



Beth Ami

Colorado Congregation for Humanistic Judaism

Volume 6; 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 2015

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

Beth Ami Event Schedule

Wednesday 1/7 – Beth Ami Book Club discusses My Promised Land, The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel by Ari Shavit (11am at Brio's near Cherry Creek Mall – see more below)

Sunday 1/11 – JCFS session (at Countryside Rec.)

Saturday 1/17 – Havdalah/Adult Ed Evening (more info below)

Sunday 1/18 – Beth Ami Arts Group Event - *Charles Ives Take Me Home* by Jessica Dickey (2pm, Curious Theater – see more below)

Sunday 1/25 – JCFS session (Mitzvah project – location TBD)

Celebrations

Birthdays

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

Upcoming Events

February

Wednesday 2/4 – Sunday 2/15 – Denver Jewish Film Festival

Sunday 2/8 – JCFS session (at Countryside Rec.)

Sunday 2/15 – Traveling the Silk Road (1pm, Denver Museum of Nature and Science – see more below)

Saturday 2/21 – Havdalah/Adult Ed Evening (more info below)

Sunday 2/22 – JCFS session (Mitzvah project – location TBD)

March

Saturday 3/21 – Havdalah/Adult Ed Evening (more info below)

Saturday 3/14 - Sunday 3/22 – Boulder Jewish Film Festival (Boedecker Theater)

Contents

- Calendar.....1
- Celebrations.....1
- My Promised Land Info.....1
- Adult Ed Info.....2
- Arts Group Info.....2
- Passover.....2
- News From National.....3
- Family News.....3
- Support Beth Ami...3
- Contact Info.....4

Submission Deadline
11:59pm, Fri 1/23



Beth Ami Book Club Reads My Promised Land by Ari Shavit

Ari Shavit is a columnist who serves on the editorial board of the Israeli newspaper Haaretz. Shavit begins Israel's story at the beginning with Zionism in the late 19th century. He knows how to express solidarity and criticism simultaneously.

From the beginning, Shavit says Zionism skated on

thin ice; there was another people living in the same land. The miracle of Israel is based on denial. The book condemns the perpetrators of crimes in 1948 yet he says if it wasn't for them, the state of Israel would not have been born. A New York Times reviewer says that Shavit is a dreamer with an addiction to reality.

Havdalah/Adult Ed Evenings – Learn, Laugh, and Nosh!

RSVP for each event to sheila@bethami.com or 303-588-0236!

Each gathering will include a brief Humanistic Havdalah Service, light dinner and drinks and a lifelong learning presentation to feed our minds!

We'll begin at 5 pm.

Dates: Jan. 17, Feb. 21, Mar. 21 and Apr. 18 in Denver and Boulder.

Jan. 17: "A Pink Havdalah" presented by Gretchen Koplin of Jewish Colorado.

Learn about genetic risks and new interventions for breast and ovarian cancers, especially for Ashkenazi women. Gretchen will share her story and the latest work being done right here in Colorado.

5-8 pm at the Griss home 2673 S. Krameria St., Denver 80222.

Feb. 21: "Understanding the Crypto-Jews"

Share a special evening with Anthropologist Carlos Zarur and discover the secrets behind the Crypto-Jewish phenomena from origins in Spain and Portugal to the struggle to return to the Jewish people in the 21st century.

5-8 pm at Laura Moin's clubhouse off Greenbriar Drive, Boulder, 80305.

Beth Ami Arts Group Events

Sunday, January 18 – 2pm:

Charles Ives Take Me Home by Jessica Dickey
Curious Theatre, 1080 Acoma St, Denver CO 80204

Chris Jones of the Chicago Tribune writes "an 80-minute plea for reconciliation between those great, oppositional American pastimes, the arts and sports."

Charles Sherwood of the New York Times writes "Ives presides as a slightly eccentric visitor throughout the play, offering whimsical flights of lyricism that have some of the surprise of his music, which also has a presence in the show."

Ann Miner, New York Theatre Reviews, writes "... Ives loved sports, having played varsity football at Yale. The father and daughter of Dickey's play represent the two ends of Ives' spectrum of interests."

[View Leonard Bernstein reviewing Charles Ives Symphony](#)

Cost: \$36.00/ticket for orchestra seats. (A saving of \$12/ticket) Curious Theater has reserved a block of seats for Beth Ami members and guests.

RSVP to bethamicolorado@gmail.com by January 11.

Sunday, February 15 – 1pm:

Traveling the Silk Road
Denver Museum of Nature and Science

Marco Polo encountered Jewish people in China in 1286. Pearl S. Buck's novel Peony wrote about the Jews in China. The Jewish Virtual Library website reports Jews were involved in international trade during the time of the Silk Road. Jews had contacts with other Jewish communities in India, Persia, the Arab nations, and in cities throughout Europe because they knew enough Hebrew to communicate with each other. Thus Persian and Middle Eastern Jews had a much easier time trading with European Jews than Arab Muslims did with European Christians.

At this exhibit, you will take a journey accented by the spectacular sight of camel caravans, the pungent scent of spices, the luster of exquisite silks, and the energy of creative thinking. Explore bazaars filled with gems and handicrafts, watch live silkworms at work, see ancient scrolls filled with the secrets of technology and religious beliefs, look inside a long-ago cargo ship, and examine astronomy tools that helped mariners navigate the seas. ([cost info here](#))

RSVP to bethamicolorado@gmail.com by February 13.

Community Passover Seder – Save the Date!

Beth Ami's annual Passover seder will be held Saturday, April 4 from 11 am to 2 pm (new time!) at Jefferson Unitarian Church in Golden.



News From National

Here's a wonderful article which can be linked here or from the Society for Humanistic Judaism's homepage. Jane Goldhamer is an inspiration to many in Oregon and when she attended SHJ Board Meetings in Michigan.

Here is her story:

[Judaism without God: Jane Goldhamer, mother of unusual Portland Jewish community, puts honesty above tradition.](#)

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

- Elia Gorokhovsky's Bar Mitzvah is on Feb 14. Save the date!

Support Beth Ami With An Honorary Donation

To donate to honor or remember a family member, friend, or Beth Ami member, please email our treasurer at treasurer@bethami.com. A notice of the contribution will be sent to the honoree or family of the person. Our congregation expresses its gratitude to the following individuals whose donations were received in the last month.

- Sheila and John Malcolm, and the Beth Ami family, honor Bill Baum on the extremely healthy occasion of his latest, round number birthday! Bill and Elaine hosted their daughter and son-in-law, Karen and Ed, for the Dec. 21 event.

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..... madrikhadavis@gmail.com
Lenore Kingston..... bethamicolorado@gmail.com
Marti Hirsch..... marti.hirsch@mail.com

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

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