

A MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD

This message is coming from our entire Board of Directors because we consider the content so critical.

TIME IS RUNNING OUT! The future of our cemeteries has never been in greater jeopardy.

By vote of its membership, Congregation Shaarey Tefilah is closing its doors and selling its building because the former Jewish Community that supported the synagogue has vanished. Although regular services are no longer

being conducted, a small group continues to daven in the lobby (to economize on operational costs), and the synagogue's leaders continue to light the Yahrzeit memorial lights.

Despite the vote for closure and the anticipated sale of the building, it remains the responsibility of Congregation Shaarey Tefilah to care for its cemeteries forever. Like many other cemeteries nationwide owned by synagogues and fraternal lodges, the prices set for plots and perpetual care never approached what the true cost of cemetery maintenance would be --- even without considering the cost of expected and unexpected repairs. Congregation Shaarey Tefilah is committed to providing for its cemeteries forever --- and your donations have never been more important toward achieving this goal.

It is unquestionably a challenging time to be selling any real estate, and it is also a difficult time for most people to be as charitable as they would like to be. It is also important for us to tell you that --- despite our efforts and your generosity --- Friends for Preservation of Middlesex County Jewish

Cemeteries, Inc. has not raised even enough funds to pay for ongoing cemetery maintenance.

Thus, we are reaching out to you now to (1) thank you for your past support, (2) ask you to be as generous as you can be now, and (3) consider making a major donation if you can afford to do so. Those of us with roots in the Perth Amboy Jewish Community are aging and declining in numbers. Many of our original supporters are no longer alive, and we face the reality that none of us will be here forever to carry on this mission.

If you have donated before, we thank you and hope you will donate again, being as generous as you can afford to be. If you haven't donated before, this will be a wonderful time to send a donation to honor the memory of those interred in our cemeteries. **TIME IS RUNNING OUT, AND YOUR DONATIONS HAVE NEVER BEEN MORE IMPORTANT!**



Mona Shangold, Norma Jacobson Messing, Daniel Chazin, Bardin Levavy, Barry Rosengarten, Shep Sewitch, and Gary Shangold



Top - Hebrew Fraternity Cemetery in Hopelawn, NJ

Bottom - Congregation Shaarey Tefilah Cemetery in Perth Amboy, NJ

PERTH AMBOY JEWISH COMMUNITY HISTORY BOOK UPDATE:

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOOK ORGANIZERS

As we prepared to finalize the book for publication, interest and enthusiasm grew at an exponential rate, and so many of you sent us additional stories, photos, and tributes that were too good and too important to be left out --- even if adding them would delay publication of the book. Several families are still planning and/or finalizing their tributes, and we plan to include them too. If you haven't sent --- or even considered --- a 1-page or 2-page Family Tribute Page, it is not too late to do so. Please contact Marilyn Millet Goldberg for more information and/or assistance with your tribute plans. In a few months (probably in December 2011 or January 2012), we will mail --- by both USPS and e-mail --- all information for purchasing books --- including detailed instructions, pricing options, an order form, and our expected publication date. If we don't have your e-mail address, please send it to Marilyn Millet Goldberg at marilynmgpa@aol.com or 609-655-2351. We know you will be glad we delayed publication to include this additional material.

Marilyn Millet Goldberg, Jane Sanders Leal, Mona Shangold, and Robert Spector



CEMETERY TOURS

Our final 2011 Cemetery Tour took place on Sunday, September 18. We plan to continue our tours throughout 2012 and will try to schedule them at times that will be convenient for you. Please notify us --- as far in advance as possible --- of your reunion and travel plans, so that we can select the best tour dates for you. We always visit the Hebrew Fraternity, Shaarey Tefilah, and Beth Mordecai Cemeteries on our tours, and we will be happy to visit other cemeteries too, especially in an effort to help you locate your relatives' graves. If you can't visit in person, we will be glad to visit for you and will place stones on the graves too. Please contact us for more information through our Web site at

www.friendsofjewishcemeteries.org

by phone at
856-222-1418

or by e-mail to

friends@friendsofjewishcemeteries.org

Our 2012 Cemetery Tour schedule will be on our Web site by December 31, 2011, along with other news updates. We will also send the 2012 schedule to all those for whom we have e-mail addresses. If you aren't receiving our e-mail updates and would like to be on our distribution list, please send your e-mail address to us at friends@friendsofjewishcemeteries.org.

FLORIDA REUNION BREAKFAST

Following the success of our past Perth Amboy Reunions in Boca, we are planning our 4th Florida Reunion Breakfast on Sunday, February 12 (2012) in Boca Raton. Our first three reunions attracted enthusiastic groups of Florida residents (both year-round and winter only), as well as many who live elsewhere and visited specifically for this social event. All attendees had strong Perth Amboy roots and enjoyed the opportunity to reminisce with old friends and meet new ones. If you are interested in attending our next Florida Reunion Breakfast (in February 2012), please contact us for more information through our Web site at www.friendsofjewishcemeteries.org, by phone at 856-222-1418, or by e-mail to friends@friendsofjewishcemeteries.org.



(Top Right) *Eva Bloom Schlachter*
(Center Right) *Janet Parnes*
(Bottom Right) *Sheldon Chuse, Shep Sewitch*

THANKING OUR DONORS

The following list includes all donations received and processed between February 26, 2011 and September 14, 2011. All donations received prior to February 26, 2011 were listed in previous issues of THE ETERNAL VINE. All donations received after September 14, 2011 will be listed in the next issue of THE ETERNAL VINE. We gratefully acknowledge generous donations from the following individuals:

- Anonymous (2)
Susan Kleimer Ast – *in memory of the Linett and Kleimer Families*
S. E. Bergner and Lynn Bergner
Rhoda Berkow
Harriet Robinson Bussel – *in memory of the Kelsey, Kaplowitz, and Greenspan Families*
Rita Ruderman Chazin – *in memory of Eta and Tevel Ruderman; in memory of Dorothy and Harry Ruderman*
Betty Margaretten Cohen – *in memory of Morris and Pauline Margaretten and Lena Avchen*
Ira and Cathy Cohen – *in memory of Benjamin, Matilda, and Milton Moslovitz*
Ronald Deutsch
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Barbara Greenspan
Susan Griffis – *in memory of Pauline and Morris Margaretten*
Murray and Annellen Fine Guth – *in memory of their friend Nancy Rosengarten Metzendorf*
Bert and Sol James – *in memory of Rhoda Chazin Faffer Mendelson and Samuel Faffer*
Joan Fishkoff Kasner
Phyllis Davidson Lavitt – *in memory of Abraham and Dora Davidson*
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Jim and Merle Kaplowitz LoNano – *in memory of Leo, Betty, and Barry Kaplowitz*
Jill Weitzen MacDonald – *in memory of Clifford Weitzen*
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Marvin Mankowitz – *in memory of Bess Mankowitz*
Norma Jacobson Messing – *in memory of Nancy Rosengarten Metzendorf; in honor of Shep Sewitch's 90th birthday; in memory of Solis James*
Marcia Robinson Metzger
Judith Klein Mishell – *in memory of Rebecca and Leo Klein*
Eileen Dessel Newmier
Janet Parnes
Eleanor Pavlovsky and Family – *in memory of Francis Pavlovsky*
Penny Sussman Pincus – *in memory of Hy Sussman*
Herman and Anita Fuchs Price
Carol Levine Roberts – *in memory of Ralph Copleman; in memory of Francis Pavlovsky*
- Maryrose (Posey) Margaretten Rogolsky – *in memory of the Perth Amboy Margaretten's*
Arthur and Carol Miller Roth – *in memory of Nancy Rosengarten Metzendorf; in memory of Dr. Joseph Harris; in honor of Shep Sewitch's 90th birthday*
Henry Safran – *in memory of Ira W. Safran*
Powell Saks – *in memory of Harriet Saks*
Rose Sandler – *in memory of Sam Sandler and Family*
Hannah Miller Sarnoff – *in memory of the Miller and Levinson Families*
Sheila Stess Schechtman, Diane Stess-Kirschner, and families – *in memory of Dr. Leo Stess on his Yahrzeit; in memory of Jeanette Stess on her Yahrzeit; in memory of Alta Davidson on her Yahrzeit*
Sheila Stess Schechtman, Larry Schechtman, and David Schechtman – *in memory of Melvyn Schechtman on his Yahrzeit*
Elaine Toborowsky Schneiderman – *in memory of Carl and Elizabeth Toborowsky*
Jeanette Schoenbaum – *in memory of the Spivack Family*
Gary Shangold – *in memory of Nancy Rosengarten Metzendorf; in memory of Muriel (Bosh) Greenhouse and Kenneth Greenhouse; in honor of Shep Sewitch's 90th birthday*
Mona Shangold – *in memory of Nancy Rosengarten Metzendorf; in memory of Muriel (Bosh) Greenhouse and Kenneth Greenhouse; in honor of Shep Sewitch's 90th birthday; in memory of Solis James*
Harold and Ethel Sher
Myron P. Shevell – *in memory of Nathan Shevell, Lillian Shevell, Daniel Shevell, Arlene Shevell, and Jon Shevell*
Clare Simon Shulman – *in memory of Leah and Abe Simon and Family*
Edna Kesselhaut Siegel – *in memory of grandparents Max and Sarah Sacarny and cousin Sarah Sacarny*
Freda Silverman
Melvin Silverman
Lydia Ginzberg Singer – *in honor of Kenny Mirkin's and Mona Shangold's birthdays*
Marcia Weinstein Stern – *in memory of Jerome Reing*
Bob Taber – *in memory of the Toborowsky and Barkan Families*
Murray Toborowsky – *in memory of the Toborowsky and Sher Families*
Robert Toborowsky – *in memory of Carl and Betty Toborowsky*
Stewart and Jane Perlin Weinstein – *in memory of Matthew Perlin*
Beryl Toborowsky Wild – *in memory of the Toborowsky and Sher Families*
Elaine Sacarny Zack
Joanne and Stanley Zimmerman
Steven Zwickel

Friends for Preservation of Middlesex County Jewish Cemeteries, Inc.

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www.friendsofjewishcemeteries.org

Board of Directors:

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SHAAREY TEFILOH CONTENTS SALE: OCT. 23

After serving the Orthodox Jewish community of Perth Amboy for 108 years, Congregation Shaarey Tefilah is closing its doors forever and hopefully will be selling its building soon. Most of its treasured contents will be sold at a special sale, which will be held at the synagogue on **Sunday, October 23 at 10:00 am.**



Most furniture and items structurally attached to the building (e.g., stained glass windows) will remain to be sold with the building. A permanent home for the bronze memorial tablets is planned. The disposition of all items will follow Orthodox Halacha. More details about this event, including a list of the items that will be sold, will be posted on our website (www.friendsofjewishcemeteries.org – select “News and Events” on the left menu) in advance of the event.

Although advance registration is not required, anyone interested in attending and/or purchasing specific items is strongly encouraged to notify the synagogue in advance (through our website at www.friendsofjewishcemeteries.org --- select “Contact Us,” and provide your name, contact information, and any specific items of interest to you).



SEARCHING FOR FAMILIES

The monuments of the following 42 individuals have fallen ---- many during the past 2 months: Sadie Allen, Jennie Baum, Morris Bendet, Liza Buncher, Samuel Buncher, Abraham Davidson, Myer Drourr, Anna Fisher, Frances Fine, Ethel Kiel, Julia Guthoff, Samuel Kaplan, Mr. D. Kramer, Dora Kramer, Philip Kramer, Dora Levine, Anna Melman, Sylvia Packer, Yetta Paley, Sarah Plane, Morris Plane, Murray Risch, Rose Risch, Dora Sher Rosenthal, Ida Sher, I. Z. Shipiro, Barney Silverman, Rebecca Slobodien, Samuel Slossberg, Sarah Smerling, Leah Spivack, William Stolz, Louis Sussman, May Tarry, Samuel Trauberman, David Weiss, Jake Wilner, Gertrude Winograd, Joseph Winograd, Lenore Winograd, Hyman Young, and Anna Zagoreen. Please contact us if you are related to any of these individuals or if you know anyone who is. We are eager to locate any family members so that we can discuss arrangements for repairs.

(Top Left) - *Toppled monuments at Hebrew Fraternity Cemetery*

(Left) - *Toppled monuments at Shaarey Tefilah Cemetery*