

# CONGREGATION BAIS TORAH

January 14, 2005 · 89 West Carlton Road, Suffern, NY 10901 · (845)352-1343 · www.baistorah.org י"ד מנחת שבת פרשת ויחי

## ערב שבת פרשת ויחי

הדלקת נרות: 4:32 PM

מנחה: 4:40 PM

Rabbi Gottlieb's הלכות שבת shiur at 8:15 PM

## שבת פרשת ויחי

שחרית 8:45 AM

סוף זמן קריאת שמע 9:43 AM

גמרא שיעור 3:35 PM

מנחה 4:20 PM

סעודה שלישית

מעריב 5:33 PM

Sunday שחרית 7:45 AM

## Weekday שחרית

Mon. and Thurs: 6:20 and 7:45 AM

Tues., Wed and Fri: 6:30 and 7:45 AM

## Weekday מנחה-מעריב

Sun. -Thurs.: 4:40 PM

Second מעריב Mon. - Thurs. 8:00 PM

## ערב שבת פרשת שמות

הדלקת נרות: 4:40 PM

מנחה: 4:45 PM

## Shiurim

Sundays at 8:30 AM – מסכת סנהדרין – Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Mondays at 6:30 PM – מסכת ברכות – Rabbi Chaim Wein

Mondays at 8:00 PM - Hachnosas Kallah of Monsey lectures for women. This week's speaker is Rabbi Laibel Lam.

Tuesdays at 8:15 PM – Partners in Torah

Wednesdays at 8:15 PM - ספר עזרא - Rabbi Yisroel Gottlieb

Monday through Friday after the second שחרית – מדע – ספר מדע – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Monday through Thursday at 9:45 AM - גמרא נמרא - Rabbi Leibel Reznick

Friday night at 8:15 PM – Hilchos Shabbos shiur – Rabbi Gottlieb

דף היומי I, Monday through Friday 5:25 AM and Sunday at 6:30 AM – Mordechai Rudman

דף היומי II, Monday through Thursday at 7:00 PM and Sunday at 9:30 AM – Rabbi Yosef Fischer

Women's תהלים group meets on שבת 45 minutes before מנחה.

## Shul Announcements

This week, January 13th, Rabbi Gottlieb will start giving his **Hilchos Shabbos shiur** in shul at 8:15 PM.

The **Avot U'Banim Learning Program** continues this Motzoei Shabbos at 6:30 PM in the library. Parents, children and grandchildren are invited to enjoy the learning, the pizza and the prizes. This week's program is sponsored by the Obermeisters.

This week's **shalos seudos** is co-sponsored by Stuart Erdfarb for the yahrtzeit of his father, Pinky Frankel for the yahrtzeit of his mother, and Yossie Stern for the yahrtzeit of his father.

Bais Torah is pleased to present the film **Paper Clips** this Saturday night, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 PM. Paper Clips is an inspiring documentary that captures how students, teachers, families and the entire town of Whitwell, TN responded to lessons about the Holocaust. Rated G, it was named one of the top films of 2004 (documentary) and has received audience and jury awards at film festivals across the country. Suggested donation \$5. For more information about the film, go to [paperclipsmovie.com](http://paperclipsmovie.com).

Bais Torah will be having a **Melave Malka** in March. It will feature music, food, and the comedy of Marc Weiner. Further details will follow.

For details and further information on shul events, be sure to visit our **website**, [www.baistorah.org](http://www.baistorah.org). To subscribe to **e-mail updates** on late-breaking shul news, write to [baistorah@aol.com](mailto:baistorah@aol.com).

**Keep us informed.** Are you planning a simcha or special event? To avoid scheduling conflicts, please call Esther Garber, our shul secretary. She is in the office Monday through Thursday, 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM.

This week's **Kiddush** is sponsored by Rachel Gross and Peter Katz in honor of their respective spouse's birthdays.

**Thanks** to Kenny Gribetz for his many contributions of good "spirits" to the shul.

## Mazel Tov

Ben and Fran Horwitz on the birth of a granddaughter, born to Alisa and Matt Weinberg.

## Hamakom Yenacheim

Mickey Montal on the p'tira of his father.

## Refuah Shelaimah

Yis Helprin's mother, Dora - דבורה בת בריינה

Michael Rossman's mother, Ilse Rossman - יעמץ בת שרה

Shirlee Aaronson - שרה חנה בת בלומא

Mr. Shapiro - חיים מאיר יחיאל בן מלכה לאה

Jerry and Roz Seigel's son, Yoni - יהונתן בן שושנה

## How to Reach Us

**Rabbi** Yisroel Gottlieb 357-3913, rabbigottlieb@yahoo.com – Daytime emergency 362-8362

**President** Peter Katz, 357-0129 peter@pkatech.com

**Treasurer** Barry Lifschitz, 352-0226, Fax 352-0841 or barry@lifschitz.net

**Maintenance** Yis Helprin 494-7446

**Chesed Committee** Charlie Grandovsky, 425-4683

**Bikur Cholim** Eveline Kranzler, 352-8410 and  
Chosh Levy, 425-6827

**Shul Secretary** Esther Garber, 352-1343

**Sisterhood Liaison** Betty Schloss, 369 – 1833

**Lost and Found** Michael Loebenstein, 425-8895

**Chevra Kadisha** Steve Fessel, 425-1713, Ephraim Pessin, 914-420-6714 or Gloria Gordon, 425-1276

**Sisterhood Tribute Cards** Esther Garber, 352-1343

**Bais Torah Bulletins** Email baistorah@taxprof.net, Fax (845) 368-4172, or call (845) 368-2222. To receive e-mail updates, write to baistorah@aol.com. This bulletin is now downloadable from the web at [www.baistorah.org](http://www.baistorah.org).

**Simcha Room Reservations/Kiddushim** Jack Gross, 357-4121

**Eiruv** 362-4302

**Mikvah** 425-6101

**Youth** Felise Katz 357-0129

**Hachnosas Orchim Facility** for homeless, Shea Jacobs 425-9617

## In Case of Emergency

The **red Hatzoloh phone** is in the hallway on the wall between the rear washing station and the Simcha Room.

The **defibrillator** is in a cubby in the coat room opposite the Hatzoloh phone.

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## Parashat Vayechi - 5766

### In memory of Irwin Schmeltz – Yitzchak ben Avraham Aryeh

This week's Parashah, VaYechi, begins with the "petirah," the departure of Yaakov Avinu, Z"L, after a lifetime of triumphs and of suffering, where Yaakov left the world as the "Bechir She-BeAvot," the most favored of the Patriarchs, whose defining characteristic was "Emmet," truth. Last week, the shul lost Irwin Schmeltz, one of its finest members, who also experienced a lifetime of triumph and of great suffering, who together with his wife, Diane, raised a wonderful family, and whose defining characteristics were "Anivut," Modesty, "Ne'emanut," Loyalty, and "Yashrut," Uprightness.

Last week was Chanukah, when at his beautiful "levaya," conducted before a "full house" of fellow congregants and other lifetime contacts, no eulogies were permitted because of the holiday, a fact that he would not have minded at all. My hope is that this mini-bio will spread a little more information about him. He was a brilliant environmental chemist, who made no attempt to advertise that fact. He was one of the earliest to open the eyes of the world to the dangers of tobacco and tobacco smoke. Before moving to Monsey, he lived in Philadelphia where, together with his wife, Diane, he began to raise his family. Eventually there would be four children: Jonathan, Benjie, Rina and Joey. In Philadelphia, he served as president of the Young Israel of Wynnefield.

In 1973, he moved to Monsey, together with his family, where he became an early member of Congregation Bais Torah, then in its infancy. He and Diane sent all the children to Yeshivat Hadar, where they imbibed the principles of religious zionism, that Irwin and Diane subscribed to, and the whole family drank in the teachings of Rabbi Berel Wein, the founding rabbi of Congregation Bais Torah.

Part of the suffering of Yaakov Avinu, Z"L, included twenty-two years of not knowing the fate of one of his sons. But in June of 1997, the Schmeltz family sustained an incalculable loss, with the sudden death of their son and brother, Benjie, who had devoted himself to "Kiruv," and had become Rabbi and Educational Director of the Murray Hill Synagogue. Many of the congregants of that Synagogue were "Chozrim BiTeshuvah," recent returnees to Judaism, whose thirst for knowledge of their heritage was equaled by Benjie's desire to impart Jewish knowledge. The nature of this loss, the death of a child, is such that it can never be fully adjusted to by the parents. Benjie was described in the N.Y. Times as a "gentle young man, with a beautiful neshama" and by a colleague, Rabbi Nathaniel Helfgot, as "...a true disciple of Aharon HaKohen bringing hundreds of Jews back to Torah; a lover of peace and mankind who was unbelievably dedicated to the calling of spreading Torah and was blessed with a sweetness and smile that could melt any heart..."

One of Irwin's reactions to the loss of Benjie was the loan of a Sefer Torah to Congregation Bais Torah, for continuous use, that typified so well the character of the son and the wishes of the parents, that had been cut short. Another action taken by Irwin was to write a book called "Remembering Benjie," that sought to capture events and ideas important to his son. At approximately the time of the tragedy, Irwin was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease, a devastating illness, that would ultimately take his life.

During the period of his illness, his wife, Diane, did all she possibly could to help him. And Rabbi Yossi Fischer, teacher of one of the "Daf Yomi" groups in the shul, said of Irwin that he was a loyal member, who had attended the class when he was in good health and during the time of his sickness.

To a friend who displayed character traits emulating those of the "Ribbono shel Olam," our wish is "Yehi Zichro Baruch," May his mention be a source of blessing for his wife, his family and for the people of Israel. PF