



the Year in Review -- Do you remember?

Our Congregation is blessed with enormous wealth in the form of members who work hard to support our activities and also who care about their commitment to Judaism enough to choose to celebrate their Bar and Bat Mitzvah with us. This year's Newsletter is somewhat abbreviated and does not display all the wonderful details of everyone's activities but it does include some of the most momentous occasions we have had the pleasure of celebrating.

What a year this has been!

Yasher Koach to you all!! You are inspirations to all of us!

Our annual meeting was November 4, 2007. It is traditional to start our year in review from that point, so I won't even bother to mention our wonderful Sukkah and services at the Myre's or our fabulous celebration at the YMCA for Simchat Torah with Kona's Traveling Jewish Wedding Band, I will just jump right to...

NOVEMBER--We began to advertise our Grand Shabbaton with **Reb Zalman** and **Eve Ilsen** to be held in February. The project was best summed up as "a flea giving birth to an elephant." We formed small committees and, with the help of master Shabbaton marketer, **Rabbi David Zaslow (Reb David)**, we started to receive applications from as far as the East Coast and parts of Canada. A small ensemble from KBS once again participated in the Interfaith concert the night before Thanksgiving. KBS friend Rabbi Natan Segal was with for a very interesting Kabbalat Shabbat.

DECEMBER--Shabbaton plans continued. The KBS Chanukah party was festive and well-attended, as always. We thank **Joyce Schiffer** and **Joyce Jakl** for organizing the silent auction. Kona's Traveling Jewish Wedding Band played and **Arnie Rabin** graced us with a magic act. Rabbinic student **Anna Gray** and her husband, lay leader and guitarist **Dave Beroll** conducted both of our December services. They were a talented and inspired/inspiring duo.

JANUARY--As we counted down to the Shabbaton, we met with distinguished local Hawaiians, purchased items for the shuk (on-site market at the Shabbaton), created official T-shirts and ordered **Reb Zalman's** books. We celebrated TuB'shvat at the home of **Trina** and **Shai Yerlick**. Annual visitor and lay leader, **Priscilla Kostiner**, officiated at our Kabbalat Shabbat service at the end of the month with her grandchildren assisting.

FEBRUARY--It was an amazing month. **Reb David** was in Waimea for a dynamic Kabbalat Shabbat on February 8. The next morning, he led services for us in the Secret Garden at which time **Reb Zalman** came up to the Torah and gave us commentary on the graphology. In the time he spent here, **Reb Zalman** spoke at UH Hilo, attended a sing-along, and spoke at **Karen Brier's** home. **Eve Ilsen** led a wonderful study group with the WaKoBes for Rosh Chodesh. For President's weekend, we had the Shabbaton. It started off with a mikvah. We met in the lobby of the King Kamehama Hotel. Under the paintings of the Hawaiian royalty one could see about 65 Jews in bathing suits. As we were respectfully brought to the waters edge, we were greeted with the most unexpected words: "Welcome Home!" The dialogue between our warm, caring local Hawaiian people and the local and visiting community began on this high note and culminated with a panel discussion on Sunday night. In between, we had a short Kabbalat Shabbat service with **Reb Zalman** and his students followed by a dessert buffet managed by the WaKoBes. The next day we had services, a luncheon and seminars during the day. There were over a dozen Rabbis, Cantors, Rabbinic students and other special Judaic teachers in attendance. Havdalah was followed by storytelling by **Devorah Zaslow** and the Jazz stylings of **Eve Ilsen**. Sunday began with a powerful morning daven led by Reb Zalman. There were morning activities and a closing circle, followed by more study sessions and the amazing

evening with **Reb Zalman, Eve Isen, Keala Ching and Mikahala Roy**. The week after the Shabbaton, we had a special Saturday service in Holualoa where **Richard Chamberlin** read his first Haftarah in honor of his fiftieth birthday. We met on the last night of the month for Kabbalat Shabbat making this, perhaps, the most exciting month in KBS history!

MARCH--The month got off to a great start with our first service being the Bat Mitzvah of **Becca Barrett** at the Fairmont Orchid on March 1. We didn't quite get it together to have a KBS Purim party, so a group of our folks went to the Purim celebration of a few visiting rabbis. We celebrated Shabbat Parah with Torah and Haftarah readings, along with two different drashot--one on the parsha one on the red cow theme.

APRIL--We were back at the Keauhou Beach Resort for our community Seder. The KBS Community Seder is the only Passover celebration I've ever attended where people talk about how quickly the time passed and actually hang around after it's over. It definitely rates four stars.

May--We began the month with special services to honor Yom HaShoa. We had special presentations and readings on Friday and a very powerful drash on remembering the Holocaust. At the end of the month we started to query the congregation about their interest in study sessions with visiting rabbis.

JUNE--On June 4, **Shira Salzman** was born and we kvelled with mother and father. We had a wonderful gathering to celebrate Shavuot and study. We were very saddened to learn of the passing of KBS congregant **Roy Sharfin** on June 18. (See the tribute in the **In Memoriam** section). At the end of the month, our good friend **Cantor Ken Cohen** came to lead our services.

JULY--We said goodbye to our good friends **Joyce and Michael Jakl**. We hope they will come back and see us soon. We officially welcomed **Noah and Elana Salzman's** daughter, **Shira**, to our congregation with a baby naming and blessing in the Torah at our regular services. Afterward, we gathered at the home of **Aviva, Yehudah and Ben Plaut** to celebrate further.

AUGUST--As part of our regular weekend, we celebrated the adult Bat Mitzvah of **Alice Bratton (Aliyah Leah)**. The service included a powerful priestly blessing in the feminine form by Cantor Ken Cohen. We enjoyed music by the trio of Yehudah-Elana-Noah and a special ensemble from Kona's Traveling Jewish Wedding Band.

WHAT A YEAR!

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Mahalo and Todah Rabah

We send a special *todah rabah* to everyone that contributed to our Grand Shabbaton. We also received a number of generous donations this year. We are very grateful to our supporters.

Trope Geek Shari wants to send a special shout out to her fellow 5768 Torah leyners: **Marilyn Anderson, Ken Cohen, Richard Chamberlin, Paul Janes, Aviva Plaut, Ben Plaut, Yehudah Plaut, Elana Salzman, Noah Salzman, Neil Soicher and Judi Steinman**. Thank you for coming up to the bimah. Reading from the Torah is an almost indescribable honor. Just ask **Becca** and **Alice**, our 5768 B'nei Mitzvah.

HEBREW AND TORAH STUDY (HATS)

Call **Shari Berman** at 322-0659 for information. Activities include a Hebrew School program for children and adults and Bar/Bat Mitzvah preparation classes, also for children and adults. These classes are conducted in Waimea and in Kona (Holualoa) as the need dictates. If you would like to learn to read Hebrew specifically to be able to follow the prayers better, please contact us. We have participated in a free course through the **National Jewish**

Outreach Program. We can do so again if we have the interest. If you want to study siddur Hebrew, please contact us immediately. Also, **Trina Yerlick** is teaching Modern Hebrew Conversation to adults for a modest fee in a class that meets three times per month.

KBS Jewish Studies Group

Established in the summer of 2005, Kona Beth Shalom has a small study group made up of approximately twenty adults and teens. The KBS Jewish Studies group gathers for small services and discussions. Alice Bratton has chosen to take over the group's leadership and is planning activities for 5769. We have a Yahoo list for group activities. Write to us at KonaBethShalom@gmail.com and ask to be added to the list.

WaKoBeS (Wahines/Women of Kona Beth Shalom)

Contact **Jan Rae** (325-4991, janiamone@aol.com) or **Ruth Ader** (325-0008, rader36@yahoo.com) for more information on activities and get-togethers. The **WaKoBes** help organize many key events. It is due to their hard work that we always have a lovely break-the-fast after Yom Kippur.

AlteKaKoBeS ("Wise Men"/Kane of Kona Beth Shalom)

Contact **Ernie Knapp** (714 423-0601, ebkeze@aol.com) for information.

North Hawaii Chavurah

Contact **Vivienne Aronowitz** in Waimea (885-3217, aronowitz@gmail.com) for information.

HOMELANI CEMETERY

With the deepest humility and with a commitment to honor the memories of our departed ancestors, we have purchased a section of the Homelani Cemetery in Hilo to use as a Jewish Cemetery. As Jews, although the specifics of our practices may differ, we commit ourselves to the respectful care of those sacred grounds and the trust that has been bestowed upon us. It has or will have physical boundaries, a *mechitsa*, that sets it off from its surroundings, making it holy for Jews. It is considered consecrated ground where Jewish burial practices and customs are observed. It is owned by our Jewish community through the auspices of KBS and it has rules and regulations governed by the KBS Board of Directors and the Cemetery Committee. Just as synagogues preserve Jewish continuity in life, so do Jewish cemeteries preserve Jewish continuity after life has ended.

Jerry & Judy Rothstein are the only individuals who are interred there at this time. There are spaces for eighteen more burials. Any members of the congregation who wish to purchase burial plots in advance will be able to do so. Jewish individuals and their family members who are not KBS members may also purchase plots although the cost will be higher. Advance purchases will be less costly than last minute arrangements. Burial in the cemetery is restricted to individuals who are Jewish and their family members who may or may not be Jewish.

You may contact **Dr. Barry Blum** (tel: 808 322-6004, or e-mail: drblum@aloha.net) for more information. Our gratitude to **Barry** who along with his wife, **Gloria Blum**, attended a chevra kadisha conference a year ago to familiarize themselves with the various customs of burial arrangements. We appreciate the information they have shared with us. We also

thank **Marilyn Anderson** for her tireless phone calls and negotiations with the cemetery.

NEW YAHRZEIT REMINDER SERVICE

Kona Beth Shalom would like to give our members the opportunity to receive a reminder of their loved ones' Yahrzeit dates. If you are interested, please let me know the date of death. It can either be the Hebrew date or the regular calendar date which will be converted to the Hebrew date.

Send the following information to **Ruth Ader** -- rader36@yahoo.com

YMembers name and e-mail address

YName and date of death of the person to be remembered.

Get well soon

Continue to get well

R'Fuah Sheleima

- **Marilyn Anderson**
- **Lorraine Highkin**
- **Erwin Myhre**, getting stronger every day.
- **Nancy Satz**

In Memoriam

**May their memories always be a blessing
for their friends, their families, and for all of us.**

ELLEN (GIMPEL) KIMIATEK was born June 19, 1942, in Springfield, Ill. As a child, she began studying ballet while living in Chicago, and by high school, she was performing professionally. She toured extensively with Ruth Page's Chicago Opera Ballet (later the Lyric Opera Ballet) and assumed her professional name, Ellen Everett. In 1964, Ellen joined American Ballet Theatre where she rose to principal dancer and was featured in such ballets as Pillar of Fire, Fancy Free, Petrouchka, Les Patineurs, Lilac Garden, The Nutcracker, Swan Lake, Peter and the Wolf, Les Noces, Rodeo, Coppelia, Giselle, Etudes, and Pulcinella Variations. Ellen also danced in the Broadway production of "On A Clear Day You Can See Forever," and as Louise in summer stock productions of "Carousel" in Kansas City and St. Louis. After taking a brief break from dancing to have her first daughter, Mrs. Kimiatek returned to the American Ballet Theatre before leaving in 1974 to raise her family. In 1984, she and her husband moved from Port Jefferson, New York, to Brookline, and then Wayland, Massachusetts, and for about 20 years she taught dance at a ballet workshop in Sudbury. In Wayland, she was active in the community, studying Hebrew at Temple Shir Tikva, where she celebrated her bat mitzvah. She was also dance director every year for the temple's Purim play. At age 55, she fulfilled a lifelong dream by earning a bachelor's degree in English from Regis College, graduating summa cum laude, and even though she had retired from professional dancing, she continued to exercise her mind and body by practicing yoga, even when she was sick. She was also a docent at the Danforth Museum of Art in Framingham, giving tours to schools groups, and was an amateur painter. She passed on April 2, following a six-year battle with ovarian cancer. She left her husband, Herbert of Wayland; three daughters, Jennifer Hunnewell

of Boston, Marianna Silverman of Porstmouth, New Hampshire, and Danielle of New York City; a brother, Joel Gimpel of Kailua-Kona; a sister, Martha Miller of Greensboro, N.C.; and two grandchildren. *Joel Gimpel*

YOLI HILLMAN-NOY was born in 1925 in Sighet, Transylvania, in an area that was sometimes Hungary and sometimes Romania. Liberated from Bergen-Belsen in 1945, married and immigrated to the United States in 1947. She was widowed at an early age, rendering her a single mother of three young children. She flew solo until 1980 when a former adolescent love lured her to Israel where she spent her final years. Despite compounded tragedies and loss, she lived a life free of bitterness. May her laugh outlast us all! *Eva Hillman*

ROY SHARFIN, 65, of San Cristobal, New Mexico, passed away on June 18, 2008. He was a longtime Taos Dentist and 5th grade science teacher at Enos Garcia Elementary School in New Mexico and also taught science in an elementary school in Ecuador. Roy and his wife Sharon moved to Big Island about two years ago and joined Temple Kona Beth Shalom where they were active members. Roy enjoyed outdoor activities and always had a big hug and a booming laugh to share with all he met. He touched lives all over the world with his ever inquiring mind, his rampant curiosity and his innate humanness. He will be missed dearly by all who knew him. He is survived by his wife Sharon, sons, Peter Sharfin (Cynthia), of San Cristobal, John Sharfin (Antoinette) of Kona, Hawaii, brother, Paul Sharfin (Myra) of Columbus Ohio. *Yehudah Plaut*

A Pur Verter from the Congregation's President

Shaloha

So, here we are again. Another year has passed. Condensing the recounting of the year into a mere 1057 words was no easy feat. It was some year.

While we learned some valuable lessons and might not follow the same exact plan again, the Grand Shabbaton was a success in more ways that we can count, or even know. Granted, it wasn't the fundraiser that it might have been, but there are many other measures of success. Interestingly enough, just two weeks ago, after hearing that Kona Beth Shalom had to subsidize the Shabbaton to a degree, a kind gentleman who manages grants for a foundation prepared a generous grant for us to offset this dip in our operating budget. The discussion came about quite by chance; a serendipitous miracle of sorts. For this and other reasons, I strongly feel that the Shabbaton is continuing to give to us. It opened up a dialogue with our Hawaiian brothers and sisters and that is a blessing beyond any measure. We look forward to working together again soon. The gathering brought many people together. A friend happily recounted how she was reunited with people from Oregon whom she hadn't seen in twenty years, for example. One of Reb Zalman's books is entitled "Jewish with Feeling." After meeting Reb Zalman and Eve it is easy to see how they have inspired so many people to begin to "feel" again. My wish for Kona Beth Shalom for 5769 is that we begin to reach out and touch the tremendous untapped greater Jewish community that we know lies hidden on the Big Island. May a few of those people find us and find a place with us in the next year.

Once again, I wish to thank those of you who help set up and clean up after our monthly services and all of the board and committee members that have organized activities throughout the past year. If you are reading this and would like to become more involved, I ask that you go with that thought. We have positions available on the Board. We would love to have some new folks who share a different perspective.

I am grateful to **Rabbi Daniel Lev** and the **Rebbetzin, Malka Walkover** for agreeing to join us once again for 5769 High Holy Days. Rabbi Lev has been so very generous with his time. He has been writing us and calling us to make every effort to make this year's High Holy Days even more dynamic. We hope to see you at all of the upcoming events.

B'shalom v'ahava,

In peace and love

Shari

**May 5769 be a sweet year for all of us. May it be a year of good health, peace and prosperity. On behalf of all the members of Congregation Kona Beth Shalom,
--- L'Shana Tovah Tikateivu!!!**

That's the news, folks.

This is the story of your Congregation, Kona Beth Shalom.

If you like what you read about here, please join us for the coming year.

If you have new ideas, share them with us.

Send in your Membership Application / Contribution Form now.

We are not complete without you!

