

Havurat Tikvah

Havurat Tikvah Offers Course in Jewish Mysticism

Havurah Offers Introduction to Jewish Mysticism

Havurat Tikvah is offering a four-session introduction to Jewish mysticism for its spring adult education course, February 2 to April 6. Laura Duhan Kaplan, the group's resident rabbinic intern and an associate professor of philosophy at UNCC, will lead the class on Jewish Mystical Philosophies. Laura is a student in the ALEPH (Alliance for Jewish Renewal) program.

The class will explore the answers found in the mystical tradition (Kabbalah) to such questions as these: Who is God? How can we celebrate the divine nature? How do prayer, ethics, and passion help us?

Participants should have an acquaintance with Judaism and will be expected to read and discuss a packet of short readings. The class will meet Shabbat mornings, 10:00 AM to noon, on February 2 and 23, March 2 and April 6 at the Kaplan home, 2900 Somerset Drive in Charlotte. A Kiddush (but not a

lunch) will follow each session.

Contact Stephanie Fleming at fefsfdl@carolina.rr.com to register or for more information. Non-members are welcome to attend.

Havurat Tikvah Calendar of Events for February

February 1: Kabbalat Shabbat for Tu B'Shevat (location and time to be announced)

February 9: Shabbat Services, 10:00 AM at Kaplan home, 2900 Somerset Drive, Charlotte. Kosher dairy kiddush and lunch (bring dish) following.

February 16: Adult Program: Judaism through Catholic Eyes with Fr. Phillip Scarella, adjunct professor, Department of History, UNCC, 7:30 PM at Wallas/Powell home, 2012 Dilworth Rd. West.

Havurat Tikvah is an affiliate of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation. Visitors are welcome to attend services and events. For more information, please call Jessica Saxe, new member chair, at 704-333-9106 or Dael and Brenda Waxman, co-presidents, at 704-544-2241. ☆

Israeli Jews and Palestinians: Is Coexistence Possible?

Forsan Hussein, a Palestinian citizen of Israel, was delighted to learn that he had received a scholarship to an American university because of his work in peace education for children. When he arrived on campus to begin his studies, however, he was in for a shock. Brandeis University was no



Forsan Hussein (right) with his best friend, Michael Barly, an Israeli Jew.

neutral territory, but a mini-metropolis of Jewish students, ambivalent about their Palestinian counterparts. Mr. Hussein quickly understood that he had been awarded the scholarship in order to conduct peace education on campus.

Rabbi Andrea Cohen-Kiener, steeped in the world of Jewish studies, chose to spend a semester of her rabbinic training in Israel. The land was everything she had imagined: filled with history, spirituality, and learned teachers. She realized in the very beginning why Jews love the land so much. And, confronted by Israel's painful conflict between Palestinians and Jews, she realized something else: Palestinians love the very same land for some of the very same reasons.

After graduating from Brandeis, Mr. Hussein went to

work for the Abraham Fund, a New-York based non-profit organization dedicated to promoting coexistence between the Jewish and Arab citizens of Israel. Their projects include advocacy and awareness campaigns, as well as the financial sponsorship of coexistence projects. More information is available at their website www.abraham-fund.org.

After receiving ordination, Rabbi Cohen-Kiener went to work for the Children of Abraham Educational Project. She became a delegation leader for the Compassionate Listening Project, which brings Israelis and Palestinians together for citizen diplomacy, including dialogue and shared projects. More information is available at www.mideastdiplomacy.org.

On February 28, Mr. Hussein and Rabbi Cohen-Kiener will visit Charlotte to speak about their



Rabbi Andrea Cohen-Kiener

work. Their program, "Compassionate Listening/Coexistence Between Israeli Jews and Palestinians," will be hosted by the UNC Charlotte Campus Activities Board (704-687-2450), and co-sponsored by Havurat Tikvah and Temple Beth El. The event will take place at 7:00 p.m. in McKnight Auditorium, Cone Student Center. It is free and open to the community. ☆

Oasis Connection for February 2002

New Program on Mondays

Walk Together: Slough off the winter blues with a walking partner from the JCC staff. Our "Partners in Wellness" will join us from 10:00-10:20 AM, every Monday throughout the winter. Walk the carpeted hallway of the JCC, double your distance each time you walk with a partner, and receive a ticket of distance accomplished. You can then enter each of your tickets in the February "We Did It Together" drawing.

February 4 and 18, 11:00 AM-12:00 noon

Creative Writing- Join Barbara Lawing for our most successful creative class. Express your writing and yourself with friends of like minds.

February 11 and 25

Jewish Family Services- Join Elaine Chernotsky for a lively discussion.

Lunch from 12:00 noon-1:00 PM.

Mondays, 1:00 PM-2:00 PM

February 4

General Meeting- Keep abreast of the issues that matter, giving your input and helping to resolve challenges that face the Senior Enrichment Programs.

February 11

Ms. Yu Ito and Origami - Yu Ito, from the Japan-American Society will demonstrate the fine beauty of origami. We will then try our own hand at the art.

February 18

The Senior African Drumming and Percussion Ensemble, under the direction of Mr. Gary Munford, ranging in age from 65-93 years old, will demonstrate how to maintain dexterity and flexibility through drumming.

Tuesday, February 5 and Wednesday, February 6 from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM

AARP Defensive Drivers Course will be held at the JCC. Call Adele Grossman at 704-542-8011.

Special Wednesday Program February 6 from 2:00 -3:00 PM

Mah Jongg Tea and Nosh, for any player interested in beginning a regular players club at the JCC.

Please call for reservations at 704-944-6730.

Thursdays

February 7

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM, scheduled lunch from 12:00 noon-1:00 PM

Writer's Retreat- Join Barbara Lawing and the gang as they spend the day writing, creating and sharing their works. Must have seven participants to hold program, the more participants, the lower the cost. Please pre-register.

February 14

Levine Museum of the New South - For \$4.00 per senior, we will be guided through the Levine Museum of the New South. We will eat about town, leaving the JCC by 11:00 AM, and arriving for our docent led tour by 1:00 PM. Seating is limited, and transportation is \$2.00.

February 21

Celebrating Life - We are invited to join the creative lunch and program with Temple Israel. Donations welcome.

Fridays

February 1, 1:00 PM-2:00 PM

Emily Seelbinder, Ph.D.

Dr. Seelbinder from Queens College, will speak on "The Harlem Renaissance: An Explosion of African-American Creativity."

February 8

Stephen Grossbart, Ph. D.

Dr. Grossbart will speak on "Liberty: Where was she born?"

February 15

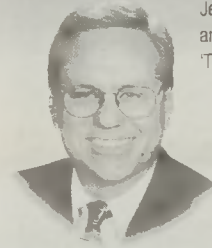
Tom Haselden, Council on Aging

With input from the group, Tom Haselden will talk about the issues, both national and personal, regarding seniors. ☆

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