



Ha-Yonah

The Dove

The newsletter of
Congregation
Ahavat Shalom

ELUL/TISHRI - SEPTEMBER 1988



BERMAN AWARD PRESENTED

Shown here are Ahavat Shalom member Jerry Geffner with Ayshe Najjar and Nava Sonnenschein of Neve Shalom/ Wahat Al-Salam. Jerry presented the representatives of this unique cooperative community with the congregation's social action award on August 14th. The award honors their efforts toward a lasting peace and justice in Israel and the Middle East.

AHAVAT SHALOM'S RELIGIOUS SCHOOL FOR CHILDREN OPENS

Ahavat Shalom is pleased to announce the establishment of a religious school for the children of synagogue members. The class will meet at the same time as our monthly Shabbat morning services, on the second Saturday of each month, from 10:30 to noon.

The class will be for children aged four to six years old. Classes will be set up for other aged children as interest and need present themselves. Tuition will be free for the children of Ahavat Shalom members; there will be an annual charge for materials and supplies. The classes begin on September 10 with a curriculum focused on Jewish values, Shabbat and Holy Days.

Donations to the new Religious School Fund (which provides scholarships for those unable to pay the materials fee, and for text books and additional materials) are warmly encouraged.

Those needing more information on the religious school, or wishing to enroll their child, can call Steven Fritsch Rudser at 863-1998.

Congregation Ahavat Shalom holds Shabbat services every Friday night at 8:15, and the second Saturday morning of each month at 10:30, at 150 Eureka Street. Childcare is provided at each service; sign language interpreting is available with one week's advance notice. Childcare and interpreting are provided free of charge. Call 621-1020 for further information.

Of any season, the beginning of September feels the most like the start of the year. While January 1 flips the calendar for us, its significance seems more vague in our lives. Autumn's arrival is harder to ignore. It brings the end of the fog season in some places, and the changing foliage in many others. The seasonal demarcation is clear all around us. (Summer, on the other hand, hosts an undefinable sense of anarchy: Intentions are at their highest, but the progression of time is hypothetical at best. It's as if summer wanted to be the last season of the year but was ignored. Perhaps summer needs a lawyer, or an agent or an answering machine.)

So here we are in September, with earlier sunsets and the High Holidays waiting for us. It's a good thing that autumn feels so different; the High Holidays are our busiest time of year and we need all the energy the season can give.

In a lay congregation like ours, the responsibilities are divided up among many willing hands. Most will have been contacted by this time: leading a service, bringing food, ushering, or some other necessary contribution. Our vice president, Joy Becker, heads our High Holidays Committee. If your available to help out in some way, please leave a message for her on our synagogue's answering machine: 621-1020.

This year's High Holiday services are returning (in part) to the handsome wood-beamed room they were held in several years ago. We will be meeting at the Swedish American Hall for Erev Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre (the "night before" services). This beautiful building offers a larger space in which to hold our biggest crowds of the year. Day services for both Holy Days will be held in our customary MCC location.

Thinking beyond Yom Kippur, our

Continued on page 4

Congregation Ahavat Shalom
P.O. Box 14392
San Francisco, CA 94114-0392
415/621-1020

CONTRIBUTIONS:

Oneg Shabbots for July and August

Dan Halpern, Natalie Dollahite,
and Steve Meliska



HA-YONAH CONTRIBUTORS:

Beth Daniels, Allen Bennet,
Michael Drennon, Joy Becker,
David Lourea and Harlan Shays.

David May, Editor.

You too can be a Ha-Yonah
contributor. Call David May at
626-9637 for more information.

GOODBYE & SHALOM TO DANNY KENT

Danny Kent, a founding member of Ahavot Shalom, is making Aliyah in a few short weeks. This is exciting for Danny and the rest of the congregation because it isn't everyday that one of makes Aliyah. On the other hand, it will also be a sad time for those of us who have worked with Danny over the past few years.

I first met Danny about six years ago at our Sukkot service where we spent time talking about our shared interest in Tai Chi. I was also introduced to Danny's boundless energy that day as I watched him zip in and out of the crowd organizing the food while he assisted Rabbi Bennet with the evening's services.

Since then I've had the pleasure of working with Danny on event after event for the synagogue, forming a friendship that was lasted over the years. We spent hours discussing synagogue issues, and, later, comforting each other during our congregation's losses and sorrows.

Perhaps I've never said this to Danny, but I want him to know that he's an inspiration to me. When I was new to the congregation, Danny took the time to show me the ropes. He never tired of teaching me about social action in the Jewish community, or about important world events that effect Jews globally.

But I think the one thing I will miss most about Danny is his kindness towards others. I've come to rely on his generosity. Now I'll feel both its absence and his.

I know I speak for all of us, Danny, when I say that I'll miss you very much, and that I wish for you nothing but the best in Israel.

Love and Shalom,

Joy

WHAT'S NU?

So what, you think it's easy keeping track of so many people? You think I like poking my nose in other people's business and being a regular butinsky just so you can read a little something in the newsletter? It's a dirty job, but I tell you, someone has to it!

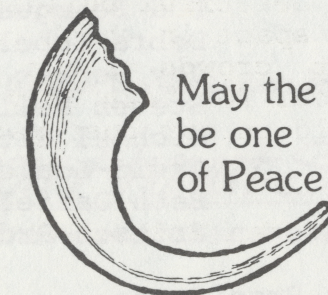
So first let me welcome back Barbara and Karen, who were off in China (as in "So wage a war in--") no less. And also to Ira Kulkin who was in New York (as in New York, New York).

Speaking of traveling, guess who's going away forever? Danny Kent is making Aliyah. We wish him well even as he breaks my heart.

We're all thankful that Norma Sandowski and Neal Dinoff are both recovering from their respective illnesses. And our on going love and support and good wishes to Ori Sherman, who was recently in the hospital again.

Mazel tov on mazel tov go out to Bud Beamguard who delivered a technical paper at a computer convention in Florida recently; and to Rob Montague who was elected president of his union; and to Arlene Krantz and David Lourea who were recently appointed to the Executive Committee for planning the International Conference on Bisexuality in 1990.

And a very special MAZEL TOV to Joy and Rachel Becker who are now officially adopted! Hurrah!



May the Year
be one
of Peace and Joy.

Continued

congregation will again be celebrating Sukkot in our home made sukkah. This year our backyard host is member Gary Carr. Festival services will again be held under the palm leaves. Anyone who attended last year's sukkah-building party or Sukkot services in Henry Carrey's backyard will want to be a part of this year's celebration.

Gary's backyard already served Ahavat Shalom well in August as the sight of our Steve Berman Award Ceremony. Over twenty people spent an afternoon learning more about the recipient organization, Neve Shalom/ Wahat Al-Salam. We also schmoozed, noshed, and honored the memory of Ahavat Shalom founding member Steve Berman. We are lucky to have a social action committee that can put together an event like this. Thanks to Gary for opening up his home to us, and to Jerry Geffner for heading up the project and presenting the award. Thanks also to Beth Daniels, Danny Kent and Ira Kulkin for their work on the committee.

Earlier this summer I warned Ha-Yonah readers that there would be many thanks due in the fall. The time has come!

We welcomed hoards of people to our booth at the Lesbian-Gay Freedom Day Celebration. We distributed lots of brochures and newsletters from our table, and added many new names to our mailing list. We owe the day's success to: Bill Barrick, Bud Beamguard, Joy Becker, Allen Bennett, Gary Carr, Henry Carrey, Neal Dinoff, Natalie Dollahite, Michael Gitt, Ted Greenberg, Arlene Krantz, Stephen Meliska, Rob Montague, Cathy Nelson, Shamir Othel, Hy Rifkin and Norma Sandowski. Special thanks to Debra Lobel for transporting all our materials, and of course, Danny Kent for organizing our participation in the Celebration.

The hardest part of this month's column is recognizing Danny's immanent departure for Israel. It will also be harder for Danny to be an active member of Ahavot Shalom after he's made aliyah. The board hoped to arrange an event paying tribute to him, but the press of details on Danny as he moves abroad made it impossible. It just wouldn't be the same honoring Danny and his past work for the synagogue if he weren't there! And it won't be the same Ahavat Shalom without him.

For those of you staying local, I look forward to seeing you at services this month. Have a light fast, and L'shanna Tova!

Harlan

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Harlan Shays
 Treasurer: Bud Beamguard
 Recorder: Debra Lobel
 Vice President: Joy Becker
 At Large: Steven Meliska
 Michael Gitt
 David Lourea
 Beth Daniels
 Steven Fritsch Rudser

BIRTHDAYS

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------|----|
| Herman Rifkin | September | 2 |
| Catherine Nelson | September | 5 |
| Arlene Krantz | September | 5 |
| Richard Marks | September | 6 |
| Natalie Dollahite | September | 11 |
| Kenneth Kennemer | September | 14 |
| Mark Leno | September | 24 |
| Robert Johnson | September | 29 |

Immediate Past President:
 Rob Montague

High Holy Days 5749

Join Us!

| | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|---|
| <i>Sunday, Sept. 11</i> | <i>7:30pm</i> | <i>Erev Rosh Hashanah 2174 Market Street</i> |
| <i>Monday, Sept. 12</i> | <i>10:30am</i> | <i>Rosh Hashanah 150 Eureka Street Tashlich to follow</i> |
| <i>Tuesday, Sept. 20</i> | <i>7:30pm</i> | <i>Kol Nidre 2174 Market Street</i> |
| <i>Wednesday, Sept. 21</i> | <i>10:30am</i> | <i>Yom Kippur</i> |
| | <i>4:00pm</i> | <i>Mincha/Afternoon Service Yizkor/Memorial Service Ne'ilah, Break the fast to follow 150 Eureka Street</i> |

Childcare is provided. Wheelchair accessible. Sign language interpretation with 48 hour notice. Market Street services will be held at the Swedish American Hall, near Sanchez; Eureka Street services will be held at the Metropolitan Community Church, near 18th St., San Francisco. No charge, everyone is welcome. Regular Shabbat services at 8:15 every Friday evening and at 10:30 the second Saturday of each month.

Bisexual, Gay and Lesbian Jews and Friends

Congregation Ahavat Shalom

PO Box 14392, San Francisco, CA 94114-0392 415 621-1020

Ahavat Shalom at the Lesbian-Gay Freedom Day Celebration



Holding our banner high



Spreading the word

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR Continued

September 21, Wednesday, 4:30 PM
Yom Kippur Afternoon (Yizkor)
 MCC, 150 Eureka Street
 Sedra: Lev. 18
 Haftarah: Jonah 1-4,
 Micah 7:18-20
 Leader: Rabbi Allen Bennett

Break the Fast follows conclusion of Yom Kippur afternoon services.

September 25, Sunday
Sukkot
 Sukkah Building Party at the home of Gary Carr, 55 Brosnan Street.
 Call Michael Gitt for info: 863-3597

Services at the Sukkah, 7:30 PM at the home of Gary Carr (above)

SHABBOT MORNING SERVICES RE-LOCATE

Saturday morning Shabbot services are returning to Steven Fritsch Rudser's home September 10.

Regular attendees of morning services are looking for others to join us for our monthly Torah service. Because our morning services are traditional, we want to be able to plan on having a minyan so that the Torah can be chanted at each service.

The minyan is followed by a traditional lunch that typically includes cholent, kugel and challah. Shabbot services are the perfect opportunity to enjoy a peaceful morning of prayer, study and socializing. Plan to join us.



SUMMER CAMP IN OCTOBER!
LAST CHANCE TO REGISTER!

The Second Western Regional Conference of Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Jews will be taking place over the Columbus Day Weekend in the Malibu Hills. The only catch is- space is limited, so early registration is encouraged. Act now!

A bus is being chartered from the Bay Area. Joy Becker (731-3053) and David Lourea (626-9637) are coordinating Ahavat Shalom's participation in the conference. For more info, refer to the enclosed flyer!

ALEICHEM SHALOM -- SIBLING NEWS

Chevrie Tikva in Cleveland presented an impressive schedule of workshops, study sessions and entertainment for the Midwest Regional Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews...The Northeast Regional Conference was held August 19-21 in the beautiful Berkshire foothills of Dutchess County, New York-- an area that knows from gorgeous. Congregations from as far away as Montreal attended. As well as Bet Mispachah from Washington DC and Beth Simchat Torah from New York City...Members of Chicago's Congregation Or Chadash went together to see the Names Quilt during its stay in that town...And a blanket congratulations go out to all our sibling congregations who planned and participated in Lesbian Gay Freedom Day parades and events during the last week of June. We know it takes more courage to stand up and be counted across the country than for us here in San Francisco.

PREPARING FOR ADOPTION?

Jewish Family and Children's Services announces a workshop series for prospective adoptive parents. Conducted by Lynne Fingermann, MSW, the meetings will combine guest speakers and presentations with group discussion. Topics will include resolving infertility and the decision to adopt; independent, agency and inter-country adoption; special issues in raising adopted children; and understanding adoption from three perspectives- adoptive parent, birth parent and adoptee.

לשנה טובה תכתבו
NEW YEAR GREETINGS



Members of the Western Region of the
World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations
Cordially Invite You To

SHARE ... CELEBRATE ... GROW

at the Second Western Regional Conference of Gay, Lesbian
and Bisexual Jews

BE STRONG, BE STRONG AND TOGETHER
WE WILL BE STRENGTHENED

חזק חזק ונתחזק

To be held October 7-9 (Columbus Day weekend) at Camp Sholom
in the Malibu hills, on the beautiful California coast
(40 miles northwest of Los Angeles).

Join together in a relaxing atmosphere of warm camaraderie with old and new friends; enjoy a fun-filled weekend of workshops, social activities, worship, recreation, and good food in a beautiful hillside setting.

REGISTRATION FEE - includes lodging, all activities, events, and meals from Friday's Shabbat dinner through Sunday's lunch and is between \$99 and \$125 for the entire weekend. Your registration kit will include information about early reservation discounts

For complete registration information send this form today.

Mail To: Western Regional Conference (415) 861-6932
c/o Congregation Sha'ar Zahav
220 Danvers Street
San Francisco, CA 94114 PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

SPACE IS LIMITED SO ACT NOW!

YAHREZEITEN

Sept. 13 Tillie Dubin,
mother of David Lourea

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

September 5, Monday
Board Meeting
Home of Steven Fritsch Rudser
4355 18th Street, 8:00 PM

SEPTEMBER SHABBOT CALENDAR

September 10, Saturday,
Shabbot Morning Services
10:30 AM, 4355 18th Street
(NOTE: Change in location)

September 11, Sunday, 7:30 PM
Erev Rosh Hashanah
Swedish-American Hall, 2174 Market
Sedra: Gen. 21:1-34, Num. 29:1-6
Haftarah: I Samuel 1:2-10
Candle Lighting: 7:06
Co-Leaders: Dubi Barcan and
Emily Rosenberg
Sermon: Joy Becker

*****NEWSLETTER DEADLINE*****

September 12, Monday, 10:30 AM
Rosh Hashanah Day
MCC, 150 Eureka Street
Sedra: Gen. 22:1-24, Num. 29:1-6
Haftarah: Jeremiah 31:1-20
Candle Lighting: 7:06 PM
(Second Night)
Co-Leaders: Debra Lobel and
David Lourea
Sermon: David May

Tashlikh at the waterfall at Stow
Lake following Rosh Hashanah
morning services.

September 20, Tuesday, 7:30 PM
Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre)
Swedish-American Hall, 2174 Market
Candle Lighting: 6:52 PM
Co-Leaders: Steven Fritsch
Rudser and Arlene Krantz
Sermon: Rabbi Allen Bennett

September 21, Wednesday, 10:30 AM
Yom Kippur Morning
MCC, 150 Eureka Street
Sedra: Lev. 16, Num. 29:7-11
Haftarah: Isaiah 57:14-58
Co-Leaders: Rob Montague and
Gary Carr
Sermon: Ira Kulkin

Friday Sedra: Ki-Tavo,
Sept. 2 Deut. 26:1-29:8
Haftarah: Isaiah 60:1-22
Leader: Steven
Fritsch Rudser
Candle Lighting: 7:19

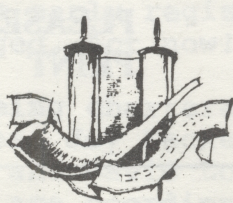
Friday Sedra: Nitzavim,
Sept. 9 Deut. 29:9-30:20
Haftarah: Isaiah 61:10-63:9
Leader: Michael Gitt
Candle Lighting: 7:09

Saturday Shabbat Morning Services
Sept. 10 4355 18th Street, 10:30 AM
(NOTE: Change in location)

Friday Sedra: Va-Yelekh
Sept. 16 Deut. 31:1-30
Haftarah: Hosea 14:2-10,
Joel 2:15-17
Leader: Rabbi Allen Bennett
Candle Lighting: 6:58

Friday Sedra: Ha-azinu,
Sept. 23 Deut. 32:1-52
Haftarah: II Samuel 22
Leader: Joy Becker
Candle Lighting: 6:47

Friday Sedra: Exodus 33:12-34:26,
Sept. 30 Num. 29:26-34
Haftarah: Ezekiel
38:18-39:16
Leader: David May
Candle Lighting: 6:36



L'SHANAH TOVAH