



Lake Placid Synagogue Newsletter

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

Spring 2016

From the Desk of the Adirondacker Spring 2016

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

The first seder is on Friday, April 22nd 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 12th and 13th. 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
adkreb@gmail.com

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Beth Brunner*, Peter Rosenberger,
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* New board members



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

April 15th, 6:30pm – Service & Potluck

April 22nd, 6pm - Passover Seder

May 20th, 6:30pm – Service & Potluck

June 12th, 10:30am - Shavuot Brunch

June 17th, 6:30pm – Service & Potluck

July 1st, 8pm first summer service

President's Message – Spring 2016

Purim this year brought together a smaller group which included some of our local students. We were treated to a Persian dinner prepared by our Chef Extraordinaire, Rabbi Friedmann, assisted by his 2 "Sue Chefs". Interspersed with the Purim story, dinner was sumptuous.

Our Community Passover Seder is April 22nd. 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. Please get your reservations in soon as we anticipate a large crowd.

Our family Shabbat pot lucks in member's homes on the second Friday of the month have been very well attended by many families with young children. Thanks to Jordanna Mallach and Beth Brunner for organizing these. If you have not been getting an email invite to these, contact me and I will add you to that list.

We will be adding a handicap access ramp this spring which we hope to have done by Passover depending on the weather. However we cannot control the weather so we might miss that deadline. It will surely be done by the summer.

Sue Semegram, President

Passover First Seder at the LP Synagogue: Friday, April 22nd, 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 by April 12th. The minimum donation is \$18 per adult and \$9 per child. Call Susan Friedmann at 569-5610 or Sue Semegram at 523-5611.

YARTZEITS 2015 5776



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 10	Martin B. Goldstein	Lyar 15	May 23	Yentha Gelles
		Frederick M. Heimerdinger			Louis Goldberg
Nissan 4	April 12	Richard Hoffman	Lyar 19	May 27	Johanna Lichtenstein
Nissan 5	April 13	Meta Alder			Adolph Leon
Nissan 6	April 14	Albert (Abbey) J. Slavin	Lyar 21	May 29	Lenore Garfinkel
Nissan 7	April 15	Irving Stollow	Lyar 24	June 1	Henrietta Sabel
		Ruth Karp			Lillian Ringler
Nissan 8	April 16	Hannah Sorscher Jessie	Lyar 26	June 3	Lea Maskovice
Nissan 12	April 20	Steven Gellas	Lyar 27	June 4	Annie Wyzanski Spiro
		Helen Rivkin Slavin			Baruch Halpern
Nissan 13	April 21	David Silbergeld			Harry Vinograd
		Frank White			Rene E. Bloch
Nissan 14	April 22	Dorothy Futtrmand	Lyar 29	June 6	Rebecca Goldberg
Nissan 16	April 24	Martha Novich			
		Soloman Gross			
Nissan 18	April 26	Tom Neuman	Sivan 3	June 9	Lucy Roberts
Nissan 19	April 27	Ernest Rosenberger	Sivan 5	June 11	Abraham Gross
Nissan 20	April 28	Stephen Samuels Wise	Sivan 7	June 13	Abraham Dreyer
Nissan 21	April 29	Victoria Kestenbaum	Sivan 9	June 15	Harry Rosenblum
		Henry Karp			Herman Schrier
Nissan 22	April 30	Rose Bloch	Sivan 11	June 17	Fanny Epstein
Nissan 24	May 2	Maralla Goldberg			Harry Silman
		Benny Block	Sivan 13	June 19	Hanna Silver
Nissan 27	May 5	Jack Bellew	Sivan 14	June 20	Bertha Vinograd
			Sivan 15	June 21	William W. Prager Jr.
			Sivan 16	June 22	Samuel Fellman

SIVAN

LYAR

Lyar 5	May 13	Menahem Andre Barshad	Sivan 18	June 24	Gussie Gellers
		Alice Krinowitz	Sivan 19	June 25	Samuel Cymberg
Lyar 7	May 7	Bernard Sperling	Sivan 20	June 26	Jenny Cohn
Lyar 10	May 18	Yetta Cymberg			Alan E. Mendelsohn
		Ben Zucker			Ben Kinberg
Lyar 13	May 21	Anne Ida Futterman	Sivan 23	June 29	Zolton Simoni
		David Sheckley	Sivan 24	June 30	Samuel Gorssman
Lyar 14	May 22	David Rosenberg	Sivan 28	July 4	Victoria Feinberg
			Sivan 30	July 6	Yvette Greenberg

Shavout Brunch Potluck – Sunday, June 12th, 10:30 am

Shavuot marks the completion of the 7-week period between Passover and Shavuot. This holiday dates from biblical times and was also known as the Festival of the Giving of the Torah (at Mount Sinai). The Torah tells us it took precisely 49 days for our ancestors to travel from Egypt to the foot of Mount Sinai (the same number of days as the Counting of the Omer) where they were to receive the Torah. Thus, Leviticus 23:21 commands: "And you shall proclaim that day (the fiftieth day) to be a holy convocation!" The name *Shavuot*, "weeks," then symbolizes the completion of a 7-week journey.

Special customs on Shavuot are the reading of the Book of Ruth, which reminds us that we too can find a continual source of blessing in our tradition. Another tradition includes staying up all night to study Torah and Mishnah, a custom called *Tikkun Leil Shavuot*, which symbolizes our commitment to the Torah and that we are always ready to receive the Torah. Traditionally, dairy dishes are served on this holiday to symbolize the sweetness of the Torah, as well as the "land of milk and honey." You are encouraged to bring a dairy dish such as Blintzes or Cheesecake.

HARRIS'S MACAROONS – these are the best!

3 cups shredded sweetened coconut	1 egg white
1 14 oz can sweetened condensed milk	½ cup matzah meal flour
1 ½ tsp Vanilla	1/8 tsp salt
1 cup chocolate chips	

Preheat oven to 350. Combine the coconut, matzah meal flour and salt and mix well. Add egg white, vanilla and milk. When the ingredients come together in a sticky batter fold in the chocolate chips. Drop by tsps onto a VERY WELL greased foil covered cookie sheet. Bake for 15 to 20 minutes till edges are golden brown and inside is firm.

SUPER LIGHT MATZAH BALLS

4 eggs	½ cup club soda
3 tablespoons vegetable oil	1 teaspoon salt
pinch of black pepper	1 cup matzah meal
2 tablespoons parsley	

Separate the eggs and beat the whites. Add yolks to the whites. Add club soda, vegetable oil, salt and pepper, matzah meal and parsley. Mix lightly. Cover and refrigerate for about 1 hour.

Bring about five quarts of water to boil. Using wet hands, gently form matzah balls with about 2 tablespoons of mixture. Remember that the matzah balls will double in size while cooking. Carefully place into the boiling water. Use a slotted spoon to reduce splashing. Cover and simmer for about 30 minutes. Try not to peek. Serve in your favorite soup stock.



This cake with the map of Israel was made by the kids at one of our family Shabbat's