

Kol HaLev Happenings

The Newsletter of Cleveland's Reconstructionist Jewish Community

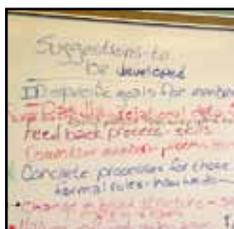
MAY 2017

MEMBERS EXPLORE WAYS TO INCREASE PARTICIPATION AND LEADERSHIP

Answering a call to "translate our community's ideas about leadership into action," more than 40 Kol HaLev members participated in a 3-hour workshop at the Shaker library on April 2.

Following a presentation of the Leadership Task Force's recent research into what meaningful participation means to Kol HaLev members, attendees joined one of five small

groups to familiarize themselves with a subset of the research and then brainstorm ways to improve the volunteer experience and draw more community members into volunteer and leadership positions.



Discussion yielded dozens ideas to examine further..

The energy level in the room soared as the small groups dug into the research, share their own experiences and brainstormed possible changes to our interpersonal interactions, current organizational processes, governance structure, communications methods and other aspects of Kol HaLev.

When discussion ended, each group presented its top five ideas. Rabbi [continued on page 7](#)

GIFT HONORS MAUREEN HACK, Z"L

By Deena Epstein

The nieces and nephews of the late Dr. Maureen Hack, a longtime Kol HaLev member who died in 2015, have made a \$20,000 gift in her memory to support adult education and Shabbaton programming at Kol HaLev.



"We were looking for a meaningful way to memorialize her," said her nephew Dr. Jeffrey Rubenstein, who added that his aunt, who had no children, was extremely close to her three nieces and two nephews and their families.

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Please join us as our son

LOUIS IAN RAHILLY

is called to the Torah as a Bat Mitzvah

Saturday, June 3 at 10:00 a.m.

A festive kiddush luncheon to follow

Please RSVP by May 15 to
 Louis-bar-mitzvah@rahilly.com
 Members are asked to bring their prayer books

Margaret Cohen & Kevin Rahilly

ANNUAL MEETING

SUNDAY, JUNE 4
10:30 A.M.
AT RATNER

COMMUNITY POTLUCK
FOLLOWS MEETING

JUNE KVELL CORNER:

Send news of your high school or college grad (name, school, picture, future plans) to newsletter@kolhalev.net by May 15.

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
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University Heights, OH 44118
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OFFICE MANAGER:

Kelli Birch
kelli@kolhalev.net

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT Karly Whitaker
VICE PRESIDENT Mattuck Meacham
SECRETARY Deena Epstein
TREASURER David Conn
PAST PRESIDENT Halle Barnett

AT-LARGE MEMBERS

Art Biagianti
Nurete Brenner
Louise Elkind
Robin Holzman
Celia Jennings

EX OFFICIO MEMBERS:

RABBI Steve Segar
FOUNDING RABBI Jeffrey Schein
EDUCATION DIR. Robyn Novick

VALUES TEAM LEADERS

WELCOMING & CARING Lila Hanft
SPIRITUAL *open*
LEARNING Bill Scher-Marcus
INVOLVED Kirby Date
DEMOCRATIC & FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE Mattuck Meacham
PARTICIPATORY Maureen Dinner

COMMITTEES and CHAIRS, by VALUES TEAM

WELCOMING & CARING

- Hesed – Robin Holzman & Martha Schubert
- Calendar – Robin Holzman & Kelli Birch
- Newsletter – Lila Hanft
- Proofreader – David Roberts
- Weekly Update – Robin Holzman
- Website – Brian Miller, Lila Hanft, Benjamin Barnett
- Marketing/PR – Halle Barnett
- Tech Support – Brian Miller

SPIRITUAL

- Religious Practices – Bruce Fallick
- Holidays – Amy Hogg & Adina Davidson
- Meditation – Nancy Rubel & Allen Binstock
- Rosh Hodesh – Kirby Date
- Leyning Coordinator – Connie Friedman
- Lay Service Leader Coordinator – David Conn
- Service Co-Leader Coordinator – Arthur Lieberman

LEARNING VALUES TEAM

- Youth & Family Education – Bill Marcus, *interim*
- Adult Education – *Open*
- Young Families/Tot Shabbat – Ben Seligman and Andy Oster
- 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 & Donna Weinberger

DEMOCRATIC & FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE

- Fundraising – *open*
- Mock Trial – Jennifer Finkel
- Cemetery – Mike Armin

PARTICIPATORY VALUES TEAM

- Membership – Maureen Dinner
- Greeters – Kelli Birch (Office Manager)
- Kiddush – Kelli Birch (Office Manager)
- High Holy Days – Marcia Goldberg
- Women's Group – Happy Wallach

DIRECTLY ACCOUNTABLE TO THE BOARD

- Finance Committee – Alan Weinstein
- Ratner Liaison – Sarah Prentice Manel
- Rabbi Liaison – Selma Gwatkin & Barry Epstein
- Strategic Planning Committee – Greg Selker
- Nominating Committee – Catherine Fallick
- Security Corps – Bill Scher-Marcus
- Commitment Support Volunteer – Maxine Collin

JUNE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: MON, MAY 15

WALKING THE PASSOVER TALK

It's been just over a couple of weeks since most of us were sitting around seder tables of one form or another, and my guess is that, this year especially, the traditional themes of justice and liberation figured prominently in the conversations that took place around those tables. At our own family seder, we asked people to share a little bit about situations of concern, both locally and globally, that touched them most deeply, and also to reflect on where they saw signs of hope for our world.

As I personally reflected on these two questions, what came immediately to mind is our situation here in northeast Ohio. This situation has been called by some, "A tale of two cities." While many of us, as residents of Northeast Ohio, enjoy the wide range of benefits and blessings it has to offer, it is also the case that our region is afflicted with levels of poverty, violence, mental illness and infant mortality that put us near, or at the top of the list of the most distressed metropolitan areas in our country. And, in some categories, we are even at levels corresponding to cities in the developing world.

However, there are a number of hope-inspiring initiatives currently taking place in greater Cleveland that are specifically geared towards improving these challenging conditions. For me, the initiative at the top of that list is the Greater Cleveland Congregations (GCC)-led scrutiny of the Quicken Loans Arena upgrade project that would require over \$160 million in combined public funds from the county and the city. GCC has never questioned the legitimacy of this upgrade per se, but has argued that investing this much public money into a building without a parallel investment in the neighborhoods surrounding it, neighborhoods which are at the epicenter of our region's economic and social distress, would be a travesty, as well as a missed opportunity, of vast proportions.



“GCC is recruiting volunteers to collect the 6,000 signatures needed to put a referendum on the next election ballot.”

This idea is not new or radical. There are a number of other cities across the country (Pittsburgh, Baltimore, Atlanta, Milwaukee to name a few) that have made the choice to tie together investment in a downtown business and sports district with investment in neighborhoods with the most profound need. However, the major supporters of the arena project in our region have not been particularly receptive to modifying the plan to include the creation of community equity fund.

We are at a crucial moment in this effort. Both the County and City Councils have now passed legislation supporting the arena upgrade with minimal to no additional community resource funding. However, despite this, there is still an opportunity to put this question on the next election ballot as a referendum, so that, at least, the residents of Cleveland collectively will have the opportunity to weigh in on this crucial issue rather than having a handful of political and business leaders make the decision on their behalf.

In order to realize this opportunity for a referendum, there must be 6,000 signatures collected from Cleveland residents within 30 days of the City Council passing the legislation, an event which took place on Monday April 24th. GCC, along with several other allied groups, is now recruiting teams of volunteers to collect these signatures. Every member congregation has been asked to help in this effort by providing volunteers who are willing to work

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HESED

We send condolences to Kol HaLev member **Robin Holtzman** on the loss of her mother, Elaine Holtzman, may her memory be for a blessing. There will be a memorial gathering on Wednesday May 3 from 6:30-9:00 p.m., at the home of Dave and Martha Schubert. The shiva minyan will begin at 7:00 p.m. May Robin and her entire family find comfort at this time of loss, along with all those who are in mourning among the Jewish people and the world as a whole.

We send wishes for a *refuah shleimah*, a complete and speedy healing, to **Abe Chasin; Anita Cohn; Ann Epstein; Josh Gippen; Robin Holtzman; Jayne Jones; Ron Kohn; Marilyn Litvene; Pauline Raymond; Rabbi Jeffrey and Deb Schein, Happy Wallach and Eda Weiss**. 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 **Jane Arnoff-Logsdon**, who was the April Monthly Coordinator. During the month, members cooked and delivered meals, sent cards, made visits and provided rides.

[continued from page 1](#)

He said the family, none of whom live in Cleveland, talked about several options but decided that Kol HaLev was the appropriate place to keep her memory alive since the congregation had in many ways become a surrogate family to her.

“She found meaningful community at Kol HaLev,” he said. “We also felt it was a way of showing gratitude to the congregation for being her community and its members for being her friends and supporting her in so many ways.”

He added that his aunt was most connected to Kol HaLev through study and discussions so the idea of funding adult education and Shabbaton programming seemed appropriate.

Maureen was a member of Kol HaLev for almost 20 years and during that time chaired the adult education and Israel committees. She also coordinated High Holiday kiddushes for many years, was a regular attendee at Torah study sessions and worked with students in the *Chaverim B'Telephone* program.

Education was an important part of her life, her nephew re-iterated.

Dr. Hack was a noted professor and neonatologist at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) where she taught, conducted groundbreaking research and became one of the world’s leading experts on low birth weight babies. She published more than 300 articles, book chapters and manuscripts and lectured around the world.

She also loved theater, ballet and music; traveled frequently and enjoyed visiting her far-flung family in South Africa, England, Israel, Denver, Chicago and New Jersey for celebrations and holidays.

Maureen was born in Pretoria, South Africa and attended medical school there before making Aliyah to Israel in 1960 where she held several positions, including a medical post with the Israeli Defense Forces. She came to Cleveland in 1973 for a research fellowship at CWRU and Rainbow Babies and Children’s Hospital and began what would become her landmark study of premature babies. In 1977, she accepted an assistant professor position at CWRU, was named a full professor in 1991 and remained in Cleveland for the rest of her professional career.

A soon-to-be-appointed committee, which will include Rabbi Steve, the chair of the adult education committee and other interested members, will suggest and oversee programs that will be offered at Kol HaLev in memory of the late Dr. Maureen Hack.

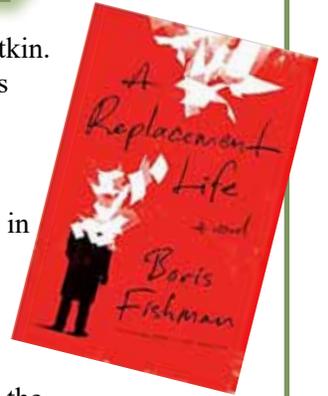
Editor's note: Maureen's family has compiled a beautiful memorial book you may enjoy seeing (I did!) <https://www.dropbox.com/s/hz2yzwx1v6bd1oa/Dr%20Maureen%20Hack%2C%201937-2015.%20Memorial%20Book.pdf?dl=0>

HUG HASEFER: BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The May book discussion meeting is Thursday, May 25, at the home of Selma and Ralph Gwatkin. We will discuss *A Replacement Life: A Novel* by Boris Fishman (336 pages, a Kindle version is available).

A preview from Amazon: A ... provocative, soulful, and sometimes hilarious story of a failed journalist asked to do the unthinkable: forge Holocaust-restitution claims for old Russian Jews in Brooklyn, New York.

Yevgeny Gelman, grandfather of Slava Gelman, “didn’t suffer in the exact way” he needs to have suffered to qualify for the restitution the German government has been paying out to Holocaust survivors. But suffer he has—as a Jew in the war; as a second-class citizen in the USSR; as an immigrant to America. So? Isn’t his grandson a “writer”? High-minded Slava wants to put all this immigrant scraping behind him. Only the American Dream is not panning out for him—Century, the legendary magazine where he works as a researcher, wants nothing greater from him. Slava wants to be a correct, blameless American—but he wants to be a lionized writer even more. Slava’s turn as the Forger of South Brooklyn teaches him that not every fact is the truth, and not every lie a falsehood. It takes more than law-abiding to become an American; it takes the same self-reinvention in which his people excel. Intoxicated and unmoored by his inventions, Slava risks exposure. Cornered, he commits an irrevocable act that finally grants him a sense of home in America, but not before collecting a price from his family.



The book for June is *All Who Go Do Not Return: A Memoir* by Shulem Deen.

All Kol HaLev members are welcome to attend the book group. For more information about the group 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.

YAHRTZEITS

They are now a part of us, as we remember them

Members of Kol HaLev will mark the following yahrzeits during the next month:

- Diana Tonti- mother of Mario Tonti
- Charlie Bound- grandfather of Miriam Geronimus
- Dudley Stuart Dinner (David)- husband of Maureen Dinner
- Helen Stern- mother of Karal Stern
- Ada A. Gwatkin- mother of Ralph Gwatkin
- Ida G. Dudwick- mother of Nancy Dudwick
- Lena (Lee) Warsh Baum- maternal grandmother of Heidi Gorovitz Robertson
- Rella Gilletz- grandmother of Michal Scher-Marcus
- Lippman Geronimus- grandfather of Miriam Geronimus
- Herman Zelikow- father of Fran Zamore
- Earl Dresden- cousin of Phyllis Maris
- Sylvia Oken- sister of Selma Gwatkin
- Herb Kronman- husband of Joan Kronman
- Alice Lesly Friedman Biales- sister of Joyce Wolpert

Kol HaLev members may include the yahrzeit of loved ones in *Kol HaLev Happenings* by submitting the name of the deceased, the relationship to the member, and the date of death including the year to kelli@kolhalev.net.



"First they ignore you, then they laugh at you, then they fight you, then you win." - Mahatma Gandhi

On Monday, April 24, the County Council met to vote about whether or not they would pass the \$280 million Quicken Loans Arena renovation. At the last minute, Brian Cummins switched his vote to a "yes," meaning that the ordinance passed with a 2/3 vote with 12 for and 5 against the deal. This also means that this legislation passed as an "emergency" and is thus effective immediately. However, GCC was already ready to act, regardless of what the outcome of the vote. By gathering 6,000 valid signatures from Cleveland residents in the next 30 days (20,000 overall, to be absolutely sure), GCC can bring this deal to voters through a referendum. GCC has formed a new coalition to ensure the success of this campaign and is working with Service Employees International Union Local 1199, Cuyahoga County Progressive Caucus, AFSCME Ohio Council 8, and Amalgamated Transit Union Local 268. There is power and might in this campaign that is for the people and with the people. The time is now.

According to GCC co-chair Pastor Richard Gibson of Elizabeth Baptist Church, "From the beginning there has been an unwillingness to develop a deal that addresses the critical ills in our neighborhoods like high unemployment, inadequate mental health crisis centers, increasing gun violence, and persistent challenges in schools. More energy has been spent attacking our proposal than considering or developing a deal that would more broadly impact our city and county. We will continue to lead the discussion and focus on our neighborhoods until there is fairness and substantial progress in our struggling neighborhoods. We are "all-in" for a real community benefits agreement for the greater good. "

This campaign is huge and rapid-fire. You can sign up to join us for a shift through GCC's website <http://www.greaterclevelandcongregations.org/NotAllIn-SignUp>. There are shifts every day, at a variety of times - Monday-Friday (10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.), Saturday (10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.) and Sunday (2:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.) Monday-Saturday shifts will begin at Olivet Baptist Church (8712 Quincy Avenue) , Sunday from Elizabeth Baptist Church (6114 Francis Avenue). Kol HaLev has committed 20 shifts (with 5 filled), so please contact Elisa Waugh (ewaugh@wesleyan.edu) about your desire to participate.



Kvell Corner: Share your joy!

IF YOU'RE KVELLING, WE WANT TO, TOO!

For milestone birthdays, anniversaries, births b'nai mitzvah, graduations, etc., send news and pictures to newsletter@kolhalev.net

CONTRIBUTIONS

Kol HaLev gratefully acknowledges these contributions:

- In memory of Ruth Ness:
 - **Larry and Joanne Tobacman and Family**
 - **The Jewish Secular Community of Cleveland**
- In memory of Jeffrey Schein's mother, Rose Schein
 - **Judy Harris and Alan Lipson**
 - **Jayne and Richard Jones**
- In memory of Happy Wallach's mother, Reverend Anne L. Kinney
 - **Sandy and Allan Rosenfield**
 - **Susan Golden**
- In memory of Robin Holzman's mother, Elaine Holtzman
 - **Happy Wallach**
 - **Richard and Jayne Jones**
- For The Maureen Hack Memorial Fund
 - **Errol Rubenstein and Sarah Whalen**
 - **Ivor and Tracy Douglas**
 - **Jeffrey Rubenstein and Mishaela Rubin**
- **Deena and Dick Epstein** in honor of Noah Epstein's Bar Mitzvah
- **Leah and Ron Gilbert** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Leah's father, Arthur Ness
- **Kirby Date and Richard Litwin** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Richard's mother, Evelyn Litwin
- **Ralph and Selma Gwatkin** in commemoration of the yahrzeit of Selma's father, Nathan Schatz
- **Happy Wallach** in appreciation of the kindness of David and Elizabeth Conn
-

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. Find out how at http://kolhalev.net/giving_opportunities.

[*continued from page 1*](#)

Steve was one of several participants who noted "an amazing alignment of themes." While each group started out focused on a specific area of the research -- "Volunteerism"; "Training and Coaching"; "Process, Structure and Communication"; "Organization of Work"; and "Leadership Identification and Succession Planning" -- an informal consensus emerged regarding several common areas of concern and potential solutions (as one group read its suggestions, it was not uncommon for someone in another group to call out "We thought about suggesting that, too!")

Some members left the workshop with an idea of what they wanted to work on, with excitement about reaching out to other community members who are interested in the same ideas, and with the intention to discover what would be involved in bringing their idea to fruition. In some cases, that work is already underway.

Meanwhile, the leadership task force is at work consolidating the ideas which came out of the workshop and facilitating next steps. They'll be sharing those ideas with the larger community, so that members who couldn't attend can see which interest them. They're also looking at ways to bring people together so that some proposed changes could be integrated into current practices and structures in the most productive and beneficial way.

The Kol HaLev board reviewed a draft budget at its April 13 meeting at Maureen Dinner's house and made suggestions and revisions that will be incorporated into the budget before it is submitted for final board approval at the May meeting.

David Conn also presented a detailed treasurer's report which indicated that income is even with last year at this time and that although expenses are about \$12,000 more than last year at this time, this is largely due to timing of payments and not cause for concern. He said our cash positions remains very good.

Kol HaLev has received commitments from 125 of the 142 members on our roster, and there was discussion about ways to approach those we have not heard from. David suggested that those who have not responded to the original membership commitment letter be sent an invoice for the full amount of dues with a reminder that they can still request an adjusted amount. There was discussion of instituting an "opt-out" membership process rather than opt-in commitment form to be completed every year. The executive committee and the commitment support volunteer are continuing to contact nonresponsive members as well.

Karly expressed thanks to the Leadership Taskforce (LTF) for a successful community meeting (see story on page 1). About 40 members attended and another 30 completed an electronic survey. The LTF's core committee will meet soon to review suggestions and priorities expressed at the meeting and report back to the community.

Karly also asked for volunteers from the community to help plan a spring 2018 fundraising event that will celebrate Kol HaLev's 25th anniversary and Rabbi Steve's 18 years with our community.

The board will next meet on Monday, May 8 at Louise Elkind's home in Willoughby. All members are invited to attend.

RABBINIC CORNER, [cont'd from page 3](#)

willing to work one or more 4 hour shifts between next week and the end of May. Kol HaLev has pledged to provide 20 shifts. So far, we as a group have signed up for 5, and I feel confident that we will be able to meet, and even exceed our pledged shifts. There are many different time slots available to suit a wide range of schedules and there will be training available prior to each shift so that everyone understands exactly how to gather the signatures.

I realize that within our community there exists a range of perspectives on the wisdom of supporting this advocacy initiative. However, for me, the opportunity to help put this question on the next city ballot, and thereby maximize the likelihood that the poorest neighborhoods in our region will receive a much needed infusion of financial and human resources, represents, in the most powerfully concrete way, a path towards the active pursuit of the ideals that we all so recently articulated at "the annual meeting of the Jewish People." It is a fulfilling way to walk the Passover talk.

For those in our community who feel the same, and are interested in helping to make this happen, I encourage you to sign up for a shift or two at <http://greaterclevelandcongregations.org/NotAllIn-SignUP>.

Or, if you'd like to learn more about this issue, I invite you to be in touch with me by email (rabbisteve@kolhalev.net) or by phone (216) 410-5973.

With prayers for a safer, healthier and more hope-filled life for all citizens of our region,
Rabbi Steve



Please save the date and join us at our Annual Meeting and community potluck on Sunday, June 4, 10:30-1:30 at Ratner

Kol HaLev's annual meeting will take place at Ratner on the morning of June 4 beginning at 10:30 a.m. and—new this year!--will be followed by a community potluck.

From a governance standpoint annual meetings are one way organizations fulfill certain obligations to their membership, including sharing important information about finances and programmatic developments, electing new board members, and voting on major organizational policies. It is a time to reflect on our activities and developments over the past year and look ahead together. The agenda includes brief reports from the president, Treasurer and Values Team Leaders as well as time for discussion of the Board's proposed budget for the next fiscal year. Your participation in these matters is crucial.

In true Kol HaLev fashion, however, it is also a sacred gathering where we offer blessings and gratitude to the new and retiring Board members for their service to the community and recite our own unique Board covenant document together. Inspired by recent discussions around the spirituality of the Kiddush, we have made sure to include time afterwards for informal connection and continued conversations over lunch and our famous potlucks.

In a couple of weeks you will receive (by mail as well as by email) a ballot for the election of next year's Board of Trustees. The Nominating Committee has been working thoughtfully to compose a slate of recommended candidates, members who will help guide our policy and programming decisions. You can cast your vote in person at the annual meeting or, if you are unable to attend follow the instructions on the ballot and return your absentee vote by the date indicated so it may be counted.

I look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting June 4.



Jewish Reconstructionist Communities
In Association with the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

SAVE THE DATE! PLAN TO ATTEND!
RECONSTRUCTIONIST CONVENTION

November 15-18, 2018

Philadelphia, PA

Join with other Reconstructionists to sing, pray, learn, eat and be together
Strengthen our networks and deepen our connections
Celebrate the movement and 50 years of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College

More details to follow!



TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT 5777

TUESDAY, MAY 30, 2017

DOORS OPEN AT 6:30 PM

CO-SPONSORS:



Akron, Ohio



Beth Israel -
The West Temple



Join us to commemorate the giving of the Torah as we study, pray and rejoice.
Come for one session or the entire evening.

B'nai Jeshurun Congregation, 27501 Fairmount Blvd., Pepper Pike, OH

Free and Open to the Community

SPONSORED BY B'NAI JESHURUN CONGREGATION
and the Estelle & Dr. Milton Rosenberg^{z"l} Tikkun Leil Shavuot Study Session Fund

Ongoing Programs

- Teen Tikkun- 6:30-8:30 pm: Unique programming for 6th- 12th graders
- Open Library with Dr. Rafi Simon- 7:00 pm-midnight
- icnext Cohort 3 Teen Israel Photo Exhibit: *Food for Thought- Exploration of Israeli Identities*

Session 1 - 7:00-7:45 pm

- Professor Doron Kalir, Cleveland- Marshall College of Law: *Be're'sheet Ba'ra Elo'him- What Happened "In the Beginning"?*
- Rabbi Melinda Mersack, jHUB: *Ephraim & Menashe: The Blessing of Children from Interfaith Families*
- Alan Rosskamm, CEO Breakthrough Schools: *Meeting the Challenges of Urban Education*
- Dr. Sylvia F. Abrams, Retired Dean, Siegal College of Judaic Studies, **BOOK DISCUSSION:** *"The Secret Chord" by Geraldine Brooks: an emotional reconsideration of the story of King David*
- Frances Ritsky-Kluter, **MEMOIR WRITING:** *Stories My Bubbe Told Me about Mitzvot- Reflect, Write, Share (limited to 15 participants)*
- Ken Bravo, V.P., International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies: *The Nuts & Bolts of Jewish Genealogy*
- Leah Kamionkowski: *A Reconstructionist Approach to the Meaning of Shavuot*
- Marjorie Falk, Art Teacher, **HANDS ON:** *Chalk Art Project- Mt. Sinai Experience (no experience necessary- limited to 25 participants)*
- Oudi Singer, Gross Schechter Day School: *Hassidic Wizards, Jewish Magic & Segulot Tehillim*

7:45 PM LITE BITE APPETIZERS AND MINCHA

Session 2 - 8:30-9:15 pm

- Rabbi Stephen Weiss, B'nai Jeshurun: *One Law Shall There Be: The Rise, Decline & Renewal of the Partnership between Jews and African- Americans in the Fight for Civil Rights*
- Kyla Epstein Schneider: *Fascinating & Provocative Texts: Six Genders*
- Rabbi Shalom Plotkin: *Maximizing Well- Being as We Age*
- Dr. Brian Amkraut, Executive Director, The Laura and Alvin Siegal Lifelong Learning Program at CWRU: *Finding the Torah in the Tanach: What Happens When Biblical Figures First "Discover" the Torah*
- Charles Hersch, Cleveland State University: *Jews & Jazz: Improvising Ethnicity*
- Kevin Adelstein & Bob Jacob, Cleveland Jewish News: *How to Carry Out our Mission in Today's Political Climate*
- Carolyn Stulberg, Parenting Consultant: *Tale as Old as Time: Jewish Parenting/Grandparenting Lessons Learned from Beauty and the Beast- Not Your Typical Disney Story*

9:30 PM MA'ARIV FESTIVAL EVENING SERVICE

OVER: Tikkun continues into the night & morning

TIKKUN LEIL SHAVUOT 5777

CONTINUES INTO THE NIGHT & MORNING

10:00 PM GRAND DESSERT BAR

Session 3 - 10:15 pm-11:00 pm

- Cantor Aaron Shifman, B'nai Jeshurun: *The Prophet that Never Died- Elyahu HaNavi*
- Rabbi Stephen Grundfast, Beth El, Akron: *Gematria: It's a Numbers Game*
- Rabbi Megan Doherty, Director of Hillel & Jewish Campus Life, Oberlin College: *Jewish Models of Dialogue Across Differences*
- Rabbi Peter Haas, CWRU Abba Hillel Silver Professor Emeritus: *Yigdal & Maimonides' Philosophy in Our Prayer*
- Judge Dan Polster: *Justice versus Mercy: One Judge's Struggle to Strike a Balance*
- Rabbi Dan Roberts, Emeritus Rabbi, Temple Emanu El: *After 120: Jewish Concepts of Life after Death & Reconciliation with Loss of a Loved One*
- Alex Blumin, Gross Schechter Day School: *Megillat Ruth Study*
- Barbara Epstein: *Jewish Perspectives on the Treatment of Animals from Biblical to Modern Times*
- Ilana Horowitz Ratner: *What We Learn from Ruth about The Other*

Session 4 - 11:15 pm-midnight

- Rabbi Josh Foster, B'nai Jeshurun: *Superman vs. the Nazis: A Modern Text Study on the Superman Comics during WWII & a Response from Goebbels of the SS*
- Rabbi Steve Segar, Kol HaLev: *Jewish Theological Approaches to Suffering*
- Ed Horowitz, Cleveland State University: *11 Mind-Blowing Mysteries of the Ark of the Covenant. #3 Will Shock You!*
- Rabbi Enid Lader, Beth Israel- The West Temple: *Ruth's Journey- How Ruth Changed Her Life by a Series of Bold Choices & Taking Risks*
- Dr. Jay Geller, CWRU Samuel Rosenthal Professor of Judaic Studies: *Myths, Urban Legends & Not- Quite- True Stories in Jewish History*
- Todd Rosenberg: *How Miracles Differ between Judaism & Christianity*
- Ayelet Isaac, Community Shlichah: *Israel through the Lens of our Shlichah*
- Toby Rosenberg: *Slow & Easy Torah Yoga (beginners welcome)*

MIDNIGHT - 4:00 AM BREAKFAST BAR

Midnight-12:45 am

- Rabbi Scott Roland, Shaarey Tikvah: *Better to Sleep? Rabbi Zadok HaKohen's Case for Sleeping on Shavuot*
- Dr. Aaron Goldenberg, CWRU School of Medicine (Bioethics): *Jewish Response to Gene Editing*
- Bob Kimmelfield: *Guided Outdoor Spiritual Hike*

1:00-1:45 am

- Elise Braverman-Plotkin, MA Talmud J.T.S.: *A Lonely Woman & a Forgotten Tree, What They Teach Us About Leadership*
- Rabbi Ben Shlimovitz, Gross Schechter Day School: *Organ Donation & End of Life*

2:00-2:45 am Jerry D. Isaak-Shapiro, Head of School, Joseph & Florence Mandel Jewish Day School: *Our Greatest Torah Commentators: Who They Were Says A Lot About What They Wrote*

3:00-3:45 am Rabbi Hal Rudin-Luria, B'nai Jeshurun: *Self-Driving Cars- Torah in the Tesla*

4:00 AM KABBALISTIC MYSTICAL WEDDING CEREMONY-Rejoicing with the Torahs (outdoors weather permitting)

4:45 AM SUNRISE SHACHARIT FESTIVAL MORNING SERVICE (outdoors weather permitting)

Contact Shani Kadis at B'nai Jeshurun for more information or to RSVP.
Reservations requested, but not required.
B'nai Jeshurun Congregation | 27501 Fairmount Blvd., Pepper Pike, OH 44124
(216) 831-6555 | bnaijeshurun.org



CALENDAR

Mon., May 1	7:30 p.m.	Executive Committee Meeting
Sat., May 6	9:15-10:15 a.m.	Philosophical Inquiry (5th - 7th graders)
	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Torah Discussion in Ratner Library led by Audrey Warner
	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Hagiga
	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service in the Ratner Chapel. Parasha: <i>Acharei Mot/Kedoshim</i> ; Service Leader: Rabbi Steve; Kiddush Sponsor: Jean Miller In honor of Brian's 60th birthday, Aaron and Laurel Simkoff in honor of Charlotte's baby naming ceremony and Leah Kamionkowski
	10:45-11:15 a.m.	Tot-Parent Shabbat Program
Sun., May 7	9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.	No'ar Hadash Cedar Point Trip
	9:30-11:30 a.m.	Congregational Shabbat Working Group
	10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon	Nesiya at Ratner School
Mon., May 8	7:30 p.m.	Board Meeting
Sat., May 13	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Member Led Shabbat Service in Ratner Chapel; Parasha: <i>Emor</i> ; Kiddush Sponsors: Greg Selker and Marianne Lax
	7:30-8:30 p.m.	Lag B'Omer Intergenerational Program
Sun., May 14	10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon	Nesiya at Ratner School
Mon., May 15	Deadline for the June Kol HaLev Happenings Newsletter	
Sat., May 20	9:15-10:15 a.m.	Philosophical Inquiry (5th - 7th graders)
	9:30-10:30 a.m.	Torah Discussion in Ratner Library
	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service--Blessing for Grads in the Ratner Chapel, <i>Behar-Behukotai</i> ; Service Leaders: Amy Brodsky and Rabbi Steve; Kiddush Sponsors: Elana Satin and Matthew Richter
	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Hagiga
	10:45-11:15 a.m.	Tot-Parent Shabbat Program
	1:15-2:15 p.m.	Mindful Jewish Practice in the Ratner Library. Nancy Rubel will lead for an hour of a combination of sitting practice and brief conversation
Sun., May 21	10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon	Nesiya-Siyyum at Ratner School
	4:00-6:00 p.m.	Bonim Picnic
Thurs., May 25	7:30-9:00 p.m.	Book Club Meeting
Fri., May 26	6:00-9:00 p.m.	Kabbalat Shabbat and Potluck at Ratner. Service Leader: Rabbi Steve and member musicians. 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 reuseable plates, cups, utensils and napkins to our potluck. Assignments: A-H - Dessert or Drink; I-P - Main Dish; Q-Z - Appetizer or Salad
Sat., May 27	10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.	Shabbat in the Park at North Chagrin Reservation, 3037 Som Center Rd, Willoughby Hills, Chestnut; Service Leader: Rabbi Steve; Kiddush Hosts: Scott and Tracy Elgar
Tues., May 30	6:30 p.m.	Tikkun Leil Shavuot 5777 -- Community Shavuot Study at B'nai Jeshurun Congregation, 27501 Fairmount Blvd., Pepper Pike, OH. Free and Open to the Community -- see flyer on pp. 10-11 for details. Kol HaLev members Leah Kamionkowski, Chuck Hersch and Barbara Epstein are among the presenters.
Wed., May 31	10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Shavuot Service at Ratner School
Sat., Jun. 3	10:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.	Shabbat Service and Bar Mitzvah of Louis Rahilly at Ratner School
Sun., Jun. 4	3:00-5:00 p.m.	Annual Meeting at Ratner School

To sign up to **host a kiddush**, go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4bada828a1f85-kolhalev5>

To sign up to **be a greeter**, go to <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4bada828a1f85-kolhalev4>

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](#).

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

Kol HaLev Happenings is the newsletter of Kol HaLev, Cleveland's Reconstructionist Jewish Community. This digital newsletter can be read onscreen in Adobe Reader or printed out on paper. Please email newsletter@kolhalev.net with comments, complaints, corrections, suggestions, or notices for upcoming issues. [Back issues of Kol HaLev Happenings](#) can be downloaded from the [Kol HaLev website](#).

Kol HaLev Happenings

The Newsletter of Cleveland's Reconstructionist Jewish Community

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