

TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

Volume 78, Number 20

January 20, 2006

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, January 23 6:30 p.m.
**War and Jewish Identity:
A Discussion With
Author Bryan Mark Rigg**

Bryan Mark Rigg is the second speaker in the 2005-2006 lecture series *The Arts and [Jewish] Identity*, sponsored by the Herbert & Eileen Bernard Museum of Judaica and the Ivan M. Stettenheim Library. Attendance at this and other lectures in the series is free and open to the public. Enter through the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street.



SABBATH SERVICES

**Friday evening, January 27
Lowenstein Sanctuary**

Organ Recital—5 p.m.
Sabbath Eve Service—5:15 p.m.
WQXR Radio (96.3 FM) and Internet
(www.wqxr.com) broadcasts—5:30 p.m.

**Saturday morning, January 28
Women's Auxiliary Lounge**

Torah Study—9:15 a.m.
Lowenstein Sanctuary
Service—10:30 a.m.
Torah Portion—Va'era
Readings—Exodus 6:2-9:35
Ezekiel 28:25-29:21
Sermon: Rabbi Amy B. Ehrlich

**NEW
GROUP!**

**Young
Jewish Authors
Discussion Group**



Interested in what the new generation of Jewish writers is up to? Come explore short stories by such exciting authors as Myla Goldberg, Nathan Englander, Rachel Kadish and Jonathan Safran Foer. We will be discussing works from *Lost Tribe: Jewish Fiction From the Edge*, edited by Paul Zakrezewski (published by Perennial, 2003).

Led by Temple librarian Elizabeth F. Stabler, the **Young Jewish Authors Discussion Group** will meet once a month at 6 p.m. for one hour in the Ivan M. Stettenheim Library. Enter through the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street. Reserve your attendance by calling (212) 744-1400, ext. 362.

Reading schedule:

February 6—"Knitting One" by Suzan Sherman (You also may wish to read the first three stories in the anthology.)

March 6—"Leah" by Ehud Havazelet

April 3—"Bachelor Party" by Gabriel Brownstein and "Who Knows Kaddish" by Binnie Kirschenbaum

May 8—"Hershel" by Judy Budnitz and "A Dream of Sleep" by Steve Almond

B'NEI MITZVAH

The following students of
our Religious School will become
B'nei Mitzvah this weekend:

Ryan A. Wincig, son of
Regina and Owen L. Wincig

Lake Wolosker, son of
Steven Wolosker and Elizabeth Maxwell

We are grateful for their sponsorship
of Friday evening's Oneg Shabbat.

PULPIT FLOWERS

Pulpit flowers at Sabbath services
this weekend are the generous
donation of our congregants:

Rhoda Weiskopf Cohen
in loving memory of my dearest husband
and best friend, *Herbert George Cohen, M.D.*
(January 31, 2004)

Sandra Gluck in loving memory
of her father, *Irving Prusock*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, January 29 4 p.m.
Emanu-El League at Bowlmor Lanes

Don't strike out by missing this event!
We'll meet at Bowlmor Lanes,
110 University Place. Cost is \$20 for
Temple members, \$30 for nonmembers.
RSVP to tesevents@aol.com.

*The Emanu-El League is a group for Jewish
singles in their late 20s through early 40s.
For more information, contact Rabbinic Intern
David Young at ravpapa@hotmail.com.*

Charles S. Salomon
The Universal Funeral Chapel
1076 Madison Avenue (212) 753-5300
Our service is available in the Temple, home, or our Chapel.

SKIRBALL
CORNER

IDEAS CAFÉ
Tuesdays @ 8 PM

Ideas Café kicks off Tuesday,
February 7 for a new series
of weekly sessions offering intellectual
give-and-take. Meet others over wine,
cheese, fruit and, of course, coffee at
small, candle-lit tables and discuss
vital current issues that affect Jewish
and American life. No reservations
are necessary. Cost is \$10 per session
at the door, \$5 for registered Skirball
students. Log on to www.ideascafe.org
for specific information about each
week's discussion topic.

SKIRBALL



The Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El

Sunday, February 5 10 a.m.
**NFTB Metropolitan Conference:
Breakfast and Discussion**

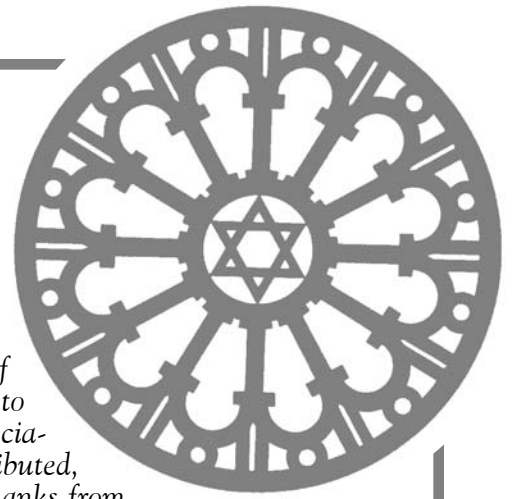
The Men's Club of Congregation Emanu-El
will co-host the first joint breakfast
organized by the New York Metropolitan
Conference of the North American Federation
of Temple Brotherhoods (NFTB)—led by
Temple member Andrew Chait. Guest speaker
Dr. Bernard E. Munk will speak on "Oil Prices:
How High for How Long?" Cost is \$25 per
person in advance, \$30 at the door. Enter at
One East 65th Street. Call Andrew Chait at
(212) 397-2815 for additional information.

Tuesday, February 7 12:30 p.m.
Women's Auxiliary: Book Group

Rabbi Leon Morris will lead our discussion
of *Joy Comes in the Morning* by Jonathan
Rosen. Bring your lunch; coffee and cookies
will be served. RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext. 235.

The Cemeteries of Congregation Emanu-El
Salem Fields and Beth-El
A limited number of above-ground crypts are available in
our community mausoleum. For information, please call
Dr. Mark W. Weisstuch at the Temple Office, (212) 744-1400.

CHANUKAH MESSAGES FROM IRAQ: THANK YOU FROM OUR TROOPS



As part of our 2005 Mitzvah Day activities—chaired by Lynda DeLott—congregants of Temple Emanu-El prepared nine large boxes filled with Chanukah gift packages that were sent to the attention of Rabbi Mitchell Schranz at Camp Victory in Iraq for distribution to Jewish soldiers. Following are Rabbi Schranz's initial message of appreciation received by e-mail, a follow-up message after packages were distributed, photos from Chanukah celebrations in Iraq, as well as two notes of thanks from soldiers who received gift packages (see page 4). Thank you to all who made this happen!

Dear Congregation Emanu-El,

The boxes arrived in outstanding condition! I am in the process of sending them throughout Iraq. The love and care you put into each gift is evident—They are beautiful! Please convey to [Rabbi Amy Ehrlich] and to all the members of Temple Emanu-El how grateful I am for your kindness and concern for our Jewish personnel. You will brighten Chanukah for many of our people so far from home. — *Chaplain Mitch Schranz, Deputy MNF-I Chaplain*

Shalom to you! There is only one word to describe this year's Chanukah in Iraq: INCREDIBLE! Services and menorah lightings took place at many bases and FOBs [forward operating bases]. At Al Faw Palace, a huge menorah was lit in the lobby of Saddam Hussein's one-time seat of power. Since Saddam had no shortage of palaces, there



*Menorah lighting at Al Faw
on the first night of Chanukah*

was another menorah lighting in the International Zone Palace. In fact, last Thursday [Dec. 29,] we had a second candle lighting in one of the conference rooms where more than likely that wicked man held court.

The outpouring of support from synagogues, schools and private citizens all across America to their Jewish brethren in Iraq was mind-boggling. Boxes and boxes of menorahs, candles, dreidels, cards and goodies poured into the post office like a tidal wave. You could feel the love these fine people packed into each box with their messages of support and encouragement. It was heartfelt.

We are working at getting thank-you letters out to everyone who sent us these gifts. It will take a while as we are all very busy with the mission at hand. If you are reading this and you sent us something, I know that I speak for all Jewish personnel when I say thank you from the bottom of our hearts! You made Chanukah

one we will remember the rest of our lives.

In reflecting back on the past two weeks, I kept asking myself if the Almighty is perhaps trying to tell us something, or is there a lesson we should take away with us? Personally, having just returned from Tallil, Abraham and Sarah's home, it was confirmation (if any is needed) that the *Brit* (Covenant) between God and the Jewish people is eternal. Tyrants, heartless regimes come and go, but there will always be a Jewish people. It was also a potent reminder that the little jar of oil can keep the menorah burning brightly forever!

— *Rabbi Mitch Schranz*

MESSAGES FROM IRAQ (CONTINUED)

American troops celebrate the first night of Chanukah in Taji, Iraq.



Dear Congregation Emanu-El,
Chaplain Mitchell Schranz, our rabbi, sent me one of your boxes in southern Iraq. I have distributed your packages/gifts to many soldiers. They really like them. The towel was a great idea! Thank you so much for supporting our Jewish soldiers. Wishing you a Happy Chanukah!
— Captain Philip Botwinik, 48th Battalion

To Whom It May Concern,
I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you for the care package. I am a deployed soldier currently serving in Mosul, Iraq. It is comforting knowing that the people back home support us.
— Major Richard Lazik, 142nd CSB



Candle lighting at the International Zone Palace.

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Web site: www.emanuelnyc.org

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