



Beth Ami

Colorado Congregation for Humanistic Judaism

Volume 8; 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 2017

| Sun | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thur | Fri | Sat |
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Beth Ami Event Schedule

Sunday 4/9 – Beth Ami Community Passover Seder – Please RSVP to BethAmiRSVP@gmail.com! (4-6:30pm, Boulder JCC, 6007 Oreg Ave. – see more below)

Saturday 4/15 – Beth Ami Shabbat Hike (10am – RSVP to Sheila@bethami.com)

Sunday 4/23 – Beth Ami Book Club discusses The Watchman's Rattle: A Radical New Theory of Collapse (11am, Brio's Tuscan Grill – RSVP to BethAmiColorado@gmail.com – see book summary below)

Upcoming Events

May

Saturday 5/6 – Shabbat coffee (10am – Brewing Market, Baseline & Broadway location – RSVP to Sheila@bethami.com)

June

Sunday 6/4 – Boulder Jewish Festival (11am – 4pm, Pearl Street Mall)

August

Thursday 8/24 – Sunday 8/27 – Save the dates for Paul Golin's (SHJ Executive Director) visit with Beth Ami!

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- Submission Deadline
11:59pm, Fri 4/21



Celebrations

Birthdays

Tuesday 4/4 – Stephen Greenspan & DeShawn Anderson

The Watchman's Rattle: A Radical New Theory of Collapse Summary

Our book discussion will feature The Watchman's Rattle: A Radical New Theory of Collapse by Rebecca D. Costa. Rebecca Costa's website describes her as sociobiologist, “an engaging and deeply knowledgeable trendist and thought leader.” Her book attacks our ways of thinking: “overarching learned thoughts, feelings, and behaviors that are not necessarily true or viable, but passed on as unassailable from generation to

generation.” She defines four supermemes, beliefs which prevent us from solving today’s important issues as climate change, worldwide recession, pandemic viruses and more.

For an author’s interview use this link: <http://www.rebeccacosta.com/about-the-book.htm>

Please RSVP to bethamicolorado@gmail.com.

News From National

The next national Society for Humanistic Judaism Board Meeting is scheduled for April 21-23 at the Birmingham Temple outside Detroit. Sheila Malcolm will continue to represent Beth Ami and participate on

the Community Development and Enrichment Committee. If any Beth Ami member would like to test the waters at the national level in the future, please contact Sheila Malcolm!

Beth Ami Passover Seder

Beth Ami's annual Passover seder will be held at the Boulder JCC (6007 Oreg Ave.) on Sunday, April 9th from 4-6:30pm.

Beth Ami paid members: FREE!

Guest adult: \$20

Guest youth (13-18): \$10

Children (under 13): FREE!

There will be a new Humanistic Jewish haggadah emphasizing the meaning behind the story, music and movement, and warm, genial friendship at a challenging time.

Please bring a dish to share in the potluck following the seder.

Please RSVP to BethAmiRSVP@gmail.com ASAP!



Sam and Mitchel Budoff are working on their bar mitzvah project this year:

In preparation for our Bar Mitzvahs, we are collecting items to fill care packages for the Denver homeless. All donations go to a non-profit organization called "Operation Care Package Colorado." Please bring any of the following to the Beth Ami Passover Seder:

- Beef jerky and other packaged food snacks
- Candy
- Protein bars
- Toothbrushes and toothpaste
- Shampoo (waterless/dry)
- Deodorant
- Comb/brush
- Playing cards

We can also accept donations of money for purchases to the April care packages.

Thank you for your contributions,

- Sam & Mitchel Budoff

Passover Extra

This link <http://citycongregation.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/plagues.pdf> will take you to Rabbi Schweitzer's new 10 Plagues. Food for Thought.

Thanks for sharing, Rabbi Peter from City Congregation.

Purim Carnival

Can't have a happy Purim without a happy carnival! This year's carnival was held at the new Boulder JCC building. Madrikah Sheila Malcolm, portrayed the "Trumpian" King Ahasuerus in the Purim shpiel. Her too long red tie and continued tweeting were a comic success. The audience cheered and booed at all the appropriate places.

Beth Ami once again successfully ran our home-grown "Mitzvah Land" game as one of the carnival activities. Marti Hirsch (dressed as a ladybug), Katya Hirsch (dressed as a cheerleader) and Lenore Kingston

volunteered to run the game. Dozens of children and parents participated by walking down the colored path and answering questions about mitzvahs. This year Katya upgraded the questions as a step toward her Girl Scout Gold Award which is Girl Scouts highest award. Katya is in the process of designing a downloadable version of the game for families to play at home. Many people at the carnival signed up to receive a copy of the game. It is her intention to have the game accessible through the Beth Ami website



Baking for Purim

Nothing says Spring like the smell of hamantaschen in the oven. Brian Shucker and Darby Odell graciously turned their kitchen into a hamantaschen factory for one morning. Cherry, apricot, Nutella, poppy seed and other delectably gooey fillings were plopped into the center of rolled dough circles and folded into the traditional

triangular shape. Adults and children worked together to make dozens of delicious cookies. Hamantaschen that were not devoured on the spot were packaged up into cellophane bags and delivered as mishloach manot to family and friends.



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.

- Many thanks to Eve Orenstein, our opera star who is now the Director of Development of the Boulder Philharmonic. Eve helped secure and advertise a grant for a free performance of the Phil's "Nature & Music Concert," which is also traveling to the Kennedy Center in D.C. for the Shift Festival.
- Katya Hirsch, daughter of Marti and Michael Hirsch, is the Set Construction Head for the Boulder High School Theater Department. Katya helped design and lead the construction for the set of this year's production of the rock musical RENT. RENT will be performed April 5-8 at the historical Boulder High School theatre. Tickets are available at <https://www.showtix4u.com>.
- Mazel tov to this newsletter's editor, Rachel Hirsch, on her upcoming graduation from the University of Puget Sound and acceptance to the Computer Science Masters program at CSU where she will start this coming Fall.
- Mazel tov to Katya Hirsch on her upcoming graduation from Boulder High School. Katya has been a regular presence at most Beth Ami events since before her Bat Mitzvah, and has merged her tikkun olam efforts with the Girl Scouts and Beth Ami. Thanks, Katya!
- And a sincere thanks to parents Marti and Michael Hirsch, who have parented so well!

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.

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for Humanistic Judaism**

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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