



The Shofar

Congregation Beth Ahavah @ Rodeph Shalom Newsletter

A GLBT synagogue welcoming people of all gender and sexual identities since 1975

Inside this issue:

Purim Shpiel	2
Visiting with Mr. Green	2
Coming Soon	2
LimmudPhilly	3
Equality Forum	3
Yahrtzeits & Anniversaries	3
Donations	3
World Conference of GLBT Jews	3



Shabbat Services Friday 8:00 PM

Join us for a rabbi or lay led BA style service each month preceded by dinner and followed by an oneg & shmoozing.

February 12th

led by Evan Weiner

Dinner - 6:00 PM

Sazon Restaurant & Cafe
941 Spring Garden St,
Philadelphia
(215) 763-2500,

www.sazonrestaurant.com
Call Jeff Strauss to let him know
you are coming, (215) 880-5251.



BA Board Meeting

No February meeting due to scheduling conflicts.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I am feeling reflective in the dead of winter thinking about the lively and interesting events that have happened since January 1, 2010.

Beginning with the most recent event, I had the good fortune of attending the groundbreaking of the new early learning center that will be housed at the RS addition at the corner of Broad and Mt Vernon Streets (former Wilkie Buick used car lot). I met and held an adorable darling four month old named Alexa whose proud dads Chris and Steve were there to witness the ceremonies.

This past Friday night, Jerry Silverman hosted a dozen or more congregants for a well run and very informative and fun Tu B'Shevat Seder. We had all the fruits and nuts you could ask for (you can interpret that as you wish)! Thank you all - Minna, Joan, Roy, Jerry and all those who attended for making our BA Tu B'Shevat seder a tradition that continues, complete with a song contest after the seder.

Two weekends ago was our "Joey and His Girls" female impersonation cabaret night. Thanks so much to the performers who donated their time and all of the planners who came to the meetings for this event. This event could not have happened without the support of those in and outside of the BA community. The idea and implementation of this event was fully orchestrated by Minna Davis. Minna, we love you and thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Now, what we have to look forward to warm us up and get ready for spring is our BA service on Feb 12, 2010 at 8 PM. Services will be lead by board member Evan Wiener. As always, please call me if you plan to join us for dinner prior to services - 6 PM at Sazon restaurant at 941 Spring Garden Street (northeast corner of 10th and Spring Garden Streets).

On Thursday night February 11th, 2010, please join me in attending a performance of "Visiting Mr. Green", a modern day odd couple with Jewish and gay themes and characters. It is being performed at the Hedgerow Theater in Rose Valley PA near Media. More information about the play can be obtained from their web-site at www.hedgerowtheater.org and on page 2 of this issue of the Shofar.

And finally, at the end of this month, hold on to your hat for BYE BYE PURIM, the spiel of all Purim spiels that will be on Saturday night February 27, 2010. Admission will be \$18.00 and include a light bite and a brief Megillah reading prior to the spiel. See you at one or all of these events.

B'Shalom,
Jeff Strauss



PURIM MERRIMENT

Mirth and Desserth

February 27, 2010
Saturday • 7:00 PM

Cosponsored by Beth Ahavah and Rodeph Shalom
Includes a little Megillah, light supper and...

BETH AHAVAH'S ANNUAL PURIM SPIEL

"Bye Bye Purim"



Admission: \$18.00 per person

RSVP: Marcia Biggs at **215-627-6747 x 12** or mbiggs@rodephshalom.org. Don't miss one of the highlights of the year! A laugh-filled, entertaining, and just plain fun retelling of the Purim story in a clever musical theater format.

What fashion surprises does our infamous Queen Esther have in store for us this year?



February 11, 2010
Thursday, 8:00 PM

Hedgerow Theatre
 146 W. Rose Valley Rd
 Rose Valley, PA 19086



Visiting Mr. Green is a two man show that revolves around the relationship between Mr. Green, an Orthodox Jewish widower living in NYC, and Ross Gardiner, a gay young corporate executive who is Jewish by birth but non-observant and knows little about his heritage. As the result of a reckless driving charge, a judge has ruled that Ross must help out the irascible Mr. Green. This tender comedy proves that unexpected visitors can be the ones we need the most.

Tickets: \$25.00 per person

Click on www.hedgerowtheatre.org to purchase your tickets in advance or call (610) 565-4211 for reservations.

Please call Jeff Strauss at (215) 880-5251 or email him at jeffstrauss1@aol.com to let him know you plan to attend.

COMING SOON!

- Friday, April 2 Shabbat Service/
Passover Dinner &
Teaching led by
Rabbi Sue Levi-Elwell
- Friday, April 30 Equality Forum Shab-
bat with Rodeph Sha-
lom in main sanctu-
ary
- Wednesday, May 5 BA Annual Meeting
- Sunday, May 16 Brunch & Theater
- Sunday, June 13 Philadelphia Gay
Pride



Save the Date!
March 6-7 at the Gershman Y



LimmudPhilly is a unique opportunity to explore and celebrate the many paths of Jewish learning—a true Learningfest! Our program brings together volunteers from the full spectrum of the Jewish experience to build an amazing program of learning for everyone. At LimmudPhilly, we believe that everyone is a teacher and everyone is a learner. Our presenters are world renowned teachers and passionate educators from within the community who come to Limmud to teach, learn, act, sing, and create!

LimmudPhilly is a volunteer created learningfest for **EVERYONE** in the Philadelphia Jewish world.

In one day of learning, we bring together teachers of Yiddish, Jewish knitting, history and talmudic study and learners from all backgrounds to exchange ideas in a vibrant and kinetic environment. Our program changes from year to year to reflect the passions of our volunteers. We hope that you will bring your ideas and volunteer with us! Click on www.limudphilly.org for details.

Yahrzeits



Beatrice Segal
 February 9, 1996
 20 Shevat/February 4
 Beloved mother of
Jay Segal

George R. Wilson, Jr.
 February 17, 1960
 22 Shevat/February 16
 Beloved brother of
Carol Fisher

Fred Strauss
 February 17, 1960
 22 Shevat/February 16
 Beloved father of
Jeff Strauss

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



February 14th
Jake Belardo & Ed Farnett

DONATIONS

Joy A. and Alan N. Ozer
 In honor of 60th Birthday of
Jerry Silverman

**CONGREGATION BETH AHAVAH
@ RODEPH SHALOM**

615 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA 19123-2495

Phone: **215.923.2003**
Fax: 215.627.1313
Email: bethahavah@rodephshalom.org

A MEMBER OF...



We're on the web!
www.bethahavah.org



**BA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
& CONTACTS**

President	Jeffrey Strauss
Vice President Administration	Minna Davis
Vice President Programming	Joan Levin
Immediate Past President	Ned Hanover
Director	Eve Miller
Director	Jocelyn Block
Director	Nurit Shein
Director	Evan Weiner

OTHER BETH AHAVAH CONTACTS

Membership	Evan Weiner
Newsletter	Minna Davis
Publicity	Ned Hanover
Ritual	Jerry Silverman
URJ/WRJ Representative	Shelly Komito
Web Maven	Leslie Polss
Women's Chavurah	Shelly Komito Jocelyn Block

RODEPH SHALOM CONTACTS

Office: (215) 627-6747

President	Fred Strober
Rabbi	William I. Kuhn
Rabbi	Jill L. Maderer
Rabbi	Michael Holzman
Rabbi Emeritus	Alan D. Fuchs
Executive Director	Roy H. Feinberg
Membership Director	Catherine Fischer
Religious School Office	Baylee Shapiro
Rabbinic Assistant	Myrna Merback
Communications Director	Carol Perloff

