

May/June 2010
Iyar—Sivan—Tammuz
5770



**Plan Ahead for
our Annual
Meeting, BBQ
and Election!!
July 17, 5:00 pm
at the Harrell
Residence**



www.bnaibigbear.org

President: Joe Balistocky

VP: Jonathan Sprecher

Recording Secretary:
Vacant

Treasurer: Chris Harrell

Corresponding Secretary:
Vacant

Members at Large:
Don Eads, Marty Broad,
Cheryl Harrell, and
Debbie Fleshman

Past President::
Sue Balistocky

Newsletter & Website:
Joe Balistocky and
Jonathan Sprecher

Facility & Print:
Chris & Cheryl Harrell

Membership/Outreach:
Sue Balistocky

MEMBER URJ



REFLECTIONS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Joe Balistocky

We had a wonderful Passover, with a good turn-out and, as always, great food. Our Seder was led by Cantor Les Kushner, and the whole affair was enjoyed by one and all. One of our enthusiastic new members, Alan Arkin, stepped in to make the brisket and chicken, which were tasty and much appreciated. The rest of the board members extended themselves to make this truly one of the most enjoyable Passover Seders in recent memory. I cannot thank all of you enough for coming together to make it such an enjoyable event.

On the horizon is the annual meeting this July 17, when we will be electing the Board of Directors for the coming year. We will be sending out forms for you to approve the board-recommended slate of candidates. If you are interested in serving on the board, you can write yourself in or nominate any member of B'nai Big Bear.

As we move towards the new year for the next board, we can say that the trend of board members leaving the board mid-term has been reversed, and we have re-established financial stability to B'nai Big Bear. One of our main goals in the coming year will be to expand our membership of young families, as well as others both on and off the hill.

We need to purchase about a dozen Tanachs (Torah study books) to use on Saturdays and on Yom Kippur so people can follow the discussion during Torah study. If anyone would like to make a donation for these, please let us know. It would be a great mitzvah.

For those of you coming up, the Friday night Shabbat services and pot lucks for May and June will be on May 14, May 28, June 11 and June 25 at 6:30 p.m., while Saturday services are on the 5th of June and the 3rd of July, at 10:00 a.m. (all at Miller Park).

As we enter the warmer months, I hope you will be coming up and that we will have the happy opportunity to see many of our friends. Don't be afraid to escape the hot weather down below. There is a cool breeze in Big Bear, and we look forward to seeing you!

Shalom, Joe

“BITS AND PIECES from SUGARLOAF”

By Jonathan Sprecher

We're getting into those summertime months, with associated possible "Summertime Blues". It does get hot enough in Big Bear to get this affliction, but not nearly as much as in those lower elevations. Fortunately, summer brings us renewed visits by many of our members who leave for the winter. As always, we look forward to seeing you. Participation is a great way to fight those blues!

This is also a good time to regroup for us, and prepare for the High Holidays and Succot. Our next big event is the annual meeting, BBQ and election on July 17, to be at the Harrell residence at 5:00 pm. Be sure to come.

Part of our Friday night service reflects on the wonderfulness of creation, and the fact that we can be blind to that. We pray to acknowledge and understand these wonders. Sometimes I wonder how we can ever be unhappy, given the great things we now have, vs. even a generation ago. How about instant global communication, and some pretty amazing advances in medicine? My son Eric is having a knee operation, during which his left knee cartilage is being renewed using cartilage of his grown "in vitro", using cells harvested during an earlier operation. I think this is pretty miraculous. Even though disease has not been eliminated, we can repair many things that would have left us crippled (or dead) in the past. I myself had a back fusion after my plane crash in 2002—without the operation, I could have ended up paralyzed (or worse). But here I am (for the better, I hope).

Why bother fixing people, though? The only value is to allow the contributions to our families, community and society that would not otherwise have been possible. My son has to use his life for the betterment of humanity in some way—this justifies the time spent raising and repairing him. I think we all have this responsibility to our families and community—we aren't here just to eat and watch the Lakers. So I encourage you to actively participate in many ways, including at B'nai Big Bear. If you wish to serve on the board, please let us know!

Shalom, Jonathan

SHABBAT POT LUCK

6:30 pm on the second and fourth Friday of the month at Miller Park: Shabbat pot luck dinner. Bring a main dish or a dessert and join us to observe the Sabbath at the end of a busy week.

HAVDALLAH CELEBRATIONS

Havdallah is a B'nai Big Bear tradition, usually hosted by a B'nai Big Bear family at 7:00 pm *on the third Saturday of each month.*

SATURDAY SERVICES

10 am on the first Saturday of every month we meet at Miller Park for Services and Torah studies, led by Cantor Les Kushner or a knowledgeable lay member of our congregation.

CLASSES

Torah Study may be scheduled by advance reservation. Held at Miller Park before other events; private lessons also available.

May 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Th	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Shabbat Morning Service 10:00 am Miller Park
9	10	11	12	13	14 Shabbat 6:30 pm Miller Park	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22 Havdallah 7:00 pm Harrell Res.
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28 Shabbat 6:30 pm Miller Park	29

June 2010

Sun	Mon	Tu	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 Shabbat Service 10 am Miller Park
6	7	8	9	10	11 Shabbat 6:30 pm Miller Park	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19 Havdallah 7:00 pm Fleshman Res.
20 Board Meeting Location TBA	21	22	23	24	25 Shabbat 6:30 pm Miller Park	26
27	28	29	30			

B'nai Big Bear

P.O. Box 3677
Big Bear Lake, CA



"You were not born a winner, and you were not born a loser. You are what you make yourself be".

—Lou Holtz

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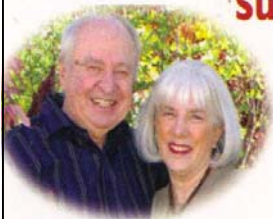


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