



Temple Beth Israel and the Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee thank you for your interest and participation in the 2016-2017 Rabbi Michael B. Eisenstat Miniversity of Judaism.

If you have suggestions regarding potential speakers, films, music programs or other presenters that could enhance the Miniversity's offerings please do not hesitate to share them with Temple Beth Israel's Continuing Education Committee.

Our community is blessed with many outstanding educational and cultural resources. We are eager to include them in the Miniversity.



# 2016-2017

## **The Rabbi Michael B. Eisenstat Miniversity of Judaism**



**Sponsored by Temple Beth Israel and the  
Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee**

Website: [tbi-lbk.org](http://tbi-lbk.org)

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(941)-383-3428

567 Bay Isles Rd. Longboat Key, FL 34228

# SESSIONS

Date	Time	Instructor	Title
Dec. 5, 19, 26	2 p.m.	Dr. Allan Schwartz	Illness & Jewish Destiny
Dec. 14, 21	2 p.m.	Baila Miller	Georgia O’Keeffe Alfred Stieglitz
Dec. 15	2 p.m.	Connie-Mederos Jacobs	Rugelach Revealed
Jan. 5, 12, 19	2 p.m.	Dr. Steven Derfler	King Herod’s Ancient Role
Jan. 9	2 p.m.	Film	Beneath the Helmet <b>*(Temple members only)</b>
Jan. 18, 25	1:30 p.m.	Rabbi Peter Kasdan	Not Random, Part of the Plan
Feb. 1, 8	1:30 p.m.	Rabbi Peter Kasdan	Not Random, Part of the Plan
Feb. 2	2 p.m.	Film	Uncle Chatzkel <b>*(Temple Members Only)</b>
Feb. 6, 13, 20	2 p.m.	Rabbi Sniderman	My Road to Jewish History
Feb. 7, 9	2 p.m.	Rabbi Richard Klein	Contemporary Ethical Issues
Feb. 21	2 p.m.	Diane Steinbrink	Amy Herzog, New Talent of American Theater
Feb. 23	2 p.m.	JoAnn Goldwater	Jewish Sparks in Lithuania Today
Mar. 7,23	2 p.m.	Bud Livingston	American Jewry and the Civil War; American Jewry and Baseball
March 9, 16, 30	2 p.m.	Rabbi Michael Eisenstat	Agamemnon and Abraham
Mar. 15	11:30 a.m.	Sylvia Pastor	In the Kitchen with Sylvia
Mar. 20, 27	2 p.m.	Cantor Murray Simon	The Golden Age of Cantors
Mar. 21	2 p.m.	Carol Kaufman	Harold Arlen

# DATES TO REMEMBER

**\*Please check online calendar for times and venue\***

Friday, February 3rd	Leadership Circle Shabbat Dinner
Tuesday, February 7th	Violins of Hope
Tuesday, February 7th	92Y - Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks
Friday, February 10th	BIW Sponsored Services
Sunday, February 12th	Jazz Fest
Sunday, February 19th	Men’s Club Breakfast
Saturday, February 25th	Shabbat Café
Sunday, February 26th	Annual Gala
Tuesday, February 28th	92Y - Bernard Henri Levy with Charlie Rose
Friday, March 3	Shabbat Dinner
Saturday, March 4th	BIW Theater Night
Wednesday, March 8th	BINGO!
March 24-25th	Kallah Scholar Weekend-Rabbi Uri Regev
Saturday, March 25th	Shabbat Cafe
Friday, April 7th	Shabbat Dinner
Sunday, April 9th	Men’s Club Farewell BBQ Bay Isles

# FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Seek not the favor of the multitude; it is seldom obtained by honest and lawful means. But seek the testimony of the few; and number not voices, but weigh them. *Immanuel Kant*

There is a luxury in self-reproach. When we blame ourselves, we feel that no one else has a right to blame us. *Oscar Wilde*

A word aptly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver. *Proverbs 25:11*

If you are wise, you will mingle one thing with the other: not hoping without doubt, not doubting without hope. *Seneca*

The best armor is to keep out of range. *Italian Proverb*

To seek God is to strive for the good; to find God is to do good. *Rabbi Leo Baeck*

It's not the bridges burned that bother me as much as the ones I never crossed. *Terry Kirkman*

The art of living successfully consists of being able to hold two opposite ideas in tension at the same time. First, to make long-term plans as if we were going to live forever and, second, to conduct ourselves daily as if we were going to die tomorrow. *Sidney Harris*

I can live two months on a good compliment. *Mark Twain*



Temple Beth Israel  
567 Bay Isles Road  
Longboat Key, FL 34228  
**REGISTRATION FORM**  
(Please complete and return)



All classes and films for TBI members are free.  
Non-member cost is \$10 per session or  
\$8 each for 5 or more sessions  
or \$15 at the door.

**Due to copyright laws films are only open to TBI members\***

PLEASE CIRCLE: Member(s) Non-Member(s)

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Dr. Allan Schwartz</b>         | Illness & Jewish Destiny  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Baila Miller</b>               | Georgia O'Keefe & Alfred Stieglitz                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Connie-Mederos Jacobs</b>      | Rugelach Revealed   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Dr. Steven Derfler</b>         | King Herod's Ancient Role                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Film</b>                       | Beneath the Helmet* (members only)                              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Rabbi Peter Kasdan Jan.</b>    | Not Random, Part of the Plan                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Rabbi Peter Kasdan Feb.</b>    | Not Random, Part of the Plan                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Film</b>                       | Uncle Chatzkel* (members only)                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Rabbi Michael B. Eisenstat</b> | Agamemnon & Abraham   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Rabbi Richard Klein</b>        | Contemporary Ethical Issues                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Diane Steinbrink</b>           | Amy Herzog, New Talent of American Theater                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>JoAnn Goldwater</b>            | Jewish Sparks in Lithuania Today                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Bud Livingston</b>             | American Jewry and the Civil War<br>American Jewry and Baseball |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Rabbi Stephen L. Sniderman</b> | The Wonder of Jewish History                                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Sylvia Pastor</b>              | In the Kitchen with Sylvia                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Cantor Murray Simon</b>        | The Golden Age of Cantors                                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Carol Kaufman</b>              | Harold Arlen  |

“Learning never exhausts the mind.”

*Leonardo Da Vinci*



## THE CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**Nancy Eisenstat, Chair**

**Rabbi Stephen L. Sniderman, Dean**

**Rabbi Michael B. Eisenstat, Earl Gordon,**

**Dr. Ira Singer, Jo Ann Goldwater, Mimi Edlin**

The Rabbi Michael B. Eisenstat Miniversity of Judaism is proud to present its 2016-2017 program.

This year's sessions are once again diverse and dynamic. An eclectic range of subjects has been designed to pique your interest and imagination. We want to thank Rabbi Jonathan R Katz for his efforts in producing this year's program.

We invite you to savor a stimulating adult educational experience that highlights Jewish culture, values, history, film, cooking and much more.

Please be sure to register for classes as quickly as possible. We look forward to your participation in the Miniversity and the myriad opportunities it presents for enrichment.

Sponsored by Temple Beth Israel, the Miniversity is offered at no expense to Temple members and at minimal cost to non-members. Contributions to help defray the expense of administering the program and providing honoraria to presenters would certainly be most thoughtful and appreciated.

**Please complete registration on page 3 and return to Temple Beth Israel or you may reserve by calling the Temple at (941) 383-3428. All major credit cards accepted.**



**Harold Arlen**  
**Carol Kaufman**  
**Tuesday, March 21 at 2:00 p.m.**



Many know L. Frank Baum wrote the *Wizard of Oz* but who composed the spectacular score of the celebrated film? That would be Harold Arlen.

The child of a Buffalo cantor, he created more than 500 works, many of which received worldwide acclaim. “Over the Rainbow” was voted the twentieth century's No. 1 song by the Recording Industry Association of America. His first hit, “Get Happy” in 1929, led to an illustrious Broadway and then Hollywood career. Join music maven Carol Kaufman in exploring the life and work of this remarkable artist.

*Carol Kaufman offers fascinating presentations prior to appearances by visiting symphony orchestras to Van Wezel. She is a musical historian of the first order.*

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Laughing helps. It's like jogging on the inside.

*Author Unknown*

Character is much easier kept than recovered.

*Thomas Paine*

Do not go where the path may lead, go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.

*Ralph Waldo Emerson*

A lot of people mistake a short memory for a clear conscience.

*Doug Larson*

A man would do nothing if he we waited until he could do it so well that no one could find fault.

*John Henry Newman*

If you think you're too small to make a difference, you've obviously never been in bed with a mosquito.

*Michelle Walker*

If you are irritated by every rub, how will your mirror be polished?

*Rumi*

We could certainly slow the aging process down if it had to work its way through Congress.

*Will Rogers*

## IN THE KITCHEN WITH SYLVIA

**Sylvia Pastor**

**Wednesday, March 15 at 11:30 a.m.**

Sylvia offers another one of her fun and popular cooking Demonstrations. She will reveal how to prepare delicious Soup, salads and probably a great dessert too. This hand-on experience includes Sylvia's always engaging commentary, followed by the opportunity to taste the fruit of your labors.

*Sylvia is well-known on Longboat Key as a cooking maven. She has catered many wonderful meals at the Temple and is hailed as a Masterful dinner party planner.*



## THE GOLDEN AGE OF CANTORS

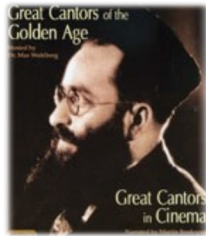
**Cantor Murray Simon**

**Mondays, March 20 & 27 at 2:00**

The Golden Age of Cantors in early 20th century produced Cantors Yossele Rosenblatt and Moshe Koussevitzky, Olympian hazzanim whose voices and reputations became the stuff of legend.

Cantor Simon returns to this era, not only to explore the music and spirituality of these and other cantorial greats, but also the socio-religious context that engendered them. Cantor Simon, in conjunction with the National Center for Jewish Film, at Brandeis University, produced the highly-acclaimed historic DVDs, "Great Cantors of the Golden Age" and "Great Cantors in Cinema". Drawing on these resources, this informative and entertaining presentation combines rare film footage with excellent commentary to tell about a fascinating, but often unremembered, era in Jewish life. These videos will be made available for purchase at these sessions.

*A Philadelphia native, Cantor Murray E. Simon earned his BA in Music and Performance from Temple University before enrolling at the Hebrew Union College - School of Sacred Music in New York. He has served several prominent congregations in the New York, Boston and Princeton. He has lectured on Jewish music and liturgy at Brandeis University and received an MA in Voice from the Boston Conservatory of Music. He has served as national president of the American Conference of Cantors as a member of the National Executive Council of the Cantors Assembly.*



## HOW THE HEALTH OF WORLD LEADERS IMPACTED JEWS



**Dr. Allan Schwartz**

**Mondays, December 5, 19, 26 at 2:00 p.m.**

Dr. Allan Schwartz's presentations about the illnesses of U.S. presidents in relation to the Jewish community are always well received. This year he not only shares about President Woodrow Wilson but Joseph Stalin and Winston Churchill as well.

- 1) What was Stalin's brain illness? Why did the so-called "Doctors Plot" loom large in his mind? Was he poisoned?
- 2) How many strokes did Wilson actually suffer? What role did they play in the Treaty of Versailles and the establishment of the League of Nation?
- 3) Did Churchill suffer from manic depression along with heart problems and strokes? Did he possess Jewish heritage? What were his views on Zionism and Jerusalem?

*Dr. Allan B. Schwartz, Director of Medicine at Drexel University College of Medicine, Division of Nephrology and Hypertension, has received many "Outstanding Clinician and Teacher" awards at Hahnemann and Drexel. He is the author of two textbooks and numerous articles.*

## GEORGIA O'KEEFFE AND ALFRED STIEGLITZ

**Baila Miller**

**Wednesdays, Dec. 14 & 21 at 2:00 p.m.**

Georgia O'Keeffe and Alfred Stieglitz were the ultimate "Power Couple" of the 20th century. A major figure in American art, O'Keeffe (1887-1986) received widespread recognition for a unique style that combined photographic realism with abstraction. She won acclaim with her bold paintings of flowers, rocks, shells, animal bones, and landscapes. An American photographer who devoted his life to elevating the science of photography to a respectable art form, Stieglitz (1864-1946) also promoted American artists. His efforts paved the way for New York receiving the title of Art Capital of the World in the 1930s.

*Baila Miller created her company, Baila Miller Programs, to share a love of art, music and Yiddishkeit. She delivers high-quality, college level continuing education courses that explore the role of painting, architecture, sculpture, cinema, photography and orchestral music in the development of modern culture. Her lectures examine how European Jewish life adapted from the Enlightenment and Romantic to the modern era.*



## RUGELACH REVEALED

**Connie-Mederos Jacobs**  
**Thursday, December 15 at 2:00 p.m.**



Temple Beth Israel members love to see Connie-Mederos Jacobs at Saturday morning services. Why? Not simply because of her kind and warm-hearted nature or her eagerness to assume an honor in the service but because she always brings one of her legendary challahs to enjoy at the Kiddush. But Connie isn't just a challah baker Extraordinaire, she also prepares delectable rugelach as well. Fortunately, she has agreed to reveal how this precious Jewish pastry is made. A traditional Jewish food eaten any time of year, rugelach, despite not fried in oil, is traditionally eaten during Hanukkah. This makes Connie's presentation so timely. You'll be able to make your own just in time for the holiday.

*Highly respected for her legal expertise, Connie was one of the first Spanish speaking attorneys in Bradenton. Exceptionally successful, she possesses a reputation as a relentless advocate for her clients. On Friday afternoons you can find her at home baking challah and other goodies like rugelach. She and her husband, Larry (also an outstanding attorney in our area,) are longtime members of TBI.*

## KING HEROD'S ANCIENT ROLE

**Dr. Steven Derfler**  
**Thursdays, January 5, 12, 19 @ 2:00 p.m.**



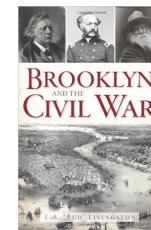
When Herod became the Roman King of Judea in 40 BCE he imposed changes that "turned the world upside down." In these sessions you will discover his astonishing physical legacy and understand life under his rule.

- 1) Herod's Empire: Herod carried out the most massive building program in the land since King Solomon nearly a thousand years earlier. He is known for his fortresses at Herodium and Masada.
- 2) King Herod's Capitals: The traditional capital of Jerusalem was remodeled and the Temple virtually rebuilt. Caesarea became his Roman administrative city.
- 3) The Revolt: With the collapse of the Herodian Dynasty, the Romans made Judea a province. For the Jews, this was a case of going from the frying pan into the fire. They would revolt in 66 CE.

*Dr. Steven Derfler brings great insight to Arab-Israeli conflict. Recently retired from University of Wisconsin, he has lectured throughout the country and maintains associations with prominent institutions both in the U.S. and Israel. Dr. Derfler has also served as the Minnesota Executive Director of the American Jewish Committee.*

## American Jewry and the Civil War American Jewry and Baseball

**Bud Livingston**  
**Tuesday, March 7 & Thursday, March 23**  
**at 2:00 p.m.**



- 1) Learn all about the Jewish senators and generals, Abraham Lincoln's chiropodist, a major financier whose name graces a famous racetrack, and the future labor leader whose father was almost lynched a week after the notorious NYC Draft Riots. You will hear about the man who bought Monticello, the woman whose portrait is on a U.S. postage stamp, General Grant's infamous Order # 11 banning Jews (Israelites) from Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi, and a comical seder in the wilds of Western Maryland.
- 2) We all know about Hank Greenberg and Sandy Koufax, but how many are familiar with Andy Cohen, Goody Rosen, Buddy Myer and Moe Berg? In one 1941 New York Giant game Harry Feldman pitched, Harry Danning caught, Morry Arnovich played center field and Sid Gordon was at third base. How about that? In a 1944 game the Giants beat the Dodgers 26-8 as Phil Weintraub knocked in 11 runs, one short of the record. And while the Giants and the Dodgers had a slew of Jewish ball players, the Yankees had hardly any at all. That will be the subject of discussion. Batter up!

*A lecturer on the Civil War, baseball and Sherlock Holmes, Bud Livingston is a graduate of Brooklyn College and received his MA in American History from Queens College. The author of Brooklyn and the Civil War (The History Press 2014) and Some of My Favorite Sherlockian Things (MX Publishing, 2016), his Ebbets Field rain check collection can be found in the Archives of the Baseball Hall of Fame Museum in Cooperstown, N.Y.*

## AGAMEMNON AND ABRAHAM

**Rabbi Michael B. Eisenstat**  
**Thursdays, March 9, 16, & 30th at 2:00 p.m.**



While the Western world has always been grateful for the gift of democracy that emerged in ancient Greece, Jewish historical contact with Greek culture was positively explosive! Greek emphasis on the physical in the gymnasium and adoration of the human form in statuary, temples was anathema to the rabbinic focus on Torah study and physical modesty. Nevertheless, certain common themes developed in Greek culture that had already been present in ancient Israel. Were the events in the lives of Agamemnon and Oedipus really so different from those of Abraham and Isaac? These sessions explore two different cultures that surprisingly articulate similar themes and problems. And that's just for openers! As the rabbis in the Talmud said, "ta sh'ma...come and hear!"

*Rabbi Michael B. Eisenstat has served the Jewish community as an Air Force Chaplain during the Vietnam War and as a rabbi in Huntsville, AL Coral Gables, FL, and Longboat Key, FL. He is honored by Temple Beth Israel with the title Rabbi Emeritus. A member of the Rabbinic Cabinet of UJA, he participated as a volunteer on an army base through the Volunteers for Israel program.*

## AMY HERZOG, NEW TALENT OF AMERICAN THEATER

**Diane Steinbrink**  
**Tuesday, February 21 at 2:00 p.m.**



Diane will discuss the family history and work of Amy Herzog, an exciting new and prolific playwright on the American theater scene. Herzog has garnered numerous awards in her young career and her plays have appeared often in off-Broadway productions. "The distinction of Herzog's work," wrote one critic, "is her belief that private, individual experience is always inseparable from public historical processes." Monologues will be shared from some of the significant characters from Herzog's plays *After the Revolution*, *The Great God Pan*, *Belleville*, and *4000 Miles* (which was nominated for a 2013 Pulitzer Prize for drama).

*A graduate of Adelphi University with a BA in Speech and Drama, Diane G. Steinbrink coordinated "Philadelphia Plays for Living" for 17 years. She also served as Producer and Facilitator of the Anne Frank Theater Project for Jewish Family and Children's Service of Philadelphia.*

## JEWISH SPARKS IN LITHUANIA

**JoAnn Goldwater**  
**Thursday, February 23 at 2:00 p.m.**



Before World II, Lithuania brimmed with Jewish life. The country was not only home to yeshivas renowned for their scholastic heights but to the Haskalah, the Jewish enlightenment movement, as well. JoAnn Goldwater's grandparents emigrated from Lithuania and she has returned on several occasions to explore her family's roots. JoAnn will share how some young Lithuanians are making efforts at reconciliation with the Jewish community and working to preserve Jewish life. With support from Jewish descendants of the small town of Zagare (Zhager) they organized a Jewish Cultural Festival there in 2015. The event featured Jewish music, films, poetry, cooking, and a half day tour of the community's two Jewish cemeteries, two synagogues and mikvah. Jews with ties to the community came from Israel, Australia, Canada, United States, and the United Kingdom to attend the gathering along with others from throughout Lithuania. JoAnn's presentation includes photos she took at the festival.

*A physiotherapist and Montreal resident, JoAnn Goldwater has become an important figure in the field of Jewish genealogy.*



## BENEATH THE HELMET

**Monday, January 9th at 2:00 p.m.**

Serving in the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF) is a fundamentally unifying experience for Israel's young people. A critically celebrated documentary, *Beneath the Helmet*, tells the story of what happens following induction. At the film's center are four soldiers in an elite paratrooper unit. For those living outside of Israel, it can be easy to forget that the brave task of defending the country rests on the shoulders of teenagers. A thoughtful lieutenant discusses the possibility of his own death. "I don't expect you to get stuck and mourn forever," he tells his parents. "Move forward and understand that this is the price we have to pay." To its credit, the film doesn't avoid depicting the physical and emotional demands that temper the soldiers' idealism.

*Beneath the Helmet* offers a gentle, nuanced portrait of the young soldiers who fight to defend their country, sometimes because they believe in the cause, and sometimes because they have no choice.

***Due to copyright restrictions the film is only open to TBI members.***

## NOT RANDOM, PART OF THE PLAN

**Rabbi Peter Kasdan**  
**Wednesdays January 18, 25 and**  
**February 1, 8 1:30-3:00 p.m.**



Ben Azzai was known to say "Do not scorn any person and do not disdain any thing; for there is no person whose hour does not come, and there is no thing that does not have its place." (*Pirkei Avot* 4:3)

The *Pirkei Avot* is one of the best-known, and most-cited, of Jewish texts. Even those who claim to know little about Jewish literature are familiar with maxims such as Hillel's "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when? (1:14)" and Shammai's "Say little and do much and greet everyone with a cheerful smile (1:15)." Popular Hebrew songs take as their lyrics lines such as Simon the Just's "The world stands on three things: The study of *Torah*, the worship of God, and acts of loving kindness (1:2)" and Tarfon's "You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to desist from participating in it (2:21)."

The *Pirkei Avot* is actually part of the *Mishnah*, the first compilation of Judaism's *Torah she-b'al peh* - the "Torah that is spoken," i.e. the "Oral Law." The *Pirkei Avot* appears in *Seder Nezikin*, the section primarily concerned with torts; some believe, however, that *Pirkei Avot* originally appeared at the very end of the *Mishnah* as a sort of recapitulation of the essential principles of the entire text.

*continued next page*

## NOT RANDOM, PART OF THE PLAN

**Rabbi Peter Kasdan**

**Wednesdays January 18, 25 and  
February 1,8 1:30-3:00 p.m.**



Like the rest of the *Mishnah*, the *Pirkei Avot* consists primarily of short statements most often attributed to Rabbis who lived around the beginning of the Common Era. But there, the resemblance ends. Whereas the bulk of the *Mishnah* concerns itself with case law, *Pirkei Avot* presents us with a series of ethical principles articulated by the Rabbis whose legal opinions appear elsewhere in the *Mishnah*. The *Pirkei Avot* thus serves as an introduction to the overall world-views of these Rabbis, whom we would otherwise know only through their legal rulings.

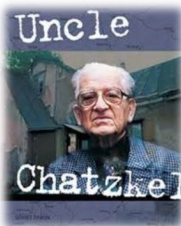
In studying the *Pirkei Avot* we will not only attempt to understand what the Rabbis were saying two thousand years ago, but also try to see the relevance of their teachings in the context of our own time.

## UNCLE CHATZKEL

**Thursday, February 2 at 2:00 P.M.**

For the past decade, children across Lithuania have learned about “Uncle Chatzkel” by watching a documentary about his life in school. Though he died in 2001, Chatzkel Lemchen remains a revered figure in the country because of his efforts to preserve the Lithuanian language during the Soviet era. He also translated Yiddish classics by Sholem Aleichem and Yitzhak Leib Peretz into Lithuanian, and authored the only book about the Yiddish language ever published in Lithuanian. On his 90th birthday he received Lithuania’s highest honor for his role in bridging Russian, Lithuanian and Yiddish languages and cultures. In 1997, a grandnephew in Sydney decided to visit Lemchen, a Holocaust survivor who lost two children to the Nazis. What he found prompted the making of “Uncle Chatzkel,” the centerpiece of a new curriculum about Lithuania’s rich Jewish heritage. The film has won awards in Australia, America, England, Israel and China.

***Due to copyright restrictions, the screening is only open to TBI members.***



## MY ROAD TO JEWISH HISTORY

**Rabbi Stephen L. Sniderman**

**Mondays, February 6, 13, and 20th at 2:00 p.m.**

Rabbi Sniderman studied general (that is not specifically Jewish) history in college and graduate school and then sub-specialized. He will share how his interests changed and developed with an ongoing focus on how Jews always interacted with the larger world.



What exactly is Jewish history? More than we think at first glance! Yes, it is the history of the Jewish religion, but it is also the history of the day to day lives of Jews. Jews didn't always eat gefilte fish or speak Yiddish.

New Visions and New Challenges in the study of the Jewish past. We used to study Jewish history to support our Jewish identity. Now we are beginning to look at aspects of our past no longer relevant to the present but perhaps fascinating and even inspirational. We can learn about Jewish mysticism without being mystics.

## Late Twentieth Century Voice on Contemporary Ethical Issues

**Rabbi Richard L. Klein**

**Tuesday, February 7th and  
Thursday, February 9th at 2:00 p.m.**



1. Leo Jung, Professor of Jewish Ethics at Yeshiva University published an article entitled “The Ethics of Business” in 1976. He writes that there is a kind of wrong doing that is neither crude nor violent but subtle. It has to do with “respectable lawlessness,” such as rigging of bids, monopolistic trickery, collusion between buyer and seller or conspiracy between management and labor.
2. Israel J. Kazis was Rabbi of Temple Mishkan Tefilah in Newton MA when he published an article in 1959 entitled “Judaism and the Death Penalty.” Two years Earlier, he had officiated at my Bar Mitzvah ceremony. He looks at the Torah, Talmud, and Codes to help us understand the progression of Jewish “Law” on the subject of Capital Punishment.

*Rabbi Emeritus of Temple Beth Jacob in Concord, New Hampshire, Rabbi Klein chaired the Central Conference of American Rabbis’ Resolution Committee and Committee on Justice and Peace, served as Vice Chair of the URJ’s Commission on Social Action and was recently elected president of NAORRR, the National Association of Retired Reform Rabbis.*