



Chadeish Yameinu News

Vol. 2 No. 3

Renew Our Days

Summer 2004

Rebbe's Corner

Reflections on Home...

I write here at my desk, as in the past, but this time I have all the distractions of settling into a new home. Critical projects call to me from every room, from every corner. Yet, I can't help but feel an amazing sense of gratitude. After years of wandering in the wilderness of the Santa Cruz housing market, I am finally in a place I hope to call home for awhile.

But what does that mean to call a place "home?" I am reminded of phrases from songs, such as, "Home is where the heart is," and "Home to me is anywhere you are." And how is it that after almost 22 years of living in California, I still say I am going "home" to visit my parents?! Sometimes home is more than the house in which we are currently living.

For the Jewish people, "home" has nuances beyond our current living situations, beyond the nostalgia for childhood seders or summer barbecues. Home has often been tenous. Our grandparents migrated across hemispheres en masse; our people have been uprooted so often from so many places, how could this not have made its way into our collective, and even individual, consciousness? Much of what is beautiful, along with much of what is painful, in our tradition is based on this sense of uprootedness. It is not only we who are in "galut," exile and diaspora. Along with us is the Shechina, G*d's presence in our world. She, too, longs to be at home, both in this world and with the Holy One. She, too, longs for us to find our place both in this world and with the Holy One; longs that the world should be a place where the Holy One can be found.

It has always struck me in a strange way that Tisha B'av, the day we commemorate the Destruction of the
(Continued on page 2)

Exciting News About Our Reb Eli!

We have been chosen! Our soon-to-be-ordained Reb Eli has chosen us out of many other congregations across the nation. To be more specific, Reb Eli has agreed to be our rabbi again for two more years – and with more hours devoted to our chavurah than before. He loves Chadeish Yameinu; he loves Santa Cruz!

To take advantage of this opportunity to continue employing our well-loved rebbe, CY will be sending you a letter inviting you to participate in putting the *fun* back into fundraiser as we meet our new financial goals for this year.

-- Maia Zohara

General Meeting Follow Up

We want to thank all of you who attended the general meeting and for your enthusiasm and high praises of Reb Eli - his spirituality, intellect, creativity and for the excellent ways in which he is expanding our religious services and educational offerings - and also for your statements of appreciation of the CY community - its warmth and support for one another in times of need as well as during happy life celebrations.

We made a number of phone calls to our supporters and chevre who donated to be on the mailing list and found the response positive to meeting the modest needs of Reb Eli and to increasing his time from one-half to two-thirds. If everyone participates in the joy of fundraising for the benefit of our chavurah, we will succeed – and Jewish Renewal will be alive and well in Santa Cruz.

-- Jeanne Rosen & Diane Klein

Rebbe's Corner

(Continued from page 1)

Temple and subsequent exile of the Jewish people, comes in the middle of summer vacation. It has always seemed that that's the last thing I'd want to focus on in the middle of summer fun. And yet, there it is... with its reminder that we are not quite at home. Do I ignore it and its seeming irrelevance to my easy life? Should I push myself to be sad, just as I might push myself to be happy on Purim? Or is the sadness in fact right at the edge of my psyche already, with my beloved Israel entangled in what appears to be a no-win situation, and with American soldiers torturing Iraqi prisoners with German Shepherds? And yet, do I not owe it to myself, as well as to my family and others around me, to just enjoy life? Can't I allow myself to simply have a fun and happy summer, hitting the road for vacation, oblivious to any awareness that I am part and parcel of our culture's addiction to the same craving for oil that underlies the travesty in Iraq?

If you find yourself with travel plans this summer, "gay gezinterhayt" (go in good health)... and consider obtaining a copy of the traditional "Tefilat HaDerech" (Prayer of the Road, or as it is more commonly known, the Traveller's Prayer) and reciting it when you set out.

"May it be Your will, Yah our G*d and G*d of our ancestors, that You lead us toward peace, incline our footsteps toward peace, guide us toward peace, and cause us to reach our desired destination for life, for joy, and for peace...."

As the Talmud teaches, this prayer is in the plural. For whenever we unite ourselves with the needs of others we increase the chance that our prayers will be heard. May it be G*d's will, that as we go about enjoying our lives this summer, we keep peace in our hearts and our prayers. And may this bring us one step closer to peace, one step closer to home.

Reb Eli

Classified Ads

Book: "The Heart of the Circle: A Guide to Drumming," by Holly Blue Hawkins (ISBN 1-58091-0025-4) available from your local bookseller, or online from Amazon or B&N. <http://home.earthlink.net/~hollyblue>.

Professional Listing

Editor/Writer/Speaker. Non-fiction book editing. Ghost writing "as told to" or "with no credit." Rewriting. Inspirational and Jewish classes/talks. Nina Amir, 408-395-1776, Namir@purespiritcommunications.com.

Contribute Your Writing to CY News

Do you have some thoughts or inspiration about a particular prayer, ritual practice or song that you would like to share with the CY community? How about some general beliefs you would like us to grapple with, such as gender in prayer, names of God, concept of God, beliefs about the afterlife, l'shon harah, community building, tzedakah?

We're starting a new column where you can write about what inspires you or nudges you or maybe what you would like to nudge us on. If you would like to write something, please contact Reb Lori Klein at leahblum@cruzio.com.

"Toda Raba" for Donations

The CY Coordinating Council would like to acknowledge both general and siddurim donations made by the following individuals and organizations:

- ◆ Helen Nunberg in honor of the Roisman family.
- ◆ Jay Dravich in honor of Howie Schneider, "for graciously organizing my shiva minyan."

Place an Ad in Chadeish Yameinu News

Classified ads cost \$18 for 4 lines, \$36 for 9 lines. Professional listings cost \$18/listing (4 lines). One line consists of approximately 5-7 words. Class listings cost \$18/listing (6 lines).

E-mailed ads/listings to Nina Amir Lacey at cpywrtcom@aol.com. Mail payments to Chadeish Yameinu, P.O. Box 3578, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3578 before the deadline. For more information, you can call Nina at 408-395-1776.

CY News is mailed on a quarterly basis. Deadline for the next issue is August 15th.

"How Can We Who Long For Life Delight in Seeing Good Each Day?"

**Keep your tongue from speaking ill;
Guard your lips from shaming words;
Shun what is evil; embrace the good;
Seek peace always and pursue it."**

Psalm 34, verses 13-15

"How can we who long for life delight in seeing good each day?" This line strikes me as poignant and difficult to answer lately. Since the news and photos have come out about the atrocities at Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq, I have felt outraged and heartbroken. In addition to my compassion and pain for the victims, I keep thinking about the young, smiling perpetrators. From my gut I cry out, why? How can it be that people can do such things? These young Americans set out to break the spirits of the Iraqi men in their charge. I believe that they broke their own spirits in the process. For what happens to a person when they reach into that darkest part of their psyche, the place where it becomes possible to be someone who degrades, abuses and tortures other human beings?

We know from psychological studies that "regular" people (i.e. not psychopaths) can become sadistic under certain conditions. In the famous Stanford Prison Study, university students were randomly assigned to play the roles of prisoners or prison guards for 2 weeks. The "guards" became so abusive that the study had to be halted after one week. Some of the things they did to the "prisoners" mirror what was done in Abu Ghraib (bags over heads, stripped nude, sexually humiliated, forced to simulate sexual acts). Later, on the other side of the country, the Milgram study had average citizens believing that they were giving painful electric shocks to subjects who incorrectly answered questions. (This was a ruse. The subjects were actors and there wasn't any real shock.) These citizens continued to increase what they thought was voltage to excruciating and potentially lethal levels.

There is potential in the human psyche to degenerate to sadism. This is why, as a society, we must

rely heavily on that aspect of religious and secular ethical instruction that teaches us how to be good and how not to be bad. Our Jewish tradition exhorts us to build our "goodness muscle," and it reminds us over and over to avoid "the evil inclination." We must learn this deeply, and exercise this muscle well, in order to draw upon it at those times when a person can falter.

We have many teachings, prayers and rituals designed to do this, including the teaching that to humiliate a person is akin to murder. Now, you and I may think we'll never be in a situation anything like that of Abu Ghraib, but it serves for us now as a horrific reminder of the imperative to build our goodness muscle and to teach this to our children.

We must realize that even small humiliations or hurtful acts toward others are wrong and disharmonious for all involved. We can use prayer to remind ourselves of all the ways to be good. We must remind ourselves with these prayers and with rituals that are built into our daily, weekly and seasonal lives. We must practice everyday to be good and righteous in our actions and our treatment of others.

So, examine your words and actions before you give them life. I encourage you to give yourself a new daily practice or give new life to an old one. One way to do this is to find a particularly inspiring prayer. Say it slowly and with great thoughtfulness. Open your heart to the meaning and images within the words. Let them be a gateway to your own wisdom. Try it now with Psalm 34. Try reading it again now, thinking about Abu Ghraib. Then read it again and apply it to your everyday interactions. And may it be, for you, an inspiration.

-- Shira Belford

CY Shabbat Schedule June-August 2004

We have Shabbat services on selected Friday nights and Saturday mornings. Friday night services at the Garden are especially family friendly, so bring your children! They are welcome to stay throughout the service, and we also have separate children's programming available at those services for those who call the Bloombecker's at 475-3327 in advance. The schedule for the fall is being planned now so please contact Shalom Braveman, listed under Action Groups, if you would like to host a regular or special Shabbat service.

Weekend June 4-6 – "Out in Our Faith" Beyond Tolerance to Full Inclusion

A Multi-faith Worship & Workshop

A Chadeish Yameinu co-sponsored event led by various leaders.

Time: Begins with a Shabbat Service at 7:30 pm on Friday evening

Place: Temple Beth El Jewish Community Center, 3055 Porter Gulch Rd

Registration is required! Please call Temple Beth El at 479-3444 for details.

Saturday, June 5 – Shabbat in the Redwoods: Hiking and Appreciation of Nature

Led by Michelle Newman

Time: 10am-2pm

Place: Meet at the home of Michelle Hodah and Mark-Paul Goodman

Bring sack lunch, sun lotion, hat, water & wear hiking shoes (strong tennies are fine; hiking boots if you want, but not necessary)

Friday, June 11 – Kabbalat Shabbat (the Friday evening service)

Led by Reb Eli Cohen

Time: 7pm, followed by a potluck oneg (snacks and desserts)

Place: The Garden, 3070 Prather Lane

Friday, June 25 – Kabbalat Shabbat (the Friday evening service) and in honor of Eric Ichtertz's Bar Mitzvah

Led by Reb Eli Cohen

Time: 7pm, followed by a potluck oneg (snacks and desserts)

Place: Home of Janice Ichtertz, 741 Loma Prieta Drive, Aptos, 684-1639

Saturday, July 31 – Bat Mitzvah of Ariel Lacey

Led by Reb Eli Cohen

Time: 10am-2pm, Shacharit Service followed by a partially catered, partially pot luck lunch

Place: Home of the Lacey's, 21945 Bear Creek Way, Los Gatos, (408) 395-1776

Directions to The Garden, 3070 Prather Lane, Soquel:

Going North on Hwy 1: Take Soquel Ave. Exit. Go right at light

on Soquel. Go through 3 lights. The very next left after Thurber is Prather. It looks like a driveway. It is directly across from Sutter Surgical Center parking lot. If you pass the Skyview Theater (or flea market), you've gone a few yards too far. The last house on the right before the park is 3070.

Going South on Hwy 1: Take Soquel Ave exit. Go right all the way over the freeway and pass through 4 lights. Follow same as above (second paragraph).

Directions to Michelle & Mark-Paul's house, 2018 Bobwhite Lane, Soquel, 427-1734:

Going South on Hwy 1: Exit Soquel Ave. Turn right off Fwy. Right at Soquel. Drive over Fwy bridge. Go through 3 lights: Paul Sweet Rd, Dominican Hospital & Mission Drive. At the 4th light, Thurber Lane, turn left. On the right is an empty field, then 3 homes. Then, you'll see a driveway with the street sign: Bobwhite Lane. Drive 1/2 block past this, turn right on Sequoia, and park. Walk back to Bobwhite Lane. Our condo is the 3rd one on the right: There is a blue flag hanging outside the front porch with a sailboat sailing past a lighthouse.

Going North on Hwy 1: Exit Soquel Ave. Turn right off Fwy. Go through 1st intersection (stop sign): Commercial Crossing, in front of Toys R Us & Circuit City. At second street, Mission Dr., turn left. Turn right on Soquel Dr. Get in left lane immediately. Turn left at next light, Thurber Lane. Follow directions above from left on Thurber Lane.

Directions to Janice's house, 741 Loma Prieta Drive, Aptos, 684-1639:

Going South on Hwy 1: Take Rio Del Mar exit. Turn right onto Clubhouse. At second stop sign Alta turn left onto Alta. Alta turns in to Loma Prieta. House is and half way up the hill.

Going North on Hwy 1: Take Rio Del Mar exit. Turn left onto Clubhouse. At second stop sign Alta turn left onto Alta. Alta turns in to Loma Prieta. House is and half way up the hill.

Parking is very limited as street is on a windy and narrow hill. Best to park at the Shopping Center on the right and walk or call ahead and a pick up at shopping center will be arranged.

Directions to the Lacey's house, 21945 Bear Creek Way, Los Gatos, (408) 395-1776:

Route 17N to Summit Road. Take an immediate left off the exit ramp following Summit Road across the highway past Mt. Charlie Road. Continue on Summit until it dead ends at Bear Creek Road. Turn left towards Boulder Creek. Go 3.3 miles (past David Bruce Winery and Byington Winery) to Bear Creek Way. Look for a sign saying "Bus stop 400 feet" and "One lane road ahead." Just before the stop sign you will see Bear Creek Way on your left. Turn left, and at the top of the hill bear right and continue down the hill. Look for a wooden arrow on the right with "21945" on it. (This is the fourth driveway after you begin going down hill and the first paved one.) Turn left and continue to the end of the driveway. Look for another wooden arrow and turn left again up our driveway.

(You can also get to the Lacey's by taking Hwy. 9 to Boulder Creek and then turning right on Bear Creek Road. Follow Bear Creek Road until you see signs for a one lane road ahead and a "School bus stop 400 feet" sign. Just past the stop sign there, you will see Bear Creek Way on the right. Follow the above directions from that point on.)

Parking at the house may be an issue; please carpool if possible and look for "parking attendants" along Bear Creek Way. We will shuttle some people from parking at a neighbor's house higher up the road.

Chadeish Yameinu

Renew Our Days

Post Office Box 3578 Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3578
www.chadeishyameinu.org

Chadeish Yameinu is an egalitarian Jewish Renewal havurah. Our Shabbat and Holiday services are led by our part-time student rabbi, Eli Cohen, and our lay leaders. We enjoy participatory davennen (prayer), Torah study, chanting, singing and dancing. We also have exciting classes on various topics taught by Reb Eli and other teachers, a Community School, a family learning project, Hebrew classes and a group on aging and caring.

We invite you to support ChadeishYameinu. It is only with the energy and resources of many passionate people that our dreams can come true! Any questions? Call one of the following contact people.

To join an action group or get more info:

- ◆ Shabbat: Shalom Braveman (831) 375-7553; Stephen@bravemantherapy.com
- ◆ Adult Education: Jeanne Rosen (831) 685-8350; JeanneRosen18@cs.com
- ◆ Children's Programming: Maia Zohara (831) 475-6242; zoharita@aol.com
- ◆ Social Action: Shlomo Cooperstein (831) 655-8670; sc@is4life.com
- ◆ Membership: Shira Belford (831) 426-9271; belf@earthlink.net

Please check one below:

Enclosed is my yearly donation for \$_____ (\$300 - \$1000) to be a Chadeish Yameinu supporter.

I will pledge _____ per month (minimum \$26). Enclosed is my first payment.
Please contact me about arranging a direct deposit for my monthly contribution.

Enclosed is a contribution of \$72 to keep me on the mailing list so that I may get notices about events and information inviting my participation.

***Please make your check to "Chadeish Yameinu."
Send to P.O. Box 3578, Santa Cruz, CA 95063-3578***

Name _____

Address _____

Home phone _____ Work phone _____

Email address _____

Yes, you can list the above info on the CY roster that is available to the CY community.

No, please leave my info off of the roster.

An Invitation to Ariel Lacey's Bat Mitzvah

The CY community is cordially invited to the bat mitzvah of Ariel Lacey on July 31st at 10 a.m.. The family will be celebrating simply with a Shacharit service, led by Reb Eli, at the Lacey's home in the Santa Cruz Mountains (about 30-40 minutes from Santa Cruz) and then with a partially catered, partially pot luck lunch.

The service will be held in a small clearing that overlooks the Redwood grove in our back yard, so we will be outside but mostly in the shade. The site is not wheelchair accessible, but it should be negotiable for most people even those who might be

slightly disabled (with a little help). The service and lunch will be typical of a CY Shabbat service.

For Ariel this is truly a rite of passage. So, we hope the community will be there to support her on this big day.

Please RSVP to Nina at 408-395-1776 or cpywrtcom@aol.com. Please also let her know if you will be bringing a pot luck dish.

Parking at the Lacey's is limited, so carpooling is advised. Parking will be available at another location on their road, and people will be shuttled from there to the house.

High Holiday Services Scheduled

We are planning to once again offer High Holiday Services. This year Rosh Hashanah services will be on Wednesday and Thursday, September 15-16 and Yom Kippur Services will be on Friday and

Saturday, September 24-25. More details will follow. Please contact Shalom Braveman, listed under Action Groups, if you would like to volunteer in any way with these special holidays.

Tribute Gift

To honor special people and occasions

DONOR NAME		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
PHONE	E-MAIL	
AMOUNT OF DONATION (SUGGESTED MINIMUM \$16)		
My Gift is a Tribute <input type="checkbox"/> in honor of <input type="checkbox"/> in memory of		
NAME		
ADDRESS (NEEDED FOR BOTH HONOR AND MEMORIAL GIFTS)		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
Message:		
Please notify the following about this gift:		
NAME		
RELATIONSHIP TO HONOREE (FRIEND, SPOUSE, SIBLING, ETC.)		
ADDRESS		
CITY	STATE	ZIP
PHONE	E-MAIL	

Chadeish Yameinu

-Renew Our Days-

PO Box 5578

Santa Cruz, CA 95063-5578