

## Reflection and Renewal

By Cantor Martin Levson

The following thoughts are based on my Spiritual Leader Report for the 2024 CEEW Annual Meeting, which will be held on Sunday morning, June 9, at 9:00 AM. Please make every effort to attend. We will feed you bagels (with lox!) if you do.

*“Der mentsh trakht un got lakht.”*

That’s Yiddish for “Human beings make plans, and God laughs.” Full disclosure: when I was thinking about my High Holiday sermons this past year, I thought about making one of them about the protests for democracy that had been attended by hundreds of thousands of Israelis in the summer of 2023. In the end, I abandoned that idea, because I thought “What’s going on in Israel right now really isn’t on the majority of my congregants’ radar.”

And then... October 7 happened.

The deadly pogrom initiated by Hamas on that horrible day and the war that immediately followed has consumed a great deal of my time as

well as my intellectual and spiritual energy. I have felt it my sacred responsibility to be as informed as possible about events in Israel and Gaza this past year, because as your Spiritual Leader I know that I will be asked many questions about *Hamatzav* (“The Situation”) both by congregants and by the larger community. From my position of privilege and safety here in Waukesha, WI, I can advocate for Israel’s need (and absolute right) to defend itself after that horrible terrorist attack *and* express compassion and sorrow for the enormous suffering that has been inflicted upon the residents of Gaza.



I firmly believe and maintain that these two viewpoints are not mutually exclusive. I am grateful for the unqualified support of my fellow clergy in both the Association of Waukesha Clergy and BEGIN (Brookfield – Elm Grove Interfaith Network) for their unwavering support. They have our backs, and they have said that if (God forbid!) an anti-Semitic act occurs against CEEW, they will be there to support us at a moment’s notice.

This past June I accompanied our Director of Education Carrie Barba-koff and Ann Meyers as we took our “Jewish Adulthood” class on a fantastic trip to New York City. Because we had four 7<sup>th</sup> grade students in our Religious School this year, I taught this group of inquisitive students on Sunday mornings. Our Wednesday morning “Midrash” adult education class explored the thought provoking (and often deliciously subversive) book *Judaism Disrupted: A Spiritual*



Share with the congregation all the wonderful things happening in your family! Send birthday and anniversary information to: [communications@waukeshatemple.org](mailto:communications@waukeshatemple.org).

*Manifesto for the 21st Century* by Rabbi Michael Strassfeld. Over the past few weeks, we have had some intense discussions about Israel and Gaza, and the effect *Hamatzav* has had on our lives as Jews here in Wisconsin.

As I complete the last year of my initial three-year contract, I am im-

mensely grateful for the sacred opportunity to continue to serve as the Sole/Soul Spiritual Leader of Congregation Emanu-El for the next (God willing!) five years. We may be small in numbers, but we have a vibrant, meaningful, and immensely welcoming expression of Progressive Judaism here in

Waukesha County. We are the only non-Orthodox Jewish community between Milwaukee and Madison, and I am honored by your continuing confidence in me. Together, may we go from strength to strength! ✨



## ANNIVERSARIES

**Sxdni Small and Mike Fleming** celebrate their anniversary on June 2.

**Karen Levy and Peter Lee** celebrate their 45th anniversary on June 8.

**Ann and Alan Meyers** celebrate their anniversary on June 21.

## BIRTHDAYS

**Marvin Small** celebrates his birthday on June 1.

**Denise Stodola** celebrates her birthday on June 2.

**Cindy Levy** celebrates her birthday on June 10.

**Jeff Shabman and Mari-Claire Zimmerman** celebrate their birthdays on June 14.

**Avery Kukuk, daughter of Danyelle and Norm Kukuk**, celebrates her birthday on June 25.

**Marcy Hotz and Elizabeth Lamb** celebrate their birthdays on June 26.



**“All good things must come to an end. That’s why they’re called good things — otherwise they’re just ordinary.”  
— Joyce Rachelle**



This June 2024 issue of the monthly CEEW Bulletin will be the last one in this format. It has been a staple of our synagogue for many years with many different people working on it, writing for it, and publishing it for our members. Now, with the weekly blasts and frequent emails that notify everyone with information, dates, places and programs, it has become somewhat duplicitous in its monthly format. Although some will miss the more detailed articles, features, travelogues, poetry page and pictures, the time may have come to provide a different vehicle of communication.

Starting in July Mark Levy, who manages our blasts, emails, and information, will send out a monthly “newsletter” that will have the most pertinent and wanted things that were previously in the monthly bulletin. That will include the Yahrzeit list, monthly calendar, simchas, upcoming events, and the photos of people and events happening around our CEEW community.

If you have information on an event pertinent to CEEW, take some photos of members and/or events that you’d like to share or want something in the monthly “newsletter,” please contact Mark Levy at [communications@waukeshatemple.org](mailto:communications@waukeshatemple.org). This should be done at least a week in advance of the proposed first of the month newsletter distribution to CEEW members.

Thanks to all of you who have written articles, travelogues, sent pictures and poetry, edited or helped with the bulletin over the years. There are many, many people who have worked in different capacities on this bulletin over the years — too many to name them all! The CEEW bulletin had many loyal readers and contributors who greatly enhanced its publication.  
— *Adrian Richfield*



CEEW's 3rd Annual Jewish Trivia Night is Saturday, June 8, starting at 6:30 p.m. For more information, see page 5!

## Yom HaShoah at CEEW

By Adrian Richfield

On Sunday May 5, CEEW Sunday school included a special program in honor of Yom HaShoah with some of the school students, CEEW members and a special speaker, Simon Bronner from UW-Milwaukee.

Dr. Bronner talked about his Polish Jewish family and their experiences during WWII. His parents met in a displacement camp, married, and moved to Israel where he grew up. Eventually the family relocated to Chicago and New York; he now lives and works here in the Milwaukee and Waukesha area. Although his parents didn't talk much about their experiences during the war (as many surviving persons did not), he was able to piece together much of what happened with family members, one of whom was on "Schindler's List" and thus managed to survive.

With the use of a power point and pictures, his was a story well told and memorable to hear about, and we thank him for sharing this with our CEEW congregation and school. It is important to hear, share, and continue to tell about this part of our Jewish history. We should never forget.

As part of the service six candles were lit, with each one representing one million who perished in the Holocaust. Candles were lit by Carrie Barbakoff (for Peter Shelley), Cantor Levson (for Marsha Fensin's family), Elly Kraines, Adrian Richfield, Cindy Levy, and Simon Bronner. Cantor Levson sang a well known song by poet Hannah Szenes: "Eili Eili." ✨





Rylan Ecker's bar mitzvah is this Saturday, June 1, at 3:30 p.m.

## 3rd Annual Jewish Trivia Night at CEEW

Date: Saturday, June 8th

Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Cost: \$10 per person

Back by popular demand, we are having a 3rd Jewish Trivia Night at CEEW. With Cindy and Mark Levy as our Trivia hosts, we will also learn about the upcoming holiday of Shavuot from Cantor Levson as well as partake in the tradition of eating dairy foods that go with this holiday!

### Shavuot 2024 / 5784 שבועות

Teams of 4-5 contestants for playing Jewish Trivia will be randomly selected and there will be prizes for the winning team. Mark and Cindy assure us that the Trivia Questions will be easier this year! If you have never been to Jewish Trivia Night, this is the year and if you've been before you know it is fun! If you're undecided, come and bring a bottle of wine and enjoy!

### MENU

Hors d'oeuvres  
Blintzes  
Quiche  
Cheesecakes  
Beverages  
BYOB



### Practice Jewish Trivia Questions:

**What is the main ingredient of falafel?**

a. humus b. fava beans c. sesame seeds d. couscous

**Which of the following comic book characters was NOT created by a Jew?**

a. Superman b. Spider-man c. Krazy Kat d. Batman

**The movie "Gentleman's Agreement" is about:**

a. The State of Israel b. Anti-Semitism c. Peace Treaties d. The Holocaust

**Edwin Land invented the Polaroid instant camera which went on sale in:**

a. 1948 b. 1955 c. 1960 d. 1958

**The deadline has passed for reservations  
but if you contact Adrian Richfield today, you could be added to the list!**

Cost is \$10 per person. ([262-547-1904/susu78@aol.com](mailto:262-547-1904/susu78@aol.com))



Ava Koszarek's bat mitzvah will be Saturday, June 15, at 10:30 a.m.

## May 3 Special Shabbat: Mark and Cindy Levy

By Adrian Richfield

We all journeyed with Cindy and Mark Levy on their Jewish Heritage Cruise from Prague to Budapest (with a few travel adjustments). Starting in Prague where they visited several synagogues to Budapest with its rich Jewish history, the Levys shared experiences, stories and photos. An unexpected stop in Bratislava included a special visit with our previous Cantorial Soloist, Arlene Spanier's son. They missed a visit with her by one day!

They saw numerous synagogues, museums and Jewish cemeteries, learned about the Golem of Prague, and visited the Pinkas Synagogue where our own WWII Torah came from many years ago. They explained about the "tumbling stones" which told of people who lived in places before they were taken over during the war. It was an enjoyable "special Shabbat" and thanks to them for sharing this travelog with CEEW members. ☆





**CEEW's Yizkor service at the end of Shavuot will be held Wednesday, June 12, at 7 p.m. Watch your emails for more details.**

## CEEW Board Notes: May 2024

By Pati Allen Brickman

**D'var Torah and Spiritual Leader's Report** by Cantor Levson: We are coming to the end of Yom HaZikaron, a challenging issue for us in the diaspora. Like Memorial Day we are used to celebrations and parades, but not so for the Memorial Day in Israel. Everybody knows someone who has been killed defending the state, so this is a serious and solemn occasion. Then we transition to Yom HaAtzmaut, Independence Day. This year it will be more difficult because of the Oct 7 event, the hostages, and on-going conflict. Coming up: June will have three B'Mitvah services: June 1 Rylan Ecker, June 15 Ava Koszarek, and June 22 Sxdni Small.

**Education Director Report** by Carrie Barbakoff: Sunday May 19 will be the last day of Sunday school. September 8 starts religious school for the next year. We are anticipating a smaller school in the coming year with only nine Sunday School students and four Jewish Adulting students.

**President's Report** by Laurie Schwartz: Nothing to report.

**Treasurer/Financial Report** by Alan Meyers: (For details, contact Alan Meyers) A proposed budget has been put together and is included in the year end estimate report with the following changes: a. The Cantor's new contract is covered using the Spiritual Leader fund that we created using an anonymous donation and donations from our members, b. We budgeted for only two teachers this year instead of the usual four.

**Sisterhood Report** by Denise Stodola: The Sunshine Committee sent out cards to the Marsha Fensin family.

The Sisterhood Annual Meeting is June 2 at 11:30 and will be catered by Sendik's and the Sisterhood board. We will make a donation to ABCD

Breast Cancer support group charity in honor of Marsha Fensin. We will be presenting gifts to the B'nai Mitzvot.

### Committee Reports

**Facilities and Security** by Bernie Sandler:

**Items completed:** Alarm testing completed, and the temple will be armed every night and 11-6. A few people will have to be trained to manage the system. Training and demonstration will be offered during the annual meeting. The fire safety violations are resolved, elevator issues were resolved with a service call, the tree on the northwest corner which suffered severe damage has been trimmed.

**Items in progress:** Old door locks will be replaced with a new code. The alarms will be turned on once the keys are distributed. We will schedule an information-and-training meeting with the temple membership. Old keys are requested to be turned in. We are looking for a replacement for the GFL trash removal service. Mark Levy and Bernie Sandler are obtaining proposals regarding replacement or upgrade to our 20-year-old HVAC system and components. Decisions are TBD.

**Items needing attention and decisions:** We need to plan a one-day service effort to complete site improvement including weed pulling, buying and spreading mulch. We need to decide about removing the dead tree either by ourselves or with a professional service. We need to remove a stump on the south side, and we need to fix the HVAC air flow controls in the cantor's office.





Save the date for Havdalah and fireworks at Philip Schuman's house on Saturday, July 6, from 7 to 10 p.m. Bring a nosh and a lawn chair.

## CEEW Board Notes, continued

**New Business** - Laurie Schwartz:  
Next year's budget by Alan Meyers was voted on and accepted as submitted.

**Old Business** - Laurie Schwartz:

**Bulletin:** The monthly Bulletin will end in June. Ady Richfield and Elizabeth Lamb have discussed and designed a plan that includes updating the temple calendar each month. People will take pictures at events that will be published in the weekly blast.

**Annual Meeting:** The annual meeting will be on June 9 at 9:00 a.m. The board will provide the food.

**Ethics Policy** by Ann Meyers: A grievance policy has been submitted for consideration in addition to the ethics policy. Jewish principles will be central. The board will review the wording and will discuss it at the next board meeting. ☆



*Minutes respectfully submitted by Pati Allen  
Brickman, Secretary to the Board.*

*Full reports are available from each committee  
chair. The next board meeting will be held  
Monday, May 13, at 6:30 p.m.*

## Many, many thanks!

*It has been an honor to serve  
as the Bulletin's editor during  
the past three years.*

*However, I could not have  
done the job alone.*

*In addition to the support  
(and feedback!) of the CEEW  
community, I had the  
dedicated assistance of the  
following people:*

*Adrian Richfield  
Sxdni Small  
Elaine Goldberg  
Ann Meyers  
Brigette Alexander  
Pati Allen Brickman*

*I'd like to give a huge thanks  
to every person who wrote an  
article, shared a photo, sent in  
poetry, found a typo, or wrote  
a Travel Tale. Todah rabah!*

*— Elizabeth Lamb*





**Volunteers are needed for the member-led Friday night Shabbat services. Contact Mari-Claire Zimmerman (wzimmerman1@wi.rr.com) for more information.**

## **Don't forget the June 2 Annual Sisterhood Meeting!**

Here's a final reminder: the Annual Sisterhood Meeting will take place on Sunday, June 2, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the CEEW Social Hall. After a short business meeting, the Sisterhood will provide a catered luncheon for all members.

**Remember** to bring incontinence/menstrual products for donation to the Women's Center of Waukesha.

**Remember** to bring a small vase for the take-home flower project.

Call or text Deb Hacker at 262-853-1869 with any questions!



## **IN APPRECIATION** of generous contributions to Congregation Emanu-El of Waukesha

April donations, submitted by  
CEEW Treasurer **Alan Meyers**

### **In Memory of Marsha Fensin**

➤ *Donations from June Kulakow, Mark and Sally Pass, Laurie Schwartz, and Sandra and Marvin Small*

### **Mensch Fund**

➤ *Donations from Pati Allen Brickman, Steven and Ann Merkow, Anthony and Beth Ann Waite, and Barbara Zacher*

### **Miscellaneous**

➤ *Donation from Mark and Cindy Levy, to support work with the CEEW archive*

### **Spiritual Leader Fund**

➤ *Donation from Marcia Romashko*



Contact temple administrator Brigette Alexander prior to a service, to add a name of a relative or friend to the recent list of those who have died.

## May Their Memories Be for a Blessing

### **Yahrzeiten** **Iyyar / Sivan (June)**



**PLEASE NOTE:** Some of the listings don't have a Hebrew date; that is because we have been changing the database and offering English / Gregorian dates to those who prefer them. In such cases, only the English /

**Anna Berger:** June 9  
*Grandmother of Debi Schwid*

**Miriam Blonsky:** June 13  
*Mother of Steve (Susan) Blonsky*

**Max Cohen:** June 19, Sivan 13  
*Observed by the Congregation*

**Abraham L. Frisch:** June 7, Sivan 1  
*Observed by the Congregation*

**Frank Huza:** June 10  
*Father of Susan (Steve) Blonsky*

**Roza Krasnik:** June 29, Sivan 23  
*Grandmother of Irene (Robert) Elkin*

**Irving Kulakow:** June 28, Sivan 22  
*Brother-in-law of June Kulakow, and uncle of Laurie Schwartz*

**Milton Kulakow:** June 16, Sivan 10  
*Husband of June Kulakow*

**Martin Ostac:** June 9  
*Father of Loren (Mark) Schmidt*

**Dr. Howard Reinherz:** June 12, Sivan 6  
*Father of Barb Mulhern*

**Pauline Rodin:** June 11, Sivan 5  
*Mother of Marlis Lippow*

**Gerard Scher:** June 28, Sivan 22  
*Father of Claude Scher*

**Sarah Small:** June 19  
*Mother of Marvin (Sandra) Small and grandmother of Sxdni Small*

**John Waite:** June 15  
*Brother of Anthony (Beth Ann) Waite*

*May G-d comfort you  
among all the mourners  
of Zion and Jerusalem.*





Save the date! Sxdni Small's b'mitzvah is Saturday, June 22, at 10:30 a.m.

## Poetry Corner

### Marsha, Dear Marsha

By Marcy Hotz

O Marsha, dear Marsha, too soon you took leave  
So much more we could do, I believe.  
There are Mahj games, temple and dinners to do  
That I and your friends looked forward to.

A big hole you left in the Sisterhood,  
As hospital chaplain you did so much good.  
An educator *par excellence* were you;  
And not hearing your music is making us blue.

When Lee passed, how your life was changed;  
So tough it was when your world rearranged.  
Three years passed since he left, but then  
We think you are happy to be with him again.

Your family says you will be sorely missed  
Your grandchildren are sad they no more will be  
kissed.  
Now there is nothing left but to grieve  
Because Marsha, our Marsha, too soon you took  
leave.



### Akhtsn Eydishe Verter

By Elizabeth Lamb

Ver vace, who knows?  
Kindeleh, a small child.  
Bubba meisa, an old wife's tale,  
Kibitzer, one who talks all the while.  
Shep naches, to have much pleasure;  
A Tchochke, a little treasure.

Greps is a burp,  
Shmatteh, a rag.  
(A Noodge, a nag.)  
Shtark is strong, tough;  
And Ginnik, enough!

Punim is a face,  
Keppie a little head.  
To Kibbitz is to gab,  
Gay shlufen, fall asleep (in bed?).

Shvach is weak or unsubstantial;  
Gevalt, something more powerful.  
Gut Shabbes we already know.

Adank, Marsha, dank ir far di verter.



The CEEW Annual Membership Meeting will be Sunday, June 9, starting at 9 a.m. with bagels and lox.

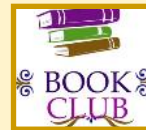
# The June Read: *Kantika* by Elizabeth Graver

Rebecca Cohen’s happy childhood ended abruptly in 1914 in Constantinople, when Turkey became intolerant of the Jewish population and her father relocated to Barcelona. Rebecca then endures a failed marriage, an odyssey to Cuba for an arranged marriage, and then the challenge of raising not only her two sons but her disabled stepdaughter. This is the story of a very resilient woman who must manage her old family with her new family. She does not give up: she fights for what she thinks is right as her life moves forward, sideways, and diagonally.

*Kantika*, Ladino for “song,” is a multi-generational story that moves between Istanbul, Barcelona, Havana, and New York to describe one family’s displacement and explore issues of identity and exile as well. *Kantika* was selected by the New York Times as a 2023 Best Historical Novel and Nota-

## Book Club News

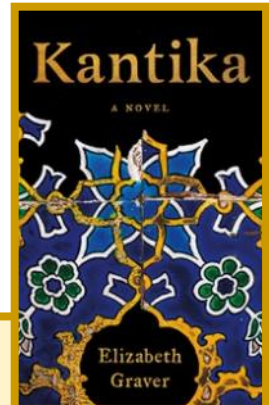
By Adrian Richfield



ble Book of the Year and by NPR as a Best Book of 2023.

From the author: “The question was, is this fiction or not? I didn’t have the necessary information or details to make it a work of non-fiction, and yet here I was incorporating these non-fictional aspects of my grandmother’s life into what I was writing. So, *Kantika* became an improvisation between fact, fiction, research, dreams, texts, photographs, real names and invented ones, my grandmother and myself.”

Graver teaches at Boston College. She received her B.A. from Wesleyan University and her M.F.A. from Washington University in St. Louis. She is married and the mother of two grown daughters. ☆



## CEEW Book Club

When: Wednesday, June 5

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Where: Nancy Cummins’ house

To participate, contact  
Debi Schwid at  
deb.schwid@gmail.com

“*Kantika is an acute and compassionate portrait of displacement and reinvention, and it sings.*”  
— Michael Frank, author of *One Hundred Saturdays*



“Every act of forgiveness means something broken in this fractured world.”  
 — Rabbi Jonathan Sacks



# Shabbat Shalom!



<b>JUNE 7</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>	<b>MCRC Shabbat (no CEEW service)</b>
<b>JUNE 14</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>	<b>Cantor-led Shabbat service</b>
<b>JUNE 21</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>	<b>Cantor-led Shabbat service</b>
<b>JUNE 28</b>	<b>7 p.m.</b>	<b>Member-led Shabbat service</b>



These services may be available online, in person, or both.  
 Watch your email for updates on the mode of any temple event.

## CEEW TEMPLE LEADERSHIP

<b>SPIRITUAL LEADER</b>	Cantor Martin Levson	spiritualleader@waukeshatemple.org
<b>EDUCATION DIRECTOR</b>	Carrie Barbakoff	eddirector@waukeshatemple.org
<b>PRESIDENT</b>	Laurie Schwartz	president@waukeshatemple.org
<b>VICE PRESIDENT</b>	Mark Levy	markallanlevy@yahoo.com
<b>ADMINISTRATOR</b>	Brigette Alexander	administrator@waukeshatemple.org



**SHABBAT CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES:** June 7, 8:12 pm; June 14, 8:15 pm; June 21, 8:17 pm; June 28, 8:18 pm

5784 2024		JUNE					IYYAR / NISAN
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
						1 Iyyar 24 Rylan Ecker Bar Mitzvah, 3:30 p.m.  <b>Bechukotai</b>	
2 Iyyar 25 Sisterhood Annual Meeting	3 Iyyar 26	4 Iyyar 27	5 Iyyar 28 Book Club, 1:30 p.m., Nancy Cummins' house Yom Yerushalayim	6 Iyyar 29	7 Sivan 1 MCRC Shabbat service, 7:30 p.m. Rosh Chodesh Sivan	8 Sivan 2 3rd Annual Jewish Trivia Night, 6:30 p.m.  <b>Bambidar</b>	
9 Sivan 3 CEEW Annual Membership Meeting, 9 a.m.	10 Sivan 4 Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m.	11 Sivan 5 Erev Shavuot	12 Sivan 6 Shavuot	13 Sivan 7	14 Sivan 8 Cantor-led Shabbat service, 7 p.m.	15 Sivan 9 Ava Koszarek Bat Mitzvah, 10:30 a.m.  <b>Nasso</b>	
16 Sivan 10	17 Sivan 11	18 Sivan 12	19 Sivan 13	20 Sivan 14	21 Sivan 15 Cantor-led Shabbat service, 7 p.m.	22 Sivan 16 Sxdni Small B'Mitzvah, 10:30 a.m.  <b>Beha'alotcha</b>	
23 Sivan 17	24 Sivan 18	25 Sivan 19	26 Sivan 20	27 Sivan 21	28 Sivan 22 Member-led Shabbat service, 7 p.m.	29 Sivan 23  <b>Sh'lach</b>	

Calendar dates, holidays, and candle lighting times are from [hebc.com](http://hebc.com).  
Check the CEEW calendar for the most current information.