



Whether you are celebrating Pesach privately with family and friends or together with your Yad Shalom family, remember to give thanks to all those men and women who fought so bravely to give you the right to be FREE and enjoy this holiday!!!

Congregation Yad Shalom  
P.O. Box 1557  
Centreville, VA 20122  
(Ph) 703-579-6079  
yadshalom [at] yadshalom.com

## April 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<b>1</b>  26th of Adar II, 5771 7:15p Candle lighting	<b>2</b>  27th of Adar II, 5771 <a href="#">Shabbat HaChodesh</a> 8:46p Havdalah (72 min)
<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  1st of Nisan, 5771 <a href="#">Rosh Chodesh Nisan</a>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  4th of Nisan, 5771 7:21p Candle lighting	<b>9</b>  <b>SERVICE 10:00 PM, LRR #2</b>  5th of Nisan, 5771 8:52p Havdalah (72 min)
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  11th of Nisan, 5771 7:28p Candle lighting	<b>16</b>  12th of Nisan, 5771 <a href="#">Shabbat HaGadol</a> 8:59p Havdalah (72 min)
<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>  14th of Nisan, 5771 <a href="#">Erev Pesach</a> 7:31p Candle lighting	<b>19</b> 15th of Nisan, 5771 <a href="#">Pesach I</a>  <b>PESACH SEDER 5:30 pm LRR #3</b>	<b>20</b>  16th of Nisan, 5771 <a href="#">Pesach II</a> 9:03p Havdalah (72 min)	<b>21</b>  17th of Nisan, 5771 <a href="#">Pesach III (CH"M)</a>	<b>22</b>  18th of Nisan, 5771 <a href="#">Pesach IV (CH"M)</a> 7:35p Candle lighting	<b>23</b>  19th of Nisan, 5771 <a href="#">Pesach V (CH"M)</a> 9:06p Havdalah (72 min)
<b>24</b>  20th of Nisan, 5771 <a href="#">Pesach VI (CH"M)</a> 7:37p Candle lighting	<b>25</b>  21st of Nisan, 5771 <a href="#">Pesach VII</a>	<b>26</b>  22nd of Nisan, 5771 <a href="#">Pesach VIII</a> 9:09p Havdalah (72 min)	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  25th of Nisan, 5771 7:42p Candle lighting	<b>30</b>  26th of Nisan, 5771 9:13p Havdalah (72 min)

**In order to help those of our neighbors who are in need in these tough economic times, Yad Shalom asks you to share your blessings with those less fortunate than you by bringing cans or boxes of non-perishable food items whenever you join your Yad Shalom family at services. We will see to it that one of our local food banks receives our donation. Your contribution need not be kosher - our goal is that fewer persons go to bed hungry because of our generosity. We thank you so much.**

# YAD SHALOM

## KIBBITZER



Adar II - Nisan  
5771  
April 2011

www.yadshalom.com  
yadshalom[at]yadshalom.com

### Schedule of Services

#### **APRIL**

**Saturday, 9: Service, LRR #2, 10 AM**

**Tuesday, 19: Passover Seder, LRR #3,  
5:30 PM**

#### **MAY**

**Friday, 6: Shabbat Dinner and Service,  
LRR #3, 6:30 PM, LRR #3**

**Saturday, 21: Service, LRR #3,  
10:00 AM**

#### **JUNE**

**Saturday, 4: Torah Amongst the Trees  
Service at E. C. Lawrence Park,  
10:00 AM**

**Sunday, 19: Annual Meeting & Picnic,  
Bull Run Park, 11 AM**

Please remember that it is the tradition for members of the congregation to bring a snack and/or drink to share for our Oneg Shabbat after services. We thank you, as always, for your generosity.



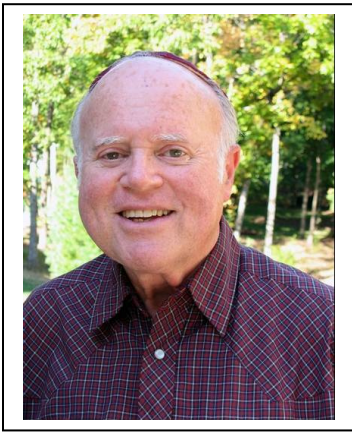
#### **HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAYS TO:**

- 1 – Peter Geltner
- 4 – Craig Gordon
- 13 – Cantor Norbert Zucker
- 15 – Ben Braunstein
- 23 – Rachele Lasken
- 25 – Brian Wright
- 29 – Kayla Sunray
- 30 – Joey Gordon



#### **HAPPY APRIL ANNIVERSARIES TO:**

- 7 – Sharon and Peter Geltner
- 30 – Laurie and Mark Braunstein



## Chanting Along With Cantor Zucker

We're still at the beginning of big political changes in today's Middle East. Last month I compared and contrasted the ruler of Egypt of three millennia ago - who met with Moses and Aaron - with the ruler of the last three decades. For the last month, the Egyptian people have been trying to figure out how to move from autocratic rule closer to democratic rule, which we know from American history takes time and is not so easy.

The ruler of their immediate neighbor to the west, Libya, has long been funding radical change all over the world financed by his pool of some of the cleanest oil found in OPEC. He is now fighting for his political life. Libya's neighbor to the west, Tunisia, was the first domino to fall earlier this year, and other Arab dominoes are trembling in Yemen, Bahrain and Morocco. Lebanon is not stable, Jordan is shaky, Iraq's new government is still in training wheels as far as democracy is concerned, and the world is waiting on how the Saudi royal family handles its dissidents who for so long created problems elsewhere with Saudi funding but may now come back home to roost in Riyadh.

Unfortunately, the rest of us will have to endure even more expensive fuel as we watch our economic recovery taking a back seat to speculation in the fuel price market place as oil future speculators bet on the results of the political shakeup in the oil producing countries.

And now back to my favorite leader and teacher, Moses. While Moses preaches to and teaches the Children of Israel largely as a group or a people, most of the laws in our *Torah* are really addressed to the individual. As an example, let's see how the Ten Commandments are focused on the individual. To review briefly, they are: #1-belief in God; #2-idol creation and worship; #3-taking God's name in vain; #4-observing Shabbat; #5-honoring one's parents; #6-murder; #7-adultery; #8-theft; #9-bearing false witness; and #10-coveting what belongs to another.

Note that these commandments are laws and rules that each individual person among the Children of Israel is expected to observe. The first two, which deal with idol worship, tended to go plural in their presentation by Moses; idol worshippers felt more comfortable in groups because it seemed so foolish to worship another god quietly to oneself. Moses, perhaps while both in Egypt and in Midian (where he married and met his wife's community) saw how hard it was for a member of an idol worshipping society, such as the ones in those two countries, to extricate himself from a community who worshipped as a group.

While our congregation, like others, encourages group worship and other group activities, Judaism also accommodates people who would like to worship alone or at times when the community may not be acting as a group. We teach youngsters to recite private, voluntary prayers when they go to sleep and awake, so that they can be recited on their own. We have travel prayers when trips are made alone, which is common for most travelers who are not traveling on holiday together with

family. People traveling by themselves can have lots of time on their hands. It is only recently that with our new electronic toys, we can compress periods of time with games or various phone applications to help time pass faster as we travel. Otherwise, long sea voyages and train rides or even interstate highway trips can be extremely tedious. Some travelers may choose to read/study/pray/say psalms or otherwise occupy themselves while passing long periods of time before making human contact with others.

I don't see such people engaging in solo idol worship but I can see them studying how to better themselves spiritually. Again, this requires personal freedom. Slaves watched by masters or overseers might not risk offending their watchers. However, free people would naturally turn to self-improvement or thinking about laws of nature and nature's God, as 18<sup>th</sup> Century philosophers termed it.

Observing new things in the world or finding the hand of God in creation could move a person to devise systems or explain the rationale for one's findings and observations to justify what has happened in the past or perhaps project what is likely to occur in the future. It is not a stretch for such an approach to be influenced by religious feelings.

And finally, I want to include a few words about the joyous festival of *Purim*. Unlike *Chanukah* which celebrates a rededication of the Temple and with it a revival of Jewish religious practice right in the homeland, Purim represents a triumph in the Jewish Diaspora where classic anti-Semitism was overcome by Jewish leadership and through just plain luck or intervention by God.

At a meeting with the King of Persia, Prime Minister Haman (who sought the monarch's approval to kill all the Jews in his vast Middle Eastern Empire) said the following in support of his argument to do away with the Jews of Persia. "There is a certain people scattered abroad and dispersed among the peoples in all the provinces of your kingdom, and their laws are diverse from those of every people. They also don't keep the king's laws so why should the king even suffer them. If it please the king, let it be written that they be destroyed and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver into the hands of those that have the charge of the king's business, to bring it into the king's treasuries" (Esther 3:8-9).

As the Islamic Republic of Iran proceeds to develop its own nuclear weapons, Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad recently said: "I must announce that the Zionist regime (Israel), with a 60-year record of genocide, plunder, invasion and betrayal is about to die and will soon be erased from the geographical scene."

Funny how the terrifying words from Jew-haters - out of Persia as well as elsewhere - may change slightly through the millennia but their bottom line is always the same.

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I look forward to celebrating the joyous festival of *Purim* at our *Shabbat* morning service on March 19. You might consider wearing a Purim costume, jewelry and other symbols of joy and happiness as we whoop it up again for the Jews of Persia – led by the irrepressible Queen Esther and her uncle Mordecai – who recognized the great danger that they and the entire Jewish community were in and acted resolutely to reverse it.

As we read from the Scroll of Esther (quoted above) we will joyfully sing the *Sheh-heh-chi-yah-nu* blessing whereby we thank God for keeping us alive, for sustaining us and for allowing us to reach Purim 5771, to which we will gratefully respond "Amen!" *Chag Samayach and Gut Purim!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS FOR APRIL



Your Yad Shalom Board works hard for your interests. They are:

Front row (L-R):

Mike Goldenzweig, Executive Vice President  
Fran Lasken, Vice President for Education  
Gloria Pioso, President

Back Row: Jon Sunray, Past (Past) President  
Bob Lasken, Treasurer

## YAD SHALOM BOOK CLUB

The Yad Shalom book club will be meeting this spring in Little Rocky Run. The book will be *Annie's Ghosts* by Steve Luxenberg. This is a true story of a Jewish family's secret. The author, Steve Luxenberg, senior editor of the Washington Post, searches Imperial Russia, depression era Detroit, the Holocaust in the Ukraine, and the Philippine war zone in quest of finding out more about his mother's secret. According to Walter Isaacson, author of Einstein, *Annie's Ghosts* is "A gripping detective story and a haunting memoir. It will leave you breathless."

Potential dates for the book club to meet include: Saturday evenings: May 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> or 21<sup>st</sup>; and Sunday May 22<sup>nd</sup>, anytime. Those interested in attending please let me know which times work are best for you. You can contact me at [lasken@msn.com](mailto:lasken@msn.com) and write book club in the subject line and I will contact you with the date, time, and place

Thanks, Francine Lasken

## ENTERTAINMENT 2011 IS HERE!

\$30 PER BOOK WHEN YOU BUY FROM CONGREGATION YAD SHALOM

Please Contact Bob Lasken at [blasken@yahoo.com](mailto:blasken@yahoo.com) to reserve your book or ask a question

OR

Just mail in your order with a check to:

Congregation Yad Shalom

P.O. Box 1557

Centreville, VA 20122

Thank you for your support of Congregation Yad Shalom

## ADVERTISE WITH YAD SHALOM

**Congregation Yad Shalom is now accepting advertising in our monthly newsletter. We reach over 150 Jewish homes in our local region. Please get in touch at [yadshalom@yadshalom.com](mailto:yadshalom@yadshalom.com) for more information regarding what we need to include your ad in our next Kibbitzer.**

**Monthly Rates are: \$18 per 1/4 page**

**\$36 per 1/2 page**

**\$54 per full page**

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**We are seeking volunteers to help with Congregation Yad Shalom's Passover Seder. We need assistance with food preparation on Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. We also need assistance with set-up before the Seder and clean-up after the Seder. If you can help out, please contact Gloria at [yadshalom@yadshalom.com](mailto:yadshalom@yadshalom.com).**

**Help us spread the word about our fun, interactive, delicious Seder. Everyone in the community is invited.**



Congregation Yad Shalom  
invites  
you and your family to a

# Passover Seder



**Tuesday, April 19, 2011**  
**5:30pm**  
**Little Rocky Run Rec. Center #3**  
**13900 Stonefield Drive,**  
**Clifton, VA 20124**

## Cost:

### Yad Shalom Members

**\$25/adult**

**\$10/child under 13**

**Or max of \$60/family**

### Non-members

**\$30/adult**

**\$15/child under 13**

**Or max of \$75/family**

RSVP to [yadshalom@yadshalom.com](mailto:yadshalom@yadshalom.com).

Payment due to:

**Congregation Yad Shalom**

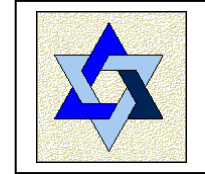
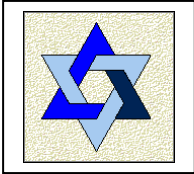
**P. O. Box 1557**

**Centreville, VA 20122**

**By April 15, 2011**



*Let's join together to celebrate Passover with friends, traditional foods, prayers, and song in a warm and friendly environment.*



**APRIL YAHRZEITS – WE REMEMBER THEM**

**4/1 – Nancy Gordon’s Grandmother, Elizabeth Epstein**

**4/4 - Ron Wiesman’s Father, Harold Wiesman**

**4/10 – Leona Bartell’s Father-in-Law, George Bartell**

**4/22 – Susan Bloom’s Grandfather, Jacob Becker**

**4/25 – Leona Bartell’s Mother-in-Law, Mrs. Bartell**

**4/27 – Nancy Gordon’s Grandmother, Rose Leader**

**4/29 - Lee Oppenheim’s Grandmother, Emma Shapiro**

**4/29 – Allen Bloom’s Mother, Ethel Bloom**

**4/29 – Nancy Gordon’s Uncle, Jacob Leader**

**Donations are gratefully appreciated because  
they help us serve the community and help us grow**

FROM: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

MESSAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like an acknowledgment in the newsletter? \_\_\_\_\_

Send acknowledgment to: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Congregation Yad Shalom  
P.O. Box 1557  
Centreville, Virginia 20122

*THANK YOU!*

## Membership Application

We love having visitors and love talking to new members so please feel free to spend some time with us in our religious services and/or social events. If you have any questions, please call our President, Lee Oppenheim, at 703-753-0928. And if you would like to join us, GREAT!

Please fill out the following application and submit to: Congregation Yad Shalom,  
P.O. Box 1557, Centreville, VA 20122

Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (mo/day/yr) \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Adult \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate (mo/day/yr) \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Anniversary (mo/day/yr) \_\_\_\_\_

Children and Birth Date (s)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please select one of the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Family Membership: \$700 (Married Jewish couple with children under 18 years of age)

\_\_\_\_\_ Married Couple Membership: \$600 (Married Jewish couple without children under 18 years of age)

\_\_\_\_\_ Family Individual Membership: \$500 (Jewish man or woman with child(ren) under 18 years of age)

\_\_\_\_\_ Associate Membership: \$180 (You belong to another synagogue but want to join Yad Shalom as well)

\_\_\_\_\_ Individual Membership: \$400 (Single Jewish man or woman or one married to non-Jewish partner)

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested but need more information. Please contact me.