



L'Chaim!

News & "Chailights" of The Greater Altoona Jewish Community

February 2010
Issue No. 18
Federation: 515-1182
E-mail:
altfed@atlanticbb.net
www.greateraltoona
jewishfederation.org

Schulmans say goodbye

Synagogue honors longstanding members

In early February, Yale and Ida Schulman moved to Austin, Texas, to be closer to their daughter Rebecca.

The couple was honored by friends and family on Jan.23, at a special Shabbat service at Agudath Achim.

Yale quelled about their grandson, Jacob Nemirov, who chanted the maftir, and about their daughters, Becky and Naomi, who had Torah honors. Ida was touched by the outpouring of good wishes from the gathering that packed the AAC chapel.

Congregation president Elliott Bilofsky awarded the title of Honorary Life President to Yale in recognition of his decades of devoted service to the congregation. Clark Adelman thanked Yale



Yale and Ida Schulman have moved to Austin, Texas.

for his work in establishing the endowment funds at AAC, insuring the financial viability of the synagogue for many years to come.

Both Ida and Yale's contributions to the greater

community were recounted by representatives of Improved Dwellings for Altoona, AMBUCS and Call for Action.

The Schulmans are lifelong residents of Altoona.

Yale, along with his brothers, served in the armed forces during WWII, and Yale was part of the Normandy invasion. After returning home, he and Ida Karp were married in April of 1947-- almost 63 years ago. They celebrated their 60th anniversary at the Synagogue in 2007.

Their new address is: 9306 Great Hills Trail, Box 40 Austin TX., 78759

They look forward to keeping in touch with all of their Altoona friends.

They are busy unpacking and getting used to life "in the big city."

Yale has already found his new "Synagogue home" and van service to and from there.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: BY MICHAEL COHEN

Federation remains busy with activities

Welcome to L'Chaim, our Greater Altoona Jewish Federation's newsletter. L'Chaim is now an annual publication of life in our community and kicks off one of the more eventful times of the year to be Jewish in the greater Altoona area.

Our 11th annual Film Festival will begin on Feb. 18 followed by three more excellent Thursday night films.



Cohen

Please join us for dinner prepared by Catered Affairs at the Heritage Discovery Center prior to each film.

February also kicks off our annual campaign and our goal continues to be 100 percent membership. Our Federation is

the only organization that is involved in all aspects of Jewish life in our community for Jews of all denominations and beliefs, and the one place that we stand together as a unified community.

If you believe in preserving Judaism in our community, you need to be a member of the Greater Altoona Jewish Federation.

Continued on Page 2

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Feb 27	Adult Purim Game Night at TBI
Feb 28	Purim
Feb 28	Purim carnival at JMC
March 29	Passover 1st Seder
March 30	TBI Seder at Calvin House
April 10	Yom Hashoah program
April 11	Yom Hashoah
April 19	Yom Ha'Atzmaut
May 19-20	Shavuot
May 27	Veteran's Memorial service
Sept 8	Erev Rosh Hashanah
Sept 17	Kol Nidre
Sept 18	Yom Kippur

L'Chaim!

is published annually by
The Greater Altoona Jewish Federation.

Editor: Neil Rudel

Conscience: Bill Wallen

Photographers: Henry Weinberg,
Jeff Greenberg and Carolyn Wallen

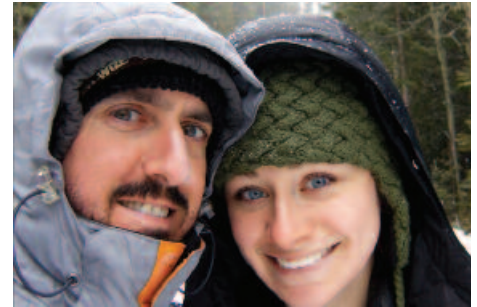
Articles should be submitted to the
Federation at 515-1182
or e-mailed to altfed@atlanticbb.net

New website:

greateraltoonajewishfederation.org

Suggestions and feedback are welcome.

Printing by A+ Printing, Inc.

L'CHAIM MILESTONES

Recent engagements: Danielle Newborn and Bob Kaniewsky, left and Rachel Allen and Jeff Dickson.

Engagements

Andrea Dotan and **Michael Rudnet**. Andrea is the daughter of **Reva Feldman** and **Schlomo Dotan**.

Danielle Newborn and **Bob Kaniewsky**. Danielle is the daughter of **Michele Schmidt** and **Barry Newborn**.

Rachel Allen and **Jeff Dickson**. Rachel is the daughter of **Karen** and **Barry Allen**.

Births

Dominik Joseph Johnston, was born on July 7, 2009 and is the son of **Nikole** and **Greg Johnston** and grandson of **Dianne** and **Neil Rudel**.

Mira Lee Kaplan, was born on October 4, 2009 and is the daughter of **Jon** and **Stephanie Martin Kaplan** and granddaughter of **Lynn**

and **Steve Kaplan**.

Eli Alexander Wallen was born on November 13, 2009 and is the son of **Jamie** and **Kevin Wallen** and grandson of **Carolyn** and **Bill Wallen**.

Baby naming

Renna Charles, daughter of **Eric** and **Christi Charles** on Simchat Torah, October 9, 2009.

Special birthdays and anniversaries

Fay "Snooky" Schmitt, **Henry Weinberg**, **Jerry Wayne** and **Rosie Karp** all celebrated milestones birthdays this past year. Can they really be octogenarians?

Steve and **Phyllis Port** celebrated their 50th anniversary in January 2010.

Message: website celebrates first anniversary

Continued from Page 1

February also marks the one-year anniversary of our Federation's website. Over the last year, our interactive website has grown and evolved to bring you news articles and videos of fresh perspectives on local, national and international Jewish concerns. We have also been fortunate to develop an area that focuses on Jewish holidays and stories, as well as a book review area on Jewish themes.

Bill and I have blogged to try to

keep you up to date on important events and experiences.

We would love to hear your comments about the blog. Our member happenings area has tried to share the good news of our member's activities in the community and inform people of milestone events on our lives.

We are thankful to have been able to share the Ginger Glass Bat Mitzvah project of video interviews with leaders in our community.

The internet and other technolo-

gies have truly "flattened" our world and brought so much information and learning to our lives.

Through researching news for the website, I have personally been enriched by the contributions of Jews and Judaism throughout the world.

From emergency rescue in Haiti, to the return of Persian fallow deer to Israel, I am proud to be Jewish.

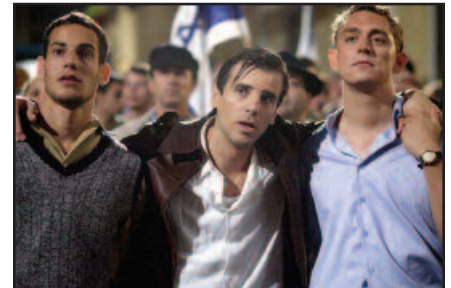
I hope the website has enriched your life as well.



Film Festival celebrates 11th year

O Jerusalem - 100 minutes, English (made in USA and Israel) 2006. An epic drama re-creating the historic struggle surrounding the creation of the State of Israel in 1948. At the center are two young American friends - one Jewish, one Arab. The film is told from alternating viewpoints of the Jews, Arabs and Brits, all of whom collide in their fight for control of Jerusalem. It brings to the forefront themes of courage, terrorism, deprivation, politics and a strong sense of morality. The film goes from the streets of New York to the Holy Land, where the friends risk their lives for what they believe in, as the city of their dreams teeters on the brink of destruction.

Feb. 18, 2010



Feb. 25, 2010



No. 4 Street of Our Lady – 95 minutes, English, documentary (made in USA and Poland) 2009. The documentary tells the remarkable, yet little known story of a Polish-Catholic woman who rescued 15 of her Jewish neighbors during the Holocaust. It culminates three years of production work that has taken the filmmakers - all faculty members at Penn State University's College of Communications - to Israel, Ukraine and numerous locations around the United States, where they have gathered material, conducted interviews and captured dramatic moments on camera. The film draws on excerpts from a diary kept by one of the survivors, Moshe Maltz, whose granddaughter, Judy is one of the filmmakers and along with her colleague, Richie Sherman will join us to introduce and discuss their film.

Making Trouble - *A project of the Jewish Women's Archive*, 85 minutes, English, documentary, (made in USA) 2006. A rollicking journey with three generations of funny Jewish women. Defying cultural expectations and changing the rules. Molly Picon, Fanny Brice, Sophie Tucker, Wendy Wasserstein and Gilda Radner successfully went from vaudeville and the Yiddish theater to Broadway, from Ziegfeld's Follies to Saturday Night Live. From a table in Katz's Deli in New York City, leading Jewish comedians, Judy Gold, Jackie Hoffman, Cory Kahaney and Jessica Kirson guide you on this comedic journey. Jerry Zolten, Associate Professor at PSU Altoona and former stand up comedian will introduce and discuss the film.

March 4, 2010



March 11, 2010



Constantine's Sword - 93 minutes, English, documentary, (made in USA) 2007. Oscar nominated director Oren Jacoby turns the camera on author and former Catholic priest James Carroll as he embarks on a journey to confront his past and uncover the dark side of Christianity. Carroll explores a legacy of religious violence, from the rise of genocidal anti-Semitism to modern day wars sparked by religious extremism. *Constantine's Sword* forces us to confront the question: Why do we kill people in the name of God? Father Mark Begly, Pastor of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church, Lakemont, will introduce and discuss the film.

Join us for dinner at the Heritage Discovery Center beginning at 5:30 p.m. We'll have wine and appetizers, with dinner catered by Paula & Dave Binus. Films are at the Devorris Downtown Center and begin at 7:30 p.m. Dinner is \$12/person and films at \$3 for Federation members \$5 for non-members and free for students. Reserve your space by calling the Federation office at 515-1182 or email us at altfed@atlanticbb.net.

Smile for the camera: The



Bonnie Zimmerman (left) and Janet Wayne take a nice picture.



Five of a kind: The Port family -- Mickey, Neil, Larry, Lisa and Sue -- poses for the camera at Neil's special birthday.



Laura Scheinberg and son Nate light up the camera.



Joel Schocker and his mother, Sandy.



Jonathan and Barbara Thaler are all smiles.



Howie Keenan and Abigail Simon share a light moment.



Sunday School teachers Bonnie Gor work with a group of young student

Jewish community in focus



Visiting Rabbi Yossi Stein shows the Sunday school the art of pressing olives for oil for Chanukiahs.



Burton and Betty Parish share a L'Chaim moment.



Colleen Devorris is flanked by children Max and Claudia.



From left: Felicia Devorris, Samantha Bilofsky, Mandy Bell Sky and Phoebe Simon



Janine Werstil (center) and Janine Werstil works on a Chanukah project.



Shani Evans, Robbie Smith and Max Krier at the Chanukah party.



Ian Bilofsky (left) and Tyler Rispoli entertain at the Agudath Achim Hanukkah dinner.

L'CHAIM PROFILE: JEFF AND MADELYN GREENBERG

Greenbergs plugged into community

Family: Jeff, Madelyn and sons, Billy and Bobby. Madelyn has both parents living in Ft. Worth, Texas. Billy lives in D.C., and Bobby in Clearwater Beach, Fla. Billy and Bobby are graduates of Penn State. Both Jeff and Madelyn each have two brothers, two nephews and two nieces.

Hometown: Jeff grew up in Westbury, N.Y., and Madelyn grew up in Cleveland and Ft. Worth, Texas. After marriage, Jeff and Madelyn lived in Houston, St. Louis, Missouri and Greenwich, Ct. We consider Altoona our hometown.

Education: Jeff has three undergraduate degrees — biology, psychology and medical technology. Madelyn has a BA in art and a teacher's certification in math.

Business and Profession: Jeff is currently in sales at Altoona Pipe and Steel. He also manages an E-bay business for Steve Seltzer Honda. Madelyn is a system support specialist at Penn State Altoona.

Congregation: Agudath Achim

Federation and Jewish community activities: Jeff and Madelyn are on the Federation and AAC boards. Jeff has been a vice president of Agudath Achim for several years. Madelyn is a past president for sisterhood, editor of the Chronicle, AAC's yearbook and editor of The Shofar, a bi-monthly newsletter for AAC. Madelyn also serves with Bill Wallen as advisor for the Jewish Student Association at Penn State Altoona.

Interests and hobbies: When Jeff is not working, he loves riding and accessorizing his motorcycle. Madelyn loves working in the yard, craft projects and learning new programs on the computer.



Significant influences in our lives: Jeff's most significant influence was his father. He was a very honest and generous man. Jeff always relates present-day situations to how his father would have taken care of it. Madelyn's biggest disappointment is that she never met Jeff's dad. He died before they met. Madelyn's most significant role models are her parents. She says, "My dad knows how to have fun; he is most remembered for playing like a kid, with his kids. He always would pile my friends in his convertible, taking us to movies, McDonalds or sled riding. He is always singing; appropriately his name is Mike Singer. My mom is also great; she is my favorite person to talk to. She is a fabulous cook and costume designer. She always taught me how to fix everything. Even though she won't touch a computer, she gave me the skills. My

mom taught me the value of volunteering. She has been president of Fort Worth Jewish Women's International (formerly B'nai Brith Women) for over 10 years. She also does catering for her synagogue. She has never had a paid job, but she works as hard as those who do.

Early Jewish memories: We grew up orthodox in Cleveland. All of our holidays centered around great food and a lot of fun. All of my relatives lived within a few blocks, and there would be at least 40 family members at all of our dinner. I have around 20 first cousins, and we always enjoyed the time we spent together as kids.

In our Jewish community, we are most proud of: All of our wonderful "family" friends. There are no clicks, everyone is just friends with everyone. Everyone has talents and everyone works hard in whatever they do.



We remember them...

*So long as we live, they too shall live,
for they are now part of us, as we remember them.*

Ed Hand, 82, died on Oct. 13, 2009 in Altoona. He was a native of Brooklyn, NY. He graduated from Jefferson High and Adelphi College and lived and worked in the New York area until his retirement in 1993. He served in WWII in the Navy as a pharmacist mate. Ed and his wife, Harriett, married in 1948 and were married for 61 years. They have two children, Steve and Susan, both of Hollidaysburg and four grandchildren, who had located here.



Hand

Ed and Harriett joined Temple Beth Israel and were active members there as well as with many community groups. Ed will be remembered for his ready smile, good sense of humor, devotion to his family and his generosity.

Hy Adelman, 88, died on Nov. 19, 2009 in Altoona. He was one of seven children born to the late Rose and Sam Adelman. Hy was a lifelong member of Agudath Achim Congregation, a charter member of AZA, and a 1939 graduate of Altoona High School. He joined the Army during WWII and served in the Air Corps as a Corporal in the Pacific Theater.



Adelman

Hy worked for the Pennsylvania Railroad as a shipper/receiver. Hy enjoyed sports and was active at the JMC especially in the bowling league. He was a loyal minyonaire at the Synagogue praying with his distinctive and booming voice.

In 1942, Hy married Jennie Swonger who died in 1988. They had three children, Joy, Ron and Clark, seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Marty Weinstein, 91, died on Nov. 14, 2009 at his home in Duncansville, where he resided with his loving family. He grew up in Altoona and lived for many years at the corner of 14th Avenue and 18th Street. Over the years, many people would stop and visit him there or wave and say hello as they passed his home. He loved sports, especially basketball, and had many stories to tell about the teams for which he played as well as his memories of watching others play over the past 75 or so years.



Weinstein

Marty married Regina Goldberg in 1946. She died in 1995. They had two children, Judy and Phillip. His two granddaughters, Krystle and Miranda, lived with him since their birth as did his great granddaughter, Eva Joy. His family was the great love and pride of his life.

Marty was a veteran of WWII and later worked for the Postal Service in Pittsburgh. He and the family returned to Altoona upon his retirement in 1980.

Morris Levine, 92, died Feb. 2, 2010 at the home of daughter Nancy Siegel in Teaneck, N.J.

Morris was a proud member of the greatest generation.

On Veteran's Day, Nov. 11, 2004, Morris spoke at Tyrone's American Legion/VFW ceremony. He shared his story because he and Tom Brokaw encouraged WWII vets to tell their stories. Morris spoke of serving from 1942 until 1945 in various stations in the United States, before going to Europe and being part of the D-Day invasion. After being wounded, he was assigned to the USO, where he met Bing Crosby, Fred Astaire and members of the Glenn

Miller band. He concluded his remarks by stating, "I hope and pray that the present and next generations will not have to endure what our generations did."

Morris was born in Altoona on "Jew Hill." His parents came to Altoona from Lithuania and married in Altoona. Morris is one of four brothers. Morris and his wife, Bess, married in 1945. She passed away in 2001 after 55 years of marriage. They have two daughters: Ida Levine and Nancy Siegal and eight grandchildren.



Levine

Morris was a minyonaire at Agudath Achim, chaired the High Holiday Honors committee and ushered for many years. He was a 50-plus year member of Kiwanis and was active in almost every Tyrone civic and business group. Morris was a member of the Tyrone Players and acted in many plays.

Morris opened his shoe store in Tyrone in 1945 with 395 pairs of ladies slippers, and he retired in 1988.

When asked the best advice ever received, Morris replied that his father told him, "Don't forget your synagogue; don't argue religion or politics."

Condolences

Pat Jubelirer Campbell and family on the death of her husband, **Charlie Campbell**.

The Schulman family on the death of **Harriett Schulman** of Philadelphia. She was the sister in law of **Yale and Ida Schulman** and a former resident of Altoona.



The Greater Altoona Jewish Federation
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The 1987-88 Altoona Jewish Community School gathered for a year-end photo.

1st row from left: Ben Binus, Jessica Schocker, Michael Holzer, Andrea Seltzer, Matthew Singer, Andrea Dotan, Heidi Housman, David Binus, Michael Cohen, Sam Gould, Nicole Hollander, Robin Blauschild.

2nd row: Michael Dolinger, Josh Mathias, Josh Patt, Katie Patt, Danielle Newborn, Haley Serbin, Janine Kivitz, Nanci Hollander, Gabrielle Pollack, David Lukacs, Andrew Dolinger, Stacy Lasser.

3rd row: Jonathan Kaplan, Gab Kaplan, Shuky Binus, Kevin Wallen, Larry Port, Mitchell Glucroft, Mandy Kivowitz, Leemor Dotan, Autumn Blauschild, Andrea Pollack, Brian Glucroft, Adam Brett, Larry Serbin.

4th row: Lauren Halpern, Joseph Port, Bill Wallen, Michelle Jubelirer, Rabbi Berger, Jean Dolinger, Rabbi Zions, Joellyn Wallen, David Binus, Robin Getz.