



The Shofar

Congregation Beth Ahavah @ Rodeph Shalom Newsletter

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

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With deepest sympathy — to BA member, Linda Thomas, whose father died on Sunday, February 27. Linda can be reached at home, 610-948-1048 or at lindathomas234@comcast.net to express condolences.



No BA Shabbat Services In March

Check your RS Bulletin for Friday night service times in March

Please join BA on April 22, 7:00 PM for Passover Services, Learning & Dinner. See page 2 for RSVP details.

BA Board Meeting



**Next Meeting on...
Tuesday
March 8th @ 7:00 PM
All BA members welcome**

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



What a taste of Spring this last Sunday in February! It makes me think of walks in the park and the sure sign of spring – The Philadelphia Flower Show. I have made attending the show a tradition these past several years. I have been taking my “niece” Rachel for her birthday which is on March 30th, the same day as my Mom’s birthday. I have been taking her since she started high school and she started graduate school last year after working one year after graduating from the University of Pittsburgh. I just do not know where the time has gone! Since time seems to be flying by, don’t forget to take some stops along the way. Make some of those stops at Congregation Beth Ahavah.

I will highlight some of the events coming up shortly. Please be sure to put them on your calendar. Several of us are busy practicing for the “Purim Shpiel Rewind”. We (the BA Players) will be part of the Purim Celebration: The Whole Megillah on Saturday March 19th at 8 PM. Our part of the evening will include our past Purim Shpiels favorites and a tribute to Shelly Komito, who wrote the Shpiels and directed them for us these past ten years! These truly have been the signature events at BA and we were so proud to bring them to RS since our affiliation in 2006. Shelly made sure we had such fun, joy, and camaraderie practicing and putting them on. It truly was a labor of love on her behalf. This will be our tribute performance. We love you Shelly and we are saving up our hugs and kisses for you on March 19th.

April will also be a busy month. April 9th is our docent led tour of the National Museum of American Jewish History at 2 PM. BA/RS is picking up the cost of the docents so cost is just \$10.00. Please see page 8 of the March 1st RS Bulletin or inside this issue. Don’t delay and place your reservation soon.

April 22nd is a BA service planned with a Passover dinner and teaching. More information will follow.

And last, but not least, is Equality Forum Shabbat on April 29th at 8 PM. Our featured speaker is Sharon Singer, Director of Public Affairs and Social Media at the Consulate General of Israel office in Philadelphia. Ms. Singer has held various positions in the IDF, including commander and instructor in IDF’s first joint officers training course. She is openly gay and continues to be involved in the LGBT community in Tel Aviv, Israel.

I hope to see you at some or all of these events.

B'Shalom,

Jeff

Yahrzeits



Debbie Ehrlich Murphy
March 10, 1982
15 Adar/February 19, 2011
Beloved sister of
Phyllis Ehrlich

Maureen Grace Twosten
March 14, 1996
22 Adar/February 26, 2011
Beloved sister of
Carol Fisher

Fred Strauss
March 17, 2000
10 Adar II/March 16, 2011
Beloved father of
Jeff Strauss

Nancy Belardo
March 18, 1991
3 Nissan/April 30, 2011
Beloved mother of
Jake Belardo

Ida Finn
March 20, 1916
15 Adar II/March 21, 2011
Beloved kin of
Larry Finn

Karen Andrews
March 23, 2008
16 Adar II/March 22, 2011
Beloved friend of
Jocelyn Block

BIRTHDAYS



Jocelyn Block
March 8

Rabbi Sue Levi Elwell
March 11

Robert Rose
March 15

Howard Childs
March 18

Jack Butler
March 19



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF
AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY

101 S Independence Mall E; Philadelphia, PA 19106; (215) 923-3811

Beth Ahavah and Rodeph Shalom

invite you to join us for a
Docent Led Tour

Saturday, April 9th at
2:00 PM sharp

Cost: \$10.00 per person
(must be paid by April 1st!)

For reservations, call Marcia Biggs at
215.627.6747 or email her at
mbiggs@rodephshalom.org.

SPACE IS LIMITED SO MAKE YOUR RESERVATIONS
EARLY!

Only paid reservations will receive via email all the necessary directions, instructions for security and group entry to the Museum.

Please complete the form below and mail with your payment (check or money order only) made payable to:
Congregation Rodeph Shalom
615 N Broad St
Philadelphia, PA 19123
Attn: Marcia Biggs

✂ -----

American Jewish History Museum Tour, Saturday, April 9, 2011, 2:00 PM

Reservation & payment deadline: April 1st

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone number: _____

Email: _____

No. attending: ____ x \$10.00/per person = \$ _____ (total enclosed)

**Purim Celebration:
The Whole
Megillah**



**Saturday, March 19th,
8:00 PM**

RS is featuring a Beit Café (Coffee House) that promises to be a hilariously good time. It features favorites from past Beth Ahavah Purim Shpiels, and acts from clergy and congregants.



Come dressed in your favorite costume (optional), and BYOB for the celebration. As is our custom, we will party “until we can’t tell the difference between Mordechi and Haman.”

Also, BA will be honoring the dedication and hard work of Shelly Komito, Shpiel writer and director extraordinaire.

RSBP: Marcia Biggs at 215-627-6747 x 12 or email her at mbiggs@rodephshalom.org.

Passover Shabbat



Friday, April 22nd

- 7:00 PM Services in the BA Room
- 7:30 PM Passover Style Dinner (includes chicken, salad, kugel, dessert, wine, matzo etc.) followed by:

Passover Teaching & Discussion

Cost is \$25 per person.

RSVP and payment must be received by April 1st.

Please complete the form below and mail with your payment (check or money order only) made payable to:

Congregation Rodeph Shalom
615 N Broad St
Philadelphia, PA 19123
Attn: Marcia Biggs

BA@RS Passover Shabbat Service & Dinner Y April 22, 2011

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

No. of persons _____ X \$25.00 = _____ enclosed.

RSVP and payment must be received by April 1st.

Return check payable to Rodeph Shalom and mail to 615 N Broad, Philadelphia, PA 19123. Attention: Marcia Biggs



Equality Forum Shabbat

Featured Speaker:

Sharon Singer

Friday ☆ April 29th

8:00 PM

Sharon Singer is the Director of Public Affairs and Social Media at the Consulate General of Israel in Philadelphia. Ms. Singer specializes in providing communities throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region of the United States with information about Israel through outreach to the Jewish and non-Jewish community, local government, and all organizations interested in learning about the many different aspects of Israel.

Prior to this position, Ms. Singer served almost 9 years in the Israel Defense Forces, reaching the rank of Captain.

Ms. Singer held various positions in the IDF, including commander and instructor in the IDF's first joint (men & women) officers training course, Head of The Ground Forces Selection & Classification Desk, Head of Combat Personnel Section, Artillery Corps and Chief Training & Education Officer for The strategic Planning & Foreign Relations Division.

Sharon is openly gay and continues to be involved in the LGBT community in Tel Aviv, Israel. In addition to her work in public diplomacy, she serves as a liaison between the Israeli and Philadelphia Gay Communities.



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A MEMBER OF...



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



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