



Beth Ami

Colorado Congregation for Humanistic Judaism

Volume 7; Issue 4

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

April 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Upcoming Events

May

Saturday 5/7 – Beth Ami Book Club reads Come With Me to Babylon by Paul M. Levitt (11am at Brio's – see more below)

Sunday 5/15 – JCFS Session (10am-12pm, Malcolm home – see more below)

Beth Ami Event Schedule

Sunday 4/24 – Community Passover Seder (4pm, Boulder JCC, 3800 Kalmia, Boulder – see more below)

Other Community Events

Friday 4/8 – Sunday 4/10 – Routes and Roots event presented by Rabbi Adam Chalom at Congregation Or Emet in Minneapolis, MN (see more below)

Sunday 4/10 – Love Songs in Springtime concert - \$20 per person (7-9pm, Jefferson Unitarian Church – see more below)

Friday 4/15 – End of SHJ Slogan contest (see more below)

Celebrations

Birthdays

4/4 – Stephen Greenspan & DeShawn Anderson

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Submission Deadline
11:59pm, Fri 4/22

Beth Ami Seder in A New Location

April 24, 2016 – The 3rd Night of Passover!

- April 24, at 4 pm, at the current Boulder Jewish Community Center 3800 Kalmia, Boulder 80301.
- Meaningful Passover Seder and delicious food
 - Lia Davis' beautiful piano music
 - Guest presentation by Shelly Boucher about Fair Trade foods and who is affected by our food choices
 - Activities available to young children during this event
 - RSVP to BethAmiRSVP@gmail.com for seating and potluck, setup and cleanup assistance
 - Suggested donations \$10 /member, \$25/non-member, under 18 free!
 - Food donations to the pantry at Emergency Family Assistance Association will be collected



Farm to Shabbat Table Finale

Thanks to all who participated in Beth Ami's three-session exploration of Shabbat, food and community! In addition to learning and celebrating together, we

donated 18.4 pounds of canned, boxed and fresh food to the pantry at Emergency Family Assistance Association.

Final JCFS Session & Our Hazon Grant

The final session of our Jewish Cultural Family School will be on May 15th at 10:00am at Sheila and John's Malcolm's home. We are culminating our semester focusing on the theme of farm to Shabbat table by planting a garden in the Malcolm backyard.

Beth Ami received a Hazon grant whose purpose is to foster the building of a community that wants to celebrate its Jewish identity and its commitment to

environmental sustainability through sharing healthy, delicious, seasonal, local and organic Shabbat meals. As members of the Society for Humanistic Judaism, "We demonstrate our bond to the Jewish people through humanistic celebrations of Jewish holidays and life-cycle events. Our aim is to foster a positive Jewish identity, intellectual integrity, and ethical behavior among celebrants."

Purim Carnival at the Boulder JCC!

Crazy costumes and big smiles were the standard attire at the Boulder JCC Purim Carnival. Beth Ami was given a premier spot for our Mitzvah Land human board game - up on the stage in the main game room. A great number of parents and children negotiated the twists and turns of the game by answering questions about various good deeds. Lenore Kingston, Marti Hirsch, Katya Hirsch and Rachel Hirsch volunteered their time to run the game. Sheila Malcolm also volunteered at the event by working at the front desk, greeting Purim revelers as they arrived.

This year, at the end of the Mitzvah Land game participants were asked if they wanted to try dropping a coin into our water filled fish bowl tzedaka box. The goal being to drop the coin into the little cup at the bottom of the bowl. We collected \$13 in tzedaka change to be used on an upcoming Beth Ami mitzvah project.

This is the last year you will find the Purim Carnival at the JCC on Kalmia. Next year the event will be held in the new big beautiful Boulder JCC on the corner of Arapahoe Ave & Cherryvale Rd.



Routes and Roots: The Evolution of Secular Humanistic Judaism

Join Rabbi Adam Chalom, Dean for North America of the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism, for an inclusive weekend of events!

This event will be hosted by Congregation Or Emet and held in Minneapolis, MN.

Friday, April 8 – Sunday April 10

See more event details at <http://oremet.org/routes-and-roots/>

Come With Me To Babylon Summary

In 1910 the Cohen family, in search of the Golden Medina, undertakes a dangerous journey from Russia to the United States, where the new world exposes family secrets, cultural conflicts, the corruption of the American Dream, and love's divides. After traveling in steerage to Ellis Island, the family endures the poverty and dirt of New York City and retreats to a farm in southern New

Jersey—to find not the agricultural Eden they were promised, but Babylon. Told in several voices, this tale bears witness to a new generation learning to find hope in a land that often sacrifices human decency for profit and greed.

Paul Levitt is professor of English at the University of Colorado, Boulder. He has written several novels, plays, children's books, and scholarly articles.

Love Songs In Springtime Concert

Love Songs in Springtime is a Concert of everything musical from Jazz to Opera that appeals to many tastes. If you enjoy Music with a touch of Theater and Comedy, join us on Sunday evening, April 10 from 7:00 to 9:00 at the Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden.

A world-renowned ensemble of international artists, "Opera and Beyond" consists of guitarist Al Ferguson, Soprano Tricia Pine and Tenor soloist Thomas Poole, accompanied by pianists Mallory Bernstein and Lia Davis.

It is a rare delight for us to be able to enjoy such a professional performance company right here in Golden. Wine and other Beverages will be available at intermission.

Join our musical celebration of Springtime at the Jefferson Unitarian Church, 14350 W.32nd Avenue in Golden 80401. Tickets are \$20 per person and available in advance at BrownPaperTickets.com. Tickets will also be available at the door (cash or checks), but reservations are advised. Parking is free.

News From National

The SHJ has decided to sponsor a "Slogan Contest" so that all members can participate in helping us focus and refine our message in a clear concise way. The last issue of the Society's member newsletter, *Humanorah*, announced and described this initiative.

The Slogan Contest deadline is April 15, 2016. Send submissions to SHJslogancontest@gmail.com. Please include your name, location and contact information so we can thank you. The Board will make decisions based on the Slogan Contest Committee's recommendations at the end of April.

The Slogan Contest Committee consists of: Ezra Donner, Chair of SHJ Communications Committee, Member of Birmingham Temple, Detroit Seth Finestack, Marketing Professional, Member of Or Emet in the Twin Cities, Minnesota Deb Godden, Madrikha, Editor of SHJ *Humanorah* newsletter, Member of Machar, D.C. Charles Paul, Owner of Charles Paul PR and President of Birmingham Temple, Detroit.

Participate! Have fun!

Rabbi Jeff Falick Interview

Rabbi Jeff Falick who currently serves as the rabbi of the Birmingham Temple in Farmington Hills, Michigan is interviewed by Chris Stedman, Executive Director of the Yale Humanist Community.

<http://chrisstedman.religionnews.com/2014/01/27/can-jewish-atheist-ask-humanist-rabbi/>

You can also watch Rabbi Falick speak at the Birmingham Temple:

<http://www.birminghamtemple.com/#!library-of-secular-humanistic-judaism/c22gs>

National Humanistic Jewish Movement & SHJ Website

For those on the Beth Ami Friends List who want more info about the national Humanistic Jewish movement, and ideas from other communities around

the country, you can always link to the SHJ website and review the latest Humanorah newsletter.
<http://www.shj.org/about-shj/humanorah-newsletter/>

Family News and Events

If you or someone you know is experiencing important and life-altering events, please share the news with Beth Ami. In times of need, Beth Ami members can offer support. In times of happiness, we can help celebrate. To share your news, please contact Sheila Malcolm, Madrikha, or Michelle Davis, Madrikha.

Support Beth Ami With An Honorary Donation

To honor or remember family or friends with a donation to Beth Ami, please email our treasurer at treasurer@bethami.com. A notice of the contribution will be sent to the honoree or family. Our congregation will express its gratitude in the newsletter for donations received in the previous month.

Contact Information

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Hi, all. I'm Rachel Hirsch. I was a student at the Beth Ami JCS until my Bat Mitzvah in 2008.

I am the editor of the Beth Ami newsletter this year, and plan on continuing for as long as possible (I am currently a Mathematics & Computer Science student at the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA).

I welcome any input you have, so feel free to email me any articles or information you want to see in next month's newsletter.

-Rachel