



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

August 2012

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	31	

Upcoming Events

September

Sunday 9/16 -- Rosh Hashanah at Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden

Saturday 9/22 – Light The Night Walk sponsored by Leukemia and Lymphoma Society

Tuesday 9/25 – Kol Nidre at Eisenhower Chapel in Denver

Wednesday 9/26 – Yom Kippur at Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden

November

Sunday 11/3, 11/4 – Dale McGowan Presentations

May 2013

Friday 5/3 - Sunday 5/5 – Beth Ami Retreat at YMCA of Rockies in Estes Park

Event Schedule

Friday 8/3 – Shabbat Evening of Love (See More Below)

Sunday 8/5 – Tour de Farm Bike Ride (See More Below)

Sunday 8/5 – Community Hike and Welcome Event at Bobolink Trailhead on Baseline Rd (10 am - See More Below)

Monday 8/13 – Beth Ami Book Club (See More Below)

Saturday 8/18 – Shabbat Morning Celebration at Kensington Park (10200 Countryside Dr, Westminster - 10am - See More Below)

Sunday 8/19 – Beth Ami Board Meeting (10 am at Gerrie and Len Karasik's home in Arvada)

Sunday 8/26 – JCS Session 1 and Adult Ed (Countryside Rec Center, 10470 Oak St Westminster - Open House, Bring a Friend!)

Celebrations

Birthdays

8/25 – Edmund Tatar

8/27 – Len Karasik

Anniversaries

8/3 – Beth and Steve Litz

8/16 – Michelle Davis and Ben Stafford

8/17 – Herb and Cass Josepher

Weddings

8/12 – Jim Kates and Charla Low will be married in Breckenridge. Sheila will officiate.

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Annual Beth Ami Meeting Summary

Twenty-three Beth Ami members representing our organization's diversity of age, interests and geographic location joined together on July 22 to express support and plan for the future. We filled the club room at Terry & Maida's building in Denver. Thanks to all who attended!

President Jon Budoff guided us through a packed agenda, including a year-in-review slide show (Lenore & Ron), programming successes and needs, encouraging new leaders, tasks for the Madrikhot (Sheila & Michelle), treasurer's report (Ron) and new calendar (Michelle). We approved the recommended slate of officers and Board members, and warmly welcome any Beth Ami member to attend monthly Board meetings as participant or observer. Our meeting

ended with a terrific barbecue by Terry Fleisher and delicious contributions by many.

Board members are listed in this publication, with contact information. Board meetings convene at 10 am, usually on a Sunday, to address past and upcoming events, individual and community needs, finances, PR, spreading the word of Humanistic Judaism and Beth Ami, news from the Society for Humanistic Judaism, Jewish Cultural School, Adult Ed, holidays and greater Jewish community involvement.

If you'd like to receive copies of Board minutes, please contact new Secretary Kathy Kane at kkane7403@aol.com.

The next Board meeting will be Aug. 19, 10 am at the home of Gerrie and Len Karasik in Arvada. Stop by!

Shabbat Evening of Love

Judaism Your Way will present A Shabbat Evening of Love on Friday evening, August 3rd, featuring master storyteller Sarel Beckenstein. This event corresponds with Tu b'Av on the Jewish calendar, illuminating the special role that love, in all of its expressions, plays in Judaism.

This is the fifth year that Judaism Your Way has highlighted this little-known holiday with a distinctive celebration. Like last year, A Jewish Evening of Love will take place at the Butterfly Pavilion in Westminster from 5-9 pm.

This year's Shabbat Evening of Love will also include a Kabbalat Shabbat led by Rabbi Brian Field and Dr. Caryn Aviv, with music by Yaniv Salzberg. In addition, we will offer desserts associated in Jewish



literature with love.

Beth Ami will co-sponsor this event. Cost: \$10 per person. No one will be turned away for lack of funds.

"Beth Ami Outdoors – for Two August Events"

On Sun., Aug. 5 at 10 am, join Beth Ami in Boulder as we welcome visitors, share a reading or two, enjoy an easy, mostly shaded, creekside walk, win valuable quiz prizes and appreciate our growing community. Please bring sunscreen, hat, comfy shoes and water. Snacks provided! Park in the lot on Baseline Rd. just west of the Cherryvale Rd. stop sign. Follow the Beth Ami signs to the nearby picnic table. (Note that there is no restroom at the trailhead.)

http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2991&Itemid=1035

Our next outdoor event happens on Sat., Aug. 18 at 10 am. This sing-along Shabbat will be held at

Kensington Park, a few blocks from Countryside Rec Center, home of the Jewish Cultural School and Adult Ed. Sheila will be joined by musician Rachel Cole for a fun, family Shabbat service and more singing as we munch a lunch oneg. Consider bringing a folding chair, water and appropriate clothes for a walk around the reservoir, or head over to the Countryside Pool for a dip. <http://www.ci.westminster.co.us/ParksRec/Parks/ParkLocations/KensingtonPark.aspx>

Both of these events are all-ages, family friendly and welcoming to our current community and visitors, so bring a friend.

Questions? Contact Sheila or Lenore at their emails, or info@bethami.com.

Beth Ami Event Information

The next Beth Ami Book Club will be September 13th 11:00am at Brio's in Denver. We have selected Milton Steinberg's book [As a Driven Leaf](#). It is a historical fiction about Elisha ben Abuyah, a rabbi who lived in the time soon after Christ, who was a member of the Sanhedrin, until his ex-communication because he questioned his faith.

Calling all middle school and high school students: On Sunday, August 12th, Beth Ami teens will bike with other Boulder congregation teens.

Questions? Email Lenore at:
bethamicolorado@gmail.com.

Sunday, August 26th 10:00am Open House Jewish Cultural School and Adult Ed begin. Please join us as we study shalom (peace) throughout Jewish history beginning with the Biblical story of Jacob and Esau.

Beth Ami is applying for a \$500 grant from Hazon, America's largest Jewish environmental organization that works to create healthier and more sustainable communities in the Jewish world and beyond. With this money we will offer local and organic food at our Shabbat Saturday morning Onegs and the Beth Ami Retreat on May 3rd-5th, 2013 at YMCA of the Rockies.

Tour de Farm

The Tour de Farm Bike Ride is August 5. It is a 16 mile bike ride along the High Line Canal in Denver and Aurora from 8:00-1:00 on August 5 with an emphasis on community farms and green agriculture. The tour will stop at the DeLaney Community Farm for fresh peaches, the Sprout City Farm at the Denver Green School for a tour, and end at the Ekar Farm for grilled corn and live music. Proceeds from the ride will benefit Ekar Farm's programming and donations to the Jewish Family Service's Weinberg Food Pantry. For more information, go to www.ekarfarm.org.



Light the Night Walk

PUT ON YOUR WALKING SHOES...

... As Beth Ami joins the Society for Humanistic Judaism and their affiliation with the Foundation Beyond Belief to support the annual Light the Night Walk sponsored by the **Leukemia & Lymphoma Society**. Individuals and teams band together in memorable evening walks in over 200 communities each fall across North America.

Flatirons Walk:

Saturday, September 22nd, 2012

Festivities Begin at 5:30 PM

Walk Begins at 7:30 PM

Visual Arts Complex

University of Colorado Boulder

As a nonprofit, LLS relies on the generosity of individuals, corporations and foundations to fund its lifesaving blood cancer research around the world and provides free information and support services.

HOW CAN I HELP?

1. Join the **Beth Ami Alight** team fundraising page and click "join" at the bottom of the page.
2. Set up your fundraising page and personalize it if you wish.
3. Send your fundraising page to 10 people, including family, friends, neighbors and co-workers.
4. Use the new phone APP, LLS mTools, for Team In Training and Light The Night participants. With an iPhone or Android, go to [LLS mTools](#).
5. Attend the **Flatirons Kickoff** on Wednesday, August 1 at the NCAR Mesa Lab at the very top of Table Mesa Dr. The event will begin at 6:00 p.m. RSVP to Sheila Malcolm, Beth Ami Alight team captain, if you plan to join the kickoff event.

For more information or to register, go to <http://pages.lightthenight.org/rm/Flatiron12/BethAmiAlight>

See and Be Seen!

By Andrea Friedlander, President of the Society for Humanistic Judaism

Who says that social climbing is a bad thing? The Society has been social climbing for years and we're finally getting invited to all the best parties!

One of the primary objectives of the Society has always been to promote Humanistic Judaism. We want to gain acceptance as a legitimate and thriving branch of Judaism and to alert prospective members that we exist. I am pleased to report that our dance card has been quite full these last few months!

In March, we were an active co-sponsor of the Reason Rally held on the national Mall in Washington, DC. The purpose of the Rally was to unify, energize, and embolden secular people nationwide. More than 30,000 people attended, and the Society's booth was quite busy throughout the day. We even got a shout-out from the podium!

In April, we became an ally in a coalition of secular organizations created by the Foundation Beyond Belief to help raise money for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's fight against cancer. The idea behind the coalition is to highlight non-theists' charitable giving and to raise public awareness of local secular groups. We also became an endorser of a new organization

called UniteWomen.org, which was created to defend women's civil, reproductive and economic rights, and we joined the newly formed Coalition for Liberty and Justice, an alliance of both faith-based and secular organizations concerned with safeguarding the protections guaranteed by the First Amendment.

Continuing to spread our wings as the new social butterfly that we are, in July we attended the Secular Student Alliance Conference in Columbus, Ohio, where we had an opportunity to network with secular organizations and their leaders, and to reach out to the more than 300 college students in attendance.

Yep, it's been an exhausting but exciting last few months. With each new event we attend and coalition we join, we make important new connections and increase our visibility. Thanks to years of hard work by our dedicated staff, more and more organizations are inviting us to attend their events and join them in promoting our common values. Although I think we still have a ways to go before I'd say we're officially part of the "cool crowd," at least now the cool kids (both secular and Jewish!) are acknowledging our existence and asking us to join in! How cool is that?

Congratulations to Alexi Budoff

Alexi Budoff celebrated her Bat Mitzvah with family, friends and the Beth Ami Community on July 7. Mazel Tov to Alexi, parents Jon and Toni Budoff, and grandparents Roz and Stu Budoff.



Contact Information

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New Newsletter Editor!

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

I will be the editor of the Beth Ami newsletter for this summer, and hopefully next year, depending on how it affects school (I graduate next year).

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

-Rachel