



The Newsletter of Kol HaEmek (Voice of the Valley) March 2010
 P.O. Box 416, Redwood Valley, CA 95470 Phone # 707-468-4536
Adar - Nisan 5770
 Please submit articles by the 20th of the preceding month to carolrosenberg@sbcglobal.net

Visit our web page: www.kolhaemek.org

Coming Events

Saturday, March 6, 7:00-9:30 Community Concert----->

Friday, March 12, 6:30, Kabbalah Shabbat with Rabbi Shoshanah followed by a dairy potluck supper

Sunday, March 14, 2:00 Genealogy workshop (see page 2)

Saturday, March 20, 10:00am Saturday morning service for the community and Shul School

Saturday, March 20, 7pm Movie Night at the Shul!

Sunday, March 21, 10:00am (at Methodist Church kitchen in Ukiah), make meals for the hungry--call Dan Hibshman, 462-7471

Friday, March 26, 6:30pm Round-the-table Shabbat at the home of Robin Sunbeam 124 Ford St., Ukiah, (the pale yellow vintage house with the wrap-around porch)

Sunday, March 28, 10:00 Shul School

Tuesday, March 30, Community Seder at Shambhala Ranch (see page 7)

Community Concert!

Saturday, March 6, at 7:00 pm
 Cantor Judy Sofer and our "Family Chorus"!

This will be a splendid occasion for singing and listening, with good things to eat, warmth, fellowship--a good time for all. Contact Carol Rosenberg 463-8526 <carolrosenberg@sbcglobal.net> or Jan Stephens 459-1207 <jan@organicattire.com>

Community Seder Tuesday, March 30

at Shambhala Ranch

Call Divora Stern to register, 459-0907, or e-mail her at stella@saber.net

Be prepared to tell Divora if you plan to stay overnight and what Passover food you plan to bring (see page 7).



Portion of the week and Holidays

March 6 - Ki Tisa
March 13 - Vayakhel-Pekude
March 20 - Vayikra
March 27 - Tzav Haggadol
March 29 - Erev Pesach - First Seder
March 30 - 2nd Seder

We Remember :

Samuel Joshua Cole - Adar 15
Saul Faber - Adar 17
Paul Rothchild - Adar 29
Saul Ginsburg - Nissan 7
Bessie Dale - Nissan 12
Betty Wolf - March
Dottie Marans - March 1
Mildred Rosen - March 4
Walter Browne Parker - March 13
Samuel Orton - March 30

Rock & Soul Music Camp

Summer Arts and Fantasy Camp
Academic tutoring and Music lessons
Anthony and Sara Esserman Melville
For more information call 463-2247

Smart Sharp

Eric Cinowalt
357 Gardens Ave
Ukiah, CA 95482
707-845-1025
tree4yew@gmail.com

Blade Sharpening \$1/inch

Why Sharpen Smart?

Sharp Smart uses the innovative Edge Pro hand sharpening system. This system has many advantages over machine/traditional sharpening.

Current Promotions

2nd knife FREE. Have one knife sharpened with us and your 2nd knife will be sharpened at no additional charge. Limit one per customer.

Donations to Kol HaEmek

Make a Difference

Kol HaEmek is grateful for all contributions to our various funds. The following is a list of some of them.

- 1) Building Fund
- 2) Religious School Fund (Kalifornia Memorial)
- 3) Scholarship Fund
- 4) General Fund
- 5) Memorial Board Fund
- 6) Tzedakah Fund
- 7) Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- 8) The Marion and Sanford Frank Fund
for Feeding the Hungry in Ukiah & Willits
- 9) **Association for Community Development-Acre** serving low-income Jewish and Arab Israelis living in Acco/Acre*
- 10) **Orr Shalom** programs throughout Israel for disturbed children and youth from troubled homes*

*Make your check payable to PEF-Israel Endowment Fund and earmark it to either the Association for Community Development-Acre or Orr Shalom. (There is a \$25 minimum requirement for checks to Israel.)

11) MEMBERSHIP

Questions? Call David Koppel 485-8910

Please mail your contributions to:

Kol HaEmek, P.O. Box 416, Redwood Valley, CA 95470

Cinnabar Ceramics in Downtown Ukiah

This year get a custom painted Seder plate \$79.



Cinnabar Ceramics 106 W. Church St. Ukiah

Jewish Genealogy and Family History Workshop

Offered by Karin Wandrei & Yvonne Coren

Date: Sunday, March 14, 2010

Time: 2:00 p.m.

Place: 242-B Hospital Drive, Ukiah

Wireless Internet access available.

**PLEASE RSVP (for set up)
to Yvonne ycoren@att.net or 621.2336**

Topics will include:

Introduction to Genealogy-focus on Jewish Genealogy

How to research your family tree & family history

How to use Jewishgen.org

Online databases, tools & resources

SAVE THE DATE!

Friday-Sunday, April 30-May 2, Shabbat and Lag B'Omer camp out!

Costs are camp site expense of \$30 a family + \$25 per adult and \$12.50 per child

We will arrive Friday afternoon, set up tents (we have some extra tents for those without--let us know if you need one), enjoy Shabbat dinner together followed by a holiday celebration. Saturday morning we'll have a leisurely breakfast and more holiday celebration together, and after lunch, free time in the afternoon. We'll regather for supper and then havdalah and campfire fun--s'mores, singing and drumming!



AS A PEOPLE, THERE
ARE FOUR THINGS
WE CHERISH...

1. LOVE OF KNOWLEDGE
2. LOVE OF FAMILY
3. LOVE OF THE TRUTH
4. LOVE OF JEWELRY

*Ukiah's finest
full-service jeweler*

Lustre Jewelry
& Gem Company
Steven & Rebecca Stern
118 S. State St., Ukiah
Phone/Fax (707) 462-0907

In my opinion:

Last week in the absence of the rabbi, Divora Stern and I prepared the community service. The only attendees were Divora and myself. Divora patiently listened to my “drosh” on mishpatim while we waited to see if anyone else would show up. In the absence of others we lit the candles, made the blessings and shared a lovely dinner.

I could go on about this community’s loss of interest in Shabbat services and the possible reasons for poor or no attendance. I won’t. It is not for me to question others’ priorities. I will ask this: If you have a comment on the subject, please e-mail me and tell me your thoughts. If your comment is for publication in the Shema, please say so. I would really appreciate hearing what you think.

Instead I will share my thoughts on the Torah portion I prepared. (I can’t let a good “drosh” go to waste.)

The portion the week before, Yithro, contains advice from Moses’ father-in-law on organization and management of the people. My husband called him the first and best management consultant ever!

The Torah Portion for Lincoln’s Birthday, “ Mishpatim,” lists the behaviors to be judged and how to judge them. I view the list from a modern perspective and bless my liberal Jewish gyroscope for permission to pick and choose. I see many of the rules as too harsh, but, with tweaking, really a good ethical standard. Others I see as practical guides to ethical behavior. To me this list was most probably written in a time of settlement, not on the journey to the promised land. The time of its writing and purpose does not distract from its history as a major contribution to current law. For example, an eye for an eye is not practical, but making the punishment fit the crime makes perfect sense to me.

Seeing punishment for a deliberate act with intent to harm as different from an accidental or unintended act shows compassion. Sharing the loss when one’s guardianship was insufficient makes sense. Punishment for ignoring one’s responsibility to control a dangerous animal is very reasonable (punishment by death maybe a bit much). I might argue with defining ownership in terms of categories of slaves as archaic, but trying to define the ethics of ownership is important and still not clear today.

I may be guilty of situational ethics, but so were my ancestors. I find the instinct to combine justice with compassion a wonderful legacy and a sabbath discussion of ethics as perfect for the Presidents weekend holiday.

Sincerely, *Carol*

Once more a “THANK YOU” to Elizabeth Raybee, Nancy Horowitz, Robin Sunbeam and their volunteer helpers. The wonderful party and fundraiser brought in more than \$5,000 to KHE.

For all of you who made donations to the auction - many, many thanks.

GARDEN REPORT

My friends, we now have a functional model of rainwater harvesting in the NE corner of the Shul. Some roof water goes from the gutter, to a chain, to 1 1/2 wine barrels, to pipes undergrounds, to basins filled with woodchips. The woodchips will hold the rainwater, like a sponge, well into the summer. And the wine barrels look very attractive!

This model of rainwater harvesting is in addition to the woodchip basins in the front garden area, that hold runoff from the street.

The plan is to incorporate and maintain as much rainwater as possible in the landscape so less summer irrigation is necessary.

I'm delighted to finally have these water conservation features at our Shul, and I sincerely hope to tidy up the whole garden so it can be shared with the Ukiah Garden Club in May. Our garden might also be included in a water conservation tour of Redwood Valley.

BIG THANKS to the many people who helped with this project: Sandy Turner, Eric Cinowalt, Molly Frey, Gustavo, Tisha & Acorn (in the snow!), Tal Sizemore, Evan, Hal ... GRACIAS!

And THANKS to everyone who brought rocks!!!

Also THANKS to Davey Tree & the County of Mendocino for the big piles of woodchips. We actually have enough woodchips so that I could share a few with KHE members if you want to try graywater or rainwater systems . . . just give me a call.

And THANKS to the KHE board for approving \$\$ to pay someone to help with mowing, etc on a regular basis!!!!!!

Spring plans include: finishing the mounds in the meditation garden, putting mosquito fish in our winebarrel, and LOTS of weeding. Please contact me if you'd like to join me for a relaxing afternoon of weeding. More large rocks are, of course, ALWAYS welcome.

And if anyone wants to donate a solar-powered water fountain pump system, it would be lovely to keep water trickling from one barrel to the other.

The birds & butterflies REALLY flock to our garden when there's water all year round.

Happy Springtime, and enjoy the garden.

The flowers are yours to pick.

shalom, *Louisa*

485-1290

Dear KHE Chaverim,

Well, here I am again in Israel, awaiting the birth of a granddaughter, whose due date was two days ago (Lincoln's birthday). As I'm writing, children's songs in Hebrew are playing on this computer to entertain Hilah, my older granddaughter here, who is now two and a half.

Today is a combination of Valentine's Day (*Yom HaAhavah*=Day of Love) and *Yom HaEm* (Mother's Day) in Israel. Seems to me that Valentine's Day has become a bigger deal now than when I lived here. In addition to the advertising hype, so familiar from the U.S., the kids in Hila's *gan* (nursery school) painted pictures today with red heart cut-outs on them, and hearts were strung around the room. Mother's Day has officially been renamed *Yom HaMishpochah* (Family Day), to be more politically correct. Apparently there never was a Father's Day here. By the way, freshly baked *hamantaschen* can already be seen in shops everywhere, although Purim is still a few weeks away. And when I went to synagogue yesterday for Shabbat, they asked people to donate "slightly used" Purim costumes to distribute to those who can't afford to buy them.

With Hila in *gan* and her father at work, my daughter and I left the Tel Aviv area for the first time to enjoy ourselves in nature a bit. This is a great time of year to go out and view the wildflowers growing after the winter rains. The newspapers and TV have been full of suggestions as to where to go and what to see. We didn't want to go far from Tel Aviv because of the expected baby, so we headed for the Nature Reserve of Nahal Alexander, where neither of us had been before. A *nahal* is a waterway (*wadi* in Arabic) that can be flowing with water in the winter and almost or entirely dry in summer. Nahal Alexander was flowing strongly today, and seemed even a bit wider than the Russian River close by my house on Gobbi St. There was an extensive area of picnic tables under eucalyptus trees, and paths that took us up a hill where the Turks (here till the end of W.W. I) had built a customs station for those bringing their produce and goods to and from the spot known as *Namal HaAvatichim* (Watermelon Port) on the Mediterranean close by. Along the path we saw *rakefot* (wild pink and white cyclamen, smaller and more delicate than the cultivated ones), *turmus* (lupine similar to those we see in California), red *calaniot* (anemones), yellow *hartziot* (daisy-like flowers), small white daisy-like flowers (perhaps camomile), plus several other varieties of purple and blue and white blooms. With a *hamsin* coming on (hot weather coming from the desert in the southeast rather than seasonal weather from the sea to the west), the temperature was especially warm for now (no jackets). Yesterday, Shabbat, the place would no doubt have been full of folks, but today, a regular work day, we were by ourselves except for a school group we saw trooping alongside the water. These are precious days for my daughter and me to spend together, before the arrival of the baby. She stopped work just before I came, so we've been able to take walks, sit by the sea (my son-in-law has swum in the sea just about every day, but she and I have swum in the warmer pool at nearby Tel Aviv University), catch a couple of movies and relax together while Hila has been at her nursery school. I'd already seen "A Serious Man" in Willits, but I was glad to have the opportunity to see this Coen brothers tragic-comic (is that an English phrase, or am I translating?) film again here, where it is titled "*Yehudi Tov*" (A Good Jew). That already is an interesting interpretive translation. I recommend seeing this film, which has a lot to say about being both Jewish and American, as well as simply being human and alive. There's a lot to laugh at, and a lot to wonder about and discuss with friends for hours afterwards. I saw another movie that has both comic and tragic elements, "*HaZ'man Sh'Notar*" (*The Time Remaining* --my translation to English from the Hebrew title, which was translated from the original Arabic). This film, mostly in Arabic with Hebrew subtitles, is the autobiographical story of a Palestinian filmmaker who'd been a young child in 1948. The decade-to-decade depiction of his and his family's life, starting with the Israeli War of Independence as experienced by the Arabs of Nazareth, was intriguing to see because of the combination of perspectives which were both unfamiliar and familiar to me.

At home in Ukiah, I don't have a television, so I've been enjoying scanning the channels here. One station, which seems to be on round-the-clock, calls itself *Kabbalah La'Am* (Kabbalah for the People). Most of the programs are study sessions in Hebrew, with lots of time for questions from not only the many students gathered in the studio, but also sent in by computer from students gathered in various locations around Israel as well as in Russia, Canada, and the U.S. At the end of a session, the screen flashes on live-time shots of these students in each of their different venues. And so I share with you a bit of my experience of being in Israel now. As always, being here is an invigorating experience for me, and I do wish you were here, so you could experience Israel first-hand for yourselves.

B'shalom oovrachah, v'l'hitraot, Shoshanah

Inland and Coastal Jewish Communities to Celebrate Seder at Shambhala Ranch

There will be a Mendocino County Jewish Communities Pesach Seder on the second night on Tuesday March 30, 2010, at Shambhala Ranch at 5:30 pm with Rabbi Shoshanah. The address is 21200 Orr Springs Road. RSVP is required and we expect that this will fill up quickly. Please call Divora Stern at 707-459-9052 to RSVP. This is a potluck dinner; please coordinate what you will bring with Divora when you make your reservations. Shambhala Ranch, located on Orr Springs Road, can seat up to 35 people. Please refer to www.shambhalaranch.com for directions and maps. The Kol Ha Emek board is requesting a \$20 per person donation, which will go toward feeding the hungry. No one will be turned away due to lack of funds. (Please note that Kol HaEmek needs more funds to feed the hungry in both Willits and Ukiah. This program needs to be subsidized by our general funds because local grocers are cutting back on food bank donations. It is our mitzvah to do Tikkun Olam and help the less fortunate.)

Additionally, up to 25 guests wanting to spend the night may do so. If you desire to spend the night, please bring a *pesadich* potluck breakfast dish as well. Let Divora know what you plan to bring for breakfast so we can have a balanced meal. You may use the kitchen to prepare your breakfast contribution. Overnight guests are expected to bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and towel. You will be expected to clean the room and bathroom when leaving and make it look as fresh and clean as when you arrived. Last year many guests spent the night and enjoyed an evening sweat after the Seder.

This event is sure to fill up quickly, so please make your plans early!

Here's a heads up on our local Boonvillian, **comedian Mo Mandel**, (son of Dan and Benna), and your opportunities to see him perform comedy somewhat locally:

Friday, March 12, he is headlining at the Napa Valley Opera House.

Wednesday, March 17, he will be on TV on the Chelsea Lately Show.

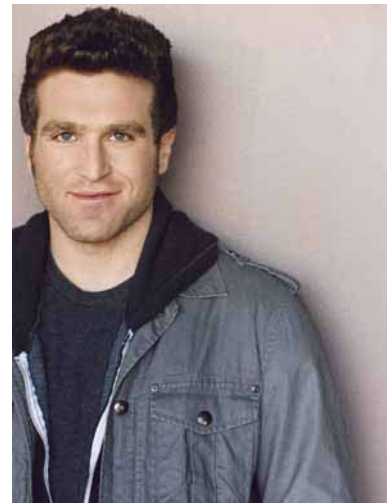
Saturday April 3, he will be performing at our own Anderson Valley Grange. Show time is 7 pm.

The last 2 times that Mo performed in the valley the shows sold out, so make sure to get your tickets early. They can be purchased at All that Good Stuff in Boonville, Tangents in Ft. Bragg, the Mendocino Book Co. in Ukiah and the Gallery Bookstore in Mendocino.

Friday, April 9, he will be on TV on Comedy Central airing his own ½ hour special.



Check him out on his website momandel.com





**Mendocino County Jewish Communities/Inland
Kol HaEmek (Voice of the Valley)
P.O. Box 416
Redwood Valley, CA 95470**

Return Service Requested

Our purpose is to create an environment in which Jewish culture, religion and spiritual life can flourish; to perpetuate and renew our Jewish connections with ourselves and our homes, within our community and the world.

Our Mission is to express and support Judaism in the following ways:

- To provide a space for religious study and prayer
- To share life cycle events through meaningful Jewish traditions
- To offer and sponsor Jewish education for all ages
- To be inclusive of all partnership and family configurations
- To include interfaith families and Jews-by-choice
- To network with other Jewish communities
- To educate and share our culture with other Mendocino County residents
- To be a foundation for *tikkun olam* (healing of the world) as a community through socially just actions and education, and by mitzvot (good deeds)
- To offer membership in exchange for financial and other contributions, and allow all to participate regardless of ability to pay

Kol HaEmek Information & Resources

Kol HaEmek	468-4536
Board Members:	
Carol Rosenberg, President	463-8526
David Koppel, Treasurer (Financial Committee)	485-8910
Nancy Merling (Secretary)	456-0639
Divora Stern, V.P.	459-9052
Alan Acorn Sunbeam	463-8364
Steven Levin	462-3131
Robert Klayman	391-6114

Address changes (e-mail, etc): contact David Koppel davekoppel@yahoo.com or call (485-8910)

Brit Milah: Doctors willing to do circumcisions in their office or in your home: Robert Gitlin, D.O. (485-7406); Sam Goldberg, M.D. (463-8000); Jeremy Mann, M.D. (463-8000); Sid Mauer, M.D. (463-8000)

Assistance with the ceremony, contact the Rabbi (see below)

Chevra Kadisha (Jewish Burial): Eva Strauss-Rosen (459-4005); Helen Sizemore (462-1595)

Community Support: If you need help (illness, family crisis) or you can be called on when others need help; in Willits, call Divora Stern (459-9052); In Ukiah, Tal Sizemore (462-1595); Lake County (Volunteer needed, call 468-4536)

Editor of the Shema: Carol Rosenberg, Dan Hibshman & Tal Sizemore (carolrosenberg@sbcglobal.net)

Interfaith Council: Cassie Gibson (468-5351) (Food preparation for homeless in Ukiah)

Jewish Community Information and Referral: Bay Area activities and services (415) 777-4545 or toll free at (877)777- 5247

Library: At the Kol HaEmek shul, 8591 West Road, Redwood Valley; open at shul events and by appointment

Movies-at-the-Shul: Steven Levin 462-3131 stevenL@pacific.net and Robert Klayman 391-6114 rklayman@mchcinc.org

New Members: Carol Rosenberg (463-8526)

Rabbi's Council: community and calendar planning; **liaison** - contact Nancy Merling, grandnan@saber.net (456-0639)

Rabbinical Services/Special Ceremonies: Rabbi Shoshanah Devorah, 467-0456, sdevorah@gmail.com

Use of Torah/Siddurs: Schedule ahead of time with a board member.

Tzedakah Fund (Financial Assistance): David Koppel (485-8910)