



Beth Ami

Colorado Congregation for Humanistic Judaism

Volume 7; Issue 6

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

June 2016

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		

Beth Ami Event Schedule

Sunday 6/19 – Boulder Jewish Festival – Beth Ami will have a booth!! (Pearl Street Mall, 11am – see more below)

Saturday 6/25 – Beth Ami Shabbat Hike (9-11am, Flatirons Vista Trailhead – see more below)

Upcoming Events

July

Friday 7/15 – Free Children's Concert (3-4pm, Boulder JCC – see more below)

Saturday 7/23 – Beth Ami Shabbat Hike (9-11am, Teller Farm **South** Trailhead – see more below)

October

Sunday 10/2 – Rosh Hashana Service

Wednesday 10/12 – Yom Kippur Service

Friday 10/28 – **Sunday 10/30** – Learning Tour of Philadelphia by the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism (see more below)

Celebrations

Birthdays

6/7 – Debra Goldberg

6/11 – Kenna Weinberg Anderson

6/19 – Jon Budoff

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Submission Deadline

11:59pm, Fri 6/24



Boulder Jewish Festival

Be an integral part of Boulder's biggest Jewish event! The Boulder Jewish Festival needs event volunteers for the day of the festival! June 19th on the Pearl Street Mall. Lots of different volunteer jobs, meet new people, and special treats for volunteers! Please click on this link and tell us how you can help.

<http://goo.gl/forms/Vpd4xwwvrTXrJMm82>

Teenagers welcome – get a jump on your community service hours for next year!

Beth Ami will again host a tent at this fun event and can also use a few volunteers. Can you help at our tent for even a few hours?

Contact bethamicolorado@gmail.com.



Beth Ami Shabbat Hikes

Gather for a little Shabbat and a lot of visiting as we walk. RSVP to sheila@bethami.com so we don't leave without you!

Saturday, June 25, 9-11am at Flatirons Vista Trailhead for a 2 mile loop with dramatic foothill views.

<https://bouldercolorado.gov/osmp/flatirons-vista-trailhead>

Bring comfy clothes & shoes, water, snack, hat, sunscreen. Restrooms at both locations.

Saturday, July 23, 9-11am at Teller Farm SOUTH Trailhead for a flat, scenic, field walk out and back with distant mountain views.

<https://bouldercolorado.gov/osmp/south-teller-lake-trailhead>

Beth Ami Planted a Garden to Celebrate Israel's 68th Birthday



How do Humanistic Jews celebrate the upcoming holiday of Shavuot?

By Lenore Kingston

Rabbi Wine published the book Judaism Beyond God in 1995. SHJ recently approved "Judaism Beyond God" as the official slogan for Humanistic Judaism. In the book's chapter Celebrating Judaism, Rabbi Wine wrote how humanistic Jews could celebrate Shavuot as a celebration of Jewish books and Jewish literature, rather than as a celebration of the Torah and the Ten Commandments.

He wrote "The major harvest of the Jewish people throughout the past two thousand years has not been wheat. It has been the written word. From the secular perspective, that "harvest" is not the creation of God. It is the creation of the Jewish people. It is a tribute to human ingenuity and human effort."

What is a Jewish book? What is Jewish literature? Have you read a good book exemplifying humanistic values? How about a good book either fiction or nonfiction about Jewish people?

Beth Ami's Book Club just read Come with me to Babylon by Paul Levitt, a Jewish English professor emeritus at CU Boulder. It is a story about the Cohen family in 1910 who decide to emigrate to the Golden Medina from Russia to make a better life for two of their grown children. Their oldest child remains in Russia. Mr. Levitt tells this story through the voices of each member of the family and uses true events, organizations, and people. The Baron De Hirsch Fund paid their home rental expenses in rural New Jersey, hoping they would learn how to farm. The family reads the Bintel Brief, the daughter worked at the Triangle Shirtwaist Company and later attended the Pennsylvania School for the Deaf. Arnold Rothstein, a loan shark and gambler, befriended the son.

I would love to hear about your favorite books either fiction or nonfiction. Please email me at bethamicolorado@gmail.com.

IISHJ Learning Tour of Philadelphia

Oct 28 – 30, 2016

Highlights Include:

- Private tours of historic synagogues
- Walking tour of colonial Jewish Philadelphia
- Custom tour of the National Museum of American Jewish History
- Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, and other American Icons
- Many more stops in the City of Brotherly Love/Sisterly Affection

- Discussions led by IISHJ Deal for North America, Rabbi Adam Chalom

Complete itinerary and registration at:

<http://learningphilly.eventbrite.com>

For more information, contact IISHJ Operations Manager Kate Forest
operations@iishj.org (847) 383 – 6330

Children's Concert – Save the Date!!

Friday, July 15 at the New Boulder JCC, come to a free children's concert sponsored by Beth Ami and featuring Jay Sand, international musician.

Jay will perform from 3-4 pm indoors at the beautiful new J. Bring a friend and join the fun!

<http://allaroundthisworld.com>

News From National

The re-organization of the Society for Humanistic Judaism continued at the spring Board Meeting. Richard Logan, of Congregation Or Emet in Minneapolis, took the leadership reins, with thanks to outgoing president Larry Lawrence of Machar in D.C. Faith Oremland, also of Or Emet, has masterfully coordinated a visioning process and transition team, which is now culminating in the search for a new Executive Director.

Mary Raskin, from Kol Shalom in Portland, OR, will lead a committee to hire an ED who will focus on growing the Humanistic Jewish movement, outreach, branding and marketing, enhanced communication

between existing communities and nurturing new groups. Mary Raskin and Sheila Malcolm were pleased that their proposal to reconfigure the SHJ committees was approved, resulting in a more streamlined and collaborative structure.

Thanks to a persuasive sermon by Rabbi Jeff Falick, the SHJ's new motto will be Sherwin Wine's definitive words: "Judaism Beyond God". A video series called "SHJ Talks: Best Practices for Your Community" will soon be added to the SHJ youtube site at <https://www.youtube.com/user/societyforhj>. Check it out!

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.

- Ashlynn Anderson graduated from North Valley School for Young Adults. She is currently studying to be a dental assistant at Pima Medical School. She and Frank are expecting a baby at the end of October.
- Tay Tay Anderson graduated from Mapleton Early College. She started working at Sports Authority this summer and will be attending Western State Colorado University in the fall to become a social worker. She will be running track and doing a heptathlon, a track and field event of seven events such as 100 meter hurdles, high jump, long jump, etc.
- Evan Wilson will be attending Monarch High School in the fall. Last month he competed in the World Affairs Challenge. His team of eight students from Louisville Middle School studied Nepal and recommended ways to improve the country's standard of living. His team placed first in the state of Colorado.

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.

Contact Information

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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