



CONGREGATION  
B'NAI TORAH

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MAZEL TOV

David and Jessica Firestone

Married 3/14/15

Love you both and so proud of you!!

~Diane~

**May 17 11:45 Congregational Luncheon, Annual Meeting and Silent Art Auction.**

Come and enjoy a board sponsored lunch while attending the Annual Meeting.

Children welcome (religious school children are invited to come and eat before going to school at 12:30).

Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

RSVP to Jessica by May 10th to [jhailerg3@gmail.com](mailto:jhailerg3@gmail.com)

All members are encouraged to attend. We will have a short educational program with the Rabbi followed by the annual Synagogue update and attend to Congregational business, including election of Trustees to the Board.

Your vote and input is very important. Please plan to attend.

Visit us online at **[www.bnai-torah-colorado.org](http://www.bnai-torah-colorado.org)**

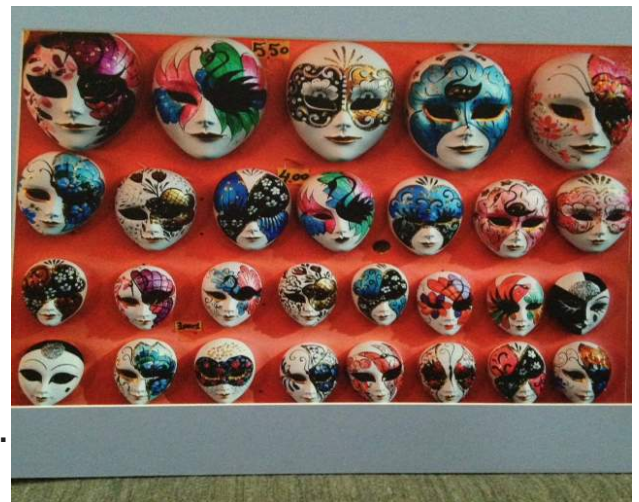
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**Congregation-Bnai-Torah**



## Silent Art Auction

Congregation B'nai Torah is honored to have 12 beautifully matted and/or framed Photographs by Joe Shander for auction. Joe was an award winning photographer. His photography covered a variety of different places, flowers, and interesting subjects. They are expertly matted and framed. Those that have not been framed have been matted to enhance the photo. Most of the photos were entered in various Photography Shows throughout Metro Denver.



Many of you know that Joe and Jo Shander have been members of Congregation B'nai Torah for many years. Joe passed away in November of 2104. Joe worked for AT&T prior to retiring. He and Jo traveled extensively. His love was photography. And it shows in everything he did.

We hope you will join us at the Annual Meeting May 17 and take a look at these wonderful photos. Opening bids for the framed ones start at \$175. Opening bids for the matted photos at \$60. Anyone of these terrific photos will enhance your home or office!

### **B'Nai Torah Mitzvah Committee**

The Mitzvah Committee is here for CBT's members in times of need. Contact Elissa at 303-666-0853 or [eroselyn@mindspring.com](mailto:eroselyn@mindspring.com) if you or another member you know is in need of help (such as a health crisis) or if you are interested in being called when a need arises.



With Passover recently past, and leftover matzah in the pantry, I thought it was a good time to reflect on what the holiday means to me. Growing up in New York, most Passovers were spent with my aunt and uncle near Paramus, New Jersey. My brothers and I still bear the emotional scars of long, drawn out seders filled with tables of inedible food. To this day, saying the word 'kasha' in my brother's presence will yield visible shivers, and I still have a difficult time eating bowtie pasta. There was also the year my mother and brothers left the seder early to go see Bob Seger in concert without me. Yes, the scars of seders past are there.

It wasn't always as painful as I make it out to be. I remember the time we got into the Manischewitz wine, and sang 'Joy to the World, all the way home. Imagine three boys in the back of the family station wagon, singing 'Jeremiah was a bullfrog' all the way home. And I do mean, ALL the way home. Maybe we left some scars of our own.

Passover has taken on a different meaning over recent years. Passover has been spent with family friends, having a casual, low-key seder. We take turns reading from a haggadah that has personal meaning to the hostess. Nolan works hard to master the four questions, and never has competition finding the afikomen. These family friends have a special place in our hearts as we met them through Chance. He and Sam, their youngest, attended Jewish overnight camp together for six years and plan to go to Israel together this summer. The smallness of our world is evident when this family, who previously lived in St. Louis, moved less than a mile away from us in Lafayette and now the boys not only see each other in the summers, but also daily at school. Dayanu – it would have been enough that our son made lifetime friends at Jewish camp, but instead, we made lifetime friends with his family, as well.

In the days leading up to Passover, Ilene goes hunting for the over-sized box of matzah, and all the macaroons she can find, before they all disappear. One or two nights before Passover begins, Ilene and the boys make chocolate covered matzah to help us through the week. As the years have gone by, the volume they make has increased, as we began making batches for friends in the area. It's become a tradition of its own, and we always love passing it out in batches geared for one family or another.

One challenge is finding new and exciting ways to dress up matzah. Never a fan of matzah brei, my options are a bit limited from the start. Matzah pizza lasted a year or two before we started remembering that it was never as good as it sounded. Matzah with cream cheese and salt doesn't get boring as quickly, nor does butter, jelly and salt. Something about the salt makes the matzah a little less like dry crackers.

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A few years ago we found that melting Swiss cheese between layers of matzah works as a nice snack at work with very little preparation. Matzah, peanut butter and jelly will also do in a pinch, but takes prep time and tends to get soggy if it sits too long. I usually manage to fumble through a box during the week, and we manage to finish another one at home.

Whether I'm complaining about the blandness of matzah or enjoying time and wine with our growing number of Jewish friends, Passover never fails to be a memorable time of year for me.

I'd like to share our family's chocolate covered matzah recipe with you all: **See 'Cooking Corner'**

*~Scott Raynes*

## National Jewish Outreach Program

This coming fall, the adult Hebrew class will resume our studies. The NJOP (National Jewish Outreach Program), will again sponsor us as we participate in their *Hebrew Reading Crash Course, Level II*. During our studies we will read Ein Keloheynu, Adon Olam, Modeh Ani, and Lechca Dodi as we begin to learn Hebrew grammar.

The NJOP, headquartered in New York (found on the web at, [njop.org](http://njop.org)), was established in 1987 and sponsors many nation-wide events including *Shabbat Across America*, an annual CBT event. We are proud to offer the NJOP sponsored *Hebrew Reading Crash Course*.

If you are interested in learning more about the Adult Hebrew class, please contact Jessica Rothman or Ellen Pilecki.



# kids corner

## RELIGIOUS SCHOOL DOINGS...

With the small group of mixed ages in the younger class Roberta is able to concentrate on each age's abilities, At the beginning of term the older children reviewed the book that taught the Hebrew alphabet and began the book that teaches blessings, grammar and vocabulary. They completed learning about Genesis last term and are learning Exodus this term but will focus on Hebrew for the rest of term. They receive coloring sheets that go along with the Torah stories. They've been told the story of Moses, the exodus from Egypt and wandering the desert for 40 years. Just before Passover Roberta will teach the class about the holiday(along with a Hagaddah) so they can learn about the order and the reasons for the traditional foods. The younger children are included in learning the stories and are the learning Hebrew alphabet.

Robert saw Benjamin Jacobi through a very successful Bar Mitzvah (Ben worked very hard and is continuing to attend) and continues to work with the future Bar and Bat Mitzvahs.



The childrens school making hamantaschen for Purim.





### **Volunteer Spotlight: Ellen Pilecki**

I was born and raised in a Reform Jewish family in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. My husband and young daughter and I moved west to Casper, Wyoming in the early 1980s and then in the early 1990s, my family which had grown to four, moved to Denver. We joined CBT in 1993. Soon after that, I joined the Board of Trustees and took responsibility for the Religious School. I was honored to hand that responsibility to Stacey Jessen who served the Religious School masterfully for many years and I remained active on the Board. I have been less active in the congregation, after serving as President, focusing my attentions on my growing family.

My interests revolve around my family. Both of my daughters, Stella Fowler and Golda Sheets live in the northern Denver suburbs. I delight in participating in their lives and sharing their experiences. I work as an English Teacher in the Adams 12 Five Star School District. It is work that consumes me. Lately I spend a portion of my time in a cross-fit program. I have knit Special Olympic scarves with the synagogue and baked cookies to share with community members for Purim, and so much more.

I am pleased to be supporting CBT by teaching the adult Hebrew Reading Crash Course sponsored by NJOP.

## **Yahrzeits**

**June 1st-Bernice Ackerman**

**June 2nd-Loius Neyman**





# *Birthdays*

## **May**

**2nd**-Nolan Raynes  
**3rd**-Golda Pilecki & Melissa Fear  
**8th**-Maya Schwartz  
**12th**-Linda Gilmore  
**13th**-Greg Schroeder  
**22nd**-Diane Firestone  
**24th**-Harry Wagner  
**25th**-Emily Schroeder & Leslie Dias  
**27th**-Audrey Hahn



## **June**

**1st**-Andrew Hakim  
**16th**-Halli Rose & Mike Sytner & Joann Freedman  
**17th**-Caleb Sytner & Alex Dias  
**25th**-Jessica Rothman-Guerra  
**26th**-Jim Hendricks  
**29th**-Leah Barclay

# *Anniversaries*

## **May**

**21st**-Lee & Lori Hakim  
**24th**-Sharie & John Habegger

## **June**

**1st**-Paul Franks & Lynette Lobmeyer  
**3rd**-Alice & Karl Schneider  
**5th**-Stacey & Ron Jessen  
**7th**-Sarah & Hal Levison & Elissa Roselyn & Mike Dias  
**15th**-Linda & Robert Gilmore  
**16th**-Paula & Ray Farkas





# Cooking Corner

## Chocolate Covered Matzah

Ingredients:

5 sheets of matzah

1 cup butter

1 cup brown sugar

2 cups chocolate chips

2 cups chopped nuts (optional) and/or

Crushed toffee candy (optional)

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Line an 11 x 17 inch pan with foil and grease the foil with butter or line the pan with parchment paper.

Line pan with the matzah sheets.

Melt the brown sugar and butter over medium heat. Once melted, boil undisturbed for 3 minutes.

Remove from heat. Pour mixture over matzah. Spread mixture with a spoon so it covers as much of the matzah as possible.

Bake in the preheated oven for 5 minutes.

Remove from oven. Sprinkle matzah sheets with the chocolate chips. Let stand for a few minutes until melted and spread the chocolate with the back of a spoon.

To submit your favorite recipe, please email: [amy\\_gartin@hotmail.com](mailto:amy_gartin@hotmail.com)





# Upcoming Events

## May

- 8th**-7:00pm Shabbat Service (Lag B'OMer)
- 9th**-10:00am Adult Education
- 17th**-12:00pm Annual Congregation Meeting (RSVP Required)
- 22nd**-7:00pm Shabbat Service
- 24th**-Shavout

## June

- 6th**-Book Club/Potluck 6:00pm
- 12th**-7:00pm Shabbat Service
- 13th**-Adult Education 10:00am
- 21th**- Board Meeting 12:30pm
- 26th**- 7:00pm Services

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Rabbi Anat Moskowitz  
(719) 351-0647  
moskobain@comcast.net

Personal Appointments may be scheduled on an individual basis  
To contribute to the post, please email  
amy\_gartin@hotmail.com



Congregation B’Nai Torah gratefully acknowledges that much of our support comes in the form of donations from our members and visitors. We have included the below donation form in the B’Nai Torah Post to simplify the donation process. Thank you for your generosity.

I would like to make the following donation to Congregation B’Nai Torah:

The contribution amount \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
anniversary • birth • graduation • appreciation • birthday • marriage • bar or bat mitzvah

My name \_\_\_\_\_

My address \_\_\_\_\_

My phone number \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Congregation B’Nai Torah, 3990 W. 74th Avenue, Westminster, CO 80030.