

# The Chadeish Yameinu Aleph Branch Newsletter

Jewish Renewal Community of Santa Cruz & the Monterey Bay Region

Vol. Six No. 1

www.cysantacruz.org

Winter 2007-2008

## The Rabbi's Corner



Some of the power and magic of Chanukah lie not only in the way it lights up the season, but also in the way it infuses light into the rest of the year. While the name of the holiday literally means "dedication," it comes from the word "chinuch," meaning "education." This is a time we can re-dedicate our efforts to educate ourselves and our kids.

Our community offers an array of ways to educate ourselves Jewishly. We offer classes for children in preparation for Bar/Bat Mitzvah and in the years before as well. There is also an opportunity to create programs and field trips for them after they celebrate this important milestone.

For adults, we have a weekly drop-in class that explores a range of topics. This year, for example, we are looking at sacred texts and other writings that underlie the Jewish connection to the Land of Israel, and how their study might help us better understand the current conflict there. We will also be studying the structure and content of our Shabbat prayer services so that we might access them more deeply. And we are adding a series that will provide more in-depth text study, as well as continuing our Scholar Talks, where local or visiting scholars share in their areas of expertise  
*(continued on page 5)*

**"Our community offers an array of ways to educate ourselves Jewishly."**

## CY Board Looks to Past, Deals With Present, and Plans for Future

As part of our annual membership meeting, the CY Board held a visioning workshop. Eighteen members of the CY community were present to look at the future of CY. To open the meeting,

**"There were so many things to be proud of..."**

Rabbi Eli presented a wonderful session reviewing the highlights of 2006/2007. There were so many things to be proud of: seeing our community grow, having so many Bar/Bat Mitzvahs, increasing the number and variety of Shabbat services, doing social action projects around Israel and

global warming, celebrating our own 13th birthday, to name just a few.

The second portion of the workshop was dedicated to concerns expressed by those present, and in communications sent by others who were unable to attend. This inspired a great brainstorm session by the Board at the Board retreat, the results of which are listed below.

The third portion of the workshop involved looking at members' needs and dreams for the future. The group then broke into four small work groups to discuss outreach, new events, infrastructure and financials. After the work groups had met and reported to the larger group, we found that we had just scratched the surface. *(continued on page 2)*

## The Treasurer's Report

Hi, I'm Jan Leininger, wife of Joe Katzman, and the current Treasurer of CY. I will be writing a regular column for the newsletter about our finances. Your questions and suggestions are very welcome! Please send them to: janl@sunyata.org.

As treasurer, I prepare our annual budget, report to the CY Board on our actual vs budgeted cash flows, manage our bookkeeper and our tax preparer (even non-profit organizations have to file tax returns!), and plan ahead for future expenses. I keep track of the balances in our Special Funds and I support the membership by answering your questions.

Last fiscal year we brought in slightly more than we spent, and made a start on our High Holidays "savings account," but hiring Reb Eli for the High Holidays did require additional donations.

You may be surprised to learn that only 52 percent of CY's funding came from membership dues. Twenty-seven percent came from general donations in the form of Tribute Gifts, High Holiday donations and pledges in response to our Spring Fundraising drive.

The remaining income came as donations for Leaves on the Tree of Life, as Scrip rebates from New Leaf markets, as donations earmarked for a specific purpose, such as to help defray the cost of this newsletter, and as contributions to special funds. The CY Community School and Youth Group accounted for 11 percent of the total, and made a generous gift of Siddurim. Note that the school is self-funding; five percent of any school surplus is donated to the CY General Fund, while the remainder is used to improve the school.

CY has two "special funds" that deserve to be mentioned. *(continued on page 2)*

## CY Board *(continued from page 1)*

### Board Members Retreat

Since the majority of the Board members are new to the Board and relatively new to the congregation, it was apparent that it would be valuable for the current Board to learn more from former Board members about the present before moving on to look at the future. A retreat for current and former Board members was held on October 14, 2007, to start the process.

As an initial step, each of those present at the Board members' retreat was asked to state what she or he felt was the most pressing issue facing CY. The Board chose two of these issues to focus on for the retreat: first, developing mission statement to use in evaluating our goals, and second, communication between the Board and the CY community.

*"A retreat for current and former Board members was held..."*

A preliminary draft of the CY Mission Statement was prepared for further review by the Board and at "Town Hall Meetings" with the community at large (see below). The Board decided to address the communications issue in the following ways:

*Financial:* The treasurer will write a quarterly financial column in the newsletter directed at communicating the current financial position of CY. Annually, the budget will be placed in the newsletter to inform the members how we receive and spend their donations. The treasurer will receive records of all donations to insure donations are properly accounted for.

*Board Action:* Board agendas will be e-mailed to members as early as possible to allow interested members to attend or communicate concerns. The minutes of Board meetings will be posted on the CY website. [www.cysantacruz.org](http://www.cysantacruz.org). An article will be printed in the newsletter to describe how CY works.

*Communication of Input to the Board:* Contact information for all Board members will be in each issue of the newsletter. Annually, a Town Hall meeting will be held in each of the three geographical regions of our membership to listen to concerns and ideas put forth by the members, and to respond to questions about CY operation. Individual Board members who receive comments from members will communicate information to all Board members.

The Board will be continuing to meet with the specific purpose of developing the short- and long-term goals for the future of CY.

## CY Gets a Boost

Your CY Board and our membership have often discussed the need to relieve Reb Eli of some of the administrative tasks that have taken him away from his primary focus of serving the CY community as our spiritual leader and teacher. Since we have had barely enough money to pay Reb Eli, cover our rental fees and our other modest expenses, this has been put on the back burner over the years.

This past summer, Jeanne Rosen generously offered to provide funding for CY for a part-time contract to enable the community to meet this goal. Batya Kagan was immediately available and has the skills, knowledge of the community, Jewish background, and dedication necessary to carry out the programmatic and administrative tasks needed. In addition to the many hours of volunteer time Batya continues to give CY, your Board contracted with her, at a very modest rate, to provide these services.

A question arose as to whether we could contract with a Board member. Batya is an outstanding Board member and has lots of

*"Batya has proven to be an excellent asset to our community."*

ideas and energy to contribute. We found there are no legal prohibitions to contracting with a Board member, but we asked Batya to be an at-large member instead of holding the office of vice president to which she had been elected. Batya agreed. Naturally, she does not participate in any Board decisions regarding the contract. Her Board participation continues to be on

a completely voluntary basis and she is not paid for her work as a Board member. We are still recruiting for a new vice president. Let us know if you are interested.

Batya has proven to be an excellent asset to our community. She has helped free up time for Rabbi Eli and allowed for a birthing of new services that we so wanted to offer, including yartzeit reminders, a larger number of Shabbat services, rides for seniors, calls to non-e-mail members, expediting Thank You letters to donors, social action programming, special programs and more.

Let us all welcome Batya in her new role as CY program coordinator.

Shalom,  
**Howie Schneider**  
 CY Board President

## The Treasurer's Report *(continued from page 1)*

There is the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund, which is used for donations to worthy causes (such as to small Jewish communities of Eastern Europe for soup kitchens, Holocaust memorials, refugee assistance, etc.), the purchase of inspirational booklets for the bereaved, continuing education, assistance to local needy individuals, and the purchase of rabbinical books. We have set up discretionary funds for both Reb Eli and Reb Lori. When donating, please keep in mind that it is the CY General Fund that pays all our ongoing expenses.

Because CY operates almost completely on volunteer labor, we have comparatively few types of expense. Our incomparable Reb Eli accounts for 75 percent of our total expenditures.

The remaining 25 percent is spent to rent space for Shabbat and holiday services, liability insurance, printing, postage, our Aleph dues, a bookkeeper, a few hours a week for a Program Coordinator and office supplies.

While the percentages given above are for last fiscal year (July 2006 through June 2007), I expect this year to be similar. I will put in my plea now to please remember CY in your year-end financial planning with your tax deductible donation. If you would like more detailed financial information and are a current member of CY, please send me a request and I will email you with the information.

## Todah Raba for Your Contributions

### Chadeish Yameinu Donations August 2007 through October 2007

Chadeish Yameinu is blessed, honored, and grateful for the tremendous generosity that the community has shown to keep CY a growing and flourishing community. This is obviously a community that knows the power of honoring each other and values the gift of a spiritually vibrant community.

Here is a list of our beloved donors. If we somehow missed acknowledging your gift, please let us know. We will make corrections in the next newsletter. Thank you. --Batyá Kagan and Ellen Abrams

#### Tree of Life

**Michaela Braveman** in honor of **Julian Lacey's Bar Mitzvah**

**Etiel Herring** in honor of **Howie and Diane's new home** (Chanukat Habayit)

**Janice Rose**, in memory of her father **Sam Fidelman**

**Lynn LeRose** and **Ed Garner** in honor and gratitude for the old **CY Board**

**Lynn LeRose** and **Ed Garner** in honor and gratitude for the new **CY Board**

Ten Leaves from **John** and **Linda Byrne** in honor of the **High Holiday volunteers**

**John** and **Linda Byrne** in honor of **Shira's birthday**

Seven Leaves from **Len** and **Marian Cohen** in honor of **Holly and Phillippa, Jeanne Rosen, Jay Dravich** and **Tofah Yragui**, new officers of **CY**, old officers of **CY**, **Michael Yosef, Howie** and **Diane's new home**

#### Donations in Memory of a Loved One

**Lynn LeRose** and **Ed Garner** in memory of **George Maxwell Rooth, Tom Rooth's** beloved brother

**Lynn LeRose** and **Ed Garner** in Memory of **Saul Feldman, Ron Feldman's** beloved father

**Lynn LeRose** and **Ed Garner** in memory of **Betty, Alissa Goldring's** beloved sister

**Etiel Herring** in Memory of her parents, **Yosef ben Yaacov & Chaya bat Avraham v'Katya**

#### Special Funds

**Herb** and **Lil Safran**, underwriting the children's program for High Holidays

**Solomon Bundy** for prayer books.

**Jeanne Rosen** to support High Holidays and **Reb Lori's** teaching

**Herb** and **Lil Safran**, underwriting the newsletter

#### People who have Donated to Honor Someone:

**Dee Vogel** in honor of **Karen Barad's** new home.

**John** and **Linda Byrne** in honor of the High Holidays

**Marigold Fine/Full Circle Video Productions** in honor of **Julian Lacey**

**Barbara Nicoara** in honor of **Julian Lacey**

**Lynn LeRose** and **Ed Garner** in honor and gratitude for all the volunteers that hold up and support CY

**Lynn LeRose** and **Ed Garner** in honor of **Michelle Hodah's** birthday

**Lynn LeRose** and **Ed Garner** in honor of our lovely children **Jesse** and **Ian Garner**

**Lynn LeRose** and **Ed Garner** in honor all the recent B'nei Mitzvot

**Eda Balsam** in honor of **Rabbi Eli Cohen**

**Batyá Kagan** in honor of **Shira** for her leadership and guidance

**Batyá Kagan** in honor of **Michael Yosef** for all his help with CY

**Ellen Abrams** to honor **Michelle Hodah's** birthday and playing the crystal singing bowl

**John** and **Linda Byrne** honoring **Michaela's** Challah and **Reb Eli**

**Rafaella Cohn** in honor of **Sukkot**

**Nina** and **Ronald Lacey** in honor of **Sandra Goldstein** for help with **Julian Lacey's** tallit tying ceremony

**Michaela Braveman** in honor of **Reb Eli**

**Community Foundation of SC** in honor of **Reb Eli**

**Janice Rose** in honor of **Reb Eli**

**Dick** and **Diane Klein**, in honor of **Reb Eli**

**Lynn LeRose** and **Ed Garner** in honor of **Reb Eli**

**Eda Balsam** in honor of **Reb Eli**

**Lisa Strugala** in honor of **Reb Eli**

#### Donations for High Holidays

**Ellen Abrams**  
**Jeffrey Werner** and **Susan Lasko**  
**Robert** and **Randa Solick**  
**Arlene Averbach**  
**Larry** and **Sandra Feldman**  
**Berte** and **Phyllis Taube**  
**Dr. Stanley** and **Judith Berman**  
**Diane Bluer**  
**Bruce Young** and **Andrea Rossi**  
**Dr. Loic Jassy**  
**Marilyn Lucier**  
**Michael Koplen**  
**Susan Basow**  
**Lisa Dale Miller**  
**Leandra Johnson** and **Zakary Francis**  
**William** and **Sarah Clarkson**  
**Lesley Harris**  
**Kenneth Peters**  
**Allen** and **Shirley Ginzberg**  
**Ron Feldman**  
**Lois Robin**  
**Andrew Purchin**  
**Adam Goodman**  
**Jeffrey Schulman** and **Susan Alnes**  
**Jeasiana Barrs**  
**Elisabeth Turbow**  
**Jenny D'Angelo**  
**Doris** and **Stan Katz**

#### General Donations

**Dr. Karen Barad** in support of **CY**  
**Harold Grinspoon** in support of **CY**  
**Lorin Troderman** in support of **CY**  
**Joanna Daum**  
**Edward** and **Milla Tutman**  
**Barbara Nicoara**  
**Nick Littlestone** and **Nancy Norris**  
**Vera Brown** and **David Schwartz**  
**Dr. Steven Gabay, Back in Shape**  
**Lynn LeRose** and **Ed Garner**  
**Deborah Ruiz**  
**Thomas Witz**  
**Stanley Berman, M.D.,** and **Judith Berman**  
**Claudia** and **Simon Shargel**

(Continued on page 4)



## Convenient Ways to Support CY

**Buy a Leaf** on our living Tree of Life (planted at The Garden) to honor friends and family. Send \$18 or more with your tribute to CY, PO Box 3578, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3578.

**New Leaf Market** - gives us a percentage of all our purchases. Just get a New Leaf card from Shira (karenbelford@sbcglobal.net) and show it when you buy your groceries.

**Escrip** - donates a portion of your purchases at selected area merchants, including Safeway. To enroll, visit the website at [www.escrip.com/program/welcome.jsp](http://www.escrip.com/program/welcome.jsp). Our group ID for Chadeish Yameinu is 500002562.

**The CY Store** - purchase gorgeous shirts, cards, calendars, mugs, magnets and more with our fabulous logo designed by Michael Yosef Robinson. Go to [store.cysantacruz.org](http://store.cysantacruz.org) or just follow the link from our website: it's easy!

**The following businesses donate** a percentage of their earnings from sales made by CY referrals:

**Jay Dravich**, Realtor (831) 479-9278

**Julie Lorraine**, Event planning & invitations (831) 688-0888

**Marigold Fine**, Full Circle Video Productions (831) 459-8300

**Michael Yosef Robinson**, Yosef's Dreams Jewish Art  
[www.yosefdreams.com](http://www.yosefdreams.com)



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## Yashir Koach to our CY Board

### Executive Committee:

**Howie Schneider**, President, [chaim@mac.com](mailto:chaim@mac.com)

**Jan Leininger**, Treasurer, [janl@sunyata.com](mailto:janl@sunyata.com)

**George Lewis**, Secretary, [glewis@garlic.com](mailto:glewis@garlic.com)  
(The position of Vice President is currently vacant)

### Members at large:

**Jillian Aronstam**, [jillian\\_a@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jillian_a@sbcglobal.net)

**Barbara Nicoara**, [bnicoara@garlic.com](mailto:bnicoara@garlic.com)

**Joseph Katzman**, [joe@windsofchange.net](mailto:joe@windsofchange.net)

**Rabbi Eli Cohen**, [rebeli@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rebeli@sbcglobal.net)

**Batya Kagan**, Program Consultant

## Submissions for the Aleph Branch

To submit articles for the next issue of the Aleph Branch, email all copy to **Alisa Klaus** at [alisaklaus@yahoo.com](mailto:alisaklaus@yahoo.com), **no later than February 24, 2009**. All articles must be in Times New Roman 12 pt, no spacing between paragraphs, no special formatting, and no borders. The Aleph Branch welcomes submissions of poetry, essays, book reviews, and news. Contact **Alisa Klaus** at [alisaklaus@yahoo.com](mailto:alisaklaus@yahoo.com) or **Michael Yosef Robinson** at [yosef@eishzarrah.com](mailto:yosef@eishzarrah.com) with your suggestions.

### Classified Advertisements

Ads cost \$18 for 4 lines and \$36 for 9 lines. Professional listings \$18/listing of 4 lines. One line consists of 5-7 words. Class listings of 6 lines cost \$18/listing. E-mail your ads/listings to **Michael Yosef Robinson** [yosef@eishzarrah.com](mailto:yosef@eishzarrah.com) and mail your payments to **Chadeish Yameinu**, PO box 3578, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3578. The Aleph Branch is published quarterly.

## Todah Rabah (continued from page 3)

### In Kind Donations

**Steve Barisof** has generously and skillfully built a lectern for use at all of our future services, in honor of his son Milo's Bar Mitzvah.

**Sandra Goldstein** honored CY with a lovely hand-made Torah cover for the High Holidays.

**John Libby** has graced us with a multi-volume copy of the zohar.

**Steven Gabay** is providing storage space for our Machzorim.

**Michaela Braveman** supported the Rabbi's Professional and Spiritual Development Fund with the "Double Mitzvah Challa Project."

## Mazel Tov to...

**Susan and Marc Mangel**, on the birth of their grandson, **Evan**.

**Rima Lieben** and **Les Reichel** on the birth of their granddaughter, **Zara Samantha Lieben**.

## Yahrtzeit List

I am happy to announce that Chadeish Yameinu will now be offering a very important service to our members: we are compiling a Yahrtzeit list.

A yahrtzeit (Yiddish for year-time, or anniversary) refers to the anniversary, by the Hebrew calendar, of the death of a loved one. Traditionally, one observes yahrtzeits for parents, and also for siblings, children and spouses. Some have the custom of also observing the yahrtzeit for other loved ones, such as grandparents, or aunts and uncles.

The yahrtzeit is observed by lighting a special 24-hour candle and by remembering the loved one in a number of ways, such as saying Kaddish or giving tzedakah (charity) in his or her memory.

Chadeish Yameinu will now record and keep track of the yahrtzeit, and inform you each year in advance of the date. We will also read the name of your loved one at our Shabbat service during that week.

If you would like to record the yahrtzeits of your loved ones, please send me:

- (1) your name;
- (2) the name of any person for whom you will be observing a yahrtzeit;
- (3) the relationship between you and the loved one;
- (4) the Hebrew name if you know it;
- (5) the Hebrew and/or secular date of passing, including the year.

May their memories remain a blessing through the years.

*Reb Eli*

Please send your yarhtzeit information to **Rabbi Eli Cohen, Chadeish Yameinu Jewish Renewal, PO Box 3578, Santa Cruz, CA 96060** or to [rebeli@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rebeli@sbcglobal.net).

## Rabbi's Corner *(continued from page 1)*

In addition, there are offerings at the other synagogues in town and at the University, which together present a rich array of possibilities.

During December, many Jews are overwhelmed by the intensity of the celebrations around us and they find themselves a little uneasy. Broadening our Jewish knowledge can help us find our footing. This year, take on some Jewish learning. Commit to reading a good book on Jewish history. Learn to read Hebrew. Create a book club. Visit the Jewish museum. Learning is Enlightening. Here are some places you might look.

**CY School:** **Stephanie Barnes-Castro**, 831-458-9276, [sbc@sbcarch.com](mailto:sbc@sbcarch.com).

**Youth Group:** **Debra Sloss**, 831-425-0858, [dsloss@pacbell.net](mailto:dsloss@pacbell.net), or **Batya Kagan**, 831-419-6574, [lchaim@jps.net](mailto:lchaim@jps.net).

**Adult Ed:** **Jeanne Rosen**, 831-685-8350, [jeannerosen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jeannerosen@sbcglobal.net), or **Rabbi Eli Cohen**, 831-429-6936, [rebeli@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rebeli@sbcglobal.net).

### Jewish Book Stores:

#### **Bob and Bob**

(4500 El Camino Real, Los Altos, 650-947-7010)

#### **Afikomen**

(3042 Claremont Ave., Berkeley, 510-655-1977)

#### **Temple Beth El Giftshop**

(3055 Porter Gulch Rd, Aptos, 831-479-3444)

### Internet suggestions:

**ALEPH: Alliance for Jewish Renewal**, [www.aleph.org](http://www.aleph.org)  
**Jewish Lights Publishing**, [www.jewishlights.com](http://www.jewishlights.com)

### Magazine suggestions:

**j - The Jewish News Weekly of N. California**, [www.jewishsf.com](http://www.jewishsf.com), 415-263-7200

**The Jerusalem Report** (news of political/social issues), [www.jrep.com](http://www.jrep.com), 800-827-1119

**Moment Magazine** (Jewish politics, culture and religion), [www.momentmag.com](http://www.momentmag.com)

**Lilith Magazine** (independent and feminist), [www.lilith.org](http://www.lilith.org), 212-757-0818

**Tikkun Magazine** (politically and spiritually progressive), [www.tikkun.org](http://www.tikkun.org), 510-644-1200

**Eretz Magazine** (Israel - land, culture, archaeology), [www.erezt.com](http://www.erezt.com).

--Rabbi Eli Cohen

## Many Thanks to Sukkah Volunteers

Chadeish Yameinu had the privilege to, once again, pray, sing, enjoy and feast in one of the most beautiful sukkahs ever built. So many of us melted into the sacred space that was created and we'd like to extend a huge thank you to these very generous volunteers who made it happen. Thank you thank you thank you from all of us, to **Ian Garner, Buck Bliden, Jay Dravich, Tofah Yragui, Joe Katzman, Jan Leininger, Batya Kagan, Eli Cohen, Ron & Nina Lacey, Ed Cobra Teal, Sandy Rosen, Len & Marian Cohen, Paia Levine & Jeff Brody, Michael Yosef Robinson, Steve Barisof, Kris Ayer, Eugene Markowitz, Lynn LeRose**. Special thanks to **Michael Bliden Builders & Ian Garner** for their time and professional expertise in building the sukkah.



## In Memory

*Chadeish Yameinu sends its condolences to our members whose loved ones have passed in recent months:*

**Amy Kornberg** and the **Kornberg family** on the passing of Amy's beloved mother.

**Alissa Goldring** on the passing of her sister, **Betty**.

### A Message to the CY Community

Thank you so much for coming in for Rosh Hashanah. It was such a moving and lovely afternoon. Afterwards, residents talked about how happy they were to have this interaction. It was so thoughtful and kind of everyone to take the time to come in. Thanks to all for sharing their time and energy with everyone. It was a memorable way to start the new year here at Dominican Oaks.  
 Margie Palow, Program Director, Dominican Oaks

# Chadeish Yameinu

## Renew Our Days

An ALEPH-affiliated Jewish renewal community of Santa Cruz

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### Membership Form

Please choose one of the following:

Enclosed is my 2007-2008 donation of \$475-\$1000 for my Chadeish Yameinu membership.

I pledge \_\_\_\_\_ per month (\$40 minimum). Enclosed is my first payment.

Please contact me about a direct deposit for my monthly contributions.

(No one is turned away due to lack of funds) I would like to speak to someone about a reduced membership donation or payment plan.

I'm new to CY and not ready to become a member. Please put me on the mailing list on a complimentary basis until the High Holidays. (A donation to help sustain CY is appreciated. Suggested donation is \$90.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Members, check one:

Yes\_ No\_ include my above information on the member roster, available to the CY community.

#### For more information, to volunteer or join a committee, please contact:

- |                             |                         |                |                            |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| • Volunteer Coordinator     | Diane Brayman           | (831) 425-7779 | heartjoy@gmail.com         |
| • Membership:               | Shira Belford           | (831) 426-9271 | karenbelford@sbcglobal.net |
| • Shabbat Committee:        | Batya Kagan             | (831) 419-6574 | lchaim@jps.net             |
| • Adult Education:          | Jeanne Rosen            | (831) 685-8350 | jeannerosen@sbcglobal.net  |
| • School & Family Learning: | Stephanie Barnes-Castro | 429-6030       | sbc@sbcarch.com            |
| • Social Action/Co-caring:  | Shlomo Cooperstein      | (831) 655-8670 | stevec360@sbcglobal.net    |
| • Finance:                  | Jeanne Rosen            | (831) 685-8350 | jeannerosen@sbcglobal.net  |
| • Spirit in Action          | Shlomo Cooperstein      | (831) 655-8670 | stevec360@sbcglobal.net    |

Please return this form to:

Chadeish Yameinu, PO Box 3578, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3578

# Please Support Chadeish Yameinu

*We need your Mitzvah of Time, Talent and Treasure*

In honor of:\$\_\_\_\_\_ In memory of:\$\_\_\_\_\_ Tree of Life:\$\_\_\_\_\_

(please note preference(s) and enter amount(s))

Please Print Clearly

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail\_\_\_\_\_

Donation is for:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please notify the following of the above gift

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Notifications are hand-done by one volunteer and may arrive 4-8 weeks after receipt

I want to donate the Valuable Gift of my Time

Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail\_\_\_\_\_

Interested in assisting with:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Please complete & return this form to:**

**Chadeish Yameinu**

**POB 3578**

**Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3578**

## CY Shabbat Schedule December 2007 – February 2008



Our general Shabbat schedule is that the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday is a meditative service at the Garden, while the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Fridays and 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday are held at the Center for Conscious Living (CCL). Please note changes in the schedule for Chanukah and a special Shabbaton in January. We have changed the traditional style Shabbats to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays (and some Saturdays) are left open for you to initiate a Shabbat dinner or service at your house, to invite a few people over and make this your community. The community is also invited to attend the many B'nei Mitzvot that are also listed.

Check this out!!!! It's full. It's all an invitation.

**Friday, December 7** – Special Chanukah services (bring your Menorahs!!!!) **Time: 7:00PM Location: Center for Conscious Living**

**Saturday, December 8** – Shabbat & Chanukah services *Parashat Mikeitz* **Time: 10:00AM Location: Center for Conscious Living**

**Friday, December 14** – Traditional-style services **Time: 7:00PM Location: Center for Conscious Living**

**Saturday, December 15** -- Bar Mitzvah of Jesse Abrams, son of Doug and Rachel Abrams *Parashat Vayigash* **Time: 10:00AM Location: Santa Cruz Gardens Multi-Purpose Room, 8005 Winkle Ave., Santa Cruz**

**Friday, December 21** – Renewal style services **Time: 7:00PM Location: Center for Conscious Living**

**Friday, December 29**– Community Shabbats/ chavurot/ dinners

**Friday, January 4** – Meditative services **Time: 7:00PM Location: The Garden**

**Friday, January 11** – Special Shabbaton Kabbalat Shabbat **Time: 7:00PM Location: First Congregational Church community hall, 900 High St, Santa Cruz**

**Saturday, January 12** – *Parashat Bo* **Location: First Congregational Church community hall**

10:00AM – Shabbat morning service, led by R. Eli and others; potluck lunch

5:00PM – Catered third meal with singing and storytelling, led by R. Paula **RSVP required by Dec. 20** \*watch for details

6:30PM – Havdalah and music with Alisa Fineman and Kimball Hurd **Time: 10:00AM Location: First Congregational Church**

**Friday, January 18** – Renewal-style services **Time: 7:00PM Location: Center for Conscious Living**

**Saturday, January 19** – Bar Mitzvah of Dylan Troderman, son of Lorin and Jill Troderman *Parashat Beshalach* **Time: 10:00AM Location: Center for Conscious Living**

**Friday, January 25** – Community Shabbats/ chavurot/ dinners

**Saturday, January 26** – B'nei Mitzvot ceremony for Kovi and Zev Zellin, son of Karen Zellin and Bill Underwood *Parashat Yitro* **Time: 10:00AM Location: TBA**

**Friday, February 1** – Meditative services **Time: 7:00PM Location: The Garden**

**Friday, February 8** – Rabbi Wayne Dossick, Renewal Rabbi and Scholar in Residence, will be leading Shabbat Services at Temple Beth El. CY is invited to join this service; we will be canceling our services in order to give everyone the opportunity to hear and to honor this outstanding teacher. **Time: 7:00PM Location: Temple Beth El**

**Saturday, February 9**– Rabbi Wayne Dossick leading services at Temple Beth El. Afterwards he will be speaking; time and topic TBA. Watch for details. *Parashat Terumah* **Time: 10:00AM Location: Temple Beth El**

**Friday, February 15** – Renewal style services **Time: 7:00PM Location: Center for Conscious Living**

**Saturday, February 16** – Bar Mitzvah of Solomon Bundy, son of Andrea Cohen and Mr. Bundy *Parashat Tetzaveh* **Time: 10:00AM Location: Pacific Cultural Center**

**Friday, February 22** – Community Shabbats/ chavurot/ dinners

**Friday, February 29** – Community Shabbats/ chavurot/ dinners



## Teachings of the Baal Shem Tov and His Mishpocha (Family)

This winter, Reb Lori will teach three classes on early Hasidic masters. On January 27, we will discuss a text attributed to the Baal Shem Tov (founder of the Hasidic movement). On February 24, we will learn from the Degel (the Baal Shem Tov's grandson). On March 30, Rebbe Nachman (the Baal Shem Tov's great-grandson) will be our focus. Reb Lori will select a theme that we will follow through all three classes. Each of these sessions will take place from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the home of Jeanne Rosen. Mark your calendars now. An e-mail will go out later requesting RSVPs.



## CY Hebrew School Family Learn Sukkot and Simchat Torah

In our most amazing, beautiful community Sukkah at The Garden, 45 students and parents attended our wonderful Sukkot celebration as Rabbi Eli explained the deeper meanings of the Four Species: three branches of the lulav (myrtle, date palm and willow) and the etrog. We all got to smell and feel them. Max Troderman and Lena Kauert volunteered to shake the four Directions for all of us (though after our gathering ended, others came up to shake the four Directions). We sang, heard four World teachings, told stories, and invited the Ushpizin (ancestor-guests) with song. Wrapped up in our blankets, feeling the cool evening and watching the stars through the hanging fruit of the open top, we felt cozy in our warm circle. It was a delightful evening, full of Sukkot humor and sweetness.

The very next week, Batya Kagan and I led the students and parents to the park behind The Garden. We sang spirited songs as we danced our expansive circle in seven Hakafot (circle dances) around the Torah, some of the kids running in circles around us. (continued on page 9)



## Family Learn

(continued from page 8)

In between, we had teachings and all of the students took turns rolling the Torah back to the beginning, B'ray-Sheet (In the beginning). Then, as it was getting dark, we all formed a line behind the Torah, carried by Karen and Mikaela Barad, and created a Simchat Torah Procession back to our Sukkah in The Garden. We lit holiday candles with Brachot (Blessings) and heard a Kabbalistic teaching about the fire rising from the Hebrew letters in the Torah and the breath of Yah in the spaces. As we unrolled the complete "baby" Torah that President Howie Schneider and Diane Brayman lent us for this special occasion, we found Shir HaYam, "Song of the Sea" (from which comes our prayer MiChamocho) and the Ten Commandments. Nick Littlestone read the last few lines of D'varim (Deuteronomy) which ends in the letter: lamed. Then we went back to the beginning of the Torah, B'ray-sheet (Genesis), and learned that the first letter, bet/vet, put together with the last letter, Lamed spells the word lev, heart. It takes a lot of heart to love learning Torah, and we all felt our hearts expand. Batya pointed out various books and summarized them as we carefully rolled up our baby Torah. I leyned (chanted) the first few pesukim (lines) of B'ray-sheet and we ended our lively celebration.

Both of these gatherings were full of the great spirit and special love that the families of our CY school contribute as we all grow and learn together. Thank you to each and every one of you who attended and helped.

**Hodah Newman**



## Special Social Action Opportunity

Many people in CY have expressed their desire to have our spiritual community participate in social action activities, since Tzedek (justice), and Tikkun Olam (repair of the world) are two of the core values of Judaism.

Aleph, the Jewish Renewal "parent" organization with which CY is affiliated, has sent out to all of the Renewal congregations in North America the following invitation to join the "Green Menorah Covenant," a movement started by Rabbi Arthur Waskow, a Renewal rabbi in Philadelphia. (You can find out more about the project and Rabbi Waskow at [www.shalomctr.org](http://www.shalomctr.org)) The CY Board has tentatively agreed that this is a project that we would like to be a part of, but we would also like the CY community to know about it and give the Board feedback on whether this is something we can agree to participate in.

**Dear Chevre:**

**Yesterday the ALEPH Board unanimously agreed to endorse the Shalom Center's Green Menorah Covenant. We invite all ALEPH Affiliates to review the terms of the campaign below. We further encourage you to become community/congregational endorsers.**

**One opportunity that you might want to consider even now is that the Shabbos of Chanukah, December 8, will be International Day of Climate Action.**

**G'mar tov lachem,**

**Deb** (continued on page 10)

## High Holiday Volunteer Angels...

Chadeish Yameinu was blessed with the enormous outpouring of volunteer angels who came forward to make the High Holidays, once again, a moving and a sacredly smooth success. Thank you all for your invaluable contributions. We certainly hope we have acknowledged everyone who helped this year. Please let us know if we accidentally forgot someone... So many people came forward to contribute their time and effort and we want you all to know how much it means to all of us when we work together as a community. Thank you, Todah Rabah Rabah to:

**Service Leaders:** Reb Jeff Schulman, Shira Belford, Hodah Newman, Rabbi Eli Cohen

**Assisting:** Tom Rooth, George Lewis, Barbara Nicoara, Hallel-Holly Blue Hawkins, Phillipa Gamse, Jay Dravich, Tofah Eileen Yragui, Rabbi Leah Novick, Ron Lacey, Batya Kagan, Phyllis Greenleaf, Gary Dolowich, Ricardo & Diane Klein, Shalom & Michaela Braveman, Akiva Bankole, Ellen Abrams, Janice Rose, Joe Katzman, Jan Leininger, Jillian Aronstam, Eli Davis, Kris Ayer, Mary Anne & Steve Gabay, Jonathan Adler, Eliahu Goodman, Steve & Bonnie Barisof, Reb Chaim Schneider, Diane Brayman, Doug Abrams, Rachel Abrams, Bonnie Barisof, Steve Barisof, Eliahu Goodman, Judith Marks, Jeanne Rosen, John Byrne, Maia Zohara, Baila Berks

**Shofar Blowers:** Julian Lacey, Shalom Braveman

**Holy Klezmers:** Esther's Klezmer

**Challah Bakers:** Michaela Braveman, Deb Roisman

**Tashlich Leader:** Shlomo Cooperstein

**Logistics Coordinator:** Akindele (Akiva) Bankole

**Sacred Space Weavers:** (Decoration): Phyllis Greenleaf, Susan Rothenberg, Diane Klein, (Set-up): Bonnie Eskie, Kris Ayer, Tom Rooth, Persis Rooth, Bonnie Barisof, Jillian Aronstam, Jessica Pollatsek, Sasha Pollatsek, Julian Lacey, Joe Katzman

**Oneg and Break-the-Fast Saviors:** Kris Ayer, Jessica Pollatsek, Sasha Pollatsek, John Byrne, Linda Byrne, Michaela Braveman, Bonnie Eskie

**Greeters:** Eliahu Goodman, Jeanne Rosen, Shalom Braveman, Michaela Braveman, Diane Klein, Bonnie Barisof

**Holy Shlepper:** Batya Kagan

**Holy Scrubbers:** Marigold Fine, Eugene Markowitz, Jessica Pollatsek, Sasha Pollatsek, Ellen Abrams, Eda Balsam, Jillian Aronstam, Bonnie Eskie, Batya Kagan, Jeremiah Eskie

**Childcare:** Batya Kagan, Sasha Pollatsek, Deji Bankole, Chayla Furlong, Minea Herwitz

**Second Day RH Visits to Seniors:** George Lewis, Barbara Nicoara, Shirley Ginsberg, Susan Mangel, Sequoia Hughes, Batya Kagan, William Gersten, Mary Anne Gabay, Noah Gabay, Shira Belford, Eliahu Goodman, Hodah Newman, Devorah Stark, Nitzan Bochner, and Shofar Blowers Hallel - Holly Blue Hawkins and Shalom Bochner



