

Dear Shir Chadash Family and Friends,  
Welcome to letter #44

I'm still in the "did we really do it?" mode.  
Peter Yarrow was really here.  
AND I HAVE SOME INCREDIBLE VIDEO WHICH I PROMISE I WILL POST TO OUR WEBSITE.  
(Still working on it... I've uploaded the files to my PC).

I think the mood was captured in a note I got from a friend who attended...

"I've been meaning to email you about the concert. You're thanking me for being there but I feel like I owe you a thank-you. It was a real joy to be there, Michael. My wife and I weren't prepared for what we experienced: nothing less than a significant cultural experience! We feel like we dipped into a chapter of American history. I don't say we "went to a Peter Yarrow concert", no, we spent an evening singing songs with Peter Yarrow. What a performer! What an icon (even though I suspect he would eschew the moniker). I'm so glad we came. I know it was a success in so many ways--I also hope it was a financial success. "

NOW, our new year begins on July 1st.

That means everyone needs to tell us what they are pledging for the 2009-2010 year. We are going to send out the forms to every family, but you can save us some bucks if you just print the form attached to this email and send it with your check to your hard working treasurer: Victor Feit, 83 King George Drive, Poughkeepsie, NY 12603.

Please return your form. It gives us an idea of how much we will have to make-up throughout the year.

For those of you who fulfill your pledge at the start of the year, now is the time.

For those of you on auto-pay, we will need you to confirm the amount of your monthly pledge. Reply to this email with the monthly amount you authorize for this Temple year (July 2009 - June 2010). If we don't hear from you, I will call you. We need to know before July 15th.

Peter challenged us to make a big difference in the world.  
This new year we'll see how we can meet that challenge.

EVENTS and so on:

1. Friday June 26th - OUR LAST SERVICE of the year - 7:30 in the SOCIAL HALL. SOAK IN SOME LAST SHIR CHADASH to hold you for the summer. Jerry Scheck, chairman of the Spiritual Life Committee is in charge... who knows what creative things we'll be doing?
2. Sunday July 12th - Family Picnic at Fern Lox and Jon Lieberman's house
3. Thursday July 23rd - WE ARE SEVING DINNER AT HILLCREST HOUSE (the homeless shelter) AGAIN. We need families to make sandwiches (3 families to make 20 each) AND we need fruit and chips and maybe something else. LET ME KNOW if you want to serve or prepare food or both. LAST TIME WE HAD MORE

VOLUNTEERS THAN WE NEEDED. I LOVE THAT. WE'RE GOING TO KEEP LENDING OUR NEIGHBORS A HAND.

4. Sunday July 26th - Join us in the stands with \$5 tickets to see the Renegades

5. Sunday August 15th - OUR ANNUAL COCKTAIL PARTY with the piano styling's of Al Hirschhorn - 6pm at the Country House of the Roosevelt Estate at Dalton Farms... with cocktails.

5. Saturday August 29th - Havdallah service - on our land at 6pm, followed by dinner.

6. MAYBE we'll have "Pizza and a Movie night at the Rothmans" again. This is TBD

7. IN September... BEFORE the HIGH HOLY DAYS... "High Holy Days 101" ... what's the big megilah about anyway? Why do we do this? Why do we dress up? Why do we feel compelled to come to synagogue? Is this a relic? Is this our future?

A special Sunday afternoon class with Rabbi Polish.

8. other events may pop-up

If you've been thinking about joining Shir Chadash, about raising your hand to be counted as a supporter of this community, please do so now.

AND... if you've read my nonsense this far and are NOT a member... I mean YOU. And I mean NOW. It's easy. The right time to join is at the start of the year. Monthly autopay makes it relatively painless.

The form is attached to this email.

Shabbat Shalom,  
Michael