



## SPRING IS HERE! Macharniks Are Preparing for Our Community Seder

WITH GUEST RABBI JEREMY KRIDEL



We're planning for another wonderful community Passover Seder with fantastic food and great company. Highlights include Machar's Humanist Haggadah, sharing the Passover story, asking the "four questions," and the famous hunt for the *Afikomen*. You can expect fantastic food and good company.

Nonmembers and prospective members are welcome!

Space is limited — don't miss out.

### Machar's 2017 Community Potluck Seder

Sunday, April 9, 4:30 - 8:00 pm  
Cedar Lane UU Church  
9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, Maryland 20814  
Firm Deadline: Tuesday, April 4 (But we may fill up before that!)

#### Purchase tickets!

\$20 member adults; \$28 nonmember adults;  
\$8 children 5-13; children under 5 free

If you do not use a computer and prefer to register by mail, please leave a message at 202-686- 1881. Nonmembers should include a phone number and mailing address.

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# Machar News/Clubs & Activities

## Rabbinical Candidate Jeremy Kridel Visiting Machar in March & April 2017

*Marlene Cohen*

This year's Machar Passover seder, (Sunday, April 9, 4:30 p.m., Cedar Lane UU Church) renowned for its fabulous community-provided food, will be officiated by Jeremy Kridel, a rabbinical student of our own International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism. Kridel is a resident of Indianapolis, Indiana; co-editor of "Humanistic Judaism;" an attorney with the Indiana Court of Appeals; and teacher at the IU Kelley School of Business in Indianapolis. He is also married and the parent of a pre-teen diagnosed with autism.

We were also fortunate to have Kridel speak at Machar Adult Education on Sunday, March 26 on the topic of "The Bread of Affliction: Inclusion at the Seder Table." In his presentation, Kridel applied the Passover Haggadah's opening inclusive Passover message to other areas of our lives, leading a discussion of our obligations as Humanistic Jews to ensure everyone has an opportunity to participate in our communities as equals.

In March Kridel also served as the SHJ HuJews Teen Conclave rabbi. This year's conclave was held in Washington, D.C. on March 24 – 26.

One of his rabbinical teachers and advisors Rabbi Miriam Jerris of the Society for Humanistic Judaism says, "Jeremy, for all his talent, is understated. His clear thinking and genuine caring for people makes him a great friend and co-worker, and will make him an exceptional rabbi."

Come see for yourself.



## WITs

*Rose Levine*

In February, the wonderful women of WITs met at the home of Nancy Harris, and at the home of Eva Shankman in March. Delicious food and lively conversation were enjoyed by all.

On Friday, April 21, we will meet at the home of Vicki Wallshein. We will join Vicki in a humanistic Shabbat service before our meal. Our May location is yet to be determined, but I will let everyone know our meeting place as soon as possible.

WITs is open to all female members of Machar, and we are always delighted to welcome new members. If you would like more information about WITs or to have your name added to our email list to keep abreast of our happenings, please contact me, Rose Levine, [jay3026@msn.com](mailto:jay3026@msn.com).

## Whaddaya Talkin'?

*Marlene Cohen*

*In which Machar's newsletter will provide you with your monthly word in Yiddish — use it ten times this month and you won't forget it!*

### ***Maven – an expert; a good judge of quality***

Rhyming with "raven," maven is even in the Oxford English Dictionary.

Example: "Before you choose your appliances for your new kitchen, you really should consult a maven."

# Machar News/Clubs & Activities

## Congratulations & Good Luck to Maccabiah 20 USA Fencing Team Member Amit Hanadari-Levy of Machar

Marlene Cohen

Amit Hanadari-Levy, a Machar teen and 10<sup>th</sup> grader at Walter Johnson High School, will be competing in April in Baltimore for the US Division I Championship in Fencing. Amit practices every day to reach her current level of success.

And, she is now raising funds to support her plans to be part of the US team at the Maccabi games in Israel. Maccabiah 20 will be held this July. The event is held every four years, originally every three years, since 1932, with over 78 countries now competing. It is open to all Jewish athletes as well as Israelis of all religions.

Here is a description in Amit's words:

*"I am a saber fencer from the DC area. I am so excited to represent the USA and especially my own community in the Maccabiah games this summer. This will be especially important to me because I have close family in Israel who will have a chance to see me fence."*

*The Maccabiah Games are a celebration of Jewish unity, culture, and heritage through athletic competition — I am so honored to be a part of Team USA! I hope you will join me in my fundraising efforts for the 20<sup>th</sup> World Maccabiah Games in Israel — any contribution helps! Your support will ensure that my team is well represented in Israel with world-class*



*athletics and Jewish pride. You can make a difference!*

*Thank you for your support and help in getting me and my team to the Maccabiah!"*

Amit is the daughter of Machar President Rahel Hanadari and active member Roberto Levy.

You can donate at: Maccabiah 20: Ms. Amit Hanadari-Levy - Maccabi USA or [online](#).

Thanks to those who have already donated!

## Notes on the 2017 HuJews Conclave



From March 24-26, the 2017 Conclave, a retreat for humanistic Jewish teens (HuJews), was held in Washington, DC. The theme of the weekend was activism, and teens either volunteered at DC Central Kitchen or participated in activism training. The weekend also included a walking tour of DC, which was led by two of Machar's teens: Areya Campbell-Rosen and Margot Bloch. This was concluded by a visit to the Holocaust Museum and a Havdalah service by Jeremy Kridel.

– Areya Campbell-Rosen



## Machar Adult Education and Community Sundays

Adult Education Sessions are Sundays from 10–11:30 a.m. Sessions are open to all. All sessions are held in the gymnasium of the Jewish Primary Day School, 6045 16th St. NW, DC 20012. Community Sundays follow unless noted. For details see [www.machar.org](http://www.machar.org).

There is parking on 16th Street and in the back. (If you have trouble climbing stairs, use the rear entrance.)

### April 9

#### **Jack Schwartz – "Not Only Merely Dead, She's Really Most Sincerely Dead": The Unsettled Definition of Death**

Machar Board member Jack Schwartz will discuss the boundary between life and death according to Judaism and other traditions. He will also talk about increasing societal resistance to the expert consensus, enacted into law, that death includes "brain death." Jack, a lawyer and bioethicist, spent most of his career in the Maryland Attorney General's Office, currently teaches at the University of Maryland's Carey School of Law, works as a clinical ethicist, and is a member of several ethics committees.

### April 23

#### **Machar Annual Community Meeting**

### May 7

#### **Will Recant – The Syrian Refugee Crisis: A Jewish Response**

The Jewish Coalition for Disaster Relief was established in the early 1990s and has responded to more than two dozen global emergencies and crises. Assistant Vice President of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and Chair of the Jewish Coalition for Disaster Relief, Will Recant, will talk about this coalition of 20 Jewish organizations' allocation of over \$2 million to myriad programs to assist Syrian refugees during their hour of greatest need. Recant holds a Ph.D in Political Science from George Washington University.

### May 21

#### **Sue Popkin – No Simple Solutions: Lessons from 30 Years of Studying Public Housing in Chicago**

Long-time Machar member Sue Popkin will discuss her new book, *No Simple Solutions*. Sue is a Senior Fellow at The Urban Institute and is an expert on public housing and how neighborhood environments affect outcomes for children and youth.

### June 4

#### **Machar at 40: A Facilitated Conversation About the Future of Our Community**

## The 411 on Machar 911

In the event of a personal emergency, please contact:

**[Rabbi@machar.org](mailto:Rabbi@machar.org) / 202.686.1881**

**[Administrator@machar.org](mailto:Administrator@machar.org) / 202.686.1881**

**[President@machar.org](mailto:President@machar.org)**

Due to the fact that we are a volunteer organization and our staff members are employed part-time, please contact more than one person in the event of an immediate need or concern. This will help ensure that all requests are responded to in a timely manner.



# The Machar Family

## Birthdays

April 1: Roberto Levy  
April 6: Marlene Pratt  
April 6: Pedro Rodriguez  
April 6: Michael Zamore  
April 7: Nancy Harris  
April 7: Ari Priniotakis  
April 8: Marco Gonzalez  
April 8: Jacob Royle  
April 11: Rachel Popkin-Hall  
April 13: Lydia Swartz  
April 15: Bouchra Chati  
April 16: Shelly Schwab  
April 17: André Williamson  
April 17: Joshua Rogin  
April 18: Lauren Brown  
April 19: Susan Warshauer Kahn  
April 21: Lauris Mason  
April 23: Jeremy Lahn  
April 24: Peter Kahn

April 24: Sarah Bashein  
April 27: Akiva Liberman  
April 28: Joel Block  
April 29: David DeMocker  
April 29: Roslynn Seidenstein  
April 30: Jonathan Weiss

May 3: Juliet Franklin  
May 3: Neil Greene  
May 3: Greg Rosenthal  
May 4: Talia Appelman  
May 5: Kate David  
May 7: Darlene Basch  
May 7: Joshua Schnell  
May 11: Claire Huson  
May 11: Teo Zentner  
May 12: Harry Appelman  
May 12: Sarah Gold  
May 13: Amy Kotkin

May 14: Jay Carter  
May 14: Joshua Desenberg  
May 14: Adam Gold  
May 16: Holly Campbell  
May 16: Jennifer Guilfoyle  
May 18: Joyce Rosenthal  
May 18: Lucy Siegal  
May 19: Areya Campbell-Rosen  
May 19: Sam Palca  
May 20: Marina Broitman  
May 20: Noah Castellano  
May 20: Linda Seligmann  
May 22: Peter Wolfe  
May 23: Donna Bassin  
May 28: Linda Tebelman  
May 29: Oliver Lewis  
May 30: Abigail Royle

## Anniversaries

April 23: Shel & Scott Lyons  
  
May 17: Myrna Frank & Howard Dubowitz  
May 25: Barbara Francisco & Marc Mauer  
May 25: Holly Campbell & Keith Campbell-Rosen

## Yarheits: We remember...

April 4: Frank Klein, father of Jill Grant  
April 14: Richard Popkin, father of Sue Popkin  
April 16: Rochelle Frank, sister of Myrna Frank  
April 17: Thurza Godden, mother of David Godden  
April 22: Enrique Lerda  
  
May 1: Renee Dopulos, mother of Gary Peck  
May 2: Harry Copeland, father of Donna Copeland  
May 4: David Broitman, father of Marina Broitman  
May 17: Fay Freedman, relative of Michal Freedman  
May 18: Margaret Popkin, sister of Sue Popkin  
May 19: Andrew Goor, son of Linda Tebelman & Rob Goor  
May 20: William David Francisco, father of Barabar Francisco  
May 20: Edith Levine, mother of Rose Levine  
May 22: Reva Ceasar, mother of Harriet Peck  
May 23: Sol David Prenskey, father of Hank Prenskey  
May 25: Julia Ortiz, mother of Pedro Rodriguez  
May 26: Jack Kaplan, grandfather of Leah Kaplan  
May 29: Harry Ceasar, father of Harriet Peck

# Staff, Board of Directors and Leadership

## Staff

### **Rabbi**

### **Congregational Administrator**

Jane Christenson

### **Jewish Cultural School Director**

Shel Lyons

## Board of Directors

### **President**

Rahel Hanadari

### **Vice President**

*Vacant*

### **Treasurer**

Ester Rozenblum

### **Secretary**

Holly Campbell-Rosen

### **Past President**

Darlene Basch

### **At-Large**

Marlene Cohen

Myrna Frank

Norm Hall

Joyce Rosenthal

Jack Schwartz

### **Honorary Directors**

Jules Abrams (*deceased*)

Harold Black (*deceased*)

Ann Black (*deceased*)

Joe Goodman

Millie Goodman

Mary Perica

Michael Prival

Henrietta Wexler

## Board Liaisons

### **B'nei Mitzvah Liaison**

Norm Hall

### **Madrikhim**

Michael Prival

Deb Godden

## Machar Committee Chairs

### **Adult Ed**

David Abramson

### **Communications**

Joyce Rosenthal

### **Community Service**

*Vacant*

### **Education**

Norm Hall

### **Email Lists Manager**

Norm Hall

### **Fundraising**

Donna Bassin

### **High Holidays**

Nadine Wettstein

### **Liturgy**

*Vacant*

### **Membership**

Marlene Cohen

### **Membership Directory**

Miriam Gitler

### **Mishpachah**

Renée Weitzner

### **Newsletter Editor**

*Vacant*

### **Nominating**

Nadine Wettstein

### **Passover Seder**

*Vacant*

### **Play Reading**

Marlene Cohen

### **Rabbi Committee**

Joy Markowitz

### **Reduced Fees**

Miriam Gitler

### **Social Action**

Peter Kahn

### **Sunday Refreshments**

Ami Argaman

## Clubs and Havurot Chairs

### **Book Club**

### **Nature Club**

Alberto Grosmark

### **Neighborhood Havurot**

Darlene Basch

### **Volunteer Coordinator**

Marina Broitman

### **Wimmin' In Transition (WITs)**

Rose Levine

### **Young Adult Havurah**

*Vacant*

## SHJ Reps from Machar

### **Machar Rep to SHJ**

Marlene Cohen

### **SHJ Board of Directors Members**

Larry Lawrence (*Immediate Past President*)

Rick Gold

## Machar Trained Leaders

Michael Prival, Madrikh

Deb Godden, Madrikha

Dan Tobocman, Spokesperson

## Directions to Machar

**“Cedar Lane” events are held at Cedar Lane UU Church. 9601 Cedar Lane, Bethesda, MD.**

From DC, go north on Wisconsin Ave. (Rt. 355), pass the Naval Hospital, right on Cedar Lane, cross Beach Dr., 2nd entrance on right. From 495, Rockville, etc., take Rockville Pike (Rt. 355) S to left on Cedar to 9601. Metro: Red Line to Medical Center. Walk ½ mile north on 355, right on Cedar, 0.7 miles, or Ride-On Bus #34 (ask the driver).

**“JPDS” is the site of our Jewish Cultural School (JCS). 6045 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC.**

Metro: Red Line to Silver Spring. S-2 or S-4 bus to Federal Triangle to Military Road and cross 16th Street. JCS and Adult Ed begin promptly at 10 a.m.; please arrive early.

**For meetings in private homes, contact hosts for directions.**

## Machar E-mail Lists for Members and Nonmembers

*Michael Prival*

There are two different e-mail lists that Machar members can join. The first, the “Machar” list, enables members to receive the monthly Newsletter, event reminders by email and announcements of program changes that may occur between printed newsletters. Almost all Machar members are already on this list.

The second list is “MacharCommunity.” Members of this list can share information about local, non-Machar

cultural, educational, social action or community service events and activities. Any list member can post a note to the “Machar Community” list at any time.

If you would like to be added to either list, or if we are not using your preferred e-mail addresses for them, please send a note to [Email@machar.org](mailto:Email@machar.org). Of course you can get off these lists at any time.

## Shop with AmazonSmile and Contribute to Machar at the Same Time

Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Machar – the Washington Congregation for Secular Humanistic Judaism whenever you shop using [AmazonSmile](https://www.amazon.com/smile).

AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.

Support Machar by starting your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com).

## Earn for Machar Jewish Cultural School with Service Magic and DriversEd.com!

*Get Matched to Pre-screened Home Improvement Contractors and Earn Up to \$6\**

Service Magic is a FREE service that matches you to pre-screened, customer-rated service professionals: maids, painters, remodelers, plumbers, roofers and more! \*Earnings depend on the type of project and range from \$2–\$6.

*Your Teen Can Start Earning a Driver's License Today!*

With DriversEd.com, your teen can complete the required drivers education online — without ever stepping in a classroom.

Their quality course provides everything needed to prepare for the DMV permit and driver's license exams. Sign up, and DriversEd.com will contribute 5% of the tuition amount to Machar's Jewish Cultural School.

## Help Machar as You Shop

*Larry Lawrence*

Machar participates in the eScrip (Electronic Scrip) program, a fundraising organization in which participating business partners contribute a percentage of your purchases to our Jewish Cultural School. Some participating businesses in the Mid-Atlantic are Safeway (which contributes 1-3% of your purchase value) and American Airlines (3%). To sign up for eScrip, go to <http://www.eScrip.com> and choose “Machar–Jewish Cultural School” as the benefiting group.

## Raise Money for SHJ While You Surf

*Use GOODSEARCH.COM to Search on the Web and Raise Money for SHJ*

[GoodSearch.com](https://www.goodsearch.com) is a Web search tool for organizations such as ours to raise money each time someone uses it. Simply go to [goodsearch.com](https://www.goodsearch.com), key in “humanistic Judaism,” and type in whatever you are searching for. You can even see how much we have raised — and imagine the potential if all of us use it!

Interested in Advertising with Machar?  
**Contact [info at machar.org](mailto:info@machar.org)**