

HISTORIC B'NAI JACOB SYNAGOGUE



Nissley at Water Streets

Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057

AUGUST 2011

Services Calendar

Selichos:

Sat. Sept. 24, 2011 - 7:30 p.m.

Erev Rosh Hashana (5772):

Wed. Sept. 28, 2011 - 7:30 p.m.

Rosh Hashanah:

Thurs. Sept. 29, 2011 -

9:15 a.m. (1st Day Services)

(at the Shul)

6:30 p.m. (Evening Service)

(at CUMBERLAND CROSSING
RETIREMENT HOME, Carlisle, PA
IN THE CARD ROOM ON LEFT
(LOWER LEVEL EAST WING)

2nd Day Rosh Hashanah

Fri. Sept. 30, 2011 - 9:15 a.m.

Yom Kippur/Kol Nidre:

Fri. Oct. 7, 2011 - 6:45 p.m.

Yom Kippur/Yizkor:

Sat. Oct. 8, 2011 -

9:15 a.m./11:15 a.m.

**Mincha/Ne'ela Service: 5:00 p.m.,
followed by Break-the-Fast**

Shabbos Service/

**Commemorating the Founders
of Historic B'nai Jacob**

Fri. Oct. 28, 2011 - 7:30 p.m.

Shabbos Service/Veterans' Day

Fri. Nov. 11, 2011 - 7:30 p.m.

Chanukah Party

Sunday, Dec. 18, 2011 - 5:00 p.m.

Also Board Meeting,

Special Raffle and Fresh Latkes

See Schedule Changes on Website:

<http://www.bnai-jacob.org>

SHAPING UP THE SHUL FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS

Our Shul is continuing to receive recognition as a local treasure, even while our Congregation is working hard on the continuing upkeep required to carry us through this second century in the Shul's history. Last Spring, we replaced the original roof and we are currently getting bids to renovate the front brick entrance stairs and columns, which were originally built with different size brick extras from a local brickyard. While our Founders' craftsmanship and ingenuity have weathered floods and more than a century of service for our Congregation, continuing fundraising and support from our Congregation and friends is required to maintain their wonderful gift to our community, since our Shul does not charge dues for membership and is open to all. A special request for support for the new roof and entranceway is included with this year's High Holy Days circulars. Please help support our Shul through the next century!

The history and architecture of our Shul is the subject of two monographs by Matthew Singer, a descendent of one of our Founders, currently at the Philadelphia Art Museum. The monographs, including their remarkable illustrations and bibliographies, are available on the Shul Website. The Shul is also scheduled to be featured in a new book on Country Synagogues.

The Shul received a gift of artwork for a "Fraktur" poster from the folkartist, Dennis Stephan (see insert). Signed artist's proofs of the poster, with or without framing, along with boxed note cards, will soon be available for sale to benefit the Shul.



Betty Ornstein

Scholarship Recipient

Julie Barbara received the 2011 Betty Ornstein Scholarship.



Julie overcame a serious birth defect, hydrocephalus, and the related surgeries and shunts and learning disabilities, to graduate from Middletown High School while

completing three college-level courses: Health Information Technology, Oral and Written Communication, and the HACC-Frey Village cooperative Nurse Aide program .

REMEMBERING JAKE ZUCK, z'l

Our Congregation celebrated the life of Jake Zuck, z'l, at the unveiling of his gravestone last month. Jake's family and friends attended the service led by Rabbi Ron Muroff. Any occasion involving Jake comes with some of the many wonderful stories from his life. We are planning to capture some to put on our Shul's Website. Jake's devotion to the Shul, like that of his sister, Lena Zacks, z'l, also helped keep alive the vision of their father, Eliezer Zacks, z'l, who helped found our Shul and was its first President. Their endowment of the Zacks Family Fund helps provide for the Shul's future needs and is an account to which present and future Congregation members can add their support for continuing our Shul's mission. Remembering Jake Zuck always leaves you smiling and repeating his call to service: "See you in Shul!"

Check Out Your Ancestors?

Our Shul Website has a link: <http://www.pusalotas.org> which has family history, tax lists, pictures and other information from the area in Lithuania from which our Founders came to America, including tours of Jewish sites and archives that remain in the area. Ida Betty Ornstein, z'l, the daughter of one of our Founders, reminded us that our Middletown Founders were Pusalotas Jews, confirming our Shul's historic connection and roots.

BY THE WAY

No Championship Trophy from the Summer Slam Basketball League this year, but "well done" to the team and its coaches for another exciting season.

Dr. Mike Eckstein, our Shul President, assisted with the "Affirmation Ceremony" for Dr. Tom Armstrong, our Shul Vice President, becoming the new Deputy Secretary for Tax Policy for the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue.

Our Shul Secretary provided the Invocation for a meeting of the Middletown Borough Council and will be speaking about "Thanksgiving" at the Middletown Interfaith Council Annual Dinner on November 23, 2011 (See: Lev. 7:12 for the first mention).

Julian Armstrong is completing the fundraising for his Eagle Scout Project, a Sukkah for the Shul lawn. Check out the progress during the Festival of Booths this Fall.

Our Congregation sent a get well gift basket to Bob Madden, who had taken care of mowing the Shul lawn and general outside maintenance. Continuing best wishes to Bob for a full and speedy recovery.

If you were not able to join us for our first Raffle fundraiser last Purim, another one is planned for our Chanukah Party in December. We had a great turnout (well there were those homemade hamentaschen too!), Everybody went home with a prize. and funds were raised. Thanks to Mike and Celeste Eckstein for this new Shul tradition.

IT TAKES ALOT OF WORK

Keeping our Shul in shape takes alot of work. Our Shamus and his Assistant, Larry and Harry Kapenstein, live in Middletown, monitor the Shul and coordinate permits and issues with the Borough. Our Building Committee, Dr. Loren and Deb Barisch, have installed new doors, put in a new water heater, kept the "Eternal Light" lit, and managed the contracting and completion of the Shul's new roof (just to name a few). Our Shul has also received many gifts of work on the Shul from area friends. Thanks to all for all you do for our Shul.

SPECIAL VETERANS SERVICE

On November 11, 2011, our Shul will have a special Shabbos Service in honor of Veterans' Day. Our Shul President, Dr. Mike Eckstein, himself a retired Navy CAPTAIN, will lead the service. This will be a time not only to remember our Veterans and their service to our Country, but also the needs of current servicemen and women and their families.

There are many organizations honoring Jewish Veterans: The Jewish War Veterans of the USA, www.jwv.org, has a Pennsylvania branch that is looking for new members and meets in New Cumberland. Their Alexander D. Goode Post #97 is in Harrisburg and is named in honor of the rabbi who was one of the Four Chaplains who gave their lives during the sinking of the USAT Dorchester). The National Museum of American Jewish Military History in Washington, www.nmajmh.org, has a "Hall of Heroes" for those awarded the Medal of Honor. The new National Museum of American Jewish History, in Philadelphia, www.nmajh.org has just begun to develop its exhibits. This past June, the Korean Embassy in Israel honored Jewish Veterans' service during the Korean War, with special medals it has been awarding since 2009.

Our Congregation plans to also specially honor Dr. Eckstein and his family, who have brought so much to the life of our Shul, in commemoration of his 5-year anniversary as our Shul's President and Hazzan.

Historic B'nai Jacob Synagogue is located in Middletown, near the Harrisburg International Airport. If you have Community News that you would like to share in the next Shul Newsletter or would like to be added to our mailing list, **PLEASE** e-mail that information on the Website e-mail link at: <http://www.bnai-jacob.org>

Shul Officers (2010-2012):
Dr. Mike Eckstein (President)
Dr. Tom Armstrong (Vice President)
Bruce Baron, Esq. (Secretary)
Larry Kapenstein (Treasurer)
Dr. Loren Barisch (Asst, Treasurer/Co-Chair, Building Maintenance Committee)
Marlene Snell (Member, Executive Committee)