



Beth Ami

Colorado Congregation for Humanistic Judaism

Volume 5; Issue 1

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

January 2014

Calendar grid for January 2014 with days of the week and dates.

Beth Ami Event Schedule

Thursday 1/9 – Beth Ami Book Club discusses The Art Forger by B. A. Shapiro (11am at Brio's)

Sunday 1/12 – JCS Session 9 & Adult Ed (10am) & Community Tu B'Shevat Celebration

Sunday 1/19 – Beth Ami Arts Group – The Whipping Man (2pm)

Sunday 1/26 – JCS Session 10 & Adult Ed (10am)

Upcoming Events

February

- 2/9 – JCS Session 11 & Adult Ed (10am)
2/23 – JCS Session 12 & Adult Ed (10am)

March

- 3/9 – JCS Session 13 & Adult Ed (10am)
3/16 – Community Purim Celebration (see Adult Ed agenda below)

May

5/16-5/18 – YMCA Family Retreat registration is now open. Please email Lenore with questions and to register (more info below)

Celebrations

Birthdays

- 1/2 – Kathy Kane
1/8 – Helen Apthorp
1/13 – James Wilson
1/16 – Stan Gosch
1/16 – Stu Budoff
1/18 – Macy Gosch
1/22 – Steve Litz
1/25 – Lenore Kingston

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Submission Deadline
11:59pm, Fri 1/24



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

- Healing wishes to Elaine Bloch who is currently at Highline Rehab, Room 30 at 6060 Iliff in Denver. Her phone contact is 303-759-4221.
Ely Karasik will play in the mandolin concert at Wynkoop Brewery on Sun., Dec. 29.
A warm welcome to Boulder to Jeff Langer, son of Steve, who has recently moved from Chicago.
Thanks to all who have donated books and magazines to the I Have a Dream Little Free Library in Boulder. Sheila continues to collect materials to keep on reserve to fill the box. Books/magazines in Spanish are especially appreciated. Mil gracias!

Integrity: The Next Value

Last fall's Rosh Hashanah Service included a collaborative effort among many Beth Ami members. As we continued our focus on Five Humanistic Jewish Values, five of our leaders were asked to comment on those individual values. Marti Hirsch addressed Truth in the December newsletter.

The next prompt from Rabbi Sherwin Wine's writings focused on Integrity:

Integrity is the courage to be one person instead of two - the bravery to let our private self mold our public image, the determination to be the master and not the victim of life - even though disapproval and anger may be the rewards of our honesty.

Terry Fleisher presented the following essay:

When Sheila asked me to comment on integrity for this service I eagerly said yes. Not because I wanted to stand here and tell you what I think it means, but because it gives me the opportunity to explore principles outside the everyday, mundane decisions that guide my life.

After looking up definitions, quotations and famous people who epitomize integrity, I began thinking of the people in my life that I consider to possess that attribute. The closest person to me was my dad, Robert Fleisher. Some of you probably remember him and are thinking to yourself, "What did he do to make Terry think he had so much integrity?" But you see, that's my point.

Integrity is a personal bias, subjective concept. Not a "one fits all" definition that someone either possesses or doesn't. Think for a moment of a person that you think has integrity. I guarantee you, there is another person who also knows your idol, who thinks "not so."

So what is it that you can do to gain a reputation of integrity? I think you have to be reliable to others and true to yourself. My dad always let me be my own person and in turn I strived to make him proud of me. Together, we laid the foundations for integrity.

2014 Beth Ami Family Retreat Info

A JEWISH MUSICAL JOURNEY

May 16-18, YMCA of the Rockies, Estes Park CO

- Stay in a spacious room with 2 queen beds, private bath in an 8-bedroom lodge with modern kitchen, dining & living rooms – and breathtaking views!

- Share healthy, organic and local community meals from Friday dinner through Sunday breakfast.

- Enjoy quality music and entertainment, heartfelt services, fun games and growing friendships as we build our Beth Ami community.

- Explore the Y-camp, Rocky Mt. National Park and the town of Estes Park.

The Retreat begins Friday evening as we check in and prepare for 6:00 dinner followed by a roaring bonfire and brief Shabbat service. Saturday offers a full day of program options. Picnic lunches can be enjoyed indoors or out. Sheldon will join us for afternoon and evening programs. Sunday breakfast will include a community meeting, followed by closing activities and departure.

- Reserve your room/weekend by Jan. 15 with a \$75 deposit check to "Beth Ami" sent to Ron Kingston, 1395 James Way, Erie, CO 80516.

- Cost per room is \$250 plus \$150 for food/entertainment. Full payment due by Mar. 1. Late deposits may result in placement in nearby cabins.

- Options for 1 night stay - email Lenore at bethamicolorado@gmail.com

With Guest Presenter Sheldon Sands
www.sheldonsands.com



Adult Ed is "Simulcast" with the JCS

Free and welcoming, you're invited to join us for a smorgasbord of stimulating, educational topics on these Sunday mornings at 10:	Jan. 12 – Tu B'Shevat: What is it? How has it evolved? Let's celebrate! We'll also unveil the new Beth Ami Little Free Library.
Jan. 26 – "Are We One People?" Watch the video responses to this question from the November Colloquium and possibly create our own. (Presenters include SHJ rabbis from the U.S. and Israel.)	Feb. 9 – The 50 Year Legacy of the Birmingham Temple and Secular Humanistic Judaism, recorded during Colloquium 2013, reviews Rabbi Wine's vision for SHJ and how it has evolved. (Presenters include Rabbis Chalom, Maas and Falick.)
Feb. 23 – TBD	Mar. 9 – "Exploring Argentina" with Laura Moin, sharing highlights of her journey "home" this past November, including Buenos Aires and points south.
Mar. 16 – No session at Countryside! All are invited to the Boulder JCC Purim Carnival!	Apr. 6 – "Reading Village: Tikkun Olam at Work in Guatemala" by Larry Dressler and Jan Snooks

Beth Ami Education Schedule

Beth Ami values life long learning. See the class schedule the Beth Ami website. JCS: http://www.bethami.com/JCS.html Adult Ed: http://www.bethami.com/AdultEd.html	Adult Ed 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. All are welcome! Bring a friend!
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Contact Information

Beth Ami Colorado Congregation for Humanistic Judaism	Phone: 720-466-0101 Email: info@bethami.com www.bethami.com	About the Editor rvhirsch@comcast.net
Programming Committee: Sheila Malcolm..... smalcolm280@gmail.com Michelle Davis..... mdavisz@yahoo.com Lenore Kingston..... bethamicolorado@gmail.com Marti Hirsch..... marti.hirsch@mail.com		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 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
Board Members: Ron Kingston – Treasurer..... ronkbethami@hotmail.com		
Members at large: Maida Deborah..... maidadeborah@comcast.net Terry Fleisher..... terryfleisher@msn.com Gerrie Karasik..... lgkara@aol.com Barry Levene..... blevene@ecentral.com		
Webmaster: Christie Gosch..... christiemgosch@yahoo.com		