

# Desert Sage

## NEW RABBI HIRED! COMMUNITY REJOICES WITH 3 DAYS OF KLEZMER DANCE AND MUSIC!

*Editor's note:* Seriously, Klezmerquerque 2006 would be happening with or without the recent addition of Rabbi Deborah Brin to our community, but in putting together this issue of Desert Sage, it was difficult to decide which was more front page news: Rabbi Brin or Klezmerquerque, an event that spotlights our contribution to the larger community. So, I decided to give them equal front-page status.

### THANKED TWICE WITHIN TEN FEET

Rabbi Deborah J. Brin



What a wonderful day this has been, and it is only 9:00 am!

After my usual morning meditations, I went to check my email and saw a press release from Nicole

about my appointment as the new rabbi for the Nahalat Shalom community.

I am so very excited! I look forward to meeting you and weaving together our talents and energies and creativity for the benefit of the entire community. I am sure that we will be able to build on all of the hard work that has gotten us to where we are today, so that we can have the future of our dreams.

I was thinking about all of this, itching to get started, as I was walking my dog, Shayna. We had just passed a public park and gotten to a private householder's lawn when she decided to "do her business". The homeowner happened to be standing in the driveway speaking with a friend. I quickly whipped the bag I carry for such purposes out of my coat pocket so that the owner would know I was going to take care of the situation. After doing so, the owner called out to me, thanked me and waved a friendly greeting. I waved back and proceeded on my way. I had hardly turned around, when



a gentleman walking to work said, "I certainly appreciate it when dog owners pick up after their dogs".

I was amazed at being thanked for what I would have done anyway. It made me think of my father, (may his memory be a blessing). He believed very strongly in the idea of positive reinforcement. I hope to take his teaching and my very timely experiences of this morning, as one of my guiding kavanot (intentions) as I step into this new position.

Let me begin right now. Thank you for appointing me as your new rabbi and for the trust and faith in me that you have already shown. May we go, together, from strength to strength.

## Klezmerquerque 2006

February 17- 19, 2006

*President's Day Weekend*

THE SOUTHWEST'S  
CELEBRATION OF KLEZMER

MUSIC AND DANCE  
FROM ALBUQUERQUE,  
NEW MEXICO, USA.

An entire weekend of  
concerts, dance parties,  
workshops and lectures  
featuring the exciting music  
and dance of the Eastern  
European Jewish people.

Klezmerquerque 2006 is honored  
to be included in Albuquerque's  
tricentennial celebrations and events:  
[www.albuquerque300.org](http://www.albuquerque300.org)

## ADMINISTRATOR'S CORNER

### Different Strokes for Different Folks

by Guida Leicester

Nahalat Shalom's Chanikhe Freylekh was a huge success this year. There was a wonderful turnout and quite a lot of attendance from the larger Jewish community. Special kudos to Beth Cohen, Loey Cohen-Kirk, Nicole Deutsch and Penina Ballen for their hard work in pulling this all together—the kids and their parents loved it! It was a fun time for all. Of course, many folks helped make this event happen, and big *todah rabah* to everyone else can be found on page 3.

It's official! Nahalat Shalom welcomes our new rabbi, Deborah J. Brin, the first week of January. I am very much looking forward to working with Rabbi Deborah, planning programs for Adult Education classes, Shabbat services, lectures, more Jewish Humor series and holiday events. It's a new era for our community. Many positive changes are in store for us in the

coming year. I foresee lots of growth and new members joining our family. Those wishing to volunteer in various ways can leave me messages at my voicemail (343-8227, ext.1). My schedule is subject to change, but for now I will be in the office Tuesdays and Thursdays between 12 noon and 4pm. I will also probably be available some Wednesday afternoons.

Welcome to new Vaad member, Marg Elliston, and Mazel Tov to Deborah Tyroler, our newly elected Vaad President. Vaad members include: Linda Brody, (Secretary); Loey Cohen-Kirk (Treasurer); Nicole Deutsch; and myself, Guida Leicester. New Vaad members are needed and most welcome. If you're interested in becoming a Vaad member, contact the office. There is also a Fundraising Committee forming. Contact Robert Bienstock (robertbienstock@yahoo.com) or Marc Wunder (rednuw@aol.com) for details.

Membership Update: Welcome to all of our new and returning members! Our volunteer accountant, Judy Baron, and I

are working together getting end-of-the-year tax letters and thank yous out to everyone by mid-January. Monthly and quarterly statements will also be going out on a regular basis from now on. If there are any questions about your statements, please don't hesitate to call the office. Many thanks to Judy for all her help with our books. We couldn't do it without you, Judy!

Our schedule is in flux for the next few months. Be sure to check our calendar, as many exciting events are planned. Our Annual Klezmerquerque weekend (beginning Friday, February 17th), a party honoring Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb, Sunday, February 26th, and more. Be sure to call the Nahalat Shalom Community Calendar to verify days and times of scheduled events, as well as to be updated on pending Shabbat services and other happenings calling 343-8227, ext. 3.

Wishing everyone a Happy 2006!!

## A NEW YEAR, A NEW BEGINNING FOR NAHALAT SHALOM

### Va'ad update

By the time you read this we will have a new rabbi for Congregation Nahalat Shalom!

Rabbi Deborah Brin of Albuquerque officially came on board as our rabbi on Jan. 1. Rabbi Brin's current contract, which was finalized in December, brings her on as our part-time rabbi through Dec. 31, 2007. As members of the governing board of Nahalat Shalom, we speak for the entire community in expressing our joy at having Rabbi Brin as part of the Nahalat Shalom family. We extend to her all our support and are very excited about the chance to grow our community together over the coming year.

Toward this end, one of Rabbi Brin's top priorities is to meet with current and former Nahalat Shalom members, as well as reach

out to potential members in the greater Albuquerque community. Ideally this would happen both at synagogue events and at small gatherings held at individual members' homes around the community.

You will also be seeing Rabbi Brin at the Shabbat services, group gatherings and other programs already under way at Nahalat Shalom to see how we do things and discover how she can best integrate herself into our ongoing community happenings.

Once Rabbi Brin has had an opportunity to orient herself with our programming and get a sense of what members' wants and needs are regarding her services, she will be in a position to structure how her time with us will be spent over the coming two years.

The process of finding a new rabbi started early last spring, following Lynn's announcement that she was leaving for a

continued on next page

## Desert Sage

Published bimonthly by:  
 Congregation Nahalat Shalom  
 3606 Rio Grande NW  
 Albuquerque, NM 87196-0723  
 (505) 343-8227

Send submissions, comments and letters to the editor to  
*Desert Sage*,  
 3606 Rio Grande Blvd. NW,  
 Albuquerque, NM 87196-0723.  
 nahalatshalom@earthlink.net  
 Next deadline is  
 Monday, February 13, 2006 at 5 pm

Editor: Karen Mazur  
 mazur@swcp.com

Visit us on the World Wide Web at:  
[www.nahalatshalom.org](http://www.nahalatshalom.org)

new opportunity in California. At the ensuing community meeting, a rabbi search committee was formed, which worked diligently over the next six months conducting research into our community's wants and needs and the candidates who were best able to meet them.

This fall following preliminary and formal interviews with several candidates, the committee made a hiring recommendation to the board in favor of Rabbi Brin, the board approved the recommendation, and a contract committee convened.

As members of the contract committee we had a wonderful experience working with fellow members Robert Bienstock, Marc Wunder, Melanie Baise and Judy Brown. Together with the help and expertise of

Rabbi Deborah Brin we came up with a 2-year contract that was mutually agreed upon by the committee, the Va'ad and Rabbi Brin.

As an offshoot of our contract committee work, a new committee is forming. It is the Fundraising/Financial Committee and will include Robert Bienstock, Marc Wunder and we hope many others of you. This committee's work over the next six to 12 months will be vital toward sustaining our community and our new rabbi. We hope many of you will pledge your commitment to our new future and lend a hand however you can.

On a related note, Nahalat Shalom will hold its Annual Community Meeting on Jan. 22, from 10 a.m. to noon at the sanctuary. Rabbi Brin will be there to greet the

community and talk about the upcoming year. At this time, we will also nominate and elect new members to the Va'ad, Nahalat Shalom's governing board. In addition, we will discuss some of the exciting things that are happening at Nahalat Shalom in the next few months: Rabbi Brin's formal installation in the Spring, buildings and grounds work, and developing what we hope will be a more active role in our extended Jewish community. We hope to see all of you there to lend your ideas and support and, of course, welcome Rabbi Deborah Brin into our Nahalat Shalom community!

Shalom,  
*Loey Cohen Kirk*  
*Nicole Deutsch*

## Fantastic Funky

### Hanukkah Freylekh!!!

by Loey Cohen Kirk

Our Funky Hanukkah Freylekh exceeded beyond our expectations thanks to lots of factors that converged together to make it a wonderful, fun and treat filled success. Of course the highlight of the evening was when Deborah Tyroler, our new interim Va'ad president, announced that Rabbi Deborah Brin would be Nahalat Shalom's new Rabbi!!

I think as a community we were just ready for a party! Great food, entertainment, music, dancing, lots of kids, interesting and varied vendors, our awesome gallery with goodies, and lots of well known and new faces brought our Freylekh together in a very affirming way this year.

The Hanukkah event this year was organized by Penina Ballen and me with lots of help from Nicole Deutsch, Jake Zengerle, Hershel Weiss, Judy Brown, Beth Cohen, Guida Leicester and Tanya Covington. Volunteers made all the food and the baked goodies, salad, and tabouli and of course the plentiful potato latkes. Others brought the juice and water, dolmas, sour cream and applesauce. Our thanks go out to the many volunteers who made the



freylekh happen. If I miss anyone here, you still have my heartfelt thanks!! Thanks for all your hard work, Sybil Wertheim, Eve Wedeen and Ariel Wilyer, Emily and Gabriel Zambello, Joan Robins, Melissa Binder, Marlene Brown, Melanie Kirk, Carla Reed and Rachel Robinson, Brian Shoner, May Goldenberg and Adam, Gabe, Greg and Ed Elder, Michael Godey, Shad Goldstein, Ruth Imber, Marg Elliston, Ann Abrams, Kate Brown, Marc Wunder, Jen Silverman, Joshua Lopez-Binder, Ed Lamon and Enid Cardozo, the entire Klez Band, Deborah Brin, Lakme Elier, Chuck Buxbaum, Linda and Jeff Brody, Deborah Tyroler, all the adult and kid artists and everyone who helped set up luminaries; they were beautiful and helped us see our way to the yummy food! I'm afraid I don't know all the names of the many teens, as well as many of the others who worked a shift or parked the cars, but it was great to see you all!!

I especially want to thank the friends and families, teens and young people, grandmas and grandpas and all the elders, babies and everyone else who turned out to support the Funky Freylekh and made it a super fun time. Aside from just being fun, The Funky Hanukkah Freylekh is a big fundraiser for Nahalat Shalom and this year we made roughly \$2500.00 after expenses.

The governing board of Nahalat Shalom, on behalf of the entire community, would like to extend a warm welcome to our new rabbi, Deborah Brin. Mazel Tov!

The Va'ad:

Linda Brody  
Loey Cohen Kirk  
Nicole Deutsch  
Marg Elliston  
Guida Leicester  
Deborah Tyroler

## Nahalat Shalom Annual Community Meeting

Jan. 22, 2006,

10 a.m. — noon in the Sanctuary

**Bagels, shmears and beverages provided.**

Come and meet our new rabbi, Deborah Brin, who will discuss her vision for Nahalat Shalom for the coming year. In addition, we will elect new members to the Va'ad, talk about our '06 fundraising campaign and form new committees.

*Bring your ideas and please be prompt See you there!*

## *Klezmerquerque 2006* featured artists/teachers:



**Margot Leverett**, world-renown virtuoso Klezmer clarinetist, saxophonist, and bandleader is one of the foremost of the new generation of klezmer clarinetists. She studied with the famed klezmer clarinetist Sid Beckerman and was classically trained at Indiana University School of Music. Margot was involved in avant-garde music when she first heard klezmer, the dynamic East European music traditionally played at Jewish weddings. Leverett was a founding member of “The Klezmatiks” in 1985 and the all-female all star klezmer ensemble “Mikveh” in 1999. She started her own band “Margot Leverett and the Klezmer Mountain Boys” in 2001. Her solo CD, “The Art of Klezmer Clarinet,” was released in 2001 on Traditional Crossroads label to glowing reviews. Margot tours around the world, performing and teaching traditional and original klezmer music at festivals and workshops. Because of the friendship we have developed and her popularity at the past two Klezmerquerque’s, we are delighted that Margot will join her New Mexico klezmer family once again at Klezmerquerque 2006.

### *Solo CD Reviews:*

“This is classic sound of Eastern European-derived clarinet played by a master and a worthy addition to the new generation of klezmer recording Stacy Phillips,

Rootsworld 2000 “...she lived up to the exceptional promise of her album, solidly establishing herself among the stellar soloists on the scene.” —Elijah Wald, *Boston Globe*, January 20, 2000.

“We tend to dance when we experience this CD.” —Ari Davidow, The Klezmershack: [www.klezmershack.com](http://www.klezmershack.com) January 1, 2000.

“Her haunting riffs, echoing with tears and mocking laughter, evoked memories of the shtetls of Eastern Europe, where klezmer originated.” —Leonard W. Boasberg, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, Oct. 29, 1996.

**Adrienne Greenbaum** is a nationally acclaimed classical and klezmer flutist. As a klezmer she is the founder and leader of the ensemble “FleytMuzik” performing with tsimbl, violin, and bass and of “The Klezical Tradition” klezmer band, performing on both flute and keyboard and leading Yiddish dance. She has been on the faculties of Living Traditions’ KlezKamp, KlezKanada, and Boxwood and presents master classes in the art of klezmer performance to classical flutists. In its first year the pioneering ensemble FleytMuzik performed in Vienna at the first KlezMORE Festival, in New York City’s Tonic and Satalla clubs, and in synagogues and colleges throughout the US, including Wesleyan, Oberlin, and Ohio State. She has also collaborated with “Kapelye”, Adrienne Cooper, Pete Rushefsky, and as accompanying artist with numerous cantors in concert as pianist and flutist as well as a dance-leader and coach for weekend workshops. As an active clinician interested in sharing klezmer music with young people of all ages and backgrounds she also presents school workshops and directs three student klezmer ensembles in Connecticut and Massachusetts. “The Klezical Tradition” has won many awards for its recording Family Portrait, including Top 10 CD’s from both Moment Magazine and the NY Jewish Week. The band was also chosen to be included as a feature in the ABC-TV documentary *A Sacred Noise: The New Jewish Music*.

As a classical musician Adrienne has performed as soloist and orchestral musician in all of New York’s major concert halls and in many major cities of the U.S. She has appeared with such orchestras as New York’s Mostly Mozart Festival (as soloist), the

Berlin Ballet at the Met (as principal flutist), the Period Orchestra of the Fairfield Academy, and for many years performed with the New York City Ballet Orchestra. Currently she is Solo Flutist with the New Haven Symphony, the Wall Street Chamber Players, and Orchestra New England. Adrienne lives in Fairfield, Connecticut. She received her Bachelors in Music from the Oberlin College Conservatory and her Masters degree from the Yale School of Music, studying with Robert Willoughby and Thomas Nyfenger respectively. She has held faculty positions at Wesleyan and Yale Universities, at Smith College, and is currently Associate Professor of flute at Mount Holyoke College. She can be heard in recordings on the Koch International, CBS Masterworks, Nonesuch, and EMC labels as well as on her solo flute albums *FleytMuzik* and *Sounds of America*.



**Steven Weintraub**, Traditional Jewish Dance Master from ‘Chicage’ (Chicago). A choreographer, performer and teacher, Steve is one of few dancers who specialize in traditional Eastern European Jewish dance. Steve received his dance training in Manhattan with Alvin Ailey and Erick Hawkins, among others. He has worked with choreographers Felix Fibich and Shula Kivel, and has performed the work of Fred Berk. He choreographed a production for the Joseph Papp Yiddish Theater, and has choreographed and performed dances based on Jewish themes including the annual Workman’s Circle Third Seder in New York. In Atlanta, he choreographed Kuni Leml for the Jewish Theater of the South and



Something's Afoot for Georgia Ensemble Theater. He has been on the faculty of KlezKamp for the past 5 years and has taught at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival. He has also given Yiddish dance workshops in Winnipeg, St. Louis, California and Washington, D.C. Steve also lectures on the history of Jewish dance, recreates "Shtetl Weddings," and leads dancing at real weddings.

**Also performing at  
KLEZMERQUERQUE 2006:**

**THE REBBE'S ORKESTRA**, Klezmer and Judaic band formed in 1992 as one of Nahalat Shalom's 'in house' bands, now performs throughout the southwest for simcha's, concerts, festivals and dance parties.

<http://arnoproductionsnm.com/index.htm>

**Beth Cohen**, violin, mandolin, tenor banjo & vocals; **Randy Edmunds**, guitar; **Barbara Friedman**, electric bass; **'Deb-o'**, accordion.

Don't miss Klezmerquerque's dance party and concert on Friday night! The Rebbe's Orkestra will accompany Adrienne Greenbaum & Margot Leverett for an unforgettable concert that will segue into a lively dance party.

THE NAHALAT SHALOM COMMUNITY KLEZMER BAND began as a child's (with some parents) ensemble that first performed a few Yiddish songs and klezmer dance tunes for a community Hanukkah service in 1995. This intergenerational group has grown to include 15-20 professional, semi-professional and amateur instrumentalists from several New Mexico communities and

performs for many community events in the Albuquerque and Santa Fe areas. The group is directed by Nahalat Shalom's cantorial soloist and music director Beth Cohen and is open to the public and rehearses on Sundays from 2-4pm. Don't miss The Community Klezband at Klezmerquerque's Saturday night concert and dance party! Margot, Adrienne and members of The Rebbe's Orkestra will also be playing and joining the band.

RIKUD, YIDDISH DANCE TROUPE grew alongside The Nahalat Shalom Community Klezmer band. The troupe was founded by Nahalat Shalom's rabbi emeritus Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb who was trained and inspired by her good friend and klezmer dance master Erik Bendix. Erik has also worked closely with several members of Rikud—training them to be dance leaders and teachers. The group rehearses on Sundays from 2-4pm with the community band. Rikud will be helping klezmer dance master Steve Weintraub lead the dances on Friday and Saturday nights. Grab a hand and join the line!

**SCHEDULE OF  
EVENTS:**

**Friday, February 17th,  
6:30pm:**

**Freylekhe Shabbes Concert & Dance Party** featuring a 'danced' Kabbalat Shabbat service followed by a potluck vegetarian dinner (7:00) and a short concert (7:30) by our featured musicians Adrienne Greenbaum & Margot Leverett. accompanied by ABQ's favorite Klezband The Rebbe's Orkestra, concert segues into dancing lead by our featured dance artist Steve Weintraub & Nahalat Shalom's Yiddish dance troupe Rikud (\$10.00 - suggested donation).

**Saturday, February 18th**

**9:30-10:45am: Yiddish and Eastern European dance** with Steve Weintraub (\$18 adults, 17 & under \$10).

**11:00am-12:15pm: Klezmer music** with Adrienne Greenbaum or Margot Leverett (\$18 adults, 17 & under \$10).

**12:30-1:30pm: Saturday afternoon lunch 'n lecture** – Steve Weintraub "Pageantry in Jewish culture" (\$5-10 donation).

**2:00-3:15pm: Music class** – Adrienne Greenbaum or Margot Leverett **OR Dance class** – Steve Weintraub (\$18 adults, 17 & under \$10) choose one.

**7:00pm: Concert/dance party** with Adrienne Greenbaum & Margot Leverett accompanied by the intergenerational Nahalat Shalom Community Klezmer Band and Saturday students. Dances lead by Steve Weintraub, Rikud and student dancers (\$10 – free for Saturday students/17 and under)

**Sunday, February 19th:**

**12:00-1:15pm: Music class** with Adrienne Greenbaum or Margot Leverett **OR Dance class** with Steve Weintraub (\$18 adults, 17 and under \$10).

**DISCOUNT PRICE FOR  
ALL EVENTS:**

\$60 for 2 parties, lunch/presentation, & 4 classes paid BEFORE Friday eve. Feb. 18th.

Individual classes and events can also be paid for at time of class/event.

Discounts for students, seniors, and fixed/low income – inquire with event coordinator.

All events held at Nahalat Shalom, 3606 Rio Grande Blvd. NW (between Candelaria & Griegos), ABQ, New Mexico

Phone: (505) 343-8227 E-mail: [nahalatshalom@earthlink.net](mailto:nahalatshalom@earthlink.net) Web: [www.nahalatshalom.org](http://www.nahalatshalom.org)

FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
CONTACT EVENT CO-ORDINATOR :

Beth Cohen, E-mail: [cohenedmunds@netzero.net](mailto:cohenedmunds@netzero.net)  
Phone: (505) 243-6276

# calendar

## January/February 5766 Calendar

*At time of printing, the calendar for January/February was still in planning stages due to Rabbi Brin's impending arrival. Please call Nahalat Shalom's Community Calendar at 343-8227, extension 3, for weekly updates.*

### January 2006/5766:

#### Friday, January 6th, 6:30PM:

**Freylekhe Shabbes.** Service led by Beth Cohen, followed by a vegetarian potluck. At 7:45pm: Yiddish dancing to live Klezmer music (open jam and dance - all musicians/dancers welcome).

**Saturday, January 6th, 10 am: Monthly Mystical Shabbat,** led by Robin Berman. Join us for prayer, meditation, singing, movement meditations, kavannah.

**Sunday, January 8th, time TBA: Party Committee meeting for Rabbi Lynn's party (see Feb. 26).** Contact party committee chair Beth Cohen for more info: 243-6276  
cohenedmunds@netzero.net

### February 2006/5766:

**Saturday, February 4th, 10 am: Monthly Mystical Shabbat,** led by Robin Berman. Join us for prayer, meditation, singing, movement meditations, kavannah.

**Sunday, February 5th, 2-4PM: First seasonal rehearsal for Nahalat Shalom Community Klezmer band and Rikud Yiddish Dancers.** Meet in Sanctuary. Information contact Beth Cohen (505) 243-6276  
cohenedmunds@netzero.net

**Friday Feb. 10th (tentative): Tu B'shevat Shabbat,** Lead by heder, heder teachers and Beth Cohen. Call Community Calendar to confirm this event.

**Sunday, February 12th, 2:45-3:45pm: Beth Cohen gives a presentation at "A Taste of Honey" at the JCC on Klezmer Music: An overview of our rich musical inheritance from Eastern Europe** (includes listening examples recorded and live, handouts of historical overview, bibliography and discography, and teaching a klezmer tune/niggun with a dance).

Note: Klezmer band and Rikud rehearsal will meet earlier or later that day (probably 10am-noon OR 5pm-7pm). Contact Beth for more info.

**Friday, February 17th, 6:30pm: Klezmerquerque 2006 begins!** Freylekhe Shabbes danced service, potluck, concert and dance party. See schedule on page 5 or web site for details: [www.nahalatshalom.org](http://www.nahalatshalom.org) Click on "Klezmerquerque"

**Saturday, February 18th morning and evening: Klezmerquerque 2006 events - see schedule on page 5 or web site for details:** [www.nahalatshalom.org](http://www.nahalatshalom.org) Click on "Klezmerquerque"

**Sunday, February 19th, 12pm-1:15 - Klezmerquerque 2006** Last chance. See schedule on page 5 or web site for details: [www.nahalatshalom.org](http://www.nahalatshalom.org) Click on "Klezmerquerque"

[3pm-4:30/5pm 'ish - Private master classes with Rikud and Community Klezband]

**Sunday, February 26th, 3-6pm: Party for Rabbi Lynn.** Celebrate Rabbi Lynn's contributions to our community with a planned potluck, special presentations, music and dance with the Community Klezmer band and Rikud — and more!! Bring your wishes, blessings and prayers for her new era in her life! Want to help?? Contribute?? Contact Beth Cohen (505) 243-6276  
cohenedmunds@netzero.net

## Community Notes

**Need healthcare help?** I am currently a graduate student at UNM school of nursing. I am a registered nurse and I am offering my services free of charge to congregants to provide advice and care within my scope of practice. I can help them with medication education, questions about laboratory tests and procedures, disease prevention, illness detection, and be a helping hand if they need a patient advocate at doctors appointments, treatments, etc. I do not mind being contacted at ANYTIME, morning or night. I live near UNM and I can even make a house call if individuals need. I can be reached at 410-707-4757.

**Shaina French, RN BSN** **Revisoning Retirement, Relationships & Resources Spiritual Eldering Group** will be led by Elizabeth C. Etigson, MA LPCC, Certified Sage-ing Seminar Leader at Nahalat Shalom. Sessions will be held on 4 Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30pm on February 16 & 23 and March 2 & 9, 2006. Sessions on the losses and gains of retirement will include presentations, discussions and Spiritual Eldering exercises to encourage personal growth, review of roles, inner resources and relationships. Elizabeth is a founding member of Nahalat Shalom. \$72 cost for series includes one individual counseling sessions. For more information or to register, please call Elizabeth at 344-3782 or 363-9182.

## Mah Nish Mah

Welcome Rabbi Deborah J. Brin as Nahalat Shalom's new Rabbi!

Mazel Tov to Desert Sage editor Karen Mazur and her husband Wade Patterson on the arrival of their beautiful daughter, Ada Eleanor, born on Nov. 15.

Refuah Sheimah to Judy Baron who has made a speedy recovery from surgery for appendicitis.

Happy 50th Birthday to Robert Bienstock-a milestone!

Welcome to all new and returning members to the Shul!

Condolences to Robin Berman on the loss of her father.

*Todah Rabah* to all the volunteers who helped make this year's Chanikhe Freylekh 5766 so special and successful:

David Acuna

Ann Abrams

Melanie Baise

Eliana Ballen

Penina Ballen

Melissa Binder

Varda Brahms

Rabbi Deborah Brin

Brody Family

Judy Brown

Kate Brown

Lyle Brown

Marlene Brown

Chuck Buxbaum

Beth Cohen

Loey Cohen-Kirk

Tonya Covington

Nicole Deutsch

Ed Elder

Gabe Elder

Lakme Elior

Amanda Elliston

Marg Elliston

Elizabeth Ertigson

Les Field

Linda Friedman

Ruth Imber

Adam Goldenberg

May Goldenberg

Shad Goldstein

Gerry Greenhouse

Heder Class

Naomi Julian

Christopher King

Melanie Kirk

Klezmer Band

Rikud Dancers

Guida Leicester

Josh Lopez Binder

Katya Miller

Christine Nellums

Carla Reed

Joan Robins

Paul Robinson

Brian Shonerd

Henry Shonerd

Jen Silverman

Amy Sweet

Deborah Tyroler

Michelle Vogler

Eve Wedeen

Ariel Wedeen Wilyer

Hershel Weiss

Sybil Wertheim

Marc Wunder

Emily Zambello

Gabe Zambello

Jake Zengerle

## JOIN IN THE FUN; JOIN THE NAHALAT SHALOM COMMUNITY KLEZMER BAND!

OPEN TO MUSICIANS OF ALL AGES & LEVELS  
(MUST KNOW BASICS OF INSTRUMENT)

*Sheet music, work-tape & professional instruction provided by Beth Cohen: Nahalat Shalom's cantorial soloist & music director; Bachelor of Music degree; Experienced string, orchestra & band teacher; Well-known performer of Klezmer & Balkan music.*

Rehearsals are on Sundays from 2-4PM

- Free to members of Congregation Nahalat Shalom
- \$60.00 for non-members (scholarships available!)
- Free instruction & participation for all dancers:  
Rikud Yiddish Dance Troupe

Rehearsals\* \* :

**February 5th, 12th, (19th)** Klezmerquerque master class 3:15pm-4:30/5 'ish), (No 26th – see performances below)

**March 3rd, 12th, 19th ?? Meet on March 26th OR April 2nd – SPRING BREAK - we'll vote to decide.**

**April 9th, (NO 16th – see performances), 23rd (possible workshop with trumpet player from Serbia), 30th – last one!!**

Performances\* \* :

**February 3rd, Friday 6:30PM:** Freylekhe Shabbes service - 6:30-service; 7:15-potluck; 7:45-Yiddish dancing to a live Klezmer music jam.

**February 17th-19th:** KLEZMERQUERQUE 2006 – Perform at Concert/Dance party on Saturday, Feb. 18th, 7PM

**February 26th, Sunday, 3:00-6:00PM:** Perform at community party for Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb

**March 3rd, Friday, 6:30Pm:** Freylekhe Shabbes (see Feb. 3rd for details)

**April 7th, Friday, 6:30pm:** Freylekhe Shabbes (see Feb. 3rd for details)

**April 16th, Sunday, 5-8PM:** Play Passover and Klezmer music for Nahalat Shalom's Community Seder

We will learn how to play Klezmer music (Eastern-European Jewish instrumental dance music): hongas, horas, freylekhs, shiffers tantz, bulgars, terkishes, kolomeikes, sirbas & khosidls. Also: Yiddish & Sephardic songs; Chassidic nigunim; Russian songs and dance music; Israeli dance music; a few Balkan, Romani (Gypsy), and Middle-Eastern tunes; traditional modes (scales) and rhythms of Klezmer music and some traditional improvisatory techniques (doina, vorshpiel and taxim).

\*\* Please note that all performances & rehearsals are optional, BUT band director and band ask for a courtesy advance notice (of at least 2 weeks) if a performance or rehearsal will be missed.

## ISREALI THEATRE GROUP VISITS ALBUQUERQUE

Acco Theatre Centre of Israel Performs in Albuquerque & Santa Fe in January During Tricklock Company's Revolutions International Theatre Festival 2006

Acco Theatre Centre, an acclaimed international theatre group from Acco, Israel, returns to Albuquerque Thursday & Friday, January 19 & 20 for Tricklock Company's sixth annual Revolutions International Theatre Festival.

Acco Theatre Centre will present *Prayer: Sacred Dances*, a night of mystery and mysticism from the Middle East, featuring a modern ritual event composed of Sacred Dances and Sufi dance, known as Whirling Dervish. The music is based on the sounds of mystic prayers (both Jewish and Muslim) set to mystical texts by the Sufi poets Rumi, Jalal al-Din and others. The company, which appeared at the 2004 Revolutions Festival, and comprises both Jewish and Arab actors, is located in the Old City of Acco, which is itself mainly Arab. Out of this ground, fertile

for the development of mutual relations, members of Acco Theatre Centre invite the audience to explore the identity of the Israeli Jew and Israeli Arab.

Advance tickets go on sale January 2, 2005. Multi-show passports can also be purchased: Five shows: \$85 general/\$50 students; 10 shows: \$160 general admission/\$90 students. Advance credit-card ticket orders for all Albuquerque performances (except late Saturday night Reptilian Lounge performances at Tricklock, which only accept cash at the door), will be taken over the telephone at 254-8393 up to four hours before the start of each event, and tickets will be available at Will Call at each venue.

Tickets are also available with cash purchases at each venue starting one hour before a performance; however, Tricklock Company advises the public that due to ticket demand, advance purchases are the best way to ensure getting seats for performances. For complete information about the Festival schedule, performers and guest companies, visit [www.tricklock.com](http://www.tricklock.com).

Note: For interviews with performers please contact Jane Blume at Desert Sky Communications, 294-1976.



The following is an excerpt from *White Like Me* which appeared in the most recent issue of Fellowship Magazine. For the complete text, contact Nahalat Shalom.

### WHITE LIKE ME: A JEWISH WOMAN RABBI GAZES INTO THE MIRROR OF AMERICAN RACISM

By Lynn Gottlieb

Holiness, as the 19th century Hasidic Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berdichev says, is a continual process of awakening. In our own time, a white person can only attain a state of holy awakening through ongoing attentiveness to our own racism. Developing an awareness of racism should be the center of our spiritual practice in America, whatever our particular form of faith.

For the past five hundred years, racism has been denying people of color fundamental dignity and economic opportunity. Racism fuels the American caste system that perpetuates widespread oppression for the benefit of a few. It pits poor people of color and poor whites against each other and maintains the hold on power of a small elite. It allows us to carry forward brutal enforcement policies for economic gain here and abroad. It is the root of our spiritual sickness.

Within the North American construct of racism, I am Jewish and I am white. Like other white people, and especially those committed to social justice, identifying with my whiteness makes me squirm. Whiteness brings up feelings of embarrassment, rage, helplessness and guilt for our shameful past and present.

As a Jew, my impulse is to emphasize the ways in which my whiteness is different. When people of color share their experience

of racism, my first feeling is often, wait a minute, I'm not white, I'm Jewish! I belong in the "people of color circle."

This is a common response among Jews of European descent. We want to be in a category all our own. But when I mention to people of color that many Euro-Jews do not consider themselves white, most respond with looks of complete non-comprehension. We certainly look white to them. When I walk down an American street, no one assumes I am a person of color. When I look into America's racial mirror, America reflects back the color white.

Like most of my peers, I have always lived with a sense of alienation from American society based on my Jewishness. Our disturbing history at the hands of the white Christian world includes the horrors of the Crusades, Inquisition, pogroms, and the Holocaust that murdered one-third of the entire world population of Jews less than 60 years ago.

**Congregation Nahalat Shalom**  
 3606 Rio Grande Blvd. NW Albuquerque, NM 87107 (505)343-8227  
**Our fiscal year runs from September 1 through August 31 of each year.**

## Outstanding Pledges/Membership Renewal/New Membership Pledges

**HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION:**

Adult Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Address/City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work/Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**2004-05 (5765) OUTSTANDING PLEDGE OWED:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes, I believe I owe the following pledge from this past year: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**2005-06 (5766) RENEWAL PLEDGE**

Dues: 1% of gross income or a minimum of \$600 per Family or \$300 per Person (alternate payments must be approved by Membership Committee)

Yes, I want to support Nahalat Shalom's unique contributions to our community.

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Here's my 2005 pledge

**HEDER DUES** (your membership must be paid in full or pledged up-to-date)

Pre-school/Kindergarten \$180	Bat/Bar Mitzvah Preparation	Bat/Bar Mitzvah Preparation
1st-6th grade \$260	Year of Ceremony _____	Members 3 or more years \$300
		Members less than 3 years \$550

Child Name & Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

**SPONSORSHIP PLEDGE** - sustains special programming

\_\_\_ \$500 Shabbat Educator \_\_\_ \$1000 Matching Grant for Office Equipment \_\_\_ \$2000 Visiting Heder Educator  
 \_\_\_ \$6000 Cantor/Musical Programming Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTALS:**

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ Current 2004-05 Pledge  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 2005-06 Pledge  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Heder Dues  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL

**PAYMENT SCHEDULE:**

One Single Payment \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Quarterly Payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Semi-Annual Payments of \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 TOTAL ENCLOSED TODAY \$ \_\_\_\_\_



\_\_\_\_\_ I only want a 1-year subscription to Desert Sage; \$25.00.

**I WOULD LIKE TO HELP NAHALAT SHALOM WITH THE FOLLOWING (CIRCLE AREAS OF INTEREST):**

Building and Lands	Desert Sage	Sephardic Heritage	Programming
Office Assistant	Heder	Library	(Adult Ed)
Shabbat	Fundraising	Membership/Outreach	other (please list)
Holiday/Events	Finance	Web Site Upkeep	

Desert Sage

**Nahalat Shalom**  
3606 Rio Grande NW  
Albuquerque NM 87107

Non Profit Org.  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Albuquerque  
Permit NO. 950

# *Klezmerquerque 2006'*

**When: February 17-19**

**Where: Congregation Nahalat Shalom**

**3606 Rio Grande Blvd. NW**

**Albuquerque, NM**

**see inside for details on schedule, featured performers,  
instructors and classes! DON'T MISS IT!**

