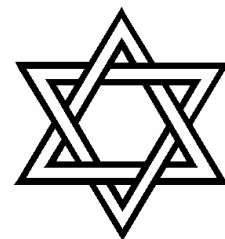


Eastside Voice



The Newsletter of the Eastside Jewish Community of Portland
PO Box 86622 — Portland, Oregon 97286

April, 2009

Vol. 18, Issue # 4

Mission Statement

“Our Mission is to further the Spiritual, Educational, and Cultural experiences of our Jewish community.”

Everyone is invited to EJCoP's
Passover Seder— April 10

Please join us for the EJCoP
Passover Seder... at

St. Ignatius School, one block
north of Powell at 43rd. (3400
SE 43rd Ave.) on Friday,
April 10, 2009.

Registration is at 5:30 P.M. with
the Seder Service beginning
with Candle Lighting at 6 :15
P.M. The Seder Feast will be
served at 7:00 PM.

**Reservations are required,
and must be received by
April 1, 2009.** Email us at
shalom@ejcop.org or phone
(503) 973-5267.



President's Message

This was the winter of weather contradictions and the most unusual one I've experienced in my 9 years in Oregon: temperatures in the teens, 2-3 foot snow drifts, the city virtually shut down for a week due to snow... Even recently, I've started to see the greening at the tips of branches, the fat pink buds on the cherry trees and then, more snow! Daylight savings time is here, so I know spring must almost be here. Spring is when the earth awakens and growth renews. Spring is also the time of Passover and the Exodus.

Over time, our people have experienced an exodus again and again – in Egypt, certainly, as told in the Passover story. There was also an exodus in Spain in 1492, in Germany and throughout Europe in the 1930's and 40's, and in Russia during the 1720s, the 1880s, and the 1970s and '80s. Although we re-tell and savor the story of our exodus from Egypt year after year, it is important to recognize that flight from oppression and mass murder isn't ours exclusively. The Jews are not the only people to be driven from the lands in which their families have lived for generations. At this time of year, let us especially remember that the flight to freedom is not solely of the Jewish experience, but that conditions in many parts of the world have called and continue to call us to action – Bangladesh, Rwanda, Croatia, and Kosovo, and Darfur.

The Eastside Jewish Community of Portland has had a Passover Seder every year since 1992. On April 10th, we will hold our Seder, led by Flip Frisch, at St. Ignatius Church. For details, see the registration form in this newsletter. Reservations need to be received by April 1st.

Shalom – Rita Cohen King

The Simcha Corner—April Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays: Lisa Wilson, Rita King, Gary Reynolds

Anniversaries: Bob & Paula Froh



April Yahrzeit

Rose Berkowitz (Bob & Paula Froh 4/17)
 Dr. Harry Silberman (David & Liz Silberman 4/22)
 Sy Kornbrodt (Mary Lou Knight-Kornbrodt) 4/10)

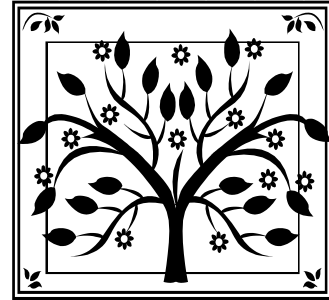
To include your loved one in future Yahrzeit notices, please send his or her name and date of passing to us at our email address: shalom@ejcop.org

Nissan/Iyar 5769 (2009) Torah Portions

Date	Torah Portion	Light Candles—	Shabbat Ends—
April 3- April 4	TZAV	7:23 PM	8:27 PM
April 10 - April 11		7:32 PM	8:37 PM
April 17 - April 18	SHEMINI	7:41 PM	8:47 PM
April 24 - April 25	TAZRIA-METZORA	7:50 PM	8:57 PM

TRIBUTES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

“Rounding up your membership dues or Shabbat dinner check is an easy way to make a contribution to Eastside Jewish Community of Portland.”



The Tree of Life

Volunteer Recognition

EJCoP would like to thank the following volunteers for their assistance with our most recent **Shabbat**:

Rob Boime, Elaine Cabelly, Bob Dragoon, Elaine Israel, Michael Kay, Roz Roseman, and David and Liz Silberman.

Without your help, there would be no Shabbat celebration.
Our ongoing thanks to Chris Nacheff Maneker, without whom
there would be no newsletter.

Please let me know if we've unintentionally missed a name.

EJCOP 2009 Schedule

**Event RSVP: shalom@ejcop.org or 503-97E-JCOP
(503-973-5267)**

April 10	(Friday)	Eastside's Passover Seder
May 8		Shabbat Service and Dinner
June 12		Shabbat Service and Dinner
July 10		Shabbat Service and Dinner
August 14		Shabbat Service and Dinner
September 11		Shabbat Service and Dinner

EJCoP Board Members

Board Officers:

President: Rita Cohen King
Vice President: Sue Sargent
Treasurer: Rob Boime
Secretary: Bob Dragoon
Cemetery Cmte Chair: Michael Kay

Board Members at Large:

Shari Bandes
Elaine Israel
Noel King

Board Advisor:

Spiritual Leader Flip Frisch



**2235 SE 11th Ave. Portland,
Oregon
503-238-8883**

**Our thanks to Kettleman's for the
donation of our Shabbat dinner
Challahs**

**17th Annual
Song of Miriam Award
Celebration**

**Please hold the date of
Sunday, June 7, 2009
10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.**

**Mittleman Jewish Community
Center
6651 SW Capitol Highway,
Portland, Oregon**

**Sponsored by the Jewish
Women's
Round Table**

AFFORDABLE FAMILY MEMORIALS

- ☆ **Excellent Quality**
- ☆ **Personal Service**
- ☆ **We come to you**
Flexible Hours

Please call for an Appointment
Personal Service since 1988
Jason R. Pope 503-515-7640

HELPING OUT..... Recently, several of our members volunteered to work in the kitchen during the St. Ignatius school auction. The auction was a great success, and our assistance each year frees up their folks to participate in the evening's activities. We received the following message from John Matcovich of St. Ignatius:

"We were very pleased that the contractor would not need to close the cafeteria or Xavier Room during the construction, so this should not affect your use of the building. I also want to extend my belated gratitude to the Eastside Jewish Community for your support of our school over the years. Your work at our auction these past few years has been blessing! I am glad that our current project will not affect your community's services. " **THANK YOU!**

**Passover: Beyond the Haggadah
Shir Ha Shirim—Song of Songs**

There are many special readings in the liturgy for the holiday of Passover:

Three special hymns are said on the first two days and on the Shabbat in the middle. All begin Hasten my Beloved—from the last verse of the Song of Songs—and all end “For the sake of the forebearers, please save the children and bring redemption to their children’s children. Blessed are You, Adonai, Who redeems Israel.”

In the Amidah on the first day, there is an additional prayer for Adonai to begin sending dew. Passover marks the changing of seasons from rainy to dry. The prayers for rain stop, and the rabbis, recognizing the need for moisture to keep the land fertile, asked Adonai for dew.

Eleazar Kalir wrote a hymn for the first day of Passover that ends:

Give dew, precious dew, that we our harvest reap;
And guard our fatted flocks and herds from leanness!
Behold our people follows Thee like sheep,
And looks to Thee to give the earth her greenness, With dew.

On the Shabbat that comes during Passover, rabbis-of-old established the tradition of reading the Song of Song before reading the Torah passages. The reason was that the Song of Songs is a love poem between Adonai and Israel. Passover is viewed as the beginning of the love affair that culminates fifty days later at the marriage between Adonai and Israel at Sinai. The Song is agriculturally, zoologically, and meteorologically correct, recognizing the order of the weather for the seasons (“Awake O north wind, and come O south.” The order of the winds that are needed for a bountiful harvest as they bring the moisture.), the descriptions and actions of the fauna, and the crops at each time. This indicates the keen observations of the author(s).

The Song of Songs is unique; Adonai’s name is never mentioned, and the scroll is one of the most beautiful erotic love poems ever written. There was great controversy over its inclusion in the Bible, but the great Rabbi Akiba prevailed when he insisted, “All the writings are holy, but the Song of Songs is the holy of holies.”

The most famous line from the Song is, “Ani dodi v’dodi li! I am my beloved’s and my beloved is mine.” I have used it often in wedding ceremonies that I write, as well as other excerpts. The beautiful Hebrew song Dodi Li (My Beloved) is from verses 10 to 12:

- 10.** My beloved raised his voice and said to me, 'Arise, my beloved, my fair one, and come away.
- 11.** For behold, the winter has passed; the rain is over and gone.
- 12.** The blossoms have appeared in the land, the time of singing has arrived, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

Continued on Page 6

Song of Songs.... continued

Judith Ernst in her beautifully illustrated book, “Song of Songs—Erotic Love Poetry” writes:

“What are we to make of the Song of Songs which still carries with it such charm and power, is still so touching to those who fall under its spell? The subject of love, even physical, erotic love, when it is conveyed with such beauty strikes a chord deep within us all. No one would deny that we are physical beings, that we are part of the created universe. Does not that physicality itself play an ineffable role in our spiritual journey?”

Rabbis and Kabbalists writing Midrash saw in the Song of Songs many specific metaphorical references to the night of watching, hope, and fear, just before the Exodus, to the Exodus itself, and on to the wandering in the wilderness.

Judaism is not alone in using this imagery; many stories from India and Persia feature the motif of separated lovers who find a deeper spiritual longing and fulfillment through their intense yearning for one another. The great love poems of Rumi for “The Beloved” are seen the same way by the Sufis.

The poet Ghalib said, “From love, nature found the taste of life. It found the cure for pain—it found a pain with no cure.”

**Hag Sameah Pesach,
Michael Kay**



Eastside Jewish Community of Portland

Passover Seder

Friday, April 10, 2009

St. Ignatius Church

3400 SE 43rd Ave. (Powell and 43rd)

Registration begins 5:30pm

Seder Service begins with Candle Lighting at 6:15pm

Seder Feast served at 7:00pm

The Eastside Jewish Community of Portland has had a Pesach Seder every year since 1992. We will again use a popular Haggadot called "A Family Haggadah II," written by Shoshana Silberman. Our Passover Seder will be a traditional one and will be led by Flip Frisch, our Service Leader.

Join us for an elegant feast that will be served family style at your table by Chef du Jour. They have an excellent reputation and will provide a wonderful Seder meal, as well as traditional celebratory foods to accompany the Service. The Board has again voted to subsidize the cost of the Seder to encourage a good attendance at a reasonable cost. We are extending this invitation and request that you make reservations in a timely manner. Prepaid reservations are required. Registrations need to be received by April 1st.

Should you have any questions or wish to make your reservations via phone, please call 503-973-5267. You will need to indicate the number of adults and children who will be attending, including the names and ages of the children, and will need to send a check prior to the event.

EJCoP PASSOVER RESERVATION

Family Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Daytime Phone: (_____) _____ Evening Phone (_____) _____

Number of adult members (12 and older) and names: _____ @ \$25.00

Number of child (6-11) members and names: _____ @ \$12.50

Number of non-member adults (12 and older) and names: _____ @ \$30.00

Number of non-member children (6-11) and names: _____ @ \$15.00

Number of children (5 and under) and names: _____ No charge

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Please help us by reserving early. Reservations, which must be prepaid, need to be received by April 1st. Please mail this form with your check to:

Eastside Jewish Community of Portland, PO Box 86622 Portland Oregon 97266

Eastside Jewish Community of Portland

Post Office Box 86622

Portland, Oregon 97286

EJCOP April 2009 At-A-Glance Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10 Passover Seder	11
12	13	14	15 Newsletter Deadline	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Board Meeting	30		