



**Volume 3; Issue 1
January 2012**

Beth Ami is a welcoming community where we connect to Jewish past, celebrate Jewish present and link to Jewish future through a humanistic philosophy



**Get to know Marti Hirsch
Jewish Cultural School Teacher**

A lifelong educator, Marti began teaching children while she was still in high school. Her involvement with Beth Ami began in 2006 after her daughters enrolled in Jewish Cultural School.

Marti now wears many hats at the school. She develops curriculum, teaches, and supports Lenore as needed. When you peek in you might see her helping kids with a craft project she designed, encouraging the 2-5th graders to investigate and debate the concept of justice in the years around 1911, or leading the music portion of our program.

Outside Beth Ami, Marti is an educator at Eisenhower Elementary School where she assists in the library and teaches computer lab. Her daughter Rachel, a Fairview High School student, was the first Humanistic bat mitzvah in the state of Colorado. And, her daughter Katya, a Platt CHOICE Middle School student, teaches the Beth Ami JSC preschool and is currently studying to become a bat mitzvah.

**Beth Ami means:
House of my people**

Contents

<i>Teacher Highlight</i>	1
<i>Chanukah Party</i>	1
<i>Social Activities</i>	2
<i>Holocaust Exhibit</i>	2
<i>Adult Education</i>	2
<i>Calendar</i>	3
<i>Not in Our Town</i>	5
<i>Movers Event</i>	5
<i>Limmud Colorado</i>	5
<i>Funny Bone</i>	6
<i>Achievement Award</i>	6
<i>Celebrations</i>	6

**The Beth Ami Hanukkah Party: Some Personal Observations
By Aviva Rothschild**

Attending the 2011 Hanukkah party was very meaningful for me, not to mention fun! For starters, this was the first time I had ever brought a friend from outside the group to any of our functions—not for lack of trying, I might add. I brought applesauce and all of the soap I had left over from my craft fair season—more on that in a bit. My friend Mady Kasselhoff brought big bottles of iced tea (though ironically someone thought she had brought them for the food drive and put her bag with the box of canned goods). When we got to the Jefferson Unitarian Church, Mady was

greeted warmly by Stu Budoff, who engaged her in conversation and made her feel welcome right off the bat.

We were drifting around and chatting so much that we almost didn't find a table with two seats, but we managed just before the services started. I was very flattered that at the beginning, Sheila Malcolm mentioned my mother, Marilyn Rothschild, the president of Beth Ami before Jon Budoff took up the mantle. Mom was always very dedicated to the group and tried her best to not only keep it going but also to increase membership. She knew (*cont. p. 4*)



2012 Beth Ami Family Social Activities Continue

Jewish Cultural School students and parents like spending time with one another. Last summer we had a pool party at Laura and Eitan's condo. We had a fabulous New Year's Eve party at Marti and Michael Hirsch's.

Here are two more events:



Bowling

On Sunday, January 15th 4:00pm., Beth Ami families are invited to Chip-pers Lanes, 100 Nickel Street, Broomfield. Cost is \$15 for two rounds of bowling, shoes, two slices of pizza, and a fountain drink. Come to bowl, come to watch.

RSVP: bethamicolorado@gmail.com



Dinner

On Saturday, February 11th 5:00pm Beth Ami families are invited to Buca di Beppo Italian restaurant, 14-61 Flatiron Circle Broomfield. This is a fun, family style restaurant

with delicious food. RSVP:

bethamicolorado@gmail.com.

Beth Ami Adult Ed is going to the theatre (with discussion to follow)



Join Beth Ami Adult Education to see:

Two Things You Don't Talk About at Dinner.

Beth Ami will be attending the performance at 3:30 on **Feb. 12th** at The Denver Center for the Performing Arts. Our group rate is \$37.50 per ticket. Send \$7.50 to Laura Moin to reserve your seat. The balance will be due in January. Email Laura at laura.m.1520@gmail.com for her mailing address and for more information.

EXHIBIT Holocaust Remembrance Quilt Project
REMEMBERING THE PAST — ACTING ON THE PRESENT
January 27 - February 6, 2012
A POWERFUL COLLECTION OF DIVERSE VOICES
Marking the Liberation of Auschwitz - January 27, 1945
International Holocaust Remembrance Day
Robert E. Loup JCC, Lobby
350 S. Dahlia Denver, Colorado 80246

Lost Voices
The Holocaust Through Sephardic Eyes
Music * Poetry * Art
Sunday, January 29, 2012 | 4:00pm
Light dessert reception at 3:00pm



Tickets: \$36.00/person | \$6.00 seniors & students
for tickets & information: 720.560.0271 | www.theYIZKORproject.org

Hebrew Educational Alliance
3600 S. Ivanhoe, Denver, CO 80237

Adult Education 2012

Upcoming topics:

Jan. 8 What lessons did we learn over the holidays? Good books, movies, recipes, cultural events?

Jan. 22 Emily and Jordan will share narrative and slides about their recent trip to Europe, including Dachau.

Feb. 5 Learn about the background of TuB'Shevat from a Humanist perspective and lunchtime seder.

Feb. 26 Ernestine Rose is the HJ Role Model of the Year. Through video and research, we'll discover the story of this 19th C feminist, abolitionist and atheist daughter of an Orthodox rabbi.

No charge! All welcome! Bring a friend! **Facilitator:** Sheila Malcolm, Madrikha/Leader-in-Training, 303-499-5933 or sheilamalcolm@comcast.net

January 2012

Schedule of Events

January:

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 JCS & Adult Ed	9	10	11	12	13 Shabbat	14
15 Board mtg Bowling	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 JCS & Adult Ed	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

8– Jewish Cultural School & Adult Ed at Countryside Rec Center, Westminster

13– 7:30pm Shabbat service at Montview in Denver

15– 10am Board mtg. Karasik's in Arvada

15– 4pm Family Bowling party at Chippers, 100 Nickel Str. Broomfield. \$15/person for 2 rounds bowling, shoes, 2 slices of pizza and a soft drink. RSVP bethamicolorado@gmail.com

22– 10am Jewish Cultural School & Adult Ed at Countryside Rec Center in Westminster

February:

Sunday 2/5 10:00am JCS/Adult Ed Countryside, Westminster

Sunday 2/5 11:00am Tu B'Shevat Community Seder, Countryside, Westminster

Friday 2/10, 7:30 pm Shabbat service Montview, Denver

Saturday 2/11 5:00pm Family dinner Buca di Beppo Italian Restaurant, 14-61 W. Flatiron Circle, Broomfield
RSVPbethamicolorado@gmail.com

Sunday 2/26 10:00am JCS/Adult Ed, Countryside, Westminster

March:

Sunday 3/4 10:00am JCS/Adult Ed Countryside, Westminster

Sunday 3/4 11:30am Community Purim Celebration and carnival, Countryside, Westminster

Friday 3/9 7:30pm Shabbat Service Montview, Denver

Saturday 3/17 Katya Hirsch Bat Mitzvah

Sunday 3/18 10am JCS/Adult Ed Countryside, Westminster

Tuesday 3/27 Board Meeting Karasik, Arvada

April:

Sunday 4/8 4:00pm 3rd night Passover Seder at JUC, Golden

Sunday 4/15 10:00am JCS/Adult Ed Countryside, Westminster

Fri/Sat/Sun 4/20-22 International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism Bi-Annual Colloquium Chicago IL
Ordination of Madrikhot Sheila Malcolm and Michelle Davis

Sunday 4/29 10:00am JCS/Adult Ed Countryside, Westminster

Sunday 4/29 11:00am Celebrate Israel Independence Day, Countryside, Westminster

May:

Sunday, 5/6 12:00pm Family field trip, Wild Animal Sanctuary, Keenesburg, CO

RSVPbethamicolorado@gmail.com

Learn about Alex Litz's Mitzvah project.

June:

6/10 11:00am Beth Ami booth, Boulder Jewish Festival

See page 2 for upcoming Adult Education topics



(cont. from p. 1) we needed a school in order to attract families, though sadly her dream wouldn't be fully realized until after she was unable to witness it. She would have been thrilled to see all the kids who came to the party, not to mention the large number of adults!

Between the charming service and the great music from our world-class mandolinist Ely Karasik and our fabulous singer, Eve Orenstein, the festive mood of Hanukkah really rang through the church. Afterward, of course, was the feast! We lined up for fabulous latkes, salads, and desserts, though I only had one plateful because I had a mission after I ate. (I missed the dancing, too... sigh.)

Remember that soap I mentioned? For two years now I've brought it along to the party so I can sell it on behalf of Beth Ami. I've been soap crafting for almost nine years, a hobby I picked up the day we put my mother into her Alzheimer's care home (so I know Mom would approve). I was passing Hobby Lobby on my way back to my apartment and I thought, "I need a hobby." I was going to get a rock tumbler to make jewelry for Mom, but while I was looking around I saw that all their soap making supplies were 50% off. I never knew you could make soap so easily. I always figured you had to go through the long and involved process with lye and fats, but this was melt-and-pour soap, where you melted unscented glycerin soap base, added stuff to it, then poured it into molds. I was hooked! Over the years I've accumulated hundreds of molds and have something for everyone.

Anyway, while I sell soap at as many craft fairs as I can find, as well as on demand for anyone who wants some, I always end up with a lot left over at the end of the season. So what better thing to do with it than raise money for Beth Ami? Last year I sold about \$50 worth of soap at the party. This year, however, thanks to several timely announcements from Sheila, all the kids and many of the adults came over to touch, sniff, and mull over my stock. When the dust settled, I had raised a cool \$129 for Beth Ami in roughly half an hour. I hope everyone who bought soap enjoys using it!

On the way home, Mady kvelled about how congenial she found the group and how nice everyone was. So I may have found a new member for Beth Ami as well! Good food, good friends, good service, good people—overall, I think it was a quite successful Hanukkah!



Adult Ed and JCS discuss a modern Chanukah story

Adult Ed participants and Jewish Cultural School students watched an inspiring video called **Not In Our Town, Light in the Darkness** that took place in Billings, Montana during Chanukah 1992. There had been a series of minority attacks by hate groups climaxing with a rock thrown through the window of a 6 year old Jewish boy who had displayed Chanukah decorations. The people of Billings worked together to stop hate in their town. Over 10,000 households and businesses displayed a picture of a Chanukah menorah in their front window.



Following the movie we discussed our own personal experiences participating in inter-group and interfaith dialogue. We discussed the positive actions of upstanders, people who get involved to help victims and speak out against hatred. Please visit niot.org for more information.

Limmud Colorado: Explore, Discover, Grow, Connect, Share, Laugh, Learn.

Join us for a dynamic event which connects Jews and their loved ones of all ages, backgrounds, and experiences. Limmud Colorado is all about community, learning, and choice. Choose from many concurrent sessions—art, culture, worship, film, performance, texts, and more.

This year: New Time, New Venue, and New Prices! Closer and more accessible than ever.
January 21-22, 2012

Inverness Hotel & Conference Center,
Denver Tech Center

Contact Beth at: 303-908-2785
www.limmudcolorado.org




Jewish organizations throughout Boulder and Denver are collaborating on the 2011-2012 series
Movers: Art and Conscience
A year-long series of programs exploring Jewish visual culture and the intersection of art and responsibility.

Movers Presents: Art and Conscience, a year-long series of programs exploring Jewish visual culture and the intersection of art and moral responsibility.

Lectures, performances, art exhibits, con-

certs and films examining visual art as an expression of Jewish identity and values. Beth Ami is a participating organization! Events are held in Boulder, usually at the BJCC. www.jewishmovers.org



Phone: 720-748-1533
Email: info@bethami.com
www.bethami.com

Board members:

Jon Budoff-President
Ron Kingston-Treasurer
Sheila Malcolm-Madrikha, Secretary,
Adult Ed Director
Maida Deborah-Membership
Lenore Kingston -JCS Director
Michelle Davis-Madrikha

Members at large:

Terry Fleisher Elaine Bloch
Gerrie Karasik Kathy Kane
Barry Levene

Newsletter Editor:

Katrina Miller

Webmaster:

Christie Gosch

The Funny bone submitted by Stacy Weinberg What would have happened if three wise Jewish women had gone to Bethlehem instead of three wise men?

- They would have asked directions.
- Arrived on time.
- Helped deliver the baby.
- Hired someone to clean the stable.
- Made a brisket.
- And brought practical gifts.



And what would they have said to each other after they left?

- "Did you see the sandals Mary was wearing with that schmatta?"
- "That baby doesn't look anything like Joseph!"
- "What virgin? I knew her in school!"
- "Can you believe they let all of those disgusting animals in there?"
- "I heard that Joseph doesn't have a job."
- "And that donkey they are riding has seen better days!"
- "We'll just see how long it will take to get your brisket dish back."

Deb Godden Receives 2011 Sherwin T. Wine Lifetime Achievement Award

The Society for Humanistic Judaism presented the 2011 Sherwin T. Wine Lifetime Achievement Award to Deborah H. Godden of Charlottesville, Virginia, secretary of the SHJ, madrikha (professionally trained clergy), and member of Machar, Washington, DC.

Godden joined the SHJ Board of Directors in 1999, having previously served on the Board of Directors of Kahal Am in San Diego. More recently, she served on the Board of Directors of Machar, developing innovative programs, leading holiday celebrations and life cycle events for the congregation.

"Deb Godden's commitment to Humanistic Judaism demonstrates the creativity, humor, and compassion that she brings to all of her endeavors," said SHJ Executive Director Bonnie Cousens.

Rabbi Miriam Jerris in presenting the award to Ms. Godden reported, "As an ordained ceremonial leader in our movement, Deb Godden has generously used her many talents to enrich the lives of Secular Humanistic Jews. She has empowered others to develop and share their skills."

Godden, upon receiving the award said, "I love the involvement ... I love what I do ... this work for Humanistic Judaism has helped me be a full person ... I know that without all the work and effort of all of you, my colleagues, none of this would be possible."

Recipients of the award are individuals who have "over the years exemplified extraordinary dedication, devotion, adherence to and activity in the Secular Humanistic Judaism Movement and the philosophical doctrines enunciated by the Movement's founder, Rabbi Sherwin T. Wine.

January Birthdays

Happy birthday to:

Kathy Kane	2
Helen Apthorp	8
James Wilson	13
Stan Gosch	16
Stu Budoff	16
Katrina Miller	16
Macy Gosch	18
Steve Litz	22
Lenore Kingston	25



Beth Ami's Good Work!

Thanks to all who donated food and gifts at the Chanukah Party. A total of 49 pounds of food and beautifully wrapped gifts were presented to Emergency Family Assistance Association in Boulder.



Remember to buy your King Sooper's Cards!

Do you shop at King Soopers?

Maida Deborah is now selling \$100 King Soopers cards. If you shop at King Soopers, please see her to purchase your cards. Just bring a check made out to Beth Ami. It makes shopping easy, and every \$ you spend at King Soopers benefits Beth Ami. No extra cost to you!