



# CONGREGATION B'NAI TORAH

May - June 2018

## 2017-2018 Board of Trustees

Erin Barclay  
Deborah Doleshal  
Barbara Jacobs  
Jessica Rothman

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## Officers

### President

Scott Raynes

### Treasurer

*vacant*

### Secretary

Diane Firestone

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### Rabbi

Rabbi Anat Moskowitz

### Bookkeeper

Dee-Ann Failing

### Religious School Coordinator

Barbara Jacobs

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## A message from the President ...

As our fiscal year winds down and we head into Summer, it's a great time to reflect on the year and peek into what's ahead.

In 2017-18, we saw two of our students become Bat Mitzvahs: Aydia Kaplan and Leah Barclay. Mazel Tov to both families. I'm happy to note that Aydia returned as a teacher's aide to help her peers in their studies, while Ben Jacobi, another former Bar Mitzvah, helped out the younger students.

We introduced several new programming items including a Mah-Jong group, PJ Library visits and Saturday morning services. We continued our adult education and book groups, and included our annual latke and hamantaschen-making events.

Two of our bigger events came at the end of April and beginning of May. Our Mock Israel Trip (read more below) was held on April 29<sup>th</sup>, and Sababa rocked B'nai Torah on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Both were well attended and very well received. See photos from both events below.

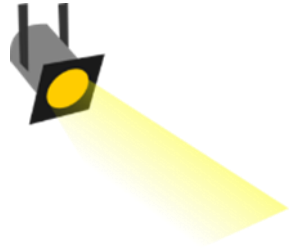
We also began focusing more on privacy concerns with our Facebook page and created a private page for communicating events that necessitate a smaller audience. If you aren't on Facebook, don't worry. We will continue emailing event information and posting on our [website](#) which we migrated to a brand new platform. If you haven't seen it yet, please check it out. Feedback is always welcome.

We always seek to improve our offerings to our members, and welcome feedback, comments and concerns. As always, thank you for your continued membership and support.

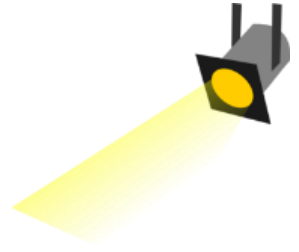
Sincerely,

Scott Raynes





## Volunteer Spotlight:



Many of our volunteers hide in the background. You might not even notice them if you weren't paying attention. But they always seem to be around, offering helping hands and being involved in some part of the activity. This month I'd like to call your attention to two such volunteers: Lyric and Hadarah (Haddie) Martin. This quiet pairing spent over a half hour washing dishes during our Shabbat Across America dinner. They weren't asked to do it and they certainly didn't complain about it. In fact, when thanked, they shyly and humbly nodded and responded with a quiet acknowledgment. You couldn't ask for two more unassuming heroes who jump in and lend a hand whenever there's a need.

This certainly isn't their first or only contribution. They have been spotted in the kitchen before, as well as helping clean up and assist in some other way. Their parents should be very proud, as we all are, to have such amazing kids. The entire Martin family helps out, including Lucie who happily opens the ark and generally looks adorable. A sincere statement of our appreciation to Lyric, Haddie and the entire Martin family for helping out!



## Religious School update

On April 29<sup>th</sup>, we took the entire religious school on a mock trip to Israel. What an **AMAZING** event! Barb Jacobs, our beloved Religious School Administrator planned a virtual tour of the major stops in Israel. After receiving their passports, our students were escorted by security (Jeff Bain and Jillian Liese) through the airport and onto El Al flight # 5 to Israel. The passengers boarded the plane where our captain (Michael Penka) and flight attendants (Rachel Osborn and Dee-Ann Failing) lead us through safety instructions and served a light, in-flight snack prior to landing in Tel Aviv. A copy of the NY Times from the day Israel was declared a state was handed around during the flight.

After a quick stop at customs where our agents (Carol Roberts and Michelle Zeles-Hahn) stamped passports, our tour guide (Rabbi Moskowitz) led the group to Independence Hall where David Ben Gurion (Chance Raynes) read the proclamation of the State of Israel. Then on to Jerusalem where we enjoyed lunch at the Israeli market. We dined on falafel, Israeli chopped salad, hummus, fresh vegetables and pita bread. A guide (Roberta Feinsmith) explained about placing prayers in the Western Wall, which was our next stop. After writing prayers, the students inserted the slips of paper into the Wall. Music was provided throughout the trip by our cantorial soloist (Diane Firestone).

To top it all off, our group climbed Masada and witnessed a scribe (Robert Barclay) inscribing a Torah. Then we took a quick hop back to Denver where we concluded our trip.

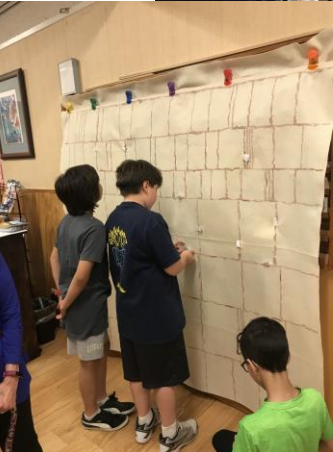
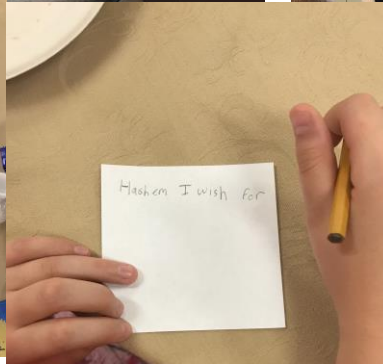
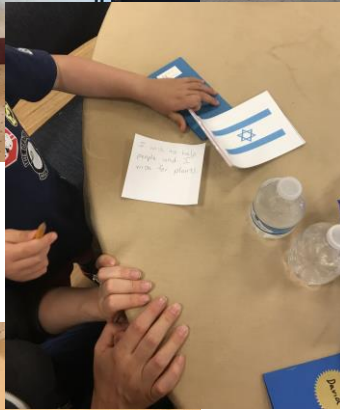
A tremendous thanks to Barb Jacobs for putting it all together, and to all of the parents and volunteers that made the trip so special!



Barbara Jacobs, Religious School Administrator



# Mock Israel Trip!





Sababa Rocks CBT!



## Annual Congregation Meeting Summary

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, we held our annual congregation meeting. Rabbi Moskowitz started us off, and I followed by reading our mission statement and offering a brief D'var Torah (see below). Barbara Jacobs provided a summary of the year's religious school activities including curriculum and special events. She reminded us that Chance Raynes will be departing, and we're excited to have Aneesha Parone replace him as our 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher next year. Deborah Doleshal discussed her efforts to introduce the congregation to different and healthier food options at onegs and other food-related events. Then I briefly introduced the candidates for officers and interim trustees at large. I'm happy to report that all candidates were successful, and your 2018-19 Board of Trustees will be:

- Officers
  - President - Scott Raynes
  - Secretary - Emily Brandsdorfer
  - Treasurer - Jill Kingen
- Trustees at Large
  - Deborah Doleshal (returning)
  - Erin Barclay (returning)
  - Chantal Rotondo
  - Diane Firestone
  - Jillian Liese

Membership update: We are now 64 family units with the recent addition of Pamela Wojahn. If you don't know her, be sure to say hello and welcome her to CBT. Pamela is a BIG Star Trek Next Generation fan.

I have a few special items to report as well. Barbara Jacobs has agreed to return as our Religious School coordinator for another year. Additionally, Rabbi Moskowitz has agreed to renew her contract for another two years. Yay! On the downside, Barb Jacobs and Jessica Rothman agreed to step down from the Board to make room for new faces. I want to express my very sincere appreciation for all they've done for the Board and the congregation as a whole. Both will stay involved and attend meetings, but no longer serve as Trustees at Large. We also acknowledge and appreciate Diane Firestone stepping into the interim Secretary role when we needed.

Finally, I took a moment to acknowledge the Fundraising committee, as well as a special nod to Paula Emeson. Paula, who until recently was the only member of the Fundraising committee, introduced the King Soopers card program which infuses approximately \$3,500 annually into the CBT coffers. In fact, the King Soopers card program has netted over \$17,500 since July 2013. Paula has been joined by Emily Brandsdorfer, Jill Kingen, Erin Barclay, Marsha Corn, Stef Schroeder and Cat Palmer. Together they have introduced several initiatives including Dine and Donate dinners, and a congregational garage sale. They are also coordinating the Rabbi's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary gala event on October 14<sup>th</sup>. Thank you to this amazing group of volunteers for all that you do!



## B'midbar / Bamidbar

*(In the Wilderness)*

B'midbar is the first portion in the Book of Numbers. The Jews have left Mount Sinai and beginning their long journey to the Land of Israel. The portion focuses mainly on Moses taking a census. All men, 20 years of age and older, are counted by tribe. There is a full counting of the men in each tribe, except for the Levites who God instructs Moses not to count.

In researching the portion, there were several avenues of discussion.

- Existing as a number and not an individual
- The setting apart of the Levites who were set in charge of the Tabernacle
- Why women were not counted, only men

The thing that called to me is the establishing of order. Each tribe is counted with a detailed recording of their numbers.

*Camped on the front, or east side (of the Tabernacle): the standard of the division of Judah, troop by troop. Chieftain of the Judites: Nahshon son of Amminadab. His troop, as enrolled: 74,600.*

*Camping next to it: The tribe of Issachar. Chieftain of the Issacharites: Nethanel son of Zuar. His troop, as enrolled: 54,400.*

I think the idea of recording and accounting speaks to me. When I started on the Board, I began gathering documentation and trying to gain a better understanding of what happens behind the scenes. Since then, I've worked on organizing the congregation's files, giving them a logical arrangement that could be followed. More recently, I worked on our electronic files and records, establishing a retention schedule to determine how long membership applications and visitor logs should be kept. Yeah, I'm a freak. But it's in our nature to categorize and organize information. It helps us make sense of the world around us. We meet someone and use their appearance to begin classifying them in a way that helps us put them into context, and we do it without even thinking about it.

So how does this relate to the portion? Maybe it's a way of creating order; dividing the houses into tribes, and arranging them in a logical manner. Setting them to specific locations and knowing their numbers. Establishing a division of labor, with the Levites responsible for the Tabernacle, etc.

I don't know or pretend to know. When I read this portion, I cringed. But we all seek to understand God's nature. It's inherent in all of us. Maybe by taking a census of our surroundings is how we try to understand God just a little bit.



## CBT's Most Wanted



There are so many ways to get involved:

- Attend Board meetings - We encourage members to attend a board meeting once a year. Come and spend 2 hours with us one Sunday and gain an understanding of how the Board serves the congregation, and the decisions we make on its behalf. Meetings are usually held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month from 12:30pm until 2:30pm (aligns with Religious School).
- Host an Oneg - Hosting an Oneg is an easy way to get involved in the community. Signing up to bring food after services allows you to engage with members at a deeper level and support the congregation in a fun way. To learn more, [contact Deborah Doleshal](#), our Oneg Coordinator.
- Volunteering - There are numerous opportunities to get connected with the CBT community:
  - Join a committee
  - Help with a fundraiser like our Purim baskets
  - Staff our booth at the Boulder Jewish Festival
  - Participate in the Purim Spiel
  - Coordinate an event like the 'Lunch and Learns' or community dinners

Interested in helping to make our congregation stronger? Have other ideas on ways to volunteer? Contact a board member or email us at [bnaitorahpres@gmail.com](mailto:bnaitorahpres@gmail.com). We'd love to hear from you.





## Other ways to get support CBT:



*Did you know Amazon.com will donate a portion of your purchases to the non-profit organization of your choice? They will if you go to [www.smile.amazon.com](http://www.smile.amazon.com) when you shop. In short, CBT can benefit from the purchases you're already making. Please consider signing up for the program, and selecting 'Congregation Bnai Torah' as your designated organization. For additional details and Frequently Asked Questions, please visit the Amazon Smile Program [FAQ](#) page.*



Have you signed up for Vanco yet? Vanco allows members to pay their dues and make donations electronically. Setting up electronic payments is easy, and helps ensure that CBT maintains a consistent financial state.

Electronic transfers or credit card payments can be set up at regular intervals including monthly, quarterly and annually using the Vanco link on our website at the top of the page.

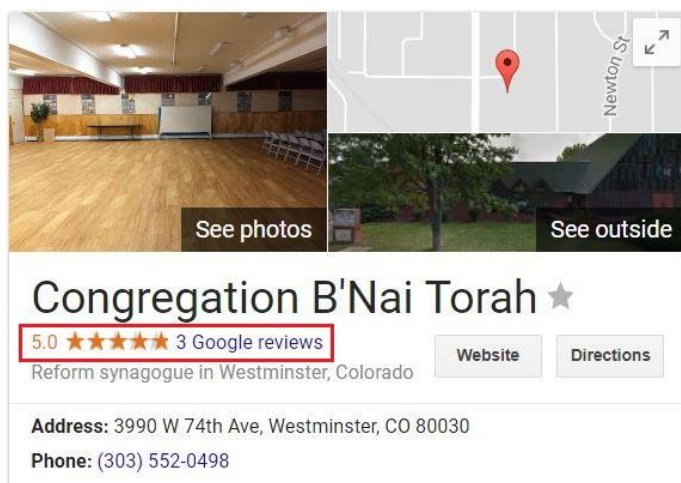


The King Soopers card program is an easy way to help CBT without financial commitment. Pre-load money that you normally spend on groceries onto the gift card. Then simply pay with the gift card when you go shopping. You can even load the card right at the register before they start ringing up your groceries. CBT gets a percentage of purchases paid with those cards.

If you're interested in obtaining a card, please contact [Paula Emeson](#) or click [here](#) for more information.

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## Give us a review [on Google](#):



### ○ Birthdays

Nolan Raynes	5/2	Diane Firestone	5/22	Joann Freedman	6/16
Melissa Fear	5/3	Emily Schroeder	5/25	Ana Greer	6/16
Julia Metlay	5/3	Leslie Dias	5/25	Joel Rosenfeld	6/16
Golda Pilecki	5/3	Audrey Hahn	5/27	Alex Dias	6/17
Josh Kingen	5/3	Pamela Wojahn	5/27	Howard Handler	6/17
Avi Bender	5/5	Peter Rotondo	5/31	Daniel Goodman	6/17
David Israel	5/7	Arlene Lang	6/3	Lucie Martin	6/21
Karen Hartman	5/7	Felix Osborn	6/5	Jessica Rothman	6/25
Maya Schwartz	5/8	Arthur Israel	6/8	Jim Hendricks	6/26
Linda Gilmore	5/12	Suzanne Metlay	6/8	Leah Barclay	6/29
Greg Schroeder	5/13	Olivia Corn	6/11	Johanna Perry	6/29
Zachary Doleshal	5/15	Jeff Bain	6/14		
Jasper Osborn	5/17	Halli Rose	6/16		

### ○ Anniversaries

Heather & David Israel	5/5	Sarah & Hal Levison	6/7
Mike & Suzanne Metlay	5/20	Elissa Roselyn & Mike Dias	6/7
Sharie & John Habegger	5/24	Linda & Robert Gilmore	6/15
Deborah & Todd Doleshal	5/25	Paula & Ray Farkas	6/16
Chantal & Peter Rotondo	5/25	Joel & Susan Rosenfeld	6/23
Alice & Karl Schneider	6/3	Ed & Karen Moss	6/25
Stacey & Ron Jessen	6/5		
Anne & Adam Perry	6/5		

### ○ Yahrzeits

Fred L Schwartz	5/2	<i>In Honor Of</i>
Dorothy Shapiro	5/11	Haloiz
Jack Hall	5/11	Gallensky
Lena Rudolph	5/13	Hall
Annie Sherman	5/14	Hall
Amelia Sichel	5/18	Roselyn
Arthur L Bronstein	5/22	Pilecki
Mary Firestone	5/22	Haloiz
Raymond Schwartz	5/23	Firestone
Darryll Presley	5/29	Scruggs
Louis Neyman	6/1	Hall
Abraham Firestone	6/4	Hall
Morris Singerman	6/16	Firestone
Barbara Kasper	6/30	Kaufman
Gertye Barmutz	6/30	Handler
		Handler

### ○ Save the Dates:

July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - CBT BBQ

October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018 - Rabbi's 10<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Gala

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Like us on facebook at [www.facebook.com/pages/Congregation-Bnai-Torah](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Congregation-Bnai-Torah)