

Cemetery Bylaws, Rules, and Customs
For Course 3 Project of the Gamliel Institute
Michelle Siegel michelle-siegel@sbcglobal.net (510) 326-2234
Summer 2016

THE PROJECT FILE

(1) Bay Area Cemetery Bylaws, Rules, and Customs

or

Don't Panic! Plan a Plot!

a. Introduction:

I'm Michelle Siegel, a resident of Emeryville, California, in Alameda County, and I'm a member of the Temple Sinai, Oakland, Caring Community and rosha of their Chevra Kadisha. I'm a student at the Gamliel Institute (<http://www.jewish-funerals.org/>) where I'm studying about Jewish funerals, burials, and mourning so I can be of better service to our community. I believe cemetery planning for one's final destination on earth is extremely important and is something our community needs education about. Planning ahead for burial is a great kindness to one's family and oneself. Why leave people confused and scrambling, or vulnerable, to make plans at the last minute? I've written questions for cemetery directors to answer so I may create a document compiling and comparing Bay Area cemetery customs and rules. These answers will address key cemetery practices. This will make it easy to see what's allowed and not allowed. I'm going to email this document to the Funeral Consumers Alliance, Bay Area rabbis, executive directors of organizations and synagogues, and members of Chevra Kadishas. That way, they can provide accurate advice to members of their community about cemetery planning.

Jewish Cemetery Survey
Cemetery Bylaws, Rules, and Customs
For Course 3 Project of the Gamliel Institute
Michelle Siegel michelle-siegel@sbcglobal.net (510) 326-2234
Summer 2016

Introduction

I'm Michelle Siegel, a resident of Emeryville, California, in Alameda County, and I'm a member of the Temple Sinai, Oakland, Caring Community and Chevra Kadisha. I'm a student at the Gamliel Institute (<http://www.jewish-funerals.org/>) where I'm studying about Jewish funerals, burials, and mourning so I can be of better service to our community. I believe cemetery planning for one's final destination on earth is extremely important and is something our community needs education about.

Planning ahead for burial is a great kindness to one's family and oneself. Why leave people confused and scrambling to make plans at the last minute? I've written questions for cemetery directors to answer so I may create a document compiling and comparing Bay Area cemetery customs and rules. These answers will address key cemetery practices. This will make it easy to see what's allowed and not allowed. I'm going to email this document to Bay Area rabbis and executive directors of organizations and synagogues, and members of Chevra Kadishas. That way, they can provide accurate advice to members of their community about cemetery planning.

Questionnaire

If appropriate, in answering each question, please indicate which are cemetery rules and which are simply customs in the cemetery:

About the Cemetery

1. Is the cemetery structured as a for-profit or non-profit organization?
2. Who owns the cemetery?
3. Does the cemetery have a mission statement? (If so, please attach it.)
4. When was the cemetery started?
5. What size is the cemetery in acres?
6. How much of the cemetery is developed?
7. How many burials or other interments are there now in the cemetery? What is the capacity for further use? (If you have interments other than burials, please break down the numbers by category.)
8. How many burials/interments occur, on average, per year?

Burial Timing

1. How soon after a death can a burial occur?
2. What days of the week are not allowed for burial?
3. What are the rules for burial during holidays?

Burial Eligibility

1. Can amputated body parts be buried in the cemetery?
2. Does the person need to have had a tahara to be buried at the cemetery?
3. Can someone who has committed suicide be buried in the cemetery?
4. Are cremated remains allowed to be buried in the cemetery?
5. Can a pet be buried in the cemetery?

Non-Jewish Burial

1. Can a non-Jew be buried in the cemetery? If so, what are the rules governing this issue?

If non-Jewish burials are permitted:

2. Are there designated areas for non-Jewish burial?
3. Can a non-Jewish spouse or partner be buried next to their previously buried Jewish spouse or partner?
4. Can a Jewish spouse or partner be buried next to their previously buried non-Jewish spouse or partner?
5. Must a space of one grave be left on either side of the non-Jewish grave? Must a space also be left at head and foot?

Aron

1. What kinds of caskets are allowed to be used? Only all wood? Metal handles? Only simple? Alternatives such as a wicker basket?
2. Can the person be buried without a casket?

Grave Site and Hespel

1. Can the cemetery help find an officiant for the service?
2. Who is allowed to conduct the funeral service? Must they be Jewish?
3. If a rabbi officiates, does the cemetery assume a Jewish burial is taking place?
4. Who can give a eulogy? Must they be Jewish?
5. Where are services usually conducted? Graveside, chapel?
6. Does the cemetery have a pall with which to cover the casket during the ceremony?
7. Who can be a pallbearer? Must they be Jewish?
8. What is discouraged at a funeral service? For example, no flowers, no music?

Liner

1. Is a liner required?
2. If a liner is required, are there holes in the bottom so soil can reach the casket? Or is earth placed in the bottom of the liner prior to placing the casket?

Lowering and Filling

1. Can people burying a loved one lower the casket by hand into the grave?
2. Can relatives operate the mechanical lowering device?
3. Does the cemetery provide enough dirt to completely fill in the grave?
4. How many shovels does the cemetery provide?
5. Can the family and friends complete the filling of the grave?

Monuments and Markers

1. Does the cemetery allow upright monuments? Flat markers?
2. Does the cemetery sell the marker or monuments?
3. Does the cemetery allow outside markers or monuments?
4. How long does it take to order and install a marker/monument?
5. What materials are allowed for markers/monuments? Bronze, granite, etc.
6. Can photographs be inscribed onto a monument?
7. Are there any rules or limitations about inscriptions?
8. What is usually inscribed?
9. Are government monuments allowed for veterans?
10. Can markers/monuments have vase holders?
11. Are there rules about flowers?
12. Are there rules about glass?

Unveiling and Visiting

1. Does an unveiling need coordination with the cemetery? If so, what is needed?
2. How soon should an unveiling take place?
3. During what hours of what days can an unveiling occur?
4. What days and hours is the cemetery open for visiting?
5. What is the customary wait to visit the gravesite after burial?

Pricing

1. Are there overtime fees for certain hours and days?
2. What is the cost of a plot? Does it vary depending on location?
3. What is the cost for interment (opening and closing of grave)?
4. What is the cost of the liner?
5. What is the cost of the liner installation?
6. What are the costs for markers/monuments?
7. What are the costs for use of the chapel?
8. Is there a fee for water, tents, chairs, sound system, pall cover?
9. Are there any other costs?

Thank you so much for your thoughtful answers!

List of Jewish Cemeteries to Contact with Questions

OWNED AND MANAGED BY SINAI MEMORIAL CHAPEL

Eternal Home Cemetery (Colma) – Established 1901

Cemetery:

1051 El Camino Real
Colma, CA 94014

Contact:

Thomas V. Halloran, Senior Manager and Licensed Embalmer, Sinai Memorial Chapel
(415) 921-3636
Lisa Matson, Cemetery Office Manager
(650) 755-5236

Hours:

8:30 am – 4:15 pm
Closed Saturday and Jewish holidays

A non-profit Jewish cemetery owned and operated by Sinai Memorial Chapel Chevra Kadisha. The cemetery offers traditional ground burial, family sections, alternative type interments, and on-site chapel accommodating approximately 40 guests. It allows for flush grave markers, upright memorials, and memorial benches. Congregational sections within the cemetery include ones for Congregation Adath Israel (San Francisco—Orthodox), Congregation Chevra Thilim (San Francisco—Orthodox), and Congregation Beth Sholom (San Francisco—Conservative)

Gan Shalom Cemetery (Memorial Park) (Briones) - Established 2006

Cemetery:

1100 Bear Creek Rd.
Briones, CA 94553
(925) 962-3636

Contact:

Cathie Cline Sheldon, Family Counselor

Hours:

Monday – Friday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm;
Sunday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Closed Saturdays and Jewish and secular holidays

List of Jewish Cemeteries to Contact with Questions

Business Office:

3415 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA 94549
(925) 228-3636

Contact:

Jay A. Lewis, Managing Funeral Director, FD# 3301

Hours:

Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm;
Sunday 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
Closed Saturdays and Jewish and secular holidays

A non-profit Jewish cemetery service the entire spectrum of the Jewish community, including interfaith families, owned and operated by Sinai Memorial Chapel Chevra Kadisha. The cemetery offers traditional ground burials, family sections, a cremation urn garden, and an on-site chapel with seating for approximately 75 guests. It allows for flush grave markers and memorial benches. Congregational sections within the cemetery include ones for Temple Isaiah (Lafayette – Reform), Congregation B'nai Shalom (Walnut Creek – Conservative), Tel Shalom Burial Association (Berkeley and Richmond), and Congregation B'nai Tikvah (Walnut Creek – Reform).

SAN FRANCISCO AREA CEMETERIES (SAN MATEO COUNTY AND COLMA)

Eternal Home Cemetery (Colma) – Established 1901

1051 El Camino Real
Colma, CA 94014-3234

Contact: Sinai Memorial Chapel, San Francisco, (415) 921-3636; or Lisa Matson, Cemetery Office Manager, (650) 755-5236

A non-profit Jewish cemetery, owned and operated by Sinai Memorial Chapel Chevra Kadisha. The cemetery offers traditional ground burial, family sections, alternative type interments, and on-site chapel accommodating approximately 40 guests. It allows for flush grave markers, upright memorials, and memorial benches. Congregational sections within the cemetery include Congregation Adath Israel (San Francisco—Orthodox), Congregation Chevra Thilim (San Francisco—Orthodox), and Congregation Beth Sholom (San Francisco—Conservative).

List of Jewish Cemeteries to Contact with Questions

Home of Peace Cemetery - Mausoleum (Colma) – Established 1889

1299 El Camino Real
Colma, CA 94014-3240

Contact: James Carlson, Director of Cemetery, (650) 755-4700

A non-profit Jewish cemetery owned and operated by Congregation Emanu-El, San Francisco. The cemetery offers traditional ground burial, mausoleum entombment, cremation urn gardens, and on-site chapel accommodating approximately 50 guests. It allows for flush grave markers, upright memorial, and memorial benches. Congregational sections include Congregation Beth Sholom (San Francisco—Conservative) and Peninsula Temple Sholom (Burlingame—Reform).

Hills of Eternity Memorial Park - Mausoleum (Colma) – Established 1889

1301 El Camino Real
Colma, CA 94014-3240

Contact: James Carlson, Director of Cemetery, (650) 755-4700

A non-profit Jewish Cemetery owned and operated by Congregation Sherith Israel, San Francisco. The cemetery offers traditional ground burial, mausoleum entombment, cremation urn gardens, and on-site chapel accommodating approximately 80 guests. It allows for flush grave markers, upright memorials, and memorial benches. Congregational sections include Congregation Beth Am (Los Altos—Reform), Congregation Beth Jacob (Redwood City—Conservative), Congregation Kol Emeth (Palo Alto—Conservative), Congregation Or Shalom (San Francisco—Renewal), Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (San Francisco—Reform), and Peninsula Sinai Congregation (Foster City—Conservative).

Salem Memorial Park - Mausoleum (Colma) – Established 1891

1171 El Camino Real
Colma, CA 94014-3240

Contact: James Carlson, Director of Cemetery, or Stephen Weiner, Director of Sales, (650) 755-4700

A non-profit Jewish Cemetery owned and operated by Congregation Emanu-El and Congregation Sherith Israel, San Francisco. The cemetery offers traditional ground burial, mausoleum entombment, cremation niches, and chapel accommodating approximately 50 guests. It allows for flush grave markers, upright memorials, and memorial benches. Congregational sections within the cemetery include Congregation B'nai Emunah (San Francisco – Conservative) and Congregation Ner Tamid (San Francisco – Conservative).

List of Jewish Cemeteries to Contact with Questions

Skylawn Memorial Park (San Mateo) – Established 1959

Highway 92 at Skyline Blvd.
San Mateo, CA

(650) 349-4411

A for-profit, memorial park, corporately owned and operated by Lifemark/North Star Memorial Group Corp.

Gan Hazikaron (Garden of Remembrance) (Located within Skylawn Memorial Park.)–

Established 1985

Contact: Eric Stone, Executive Director, Peninsula Temple Beth El, (650) 341-7701, estone@ptbe.org

Peninsula Temple Beth El (San Mateo – Reform) operates the Garden of Remembrance within the grounds of Skylawn Memorial Park. Cemetery options include traditional ground burial and on-site chapels accommodating approximately 75 guests. It allows for flush grave markers.

East Bay Cemeteries (Briones, Lafayette, Oakland, and Livermore)

Gan Shalom Cemetery (Memorial Park) (Briones) - Established 2006 (see page 1)

Home of Eternity Cemetery (Oakland) – Established 1865

5000 Piedmont Ave.
Oakland, CA 94611

Contact: Robin Reiner, Cemetery Manager, (510) 325-7073; or Temple Sinai administrative staff, (510) 451-3263

Space at the top not owned by Temple Sinai—owned by Mountain View. A non-profit Jewish cemetery owned and operated by Temple Sinai (Oakland – Reform). The cemetery is located next to Mountain View Cemetery. It offers traditional ground burial, mausoleum entombment, cremation niches, and an on-site chapel that accommodates approximately 50 guests. The cemetery allows for flush grave markers, upright memorials, and memorial benches.

List of Jewish Cemeteries to Contact with Questions

Oakmont Memorial Park (Lafayette) – Established 1951

2099 Reliez Valley Rd.
Lafayette, CA 94549

Contact: Jay Lewis, Sinai Memorial Chapel, Lafayette, (925) 962-3636

A for-profit cemetery corporately owned and operated by Stonemor Partners L.P. with sections dedicated to Jewish use. Sinai Memorial Chapel facilitates the Compassion Garden Sections, and there are two sections devoted to Congregation Temple Isaiah (Lafayette – Reform). Two on-site chapels (one accommodates 60 guests, and the other accommodates 100 guests).

Roselawn Cemetery (Livermore) – Established 1883

1240 North Livermore Ave.
Livermore, CA 94550

Contact: Cemetery office manager, Art Monument Co., Inc., (510) 581-1206

A for-profit cemetery locally owned and operated by the Art Monument Co Inc., Hayward. The cemetery offers traditional ground burial in a Jewish section (Area 37) within the cemetery.

North Bay Cemeteries (Mill Valley, San Rafael, Santa Rosa, Saint Helena, Petaluma, and Vallejo)

Mount Tamalpais Cemetery (San Rafael) - Established 1880

2500 5th Ave.
San Rafael, CA

(415) 459-2500

A for-profit cemetery owned by the Marin County Cemetery Association.

Sha'arei Shalom Cemetery (Gates of Peace) Cemetery (Located within Mount Tamalpais Cemetery.)- Established 1988

Contact: Michael Kamler, Executive Director, (415) 479-3441

The cemetery is operated by Congregation Rodef Shalom (San Rafael—Reform) and located within Mount Tamalpais Cemetery. It offers traditional ground burial, cremation burial options, and

List of Jewish Cemeteries to Contact with Questions

mausoleum entombment. An on-site chapel accommodates 75 guests. The cemetery allows for flush grave markers, upright memorials, and memorial benches.

Kol Shalom Cemetery (Located within Mount Tamalpais Cemetery.)- Established 1989
Contact: Nancy Drapin, Executive Director, Congregation Kol Shofar, (415) 388-1818, ext. 103

This cemetery is owned and operated by Congregation Kol Shofar (Tiburon—Conservative) and is located within Mount Tamalpais Cemetery. The cemetery offers traditional ground burial. An on-site chapel accommodates 75 guests. The cemetery allows for flush grave markers, upright memorials, and memorial benches.

St. Helena Public Cemetery (St. Helena) – Established 1873

2461 Springs St.
St. Helena, CA 94574

(707) 963-3544

Ner Tamid (Eternal Flame) Jewish Cemetery (Located within St. Helena Public Cemetery.)-
Established 2013
Contact: Donna Mendelson, (707) 259-5332

The only Jewish cemetery in Napa County, Ner Tamid is located on the grounds of the historic St. Helena Public Cemetery and offers traditional ground burial and cremation interment options. It is open to all Jewish affiliations.

Forever Fernwood Cemetery (Mill Valley) – Established in 1890s

301 Tennessee Valley Rd.
Mill Valley, CA 94941

(415) 383-7100

A for-profit cemetery with on-site chapel that accommodates approximately 100 guests.

Gan Yarok Cemetery (Green Garden) (Located within Forever Fernwood Cemetery.)-
Established 2010
Contact: Forever Fernwood Cemetery office, (415) 383-7100

The Jewish section of Forever Fernwood Cemetery incorporates the values of the “green” movement while maintaining Jewish traditions of traditional ground burial in three sub-sections: Orthodox, Conservative, and Reform/Renewal.

List of Jewish Cemeteries to Contact with Questions

Santa Rosa Memorial Park (Santa Rosa) - Established 1885

1900 Franklin Ave.
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

(707) 542-1580

A non-profit corporation dedicated to providing and maintaining a non-sectarian cemetery for all families and faiths within the community.

Beth Ami (Lawn Section) (Located within Santa Rosa Memorial Park.)– Developed in the 1950s

Contact: Congregation Beth Ami, (707) 360-3000

This cemetery is operated by Congregation Beth Ami (Conservative) and is located within Santa Rosa Memorial Park. It offers traditional ground burial and on-site chapels for services. The cemetery allows for flush grave markers and memorial benches.

Shomrei Torah (Lawn Section) (Located within Santa Rosa Memorial Park.)– Developed in the 1970s

Contact: Congregation Shomrei Torah, (707) 578-5519

This cemetery is operated by Congregation Shomrei Torah (Reform) and is located within Santa Rosa Memorial Park. It offers traditional ground burial and on-site chapels for services. The cemetery allows for flush grave markers and memorial benches.

Cypress Hills Memorial Cemetery (Petaluma) – Established 1859

430 Magnolia Ave.
Petaluma, CA

(707) 762-6683

B'nai Israel Cemetery (Located within Cypress Hills Memorial Cemetery.)- Established 1871

Contact: Congregation B'nai Israel, (707) 762-0340

This cemetery is owned and operated by Congregation B'nai Israel (Petaluma – Orthodox) and is located on the grounds of Cypress Hills Memorial Cemetery. It offers traditional ground burial.

List of Jewish Cemeteries to Contact with Questions

Sunrise Memorial Cemetery (Vallejo) – Established 1860

2201 Sacramento St.
Vallejo, CA 94590

(707) 643-5190

B'nai Israel (Vallejo) & ***Beth Sholom*** (Napa) - **(Located within Sunrise Memorial Cemetery.)**

Established 1921

Contact: Congregation B'nai Israel, Vallejo, (707) 642-6526; Congregation Beth Sholom, Napa, (707) 253-7305

This cemetery is facilitated and operated by Congregation B'nai Israel in Vallejo (Independent) and Congregation Beth Sholom in Napa (Reform). The sections are located on the grounds of Sunrise Memorial Cemetery and offers traditional ground burial.

List of Synagogues and Organizations to Contact with Compiled Information

BAY AREA WIDE GROUPS

Funeral Consumers Alliance

<https://www.funerals.org/>

33 Patchen Road
South Burlington, VT 05403
Tucson, AZ 85732-2661
Telephone: 802-865-8300
fax: 802-865-2626

Contact: Executive Director for media and legal requests, and interviews--Joshua Slocum
Telephone: 802-865-8300

Admin. Assistant for general help: Leda
Telephone: 802-865-8300

Office Manager: Natassia Strackbein
Telephone: 802-865-8300

Bay Area Jewish Healing Center

www.jewishhealingcenter.org

415-750-4197

jewishhealing@bajhc.org (this is email for all contacts there)

List of Rabbis there:

Rabbi Eric Weiss, President and CEO, Telephone: (415) 750-4197

Rabbi Natan Fenner, Telephone: (415) 750-4197

Rabbi Jon Sommer, Telephone: (415) 750-4197

Rabbi Elliot Kukla, Telephone: (415) 750-4197

Gail Kolthoff, Executive Assistant, Telephone: (415) 750-4197, Email: gkolthoff@bajhc.org

Bay Area Funeral Consumers Association

P.O. Box 60448
Palo Alto, CA 94306-0448
phone: 650-321-2109
office@ba-fca.org

List of Synagogues and Organizations to Contact with Compiled Information

Board of Rabbis of Northern California

121 Steuart St, Suite 300
San Francisco, CA 94105
General Office, Rabbi 415-369-2860
marving@sfjci.org
www.norcalrabbis.org
Executive Director: Rabbi Marvin Goodman

Sinai Memorial Chapel

1501 Divisadero Street
San Francisco, CA 94115-3425
(415) 921-3636
Samuel J. Salkin, Executive Director, ssalkin@sinaichapel.org
Robert T. Perez, Managing Funeral Director, rperez@sinaichapel.org
and
3415 Mt. Diablo Blvd.
Lafayette, CA 94549-3914
(925) 962-3636
Jay A. Lewis, Managing Funeral Director, jlewis@sinaichapel.org

EAST BAY/CONTRA COSTA COUNTY SYNAGOGUES

Conservative

Temple Beth Abraham

327 MacArthur Blvd.
Mail to: 336 Euclid Ave
Oakland, CA 94610
Telephone: (510) 832-0936
admin@tbaoakland.org
www.tbaoakland.org
Contact: Rabbi Mark Bloom
Executive Director: Rayna Arnold

List of Synagogues and Organizations to Contact with Compiled Information

Congregation B'nai Shalom

74 Eckley Lane
Walnut Creek, CA 94596
Telephone: (925) 934-9446
office@bshalom.org
www.bshalom.org
Synagogue administrator: Lisa Elgazzar
Rabbi Aderet Drucker, rabbidrucker@bshalom.org

Congregation Netivot Shalom

1316 University Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94702
Telephone: (510) 549-9447
office@netivotshalom.org
Contact: Rabbi Menachem Creditor, rabbi@netivotshalom.org Telephone: 549-9447 x 103
Rabbi Stuart Kelman, skelman@netivotshalom.org
Executive Director: Rochelle Nason, exec@netivotshalom.org Telephone: 549-9447 x 102
Office Administrator: Daniel Krupitski, office@netivotshalom.org Telephone: 549-9447 x 101

Independent

Beth Chaim Congregation

1800 Holbrook Drive
Danville, CA 94506
Telephone: 925-736-7146
www.bethchaim.com
Administrative Assistant: admin@bethchaim.com
Rabbi Dan Goldblatt, rabbidan@bethchaim.com

Chochmat HaLev

Center for Jewish Spirituality
2215 Prince St.
Berkeley, CA 94705
Telephone: 510-704-9687
www.chochmat.org
Congregational leaders: Maggid Jhos Singer, Shlichat Tzibbur Julie Batz
Executive Director: Jen Roitman, jen@chochmat.org
Office Manager: Judy Fleischman, frontdesk@chochmat.org

List of Synagogues and Organizations to Contact with Compiled Information

Reutlinger Synagogue

4000 Camino Tassajara
Danville, CA 94506
Telephone: 925-964-2068 or 925-648-2800
www.rcjl.org
Contact: Rabbi Debora Kohn, rabbi@rcjl.org

Reform

Congregation Beth El

1301 Oxford St.
Berkeley, CA 94709
Telephone: 510-848-3988
office@bethelberkeley.org
www.bethelberkeley.org
Contacts: Rabbi Yoel H. Kahn, Senior Rabbi, Telephone: 510-848-3988, ext. 215
rabbikahn@bethelberkeley.org
Rabbi Rebekah Stern, Associate Rabbi, Telephone: 510-848-3988, ext.228
rabbistern@bethelberkeley.org
David Rothenberg, Executive Director, Telephone: 510-848-3988, ext. 212
david@bethelberkeley.org
Kevin Blattel, Business Office Manager, Telephone: 510-848-3988, ext. 210,
kevin@bethelberkeley.org

Congregation Beth Emek

3400 Nevada Ct.
Pleasanton, CA 94566
Telephone: 925-931-1055
bethemek@bethemek.org
www.bethemek.org
Contact: Rabbi Laurence Elis Milder, Telephone: 925.931.1055 x18, rabbi@bethemek.org
Margie Hansen, Administrator, Telephone: 925.931.1055 x10, bethemek@bethemek.org

Temple Beth Hillel

801 Park Central
Richmond, CA 94803
Telephone: 510-223-2560
tbh@aol.com
www.tbhrichmond.org
Contact: Rabbi Dean Kertesz, rabbi@tbhrichmond.org

List of Synagogues and Organizations to Contact with Compiled Information

Congregation B'nai Israel of Rossmoor

Mail to: PO Box 2070
Walnut Creek, CA 94595
Telephone: 925-287-9997
Rabherb@gmail.com
President: Judith Morris

Congregation B'nai Tikvah

25 Hillcroft Way
Walnut Creek, CA 94597
Telephone: 925-933-5397
office@tikvah.org
www.tikvah.org
Contact: Rabbi Rebecca Gutterman, rabbigutterman@tikvah.org
Administrator: Judy Blum, judyblum@tikvah.org

Temple Isaiah

945 Risa Road
Lafayette, CA 94549
Telephone: 925-283-8575
Temple-isaiah@temple-isaiah.org
www.temple-isaiah.org
Contact: Rabbi Judy B. Shanks, rabbishanks@gmail.com
Rabbi Alissa Forrest Miller, rabbi.miller@temple-isaiah.org
Executive Director: Debbie Kirsch, 925-283-8575, ext. 301, debk@temple-isaiah.org
Clergy Assistant, Nina Jones, 925-283-8575, ext. 308, ninaj@temple-isaiah.org

Temple Israel

3183 Mecartney Road
Alameda, CA 94502
Telephone: 510-522-9355
office@templeisraelalameda.org
www.templeisraelalameda.org
Contact: Rabbi Barnett J. Brickner, rabbi@templeisraelalameda.org
Temple Administrator: Pamela Douglas, office@templeisraelalameda.org

List of Synagogues and Organizations to Contact with Compiled Information

Temple Sinai

2808 Summit St.
Oakland, CA 94609
Telephone: 510-451-3263
www.oaklandsinai.org
Contact: Rabbi Jacqueline Mates-Muchin, rmates-muchin@oaklandsinai.org
Rabbi Yoni Regev, rregev@oaklandsinai.org
Communications: Lisa Hanauer, lisa@oaklandsinai.org

Renewal

Aquarian Minyan

PO Box 7224
Berkeley, CA 94707
Telephone: 510-981-2130
aminyan@aquarianminyan.org
Shomerot: Abigail Grafton, Telephone: 510-843-3131
Elizabeth Hirshfeld

Beyt Tikkun

951 Cragmont Ave.
Berkeley, CA 94708
Telephone 510-644-1200
shul@tijjyn.org
www.beyttikkun.org
Contact: Rabbi Michael Lerner, shul@tikkun.org

Kehilla Community Synagogue

1300 Grand Ave.
Piedmont, CA 94610
Telephone: 510-547-2424
info@kehillasynagogue.org
www.kehillasynagogue.org
Community Rabbi—Rabbi David J. Cooper, Telephone: 510-547-2424, ext. 103,
rabbidavid@kehillasynagogue.org
Founding Rabbi: Rabbi Burt Jacobson, Telephone: 510.283.5704, rabburt@earthlink.net
Associate Rabbi: Rabbi Dev Noily, Telephone: 510-547-2424, ext. 104,
rabbidev@kehillasynagogue.org
Administrative Assistant: Natalie Boskin, Telephone: 510-547-2424, ext. 107,
natalie@kehillasynagogue.org

List of Synagogues and Organizations to Contact with Compiled Information

MARIN SYNAGOGUES

Conservative

Congregation Kol Shofar

215 Blackfield Drive
Tiburon, CA 94920
Telephone 415-388-1818
info@kolshofar.org
www.kolshofar.org

Contact: Rabbi Susan Leider, Telephone: (415) 388-1818, ext. 110, info@kolshofar.org
Rabbi Chai Levy, Telephone: (415) 388-1818, ext. 119

Reform

Congregation Rodef Sholom

170 North San Pedro Road
San Rafael, CA 94903
Telephone: 415-479-3441
michaelk@rodefsholom.org
www.rodefsholom.org

Contact: Senior Rabbi Stacy Friedman, stacy@rodefsholom.org
Associate Rabbi Michael Lezak, mlezak@rodefsholom.org
Director of Jewish Living and Learning: Rabbi Lara Regev, lara@rodefsholom.org

SAN FRANCISCO SYNAGOGUES

Conservative

Congregation Beth Sholom

301 14th Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94118
Telephone: 415-221-8736
info@bethsholom.org
www.bethsholomsf.org

Contact: Rabbi Aubrey L. Glazer, Ph.D., rabbiglazer@bethsholomsf.org

List of Synagogues and Organizations to Contact with Compiled Information

Congregation B'nai Emunah

3595 Taraval St.

SF, CA 94116

Telephone: 415-664-7373

www.be-sf.org

Contact: Rabbi Mark Melamut, 415-664-7373, etc. 24, rabbimark@bnaiemunahsf.org

Administrator Seth "Shais" St. Martin, 415-664-7373 ext 22, office@benaieemunahsf.org

Congregation Ner Tamid

1250 Quintara St.

SF, CA 94116

Telephone: 415-661-3383

nertamidsf@sbcglobal.net

www.nertamidsf.org

Contact: Rabbi Moshe Levin

Administrator: Adele Shafer

Reform

Congregation Beth Israel Judea

625 Brotherhood Way

SF, CA 94132

Telephone: 415-586-8833

info@bij.org

www.bij.org

Contact: Rabbi Danny Gottlieb, rabbigottlieb@bij.org

Executive Administrator: Sara Heckelman, sheckelman@bij.org

Congregation Emanu-El

2 Lake St.

SF, CA 94118

Telephone 415-751-2535

mail@emanuelf.org

Senior Rabbis: Beth Singer, cfeldman@emanuelf.org Jonathan Singer, cfeldman@emanuelf.org

(Candace Feldman is assistant)

Rabbi Sydney Mintz, sroberson@emanuelf.org (Seanda Robertson is assistant)

Rabbi Ryan Bauer, rreiner@emanuelf.org

Rabbi Carla Fenves, byoungman@emanuelf.org

Rabbi Jason Rodich, jrodich@emanuelf.org

List of Synagogues and Organizations to Contact with Compiled Information

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

290 Dolores St.

SF, CA 94103

Telephone: 415-861-6932

www.shaarzahav.org

bikkurcholim@shaarzahav.org

Administrator: Marilyn Wacks NO EMAILS AT WEBSITE FOR ANYONE

Office Manager: Carrie Kwong

Interim Rabbi: Rabbi Ted Riter,

Congregation Sherith Israel

2266 California St.

SF, CA 94115

Telephone: 415-346-1720

info@sherithisrael.org

www.sherithisrael.org

Contact: Director of Magalim – Circles of Jewish Life, Rabbi Jessica Zimmerman Graf, 415.346.1720, x18, rabbigraf@sherithisrael.org

Senior Rabbi: Rabbi Larry Raphael, 415.346.1720, x19, rabbiraphael@sherithisrael.org

Associate Rabbi: Rabbi Julie Saxe-Taller, 415.346.1720, x25, rabbijst@sherithisrael.org

Executive Director: Amy Mallor, amallor@sherithisrael.org

Reconstructionist

Or Shalom Jewish Community

625 Brotherhood Way

SF, CA 94132

Telephone: 415-469-5564

www.orshalom.org

Contact: Shae Hancock

Spiritual Leader: Rabbi Katie Mizrahi

Director of Operations: Jonathan Harris, admin@orshalom.org

List of Synagogues and Organizations to Contact with Compiled Information

SAN MATEO COUNTY SYNAGOGUES

Conservative

Congregation Beth Jacob

1550 Alameda de las Pulgas
Redwood City, CA 94061
Telephone: 650-366-8481

www.bethjacobrwc.org

Contact: Rabbi Nathaniel Ezray, 650-366-8481 x335, rabbi@bethjacobrwc.org

Rabbi Educator: Rabbi Ilana Goldhaber-Gordon, 650-366-8481 x339, rabiilana@bethjacobrwc.org

Office Manager: Rosa Whitten, 650-366-8481 x331, rosa@bethjacobrwc.org

Peninsula Sinai Congregation

499 Boothbay Ave.
Foster City, CA 94404
Telephone: 650-349-2816

www.peninsulasinai.org

info@peninsulasinai.org

Contact: Rabbi Corey Helfand, rabbi@peninsulasinai.org

Administrator: Maylou Khalfa, Marylou@peninsulasinai.org

Independent

Coastside Jewish Community

PO Box 1729
El Granada, CA 94018
Telephone: 650-479-5252

www.coastsidejewishcommunity.org

coastsidejewishcommunity@yahoo.com

Contact: Spiritual Leader — Rabbi Jane Rachel Litman, 415.602.3360, rabbicjc@gmail.com

List of Synagogues and Organizations to Contact with Compiled Information

The Karaite Jews of America

KJA B'nai Israel

1575 Annie St.
Daly City, CA 94915
Telephone: 650-994-9757
www.karaites.org
KJA1575@att.net
Contact: Abraham Massuda
Acting Rav: Joseph Moussa

Reform

Peninsula Temple Beth El

1700 Alameda de las Pulgas
San Mateo, CA 94403
Telephone: 650-341-7701
www.ptbe.org

Contact: Rabbi Dennis J. Eisner, 650-341-7701, ext. 222, rabbidennis@ptbe.org
Associate Rabbi: Rabbi Sara Mason-Barkin, 650-341-7701, ext. 224, rabbisara@ptbe.org
Associate Rabbi: Rabbi Lisa Kingston, 650-341-7701, ext. 240, rabbilisa@ptbe.org
Clergy Administrator: Lolli Freedman, 650-341-7701, ext. 229, lfreedman@ptbe.org

Peninsula Temple Sholom

1655 Sebastian Drive
Burlingame, CA 94010
Telephone: 650-697-2266
www.sholom.org
sholom@sholom.org

Contact: Rabbi Daniel Feder, rabbifeder@sholom.org
Rabbi Lisa Delson, rabbidelson@sholom.org
Director of Education: Rabbi Molly Plotnik, rabbiplochnik@sholom.org
Admin. Assistant: Jason Salisbury, jsalisbury@sholom.org

- b. A conclusion – a summation of what you did, what you learned, how it could be applied, for whom it may be valuable, recommendations, applicability in other settings, where to go from here/next steps:

I have so far contacted three cemetery directors and received back answers from two of them. When I sent them the questions, I also included the list of organizations and congregations I'm planning to send the compiled document to. I asked them if they wanted to know the other cemeteries I'm contacting, I would email that to them upon request.

I've learned the answers to these questions I was really curious about and thought would help demystify cemeteries for members of the community who need to plan their own burial or the burial of a loved one.

I will continue to reach out to the remaining cemetery directors, and then compile all the surveys into one document, which I will send out to the organizations and congregations I've listed.

As I reach out, I'm sure to talk up how this is great PR for each cemetery.

Cemetery Bylaws, Rules, and Customs
For Course 3 Project of the Gamliel Institute
Michelle Siegel michelle-siegel@sbcglobal.net (510) 326-2234
Summer 2016

- c. Updates or follow-ups – additions to the write-up following completion of the course project to bring the materials current, including further work and development:

Answers to the questions will be compiled into one document and will follow.

- d. Appendices, references, attachments: Materials of any sort that are connected to your project, but not in the body.

I have submitted the list of cemeteries and the list of organizations and congregations along with the list of questions for the cemetery directors in the main body of this project.

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Michelle Siegel michelle-siegel@sbcglobal.net (510) 326-2234
Summer 2016

- e. Links to websites, online materials, other documents or materials related to the project

Relevant websites are included within the main body of the project.