

CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

May 20, 2006 · 89 West Carlton Road, Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org ה' אייר שבת פרשת בהר-בחקתי

ערב שבת פרשת בהר-בחקתי

* מנחה: 7:00 PM

** הדלקת נרות: 7:20 PM

Regular Candle Lighting 7:54 PM

שבת פרשת בהר-בחקתי

שחרית 8:45 AM

סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:13 AM

פרקי אבות 6:05 PM

נמרא שיעור 6:55 PM

מנחה 7:40 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 8:48 PM

Sunday שחרית 7:45 AM

Weekday שחרית

Mon. and Thurs.: 6:20 and 7:45 AM

Tues. Wed, and Fri.: 6:30 and 7:45 AM

Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sun., through Thurs.: 8:00 PM

ערב שבת פרשת במדבר

* מנחה: 7:00 PM

** הדלקת נרות: 7:20 PM

Regular Candle Lighting: 8:00 PM

* Early mincha for the summer

** Shul Accepts Shabbos

Shiurim

Sundays at 8:30 AM – **מסכת סנהדרין** – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Mondays at 6:30 PM – **מסכת ברכות** – Rabbi Chaim Wein

Mondays at 8:00 PM - Hachnosas Kallah of Monsey lectures for women. –This week's speaker is Rabbi Yakov Horowitz.

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah

Wednesdays at 8:15 PM - **ספר עזרא** - Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Monday through Friday after the second - **פרשת השבוע עם רש"י** – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Monday through Thursday at 9:45 AM - **נמרא** shiur - Rabbi Leibel Reznick

דף היומי I, Monday through Friday 5:25 AM and Sunday at 6:30 AM – Mordechai Rudman

דף היומי II, Monday through Thursday 1 hour before מנחה and Sunday at 9:30 AM – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Women's תהלים group meets on שבת 45 minutes before מנחה.

Shul Announcements

The entire congregation is invited to a **Kiddush** sponsored by Abe and Phyllis Frankel, in honor of the birth of their granddaughter. There will be a special **Shalosh Seudos** this week in honor of Mitch Leifer. Men and women are invited to attend.

We are pleased to announce that **Rabbi Berel Wein** will be joining us for a breakfast on Sunday morning, June 18th at 9:30 a.m. Rabbi Wein will speak in the shul at 10:00 a.m. Please reserve the date.

Please reserve June 24 for the **Simcha Tea**. Details to follow.

New Pricing for Bais Torah Sisterhood Occasion Cards--Cards may be purchased and picked up from Esther Garber at the Bais Torah office for \$5 per card or \$100 for 25 cards . Cards sent out from the Bais Torah office (includes postage and handling) will be \$10 per card.

The shul extends its **sincere appreciation** to all the members and friends who gave so much chizuk and support to the shul by attending the 31st annual Bais Torah dinner last Sunday night. Many thanks to the honorees, Steve & Jackie Fessel, Michael Rossman, Betty Schloss and Moe Tilson, and the entire dinner committee who helped make the dinner such an outstanding success. Pictures of the dinner are posted on the shul website, www.baistorah.org

A community-wide **Yom Yerushalayim** celebration will be held Thursday evening, May 25, at Congregation Ohaiv Yisroel, 30 Blueberry Hill Road at 8:00 PM. The guest speaker is Rabbi Yehuda Felix who is currently an Educational Coordinator at the Jewish Agency and the founder of Orot Israel Colege for Women. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Mazal Tov to **Mordechai Kronenberg** and his parents, Michael and Sharon Kronenberg, on Mordechai receiving the prestigious Frankel-Zitzer family award at the upcoming Yeshiva Shaarei Torah Dinner on Thursday evening, May 25th at the Atrium. Anyone interested in joining the Bais Torah delegation which will be attending, please see Carl Markowitz or Peter Katz.

Mazel Tov

Abe and Phyllis Frankel on the birth of a granddaughter, born to Sholom and Pamela Frankel.

Ben and Fran Horwitz on the birth of a granddaughter, born to Cheryl and Aryeh Edelman.

Debra Sapir graduating Magna Cum Laude with Highest Honors in Jewish History and Civilization from NYU College of Arts & Science. Debra received the Gary Bruce Slochowsky Memorial Award for excellence in Hebrew and Judaic Studies, is a University Honors Scholar and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Alan and Malkie Zamore on the birth of a grandson, born to Mordechai and Cheryl Rosenberg.

Refuah Shelaimah

Michael Rossman's mother, Ilse Rossman - **יעמץ בת שרה**

Mr. Shapiro - **חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה**

Ben Zauderer - **בנימין בן בילה**

Shirlee Aaronson - **שרה חנה בת בלומא**

Jerry and Roz Seigel's son, Yoni - **יהונתן בן שושנה**

Sara Markowitz's father, Eli Muller - **חיים אליעזר בן בתיה**

How to Reach Us

Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb 357-3913, rabbigottlieb@yahoo.com – Daytime emergency 362-8362

President Peter Katz, 357-0129 peter@pkatech.com

Treasurer Barry Lifschitz, 352-0226, Fax 352-0841 or barry@lifschitz.net

Maintenance Yis Helprin 494-7446

Chesed Committee Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

Bikur Cholim Eveline Kranzler, 352-8410 and

Chosh Levy, 425-6827

Shul Secretary Esther Garber, 352-1343

Sisterhood Liaison Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833

Lost and Found Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895

Chevre Kadisha Steve Fessel, 425-1713, Ephraim Pessin, 914-420-6714 or Gloria Gordon, 425-1276

Sisterhood Tribute Cards Esther Garber, 352-1343

Bais Torah Bulletins Email baistorah@taxprof.net, Fax (845) 368-4172, or call (845) 368-2222. To receive e-mail updates, write to baistorah@aol.com. This bulletin is now downloadable from the web at www.baistorah.org.

Simcha Room Reservations/Kiddushim Jack Gross, 357-4121

Eiruv 362-4302

Mikvah 425-6101

Youth Felise Katz 357-0129

Hachnosas Orchim Facility for homeless, Shea Jacobs 425-9617

In Case of Emergency

The **red Hatzoloh phone** is in the hallway on the wall between the rear washing station and the Simcha Room.

The **defibrillator** is in a cubby in the coat room opposite the Hatzoloh phone.

Parashat Behar-Bechukotai – 5766 - "HaShem Spoke to Moshe on Mount Sinai" The “Man of Elokim” and the “Mountain of Elokim”

At the beginning of his career; that is, at the beginning of his appointment as leader of the People of Israel, Moshe received a Prophetic vision at the Burning Bush, in the vicinity of Har Sinai. When Moshe resisted the appointment, HaShem gave him miraculous signs to make the People believe in Moshe's leadership, and He said to Moshe, "And this is a sign **for you** that it is I Who is sending you: When you take the Nation out of Egypt, they will worship 'Elokim' **at this mountain.**" (Shemot 3:12) The Zohar says on the Passuk Shemot 3:1, "And he came to the Mountain of 'Elokim,' at Chorev," as follows: "He alone, without the sheep. R' Yehudah said, 'It was comparable to the reaction of iron to a magnet. When iron is in the presence of the magnet, it jumps to the magnet. So were Moshe and Har Sinai, when they appeared one to the other, Moshe skipped upon it; that is the meaning of, 'And he came to the Mountain of 'Elokim,' at Chorev.' R' Abba said, 'They were prepared for each other from the Six days of Creation. And on that Day, when the mountain felt Moshe's presence, and saw him entering into it and skipping upon it, the Mountain stood tall; this teaches that each rejoiced in the other.' "(Zohar Shemot 379) It is very interesting to note that in the three verses preceding the encounter between HaShem and Moshe at the Burning Bush, the Name "Elokim" appears five times suggesting, perhaps, successive "tzimtzumim," "contractions" as HaShem "approached" the world to intervene in its history. The last three of these are, "...And 'Elokim' remembered His covenant with Avraham, with Yitzchak and with Yaakov," " 'Elokim' saw the Children of Israel," and " 'Elokim' understood." (Shemot 3:24-25) The "Man of Elokim," as Moshe is called when he blesses the Children of Israel before his death (Devarim 33:1), and the "Mountain of Elokim" were fated to meet for the purposes of "Torah" and "Tefila" and "Gilui Shechinah," the Teaching of Torah and for Moshe's Prayer in behalf of his People, and for the Revelation of HaShem's Presence in the World to the eyes of Israel and all of the nations.

In Parshat Yitro, the Torah describes the scene, "And Moshe took the People out towards 'Elokim' from the camp, and they stood at the foot of the Mountain. And Mount Sinai was altogether involved in smoke, because HaShem had descended upon it in fire, and its smoke rose as the smoke of an oven, and the Mountain trembled greatly. And there was the blast of a Shofar, growing increasingly loud, Moshe would speak, and 'Elokim' would answer him in thunder." (Shemot 19:17-19). Then HaShem spoke the Ten Commandments, as it says, "And 'Elokim' spoke all these Utterances, saying:" (Shemot 20:1) After the People would betray HaShem at the foot of Sinai, due to a miscalculation of time (Shemot 32:1) (perhaps this is what Moshe alludes to when he prays in "Tefila LeMoshe," "Teach us to count our days"), Moshe would first pray to save the People from destruction, "Moshe pleaded before HaShem, his 'Elokim' ..." (Shemot 32:11), then in another forty days convert the Divine anger again to love, and then yet another forty days receiving the Torah a second time, this time "for keeps," not to be returned.

Our Parshah begins, "And HaShem spoke to Moshe at Har Sinai, saying:" (Vayikra 25:1) and proceeds to teach the Command of Shemittah, the seven year cycle of agricultural activity and monetary loan cancellation. RASHI asks, "What is the connection between Shemittah and Har Sinai? Were not all of the Commands spoken at Sinai?" And RASHI answers, "It was to teach that just as all the Laws of Shemittah, the general principles and the particulars, were taught at Sinai, so was it with all the Commands of the Torah, that everything was taught to Moshe on Har Sinai." (Torat Kohanim on Parshat Behar 1:1)

Moshe Rabbeinu prayed, as mentioned above, "Teach us to count our days." As we count the Days of the Sefira, approaching the great Holiday of Shavuot, the "Time of the Giving of the Torah," let us try to be more like Moshe, the Man of "Elokim." For the greatness of Moshe, according to the RAMBAM in Hilchot Teshuvah (5:2), is somehow within the reach of every human being. PF