



# 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**

**B**ryan 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 65<sup>th</sup> 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**



**I**nterested 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 65<sup>th</sup> 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**

**D**on'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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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**

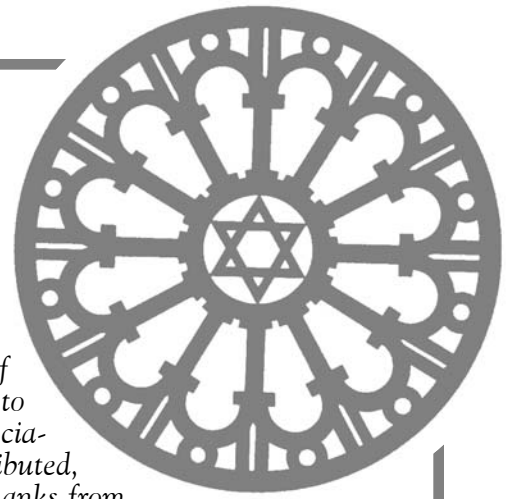
**T**he Men's Club of Congregation Emanu-El  
will co-host the first joint breakfast  
organized by the New York Metropolitan  
Conference of the North American Federation  
of Temple Brotherhoods (NFTB)—led by  
Temple member Andrew Chait. Guest speaker  
Dr. Bernard E. Munk will speak on "Oil Prices:  
How High for How Long?" Cost is \$25 per  
person in advance, \$30 at the door. Enter at  
One East 65<sup>th</sup> Street. Call Andrew Chait at  
(212) 397-2815 for additional information.

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

**R**abbi 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,

**T**he 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*

**S**halom 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.*



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, 142<sup>nd</sup> CSB

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, 48<sup>th</sup> Battalion



*Candle lighting at the International Zone Palace.*

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