



United Synagogue Leader Rabbi Wernick To Speak at Men's Club Shabbat Dinner

By Sam Husney

United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism Chief Executive Officer Rabbi Steven C. Wernick will be the featured speaker at the annual Men's Club *Shabbat* service and dinner—open to the entire congregation—on Friday, March 20. Rabbi Wernick was named one of Newsweek's 50 Most Influential Rabbis in America and was on The Forward's List of 50 Influential Jewish Leaders.

The Friday evening service, which precedes the dinner and presentation, will be held in the Multipurpose Room and will be conducted entirely by members of

the Men's Club. Members of men's clubs at Conservative congregations throughout the world conduct the service on this *Shabbat, Shabbat HaChodesh*. Rabbi Wernick will speak following a complete traditional *Shabbat* dinner, to be held in the Crystal Ballroom. The service begins at 6:30 P.M. and the dinner begins at 7:30 P.M.

The cost of the dinner is \$25 per person and \$15 for children 13 and younger. Reservations can be made by bringing or sending a check to the Temple Israel office. Further information about the service, dinner and speaker is available by calling the synagogue office, 482-7800.

Beginning with the successful passing of the strategic plan for the "new United Synagogue," Rabbi Wernick has spearheaded a progressive plan to transform the international organization of Conservative congregations to meet the needs of what he termed "sacred

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Rabbi Steven Wernick

Planning for the Temple Israel Gala



A large committee has formed to plan Temple Israel's Annual Dinner Dance, this year honoring outgoing President Alan Klinger and his wife, Susan Wagner, on Sunday, April 19. Chaired by Simone and Robert Kahen, Elise and Richard Kestenbaum, and Miriam and Kenneth Kobliner, the committee includes Eleanor and Kaveh Askari, Barbara Hirsch and Steven Atlas, Vivian and Yuval Brash, Lori and Alan Cooper, Farnaz and Mike Delafraz, Joanna and David Eshaghoff, Andrea and Jeff Farkas, Fariba and Lee Harounian, Seth Horowitz, Sherry and Sam Husney, Freddy

and Harvey Kadden, Barbara and Henry Katz, Ronnie and Marc Katz, Pargol and Steven Khadavi, Parvaneh and Parviz Khodadadian, Fran and Marc Langsner, Susan and Robert Lopatkin, Veronica and Jonathan Lurvey, Trudy and Steven Markowitz, Nicole and Gary Mazer, Ofra and Rob Panzer, Moji and Omid Pourmoradi, Eileen and Mickey Putterman, Debbie Sedaghat, Debbie and Steve Shepsman, Ossie and Douglas Spector, Lynn and Gil Weitzman, and Bracha and Marty Werber.

Voice photo by Bob Lopatkin

Shalom Club's Years of Bonding

By Mickey Putterman

EDITOR'S NOTE: The Shalom Club, the congregation's oldest arm, has spent years forming lasting friendships. Club President Mickey Putterman invites you to join them and be part of the fun.

What remains over the years is the essence of human encounters, therefore let's share how unique and fulfilling Shalom Club can be. We can with honesty relate to the past 53 years as a joy of what a group like Shalom Club is and continues to be for

It is truly an enriching and warming experience.

all who choose to take their place in the adventure of life in Temple Israel of Great Neck.

No longer "The Young Married Set," still we learn, still we debate, still we visit, still we encounter and still we share the attributes of joining together once a month to

FROM THE RABBI

One Day with the Hartman Institute

By Rabbi Howard Stecker

I'm writing from Jerusalem where I'm participating in the second winter portion of the Rabbinic Leadership Initiative, a program for over 20 rabbis from varying ideological perspectives. In the past I've shared teachings and insights that I gleaned from my experience. Recently Temple Israel hosted two other rabbis from the program, Rabba Sara Hurwitz and Rabbi David Ingber.

In order to give a sense of the depth and breadth of the program, I'd like to present a chronology, with minor descriptions, of most of the events that transpired on a single day. Below is an account of my experience with the Hartman Institute in Jerusalem on Monday, February 2, 2015.

• 8 A.M. Breakfast with several of my colleagues and Dr. Yehuda Kurtzer, President of the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America. Yehuda spoke with us about the inaugural year of a new program, a Gap Year for American and Israeli students that allows them to explore Jewish topics together and to engage in dialogue about the realities of American and Israeli life. He told us that he is thrilled by the enthusiastic engagement of North American and Israeli teens that he has witnessed.

dine, to sip wine, to shine with enthusiasm, become tense or make sense in the political or cultural arena, vent not bent to listen, to question, to bristle, to applaud, sometimes whistle when the speaker shares her or his personal source. We radiate a personality of care and involvement of others in need, of study and questioning, of bristling with tales of new ventures and the ongoing input of the past. We sing, tell stories, some of glories of our history, and recollect yesterday with conventional respect. We are in essence builders, founders, givers and keepers, shareholders and seekers of this ever-living magnificent space, our spiritual home, Temple Israel of Great Neck, and of life itself, which surrounds and abounds within us. You can never be too young to share in all that we offer with warmth, with

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• 9 A.M. Study and discussion of Jewish sources from Bible to Zohar that deal with the theme of universalism and particularism in Jewish thought. Unfortunately the scheduled instructor, Dr. Melila Hellner-Eshed, Professor of Jewish mysticism and Zohar at Hebrew University, was unable

...Hartman is cultivating nuanced conversation and action regarding Israel and Judaism.

to teach due to the death of her husband the night before. Dr. Biti Roi, a Lecturer in Jewish Mysticism at Hebrew University, filled in for her colleague after offering a brief reflection about Melila's husband and leading us in the chanting, in his memory, of a medieval poem about the soul. We made plans to pay a *shiva* call to Melila. The subsequent study and discussion raised

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United Synagogue's Rabbi Wernick Will Speak at Men's Club Dinner March 20th

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congregations, *kehillot*." He has shepherded the successful launch of several programs for USCJ, including the new Sulam for Emerging Leaders, focused on strengthening and transforming *kehillot* through the training of their future Leaders. To date, USCJ has partnered with *kehillot* to engage more than 1,000 new leaders, including a large group from Temple Israel. He has also built successful partnerships with PJ Library, the Ruderman Foundation, and other movement partners.

As the son of a rabbi and a Jewish educator, Rabbi Wernick was actively involved in USY and Camp Ramah. He was born in Philadelphia and raised in a variety of cities across North America, including Oakland, California, and Winnipeg, Manitoba, in central Canada. He is a graduate of the University of Minnesota and the University of Judaism and was ordained at the Jewish Theological Seminary. He served as the associate rabbi at Temple Beth Shalom in Cherry Hill, New Jersey, and then as the senior rabbi at Adath Israel in suburban Philadelphia. He has also been the president of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Rabbinical Assembly. As rabbi of Adath Israel, Rabbi Wernick took a synagogue that had been withering and turned it into one of the region's most vibrant congregations. He still draws on his experiences at Adath Israel as he works to grow United Synagogue.

MAZAL TOV TO . . .

• **Faye and Joseph Rokhsar** on the birth of their grandson, Jack Henry Rokhsar.

DAILY MINYAN TIMES

Mon. & Thur.	6:45 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Monday, Feb. 16	8:15 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Tues. & Wed.	7:00 A.M.	8:00 P.M.
Fri., Feb. 6 & 13	7:00 A.M.	5:15 P.M.
Sat., Feb. 7	9:00 A.M.	4:40 P.M.
Sat., Feb. 14	9:00 A.M.	4:50 P.M.
Sunday	8:15 A.M.	8:00 P.M.

CANDLE LIGHTING TIMES

Friday, Feb. 6	5:00 P.M.
Friday, Feb. 13	5:08 P.M.

Next Voice Issue, Deadline

The next issue of The Voice, the Purim issue, will be published on February 19. The deadline for that issue is Monday, February 9.

IN MEMORIAM

Temple Israel extends condolences
to the families of:

HAROLD B. FINK

husband of Barbara Fink
and esteemed member of Temple Israel

ANITA KINSHUCK

mother of Fay Mattana

May their memories be for a blessing.

Rabbi Roth Will Lead Temple Israel Schools On Family Trip to Israel

Temple Israel's schools are travelling to Israel!

Director of Congregational Schools Rabbi Amy Roth will lead a group of parents and students from the Religious School and Waxman High School and Youth House, as well as other members of the congregation, on a seven day educational trip to Israel from June 28-July 8.

"We are attempting to create milestones in the lives of Temple Israel families that connect them to the congregation and further the development of family Jewish exploration," Rabbi Roth said. "A Bar or Bat Mitzvah is a key moment in the life of a family and a natural progression of events is to take a family trip to Israel, but all are welcome to join us."

The congregation's travellers will leave from Kennedy Airport on El Al, and visit Temple Israel's sister congregation in Ashkelon, Kehillat Netzach Israel, conduct a Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremony at Robinson's Arch, and be joined by Senior Rabbi Howard Stecker for part of the trip. The group will spend two nights in Tel Aviv, two nights in Jerusalem including Shabbat, and two nights in a kibbutz in the north of Israel. Planned is a Jeep tour in the Golan Heights, rafting on the Jordan River, a hands-on volunteer experience with a food bank, and floating in the Dead Sea. There will also be special activities for young children on the trip.

The trip, which includes flights to and from Tel Aviv, hotels, seven days of touring in a luxury air-conditioned bus, a licensed English-speaking tour guide and meals, is arranged by Da'at Educational Expeditions. Prices start at \$5,189.

"This will be a powerful, group bonding experience for all ages," Rabbi Roth said. She invited inquiries for further information about the trip by calling her or Waxman Youth House Director Danny Mishkin at 482-7800.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT TEMPLE ISRAEL

Feb.	8	Family B'nai Mitzvah Workshop III With Cantor Frieder	9:30 A.M.
	8	Single Connection Sunday Brunch	11:00 A.M.
	8	"The Adventures of Mitzvah Man and Estie the Mensch" - Presented by PJ Library Storybook Theater	3:00 P.M.
	8	TILL Movie Night Presents "The Green Prince"	7:30 P.M.
	9	Sisterhood Board Meeting	10:00 A.M.
	22	Shalom Club Dinner Meeting	6:30 P.M.
	26	Board of Trustees Meeting	8:15 P.M.
	28	Niggun Circle Led by Cantor Frieder	1:00 P.M.
Mar.	1	Purim Carnival	10:00 A.M.
	5	Congregational Purim Celebration	
	8	TILL Movie Night	7:30 P.M.
	9	Sisterhood Board Meeting	10:00 A.M.
	14	Temple Israel Players Production of "Mame"	8:00 P.M.
	15	Temple Israel Players Production of "Mame"	2:00 P.M.
	15	Temple Israel Players Cast Party	6:00 P.M.
	16	"Jews of the Civil War" Sisterhood Program	Noon

A NOTE ABOUT SHABBAT SERVICES

Shaharit, the morning service on Shabbat, begins at 9:00 A.M.

Note that Pesuqei d'Zimrah, the preparatory prayers, will take place at 8:45 A.M., and the first Mourner's Kaddish will be recited immediately prior to the Torah reading, at around 9:25 A.M. in the Sanctuary.



Wednesday, March 18, 2015

8:00 PM - 10:00 PM

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Learning Through Science

By Rachel Mathless

Beth HaGan celebrated Tu B'Shevat, the birthday for the trees, with a beautiful seder. All the children contributed their favorite fruits from which the Land of Israel is blessed—dates, figs, pomegranates, and so many exotic fruits. We drank some wine (grape juice), did some really creative art work and had birthday cake. A good time was had by all.

We are assiduously at work on the Torah Science Fair. Our projects reflect a month-long study of topics ranging from the solar system, the plant cycle, the five senses, and sea life. We have been hypothesizing and experimenting. We're learning how fabrics are made and designed and the journey the challah takes all the way from the wheat seed in the field to our *Shabbat* table. We've studied shadow and light—why our shadows "grow" and "shrink." We've been experimenting with many different fabrics

*We are so excited
to display our projects
and share what
we learned.*



Beth HaGaners learned about silkworms eating mulberry leaves for the Science Fair.



The Beth HaGan Dolphins class prepares Joseph's coat for their science project.

and weaving Joseph's coat. We have invited a spinner and a weaver to our event. They will bring their wheels and looms and give a demonstration. We are so excited to display our projects and share what we learned.

Beth HaGan recently acquired a state of the art block set created by the Blue Man

*...children can come
and create
whenever the spirit
moves them to do so.*

Group and distributed by "Imagination Playground." These open-ended creative blocks are housed in their own space and children are free to create and negotiate and collaborate on all sorts of imaginative pieces. It is fascinating to listen to the conversations. These blocks help children with critical thinking, problem solving, and social development. Their work is elaborate and helps the children make sense of the world around them. The room is always open and children can come and create whenever the spirit moves them to do so.

Registration for our wonderful summer program as well as the 2015-2016 school year is open now. Please call the office for an application.

Congregation Thanks Sponsors of Kiddush

Appreciation is expressed by the Temple Israel officers and Board of Trustees to members who have generously sponsored and enhanced the Sabbath *kiddush*.

Contributions toward the *kiddush* on December 13 were made by Claudia and Bruce Newman in honor of the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Aaron, and Jennifer Beroorkhim and Robert Somekh in honor of their *Auf Ruf*.

The congregational *kiddush* on December 20 was co-sponsored by Raeann and Ashley Nemiroff in honor of the *Bar Mitzvah* of their grandson, Martin, and Kiumarz Geula in memory of his father, Hoshang Geula.

A contribution toward the *kiddush* on December 27 was made by Susan and Arden Smith in honor of Dr. Smith chanting the Torah portion *Parashat Vayigash* on the 50th anniversary of his *Bar Mitzvah*.

The congregational *kiddush* on January 24 was sponsored by Lauraine and Jonathan Kanders in honor of the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Richard.

A contribution toward the *kiddush* on January 31 was made by Helene and Kenneth Horowitz in honor of the *Bar Mitzvah* of their son, Spencer.

Voice Guest Column: Shalom Club's Years of Bonding

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love, with ongoing determination.

You as a congregant and membership in the Shalom Club are a formula for success. When we find each other the *shidach* is everlasting. The mere fact that several new groups can also make the very same statement is simply a testimony to Temple Israel and its distinctive and compelling personality. Our families have grown and from time to time we are treated to an evening of sharing their present history with us. We are delighted to find family members, whatever the age, enlighten us by their expertise, their story, **their own unique and compelling moments** of special interest. It is truly an enriching and warming experience.

We are a group of men and women concerned with understanding and living the Jewish experience. We try to make that happen through visits to places of Jewish interest, and encourage meeting with Jews from around the world. We've traveled to Israel together, as well as Barcelona and Budapest in order to deepen our understanding of the Jews of the world. We've met with the Black Jewish community and made visits to many of our rare and beautiful Sephardic synagogues, which have opened their doors in Great Neck. It has heightened and deepened our sense of Jewish awareness everywhere.

We stand on the threshold of tomorrow in our community which gives us an ongoing sense of commitment and responsibility not only to each other, but also to the broader synagogue family. We invite

you to join us, become a member, and look forward to one Sunday a month for dinner and an evening which is a winner always.

You will always be most welcome in the Shalom Club. Our preference is not to deal with chronology but with a psychology of life that is full of open doors, fresh

ideas, celebrations and we never, never forget *simchas*.

The Board members of the Shalom Club invite you to join the club: Renee and Elliot Fleischer, Betty Lager, Estelle Nadler, Eileen and Mickey Putterman, Ellen and Milton Rosen, and Bela and Mel Schoenfeld.

One Day with the Hartman Institute

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questions that we applied to contemporary Jewish life. How is the Jewish experience of God and history unique? What are the parameters of our loyalty to our people specifically and to humanity overall?

- 1:30 P.M. Discussion with leaders of the Jewish Pluralism Watch, an advocacy group for religious freedom and empowerment for all Jews in Israel. The discussion included an analysis of efforts in the Knesset to extend legitimacy to non-Orthodox Judaism and to expand the rights of women in religious life.

- 3:30 P.M. Meetings with three Knesset Members from various parts of the political spectrum: Dr. Shimon Ohayon (Yisrael Beiteinu), Michal Biran (Labor) and Dr. Aliza Lavie (Yesh Atid). Dr. Ohayon and Dr. Lavie described, with variations, their commitment to Orthodox Halakhah as the defining criterion for policies regarding personal status. Discussion got quite heated as our cohort, largely Reform and Conservative rabbis, challenged them on their stated parameters for Halakhic authority and their refusal to advocate for separation of religion and state when it comes to matters of personal status and issues affecting the public square.

- 6:30 P.M. Dinner with my colleagues at a local restaurant. After we enjoyed a collegial meal together, Yehuda Kurtzer shared some of the successes and challenges of the Muslim Leadership Initiative, a Hartman program that brings North American Muslim leaders to the Institute to learn about Israel and Judaism.

I can't overstate the impact that the Hartman Institute is having in multiple realms within and beyond the Jewish community in Israel and in North America. For religious and lay leaders, for adults and teens, for IDF officers and Israeli educators, Hartman is cultivating nuanced conversation and action regarding Israel and Judaism. If you consider the single day I described as somewhat of a microcosm, you get a small sense of the transformative impact of this visionary institution. For me personally it is exceeding expectations and impacting my own thinking in ways I will continue to share.

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Horowitz, becoming a
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From Generation to Generation



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and Seth Moin

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In appreciation of:

All those who led the
evening service during the
shiva period for
Grace Barkas
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Arden Smith's 50th *Bar
Mitzvah* anniversary
The engagement of Jackie
Schultz, daughter of
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reading her Torah portion
on *Shabbat*
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Cantor Frieder's kindness
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Their son, Jordan,
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TORAH FUND

In honor of:
Harry Silberglait
Elaine Silberglait

In memory of:
Walter Handelman
Marlene Handelman

SHABBAT SERVICES

—Continued from back page

Friday, February 13

Evening Service 5:15 P.M.

Saturday, February 14

Shabbat Shekalim

Morning Service 9:00 A.M.

Weekly Portion: *Mishpatim*

Exodus 21:1 - 24:18; 30:11 - 16

Haftarah: II Kings 11:17 - 12:17

Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters:

Lynn Weitzman, Keyvan Frouzan,

Rachel Geula and Brent Greenspan

Havurah Service 10:00 A.M.

Junior Congregation 10:30 A.M.

Toddler Service 11:00 A.M.

Minhah 4:50 P.M.

Se'udah Shelishit 5:20 P.M.

Ma'ariv 5:55 P.M.

Havdalah 6:10 P.M.

TEMPLE ISRAEL VOICE

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D'VAR TORAH

By Rabbi Marim D. Charry

Yitro Saturday, February 7

In this portion we read of the greatest event in the entire history of the people of Israel—the revelation at Mt. Sinai. The portion opens with an account of the visit of Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, to the Israelite camp just after they have crossed the Sea. Jethro suggests an administrative arrangement to Moses, which significantly enhances Moses' effectiveness as a judge. The people then proceed to the foot of Mt. Sinai where they engage in three days of purification in preparation for God's appearance. The proclamation of the Ten Commandments itself is accompanied by smoke and fire and the sound of the shofar. The effect on the people is overwhelming, so much so that they cannot bear to hear God's voice directly and Moses serves as an intermediary. The experience of Sinai establishes a covenantal relationship between God and Israel, which is to last to eternity and put its distinctive stamp on the entire future development of the people.

Mishpatim Saturday, February 14

We find details of the covenant entered into between God and Israel in this portion. Since the relationship is all-inclusive, we find rules pertaining to social conduct, morality, ethics, civil and criminal law and ritual concerns. Like the Ten Commandments, the source of these rules is divine. The legal material set forth here is not a code in the strict sense, since there are significant subjects not touched upon. (These subjects are, however, dealt with elsewhere in the Torah.) On the other hand, the material does make clear that God's demands of His people cover matters of conscience as well as matters usually subject to juridical control. The portion concludes with an account of the ratification of the covenant, and Moses ascends Mt. Sinai to remain there for 40 days and nights for the purpose of writing down the specific details. Thus, the freedom gained at the Exodus has now been confirmed and institutionalized in law. The next step will be to create a physical institution that will serve as the embodiment and reminder of the experience at Sinai.

SHABBAT SERVICES

A NOTE ABOUT SHABBAT SERVICES

Shaharit, the morning service on *Shabbat*, begins at 9:00 A.M. Note that *Pesukei d'Zimrah*, the preparatory prayers, will take place at 8:45 A.M., and the first Mourner's Kaddish will be recited immediately prior to the Torah reading, at around 9:25 A.M. in the Sanctuary.

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	Friday, February 6	
Evening Service		5:15 P.M.
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	Saturday, February 7	
Morning Service		9:00 A.M.
	Weekly Portion: <i>Yitro</i> Exodus 18:1 - 20:23	
	<i>Haftarah</i> : Isaiah 6:1 - 7:6; 9:5 - 6	
	Sabbath Service Officers and Greeters: Rebecca Friedman-Charry, Eleanor Askari, Keyvan Frouzan and Diana Stein	
	<i>B'nai Mitzvah</i> BRANDON FARAJOLLAH son of Navid and Ramin Farajollah ETHAN YOUSSEFI son of Deborah and Albert Youssefi	
Junior Congregation		10:30 A.M.
Toddler Service		11:00 A.M.
<i>Shabbat HaMishpachah</i>		4:00 P.M.
<i>Minhah</i>		4:40 P.M.
<i>Se'udah Shelishit</i>		5:10 P.M.
<i>Ma'ariv</i>		5:46 P.M.
<i>Havdalah</i>		6:01 P.M.

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