

Rabbi Brooks, Temple Honored by Clergy

The 35th Annual Charles Rosenstock Memorial Institute on Judaism for Christian Clergymen held April 26th was, as usual, a tremendous success. After guiding the Institute for over 20 years, the event holds few surprises for Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks. This year, however, was an exception.

He was indeed surprised and even overwhelmed by the magnificent tribute paid to him during the afternoon. On behalf of the Omaha Metropolitan Association of Churches the following resolution was presented by Dr. Ernest E. Smith, the Executive Secretary:

"WHEREAS, Temple Israel of Omaha for 35 years has presented an annual Institute on Judaism for Christian Clergymen in greater Omaha and environs; and

WHEREAS, Rabbi Sidney Brooks, Doctor of Divinity, has given freely of his strength and energy in promoting and administering the Institute; and

WHEREAS, during his 22 years of ministry at Temple Israel he has established splendid relationships to the local ecumenical movement:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED FIRST, that the Board of Directors of Omaha Metropolitan Association of Churches, Inc. express deep gratitude to Rabbi Sidney Brooks and the congregation of Temple Israel for their untiring generosity and devotion to the cause of better understanding of the basic Judeo-Christian beliefs

SECOND, that the Board of Directors recognize the diligent efforts of Temple Israel and Rabbi Brooks to enrich the cultural and religious life of this community

THIRD, that we hope and pray for the continuing and ever-widening influence of the annual Institute on Judaism."

In addition Rabbi Brooks was presented a plaque which praised him as a "Man of Integrity, Teacher Par Excellence, Eminent Scholar, Gracious Friend and Promoter of Brotherhood."

YAHREZEITS

Kaddish will be recited for the following departed loved ones whose names are inscribed for perpetual tribute on the Memorial Tablets of our Congregation:

May 10, 1974

Leo P. Newman
Harry A. Wolf
Harry Silverman
Ratie New
Isidor Ziegler
Lester Slosburg
Nathan Joseph Berman
Julius Meyer
Ida Wasserman Logasa
Evelyn Neesman
Esther Ehrenreich

May 17, 1974

Louis Feltman
Lena Bleicher
Lena Somborg
Leslie L. Burkenroad
Alfred L. Fox
C. M. Nick Newman
Zolle Marer
Audrey Lea Wolpa
J. L. Rothschild
Abraham Block
Flora Rubin
Maurice Friedland

OUR SYMPATHY

The Congregation records with sorrow the deaths of

ANNE COHEN
HARRY COHEN,
Council Bluffs
Parents of Betty A. Studna
and extends sympathy to their bereaved family.

TEMPLE TIDINGS

7023 Cass Omaha, Nebraska 68132
Published by Temple Israel
Phone 556-6536

Abe Katelman President
Stanley E. Perlmeter Vice President
Sydney S. Osten Treasurer
Charles Monasee Secretary
Avrum Greenberg Men's Club President
Mrs. Martin Lehr Sisterhood President
Bjon Farber TYG President

Mrs. Wilma H. Reeves
Executive Secretary
Suzanne Somborg, Editor

Member of Union of American Hebrew Congregations

CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO SPECIAL TEMPLE FUNDS:

IN APPRECIATION OF SERVICES OF:

Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks.
Rabbi Barry L. Weinstein.

IN HONOR OF:

Bat Mitzvah of Sharon Brodkey.
Wedding Anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Ronald F. Cohn.
Birthday of Mrs. Minnie Z. Gilinsky.
Birth of Son to Mr. and Mrs. Gary Goodman.
Bar Mitzvah of John Lehr.
Birthday of Charles Monasee.

FOR THE RECOVERY OF:

Manny Kreitstein.

IN MEMORY OF:

Paul Albert, David E. Beber, Lotte Bloch, Anne Cohen, Dr. Louis Ferdinand, Sarah Fox, Aaron Glazer, William Kuklin, David Rosenbaum, Lester Simon, Linda Lou Weinberg, Sam Wolfson.

INSCRIBED PRAYER BOOKS

In Honor of: First Wedding Anniversary of Debbie and Mark Salomon

Congratulations...

On The Birth Of:

Bradley Scott Sacks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sacks. Grandparents are Mrs. Ray Andrew and Mr. and Mrs. Max Sacks. Great grandmothers are Mrs. Vi Growcock and Mrs. Helen Papier.

On The Wedding Of:

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Borisoff. Mrs. Borisoff is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Miller, Van Nuys, California and the granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Rubin.

PULPIT ARRANGEMENTS

April 19

In honor of Bar Mitzvah of John Lehr.

April 26

In memory of Regina S. Shapiro.

April 27

In honor of Bat Mitzvah of Rochelle Moskovitz.

Thank you from John Lehr, son of Mr. and Mrs. Martin J. Lehr, for the Uniongrams received in honor of his Bar Mitzvah.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

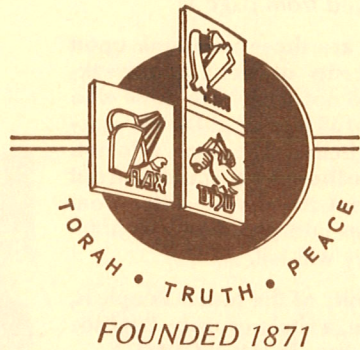
May 11	TYG Installation of Officers and Final Banquet	7:30 p.m.
14	Sisterhood Board Meeting	11:30 a.m.
14	Sisterhood Luncheon	12:30 p.m.
14	Confirmation Class	4:30 p.m.
16	Last Day Hebrew Classes	
17	Hebrew Graduation	8:15 p.m.
18	TYG Installation of Officers and Final Banquet	7:30 p.m.
18 and 19	Last days of Religious School	
19	Congregational-Religious School Picnic at Camp Esther K. Newman — Buses leave Temple	11:00 a.m.
21	Confirmation Class	4:30 p.m.
22	Annual Congregational Dinner and Meeting ..	6:30 p.m.
24	Consecration of Confirmands	8:15 p.m.
26	Confirmation	8:00 p.m.

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Temple Israel Tidings



VOL. XXIV

May 10, 1974

No. 18

IT SEEMS TO ME...

A Personal Message from Rabbi Brooks

What Is Judaism?



One of my teachers once said: "The Bible is not a Jewish book!" He was right. Contrary to the view of most non-Jews and even some Jews the Hebrew Bible is fundamental to our faith but certainly not a description of total Judaism.

Judaism is what the People of Israel did with and following the Bible. Judaism is a product of hundreds of years of rabbinic and philosophic wisdom. Traditionally, no Jew ever studied the Bible alone. He read the Bible with the rabbinic commentaries.

Since commentators differed, Judaism differed in various times and places. As difficult as it is to define a Jew, so it is equally difficult to define Judaism. Our people have developed so many forms, customs and variations of practice based upon the fundamental precepts of the Bible that the best we can say is that Judaism is an "umbrella" term under which many widely different practices of Judaism are properly placed.

I would point out that there were no "Jews" in our present understanding of the term in Bible times. There were Hebrews and Israelites, but not Jews.

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday Evening, May 10
8:15 p.m.

Sabbath Evening Services

RABBI BARRY L. WEINSTEIN

will speak on

ISN'T ANYTHING SACRED ANYMORE?

Sabbath Coffee Hour

Saturday Morning, May 11
11:00 a.m.

Sabbath Morning Services

BAR MITZVAH OF

TOM VANN

son of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Vann

Friday Evening, May 17
8:15 p.m.

Sabbath Evening Services

HEBREW SCHOOL GRADUATION SERVICE

Diplomas will be presented to the Graduates by Mr. Abe Katelman, President of the Congregation

Reception follows

Saturday Morning, May 18
11:00 a.m.

Sabbath Morning Services

Services Arranged and Conducted by
Mr. Sherman Poska's
Saturday School Class

IT SEEMS TO ME
(continued from page 1)

There are those who look upon our diversity of views as a weakness. I do not. There are those who think that all Jews ought think, practice and believe the same. I do not. There are those who would read out of Judaism those who differ from their own interpretation and practice. They will fail.

The unity of the Jewish People is, of course, a vital necessity. But I see no blessing in UNIFORMITY — here or elsewhere. I see in the richness of Jewish tradition, its multitude of forms and views the grandeur of our people and the survival of the Jewish People.

I am not happy with the loss of old Jewish communities which because of oppression have ceased to be. For with their removal from the stage of history their own unique life-style as Jews is gone forever. I think of so many Jewish communities once flourishing, but now either totally or all but a few removed to Israel or destroyed.

On matters which concern the life of Jews anywhere and anytime, Jews are united in common purpose. But there is not and should not be an attempt to bring all Jews to one common practice of their faith. I do not believe all Jews belong within Reform Judaism. Nor Orthodoxy. Nor Conservatism. Nor Hasidism. Nor Reconstructionism. Jews belong within the Jewish People and then each is free to choose whatever expression of Judaism suits the results of their learning and conviction. That, for each, is Judaism so long as he meets the basic demands and mitsvot of the People of the Covenant.

INSTALLATION TO BE HELD AT TYG BANQUET

Temple Youth Group will hold their final banquet and installation of officers on May 18. 1974-75 officers are Kathy Malashock, President; Judy Goodman, 1st Vice-president; Ted Newman, 2nd Vice-president; Rex Perlmet, Chaplain; Ellen Robinson, Secretary; Dan Pollack, Treasurer, and Julie Cohen, Sergeant-at-arms.

“IF YOU WERE IN OUR RELIGIOUS SCHOOL . . .”

by Rabbi Barry L. Weinstein
Experiencing Judaism



Of all the ways in which Judaism has been described this much is clear: In order for the values and traditions of our people to be well understood by our students, they need to be experienced in some way within their lives.

The approach to religious education which makes this possible is called experiential education. Experiential techniques enable students to actually participate in various aspects of Jewish life. In this way they can better identify with significant episodes in our history, the development of our faith, and with important contemporary events involving Jews throughout the world.

Our recent Russian Sabba Experience in Saturday School was based on these experiential approaches. Students participated in the designing, planning, and implementation of the entire day. They were involved with the program from start to finish. Each of them had an important role to play in the program itself: a Russian attempting to emigrate, an Ovir or Customs Official, and even a member of the KGB, the Russian Secret Police. In this way we hopefully helped them identify with the religious values and experiences of our people in Russia.

We have received many requests from parents and students to create similar kinds of experiences in other grade levels of our school. The possibilities are endless, and could include almost any aspect of Jewish life.

From time to time our students also have the opportunity to experience for themselves the meaning of Jewish worship. In order to help

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1974 TEMPLE ISRAEL CONFIRMATION CLASS

Confirmation Services will be held at Temple on the Festival of Shavuot, Sunday May 26 at 8:00 p.m. Consecration of the Confirmands will be on Friday, May 24 at 8:15 p.m.

Confirmand	Parent
Albert, Suzanne	Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Albert
Beber, Harold	Mr. and Mrs. David D. Beber
Brophy, Debbie	Mrs. Thomas W. Thompson
Cassman, Robert	Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Cassman
Farber, Nancy	Mr. and Mrs. Chiam Farber
Ferer, Whitney	Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Ferer
Friedel, Randi	Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Friedel
Goldstein, Michael	Mr. and Mrs. Gary Goldstein
Goodman, Judy	Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Passer
Hoffman, Rachel	Mr. and Mrs. Morris Hoffman
Kaplan, Daniel	Mr. and Mrs. Mickey Kaplan
Katelman, Gretchen	Mr. and Mrs. Stanly Katelman
Kubby, Cindy	Col. and Mrs. Robert Kubby
Malashock, Kathy	Dr. and Mrs. Stanley Malashock
Meyers, Jonathan	Mr. and Mrs. David Meyers
Nash, Carol	Mr. and Mrs. William Nash
Newman, Jody	Mr. and Mrs. E. Robert Newman
Noddle, Jay	Mr. and Mrs. Harlan Noddle
Novak, Nancy	Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Novak
Perlmeter, Rex	Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Perlmet
Robinson, Mary	Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Roffman
Rosenstock, Susie	Mrs. Charles Rosenstock
Seldin, Stephanie	Mr. and Mrs. Ted Seldin
Somberg, Jane	Mr. and Mrs. Marlon Somberg
Stone, Loren	Mr. and Mrs. Albert Stor
Zweiback, Jeff	Mr. and Mrs. Warren Zweiback

Salute to Jane Brooks, Musical, Installation Planned for Sisterhood

“Bouquets to You” is the theme of Sisterhood’s final program for the 1973-74 year. A champagne luncheon and an original musical revue are being planned for this delightful afternoon, on Tuesday, May 14 at 12:30 p.m. in the Temple Social Hall.

Special “bouquets” will be presented to Jane Brooks, wife of Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks, in recognition of her many years of devoted service to Temple Israel and the community.



Jane has been a Board member of both Temple Sisterhood and the National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, advisor to the Temple Youth Group and vice-chairman of NFTS National Biennial Convention in 1974. Jane chaired the Pre-School and Children’s Planning Committee for the New Jewish Community Center and was chairman of the scholarship fund and a Board member for the National Council of Jewish Women.

In 1963 Jane was one of the founding members and the first President of the Eastern Nebraska Mental Health Association. She was chairman of the UCS Volunteer Bureau and a member of the UCS Board of Directors. Jane has served on Omaha’s Fair Employment Practices Committee, the Omaha City Charter Review Convention and the Urban Affairs and Community Development Council of the Chamber of Commerce.

In 1970 Mrs. Brooks was the recipient of the B’nai B’rith Women Citizenship Award in recognition of her great contribution through the years.

Mrs. Martin Lehr, current President, will be honored for her two years of service in that office. In addition, past Presidents of Sisterhood from previous years will be recognized. They are Mmes: Stanley Perlmet, David E. Beber, I.M. Liberman, Robert Cohn, Horace Rosenblum, Morton Hiller, Harry Trustin, Bernhardt Wolf, Ben Silver and Harry Rosenfeld.

New officers to be installed are: President, Mrs. Avrum Greenberg (Shirley); Executive Vice-President, Mrs. Martin Warren (Marilyn); Recording Secretary, Mrs. Phillip Spizman (Dorothy); Treasurer, Mrs. M. M. Greenberg (Sally); Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. David Bleicher (Rachel); Dues Secretaries, Mrs. David Meyers (Sue); Mrs. Norman Lincoln (Margie); Parliamentarian, Mrs. Joseph Stern (Helen); Policy and Bylaws, Mrs. Martin Lehr (Joan); Advisors, Mrs. Sidney Brooks (Jane); Mrs. Barry Weinstein (Linda); Regional President, Mrs. Stanley Perlmet (Jan); Ways and Means Vice President, Mrs. Alan Blotcky (Wanda); Vice President of Sisterhood Services, Mrs. Charles Monasee (Lyra); Membership Vice President, Mrs. Larry Roffman (Silvia).

The luncheon will be \$2.50. Sitter service will be available. Please call your reservation into the Temple office today.

25 TO GRADUATE FROM HEBREW SCHOOL MAY 17

Hebrew School Graduation Services will be held Friday, May 17, at 8:15 p.m.

Class members who have completed the four year course of Hebrew Study under Mrs. Nuriet Gafni are:

Ann Berman	Howard Marcus
Pamela Bloch	Emily Milder
Sharon Brodkey	Rochelle Moskovitz
Dan Buchalter	Andrew Robinson
Stacy Carp	Shari Roffman
Mark Dann	Sarah Ross
Louri Fellman	Susan Ross
Doug Friedman	Robin Schneiderman
Phillip Ginsburg	Jeffrey Schrager
Todd Kirshenbaum	Marcy Telpner
Richard Krasne	Tom Vann
John Lehr	Gayle Wolpa
Todd Lincoln	

CONGREGATION MEETS MAY 22 FOR ANNUAL MEETING AND DINNER

The Congregational dinner and annual meeting will be held in the Temple Social Hall on Wednesday, May 22 at 6:30 p.m. Abe Katelman will be honored for his two years of dedicated service as President of Temple Israel.

The nominating committee will submit the following names for election: President, Stanley Perlmet; Vice-President, Sydney Osten; Secretary, Charles Monasee, and Treasurer, Mrs. Martin Lehr. Joe Soshnik, David Bleicher, Don Sturm and Phil Spizman will be nominated to serve three year terms on the Board of Trustees, Irvin Sherman will be nominated to serve the 2-year unexpired term of Michael Solzman, who resigned.

Reports will be given by Abe Katelman, Rabbi Sidney H. Brooks and Rabbi Barry L. Weinstein.

“In Our Religious School”
(continued from page 2)

them learn more about our worship and our prayers, we have invited the members of Mr. Poska’s Saturday School to help plan and prepare the Sabbath morning worship for the closing day of our Saturday School, May 18. Students from other classes will join with them in conducting the service. We hope that as a result of their experience they will be able to identify more closely with our prayers and with the meaning of Jewish worship.

There is no doubt that the ultimate success of any approach to religious education is dependent upon your support and positive attitudes at home. I believe that the greatest potential for experiencing our values, customs, and traditions lies within the context of your homes and families.

The positive experiences which you provide for yourselves and your children all contribute to their understanding of Judaism. Join with them in worship here on Saturday, May 18, and throughout the year.

Provide for them positive experiences and opportunities to make our faith part of their lives. When you do, I am confident you will find your own experiences of being Jewish enriched and deepened.

GO TO CAMP WITH TEMPLE ISRAEL

Congregational-Religious School Picnic

Sunday, May 19 at Camp Esther K. Newman

Fishing

Tennis

Softball

Boating

Football

Horseback riding

Bring your own lunch and 50¢. Pop will be provided. Buses will load at Temple at 11:00 and return about 5:00. Reservations must be mailed in to the Temple office — please specify number of people attending and indicate ages of children.