



## The Mishkan Torah Trumpet

November  
December  
2003

### Men's Club Musings

by Richard Rosenzweig

The first meeting of the Mens Club was held on November 2. Officers for the coming year are:

Dick Rosenzweig, President  
Keith Chernikoff, Vice Pres  
Steve Mirsky, Treasurer  
Irv Wartell, Secretary

We welcome suggested activities that will give us an idea of your interests.

We are hoping to purchase a large screen TV instead of renting. The funds are available, the holdup currently is where would we keep it? Any suggestion? Anyone?

The only events planned for the current year are the Annual Super Bowl Party, February 1, 2004 and a Mother's Day pancake breakfast on May 9, 2004 (no charge to the women). And of course, the Labor Day Festival.

### Social Action

by Benton Parks

Dates to Remember:

**November 16** - Committee meeting - all are welcome to attend

**November 14** - Speaker at the

Friday Evening Service - A Jewish View of Organ Transplantation

**January 3** - Café Tzedakah Returns (watch for details)

**January 25** - Patriot Act seminar (see One Man's Opinion, this issue)

If you have any concerns that you want us to help with, please contact me at email [benparks58@yahoo.com](mailto:benparks58@yahoo.com).

### Mishkan Torah Youth

from Phyllis Oresky

**Thinking About Making UMD Your College of Choice? Prospective Student Shabbaton**

**Friday, November 21 - Sunday, November 23**

**Maryland Hillel, College Park, MD**

**See UMD's Beautiful Campus**

**Spend Shabbat with Jewish Students**

**Meet with Student Group Leaders**

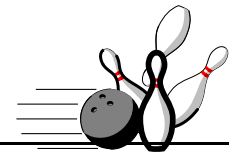
Registration deadline is Friday, November 14. Contact Rabbi Meni at [meni@hillelmd.org](mailto:meni@hillelmd.org) or 301-422-6200. You can also download a registration form at [www.hillelmd.org](http://www.hillelmd.org) or call Phyllis Oresky for forms.

### Teen/Youth Bowling Party

Sunday, November 16  
1-3 PM

\$9 per person

RSVP to Phyllis Oresky  
[sporesky@aol.com](mailto:sporesky@aol.com)



### Coming Events:

Sun. & Mon. Nov. 9 & 10

Sisterhood Rummage Sale

Fri. Nov. 14 - Social Action

Speaker on Organ Transplants

Sat. Nov. 15 - Junior

Congregation Service

Thur. Nov. 20 - Board Meeting

Fri. Nov. 21 - Junior

Congregation Service

Sun. Nov. 23 - Diane Kritt

Memorial Lecture - 7:30 pm

Wed. Dec. 3 - Religious Comm. Meeting 8pm

Sat. Dec. 6 - Junior

Congregation Service

Thurs. Dec. 11 - Sisterhood Craft Night 7:30 pm

Fri. Dec. 12 - Junior

Congregation Service

Sat. Dec. 20 - Bar Mitzvah,

Raviv Brooks /

Hanukkah Begins

Sat. Dec. 27 - Hanukkah Ends  
KFS Winter Break Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>.

## One Man's Opinion

by Stephen Jascourt

### The USA Patriot Act: What is it and how do we relate to it at Mishkan Torah?

Last month, Jordan Choper wrote about the history of the founding of Mishkan Torah as an act of helping a member of our community at that time challenge McCarthyist actions that the federal government had taken against him because he was an unaffiliated, eastern-European Jew who lived in a housing cooperative during the "Red Scare".

History is repeating itself now through the so-called "USA Patriot Act". In this column, I hope to increase your awareness about what the Patriot Act does, why I see concerns about it as a Jewish issue, what is being done about it in the communities where we live, and to pique your interest in attending a more thorough scholarly debate in a **program hosted by the Social Action Committee scheduled for January 25, 2004 here at Mishkan Torah**. If you have any interest in working on this or other social action issues, please contact the committee chair, Ben Parks. Let me just be clear that this column represents my opinion; the Board has not taken any position.

So what is the Patriot Act? It is the "Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism [USA

PATRIOT]" Act, a thick book of changes to federal laws, rushed through Congress weeks after the September 11, 2001 tragedies. While it was sold as closing loopholes and facilitating investigation of terrorism, it and parallel regulatory changes have been used primarily for fighting drug and other crimes rather than terrorism and have some chilling provisions. For instance, it authorizes the FBI to conduct surveillance on religious and political groups without any evidence of wrongdoing; it permits eavesdropping on prisoner-attorney conversations without judicial permission; it permits the FBI to obtain your records – medical, library, financial, student - or even to search your home without probable cause. Your information may be sought in an investigation on someone who knows somebody who knows you – you may be far removed from the subject and it all may be on a hunch rather than any evidence of that person's wrongdoing. When they search your home, they are forbidden from showing you a warrant or even telling you why they are there, and the custodian of records (such as your doctor's office or the library) is likewise under a gag order. Noncitizens can be put on a "Special Register" based on country of origin and deported without due process. Thousands have been detained without charges or evidence and many are today held secretly, without release of their names or

whereabouts. The door is open for targeting people by race, ethnicity, and political viewpoint and for using investigations as a dragnet to find excuses to deport legal visitors who may have family, even their own children, who are citizens. However, only some parts of the Patriot Act allow these things – even the ACLU advocates repealing only certain sections, not the entire law.

Why do I see this as a Jewish issue? On the one hand, Torah provides for an autocracy (by God, with possibility for kings, not democracy) and Judaism teaches about responsibilities, not rights, and about the imperative to protect our nation against threats. However, Torah requires us to especially be mindful of treating fairly the traveler, the orphan, and the widow, the most vulnerable in those days. The Patriot Act targets the most vulnerable in our day, the outlier, the immigrant, the dissident. Torah repeats in many places in many different contexts that we must not oppress the stranger among us, and it requires one and the same law for us and for the stranger. Torah makes clear that all people are created *b'tselem elohim*, in the image of God, and must be treated accordingly. And then there are matters of jurisprudence. In Jewish law, transparency, not secrecy, of justice is paramount and witnesses are essential, while the Patriot Act allows justice to be meted out on suspicion

cloaked in secrecy. The Chofetz Chaim detailed strict laws about lashon hara (evil speech) while the Patriot Act establishes a system for people to report “suspicious” behavior without any basis for knowing there is anything wrong happening. Also, Jews should be especially sensitive to immigrant issues, being an immigrant community of recent generations in the United States and the state of Israel being a nation of so many immigrants. Additionally, in the post-Holocaust era, we must be

vigilant against the targeting of any groups, because we learned how one step leads to another that leads to another.

As the rabbis of the Talmud taught, study must lead to action. So what is the action? Two hundred cities and counties and three states have passed resolutions supporting civil liberties and urging repeal of the relevant parts of the Patriot Act. Montgomery County, Takoma Park, Baltimore, and Greenbelt have passed resolutions or statements, while coalitions are

organizing for similar results in Prince George’s and some other Maryland counties and the District. Information about local efforts can be found on the web at [www.bordc.org](http://www.bordc.org). The impact of these local efforts around the country are being felt in Congress, where there is growing bipartisan support for undoing certain parts of the Patriot Act. And last but not least, you can come learn more at our January 25 teach-in at Mishkan Torah!

**W**e at Mishkan Torah hope that everyone had a meaningful and joyous High Holy Days experience. For those who could share the holidays with us, thank you. We were glad you chose to be here! For those of you who were not here, we hope to share the holidays with you another time. Many of our generous congregants and friends made High Holiday Pledges and signed up to help support our volunteer efforts. The outcome was extremely gratifying. We are sincerely thankful to everyone for their thoughtfulness.

For those people not with us or those who forgot to pledge or volunteer, here’s another chance. The form below can be returned at any time to the Mishkan Torah office, 10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, Maryland, 20770.

We thank you for your generosity, energy and enthusiasm!

*The World Stands Upon Three Foundations; Upon Torah, Upon Worship and Upon Acts of Kindness...*

**I/We Pledge** (please circle) **Name:**

**Phone #:**

\$18	\$36	\$72	\$108	\$180	\$360	\$540	Other
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**I/We Participate** (please circle as many as you wish)

Religious Committee	Membership Committee	Publicity Committee	Social Action Committee	Building Committee	Funeral Practices Committee	Ways & Means Fundraising	Redskins Game Booth
Mishkan Torah Choir	Sisterhood	Men’s Club	Youth Committee	Junior Congregation	Children’s Education	Karp School Book Fair/Purim Carnival	Adult Education Committee

**Comments:**

## Area News:

*From Liz Ahmann*

Do you have an old CELL PHONE? Prince George's County Sheriff's Office is collecting unwanted cell phones and chargers to be distributed to senior citizens so that they may dial 9-1-1 in case of an emergency. This is a free call. There will be a drop-off box in the lobby of the Cheverly Community Center for a few months to collect old phones. Thank you.

*From Janet Davis*

## JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY REQUEST

The Jewish Historical Society of Greater Washington is seeking information about Shomrei Shabbos, an orthodox Washington synagogue in the 1920s - 1930s. The synagogue was located in a 3-story building at 415 M Street, N.W. The building had previously served as an early home of both the YMHA and the Hebrew Home. If you have any information, memorabilia, photographs, or names of former congregants of this congregation, please contact the JHSGW archivist, Wendy Turman at 202-789-0900 or [wendy@jhsgw.org](mailto:wendy@jhsgw.org). Thank you.

## Dear Friends in the Reconstructionist Movement:

As many of you know, and have read in the pages of the Jewish Week, our member

synagogue in White Plains, Bet Am Shalom, was devastated by a fire in September that rendered their entire structure unusable.

Remarkably, but not surprisingly, the congregation's leadership has worked together with Westchester, New York religious and civic groups to mobilize and function at close to full strength, using donated and rented space.

While Bet Am Shalom has insurance, there are many substantial costs that are not fully insured. These include providing interim housing for their custodian's family, renting office space while they rebuild and a host of other major expenses associated with not having their own facilities. The Bet Am Shalom community is rallying their financial resources, however they can use the help of the wider Reconstructionist community. Your donation, at whatever level, would express the solidarity and connectivity of our wonderful, caring movement.

Tishrei is a time for reviewing our charitable giving and making commitments to be more responsive in our lives. With Sukkot just past, the fragile yet strong aspects of our shelter and community are central in our thoughts. We ask that you contribute to the Bet Am Shalom Fire Emergency Fund. One can do this by sending your check with **BAS Fire Emergency Fund** in the note section, payable to, and sent to, JRF, 7804 Montgomery

Ave. Elkins Park, PA 19027. We will forward all donations (tax deductible to the full extent provided by law) directly to Bet Am Shalom. Thank you. Abraham Clott, President, JRF-NY and Melanie Schneider, Director, JRF-NY

## The Foundation for Jewish Studies

Fall Scholar-in-Residence, Professor Bernard Cooperman, University of Maryland, will speak at several locations during November. No fee for these public lectures.

✧ "Jewish Magic, Jewish Monsters, The Golem" Tues. Nov. 11 at 7:30pm at Temple Beth Ami.

✧ "The Trauma of Modernity" and "The Re-emergence of Anti-Semitism in the Jewish World View" Shabbaton, Nov. 14-15 at Congregation Har Shalom.

✧ "Jews of the Italian Renaissance" Shabbaton, Nov. 21-22 at Temple Isaiah (Columbia)

✧ "Women in the Jewish World" Wed. Nov. 26 at noon at the DC Public Library

✧ Community Lecture and Reception "The Sephardic Experience" Tues. Nov. 25 at Magen David Sephardic Congregation.

For further information call the Foundation at 301-770-4787 or visit their website at [www.foundationjewishstudies.org](http://www.foundationjewishstudies.org).

## Mazal Tov!!

**Congratulations** to Jesse Goldberg-Strassler, senior at Ithaca College. Jesse was invited to join Sigma Tau Delta, the International English Honor Society. Jesse was also named “outstanding sportscaster” for WICB, the college radio station, and was named “Voice of Ithaca College”, football broadcaster for 2003-2004. **Bravo!!**

## Recent B’nai Mitzvot

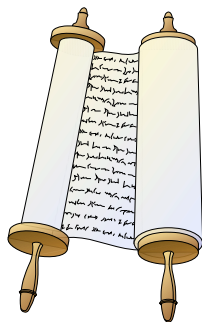
Congratulation to the following young men and their families!

*Ethan Cowan* - September 6

*Thomas Schwartz* - September 13

*Justin Horner* - September 20

*Michael Tulman* - October 25



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## Dear Friends:

We would like to thank the Mishkan Torah community for all the support you have given us over the past few weeks. Looking back, we are extremely thankful for the success of Thom’s Bar Mitzvah ceremony and celebration, for Dan’s return to good health, and for all of your concern, support, and kind wishes.

We would specifically like to thank the Ladies (and Gentleman) of the Kitchen for all their hard work; the congregation, Sisterhood and Men’s Club for their gifts to Thom; the Silversteins and the Rosens for their donations to the Rose Epstein Memorial Fund wishing Dan a speedy recovery; and to all of you who called about Dan and sent cards his way. We really felt the community taking care of us, and that is a wonderful feeling.

Chris Doyle, Bill Schwartz,  
Jane, Dan and Thom



## Sisterhood Says

by Irene Spector

Our new year started off with two wonderful programs. On October 15th, 30 members of the Sisterhood met at the home of Debbie and Ed Brenner to celebrate “Sisters in the Sukkah”. In spite of the chill and having to be bundled up (see Debbie’s photos) an excellent time was had by all. Thanks to the Brennens for their hospitality!!

Our program on October 26<sup>th</sup> was a great success as well. Beryl Lief Benderly is a fascinating speaker and gave us an interesting picture of Jews in the Wild, Wild West. It was most interesting to learn how far and wide the very early immigrants had traveled – places like Savannah, Charleston, Santa Fe and even to Portland, Oregon. Thanks to Mrs. Benderly and to Susan Ungar for inviting her.

On October 30<sup>th</sup> we held our annual paid-up membership dinner at the Olive Garden in Laurel. 60 members had signed up to be there. We’ll tell you all about it in the next issue of the Trumpet.

A Jewelry sale is planned for the near future – we’ll keep you posted.

### Future meetings are as follows:

**Dec. 11 - 7:30 pm** – Pre-Hanukkah Craft night. Leaders: Susan Ungar, Lisa Marsh,

Marsha Goldfine. This is always a popular program so plan to be with us. All welcome.

### **Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 am** -

Reflecting on Jewish Moments. Panel discussion.

### **Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> - 10:30 am** -

What is Real and What is Not about Women’s Cancers - Susan Ungar in charge.

### **April 22 - 7:30 pm** -

Mona Baumgarten’s program

### **May 13 - 7:30 pm** -

Ice cream Social and elections

### **June 13 - 6 pm** -

Picnic and Shakespeare-in-the-Park.

### **June** - Donor Dinner night out.

Details later.

### **July 11 - 4 pm** -

Campfire, sing-along, barbeque - Greenbelt Park.

As you can see, the variety of programs planned should provide something for everyone.

### **Remember**

Our Rummage Sale, Nov. 9 and 10 will be history by the time you read this and we hope it will have been as successful as usual.

Mazel Tov and Get Well cards are available through Sara Rosen.

The Gift Shop will have a wonderful selection of Hanukkah gifts and Alyce

Strasser and Relda Wallach are available to help you make your selections.

We wish continued recovery to all our friends who are now on the mend.

*Get out those calendars and mark down the dates. A year of good programs and excitement awaits.*

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## The Trumpet Advertising Rates:

Full Page: \$60  
Half Page: \$30  
Quarter Page: \$18  
Sixth Page: \$15  
Eighth Page: \$12

The Trumpet is published each month. You will receive a 10% discount for all 12 issues.

Call the office: 301-474-4223  
or send camera-ready copy to:

Mishkan Torah Trumpet  
10 Ridge Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20770

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## Funeral Practices

still needs more volunteers. Please contact Lisa Marsh and let her know that you can do your part in this very important service.

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## Share your Simcha

Contact Debbie Brenner to schedule your special Oneg Shabbat. Many Friday nights have no sponsors. Share your joy with your Mishkan Torah family and friends.  
Debbie Brenner



## Recent Donations to Mishkan Torah

### Yahrzeits

...The Sanders Family for Bessie Gold  
 ...Relda & Larry Wallach for Irving Rosen and Nettie Rosen  
 ...Matt & Sandy Citron for Lester Citron  
 ...Elaine Mersack for Sarah Goldstein  
 ...Sandy, Jack & Lauren Ward for Bessie Gold  
 ...Rose F. Haber for Raymond R. Haber  
 ...Susan Stregack for Manuel Moldofsky  
 ...Renee & Phil Dondes for Harry Jenkin  
 ...Sherwin Weinstock & Maria Roman for Alyce Weinstock  
 ...Shirley Griffin for Dora and Charles Friedman  
 ...Marcia Lissauer for Leslie Lissauer  
 ...Marsha, Alan, Adam, Michael & Leah Goldfine for Hyman Berkowitz  
 ...Paula Volk for Felix Dudek  
 ...Mr. & Mrs. Lester Singer for Nathan Singer  
 ...Andrew Aronfy for Rebecca Wolfsohn  
 ...Alyce & Arnold Strasser for Golde Epstein  
 ...Joan & David Goldenberg for William Goldenberg  
 ...Ruth Horlick for Leo D. Rosenstock  
 ...Rebecca Silverstein for Ruth M. Meese  
 ...Martha Pomerantz for David Stoler  
 ...Muriel Weidenfeld for Ethel and Max Pogarsky

### Sustaining Fund

...Julie Black, Robert & Emily

Shepard in honor of Cantor Phil Greenfiled  
 ...Susan Schreiber in honor of Mishkan Torah  
 ...Sylvia & Zev Hendel for Albert Ellerin and for Jackie Kling's father, Daniel Schleifer  
 ...Susan Strachman in honor of Mishkan Torah  
 ...Pearl Ellerin for Ethel Gerring

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

...Sam Hofberg for Helen Hofberg  
 ...Robin Olson for Albert Ellerin

### Memorial Plaque

...Pearl Ellerin for Albert Abraham Ellerin

### Marc Spevack Youth Activities Fund

...Pearl & Warren Siegel + Jack & Sandy Ward in honor of Sidney and Irene Spector's Anniversary

### Etz Hayim Chumash

...Janet R. Davis for Irving Davis

## Yahrzeits for December, 2003 Shabbat November 29

Bessie Pomerantz\*  
 Eric Leven  
 Miriam Braverman\*  
 Irving Peckerar\*  
 Marc J. Spevack\*  
 Elka Bialostocka de Singer\*  
 Sarah Rosenthal\*  
 Anna Greenstein  
 Jennie Pearlman  
 Max Phillips\*  
Shabbat December 6  
 Arthur Butler  
 Goldie Ellerin\*

Rudy Rubin  
 Dorothy Berkowitz  
 Max Fuchs  
 Martin Miller  
 David Skolnik\*  
Shabbat December 13

Richard Feinberg  
 Eva Goldberg\*  
 Rhoda Schlesinger  
 Helen Brenner\*  
 Eugene Dondes\*  
 Saul Miller

### Shabbat December 20

Anna L. Crupain\*  
 Gilbert Gassner  
 Florence Kornblum\*  
 Rose Finkelstein\*  
 William Rubin\*  
 Louis Rothbard\*

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## Condolences:

Our deepest sympathies go the family and friends of the individuals:

**Esther Cohen**, beloved Aunt of Arnold Strasser

**Daniel Schleifer**, beloved father of Jackie Kling

**Ruth Baumgarten**, beloved Aunt of Mona Baumgarten

**Ethel Gerring**, long-time congregant and beloved mother of Alan (Cheryl) Gerring


**Jack Sanders**, long-time member and beloved husband of Frances Sanders

*May you be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem...*




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**Reach the Rabbi**  
**Call Rabbi Jonathan**  
**Cohen** at 301-441-2624  
 or  
 joncohen@concentric.net

November 2003						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
16 Karp Family School Sisterhood Board 10:30	17 CARC Meets at 7:30 Adult Ed	18 Rabbi's Study Group	19 KFS Hebrew Skills & Choir Practice	20 Mishkan Torah Board Meeting 8 pm	21 Evening Service 8 pm Junior Congregation *4:30	22 Shabbat Service 9:30 am
23 KFS Diane Krit Memorial Lecture - 7:30 PM	24 Adult Ed	25 Rabbi's Study Group	26 No KFS Thanksgiving Break		28 Evening Service 8 pm *4:27	29 Shabbat Service 9:30 am
30 No KFS						
<b>December 2003</b>	1 Trumpet Deadline Adult Ed	2 Rabbi's Study Group	3 KFS - Religious Committee Meets at 8pm	4 Choir Practice	5 Family Shabbat 7:30 pm *4:26	6 Shabbat Service 9:30 am Junior Congregation
7 KFS Sisterhood Board 10:30am Yiddish Club 10am	8 Adult Ed	9 Rabbi's Study Group	10 KFS	11 Sisterhood 7:30 pm	12 Evening Service Junior Congregation *4:26	13 Shabbat Service 9:30 am
14 KFS	15 Adult Ed	16 Rabbi's Study Group	17 KFS Choir Practice	18 Mishkan Torah Board Meeting 8 pm	19 Evening Service 8 pm Bar Mitzvah Raviv Brooks *	20 Shabbat Service 9:30 am Bar Mitzvah Raviv Brooks Hanukkah begins
21 Karp Family School Hanukkah Party	22 Adult Ed	23 Rabbi's Study Group	24 No KFS Winter Break	25	26 Evening Service 8 pm *4:32	27 Shabbat Service 9:30 am Hanukkah ends
28 No KFS Winter Break	29 Adult Ed	30 Rabbi's Study Group	31 No KFS Winter Break New Year's Eve	January 1, 2004 Trumpet Deadline		

## Welcome New Members

Zohar & Noah Gitlis  
19 J Ridge Road  
Greenbelt, MD 20770

## Moved

Ms. Rose Friedman  
14510 Homecrest Rd Apt 1008  
Silver Spring, MD 20906-1867

Dr. Andy Aronfy  
3122 Gracefield Rd Apt 213  
Silver Spring, MD 20904-5803

Keep in Touch - Call the office if you move - 301-474-4223.

## Please Note:

### Religious Committee

Meeting  
Wednesday,  
December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8pm - You are welcome.



**Social Action Committee**  
Meets Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>.

### Hanukkah Begins

December 20<sup>th</sup>. Check out the wonderful gifts at the Sisterhood Gift Shop.



**Don't Forget** to order your Mishkan Torah Logo items. They also make great Hanukkah gifts. Pick up an order form in the Mishkan Torah Lobby.

KFS parents should check out the wonderful school calendar designed by Lisa Marsh. Cool!

