



OR ZARUA newsletter

Volume 9, Issue 3

Shevat/Adar 5758 - February-March 1998

In This Issue

Calendar	
February	4
March	5
Condolences	8
Congratulations	8
Contributions	2
Hebrew School	2
Hesed News	7
Information Form	3
Join Hevra Kadisha	3
Purim	1
Purim Spiel	1
Shabbat Dinners	3
Tu B'Shevat Program	6
We Welcome	8
Youth Hesed	6

Oz Celebrates Purim on Wednesday March 11, 1998

Or Zarua will celebrate Purim this year on Wednesday evening, March 11. Minhah will commence at 5:30 p.m., followed by Maariv and the megillah at 5:45 p.m. Our second annual Purim Spiel will immediately follow services at approximately 7:00 p.m.

The weeks leading up to Purim start with Shabbat Shekalim on February 21, and then Shabbat Zakhon on March 7. On Shabbat Zakhon two Torahs are taken from the ark. In addition to the regular sedrah read from the first sefer, we read the section from the second that begins "Remember what Amalek did to you" (Devarim 25), from which the Shabbat gets its name of Shabbat Zakhon. The great hasid, Rabbi Levi Yitzhak of Berditchev, commented on this verse as follows:

"Because you are a man, you first are permitted to remember what the power of evil has done to you. But when you ascend to the rung of the zaddikim, and your heart has rest from all your enemies round about, then you will 'blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under Heaven,' and will remember only what the power of evil has done to Heaven: how it set up a wall between God and Israel, and drove into exile the Divine Presence." M. Buber, *Tales of the Hasidim* 227-28 (Schocken 1991).

Purim follows Shabbat Zakhon on Wednesday evening. Four mitzvot are prescribed for Purim: the reading of the Megillah, festivity and rejoicing, the mutual sending of gifts, and gifts to the poor. While it is a positive commandment to read the megillah, one can fulfill the obligation by hearing the Megillah read. Or Zarua will fill the second of the commandments of Purim, festivity and rejoicing, with its Purim Spiel following the megillah reading on Wednesday evening, March 11. We fulfill the third of the four commandments of Purim by mishloach manot ("the sending of gifts of food to one another"). The gift must consist of at least two kinds of food to fulfill this mitzvah. Only what is considered edible or drinkable without further cooking or preparation is considered a "portion." E. Kitov, *The Book of Our Heritage* (1978).

Purim Spiel '98

This year's Purim Spiel will take place right after the Megillah reading on March 11. Casting is still underway and director Arthur Rosenbloom promises that this year's edition is going to be hilarious.

Please contact the synagogue office if you would like to contribute your talent to the production.

Congregation Or Zarua
A Conservative Synagogue
Founded 1989

ק"מ אור זרוע



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New York, NY 10128
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Synagogue: 127 East 82nd Street

Dr. Harlan J. Wechsler, *Rabbi*
Samuel C. Klagsbrun, *President*

Newsletter Editor
Andrew Frackman

Or Zarua Hebrew School News

The Hebrew School has recently returned from winter vacation and we are all looking forward to the many new and exciting things planned for this semester.

We ended the Fall semester on an exciting note with our Hanukkah celebration. The biggest craze at the party was the contests—Who can spin the most dreidels? Who can eat the sufganiot the fastest? Who can flip the most potato latkes?

Additionally, students and their families were able to bake sufganiot, create wax sculptures, make edible dreidels, and design Hanukkah bookmarks.

Rabbi Wechsler joined the group for festive singing and candlelighting.

Our classes are really progressing. Just a few highlights: The Alef and Bet classes have begun a unit on Jewish symbolic objects. The Gimmel classes are really mastering various Tefillot from the Shabbat service, the Hey is delving into their study of Jewish heroes, and the Vav class is working on grammatical conjugation of verbs.

(Continued on page 7)

Contributions

All contributions listed were received on or before January 23, 1998.
Capital Campaign contributions are not listed.

Gift in Kind

Herbert & Judith Lukashok

Hesed Fund

Barry & Mimi Alperin
Samuel & Francine Klagsbrun
Samuel & Ruth Perelson

Hesed Food Fund

David & Annette Araten
Alan Bandler, in honor of Rabbi Wechsler
Barton & Georgia Farber
Barry & Judith Schneider, in memory of Lance Barasch
Barry & Judith Schneider
Natalie Sobel & Rafael Kleiman, in memory of Joanne Feierman's father, Rabbi Nathan Kollin
Charles Spielholz & Sharon Seiler
Lynda Wertheim

Hevra Kadisha Fund

Sylvia Adelman
Alan Bandler, in honor of Rabbi Wechsler
Barry & Ruth Doyno, in memory of his mother, Shirley Peiser Doyno, and with thanks to the Hevra Kadisha
Fred & Martha Mendelsohn, on the occasion of the yahrzeit of Fred's father, Norman Mendelsohn
Jerome & Linda Spitzer, in memory of Rochelle Spergel's mother, Dorothy Leffert

Kiddush Fund

Jonathan & Deborah Bakin, in memory of her father, Melvyn Pinck, on his yahrzeit
Barry & Bobbi Collier, in honor of their daughter Hilary completing her doctoral degree in toxicology
Shelley Doctors, in honor of the birth of her granddaughter, Elizabeth Ruth Yoss
Lynne Galler, in memory of her father, William Galler, on his yahrzeit
Irving Hoffman, in memory of his wife Sheila on her yahrzeit
Herbert & Judith Lukashok, in memory of Herb's father, Samuel Lukashok, on his yahrzeit

Fred and Martha Mendelsohn

Yehuda Nir and Bonnie Maslin, in memory of Yehudah's father, Samuel Grunfeld, born 100 years ago, who was murdered by the Germans during the Shoah and to whom Or Zarua's Adult Education Center has been dedicated through the generosity of his grandchildren

Yehuda Nir and Bonnie Maslin, in honor of their 24th wedding anniversary, the one Yehuda missed and the one he made

Laura Resnikoff, in memory of her mother, Joy Hellman Resnikoff
Lawrence & Leslie Rusoff, in honor of their aufruf

Sidney & Irene Silverman, in honor of the birth of their grandson, Noam Heinz Lowenstein

Robert & Susan Skolnick, in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Rebecca

Natalie Sobel & Rafael Kleiman, in memory of Natalie's father, Morris Sobel, on his yahrzeit

Mark & Lynn Somerstein, in honor of the engagement of their son, David Tyler, to Debby Sternberg

Jerome & Linda Spitzer, in memory of her father, George Kirsten, on his yahrzeit

Bernard & Leah Tolpin, in memory of his mother, Pauline Tolpin, on her yahrzeit

Miriam Wallerstein, in honor of the first birthday of her granddaughters, Avery & Julia Wallerstein

Seymour & Cathy Zises, in honor of the Bar Mitzvahs of their twin sons, Ben and Sam

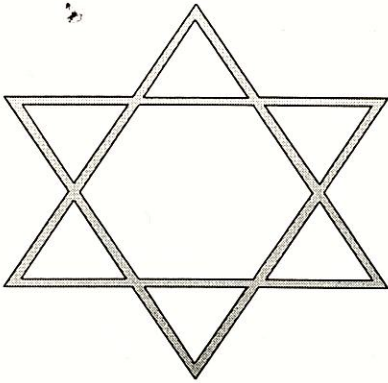
Klagsbrun-Weinstein Fund

Abraham & Anna Ascher
Barry & Bobbi Collier
Alan & Pat Davidson
Henry & Karen Glanternik, in memory of Henry's father, Meyer Glanternik
Mina, Elizabeth & John Greenstein
Yehuda Nir & Bonnie Maslin
Fred & Martha Mendelsohn
Arthur Rosenbloom & Evelyn Kenvin
Jack & Esther Oberman
Laura Resnikoff
Michael & Sarah Stern
David & Elise Strauss

(Continued on page 7)

Join Or Zarua's HevraKadisha

Serve your fellow congregants in their time of need. The next meeting is on February 12th, at 7:30 p.m. at the synagogue.



Save the Date: March 20, 1998 *for a Special Night of Or Zarua Shabbat Dinners*

We're in the planning stages. Our immediate need is for Kosher homes to host fellow congregants.

Hosts will receive information to lead informal study and singing at the table.

Would you like to be a host? Call Enid Menzies at the office (410-6041).

Further details and sign-up sheets for all member will follow.

Please Let Us Know the Addresses of Your Children at College

Congregation Or Zarua is planning a number of projects involving college-age children of members. To accomplish these projects, we need their addresses.

Please fill out the form below and fax or mail it back to the OZ office as soon as you can.

Fax: (212)410-2137 or

Mail to: Congregation Or Zarua, 1384 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10128

Name of Student: _____

College or University: _____

Graduation Year: _____

Mailing Address: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

1998

February

1998

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4 8-9:30 p.m. Talmud Class	5	6 5:00 p.m. Candle Lighting	7 9 a.m. Shaharit, Beshalah Shabbat Shirah Minhah/Seudah Shlishit/ Maariv
8 11a.m. Tu B'Shevat Program for OZY Children 7:30pm Book Club: <i>The Color of Water</i> by James McBride	9	10 Youth Hesed hospital visit for students 14 years & older	11 Tu B'Shevat 8-9:30 p.m. Talmud Class	12 Class Tu B'Shevat Seders 7:30 p.m. Hevra Kadisha Meeting Lincoln's Birthday	13 5:08 p.m. Candle Lighting	14 9 a.m. Shaharit, Yitro Bat Mitzvah/ Gaby Frackman
15	16 Hebrew School closed/ Presidents' Week Presidents' Day	17 Hebrew School closed/ Presidents' Week	18 Hebrew School closed/ Presidents' Week	19 Hebrew School closed/ Presidents' Week	20 5:17 p.m. Candle Lighting	21 9 a.m. Shaharit, Mishpatim Shabbat Shekalim Bat Mitzvah/Nina Salpeter
22 Washington's Birthday	23	24	25 8-9:30 p.m. Talmud Class	26 Rosh Hodesh Adar	27 5:25 p.m. Candle Lighting Rosh Hodesh Adar	28 9 a.m. Shaharit, Terumah Shabbat Class: Gimme!/ Hey/Vav/Zion

1998

March

1998

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4 8-9:30 p.m. Talmud Class	5	6 5:33 p.m. Candle Lighting	7 9 a.m. Shaharit, Tetzaveh Shabbat Zakhor Shabbat class: Gimmel/ Hey/Vav/Zion Minhah/Seudah Shlishit/ Maariv
8	9	10	11 No Zion class Purim Service 5:30pm Minhah 5:45 p.m. Maariv & Megillah 7pm Purim Spiel	12 9:30 am Purim Service Purim Celebration: Alef/ Bet/Gimmel/Hey/Vav Youth Hesed hospital visit for students 14 years & older	13 5:40 p.m. Candle Lighting	14 9 a.m. Shaharit, Kee Tissa
15	16	17	18 8-9:30 p.m. Talmud Class	19	20 5:48 p.m. Candle Lighting Congregational Family Shabbat dinners	21 9 a.m. Shaharit, Vayakhel-Parah Shabbat Parah
22	23	24	25	26	27 5:55 p.m. Candle Lighting	28 9 a.m. Shaharit, Vayikra Shabbat Hahodesh Rosh Hodesh Nisan
29	30	31				

Upcoming Or Zarua Youth Hesed Events

Or Zarua Youth Hesed (OZYH) is pleased to announce a "Pizza and Planning" meeting on Sunday, February 8th from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. We will meet at Bagels & Co. at 1428 York Avenue (corner of 76th St.). All Or Zarua members of Vav Class age and up are invited to join us for this planning meeting. We will discuss a range of Hesed-volunteering opportunities, including an evening on the Coalition for the Homeless; Mobile Soup Kitchen, delivering Pesach food packages for Dorot, and two Pesach activities at New York Hospital. We will also discuss the possibility of teaming up with another synagogue for a joint Hesed activity. As usual, dinner will be provided to all who attend.

Or Zarua Youth Hesed would like to thank Rachel Balik and Helene Strauss, active members of our group, who serve as full volunteers at New York Hospital. In conjunction with the hospital chaplain, they regularly perform the mitzvah of *bikur cholim*, visiting with patients in the hospital. They recently assisted at the very successful Hanukkah party for children in the pediatrics unit. They will be making a special Tu B'Shevat visit on February 10th, and they will be delivering mishloach manot for Purim on March 12th.

Anyone interested in learning more about OZYH or in how to become an OZYH hospital volunteer is welcome to call Howard Blas at (212)472-5820

Tu B'Shevat Program for OZY Children

On Sunday, February 8th, the OZY teachers will conduct a program for children ages 6-9. The event will be held from 11 a.m. to 12 noon at the Or Zarua Synagogue, 127 East 82nd Street.

This will be a "hands-on" workshop. Each child who attends must bring a white T-shirt. The children will decorate the T-shirts as part of the program.

You must RSVP to have your children participate in the program. Call Michelle Schaerf at (917)913-5120. If you have further questions, you may reach Michelle at the same number.



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 3080 Broadway,
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**RAMAH – The Camping Arm of
 Conservative Judaism**

CONTRIBUTIONS

(Continued)

Klagsbrun-Weinstein Fund

(Continued)

Bernard & Leah Tolpin
Kirk Zachary & Susan Smirnoff
Miriam Wallerstein

Kol Nidre Appeal

Anonymous
David & Annette Araten
Marc & Joanne Ashley
Edward & Sheila Bailey
Alan Bandler, in honor of Rabbi Wechsler
Mordecai & Shiela Braunstein
Perry & Marilyn Braunstein
Ethan & Karen Budin
Maier Deshell
Alexander & Susan Deutsch
Martin & Joanne Feerman
Henry & Karen Glanternik
Glenn & Zella Goldfinger
David Hait & Eleanor Merczynski
Roger & Susan Hertog
Mel Ilberman
Michael Jaffe
John & Ronnie Jankoff
Howard Levy & Susan Klim
Jack & Rose Less
Jeremy Mack
Russell Okrent & Susan Rock Okrent
Charles & Deborah Olstein
David & Erica Panush, in memory of David's mother, Zelda, and the Simchat Bat of their daughter Lucette Mariana
David & Ronnie Parker
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Andrew & Susan Plevin
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Robert & Vera Silver
Charles Spielholz & Sharon Seiler
David & Elise Strauss
Miriam Wallerstein
Harlan J. Wechsler & Naomi Friedland-Wechsler
Herbert Weinstein & Wendy Schriber
James & Elaine Wolfensohn

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Sylvia Adelman
Eric & Karen Mandel
Esther Panitz
Paul Posner & Terry Ann Krulwich
Robert & Susan Skolnick, in honor of Rabbi Wechsler, Sam Klagsbrun and Terry Ann. Krulwich

General Fund

Edward & Harriet Abramson, in memory of Rochelle Spergel's mother, Dorothy Leffert
Arthur & Willi Aeder, in honor of their grandson Zev's Bar Mitzvah and the birth of their 8th grandchild, Rena Maya Auerbach of Lincolnwood, IL
Lippman & Meri Bodoff
Solomon & Thelma Borodkin, in honor of the 30th wedding anniversary of Glenn and Zella Goldfinger, and the birth of Shira Mindel Silver, daughter of Robert and Vera Silver
Solomon & Thelma Borodkin, in memory of Rochelle Spergel's mother, Dorothy Leffert, and for a refuah sh'lemah for Shirley Shultz
David & Michele Cooperberg, aliyah
Ruth Drazen, in memory of her mother, Jessie Yorkin
Ruth Drazen, in memory of her husband, Jerome Drazen
Hillel & Betsy Friedman, in honor of Sam Perelson on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of his Bar Mitzvah
Jessie & Isadora Hecht, in memory of her parents, Hannah and Jack Silverman, on their yahrzeits
Theodore & Shulamith Koton, aliyah
Jeanne M. Levenson, in honor of Miriam Walerstein
Howard Levy & Susan Klim in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of their son, Sam Levy
Helen Lifton, in memory of her husband, Alexander, on his yahrzeit
Laura Resnikoff, in honor of the birth of Robert and Vera Silver's daughter, Shira
Laura Resnikoff, in memory of Rochelle Spergel's mother, Dorothy Leffert
Arthur Rosenbloom & Evelyn Kenvin in honor of Rabbi Wechsler and Professor Marcel Kahan, the officiants at the Pidyon Haben of Arthur's grandson, Samuel Ethan Kay
Robert & Vera Silver, in honor of the 10th wedding anniversary of Anne and Reed Schneider
Robert & Vera Silver, in memory of Dorothy Leffert, Rochelle Spergel's mother
Jennie Simon, in honor of the

recovery from surgery of her daughter, Helene Wolff

Harry & Amira Trattner, in memory of Yehuda Nir's father, Samuel Grunfeld, on the anniversary of his birthday

Miriam Wallerstein, in memory of her father, Abraham Patt, on his yahrzeit

Steven & Joyce Wolitzer in memory of Shirley Peiser Doyno, mother of Barry Doyno

Or Zarua Hebrew School News

(Continued)

The Zion class is proudly studying Hebrew "in Hebrew" and the students have developed a great understanding of the spoken language. Additionally, some of the Zion students are also very involved in a discussion of Jewish ethical concepts.

Some upcoming events for the Hebrew School include Tu B'Shevat seders, Shabbat dinners, a storyteller for Purim, and a young Jewish theatre troupe performance. It should prove to be a busy and productive semester.

Michelle Schaerf

Educational Director

Hesed Committee News

The Or Zarua Hesed Committee sponsored two dinners for residents of the Neighborhood Coalition for the Homeless on East 77th Street. Our group of volunteers cooked for and served over 60 men and women at the shelter on Thanksgiving and on Christmas day. Many thanks to all those who volunteered for these projects.

A number of members have expressed interest in helping the shelter on their own time. Anyone interested in this can stop by the shelter at 237 East 77th Street, or you can call Norma Samame, Director of Program Support Services at (212) 288-6965.

(Continued on page 8)

Congratulations To

Arthur & Willi Aeder on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson, Zev, and on the birth of their 8th grandchild, Rena Maya Auerbach of Lincolnwood, IL.
 Bobbi & Barry Collier who were honored by the Medical Division of Israel Bonds

Shelley Doctors, on the birth of her granddaughter, Elizabeth Ruth Yoss, on December 20, 1997. Parents are Pamela and Eric Yoss.

David Gutstein and Alison Grann on the November 22, 1997 birth of their son, Jacob Ari Gutstein

Maurice Lefkort on his engagement to Faith Steinman. A June 28, 1998 wedding is planned.

Joan Regen on the publication

of her photo of a little boy (from Thailand), with his pet monkey, in the 1998 UNICEF Desk Agenda

Marcella Rosen on her December 20, 1997 marriage to David Sacks

Sidney & Irene Silverman on the December 4, 1997 birth in Tel Aviv of their grandson, Noam Heinz Lowenstein. Proud parents are Emily Silverman and Jonathan Lowenstein

Mark and Lynn Somerstein on the engagement of their son, David Tyler, to Debby Sternberg. A June wedding is planned.

Hesed Committee News

(Continued)

All of our efforts are of course greatly appreciated by the residents and staff of the shelter. But these people need to be fed every day, not just on holidays. Please support our Monday night food program by sending your donations to the Or Zarua office, 1384 Lexington Avenue, New York, NY 10128.

We Welcome New Members

Jeanette Brizel
 Steven Katz & Deborah Markson-Katz
 Harry & Amira Trattner

Condolences To

Mordecai Braunstein on the death of his mother, Helen Braunstein

Joanne Feierman on the death of her father, Rabbi Nathan Kollin

Henry Glanternik on the death of his father, Meyer Glanternik
 Michelle Schaerf on the death of her grandmother, a few days following that of her grandfather

Rochelle Spergel on the death of her mother, Dorothy Leffert

The Klagsbrun and Weinstein families again thank our many friends who have contributed to our special fund. We are grateful for your support.

**Plan to Spend
 the Second Seder,
 April 11th, with
 Or Zarua**

Congregation Or Zarua

1384 Lexington Avenue
 New York, NY 10128

קק אור זרוע

