

**Temple Sinai Brotherhood Update
December, 2025**

A happy Hanukah and holiday season to you and your family.

Recently Concluded Events

Monday Night Football

On Monday, December 1 the Brotherhood gathered at The Office in Summit for Monday Night Football. Unfortunately for New York football fans, during the past ten years (through December 2, 2025), the two NFL teams with the worst winning percentages were the Jets (.321) and Giants (.328). The game we had the misfortune to watch was the Giants (with the second worst record this year in the NFL) play the Patriots (with the best record). We all suspected that the hapless Giants would lose again, so we weren't surprised when they did by a score of 33 to 15.

Still, we had a good crowd, a fun time and left hoping that the Jets and Giants can finally improve their teams when they get another set of high picks in this year's NFL draft.



Upcoming Events

Torah on Tap – 1/13/2026

Our second Torah on Tap event is scheduled on January 13 at 7:30 PM with Cantor Fair giving the D'var Torah. This is always an extremely popular and well attended event, with plenty of beer, chips and good cheer. Feel free to bring your own favorite drink to the BYOB. No reservations required and all Temple men are welcome.

Progressive Dinner – 1/17/2026

Brotherhood, Renaissance and Sisterhood are planning a jointly sponsored Temple Sinai progressive dinner to be held on Saturday night, January 17. The evening will consist of four different parts – a Havdalah service (starting at 6:00 PM), appetizers (ending at 7:00 PM), entrees and (starting at 9:00 PM) desserts. All but the entrees will take place at the Temple. The charge per person will be \$50.

Our plan is that entrees will be served at the homes of congregants that live not more than a 15-minute drive from the Temple. A big thank you to each of the eleven couples who have volunteered to host:

Barish, Rachael & Bill
Barr, Linda & Eric
Freundlich, Marissa & Ryan
Gandelman, Bette & Barry
Goren, Andrea & Seth
Gorman, Nancy & Kaufman, Jeffrey
Gruber, Lara & Jon
Marcus, Amy & Steven
Poopor, Sharone & Keith
Posner, Susan & David
Steinberg, Mary & Jay

All meal selections will be purchased and prepared prior to their delivery to each home. Each home will serve the same food selections, which will be Kosher-style.

Our plan is for each couple or single person to randomly pick a host family number from a bucket when they arrive. Those working the sign-in desk will make a record of everyone's number and host family and help organize each group. Host family address sheets will be available and people will be encouraged to car pool from/back to the Temple.

For more information, see Kol Sinai.

Texas Hold 'Em Night – 1/28/2026

The Brotherhood is sponsoring a Texas Hold 'Em Night at the Temple on Wednesday, January 28 at 7:30 PM. The fee for the event will be \$36, which includes food, drinks and \$10 of chips. All Temple men are welcome.

The event is still in the planning stage, but it's expected that the number of players at each table will be limited to five, and there will be two types of tables set up: a low stakes table and a very low stakes table.

- The low stakes table has a \$10 table buy-in, \$.50 ante per game, \$2 maximum raise, and a maximum of three raises per round.
- The very low stakes table has no table buy-in, \$.25 ante per game, \$1 maximum raise, and a maximum of three raises per round.

Brotherhood volunteers will deal, so no tipping is allowed (although there will be a nominal fee per hand taken from the winnings to cover security and other costs).

The event will be limited to 20 players, so make your reservations as soon as possible. For more information, see Kol Sinai or contact Bill Barish at BBarish@comcast.net.

Member News – Lionel Geltman



Lionel has built a rich life anchored by a 52-year marriage to Marcia, with whom he raised four children—Jeremy, Russell, Suzanne, and Phillip—who are all happily married. Their family includes seven brilliant grandchildren, ranging in age from four months to eleven years. While three of his children live in California, one is located in Rockaway, NJ, and the family gathers yearly, historically at LBI and more recently in California.

Professionally, Lionel dedicated 44 years to a successful career in IT, working for various companies and industries, including a 13-year tenure at Emblem Health. He was a specialist and manager of Systems

Software for large-scale data centers, where his responsibilities included managing substantial software budgets and overseeing disaster recovery efforts, notably participating in two major recoveries following 9/11 and Hurricane Sandy.

Beyond his professional life, Lionel has demonstrated a deep commitment to community service and music. His volunteer efforts include remediating homes in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina in 2007 and in the wake of Storm Sandy in 2012, as well as assisting with building homes

in Vermont and Tennessee. Musically, he has been an active member of three synagogue choirs over the last 30 years and a member of the community choir Kol Dodi for 15 years, recently even occasionally singing in a church choir for religious events. He served in YMCA Indian Guides/Prince programs for 14 years many as wompum bearer (treasurer). He has taken on major roles in Purim Shpeils and notably created virtual High Holiday Choir music during Covid. Religiously, he has been a devoted member of three synagogues across his marriage, serving in lay leadership roles such as Treasurer and Financial Secretary for over 15 years, and dedicating 28 years to Torah Study. Hobbies/certifications include private pilot license and certified part 107 drone pilot.

Final Thoughts

If you have not done so, please check out the Brotherhood page on the Temple's web site at <https://www.templesinainj.org/brotherhood.html>

Our next monthly Brotherhood meeting is scheduled for 7:30 pm at the Temple on Wednesday, January 21. Our monthly meetings typically review recently concluded events, plan upcoming events, catching up with one another, schmoozing, eating and drinking (not necessarily in that order). All Brotherhood members are invited to attend.

I look forward to seeing you at future meetings, events and programs.

Again, a happy Hanukah and holiday season to you and your family. 😊

Warm regards,

Eric Barr, Brotherhood President

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