



# TEMPLE EMANU-EL Bulletin

Volume 77, Number 18

December 31, 2004

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, January 7, 2005 6:15 p.m.  
**Young Families: Tot Shabbat**

Families of preschool-age children are encouraged to attend this Sabbath service geared toward our youngest Temple members.

Dinner and an art project follow. *RSVP by Thursday, January 6 to (212) 744-1400, ext. 242.*

Sunday, January 9, 2005 10 a.m.  
**U.S. Intelligence and Counterintelligence After 9/11**

Dr. Mark M. Lowenthal, assistant director of Central Intelligence for Analysis and Production, will be our guest speaker. The cost for this event is \$20 for prepaid reservations for Men's Club members, \$25 for nonmembers and guests and those paying at the door. A hot breakfast will be served prior to the start of the program. *RSVP to (212) 744-1400, ext. 250.*

## SABBATH SERVICES

**Friday evening, January 7  
Main 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 8  
Women's Auxiliary Lounge**

Torah Study—9:15 a.m.

**Main Sanctuary**

Service—10:30 a.m.  
Torah Portion—Va'era  
Readings—Exodus 6:2-9:35  
Isaiah 66:1-13, 23

**Student Rabbi Howard Goldsmith preaching**

Wednesday,  
January 26 6:30 p.m.  
**Looking for Our Roots:  
An Introduction  
to Jewish Genealogy**

MEET  
THE AUTHOR

**G**uest speaker Dr. Robert Friedman is director of the Genealogy Institute at the Center for Jewish History in New York City. He is a graduate of the Bronx High School of



Science, Columbia and Hunter colleges, and Long Island University's Palmer School of Library and Information Science.

His family history research, begun

10 years ago, focuses on Hungary, Transylvania, eastern Slovakia and the former Suwalki Gubernia in Russian Poland. Active in Hungarian and Romanian special interest groups, Dr. Friedman also participated in the International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) Cemetery Project and the JewishGen Yizkor Book Project, served on the Executive Council of JGSNY, and volunteered at the Museum of Jewish Heritage library.

*This program is part of a free lecture series open to the public and co-sponsored by the Herbert and Eileen Bernard Museum of Judaica and the Ivan M. Stettenheim Library in honor of the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Jews in America. On the day of the event, please enter through the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House, One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street.*

## EVENTS (CONTINUED)

Sunday, January 9, 2005 11 a.m.

### Senior Youth Group: Pop Culture and Judaism

Youth Group members in grades 9 through 12 are encouraged to reserve this date for Temple Emanu-El's first ever all-day National Federation of Temple Youth (NFTY) event.  
To register, call (212) 744-1400, ext. 244.

Monday, January 10, 2005 6:30 p.m.

### Eighth Grade Leadership Academy

A reminder to all eighth grade students about our first meeting of the new year. We will gather in Room 602 of the Marvin and Elisabeth Cassell Community House. Dinner will be served.  
Questions? Call (212) 744-1400, ext. 244.

Tuesday, January 11, 2005 8:30 a.m.

### Men's Club Reading Group

We will discuss *The Plot Against America* by Philip Roth, a fictional accounting in which aviation hero and rabid isolationist Charles Lindbergh defeats Franklin Roosevelt in the 1940 presidential election and negotiates a cordial "understanding" with Adolf Hitler.

What follows is a "recounting" of what it would have been like for Jewish families during the troubling years of the Lindbergh presidency.

## PULPIT FLOWERS

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

The Halberg Family in honor of  
*Morgan Alexa Halberg*  
becoming a Bas Mitzvah

Frances A. Hess in honor of  
*Robert Lee Hess II* becoming a Bar Mitzvah  
and in loving memory of her husband,  
*Robert Lee Hess*

Robin, Andrea and Michael Sluchan  
in loving memory of *Seymour Sluchan*

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

Short Cuts:  
Great Jewish American  
Short Stories

REUBEN NAMDAR

Tuesdays, Feb. 22–April 12 6:30 PM–8 PM

SKIRBALL  
CORNER

The short story, often declared dead and just as often miraculously resurrected, is still savored as an artistic delicacy, and it always has been a genre of choice for Jewish American writers. From old masters such as Isaac Bashevis Singer and Bernard Malamud, to contemporary writers such as Philip Roth and Cynthia Ozick, and rising stars such as Allegra Goodman and Nathan Englander, study stories are not only literary masterpieces but very "Jewish" in tone and theme.

This and 40 other courses make up the Spring Semester at the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El. Classes begin Tuesday, February 22. To register or for more information, call (212) 507-9580 or log on to [www.adultjewishlearning.org](http://www.adultjewishlearning.org).

SKIRBALL



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

## B'NEI MITZVAH

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

*Morgan Alexa Halberg*, daughter of  
Lori Halberg and Blake Halberg

*Robert Lee Hess II*, son of  
Carol and Carl Hess

Reed Lang Shapiro, son of  
Denise and Lawrence Shapiro

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

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.

# 350 YEARS OF AMERICAN JEWISH THINKERS: A CELEBRATION OF JEWISH CREATIVITY (PART 5 OF 10)

By Rabbi Rachel Sabath-Beit Halachmi



The legacy left by Louis Dembitz Brandeis reminds us of the continuing relevance of the involvement of American Jewish leadership not only in Jewish organizations but also in the highest offices of government. Known in Boston as the “People’s Attorney” and for his legal expertise in the areas of political and social reform, Brandeis became a close advisor to President Woodrow Wilson and was later appointed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

After Brandeis became a leader of the American Zionist movement, he counseled Wilson and other U.S. government officials on the importance of American support for the Zionist enterprise. Brandeis was able to secure U.S. political support for the Balfour Declaration of 1917, which promised Palestine as a “national homeland” for Jews, and later for the British Mandate—with adequate boundaries for the Jewish settlement.

In addition to a remarkable legal career and the success of his efforts to protect civil rights and economic progressive legislation as a member of the Supreme Court, Brandeis worked tirelessly, if not without conflict, with various Zionist committees throughout the world. He worked with such leaders as Stephen S. Wise and Henrietta Szold, and with them sought ways to create sound structures for health care and economic stability for the increasing numbers of Jews flowing to Palestine. World War I reminded Brandeis and his fellow Zionist leaders of the hazards of war for Jews in Europe and only caused Brandeis to increase his efforts on behalf of the establishment of a Jewish State with a greater sense of urgency.



**LOUIS D. BRANDEIS**  
(1856-1941)

Brandeis’ passion for the movement is evident in his address delivered at the opening session of the London Zionist Conference in July 1920, which established the creation of the Foundation Fund (*Keren Hayesod*) for the upbuilding of the homeland:

*The demand for democracy in the consideration of the Jewish problem is not a matter of form. It is of the essence. It is a fundamental Jewish conception, as it is the basic American method. It rests upon the essential trust in the moral instincts of the people; potent to create their own well-being; to perfect it; and to maintain it, if an opportunity is given.*

When other American Jews feared being accused of “dual loyalty” if they identified with the Zionist cause, Brandeis argued that Zionism was the attainment of American ideals. He saw in the Zionist dream not only a reflection of the American dream but also a way to answer the troubling Jewish question of his day, namely the plight of Jews throughout the world:

*Jewish life cannot be preserved and developed, assimilation cannot be averted, unless there be reestablished in the fatherland a center from which the Jewish spirit may radiate and give to the Jews scattered throughout the world that inspiration which springs from the memories of a great past and the hope of a great future.*

**Rabbi Rachel Sabath-Beit Halachmi, a former instructor with the Skirball Center for Adult Jewish Learning at Temple Emanu-El, is director of Lay Leadership Education at Shalom Hartman Institute and an instructor at Hebrew Union College, both in Jerusalem.**

## AROUND THE TEMPLE

Tuesday, January 11

10:30 a.m.

### Coffee and Musicale With Cantor Lori Corrsin

The Women's Auxiliary of Congregation Emanu-El invites Temple members to join them for a morning musicale with Cantor Lori Corrsin. She will be accompanied on piano by Pedro D'Aquino, Temple Emanu-El's associate organist. You will hear a variety of songs ranging from religious pieces to show tunes. Please reserve your seats by Friday, January 7, 2005. Call the Women's Auxiliary at (212) 744-1400, ext. 235.



Photo: Gorback Photography

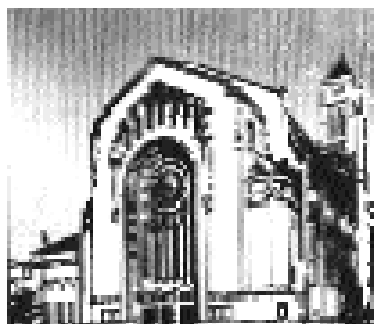


### DO YOU KNOW THAT THE WOMEN'S AUXILIARY...

- Tutors foreign-born adults in conversational English?
- Sponsors such entertaining events as museum trips, wine tastings and theater parties?
- Hosts a Book Club where our rabbis discuss their favorite works?

Join the Women's Auxiliary today! Call (212) 744-1400, ext. 235 for membership information.

## TEMPLE EMANU-EL BULLETIN



December 31, 2004  
Volume 77, Number 18  
Web site: [www.emanuelnyc.org](http://www.emanuelnyc.org)

Dr. David M. Posner

*Senior Rabbi*

Rabbi Amy B. Ehrlich

*Associate Rabbi*

Rabbi Nadia E. Gold

*Assistant Rabbi*

Lori Corrsin

*Cantor*

Dr. Ronald B. Sobel

*Senior Rabbi Emeritus*

Robert A. Bernhard

*President*

Rabbi Leon A. Morris

*Director of the Skirball Center  
for Adult Jewish Learning*

Dr. Mark W. Weisstuch

*Administrative Vice President*

Mark H. Heutlinger

*Administrator*

Robyn W. Cimbol

*Director of Development*

Henry Fruhauf

*Administrator Emeritus*

**Published weekly** September 3 through June 10 by Congregation Emanu-El of the City of New York, formed by the consolidation of Emanu-El Congregation (founded 1845) and Temple Beth-El.

**Postmaster**, send address changes to: Temple Emanu-El Bulletin, One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street New York, NY 10021 (212) 744-1400 Periodicals Postage Paid at New York, NY USPS 891-160.

PERIODICALS POSTAGE  
PAID AT NEW YORK, NY