

Or Zarua

TEVET/SHEVAT/ADAR I 5771

NEWSLETTER/VOLUME 23:3

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2011

Yeshivat Hadar Shabbaton

Friday, March 4 and Saturday, March 5

On March 4 and 5, Shabbat Shekalim, Parashah Pekude, Congregation Or Zarua will again be hosting Rabbi Elie Kaunfer, Rabbi Ethan Tucker and their young colleagues from Yeshivat Hadar. They will join us for learning and davening during their second Shabbaton with Or Zarua.

Those of us who shared last year's Shabbaton know the enthusiasm and spirituality that characterized that Shabbat. Those of you who missed it now have a chance to participate in it this year.

Rabbis Tucker and Kaunfer and their colleagues will lead our Friday night services and a congregational dinner in the social hall will follow (reservations required). They will then lead us in learning in the style of their teaching at Yeshivat Hadar. For those who wish to stay on after the dinner and study session, there will be

additional singing and informal learning, starting at about 9 p.m.

On Shabbat morning, the Hadar guests will join us in leading services. Rabbi Kaunfer will offer the D'var Torah. Following Kiddush, there will be a congregational lunch (reservations required) in the social hall followed by another study session. We will finish with Minhah, Seudah Shlishit, and Havdalah.

We have been holding more or less monthly Havdalah services this year. For those of you who have not had a chance to experience this spiritual service, please consider joining us for this Shabbat.

The Hadar Shabbaton is one of our most important programming events of the year, filled with young guests, serious learning, and wonderful spirituality. Please RSVP by noon on Monday, February 28 at 212-452-2310, ext. 39 or www.orzarua.org in order to be assured of meal reservations.

JOEY WEISENBERG OZ's Musician-in-Residence



Joey Weisenberg, OZ's musician-in-residence, will be leading Shabbat services on Friday night, February 11, followed by a Family and Friends

Dinner (reservations required; see details on page 15).

Joey will again lead our services on Saturday morning, February 12, and for the Minhah on Saturday afternoon. Seudah Shlishit will follow Minhah (all invited, no reservation required for Seudah Shlishit). We will return to the sanctuary for the concluding service and Havdalah. Guests and non-members are welcome to join us.

Then, on Sunday, April 3, Joey and his klezmer band will be performing in the synagogue. Watch for further announcements!



Rabbi Elie Kaunfer conferring with students at Yeshivat Hadar.

YESHIVAT HADAR SHABBATON

Friday, March 4

Congregational Dinner

immediately following services,
which begin at 5:32 p.m.

Saturday, March 5

Congregational Lunch

immediately following Kiddush

Seudah Shlishit

immediately following afternoon
services. No reservation required.

Please make meal reservations by
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28

Each meal is \$38 adults; \$15 children
aged 5-12; children under 5, no charge

RSVP: 212-452-2310, ext. 39
or www.orzarua.org

ק"ק אור זרוע

Congregation

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If you are interested in serving on a synagogue committee, please contact the office for the committee chair's email address.

President's Message

by Andrew J. Frackman

We are now about half way through our current year of outstanding programming at Congregation Or Zarua.

On November 11-12, we had a wonderful Shabbat with Rabbi Ezra Amichai, who led services and singing at a Family and Friends Dinner on Friday night and again at the Seudah Shlishit on Saturday afternoon. There were over 60 people in attendance for Kabbalat Shabbat on Friday evening and over 70 at the dinner that followed. There was also a strong turnout for the Seudah, where we sang and learned with Rabbi Amichai. The high attendance proves that if we provide the right type of programming, we will have strong attendance at Kabbalat Shabbat services and Seudah Shlishit.

On Wednesday, November 17, we had close to 100 attendees at a reception in the Or Zarua gallery when Caroline Golden gave a lively talk about her artwork in the exhibit "Through the Window: Enchanted Places and Magical Spaces." Many of the attendees were from outside of our OZ community, giving us an opportunity to reach out to potential new members. But, most of all, the evening was wonderful because it demonstrated the breadth of program offerings at Or Zarua.

On Shabbat Hanukkah, we had a packed weekend of singing and celebrating with Pizmon, the a cappella group consisting of students from JTS, Columbia and Barnard. These 15 young singers brought great ruah to our services. Again, we had a packed Kabbalat Shabbat service and Friday night dinner, and a large Kiddush attendance and a high turnout for the Seudah Shlishit on Saturday. Pizmon also presented the D'var Torah and led the Musaf service on Shabbat morning. They completed the Hanukkah weekend by leading songs at a children's party on Sunday. Those who attended these events and heard Pizmon raved about the experience.

We have a variety of similarly outstanding programming planned for the next several months. Lawrence Schiffman of New York University has accepted our invitation to deliver the annual Lucy S.

Dawidowicz Lecture at Or Zarua on Wednesday, February 2. Professor Schiffman, the foremost Jewish scholar of the Dead Sea Scrolls, will give a fascinating talk on "The Meaning of the Dead Sea Scrolls for Judaism, Christianity and the Western World."

We will continue our focus on music with two concerts at Or Zarua this year. On Sunday, January 9, our friend Chaim Dovid will give a concert at Or Zarua during his visit from Israel. On Sunday, April 3, our musician-in-residence Joey Weisenberg and his klezmer band will perform at Or Zarua.

In addition, we will continue to focus on music in our services. Joey Weisenberg will join us for a Family and Friends Shabbat Dinner and Seudah Shlishit on February 11-12. Joey will lead Kabbalat Shabbat and Musaf services and sing at the Friday night dinner and Seudah Shlishit. Jonathan Angress, our cantorial intern, will lead Shabbat services on January 7-8 and February 4-5.

On March 4-5, we will have a Shabbaton with Rabbis Elie Kaunfer and Ethan Tucker of Yeshivat Hadar, along with many of the students in their program. I strongly encourage those of you who missed the Hadar Shabbaton last year to join us this year, either for the Friday night dinner with learning, the Shabbat lunch, or the Seudah Shlishit. Rabbis Kaunfer and Tucker are our soul mates in many ways. They share with us our deep passion for Torah and traditional Jewish observance in an egalitarian setting. They also have developed a committed following of serious young Jews at Kehillat Hadar and Yeshivat Hadar. This will be a sold-out Shabbaton, so please be sure to make your reservations early. You can attend the dinner or the lunch or the Seudah, or any combination of them, of course. Reservations are needed for the Friday night dinner and the Shabbat lunch.

This is just a sampling of our outstanding and inspiring programming.

All of this impressive programming costs a great deal. Taken as a whole, it is our single largest variable cost. Not only continued on page 3

The Lucy S. Dawidowicz Lecture

Lawrence H. Schiffman on "The Dead Sea Scrolls: Judaism, Christianity and the Western Tradition Reevaluated"



L. H. Schiffman

The 2010 Lucy S. Dawidowicz Lecture will be given on Wednesday, February 2 at 8 p.m. by Lawrence H. Schiffman, professor and chairman of New York University's Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies, who serves as Ethel and Irvin A. Edelman Professor of Hebrew and Judaic Studies. A member of the University's Center for Ancient Studies and Center for Near Eastern Studies, Professor Schiffman received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees from the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies at Brandeis University.

He is a specialist in the Dead Sea Scrolls, Judaism in Late Antiquity, including the history of the Second Temple period, and the development of Rabbinic Judaism, the history of Jewish law, and Talmudic literature.

He has been a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Studies of the Hebrew University and the Annenberg Research

Institute and is currently a fellow at the American Academy for Jewish Research and a corresponding fellow of the Rennert Center for Jerusalem Studies at Bar-Ilan University. He served as director of New York University's program at the archaeological excavations at Dor, Israel. He has been a visiting professor at Yale University, Ben Gurion University of the Negev, Duke University, Shier Visiting Distinguished Professor in Judaic Studies at the University of Toronto, the Johns Hopkins University, the Russian State University for the Humanities in Moscow, the Luce Visiting Professor at the University of Hartford and the Hartford Seminary, the Pontifical Gregorian University in Rome, Queens College and Yeshiva University.

Professor Schiffman has written many books and some 200 scholarly articles on the Dead Sea Scrolls and Rabbinic Judaism. Recent books include *The Courtyards of the House of the Lord: Studies on the Temple Scroll* and the soon to be published *Qumran and Jerusalem: Studies in the Dead Sea Scrolls and the History of Judaism*.

One of the key scholars devoted to the study of the Dead Sea Scrolls, Professor Schiffman was part of the team working on publication of the Scrolls in the Oxford series, *Discoveries in the Judean Desert*. He also served as he served as editor-in-chief of the Oxford Encyclopedia of the Dead Sea Scrolls. He was also editor of the journal *Dead Sea Discoveries*.

A member or president of numerous academic committees, Professor Schiffman has also been featured on PBS's NOVA series, The McNeil-Lehrer Report, the Discovery Channel, Arts and Entertainment Channel, and National Geographic.

A recipient of the National Foundation for Jewish Culture Scholarship Award, Professor Schiffman is also an active member of the Jewish community. He lectures at synagogues, Chabad houses and community events.

Dessert and birthday cake will be served in honor of Or Zarua's 22nd birthday. Please help us with planning by contacting the office at 212-452-2310, ext. 39 with a reservation for the lecture by Monday, January 31.

President's Message

continued from page 2

do we have to pay our wonderful guests, but we heavily subsidize the meals around our Shabbat events so as to make it possible for a broad cross-section of our community to participate. We can only have this type of rich programming if we have the funding to support it. Simply put: we need sponsors for our programming events. Sponsorship is a wonderful and tangible way for you actively to support our community, to expand our visibility in the New York community, and to help ensure that we remain a vibrant congregation. It is a beautiful way to mark a simcha or to honor a family member. Please consider sponsoring one of these programs, either in whole or in part. If you are interested, please contact me, Harvey Brenner, or Rabbi Wechsler.

I look forward to seeing you at Or Zarua soon.

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S'derot Mayor David Bouskila Visits OZ

Hebrew School students get a first-hand view of life in S'derot



ILANA BURGESS

Each year the students in the Or Zarua Hebrew School hold a Talent Show in support of the Gil School of S'derot. Located in the western part of the Negev, in Israel, less than a mile from the Gaza Strip, S'derot has been the target of Qassam rockets launched by Palestinian terrorists. Israelis were killed and wounded, millions of dollars of damage had been done to the community and there was extensive psychological damage to the residents, especially S'derot's children. By supporting the Gil School of S'derot, Or Zarua's Hebrew School students are able to support students in Israel during a time of emotional and economic need.

On November 17, Or Zarua Hebrew School students hosted a special guest, S'derot Mayor David Bouskila, who told the students how the funds that they raised from the Talent Show were combined with other resources and used to repair and improve lives of the students who attend the Gil School.

The Mayor presented OZ's students with a detailed description of S'derot. In particular, Mayor Bouskila spoke about the new indoor playground that the JNF built in S'derot. Because it is indoors, the playground provides a safe place for the children of the city to enjoy their free time,

protected from rocket fire. A 21,000 square-foot, state-of-the-art facility, the \$5 million playground is located in a secure industrial zone in an old textile warehouse. The grand opening of the playground during Purim, 2009 debuted its recreational and exercise facilities for children ages 16 and under. The indoor sports and exercise facilities include a jungle gym equipment, a rock climbing wall, a soccer field and volleyball court. The indoor leisure areas include a movie and television area, a disco, swing sets and a merry-go-round. There is also a snack area with shops for kids.

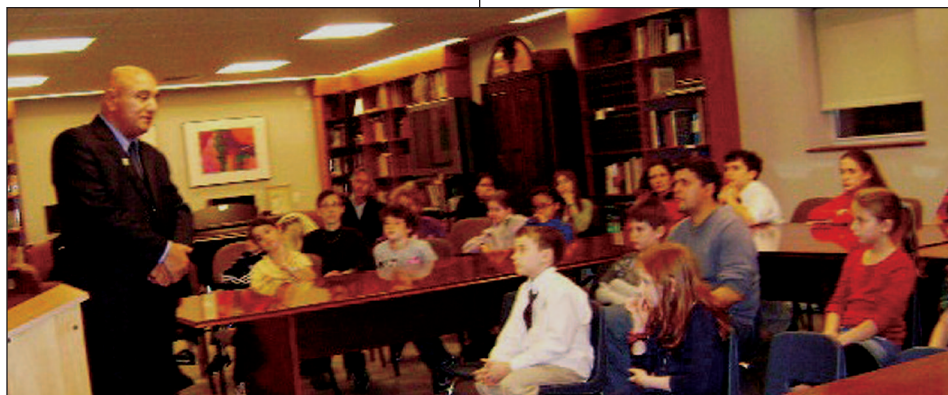
OZ students learned that the indoor playground facility was built under the

supervision of Israeli Army engineers for security reasons. The educational arm of the IDF provides after-school tutoring services. There are three therapy rooms to help children suffering from trauma.

Or Zarua's children showed incredible curiosity and knowledge. Mayor Bouskila was impressed by the questions they asked him and he remarked that how touching is to hear and see Jewish kids in Manhattan so interested in the life of kids in S'derot.

Mayor Bouskila also met Talia Rosen, the Or Zarua Hebrew School student who sponsored this year's Talent Show for her bat mitzvah project.

—Ilana Burgess



ILANA BURGESS

S'derot Mayor David Bouskila (left, top and above) told Congregation Or Zarua students how Talent Show funds were used to help improve the lives of Gil School students.

Or Zarua Talent Show Benefits S'derot

by Talia Rosen

Talent Show participants included (from left) Alexis Kushner, Jacob Cohen, Melodie Rosen, Eli Cohen, Raechel Rosen, Andrew Kushner, Talia Rosen, Kayla Norflus, Annie Sahn, Hannah Levine, Maggie Levine, and Chloe Sahn.



ILANA BURGESS

On Sunday morning November 21, Or Zarua's Hebrew School students, their parents and friends gathered in the social hall for the Fourth Annual Talent Show to benefit the children of S'derot, Israel. As you may know, S'derot is a small town on the border of Gaza which is often under attack from rocket

fire. The people of the town spend a lot of time inside due to this dangerous situation.

Many children performed at the Talent Show. Emma Rosensaft wowed us with her tap dancing. Annie and Chloe Sahn both played the piano. My sisters, Melodie and Raechel Rosen, and I sang and played "Let it Be" on piano and guitar. The youngest performer, Andrew Kushner,

taught us all about manners in one song and then shared the stage with his sister Alexis to sing "Beth" by Kiss as well. A good time was had by all.

In addition to donations at the door, we had a successful raffle with two prizes: a necklace and a men's key chain representing S'derot. I hope you will all look out next year for this fabulous day. It's for a great cause and so much fun. I highly recommend attending the Or Zarua Talent Show for S'derot.

Editor's Note: Talia Rosen is a student in the Or Zarua Hebrew School. She attends Columbia Prep, plays volleyball, the flute, runs track, and is the president of her class. Her favorite Jewish holiday is Passover. This year, Talia Rosen supported the Gil School of S'derot with her Bat Mitzvah.



Mayor David Bouskila (left), Talia Rosen, Ilana Burgess and Rabbi Wechsler.

DO YOU BELIEVE IN MIRACLES? BETWEEN DIVINE PROVIDENCE AND INTERVENTION

An Adult Education Course on Four Sundays Between Pesah and Shavuot

Congregant Marc Ashley will again teach an adult education course this spring between Pesah and Shavuot. This year's course—"Do You Believe In Miracles? Between Divine Providence and Intervention"—will focus on Jewish conceptions of the miraculous in human experience. What should modern Jews make of the Torah's prolific narratives of wondrous miracles? Should Jews believe that miracles indeed occurred in the past and can yet occur today? Does God actually intervene in the affairs of human history?

The course is open to all congregants and does not require prior knowledge of any kind. We will meet on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. on May 1, May 15, May 22, and May 29 in the Or Zarua library. Please join us for a thorough survey and stimulating discussions of this pivotal aspect of Jewish thought.

OR ZARUA YOUTH CHORUS

Mondays at 6:00 p.m.

Or Zarua's cantorial intern Jonathan Angress is leading the Or Zarua Youth Chorus on Mondays at 6:00 p.m. All Or Zarua youth are invited to participate. Hebrew School students will be served dinner after school. Please contact Ilana Burgess (iburgess@orzarua.org) to indicate your interest.

TALMUD CLASS

**Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m.
in the OZ Library**

This year we will be studying the first chapter of *Masechet Hullin* (Ordinary Things). The tractate is mostly devoted to the Laws of Kashrut. The first chapter covers shechting (kosher slaughtering).

Classes are taught by
RABBI WECHSLER

No prior knowledge of Talmud, Hebrew or Aramaic is required.

HEBREW SCHOOL CALENDAR

January 2011

- Mon 17** Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
(no classes)
- Sat 29** Junior Congregation,
10:30 a.m.
- Mon 31** B'nai Jeshurun

February 2011

- Fri 11** Family and Friends Dinner
with Joey Weisenberg
- Sat 12** Junior Congregation/
Teen-led Service,
10:30 a.m.
- Sat 12** Seudah Shlishit with
Joey Weisenberg
- Mon 14** B'nai Jeshurun
- Mon 21** Presidents' Week
(no classes until February 28)

Family Hanukkah Party

with Pizmon on Sunday, December 5



HARVEY BRENNER



Pizmon entertaining children, parents, and grandparents at the the Family Hanukkah Party held on Sunday, December 5. Festivities included games, songs, lighting of the hanukkah, jelly doughnuts and pizza.

Family and Youth Activities

January 2011

Sunday, January 9 • TBA

CHAIM DOVID CONCERT

Details on page 7. Tickets required.

Saturday, January 29 • 10:30 a.m.

JUNIOR CONGREGATION

for 2nd grade and older. Service led by students, teachers and parents.

February 2011

Sunday, February 6 • 5:00 p.m.

SUPER BOWL PARTY

Details on page 13. Reservations required.

Friday, February 11 • following services

FAMILY AND FRIENDS DINNER

WITH JOEY WEISENBERG

Details on page 15. Reservations required.

Saturday, February 12 • 10:30 a.m.

JUNIOR CONGREGATION/TEEN-LED SERVICE

for 2nd grade and older. Service led by students, teachers and parents.

Saturday, February 12 • following services

SEUDAH SHLISHIT

WITH JOEY WEISENBERG

Details on page 15. No RSVP or charge.

Sunday, February 13 • TBA

KADIMA BILLIARDS

March 2011

Friday, March 4 • following services

SHABBAT DINNER WITH YESHIVAT HADAR

Details on page 1. Reservations required.

Saturday, March 5 • following services

SHABBAT LUNCH WITH YESHIVAT HADAR

Details on page 1. Reservations required.

**KOSHER
RESTAURANT
REVIEWS HAVE
RETURNED!**

Please see page 9.

Upcoming Musical Events

Chaim Dovid, Jonathan Angress and Joey Weisenberg



Or Zarua's cantorial intern, JTS student Jonathan Angress, will be leading Friday night and Saturday morning Shabbat services January 7-8 and February 4-5.



Joey Weisenberg, Or Zarua's musician-in-residence, will be leading Shabbat services on February 11-12. There will be a Family and Friends Shabbat Dinner on February 11 and a Seudah Shlishit on February 12. (RSVP required for the Friday night dinner; please see details on page 15). Then, on Sunday, April 3, Joey and his klezmer band will be performing in the synagogue—watch for details!



Israeli guitarist and singer Chaim Dovid (shown center at the Dead Sea Scroll Festival, 2007) will be performing at Congregation Or Zarua on Sunday, January 9. Tickets are \$20. Watch for announcements containing further details via post and email.

Hesed Feeds the Needy Erev Thanksgiving

With food from Eli's and The Vinegar Factory



MARCEL ADLER AND JOAN HORTON



A group of 30 adults and five teenagers from Congregation Or Zarua gleaned and packed food from Eli's and The Vinegar Factory on Erev Thanksgiving and distributed it to locations on the Upper East Side and the Bronx. NCS's request for two large aluminum tubs each filled with a variety of meats, vegetables, and sides was fulfilled. Two carloads of bread and Danish was delivered to the Yorkville Common Pantry. A large van filled to the brim with all manner of salads, soup, bread, meat, sides, vegetables, salads, fruit, Danish, cakes, pies and holiday candy traveled to Salvation Deliverance Church in the South Bronx. The parishioners used the food to feed the needy and homeless in their neighborhood. Ronald McDonald House received two SUVs and a station wagon filled with salads, soup, bread, meat, sides, vegetables, salads, fruit, Danish, cakes, pies, sushi and holiday candy, including chocolate Thanksgiving turkeys! We may have left out a description of some of the items, but it can be said the quantities of food delivered were gigantic. Special thanks to all those who volunteered and to Eli and his good people at Eli's and The Vinegar Factory.

The Kosher Konnoisseur

by Louis Barash

Le Marais
150 West 46th Street
New York, NY 10036
Tel: 212-869-0900
www.lemarais.net

If authenticity were the only criterion, Le Marais clearly ranks as one of the top kosher restaurants in the city. Putting aside the absence of sawdust, Le Marais has the look and feel—and, happily, often the tastes—of the restaurants that catered to the merchants of the former Les Halles district of Paris. One enters into a long room, flanked by a very well-stocked bar—an essential for Parisian food vendors. Beyond that is a large, dark seating area (with additional seating and private rooms one floor above). Wood is everywhere: the walls, floor, tables and chairs, and the lively clamor resulting from all those hard surfaces, would be welcoming to a Parisian food purveyor, who would comfortably sit down at a table set simply with crisp, white linen.

The menu is also authentic: simple and brief (some might say limited), with a few daily specials marked on blackboards. Starters include salads and house-made brasserie standards like rillettes, saucisson, and pates. This charcuterie is among the finest in New York (kosher or otherwise), although it paves the way for a rather high cholesterol meal. The seafood appetizers—pan seared tuna, salmon croquettes and an adequate, if uninspiring, house-smoked salmon—are less successful.

Main courses are where Le Marais shines. The meat is prime quality and grilled to order. The classic rib steak is among the best anywhere, the veal chop rich with flavor and buttery in texture, the roast prime rib tender and beefy, and the Tournedo au Poivre spiked by a tangy peppercorn cream sauce that is authentic and delicious. “Tournedo” here is a word play, as in this classic dish Le Marais substitutes for filet mignon the center cut of the prime rib, with the outer, most marbelized edge of the rib steak removed. This edge is reserved for Le Marais’ signature main course, La Surprise de Boucher, in which

the outer edge is flattened and grilled into an amazingly rich and tasty steak. Perhaps the most authentic Les Halles dish—a meaty and appropriately chewy hangar steak—is sometimes marred by an excess of salt from the kashering process.

One can modestly reduce the cholesterol intake by opting for the perfectly grilled chicken paillard, but this is by no means a diet option as it is accompanied by outstanding pommes frites—crisp, flavorful and almost greaseless—which one will not want to miss. A good low-calorie choice is the salade de poulet—pan-seared chicken breast topping baby greens with a mustard-based dressing. There are a few fish dishes on the menu and almost always one fish special. While the roasted salmon is a satisfactory option for non-meat eaters, fish is not the reason to dine at Le Marais.

After a meal such as this, dessert may be too ambitious and, for the most part, at Le Marais that’s a good thing. The thin-crust apple tart is fine, the molten chocolate cake will satisfy those for whom chocolate is an essential punctuation mark to a meal and the kitchen prepares some good sorbets and does interesting things with non-dairy ice cream (although the better approach still is to wait six hours and have the real thing). The remainder of the dessert menu is best skipped. The chocolate mousse is pedestrian chocolate pudding and the “Fluffernutter à la Française” (peanut butter mousse, pistachio cake, marshmallow meringue) is a sugary mess that only a sweet-toothed sixth grader would enjoy.

Service is professional and can be crisp at best, but when the restaurant is crowded, which is often, the kitchen at Le Marais can be slow and one can end up dulling one’s appetite munching on the excellent French bread. Le Marais has an extensive wine list (all mevushal, of course) in all price ranges, with mark-ups that are on the high end of the range, but not exorbitant (the two Goose Bay wines from New Zealand, a

Pinot Noir and Sauvignon Blanc, are good options). A wide selection of beers, with several on tap, is an equally enticing choice. A well-selected group of single malt scotches are an appealing alternative to the dessert menu.

Prices at Le Marais are, not surprisingly, high, with main courses in the \$30 range, although the Steak Frites—a small rib eye, salad and those remarkable frites—is a dinner bargain at just under \$20. Le Marais also has a retail butcher shop which, while even more expensive than most Manhattan kosher butchers, sells the same outstanding cuts and charcuterie that are served in the restaurant. The restaurant is frequently crowded, and reservations are a good idea. It is open on many holidays, including Passover (both for the Seders and with a limited menu during Hol Hamoed). Families, even with young children, will feel comfortable at Le Marais.

If red meat is on your menu, Le Marais is an outstanding choice for a mid-town business lunch, pre-theater dinner or treating your out-of-town guests to the sights of Times Square and one of the best kosher restaurants in New York.

Kosher Knibbles: Unless one has the time and inclination to bake, pareve dessert choices can seem limited to store or bakery bought cakes and fruit. Here are three slightly more unusual and elegant choices. There are a number of wonderful kosher sorbets on the market. Particularly after a spicy meal, Sharon’s Coconut Sorbet topped with a ring of canned, unsweetened pineapple can be a refreshing and elegant dessert, easily prepared in advance and left in the freezer until serving time. Another simple, attractive option is Graciella’s Chocolate Souffles, delicious molten chocolate cakes sold frozen; heated in the oven they are an elegant way to end a meal. For the slightly more ambitious, the Italian classic zabaglione is completely pareve, made only of eggs, ultra-fine sugar and sweet Marsala wine whisked over a double boiler. Kosher Marsala is available, but if your minhag permits, the Italian brands provide a somewhat smoother, less alcoholic taste.



127 East 82nd Street
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January 2011 • **Tevet/Shevat 5771**

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 • 25 Tevet New Year's Day 9:00 am Shaharit Vaera
2 • 26 8:45 am Sunday Minyan	3 • 27 7:15 am Minyan	4 • 28 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Context: Beg— Rabbi Session	5 • 29 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	6 • 1 Shevat Rosh Hodesh Shevat 7:00 am Minyan 8:30 pm Trope Class	7 • 2 7:15 am Minyan 4:26 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat Jonathan Angress, cantorial intern	8 • 3 9:00 am Shaharit Bo Bat Mitzvah of Emma Rosensaft Jonathan Angress, cantorial intern
9 • 4 8:45 am Sunday Minyan 7:00 pm Chaim Dovid Concert	10 • 5 7:15 am Minyan	11 • 6 7:15 am Minyan	12 • 7 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	13 • 8 7:15 am Minyan 5:30 pm & 6:30 pm “Houdini: Art and Magic” Tours at The Jewish Museum 8:30 pm Trope Class	14 • 9 7:15 am Minyan 4:33 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	15 • 10 9:00 am Shaharit Beshalah
16 • 11 8:45 am Sunday Minyan 10:30 am Shofar Class 5:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal	17 • 12 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 7:15 am Minyan <i>Office closed</i> <i>No Hebrew School</i>	18 • 13 7:15 am Minyan	19 • 14 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	20 • 15 Tu B'Shevat 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal 8:30 pm Trope Class	21 • 16 7:15 am Minyan 4:41 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	22 • 17 9:00 am Shaharit Yitro Bat Mitzvah of Eliana Weinstein
23 • 18 8:45 am Sunday Minyan 11:00 am Knitting Circle at Annie and Company 5:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal 7:30 pm Book Discussion	24 • 19 7:15 am Minyan 7:30 pm “Paul Bowles: The Complete Outsider” with Regina Weinreich	25 • 20 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Context (Spring): Adv.	26 • 21 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	27 • 22 7:15 am Minyan 5:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal 8:30 pm Trope Class	28 • 23 7:15 am Minyan 4:50 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	29 • 24 9:00 am Shaharit Mishpatim 10:30 am Junior Congregation



127 East 82nd Street
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February 2011 • Shevat/Adar I 5771

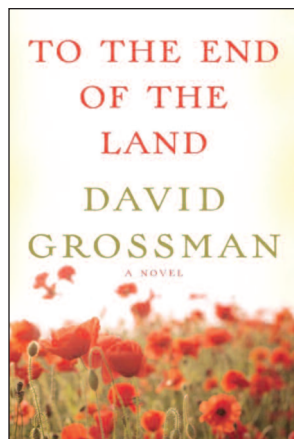
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30 • 25 Shevat 8:45 am Sunday Minyan	31 • 26 7:15 am Minyan	1 • 27 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Context: Beg with J. Rubenstein 7:00 pm Context: Adv with D. Hoffman	2 • 28 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Lucy Dawidowicz Lecture by Lawrence H. Schiffman	3 • 29 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal 8:30 pm Trope Class	4 • 30 Rosh Hodesh Adar I 7:00 am Minyan 4:58 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat Jonathan Angress, cantorial intern	5 • 1 Adar I Rosh Hodesh Adar I 9:00 am Shaharit Terumah Jonathan Angress, cantorial intern
6 • 2 8:45 am Sunday Minyan Minhah/Ma'ariv 5:00 pm Super Bowl Party 5:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal	7 • 3 7:15 am Minyan	8 • 4 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Context: Beg with J. Rubenstein 7:00 pm Context: Adv with D. Hoffman	9 • 5 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	10 • 6 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal 8:30 pm Trope Class	11 • 7 7:15 am Minyan 5:07 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat Family and Friends Dinner with Joey Weisenberg	12 • 8 9:00 am Shaharit Tetzaveh 10:30 am Junior Congregation/Teen-led Services 3:30 pm Seudah Shlishit with Joey Weisenberg
13 • 9 8:45 am Sunday Minyan 10:15 am Knitting Circle with Heather Stoltz 4:00 pm Kadima/USY Billiards 5:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal	14 • 10 7:15 am Minyan	15 • 11 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Context: Beg with J. Rubenstein 7:00 pm Context: Adv with D. Hoffman	16 • 12 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	17 • 13 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal 8:30 pm Trope Class	18 • 14 7:15 am Minyan 5:15 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	19 • 15 9:00 am Shaharit Ki Tissa
20 • 16 8:45 am Sunday Minyan 5:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal	21 • 17 Presidents' Day 8:45 am Minyan <i>Office closed</i> <i>Hebrew School Winter Break</i>	22 • 18 7:15 am Minyan	23 • 19 7:15 am Minyan 8:00 pm Talmud Class	24 • 20 7:15 am Minyan 7:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal	25 • 21 8:45 am Minyan 5:24 pm Candlelighting, Minhah/Kabbalat Shabbat	26 • 22 9:00 am Shaharit Vayakhel
27 • 23 8:45 am Sunday Minyan 5:00 pm Purim Spiel Rehearsal	28 • 24 7:15 am Minyan <i>Hebrew School resumes</i>					

Or Zarua Book Discussions

To the End of the Land by David Grossman on Sunday, January 23

Please join us for our next Or Zarua book discussion on Sunday, January 23 at 7:30 p.m. in Or Zarua's library. Led by Pat Davidson, we will talk about the latest novel by award-winning Israeli author David Grossman, *To the End of the Land*.

In the novel, Ora tries to protect her younger son Ofer, who is serving in the IDF, by leaving home and hiking the length of Israel. This way, Ora thinks, the military cannot perform the ritual of personally delivering news of her son's death if she



is not at home to receive the message.

In a front page review in *The New York Times Book Review*, Colm Toibin called it "a panorama of breathtaking emotional

force, a masterpiece of pacing, of dedicated storytelling, with characters whose lives are etched with extraordinary, vivid detail."

Grossman's book is especially poignant since his own younger son Uri died in tank combat against Hezbollah as he was writing it.

The following Or Zarua book discussion will be held on March 6.

If you would like more information on Or Zarua book discussions or have a book suggestion, please contact Reed Schneider at 212 860 8611 or Dina Linsk in the synagogue office at dlinsk@orzarua.org.

WWW.ORZARUA.COM

- Listen to recordings of recent guest presentations at Or Zarua by Professor David Roskies of JTS, Rabbi David Silber of the Drisha Institute, Professor James Kugel of Bar Ilan University, and Professor Ruth Wisse of Harvard University.
- Hear Rabbi Wechsler's Selihot lectures on Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook's teachings on teshuvah.
- Introduce yourself to the Or Zarua Hebrew School's programs and classes for children in kindergarten through high school.
- Download melodies for many of Or Zarua's prayer services.
- View descriptions and schedules for all Or Zarua events.
- RSVP for Shabbat and holiday lunches and dinners, classes, lectures, and programs
- Check service times
- Sign up for the daily minyan
- Tune into the OZ Klezmer Band

Life Events

at Congregation Or Zarua

Members of our congregation are sometimes faced with painful, and, in some cases, tragic events in their lives. If you know of a member of the congregation who is coping with extended illness, hospitalization, or a death in their family, please contact the synagogue office at 212-452-2310 so that Rabbi Wechsler can be informed. Press extension 14 for the executive director or extension 12 for the rabbi's assistant, Dina Linsk.

CONGREGATION OR ZARUA OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday

9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday

9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The Or Zarua office is closed Saturday and Sunday as well as on Jewish and federal holidays.

OZ Cemetery

Gravesites for Members

The Or Zarua section of Beth El Cemetery is located in Washington Township (Bergen County), New Jersey, just ten miles away from the George Washington Bridge. Beth El Cemetery is



A view of the Or Zarua cemetery section.

well-maintained and landscaped with trees and shrubs. The cemetery's design provides a serene and beautiful final resting place that reflects the values and aesthetics of Congregation Or Zarua. Gravesites within the Or Zarua section are available for sale solely to members of our Congregation. Burial is limited to persons of the Jewish faith. If you are interested in buying gravesites in the Or Zarua section, please contact the synagogue office at 212-452-2310, ext. 14.

HARVEY BRENNER

OZ Knitting Circle Special Events

by Terry Edelstein

Looking for someone to knit with, or to teach or to learn from? Knitting Circles are immensely popular and have been proliferating across the city.

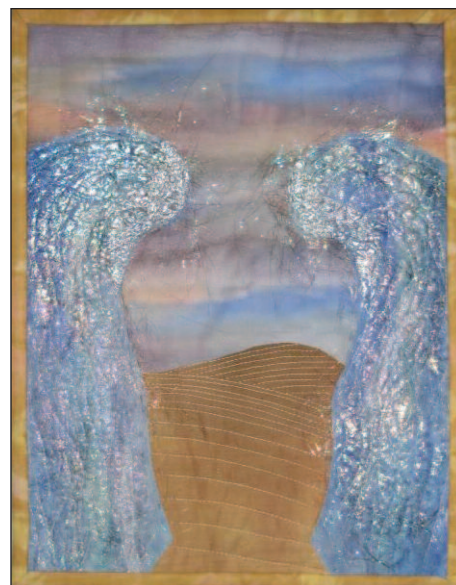
The mission of our Sunday Morning Knitting Circle and Crafts Club is creative craft production in the context of community service. We are a cross-generational group and have participated for several years in the Sanctuary Stitchery Project of the Jewish Board of Family and Children's Services. The blankets we collectively knit are given to a child or teen living in a JBFC residential treatment facility. To learn more about the program, go to www.sanctuarystitchers.org.

On January 23 at 11:00 a.m. our Knitting Circle will convene at Annie and Company Knitting Shop on Madison and 94th Street. A community haven for knitters and novices alike, we will browse their designs and yarns, and knit at their wonderful, large wooden communal table.

Then on February 13 we are also very excited to be sponsoring a workshop entitled "Translating Text to Textile" with fiber artist Heather Stoltz. We will produce a decorative quilt based on a Jewish holiday theme. We will make individual squares that will become part of a fabric collage mounted on a single quilt backing. The quilt will be donated to one of the Jewish Board's group homes. Heather's work and process can be explored at www.sewingstories.com. Please note that you must register for this event with Terry Edelstein at terryedelstein@aol.com or 301-908-1991.

All are welcome to join us. No experience is necessary. Older children and non-member friends are also welcome to attend.

We hope to see you at our expanding Knitting Circle, which generally meets on the second Sunday of each month at 10:15 a.m. in the OZ library. Bagels are served as we knit with good intent and stimulating conversation.



Heather Stoltz

Passover Quilt: Splitting of the Reed Sea, through which the Jews were able to escape Pharaoh's wrath
Nisan 5766 – April 2006
approximately 8.5" x 11"

Annual Super Bowl Party

Helps to feed the poor

Our members and their guests are invited to watch the Super Bowl with your friends at our ninth annual Or Zarua Super Bowl Party, to be held in the synagogue on Sunday, February 6. Enjoy a family atmosphere and great kosher food including ribs, chili, giant "sub" sandwiches, buffalo wings (all from Dougie's), sushi, dessert, and much more. Minhah/Ma'ariv starts at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. The game will be shown on a large-screen TV in the social hall beginning about 6:00 p.m.

In connection with this year's Super Bowl Party, we are once again encouraging everyone to make a donation to help fund kosher food pantries. Over the last three years, Or Zarua raised about \$4,000 per year for kosher food pantries and we are hoping to raise even more this year. As

you are probably aware, kosher food pantries in our area are struggling to provide kosher food for the poor and are in desperate need of additional funds to feed hungry Jewish families.

Please consider making a generous contribution to our food pantry fund. Checks payable to Congregation Or Zarua should be designated "Kosher Food Pantry Fund" on the memo line. All monies raised will be contributed to the Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty Food Pantry Network.

As we need to know the number of guests for planning purposes, please RSVP to the synagogue office at 212-452-2310, ext. 39 or www.orzarua.org by Monday, January 31 if you plan to attend the Super Bowl Party.

—SHELDON ADLER

RABBI WECHSLER TEACHES ON SIRIUS XM RADIO

Sundays at 3:00 a.m.
and 11:00 a.m.



Rabbi Wechsler is on SIRIUS XM Stars Radio twice each Sunday. Subscribers to SIRIUS Radio can access the program, "Rabbi Wechsler Teaches," on Channel 102, and XM Radio subscribers can tune in to Channel 155. Non-subscribers to SIRIUS Radio can obtain a free, three-day trial at www.sirius.com.

Minyan: The Gift of the Effort

by Susan Alt

I grew up in a loving Sephardic family that believed too much education of any sort was not a good thing for girls; it was bound to make them discontented with their prescribed role in life as women. And while both my mother and father spoke directly to God on a daily basis, I came to formal synagogue practice and elementary Hebrew late in life.

When I signed up for the volunteer once-a-month minyan plan at Or Zarua, it was because my friend, Phyllis Lusskin, convinced me that the essential requirement was to appear on a regular basis. My primary reason for agreeing, however, was because I am a long-time feminist, and since finally women were actually to be counted, then I'd pretty well better show up. I have now been part of the Or Zarua minyan for a number of years; my reasons for keeping with the commitment are quite complicated.

Of course, at its most basic, attending minyan is the essence of public service both for the collective and the individ-

ual congregant. However, like so many things, it continually offers personal benefits not contemplated in the original undertaking.

While we are told that we should rush to do a mitzvah, for me, rushing is not what minyan is about. Indeed, it is actually about taking time. Walking to synagogue and noticing the light and how the sky changes as the months go by, watching the buses on Third Avenue and finally accepting the reality that there is no pattern, looking at store vacancies and hoping they diminish, watching the half-sleepy or intent faces of the few people you pass: all are part of the process.

Nonetheless, it is not about dawdling. You need to arrive in a timely fashion to alleviate any tension about the daily count on the part of both the kaddish-sayer and the person responsible for getting us together. But it is ultimately not about numbers either. You get the most from the service by approaching it in a relaxed and caring manner, and as my father taught

about much of life, with a full heart. Although it has been many years, for me, the closest thing I can compare it to is nursing a baby. You may be totally ready and able, but for the process to be most effective, you have to be relaxed.

And then, it's over. You've have a cup of coffee and some conversation and you step out onto 82nd Street with energy and happiness. Perhaps by having missed the morning news we confront the day more easily. Perhaps this is actually the Jewish meditation. Perhaps we feel we've already accomplished something and it's still early. Perhaps, in only expecting to give, we are taken with what we have received. Obviously it will be different for each of us. What will be the same is that it will have been worth the effort.

Editor's Note: If you want to be part of the minyan on any given morning, all you need to do is attend. If you want to help sustain the Or Zarua minyan, please sign up for a given day or two each month by contacting Sheldon Adler at sadler@skadden.com.

Torah Reading Class

by Mark Somerstein

I am continuing a course in Torah reading on Thursdays at 8:30 p.m., which began December 2. Meetings are in a classroom on the seventh floor of the synagogue. My aim is to expand the participation in the centerpiece of our Shabbat services (we are a participatory synagogue, after all), as well as any time the Torah is read.

I would like people to be able to read any piece of Torah confidently, using the trope system with understanding. I would like to increase the number of people who

enjoy the Torah reading, and appreciate its esthetic and nuances. This is something I love and have been doing for more than 50 years. I am happy to have others share the benefits of that experience in no more than ten sessions. I feel I will thus be honoring those who taught me, either directly or by example. This course has been advertised as for beginners, but all levels are welcome.

If you are interested, please contact Harvey Brenner at hbrenner@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310 ext 14.

SHOFAR CLASS

**Starting Sunday, January 16
10:30 a.m.**

Have you ever wanted to learn to blow the Shofar? A new and exciting Shofar blowing class will be starting on Sunday, January 16 at 10:30 a.m. This new program will be open to all children pre- (a year before) and post-Bar/Bat Mitzvah. Richard Stadin, our wonderful Shofar blower, has generously agreed to teach this class and prepare the group to blow Shofar on the High Holy Days.

You will need to have your own Shofar, which can be purchased at most Judaica shops or online. For more information and to reserve a space in the class, please contact either Richard Stadin (stadin1@aol.com or 212-879-0448) or Ilana Burgess (iburgess@orzarua.org or 212-452-2310, ext. 15).

EDITOR'S NOTE

Do you have an idea or article that is appropriate for publication in the Or Zarua newsletter? Is there an Or Zarua program that is being overlooked by the editor? If so, please contact Charlie Spielholz (cssrs@earthlink.net).

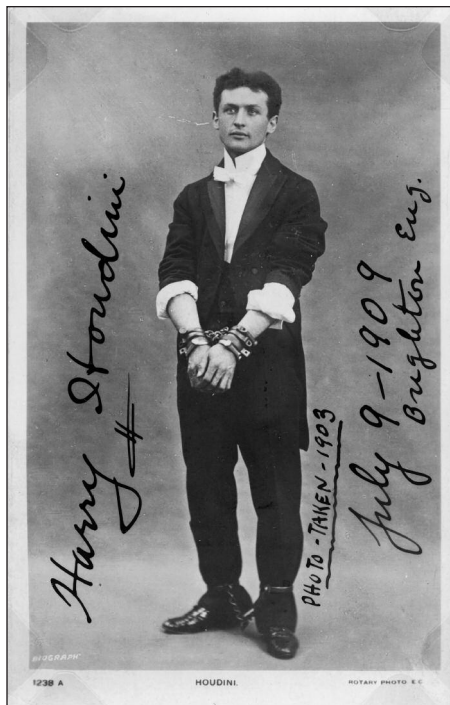
A Night at The Jewish Museum

"Houdini: Art and Magic" Tours, Thursday, January 13

A special evening awaits on Thursday, January 13. "Houdini: Art and Magic" at the Jewish Museum is an exhibit that is just plain fun! On exhibition are all the props used by Houdini in his most famous feats of magic, which continue to inspire magicians today.

Brooke Kamin Rappaport, an Or Zarua congregant and the curator of this show, will guide us through its wonders. A curator of an exhibit is the only one who can tell a viewer all of the stories about from whom, from where and how all the artifacts in the exhibit were gathered. These stories significantly enhance the viewing experience but are not usually heard as curators rarely serve as a guide to an exhibit. We are so lucky to have Brooke taking us through this magical exhibit.

Don't miss this wonderful evening. Tickets are \$36 each and include admission to The Jewish Museum. Reservations are a MUST as there is only limited space available as per Jewish Museum policy. Tours are at 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Please call Dina Linsk at 212-452-2310, ext. 39 to make your reservation.



Houdini in chains, 1903, photograph.
Library of Congress, Rare Books
and Special Collections Division,
McManus Young Division.

SHABBAT DINNER WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Friday, February 11

immediately following evening services
RSVP required

SEUDAH SHLISHIT

Saturday, February 12

immediately following afternoon services
All invited. No RSVP required

Joey Weisenberg, Or Zarua's musician-in-residence, will be leading Shabbat services on Friday night, February 11, which will be followed by a Family and Friends Dinner (RSVP required).

Joey will again lead our services on Saturday morning, February 12, and for the Minhah on Saturday afternoon. Seudah Shlishit will follow Minhah (all invited, no RSVP required for Seudah Shlishit). We will then return to the sanctuary for the concluding service and Havdalah. Guests and non-members are welcome to join us.

Babysitting and children's activities will be provided.

Please make dinner reservations by
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7
at 212-452-2310, ext. 39
or www.orzarua.org

**\$30 adults; \$10 children aged 5-12;
children under 5, no charge**

*Shabbat Dinner with Family and Friends
previously scheduled for January 14 has
been cancelled.*

Judaism and Hospice Care

Hevra Kadisha Zayin Adar Brunch, Sunday, March 13

A panel discussion on Judaism and hospice care will be featured at this year's annual Or Zarua Zayin Adar Brunch on Sunday, March 13, following the morning minyan. Panelists will explore the religious, psychological, and medical aspects of dealing with end-of-life care and treatment.

Zayin Adar, the traditional yahrzeit of Moses, is observed annually as a time to celebrate the accomplishments of the Hevra Kadisha. This event always serves

as an open forum for questions congregants may have about Jewish practices and ideology concerning death, the after-life, customs, law, and myths.

All are invited as we look forward to another wonderful study session and discussion at this year's Zayin Adar brunch. Reservations should be made through the synagogue office (212-452-2310, ext 39). Suggested donations to the Hevra Kadisha Fund are \$36 per person.

—GERRY SOLOMON

TORAH READERS NEEDED

If you are able to read Torah or Haftarah and would like to do so on a Shabbat, please call the synagogue office at 212-452-2310, ext 12.

MAZAL TOV TO MARTHA SASMOR, who received the Ken Harvey Award for her 50 years of outstanding service to the AFTRA Union.

Paul Bowles: The Complete Outsider

A film screening with director Regina Weinreich

Come to Or Zarua on Monday, January 24 at 7:30 p.m., when Regina Weinreich, a member of our Or Zarua community, will screen the award-winning documentary, "Paul Bowles: The Complete Outsider," which she co-produced and directed. Regina Weinreich, a leading scholar of the Beat generation of which Paul Bowles was a part, is a well recognized member of the film community,

serving most recently as part of the jury for the East Hampton Film Festival.

The Sheltering Sky, Paul Bowles' first novel, was adapted for the hit film starring Debra Winger, John Malkovich and Campbell Scott. As 2010 marks the 100th anniversary of Bowles' birth, it is a fitting time for a retrospective examination of his life, the life of ex-patriot Americans and the Beat generation of which he was an integral part. Paul Bowles had a middle

class upbringing in New York before departing for Paris in the 1930s, where he studied music with Aaron Copland. In 1947, Bowles settled in Tangier, Morocco, where he lived until his death in 1999 at the age of 88. Learn more about his fascinating life at the screening of this movie.

Regina Weinreich will speak and answer questions following the screening. Light refreshments will be served.

JOIN THE OR ZARUA PURIM SPIEL!

Are you interested in acting, singing, performing, or being a stagehand? Become an OZ Player and join in the fun of the Purim Spiel!

This year's Purim Spiel will be performed on Sunday, March 20, at the Lycée Français, 505 East 75th Street, between York and East End Avenues.

The first rehearsal will be held on Sunday, January 16, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We will view the DVD of last year's Spiel, have some snacks, schmooze, and meet new cast members.

Thereafter, all rehearsals will be on Sundays from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and Thursdays from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Children need only to attend the Sunday rehearsals.

Questions? Contact Barbara Sassoon at BarbDee@mac.com.



For 2010, the OZ Players cooked up *The Vonce Who Stole Purim*, a tasteful Purim Spiel confection.

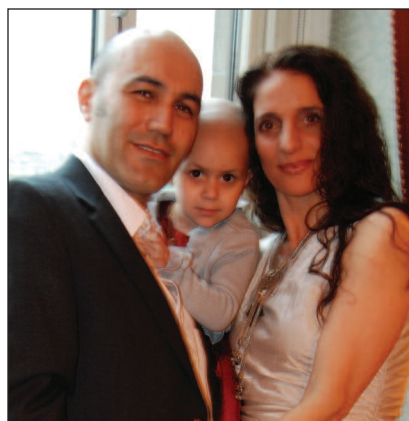
Thank You, Park East Butchers

Shabbat meals provided to families at Ronald McDonald House

Special thanks to Michael and Murray of Park East

Kosher Butchers, who have been providing extremely generous Shabbat meals—lunch and dinner, cooked to order—for several months to kosher families staying at Ronald McDonald House. Michael and Murray have committed to continue to support these unfortunate families.

The New York City Ronald McDonald House provides housing to the out-of-town families of children undergoing treatment for serious illnesses at local hospitals. Many of these children, some as young as



Jean-Yves, Esther and Dorit Chekroun at Ronald McDonald House during Esther's treatment at Sloan-Kettering.

6 months, are undergoing treatments for cancer, heart conditions and other life-threatening conditions. Due to the seriousness of the conditions, parents have to take their children to a hospital with the necessary life-saving skills regardless of location. Ronald McDonald House provides housing, but can not do it without help from the community.

Michael and Murray are

community members who continue to play a large role in supporting families staying at Ronald McDonald House.

To help those dealing with illness, contact Richard Stadin at 212-879-0448 or stadin1@aol.com.

WELCOMING GUESTS

It is important for us as a community to greet guests and new members at our services to make them feel comfortable and welcome. Let's all make more of an effort in this regard. If you are seated next to someone whom you do not know, please reach out and introduce yourself. We should be sure to do the same at our kiddushim. Making this effort is consistent with our culture and will repay dividends.

Israeli Night at Ronald McDonald House

Celebrate with young patients and their families

On Thursday, February 3, Congregation Or Zarua will host its ninth annual dinner at the Ronald McDonald House, a residence for children with serious illnesses who are in treatment at local hospitals and their families. This joyous evening with a Tu B'Shevat theme features entertainment by OZ members and the opportunity to interact with young patients and their families from around the globe. OZ provides the residents with a buffet dinner and a welcome distraction from illness through song, dance and friendship.

The Hesed Committee needs up to 15 volunteers to help set-up, serve, sing and schmooze. We are also seeking donations of kosher desserts and small table accents of potted green plants or flowers for the evening. You can drop them off at the Ronald McDonald House at 405 East 73rd Street by 5:30 p.m. on February 3. Contact Stephanie Failla at 917-941-3199 (cell) or 212-472-7506 (days). Please note that children under the age of 18 cannot volunteer. Space is limited, so volunteers will join us on a first-come basis.

Please help by:

- Donating kosher desserts (e.g., cupcakes, cookies, pastry, etc.) or small pots of green or flowering plants, dropped off at the House on February 3rd by 5:30 p.m.
- Assisting with set-up and decorations (from 5:15 p.m.)
- Serving food (from 6:00 p.m.)
- Leading singing and/or folk dancing (from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)

This has been a wonderful, rewarding and festive event for both the residents and the OZ volunteers, and we look forward to seeing many of you there!

—STEPHANIE FAILLA

Hesed Events and Programs

"The world exists for the sake of kindness." —Rashi

● Help feed formerly homeless people at the NCS East 81 Street Residence one Monday a month from 6:00 to 6:45 p.m. by serving pizza, soda, and salad.

● Please make a donation to the Hesed Fund to cover the \$180 cost per week of Monday evening dinners for the residents of the Neighborhood Coalition for the Homeless Shelter Residence.

● Visit and cheer up ill and homebound Or Zarua congregants.

● Do you know a neighbor, friend, relative or someone recently returned from the hospital who could benefit from a home-delivered meal? The Stanley Isaacs Neighborhood Center sponsors a program to provide meals to eligible seniors in need (60+ years old) living between Fifth Avenue and the East River from 59th

Street up to 143rd Street. Hot, frozen and kosher meals are available. To make a referral for yourself or someone else, or for more information, please contact the East Side Case Management Consortium at (212) 744-5022, ext. 1203.

● Jewish children in cancer treatment from around the world who reside with their families at Ronald McDonald House often have no support system of friends or relatives in the New York area. The Chaplin at Ronald McDonald House alerts us when these families wish to find a suitable synagogue, need special assistance for Shabbat or festival dinners, or if there are other ways we may be able to help.

To participate in any of these Hesed programs, please contact Richard Stadin at stadin1@aol.com or 212-879-0448.

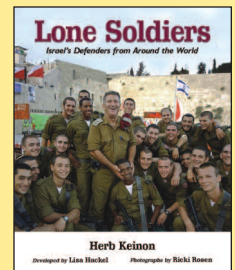
LONE SOLDIERS

Israel's Lone Soldiers: They pick up and leave family, friends, home, cars, first-tier universities, and often top jobs for a land in which, in most cases, they don't have relatives, and are unfamiliar with the language, culture, food, and mentality.

Lone Soldiers: Israel's Defenders from Around the World tells the personal stories of 14 of these volunteer IDF soldiers, engagingly

written by Jerusalem Post diplomatic correspondent Herb Keinson. Stories include those of Michael Levin, who fell in the Second Lebanon War, and of a Lt.-Col. Res. Tzvika Levy, the father of the lone soldiers who recently visited Congregation Or Zarua.

Lone Soldiers: Israel's Defenders from Around the World is both an inspiring book and a great gift idea. It is now available for \$27.95 with complimentary holiday gift wrapping at Venture, 1156 Madison Avenue between 85th and 86th Streets. Contact Richard Stadin stadin1@aol.com or 212 879-0448 for additional information.



PROGRAM SPONSORSHIPS

Many opportunities to sponsor an Or Zarua program are described throughout the pages of this Newsletter. It is vital to actively support our community in this way in order to help ensure that we remain a vibrant congregation. Please consider honoring a family member or marking a simcha by sponsoring an event, either in whole or in part. If you are interested, please contact Andrew Frackman or Rabbi Wechsler.



CONGREGATION OR ZARUA

127 East 82nd Street
New York, NY 10028-0807

CONGREGATION OR ZARUA

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2011

January/February Checklist

- Jonathan Angress, OZ's cantorial intern, will be leading Shabbat services on January 7-8 and again on February 4-5.
- Mark your calendar for the Chaim Dovid concert on Sunday, January 9 at 7 p.m. (tickets required).
- Buy your tickets for one of the Houdini tours at The Jewish Museum with curator and congregant Brooke Kamin Rappaport on Thursday, January 13, 5:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
- Become a star of the Purim Spiel by attending the first rehearsal on Sunday, January 16 at 5 p.m. in the social hall.
- Visit Annie and Company Knitting Shop with the OZ Knitting Circle on Sunday, January 23 at 11:00 a.m. Then on Sunday, February 13 at 10:30 a.m. they will be hosting special guest Heather Stoltz.
- Attend the book discussion featuring David Grossman's *To the End of the Land* on Sunday, January 23 at 7:30 p.m. The next book discussion will follow on Sunday, March 6.
- See the movie "Paul Bowles: The Complete Outsider" with the co-producer and director Regina Weinreich on Monday, January 24 at 7:30 p.m.
- Mingle with fellow congregants at the Birthday Shabbat Kiddush on Saturday, January 29 after Shabbat services.
- Hear The Lucy S. Dawidowicz Lecture on Wednesday, February 2 by NYU Professor and Dead Sea Scroll Scholar Lawrence H. Schiffman at 8 p.m.
- Participate in a minyan, a party and feed the hungry at the same time by attending the Annual OZ Super Bowl Party, Sunday, February 6, beginning at 5 p.m.
- RSVP by noon, Monday, February 7 for the Family and Friends Friday night services and dinner with OZ musician-in-residence Joey Weisenberg on February 11. Joey will also be with us for services and Seudah Shlishit on Saturday, February 12.
- Chalk your cue for the Kadima billiards event on Sunday, February 13.
- RSVP by noon, Monday, February 28 for the Yeshivat Hadar Shabbaton on Friday and Saturday, March 4 and 5, including a Seudah Shlishit on Saturday, March 5.
- Hevra Kadisha's Zayin Adar Brunch on Sunday, March 13 will feature a panel discussion on Judaism and hospice care.
- Marc Ashley's adult class, "Do You Believe In Miracles? Between Divine Providence and Intervention," will meet on four Sundays between Pesah and Shavuot (May 1, 15, 22 and 29).
- The Salute to Israel Parade is on Sunday, June 5.
- Sign up for the morning minyan.
- Mark your calendars for Talmud Class with Rabbi Wechsler at 8 p.m. on Wednesday nights.
- Call the Or Zarua office (212 452 2310) if you have questions about or wish to sponsor any OZ program or event.