



SONS *of* ABRAHAM

LAFAYETTE, IN
Established 1889

April 2010

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President: Mark Lillanfeld

Send bulletin items to:

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Sisterhood co-Presidents:

Jo Gartenhaus and Sonya Garfinkel

Gratitude, Condolences and Congratulations

Mazel tov to **Herb and Heather Moskowitz** on their new granddaughter, and also to her parents, **Toby and Bonnie Moskowitz**.

Exciting news. **Abby Lillianfeld** officially accepted the offer from the Chantilly VA firm of Integrity Applications Inc as an operations systems research analyst. Several months ago she set the goal of finding a position in the DC area with a subtle change in her career path. Her position at IAI achieves both of these objectives. Abby is now settled in the DC area, living in Cleveland Park, and commuting around 35 miles to work in Chantilly. She has “renewed” a friendship with former Lafayette resident, Rachel Miller, a Shul school companion, who lives very close to Cleveland Park.

Many thanks to **Sam and Mickey Harris** for bringing a camera to our Purim celebration and for so readily sharing the photos, which were used in a special edition of the SOA Bulletin.

Refuah Shelema to **Fritz Friedlaender, Madelyn Lillianfeld, Sarah Raskin, Barney Axelrod, and Iris and Irwin Treager**.

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Rabbi's Reflections

USA, Israel, Polling and Jews

Just how strong is US support of Israel? Part of the question concerns whom do we mean (let's leave out what “support” means). We hear that Jewish youth have less of an attachment to Israel than generations before. We see young Israelis questioning Zionism. Every Saturday a group of Ann Arbor Jews demonstrates against Israel. Noam Chomsky's opposition is well known, as is Alan Dershowitz's support. Tel Aviv University's Israel Finkelstein contends that there was no Davidic or Solomonic kingdom as recorded in the Bible (it was a mere tribal center, and Solomon did not build the Temple which is later), so some see him as anti-Israel, and he argues he's not, just trying to do history. Tel Aviv University's Shlomo Sand argues that 19th century Zionist nationalists “invented” Jewish people hood, and the historical connection to Palestine is “imaginary” since Jews are not entirely descended from ancient Palestinian Jewry, so some claim he's anti-Israel, while he says he's just trying to advance the peace process (our myths get in the way of negotiating) and make Israel democratic (the Jewish nature of the State is in the way). Many on the left around the world attack Israel in one way or another, regardless of stated intent, and for that matter some on the right as well.

The Gallup organization released its latest yearly poll February 19 on how people in the USA view other countries that figure prominently in the news or in US foreign policy. Canada followed by Great Britain top the list; next come two former enemies, Germany then Japan; Israel is fifth, with a 67% positive and a 25% negative rating. Of the 25%, 10% of all US citizens don't like any other country, and only 6% hate Israel. Compare this to Iran, where 10% have a favorable view, and 85% don't,

or Yemen (21% positive, 56% negative), or the Palestinian Authority (20% positive, 70% negative; their positive rating increased from last year's 15%).

Breaking down the Israel figures: the 55+-age group has a 70% positive rating, the 35-54 is 67%, 18-34 is 63%. The big difference is Republicans at 80% and Democrats at 53%. Democrats are twice as likely as Republicans to favor the PA (25% to 12%). Israel is the only country that Republicans like more than Democrats.

What does this mean? It means that poll-watching politicians most likely still will pay attention to the masses and not to the vocal elite critical of Israel. This presumably includes President Obama, who is watching Congress (despite its terribly unpopular rating—80% disapprove) try to assume more control over foreign policy and not meekly follow his lead. It also suggests that poll watching critics will ratchet up their criticisms of Israel. They presumably still will continue to: question Israel's narrative, and not the Palestinian, Arab and Muslim stories; portray Israel as the aggressor and the obstacle to peace, while the poor Palestinians and Syria are the sincere peace wishers ready to compromise; claim that everyone thinks and behaves like we do (Iran too), and that the USA is at the root of these problems, and we should be more like the Europeans. Yet the USA average person for the immediate future will continue to not be swayed.

Can we rest? No. Are we doing well with the younger generation? Not too well. According to a study released in January, less than half of non-Orthodox Jews in the United States under the age of 35 believes that Israel's destruction would be a personal tragedy (compared to 78 percent of those over 65). Jay Michaelson last September in the *Forward* wrote, "How I'm Losing My Love For Israel." He wrote that he is exhausted maintaining the ambivalence of love of Israel versus not agreeing with everything; that the Israel he loves is disappearing (e.g. Jerusalem is becoming an ultra-Orthodox area, the younger Israelis are leaving Israel and even taking academic jobs in Indiana, the tension of the situation (*matzav*) is tiring, he doesn't resemble the fantasy he was taught, etc.); that as his love wanes, he's second-guessing his original love, questioning the narrative, and more; and finally that he sees injustices mounting and

that choosing to live in the USA makes it uncomfortable for him to question these injustices.

In another sign of the times, the World Zionist Organization is letting the USA branch cancel its yearly elections and allow its past representation continue in the 36th World Zionist Congress given the economic situation. Will current membership levels drop? Will funding dry up even more than it would have since the various Zionist groups raise more money in an election year?

I close with two suggestions. First, maintain your membership in whatever Zionist group(s) you belong, or join one if you don't. The Conservative movement has its own Zionist group called MERCAZ. Second, educate yourself about Zionist issues. Scheduled to be on-line in the beginning of April when MERCAZ will publish a new interactive educational program entitled, "Across the Aisle: A Dramatization of Zionist Issues" by Rabbi Robert Binder. A drama designed to address different definitions of Zionism since the First Congress 113 years ago, it is a dialogue among passengers on an airplane flight from LA to Zurich to Tel Aviv. The passengers on one side of the aisle are a man in formal attire representing Theodor Herzl, a young USY (United Synagogue Youth) *shaliah/shelihah*, and a third-year Stanford University student, all bound for Zurich for different reasons: the formal man to re-visit places of his youth, the *shaliah/shelihah* to attend a Zionist celebration, the student to meet relatives for the first time. Across the aisle, destined for Tel Aviv are: a *yored*, former Israeli who served in the Israel Defense Forces in 1967, moved to LA to build an electronics company, has little connection to the LA Jewish community, but "the synagogue that I won't attend must be Orthodox"; a young West Coast Jewish Federation volunteer for humanitarian projects of behalf of Israel's Arab population who feels that Israel should be the state for all of its citizens Jewish and non-Jewish alike; and a U.S. rabbinical student on her way to study for a year searching for religious and spiritual fulfillment despite her distress at the Orthodox monopoly of religious affairs, since her "Birthright" trip was successful. The conversation only ends, unresolved, when the stewardess instructs them to take their seats in preparation for landing. The website is <http://www.mercazusa.org/> Happy Yom Ha-'Atzma'ut, Israel Independence Day.

Board to Meet

The Shul board will meet Thursday, **April 15, 2010** at **8:00 p.m.** Board meetings are open to all members.

Yahrzeits

NAME	HEBREW DATE	2010
Ben-Ami, Henia	April 1	Nisan 17
Winski, Rose F.	April 2	Nisan 18
Stinebaugh, Allen	April 2	Nisan 18
Winski, Oscar	April 7	Nisan 23
Kaplan, Lillian	April 7	Nisan 23
Cohen, Lee	April 8	Nisan 24
Goldstein, Bella Wolf	April 9	Nisan 25
Goodman, Anna	April 11	Nisan 27
Horwich, George	April 12	Nisan 28
Salzman, George	April 12	Nisan 28
Mazor, Albert N.	April 12	Nisan 28
Friedman, Mary	April 13	Nisan 29
Fischbach, Rachel Lew	April 13	Nisan 29
Goldberg, David	April 14	Nisan 30
Gordon, Betty Bernstein	April 17	Iyar 3
Silver, Anne	April 2	Iyar 7
Brodsky, Harry	April 26	Iyar 12
Salzman, Jacob	April 27	Iyar 13
Horwich, Rose	April 27	Iyar 13
Berk, Jean	May 1	Iyar 17
Goodman, Dora	May 4	Iyar 20
Paul, Laivy L.	May 5	Iyar 21
McMurray, Paul	May 8	Iyar 24
Feinstein, Jacob	May 10	Iyar 26

April

Candle Lighting Times

Source: Orthodox Union

April 2	7:54 p.m.
April 4 (Pesach)	7:56 p.m.
April 5 (Pesach)	8:57 p.m.
April 9	8:01 p.m.
April 16	8:09 p.m.
April 23	8:16 p.m.
April 30	8:23 p.m.

Unveiling for Herman Cember, Sunday April 18

Herman Cember's memorial service will be held April 18, 2010 at 11:00 am at the cemetery with an open invitation to join the Cember family for a nosh at the home of Sylvia Cember immediately following the service. Sylvia lives at 2119 Birch Lane in Lafayette.

Rabbi's Calendar

Rabbi Rascoe will be in town on the following schedule (subject to change):

Friday – Sunday April 16-18, and Friday – Sunday April 23-25.

A Passing Thought About Passover

Matzo is described by some as "punishment for escaping slavery." It consists of a simple mix of flour and water - no eggs or flavor at all. When made especially well, it could actually taste like a cardboard box recycled from the Tel Aviv city dump. Its redeeming value is that it does fill you up and stays with you for a long time. Sometimes for too long and it is recommended that you eat lots of prunes with it. If the prunes do not work, try castor oil.... or even gunpowder as a last resort!

29TH ANNUAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE CONFERENCE APRIL 11 –15, 2010

“COMPLICITY: OUR ROLE IN GENOCIDE”

SUNDAY, April 11, 2010

STEWART CENTER, Room 214, Purdue
University, W. Lafayette, IN

1:30 PM Registration

2:00 PM Session Chair: Susan Prohofsky

Mayors' Proclamation: John Dennis, Mayor, West
Lafayette & Tony Roswarski, Mayor, Lafayette

Memorial Prayer: Rabbi Audrey Pollack

Candle of Remembrance: Survivors

Candle of Hope: Children and Grandchildren of
Survivors

Musical Tribute: *Psalm 90: In Every Age*

Music by Dr. Brad Bodine & the St. Thomas
Aquinas Singers

The Prisoner Rises from Donald McCullough's
Holocaust Cantata (Songs from the Camps)

Lafayette Chamber Singers

2:20 PM Opening Remarks: Daniel Frank,
Purdue Jewish Studies

2:40 PM The Fourth Annual Rabbi
Gedalyah Engel Lecture

Richard Breitman - Prof. of History, American
University, Wash., DC

Roosevelt Before and during the Holocaust”

Introduced by Gordon Mork, Prof. of History,
Purdue University

3:40 PM John Roth, Prof. Emeritus of
Philosophy, Claremont McKenna

“Complicity in Genocide: Reflections on the
Failure(s) of Ethics.”

Introduced by Robert Melson

4:40 PM Michael Morgan - Prof. Philosophy
& Jewish Studies, Indiana University

“Responsibility without Boundaries”

Introduced by Daniel Frank

PURDUE MEMORIAL UNION

ANNIVERSARY DRAWING ROOM

6:00 PM Supper (\$18.00 donation, \$3.00 students)
Reservations Required

FOWLER HALL, STEWART CENTER, PURDUE UNIVERSITY

7:30 PM “Musical Diaries from the Ghetto”

Nurit Jugend, DMA, Stanford U. & Edna Koren,
Concert Pianist, San Francisco

Symphony and the Sun Valley Summer Symphony

Introduced by Clayton Lein, Director, Lafayette
Chamber Singers

MONDAY, April 12, 2010

9:00 AM University Religious Leaders –

HILLEL FOUNDATION, 912 State St., WL

Breakfast and Conversation with Richard
Breitman, John Roth & Michael Morgan

Joseph Haberer, Moderator

KRANNERT AUDITORIUM, PURDUE UNIVERSITY

8:00 PM Nancy Sinkoff, Rutgers, “The Fiction of
History: Jewish Politics and Resistance In John
Hersey's *The Wall*”

Introduced: Rebekah Klein-Pejsova

WEDNESDAY, April 14 10:00 AM & 1:00PM

Hillel Foundation, 912 W. State St., WL

7:30 PM Movie, *The Black Book*

Happy Day Cards

Steve and Florence Weingram sent five Happy Day Cards last month.

1. In celebration of the birth of **Earl and Susan Prohofsky's** grandson.
2. In honor of the Bat Mitzvah of the **Prohofsky's** granddaughter, **Alyssa**.
3. In honor of the birth of **Herb** and Heather **Moskowitz's** new granddaughter.
4. In hopes of a speedy recovery for **Iris** and **Irwin Treager**.
5. In honor of the wedding of **Sonia Barash's** granddaughter.

A card from **Harriet** and **Sid Diamond** was sent to **Herb** and **Heather Moscowitz** in honor of the birth of their new granddaughter

To commemorate any "simcha" or to recognize any other events call **Bette Rubenstein** at 463-4754 or **Iris Treager** at 463-2468. They will send your card for a minimum donation of \$5.00. Send your check, made out to Sisterhood Sons of Abraham to: Sonya Garfinkel, Sisterhood treasurer, 2229 Carberry Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47906

Save the Date

The Sisterhood Closing Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, March 12th, at the Lafayette Country Club, at noon. The program will be about Israeli jewelry, so plan to bring or wear some to display.

April Calendar

- April 2 – Friday 8 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services
- April 3 – Saturday 10 a.m. – Shabbat Services
- April 5 – Monday 10 a.m. – Pesach Services
- April 6 – Tuesday 10 a.m. – Pesach Services including Yizkor
- April 9 – Friday 8 p.m. - Erev Shabbat Service
- April 10 – Saturday 10 a.m. – Shabbat Service
- April 11 – Sunday - Holocaust Remembrance Day
- April 11 – 14 29th Annual Holocaust Conference
- April 15 – Thursday 8 p.m. - Shul board meeting at the Shul

April 16 – 18 Friday - Sunday – Rabbi Rascoe will be in town

April 16 – Friday 8 p.m. - Erev Shabbat Services

April 17 – Saturday 10 a.m. – Shabbat Services

April 18 – Sunday 11 a.m. Unveiling for Herman Cember

April 19 – Monday 1:30 p.m. – Sisterhood Board Meeting at home of Harriet Diamond

April 23 – Friday 8 p.m. - Erev Shabbat Services

April 23 – 25 Friday - Sunday – Rabbi Rascoe will be in town

April 24 – Saturday 10 a.m. – Shabbat Services

April 27 – Tuesday 7:30 p.m. – Sisterhood General Meeting at home of Sonia Barash (Details follow)

April 30 – Friday 8 p.m. – Erev Shabbat Services

Shul Board Solicits donations to Special Purpose Funds

Chosnek Fund, named for **Sam and Edith Chosnek**, is for ritual. For example, the fund could be used to repair such things a Torah covers and the like. The **Elkin Fund**, named for **Barry Elkin**, is for educational purposes. It might be used to pay part of the cost of bringing in a speaker. The **100th Anniversary Fund**, established by **Ed Simon**, is for capital expenses related to building maintenance. The **Ha Gomer Fund** is to celebrate recent recoveries from illness.

Sisterhood General Meeting Tuesday April 27

The April Sisterhood meeting will be held at the home of **Sonia Barash** at 7:30 p.m. The speaker will be **Eyal Barash**, whose topic is: "Fighting Cancer at Purdue and the Research Park." Men are invited to attend.

Such an Offer!

Does anyone want to read a couple of months of back issues of the bi-monthly English-language version of the Forward newspaper? If so, we'll gladly recycle a stack from the last few months to anyone who'd want them. Let us know: harrism@purdue.edu. Otherwise, we just put them in the entry hall in the Shul or on the shelves of freebies in the entrance to the West Lafayette Public Library from Chauncey St. (Please note, we don't do deliveries to your home.)

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Sons of Abraham Special Funds Donation Form

Enclosed please find my check in the amount of

\$ _____.

Please apply to: _____

Ha Gomel (recovery) of: _____

100th Anniversary (Building) _____

Elkin Fund (Education) _____

Chosnek Fund (Ritual) _____

Donation in Honor / Memory of _____

Is the donor's name to be held in confidence?

Send check with this form to:

Sons of Abraham

P.O. Box 2671

West Lafayette, IN 47906-2671

Donations will be acknowledged

Donor(s) _____

Address: _____

Purdue University Jewish Studies and Noon Lecture Series

Monday, April 12 ~ Krannert Auditorium ~ 8:00 p.m.
Nancy Sinkoff, Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and History, Rutgers, "The Fiction of History: Jewish Politics and Resistance in John Hersey's *The Wall*"

This lecture will explore one of the first English-language representations of the Holocaust, John Hersey's *The Wall*. Hersey's interest in the Warsaw Ghetto and in Polish Jewry was a result of his journalistic career during and after World War II, when he visited liberated Warsaw as part of his duties following the Red Army's march westward. The human destruction at Auschwitz-Birkenau and Bergen Belsen assaulted him shortly thereafter. In 1950, Hersey chose to write a novel specifically about the Warsaw Ghetto and the struggle of its last Jews to rise up against the Nazis. The lecture will interrogate Hersey's decision to focus on Jewish politics, resistance, and heroism, analyzing *The Wall's* role in presenting an image of the Jew as hero, not victim, in the popular imagination of the postwar American public.

Dr. Nancy Sinkoff, a historian of early modern and modern East European Jewry, was educated at Harvard-Radcliffe College, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, and Columbia University, where she earned her Ph.D. in Jewish History in 1996. She is currently Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and History at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. Prior to coming to Rutgers, Sinkoff was a Dorot Fellow in the Skirball Department of Judaic Studies at New York University.

Dr. Sinkoff has been the recipient of an IIE-Fulbright, a Mellon Fellowship in the Humanities, an Advanced Graduate Fellowship in East European Studies from the American Council of Learned Societies, a Hadassah-Brandeis Institute Fellowship, among other awards. She has taught at New York University, Kazan State University, Russia, the International Cultural Center in Cracow, Poland, and has given lectures at the Hebrew University, Bar-Ilan University, and the Yarnton Center for Advanced Jewish Studies in Oxford, UK.

<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/jewish-studies/>

Editor's note: The deadline for the May bulletin is Tuesday April 27. Please send information to penmike@embarqmail.com

Volunteers Sought for Komen for the Cure Tissue Bank Event April 25th

Members of the Lafayette Jewish community have challenged Jewish women in Indianapolis to donate a sample of healthy breast tissue to the Susan G. Komen for the Cure Tissue Bank at the IU Simon Cancer Center. A special event is planned for Sunday, April 25 as part of a Health and Beauty Fair. It is expected the milestone of 1000 donors will be reached for the Tissue Bank on that date. Organizations which have signed up to promote the event include Congregation Beth-El Zedeck, Congregation Shaarey Tefilla, Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, Etz Chaim Sephardic Congregation, Hadassah, Jewish Federation of Greater Indianapolis, the Jewish Federation of Greater Lafayette, Sons of Abraham in Lafayette and Temple Israel in West Lafayette.

The Komen Tissue Bank is a national repository of healthy breast tissue. Samples are made available to scientists– to compare normal with cancerous tissue – in their search to identify risk factors for cancer. “The goal of the Bank is to acquire biomolecule and tissue specimens from the entire continuum of breast development: from puberty to menopause for use by cancer researchers world-wide.” The Ashkenazi Jewish population is of particular interest to breast cancer researchers because in populations where people - such as Ashkenazi Jews - traditionally marry within a specific ethnic group or class, diseases due to inheriting a recessive chromosome pattern often occur. A higher incidence of specific genetic disorders and hereditary diseases have been scientifically verified among Ashkenazi Jews, including: Breast cancer and ovarian cancer (due to higher distribution of BRCA1 and BRCA2).

The event will be held at the IU Simon Cancer Center, 1030 W. Michigan, 2nd floor – on the IUPUI Campus. Appointments to donate will be accepted through April 16, 2010. To schedule an appointment:

Bus service is available for Lafayette Area Residents. Call Joyce Field, 765-463-1746 or 765-409-3967, or email her at jfield@nlci.com

Donors must be a female 18 or over; willing and able to understand and sign an informed consent; willing to give a few hours time to fill out a questionnaire and donate a small amount of tissue; not allergic to local anesthetics (numbing medicine); not receiving a therapeutic blood thinner (aspirin is o.k.); and not have breast implants or have had a breast reduction.

If you have a question about the specimen collection, or would like to be a volunteer to help with the logistics of the event, please contact jhenry@iupui.edu.

News from Israel

Although Cyrelle Simon was just in town and met with many members of the congregation, we present her thoughts on her new life in Jerusalem

Role Reversals

As I do my routine early morning Friday rounds, I always notice, mainly men shopping, buying flowers from the Friday corner flower vendors, shepherding their young children to school. I'm again reminded that, although these Chareidi men receive a small financial stipend from their Kollels, where they learn Talmud all day, the primary sustenance of the family falls upon the wife, which leads me to another subject:

Chareidi Women On Line

I was thinking of the fact that most of the young wives I know are working in computers. Despite their special needs, i.e. working with women only, having flexible hours, frequent 3 month maternity leaves, computer companies are eager to hire them. By the way, they also command lower salaries. On this subject, I read in the Jerusalem Post, recently the following "There is a women's professions networking group whose mission statement is "Building Homes and Careers L Shem Shamayim, (for the Sake of Heaven)." This group meets monthly providing an opportunity for it's Chareidi members to learn safe ways to evaluate and use the Internet and the new forms of social media. Since observant woman are active at every level of the business world, and especially active in the online economy, this network meets a widespread need." There are 4,000 computer startups in Israel, which is second in the world, only to the United States.

Doctors on the Phone

As I've noted earlier, one major difference between my doctor appointments here and in the United States is the fact that, although I might have a 15 minute appointment with my physician, while I'm sitting in front of him, he is answering medically oriented and personal phone calls. I'm slowly getting used to this conduct.

Water

After all the time I've spent in Israel, I have not become acclimated to the taste of Jerusalem tap water; therefore, I drink only bottled water. The hard water makes washing dishes an extra effort and cleaning glassware is quite difficult. Fortunately, I have a "dud shemesh" solar power, on the roof of my building, and because of the plethora of sunshine almost the entire year a few minutes after a turning on the faucet the hot water is activated.

Ecology

Jerusalem is gradually becoming "greener". About a year ago large containers appeared on selected street corners for recycling plastic bottles. And, about 6 months ago, additional containers appeared for recycling newspapers. I read that there may be some plans soon for recycling cans and glass bottles.

What Label Would I Give Myself?

My friend, Emily Taitz asked me where I fit into the orthodox spectrum. I concluded that whereas I'm very comfortable in the Chareidi world, I'm probably personally, at home, with the Modern Orthodox label. Most of my friends in Bayit V'Gan are Chareidi and so are my children and their families. While they have many areas in common, some of their interpretations of the "halacha" (law) differ and some have different "minhagim". For example, Shira doesn't open closed bottles, such as soda bottles on Shabbos. Rashi stresses proper ethical and moral conduct for example, no gossiping etc. Hillel follows the Lubavitch custom of not decorating his "sukkah" and Ronit incorporates the Brisk ritual of keeping Shabbos an additional 40 minutes.

Travels

There will likely be a hiatus in sending my Letters , since I'll be away from my computer for about 5 weeks. I'm planning to attend my granddaughter Yocheved's wedding in London. (Rashi and Rutie), celebrating the succeeding sheva brachas. Also, in addition to spending time with the London families, I'm eager to see my new 8 week old granddaughter, Elisheve.(Hillel and Yael.)