

GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR



April 2021
Vol. 26 No. 4

President's Message

Sometimes I feel like a broken record stuck on Covid. For the past year it seems all my messages to you have been based one way or another on our attempt to keep BSTC active in light of our not being able to conduct normal BSTC activities.

Many of you have been asking now that the vaccine is available when we will be able to open the Temple. As I have explained to these people, Rabbi Roman has requested extremely limited attendance until he is able to be vaccinated in early May. As you will see in the Ritual Committee report, we hope to allow in person attendance in June.

According to CDC guidelines, small groups can now gather so long as social distancing is maintained. That is a problem in our building. The library and lobby tables are not big enough for more than 4-6 people and, while the sanctuary is big enough, I know from experience that holding a conversation with people at multiple tables is impossible.

The next question asked concerns Bagel Breakfast and other functions where food is served. Once again, we must follow CDC guidelines which still require masks to be worn. I haven't figured out how to eat with a mask on.



In the meantime, we will just need to keep going as we have been. Hopefully there is light at the end of this very long tunnel.

Until then, stay strong.

Ruthann

Message from Rabbi Norm Roman

By the time that most of you will be reading this, the Passover Festival for 5771 (our second during these trying Pandemic times) will have begun. As everyone knows, this holiday is a time for asking questions. There are classic, formalized queries of the Haggadah which we recited at our Seder tables – whether in person, recorded or on Zoom. There are the “how are you?” and “what’s new?” discussions with those whom we have not been with in a while (again, whether in person, recorded or on Zoom). There are the family’s debates over recipes, melodies, afikoman hiding places, and one’s individual preference for hard or soft Matzah balls. There are the tests of knowledge which parents and grandparents devise to display their children’s knowledge in the presence of all who might listen . . .

Yet there are also more profound questions which can and should be posed in our families and community at Pesach time, despite the additional burden we have of coping with COVID and its impact upon us. For this a season to ask questions about our commitment, understanding, and hope for the Jewish future. Indeed, they are questions to be asked and answered throughout the year.

The Torah tells us that our children will ask us about the meaning of Passover: “What does this ritual mean to you?” The Rabbis consider this and give us various suggestions for their era and modes of education. But the questions persist – each generation asking, if not demanding, again and again – Why? They want to know and relate to the very foundations of Jewish life. And if we truly accept the commandment to re-live the Exodus “from each generation to generation”,

GREEN VALLEY SHOFAR

The Official Newsletter of
Beth Shalom Temple Center

1751 N. Rio Mayo
Green Valley, AZ 85614
(520) 648-6690

www.bstc.us

Office Hours:

Monday & Friday: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday: noon to 4 p.m.

President	Ruthann Shapiro
VP	Gary Melton
Treasurer	Finance Committee
Secretary	Maridell Nochumson
At Large	Mike Finkelstein
At Large	Gloria Clancy
At Large	Jane Gold
At Large	Arnold Krohn
At Large	Ricki Letowt
At Large	Merle Sobol

In This Issue:

- ◆ President's Message
- ◆ Rabbi's Message
- ◆ Contact Info/Mail/Sending Checks
- ◆ Temple Usage Reservations
- ◆ Commemorative Items, Tributes & Yahrzeits
- ◆ Calendar of Events/Schedule of Services
- ◆ Member News and Updates
- ◆ Updated phone numbers, emails
- ◆ Temple Tidings
- ◆ Committee Reports
- ◆ Birthdays/Anniversaries/Committee Chair List

Editor: Jane Gold

This is the April issue of the Shofar. The Shofar are being published electronically only until further notice. Go to: bstc.us to view archived volumes.

NEWSLETTER SUPPORT STAFF: Mike Finkelstein, Stacy Laetsch

The editors reserve the right to edit contributions for grammar, length and content. Community and member news will be published only as space permits. Community or member events that conflict with Temple events will not be publicized in the Shofar.

SENDING IN CHECKS TO BSTC

If you are sending in a check to BSTC (not using our website to pay, either by PayPal or credit card) ***please make sure your check indicates the name of the program/event*** for which you are paying.

MAIL TO THE TEMPLE

To expedite delivery, any **mail sent to the temple** should be addressed to: **P.O. Box 884, Green Valley, AZ 85622**. Sending mail to the Rio Mayo address may result in a loss or delay. To expedite delivery **please include the name of the person you wish to contact on the front of the envelope.**

- ◆ For information on the *Memorial Board* and *Yahrzeits* contact Joyce Finkelstein by phone or by email.
- ◆ For information on *Tributes* items, contact Amy Storer.
- ◆ For information on *Commemorative Items*, contact the office.

TEMPLE USAGE SCHEDULING

BSTC is currently a closed facility. Contact the BSTC office at (520) 648-6690 with any questions.

Not all scheduled events are included in the Shofar. To include your program in the Shofar calendars, please notify the Shofar editor. Deadline for Shofar copy is the 20th of the month prior to the publication date.

COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS

The following commemorative items are available for purchase to honor or memorialize:

**Memorial Plaques, \$300 • Leaf for the Tree of Life, \$100 • Sanctuary Chair, \$125
Garden Bench, \$225 • Garden Brick, \$100**

Send specific wording for the plaque, brick, etc. together with your check made out to BSTC, Attention "Memorial Board" or "Tree of Life," etc. Order forms can be found in the Temple foyer or contact the office.

TRIBUTES

Amy Storer, the volunteer chairing this committee, will mail a personalized card to whomever you choose.

SEE SOME SAMPLE CARDS ON THE BSTC WEBSITE.

All Tributes MUST include the following information:

1. **Name** of EACH recipient
2. **Address** of EACH recipient (*Addresses for temple members living in Green Valley need not be submitted with your request; however, if your recipient has more than one address, please specify to which address your tribute should be sent: e.g. Arizona or other state*)
3. **Type of Tribute:** Happy Birthday, In Honor Of, With Sympathy, etc.
4. **Names of ALL who are sending** the Tribute including name of spouse, if appropriate.

Send your Tribute request and free-will offerings to:

Beth Shalom Temple Center, P.O. Box 884, Green Valley, AZ 85622

(mark "Tributes" on the envelope and check memo line!)

Yahrzeits

Beth Shalom Temple Center will provide reminders of yahrzeits, and the name(s) of your loved ones will automatically be recited for Kaddish at the appropriate Sabbath Services according to the Hebrew calendar.

If your yahrzeits are not yet on the current list and you wish them to be, please email Joyce Finkelstein or send a note to the Temple for her attention, including your name, the name and relationship of deceased, and the date of death.

Yahrzeit Donations:

Remembered by	For His/Her	Yahrzeit
Suenette Maron	Her Father	Harold Abrahamson
Bunny Callis	Her Father	Irvin Rosenstein
Zandra Lindblad	Her Mother	Roslyn Sirota
Lenny Friedman	His Father	Joseph Friedman
Mark Travitsky	His Father	Louis Travitsky
Rabbi Norm & Lynne Roman	His Mother	Helen Roman
Rabbi Norm & Lynne Roman	His Father	Dr Bernard Roman
Helene Feldman	Her Father	Robert Snyder
Larry Feldman	His Grandfather	Simon M Kornfeld
Larry Feldman	His Mother	Hortense Feldman
Mark Travitsky	His Mother	Ruth Travitsky
Ingeborg McDonald	Her Friend	Louis Gantz

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Currently BSTC is Live Streaming Services on YouTube ONLY!

Schedule of Services, Meetings & Events			
Day	Date	Time	Event
Friday	4/2/21	5 pm	Yizkor Service
Saturday	4/3/21	10 am	Torah Study
Sunday	4/4/21	2 pm	Brotherhood Gathering at BSTC
Saturday	4/10/21	10 am	Shabbat Service
Monday	4/12/21	10 am	Parashat HaShavua Class*
Tuesday	4/13/21	10 am	Sisterhood Meeting
Wednesday	4/14/21	9 am	Brotherhood Meeting
Thursday	4/15/21	10 am	Rabbi Discussion*
Friday	4/16/21	5 pm	Shabbat Service
Saturday	4/17/21	10 am	Torah Study
Sunday	4/18/21	12 pm	Brotherhood Bagel Sale
Monday	4/19/21	9 am	Board Study Session
Tuesday	4/20/21	11 am	Sisterhood Gathering at Sahuarita Lake
Wednesday	4/21/21	1 pm	Movie on Zoom
Saturday	4/24/21	10 am	Torah Study
Monday	4/26/21	10 am	BSTC Board Meeting
Wednesday	4/28/21	3 pm	Social Action Meeting

For those who wish to attend, invitations links will be sent via email.



ADULT EDUCATION with RABBI ROMAN:

Parashat HaShavua

Monday, April 12 at 10 am on Zoom

Yom HaAtzmaut (Israel's Independence Day)

Thursday, April 15 at 10 am on Zoom

then we must continue the discussion of what Exodus, Freedom, Faith, and Judaism mean to us.

Having read the Haggadah once again, we are all familiar with the description of four types of children/students. The Talmud counsels: "The parent must teach each child according to his/her level of understanding". And we also need to recognize that there are four types of Jewish parents/teachers, as well: the wise, the wicked, the superficial, and the one who does not know how to reply.

Passover time, the season of our freedom from slavery, our independence as a people, and the celebration of Spring, redemption, and renewal, is the ideal time for us as community leaders, parents and grandparents to ensure that we have our responses to the questions asked of us: are we doing enough to support Jewish life? Are we participating and learning and teaching enough? What can we be doing better – as spouses, family members, friends?

May the questions, answers, songs, prayers, recipes, and symbols of Pesach give us all renewed hope and confidence, especially this year! Chag Sameach!

For an extra smile, try reading this article:

<https://religionnews.com/2020/04/06/an-extra-symbol-on-this-years-seder-plate-chewing-gum/>

Rabbi Norm Roman

PS—Please join me for a discussion on the results of the March 23rd Israeli Parliamentary elections on **Thursday, April 15th at 10 a.m.** In observance of Yom HaAtzmaut (Israel's Independence Day) we will analyze the recent election for the Knesset.

PLEASE LET RABBI ROMAN KNOW IF YOU (AND/OR YOUR FRIENDS) ARE INTERESTED IN THE PROPOSED GROUP TRIP TO ISRAEL, TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 11-23, 2021



MEMBER NEWS & UPDATES

The 2021 Membership Directory is updated and posted on the Members Only page of the website when new information is received.

Printed copies of the directory are available for members upon request. Please email Stacy at bstcgv@gmail.com (or, call the office) for a copy.

Directory Updates:

- ◆ **New members:**
Valerie & Virgil Graham
Tubac AZ

- ◆ **New contact information:**
Madelyn Weig
Green Valley AZ

- ◆ **Birthday added:** Kay Sobol

TEMPLE TIDINGS



Members Passing

Longtime BSTC member and friend to many, Mel Roman, passed away on February 26th, following his wife, Dorrie, by nine days. May their memory be a blessing.

The family are extremely grateful for the support and fond memories which have been shared during these last few months.

Along with the Rabbi, they will be planning a memorial service in a few weeks to be held on Zoom, to mark the approximate 30-day (“Shloshim”) mourning period. More information will be sent at that time, and all will be invited to participate.

Notice was also received that former BSTC president, Daniel Day, has passed away of a heart attack. Funeral services were held on March 12th at the Nogales Cemetery. His widow, Jiff, asked that BSTC members be notified. Updates will be shared if any are received.

Notes From the Board

BSTC’s Board met for the March meetings via Zoom, continuing with this virtual platform until it has been determined that gathering in person is once again safe. Members are included and invited by eblast to join the General Board meetings. All are welcome.

The Board welcomes Gloria Clancy back to the Board to take over Dan Galitz remaining term.

Thank you to ALL members for renewing your commitments to BSTC!

Who to Call?

Do you need to let the congregation know about an important life event? Are you interested in making calls to other members? If you have prayer requests, know of any of our members who are sick and/or in the hospital, or would like to make phone calls, please contact Jo Legat, chair of the BSTC Caring Committee.

Cards were recently sent:

- ◆ Get Well to Denis Nathan
- ◆ Thinking of You to Denis & Jeanette Nathan
- ◆ Sorry to Bobbie Vishner
- ◆ Sympathy to Mel & Dorrie Roman’s family

See the Mi Sheberach List on the website for those who need your prayers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ART GALLERY

The Art Gallery Committee has faith that the Temple will be able to reopen this fall and are planning an exhibition of artwork created by BSTC members. Please contact Marcia for information and to submit your entries!

The exhibit of Israeli art from the personal collection of BSTC member and Art Gallery Co-chair, Bev Lake, is still on display for whenever the temple may be open to members and the public again. Please take a moment to enjoy it when you are able. Thank you!

Marcia

E-SCRIP

Shop with Scrip (SwS)

Are you finding yourself shopping for more things on-line during these trying times?

SHOPwithSCRIP now offers purchasing cards directly from an app on your phone, and they are then mailed directly to you! ShopWithScrip is a program that allows you to purchase or re-load brand name gift cards for use in stores as well as ON-LINE ***raising funds for BSTC without costing you anything extra!*** Please contact Joyce Finkelstein with questions or for help.

AMAZON SMILE

Shop Happy and make a Difference!

Do you shop on Amazon? Would you like to help the Temple with your purchases? Then you should be shopping with Amazon Smile!

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets you enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organizations you select. If you have any questions, contact Joyce Finkelstein.

FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARD PROGRAM

BSTC received \$48.20 via 17 participating households for the December through February quarter.

1. Visit www.frysfood.com
2. Register your Fry's VIP Card online
3. Search for Beth Shalom Temple Center, or by organization #MH533
4. Select "Enroll"

That is all that you need to do. Fry's will send a percentage of your purchases directly to the Temple.

If you are not a Fry's VIP Card holder, just stop by your nearest Fry's and ask for a free application. It will only take minutes to get your VIP Card.

Please let Joyce know if you have any questions.



LIBRARY

The BSTC library has recently received numerous donations of books. Linda has sorted through the dropped off items and, while the generosity is greatly appreciated, she cannot accept any more at this time.

Still active is the Yiddish Book Center. Online, weekly virtual public programs. Follow on social media, and sign up to receive our new "Weekly Reader" at yiddishbookcenter.org/signup.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

New members

We welcome new couple to BSTC: Valerie and Virgil Graham!

BSTC has a Facebook page, as a number of folks prefer social media to email. We update it every Monday afternoon. If you are interested in posting

something, please contact Jo Legat.

Anyone interested in joining this committee please contact Mike Finkelstein.

New members who have not done so in the past, please submit a digital photo of yourself and brief profile in order to allow the rest of the membership to know a little bit about each of you. Send your photos and write-up of your background, interests, and any Jewish activities you particularly enjoy to Mike.

Member Photos

BSTC welcomes photos from our members to be shared in the Shofar, Schmooze and/or on our social media platforms. Send pictures to Mike with details.

Members are invited to SCHMOOZE!

Now that we have spent a year in lockdown and can (hopefully) see an end in sight, please write something for the BSTC Schmooze and let us all know how you feel about this whole experience. **Please send your comments, story and/or photos to Ricki at ricki@letowt.com for upcoming editions of The BSTC Schmooze.** Then, watch for the BSTC Schmooze to come in your email!

BROTHERHOOD (FORMERLY MEN'S CLUB)

The Men's Club met March 13th via Zoom and have voted to change the name to the Brotherhood. The change is official and the Bylaws will be updated to reflect this.

Men's Club members last community Bagel Sale fundraiser raised almost \$400 for the Sopori School Supply drive. The next sale is planned for Sunday, April 18th.

A Kvell & Kvetch session is planned for Sunday, April 4th, outdoors in the BSTC garden.

PROGRAMS—ZOOM IN

Wednesdays at BSTC

Temple member Bev Lake made a presentation on an archeological dig she was on the last couple of years in North Dakota. If you could not attend, the presentation is posted on our YouTube channel, which can be accessed via the BSTC website. As a reminder: most of the services, classes, presentations and studies from late April 2020 through the present are now on-line and can be found by clicking on the "Please click HERE for the videos" link on the BSTC website. They are normally posted on-line within 24 hours of the event.



Planned for **Wednesday, May 19th** is a presentation by BSTC member Don Berk that correlates catastrophic events in the Tenach (Genesis and Exodus) with historical solar eruptions. There is strong evidence that the sun as a variable star enters a "nova" stage about every 12,000 years with intermediate lesser flare-ups that can have drastic impacts on the planet. Be sure to join us for this interesting talk!

Topics for future programs include speakers on the upcoming Israeli election; on Jewish themes in the Folk Music of the 60s and 70s; on Jewish history; and on Islam.

MOVIES ON ZOOM

We showed the movie *Paper Clips* about how a principal, a teacher, and a small town transformed them-

selves in teaching about the Holocaust and sent an impactful message far beyond its borders.

The committee will continue to offer movies, presentations and other programs for the coming months, scheduling most of them for Wednesdays at 1 p.m. on Zoom. Screening on April 21st will be two documentaries: *Not in Our Town* and *Waking in Oak Creek*.

Invitations to these events will be emailed shortly prior to the screening dates.

Contact Mike Finkelstein or Les Bakke with any questions or suggestions, or if you would like to join the Programs committee.

JIM CLICK RAFFLE

Win a car! Donate to BSTC at the same time!

The 2021 Jim Click Raffle has begun. The three great prizes this year are: a new 2021 Ford Bronco Sport, two first class roundtrip tickets anywhere in the world, or \$5,000 cash. Tickets are \$25 each or five for \$100 and 100% of your ticket purchase goes directly to BSTC. Contacts are Steve Abrahams or Ed Gold or call the BSTC office for more information.

BSTC has already raised \$400 from this new raffle!



RITUAL

Rabbi Roman and the Ritual Committee want to thank everyone for their understanding these past few months as we have had to extremely limit the number of people attending Shabbat services in person at the Temple. Our thinking now is that by our June 4th service the vast majority of our members, including Rabbi Roman, will have been fully vaccinated and we will be able to allow in person attendance as long as social distancing is maintained. Masks will also continue to need to be worn. There will be no food served. This thinking is based on current CDC guidelines. Of course, if the CDC guidelines change between now and then we will adhere to the updated guidelines.

We are also happy to announce that on June 4th we will also return to our 7 p.m. start time for Friday night services. We will continue with this time until October when we will return to an earlier start time so that those in attendance will not need to drive home in the dark.

Ruthann

SISTERHOOD

The Sisterhood's new membership chair, Bobbie Vishner, reported at the Board meeting that the group's outdoor gathering at Sahuarita Lake on March 16th at 11 a.m. to celebrate her 10th anniversary of remission was postponed until April 20th due to inclement weather that day. They are hoping to begin gathering again monthly, outdoors as weather permits.

SOCIAL ACTION

This month's meeting was Wednesday, March 31st at 3 p.m.

Continuing Projects:

- ◆ Provide 100 more motivational quotes to the YOTO program students in February.
- ◆ Collection of non-perishable food items and

money donations will continue until all our congregation members feel safe to attend regular activities and services. First March collection equaled **14.2 pounds** and the March 31st collection included a large amount leftover from an event held at the VFW a couple weeks prior.

TORAH STUDY

Torah Portions are included for members in the table below and on the Active Calendar on the BSTC website. Torah Study is meeting via Zoom virtual platform. All are welcome. Invitations are emailed weekly.

Also, remember a monthly Parashat HaShavua—Weekly Torah Portion Class led by Rabbi Roman.

Other Social Action Activities:

- ◆ Larry Gravitz continues to work with the A4a Immigration Action Team and keeping our community informed on immigration issues and finding ways we can all become more involved in working on resolving immigrant problems.
- ◆ Monthly food donation drop-off days at BSTC will continue until all congregation members are safe to attend regular Friday evening and Saturday morning Shabbat services, and normal activities are held again. **April collection dates are: Thursday, April 15th and Tuesday, April 27th from 8-11 a.m. at BSTC.**
- ◆ The Social Action committee is sponsoring two social action documentaries this month on April 21st “Wednesday Afternoons at BSTC”.

The Social Action Committee wishes all BSTC members to stay positive, get their vaccinations as soon as possible, and stay healthy!

WEBSITE

The website is updated regularly with business including the Board meeting minutes and financial reports, as well as with membership directory updates, news and photos. Take a look at www.bstc.us and ***please email Stacy, or call 520-648-6690, if you need the password to access the “members’ only” page.***



MONTHLY TORAH PORTIONS				
Portion (Parashat)	Date	Hebrew Date	Torah	Haftarah
Yom Sh’vii shel Pesach	Apr 3, 2021	21 Nisan 5781	Exodus 14:30-15:21	II Samuel 22:1-51
Sh’mini	Apr 10, 2021	28 Nisan 5781	Leviticus 9:1-11:47	Ezekial 36:22-36
Tazria-M’tzora	Apr 17, 2021	5 Iyar 5781	Leviticus 12:1-15:33	II Kings 7:3-20
Acharei Mot-K’doshim	Apr 24, 2021	12 Iyar 5781	Leviticus 16:1-20:27	Amos 9:7-15



Happy Birthday to:	
Harry Wolf	1-Apr
Lynn Janklow	3-Apr
Fil Ficks	4-Apr
Toi Melton	5-Apr
Michael Benisch	6-Apr
Irene Miller	8-Apr
Sara Benisch	9-Apr
Bunny Callis	11-Apr
Frank Bertolino	12-Apr
Gigi Haase	15-Apr
Laurie Sherman	16-Apr
Helene Feldman	17-Apr
Ingeborg McDonald	20-Apr
David Wyte	30-Apr



May you continue to celebrate your anniversary with joy & good health!

Happy Anniversary to:	
Harvey & Marilyn Beim	17-Apr
David & Donna Wyte	18-Apr

COMMITTEE	CHAIR/CO-CHAIR
Aesthetics	Tobey Gitelle
Art Gallery	Marcia Wiener
Art Gallery (co-chair)	Bev Lake
Book of Remembrance	Suenette Maron
Brotherhood	Lenny Friedman
BSTC Shoppers	Agi Klieger
Calendar & Reservations	BSTC office
Caring-Mishpochah	Jo Legat
e-Scrip	Joyce Finkelstein
Event-Updates	Jane Gold
Facilities	Arnold Krohn
Facebook	Jo Legat
Finance	Dusty Friedman
Historian	Gloria Clancy
Hospitality: Bagel Breakfast	Ricki Letowt
Hospitality: Oneg	Maridell Nochumson
Jim Click Raffle	Steve Abrahams
Jim Click Raffle (co-chair)	Ed Gold
Library	Linda Stein
Library (co-chair)	Charlotte Brody
Memorial Board /Yahrzeits	Joyce Finkelstein
Membership	Mike Finkelstein
Mishaberach	Jo Legat
President	Ruthann Shapiro
Programs	Mike Finkelstein
Programs (co-chair)	Les Bakke
Public Relations	Mike Finkelstein
Rabbi	Norman Roman
Ritual	Ruthann Shapiro
Ritual (co-chair)	Jo Legat
Security	Gary Melton
Shofar	Jane Gold
Sisterhood	Sue Cohen
Social Action	Gary Melton
Tributes	Amy Storer
Website	BSTC Office