By-Law Change Is Overwhelmingly Approved

At its 14th Annual Meeting on May 23, the Congregation approved two by-law amendments, proposed by the Interfaith Task Force, which extend membership privileges to a partner of a Jewish member including the right to vote at congregational meetings and to hold a position on the Board of Directors. The by-laws were also amended to require that the President of the Board and the Director of Religious Life be Jewish, and that a minimum of three-quarters of the Board of Directors must be Jewish. The vote was 119 in favor, 12 opposed and one abstention.

“The by-law revision providing equal membership status for Jews and their spouses of another tradition is a profound expression of respect, inclusion, and honoring those who have chosen to be a Jewish family,” said Rabbi Michael. “The change builds upon the CSH tradition of radical hospitality and inclusion and is a significant first step towards creating a synagogue environment that is more embracing of intermarried couples.”

Mark Messenger, CSH President, agrees. “I think it was a very important milestone. Noam Sender at lunch said to me that we can be progressive and traditional at the same time. I feel this projects us as more welcoming and inclusive. I understand that it breaks from tradition, but in many ways that is what CSH is all about. We need to be on the cutting edge of Judaism in order to be successful and thrive.”

Bob Powell shares her opinion. “The compromise means that non-Jewish members will feel even more welcomed than they were before and that Jewish members will feel as if their synagogue remains true to its heritage and history,” he said.

Anne Selby is especially proud of the entire process. “We had dozens of meetings of our committee, spoke to many congregations that went through a similar process, and had wonderful support from CJP in guiding us through a process that would be both inclusive and respectful,” she said.

The committee held three open conversations with the Shirat community where over 40 people attended, and all complimented the quality of the discussion at the annual meeting.

Powell credits his fellow committee members with doing their due diligence to pave the way for success. “We really worked well together as a task force. We always had productive and forward-progress-making meetings. Our discussions were always honest and always seemed to lead to a consensus that we all supported,” he said.

Reggie Weinstein, who voted against the by-law proposed amendment last August, was in favor of this one. “As soon as I had read the information that only a Jewish person could be president or head of the ritual committee, I was strongly in favor of the by-law change. We need to be welcoming to all and must make sure that a non-Jewish spouse who is raising children as

Continued on page 2
**RABBI’S CORNER**

**Just Ask and Ask Again**

As a teenager, I had a hard time learning the clues of high school dating. I’d muster up the courage to ask out a girl that I had a crush on. I’d call and leave a message. When she didn’t reply, I’d call again. I was such a literalist that until she said, “I don’t want to go out with you,” I held out hope that we might go on a date.

When it comes to teen dating, silence is usually a passive way of saying, “No thanks.” Persistently failing to read this clue is unsettling.

However, when it comes to Jewish engagement, persistence is key. With the launch of T’rumot HaLev, I’ve been reaching out to unaffiliated families, inviting them to check us out. CJE Director, Janis Knight, has organized outstanding programs that show off the engaging, high-quality education that our school offers. I’ve texted and emailed potential members, inviting them to these events.

5/6/19, 11:19 AM,

The response: silence.

But, synagogue engagement is not high school dating. And, reaching out again can pay off. One month later, I texted again.

6/6/19, 10:02 AM

“I really appreciate you reaching out to me.” Wow! In contrast to high school dating, people actually appreciate being invited multiple times to get involved with the temple. Who knew?

A rabbi once said to me that every Jew needs their “Aaron.” Aaron was the high priest. One of his jobs was to light the lamps of the menorah in the Temple each night. Each human being is a mini-Temple. Our soul is the menorah, ready to shine, a promise of light. But, we all need an Aaron to light our flame, a friend to reach out and invite us into the experience of Yiddishkeit.

You have (or will receive) a new member packet, by mail or email. Please share this with a friend.

T’rumot HaLev (voluntary dues) means that you’re not asking them to pay $2,000 in membership dues, but inviting them to get involved. They determine their contribution.

Invite your friend to an upcoming Holy Happy Hour Minyan. Invite your friend to the Shabbat morning Renewal service. Invite your friend to the CJE s’mores on the beach. And much more!

So many people go through life, yearning for something more — to feel alive, whole, more content. Each of us needs an Aaron. Why not pay it forward? Why not be the one who lights another’s flame?
It was a dank and cold late Spring. We were in the shadow of Poway. Talk of the arson at two Massachusetts shuls was in the air. Now an Antisemitic incident with a Peabody Rabbi. It was the perfect day to dig my hands in the dirt and plant something. I was on my knees in the lovely garden of Helaine Hazlett — former President of Temple Beth El and caring friend. She gave me a tutorial and I began planting garlic, green beans and tomatoes seeds. I was breathing deeply and sweating, feeling energized yet relaxed. My mind was slowly calming and I was entering a flow state. Was this a gardening meditation?

I began thinking about Rabbi Michael's eloquent sermon of the previous Shabbat. He spoke of the need to reframe our language of Judaism to speak to the next generation. A necessary reseeding that will bear fruit. An hour had flown by. As I stood up, a wild turkey stood up from the bushes at the perimeter of the garden. Helaine and I walked over and, to our amazement, eight little chicks were following their mother around the garden. It was a good day.

B’shalom,
Cantor Alty

CSH Vision Statement
CSH offers multiple pathways to Jewish life, learning and prayer. We will deliver the most fulfilling spiritual experience and the best childhood and teen education on the North Shore.

Every encounter with our congregation leaves you feeling welcomed, connected and enriched.

We embrace our responsibility to invest in strengthening our Jewish community for generations to come.
Life of the Congregation

CEE 2019 Grads ALL Scream for ICE Cream!

CSH Center for Early Education graduated 17 preschoolers with a large end-of-year celebration that included a glimpse of CEE Enrichment. The festivities included: music with Mr. Philip, yoga with Jenny Frontero, and a Family Shabbat with Rabbi Michael and Cantor Alty. The afternoon ended with the outdoor classroom ribbon cutting ceremony, a pizza party for all and a visit from the ice cream truck!

CEE graduate Piper Rose Bernard, a 5th generation member, is all smiles. Who doesn’t love to have fun at a water table on a beautiful June day? The outdoor classroom at CSH preschool is a big hit!

CSH Presence at the Peabody Rally for Peace, Unity and Inclusion

Larry Groipen and Rabbi Michael affixed a new mezuzah to the temple. Rabbi Michael Ragozin (2nd row, far right) was among the North Shore clergy who stood in solidarity.
Great Shavuot Kugel Cookoff Is a Huge Success!

Saturday, June 8 was not a night for dieters at Shirat’s Great Shavuot Kugel Cookoff contest when 50 congregants tasted their way through 11 kugels, from sweet to savory, from fruit-topped to cheerios laden.

The bakers were: Faith Kramer, Wayne Goldberg, Kay Mahler, Cheryl Schwartz, Louis Sadur, Rand Foreman-Bergman, Gilli Rosenzweig, Karen Madorsky, Madeline Stark (who made two kugels!) and Paige Goloboy.


'Tasters' Choice went to Paige Goloboy.

We Welcome Our Newest Members

Welcome to Shirat Hayam’s newest members, Natalia, Marina and Alexander Epstein from Reading and Roberta Chadis from Salem. When you see them either at CSH or in the community, extend that famous CSH radical hospitality and introduce yourself. L'dor v’dor!

"I have a few friends in CSH neighborhood who are members of CSH, but I live in Reading, which is quite a distance from Swampscott, so I’m not able to come there as often as I’d like. But on the High Holidays, I like to be able to join my friends at CSH, and I’ve been doing that for several years as their guests. Now that CSH has instituted a voluntary dues model, I’m still able to attend High Holiday services — but now I am also a member!"

— Alexander Epstein

"I joined Shirat Hayam to become more involved in the community and to deepen my spiritual soul. Many of my friends are members of Shirat Hayam, and I enjoy the warmth and positive energy I feel whenever I walk through the front door. Having grown up in Swampscott, I feel connected to the neighborhood and look forward to expanding my network of friends by engaging in the services and programs."

— Roberta Chadis
CONDOLENCES

Our deepest condolences to those who have passed away.

NON-MEMBERS:
Edward Lovins 6/11/2019
Father of Susan Weiner

Bruce Sachar 4/15/2019
Uncle of Dawn Ehrlich and Richard Salinsky, Friend of Ruth Ross

Leonard Glaser 5/30/2019
Father of Caryn Cohen

Karen Malionek 5/16/2019
Daughter of Joan Garfield

DONATIONS

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND
In appreciation of the Rabbi's course on the Book of Samuel by Muriel Follick

In appreciation for Josh Kay's and Brook Patkin's Aufruf by Jonathan & Linda Kay

In honor of Barri Stein and Rabbi Michael for all their help with our aufruf by Randall & Marjorie Patkin

In memory of Stepmother, Diane Spisak by Tom Spisak

Husband, Sherman Eidelman by Judy Eidelman

Father, Sherman Eidelman by Michael Eidelman

Mother, Fannie Sokolov by Gay Porter

Mother, Helen Lewkowicz by Eileen Trebben

BRODY MINYAN FUND
In memory of Roy Finn, cousin of Brenda Cohen by Mark & Judith Arnold

In honor of Jonathan Shapiro's engagement (son of Margery Shapiro) by Harvey & Helaine Cotton

In appreciation of Jason Stark by Margery Shapiro

In honor of Eli Talkov's 90th birthday

In honor of Ed & Diane Knopf receiving the Edith Block Award by Doris Villa

In honor of Corey Stein's college graduation and his award for film production

In honor of Eli Talkov's 90th birthday by Natalie White

In memory of Father, Saul Ablow by Herbert Ablow

Mother, Minna Grossman by Carol Ablow

Husband, Lawrence Alexander by Jane Alexander

Grandmother, Sarah Kagan by Philip Kagan

Father, Philip Kagan by Rose Michelson by Robin Cooper

Grandfather, Philip Brodsky by Frances Mendelsohn by Bob Cooper

Mother, Frances Cooper by Bob Cooper

Sister, Shirley Hansbury by Harold Epstein

Father, Jacob Fink by David Fink

Mother, Anne Broder by Maxine Friedman

Mother, Mary Frisch by Howard Frisch

Father, Nathan Weiner by Leah Gallo

Father-in-law, Benjamin Zalkind by Herbert Goldberg

Father, Jack Noe by Stacey Gordon

Great aunt, Mary Stern by Karen Hirsch

Mother, Jeanne Goldberg by Ina Hoffman

Mother, Rebecca Hooker by Carl Hooker

Mother, Gertrude Freedman by Marcia Kalman

Husband, Michael Kelly by Madelyn Kelly

Father, Bernard Kline by Susan Kline

Grandfather, George Kramer by Deborah McWade

Mother, Anna Levine by Frances Mendelsohn

Sister, Susan Samuel by Stuart Osattin

Father, Harold Bornstein by Norma Rooks

Father, Irving Kaplan by Sandra Shalit

Mother, Esther Bloom by Edith Spector

Father, James Simon by Sandra L. Spector

Brother, Samuel Kabatchnick by Muriel Talkov

Mother, Ruth Tolpin by Barbara Vinick

Father, Philip Waldman by Michael Waldman

Father, Herman White by Joan Waldman

Mother, Inge Losch by Yvonne Weinsberg

Friend, Nancy Stracka by Natalie White

BURT & BECKY SHEPARD SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In honor of

Our Grandson, Spencer Hale Joslin, becoming a Bar Mitzvah by Shea & Ruth Rood

In memory of

Father, Samuel Rood by Shea Rood

CENTER FOR EARLY EDUCATION OUTDOOR CLASSROOM FUND
In celebration of Jory Zucker's new baby sister, Eleni Dahlia Zucker by Sugar Firtel

In memory of

Mother, Selma Siskind by Beverly Kahn

In honor of the children by Chris Hynes & Hayley Balst, Kevan & Alicia McGovern

FEFFER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of

Aunt, Ruth Feffer Saxe by Larry Feffer

Mother, Edith Feffer by Larry Feffer

GENERAL FUND

In honor of Mark Messenger's installation as President by Barbara Messenger

In honor of Eli Talkov's special birthday by Lois Ogan

In memory of Mary Valle, mother of Susan Goldberg by Randy & Marjorie Patkin
In memory of

Wife, Janice Smith
by Bob Smith

Brother, Mitchell Comins
by Edye Baker

Mother, Marjorie Bresner
by Edward Bresner

Father, Robert Brint
by Joel Brint

Granddaughter, Charlie Webber
Father, Samuel Cohen
by Harold Cohen

Brother-in-law, Eli Lehman
by Bunny Gorfinkle

Husband, Leonard Hertz
by Phyllis Hertz

Father, Max Kirstein
by Howard Kaplan

Father, Irving Kaplan
by Bobby Kaplan

Father, Joseph Weisman
by Claudia Rodenstein

Father, Nathan Sorkin
Mother, Fannie Sorkin
by Kenneth Sorkin

KIDDUSH FUND

In memory of Rachel Ben Ezer, aunt of Noam Sender
In memory of Miriam Sender, mother of Noam Sender
by Jerry Rosen

in memory of Brenda & Shelly Cohen’s uncle
by Gloria Sax

In honor of Corey Stein’s graduation
by Doris Villa

In celebration of Barbara Vinick’s new home
by Reggie & Lewis Weinstein

In memory of

Father, Morris Abramoff
by Debra Brooks

Mother, Ida Epstein
by Arthur Epstein

Mother, Marilynn Fink
by David Fink

Sister and Aunt, Marlene Brecher
by Ann Jean Flaxer & Scott Flaxer

Brother, Edward Kleven
by Gail Gelb

Brother-in-law, Thomas Goodman
by Thelma Gibbs

Father, Samuel Woogmaster
by Barbara Gilefsky

Grandmother, Rebecca Lieberman
by Enid Gold

Sister, Frances Shuster
by Herbert Goldberg

Sister, Frances Shuster
by Marty Goldberg

Mother, Miriam Kaplan
Uncle, Elliott Kaplan
by Ethel Harris

Great grandfather, Chaim Stern
by Karen Hirsch

Father, Julius Cohen
by Miriam Kaplan

Grandmother, Rose Levin
by Diane Levin

Husband, Lewis Mendelsohn
by Frances Mendelsohn

Grandmother, Tena Meyer
by Mark Meyer

Mother, Rhoda Rosenfield
by Gila Namias

Father, Lewis Mendelsohn
by Alvah Parker

Brother, Martin Bloom
Husband, Stanley Patkin
by Phyllis Patkin

Aunt, Rose Pekin
Mother, Ida Pekin
Uncle, Jacob Leamon
by Joan Rich

Father, George Rosenbaum
by Michael Rosenbaum

Father, Eli Dillon
by Nonnie Rubin

Close friend, Mitchell Comins
by Gloria Sax

Sister, Judy Weinstein
by Arthur Schwartz

Aunt, Bessie Goldberg
by Michael Waldman

Husband, Joseph Weisman
by Bette Ann Weisman

Brother, Robert Zeff
Mother, Phyllis Zeff
by Barry Zeff

How to Make a Donation

To make a donation, please visit shirathayam.org/Donate or mail your donation with a check made out to CSH or Congregation Shirat Hayam. Please specify the fund to which your donation should be allocated.

In memory

FATHER, LEONARD HERZT
by Phyllis Hertz

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In memory of

Mother, Flora Freedman
by Sherman & Norma Freedman

SHIR CHESED FUND

In honor of Brenda Cohen’s 80th birthday
by Moshe & Bethany Roditi

In honor of Al & Gila Namias’s granddaughter, Maddie, becoming a Bat Mitzvah
by Daniel & Bette Shoreman

In memory of

Father, Arthur Goldstein
by Karen Madorsky

TORAH FUND

In honor of Diana & Ed Caplan’s 55th anniversary
by Donald & Charlotte Fine

TREE PLANTED IN ISRAEL

In memory of

Friend, Nora O’Gorman
Friend, Andrew Ducheneau
Raymond Holland, uncle of Barbara Holland
by Alisa Alvarez and Family

Arthur H. Wolfson, husband of Lanette Marsh and father of Susan, Miriam and Jonathan Wolfson
by Jack & Ann Bailen

LEV INITIATIVE

In memory of George Bertman, father of Susan Solomon and grandfather of Jared Solomon
In honor of Corey Stein’s graduation and award
by Philip & Marla Gay

In honor of the incoming Board of Directors and officers
In honor of Mark Messenger becoming President
by Margery Shapiro
Every issue, The New Wave spotlights a congregant as a way to help us get to know each other better by putting a face with a name. This month, Heidi Katz shares her story.

Where did you grow up? What role did religion play in your family?
I grew up in Marion, Massachusetts, a town similar to Swampscott. My dad taught math at Tabor Academy. My mother was primarily a stay-at-home mom. I have two younger brothers and a sister. I grew up in a Catholic family, and went to a Catholic high school.

Tell us a little about your family.
I live in Swampscott. My husband Jeff is a talk show host on the radio. Our son Harry is 17 and graduated from Swampscott High School this June. He’ll be attending Stanford University in the fall. Our other son Joe is 14, and finishing up his last year at Swampscott Middle School. Our daughter Julia is 16 and has a variety of developmental issues and challenges. She attends the Kevin O’Grady School at the North Shore Education Consortium in Beverly. I’m primarily a stay-at-home mom. I was a novelty and music buyer for the Newbury Comics music chain for many years before having children. I’m a graduate of Boston College.

What first brought you to CSH?
Our family came to CSH about 10 years ago. We moved from Swampscott from Charlotte, NC. We were searching for a community that was inclusive of interfaith families. We wanted to raise our children Jewish, and in our moves around the U.S., we had always joined Jewish communities that were supportive of our family. We found it a good way to become part of our community, make friends, and educate our children. We also wanted a community where there would be support and understanding of our daughter’s challenges.

What keep you at CSH? What is really special to you and your family?
Our interfaith family has been able to thrive at CSH. My Jewish husband is away quite often, and the children’s Jewish education has been left in my hands a lot of the time. The CSH community has always provided support to me as I’ve tried to guide their education and understanding of their heritage. Many times, a CSH friend has pointed me in the right direction, when I had no idea what to do next.

I’ve never felt like I’m not a real member of this community. I’ve only felt that I am part of the community, on a journey to find greater meaning, just like everyone else here. The way our daughter has been embraced by CSH, and the encouragement to include her in all CSH activities, has been one of the most important aspects of our membership here.

How do you and your family participate at CSH?
Our children have attended Hebrew School here. You’ll often find us here Saturday mornings at Shabbat, having lunch, Julia enjoying from the music from the Ruach Rally band. Any time there is music or tasty food, you’ll be sure to see Julia somewhere in the vicinity!