IN THIS ISSUE

Rabbinic Corner 3  Annual Meeting Info 7  Book Group 11  Email Group Sign-up 14
Grad Kvells 4  From Our President 8  Contributions 11  News from RRC 16
Hagiga Happenings 5  Hesed 9  Board Report 12  Calendar 18
Hagiga Retreat Photos 6  News/Announcements 10  Yahrzeits 13

JUNE 2016

KOL HALEV FAMILY EASES A SYRIAN FAMILY’S FLIGHT TO AMERICA

Kol HaLev members Josh Chefitz and Tyler Katz and their children are hosting a family of Syrian refugees. They're raising money to help the family repay the cost of airfare (more at www.gofundme.com/26u2gxb8). Josh writes:

We have had the privilege of hosting the Al Mansouri family this week - Shadi and his wife Fatima, Shadi’s mother (also named Fatima) and two boys, Abdullah (7) and Hamed (1).

They are Syrian refugees from the province of Daraa and have escaped unthinkable violence. Their homeland is among the first to be targeted by the Assad regime, and civilians who survived were forced to flee. From Daraa, they walked 100 miles to Jordan for a chance at survival. For four years they lived in Jordan in a one-bedroom rented apartment. Shadi could not work legally and Abdullah wasn't permitted to attend school. They were barely allowed to leave their home.

We welcomed them on May 24th. They speak no English and we (and our Cleveland Heights neighbors) are the only ones they know. We have had occasional Arabic-speaking friends to the house to translate, and our translation app has been invaluable. Shadi told us today, "Now we are free and live without pressure." While the app continued on page 11

Please share in our joy as our son

SPENCER KORNSPAN

is called to the Torah as a Bar Mitzvah

Saturday June 24 at 10:00 a.m.

Lisa and Alan Kornspan
RSVP to lisakornspan@gmail.com

Your presence is requested at

Kol HaLev’s Annual Meeting

Sunday June 5, 3:00 pm,
Ratner Chapel

Find out why you should attend on page 7
Directory

Services & Programs are held at:
The Lillian and Betty Ratner School
27575 Shaker Boulevard
Pepper Pike, OH 44124
http://www.kolhalev.net

Mailing Address & Offices:
Kol HaLev
2245 Warrensville Center Rd. Suite 215
University Heights, OH 44118
(216) 320-1498

Rabbi:
Steve Segar
rabbisteve@kolhalev.net

Education Director:
Robyn Novick
robyn@kolhalev.net

Office Manager:
Kelli Birch
kelli@kolhalev.net

Officers:
President Halle Barnett
Vice President Karly Whitaker
Secretary Karal Stern
Treasurer Bruce Fallick & Catherine Fallick
Past President Barb Truitt

At-Large Members
Louise Elkind
Barry Epstein
Celia Jennings
Kirby Date

Board of Trustees

Ex Officio Members:
Rabbi Steve Segar
Founding Rabbi Jeffrey Schein
Education Dir. Robyn Novick

Values Team Leaders
Welcoming & Caring Lila Hanft
Spiritual Bill Scher-Marcus
Learning Leah Kamionkowski & Glenda Kupersmith
Involved Karly Whitaker
Fiscally Sustainable David Conn
Participatory Miriam Geronimus

Committees and Chairs, by Values Team

Welcoming & Caring Values Team
- Hesed – Robin Holzman & Martha Schubert
- Calendar - Itsik Kittila & Kelli Birch
- Newsletter – Lila Hanft
- Proofreaders – David Roberts, Itsik Kittila
- Weekly Update – Robin Holzman
- Website – Brian Miller, Lila Hanft, Benjamin Barnett
- Marketing/PR – Deena Epstein & Halle Barnett
- Tech Support – Brian Miller

Spiritual Values Team
- Religious Practices – Bill Schur-Marcus (interim
- Holidays – Amy Hogg
- Meditation – Nancy Rubel & Allen Binstock
- Music – Open
- Security Corps – Bill Scher-Marcus

Learning Values Team
- Youth & Family Education – Sue Pelleg
- Adult Education – Leah Kamionkowski
- Young Families/Tot Shabbat – Rachel Williams & Josh Chefitz
- Child Care Coordinator – Traci Elgart
- Torah Study – Ralph and Selma Gwatkin
- Book Group – Kevin Weidenbaum
- Lunch and Learn – Adina Schoem

Involved Values Team
- GCC – Allen Binstock, Dick & Donna Weinberger
- Interfaith Hospitality Network – Nancy Dudwick
- Environmental Sustainability – Miriam Geronimus

Fiscal Sustainability Values Team
- Fundraising – Margaret Cohen & Barry Epstein
- Mock Trial – Jennifer Finkel
- Cemetery – Mike Armin

Participatory Values Team
- Membership – Itsik Kittila
- Greeters – Kelli Birch (Office Manager)
- Kiddush – Kelli Birch (Office Manager)
- High Holy Days – Marcia Goldberg
- Women’s Group – Happy Wallach
- Interfaith Families – Leah Kamionkowski
- Leadership Development – Greg Selker & Leah Kamionkowski

Directly Accountable to the Board
- Finance Committee– Greg Selker & David Conn
- Ratner Liaison – Mike Caputo
- Rabbi Liaison – Selma Gwatkin & Barry Epstein
- Strategic Planning Committee– Greg Selker
- Nominating Committee– Catharine Fallick & Sue Pelleg

JULY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15
RABBI STEVE SEGAR

SHAVUOT OBSERVANCES

The holiday of Shavuot is traditionally understood as commemorating the Jewish people’s collective experience of Divine revelation while encamped at Mt. Sinai as described in the book of Exodus.

In Reconstructionist terms, this holiday is often framed as a time that we celebrate the ever-present possibility of new insights and understandings entering our minds and hearts. For many years, Kol HaLev has observed two dimensions of this holiday. The first is holding a late night (traditionally and still in many communities all night) study session (known in Hebrew as a Tikkun Leil Shavuot) beginning at 8:00 p.m. and running past midnight, and the second is a Shavuot service the following morning at which the text of the Ten Commandments is traditionally recited as is the special Yizkor service in memory of all loved ones who have passed away.

In recent years we have at times celebrated one or both of these events either on our own or by joining together with other local congregations. This year, we will do a little of both as we hold our own Tikkun on Saturday evening June 11 and then hold a joint morning service, as we did last year, on the morning of June 12, with Temple Emanu El.

The evening session at Ratner will begin with a short service at 8:00 p.m. led by Rabbi Steve, followed by a short Kiddush before we move into the first study session at 9:30. Our program should end by 12:30 a.m., but those members who wish to continue studying are encouraged to head over to B’nai Jeshurun at 27501 Fairmount Blvd., Pepper Pike, where the sessions will go until 4:30 a.m.

The following morning at 10:00 a.m. (please note earlier than usual time), we will hold a special joint holiday service with Temple Emanu El (4545 Brainard Rd., at the intersection of Brainard and Emory Roads in Orange Village), as we did last year. The morning service will include a Hallel and a Yizkor component. There will be a potluck luncheon following the service there and those planning on attending from Kol HaLev are invited to bring a dairy or pareve appetizer or dessert to share. As usual, please do not bring anything with nuts as an ingredient.

Rabbi Steve

Rabbi Steve is available to meet with Kol HaLev members on a range of issues by appointment on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday mornings. Contact him at 216-320-1498 or at rabbisteve@kohlalev.net.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photo</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Graduation Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><strong>Elaine Millas</strong></td>
<td>Daughter of Pam and Ginny Millas, graduating from Laurel School. Attending Goucher College in the fall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image2.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><strong>Ilana Solomon</strong></td>
<td>Daughter of Jodi and Larry Solomon, graduating early from Shaker Heights High School. Going to Brandeis University in the fall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image3.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><strong>Gabe Segar</strong></td>
<td>Son of Rabbi Steve Segar and Andy Getz, graduating from Shaker Heights High School. Attending Earlham College in the fall.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image4.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><strong>Harry Weinstock</strong></td>
<td>Son of Kate and Brent Weinstock, graduating from the Iota Class of Criminal Justice. Entering the workforce.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image5.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><strong>Emily Fallick</strong></td>
<td>Daughter of Bruce and Catherine Fallick, graduating magna cum laude from Occidental College. Working at Bates-White in Washington, DC in July.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image6.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><strong>Noah Shutkin</strong></td>
<td>Son of Connie Friedman and David Shutkin, magna cum laude from DePaul University. Consulting at PwC in Chicago.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image7.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><strong>Annalena Weisman</strong></td>
<td>Daughter of Claudia and Jeff Weisman, graduating from Shaker Heights High School. Attending Cleveland State University after a gap year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image8.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><strong>Kirby Date</strong></td>
<td>Kol HaLev member, Masters of Science degree in Urban Studies, Community and Neighborhood Development focus, Maxine Goodman Levin College.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><img src="image9.jpg" alt="Image" /></td>
<td><strong>Ruth Ness</strong></td>
<td>Graduating from the University of Washington in Seattle. Philosophy major.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HAGIGA RETREAT A REAL TREAT

The weather report called for rain. Lots and lots of rain. It was gray, the ground was very wet and the sky looked threatening, but the rain stayed away as the Bonim (grades 3-5) and the Magshimim (grades 6-8) came together for a retreat, “Embracing the Mosaic: Becoming an Upstander” on Sunday, May 1. It must have been the ruach (spirit) of the 20 youth gathered at Hiram House that kept the torrential rains at bay to make such a perfect day.

The day long retreat dovetailed perfectly with the work our youth have been doing in Hagiga. All year long participants in the Hagiga program have been learning all about different element of the mosaic which make up our community. We have spent many days learning about the diversity of the community and have taken the opportunity to investigate the culture, beauty and challenges of many different groups which make up our community. We found that many of the groups we studied are either under-represented or disenfranchised and we sought to see what our responsibility as members of the Jewish community is to all the people who make up the mosaic of our world.

We spent the year learning about several mitzvot (commandments) that we hope to be our guiding force. First, we recognized that all people are created B’tzelem Elohim, In God’s Image, and are part of one large human family and we should Ahavta Re’ekha Kamokha, Love Your Neighbor As Yourself. Another mitzvah we focused on is Lo Ta’amod Al Dam Re’ekha, Not to Stand By Idly when we see a person in need. In reality, we learned several mitzvot every week. We certainly saw that the tradition has much to say about how we should treat each other.

Having these principals already in our tool box, we welcomed Dassi Shtern, director of the B’Tzelem and Segula programs which help children with special needs in the Cleveland Jewish community. Dassi taught us about the special needs community and how many of the people we learn about in the Torah also have special needs. She also shared how the original Jewish upstanders, those who advocated for others, are also in the Torah. What amazing role models we have for how we should advocate for others! It was truly an enlightening and inspiring morning!

The afternoon took on another dimension, quite literally, as we tackled a ropes course. Utilizing the “Challenge By Choice” philosophy, participants chose their participation based on their level of comfort and the roles they wished to fill on the ropes course. Some challenges were for participants as individuals (see high ropes course and climbing wall pictures), while others worked to strengthen the community. Not surprisingly, all the group challenges were readily embraced and executed with ease. What an amazing group!

The day was fabulous! The presenters were fabulous! The participants were fabulous! The madrichim were fabulous! Special thanks to the madrichim: Nick Delciappo, Johanna Litwin, Ernie Logsdon, Rabbi Steve, and Jodi Solomon who dedicated a day to making a wonderful experience for our children. Can’t wait for our next retreat!

Kol tuv,
Robyn
We invite and welcome your participation in the Kol HaLev Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 5 at 3:00 p.m in the Ratner chapel. Your active engagement in opportunities like this is important to the sustenance of our community.

Our annual meeting is a time to share and appreciate. We share the board-approved budget for the coming fiscal year, and appreciate our financial condition – what’s working, and what needs to change. We reflect on the programming, community-building, and spiritual connection we’ve created together over the past year, and consider the opportunities and challenges we face going forward. And we appreciate all the people who contribute to our progress.

You’ll also meet and hear from our current board members, and help elect our new ones. The Nominating Committee has put forth a thoughtfully-composed slate of recommended candidates (below), members who will help guide our policy and programming decisions for the coming year. Your vote is a privilege of your membership, as well as another way of demonstrating the import that our community has in your life. Hopefully you will choose to attend the annual meeting and exercise your privilege. (The deadline for submitting an absentee ballot to the office was June 1).

I look forward to greeting you and appreciating with you at our annual meeting! Todah rabah,

Halle Barnett
Outgoing President, Kol HaLev Board of Trustees

**Recommended slate for Kol HaLev Board of Trustees 2016 - 2017**

The Nominating Committee is pleased to recommend this slate of members for election to the Kol HaLev Board of Trustees for 2016-2017:

- **President** – Karly Whitaker for first year of two-year term
- **Vice President** – Mattuck Meacham for first year of two-year term
- **Secretary** – Deena Epstein for first year of two-year term
- **Treasurer** – David Conn for first year of two-year term
- **Immediate Past President** – Halle Barnett for first year of two-year term

**VALUES TEAM LEADERS**

- **Democratic & Fiscally Responsible** – Mattuck Meacham for first year of two-year term
- **Learning** – Bill Scher-Marcus for first year of two-year term
- **Participatory** – Maureen Dinner for first year of two-year term
- **Informed & Involved** – Kirby Date for first year of two-year term
- **Welcoming & Caring** – Lila Hanft for second year of two-year term
- **Spiritual** – open

**MEMBERS-AT-LARGE**

- Nurete Brenner, replacing Kirby Date for second year of two-year term
- Robin Holzman for first year of two-year term
- Art Biaggiati for first year of two-year term
- Celia Jennings for first year of second two-year term
- Louise Elkind for second year of two-year term

**EX OFFICIO BOARD MEMBERS:**

- Founding Rabbi – Rabbi Jeffrey Schein
- Rabbi Steve Segar
- Director of Youth and Family Education – Robyn Novick

*After a thoughtful search process to secure a Spiritual Values Team Leader with the requisite combination of skills and experience, the nominating committee recommends that the best course of action is to keep the position open in the short term and work to cultivate leadership potential so that this role may be filled in a fruitful way.*

Respectfully submitted, 2016 Nominating Committee
Catherine Fallick (Co-chair), Leah Kamionkowski, Sue Pelleg (Co-chair), Bellamy Printz, Rachel Armin Williams, Halle Barnett (ex-officio)
WE ARE ALL “THE LEADERSHIP” - PART 2: BALANCING PERSONAL & COMMUNITY NEEDS WITH INTEGRITY

SO – have you all written your “job descriptions” yet?!

Back in my March column, I described the exciting work of the Kol HaLev Leadership Task Force (LTF), which is looking at how we function as a community intentionally created and sustained by volunteerism, and identifying the areas in which we need clarity, structure and improved communication in order to retain and grow our communal sense of self-determination.

And I invited you to consider YOUR role in Kol HaLev as it is today: What is your “job description”? Have you taken a little time to delve? Have you been able to put your finger on that thing (or things) that make you feel both personally fulfilled, and committed to helping enable that kind of experience for your fellow members? How might you choose to “show up” with the kind of integrity of purpose that affords you that personal fulfillment and enables you to contribute to the community’s success in a balanced way? What resources do you need to do so?

We are all responsible for the state of this community. I could wax eloquent about how this statement is a simple encapsulation of Tikkun Olam. If that feels too heavy, consider that, if we start with ourselves – each of us as individuals – and work to live healthy, balanced lives, we have more personal resources and vitality with which to contribute to each wider circle of import. There are simple ways to “show up” for ourselves; we can eat more vegetables (and more locally grown vegetables) and less processed food, we can get more sleep, we can choose what we do every day, and how we interact with others, out of love instead of fear.

It’s easy to see how, like the proverbial pebble tossed in the pond, even these simple things can impact the world around us; the changes in social dynamics and in economics engendered can spur a ripple effect.

Even if you feel you can only contribute to personal and/or community well-being in small ways, your actions have a meaningful impact.

So – back to your Kol HaLev job description ....

What small but potent ways can you help Kol HaLev be most relevant, realistic, sustainable, and relationship-focused?

Have you phoned a member you haven’t seen in a while, just to see how they are?

Have you been a greeter at a Kol HaLev service recently? (I think we can agree that the impact of being welcomed by a kind smile (instead of an empty foyer) is enormous.)

Have you read the Weekly Update emails to stay informed about services, programs, and opportunities?

Have you hung out after kiddush or book group or adult education to get to know your fellow members better?

Have you honored your commitment to membership by making your dues payments?

Have you been to a Kol HaLev annual meeting lately? Our next one is Sunday, June 5. Want a better understanding of what’s going on in Kol HaLev, and how and why we do what we do? Want to inform your own voice in the

continued on page 9
We send wishes for a refuah shleimah, a complete and speedy healing, to Abe Chasin, Margaret Cohen, Judi Dash, Lila Hanft, Ron Kohn, Ben Lewis, Pauline Raymond, Linda Sylte and Happy Wallach. We would love to hear from you if you or another Kol HaLev member you know of would like to be included on this list.

Thanks to Deena Epstein, who was the May Monthly Co-ordinator. During the month, members provided rides.

If you wish to participate in the work of the Hesed Committee, or if you know of anyone who may need the support of our committee, please contact Rabbi Steve or Robin Holzman (robinholzman@gmail.com) and Martha Schubert (marthaschubert@mac.com), Hesed Co-chairs.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT, continued from page 8

conversation, and exercise it in a meaningful way? Your participation makes a difference. Attend the annual meeting. (For more information about the annual meeting, see page 7.)

This basic engagement with each other and with the flow of the community is relatively easy. There has always been exceptional evidence (made clear again in the recent community conversations led by the LTF) that the way members show up in their roles every day is powerfully creative of this experience we call Kol HaLev. Keeping us connected to each other, and to what’s most important to the community, makes a lasting difference in our collective ability to define and drive Kol HaLev with integrity.

As we evolve as a community, we will be asking ourselves ever more strenuously how we can be our best self. This might mean making some difficult choices together. It will certainly mean making psychic room for substantive, considerate, informed conversations about what we do together, and how and why we do it.

“Us” starts with you. Connect with your own intentions as a member. Connect with those simple things that make your membership and your relationships within Kol HaLev meaningful. Connect with the idea that the ways you show up can make a big impact on the beauty and sustainability of this community.

Share your joy! If you’re kvelling, we want to, too!

Milestones, birthdays, anniversaries, births, b’nai mitzvah, graduations, weddings

Send news, hot tips, announcements or pictures to newsletter@kolhalev.net
TREASURY NOTES:
A MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING TREASURE BRUCE FALICK

Greetings, all. Shortly you will receive a letter asking you to affirm your membership and financial commitment to Kol HaLev for the coming year. (KHL years run July to June, in this case July 2016 to June 2017.) The treasurer and other members of the board try hard to plan and manage our finances responsibly. To do so, we really need to know who is remaining a member and how much each member is willing and able to pay in dues, however little or much that may be. Even if your status and financial commitment has not changed, please respond promptly to the letter. Thank you.
~Bruce Fallick

IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO ORDER YOUR HIGH HOLY DAYS PRAYERBOOKS!

Now's a great time to order your High Holy Days Prayerbooks and get 40% off!

Kol HaLev uses the Reconstructionist High Holy Days mahzor (prayerbook), Prayerbook for the Days of Awe. We own a limited number of mahzorim, which we reserve for the use of High Holy Days Season Members, guests, and visitors. Kol HaLev members and member families are expected to purchase and use their own copies of the prayerbook.

You can support this welcoming minhag (custom) by purchasing your own copies at a great price! Right now the Reconstructionist High Holy Days prayerbook, Mahzor Leyamim Nora’im, is on sale for Kol HaLev members at 40% off! Order from our website or follow the directions here.

There are three ways to order:
1. Mail - Download the order form and mail it in
2. Phone - Order by phone by calling the Reconstructionist Press at 215-576-0800. Tell them you are a member of Kol HaLev and ask for the 40% off discount.
3. Online - Click here to go to the Reconstructionist Press website. Place the book(s) in your cart. When you review your cart before checkout, there is a box to the right. Enter the code investm40. The shopping site will apply the discount — 40% off of the retail price — no matter how many copies you order.

A SYRIAN FAMILY’S FLIGHT, continued from page 1

serves us when we need it, we mainly communicate through love, kindness and incredible Syrian feasts!

Today, we learned that they will have to incrementally pay back the cost of their airfare. So many friends have asked how they can help. We have decided to start this campaign specifically to raise money to pay back their plane tickets so they can start their lives here free of debt. Please consider contributing to this cause and help this lovely family land softly.

Warmly,
Tyler, Josh, Adler and Sammy
The June Meeting will be Thursday, June 23, at the home of Anita Cohn. We will discuss Panic in a Suitcase: A Novel by Yelena Akhtiorskaya. (320 pages, a Kindle version exists).

A review from Amazon: Having left Odessa for Brighton Beach, Brooklyn, with a sense of finality, the Nasmertov family has discovered that the divide between the old world and the new is not nearly as clear-cut as they had imagined. With the collapse of the Soviet Union, returning is just a matter of a plane ticket, and the Russian-owned shops in their adopted neighborhood stock even the most obscure comforts of home. Pursuing the American Dream once meant giving up everything, but does the dream still work if the past refuses to grow distant and mythical, remaining alarmingly within reach?

If the Nasmertov parents can afford only to look forward, learning the rules of aspiration, the family’s youngest, Frida, can’t help looking back—and asking far too many questions.

Yelena Akhtiorskaya’s exceptional debut has been hailed not only as the great novel of Brighton Beach but as a “breath of fresh air … [and] a testament to Akhtiorskaya’s wit, generosity, and immense talent as a young American author” (NPR).

The July book will be 50 Children: One Ordinary American Couple’s Extraordinary Rescue Mission in the Heart of Nazi Germany by Steven Pressman.

All KHL members are welcome to attend the book group. For more information about the group, including a calendar of the book selections for this year, look at our web page (kolhalev.net/book_group) and contact Kevin (KJW@oberlin.net) to be added to the group’s e-mail list.

Kol HaLev gratefully acknowledges these contributions:

- **Daniel Kamionkowski** in honor of Leah Kamionkowski
- **Jayne and Richard Jones** in memory of Debra and Linda Gross's mother
- **Nancy Dudwick** in memory of her mother, Ida Dudwick
- **Richard Litwin and Kirby Date** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Richard's mother, Evelyn Litwin
- **Ralph and Selma Gwatkin** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Ralph's mother, Ada Gwatkin
- **Lynn and David Liebling** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Lynn's mother, Helen Zipper
- **Happy Wallach** in appreciation of Kol HaLev's support during her surgery
- **Phyllis Asnien** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of her sister, Carol Asnien

Make a donation to Kol HaLev in honor of a simcha, in memory of a loved one, in commemoration of a yahrzeit, or just because. You can donate check or online, whichever is more comfortable and convenient for you! You can also pay for dues, Hagiga tuition, Mishloach Manot and many other things online as well as by check.

♦ **Pay by check.** Just drop a check in the mail to: Kol HaLev | 2245 Warrensville Center Road, Suite 215 | University Heights, OH 44118 You’ll receive a confirmation that your payment was received.

OR

♦ **Make an online donation.** You can pay safely and securely by credit card or electronic check at Kol HaLev's PaySimple page at http://kolhalev.net/pay_simple. (Note: Kol HaLev pays a small fee for transactions processed through PaySimple).
The Kol HaLev Board met at the home of Karly Whitaker on May 9, 2016.

Rabbi Steve led us in a blessing for engaging in our work on behalf of the community, and Karly offered a D’var Torah on the topic of new moments and celebrations, and offered a Kavanah for the week of Tiferet (in the counting of the Omer).

Halle noted this was the last board meeting at which she will preside, and offered appreciation to the board for their thoughtful service; other members returned thanks for Halle's leadership as well.

**Treasurer’s report:**
Bruce projects we will be in a considerably better financial position than projected, with a $10,000 deficit, as opposed to the planned $20,000 deficit budgeted, possibly due to earlier and more regular communication with members on dues commitments and payments, including follow-up by Maxine Collin, the board-appointed support person encouraging members to make their commitments and pay on them earlier. Discussion included questions about our policies regarding membership status relative to commitments and payments.

A second read of the updated 2016-17 budget yielded unanimous passage.

**Nominating Committee**
Nominating committee member Leah Kamionkowski presented the committee’s recommended slate of candidates for the 2016-17 Board. Halle praised the committee’s efforts, including co-chair Catherine Fallick’s leadership. Other committee members included Bellamy Printz, Rachel Williams, Sue Pelleg (co-chair) and Halle (ex-officio). The slate will be mailed to all members no later than 20 days before the annual meeting.

**Annual meeting preparations, board transition and summer planning:**
The Annual Meeting will take place on Sunday, June 5 at Ratner at 3:00 p.m. The agenda will include an expression of appreciation, a presentation of the budget, a “state of the community” address, and the, election and installation of the new board. Halle has asked to receive Values Team Leaders’ reports in advance, and asked that board members encourage others to participate in the Annual Meeting. Light refreshments will be served afterward.

The June Board meeting will be a joint meeting of the old and new boards.

**Mock trial update:**
Halle reported that this was one of the most substantive trials we've had, but we are disappointed by the turnout and therefore the fundraising income. Rabbi Steve noted this trial was the fullest expression of what this event has been conceived to be. Discussion included questions about member support for the event, and intentions regarding funding/support/attendance from outside of Kol HaLev. Halle offered thanks to the committee and the sponsors for their commitment and support.

**Reconstructionist Movement plenum update:**
Halle provided an overview of the plenum call that took place on Sunday, May 1, and noted how fortunate we are to have Rabbi Dr. Deborah Waxman as our movement leader. She is extremely articulate and provides a balance of the reverence for tradition and embrace of the future mediated through community.

The movement is developing a Reconstructionist values and activism statement vis a vis Israel. All affiliated communities will be asked to hold vigorous civil discussion on the position statement (this fall), provide the movement with input, and eventually, a vote to endorse or not endorse the statement. It is not currently ready for distribution to the wider Reconstructionist community. Support from the movement will be available to us for this process. Leah Kamionkowski, who was also on the plenum call, noted that there are opposing views within the Movement with regard to BDS and that there are extreme views on either side; creating the statement is an attempt to find consensus. Some discomfort with the notion of crafting a binding or guiding statement was noted. Leah clarified...
Members of Kol HaLev will mark the following yahrzeits during the next month:

- Marie Armin—mother of Mike Armin
- Lippman Geronimus—grandfather of Miriam Geronimus
- Nina Kroll—grandmother of Karal Stern
- Earl Dresden—cousin of Phyllis Maris
- Sylvia Oken—sister of Selma Gwatkin
- Carol Asnien—sister of Phyllis Asnien
- Alice Lesly Friedman Biales—sister of Joyce Wolpert
- Charlotte Davidoff Dangler—mother of Roberta Tonti
- Leon Sidney Imrey—father of Peter Imrey
- Samuel Dash (Shmuel)—father of Judi Dash
- George Moon—uncle of Miriam Geronimus
- Betty Resnick—grandmother of Linda Gross
- Dorothy Schwartz—grandmother of Itsik Kittila
- Sharon Chaiken Symanski—cousin of Chip May
- Rose Lasky—mother of Renee Siegel
- Dora Pelsmajer—mother of Julio Pelsmajer
- Morris Ehrlich—grandfather of Barry Epstein
- Ruth S. Friedman—mother of Joyce Wolpert

Kol HaLev members may include the yahrzeit of loved ones in KHL Happenings by submitting the name of the deceased, the relationship to the member, and the date of death, including the year, in either the secular or Jewish calendar to kelli@kolhalev.net. (Please specify whether you’re observing the secular or the Hebrew yahrzeit date. You can find a calendar converter at http://www.hebcal.com/converter/).

BOARD REPORT, continued from page 12

Rabbi Dr. Waxman’s statement that the movement respects that there is a diversity of opinion and that is central to a Reconstructionist perspective. It is also critical to note that we have been asked to keep the document and discussion strictly confidential.

Halle shared the movement’s draft resolution on inclusivity regarding sexual and gender identity. Questions were raised about some of the language; Halle will respond to the movement with the questions raised.

The next Board meeting will be at the home on Kirby Date on for Monday, June 20 2016 at 7:30 pm. PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE. Values Team Leaders and High Holy Days committee members will meet prior to the board meeting at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Scher-Marcus and Halle Barnett
(filling in for Karal Stern)
Presenting **KolHaLevConnects**

The Communications Team at Kol HaLev presents a new way to connect directly with other Kol HaLev members: An e-mail group called KolHaLevConnects!

**The Purpose of KolHaLevConnects:**

The purpose of the KolHaLevConnects email group is to support our commitment to community and our common values (including participation, welcoming, caring, and inclusion). The group will:

- Facilitate informal gatherings and meetings between Kol HaLev members, thereby fostering a greater sense of community, and building relationships between members.
- Facilitate ride-sharing, resulting in greater accessibility to our wonderful programming, with the added benefit of being more sustainable and environmentally friendly.
- Provide a space for members to share and trade resources in an informal manner.
- Inform members of community members’ volunteer activities outside Kol HaLev that are not eligible for inclusion in the Weekly Update or newsletter.

Please note that KolHaLevConnects is not a discussion list. Replies go only to the original poster, not to the whole group. Further discussion on the topic can take place between the original poster and respondents off KolHaLevConnects.

Please let us know if we can answer any questions.

Lila Hanft  
Leader, Welcoming Values Team

Itsik Kittila  
Chair, Membership Committee

**Great! How do I Join?**

KolHaLevConnects is an "opt-in" group, which means you won't be automatically signed up as you are with the newsletter and update.

To join, you will need to:

1. Click "Apply for membership" at [groups.google.com/group/KHLconnects](http://groups.google.com/group/KHLconnects)

OR

2. Send an email to Itsik ([itsik.kittila@gmail.com](mailto:itsik.kittila@gmail.com)) or Lila ([lhanft@gmail.com](mailto:lhanft@gmail.com)) saying that you'd like to be added to the group.

**Ways to Use KolHaLevConnects-- Examples:**

- Selling a bike
- Carpooling to a GCC event
- Finding an honest plumber
- Telling people about a the play or concert you're in
- Meeting up with friends at Wade Oval Wednesday
- Trading your CSA share of 6 bushels of brussels sprouts for something more appetizing

Those kinds of exchanges don't fit the parameters of Kol HaLev's Weekly Update or the newsletter, our formal online communications vehicles.

KolHaLevConnects is intended to fill that gap!
Mazel Tov to our high school graduates!
Blessings on the next steps of their journeys!

Elaine Millas - Goucher College
Gabe Segar - Earlham College
Ilana Solomon - Brandeis University
Harry Weinstock - Entering the workforce
Annalena Weissman - Gap year followed by Cleveland State

Todah Rabah!
Thank you to our wonderful madrichim (educational guides). We appreciate your dedication to the youth of Kol HaLev!

Zorim (K–grade2)
Traci Elgart
Nancy Rubel
Renee Siegel

Bonim (grades 3-5)
Benjamin Barnett
Mattuck Meacham
Jennie Rosensteil
Jonathan Wilhelm

Magshimim (grades 6-8)
Dan Barach
Maxine Collin
Rachel Davidson
Mordy Pelleg

Tot Shabbat — Josh Chefitz and Rachel Williams
NEWS FROM RRC

Reconstructionism Today!
Have you received the newly-recharged monthly e-newsletter of the Reconstructionist movement? Reconstructionism Today boasts news from across the Reconstructionist communities and more. If you aren’t already on our email list, sign up at www.rrc.edu/welcome.

Watch our video “The Power of WE”
We’re about to launch the Video Annual Report of the Reconstructionist Movement. Make sure you catch last year's video, “The Power of WE,” at www.rrc.edu/ar15 before July 1. We’re trying to get to ten thousand views before then, and we’re so close!

Ritualwell.org: Shavuot
Celebrate Shavuot on June 11 with new prayers, rituals and readings on Ritualwell.org, the Reconstructionist movement’s website for experimental ritual: http://ritualwell.org/categories/27.

Register now for Hevreh Summer Adult Learning
July 20-24, 2016
Celebrate Shabbat and learn with leading Jewish scholars at Hevreh—a spiritual retreat for adult Jewish learners in Waynesboro, PA. For more information and registration, visit www.hevreh.net or contact Marilyn Price at Hevreh1@gmail.com.

Join Us In Israel!
Camp JRF, Jewish Reconstructionist Communities, and Reconstructionist Rabbinical College invite you and your friends (ages 21 to 26) to explore Israel over ten days this December. Hike, learn, sing and connect with the land, people, history and culture. Whether you’ve visited before or this will be your first time, we know you’ll have an incredible experience.

Our friends from Israel Experts are preparing a uniquely Reconstructionist journey that will stop at the major sites and more out-of-the-way places. We’re sure you’ve never seen Israel like this! Learn more at http://campjrf.org/birthright.

A Biking Shabbaton, in the Berkshires -- September 3-5, 2016
Are you interested in social and environmental justice? Take hold of your handlebars and join the “Recon Riders” for Hazon’s annual Ride and Retreat, a Shabbaton and supported bike ride through the Berkshires, Hudson Valley, and New York City. Never done something like this before? Don’t worry, all cycling levels are welcome! To get involved, contact team co-captain Becca Richman (becca.ilana@gmail.com) or visit http://hazon.org/bike-rides/rideandretreat/about-the-ride for more information.

Families with High School Graduates: The Tivnu Gap Year is nine months of post-college hands-on Jewish social justice engagement in Portland, OR. Participants live together, create community, discover the Pacific Northwest, and explore connections between Jewish life and social justice with their heads, hands, and hearts. A few spaces are still available: sign up at www.Tivnu.org. Or contact Adinah Miller, Program Director, for further information: adinah@tivnu.org or 203.623.5249.
Community Celebration to honor Rabbi Moshe Adler

Rabba Rahel Berkovits

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE

Lecture & Dessert Reception
Thursday, June 16 at 7:00 P.M.
Siegal Facility, 26500 Shaker Blvd., Beachwood

Rabba Berkovits will speak on
Darkhei Shalom: The Path to Building Community

Rabba Berkovits will use text study to look at issues such as:

- How important is it to compromise the letter of the law for the sake of peace amongst people?
- Whom do the Rabbis consider to be part of an average Jew’s concentric community?
- How are the disabled, the poor, and non-Jews viewed?
- How should one interact with others who observe Judaism differently than one’s self?
- Which areas in life do the Rabbis feel most cause fighting and unrest in communities?

(Don’t be surprised when the synagogue is first on the list!)

Rahel Berkovits was ordained in 2015 as an Orthodox rabbi, one of the first women to achieve that status. She is a founder of Shira Hadasha, an Orthodox, Feminist congregation in Jerusalem. She is the granddaughter of Rabbi Eliezer Berkovits z”l, Rabbi Adler’s mentor and inspiration.

Moshe Adler is retiring this year as the beloved rabbi of Beth El-The Heights Synagogue, which he has served since 1999. He has also taught at Siegal College, Agnon, Schechter, Akiva, and Pardes schools, and was a longtime Hillel rabbi before moving to Cleveland.

Cost of Event: $25.00
Checks can be made payable to CWRU, and sent to Laura & Alvin Siegal Lifelong Learning Program, 26500 Shaker Blvd, Beachwood, OH 44122. Or register online at http://case.edu/lifelonglearning/. Or by phone, 216-368-2091.

A Tribute Book is being prepared for this event, as part of a retirement honorarium for Rabbi Adler. Prices and sizes for ads and listings are on the back of this flyer. To place an ad, email jbgelles@gmail.com; include size, price, wording, and art. Check can be made to Beth El-The Heights Synagogue; or payment can be made over the phone at 216-321-6734.

This event is also part of a longer weekend Scholar-in-Residence program at BETHS.

For information about Friday and Saturday programs, visit bethelheights.org or call 216-321-6734.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jun. 4</td>
<td>9:30-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Torah Study in the Ratner Library. Parsha: Bechukotai; Discussion leader: Adina Davidson.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Shabbat Service in the Ratner Chapel. Parsha: Bechukotai; Service Leaders: Rabbi Steve; Kiddush Hosts: Louise Elkind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun., Jun. 5</td>
<td>3:00-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Annual Meeting at Ratner. See page 7 for more details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Jun. 6</td>
<td>7:30-9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Executive Committee Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jun. 11</td>
<td>10:30-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Member-Led Shabbat Service in the Ratner Chapel. Parsha: Bamidbar; Service Leaders: David Conn and Greg Selker; Kiddush Hosts: Louis and Julie Handler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Erev Shavuot Service/Tikkun Leil Shavuot at Ratner. See page 3 for more details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun., Jun. 12</td>
<td>10:00-12:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Shavuot Service &amp; Potluck Lunch with Temple Emanu El at Temple Emanu El, 4545 Brainard Rd., Chagrin Falls, 44022. Potluck contributions should be vegetarian/dairy or pareve and should not contain nuts. Please bring enough for 8-10 people. See page 7 for more details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tues., Jun. 14</td>
<td>7:30-9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>GCC Core Team Meeting. Contact Allen Binstock for more information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed., Jun. 15</td>
<td></td>
<td>Deadline for the July Kol HaLev Happenings Newsletter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jun. 18</td>
<td>9:30-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Torah Study in the Ratner Library. Parsha: Nasso; Discussion Leader: Rabbi Steve.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:30-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Shabbat Service in the Ratner Chapel. Parsha: Nasso; Service Leader: Rabbi Steve; Kiddush Hosts: Jennifer Finkel and Ginny Nadler.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1:15-2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Mindful Jewish Practice in the Ratner Library. Nancy Rubel will lead an hour of sitting practice combined with brief conversation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon., Jun. 20</td>
<td>7:30-9:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Board Meeting (Old and New) at the home of Richard Litwin and Kirby Date. All members welcome. See Weekly Update for agenda.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thurs., Jun. 23</td>
<td>7:30-9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Book Club Meeting at the home of Anita Cohn. We will discuss Panic in a Suitcase: A Novel by Yelena Akhtiorskaya. See page 11 for details. For the full schedule or more information, visit <a href="http://kolhalev.net/book_group">http://kolhalev.net/book_group</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri., Jun. 24</td>
<td>6:00-9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Kabbalat Shabbat in the Garden at the home of Julio and Aurelia Pelsmajer (Rain location: Ratner). Kiddush Host: Dorinda Gershman. The potluck contributions should be vegetarian/dairy or pareve and should not contain nuts. Please bring enough for 8-10. In keeping with our goal of becoming a more sustainable community, we encourage members to bring their own reusable plates, cups, utensils and napkins to our potluck. Assignments: A-H - Appetizer or Salad; I-P - Dessert or Drink; Q-Z – Main Dish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat., Jun. 25</td>
<td>9:15-10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Mindful Jewish Practice in the Ratner Library. The sessions begin with a few minutes of a talk to offer a kavannah or intention for the sitting practice of 30 minutes, and end with an opportunity for informal sharing about meditation and spiritual practice.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10:00-12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Bar Mitzvah of Spencer Kornspan at Ratner. Parsha: Baha'alotcha. Service leaders Spencer and Rabbi Steve. Kiddush sponsors: Lisa and Alan Kornspan.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun., Jun. 26</td>
<td>7:30-9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Adult Ed: Jews and Rock Music, location TBD. Adult Education Session with Mark Davidson.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To sign up to host a kiddush, go to [http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4bada828a1f85-kolhalev2](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4bada828a1f85-kolhalev2)
To sign up to be a greeter, go to [http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4bada828a1f85-kolhalev3](http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4bada828a1f85-kolhalev3)

We strive to make this calendar as accurate as possible, but additions, cancellations and other changes may occur after the newsletter is published. To ensure you have the most up-to-date information, please double-check your plans in the Weekly Update (which arrives in members' email inboxes every Thursday), or visit the calendar on the Kol HaLev website.