

The Poile Zedek Bulletin

April/May 2005
Rabbi: Abraham J. Mykoff

Nissan 5765
President: Mr. Danny Ravitz

“From Slavery to Freedom”



“מאבדות לחירות”

THE RABBI'S MESSAGE

“למען תזכור את יום צאתך מארץ מצרים
כל ימי חיך”

“SO THAT YOU SHOULD REMEMBER THE DAY OF YOUR DEPARTURE FROM EGYPT ALL THE DAYS OF YOUR LIFE.” (Deut. XVI:3).

The experience of the exodus from Egypt, culminating with the splitting of the sea, is a fundamental principle, which according to Rabbi Elazar Ben Azarya, one is required to recall twice daily, morning and night. We do so when we recite the third portion of the *Shema*:

“אני ה' אלקיכם אשר הוצאתי אתכם מארץ מצרים
להיות לכם לאלקים”

“I am the Lord your G-d who brought you out of the land of Egypt to be your G-d” (NUM. XV:41). In addition, there are numerous mitzvot, commandments, that are linked to the Exodus including Tefillin, Mezuzah, Succah, Shabbat, and holidays. As we proclaim in the Kiddush for Shabbat and Holidays: “זכר ליצאת מצרים” - “It's a commemoration of the exodus from Egypt.”

Of course, on the holiday of Passover we not only mention the Exodus but we simulate and relive the experience with: matzot, maror, the seder, haggadah, (the obligation of retelling in detail the Passover events), and the prohibitions against eating or possessing any chametz.

THE President's MESSAGE

As we approach the holiday of Pesach it behooves us to remember the many types of freedom which we enjoy. In a world in which most of the population lives under some kind of duress or lack of basic rights, we must be thankful that Hashem has enabled us to live in a country founded on freedoms of religion and speech. We can come and go as we please, live where we please, worship as we please... When we congregate in the synagogue, we must be appreciative of our ability to do so. And to recognize these rights by upholding our traditions is of the utmost importance. That's why we must be active participants of the congregation. Further, the Torah admonishes us: “*Al ti-frosh min batzibur*” — “Do not separate yourself from the congregation”.

We have recently held our board meeting for first nominations and will hold elections shortly after Pesach. It is important for all of us to make our voices heard, for the benefit of the congregation and for our own benefit, as we show appreciation for the opportunities we have.

Best wishes for a Happy and Healthy Passover.

Danny Ravitz

PASSOVER SCHEDULE

WHEN PESACH FALLS ON

MOTZOEI SHABBOS (SATURDAY NIGHT)

This year, Erev Pesach (the day before Pesach) falls on Shabbat. As a consequence, some of the laws and customs of Erev Pesach are moved back to either Thursday or Friday. Various other changes include the Shabbat meals and prayers, as well as the *Seder* and its preparations.

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

Schacharit: 7:00 A.M.

SIYUM BECHORIM will be held following the Morning services. 7:40 A.M.

Bedikat Chametz/Search for Chametz at night

FRIDAY, APRIL 22 —EREV SHABBAT HAGODOL

Schacharit: 7:00 A.M.

Biur Chametz/Burning Chametz before 12 Noon

Shabbat, April 23—SHABBAT HAGODOL—

PASSOVER EVE

Latest time for eating Chametz 10:15 A.M.

Latest time for annulling Chametz 11:30 A.M.

Candle lighting & Mincha 7:25 P.M.

First Seder

SUNDAY, APRIL 24—1ST DAY OF PASSOVER

Schacharit: 9:00 A.M.

Mincha/Maariv: 7:30 P.M.

followed by a community seder 8:30 P.M.

Candle lighting not before 8:15 P.M.

Count Sefira after dark.

MONDAY, APRIL 25—2ND DAY OF PASSOVER

Schacharit: 9:00 A.M.

Mincha& Maariv: 7:30 P.M.

Yom Tov ends 8:35 P.M.

TUESDAY, APRIL 26 thru THURSDAY, APRIL 28 —

1ST—3RD DAYS CHOL HAMOED

Schacharit: 7:00 A.M.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29—4TH DAY CHOL HAMOED

Schacharit: 7:00 A.M.

Candle lighting: 7:33 P.M.

Mincha/Maariv: 7:30 P.M.

SHABBAT, APRIL 30—7TH DAY OF PASSOVER

Schacharit: 9:00 A.M.

Mincha& Maariv: 7:15 P.M.

Candle lighting: not before 8:40 PM

SUNDAY, MAY 1—8TH DAY OF PASSOVER

Schacharit: 9:00 A.M.

Yizkor: 10:30 A.M.

Mincha/Maariv: 7:30 P.M.

Yom Tov ends: 8:40 P.M.

Please allow one hour for repurchase of the Chametz.

MONDAY, MAY 2—ISRU CHAG

Schacharit: 7:15 A.M.

FIRDAY, MAY 6—EREV SHABBAT SHEMINI

Schacharit: 7:15 A.M.

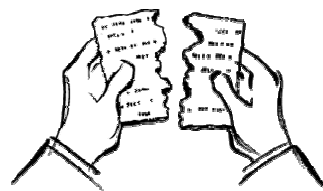
Candle lighting: 7:40 P.M.

Mincha/Maariv: 7:45 P.M.

SHABBAT, MAY 7—PARSHAT SHEMINI

Schacharit: 9:00 A.M.

Shabbos ends: 8:46 P.M.



Eruv Information

In order to utilize the New Brunswick eruv, you must check weekly on its status (whether it is up or down for that Shabbat) by calling the Eruv hotline: (732) 247-ERUV before Shabbat.. If you want to be notified by weekly e-mail of the status, please call the Hillel Foundation: (732) 545-2407 and request to be placed on the Eruv e-mail list..

PASSOVER LAWS & CUSTOMS

On Passover we celebrate the physical freedom of the Jewish people from their Egyptian bondage and at the same time their spiritual liberation from the ancient Egyptian idolatrous way of life. Thus we commemorate both our physical freedom together with our spiritual liberation.

Unique to Passover is the eating of Matzah and the stringent prohibition against eating Chametz, or even possessing any Chametz. Thus we have to prepare the home by ridding it of all Chametz before Passover.

What Is Chametz?

Chametz is a general term for all foods and drinks made from the five grains: wheat, barley, rye, oats and spelt, or their derivatives, which have fermented. The prohibition includes, as well, the taste of Chametz absorbed in food, utensils or dishes. The slightest trace of Chametz can render an entire product Chametz.

Preparing The Home

A thorough house cleaning is undertaken in preparation for Passover to be sure that the home is Chametz free. In addition to the entire house, the following places should be checked to ensure they are free from Chametz:

Office, car, pockets of clothing (especially children's), pocket books etc. Vacuum-cleaner bags should be discarded. Pet foods usually contain Chametz. Consult the Rabbi as to which foods can be used.

Mechirat Chametz – Selling The Chametz

Not only is one prohibited from eating Chametz, but one is also prohibited from possessing any Chametz on Passover. Nor are we allowed to derive any benefit from such Chametz. Chametz, which was in the possession of a Jew on Passover, may not be used even after the holiday. Therefore, any Chametz which can not be consumed or disposed of before Passover, must be sold to a non-Jew.

The sale of Chametz should take place before the onset of Passover. The legal intricacies covering this transfer of property are many and only a competent Rabbi should be entrusted with its execution. If one is going abroad or in case of emergency when the Chametz cannot be sold, consult the Rabbi as to the

proper procedure.

You may fill in the form on page 8: 'Delegation of Power of Attorney For Sale of Chametz' and **return it to the shul by Thursday, April 21** or you may call the shul office at (732) 545-6123 and leave a message for Rabbi Mykoff to sell your Chametz for you. You can also reach the Rabbi at (732) 572-0457. **The deadline for verbal authorization is 11 A.M., Friday, April 22.**

Storing Sold Chametz & Chametz Utensils

All vessels which have been used for Chametz, as well as any Chametz intended not to be eaten before Passover but to be sold should be put aside in an inaccessible place. The vessels should be thoroughly cleansed of any trace of Chametz. If possible these and other items included in the sale of Chametz should be stored in a locked room with the key out of reach

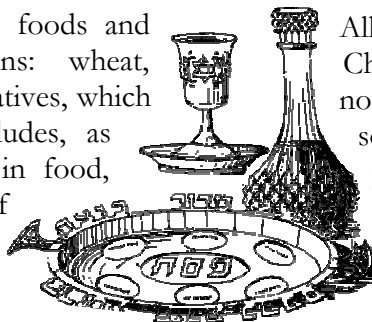
or the cabinet containing Chametz should be taped. Included in the Power of Attorney to sell the Chametz is the authorization to rent out the areas containing the Chametz for the duration of Passover.

It is best that a set of dishes, pots, pans and utensils be set aside specifically for Passover use. However, if necessary, some utensils used during the year may also be used on Passover provided that they have first been properly Kasher. If you wish to Kasher for Passover, consult Rabbi Mykoff.

Ta'anit Bechorim Fast of the First Born

When the Almighty slew the firstborn of Egypt, He spared the first born of the children of Israel. Therefore, all first-born sons of Israel are required to fast on the day before Passover in gratitude for the Almighty's salvation. It has, however, been a custom for many centuries that the fast day is broken by a Seudas Mitzvah, a festive meal in celebration of a Mitzvah, such as a Siyum, a celebration at the conclusion of the study of a book of the Talmud.

This year, because Erev Pesach is on Shabbat, the Siyum Bechorim will be held in the Synagogue, Thursday, April 21, following morning services which begin at 7:00 a.m.



(Continued from page 3)



Bedikat Chametz— Search for Chametz

In order to assure that no Chametz is to be found in one's house on Passover, we perform a Search for Chametz the night before Pesach. This year Pesach begins on Saturday night. If bedikat Chametz were to be conducted on Friday night, it would result in the desecration of the Sabbath. Therefore, this year, the search is made on Thursday night, April 21. As soon as night falls, we make the final inspection for the Chametz by the light of a candle or a flashlight. BEFORE the search we recite the following blessing:

*Boruch Atoch A-do-nai E-lo-haynu Melech
Ha'olam Asher Ki'dishanu B'mitzvotav
Vi'tzivanu Al Bi'ur Chametz.*

With the candle lit, we carefully search every room and any area of the house that may contain Chametz.

We then take all the Chametz that was found in the search and place it in a conspicuous place to be burned in the morning on Friday, April 22, before 12 noon. Food intended to be sold or eaten after the search should also be put carefully aside. The search should also be conducted in places of business to be certain no Chametz remains.

People leaving their home before Passover must search for Chametz the night before their departure without reciting the blessing

Biur Chametz— Burning of the Chametz

Although Chametz may still be eaten on Shabbat morning until 10:15 am, the burning of the chametz is done on Friday, April 22, before noon (as mentioned above). However, the nullification of the chametz with the recitation of "*Kol Chamira*" is postponed until after the chametz set aside for the Shabbat morning meal has been eaten and the remaining Chametz crumbs flushed down the toilet. Then the declaration of Kol Chamira is read, but no later than 11:30 am.

Erev Pesach— Day Before Pesach

On the day before Passover, Shabbat, April 23, Chametz may not be eaten after 10:15 a.m. From that time on only foods which are kosher for Passover may be eaten. However, one should not eat any Matzah the entire day prior to the Seder. The possession of Chametz is prohibited after 11:30 a.m. The following declaration of nullification should be said before 11:30 a.m.:

"All leaven or anything leavened which is in my possession whether I have seen it or not, whether I have observed it or not, whether I have removed it or not, shall be considered naught and ownerless as the dust of the earth".

The Shabbat Meals

The Sabbath meals should be cooked on Friday, April 22, in Passover pots.

Seder Preparation Before Shabbat

As is true every year, certain Seder preparations should preferably be made before Yom Tov. This year they should be done before Shabbat. They include:

roasting the shankbone,
roasting the egg,
mixing the salt water,
grinding or mashing the ingredients for charoset,
grating horseradish to be used as maror,
checking the romaine lettuce for insects.

One who forgot to grind the ingredients for charoset or to grate the horseradish for maror before Shabbat, may do so on Saturday night for the first Seder and on Sunday night for the second seder.



Requirements of the Seder

There are five basic obligations that are to be performed by each participant during the Seder.

1. Eating Matzah. The minimum quantity of Matzah to be consumed is a little more than one third of an average, machine made Matzah.
2. Drinking four cups of wine (Arba Kosot). The minimum volume of the cups used during the se-

(Continued on page 5)



der is 3.0 fluid ounces (86 cc). Participants should drink more than half of this amount for each of the cups.

3. Eating bitter herbs (maror). The minimum volume for maror when using horseradish is 0.7 fluid ounces (19 grams); when using romaine lettuce leaves the minimum amount is 8" x 10"; when using stalks the minimum is 3" x 5".
4. Relating the story of the exodus (Magid). No limit!
5. Reciting Psalms of Praise (Hallel).

Sefirat Ha'Omer— Counting the Omer

The Torah commands us that from the second day of Pesach— the day the Omer offering of new barley is brought in the Temple— forty-nine days are to be counted and the festival of Shavuot is commemorated on the fiftieth day. This period is called Sefirat Ha'Omer, the Counting of the Omer.

The Sefirah also recalls the seven weeks following the Exodus, when our ancestors prepared themselves to receive the Torah at Mt. Sinai. This responsibility to prepare oneself to receive the Torah is present every year, as we relive the Exodus from bondage and strive to be worthy of receiving the Torah.

Originally, The Sefirah period was a time of rejoicing, but it is now observed as a period of semi-mourning for several reasons: the absence of the Temple; the death of Rabbi Akiva's 24,000 students during thirty-three days of the Sefirah period; and a string of bloody massacres which devastated Jewish communities during the time of the Crusades.

We begin counting on the second night of Pesach, April 24th.

לשנה הבאה בירושלים

Next year in Jerusalem!

PLEASE RESERVE THE DATE

Community Passover Seder

Second Seder,

Sunday evening, April 24th, 8:30 PM

Please see enclosed flyer



(Rabbi's Message continued from page 1)

The question remains— why is the experience of the Exodus so critical that it is ingrained in our daily lives?

The daily morning service begins with the prayer of ברוךשומר — “Blessed be He who said, and the world came into being,” which in reality is a prayer defining G-d. Firstly, it defines G-d as the creator, but equally important, G-d is described as the Master of the Universe whose divine providence determines and guides the universe and all mankind.

The first commandment of Belief in G-d encompasses these two fundamental concepts: “I am the Lord your G-d who took you out of Egypt.”

Thus, the experience of the Exodus is an affirmation of השגחה הפרטית, the Almighty's divine providence. Just as He was personally involved in taking the Nation of Israel out of Egypt, so too, He is proactive in our daily lives.

May He once again redeem us and bring about the coming of the Mashiach Bimheirah B'yameinu.

Good & Welfare

Mazel Tov

To the following upon their celebrations:

Births

Rabbi & Mrs. Baruch Goodman on the birth of a son.

Bar/Bat Mitzvahs

Dr. Mark Goldring and Yaffa Schlisserman upon the Bar Mitzvah of their son Ari.

Marriages

Ari Korman, a graduate of Rutgers University, upon his marriage to Bracha Frazer.

Mr. & Mrs. Moish Wiesel upon the forthcoming marriage of their son, Avi to Frumie Bernstein.

May the newlywed couples build a
“Bayis Ne'eman B'Yisrael.”

Refuah Shelaima

A speedy and complete recovery to the following:

Harry & Bea Einstein, Pearl Friedkin, Miriam Goldman, Freda Gordon, Yehudit Mitchell, Baruch Savitt, Ellen Schick.

Condolences

The entire Congregation wishes to express their heartfelt condolences to the following families:

Rebbetzin Faige Luban upon the loss of her father, ז"ל

Linda Moed Cohen upon the loss of her father, ז"ל

“May the Almighty console the respective families among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.”

Yahrzeit

Nissan 5765 - April/May 2005

- 1 Nissan — April 10**
Mollie Cohn.....Jack Cohen
- 4 Nissan — April 13**
Mildred Tanzmanmother, Dora Siegel
Helen Soloweyfather, Jacob Siegel
- 5 Nissan — April 14**
Steven Salitgrandmother
- 6 Nissan — April 15**
Ruth Grossman..brother, Murray Greenberg
- 7 Nissan — April 16**
Bruce Horowitzfather
- 11 Nissan — April 20**
Nathan Bucknerfirst wife, Etta
Joan Israelfather
Steven Salitfather, Irving
- 13 Nissan— April 22**
Moshe Fridman.....mother
Zinoviy Fridman.....mother
- 14 Nissan—April 23**
Lena Fridman.....father, Joel Rosenfeld
Lena Fridman.....mother, Klara Rosenfeld
- 18 Nissan — April 27**
Bobbi Rubinuncle, Robert Buchbinder
Harry Schickuncle, Robert Buchbinder
- 19 Nissan — April 28**
Joan Israel.....grandfather, Rabbi Alter Shaul
Nathan Buckner.....father, Hyman
- 20 Nissan — April 29**
Robert Speismother, Sarah Speis
Herbert Tanzmanfather, Max Tanzman
- 21 Nissan — April 31**
Bernard Israel.....uncle, Ben
- 22 Nissan — May 1**
Nathan Bucknerbrother, Sam
- 23 Nissan — May 2**
Helen Solowey grandfather, Frank Zimmerman
- 24 Nissan — May 3**
Myra Marantz father
- 26 Nissan — May 5**
Mark Morrison..... cousin, Marilyn Feldman
- 27 Nissan — May 6** Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Re-
membrance Day)
Ted Shegoski.....father, Abram
Ted Shegoski.....mother, Sala
Helene Shegoski.....mother, Regina
Helene Shegoski.....father, Markus

Iyar 5765 - May/June 2005

- 1 Iyar—May 10**
Leonard Bier brother, Jack
Joan Sassenoff..... father, Elias Brinstein
- 2 Iyar—May 11**
Mark Berkowitzgrandmother Young
Robert Berkowitzgrandmother Young
- 3 Iyar—May 12**
Ruth Gordon husband
- 4 Iyar—May 13**
Joan Israel..... mother
- 8 Iyar—May 17**
Joan IsraelAunt Sarah
- 9 Iyar—May 18**
Bernard Israel..... father
Arline Schwartzman.....father
- 10 Iyar—May 19**
Barbara Bruskin..... mother, Fannie Shakin
- 11 Iyar—May 20**
Mark Morrison..... cousin, Ruth V. Auerbach
- 14 Iyar—May 23**
Bertha Bakermother
- 15 Iyar—May 24**
Herbert Tanzman.....mother, Rose Tanzman
- 16 Iyar—May 25**
Fred Schachter..... father, Yisroel Shlomo
- 17 Iyar—May 26**
Richard Friedman.....father
Ruth Gabowitzmother
- 18 Iyar—May 27**
Audrey Mironovmother
- 19 Iyar—May 28**
Esther Marder.....father, Israel Berkow
Joan Israel.....Aunt Estelle
- 21 Iyar—May 30**
Ruth Grossmanhusband, Harold Isaac
- 23 Iyar—June 1**
Richard Ornsteinmother
- 24 Iyar—June 2**
Bernard Israel.....aunt, Elsie Evans
- 26 Iyar—June 4**
Helen Solomon..... father
- 27 Iyar—June 5**
Ruth Frankelfather, Herman Hoddeson

WEEKLY CLASSES & SHIURIM



Millionaire's Club— Lunch & Torah study

Tuesday 12:00 P.M.— 1:30 P.M.

Thursday 12:00 P.M.— 1:30 P.M.

Partners in Torah—Study with your own private rabbi from Lakewood. Refreshments and *Ma'ariv* follow. Wednesday—8:10 P.M.

English as a Second Language— Mon-7:00 P.M. with Linda Greenberg.

Beginners Hebrew — Monday 7:30 P.M. with Renee Silverstein.

Hilchos Brachos Class (laws of blessings) — Sunday 8:00 P.M. with Rabbi Chezky Toporowitz.

For further information, please call the synagogue at (732) 545-6123.

Celebrate at Poile Zedek

Are you planning a Wedding or Bar/Bat Mitzvah?

The magnificent sanctuary in our **landmark synagogue** is available for your Simcha.

We also have a room for kiddushim, lunches and parties (anniversary, birthday, bris or upsherin). Or, you can hold your service in the sanctuary and your reception next door at the Hyatt. Either way, it will be an affair to be remembered.

Please call the synagogue at 732-545-6123 for more information.

Congregation Poile Zedek
In Memoriam

Memorial Plaques

Memorialize your loved ones by having their names listed on our bronze Memorial Boards in the sanctuary. A light will be illuminated on their *yahrzeit* dates. Each plaque is \$150. Please call the synagogue at (732) 545-6123 to order a plaque or for more information.

We Need *Your* E-Mail Address

Please let us know of your email address so we can keep you updated on important announcements in a timely manner. Please send your e-mail address to the synagogue: congpoilezedek@juno.com.

Traditional Charoset

Ingredients

2 cups chopped apples

2 cups chopped walnuts

2 teaspoons cinnamon

2 tablespoons sweet red wine

Preparation

Combine and refrigerate. It's supposed to remind us of the mortar for the bricks. It happens to taste really good and is also an antidote for the marmor.

For a listing of 75 websites about Passover

From laws and customs to games and recipes go to:
<http://www.tzemachdavid.org/chagim/pesachlist.html>

Your Contributions Count!

Your contributions to Poile Zedek help support the operation of the shul and enable Poile Zedek to provide vital services to our community.

Poile Zedek has four funds which help us achieve our goals.

The Rebbetzin Fanny Mykoff Torah Fund

Established in the memory of Rabbi Abraham Mykoff's mother, of blessed memory, the Torah fund furthers Torah observance by assisting individuals to meet their social and religious needs.

The Joan Schick Educational Fund

The fund supports Torah education on both a community and individual basis. This fund includes the Joan Schick Memorial Library. It is in memory of a true woman of valor who devoted herself tirelessly to the synagogue.

The William Weber Matzah Fund

The William Weber Matzah fund was established by William Weber, of blessed memory, a veteran member of the congregation. The Matzah fund provides Passover food for the needy and sponsors our annual Community Seder.

Project Chesed Free Loan Fund

A free loan fund has just been established by Mr. & Mrs. Zalman and Miriam Widofsky, in memory of their parents. This fund provides small, short term, interest free loans to individuals. If you know of anyone who could benefit, please contact the synagogue.

To make a donation or inquire about a free loan, please call the synagogue (732) 545-6123.