

BETH SHALOM / OCEANSIDE JEWISH CENTER



THE BULLETIN



2860 Brower Avenue • Oceanside, NY 11572

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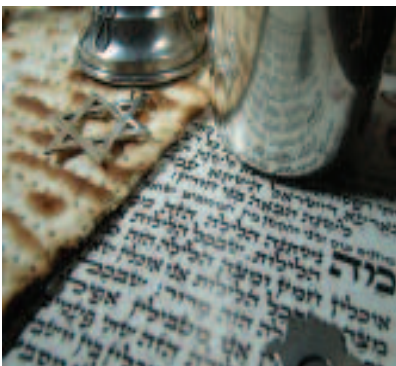
THE JEWISH PEOPLE: GOD'S STAKE IN HISTORY

From Rabbi Mark B Greenspan

In a little more than twenty four hours I will be leaving for Israel along with a small group from our congregation. It is the middle of February and Purim is still five weeks away. Passover is even farther off, but I am sitting at my computer preparing an article for our bulletin on these holidays! Jewish holidays take preparation. For Rabbis, the preparation begins much earlier, as we anticipate the events that are still beyond the horizon.

This is a busy time of year around the synagogue. The reading of the Megillah takes preparation and review; there are a variety of different congregational activities for which we must prepare such as our annual carnival, Purim services, and a unit which our teachers are preparing on Jewish heroes which will be taught in our religious school.

No sooner do we finish with Purim and we immediately dive into Passover preparation. The synagogue and our homes must be thoroughly cleaned, and once again our teachers are focused on teaching our children not only the skills necessary to participate in the Seder but the meaning of this ancient ceremony as well. For me, Passover preparations begin even earlier as I work on another commentary to present for our annual Siyyum on the eve of Passover. Passover is especially complex this year – with the first Seder on a Saturday night, we need to be prepared extra early.



There is a joke that has made the rounds on the internet: Jewish holidays can be summed up in three simple statements: "They tried to kill us. We won. Let's eat." Jewish holidays all seem to revolve around food, and celebrating

our miraculous survival as a nation. But more than that, our holidays are about our relationship with God. We are God's stake in history. Our survival is about more than self interest and self preservation. It is all about carrying on the values and ideals of the Torah. Living those values in our daily lives and becoming a means of Tikkun Olam, a force for healing and repairing the world.

If you look in a Torah scroll, you will note that the verse *Shema Yisrael* is written in a unique fashion. The last letter of the first word, *ayin*, and the last letter of the last word, *dalet*, are written larger than all the other letters in the verse. Together they spell the Hebrew word *ayd*, witness. When we recite the *Shema*, we become witnesses of God's presence in the world. And when we strive to live by the teachings of the tradition, we become God's partners in creating a better world. Our survival has a purpose and a meaning.

During the weeks between Purim and Passover, we ought to pause to consider what it means to be God's stake in history. If we are God's stake in history then we are also stakeholders in the future of the Jewish people and even in (dare I say it?) the destiny of the world. How is it possible that a people as small as the Jewish people continue to have such a big influence on the world? Does Judaism make a difference to us and to the world? Do we set an example for our children and grand-children?

Telling our story is not simply an excuse for an elaborate meal. It is not an exercise in parochialism. Our story is a challenge. It is an opportunity for us to consider our place in the world and our responsibilities as human beings. Elie Wiesel has said: "I marvel at the resilience of the Jewish people. Their best characteristic is their desire to remember. No other people has such an obsession with memory." Purim and Passover are the quintessential celebration of memory. But we must ask ourselves – for what purpose do we remember?



A Freilech Purim and Happy & Kosher Passover to All!

**OJC ANNUAL
GOODS & SERVICES AUCTION
Saturday Evening, March 22nd**

Our Annual Goods and Services Auction is just around the corner. The Auction is always one of the gala events on the OJC calendar. Our brochure is full of many great items to bid on. If you have anything to donate or to make a reservation, please call the office, 536-6112 or Ed Goldstein, 536-2317. We hope to see you on March 22nd. The cost is \$12.50 per person or \$18 per person at the door. We will have an open bar and snacks on the tables. So come and bid on electronics, sports memorabilia, sports tickets, restaurant gift certificates, and much, much more.

**OJC JOURNAL DINNER-DANCE
Saturday Evening, May 31st**

The Journal Dinner-Dance Committee is proud to announce that we will be honoring Laura and Robert Steinberg as our Leadership Honorees and Peter Stone as our Outstanding Service Award recipient. The Journal Dinner-Dance is the highlight of the social calendar at Oceanside Jewish Center and we are fortunate to have such worthy honorees. Hopefully, you will celebrate with us on May 31st. The cost is \$180 per person on a give or get basis and ad blanks will be mailed and additional ad blanks will be available in the OJC office. If you have any questions or need assistance, please call Sharon Kamens, 763-6783 or Ed Goldstein, 536-2317. Let's make this our most successful Journal Dinner-Dance.



BAR/BAT MITZVAHS

DANIEL GORDON MARCH 22, 2008
Daniel is the son of Alan and Randi Gordon and the brother of Nicholas and Estee. Daniel is on the Honor Roll at the

Oceanside Middle School and on the track team. He enjoys playing sports with his friends, and is currently undecided as to what he wants to accomplish for his future career goals.

KATHERIN LYNNE LENOWITZ MARCH 29, 2008
Katherin is the daughter of Ira and Melissa Lenowitz and the sister of Mara. Katherin's current hobbies and interests are: snowboarding, baking, reading, the Girl Scouts, and USY Kadima. Her future goals are becoming a professional snowboarder and pastry/dessert chef.

**BETH SHALOM
OCEANSIDE JEWISH CENTER
MISSION STATEMENT**

"Beth Shalom Oceanside Jewish Center affiliated with the United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, is an egalitarian congregation and a nurturing community which provides opportunities for Jews of all ages and backgrounds to live in the presence of G-d through religious observance, Jewish learning and acts of social responsibility."



PTA UPDATE

Roz Lieber & Laurie Stumer Co-Presidents

Well, winter is waning (hopefully!) and we are looking forward to the Spring. The first event on our Spring agenda is the Purim Carnival on Sunday, March 16th. It is wonderful to see all the kids manning the booths, dressed in their costumes. The prize room is a hotbed of activity with the kids trading their hard-won tickets for wonderful prizes. We are also planning to have spin-art (messy but popular) and sand-art as well. Once again, the men's club will be manning the food court with their lieutenants-in-training Matt Lieber and Jacob Goldberg. In addition to the carnival, Sisterhood and PTA are joining forces to create and sell Shaloch Manot baskets. This is a lovely fundraiser that we hope everyone will support. We will also be having some baskets for sale at the carnival so if you miss out initially, you can still buy some for your friends and relatives.

Once the carnival is over, we move into high gear for Passover. The PTA and the Hebrew School and the nursery school will be having model seders so the children can be reminded of our difficult past history and our hope for the future.

Be sure to save May 18th – Paula Goldberg will be selling tickets for an exciting Dragons arena football game to be held at Nassau Coliseum. We'll be looking forward to seeing you there.



**OJC PURIM CARNIVAL
Sunday, March 16th at 10:00 AM**

**Game booths • Costumes
Spin-Art • Prizes
Refreshments**



MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

OJC IN YOUR LIFE
by Jolene Boden

I can't believe that Passover is around the corner. Studies have shown that Passover is the most celebrated Jewish holiday amongst American Jews? Why is that the case? Is it because it is a time to acknowledge the joy of our Freedom as a people? Is it because it is a time for memories of family get-togethers and celebrations? I am unsure what the answer is, but to me, it is all of the above.

I ask you, at this time of reflection and memories, to think about the role that OJC plays in your life. I have enclosed a survey that I am asking you to complete and return to the OJC office. I want to know who *you* are and what *you* want from *your* synagogue. As times change, our needs may also change. I hope to gather information that will enable us to move on and continue to create meaningful Jewish experiences at OJC. ***Please complete survey on separate blue insert sheet (behind concert flyer).***

I want to wish you all a Zissen Pesach and meaningful Seders.

Jolene



SISTERHOOD UPDATE

By Judy Kagan and Barbara Simon
 Co-Presidents

We are approaching the last quarter of the 07-08 year and it's been an exciting, innovative year so far. Membership has grown and attendance at events has been wonderful.

Program VP Naomi Altschul has provided programs to capture our attention and interests and.....there is more to come! Join Sisterhood March 11th for QUEEN ESTHER'S HAREM...a fun evening featuring Belly Dancing and Henna Painting in celebration of Purim. Our annual WOMEN'S SEDER will be held on April 7th. Jacki Schwartz and committee are hard at work to make this a fabulous and meaningful event. May 29th is the date for the ever popular BINGO SUPPERETTE. WATCH YOUR MAIL FOR DETAILS.

Ruth Sussman, Chairwoman has our Mitzvah Projects going full force. The Knitting Club coached by Sharon Harary is providing blankets and caps for preemies to area hospitals. Toiletry articles are collected for GIs in Iraq and for IDF in Israel and other women are tutoring in the Waverly Avenue Elementary School.

Sisterhood Book Club, expertly led by Helene Kenner meets regularly. Good reading and excellent discussion. Interested? Contact Helene 536-2546.

Don't forget these Sisterhood Fund Raisers:

Anniversary Leagrams- Thank you Ruby Heiman for chairing this ongoing, successful project.

Judaica Shop- Sandy Nachbar, Greta Fischer and Helene Kenner have put a great deal of effort into making the gift shop "The Place To Shop." Thank you one and all.

Purim Baskets- A great way to foster Purim Spirit. Thanks to Sharon Kamens and committee.

Passover Candy- Sweeten your holiday while supporting Sisterhood and PTA. Thank you Ellen Ashinoff and Roz Lieber.

Theater Club- Hats off to Iris Bellings and committee for coping with the problems during the Theater strike in such a competent fashion. You make a tremendous undertaking look easy.

Sisterhood Publicity- Kudos to Marilyn Weiss for her creativity in the design of flyers, posters and sparkle to our events.

***It's been quite a year so far and we're not done yet!!
 A very joyous Purim and Happy Passover to all!***

Memorial Day Weekend

at Camp Ramah in the Berkshires*

The Best Jewish Singles Weekend Ever!

Imagine a long weekend in the country at a very large private resort that you have reserved for just you and your friends. It has the requisite green mountains, rolling lawns and a large beautiful lake. On a clear night there are many more stars visible than can ever be seen from New York City. While many people are there with you, it does not feel crowded given the size of the place. People find their own pace, whether hanging around the beach, reading and sunbathing, playing softball, hiking or participating in one of the many other activities. Friends - new and old - are relaxed, enjoying each other's company. You feel like you are on vacation with old friends whose company you enjoy. The only hint that you are on a singles weekend is the fact almost all of you are single. You never imagined a singles weekend could be like this!

Friday, May 23 – Monday, May 26

Join us for fun-filled days of sports, socializing and relaxing in Ramah's unique Jewish setting. Planned highlights include Square Dancing, a Beach Party, Hiking, Volleyball, Softball, Swimming, Boating, Swing Dancing (with instruction), Canoeing, Ga-Ga and many other activities.



www.WingdaleUniversity.org

*Profits from this weekend will benefit the work of Camp Ramah in the Berkshires.



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL NEWS

by Sheryl Glickman
EDUCATIONAL DIRECTOR

The Adam Stark Memorial Fund was established several years ago by family and friends of Adam. Candi and Jeff Stark are OJC members and Adam was killed in a car accident. The driver of the vehicle in which he was riding was under the influence of drugs. The fund is used to provide programs for our teenagers to help them make informed decisions about their behavior.

This fund sponsored two programs each year. We do one for our Geshet (seventh grade) students and one for the teens at Central Hebrew High School. On January 15th, seventh graders from Oceanside Jewish Center and Temple Avodah were both entertained and educated by the Players from the Mental Health Association of Nassau County. This talented group of adults has performed for our students for the last few years. They come to our school and enact several skits. They are accompanied by Fran Mandelowitz, a social worker, who leads a discussion about what they have seen. The skits include one about bullying; another skit discusses teen suicide and the third is about family relationships. Though the performers are senior citizens they are incredibly talented and proficient in their performance.

Our Geshet teacher, Mrs. Luks, had the students write thank you letters to the Starks for both providing the program and funding it. I'd like to share some of their comments because they show how valuable this type of programming can be.

Taylor Rosenfield writes: I would like to thank you for giving me the chance to experience the wonderful program. I got a lot out of it. One thing I got was that I will be a better person.

Lauren Hisiger says: Thank you for visiting our Hebrew School and showing us these plays. I think we all have learned some valuable lessons. I know I did.

Matt Hill says: It was very nice of you to allow your foundation to come to our school. I learned a lot of things such as to respect your elders.

Daniel Gordon writes: I would like to take the time to tell you that I am pleased with the performance that you put on for us. It's making my middle school life easier for me and my friends when we're in an uncomfortable situation with bullies.

In addition to the presentation from the Players, the Adam Stark Fund generously supplies pizza and ice cream to the students. Plans are in the works for a second program to take place for Central Hebrew High School. Having the Adam Stark Fund available is a wonderful and valuable resource to all of us at OJC.

The entire congregation extends its sincerest condolences to Rabbi Greenspan and his family on the recent passing of his beloved mother Esther Greenspan ז"ל
אסתר בת חיים הלוי ומזל טוב ז"ל
May the family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.



NURSERY SCHOOL NEWS

by Anita Hoine
EARLY CHILDHOOD DIRECTOR

The heroes won and the bad guys lost. Costumes and fun were the order of the day. Purim is a time of enchantment for our children. Silly hats and costumes were the talk of the day. Shalot Manot baskets were made and included home baked hamantashen. The groggers were noisier than ever as Haman's name was heard. Our Purim spiel was great! Rabbi Greenspan and our wonderful cast of teachers were the best!! We sang songs and had a great time.

The children will get their first taste of Passover as we take a trip to the Matzoh Factory. The Yeladim will roll out the dough, put holes in the matzo and watch it as it bakes. Yummy!! We will have family Seders in school and the parents will watch as the children act out and sing songs of Passover. They will partake in a mini-Seder; gefette fish, macaroons and all.

Although most of our students have not yet gone to Israel, we try and convey to them all the wonderful places to see. This year Israel has a BIG birthday-60! We will take a flight in a big jet liner in our hallway. After the tickets are collected and the seat belts closed, we can munch on our pita bread and halavah! Rabbi will tell us about all the wonderful sights to see. We will sing Happy Birthday to Israel and eat some cake on our return flight!

Registration is now going on for camp and Nursery School. If you need any information, please don't hesitate to call me. We have small classes with personalized attention and a warm and nurturing staff. Our curriculum includes Kindergarten readiness and of course Jewish holidays, customs and traditions. Please feel free to come and visit us.



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2860 Brower Avenue, Oceanside, NY 11572
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Religious & Nursery School Office (Tel.) 516-764-4213
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Email: mainoffice@oceansidejhc.org
Mark B. Greenspan Rabbi
Gadi Elon Cantor
Yitzhak Lefkovitz Cantor Emeritus
Steven Barr Sexton
Jolene Boden President
Len Lerner Executive Director
Karen Rosenberg Secretary
Sheryl Glickman Education Director
Anita Hoine Early Childhood Director
Paula Spector, Davey LeBoyer Library
Jeffrey Hahn Bulletin Editor
Karen Wolf Assistant Bulletin Editor
Please submit articles via email to: jlshahn@aol.com
Files should be saved as WORD (.doc) or "text" (.txt).



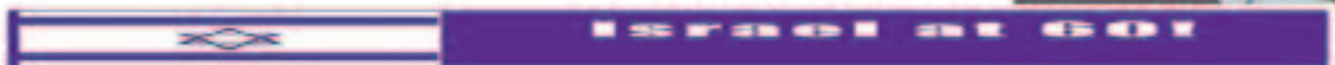
SAVE THE DATE!
 TUESDAY, MAY 6TH 7 PM
 JOIN US FOR AN O.J.C. BIRTHDAY
 BLOW-OUT CELEBRATING
 ISRAEL'S 60TH WITH
 CANTOR GADI ELON AND FRIENDS!



EXPERIENCE THE TASTES OF ISRAEL...



THE SOUNDS OF ISRAEL...



THE DANCES OF ISRAEL



Please your messages here. For maximum impact, use two or three sentences.



JNF, for
 ISRAEL
 forever.

How Creative Are You?

David C. Gross Creative Writing Awards

David Gross was a well known Jewish author and the past editor of the Jewish Week. A respected member of the Oceanside Jewish Center, Mr. Gross was passionate about his Jewish identity, Hebrew, Israel, and his love of writing. We invite you to perpetuate his legacy by using your creativity to explore your Jewish identity.

Contestants are invited to write a creative piece on one of the following topics:

1. Does Israel make a difference? A personal view of Israel.
2. I was there: Putting myself in a period of Jewish history that interests me.
3. An imaginary interview with a Jewish literary or historical figure whose work or accomplishments are important to us today.

Eligibility: Students between the ages of 13 and 18 who are students in the Central Hebrew High School or are members of the Oceanside Jewish Center or Temple Avodah

Deadline: Submission must be postmarked no later than Monday April 14, 2008. All submissions must be typed, double-spaced, and should be between 2 and 3 pages in length.

The prize: This is an annual contest designed to increase the interest of young people in Oceanside in Israel and in Jewish education. Three prizes will be awarded annually: first prize—\$250, second prize—\$125, third prize—\$75. The prizes will be distributed at the closing ceremony of the Central Hebrew High School, on May 5th.

Judges for the contest: members of the Gross family, Paula Spector and Rabbi Greenspan and Goren.

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

In January, PBS stations aired a fascinating series, *The Jewish Americans*, which explored a 350-year history that began back in 1654. Congregants who missed any part of the broadcast may borrow the DVD as well as the companion book, *The Jewish Americans: Three Centuries of Jewish Voices in America*, by Beth S. Wenger. Looking ahead, it's almost time to plan a seder. Our library offers an extensive collection of resources to enhance your Pesach celebration. Consider adding a new reading or recipe to your traditional Passover preparations. There are books for youngsters of all ages and interests, and many haggadot to browse through and study. Please contact Paula with any questions or comments.

UPCOMING BOOK DISCUSSIONS:

The Lost, by Daniel Mendelsohn.....date changed from February 28th to March 13th.

Everyman, by Philip Roth will be rescheduled.

Seven Days to the Sea, by Rebecca Kohn.....April 10th

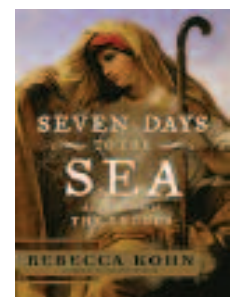
Contact Paula for additional information.

LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday.....9 AM - 1 PM

Monday, Tuesday & Thursday.....4 PM - 6:15 PM

whenever Religious School is in session.



LIBRARY DONATIONS *Paula Spector, LIBRARIAN (764-4213) / Davey LeBoyer, COORDINATOR (766-3244)*
GENERAL FUND

Florence Shane in honor of Edward Edelson's very special birthday.
 Beverly & Arnold Skolnick in memory of Gertrude Dropkin, sister of Irene Kaplan.
 Lori & Glenn Berse and family in memory of Sanford Strauss, husband of Ronni and father of Dana & Marc.
 Lottie & Morris Heimowitz in honor of the speedy recovery of Mollie Kiff, mother of Paula Spector.
 Lottie & Morris Heimowitz in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Charlotte & Murray Meshnick's grandson.
 Thelma Lennhoff in memory of Elsie Ross, mother of Susan Cohen.

CHARLOTTE LeBOYER CHILDREN'S COLLECTION

Judy & Burt Kaufman in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Elie Skolnick, grandson of Davey & Jerry LeBoyer.
 Ruth & Eric Gewurz in honor of Elie Skolnick's Bar Mitzvah.
 Florence Shane in honor of Elie Skolnick's Bar Mitzvah.
 Florence Shane in honor of the Bat Mitzvah of Rebecca Skolnick, granddaughter of Davey & Jerry LeBoyer.
 Florence Shane in memory of Seymour Krasney, brother of Davey LeBoyer.
 Ruth & Eric Gewurz in memory of Seymour Krasney.
 Nadine & Donald Sternberg in memory of Seymour Krasney.
 Sandy & Stan Tepper in memory of Seymour Krasney.
 Florence Shane in honor of the graduation of Katie Weiss from Penn State University.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in honor of the arrival of Harris Logan Brodsky, grandson of Harriet & Phil.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in honor of the engagement of Janelle Zener, daughter of Davita, to Ben Pijawka.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in memory of Gertrude Dropkin.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in honor of the birth of Chloe Last, granddaughter of Renita & Bill.
 Nadine & Donald Sternberg in memory of Doris Machles, sister of Jerry LeBoyer.
 Nadine & Donald Sternberg in memory of Gertrude Dropkin.
 Florence Shane in memory of Doris Machles.
 Paula & George Akst in memory of Doris Machles.
 Arlene & Richard Fromewick in memory of Florence Resnick, mother of Jeffrey.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in memory of Florence Resnick.
 Paula & Larry Spector in memory of Sanford Strauss.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in memory of Al Rubin.
 Paula & Larry Spector in memory of Marsha Penzer, sister of Laura Schneid.
 Paula & Larry Spector in memory of Florence Resnick.
 Paula & Larry Spector in memory of Sophie Poretsky, mother of Sandy Sambursky.
 Deena & Ben Lafazan in memory of Doris Machles.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in honor of their granddaughter, Rebecca Skolnick, who earned an Israeli Bronze Medal in figure skating.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in honor of Peter Stone's speedy recovery.
 Paula & Larry Spector and family in memory of Rose Fox, mother of Myrna Schnitzer.

Paula & Larry Spector in memory of Robert Cohen, father of Jay.
 Florence Shane wishes her aunt, Dr. Anita Liebowitz, a happy birthday!

HOLOCAUST EDUCATION FUND

Peter & Evelyn Stone in memory of Doris Machles.
 Peter & Evelyn Stone in memory of Marsha Penzer.
 Peter & Evelyn Stone in memory of Benjamin Gralnick, yearzeit of Evelyn's father.
 Florence Shane in memory of Pansy & Jacob Shane, yearzeit of in-laws.
 Thelma Lennhoff in memory of Rona Lennhoff, yearzeit of her daughter.
 Thelma Lennhoff in memory of Hannah Kaufman, yearzeit of her mother.
 Florence Shane in memory of David M. Shane, yearzeit of her husband.
 Florence Shane in memory of Fannie & Isidor Goldman, yearzeit of her parents.
 Florence Shane in memory of Hilda Askenase, yearzeit of her sister.
 Paula & Larry Spector in honor of the speedy recovery of Peter Stone.
 Peter & Evelyn Stone in honor of Lou Popick's "repeat" Bar Mitzvah.

MAX & MIRIAM BRESSLER AUDIO-VISUAL COLLECTION

Ruth Weiser in honor of the birthday of her sister, Helen Mintz.
 Ruth Weiser in memory of Max & Miriam Bressler, yearzeit of their parents.

RHEA & LOUIS KRASNEY YIDDISH FUND

Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in memory of Mollie LeBoyer, yearzeit of Jerry's mother.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in memory of Rhea Krasney, yearzeit of Davey's mother.
 Davey & Jerry LeBoyer in memory of Louis Krasney, yearzeit of Davey's father.

IDA & ISIDORE SCHNISSEL MEMORIAL FUND

Marilyn & Marvin Moelis in memory of Faye Gorset.

FUNDRAISING CORNER

by Michelle Dressler & Silvia Levy

We're looking forward to Auction. The committee... Ed Goldstein, Don Schiller and Claudia Lieberman are feverishly putting together what will be a most enjoyable and financially successful evening. We hope to see many of you there, supporting our synagogue.

Our next fundraiser will be the purchasing of prayer books. Further information to follow in upcoming mailings.

The fundraising committee has its on-going Ashrei Campaign, where you can dedicate a leaf, pew or other item in our synagogue to acknowledge a Simcha such as Bat/Bar Mitzvah, Engagement/Wedding, Baby Naming, Special Birthday/Anniversary or to memorialize those we love who are no longer with us.

Have a fundraiisng idea????? Feel free to share them with us. Our next meeting will be on March 25, 2008.

Purim: Thursday Evening March 20th & Friday, March 21st
Goods and Services Auction: Saturday Evening, March 22nd
Passover: Sunday, April 20th thru Sunday April 27th
Israel at 60 - OJC Concert: Tuesday Evening, May 6th

**DEADLINE FOR
 NEXT BULLETIN
 April 15th**

How does a Saturday night Passover Seder differ from other Passover Seders?

This year Passover will begin on Saturday night. Because of this calendar irregularity, we must make a few adjustments in our observance of both Passover and of Shabbat. Below is a brief list of some of the adjustments that we make. Please be sure to discuss these with your own rabbi.

Fast of the First Born: The fast of the first born is moved up to Thursday.

Search for Hametz: Finish turning your house over for Passover by Thursday night. The search for hametz is pushed up to Thursday night; the burning of hametz and the declaration that anything left over is null and void occurs on Friday morning. But as noted below, you must have in mind the hametz that you will (possibly) use on Shabbat.

Lechem Mishnah on Shabbat: Two solutions: On Shabbat you still have an obligation to have lechem mishnah — which is traditionally two challot, or two challah rolls at least.

Since one's house should already be turned over for Passover, we have to make an adjustment. Ordinarily, during the rest of the year, we could substitute matzah for bread, but our custom is to not eat matzah for the month preceding Passover so that we won't tire of it before Passover. Those who are strict will put out paper plates and utensils and bring out two small challah rolls for each person. You make ha-motzei on the challah and carefully collect the remaining crumbs from the chametz-dik paper utensils and table cloth, and sweep the floor, and then deposit all of the crumbs into the toilet. After the meal the paper utensils should be taken out to the curb (off of your property, but not in your garbage can that you intend to keep) or given to a neighbor. You'll do the same for the second meal of the day Saturday morning, which will be explained. **BUT** — many authorities hold that you may use egg matzah instead of challah for lechem mishnah when Passover immediately follows Shabbat. Normally, we don't consider egg matzah lechem

mishnah. But here we make a rare exception. This is a much easier solution, and permits you to take out your Pesach dishes and not use paper.

We are pleased to announce that there will be a congregational dinner on Friday night, April 18th at OJC. More information to follow; be sure to join us!

Kosher Matzah: When buying egg matzah or any matzah, make sure that it is kosher for Passover!! The matzah makers have lately been making various "flavors" of matzah that are not to be used for Passover, and are clearly marked as such. Make sure you check the packaging.

Shabbat Prayers and Meals: On Saturday morning, you will need to daven early. After eating the lechem mishnah, one recites the blessing after meals. In the afternoon you may eat anything, meat, fish, etc., but you should not eat either challah or egg matzah after the fourth hour (some say the third hour).

Pre-Seder Rest: The good news is that you'll have time to rest before the Seder (which will start after Shabbat is over, which is late this year because of the leap year addition of an additional month of Adar). So you shouldn't be exhausted as in most years, which is a very good thing since the reciting of the story of the Exodus is more important than any of the cleaning and the other rituals.

Enjoy this rare experience. Having Shabbat on the day before Passover is relatively rare. We won't have a first Seder on Saturday night again until 2021, once again in 2025 and again in 2045. Have a good and kosher Passover!

Adapted from the website: Judaism.about.com, by Bruce James (Baruch Gershon)

Purim is Friday March 21st PURIM BASKETS – SHALACH MANOT PROGRAM Jointly sponsored by OJC Sisterhood and PTA

On the holiday of Purim we read Megillat Esther in synagogue surrounded by joy, noise and creative costumes. But, in order to appreciate the other mitzvot of PURIM, we find this an occasion for sending gift baskets to one another.

MISHLOACH MANOT is a basic element of the celebration. What greater joy can there be than having OJC SISTERHOOD AND PTA prepare and deliver an assortment of delicious treats for you?

For a cost of only \$20, your name will be included on a scroll with other congregants participating in this mitzvah. You will receive your gift basket as well.

Perhaps the most important Mitzvah as recounted in the Megillah is that of sending MATANOT L'EVYONIM – GIFTS TO THE NEEDY. With your help we will be able to prepare extra gift baskets for distribution by our Hebrew School students to a local nursing home.

For further information, and if you can help with filling and/or delivering please contact:

Sharon Kamens 763-6783, Shari Kopel 766-3603, Paula Goldberg 766-1062 or
Mallory Anhouse 255-0541

Please complete the form below & send your checks payable to OJC by March 10th to: Paula Goldberg, 4024 Greentree Dr., Oceanside, NY 11572

Name as it will appear on scroll _____ Phone _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Please check only one

Yes! Enclosed is \$20. Please deliver my basket and list my family name on the scroll included with the Purim basket.

Yes! Enclosed is \$20. However, I will not be home to receive my basket. Please send my basket to the nursing home and include my family name on the scroll

Yes! I would like to make an additional contribution of \$_____ for the nursing home basket.

MEMBER'S MAILBAG

The Challenge of Inclusion*By Sam Seifman**(Reprint of comments delivered Shabbat Morning February 2nd)*

Good Shabbos. Today is a special day for us as we participate in the Harriet Seifman Shabbat of Inclusion. This morning, we had the opportunity to experience first hand, just what it means to have a disability; to be visually impaired, to have difficulty hearing, to feel a pain in the neck that doesn't come from our kids or our loved ones!

Harriet worked tirelessly all the days of her life to help children, to educate children, especially children with disabilities. She used her abilities in schools and at home, and she also used her knowledge, talent, drive and determination here at OJC.

Harriet started a special education class as part of our Hebrew school. This class was open to any child regardless of the type or level of disability and regardless of their academic or cognitive ability.

As an educator and proud mother of a child with a disability herself, she also started a support group for parents of children with a disability. She facilitated the group in the hopes that by sharing their desires, dreams and everyday concerns and frustrations, parents would lean on each other, laugh with each other and strengthen each other as they dealt with the unique demands of raising their unique child.

That was many years ago.

Now, here we are, looking as a congregation to be inspired by Harriet to make our shul a place for everyone to be included.

What does it mean exactly to be "included"?

Though we all have a sense of the concept, perhaps if we ask ourselves these three guiding questions, we can feel it a little bit more on our hearts as well as in our minds.

First, now can we create greater opportunities for individuals, children and families to become full and complete participants in all that OJC has to offer?

Second, what can we do to provide better access for children and adults with disabilities?

And, third, most of all, what can we do to help preserve a person's dignity as they try to adapt to an unforgiving environment?

So, what can we do help people with disabilities to be "included" in our congregation?

To give us a little context as to what can be done, let's listen to the voices of some men and women who have had to cope with disabilities and its impact upon their lives.

Ann Greenberg, in 1948, sent just a few short words to *The New York Post* to be published among the other classified ads. It read, "To mothers of retarded children ages 4 to 8. Are you interested in helping to start a day nursery for your child?"

This simple little two line ad was meant as a rebuke against the physicians and educators of her day who could not conceive of any opportunities in life for a child with Down syndrome. In the late 1940's there was no place outside of a state institution for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities. When Margarette Reiss found out that her three-year-old daughter Louise had developmental disabilities, she felt the same sense of loss and sadness for her precious daughter that Anne did. She read the ad placed by Ann Greenberg in the *New York Post*. Margaret Reiss answered that ad and became one of the nine original members of the Association to Help Retarded Children.

Today, AHRC serves more than 3,000 individuals with developmental disabilities in Nassau County alone. They can now choose from a wide range of opportunities - from early intervention to education, day programs, vocational training, employment, and much, much, more. Anne and Margarette created opportunities where there were none.

Another voice: The year is 1975; the same year the legislation was passed that called for ALL children with disabilities to be educated in public schools. Let's listen to Mary, who is using a wheelchair, as she enters a dress store in a busy shopping area.

"A salesman happens to see me as I come in and he comes right over. 'Can I help you?' he asks. 'No, thank you, I'm just looking', I say. The salesman doesn't go away; instead he stands there and says, 'you know, we have many customers here today, many.' I look at him as he continues to talk. 'The store is very crowded, very crowded.' Now, I'm not 100% sure where he's going with this, though I'm beginning to get a bad feeling in my gut.. Then he says to me flat out, 'There's no room for you in here today. Please leave.' I couldn't believe it! Was he actually kicking me out? I held my breath, and I said, 'May I speak to your manager?' And he said, 'I AM the manager!' Well, I was very, very hurt and insulted. But what was I supposed to do? I'm stuck in the chair, looking up at him, and he's standing there looming over me and looking down at me! So, I turned around and I wheeled myself out and I left."

Fifteen years later, we had the Americans with Disabilities Act, the most far reaching legislation of any nation in the world impacting upon people with disabilities. The ADA, among the many things that it sets forth, bars discrimination by private organizations that provide public accommodations, including hotels, restaurants, offices, housing and (wait for it!) shopping centers!

Mary, and many, many others of similar mind, worked to create access where there was none.

(continued on page 9)

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Jamie Berke was born deaf in the middle of the Rubella Epidemic of the Sixties. She tells us about some certain events at her alma mater, Gallaudet University. Gallaudet is a university for people who are deaf/hard of hearing.

In March of 1988, Gallaudet announced the appointment of a new president. Students had rallied for the school to have its first Deaf president, but the chairman remarked that "...the deaf are not yet ready to function in the hearing world." He subsequently announced that a hearing candidate had been selected. Deaf students rose in protest and it became known as "the week that the world heard Gallaudet." The Deaf President Now movement was born.

Details started trickling out bit by bit. An old friend told me how the students had marched all the way from the Mayflower hotel to Capitol Hill! One night I drove to the campus just to see what was going on and to get a taste of the atmosphere. It was unreal, with the students totally in charge! I was allowed on campus because I was deaf and an alumnus, but they turned back others who were not deaf.

The editorial cartoons, the marches, the deaf actress Marlee Matlin appearing on Nightline, that entire amazing week burned into my brain. It marked a true turning point for the deaf/hard of hearing community. Employers began to take more notice of potential deaf employees, deaf people who had never been promoted received promotions, people around the world started to change their attitudes, and deafness was everywhere in the media for awhile.

What was most impressive about that week was the way the deaf/hard of hearing community pulled together. It showed that when the deaf/hard of hearing community really wants something, it knows how to get it.

Gallaudet students fought for respect and personal dignity where they felt there was none.

The voices and stories of these individuals and countless others are OUR stories. When we hear about Anne Greenberg putting an ad in the paper so her child can have someone to play with, when we hear about Mary being kicked out of a store because the manager couldn't see past the wheelchair, and when we hear about the students at Gallaudet rising up to fight for their dignity and self-respect, we think about our loved ones, our friends, our neighbors, and our fellow Jews and congregants.

People with disabilities want to be included, and to feel included, for the same reasons you and I do; they want to sit next to family and friends, they want to participate fully in prayer and social events; they want the personal dignity and communal respect to be called up on the Bimah for an Aliyah, to be asked and invited to read Torah; they want to

celebrate the birth of their children, kvell with joy and laughter at bar and bat mitzvah time, consecrate marriage with their bride or groom to be, and to feel part of the community as they read Kaddish in mourning the passing of their loved ones.

Harriet was not alone here at OJC in supporting parents and children with disabilities, Far from it. Certainly in my twenty years here, I have seen people with disabilities enter the synagogue and come to be a part of our service. There are many, many of you sitting in here today who have helped a child in need, given a ride to someone who can't drive, taught bar or bat mitzvah lessons to a struggling youngster, and have given of your time and resources in a thousand, thousand different ways to offer support to a person with a disability.

How wonderful it is to be a part of a congregation that truly opens its hearts as well as its doors to others who need help, or who simply need to be allowed to do things in a different manner better suited to their individual needs!

But these are individual acts of kindness or respect. Where are we as an institution? When you were feeling "disabled" today, did you feel a little bit sorry for yourself? Or perhaps you felt a little annoyed that that there were no accommodations available to help you walk, see, hear and participate?

Harriet was at her lowest ebb when she could no longer go to work and use her special abilities to do what she so loved to do; to help children to learn and play, to help them grow and mature into wonderful young adults so they could fulfill the promises of their dreams.

Let us all make a commitment here and now, that we at OJC will honor the spirit of our revered scholar Hillel's words, from more than a thousand years ago: "If I am not for myself, who will be? And when I am [only] for myself, what am 'I'? And if not now, when?"

Let us be inspired here today by this Shabbat to create a synagogue, a shul, a Beth Shalom House of Welcome and Peace, to truly include men, women and children with disabilities by providing and creating opportunities for full participation, by improving physical, social, AND emotional accessibility, and by respecting the ongoing quest for personal dignity in the face of discrimination and hardship.

For myself, as well as for Travis and Matthew, for Harriet's sister, Arlene and her husband Steve, and everyone else in my family (if I named all 48 of my brothers, we'd be here till Mincha!), thank you, thank you, for creating this very special day to commemorate and carry on Harriet's life dreams.

Shabbat Shalom.

OJC MINYAN SCHEDULE

DATE	FRIDAY EVENING		DATE	SHABBAT	
	CANDLES	MINCHA-MA'ARIV		MORNING	MINCHA-MA'ARIV
			March 1st	9:00 AM	5:30 PM
March 7th	5:30 PM	5:30 PM	March 8th	9:00 AM	5:30 PM
March 14th	5:38 PM	6:45 PM	March 15th	9:00 AM	6:15 PM
March 21st	6:45 PM	6:45 PM	March 22nd	9:00 AM	6:45 PM
March 28th	6:53 PM	7:00 PM	March 29th	9:00 AM	7:00 PM
April 4th	7:00 PM	7:00 PM	April 5th	9:00 AM	7:00 PM
April 11th	7:09 PM	7:00 PM	April 12th	9:00 AM	7:15 PM
See Passover Schedule (April 18th thru April 26th)					

PURIM SCHEDULE

PURIM CARNIVAL: Sunday Morning, March 16th at 10:00 AM

Thursday Evening, March 20th: Family Megillah Reading at 6:30 PM • Traditional Megillah Reading at 8:00 PM

Friday Morning, March 21st: Shacharit Services & Megillah Reading at 6:30 PM

PASSOVER 2008/5768 SCHEDULE

Thursday, April 17th

Bedikat Hametz, Search for the Hametz after sundown

Friday, April 18th

6:30 AM Shacharit Service and "Fast of the First Born"
Siyyum; breakfast served

9:30 AM Remove and Burn the Hametz

Special communal burning at OJC supervised by the
Oceanside Fire Department

6:30 PM Congregational Dinner

Reservations necessary; information to follow

7:21 PM Candle lighting

Saturday, April 19th, Shabbat Hagadol and First Seder

8:00 AM Yom Tov Services – Light (Hametz) breakfast
following Shacharit Service

6:30 PM Minchah Ma'ariv Services – Holiday Services

8:21 PM Candle Lighting – the Seder should begin after
Havdalah

Sunday, April 20th, First Day of Passover, Second Seder

9:00 AM Yom Tov Services

6:30 PM Minchah Ma'ariv Services – Holiday Services

8:21 PM Candle Lighting

Monday April 21st, Second Day of Passover

9:00 AM Shacharit Services

7:30 PM Minchah Ma'ariv Services

Tuesday, April 22nd, First Day Hol HaMo'ed

6:45 AM Shacharit Services

8:00 PM Minchah Ma'ariv Services

Wednesday, April 23rd, Second Day Hol HaMo'ed

6:45 AM Shabbat Services

8:00 PM Minchah Ma'ariv Services

Thursday April 24th, Third Day Hol HaMo'ed

6:45 AM Shacharit Services

8:00 PM Minchah Ma'ariv services

Friday, April 25th, Fourth Day of Hol HaMo'ed

6:45 AM Shacharit Services

7:00 PM Minchah and Ma'ariv Shabbat Services

7:28 PM Candle lighting

Saturday, April 26th, Seventh Day of Passover

9:00 AM Yom Tov Services

7:30 PM Minchah Ma'ariv Services

8:28 PM Candle lighting

Sunday April 27th, Eighth Day of Pesach YIZKOR

9:00 AM Yom Tov Services

7:15 PM Minchah Ma'ariv Services

8:30 PM Hametz may now be consumed

OJC SURVEY

1. Name (optional) _____
2. Ages of primary adults _____
3. Married ____ Single ____ Widowed ____
4. Number of children in household _____ Ages of children ____ ____ ____ ____
5. How long have you been a member of OJC? _____
6. Why did you join OJC? *(please check all that apply)*
 - To educate your children?
 - To attend high holiday services?
 - For educational opportunities?
 - For socialization?
 - To be a part of the Jewish community?
 - To meet your spiritual needs?
 - Other? _____
7. What services do you participate in at OJC? *(please check all that apply)*
 - Weekly services
 - Shabbat services
 - High Holy Day services
 - Adult education
 - Religious school
 - Social programs
 - Other? _____
8. Do you read mail/email from OJC? *(yes or no)* _____
- 9a. Would you like to get more involved in OJC programs? *(yes or no)* _____
- 9b. If yes to 10a., what program(s)? _____
10. What special talents/skills do you have? _____
11. How can we serve you better? _____

12. What changes would you like to see at OJC? _____

Please complete this survey and return to: Oceanside Jewish Center
Attn: President/Survey
2860 Brower Avenue
Oceanside, NY 11572

If you have any questions, please call me at (516) 678-2705.
Many thanks,
Jolene Boden

SALE OF CHOMETZ FORM

In order to celebrate the Passover festival according to tradition, it is forbidden to own any item or utensil used for Chometz or containing Chometz (leaven products, agents, utensils). It is therefore necessary to sell your Chometz prior to the beginning of the holiday. Please complete and return the signed contract agreement to the Synagogue office, noting the location of Chometz, before the deadline of 13th of Nisan 5768, Friday, 9:30 AM, April 18, 2008.

The sale will take place and be effective as of 9:30 AM, 13th of Nisan 5768 (April 18, 2008).

SALE OF CHOMETZ CONTRACT

Know ye that I, the undersigned, fully empower and permit Rabbi Mark B. Greenspan to act in my place and on my behalf to sell all Chometz possessed by me (knowing and unknowingly), as defined by the Torah and Rabbinic law and to lease all places wherein the Chometz owned by me may be found, especially in the premises located at (fill in the name and address):

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, ZIP _____

Phone: () _____

Rabbi Mark B. Greenspan has the full right to sell and to lease by transactions, all he deems fit and proper and for such time which he believes necessary, in accordance with all detailed terms and forms as explained in the general authorization contract. The above authorization is meant to conform with all Torah and Rabbinic regulations.

In consideration of these services, I hereby offer my gratuity and I affix my signature on _____, 2008.*

Signature _____

* Please make all checks payable to the **“OJC Rabbi’s Discretionary Fund.”**

Contributions will help those families who cannot afford to properly prepare and purchase the necessary items for the Passover holiday (Maot Chitim).

Please return this sheet to the office as soon as possible.

Friday Morning (by 9:30 AM), April 18, 2008 is the ABSOLUTE DEADLINE



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