

# The Shofar

July, 1991



## UJC Submits Request for Jewish Club Facilities

*"Place to pray" tops needs*

In a letter to the Jewish Club Redevelopment Subcommittee, The UJC has submitted a "wish list" for facilities for Reform Jews in the premises being redeveloped on Robinson Road.

Based on the belief that the property is intended for use by the entire Jewish community, the letter asks that a multi-function room suitable for services and other purposes be allocated for Reform use. Anticipating that The UJC will wish to employ a rabbi by the time the redevelopment is completed in 1994, The UJC wish list also includes an apartment and office for a rabbi.

Equally essential, according to General Committee members, is an office space for administrative purposes.

## Rabbi P. Irving Bloom Scheduled for Shabbat Service, Dinner and Talk July 26 at American Club

Limited seating, book early

Shabbat with "rabbi's rabbi" P. Irving Bloom of Temple Israel in Dayton, Ohio is expected to attract a good summer crowd for services July 26 in the Kam Shan Room of the Town Club followed by dinner in the Boston Clipper II.

Rabbi Bloom is a graduate of Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati where he was ordained in 1956 and received his Doctor of Divinity degree in 1981. He comes with the warm praise of HUC professor Rabbi Sam Joseph. Rabbi Bloom and his wife will be in Hong Kong on his way to and from China.

Before joining Temple Israel in 1973, Rabbi Bloom was a lecturer in theology at Spring Hill College in Mobile, Alabama. Previous congregational postings include Sha'arai Shomayim in Mobile and Temple Sinai in New Orleans.

His many communal activities include work with Group Aid for Retarded Children, the American Red Cross, Dayton Bureau of Jewish Education, and Dayton Philharmonic Orchestra.

He has served as president of two regional groups of Reform Rabbis and of the Hebrew Union College Rabbinic Alumni Association and is a member of the National Board of Trustees, Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

**What: Shabbat service followed by Oneg Shabbat, then dinner and talk**

**When: Service — 6:30 p.m., Dinner — 8 p.m., July 26**

**Where: Kam Shan Room, 49th floor, and Boston Clipper II, 48th floor, The American Club, Exchange Square**

## I'd like to come for Shabbos dinner.

- ☐ I will be coming alone. Enclosed is check for \$190.
- ☐ I will be coming with \_\_\_ guests(s). Enclosed is \$190. per person.
- ☐ I will be coming with my family. Enclosed is check for \_\_\_ people.

Please make checks payable to The United Jewish Congregation of Hong Kong.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone no. (Home) \_\_\_\_\_ (Work) \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail to The UJC, GPO Box 6083, Hong Kong before July 24. Attendance at dinner is limited to 35. Checks will be returned for late bookings which cannot be accommodated. For telephone bookings, please call Susanna Chan at 463-8156.



## Heritage Ends, Fall Classes Planned

Over 70 UJC and other community members attended at least some of the classes of the nine-part Heritage course that ended last month. By all accounts, it was quite a success. In what was taken to be a strong endorsement, Ohel Leah member Karel Weiss commented rather vociferously at the end of the last lesson "Why aren't there more people here? There should be more people here!"

The course cost The UJC \$6,216. Contributions from those attending for text readings and refreshments helped cut expenses.

Many thanks are due Jonathan Kriegel who arranged the course and led several sessions. Bob Meyer, Mark Michelson, and Michel Millodot also contributed their time and knowledge. Most importantly, the stimulating and lively discussions of the group helped enhance the experience of all! A follow-on Hebrew course and religious study program is planned for fall, plus other programs being developed by Jonathan Kriegel and the adult education subcommittee.

## Jews by Choice Plan Session with Rabbi Sam Joseph

Mark calendars now for a discussion/dinner September 10 with Rabbi Sam Joseph. Topics for the evening will include conversion and other subjects of concern to mixed-faith couples. There will also be the opportunity to meet privately with Rabbi Joseph during his stay here September 7 to 21. Please contact Kathy Goeld at 812-6549 to arrange a time.

The JBC group will meet Wednesday, July 31 at the home of Bob and Grace Green to exchange readings and and prepare topics for discussion with Rabbi Joseph. The address is 1 Robinson Rd., Flat 4A. Please call Martha Josephson at 849-8567 or 865-0118 for details or if you wish to join the group.

## Committee Votes Not to Raise Membership Fees

Members of the General Committee voted unanimously at a recent meeting to keep membership fees at the present level for the coming year. As one member noted, "This is The UJC's contribution to keeping Hong Kong's inflation rate down."

Fees will continue at HK\$1,000 per year for resident members and \$500 per year for non-resident members. Since the membership year runs from July 1 to June 30, members will be receiving debit notes this month for the 1991/1992 year.

Considering the constantly expanding range of UJC activities and membership benefits (services, celebrations, dinners, etc.), the fees were seen by Committee members to be quite reasonable. Since membership subscriptions cannot cover all expenses, however, the UJC is still quite dependent upon and indebted to those members who make contributions during the year above and beyond their membership dues. It is also hoped that donations received during the High Holidays will help keep the Congregation in sound financial health.

Chairman of the Membership Subcommittee Mark Michelson is working with Jonathan Kriegel and Janet Golden to develop a new membership recruitment program that will start this fall.



## UJC Limits Members' Liability to \$18

Month's of hard work by treasurer Victor Falk and law firm Richards Butler will come to an end this month with final government approval of The UJC's application to become a company limited by guarantee.

A main purpose of the change from an exempt society is to limit the liability of members in the event of any accident or claim. Previously, members were subject to unlimited liability. This liability will now be limited (apart from the payment of subscription fees) to a nominal sum of HK\$18. This would be paid only in the event of the bankruptcy of the Congregation.

The sum was set at \$18.00, according to the treasurer, because it is a lucky Hebrew number, "and we naturally hope that members will never be called on to pay this."



### The Shofar

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The United Jewish Congregation  
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