-person events for 2022-2023.

Be sure to renew your Sisterhood Membership for 2022-2023!

We look forward to seeing you and your smiling faces!!

With love,

Ivy



1380 Creek Road,  
Furlong, PA 18925  
(215) 598-7143

[www.briarwooddaycamp.com](http://www.briarwooddaycamp.com)  
[info@briarwooddaycamp.com](mailto:info@briarwooddaycamp.com)

For boys and girls ages 3-15  
Lunch and snacks provided  
Door to door transportation



*30 acres of  
unplugged fun in  
the sun!*

**Independent Senior  
Living Advisors**



**THINKING ABOUT –**

- Moving?
- Moving to Independent Senior Living?
- Selling your home?

**THINK ABOUT –**  
**S<sup>3</sup>Living Strategic Senior Solutions**

**S<sup>3</sup>Living** helps Active Adults find the perfect 55+ Community or Life Plan Community (CRRC).

**S<sup>3</sup>Living** represents **YOU**, not the communities. We will recommend the best solution to meet your individual needs.

Call the Delaware Valley's leading expert on Independent Senior Living

**David Reibstein, President**

**215-870-7362**

Call today for a free consultation

**S3Living.com**

FOR YOUR PERSONALIZED PRINTING NEEDS SEE

**MIMI POLLACK**

FOR INVITATIONS, STATIONERY, ACCESSORIES,  
HOLIDAY CARDS, KIPPOT, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



BY APPOINTMENT CALL 215-355-5069  
215-837-6502 cell

I CAN CREATE THE MOOD FOR YOUR  
SPECIAL OCCASION



[www.IrisSegal.com](http://www.IrisSegal.com)

**IRIS H. SEGAL**  
CRS, SRES, GRI, ABR  
230 South State Street  
Newtown, PA 18940  
Office: 215-968-6703  
Cell: 267-474-7030  
Email: [Iris@LNF.com](mailto:Iris@LNF.com)



**LONG & FOSTER** REAL ESTATE

**SCOTT R. SEGAL**  
Realtor®

Office: 215-968-6703  
Cell: 215-514-2040  
[Scott.Segal@LNF.com](mailto:Scott.Segal@LNF.com)  
[www.scottsegment.com](http://www.scottsegment.com)

**LONG & FOSTER REAL ESTATE**  
230 S. State St. Newtown, PA 18940





## NAOMI SCHIEKEN-BAT MITZVAH, APRIL 9, 2022.

My name is Naomi Schieken, and I am in 7th grade at Newtown Middle School, where I am on the track team. I am the second oldest of three siblings. My sister Ilana, who is 14, is really fun to be around. My two younger brothers, Zac and Tyler, are still in elementary school. And, let's not forget my two pets- my dog Winston and my cat Elli. My friends are so important to me, too. I have known Ethan and Mackenzie for most of my life, and we have been inseparable!

In my free time, I like to read, eat, write short stories, and ride horses. I have been riding horses for the past four years and really enjoy it. For my Mitzvah, I volunteered at an animal shelter to help walk dogs. I am also going to create a fundraiser to help them. I love walking the dogs and seeing them frolic around.

My Mitzvah was on April 9th, and it was great! I would like to thank my parents and grandparents for supporting me throughout my journey of becoming a mitzvah. I wouldn't have been able to do it without them. I would also like to thank Cantor Annelise and Rabbi Perlstein for helping me prepare for this special occasion. I am thankful to be a part of this wonderful synagogue and Jewish community



## ETHAN PACHMAN- BAR MITZVAH, JUNE 11, 2022

My name is Ethan Pachman, and I am becoming a Bar Mitzvah on June 11, 2022. I am a curious, intelligent, funny, and good-looking vegetarian. I am also very, very humble.

I am currently a seventh grader at Murray Avenue Middle School in the Lower Moreland School District. Science is my favorite subject, and I am also a student member of the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Council at my school. My goal is someday to be a white-collar criminal defense attorney. I think this job would be a great fit for me. Although I might have to do lots of writing, which I don't particularly enjoy, I would really enjoy winning legal arguments and a nice paycheck.

I think that the best way to spend my time is having fun with family and friends. I especially like to challenge friends in activities such as floor hockey, chess, and video games, including everything from classic Mario to virtual reality games. As a first-degree black belt in Tang Soo Do, I enjoy competing in karate tournaments, including events in forms, weapons, board-breaking, and sparring. I also like competing with my school's track team in track meets and with other students in interesting science research for the PA Junior Academy of Science. Competition helps focus me on achieving my best! For the future, I'm looking forward to exploring more cool science stuff, running some great races in track, and working towards my second-degree blackbelt in Tang Soo Do.



For my Bar Mitzvah, I studied my Hebrew prayers and Torah portion, wrote my D'var Torah and completed a mitzvah project focused on helping people make small changes that will protect the environment. For that project, I collected plastic film, which is hard to recycle, for donation to the Trex Recycling program at my school. I also worked with a teacher advisor and my school's principal to bring back recycling in our school lunchrooms. Finally, I started social media channels dedicated to ideas on how people can make small changes that will help the environment.

Thank you, Rabbi Perlstein and Cantor Annelise, for helping me on the path to becoming a man in the Jewish community. Also, thanks to my family, especially my incredible dog, Jax, for not running away and hiding when I was practicing Hebrew.



## Sisterhood Canasta is BACK!!

at Ohev Shalom

Beginning Thursday

May 19th

weekly Canasta Games

1:00 - 3:00 PM

PAY \$4.00 to play

Need lessons? OR

QUESTIONS?

Email

[mfreedman21@comcast.net](mailto:mfreedman21@comcast.net)

All players must be

**Vaccinated and Boostered**

Ohev Shalom celebrates the uniqueness of each individual  
and family and welcomes diversity within our community





## A NEW PASSOVER EXPERIENCE FOR OUR HEBREW SCHOOL STUDENTS!

These unprecedented times call for creativity and thinking outside the box, as we do our best to ensure engaging experiences for our students! Passover, one of the most frontal of Jewish holidays, requires us to find a way to capture the true essence and meaning behind the story, as well as the rituals associated with it. This year, we not only had to consider health and safety protocols, but also had to consider the varied comfort levels of our families. Instead of a Passover school community Seder, Cantor Annelise and I put our heads together to think of engaging alternatives. After a lengthy brainstorming session, we decided on having some type of Passover scavenger hunt or quest, so I immediately took off running! The requirements were twofold- educational and above all FUN! The final iteration was that we would have five Passover-centric stations located throughout the entire synagogue campus. Our classes would rotate throughout, spending 10-minutes at each station, touching on a different element of the Passover holiday. Our sixth and final station would be a school-wide assembly when all classes would gather as a school community. To make this work, we elicited the assistance of Rabbi Perlstein, our inclusion facilitator and Morah Shari to help facilitate a station. Our facilitators embraced their station responsibilities and were excited to engage our students in this new and different Passover experience. Here is a brief description of each of the stations:

- Station 1 The Order of the Seder, with Rabbi Perlstein- an interactive review of all the steps that are part of a Passover
- Station 2 Avadeem Hayeinu, crossing the sea to freedom with Minahélet Barbara- celebrating freedom by creating the universal symbol of freedom, a sunflower.
- Station 3 Ma Nishtana – the four questions Scattegories with Morah Suzanne
- Station 4 Passover This or That with Morah Shari- an interactive Passover-centric decision activity
- Station 5 The 10 Plagues with Cantor Annelise- an engaging, improvisational, and musical activity centered around the plagues

What a morning we had on Sunday April 10th! Our facilitators truly embraced their stations and the responsibility to engage our students! To say the experience was amazing is an understatement. The excitement and joy were visible as the students rotated through the stations, not knowing what to expect. It was thrilling. Our culminating school-wide assembly exemplified what our community is all about; being together, maintaining a spirit of caring, love of Judaism, and celebrating uniqueness. We sang Passover tunes, moved our bodies, had a super-fun Passover relay game and more. My thanks to the facilitators, our teachers, *madrichim* and students for supporting the morning's activities. I appreciate the emails and texts from families and teachers, sharing just how enjoyable the experience was. I look forward to creating new and imaginative holiday programs that I can share with the entire Ohev community!





## OHEV SOCIAL ACTION UPDATE YOU CAN HELP!

*Open your mouth for the mute, for the rights of all who are destitute.*

*Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.*

**Proverbs 31:8-9**

### RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

**TUESDAY, MAY 24 3 PM - 8 PM**

You are invited to help save a life on Tuesday, May 24 between 3 and 8 PM. Ohev is again proudly partnering with the Red Cross, and we need your help to make this blood drive a success.

Please sign up on the Red Cross website (<https://www.redcrossblood.org>) and search for Ohev's drive (**ohевичboro**). Most donations take about an hour, so book your appointment, bring your proof of vaccination and mask, and become part of this lifesaving mission of the Red Cross and Ohev Shalom!

### MEAL COLLECTION TO FEED THE NEEDY

**MONDAY, MAY 30 4 PM**

We need your help to help others! Ohev Shalom is joining with over 40 synagogues and places of worship to help feed our Bucks County neighbors through **AHTN - Advocates for the Homeless and Those in Need**. Ohev and Beth El of Yardley are jointly committing to donate meals on the following Monday evenings in 2022: May 30, August 29, and October 31.

**First step: Click here to sign up!**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4ca5a62fa5f9c61-cooking>

Then cook one or more meals at your own home or with your friends. Deliver the packaged meals to Mitch and Carol Gerson at 107 Buck Hill Drive, Holland at 4:00 on your selected date. The meals will be picked up by **AHTN** and delivered directly to the folks in need that same evening.

A donated meal packed in a clean container might be a hot casserole with side of vegetable; a cold salad with tuna and hard boiled eggs; or a hot main dish, starch and vegetable. It is helpful to add a drink, utensils, and napkins. A dessert, granola bar or peanut butter crackers would be a nice addition. The portions should be for an adult, as this food is often the only meal the person is having that day.

### JEWISH RELIEF AGENCY (JRA)

**SUNDAY, JUNE 12**

Keep your eyes open for details on a joint event hosted by Ohev's Hebrew School and the Social Action team as Ohev supports the Jewish Relief Agency by volunteering in their food warehouse in the Far Northeast. The JRA serves over 6,800 diverse, low-income individuals across Greater Philadelphia by relieving hunger, improving lives, and strengthening our community.

THANK YOU!

### Purim - Household and Children's Needs Collection for A Woman's Place

Thanks to all who donated to our drive in honor of Esther and Vashti. We delivered two carfuls of goods to **A Woman's Place**. Founded in 1976, **A Woman's Place (AWP)**, provides support, shelter, and financial empowerment programs to individuals experiencing domestic violence and to their children. Thank you for supporting this essential, life-saving program!

### Passover - Chametz and General Food Collection for Penndel Food Pantry

Ohev congregants were again more than generous with their food contributions as we supported our Bucks County neighbors in need via Penndel Food Pantry.

### Passover - Donations to the Passover League

Thanks to the Ohev congregants who have contributed to the Passover League of Philadelphia. Since 1933, the League has raised funds to help those who are ill, aged, hospitalized veterans, and other individuals and families in need celebrate Passover. Even if Passover is over, you can still donate directly through their website at: <https://goldenslipperclub.org/golden-slipper-passover-league>

**We hope you will get involved in one of our many projects. New ideas are always welcome. If you are interested in joining our committee or participating in our activities, or if you have any suggestions or question, please contact us at [ohевич@ohевич.org](mailto:ohевич@ohевич.org) or contact Carol at [gersongroup@comcast.net](mailto:gersongroup@comcast.net) or 267-243-4414.**



**Sisterhood Closing Event!!**  
**save the date**  
**Thursday June 2, 2022**  
**Open to all**  
**Past and Present Sisterhood**  
**Members**  
**let's get together & shmooze,**  
**hug our friends**  
**and .....**  
**watch your emails for**  
**additional information about**  
**the evening!**

**Sisterhood Shabbat**  
**Friday May 6th - 6:00 PM**

**WE ARE BACK!!**

**Sisterhood Shabbat will be**  
**IN PERSON**

**We will celebrate the growing**  
**and multi-faceted roles of women in**  
**Judaism today.**

**Looking forward to us all**  
**being together !**

**Let's be Sisterhood strong together!**

**Please join us and**  
**stay for an extended kiddush:**

**RSVP to Fran Silverman at**  
**hmjbmom@comcast.net or**  
**by phone 267-364-5748**



**Ohev Shalom Celebrates the uniqueness of each individual and family**  
**and welcomes diversity within our community**



# SIMCHA BOUTIQUE

OHEV SHALOM RICHBORO PA



## B'NAI MITZVAH

**TALLIT**

**KIDDISH CUP**

**HAVDALAH SETS**

**CANDLE STICKS**

**HEAD**

**COVERINGS**

**KIPPAHS**

**TALLIT CLIPS**

**GIFTS**



## GIFTS

**BRIDAL SHOWER**

**WEDDING**

**HOUSE WARMING**

**BABY NAMING**

**AND ALL YOUR JUDAICA NEEDS**

**MEZUZAHS**

**SPECIALIZED JURIED CRAFT ITEMS**

**PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT**

**Linda 215-450-2405 or Barbara 215-783-9113**

## MEN'S CLUB

Greetings to everyone. We hope that you and your families are continuing to stay safe and healthy and had a happy Pesach.

We hope you were able to zoom in on our Men's Club virtual programs about *Philly Genealogy* and *Jews of Cuba*. We give another shout out to Marty Rudoff, our Ohev Shalom Men's Club Man of the Year. Marty was honored at the Mid Atlantic Federation of Men's Club event on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all who attended.

*Men's Club Shabbat* is coming up on May 14<sup>th</sup>. We will be reaching out to all who want to participate. Check your emails and calendars for upcoming events. We are looking forward to an end of the year *Tail Gate Party* and an upcoming Men's Club breakfast. Stay tuned for more information and the dates.

As a reminder, you can now make donations to the Ohev Shalom Men's Club in honor or memory of loved ones and special occasions. We are listed on the Ohev website and on the donation form.

We always encourage all to attend Men's Club programs. They are open to everyone! Make sure to fill out the Men's Club membership application for the 2022-2023 that you will be receiving with Ohev's statement. Spread the word that membership in the Ohev Men's Club is rewarding and is made better by those who take part in it! If you have not been receiving emails from Men's Club, please email Steve at [smdr18@hotmail.com](mailto:smdr18@hotmail.com) and let us know, so we can add you to our distribution list.

Again, stay safe and healthy!

Looking forward to seeing everyone in person.

- Steve and Dave





# MITCHELL GERSON –MAY/JUNE 2022

## CONGREGANT OF THE MONTH

*by Eilen Schein*

In a well-known and oft-quoted article for Harper’s Magazine in March of 1898, Mark Twain remarked that “All things are mortal but the Jews; all other forces pass, but they remain. What is the secret of their immortality?” Perhaps we can see a part of that answer as we read the story of our May/June Congregant of the Month, Mitch Gerson, from generations before, in loving detail, to a present which continues to support the values of Judaism.

Mitch’s family is one of immigrants. His grandparents fled from the Tsar and from the Austro-Hungarian Empire; his father and family escaped from Germany. After arriving, they served America. Grandfather Poppy was a World War I doughboy. Dad was an army scout for a dozen landings in the Pacific and Mom inspected airplane engines at the Naval Supply Depot.

Albert, Mitch’s dad, came to this area in 1939 as a student at National Farm School (now Delaware Valley University) in Doylestown. He met Mitch’s mom, Gloria, on a blind date. They married in 1946, after Albert served in World War II. They established a loving home in Oxford Circle, where Mitch and his brother Steve were born and raised.

Sundays were spent with Gloria’s parents, Granmom and Poppy, at their apartment over their luncheonette at 8<sup>th</sup> and Callowhill. Often cousins would come too, which led to an afternoon of hide and seek, finding Indian head pennies, and ice cream cones from the store freezer. There were visits to New York to visit Albert’s mother, Omi, and cousins in Spring Valley and Rego Park.

Oxford Circle also meant the kids on the street and never-ending games of bottle caps, stick ball, two touch, wire ball, swimming at Max Meyers, and rainy-day Monopoly. It included Sunday school at The Workman’s Circle (a Russian-Jewish Socialist organization). Later, Mitch walked with friends four days a week to Hebrew School and Junior Congregation at Temple Shalom, where he became a Bar Mitzvah. Oxford Circle eventually led to Fels Jr. High, Northeast (class 128) and SPARC, and Temple University, where he went on a blind date (it runs in the family!) with a lovely 17-year-old Girl’s High student, whom Mitch later took to her prom. That blind date was 50 years ago, and Mitch and Carol Gerson are still dating.

Mitch graduated from Georgetown Law Center in 1976. He and Carol stayed in Washington, an exciting place to be a young couple. Eventually, it was time for them to come home, to make sure that their children knew their grandparents, cousins and Oma, their great-grandmother. In 1983, Mitch and Carol settled in Holland. They had three children, Matt, Emily and Jenny.

Mitch practiced law for a variety of firms and as in-house counsel. Despite his big cases, he always preferred work where he could directly benefit people. He formed his own practice, focusing on the business concerns of small clients and helping them deal with the daily problems and challenges of business and with finding long term growth solutions.

When Mitch and Carol settled in the D.C. area, they learned that the best way to make friends and become part of the community was to join and become active in a synagogue. Synagogue shopping was a primary focus when they moved back to the Philly area. In this area, Ohev stood out because it was chaimish. When they joined in the mid ‘80s, the building needed finishing; the ceiling in the sanctuary had not been installed. There was room to grow with Ohev. As Ohev grew, the structures remained utilitarian and attractive, but not ostentatious.

Most importantly, they met people with whom they wanted to be friends. Mitch and Carol were warmly welcomed to the Ohev family at services and events and on its committees. Rabbi Perlstein, whom Mitch knew from their days at Temple Shalom, made clear that he sincerely cared about people. He knew, and never forgot, the names of Mitch and Carol’s children. By the time they gave Jenny her name 35 years ago, they were members. And since then, the friends they’ve made, the joys and sorrows they’ve shared with fellow members, have reminded them of what a great choice Ohev was and still is.



They became active at Ohev almost from the beginning. As a stay-at-home mom, Carol was New Member Chairperson, and agreed to serve until she brought in either 100 new member families or one Walter Annenberg – she achieved the 100 members in less than a year. Mitch was honored to serve as legal counsel when the Rothman Building was built. He remained active through the Men’s Club; as a Torah, Haftarah and Megillah reader; Haman during our Purim celebrations; and actor with Ohev Shalom Players. Mitch is also a Hebrew School mystery reader and a member of the Green Task Force.

Mitch combined his involvement with Ohev and his love of Israel. As a member of the local JNF board, he spearheaded Ohev’s successful participation in the Essence of Life campaign to build a reservoir and park near Mitzpeh Ramon Air Force Base. As a Board Member of Bucks County Israel Bonds, Mitch led the campaign to purchase \$100,000 of Israel Bonds with which to buy an ambulance for Magen David Adom; that ambulance should be delivered next year.

Mitch is happiest because his involvement follows Carol’s. He is following her naming as Congregant of the Month, and is hoping to follow her back to Ohev’s Board later this year.

The Gersons have shared many of the simchas and griefs of their friends and members of the congregation. Now, they are sharing with their Ohev family the pain and loss of Covid 19 and the hope of a quick return to normalcy. Ohev quickly ameliorated the sorrow of forced isolation as Zoom, telephone calls and now some in person reconnecting kept our community intact.

The Gersons’ many simchas include that their three children, Matt, Emily and Jenny, became B’nai Mitzvah and were confirmed at Ohev. Grandchildren were announced. Many birthdays and anniversaries were celebrated with Torah readings, gematria and onegs. The Gersons were privileged to travel to Israel with Ohev under Cantor Paul’s (z”l) leadership. And Carol’s grandmother, Oma, celebrated her birthday on September 21, the same birthday as the Rabbi. Oma was with us until just before she was to turn 107, and Rabbi made certain that he would visit her and wish her happy birthday. Being of the old school, Oma would kvell that a person as important as the Rabbi would remember her.

Mitch and Carol have shared many joys through their children. Since retiring, they have been able to travel and enjoy their six grandchildren. They pursue learning at Delaware Valley University, returning to the school Mitch’s dad attended. Mitch continues volunteer activities through SCORE, where he helps startup businesses, and as a Judge of Elections.

When asked why Mitch volunteers so much of his time, energy, and expertise at Ohev, his answer was swift and clear. “I don’t ‘volunteer.’ What I do is living a part of my life, and Ohev is part of my community.” Mazal Tov to Mitch Gerson, our May/June Congregant of the Month, as he continues to fulfill our traditions and his obligation as a Jew to support a synagogue. Perhaps this, indeed, is part of the answer of our immortality.





**OUR CONFIRMANDS**  
**SUNDAY, JUNE 5, 2022**  
**6 SIVAN 5782**  
**9:45 AM**







Ohev Shalom Social Action

## Cooking Meals for the Homeless and Those in Need

We need your help to help others! Ohev Shalom is joining with over 40 synagogues and places of worship to help feed our Bucks County neighbors through AHTN (Advocates for the Homeless and Those in Need). Ohev and Beth El of Yardley are jointly committing to donate 30 meals on the following Monday evenings in 2022: May 30, August 29, and October 31.

**First step: Click here to sign up!**

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0f4ca5a62fa5f9c61-cooking>

Then cook one or more hot meals at your own home or with your friends. Deliver the hot, packaged meals to Mitch & Carol Gerson at 107 Buck Hill Drive, Holland at 4:00 on your selected date. The meals will be picked up by AHTN and delivered directly to the folks in need that same evening.

A donated meal packed in a clean container might be:

- Warm casserole with side of vegetable
- Cold salad with tuna and hard boiled eggs
- Warm main dish, starch and vegetable

It is helpful to add a drink, utensils, and napkins. A dessert, granola bar or peanut butter crackers would be a nice addition. The portions should be for an adult, as this food is often the only meal the person is having that day.

Questions? Contact Carol at [gersongroup@comcast.net](mailto:gersongroup@comcast.net) or 267-243-4414.



Ohev Shalom's **Go Green** Team invites you to a Zoom presentation:

## Save Energy and Money in your Home

**Raomel Morrison, PECO Outreach Specialist**

**Monday, May 18, 2022  
7:30 PM**

Ohev Shalom's **Go Green** Task Force helps us fulfill T'kun Olam by increasing recycling and decreasing single-use plastics in our synagogue. Thanks to a 50% subsidy from PECO, Ohev recently contracted with PECO's Small Business Solutions team and replaced 410 old incandescent bulbs with energy efficient LED bulbs, reducing our energy usage and significantly cutting Ohev's monthly electric bill.

**Join our Zoom conversation to learn about the importance of individual action to conserve energy and the environment, as well as programs that PECO offers for your home, including:**

- PECO's Residential Energy Assessment which will give you a personalized report on where you are wasting energy with power saving tips and strategies to stay comfortable year-round. As part of this audit, PECO will replace your old incandescent bulbs with LED bulbs and provide you with smart power strips (up to a \$125 value).
- Recycling of your old, working refrigerator or freezer, including free pick-up and you get \$75 reward.
- Rebates for new heating and cooling units, water heaters, appliances, and lighting.

To enter this meeting, please go to our home page [www.Ohev.org](http://www.Ohev.org). Under Service Schedule, click on Virtual Weekday Minyan. You can join our evening Minyan at 7:00 or at 7:30 for our program.

*Ohev Shalom celebrates the uniqueness of each individual and family and welcomes diversity within our sacred community.*



# Ohev Shalom Players Present

A Comedy by Richard Orloff

Produced by Special Arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.



Oy! is a collection of short comedies, each illustrating the meaning of a Yiddish word. Appealing to audiences of all backgrounds, Oy! is a tribute to the absurdity and comedy of being human! Oy! is only for mature audiences due to adult themes and language.

**Thursday, May 12 at 7:30 pm**

**Saturday, May 14 at 9 pm**

**Sunday, May 15 at 2pm and 7pm**

approximate running time 1 hour 30 minutes

All Seats General Admission - \$18

Seats will be distanced for your safety

**A STREAMING OPTION WILL BE AVAILABLE**

Ohev Shalom celebrates the uniqueness of each individual and family and welcomes diversity within our sacred community.

The Ohev Shalom Players invite you back to Ohev for this year's show. In two weeks, the Ohev Players will be presenting the show Oy!, a comedy written by Richard Orloff. Oy! is a collection of short comedy sketches each illustrating the meaning of a Yiddish word. The show is a tribute to the absurdity and comedy of being human. We hope that you will come laugh with us! Looking forward to seeing everyone back in the theater.

Show Dates:

Thursday, May 12, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 14, 2022 at 9:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 15, 2022 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

To purchase tickets click [HERE](#) or go to [www.ohev.org](http://www.ohev.org), click on the advertisement for Oy!, and it will take you to our ticket page.

Tickets are \$18.00. Oy! contains adult humor and is intended for adult audiences. Seats will be appropriately distanced for your comfort and precaution.

If you are out of town, can't make the first weekend, or not quite ready for live theater yet, we are presenting an On Demand option for you to watch in the comfort of your home (\$25 fee plus service charge).

The show will be available On Demand the following weekend (May 19 through May 22).

Please go to the following link to see the show on demand.

[OY! On Demand](#)

Each On Demand purchase will give you and your family the opportunity to watch and rewatch the show for a 24 hour period following your purchase.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the show... or On-Demand. Thank you.



CONTRIBUTIONS AND DONATIONS

MAY/JUNE 2022

ADATH TIKVAH-  
MONTEFIORE FUND

In Memory of  
Fred Brand, beloved husband of Dee Brand, by Alice & Sammy Heller

ANNUAL APPEAL FUND

By  
In Memory of  
Allen Leboff, beloved father of Ken Leboff, by Libby & David Weiss  
Candace Freedman Rosen, beloved sister of Michael Freedman, by Libby & David Weiss

BROWN-FREEDMAN  
PRAYER BOOK FUND

In Memory of  
Candace Freedman Rosen, beloved sister of Michael Freedman, by Paula & Stan Segal  
Edith Kaufman, beloved mother of Barbara Ponczek, by Barbara Shotz

CANTOR OCANTO-ROMO’S  
DISCRETIONARY FUND

In Honor of  
Cantor Annelise Ocanto-Romo, for her kindness and support during Mark’s recent illness, by Denise & Mark Kolber  
The Mitzvah of their granddaughter, Naomi Belle Schieken, by proud Bubbe & Zayde, Bernice & Ira Berkowitz

CANTOR PAUL FRIMARK MEMORIAL FUND

In Honor of  
Cantor Annelise Ocanto-Romo, with appreciation for her beautiful chanting and support following the passing of their beloved mother, Sylvia Gingold, by Helene & Ron Peyton  
Rabbi Elliott Perlstein, with appreciation for his beautiful service and support following the passing of their beloved mother, Sylvia Gingold, by Helene & Ron Peyton  
The marriage of Wendy Borden & Carl Goldstein, by Warren Cohen  
Rose La Kier, wishing her a *refuah shlema*, a swift and complete recovery, by Nina & Michael Surden

In Memory of  
Cantor Paul Frimark, beloved husband of Arlene, devoted father of Bara & Kim, loving brother of Gail Thompkins,  
beloved Cantor Emeritus of Ohev Shalom, by  
Adam Davidson  
Jeffrey Kravitz

Hilary & Ken Leboff  
Jo & Peter Podol  
Ellen Treiman  
Sylvia Gingold, beloved wife of Martin Gingold, beloved mother of Helene Peyton, by Arlene Frimark  
The yahrtzeit of Pauline Heisler, their beloved aunt, by Sharon & Gary Delson  
Edith Kaufman, beloved mother of Barbara Ponczek, by Arlene Frimark  
Allen Leboff, beloved father of Ken Leboff, by  
Arlene Frimark  
Gail & Sam Goldstein  
Ileene Jaffe  
Wendy & Larry Krevitz  
Ilene & Mark Pachman  
Arlene & Mark Rosenbaum  
Shelley & Len Rubin  
Roz & Marty Rudoff  
Eileen & Joe Schein  
Nina & Michael Surden  
Idelle Wood  
Candace Freedman Rosen, beloved sister of Michael Freedman, by Alan Golombek

FINANCIAL AID FUND

In Memory of  
Allen Leboff, beloved father of Ken Leboff, by  
Sharon Goldstein  
Lynn & Sheldon Liss

HEBREW SCHOOL AND  
TICHON FUND

In Honor of  
The Bat Mitzvah of Naomi Schieken, daughter of proud parents Julie & Chad Schieken, and granddaughter of proud grandparents Bernice & Ira Berkowitz, by Lindsay & Steve Miller

INCLUSION B’KAVOD FUND

In Honor of  
The birth of Joseph Seth Novick, beautiful grandson of Suzanne & Larry Gold. Joseph Seth is named in honor of his maternal grandfather, Joe Kaytes, and in memory of his paternal grandfather, Sidney Gold. By  
Marci & Steve Laderman  
Lindsay & Steve Miller  
Rochelle & Len Rubin  
In Memory of  
Allen Leboff, beloved father of Ken Leboff, by  
Lindsay & Steve Miller  
Gloria & Jayne Pliner  
Martin Wagner, her beloved father, by Sheryl Tobias



JANIE PERLSTEIN MEMORIAL FUND

**In Honor of**  
**Rabbi Elliott Perlstein**, with appreciation for his kindness and support during Mark’s recent illness, by Denise & Mark Kolber  
The engagement of **Noa Agami**, granddaughter of Miriam & Leib Piatetsky, to **Elie Freedman**, by Marlyn & Herb Harris  
**In Memory of**  
**Benjamin Hoffman**, beloved father of Neil Hoffman, by Judith & Doug Dotzman  
**Allen Leboff**, beloved father of Ken Leboff, by Rabbi Elliott Perlstein  
**Candace Freedman Rosen**, beloved sister of Michael Freedman, by  
Rabbi Elliott Perlstein  
Shelley & David Geltzer

JERUSALEM FUND

**In Honor of**  
The marriage of **Wendy Borden & Carl Goldstein**, by Lindsay & Steve Miller  
**In Memory of**  
**Sheila Geltzer**, their beloved cousin, by Shelley & David Geltzer

KOPPER / POLLACK CAMP RAMAH  
SCHOLARSHIP FUND

**In Memory of**  
**Richard Goldberg**, beloved brother of Diane Friedgut, by Mimi & Bernie Pollack and Family  
**Carolyn (Lynnie) Lipschultz**, beloved sister of Marsha Freedman, by Mimi & Bernie Pollack and Family  
**Fran Paer**, beloved mother of Ken Paer, by Mimi & Bernie Pollack and Family

MARVIN FELD MUSIC FUND

**In Honor of**  
**Mark Kolber**, wishing him a *refuah shlema*, with hopes of his feeling as good as new in no time at all, by Eileen & Jahn Nolan  
**Rose La Kier**, wishing her a *refuah shlema*, prayers for the quick healing for her “pain in the neck!”, by Eileen & Jahn Nolan  
**In Memory of**  
**Sylvia Gingold**, beloved wife of Martin Gingold, beloved mother of Helene Peyton, by  
Lois Bell  
Robert Michelson  
**Allen Leboff**, beloved father of Ken Leboff, by  
Soni Feld  
Shelley & Andre Rosen

MENS CLUB FUND

**In Honor of**  
**Marty Rudoff’s** selection as Men’s Club “Mensch of the Year,” by Jean Downing & Jerry Gottesman

OHEV SHALOM GENERAL FUND

**In Honor of**  
**Mark Kolber**, wishing him a *refuah shlema*, a swift and complete recovery, by Marsha & Michael Zimet

OHEV SHALOM MITZVAH FUND

**In Honor of**  
**Allan Katz**, wishing him a *refuah shlema*, as he makes his way down the path to a swift and complete recovery, by  
Eileen & Jahn Nolan  
**Rose La Kier**, wishing her a *refuah shlema*, a swift and complete recovery, by Denise & Mark Kolber

**In Memory of**  
**Sylvia Gingold**, beloved wife of Martin Gingold, beloved mother of Helene Peyton, by Roberta Steinberg

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND

**In Honor of**  
**Rabbi Elliott Perlstein**, by Marion Udwin  
  
The marriage of **Wendy Borden & Carl Goldstein**, by  
Susan Brodsky  
Jennifer Woodruff

The Mitzvah of **Naomi Belle Schieken**, by proud Bubbe & Zayde, Bernice & Ira Berkowitz  
**Kim Kushner’s** beautiful chanting of her Bat Mitzvah Haftarah, by William Gorodetzer  
**In Memory of**  
**Allen Leboff**, beloved father of Ken Leboff, by William Gorodetzer

ROTHMAN FAMILY EDUCATION BUILDING FUND

**In Memory of**  
**Jerry Freedman**, beloved brother of Barry Freedman, by Andrea & Ted Rothman  
**Michael Gradess III**, beloved father of Beverly Auslander, by Andrea & Ted Rothman  
**Allen Leboff**, beloved father of Ken Leboff, by Andrea & Ted Rothman

SECURITY FUND

**In Honor of**  
The birth of beautiful **Sebastian Finn**, son of Dani & Jonathan Becker, grandson of proud grandmother Linda Springer, by  
Jean Downing & Jerry Gottesman. **Sebastian Finn** is named in loving memory of his maternal grandfather Steven Springer (z”l) and his paternal  
grandmother Frances Becker (z”l).



SISTERHOOD FUND

In Honor of

**Ana Andrusier**, wishing her a *refuah shlema*, a swift and complete recovery, by Sisterhood

The birth of beautiful **Sebastian Finn**, son of Dani & Jonathan Becker; grandson of proud grandmother Linda Springer, by Sandy & Bruce Blumenthal. **Sebastian Finn** is named in loving memory of his maternal grandfather Steven Springer (z”l) and his paternal grandmother Frances Becker (z”l).

**Roberta Gordon**, 2022 Amy Perrone Torah Fund Honoree, by Fran & Roy Silverman

The Bar Mitzvah of **Eli Pollack**, grandson of proud grandparents Mimi & Bernie Pollack, by Lindsay & Steve Miller

**Rose La Kier**, wishing her a *refuah shlema*, a swift and complete recovery, by Sisterhood and Michele & Irwin Bernstein

**Mark Kolber**, wishing him a *refuah shlema*, a swift and complete recovery, by Sisterhood

**Lisa Portnoy**, on her new job, by Michele & Irwin Bernstein

**Shelley Mattleman-Rubin & Len Rubin**, wishing them a *refuah shlema*, a swift and complete recovery, by Linda & Mark Shapiro

**Marty Rudoff**, on his selection as Men’s Club “**Man of the Year**,” by Michele & Irwin Bernstein

The Bat Mitzvah of **Naomi Schieken**, daughter of proud parents Julie & Chad Schieken and proud grandparents Bernice & Ira Berkowitz, by Hedy & Neil Hoffman

**Thea Semanoff**, wishing her a *refuah shlema*, a swift and complete recovery, by Sisterhood

In Memory of

**Sylvia Gingold**, beloved wife of Martin Gingold, beloved mother of Helene Peyton, by Sandy & Bruce Blumenthal

**Edith Kaufman**, beloved mother of Barbara Ponczek, by Sandy & Bruce Blumenthal

**Allen Leboff**, beloved father of Ken Leboff, by Sisterhood and Susan & Jeff Berk

Michele & Irwin Bernstein

Ivy & Stuart Graff

Hedy & Neil Hoffman

Fran & Roy Silverman

Linda Springer

**Selma Levy**, beloved wife of Sydney Levy, by Paula Spigler

**Carolyn (Lynnie) Brown Lipschultz**, beloved sister of Marsha Freedman, by Maddie Kane

**Candace Freedman Rosen**, beloved sister of Michael Freedman, by Sisterhood and Iris & Mort Segal

Linda & Mark Shapiro

**Beverly Snyderman**, beloved mother of Amy & Craig Firestone, by Miriam & Jeff Gendler

**Stephen Wiener**, beloved son of Gail & Jerry (z”l), devoted husband of Nicola, loving brother of Jack & Lisa, and Sandy Wiener, by Sandy & Bruce Blumenthal

Denise & Mark Kolber

SOCIAL ACTION FUND

In Memory of

**Stephen Wiener**, beloved son of Gail & Jerry(z”l), devoted husband of Nicola, loving brother of Jack & Lisa, and Sandy Wiener, by June & Harvey Cantor

YAHRTZEIT FUND

In Memory of

**Erwin Goldsmith**, her beloved husband, by Marilyn Goldsmith

**Celia Gordon**, her beloved mother, by Marilyn Goldsmith

**Myer Gordon**, her beloved father, by Marilyn Goldsmith

**Szejna Gotfryd**, beloved mother of Estera Weiss, by Estera & Arthur Weiss

**Henrietta Horowitz**, his beloved aunt, by Neil Mittelman

**Allen Leboff**, beloved father of Ken Leboff, by Marv Rosner

**Julia Levy**, her beloved mother, by Phyllis Schwartz

**Maurice Mittelman**, his beloved father, by Neil Mittelman

**Jerome Myers**, his beloved uncle, by Neil Mittelman

**Ned Peyton**, beloved father of Ron Peyton, by Helene & Ron Peyton



## FROM THE EDITOR

I hope you have enjoyed this year's *Dove Tale*. It was a learning experience for me. I learned more about our congregants, our programs, and our impact on the community. As with any production, nothing is done by just one individual.

First, I want to thank the Board for giving me the opportunity. Aliza Feldman volunteered me, and I thank her for her confidence that I could still put together a newsletter. I also want to thank Gary Freedman for leaving a "blueprint" I could learn from.

Next, no one is perfect in everything, so, I want to thank my proofreaders, Eileen Schein and Eric Kleiman. Their eyes and input have been invaluable.

Then there are the regular contributors to thank: Rabbi Perlstein, Educational Director-Barbara Glickman, soon-to-be past President-Diane Pevar; Sisterhood President- Ivy Graff; Men's Club co-Presidents- Steve Miller and Dave Zeitzer, Adult Education- Leslie Kreithen, Social Action- Carol Gerson.

I also want to acknowledge and thank Ira Sharp for creating many of the graphics we use. I am in awe of his work.

The *Dove Tale* is a source of information and inspiration. The articles range from what will happen to what has already happened. These past two years have been difficult for all of us in many different ways, from having to be away from everybody to health problems for us or family to not having our supportive community when we needed it. **Zoom** was one way we kept up with each other in the moment. The *Dove Tale* is another way to keep connected.

Next year, 5783, I would like to have a column to answer YOUR questions or address YOUR concerns. Have you ever wondered how the laws of Kashrut were only applicable after the Exodus? Are you curious about our safety measures? Have you asked how Conservative Judaism addresses the use of electricity or driving on Shabbat? Watch for more information this summer.

Sharon Goldstein, editor



Ohev Shalom Adult Education presents

**MEN OF STEEL, WOMEN OF VALOR, HEROES OF CLAY**  
**ISAAC & RABBI SHAWNA BRYNJEGARD-BIALIK**

**Tuesday, May 17, 2022**

**Click on the Virtual Daily Minyan link found in OH-EEvents,  
#O-Happenings, Shabbat-O-Gram, or [www.ohev.org](http://www.ohev.org)**  
**Presentation is on Zoom and begins at 7:30 PM after minyan.**



*Join artist Isaac Brynjegard-Bialik and his wife Rabbi Shawna from their Southern California studio for a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at Isaac's work, which combines the traditional Jewish art of papercutting with cut-up comic books. A combination of architectural stained glass, the whimsy of gilded age fairy tales, and the meditative aura of illuminated manuscripts, Isaac and Shawana will also discuss Isaac's latest work, a series of paper golems made during the covid pandemic lockdown.*

*Ohev Shalom celebrates the uniqueness of each individual and family and welcomes diversity within our sacred community.*







Dr. Elliott N. Perlstein, Rabbi  
Annelise Ocanto-Romo, Cantor  
Paul Frimark (z"l), Cantor Emeritus  
Barbara Glickman, Education Director  
Hilary Leboff, Synagogue Administrator

[Rabbi@ohev.org](mailto:Rabbi@ohev.org)

[Aocanto-romo@ohev.org](mailto:Aocanto-romo@ohev.org)

[Bglickman@ohev.org](mailto:Bglickman@ohev.org)

[HLeboff@ohev.org](mailto:HLeboff@ohev.org)

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020-2021

Diane Pevar, [President@ohev.org](mailto:President@ohev.org)  
Dani Shylit, Vice President  
Eileen Schein, Vice President  
Sara Torjman, Vice President  
Ron Stark, Treasurer  
Hedy Hoffman, Recording Secretary  
Rich Newman, Legal Counsel  
Dana Podob, Immediate Past President  
Eric Kleiman, Communications Chair  
Michael Goldstein, Finance Chair  
  
Linda Springer, Fundraising Chair  
Bonnie Globberman, Membership Chair  
Mark Kolber, Building Chair  
Idelle S. Wood, Ritual Chair  
Michelle Kaufman, Programming Chair

Lindsay Miller, Education Chair  
Leslie Kreithen, Adult Education Chair  
Rachel Betesh, Hebrew School PTO Chair  
Carol Gerson, Social Action Chair  
Aliza Feldman, Youth Chair  
Ivy Graff, Sisterhood President  
Steve Miller, Men's Club Co-President  
Dave Zeitzer, Men's Club Co-President  
Susan Raczynski, Director-at-Large, Interfaith Outreach  
Mindy Rockower, Director-at-Large, Young Family  
Engagement  
Julie Schieken, Director-at-Large, Retention  
Shira Goldstein, Director-at-Large, Caring Initiative  
Sharon Goldstein, Dove Tale Editor



Member of  
United Synagogue  
of Conservative  
Judaism

*Synagogue Office Staff*

*Elizabeth Gallagher*

*Hilary Leboff*

Questions or comments  
for a board member?  
Email [HLeboff@ohev.org](mailto:HLeboff@ohev.org)

(215) 322-9595

**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.

