



# Beth Ami

Colorado Congregation for Humanistic Judaism

## Volume 4; Issue 2

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

## February 2013

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		

### Beth Ami Event Schedule

**Sunday 2/3** – JCS Session 3 & Adult Ed, followed by Board Meeting (*See More Below*)

**Saturday 2/16** – Shabbat Service with a focus on Jewish humor featuring live performers and video clips (10am, *Countryside Rec*, followed by light lunch *Oneg*)

**Sunday 2/24** – JCS Session 4 & Adult Ed, (*See More Below*), Community Purim Carnival at the Boulder JCC (10am-1pm, 3800 *Kalmia Ave*) **No Session at Countryside!**

### Other Community Events

**Wednesday 2/6-17** – 17<sup>th</sup> Denver Jewish Film Festival

**Saturday 2/9-10** – Limmud Colorado (*See More Below*)

### Celebrations

#### Birthdays

- 2/2 – Sam Budoff
- 2/12 – Dawn Anderson
- 2/18 – Tom & Ren Margolis
- 2/21 – Suzy Wilson
- 2/22 – Sheila Malcolm

### Upcoming Events

#### March

3/7 – Beth Ami book Club, *Bible and Sword* by Barbara Tuchman - email [bethamicolorado@gmail.com](mailto:bethamicolorado@gmail.com) to get a copy (11am at *Brio's* near *Cherry Creek Mall*, Denver)

3/10 – JCS Session 5 & Adult Ed (*See More Below*)

3/10-17 – First Boulder Jewish Film Festival (<http://boulderjcc.org/Arts/Film%20Festival/View.aspx>)

3/17 – JCS Session 6 & Adult Ed (*See More Below*)

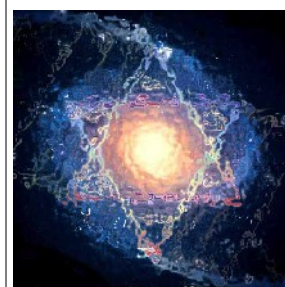
3/24 – Beth Ami Community Passover Celebration at JUC (4 pm)

#### Anniversaries

2/19 – James & Suzy Wilson

### Contents

- Calendar.....1
- Celebrations.....1
- Community of Service.....1
- Stop Frostbite 2012.....2
- Branching “Out”.....2
- Shabbat in the South Wrap Up.....2
- Colorado Ballet.....2
- SHJ Article.....3
- Limmud Colorado...3
- JCS/AE Info.....3
- Contact Info.....3



### Community of Service

18 Pomegranates has given \$360 to Beth Ami's Jewish Cultural School in support of the Boulder Educator Team's (BET) Community of Service project. The Community of Service is an outgrowth of Chiddush 2011 when Rabbi Will Berkowitz of Repair the World encouraged Boulder educators to highlight service

learning. The students in our Jewish Cultural School are making tied fleece blankets to donate to Jewish Family Service. Please email Lenore Kingston at [bethamicolorado@gmail.com](mailto:bethamicolorado@gmail.com) if you have suggestions for future mitzvah projects.

## Stop Frostbite 2012

Girl Scout Troop 441's Stop Frostbite 2012 was a huge success! Beth Ami collected and donated \$60 of tzedakah money. The scouts used this money to purchase numerous warm socks and gloves which were added to the socks and gloves collected at other venues.

All the items collected were donated to the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless in Denver and passed out as gifts at a holiday event.

The recipients were thrilled to receive the gifts. Thank you again to everyone who donated!

## Branching "Out"

Lenore and Sheila were fortunate to attend a recent training sponsored by Keshet [www.keshetonline.org](http://www.keshetonline.org) called "Hineini Education Project." The mission of Keshet is "to work for the full inclusion of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Jews in Jewish life." We will continue to address this work through Beth Ami by opening the door to discussion, awareness, programming and, of course, membership. The following event, also co-sponsored by Keshet, is the type of activity that we believe educates the community and lowers barriers for inclusion in Jewish life.

### "The Purim Superhero"

Join other young families to celebrate the release of this first LGBT-inclusive Jewish children's book in English. Published by Kar-Ben Publishing, an award-winning publisher of Jewish children's books, the manuscript is the winner of Keshet's national book-writing contest.

This is a family-friendly event, so bring the kids! We will have delicious healthy snacks, an enthusiastic book reading, and then a "Make Your Own Mask" activity! The launch party runs from 2-4 pm at the Denver Mizel Museum (400 South Kearney St).

## Shabbat in the South Wrap Up

On January 19th, a group of 9 gathered in a sunny room at Southridge Rec Center in Highlands Ranch to celebrate Shabbat and learn about Tu B'Shevat. Since Tu B'Shevat is the New Year of Trees, we discussed ways to living "green" and the choices we each make in our own lives. Guest Michael Gurshtein spoke of his own journey and shared the choices they have made, buying a smaller home, trying to get down to one car,

starting a garden. We all shared the green choices we make, growing food, using cloth/reusable diapers, recycling, composting and eating local food when possible. It was a nice gathering and everyone stayed to visit over snacks and tea. Michelle is hoping to schedule another of these events in the spring, schedule allowing!

## Colorado Ballet Presents *Light/The Holocaust & Humanity Project*

*From Michelle Davis*

As I am a member of the Colorado Ballet Orchestra, I wanted to point out a great event they are putting on this spring! I won't be playing this show, instead, Ben and I hope to attend! Here is the description:

"Colorado Ballet will close out the season with *Light /The Holocaust & Humanity Project* March 29-31, 2013 at the Newman Center at the University of Denver. Making its Denver debut, this one act contemporary ballet in five movements is inspired by the poignant journey of one Holocaust survivor. Set to the music of

five notable contemporary composers including Philip Glass and Arvo Part, *Light* is a powerful, moving and uplifting experience. *Light* serves as a timely reminder of the importance of the protection of human rights. When it premiered in 2005, *Light* brought national attention to choreographer Stephen Mills. His original choreography turns the spotlight on discrimination and triumph of the human spirit."

**For more information, go to <http://www.coloradoballet.org/>**

## From SHJ's Executive Director Bonnie Cousens

I am very pleased to share with you a press release sent out today announcing adoption of a resolution by SHJ supporting a ban on automatic rifles and high capacity magazines. The Society also is organizing a boycott of retailers selling these weapons. Please share this information with your members. The resolution can be found on the SHJ website at <http://www.shj.org/AssaultWeaponBan.html>.

Please encourage your friends and coalitions your community belongs to to publicize the boycott and to sign the petition.

We will be notifying the retailers on the boycott list of our actions. And be sure to share the petition and boycott information on your Facebook page and encourage your members to do the same and to tweet about it.

## Limmud Colorado

**February 9-10 (Saturday night – all day Sunday). Part Conference. Part Festival. All Worthwhile.**

Join us for a dynamic event which connects Jews, their friends and family, of all ages, backgrounds, and experiences. Limmud Colorado is all about community, learning, and choice. Choose from concurrent sessions with amazing presenters such as Artist Siona Benjamin,

first female Syrian Rabbi Dianne Cohler-Esses, Historian Jane Gerber, Israeli Professor Chaim Hames, Orthodox psychologist Michael Salamon and more! Inverness Hotel & Conference Center, Denver Tech Center. Visit [www.limmudcolorado.org](http://www.limmudcolorado.org) or call 303-908-2785 for more information or to register.

### January/February Adult Ed Schedule

**Feb 3** – Movie Morning! Popcorn, hot drinks and a viewing of the film *Arranged* (An Orthodox Jew and a Muslim are teachers at a Brooklyn school and discover commonalities) (\*Agenda Change\*)

**March 10** – Let's reconsider our *tzedakah* habits. How do we respond to the Jewish expectation of charitable giving? How can we best nurture this behavior in children and young adults? Post-*mitzvahs* will join in by updating us on their *tzedakah* projects and kicking off a congregational campaign. (\*Agenda Change\*)

**March 17** – Let's take over the kitchen and prepare a few delicious Pesach-themed recipes from around the world. Something for everyone – traditional to contemporary!

**Feb 24** – Adult Ed takes a hiatus, but welcomes all adults to join in the fun at the Purim Carnival!

**JCS** – The Beth Ami Jewish Cultural School will take you to Mitzvah Land at the Boulder JCC Purim Carnival, (10am-1pm, 3800 Kalmia Dr., Boulder). You will also be able to play lots of other carnival games presented by many synagogues and Jewish organizations. Please RSVP Lenore [bethamicolorado@gmail.com](mailto:bethamicolorado@gmail.com).

Class meets at Countryside Rec Center in Westminster, 10470 Oak St, Westminster Co 80021 – Home of the Jewish Cultural School – from 10:00 - 11:45 am. There is a community potluck lunch after each session.

### Contact Information

**Beth Ami Colorado Congregation for Humanistic Judaism**

Phone: 720-748-1533  
Email: [info@bethami.com](mailto:info@bethami.com)  
[www.bethami.com](http://www.bethami.com)

**Newsletter Editor**

**Board members:**

- Jon Budoff – President..... [jmb@colorado.edu](mailto:jmb@colorado.edu)
- Ron Kingston – Treasurer..... [ronkbethami@hotmail.com](mailto:ronkbethami@hotmail.com)
- Sheila Malcolm – Madrikha,  
Adult Ed Director..... [smalcolm280@gmail.com](mailto:smalcolm280@gmail.com)
- Michelle Davis – Madrikha..... [mdavisz@yahoo.com](mailto:mdavisz@yahoo.com)
- Maida Deborah – Membership.... [maidadeborah@comcast.net](mailto:maidadeborah@comcast.net)
- Lenore Kingston – JCS Director.. [bethamicolorado@gmail.net](mailto:bethamicolorado@gmail.net)
- Kathy Kane – Secretary..... [kkane7403@aol.com](mailto:kkane7403@aol.com)

**Members at large:**

- Terry Fleisher..... [terryfleisher@msn.com](mailto:terryfleisher@msn.com)
- Gerrie Karasik ..... [lgkara@aol.com](mailto:lgkara@aol.com)
- Barry Levene..... [blevene@ecentral.com](mailto:blevene@ecentral.com)

**Newsletter Editor:**

Rachel Hirsch..... [rvhirsch@comcast.net](mailto:rvhirsch@comcast.net)

**Webmaster:**

Christie Gosch..... [christiemgosch@yahoo.com](mailto:christiemgosch@yahoo.com)

Hi, all. I'm Rachel Hirsch. I was a student at the Beth Ami JCS until I had 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 graduate at the end of this school 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

**Submission Deadline:**

Midnight, Saturday 2/23