



Volume 3; Issue 3
March 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.

Beth Ami means:
House of my people

Contents

Purim	1
Passover(s)	1
Judaism Adoption	1
Matzah Aisle	1
½ Jewish?	2
Being Green	2
Calendar	3
Facebook	4
Celebrations	4
Book club	4
Movies	4

Mark your calendars! Change of plans for Sunday, Mar. 4!
Beth Ami is joining Boulder congregations to celebrate Purim at the Boulder JCC Purim Carnival. You will find our students and their families in mitzvah land created by Marti Hirsch, one of JCS's talented teachers. There will be many fun games to play, yummy food to eat and a great time at the Purim Carnival.
10am - 2pm at the Boulder Jewish Community Center
3800 Kalmia Ave., Boulder 80301



Two Passover celebrations

A Taste of Passover – A Seder Sampler and Workshop

Join Beth Ami and other Boulder Congregations from 3-5:30 on Sunday, March 25 at the Boulder JCC for a Seder Sampling in the style of various Jewish denominations followed by workshops on how to create a special Passover for your family and friends. This free event, sponsored by JT Boulder and 18 Pomegranates, is designed for families and individuals of all ages. A detailed agenda will be emailed when finalized.

Save the Date Beth Ami's Passover Seder:

Sunday, April 8, 2012, 4pm at Jefferson Unitarian Church, 14350 W. 32nd Ave. Golden. Beth Ami members are free. Non members suggested donation is \$25/adult, \$10/student, children under 18 are free. Please RSVP by Wed. April 4th to Roz or Stu Budoff: 303-432-2184 or stubudoff@yahoo.com

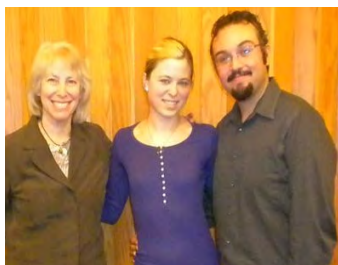
Adoption-into-Judaism Ceremony

Beth Ami held its first Adoption Ceremony during Shabbat on Feb. 10 for Emily Brockmeier, soon to marry Mitch Gomez in Florida.

In preparation for their rabbinic wedding, Emily chose the Hebrew name *Liora*, derived from the word for *light*, and 7 Humanistic Values, each of which was described as she lit the 7 candles of our new Humanorah! Emily and Mitch each read a statement they'd written explaining a bit about themselves and their reasons for being Humanistic Jews. They also submitted two lovely readings to share with the congregation.

Here are the values Emily chose: empathy, rationality, responsibility, unconditional love, courage, honesty and creativity.

We wish Emily and Mitch the very best on their wedding day and throughout their lives.



Passover in the matzah aisle

is a public space Judaism program that takes place the week before Passover in the Passover food aisle of a supermarket. Encouraged by the Jewish Outreach Institute and sponsored in Boulder by JT Boulder (Jews together Boulder), volunteers from several Boulder congregations and organizations including Beth Ami will serve Passover foods to customers in two Boulder King Sooper markets as well as provide info about upcoming community seders.

For the engaged and/or unaffiliated participant, Passover in the Matzah Aisle can serve as a first entry point into the Jewish community.



**HOW WILL HEIRS OF INTERMARRIAGE CHANGE JUDAISM?
CAN YOU BE "JEWISH AND" RATHER THAN "JEWISH OR"?
CAN THE JEWISH WORLD HANDLE "HALF-JEWISH"?
IS BEING "HALF-JEWISH" NO BIG DEAL ANYMORE?**

"Half Jewish?" is crucial to the future of American Judaism—an opportunity and a challenge. For two decades half of the marriages involving Jews have been intercultural. Their children are now young adults: choosing their own identities. Who are they? How do they define their own identities? How do they relate to being Jewish, and to both sides of their families? Is "half Jewish" like "half pregnant," or can the Jewish world accept multiple identities in an open tent?

Northwestern University, Evanston, Illinois

The International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism in cooperation with Neuberger Hillel at the University of Chicago and Fiedler Hillel at Northwestern University.

Featured Speakers will include

- Rabbi Adam Chalom**, Dean – North America, IISHJ
- Maya Escobar**, Latina-Jewish artist and activist
- Professor Lynn Davidman**, Professor of Sociology/Religious Studies, University of Kansas
- Dan Libenson**, Executive Director, University of Chicago Hillel
- Rabbi Kerry Olitzky**, Executive Director, Jewish Outreach Institute
- Yoni Sarason**, Midwest Regional Coordinator, Birthright Israel NEXT
- Rabbi Sivan Malkin Maas**, Dean, Tmura-IISHJ, Israel

ONLINE REGISTRATION NOW OPEN – <http://halfjewish.eventbrite.com>

PRINTED REGISTRATION MATERIALS TO BE MAILED SOON

For more information: www.iishj.org info@iishj.org 847-777-6907

CU's Board of Regents Support Jewish Studies as a Degree-Granting Program...

CU's Board of Regents approved the proposal submitted in the fall to permit the Program in Jewish Studies to become a degree-granting program, providing undergraduates with the opportunity to pursue Jewish Studies as a major as well as increased options for minors in the field of Jewish Studies. The proposal has a few more steps until it is final, but we are excited to be able to offer these options in the near future. Thank you to our donors, students, faculty, administration and staff who worked to make this possible!

Stay tuned to our website and newsletters for additional details soon.

Information about the Board of Regents meeting can be found at dailycamera.com/cu-news/ci_19868852

Can we be green during the white of a Colorado winter? – By Lenore Kingston

Two days after the last major snowfall our Jewish Cultural School (JCS) and Adult Education communities joined together to celebrate Tu B'Shevat, which has become the Jewish Earth Day. Our celebration focused on the growing Jewish food movement encouraged by Hazon, creating healthier and more sustainable communities in the Jewish world and beyond.

The students arrived and immediately began a hands-on planting project using organic snow peas supplied by a local organic gardener. Sheila Malcolm, one of our Madrikyot-in-training, is an avid gardener and wrote directions for families entitled "Let's Plant a Salad."

In addition to planting a salad, we also chopped up winter root vegetables grown at a local organic farm and enjoyed eating our delicious soup for lunch. After JCS and Adult Ed, our leftover nutritious vegetable soup was shared with two homebound members who couldn't join us.

Our third pre-seder project was stuffing trail mix in small snack bags for needy people who we see standing on many street corners. Rabbi Will Berkovitz, Vice President of Partnerships for Repair the World, shared this idea at an education seminar in October. We're hoping to hear trail mix stories at our next learning session.

Sheila began our Tu B'Shevat seder by sharing her New York City 5th floor gardening failures as a child which changed when she married John who grew up in a Michigan farming community. During our Seder, we used traditional fruits by sticking pretzel sticks into the appropriate jams. There were black cherry, strawberry, and orange marmalade jams.

Sheila asked about a take away message for Tu B'Shevat. One member shared she will remember the importance of healthy, local food as she attends a Super Bowl party later in the day.

Here is a poem Sheila found for Tu B'Shevat Source unknown:

If we plant a laughter seed, it can grow into a happiness tree.
 If we plant a sharing seed, it can grow into a friendship tree.
 If we plant a practice seed, it can grow into a know-how tree.
 If we plant a helpful seed, it can grow into a thank you tree
 And if we plant together the seeds of care and understanding,
 they can grow into a tree of love.



March 2012

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Purim Carnival	5	6	7	8	9 Shabbat	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Katya Bar Mitzvah
18 JCS & Adult Ed	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Seder Sampler Board Mtg	26	27	28	29	30	31

April:

- Sunday 4/8 4pm 3rd night Passover Seder at JUC, Golden
- Sunday 4/15 10am JCS/Adult Ed, Countryside Rec Center in Westminster
- Fri/Sat/Sun 4/20 – 4/22 International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism Bi-Annual Colloquim, Chicago, IL. Ordination of Madrikhot Sheila Malcolm and Michelle Davis
- Sunday 4/29 10am JCS/Adult Ed at Countryside Rec, Westminster
- Sunday 4/29 11am Celebrate Israel Independence Day; Countryside Rec Center, Westminster

May:

- Sunday 5/6 12pm Family field trip, Wild Animal Sanctuary, Keensburg, CO. RSVP: bethamicolorado@gmail.com
- Learn about Alex Litz's Mitzvah project

June:

- 6/10 11am Beth Ami booth at the Boulder Jewish Festival

July:

- Saturday 7/7 Alexi Budoff's Bat Mitzvah
- Sunday 7/22 Beth Ami Annual Meeting

Adult Education 2012

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

Schedule of Events

March:

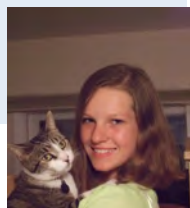
- 4th – 10am Purim Carnival, Boulder JCC, Beth Ami will have a booth there.
- 9th – Shabbat Service, Montview, Denver
- 17th – 9:30am Katya Hirsch Bat Mitzvah, East Boulder Community Center, Beth Ami is invited to attend the service and Oneg. Please RSVP to: Marti.hirsch@mail.com
- 18th – 10am JCS/Adult Ed, Countryside Rec Center in Westminster.
- 25th – 10am Board Mtg, Karasik's, Arvada
- 25th – Seder Sampler, JCC Boulder,

A big GRACIAS to Laura Moin, who organized a group of almost 30 Beth Ami + friends theater-goers on Feb. 12. "Two Things You Don't Talk About at Dinner" was a Passover romp through religion and politics in all their complexities. Dinner at Brio's allowed the conversation to continue. Thanks to Lenore for dinner reservations.

- Our next monthly Shabbat, also at Montview Blvd Presbyterian, will feature member Gordon Gamm in a presentation about Humanism and his own Humanistic and Jewish journey. Please join us on Mar. 9 at 7:30pm.

Katya Hirsch's Bat Mitzvah

Please join Beth Ami and the Hirsch Family
On Saturday, March 17, 2012 at 9:30 am
At the East Boulder Community Center Senior Commons
5660 Sioux Drive, Boulder
An oneg luncheon will follow the Shabbat and Mitzvah services



Board Members:

Jon Budoff-President jmb@colorado.edu
Ron Kingston-Treasurer RonKbethami@hotmail.com
Sheila Malcol-Madrikha, Secretary,
Adult Ed Director sheilamalcolm@comcast.net
Maida Deborah-Membership maidadeborah@comcast.net
Lenore Kingston-JCS Director bethamicolorado@gmail.com
Michelle Davis-Madrikha mdavisz@yahoo.com

Members at Large:

Terry Fleischer terryfleisher@msn.com
Gerrie Karasik lgkara@aol.com
Berry Levene blevene@ecentral.com
Elaine Block ejdjj5@centurylink.net
Kathy Kane kkane7403@aol.com

Newsletter Editor:

Katrina Miller Katrina_miller@hotmail.com

Webmaster:

Christie Gosch christiemgosch@yahoo.com

Friend us on Facebook! – A Request from our Member at Large and Facebook Master – Berry Leven

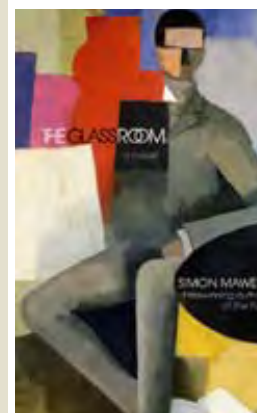
Log on to your facebook account and search for Beth Ami. You can like us there!

And the Facebook Master can use your help!

Barry needs help administering the Beth Ami Facebook page. He is only one permitted to add content and would like the help of others to include additional content. This would include no more than 3-5 hours per month. Please contact Barry if interested.
blevene@central.com —303-750-4317

Beth Ami Book Club

Beth Ami Book Club meets on Thursday, April 12th 11:00am at Brio's, 2500 East 1st Avenue, Denver, CO 80206. We will be discussing The Glass Room written by Simon Mawer. Although The Glass Room is a work of fiction, the house and its setting are not fictional. The Times Literary Supplement states, "In Mawer's hands (the glass room) becomes a means for exploring the way people's hopes for the future become part of their history." For more info and to RSVP email bethamicolorado@gmail.com



Read a good book lately? Viewed a wonderful film? Share it here!

Sheila recommends "The Lemon Tree," a 2008 Israeli drama available on Netflix. A Palestinian widow, whose only income source is her lemon grove, takes her case to the Supreme Court when her trees are declared a security threat to the Israeli defense minister who has moved in next door. This is a graceful, reflective movie highlighting the woes of Israeli life today.

Send your recommendation to Katrina at katrina_miller@hotmail.com.



Happy birthday to:

- Christie Gosch 1
- Beth Litz 7
- Paul Budoff 11
- Barry Levine 11
- Alex Litz 12
- Toni Budoff 21
- Barry Goldberg 24
- Elaine Bloch 29
- Donna Levene 31



Anniversaries:

- Ron & Lenore Kingston 7
- Barry & Donna Levene 10

King Sooper's cards!

Get yours from Maida Deborah is selling \$100 King Sooper cards. Please see her to purchase your card(s). Just bring a check payable to: Beth Ami. It makes shopping easy and every \$ you spend at King Soopers benefits Beth Ami. You buy the card for \$100 and you SPEND the \$100 at Kings Soopers. No extra cost to you.

