



# La Boz

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## Forgiving is Beneficial for Everyone, Especially You

*By Rabbi Benjamin  
Hassan*



By popular demand here is the Kal Nidrei Sermon I gave. In his bestselling book *The Sunflower*, Simon Wiesenthal recounts his work camp experience of being brought to a dying Nazi soldier’s bedside. The man turned to Wiesenthal and confessed his crimes and horrific wrongdoings against the Jewish people. He then asked Wiesenthal to serve as a representative of all his victims and begged forgiveness. Wiesenthal describes that he could not grant the soldier his wish because some things are simply too heinous and atrocious to forgive. Wiesenthal describes that the rest of his life, he remained tortured by that request and by his reaction to it.

Tonight, as we seek our own forgiveness for the many ways we have failed and disappointed our Creator, it is worth asking, are there indeed things that are unforgiveable? Or should every sincere, genuine, remorseful appeal for forgiveness be granted? Is forgiveness exclusively for the perpetrator, or does forgiveness grant something to the victim as well?

The Talmud states *Kol HaMa’avir Al Midotav, Maavirin lo Kol Pasha’av* - Whoever is forgiving, God is forgiving of them. Too many of us are accountants...not by training or trade, but in practice.

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We are constantly balancing the books of our relationships with others. “We invited them 3 times and they only invited us once,” “Would you believe he walked right by me and shook hands with someone else without even acknowledging me!” With family, the accounting usually goes more like this – “I always call her on her birthday, she didn’t call me this year, so I am angry.” “Three years ago, we didn’t get a card for our anniversary, so we are no longer sending them cards.”

The Talmud’s statement of whoever is forgiving, God forgives provides the secret wisdom to receiving forgiveness from the Heavenly court. The Gemara says I will let you know the biggest *segulah*, the greatest thing we can do to merit divine favor. God approaches us with the same attitude and philosophy that we approach the people in our lives. He judges us with a mirror.

If we are exacting, accounting and unforgiving to those around us, He is exacting, accounting and unforgiving of us. If we instead choose to dismiss, minimize, and ignore the slights, snubs and slurs that

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people have perpetrated against us, then Hashem chooses to dismiss and ignore our slights and snubs of Him.

We have the ability to determine and influence how Hashem looks at us. God has conceded the ground rules to us. Whether or not Hashem will bear a grudge against us is exclusively determined by whether or not we hold grudges against others. The greatest trick to a successful life, to have joy from our children, to have health and longevity, is to be a forgiving person. To be forgiven today, we must be willing to forgive. And there are plenty of opportunities through the petty affronts and offenses that are committed against us regularly.

You see, when we walk around with the accounting books, when we keep track of everything everyone around us has done that is hurtful both intentionally and unintentionally, the one who suffers the most is ourselves. I believe that forgiveness is not about the perpetrator of the act and absolving him or her of their misdeed alone. Yes, we hope they will be remorseful. Yes, we wait for them to apologize and take responsibility. And yes, we wish they would simply say I am sorry.

However, I submit to you today that there is a second type of forgiveness. There is a forgiveness that helps the victim, the one who has been hurt or harmed. It is exhausting and burdensome to carry and harbor negative feelings and negative memories. Forgiveness gives us the license to let go, it gives us the tools to move on. Today, for our own sake, it is time to let go.

A professor once held up a beaker filled with water before the class and asked how much do you think this weighs? One student said 2 ounces, another 6 ounces, another 2 pounds. The professor looked at the class and said they are all right. How could they all be right, the students asked, when they are saying different things? The professor answered, they are all right, it just depends how long I hold onto it. When our grudge is formed, it seems

somewhat light, small and insignificant so it is easy enough to carry around with us. The longer we hold onto it, however, the heavier it becomes and the greater the energy, effort, and focus necessary to carry it on forward.

It is time to let go, to be willing to forgive and forego even what is due to us. Indeed, it is only when we have the capacity to let go, to move on, to not absorb the negativity and toxicity of a strained relationship, to be a forgiving person, that we have the capacity for greatness. The Rambam identifies as one of the defining characteristics of a Talmid Chacham, a wise scholar is that he must be a mevater, a forgoer, one who is forgiving and does not hold a grudge. Right now, right here, decide to be a mevater, transform yourself into the kind of person who lets things go. Because I can tell you with certainty as we stand here in judgment, the Almighty loves a mevater. Don't be concerned with rights, honors, privileges and entitlements. Let's not focus on what we are due and what we deserve. Being a mevater means being humble, modest and forgiving, and these are traits that the Almighty has revealed that He loves.

What Simon Wiesenthal was unable to grant in the death camp, he granted in the extreme, later in his life. In 1966, Albert Speer, minister of armaments and war production for Hitler, after having served the full 20-year sentence of the Nuremburg court, published his memoirs which contained an apparently sincere statement of remorse. Wiesenthal wrote in response – “This man has served his sentence, he has admitted his guilt, he has shown contrition – more than this cannot be demanded of him, and he is therefore acceptable.” The forgiveness he could not bestow upon the soldier, he later offered to one of Hitler's closest advisors.

I am not suggesting we all have it in us to do what Simon Wiesenthal did. All I know is if he could forgive what was done to him, it is time for us to forgive what has been done to us that utterly pales in comparison. Just let go and move on. Not later, not another time, not in the future. Right now, for your sake, let go and you will realize how much lighter you will feel.

## Why are we eating?

By Rubissa Sharona Hassan



All Jewish holidays can be summarized by the theme, ‘They tried to kill us. We won. Let's eat!’ is a joke which emerged over the last few decades in American Jewry. This does apply to a handful of Jewish holidays, but it's completely unrelated to the fall festivals we just celebrated. Often the focus in Jewish observance is on the rituals and traditions associated with the holiday, with the reasons for the celebration falling into the background. If we aren't eating because we won, what are we doing?

Rosh Hashana commemorates the Almighty creating the world. Although it's often simply translated as the Jewish New Year, it really is on the calendar to remind us of the role of God in the world. He is the King, the King of Kings. He created the world, and supports its continued existence. The shofar is a wake-up call to remind us and the music of coronation to celebrate the Divine and His role in the past, present, and future of the world's existence and our place within it. The special yehi ratzon foods we eat are more to say, “You are in control of all. We want to align our hopes and our dreams with Your plans. May it be Your will...”. We are not eating to celebrate a victory, but rather to celebrate Hashem and to request a year of ‘wins’.

Just a week later is the holiday of Yom Kippur. It is obviously not within the rubric of ‘They tried to kill us. We won. Let's eat!’ because there is no eating involved. It is a time for introspection on our individual role in relationship to ourselves and to our Creator. For the forty days preceding Yom Kippur, our liturgy includes the daily recitation of Selihot, Apologies. This service repeats the Divine process of forgiveness, and His thirteen traits of mercy. This is the formula for which we have been absolved before, and by which we pray for a positive future. Beginning at Rosh Hashanah, our prayers

acknowledge ‘Avinu Malkeynu’, Hashem is our Father and our King. A father is only a father when he has children and a king is only a ruler when he has subjects. Our active presence is crucial in our relationship with the Almighty. It isn't simply the words of Selihot, Apologies, rather it is the active connection between us and our Creator. In this relationship we have been amiss and are reflective and apologetic. On Yom Kippur we lessen the physicalities we enjoy to focus on our spiritual selves and areas for growth within us. No persecutors, no winners, and no food.

Only four days after Yom Kippur, we begin Sukkot. This short turnaround time is always shocking from a logistics standpoint and reassuring from a spiritual one. Building the sukkah and acquiring the arba minim, the four species, in such a short time is hard. And of course, preparing the food! Because again it is time to eat! But did anyone try to kill us? Maybe. The spiritual journey of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur of establishing ourselves in a year of living, in sweetness and health is enormous and clearly, not everyone is alive from one year to the next. Some people say that the waving of the lulav symbolizes a sword and we coming home from battle successful, waving it high. We won and we eat.

Yet Sukkot means much more than that. It is a harvest festival, one where we celebrate the Divine gift of food. We need to eat it to live regularly and now we eat it in gratitude for our lives and to celebrate our trust in the Almighty to provide us with food and other necessities of life. We wave the arba

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## Why are we eating?

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minim, four diverse plants together, in acknowledgement of the natural world which Hashem sustains for us. The holiday is also known as Zeman Simhateynu, the time of our joy. Our joy is our gratitude for all that Hashem provides. We could not attain this headspace of happiness without the acknowledgement of Him we experience on Rosh Hashana and the trust and connection we attempt on Yom Kippur. This active relationship brings us to places of true contentment and joy.

At the end of Sukkot is the festival of Shemini Atzeret. This day marks the beginning of our prayers for rain. No one tried to kill us, but rain is required for our vitality. We trust Hashem, we hope he helps us live, and we eat!

Finally we celebrate Simhat Torah. This time there is definitely no assailant. We are celebrating the cycle of reading the Torah and the ongoing nature of our connection to God. We are joyous and we dance and we eat (candy?)!

This should bring us to the end of our fall holidays. And yet, as I look around I see Thanksgiving decorations. The question of it as a Jewish holiday can be debated elsewhere but it definitely does not fall into the rubric of ‘They tried to kill us. We won. Let’s eat!’ In many ways this American festival parallels Sukkot. Abraham Lincoln described the day as one of “Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens.” He beseeched the American people to regard it “with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience... and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty hand to heal the wounds of the nation...”

Does a Thanksgiving dinner help you generate the emotions Lincoln describes? Did the preceding Jewish holidays facilitate you in a spiritual journey? Each festival has its own intentionalities for observance and personal growth. But they are for a finite amount of time. Please search for moments where you can celebrate Hashem, your relationship with Him, and your connection to Jewish peoplehood, on holidays or everyday. And of course, let’s eat!

## President's Message

*By Jack Schaloum*

As this is my last article as president of the synagogue, I am grateful to so many people that have helped me over the past three years. And boy, did I need the help! I apologize to those I don’t mention, and I’ll blame Jerry Mezistrano for not providing the pages and pages required to thank everyone. Speaking of Jerry, you really couldn’t ask for a more clever and humorous writer (along with being a heck of a nice guy) than him. His anecdotes keep people smiling.

I don’t know if there are words to describe the gratitude I have for Rabbi Hassan. The love he has for our synagogue, and his ability to run the day-to-day operations while focusing on his primary duties as rabbi is beyond impressive. Most of you know him from the pulpit but I’ve been lucky to also know him on a personal level. It’s important to Rabbi that we never forget the synagogue’s rich history and roots, but equally as important to him is his responsibility to ensure SBH continues to thrive. He works tirelessly for our congregation and for that I am extremely grateful. I’m sure Rabbi will also agree that we are fortunate Sharona is part of the Hassan package. Sharona is good with her words and an excellent speaker. If you find the opportunity to listen to her lecture outside of the synagogue, I guarantee you won’t be disappointed. I’m grateful we have a team like the Hassans.

Speaking of rabbis, it was great having my friend Rabbi Benzaquen here at SBH when Rabbis Hassan and Varon were out of town this summer. Taking in his enthusiasm and energy from the pulpit as he read from the Sefer and sitting with him during a few Shabbats was a highlight for me this year.

Rabbi Frank Varon. He's someone that lifts my spirits simply by being around him, and especially when he's leading our congregation in prayer. He knows almost everyone by first name including our parents and grandparents. We've been friends for over 50 years, and he is a treasure to our synagogue. I'm so grateful for him.

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## President's Message

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It’s easy to overlook this next person as he works behind-the-scenes to keep services running smoothly (and that’s the way he likes it) but I can’t forget to recognize and thank our Gabbai, Larry Almo. His attention to detail as he directs us on where to stand, and what to say is no small task. And if you’re new to the synagogue, and don’t know what to do when called up to the Torah, his calm demeanor will certainly put you at ease.

My thanks also goes out to Laura in the office. Like her predecessor Alexis, she’s always happy to answer any questions I may have or look into a situation and get back to me. Also they both gave me extra time to get my articles complete! I can’t thank you enough.

Anyone who has come to the synagogue on Shabbat should be grateful to Jack Haleva. I sure am! Jack is our unofficial official page turner. If I was in charge, the page numbers would only be a suggestion or approximation! He makes sure that in that instance your mind wanders, you can quickly get back. I’ve been lucky to get to know Jack these past three years and have enjoyed his great sense of humor. Grateful for all you do Jack!

I am continually grateful for these two guys, Al Maimon and David Benezra. When I open an email from Al, I know three things - it’s going to be long, it’s going to be straight to the point, and it’s coming from “the right place.” We may not always agree, but we talk it out, and in the end, we agree, respectfully disagree, or compromise. David is the epitome of a team player for SBH. He’s taking on the task of heading the strategic planning committee along with Marci Mezistrano-Hanan, and he works tirelessly for our synagogue. He attends meetings even when “zooming” in from Florida. When he gathers the kids together to lead us in Adon Olam, he guarantees we end Shabbat services with a big smile. Thank you Al and David for everything you do.

I’ve seen firsthand over the years how hard Francisco Gonzales works as the head of building maintenance. He (and his son Francisco Jr) keeps our Kahal shining clean and bright, trees trimmed,

grass cut, lights working, and so many other things to ensure our synagogue stays beautiful and well-maintained. He is never without a big smile and extends a warm handshake every time we meet. Very grateful!

These last three years I’ve been lucky and blessed to be surrounded by a team of highly talented board members, who would be considered superstars on any board. They helped the synagogue navigate and get through the difficult Covid years. I am pleased to announce the all-star cast running for 2023 executive board positions - Miri Tilson, President; Jack Gottesman, Vice President; David Benezra, Vice President; Cynthia Gamel, Secretary; and Jack Azose/Steve Altchek, Co-Treasurers. The future of our synagogue is bright and in very capable hands.

I think anyone who takes on the role of president needs a sounding board. Someone who can tell you, “do not send that email” or “just listen.” For me that person has been my lifelong friend Bruce Mezistrano. He’s rational and calming and has helped me reach decisions that work for most everyone. I wouldn’t have made it through these three years without his counsel and wisdom. Thank you, my friend.

I am also grateful for my brother Henry and sister Lucia. They keep me humble, and that is truly a task in and of itself! For example, each month when I ask if they’ve read my newest article in LaBoz their answer is, “first I need to read Jerry Mezistrano’s article, then I’ll get to yours.” Ken Save! Speaking of family members, Covid and his coaching job in Scottsdale AZ kept my son Michael from sitting beside me at synagogue during this time I served as president. Maybe one day he’ll serve as SBH president and I’ll proudly take the seat next to him!

I’m so grateful to have Lisa in my life for so many reasons. First and foremost, she makes me a better person. She also understands how important Sephardic Bikur Holim is to me and my family. When I drive to the synagogue office after dinner to sign checks or come home much later than planned when a meeting went way overtime, she gets it. At times when I’ve been frustrated, she tells me that I “best be calming down!” She’s the best editor money can buy and I get to use her for free. I’m a

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## Meet our New Youth Director



The Youth Committee is happy to announce that we've hired a Youth Director, Aharona Gans! Aharona moved here with her family, Rabbi Gans and their 3 children, from Toronto. Aharona has extensive experience working with youth of all ages and is so excited to join our staff. You may have already seen her around on Shabbat mornings.

Be on the lookout for new youth programming!

## President's Message

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lucky guy!

I am at this kahal because my parents chose Sephardic Bikur Holim as their synagogue. After losing literally everything during the Holocaust, they needed a place they could spiritually call home. When my dad walked into SBH (then located in the Central District during the 1950s) and heard the tunes and melodies, he said it felt like he was back at his synagogue in Salonica Greece. I know many of you are also here today because this synagogue also feels like home, myself included. Mom and dad, thank you for bringing our family to SBH. I only wish I had thanked you when you were still around.

I'd like to thank Hashem for giving me the opportunity to serve this illustrious congregation for these past years. It has been an honor and a privilege.

And finally, I'm grateful for all of you. Greeting each of you in this congregation on Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur with a hug or a handshake feels like greeting family. May we continue to meet in good times, in good health, and may we always unite in our vision to ensure our synagogue remains a vibrant place we call home for many more years to come. Make it a great day!

Jack Schaloum  
President  
The Sephardic Bikur Holim  
jacksbhprez@gmail.com

## Gone Fishing

By Jerry Mezistrano



The other day...Well actually to be exact it was September 8, 2022; a sad day not only for the UK but the entire world. Queen Elizabeth, the reigning Queen of the United Kingdom for seventy years had passed away. Hearing the news that she was gone had a sad, sobering effect on me. Although the Queen had little influence on American lives, I still think like many of us felt a great loss of an ally and a friend. Obviously, the weight on her royal subjects was far greater. After all, 90% of the population of England had never known any other leader of the monarchy other than her.

After it finally registered that the Queen was gone, I feel the sudden urge to do something British as a tribute to her. I thought of having a cup of Earl Grey tea, but all we had was Lipton. What else could I do? I know I'll call my best English buddy, my mate, my fishing pal, a man born and raised in England. The only person who I know not only met the Queen but actually attended her coronation. A man who served in the Royal Air Force before relocating to the States. Yes, a man who was British through and through pip pip, keep a stiff upper lip, carry on, and all that, my friend Ron Behar.

Ron and I have been friends for a number of years. I often refer to him as my fishing buddy because  
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## Gone Fishing

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although neither of us fish, we both got talked into flying into (God knows where) Canada for salmon fishing. I remember we were staying in a lodge and every morning at four a.m., we rose, had breakfast and then got into a two-man boat (plus a guide) to take us to an area where the salmon were allegedly biting. I don't have any idea why we went through this drill because everyone knows fish can only be caught twice a day: ten minutes before you get there and ten minutes after you leave.

On the last day of our excursion, Ron and I got paired up. We were about ready to board our boat, when I notice something quite unusual. There was Ron Behar wearing a sweatshirt. My goodness, seeing Ron in a sweatshirt would be like seeing Rabbi Hassan in a tutu. Let me explain. Ron Behar takes incredible pride in his appearance. I have often referred to him as mister Beau Brummell the arbiter of men's fashion. To put it mildly, Ron is fastidious about his clothing. So, you can imagine my shock knowing Ron Behar would never be caught dead in a sweatshirt. Are my eyes deceiving me? I check out the rest of his outfit which seemed very fitting for him. Gucci slacks with a razor edge crease, Dior socks and Ferragamo shoes completed the ensemble. "Where did you get a sweatshirt?" I ask. Ron replies, "I borrowed it from my son. I wanted to dress appropriate for this outing."

Anyway, we spent the next hour being tossed and turned on this small craft while being pelted by rain and cold wind. Both Ron and I were getting soaked sitting there in misery with our poles in the water. Finally, Ron and I look at each and had the same thought. Who needs this crap? We immediately asked our guide to return to the lodge. The guide could not believe us. We had only been out an hour and in addition, we paid for the full day. Being the true sportsmen that we are, Ron and I both responded the same way. "Who cares? We are not going to sit here freezing and miserable only to return home with pneumonia. Take us back," we demanded. When we returned to shore, I overheard our guide complaining that I had enough clothes on to scale Mt. Everest, and the English guy came to fish in wing tip shoes. I was insulted that the guide thought I was such a wimp and Ron was also angry. After all, in Ron's mind the guide

had absolutely no fashion sense.

Another thing I remember about that outing was each late afternoon two guys who had been up all night playing poker and drinking were always throwing a can of tuna to each other. I never once saw either of these men go fishing. I finally asked why the game of catch. "That's so I don't have to lie to my wife," he explains. "Every day my wife checks in with me and it's the same question. 'What did you have for lunch?' and I tell her fish. And she says 'fish that you caught?' and I say as a matter of fact..."

I seemed to have deviated...

My thoughts went back to the Queen. I sat there pondering what a remarkable person she was. In the span of her reign, she guided England through endless crises, not to mention dealing with 12 prime ministers (from Winston Churchill to "Iron Lady" Margaret Thatcher), and fifteen US presidents. She dedicated her life to her country. Yes, the UK was her top priority. Country first and family was second. Well, now the Queen is dead. Long live the King. Yes, King Charles has tough shoes to fill but fortunately for him, money won't be an issue. Did you know he doesn't have to pay any inheritance tax? Why did I think of that?

Just then the phone rang. It's a friend of mine who is always on top of today's news. "What is the matter, Jerry? You sound a little down," he inquires. "I guess I'm upset because of the passing of the Queen," I answer. There is a pause and he says "I didn't know Queen Latifa died?" Queen Latifa? He has got to be kidding...or is he? Either way, I thought to myself, I've got to get some new friends.

Please send questions and comments to: jerrymeziatrano@gmail.com.

## Refuah Shelema

Our congregation would like to wish a speedy recovery to the following members:

Lucia De Funis

Chana Gonzalez

Ellen Kotkin

**"Why do we need SBH?"**

**"What Will We Look Like in 5 Years?"**

**SBH Board Approves Mission and Vision Statements**

The SBH Strategic Plan we submitted to the Board of Directors at the September 13th Board meeting, and was unanimously approved. Hours and hours of work by almost 30 members went into the creation of this document and the 5 recommended implementations for 2023. In this article, we will introduce the Strategic Plan, and take a deeper look at the Strategic Plan, the 5 recommendations, the underlying thinking behind them, and the next phase of our SBH Strategic Planning starting in November/December.

The SBH Strategic Planning Committee was charged with beginning its journey by answering two important questions about our Kahal and its future.

1. What do we do at SBH and why is it important that we continue to do it? (The answer to this question forms our **SBH MISSION STATEMENT**.)
2. Let us imagine that terrific work has been done over the next five years by our paid staff, volunteers, and board of directors. Now, when you walk into the doors of SBH 5 years from now, describe exactly what you will see? (The answer to this questions forms our **SBH VISION STATEMENT**.)

Here are the Mission and Vision Statements of SBH as ratified by the Board on September 13th.

**SBH MISSION STATEMENT**

**Our Mission is to foster a warm community rooted in love and observance of Judaism, our Sephardic traditions, and connection to the State of Israel. We do this by forging bonds between generations, welcoming a diverse group of members, and ensuring our Sephardic generational continuity.**

"Our Sephardic Traditions" are specific and unique even within Sephardic Jewry.  
 We have always been and will continue to be a Welcoming Community.  
 We have a Diverse Group of Members (Age, Level of Observance, Geography).  
 We unabashedly support the State of Israel and its continued success.  
 We are very very focused on passing on "Our Sephardic Traditions" to the Next Generations.

**"Why do we need SBH?"**

**"What Will We Look Like in 5 Years?"**

**SBH Board Approves Mission and Vision Statements**

**SBH VISION STATEMENT**

**By 2027 SBH Will:**

- **Be a vibrant, program-rich institution – meaningful in the lives of its members and community.**
- **Be financially sound with a growing community of all ages and locales.**
- **Continue to provide a welcoming and safe environment for members and guests of all ages to pray and gather communally.**
- **Offer exceptional and well attended Youth Programming.**
- **Be instrumental in the Educational and Spiritual growth of our members.**
- **Engage local and worldwide educational and religious communities as collaborator and thought leader.**

A few notes on the Mission Statement. When we say SBH, we immediately think of our building and grounds, right? But what about the family whose parents are in their 50s, that grew up at SBH, loves our Tefila, comes back annually to pray and visit with family ... but aren't members. What about Rabbi Maimon's (A'H) children and their families? What about the Babanis, Almos, Amiels, and more who are 100% part of our family, but for many reasons, recently moved out of Seattle? What if they are still donors, but just not currently members? We are beginning to think more broadly about "Who is SBH", and you will see that reflected in our work over the next five years.

Additionally, now that we have a clearly articulated vision statement to work towards, it is important to note that this is just phase one of the important Strategic Planning work to take place at SBH. We are looking for future-thinking members who want their ideas to be heard and are game to help out their Kahal by being active in the Strategic Planning Process. Come Join Us!!! Reach out to our Board President, or to Rabbi Hassan, or to any of your elected representatives on the SBH BOD and let us know you would like to join the Strategic Planning Committee.

## SBH Board Approved Recommendations for Implementation

If you've read the other article in this issue of LaBz titled "Why do we need SBH ...", you will have seen the new SBH Vision Statement, crafted by the Strategic Planning Committee and adopted by the Board. It is a picture of where we want to be in 5 years. But the Strategic Planning Committee was not simply tasked with flushing out our Mission and Vision Statements. It was also tasked with developing specific and actionable change recommendations to begin the process of getting us there in a transparent way that honors and respects our history and identity. Below are the first set of recommendations that will be added to the budget for 2023 and with everyone's hard work, implemented within the year. The following 5 recommendations were presented to and ratified by the BOD at the September 13th meeting.

### BOARD APPROVED RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION IN 2023

#### **Recommendation: Hire a highly skilled and experienced Executive Director**

We need to invest in our Organization's capacity to do more for all of our members. We need to hire a "Business Manager +" to help take some of the load off of Rabbi Hassan and let him focus on leading our synagogue into the next generation and the pastoral work (and even fundraising) that he is so skilled at doing. Just like our Rabbi and Hazan, the new Executive Director will report directly to the President of our Board. Rabbi Hassan has been playing an active role in defining this position, their responsibilities, and even in the recruiting process.

#### **Recommendation: Initially, hire a ½ time Youth Director. "Make SBH-Y" (our Youth Program) amazing.**

We MUST pass on our tradition to our children. A good Youth Program attracts members. This is one of our highest priorities. We have already hired a wonderful Youth Director (see article in this issue of LaBoz) and our Rubissa has spent much of October on-boarding her and introducing her to many of our members.

#### **Recommendation: Bring back cultural and social events i.e., Bazaar, Gala, Mahjong, Baking Together, and more.**

We need to be a vibrant "Meeting Place"... and many fun events generate revenue. Between a shrinking group of volunteers and the recent pandemic, SBH has decreased the amount of programs offered to our community. The Strategic Planning Committee heard many many time from members across the board ... "BRING BACK THE BAZAAR !!!!" OK, so let's do it (with the help of our new Executive Director, of course).

#### **Recommendation: Reinvigorate Shabbat i.e., Learning Breakouts, Classes, Shabbatonim, Warm Kiddush**

SBH needs to be the "Place to Be" on Shabbat. Let's invest in making it amazing. Let us look at each element of our offerings on Shabbat and decide what we can do even better. Warm food? Air conditioned space in the sanctuary? Go back to the breakout learning sessions we used to offer? Multi-week classes? More singing with our youth?

#### **Recommendation: Implement Board decision to build fence and improve safety early 2023**

All attendees must feel safe. This is a top priority for younger families and determines where they join. We have already added security guards and it has had a visible impact. Now it is time to put some boundaries around our campus and create a comfortable space for our kids to run around and our members to congregate without fear. The BOD already approved the installation of a fence as part of our Campus Upgrade project - the following recommendations only suggests making it a top priority and getting it done right away.

## SBH Board Approved Recommendations for Implementation

Each of these recommendations deserves a far deeper dive into the thinking behind it, and the details of its implementation. We have begun this "Deeper Dive" today in this article, and will continue it in emails, future editions of LaBoz, and in the December General Meeting. The Strategic Planning Committee will also hold 2 Online Town Hall Meetings in November to answer any questions and go into more details as desired by members.

Does it feel like there are a lot of changes being discussed here? Well, in truth there are. The Strategic Planning Committee, the Rabbi, the Board, our Office Manager Laura, the Committee Member Volunteers, all are committed to put in the hard work to reinject more vitality into SBH. We are all committed to our new Vision Statement and to making sure that it is an accurate picture of SBH in 5 years. As we move forward we will be soliciting tons of member feedback, and we are committed to have each and every member who wants to be involved - have the opportunity to be involved. We want your opinions and good ideas, but we really really need your time and your efforts along with them.

Have some ideas about what SBH should look like on Shabbat? Join Rabbi Hassan, David Benezra, and Jack Gottesman on the Shabbat Task Force.

We have hired our new 1/2 time Youth Director Aharona Gans, so come join Cynthia Gamel and help us put your ideas and hers into action by joining the SBH Youth Committee.

As soon as we find and hire our new Executive Director, they will need wonderful volunteers for help and guidance putting together events like the Bazaar, Gala, Mahjong and Munch, Lag LaOmer, Visiting Kline Galland, Poker Fundraising Tournament, and much much more.

Finally, the next phase of the Strategic Planning Committee is set to launch before the end of this year. Let President Jack Schaloum, or Rabbi Hassan, or any of your elected Board Representatives know that you are willing to donate your time, wisdom, and energy to build towards the next 100 years of SBH.

### Slate of Officers for 2023

Miri Tilson - President

Jack Gottesman - Vice President

David Benezra - Vice President

Cynthia Gamel - Secretary

Jack Azose and Steve Altchech - Co-Treasurers

**Mark your calendar now to attend the  
SBH Annual Meeting in the SBH Social Hall on  
Sunday, December 18th at 10:00 am**

# Community Highlights



*Mazal Tov to Daniel Crossman and Maja Zechut on their wedding in Ashdod, Israel.*



*Mazal Tov to Molly & Jack Jerusalmi on their wedding in Englewood, NJ. Mazal tov to Jack's parents, Florie & Benson Jerusalmi and grandmother Julia Jerusalmi, along with Molly's parents, Yosef & Heidi Leifer.*

# Community Highlights

## November & December Anniversaries

*Munchos Y Buenos to all couples celebrating their anniversaries in November & December*

- Steve & Jan Azose (11/25/73) 49
- Norman & Carole Azose (11/22/79) 43
- Larry & Fortun Azose (11/30/80) 42
- Robert & Leah Gladstein (11/25/90) 32
- Menachem & Judy Maimon (11/17/97) 25
- David & Sigrid Benezra (11/28/99) 23
- Benjamin & Lea Lipman (11/6/05) 17
- Andrew & Nicole Scharhon (11/26/06) 16
- Jason & Tzipporah Nagel (11/09/08) 14

\*\*\*

- Victor & Regina Amira (12/21/52) 70
- David & Sandra Altaras (12/19/54) 68
- Eugene & Esther Normand (12/17/67) 55
- Rabbi Simon & Cecilia Benzaquen (12/21/69) 53
- Irving & Luann Bertram (12/12/71) 51
- Rabbi Mark & Marilyn Greenspan (12/28/76) 46
- Andrew & Sissel Springer (12/16/79) 43
- Sam & Vicki Lynn Babani (12/20/81) 41
- Jay & Dana Azose (12/24/91) 31
- Jeffrey & Maureen Lipsen (12/20/92) 30
- David & Julia Almoslino (12/10/95) 27



## SEATTLE SEPHARDIC BROTHERHOOD

[www.sephardicbrotherhood.org](http://www.sephardicbrotherhood.org)

*The Seattle Sephardic Brotherhood congratulates this year's scholarship winners. Never before have we had so many outstanding applicants, and we awarded scholarships*

*to these deserving students:*

- Yaakov Almoslino
- Lily Behar
- Shoshana Behar
- Anna Benoliel
- Grace Condiotty
- Anna Jacoby
- Beloria Levy
- Lulu Maimon
- Victor Maimon
- Mira Solam

*Best of luck to all of you as you move on to further your education.*

# A Tribute from the Seattle Sephardic Brotherhood

Written by Ben Babani

By now I am sure most of you know that Allyn Adatto passed away recently. As you read this, please know that I began writing it back in early September when Allyn was still alive and living at Kline Galland Home. A few of us from the Brotherhood board had visited him and presented him with a plaque making Allyn an Honorary Trustee. I then started writing this with the intention of honoring him while he was living. Unfortunately, Allyn passed away on September 28. He was both a good friend and colleague, and we all miss him very much.

I have been privileged to be an officer on the Seattle Sephardic Brotherhood board for twenty-five years, working with some of the most dedicated and hardworking people I have ever known. The spirit of serving our community is in the soul of each and every one of my colleagues, and we truly feel that it is an honor to serve our beautiful Sephardic community. Because we all work so hard, it can be tricky to single out one person for praise, but for Allyn I am willing to take that chance.

Until very recently, Allyn had been a trustee on the SSB board. He served for so long that no one really knows how long it has been, but I believe it has been over forty years! He could have become an officer and even president at some point, but Allyn always wanted to remain a trustee, a worker, a real blue-color kind of board member. He never wanted attention, but having worked alongside him for twenty-five years, I can tell you firsthand just how much he has done for our organization. He was

deeply involved in both the daily operations as well as in our long-term planning. Allyn handled a lot of the day-to-day business matters like ordering supplies, picking up mail, returning phone calls, etc. - things that get little attention, but are vital to keep any organization running smoothly. And though he would constantly say that he was technology challenged, he was great using Excel, and he produced many useful spreadsheets that helped us in analyzing our membership and land needs. Any decision we made as a board - larger or small - Allyn had a say in it.

In recent years, Allyn had some health challenges, and in July he told me that he needed to retire from the board. Our board members met to discuss how to best show our appreciation to someone who had devoted his life to serving our community. As I mentioned, we presented him with a plaque making him an Honorary Trustee. We also donated to SBH, where Allyn has been a member his entire life, a Gold Leaf on their Tree of Life in his honor. And finally, we have engraved a Recognition to him on our Wall of Honor at the Brotherhood Cemetery.

Allyn is an example to all of us on how to serve both Community and Country. We all know about Allyn's service to our Sephardic Community, but many may not be aware that Allyn served in the Army during the Vietnam War and was awarded the Bronze Star. At his funeral, we were able to arrange for Allyn to receive Military Honors, recognizing his service to our country.

And so, Allyn, we say to you Hazak U Baruch and Thank You, and Rest In Peace. You will be missed.

# Tributes:

## Gold Leaf

**In recognition and appreciation for the SBH community that Allyn Adatto loved and found community in. Thank you for being a source of inspiration and meaning for him for so many years.**

Chana Shefa

**In honor of Allyn Adatto for his many years of dedicated service.**

Seattle Sephardic Brotherhood

## Humash

### In honor of

**Rabbi Eliahu Shalom Ezran**

Ayelet Ezran

## Prayer Book

### In honor of

**In Appreciation and Happy New Year to Dave & Terry Azose**

Lilly De Jaen

**Yaakov Haleva's Bar Mitzvah**

Larry & Janet Jassen

**Dr. Renee Levy's 80th Birthday**

Sol "Mo" Azose

## In Memory Of

**Sol Amon**

Sol (Mo) Azose

**Jack Belur**

From the families of the Amons, Behars, and Kulmans

**Judy Ernstoff**

Larry & Janet Jassen

**Rachel Maimon**

Ralph and Esther Maimon

**Rachelle Meyer**

Helene & Mo Azose

**Becky Mezistrano**

Sam & Sharon Mezistrano

**Neiso Moscatel**

From the families of the Amons, Behars, and Kulmans

**Leon Sutton**

Helene & Mo Azose

## Chai Fund

### In Honor Of

**In honor of the Morning Minyan**

Sol (Mo) Azose

## Irving Calvo Youth Fund

### In Honor Of

**Happy Birthday to Lily De Jaen**

Annette Hasson

### In Memory Of

**Allyn Adatto**

Helene & Mo Azose

Mordo De Jaen

Ralph & Esther Maimon

**Rachel Baruch**

Ralph & Esther Maimon

**Jeff Benezra**

Ralph & Esther Maimon

**Jack Eskenazi**

Ralph & Esther Maimon

**Leon Goodman**

Ralph & Esther Maimon

**Sam Haleva**

Helene & Mo Azose

**Rabbi Solomon Maimon**

Ralph & Esther Maimon

**Rachelle Meyer**

Mordo De Jaen

**Neiso Moscatel**

Annette Hasson

## General Fund

### In Honor Of

**Mazal Tov on new Granddaughter to Ruth Israel**

Rachel Vaillancourt

**Mazal Tov on Yaakov Haleva Bar Mitzvah**

Nina Garkavi

Jack Haleva

Stella Hanoh and family

**Mazal Tov on Granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah to Fortun Azose**

Rachel Vaillancourt

**Mazal Tov for Grandson's Bar Mitzvah to Esther Normand**

Rachel Vaillancourt

**Happy Birthday to Myrna Cordova**

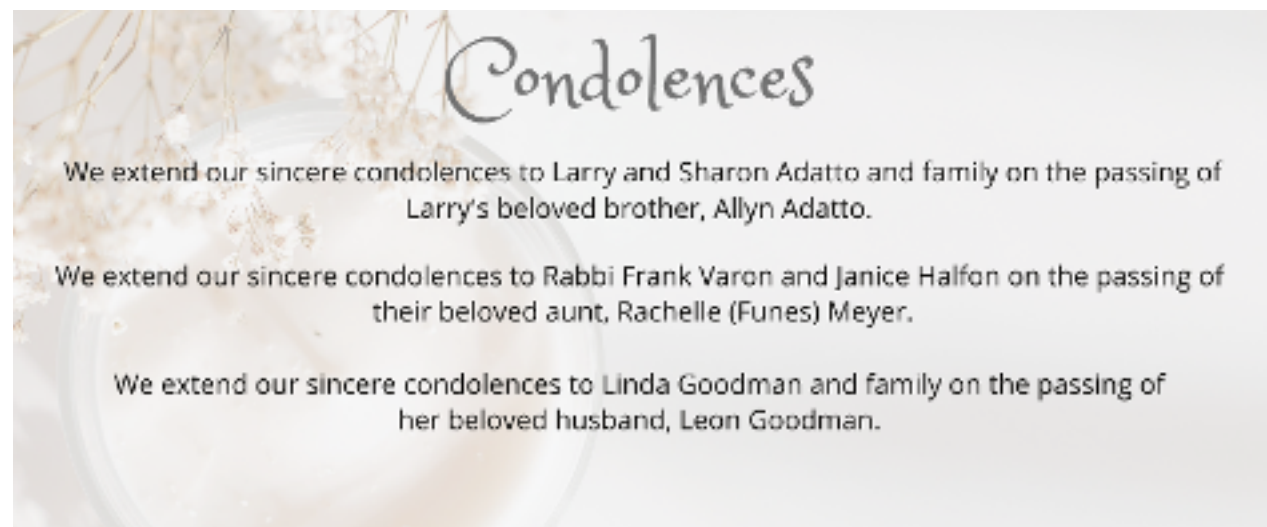
Jack Cordova

**Happy Anniversary to Jason & Laura Haleva**

Jack Haleva

**In Appreciation & Happy New Year to Lynne Coveny**

Lily De Jaen





# Tributes:

## In honor of Rabbi Hassan and Rubissa Sharona

Tovah & Daniel Ahdut

## In honor of Dori Tilson's Bar Mitzvah

Brooke Pariser

## In honor of Joe Reback

Mickey Balderas

## In Appreciation to Rene & Beloria Levy

Lily De Jaen

## In appreciation to Rabbi Hassan & the Lulav/Sechach crew

Laurie & Ze'ev Young

## In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Jacky Varon and the Bar Mitzvah of Max Varon

Sandy Varon

## Good Health To

### Allyn Adatto

Jack Haleva

### Good health to Jason & Laura's Grandmothers Bubbie Merle Richlen & Nonie SaraLyn Negrin

Jack Haleva

## In Memory Of

### Allyn Adatto

Sol "Mo" Azose

Leonard & Louise Berman

Jack Cordova

Lilly De Jaen

Jon & Sheryl French

Eileen Kulman

Peggy & Al Maimon

David & Lea Polaner

Renee Varon (Library Fund)

Seattle Sephardic Brotherhood

### Lilly Almo

Benjamin Lipman

### Rachel Baruch

Lucia De Funis

### Jeffrey Benezra

Kathy Barokas

### Regina & Albert Bensal

Gina Radke

### Abraham Binoun

Stella Hanoh

Blanche Hanoh

### Behor Chiprut

Leonard and Louise Berman

### Saul Chrem

Elisa Azose

### Joseph Cohen

Sara Blumenzweig

### Al Condiotty

Wendy Condiotty

### Morris Cordova

Jack Cordova

### Lucy Franco

The Kulmans

### Leon Goodman

Kathy Barokas

Stanley Handaly & Pamela Goral

Seattle Sephardic Brotherhood

### Lillian Levy

Lucia De Funis

Lilly De Jaen

Stanley & Esther Morhaime

Seattle Sephardic Brotherhood

### Ira and Barbara Lipman

Benjamin Lipman

### Rachelle Meyer

Jack & Sue Barokas

Lilly De Jaen

Karen & Stuart Epstein

### Sophie Morhaime

Lucia De Funis

### Neiso Moscatel

Tillie Amon

Annette M. Levin

### Morris Oziel

Leonard & Louise Berman

### Rick Brian Richardson

Susan Richardson

### Miriam Sassoon

Tovah & Daniel Ahdut

### Katherine Scharhon

Stan & Esther Morahaim

### Lazar Scharhon

Stan & Esther Morahaim

### Burton Steinberg

Sharlene Calvo

### Michael Stern

The Kulman's

### Leon Sutton

Lucia De Funis

Jason and Laura Haleva

Sally Maimon

# Meldados

Andrea Schaloum	Mother HAVA bat SARAH (Helen Cowan)	7 Heshvan Tues Nov 1	Janice Halfon Sally Halfon Rachel Halfon	Daughter Sister MAZAL TOV bat REINA (Tara R.Franco)	18 Heshvan Sat Nov 12 (12 mos.)
Andrew Springer	Mother MIRIAM bat HERSHEL (Monica Saphir)	7 Heshvan Tues Nov 1	Berthe Habib	Mother TZIPORA bat BEILA (Fanny Kalisker)	19 Heshvan Sun Nov 13
Sharon Adatto	Father GAVRIEL ben AIDEL (Gustav Samter)	8 Heshvan Wed Nov 2	Etan Basseri	Grandmother ROSA bat TUTTI (Rosa Basseri)	20 Heshvan Mon Nov 14
Ellen Azose Isaac Azose	Husband Brother DAVID RAHAMIM ben KADUN (David Ray Azose)	8 Heshvan Wed Nov 2	Tillie Amon	Father SHEMUEL ben BEHORA MAZALTOV (Samuel Hasson)	20 Heshvan Mon Nov 14
Michael Losk	Mother VIRGINIA bat SULTANA (Virginia Losk)	8 Heshvan Wed Nov 2	Larry Jassen	Brother YEHOShUA DAVID ben SHAINDEL (Jeffrey Jassen)	21 Heshvan Tues Nov 15
Rabbi Moshe Kletenik	Father HARAV YISHAYAHU ben FAIGEL HALEVY (Rabbi Yishayahu Kletenik)	9 Heshvan Thur Nov 3	Jack Haleva	Grandmother LUNA bat REYNA (Fanny Haleva Mutal)	21 Heshvan Tues Nov 15
Vicki Schain Al S. Maimon Esther Normand	Husband Brother-in-Law YOSEF SHELOMO ben MOSHE NOAH HALEVY (Sid Schain)	10 Heshvan Thur Nov 3 (12 mos.)	Ben Varon	Aunt JANTI bat FORTUNA (Janti Baroh)	22 Heshvan Wed Nov 16
Diana Allchech	Father DANIEL ben MIRIAM (Donald First)	11 Heshvan Sat Nov 5	Ben Varon Pearl L. Varon	Father Brother ME'IR ben LEAH (Mier Varon)	23 Heshvan Thur Nov 17
Elisa Azose	Brother EZRA SHAUL ben ZIMBUL (Ezra Shaul Chrem)	11 Heshvan Sat Nov 5	Mary Allchech Stevon Allchech	Husband Father YEHOShUA ben ESTREYA (Salvator Allchech)	24 Heshvan Thur Nov 17
David Oppenheimer	Mother RUT MIRIAM bat LEILA (Ruth Miriam Oppenheimer)	12 Heshvan Sun Nov 6	Steve Azose David D. Azose Albert Azose Jay Azose Dave S. Azose	Father Father Father Father Brother SHELOMO ben MIRIAM AMADA (Solomon S. Azose)	24 Heshvan Thur Nov 17
Jack Barokas	Mother SARA bat BEYA (Sarah Barokas)	13 Heshvan Mon Nov 7	Larry Bensussen	Father YITZHAK ben ESTHER (Isaac Bensussen)	24 Heshvan Thur Nov 17
Regina Amira	Sister CLARA bat MAZALTOV (Claire Flash)	14 Heshvan Tues Nov 8	Diana Azose Julia Jerusalemi Rosie Maimon	Sister RAHEL bat ESTER (Rachel Baroh)	26 Heshvan Sun Nov 20
Rachel Vaillancourt	Brother MORDEHAI ben ESTHER (Mordoché Serraf)	14 Heshvan Tues Nov 8	Fortune Eskenazi	Father SHAUL ben MASSOUDA (Saul Mashiah)	26 Heshvan Sun Nov 20
Renee E. Varon	Brother ELIYAHU ben RIVKA (Irving Varon)	16 Heshvan Thur Nov 10			

## Meldados (continued)

Aimee Johnston Deborah Johnston	Husband Father REUVEN ben AVRAHAM (Robert Johnston)	27 Heshvan Mon Nov 21	Stanley Handaly	Father YITZHAK HANDALY ben JANA (Isaac Handaly)	14 Kislev Thur Dec 8
Jack Haleva	Uncle SHELOMO ben LUNA (Solomon J. Haleva)	28 Heshvan Tues Nov 22	Marcia Overbeck	Father AVRAHAM ben MAZALTOV (Albert B. Israel)	14 Kislev Thur Dec 8
Dave S. Azose David Altaras	Aunt LUNA bat RIVKA (Lena Naimark)	28 Heshvan Tues Nov 22	Frank Funis	Father YITZHAK ben SULTANA (Isaac D. Funis)	16 Kislev Sat Dec 10
Susan Richardson	Husband YOSEF YISRAEL ben AVRAHAM AVINU (Rick Richardson)	28 Heshvan Tues Nov 22 (9 mos.)	Isaac Almo Jack Almo Lea Lipman	Mother-in-law Grandmother MACHLA bat MALKA (Margie Winkler)	16 Kislev Sat Dec 10
David Naggar	Father NISSIM ben HANNA (Serge Carlos Nissim Naggar)	28 Heshvan Tues Nov 22 (12 mos.)	Jeffrey Lipsen	Mother ESTHER bat SARA (Esther Lipsen)	17 Kislev Sun Dec 11
Cynthia Gamel	Mother PERAL KALA bat YEHUDIT (Paula Carol Kravette)	29 Heshvan Wed Nov 23	Sharonna Hassan	Grandmother PIHA RUT bat FLORENCE (Phyllis Kadish)	18 Kislev Mon Dec 12
Lilly De Jaen Mordo De Jaen Albert De Jaen	Father YISRAEL ben ZIMBOOL (Israel DeJaen)	29 Heshvan Wed Nov 23	Jack Cordova Joff Cordova David Cordova	Wife Mother BELLA bat DORIS (Barbara Cordova)	18 Kislev Mon Dec 12 (9 mos.)
Bernice Belur	Husband YAAKOV ben RAHEL (Jack Belur)	1 Kislev Thurs Nov 24 (7 mos.)	Blanche Hanoh	Mother MATILDA bat LEA (Mathilda Binoun)	19 Kislev Tues Dec 13
Simon Amiel Sam Arriol	Grandfather SHEMUEL ben PALOMA (Rev. Samuel Benaroya)	2 Kislev Sat Nov 26	Rita Calderon Marlene Piha	Daughter Sister LEVANA RIVKA bat RITA (Lynne Marie Coe)	19 Kislev Tues Dec 13
Andrea Schaloum	Father SHEMUEL ben OSNA (Samuel Cowan)	4 Kislev Mon Nov 28	Irvin Condiotty Wendy Condiotty	Mother GETTEL bat FREIDA (Gloria Condiotty)	19 Kislev Tues Dec 13
Sue Barokas Sam (Bill) Calvo	Father YEHUDA ben REYNA (Leo Calvo)	6 Kislev Wed Nov 30	Rinah Benoliel	Father YOSEF ben HARAV TZVI HIRSCH (Joel Cohen)	19 Kislev Tues Dec 13 (9 mos.)
Marie Scharhon	Father YISRAEL ben MAZALTOV (Israel Halfon)	7 Kislev Thurs Dec 1	Susan Marks	Father HAIM ben LEEBA (Chaim Marks)	20 Kislev Wed Dec 14
Leon S. Mezistrano Joseph Mezistrano Anne Hirschhorn	Father SHELOMO ben HANULLA (Solomon Mezistrano)	7 Kislev Thurs Dec 1	David Polaner	Father YAAKOV ELIEZER ben YISHAYA (Jerome Polaner)	20 Kislev Wed Dec 14
David Abouafia Diane Abouafia	Father ELI ben MAZALTOV (Elie D. Abouafia)	10 Kislev Sun Dec 4 (7 mos.)			
Saralyn Negrin Janet Jassen	Father AVRAHAM ben PERLA (Albert L. Benzra)	12 Kislev Tues Dec 6			

## Meldados (continued)

Pearl L. Varon Ben Varon	Brother Uncle HEZKIYAHU ben LEAH Harry B. Varon	20 Kislev Wed Dec 14	Luann Bertram Morris Muscatel	Father DAVID ben KADUN (David M. Muscatel)	29 Kislev Thur Dec 22
Terry Azose	Mother NESHKE bat FAGEL (Natalie Fingeroot)	21 Kislev Thur Dec 15	Michael Freund	Father YOSEF ben SARAH (Josef Freund)	2 Tevet Mon Dec 26
Sol L. Azose Dave S. Azose Victor Amira	Grandfather SHELOMO ben MAZAL TOV (Rabbi Solomon Azose)	22 Kislev Thur Dec 15	Rachel Calvo Estelle Handlin	Father YAAKOV ben RAHEL (Jack Funes)	2 Tevet Mon Dec 26
Louise Berman	Father MOSHE ben KADUN (Morris Chiprut)	22 Kislev Thur Dec 15	Linda Souriano Israeli	Mother RIVKA bat REYNA (Rebecca Souriano)	2 Tevet Mon Dec 26
Roz Bornstein	Grandfather MORDECHAI YOSEPH ben BEYA (Marco J. Calvo)	23 Kislev Sat Dec 17	Sol L. Azose Pearl Barokas	Mother LISA bat PERLA (Eliza Azose)	2 Tevet Mon Dec 26
Ann Pinsky	Father BARUCH ben YOSEF (Bernard Pinsky)	23 Kislev Sat Dec 17	Saralyn Negrin Janet Jassen	Uncle YAAKOV ben PERLA (Jack L. Benzra)	5 Tevet Thur Dec 29
Kalhorino Barokas Larry Barokas	Husband Brother MENAHEM ben SARA (Morgan A. Barokas)	24 Kislev Sun Dec 18	Victor Halela	Brother YEHUDA ben MERCADA (Loun Halela)	5 Tevet Thur Dec 29
Jack Azose	Mother LEAH LILY bat HABIBA (Leah Lily Azose)	26 Kislev Tues Dec 20	Isaac Almo Jack Almo Lea Lipman	Father-in-law Grandfather YAAKOV ben FRUMA (Jack Winkler)	5 Tevet Thur Dec 29
Albert De Jaen	Wife LEAH bat MIHAL (Lynne De Jaen)	26 Kislev Tues Dec 20	Janet Calvo	Mother MALKA bat ORO (Molly Huniu)	6 Tevet Thur Dec 29
Albert Moshcatel Michael Moshcatel	Mother MAZALTOV bat REINA (Frances Moshcatel)	26 Kislev Tues Dec 20	Michael Benzikry	Father MOSHE ben ORLI (Moshe Benzikry)	7 Tevet Sat Dec 31
Alan Benoliel David Benoliel	Father YOSEF HAYIM ben YEHUDIT (Joseph Benoliel)	27 Kislev Wed Dec 21	Sara Blumenzweig Cocilo Blumenzweig	Husband Father YAAKOV ben SONIA (Jacques Blumenzweig)	7 Tevet Sat Dec 31
Beloria Levy	Brother MEIR ben AZIZA (Michel Elkaim)	28 Kislev Thurs Dec 22	Jerry Mezistrano	Mother FLOR bat NEAMA (Florence Mezistrano)	7 Tevet Sat Dec 31
Ruth Haleva Jack Haleva	Husband Uncle SHEMUEL ben LUNA (Sam Haleva)	28 Kislev Thur Dec 22 (7 mos.)			
Jerry Haleva Jack Haleva	Sister LEVANA SIMHA bat REYNA (Linda Joy Lewis)	29 Kislev Thur Dec 22			

## Sephardic Bikur Holim Congregation

6500 52nd Avenue South  
Seattle, WA 98118

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## Community Life in Pictures



### Religious Staff

Rabbi - Benjamin Hassan  
Rabbi Emeritus - Simon Benzaquen  
Hazzan - Rabbi Frank Varon  
Gabbai - Larry Almo

### Officers

President - Jack Schaloum  
1st Vice President - David Benezra  
2nd Vice President - Jack Azose  
3rd Vice President - Cynthia Gamel  
Treasurer - Steve Altchech  
Secretary - Bruce Mezistrano  
Grand Trustee - Sam Mezistrano

### Board of Trustees

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Robert Gladstein  
Jack Gottesman  
Marci Hanan  
Laura Haleva  
Judy Maimon  
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Beth Ann Varon

**Youth Director** - Aharona Gans

**Caretaker** - Yehuda Gonzalez

**Office Manager** - Laura Van Klaveren

**Telephone:** 206-723-3028

**Email:** info@sbhseattle.org

**Website:** www.sbhseattle.org

## La Boz - Volume XLIII No. 6

November/December 2022

HESHVAN/KISLEV 5783

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Articles submitted are the opinion of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of La Boz or Sephardic Bikur Holim Congregation. Acknowledgment of life cycle events is consistent with Halachic principles.

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# Community Life in Pictures

Photos from Tishree Treats  
on September 18, 2022

