



TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

Volume 78, Number 32

April 14, 2006

PASSOVER AND SABBATH SERVICES

CONCLUSION OF PASSOVER

Tuesday evening, April 18
Beth-El Chapel—5:30 p.m.

Wednesday morning, April 19
Beth-El Chapel—10:30 a.m.

Readings—Exodus 14:30-15:21
Isaiah 11:1-6, 9; 12

Sermon: Rabbi Nadia E. Gold
Memorial Service

SABBATH SERVICES

Friday evening, April 21
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, April 22
Women's Auxiliary Lounge

Torah Study—9:15 a.m.
Lowenstein Sanctuary
Service—10:30 a.m.
Torah Portion—Shemini
Readings—Leviticus 9:1-11:47;
II Samuel 6:1-7:17

Sermon: Rabbi David M. Posner



Hearing enhancement system available. Please see an usher or lobby attendant for a headset or neck loop.

**WOMEN'S
AUXILIARY**

Tuesday, April 25
10:30 a.m.
Heirless Art and
The Mauerbach
Benefit Auction

All Temple members are invited to this special program hosted by the Women's Auxiliary of Congregation Emanu-El.

Between 1938 and 1945, thousands of art objects were confiscated from Austrian Jews by the Nazis and then stored at the Mauerbach monastery in the Vienna Woods for more than 50 years. In the fall of 1996, Christie's—on behalf of the Federation of Austrian Jewish Communities—conducted the Mauerbach Benefit Auction at which these “heirless” treasures (the owners of which could not be found) were sold, raising \$14.6 million to benefit Holocaust survivors and their families.

This program will be led by Mrs. Beverly Siegel, a member of the Temple Emanu-El congregation and a former senior public relations consultant for Christie's, New York. In addition to the 1996 Mauerbach Benefit Auction, Mrs. Siegel's professional credits include Princess Diana's auction to benefit AIDS charities and programming commemorating the 50th anniversary of D-Day for the Battle of Normandy Foundation.



After the presentation, attendees are invited to enjoy a “Viennese Table” of desserts. RSVP by Thursday, April 20 to (212) 744-1400, ext. 235.

PULPIT FLOWERS

Pulpit flowers at Conclusion of Passover and Sabbath worship services have been generously donated by our congregant:

Elisabeth Cassell in loving memory of her parents,
Berta Rosenblum Gruenfeld and Morris Gruenfeld

Pulpit Flowers at Sabbath worship services this weekend are the generous donation of the following congregants:

Herbert C. Bernard
in loving memory of my parents,
Essie and Louis Bernard

Robert, Ann and Jessica Freedman
in loving memory of
Felix C. Fertig

Suzanne Sloan Doyle
in loving memory of
Peter Moore

Joan C. and David Helpern
in loving memory of
Mildred Capelin

Robin M. Laden in loving memory of her father, *Leonard Laden*

John, Laurie, Matthew, Spencer and Amanda Rudey
and Liz, Kirk and Kate Rudey Ruebenson
in loving memory of *Samuel Richard Rudey*

B'NEI MITZVAH

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

Edward Irving Gemson, son of
Lesley Field and Dr. Donald Gemson

Nancy Whitney Fuerth, daughter of
Elyse and Tom Fuerth

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

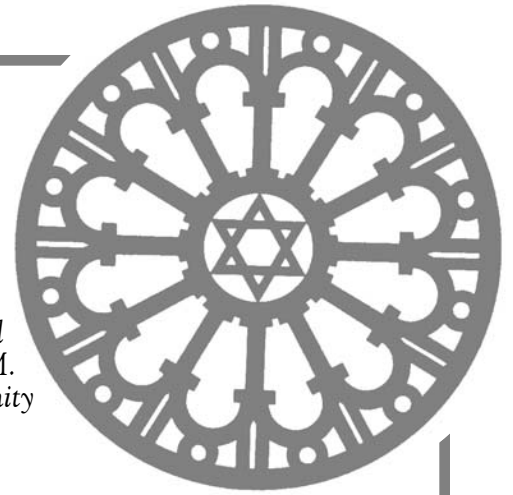
To sponsor Pulpit Flowers or an Oneg Shabbat, contact Sherry Nehmer at (212) 744-1400, ext. 312 or snehmer@emanuelnyc.org.

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

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.

GENEALOGY, SOCIOLOGY AND IDENTITY: THE JEWS OF SING-SING

ON TUESDAY, APRIL 25, at 6:30 p.m., Temple Emanu-El will host scholar Ron Arons as part of the 2006 lecture series co-sponsored by the Herbert & Eileen Bernard Museum of Judaica and the Ivan M. Stettenheim Library. In a preview of that event, we had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Arons about the subject at hand.



Q: How did you get interested in your research about the Jews of Sing-Sing?

A: It was *besheret* [predestined]. After I lost both of my parents to cancer, I fell into a deep depression. One of the methods I used to dig myself out of that hole was researching my past. Told that the publishing world did not need yet another memoir, only after I wrote a biography about my criminal ancestor, I thought out of the box. What if I wrote a book about every Jew that served time “up the river?” It was a total lark. Little did I realize at the time how large this project would grow.

Q: Were you surprised to find a criminal in your ancestry?

A: I felt as if I was hit by a thunderbolt. Raised as a goodie two-shoes, I suddenly understood that a criminal element was part of my DNA. Before I found certain documents about this ancestor, nothing would have led me to believe I had a black sheep in the family. As far as I can determine, my parents did not know these sordid details. Certainly my aunt did not.

In hindsight, the news provided extended psychotherapy. Even though my criminal ancestor died years before I was born, his shenanigans explained events of my childhood.

Q: What was the perception of Jews and crime in New York during the early 20th century?

A: In 1908, NYC Police Commissioner Bingham claimed that Jews committed half of all crimes in the city. The Jewish community complained and ultimately forced Bingham to retract his statement. Nevertheless the damage to the Jewish community’s reputation had been done.

Q: Who stands out as the most colorful character in your research?

A: Aside from my own ancestor, one of the most colorful characters is Irving “Waxy Gordon” Wexler. As far as I know, no other criminal in American history served time in Sing-Sing, Leavenworth and Alcatraz. His specialties were head-bashing, racketeering, bootlegging and the sale of narcotics.



Ron Arons has earned degrees from Princeton University and the University of Chicago and is a member of both the Los Angeles and San Francisco Jewish Genealogical Societies. As a seasoned genealogist, Mr. Arons has traced his roots to England, Poland, Romania, Ukraine, Belarus and Lithuania. As a recipient of the 2005 Hackman Research Residency Award, Mr. Arons is researching both famous and lesser-known Jewish criminals.

Admission to this event is free and open to the public. Enter at One East 65th Street.

AROUND THE TEMPLE

Friday, April 28

6:15 p.m.
**Family Shabbat:
Worship and Dinner**

Youngsters through early school age will celebrate with our Young Families group. Youth who can read (through B'nei Mitzvah age) will celebrate with our Junior Congregation, led by Rabbinic Intern David Young. Afterwards, we'll gather for dinner and an art project. *RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext. 242 for **Young Families** or ext. 501 for **Junior Congregation**.*

Sunday, April 30

10 a.m.
Coffee Talk With Rabbi Posner

Senior Rabbi David Posner will discuss "Making Judaism a Great Part of

Your Family's Everyday Life." This discussion is a continuation of a previous session. Enter at One East 65th Street. *RSVP to the Religious School office at (212) 744-1400, ext. 226 by Thursday, April 27. This event is sponsored by the Religious School Parents Organization.*

Sunday, April 30

Young Artists Concert

3 p.m.

Our final performer in this series of piano recitals will be Brandon Lee, 18, of Logan, Utah, who was the second place winner of the 2004 New York Piano Competition sponsored by the Stecher and Horowitz Foundation. Attendance is free and open to the public. Enter through the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65th Street.

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