



Lake Placid Synagogue Newsletter

2307 Saranac Avenue, Lake Placid, NY 518-523-3876

Spring 2014

From the Desk of the Adirondacker Spring 2014

Spring seems a long way off as I write this! The snow does not want to stop falling. Passover is just a week away.

The first seder is on Monday, April 14th this year. This is the time of the year when our tradition demands that we look back on our personal history of slavery in Egypt and as we go through the seder we feel ourselves becoming free persons once again. This yearly reminder of the slavery in Egypt is the fulcrum on which our appreciation of freedom rests. It is the probable root cause of our long history of concern for those who are not privileged to live in freedom.

I am often asked about legumes and rice on Passover! Do you have Ashkenazi roots? Do you trace your family back to the Mediterranean or Poland? If you do, you might have a Sephardic background. In either case, for most of us these terms have lost their significance. We truly are part of the melting pot called America. Nevertheless, there still seems to be some debate about what you may or may not eat on Passover. On Passover, one is not to have chametz, leavening in your home. By "chametz", the tradition means those grains from which matzah may be baked: wheat, barley, oats, rye, and spelt. No other foodstuffs are regarded as chametz.

In 1810 the Reform Movement in Germany determined that they would be following the Sephardic practice of not categorizing any legumes or rice as chametz. The prohibition found its roots in France in the 13th century and then spread through Europe. In actuality, allowing rice and legumes predates Sephardic Jews. Disallowing these foods actually contradicts the Talmud, which allows them. The Talmud even disputes the reasoning that these foods can be dried and made into flour and thus is chametz. Enjoy your rice, corn and legumes. Whether you do or do not wish to have these for Passover, enjoy your Passover with your family.

As I look forward in the calendar the next thing that strikes me is that Shavuot is on June 4th and 5th. It means that the liturgical cycle of the Jewish year is almost over. Then we look forward to Rosh Hashanah - New Year. The preparation begins almost immediately.

Shavuot is the time when we remember the giving of the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai and our Brit - our covenant with God that we would be his people. It is a festival full of expectation and responsibility. We are reminded of our acceptance of the Torah on many occasions - and especially when our young people accept the responsibilities and privileges of Judaism for themselves.

I wish you all a very happy, kosher and enjoyable Pesach and hope that you will celebrate the deliverance from slavery with style.

With best wishes,
Alec H. Friedmann
Rabbi
adk-reb@ix.netcom.com

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**JOIN US FOR SHABBAT SERVICES AND
POTLUCK DINNER THE THIRD FRIDAY
EVENING OF EACH MONTH AT 6:30PM**

April 14th, 6pm – Passover Seder
May 16th, 6:30pm – Service & Potluck
June 20th, 6:30pm – Service & Potluck
Summer Services start July 4th and are every
Friday evening at 8pm for July and August

President's Message – Spring 2014

Purim this year brought something very different. We were treated to a very special Persian dinner prepared by our Chef Extraordinaire, Rabbi Friedmann, assisted by his 2 "Sue Chefs". Interspersed with the Purim story, dinner was sumptuous. A few of the participants even attended in costume. What fun! Don't miss it next year!

Our Community Passover Seder is next week. It reminds me of the family seders of my youth – lots of very friendly people and lots of sweet wine. If you have not attended in the past please join us this year.

I hope to continue our tradition of tzedakah and ask that you bring bags of food for the LP Ecumenical Food Pantry whenever you come to the temple. This is an easy way of helping those in need.

This newsletter is late as we were mourning the loss of our dear friend Chris Brown who passed away on March 23rd. One of the most inspiring friends I have known, his ever positive attitude motivated him to live life to its fullest. I am so glad to have called him my friend. I will truly miss him.

Sue Semegram, President

Passover First Seder at the LPS – Monday, April 14th, 6pm

Passover is the time of the year when our tradition demands that we look back on our personal history of slavery in Egypt and as we go through the Seder we feel ourselves becoming free persons once again. This yearly reminder of the slavery in Egypt is the fulcrum on which our appreciation of freedom rests. It is the probable root cause of our long history of concern for those who are not privileged to live in freedom.

Please join our family of the "Frozen Chosen" as we celebrate the first night of Passover with our community Seder at the Synagogue. Led by Chef Rabbi Alec assisted by the two "Sue chefs", we do the cooking, catering, and cleaning and you get to enjoy a wonderful Seder complete with reciting the four questions, singing Dayanu, and reminding ourselves and teaching our children about the Passover story. Dinner includes all the "standards" – Gefilte fish, hard boiled eggs, matzo, potato kugel, Salmon, and wonderful Pesadich desserts. Bring the whole family and your guests. Reservations are required and should be made now. The minimum donation is \$18 per adult and \$9 per child. Call Susan Friedmann at 569-5610 or Sue Semegram at 523-5611.

A bisse! a Yiddish – a continuing tutorial – why "sh" is so important in Yiddish

Here is a little more of this fun list of Yiddish words that begin with "sh".

SH	MUTZ	Dirt
SH	MATEH	Rag
SH	MEGEGI	Same as schlimazel, shmendrik

YARTZEITS 2014 5774



Yartzeit Candle/Yizkor Service

There are 4 times a year when Jews light a special candle, called a Yartzeit Candle, in memory of loved ones who have died. Yizkor is a memorial service recited on Yom Kippur as well as the last days of Passover, Shavuot, and Sukkot. Yizkor, the Hebrew word for "remember", asks God to remember those we mourn and to grant them proper rest.

A Yartzeit Candle is lit at sundown on

- The first night of Yom Kippur
- The night of Shemini Atzeret (the 8th night of Sukkot)
- The second night of Shavuot
- The last night of Passover

Yizkor service takes place the following day.

Each issue of the newsletter contains YARTZEIT observances of individuals that have some connection to the temple. We would appreciate your help by carefully reviewing the list and advising us of any additions or corrections. If your loved ones names do not appear please send the correct information including the exact date so it can be converted to the Hebrew date. We would be honored to publish their names. Please email this to Sue at: sue@lakeplacidsynagogue.org

NISSAN

Nissan 2	April 2	Martin B. Goldstein
Nissan 4	April 4	Richard Hoffman
Nissan 5	April 5	Meta Alder
Nissan 6	April 6	Albert (Abbey) J. Slavin
Nissan 7	April 7	Irving Stollow Ruth Karp

Nissan 8	April 8	Hannah Sorscher Jessie
Nissan 12	April 12	Steven Gellas Helen Rivkin Slavin

Nissan 13	April 13	David Silbergeld Frank White
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Nissan 14	April 14	Dorothy Futtrmand
Nissan 16	April 16	Martha Novich Soloman Gross

Nissan 19	April 19	Ernest Rosenberger
Nissan 20	April 20	Stephen Samuels Wise
Nissan 21	April 21	Victoria Kestenbaum Henry Karp

Nissan 22	April 22	Rose Bloch
Nissan 24	April 24	Maralla Goldberg Benny Block

Nissan 27	April 27	Jack Bellew
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LYAR

Lyar 5	May 5	Menahem Andre Barshad
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Lyar 10	May 10	Alice Krinowitz Yetta Cymbberg
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Lyar 13	May 13	Ben Zucker Anne Ida Futterman
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Lyar 15	May 15	David Sheckley Yentha Gelles
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Lyar 19	May 19	Louis Goldberg Johanna Lichtenstein
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Lyar 24	May 24	Adolph Leon Henrietta Sabel
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Lyar 26	May 26	Lillian Ringler Lea Maskovice
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Lyar 27	May 27	Annie Wyzanski Spiro Baruch Halpern
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		Harry Vinograd Rene E. Bloch
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Lyar 29	May 29	Rebecca Goldberg
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SIVAN

Sivan 3	June 1	Lucy Roberts
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Sivan 5	June 3	Abraham Gross
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Sivan 7	June 5	Abraham Dreyer
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Sivan 9	June 7	Harry Rosenblum
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Sivan 11	June 9	Fanny Epstein Harry Silman
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Sivan 13	June 11	Hanna Silver
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Sivan 14	June 12	Bertha Vinograd
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Sivan 15	June 13	William W. Prager Jr.
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Sivan 16	June 14	Samuel Fellman
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Sivan 18	June 16	Gussie Gellers
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Sivan 19	June 17	Samuel Cymbberg
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Sivan 20	June 18	Jenny Cohn Alan E. Mendelsohn
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Sivan 23	June 21	Ben Kinberg
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Sivan 24	June 22	Zolton Simoni
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Sivan 28	June 26	Samuel Gorssman
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Sivan 30	June 28	Victoria Feinberg Yvette Greenberg
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TAMMUZ

Tammuz 1	June 29	Rose L. Berg
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Christopher M. Brown, lifelong international development specialist, fighter for human rights and dedicated family man and friend, died peacefully at his home with family and friends in Lake Placid, New York on March 23, 2014. He was 57 years old.

Shortly after graduating from the Tufts University Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Chris began, with his wife, Betsy, a remarkable more-than-20-year joint career with the United States Agency in Development (USAID). Together, they worked in more than 50 countries across Asia, Africa, the Caribbean and the former Soviet Union on issues of democracy, economic growth, health, food and hunger, and strategic planning. They were a team.

The son of Vince Brown, a senior USAID Mission Director (one of the first development officials appointed during the Marshall Plan), and Françoise Brown, from France, Chris was in many ways born into international development. Raised in Islamabad and Kabul, he learned Urdu and Dari as well as French and English. It was wonderful preparation for one of the greatest contributions of his career, putting schoolbooks in the hands of millions of children across Afghanistan immediately after the fall of the Taliban in Fall

2001. Chris was devoted to educational opportunities in Afghanistan, including the reconstruction of the American University of Afghanistan—which was built on the rubble of his former high school. His dazzling command of languages—he mastered at least seven—allowed him to communicate with so many around the world, to share directly his interest, enthusiasm and energy—and his love of dogs. He received his B. A. from Occidental College, his Masters and Ph. D. in agricultural economics (based on extensive field work in Liberia) from the Fletcher School.

Most importantly, Chris had an infectious zest for life and demonstrated how it is possible to thrive while living with cancer for twenty-three years. He embraced the world with a joy and energy that captured all around him. Kind and generous, he cared deeply for family, friends, and colleagues, and worked throughout his life to build a sense of community, bringing people together in celebration with food, music, and poetry. He loved the outdoors and had a passion for new adventures. An accomplished skier, snowboarder, water skier, wake-boarder, rock climber and kayaker, he surprised us all with his perpetual willingness to try new things—even extending to taking up ballet and giving his first (and only) recital at the age of 50.

A man of great courage and much joy, his faith gave him strength. A devout Christian Scientist, he embraced Judaism as part of his family faith and was a member of the Lake Placid Synagogue.

Chris is survived by his wife of 34 years, Betsy Hulnick Brown, the CEO and President of Planned Parenthood of the North Country New York; his son Michael Lawrence Brown an attorney in New Orleans, his daughter, Danielle Raymonde Brown, a candidate for a Nurse Practitioner degree from Yale University School of Nursing; his mother, Françoise Brown; brother, Gregory Brown; sister, Valerie Brown Ewins; father and mother-in-law Don and Barbara Hulnick of Tupper Lake, NY and extensive family in the United States and France.

In lieu of flowers the Browns welcome donations to the Rotary Club of Lake Placid, the American University of Afghanistan Scholars Fund (<http://auaf.edu.af/giving/>) or Planned Parenthood of the North Country NY. Please note Chris Brown in the byline for any donations. The University is built on the site of the high school in Kabul that Chris attended.

Passover Seder, Monday, April 14th, 6pm

Shabbat Services and Potluck dinner, Friday evening, 6:30pm, May 16th and June 20th

Lake Placid Synagogue

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