



Green Road Synagogue

"Where we enrich our lives and our community through
TAM: Torah, Ahavat Yisrael & Medinat Yisrael."

FEBRUARY - MARCH 2009

החודש אדר תשס"ט

Thank You to our Honorees from our Annual Banquet
and to all of the volunteers that helped make it a great success!



Back Row (From Left): Josh Mandel, Bennett Yanowitz, Andy Salamon, Dan Cord, Tamas Muenz & Mark Uvlin (standing in for his father Al Uvlin). Front Row: Dr. Jack Jaffe, Sam Teitelbaum, Al Hersh, Ted Hersh & Dr. Mark Ellen. Not Present: Hy Holz, Sidney Katz & Ivan Soclof. PHOTO BY: Sam Hoenig]

In recognition of our honorees, we have presented new artwork in our hallway titled "The Jewish Soldier."

New Bulletin Format

In an effort to improve the speed and reduce costs for sending our monthly bulletin, we are now printing the bulletin in our office. We will send this print version to those who can not receive it electronically. Please contact the office with email addresses for yourself, friends and family. For more information please call 216-381-4757 or email David@GreenRoadSynagogue.org.

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Cleveland, Ohio
Permit No. 645

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Office Hours:

M—Th: 9:30 am — 5:00 pm

Fr: 9:30 am — 3:00 pm

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FEB - MAR 2009
ADAR 5769

Volume 13
Issue 6



Purim Truth and Power

By Rabbi Melvin Granatstein



It is well known that Megillat Esther does not contain any of the names of God. In fact, as late as the second generation of Amoraim (Rabbis of the Gemarah –about 250 C.E.) there were important Jewish authorities who were reluctant to count Esther as part of Tana'ch (Jewish scripture). Indeed, the very tone of the Megillah seems, more secular than religious.

In fact the tone seems humorous.

But at the same time, there is nothing funny about the broad subject matter. Haman's plan to exterminate the people of Israel was hardly unique to his generation. The threat to Jewish life and safety has been a frightening problem of 2000 years duration and hardly a humorous one. So Purim touches upon the most somber of themes but at the same time it deals with this theme through humor. Everything about our celebration of Purim reiterates the humor of the Megillah, from the noise making at the mention of Haman's name, the celebration of wine, the very "Purim Torah" ingeniously concocted to parody Rabbinic learning. Why is the ever looming threat of genocide treated in this apparently frivolous way?



At its very root, Purim is designed to teach us that the pretensions of immoral power are to be mocked. Achashverosh is the king of a vast empire, but the

appurtenances of his power cannot disguise the fact that he is a buffoon easily manipulated by others. By refusing to take the raw power of malicious and foolish men seriously, we preserve our own ability to think clearly and seriously about real moral obligation. It is as if the whole world can be fooled by human pretension, but the Jewish people that celebrates Purim will not be fooled. Here humor operates by enabling us to keep a clear head about what is really important in the eyes of God.



The Talmud tells us that the tribulations of the generation of Mordecai & Esther were brought about because the Jews of that time "took pleasure in Achashverosh's, feast" – (נהנו מסעודתו של אחשורוש) in other words they took the trappings of this foolish man's vainglory, seriously. The Purim Seudah that we celebrate is the antidote to that frivolousness. Instead of flattering an empty headed king, we feast and celebrate the true deliverance that comes from God. Purim puts Achashverosh's vainglory in true perspective so that we not be misled by empty externalities.

The Talmud tells us that the ultimate free Kabbalat HaTorah – the acceptance by Israel of the Torah took place at the time that Purim became an obligatory holiday in the Jewish calendar - קימו וקבלו עליהם ועל זרעם

Perhaps part of what the Talmud is saying here is that the true acceptance of the Torah comes when you can see through empty pretension and understand how the truth of the Torah is altogether different.



Seder Arba Parshiot

Before Pesach, on four Shabbatot, four special Torah readings are read from a second Torah. The first, Parshat Shekalim, was read on the Shabbat before Adar. The second Parshat, Zachor, is read on the Shabbat immediately preceding Purim. This Parsha speaks about the eternal war against Amalek — the embodiment of evil. On the next Shabbat we read Parshat Parah, which details the Laws of the Red Heifer and the provisions for purification in order to enter the precincts of the Temple. We read this Parsha now because Jews would have to purify themselves in order to be able to offer the Korban Pesach, or Pesach offering. On the Shabbat immediately preceding the month of Nisan, we read Parshat HaChodesh in which the Torah tells us that Nisan is the first month of the year and we are given the laws of the Korban Pesach.

Purim

The festival of Purim is the most joyous day of the Jewish calendar, and the month of Adar is the most joyous month of the year. In the Talmud, the month of Adar is contrasted with the month of Av.

When it comes to Av, the Talmud says משנכנס אב ממעטים בשמחה - "when Av enters, we diminish celebration." And when it comes to Adar, it says משנכנס אדר מרבים בשמחה - "when Adar enters, we multiply celebration."



The Temple was destroyed in Av, and the people of Israel were saved from destruction in Adar. Purim thus celebrates Israel's transcending of all the foes that seek her destruction. It is well known that God's name does not appear in Megillah at all. The presence of God in the Purim narrative is not to be found in this or that event but can rather be found in connection in the entire story that leads to Israel's deliverance.

Mitzvot of Purim

Mikra Megillah: The Megillat Esther, the story of Purim, is read twice: once in the evening service and then a second time in the morning service. It must be read from a scroll written in accordance with complex laws and every word must be heard to fulfill the Mitzvah; for this reason, it is important to control the noise level in order that the reading can be heard. The obligation to hear the Megillah is incumbent on women as well as men since Jewish women, Esther above all, were instrumental in the miracle of Purim.

Matanot L'Evyonim: Every person is obligated to give a gift to at least two needy people. In this way we share the joy of the festival with those less fortunate than we are. It is also customary to "acquire," with a charitable contribution, three fifty-cent pieces at the Synagogue and "contribute" them to a charity designated by the Synagogue in the memory of the Machtzit HaShekel — the half shekel that every Jew contributed to the Holy Temple (may it be speedily rebuilt in our day).

Mishloach Manot: Each Jew is obligated to give a gift of at least two different food items to at least one other Jew. The more gifts one sends, the more praiseworthy. However, as the Rambam points out, where possible, gifts to the poor take precedence - the more given, the more praiseworthy.

Seudat Purim: One enjoys a Purim feast with one's family during Purim day. Normally we do this after Mincha and continue the meal into the night.





MONTHLY CALENDAR - ADAR

Tuesday-Wednesday, February 24-25

Rosh Chodesh Adar

Morning Services 6:30 a.m.

Parshat Terumah

Friday, February 27

Candle Lighting 5:56 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 28

Morning Service 9:00 a.m.

Rabbi's Talmud Class 4:45 p.m.

Mincha 5:45 p.m.

Motsaei Shabbat 6:55 p.m.

Sunday Morning Services 8:00 a.m.

Weekday Morning Services 6:40 a.m.

Weekday Evening Services 6:05 p.m.

Sunday, March 1

Rabbi Granatstein's class in Jewish Philosophical Text

At Torat Tzion Kollel 9:15 a.m.

Parshat Tetzavah - Zachor

Friday, March 6

Candle Lighting 6:04 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat 6:10 p.m.

Saturday, March 7

Morning Service 9:00 a.m.

Rabbi's Talmud Class 4:50 p.m.

Mincha 5:50 p.m.

Motsaei Shabbat 7:03 p.m.

Sunday Morning Services 8:00 a.m.

Weekday Morning Services 6:40 a.m.

Weekday Evening Services 7:10 p.m.

**** Daylight Savings Time Begins - Move clocks ahead 1 hour ****

Sunday, March 8

Rabbi Granatstein's class in Jewish Philosophical Text

At Torat Tzion Kollel 9:15 a.m.

**** Rabbi Granatstein's Monthly Chumash Class**

At his home 8:00 p.m.

Ta'anit Esther

Monday, March 9

Fast Begins 6:37 a.m.

Morning Services 6:40 a.m.

Mincha 7:00 p.m.

Fast Ends 8:06 p.m.

Purim

Monday, March 9

Ma'ariv & Megillah Reading 8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, March 10

Morning Services 6:30 a.m.

Mincha 6:00 p.m.

Ma'ariv 8:00 p.m.

Parshat Ki Tisah - Parah

Friday, March 13

Candle Lighting 7:13 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, March 14

Morning Service 9:00 a.m.

Rabbi's Talmud Class 6:05 p.m.

Mincha 7:05 p.m.

Motsaei Shabbat 8:12 p.m.

Sunday Morning Services 8:00 a.m.

Weekday Morning Services 6:40 a.m.

Weekday Evening Services 7:20 p.m.

Sunday, March 15

Rabbi Granatstein's class in Jewish Philosophical Text

At Torat Tzion Kollel 9:15 a.m.

Parshat VaYakhel - Pikudei - HaChodesh

Friday, March 20

Candle Lighting 7:20 p.m.

Kabbalat Shabbat 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, March 21

Morning Service 9:00 a.m.

Rabbi's Talmud Class 6:15 p.m.

Mincha 7:15 p.m.

Motsaei Shabbat 8:21 p.m.

Sunday Morning Services 8:00 a.m.

Weekday Morning Services 6:40 a.m.

Weekday Evening Services 7:35 p.m.

Sunday, March 22

Rabbi Granatstein's class in Jewish Philosophical Text

At Torat Tzion Kollel 9:15 a.m.

Thursday, March 26

Rosh Chodesh Nisan

Morning Services 6:30 a.m.

Upcoming Community Events at Green Road Synagogue

Shabbat February 27-28:

Cedar Green Community Kollel

Oneg Shabbat & Luncheon

Motsaei Shabbat, February 28:

Torat Tzion Kollel Comedy Night

March 5-8: Senior NCSY Cleveland Shabbaton

March 7: The REEL Jewish Experience: "Orthodox Stance"

March 8: Bonei Olam Brunch

March 9-10: PURIM!

GRS Boy Scouts Winter Calendar

March 14 & 15 Camp at Hinckley Metro Park

To join please contact Channa Appel at 216-691-0859.



The REEL Jewish Experience

2009 Film Series Schedule:

Mar. 7, 8:30 PM - "Orthodox Stance"



MAZEL TOV

To Avi & Francoise Jacobs on the birth of a boy. Mazel Tov to grandparents Larry & Anne Jacobs.

To Julian & Ilka Gordon on the birth of a granddaughter born to Chaya & Allan Gordon Burstyn of Chicago. Mazel Tov to great-grandmother Estelle Gottlieb.

To Irene & Tibor Rosenberg on the birth of a grandson born to Danielle & Natan Schwartz in Israel. Mazel Tov to great-grandparents Sam & Eve Teitelbaum and to grandparents Rabbi Moshe & Marilyn Berger.

To Leora Meyers on her Bat Mitzvah and to parents Hadassa & Oren Meyers and grandparents Rabbi & Malka Granatstein and Lois & Sid Meyers.

To Joel & Ronnie Stavsky on the engagement of their daughter Rina to Rabbi Dave Weinberg, son of Dr. Gerry & Fran Weinberg of Teaneck, NJ.



IN SYMPATHY



THE CONGREGATION WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND ITS HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

TO THE FAMILY OF EVA WIEDER, WHO PASSED AWAY ON FEB. 8TH.

TO THE FAMILY OF RABBI LIPMAN RABINOWITZ, A FORMER MEMBER WHO PASSED AWAY IN NETANYA, ISRAEL ON FEB. 8TH.

TO BIRDIE & LEN FRANK & FAMILY ON THE PASSING OF BIRDIE'S MOTHER, VIVIAN STONE, WHO PASSED AWAY ON FEB. 12TH.

המקום ינחם אתכם
בתוך שאר אבלי
ציון וירושלים

DONATIONS

We would like to thank the following for their generous contributions to our Synagogue.

IN MEMORY OF:

Sam Mendlovic: Marla & Joe Shafran

Henry Lovinger: Kimball & Hannah Rubin & Family

Judy Kirchick's Mother, Esther Madian: Sidney & Bernice Borison; Kimball & Hannah Rubin & Family; Shelley & Debbie Senders; Marty & Lainie Weisberg

Asher Weiss: Anna Pearl & Family; Lili Markowitz & Family; Harold & Susy Feuer; Melvin & Julie Simon; Abe & Kate Katz & Family; Manfred & Nancy Justmann; Bertha Weider; Gusta Feuer; Marla & Joe Shafran; Shlomo & Erna Laufer; Art & Erica Friedman; Bruce Marshak; Kimball & Hannah Rubin & Family; Marla & Joe Shafran

Adele Jacobs: Anna Pearl & Family

Bernice Borison's Father: Sidney & Bernice Borison

Eva Wieder: Anna Pearl & Family; Lois Friedman

Birdie Frank's mother, Vivian Stone: Marla & Joe Shafran

Rose Ickowicz: Marla & Joe Shafran

IN HONOR OF:

Evie Davis: The Helfand Family

Rabbi & Malka Granatstein's Grandson, Yechiel Scheinfeld's Bar Mitzvah in Israel: Shelley & Debbie Senders

SIFFARIM:

Siddur In Honor of Dr. Pinchos Mikhli: Len & Birdie Frank

Machzorim in Memory of Cal Kirchick: Marla & Joe Shafran

Machzorim in Memory of Judy Kirchick's Mother, Esther Madian: Marla & Joe Shafran

KIDDUSH:

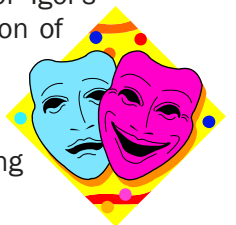
February 14: By Hadassa & Oren Meyers in honor of their daughter Leora's Bat Mitzvah.

SEUDAH SHLISHIT:

January 24: By Allen & Carol Seftel in memory of Allen's mother Betty Seftel on the occasion of her Yahrzeit.

February 7: By Igor & Tatyana Spira in memory of Igor's mother, Chaya Sarah Spira, on the occasion of her Yahrzeit.

February 14: By Philip & Hasida Toltzis in memory of Hasida's uncle, Henry Isaacson as part of the Torat Zion Kollel's Shabbaton featuring Rabbi Aaron Rakeffet.





For those of you who missed the *Shevat Bulletin*, here are the announcements:

MAZEL TOV!

To Rabbi Melvin & Malka Granatstein on the Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Yechiel Scheinfeld, son of Hillel & Miriam Scheinfeld in Beit Shemesh, Israel

To Yoel & Marcia Anouchi on the wedding of their son Avi to Mori Teitz, daughter of Avi & Debbie Teitz of Edison, NJ.

To Eliezer Balanson on the marriage of his son Uriel to Atara Thomas, daughter of Stuart & Pam Thomas, of Memphis, TN.

IN SYMPATHY

THE CONGREGATION WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND ITS HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES

TO JUDY KIRCHICK ON THE PASSING OF HER MOTHER, ESTHER MADIAN.

TO MALCHI WEISS & FAMILY ON THE PASSING OF HER HUSBAND, ASHER WEISS, WHO PASSED AWAY ON JAN. 8TH, AND TO NATHAN & KATHLEEN WEISS ON THE PASSING OF THEIR FATHER.

TO THE FAMILY OF ADELE JACOBS, WHO PASSED AWAY IN FLORIDA ON JAN. 9TH.

DONATIONS

IN MEMORY OF:

Sam Mendlovic: David & Kimberly Altman; Judy Kirchick

Rose Ickowicz: Eileen Mittleman; Anna Pearl & Family; Ruth Koway

Lili Hollender's Father: Shlomo & Erna Laufer

Ben Arnovitz: Hilda Blatt

Judy Kirchick's Mother, Esther Madian: Barry & Lynne Shiller; Jack & Minda Jaffe; Sidney & Bernice Borison; Shanie & Boaz Shevach; Herschel & Sheila Pickholtz

Asher Weiss: Hedy & Hy Holz; Helena & David Ingber; Rose Feuer; Helen & Eugene Klein; Sarah & Louis Radzeli; Leon & Helen Shear; Herchel & Sheila Pickholtz

IN HONOR OF:

Arlene Smith for her support following Henry Lovinger's passing: Robyn & Mark Lovinger

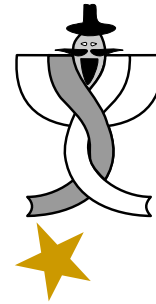
KIDDUSH:

We did not have any sponsors for Kiddush the entire month! To sponsor or co-sponsor a Kiddush, call the Shul office today!

SEUDAH SHLISHIT:

January 3: By Allen & Carol Seftel in memory of Allen's father, Larry Seftel on the occasion of his Yahrzeit.

January 17: By Yehiel Benshoshan in memory of his father, Yaakov Ben Saada, on the occasion of his Yahrzeit.



Green Road Synagogue invites one and all to our *Purim Chagiga!*

Join us for the Megillah followed by a break-the-fast dairy dinner celebration!

Monday, March 9th

Ma'ariv & Megillah Reading 8:00 PM



MEMBERS

Adults: \$16.00

Children (4-10): \$10.00

Family Max: \$60.00 — FOR MEMBERS ONLY

NON-MEMBERS

Adults: \$21.00

Children (4-10): \$14.00

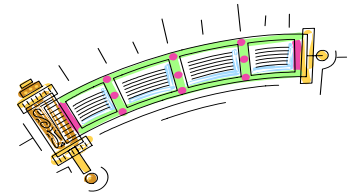


Reservations must be received by Tuesday, March 3rd.

There will be an extra fee of \$5 for reservations received after March 3rd.

Call Janz at 216-381-4757 Today!

**Costumes
Welcome!**



Green Road Synagogue

Purim Chagiga 5769 Reservation Card

Name: _____

of Adults _____ **# of Children** _____ **# Under 4** _____

To reserve a table of 10 indicate family names
