

B'nai B'rith Educators Unit # 5290



President's Message



B'nai B'rith Awards Dinner

Dear B'nai B'rith Members,

I hope this newsletter finds you well enjoying the change of seasons. Our Unit continues to grow and remain strong evidenced by the still increasing membership and guest attendance at our annual events. This year, at our annual awards dinner, we had the honor of recognizing many individuals for their contributions to the educational profession, service to the Jewish community and our world. A special thank you to Essie Cherkin and her committee for making this event a memorable evening for the 250 guests in attendance. Congratulations to the following honorees and their families:

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION:
Renée Flehinger, Assistant Principal of Baldi Middle School and Dr. Sheldon Pavel, President of Central High School

SERVICE TO THE JEWISH COMMUNITY:
Tara Feiner, Executive Director of Grants Compliance, SDP; Dr. Gary Feldman, Coordinator Psychological Services, SDP

HUMANITARIAN AWARD:

The National Liberty Museum

We are also proud to present the first annual B'nai B'rith Scholarship Fund. This fund has been created to recognize high school seniors, whose families are active B'nai B'rith members. These students must demonstrate a commitment to their Jewish community and maintain a 3.0 or higher GPA. This year we are proud to present scholarships in the amount of \$500.00 to Aaron Horwitz, Jordan Konell and Josh Drossner. All three students are very deserving of this award and recognition. Congratulations to all of the recipients.

In addition, on behalf of the Jacoby Family we are pleased to award the Thomas S. Jacoby Scholarship Award to Matthew Birk, a senior from Council Rock School District. Tom was committed to the Jewish Community and served as President of B'nai B'rith for the Philadelphia Region, President of Hillel in the Greater Philadelphia Area, and President of JCRC. Congratulations to Matthew!

In order to continue to provide organizational

growth, I challenge each of you to attend our functions and to recruit at least one new member willing to assist us in carrying out our mission. It is through these events that we are able to extend assistance to our Jewish youth and community making your participation the most important role. We are part of the oldest and largest Jewish service organizations. During a time when organizations are finding it difficult to remain a functioning unit, B'nai B'rith continues to stay strong.

Please contact me with your ideas, suggestions and comments. I look forward to continuing to serve as your President as we begin planning for 2012.

I wish all of you a wonderful summer!

Stephanie Ressler
President



2010-2011 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Good & Welfare

Congratulations to all the B'nai B'rith Educators Unit Annual Award winners:

Dr. Alan Barson Service to the Professional Award
Dr. Sheldon Pavel & Renee Flehinger

Service to the Jewish Community Award
Tara Feiner & Dr. Gary Feldman

Humanitarian Award
The National Liberty Museum

Congratulations to Chuck Connor and Sheldon Pavel for receiving the Lindback Award.

Congratulations to Stefanie Ressler on receiving her Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility and on her new assignment at Wilson Middle School.

Congratulations to Richard Raisman on his new assignment at Lingelbach Elementary School.

Mazel Tov to Ellen Cooper, Harvey Holper and Chuck Connor on their recent retirements!

Mazel Tov to Harry and Wendy Lessig on the marriage of their daughter Rachael.

Mazel Tov to Caren and George Trantas on the birth of their granddaughter, Abigail Elise.

Mazel Tov to Ann and Bob Tuteur's on the birth of their grandson, Tristan Scott Blatstein.

Mazel Tov to Essie and Bob Cherkin on the marriage of their daughter, Alyssa, to Steve Rosenberg.

Best wishes to Janet Lewin on her special birthday.

Congratulations to Sue Konell on the graduation of her son Jordan from Central High School and JCHS of Gratz College.

Congratulations to Barry and Debra Drossner on their son Josh's graduation from Upper Dublin HS and JCHS of Gratz College.

Congratulations to Andrea and Jay Miller on their daughter Jenna's graduation from Neshaminy High School and JCHS of Gratz College.

Congratulations to Bonnie Kallen on her daughter Rachel's graduation from Council Rock High School.

Congratulations to Ruth and Alan Horowitz on their grandchildren's accomplishments:

Matthew Birk is a graduate from Council Rock North High School and is going to University of Delaware. He has been recruited due to his expertise as a javelin thrower. Aaron Horowitz graduated from Fasman Yeshiva in Skokie, Illinois with highest honors and will be going to Israel next year as part of Yeshiva University in NYC.

Condolences to the family of Alex Tobin, a founding member, on his passing.

A Special Thank You

Stefanie,

Thank you for arranging such a perfect reception last night to honor the B'nai B'rith Educators' Unit first scholarship recipients and the 2011 Jacoby Scholarship recipient. The light refreshments, complimentary use of the auditorium at OYRT Beth Am, convenient location and parking, and expert, lovely photographer made it a win/win event. Extra special appreciation and kudos to Ruby, your mother-in-law, and to Becky, your daughter! Barry and I are so proud that Josh was one of three most deserving recipients of our first scholarship presentation. Many of the members of the Board of Trustees and current Executive Board remember when Josh was born, remember when we brought him as a baby and a toddler to Sunday B'nai B'rith brunches, and have celebrated family milestones with us. How extra special for Josh to be honored with Aaron Horwitz and Jordan Konell! It was wonderful, too, to share this reception with Matthew Birk, the Thomas S. Jacoby Scholarship Award recipient. Heartfelt thanks to you, the first Scholarship Awards Committee, and the Board of Trustees for honoring Josh. Honoring our son also honors us. We are grateful to B'nai B'rith Educators Unit for recognizing Josh and his many personal and academic achievements, as well as his service and commitment to the Jewish community.

A special note of thanks to you, Essie and Bob Cherkin, Alice Heller, Renée Flehinger, and Richard Raisman for your attendance, good wishes, and friendship.

- Debra and Barry Drossner

Condolences to Janice Wagman on the passing of her father Martin Wagman.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Eileen Maicon Weissman.

Spotlight on a New Member

Adam Braunstein

Adam is currently serving as a School Improvement and Data Specialist in the Office of Accountability. As a former School Growth Teacher and SBIS at Dobbins CTE High School he brings a great deal of knowledge, experience and dedication to this role.

Adam graduated from Temple University with a Bachelor's degree in Secondary English Education. He completed his Masters Degree in Educational Technology and Supervision and Administration from Lehigh University. He started his career in education as an ESL teacher at the Nationalities Service Center in Philadelphia and then as an ESL and business teacher at DTP Business School in Northeast Philadelphia where he went on to become their Education Director. Seeking more rewarding fulfillment, Adam decided on a career in public education and took a position teaching English teacher at University City. He then went on to teach 9th – 12th grade English at John Bartram and Parkway West high schools as well before moving on to become the School Growth Teacher at Dobbins CTE. Adam also worked in the Southwest Region as an Instructional Specialist where he was responsible for supporting the Empowerment Schools.

Adam is proud to be a member of B'nai B'rith Educators Unit and appreciates the camaraderie and support of fellow members. Adam lives in Broomall, PA with his wife Brooke and his two children Zachary and Ella. Adam's family is also members of the Kaiserman JCC and of Temple Shalom in Broomall.

B'NAI BRITH SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

On Monday, June 6, 2011 three distinguished students were awarded the first annual B'nai B'rith Youth Scholarships in the amount of \$500.00 for their exemplary academic achievement and service to the Jewish community.

The recipients were Joshua Drossner, a senior at Upper Dublin High School, Aaron Horwitz, a senior at Fasman Yeshiva in Skokie, Illinois and Jordan Konell, a senior at Central High School. A ceremony was held in their honor at Beth Am Synagogue. Joshua will be attending Penn State University, Aaron has been accepted into the honors program at Yeshiva University in NYC and Jordan will be attending Yale University. The 2011 Thomas S. Jacoby Scholarship was also presented that evening. The recipient was Adam Birk, a senior at Council Rock High School. He will be attending University of Delaware. Adam was recognized for his academic and athletic abilities. Thank you to all of our B'nai B'rith members and family members who attended this special event! Special thanks to Stephanie Ressler, Becky Ressler and Ruby Ressler for all of the preparation for this event. Best wishes to all of our scholarship recipients on their upcoming graduations and best of luck to them in all future endeavors!

A note received from Jordan Konell:

I am extremely honored to have been awarded the 2011 B'nai B'rith Educators Unit Scholarship. As the son of a proud Jewish educator, the B'nai B'rith Educators Unit supports the values of education and community that I have acquired on my quest to become a mensch.

After graduating Central High School on June 15th, I will matriculate to Yale University in the fall where I plan to pursue a specialized major: Ethics, Politics, and Economics. I am looking forward to maintaining my ties to the Jewish community and participating actively in Hillel while delving into my studies.

Thank you to Ms. Stephanie Ressler for considering me as well as Mrs. Renée Flehinger for being a liaison between B'nai B'rith and me. I am sure that my mother will keep you informed of my future successes as I aim to perpetuate the goals of the B'nai B'rith Educators Unit.

- Jordan Konell

Remarks from Joshua Drossner:

I would like to thank Mrs. Stefanie Ressler, President of the B'nai B'rith Educators Unit, and the Scholarship Awards Committee for selecting me as one of the recipients of the first scholarships to be awarded by the unit. I am proud that both of my parents, Debra and Barry, are active members and leaders of the unit. Their volunteerism and community service continue to inspire me as I, too, serve both the Jewish community and the general community. I will use this scholarship for books at Penn State, University Park, in the fall.

Congratulations to Aaron Horwitz and Jordan Konell for sharing this special recognition with me this evening and to Matthew Birk, recipient of the 2011 Thomas S. Jacoby Scholarship.

Again, thank you very much!

Joshua Drossner



If you have a recipe that you would like to share for a future newsletter, please email it to me at imreneef@aol.com.



THAI SALAD

Sauce

- ½ cup vegetable oil
- ¼ cup sesame oil
- 4 T white vinegar
- 2 noodle seasoning packets
- 4 T sugar
- 2 packets of Equal

Instructions:

- 16 ounce pkg. coleslaw
- 2 packs Oriental Raman noodles (blue package) break up noodles in small pieces
- 2 oz. unsalted sunflower seeds (can add more and can use salted)

- 4 oz. of sliced or slivered almonds (toasted @ 350 for 5-10 min. on cookie sheet)
- 11 oz. can of mandarin oranges (drained)
- Mix all together, except oranges. Add them right before serving.

Renée's Recipes

More Recipes...

PINEAPPLE MANGO SALSA

1 cup pineapple, peeled & diced
1 mango, peeled & diced
1 red bell pepper, diced
1/2 small red onion, about 1/3 cup, diced

2 T cilantro, chopped
Juice of 1 lime
1/2 t. salt

1. Place all ingredients in a bowl and combine.
2. Serve over fish or with tortilla chips.

CHEESECAKE

Ingredients:

3 cups ricotta cheese
2-8 oz. packages of cream cheese
1 pint sour cream
6 eggs
1 1/2 cups sugar
1 1/2 t lemon juice
8 T flour
1 T vanilla

Instructions:

Combine above ingredients in mixer until blended.
Grease and flour 10-inch spring form pan.
Pour mixture into pan and bake @ 350° for 1 hour. Turn oven off and leave in

oven for another hour.
Remove from oven and let stand for half an hour.

MINI CHEESECAKES

This is a great recipe to use for a Party dessert. I get requests for it all year long. Enjoy!

Ingredients:

2 (8-oz) pkgs. cream cheese @ room temperature
1 tsp. vanilla
1/2 c. sugar
2 eggs
20 vanilla wafers
2 1/2 inch foil baking cups
1 small can cherry filling.

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 375°. Cream together sugar and cream cheese. Add eggs and vanilla. Put vanilla wafers flat side down inside baking cups. Fill cups 3/4 full with cream cheese mixture. Bake 15-20 minutes until golden. Remove and cool. Top with filing. It makes 20 cakes.

Membership Update

As the 2010-2011 academic year ends, B'nai B'rith Educators' Unit would like to thank all renewing members and to announce all new members who joined our unit this year:

Sharon Bornstein
Tara L. Feiner
Adam J. Feiner
Andrea Miller
Sara Landman
Andrew Silverman
Jessica Ryan Westle
Mirta B. Scheffer

Please continue to spread the word and to recruit new members for the unit! Membership dues support initiatives endorsed by B'nai B'rith International, the local Philadelphia council, and our own unit's activities,

events, and philanthropy. This is an ideal group for networking, connecting, and supporting the many worthy initiatives supported by B'nai B'rith locally, nationally, and internationally!

We cannot grow our membership and sustain our organization without your support!

We truly cannot spell s-u-c-c-e-s-s without "u"!

B'nai B'rith headquarters in Washington, DC is permitting us to continue to promote NEW memberships with special rates. Please contact Debra B. Drossner, Vice President, Membership, for information. Renewing members are asked to reply to the mailing from B'nai B'rith headquarters as soon as possible. Invoices and payment should be mailed directly to Washington, DC, as directed. Thank you for

your continued support. Please contact me with any ideas regarding building membership and indicate your availability to support your suggestion(s):

Debra B. Drossner,
Membership Vice President,
2010-2011
H: (215) 540-9269
C: (267)-679-6237
ddrossner@philasd.org

Do you have a change of email or mailing address?

Do you have a life event that you wish to have included in the Good & Welfare Column?

Correspondence can be sent to me at:

Renée Flehinger

122 Gardner Street
Philadelphia, PA
19116

imreneef@aol.com



We're on the Web!
See us at:

www.bnaibritheducators.com

THANK YOU!!!



We would like to thank the B'nai B'rith Educators' Awards Committee for honoring us.

The Awards Dinner was a special evening, which we all will remember.

We are humbled and grateful to have been honored by our peers.

Once again, thank you very much.

Fondly,

Gwen Borowsky, National Liberty Museum

Tara Feiner

Dr. Gary Feldman

Renée Flehinger

Dr. Sheldon Pavel



B'NAI B'RITH MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
"B'nai B'rith America" Campaign

I am/we are of the Jewish faith and pledge to support the high ideals and purposes of B'nai B'rith. (Please print)

 NAME

 SPOUSE'S NAME

 MAILING ADDRESS

 CITY STATE ZIP

 OCCUPATION

 TELEPHONE HOME & CELL

 TELEPHONE WORK

 EMAIL

 FAX NUMBER

 BIRTHDATE – ONLY IF UNDER AGE 35

 SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

 DATE

 REFERRED BY

 UNIT/LODGE AFFILIATION

Special Campaign Dues Categories

Individual (3 yrs).....\$165
 Couple (3 yrs).....\$250
 Individual (1 yr).....\$90
 Couple (1 yr).....\$135

Under age 35

Individual (3yrs).....\$100
(no couples discounts apply)
 Individual (1 yr).....\$45
 Couple (1 yr).....\$90

These introductory rates apply to new and rejoining members only.

Return completed membership form with check to:

Stefanie Ressler, President
 8028 Jenkintown Road
 Cheltenham, PA 19012
 (215) 880-3592

or

Debra Drossner, Membership VP
1026 Bell Lane
Maple Glen, PA 19002
(215) 540-9269

WHY B'NAI B'RITH?

Dear Fellow Educator,

THE EDUCATORS UNIT OF B'NAI B'RITH was formed in 1968-1969 in response to a **pervasive atmosphere of anti-Semitism** that was affecting educators throughout the school system. It became our mission to stop this from taking hold. **WE WERE SUCCESSFUL.** We adopted the position that we wanted an "even playing field" for Jews applying for positions in the system. We continue fighting for the issues that commenced our formation. Additionally, our programs appeal to a variety of interests. One of our unit's interests is to raise funds for B'nai B'rith Youth Services, as well as other related activities.

Within Philadelphia Council, **THE EDUCATORS UNIT HAS ALSO BEEN A LEADER.** We were one of the first groups to change to Unit Status (men and women in one group). Several members of our unit have served in leadership roles in Philadelphia Council. We are one of the largest B'nai B'rith groups within the council area. Our unit is respected within B'nai B'rith circles **due to the DIVERSITY OF OUR PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES.**

B'nai B'rith is the oldest and largest Jewish fraternal and service organization of its kind in the world. For many Jews, it has been the flame that has kept Judaism alive in hostile countries. B'nai B'rith activities include establishing orphan and old age homes and hospitals. You are probably familiar with the Hillel Foundation houses on many college campuses and AZA and BBG chapters for our youth. Additionally, B'nai B'rith has achieved a prominent position in the United Nations having the only "Observer Status" seat of its kind.

Following the anti-Semitic lynching of Leo Frank (ca 1913) in the South, B'nai B'rith formed the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) to fight against anti-Semitism and other forms of racism. ADL has been one of the main leaders in this fight. ADL exposed Norman Lincoln Rockwell to public scrutiny in the same way it exposed Farrakhan – by exposing his public statements to scrutiny.

IT HAS NEVER BEEN EASY BEING A JEW. The cost of not being united is even greater. We charge LESS than most B'nai B'rith groups, but even if this cost seems high on your budget, the yearly investment you make for yourself and others is very low. **WHY B'NAI B'RITH?** Because we need **the strength of organization** to help Jews – around the world, within our country, within our profession and especially, within the Philadelphia School District and suburban school districts.

PLEASE JOIN US NOW!