



# 5785 Annual Newsletter

## CELEBRATE THE OCT 2024 HIGH HOLIDAYS WITH US!

Our HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICES are in-person at the NEW THOUGHT CENTER OF HAWAII (NTC)  
 81-6587 Mamalahoa Hwy, Kealahou, and also on Zoom unless otherwise indicated  
 This year Cantor Jack Chomsky returns from Israel to lead our services

<b>KBS Annual Meeting</b> <i>followed by monthly Sep. Board Meeting (Zoom)</i>	<b>SUN morning</b>	<b>Sep 8</b>	<b>10 am</b>
<b>Shabbat</b> <i>at NTC: followed by Kiddush and potluck</i>	<b>SAT morning</b>	<b>Sep 21</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>
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<b>Erev Rosh HaShanah</b> <i>At NTC: followed by Kiddush with apples &amp; honey</i>	<b>WED evening</b>	<b>Oct 2</b>	<b>6 pm</b>
<b>Rosh HaShanah</b> <i>at NTC: followed by Kiddush and potluck</i>	<b>THU morning</b>	<b>Oct 3</b>	<b>10 am</b>
<b>Tashlich &amp; Havdalah</b> <i>Location to be announced</i>	<b>(TBA)</b>	<b>Oct (TBA)</b>	<b>(TBA)</b>
<b>Discussions with Cantor Chomsky</b> <i>The discussion topics will be announced. These will follow potlucks at the home of Yehudah &amp; Aviva Plaut during the week between Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. Call 808 322-9860 to RSVP and for directions</i>	<b>(TBA)</b>	<b>Oct (TBA)</b>	<b>5 pm</b>
<b>Shabbat Shuva</b> <i>at NTC: followed by Kiddush and potluck</i>	<b>SAT morning</b>	<b>Oct 5</b>	<b>10:30 am</b>
<b>Kol Nidre</b> <i>at NTC</i>	<b>FRI evening</b>	<b>Oct 11</b>	<b>6 pm</b>
<b>Yom Kippur</b>	<b>SAT all day</b>	<b>Oct 12</b>	
<b>Shacharit (morning service)</b>			<b>10 am - 1 pm</b>
<b>Mid-afternoon discussion of Jonah</b>			<b>~2 - 3 pm</b>
<b>Minchah Torah Service</b>			<b>3:30 pm</b>
<b>Yizkor</b>			<b>4:00 pm</b>
<b>Neilah</b>			<b>5:50 pm</b>
<b>Havdalah</b> <i>At NTC: followed by break-the-fast with lox &amp; bagels + potluck</i>			<b>Sunset at 6:20 pm</b>
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<b>Shabbat &amp; Simchat Torah</b> <i>at NTC: followed by Kiddush and potluck</i>	<b>SAT morning</b>	<b>Oct 26</b>	<b>10:00 am</b>

Seats at all the High Holiday Services are included with Congregation Kona Beth Shalom membership.  
 Non-members who wish to attend are asked to make a contribution to help defray the costs of conducting the services.  
**No one is turned away for inability to contribute.**

## September 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Sep. 1	<b>Sep. 2</b> Labor Day	Sep. 3	Sep. 4	Sep. 5	Sep. 6	Sep. 7 <b>10 am</b> Torah Study
<b>Sep. 8 10 am</b> KBS Annual + Sep. Board Mtg	Sep. 9	Sep. 10	Sep. 11	Sep. 12	Sep. 13	Sep. 14 <b>10 am</b> Torah Study
Sep. 15	Sep. 16	Sep. 17	Sep. 18	Sep. 19	Sep. 20	<b>Sep. 21 10:30 am</b> Shabbat service & potluck
Sep. 22	Sep. 23	Sep. 24	Sep. 25	Sep. 26	Sep. 27	Sep. 28 <b>10 am</b> Torah Study
Sep. 29	Sep. 30					

☒ indicates Zoom only

## October 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		Oct. 1	<b>Oct. 2 6 pm</b> Rosh HaShanah Eve Apples & Honey	<b>Oct. 3 10 am</b> Rosh HaShanah Potluck	Oct. 4	<b>Oct. 5 10:30 am</b> Shabbat Shuva service & Potluck
<b>Oct. 6 10 am</b> Board Mtg	Oct. 7	Oct. 8	Oct. 9	Oct. 10	<b>Oct. 11 6 pm</b> Kol Nidre	<b>Oct. 12 10 am</b> Yom Kippur
Oct. 13	Oct. 14	Oct. 15	Oct. 16	Oct. 17 <i>Sukkot</i>	Oct. 18 <i>Sukkot</i>	Oct. 19 <b>10 am</b> <i>Sukkot</i> Torah Study
Oct. 20 <i>Sukkot</i>	Oct. 21 <i>Sukkot</i>	Oct. 22 <i>Sukkot</i>	Oct. 23 <i>Sukkot</i>	Oct. 24 <i>Shmini Atzeret</i>	Oct. 25 <i>Simchat Torah</i>	<b>Oct. 26 10:30 am</b> Shabbat and Simchat Torah Celebration
Oct. 27	Oct. 28	Oct. 29	Oct. 30	Oct. 31		

☒ indicates Zoom only

For all potlucks: no pork or shellfish please

The **prayer book** used during High Holiday Services (Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur) is called a "*machzor*" (מחזור). It means "cycle"; the root (חזר) means "to return." The *machzor* is a specialized form of the *siddur* (the prayer book for weekday and Shabbat services). This year we will again use "**Mishkan HaNefesh: Machzor for the Days of Awe**," a two-volume set, one for Rosh HaShanah, one for Yom Kippur. KBS has purchased 50 of these sets for in-person use during the High Holidays. We invite everyone to consider a donation to help defray the cost of this purchase. You may wish to honor your loved ones with a bookplate (an "Ex Libris" inscription pasted inside the front cover).

For those attending on Zoom only, you will likely want to have your own *machzor*. The Kindle version costs only about \$20 for the pair. You can buy that online and then use it at home while attending KBS High Holidays services on Zoom.



## Cantor Jack Chomsky



Jack Chomsky returns to Kona to lead KBS High Holiday services. Cantor Chomsky served as Cantor of Congregation Tifereth Israel, a Conservative congregation in Columbus, Ohio for his entire 38 year career. He retired in 2020 and he and his wife, Susan Gellman, moved to Tel Aviv, Israel. Susan is a retired attorney and very active as an actor and in other aspects of theater.

Cantor Chomsky was a community activist throughout (and beyond) his career. He served as President of the Cantors Assembly, and was deeply involved from the beginning of his career in making it possible for women to become Cantors in the Conservative Movement and admitted to the Cantors Assembly. He was deeply involved in interfaith work with Muslims, Christians and other faith groups, and conducted choirs that performed Jewish music, including in Bulgaria and Israel. He was a conductor in Hazamir (the International Jewish High School Choir), and led a group of about a dozen cantors and others on a solidarity trip to the Jewish community of Uganda.

Cantor Chomsky is a graduate of Brown University and the Jewish Theological Seminary. He and Susan are the parents of Ben (married to Melissa), who lives in San Diego, and Addie (married to Sahar, parents of Will), who lives in Tel Aviv. The whole family is engaged in supporting the attempts to maintain democracy in the State of Israel.

Cantor Chomsky has recorded a video of Psalm 27 which is recited daily in the evening and morning from the first of Elul through the entire holiday season. The melody by Diane Peters (from Jack's congregation) is soothing and comfortable, one of yearning and hope. [Here's a link to that video.](#)



### CONGREGATION KONA BETH SHALOM ANNUAL MEETING

**The KBS Annual Membership Meeting** will be conducted via Zoom on **Sunday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 10 am**. We will send out the Zoom instructions by email to all KBS members prior to the meeting. At the meeting we'll elect Trustees to our Board and Officers of the Congregation. We will also discuss **plans for KBS for the coming year** and if you have suggestions, come to the meeting. **We are actively seeking new members for our Board.** If you are interested in joining our Board, email **Barry Blum** ([bonedoc.bb@gmail.com](mailto:bonedoc.bb@gmail.com)) before the meeting and then be sure to attend the meeting! Our present Board is shown below with the expiration dates of the trustees' three-year terms. Nominations will be accepted at this meeting. The maximum number of Board members is 18 (not including the immediate past president).

<u>Name of Trustee</u>	<u>Term expires</u>	<u>Name of Trustee</u>	<u>Term expires</u>
1. Vivienne Aronowitz	2026	7. Victor Greenspan	**
2. Shari Joy Berman	2025	8. Eva Pierce	Leaving Board
3. Michael Bernstone	2025	9. Heather Friedman Rivera	2025
4. Barry Blum	2025	10. Alan Silverman	2025
5. Elaine Dobinson	2024*	11. Nella Silverman	2025
6. Joel Gimpel	2026		

\*Term ending now and trustee standing for reelection. \*\*Immediate past president.

After the new Board is elected, the congregation will vote to select the new officers for the coming year. Each officer's term is one year. Current officers are:

**President:** Barry Blum (retiring)  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President:** Vic Greenspan  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President:** Sarah Kramer  
**Treasurer:** Mike Bernstone  
**Secretary:** Nella Silverman

Any active member of the congregation may stand for office. Nominations will be accepted at this meeting.

The **Annual Meeting** will be immediately followed by the **monthly September KBS Board Meeting**. All who attend the Annual Meeting are invited to stay and participate.



## WE'VE MOVED!

In 2016 KBS began our stay with **Hawaiian Queen Coffee Garden**. It may have been the most beautiful facility we ever used and we enjoyed celebrating not only Shabbat, but the High Holidays and Simchat Torah as well as other festivities there. We have always appreciated the *aloha* from their staff. Several months ago we learned that the owners of Hawaiian Queen decided to renovate the facility and they asked us and their other tenant to leave. We researched our community and learned that we would be welcome at the **New Thought Center of Hawaii (NTCH)**. As it happens, we have had warm links with NTCH for several decades. Two of the founders of KBS, **Jerry & Judy Rothstein** (z"l) used to serve on their Board and **Morty Breier** (z"l), who used to be our own vice-president, was president of the Board of NTCH.

Last month the KBS Board reached the decision that when we left Hawaiian Queen we would move to New Thought. Our first event to take place there is a Shabbat Service on Saturday morning, August 24. **New Thought Center** is a lovely facility in Kealahou at Pualani Terrace on the *makai* (ocean) side of Mamalahoa Highway, just south of Discovery Antiques. Their address is [81-6587 Mamalahoa Hwy](https://www.google.com/maps/place/81-6587+Mamalahoa+Hwy,+Kealahou,+HI+96741). We look forward to **regularly celebrating Shabbat there** on Saturday mornings starting at our usual time of 10:30 am. The services will also be on Zoom. We're conducting all our **High Holiday services** there as well.



## REVERSE TASHLICH WATERFRONT CLEANUP

We have been invited to participate in a **Reverse Tashlich International Waterfront Cleanup** hosted by **Repair the Sea**. Last year, together as a community of over 4,000 individuals in 23 countries, they cleaned approximately 23,000 pounds of debris from local waterfronts and waterways! **Vivienne Aronowitz** will be organizing this event that will most likely take place on a beach in Kohala. This is tentatively scheduled for Sunday, Sep 29 at 9 am at Kawaihae Harbor. For more information contact Vivienne at [aronowitz@gmail.com](mailto:aronowitz@gmail.com).



## DID YOU KNOW AND DO YOU REMEMBER?

**Joel Gimpel**, retired attorney, President-emeritus of the Kamuela Symphony Orchestra and violinist, along with **Yehudah Plaut**, retired school librarian, songwriter and guitarist, provide musical accompaniment at every KBS Shabbat and most of our other holiday observances. Music opens the heart and soul of all who can hear it and thereby enriches the experience we all have at our gatherings.

On every Shabbat morning this past year other than when we met in person at Hawaiian Queen, **Yehudah & Aviva Plaut** have conducted an online Zoom **Weekly Torah Study** starting at 10 am. Participants from locations around the world regularly attend to discuss the *parashah* of the week (and more). These unique events began during the COVID epidemic and will continue throughout the coming year (and longer we hope!).

In **Sep - Oct of 2023** we celebrated the **High Holidays** with services at **Hawaiian Queen Coffee Garden** led by **Cantor Jack Chomsky**, who came to us from his home in Tel Aviv, and **Rabbi Shari Joy Berman** who returned to Kona from Japan where she is Special Associate Professor at Hirosaki National University School of Medicine. During that week, spirited discussions led by **Cantor Chomsky** and his wife, **Attorney Susan Gellman**, were conducted at the **Plaut's** home on the topics of "Democracy in Israel," and "Pray and Mean It."

On **Oct 4, 2023** we celebrated *Sukkot* with the dedication of a Jewish shrine at the **Paleaku Peace Gardens** in Captain Cook. The shrine is a kind of six-sided *sukkah* with a grape vine donated by **Ken Love**. This was the labor of love by **Arnold and Peter Rabin** with support from **Barry Blum**. **Rabbi Levi Gerlitzky of Chabad** attended and led us with the *lulav* and *etrog*. We placed a *mezuzah* from Israel on one of the poles and an *etrog* tree was planted nearby.

On **Oct 7**, we celebrated **Simchat Torah** preceded by Havdalah at Hawaiian Queen. **Leslie Harlib** provided music for the *HaKafot* and entertained us afterward with her song styling.

On **Oct 28**, we celebrated Shabbat at Hawaiian Queen with the **Bar Mitzvah** of **Evan Wedgwood**. Evan's mom **Jill Raznov** and dad **Tom Wedgwood** are the proud parents. **Aviva Plaut** and **Trina Yerlick** conducted the service. Evan delivered a *d'var Torah* from *parasha Lech L'cha* and we enjoyed a yummy Kiddush luncheon afterward.

On **Dec 10**, we had our **Annual Chanukah Party** at Hawaiian Queen. There were *latkes* aplenty and music by **Leslie Harlib, Joel Gimpel, Gloria & Barry Blum and Yehudah Plaut**. **Arneleo HaGadol (Arnie Rabin)** performed hilarious magic for us. **Vic Greenspan** was our *dreydl* croupier. **Barry** told the Chanukah story. We lit the candles and sang the traditional Chanukah songs. **Vivienne Aronowitz** led us in Israeli dancing and **Gloria Blum** taught everyone the Chanukah Hula.

**Priscilla Kostiner** of Portland, Oregon returned to Kona to lead our **Jan 27** Shabbat service which was also **International Holocaust Remembrance Day**.

In **February** we met **Dani** and **Carla Rotstein** and their son **Oren** (five years old). They live in **Palma, Majorca Island, Spain** and have produced a documentary film about the lesser-known Jewish history there. The film shares the widely-unknown story of the **Xuetas**, an isolated group of Jews on Majorca. In the 1400s, the Xuetas were forced to convert to Catholicism to save their lives. Today, their dark story of survival is sparking a Jewish renaissance across the community. You can view the trailer here: <http://xuetaislandthemovie.com>

In **April**, new member **Heather Friedman Rivera** was elected to the KBS Board of Trustees. Heather lives in Pahoia with her husband, cat and guinea pigs and is quite a remarkable woman. She worked as a registered nurse for over thirty years and earned J.D. and Ph.D degrees. She has written 14 books for adults and young readers and has the superpower of bionic hearing.

In **May**, **Eva Pierce** formally turned over the reins of *shomer* of **Beit HaShamayim**, our Jewish cemetery in Hilo, to Heather.

On **July 20**, we celebrated the **Bat Mitzvah** of **Ridley Claire Murray**, daughter of **Rachel (Silverman) & Jason Murray**. **Aviva Plaut** led the service along with the Ridley's cousin from Israel, **Shira Keshet**. Ridley was joined by members of her immediate family including her mom (who read from the Torah) and grandparents **Nella & Alan Silverman**. Her other grandparents, **Sue & Ross Murray**, traveled here from Ontario, Canada to join the festivities. The service took place under an event tent at Hawaiian Queen Coffee Garden. As it turned out, Ridley's Bat Mitzvah was the final KBS event of our stay at Hawaiian Queen Coffee Garden.



#### NORTH HAWAII CHAVURAH AND OTHER NEWS OF JEWS AROUND THE ISLAND

This past year has seen some big changes up north. Years ago, **Vivienne Aronowitz** established the **North Hawaii Chavurah**. They used to meet at St. James Church in Waimea on one or two Friday evenings a month. Later, the group was able to meet at "Restaurant #3" of the Mauna Kea Beach Resort.

Meanwhile, a beautiful new synagogue has been built in Waimea. **Beit Aloha Elohim (BAE)** opened and began conducting monthly Friday evening services and celebrating other Jewish holidays there. Services have been led mostly by **Cantor** and now **Rabbi Roz Barak** or **Rabbi Sydney Mintz**. The North Hawaii Chavurah has merged with BAE. **Rebecca Barnes** is their new administrator and works with Vivienne. For more information about BAE, you may contact Rebecca at: [baewaimea@gmail.com](mailto:baewaimea@gmail.com).

**Congregation Beth Or of Hilo** has started gathering together for various events: [www.bethorhilo.org](http://www.bethorhilo.org), email: [bethorhilo@gmail.com](mailto:bethorhilo@gmail.com). They meet informally on the east side of the island.

**Chabad** now has a center in Hilo as well as in Kona.



#### JEWISH COMMUNITY SERVICES

**JCS of Hawaii** is a non-profit organization guided by traditional Jewish values of *tikkun olam* (to repair the world) and *gemilut chasidim* (acts of loving-kindness). Their mission is to support and enhance Jewish life in Hawaii through communication, coordination and provision of appropriate social services to those in need. If you or someone you know is in need of assistance, or is joining our community and looking for guidance, call them at (808) 258-7121. Or send an e-mail to [admin@jcs-hi.org](mailto:admin@jcs-hi.org). JCS also organizes community hikes and other gatherings.

The JCS is also offering a support group for **COPING WITH RISING ANTISEMITISM** for Hawaii's Jewish community on Wednesday evenings, usually twice a month, at 7 pm on Zoom. RSVP to: [Kamala@jcs-hi.org](mailto:Kamala@jcs-hi.org) or call (808) 861-7801.



### OUR WEBSITE

This is the Kona Beth Shalom "Go-To" location: [www.konabethshalom.org](http://www.konabethshalom.org). Here is where you can find out what is happening with your congregation and your local Jewish community. This includes information about Shabbat and Holiday services and celebrations, Hebrew School, other educational opportunities for adults, public events, concerts and much more. You can keep track of *yahrzeits*. You can participate in Saturday morning Torah Study. You can communicate with us. Join us. Check us out.



### MISHEBEIRACH

**Marilyn Anderson, Ray Jackson, Sarah Kramer, Barbara Lewis, Jan Rae,  
Linda & Lou Harris, Goldie Lefkowitz, Jean Walzer, Sandy Wexler**

<p><i>Mi shebeirach avoteinu</i> <i>M'kor hab'racha l'imoteinu</i> May the source of strength, Who blessed the ones before us, Help us find the courage, to make our lives a blessing, And let us say, Amen.</p>	<p><i>Mi shebeirach imoteinu</i> <i>M'kor habrachah l'avoteinu</i> Bless those in need of healing, with <i>r'fuah sh'leimah</i>, The renewal of body, the renewal of spirit, And let us say, Amen. -Debbie Friedman</p>
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### BEIT HASHAMAYIM

Located within **Homelani Memorial Park** in Hilo, *Beit HaShamayim* is the only Jewish cemetery on the island. It is open to all Jewish families and persons in need, whether Jewish by birth, choice or family relationship. The Hebrew words *Beit HaShamayim* and the Hawaiian word *Homelani* each mean "Heavenly Home." For more information about Jewish burial on the Big Island, check the KBS website: [konabethshalom.org/beit-hashamayim-booklet](http://konabethshalom.org/beit-hashamayim-booklet) or contact **Dr. Barry Blum** at [bonedoc.bb@gmail.com](mailto:bonedoc.bb@gmail.com). **Heather Rivera**, who lives near Hilo, has graciously accepted the role of *shomer* of our cemetery. The mortuary we recommend because of their relative familiarity with Jewish practice is **Dodo Mortuary**, Kona: (808) 322-9592; Hilo: (808) 935-5751.



### A PUR VERTER

*A Pur Verter*, a few words, was the phrase that my Hebrew School rabbi, **R. Harry Halpern**, used to entitle his comments to his congregation at the **East Midwood Jewish Center** in Brooklyn (also Ruth Bader Ginsburg's Hebrew School). I explained the source of those words in my first Annual Newsletter, and then much to my delight I received an email from someone at the EMJC who was researching Rabbi Halpern, who found my name via an internet search. I was amazed.

My words this year are in the form more of a farewell address than an annual report. As I retire from the KBS presidency I am also considering my intentions regarding my day job as an orthopedic surgeon. Shall I retire from that? I don't yet know. I have served so long as the Chair of the Cemetery Committee I often find myself considering how people choose to pass on - not necessarily from living, but from their activities.

This is a year of great change. KBS is beginning life anew at the **New Thought Center of Hawaii**. A new synagogue **Beit Aloha Elohim** is beginning its life in Waimea. They are still seeking to find their opportunities and role on our island and they are succeeding. The **North Hawaii Chavurah** founded and shepherded by **Vivienne Aronowitz** deserves our appreciation for its role in helping BAE to get started. **Ahava 'Aina** congregation seems to be on pause. **Beth Or of Hilo** is on the rise. **Chabad** is successful in Kona and is getting going in Hilo. **Jewish Community Services of Hawaii** is increasing its presence on the Big Island. **The Weinberg Foundation** has rediscovered Jewish life in the state.

Our governor, our county mayor and one of our U.S. senators are all Jewish. I know the leaders of some of these groups and I am impressed. They are good people. These different congregations and organizations are not competing, they and we are all enriching our *Klal Yisrael*.

The saying: "If you want to make God laugh, tell Him your plans," derived from the old Yiddish proverb: *Mann tracht, un Gott lacht*, keeps me in line when I try to predict the future, but it does not stop me from feeling optimistic.

I have been wonderfully heartened by the B'nei Mitzvot conducted by Kona Beth Shalom. I have seen young people decide for themselves that they wanted a Bat or Bar Mitzvah. They often seemed terrified at first but then they worked hard to do what was required and right before my very eyes, they grew up. They rose to the occasion(s). They matured. They embraced their Judaism before the loving eyes of their families and their Jewish congregation. Their parents also reconnected to their Judaism with a gusto that I don't think they ever expected.

Judaism has a history of choosing separation, *mechitza*. Traditional Judaism separates men from women during worship. *Haredi* Jews choose to dress differently from others not because they particularly like 17<sup>th</sup> century fashion, but just because it keeps them separate. We separate milk from meat, *traif* from kosher, Shabbat from the rest of the week. Reform Judaism sought to break down many of those separations and Jewish Renewal has removed even more barriers intentionally so that we can collaborate with the rest of the world to make this a better place to live. **Reb Zalman** liked to explain why there are different religions, when all seeking to believe in one God. He likened this to an island in the middle of the ocean where there must be different kinds of plants growing for an ecosystem to thrive. Some tall, some short. One plant brings shade needed by another. There must also be room for the bright sun. The roots of one plant can soften the soil for another plant to survive. This is intentional by HaShem. I seek to limit *mechitza*. When I tell people about the many words that are similar in Hebrew and Hawaiian, I don't really care if they have an actual linguistic common ancestry, I just want to show how we are all related, if not by blood or soil, then by attitude and intention.

I am so heartened that at every KBS Shabbat service I ever attended there was someone who could read from the Torah. In the past, not everyone knew the trope - so they just sung the words from their own hearts. I will never forget when we celebrated Shabbat at the Royal Kona Hotel, there was no one present who could read the Torah and I feared we would need to read the *parsha* in English from our *chumash*. Then, all-of-a-sudden, the **Sebag** family walked in and their son, **Kawika Sebag** (age 12) who was being prepared for his coming Bar Mitzvah by his father, **Jacques**, stepped up and read the portion, direct from our torah scroll, and our service was sublime. By the way, Kawika (now married and with his own child) now sells honey at the Kamuela Farmer's Market. It's delicious! Now, thanks to members like **Aviva** and **Rabbi Shari** we not only have torah readers, we have *leyners* (torah chanters) who didn't even read Hebrew back in the day. **Vic Greenspan** chants almost every Shabbat. **Marilyn Anderson**, **Una Greenaway** and others also share this happy task.

I am so appreciative of my friends at Kona Beth Shalom. The Board we started with and those on the Board now (and those not on the Board who still work to keep our congregation alive and thriving) including **Aviva & Yehudah Plaut**, **Vivienne Aronowitz**, **Nella & Alan Silverman**, **R. Shari Joy Berman**, **Michael Bernstone**, **Elaine Dobinson**, **Joel Gimpel**, **Vic Greenspan**, **Eva Pierce**, **Heather Rivera**, **Trina Yerlick** and **Sara Nealy** all have my deepest gratitude. They are each unique in their contributions and we could not be the congregation we are today without their hard work.

Shaloha,

*Dr. Barry Blum*



## In Memoriam

**Myron Glatt** passed away in Kona on Nov 30, 2023. He was born in Los Angeles in 1931 and enjoyed a rich and varied career. Myron and his wife **Ruth** were among the original hippies and they never stopped dressing the part. They enjoyed traveling the world together, exploring potential island paradises including Tahiti, the Caribbean and Kauai (the Taylor Ranch at the height of hippiedom) until moving to the Big Island in 1981. They were close friends with leading thinkers, philosophers and scientists of the times including John & Toni Lilly. For years, Myron would ride his bicycle around Kailua-Kona to the Kailua pier where he snorkeled nearly every day. He taught Tai Chi in Kona for several decades. One of his most memorable mottos was, "Life is terminal but not serious."

**Warren Krangel** passed away in Florida on Dec 17, 2023. He and his wife **Pam** lived in Kona for several years and participated in KBS, the AlteKaKoBeS (the "wise seniors/*kane* of KBS") and the WaKoBes (*Wahines* of KBS). They later moved to Florida and enjoyed their life there.

**Dr. Edward "Ed" Miller** passed away on Jan 29, 2024. Born in 1945 in Chicago, he married the love of his life, Martha "Marty" Miller (KBS member **Joel Gimpel's** youngest sister) in 1967 and they spent the next 52 years side-by-side until her death in 2020. Ed was a greatly admired dentist and was on the faculty of the University of North Carolina's School of Dentistry.

**Annette Lash Crohn** passed away in Ramat Hasharon, Israel on Mar 7, 2024 surrounded by her three daughters, **Ariella, Yael and Aviva (Plaut)**. Annette was born in Wilmington, Delaware in 1924. Her mother was widowed at an early age and moved to Palestine in 1934 taking her two young daughters. She studied there to become a nurse and worked in Cyprus detention camps. In 1948 she married **David Crohn** and they raised three daughters in Israel. Their life together was filled with music, travel, family, friends and people from around the world. In their retirement they split their time between New York City and Israel. KBS members got to know Annette during her yearly visits to Hawaii.

**Lois-ellin Datta** passed away on April 1, 2024 in Kona. Born in Patterson, NJ in 1932, her family was poor but devoted to education. She received a B.A. in psychology, two master's degrees and a PhD. She met and married **Padma Rag Datta** and they had two sons, **Tane** and **Kyle**. Lois later served as the National Director of Project Head Start at the Office of Economic Opportunity and chaired a number of other federal institutes and associations. She authored over 100 articles and three books. After moving to Hawaii she lived on their family's organic farm in Captain Cook and was an active member of KBS and an early member of the WaKoBeS and KAHEA (Kona Association for Hebrew Education and the Arts).

**The Last Jews of Polná.** Every year, Congregation Kona Beth Shalom takes upon itself the responsibility of reciting Kaddish for the last Jewish residents of Polná in the Czech Republic. Our beloved Torah scroll came from there. The name of each of those 95 individuals of blessed memory is imprinted on a slip of paper along with their age when they were taken in 1943 by the Nazis. One of those slips of paper is given to each individual attending our Yizkor Service so that those names may be read aloud. There is no one else to do this.

**MAY THEIR MEMORIES ALWAYS BE A BLESSING  
FOR THEIR FAMILIES, THEIR FRIENDS, AND FOR ALL OF US.**



## QUESTIONS

**Are you receiving duplicate KBS emails?** If so, or for any reason you wish your name to be removed, let us know. Do so by emailing us: [info@konabethshalom.org](mailto:info@konabethshalom.org).

**Is kosher food available on Hawaii Island?** YES, sort of. Besides the limited appearance of individual kosher items at **Costco** and **Safeway**, you may order kosher foods including meats from **Oahu Kosher**, 1670 Makaloa St, Ste 204, Honolulu, HI 96814 under the supervision of Orthodox chef **Yudi Weinbaum** ([info@oahukosher.com](mailto:info@oahukosher.com)). Call during office hours, Sunday-Friday, 9:30 am-6:00 pm Hawaii Time, (808) 888-4949. They will ship to the Big Island for you. You may also contact **Chabad** on the Big Island, (808) 999-9161.





## TO HELP US RAISE FUNDS...

### "GIVE ALOHA" at FOODLAND, SACK 'N SAVE and FOODLAND FARMS

Kona Beth Shalom participates in GIVE ALOHA, Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program that honors Foodland founder Maurice J. "Sully" Sullivan and continues his legacy of giving back to the community.

#### How It Works

From Sept. 1-30, customers are invited to make donations of up to a cumulative total of \$249 per person, per organization to participating Hawaii non-profit organizations at checkout using their Maika'i Cards. Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will match a portion of each donation\* up to a total of at least \$350,000 for all organizations combined.

#### How to Donate

At checkout, present your Maika'i Card and inform the cashier that you would like to make a donation to our organization. If you do not have a Maika'i Card, you may request one. The five digit registration code for KBS is **78575**. Your donation will be added to your grocery purchase total. You may give up to \$249 per organization. The amount you have donated to us and the name of our organization will appear on your receipt. Any donation must be made payable to Foodland, Sack N Save or Foodland Farms. **Donor names will not be released to Kona Beth Shalom. Please forward the information to us so that we may properly acknowledge your gift: [mbernstone@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:mbernstone@hawaii.rr.com)**

#### Are These Contributions Tax Deductible?

These contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Please save your store receipt for tax purposes since it will be the only record you will have of your donation.

#### \*How Matching Gifts Will Be Calculated

Matching Gifts will be calculated after the end of the program. Organizations will receive 100% of all customer donations given to their organization, plus their percentage of Foodland's matching gift. The portion of the matching gift that each organization will receive will be based on the total dollar amount of customer donations designated to that organization as a percentage of all customer donations received for all organizations.



## Contribution Information

As you can see in this Newsletter, Congregation Kona Beth Shalom offers a rich program of activities to our community throughout the year. To continue, we ask you to join us as members and to donate financially. Please use the **[online Membership Application/Contribution Form](#)** to join us. We understand that some can afford to donate more and some less. In that light, we have created membership categories as well as special funds designated for specific usage. All donations go towards operating expenses including rent, supplies, internet communications, books, teachers, our Jewish cemetery, Jewish religious and educational activities, visiting rabbis, cantors and speakers and more.

Joining as a member in any category enables you and us to stay in touch, which is why we request names and contact information. We also want to know if your children or grandchildren may be of the age to consider Hebrew education or Bat/Bar Mitzvah training.

**Levels of Membership** include the following donation requests:

- Single Membership: \$180
- Family Membership: \$360
- Sustaining Membership: \$540
- Other amounts:

We understand that not everyone has the same ability to contribute financially. If your circumstances are such that a contribution would be a hardship, please join in the "Other" category and indicate the amount that you are comfortable donating (whether one time or monthly).

**All KBS Members are invited to attend High Holiday Services in person or on Zoom at no extra cost.**

Non-members who wish to attend High Holiday Services **on Zoom** are asked to contribute \$36 per family, per holiday. Non-members who wish to attend High Holiday Services **in person** are asked to contribute \$50 per adult, per holiday.

Non-member children and *kupuna* are invited without charge.

Along with Membership Donations we invite contributions for a variety of KBS activities and services including:

- Yizkor Contribution
- Chevra Kadisha Contribution (cemetery)
- Misheberach (healing) Contribution
- Machzor dedication
- Jewish Education Program (for children and/or adults)
- Building Fund Contribution
- Unrestricted Contribution

**We look forward to 5785 being a wonderful year for all of us.  
On behalf of all the members of Congregation Kona Beth Shalom,  
we wish you a Happy and Healthy New Year --- *L'Shana Tovah Tikateivu!!!***

**That's the news, folks. Kona Beth Shalom, here for everyone since 1980.  
Join us for the coming year and share your ideas with us.  
Please send in your [MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / CONTRIBUTION FORM](#) now.**

**We are not complete without you!**

