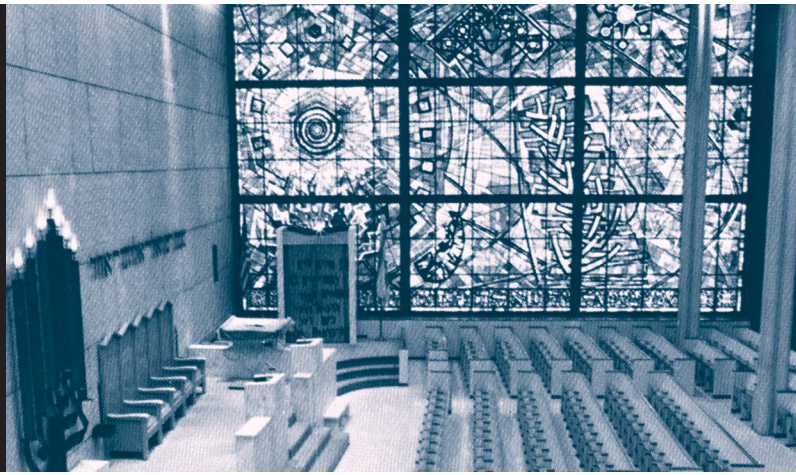


The BULLETIN of the CHICAGO LOOP SYNAGOGUE



VOL. XLVIII

MARCH, 2011

ADAR, 5771

NO. 3

"The Synagogue bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of Sarah Berlow"

President's Message

Dear Fellow Congregants,

For the past several months, our Membership Committee, headed by Don LeBoyer, has been hard at work updating our synagogue website. While the website is a work-in-progress, the committee's efforts are readily apparent. You can now get an up-to-date schedule of daily services and events, information about kosher box lunches, contact information, as well as inspirational comments from Rabbi Kroll. You can even get a digital copy of this bulletin on the website. Please take a moment and check out www.chicagoloopsynagogue.org. And, while you're at it, let us know your e-mail address, thereby saving postage costs, not to mention a few trees! Again, my thanks to Don LeBoyer and his committee members: Mike Miselman, Phil Moss, Michael Schwartz and Jerry Schur for their excellent work.

Chanukah already seems like a long time ago – maybe because it fell so early this year – but I'd like to share some photos of our annual Chanukah party. As you can see by the photos, both young and old enjoyed this year's entertainment, provided by magician Danny Orleans and caricaturist Angel Contreras, along with traditional Chanukah refreshments. Thanks to those who brought toys to the party to be donated to the Ark. I'm sure they brought a bit of warmth to some deserving kids this Chanukah season.

Finally, I hope you all attend the reading of the Megillah followed by our annual Purim party and costume contest. The party always brings out the unique creativity of our members. All are welcome. My very best wishes for a joyous Purim!

Mark J. Schechter

Lunch & Learn Program

The Lunch & Learn Program of the Chicago Loop Synagogue affords our community an opportunity to take a break from work, enjoy a lunch, hear a spiritually meaningful D'Var Torah from a guest rabbi and worship in the time it would normally take just to have lunch.

The program is offered once a week on Wednesday. Lunch begins at 12:45 P.M.; the D'Var Torah is at 1:15 P.M., followed by Mincha services at 1:30 P.M. Kosher lunch is provided by the Sandwich Club under CRC supervision. Reservations and a \$10.00 donation are required. Please contact the Synagogue office for more information. We encourage you to participate in this excellent program.



2010 Chanukah Party



2010 Chanukah Party

from the
RABBI



In Jewish history, it is individuals, who have made momentous contributions. It was Moses, whose thought and leadership saved the Jewish faith and, indeed, the values of

the civilized world. It was the Baal Shem Tov in the Carpathian mountains – one person – who started the Hassidic Movement, which changed the face of Judaism forever. It was a lady from Baltimore named Henrietta Szold, who founded Hadassah, the movement dedicated to “the healing of our people,” that has distinguished itself in service to Israel.

And, what of the future of Judaism? We know that individuals will come forward, who will make the difference!

You see, one individual can cause death and destruction. Genghis Khan, lusting for power, became a bloody conqueror. Napoleon, motivated by desire for conquest, plunged Europe into a series of costly wars. Hitler, driven by hatred, almost destroyed civilization.

A teacher, lecturing in science, asked, “Bill, name a poisonous substance.” Bill pondered the question and, then, replied, “Aviation.” The class burst into derisive laughter at the unexpected response, and the teacher sternly demanded an explanation.

Responded Bill, “One drop will kill”.

One person yelling “Fire!” in a crowded room can cause untold harm. One rumor on Wall Street can panic the stock market. One malicious rumor can ruin a reputation. One individual can make a difference.

Rabbi Stanley E. Kroll

The Chicago Loop Synagogue website is:

www.chicagoloopsynagogue.org

Contact us at our e-mail address:

loopadmn@chiloopsyn.org

**The Following Individuals
Have Made Contributions
to The Chicago Loop
Synagogue**

IN MEMORY AND APPRECIATION

TORAH FUND

Melanie Tiaht

*In Appreciation of the Misha Berach
for Her Recovery*

Stuart Orelove

*In Honor of Joshua Collen's
Exemplary Military Service as a*

U. S. Marine and the

Completion of His Tour of Duty

Lawrence Dolins

Sarah Cohen

In Honor of Her Recovery

RABBI'S FUND

Barry Wolk

*In Memory of His Mother,
Annette L. Wolk*

Barry Wolk

Ken Ziejewski & Sara Vegh

In Memory of Sara's Father, Jack Vegh

Barry Wolk

Barry Wolk

In Memory of His Father, Jacob Wolk

Robin M. Honig

In Memory of Herbert Honig

RITUAL FUND

Gerald Schur

*In Appreciation of the Misha Berach
for His Granddaughter,*

Emily's, Recovery

Robert Z. Feldstein

In Honor of Gerald Schur

Jeffrey Jahns

In Honor of Michael D. Miselman

PRAYER BOOK FUND

Pearl Katz

**Daily Kosher
Lunches available
in the Loop.**

Kosher box lunches are available at

The Chicago Loop Synagogue

16 S. Clark Street

Monday through Friday,

12:00 Noon - 2:30 P.M.

Donation Required

**We Express Gratitude To
Those Who Have Fulfilled
Their 2010 Yom Kippur
Pledges**

*"He that pursueth generosity and
loving kindness findeth life,
prosperity and honor."*

Proverbs 21:21

This List Represents Pledges Fulfilled
Since the Last Bulletin

\$ 4,000.00

Dr. Michael & Gina Maling

\$ 1,800.00

Donald & Gloria LeBoyer

\$ 1,500.00

Mr. & Mrs. Paul Vishny

\$ 1,000.00

Richard & Andrea Berg

Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Hanfling

Philip & Noreen Tanzar

Frank Zimmerman

\$ 900.00

Dr. & Mrs. Enrique Beckmann

\$ 600.00

Allen Kanter

\$ 500.00

Roger & Eleanor Feldman

Richard & Roslyn Mateles

Sam Pinzur

Linda Weiner

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Chicago Loop Synagogue

Rabbi Stanley E. Kroll

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Michael D. Miselman

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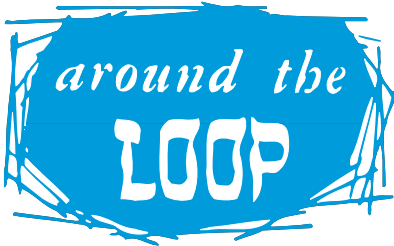
Edward Harris*

Presidents Emeriti

Max Nierman*

Samuel Shkolnik*

* Of Blessed Memory



The Chicago Loop Synagogue welcomes into membership the following individuals and their families: **Robert Z. Feldstein**.

On November 13th, **Harry & Annette Gendler** and **Michael Miselman** sponsored a cholent Kiddush luncheon in honor of America and our democratic values and ideals.

On November 22nd, **Frank Cohen** sponsored a breakfast in observance of the yahrzeit of his father, **William Cohen**, of blessed memory.

On November 29th, **William Posternack** sponsored a breakfast in observance of the yahrzeit of his mother, **Dinah Posternack**, of blessed memory.

On December 5th, the Chicago Loop Synagogue sponsored a **Chanukah Party** starring award winning magician, **Danny Orleans** and entertaining caricaturist, **Angel Contreras**. The program featured magic, comedy and audience participation. Over 80 adults and children joined in the celebration and enjoyed delicious, traditional holiday food along with great entertainment.

On December 9th, **David & Scott Newberger** sponsored a breakfast in observance of the yahrzeit of their father, **Arnold Newberger**, of blessed memory.

On December 10th, **Marc Brown** sponsored a breakfast in memory of his mother, **Helene Brown**.

On December 16th, **John Klucinkas** sponsored a breakfast in memory of **Max Berry**.

On December 25th, **Rabbi Gerry & Renee Rosenberg** treated the members to "cake & kugel" in honor of their daughter, **Nancy Given's**, birthday.

On January 1st, **John Collen** sponsored a Cholent Kiddush Luncheon in honor of his son, **Joshua's**, safe return from Afghanistan and the completion of his tour of duty.

On January 6th, **Gary Wigoda** sponsored a breakfast in observance of the yahrzeit son, **Jacob Wigoda**, of blessed memory.

Mazel Tov and best wishes to **Shari Vass** on the January 12th birth of her grandson, **Paul Gabriel Jacobs**. The proud parents are **David & Lori Jacobs**. May **Paul** be a constant source of *nachas* for the entire family.

On January 14th, **David & Scott Newberger** hosted a breakfast in observance of the yahrzeit of their mother, **Doris Newberger**, of blessed memory.

Mazel Tov and best wishes to **Shari Vass** on the January 24th birth of her granddaughter, **Alexis Morgan Vass**. The proud parents are **Stuart & Alisa Vass**. May **Alexis** be a constant source of *nachas* to the entire family.

On February 11th, **Ray Lavin** sponsored a breakfast in observance of the yahrzeit of his mother, **Joan Lavin**, of blessed memory.

On February 16th, **Stephen Geifman** sponsored a breakfast in observance of the yahrzeit of his father, **Morris Geifman**, of blessed memory.

On March 3rd, **David & Ronald Harris** sponsored a breakfast in observance of the yahrzeit of their father, **Milton Harris**, of blessed memory.

We Express Gratitude To Those Who Have Fulfilled Their 2010 Yom Kippur Pledges
(Continued from Page 2)

- \$ 400.00**
David & Anne Loiterman
Charles & Diane Wasserman
- \$ 380.00**
Bruna Blandin
- \$ 360.00**
Jeffrey Kost
- \$ 250.00**
Tibor Gross
Michele Levin
Mitchell Morris
Mr. & Mrs. Marc Schulman
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest Slotar
David Unger
Robert & Beverly Venit
Bryan Weinper
- \$ 200.00**
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas Krauz
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Lesh
Charles S. Strizak
- \$ 180.00**
Jonathan Buchbinder
Ronald & Ellyne Ladden
- \$ 150.00**
David Berger
Paulette Kalver
Barbara Kerner
- \$ 100.00**
Norman J. Black
Mitchell & Dorri Goldgehn
Anne Katz & Howard Karman
Michael & Jaclyn Katz
Howard & Diane Mocerf
David Newberger
Arlyne Pogodin

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ritual Committee requests the cooperation of all synagogue worshippers who are available for Mincha and Maariv Services on Shabbos and Sunday to make a special effort to be at these services, thus helping us to maintain uninterrupted Minyanim for the remainder of the Winter and beginning of the Spring months. The Mincha service begins at 4:30 P.M. on Shabbos and Sunday.

We thank you for your participation in this important Mitzvah.

Twenty-five hundred years ago, the Jews were living under the rule of the Persians. The Persian king, Ahasuerus (Xerxes I), governed the one hundred and twenty-seven provinces of his empire from the capital city of Shushan. His large and luxurious court included Vashti, the proud queen; Haman, the overbearing Prime Minister; and Mordecai, leader of the Jews and a palace official.



Vashti was dethroned when she refused to obey the king's order to appear at one of his drinking banquets.

A new queen was sought among the most beautiful maidens of the land, and the one chosen and crowned was Esther, the cousin and adopted daughter of Mordecai. Esther, on the advice of her cousin did not at first reveal her Jewish identity. Meanwhile, Haman rose in favor with Ahasuerus and was appointed Prime Minister. Inflated with a sense of his new-found importance, he demanded that all the courtiers bow to him whenever he appeared. This, Mordecai the Jew refused to do. Haman became so incensed that he planned to exterminate not only Mordecai but also all of his people, the Jews. With this in mind, he went to the king, and representing the Jews as rebellious subjects, received royal permission to arrange for their massacre. The day of their doom – Adar 13 – was fixed by the casting of lots (*Purim*).

Gloom fell upon the Jews of Shushan and of the provinces. Mordecai seized upon the one hope that Esther would intercede with the king in behalf of her people. He asked Esther to do so, and, after fasting and prayer, she approached the king. Esther arranged for a banquet to be attended by the king, Haman and herself to provide an opportunity to expose Haman's perfidy. At this banquet, she pleaded that her life and those of her people be spared. She then revealed Haman's villainous plot, and the king ordered him hanged on the very gallows on which Haman had planned to hang Mordecai. Ahasuerus authorized the Jews to defend themselves, and on the appointed day they routed their enemies. On the morning, they celebrated their victory and call the day *Purim*, in allusion to the lots which Haman had cast.

Mordecai and Esther subsequently ordained that Jews in every generation should joyously observe Purim to commemorate the miraculous redemption of their people.

Customs and Observances

The most important observance of Purim is the reading of the *Megillah*, the Hebrew handwritten parchment scroll of the Book of Esther, on the evening of Purim as well as on the following morning. Both men and women are obliged to hear the reading of the

Megillah, and children, too, should hear the story. Following the Maariv service on Purim eve, the *Megillah* is brought to the reading table, unrolled, and chanted in full. As the reader encounters and chants the name of Haman, which occurs 53 times, the children respond by making a joyous din with their noisemakers or *groggers*. All in all, the synagogue on Purim has an exceptional air of gaiety and merry-making.

The *Al ha-Nissim* prayer, thanking God for the miracle of Purim, is included in the *shemoneh esreh* at all Purim services as well as in the grace after meals. At the morning service, the Torah reading recounts the story of the attack of Amalek (the traditional ancestor of Haman) on the Jews. Other customs, made obligatory by Jewish law are

the sending of gifts – usually of Purim delicacies – (*mishloah monet*) to friends and distribution of charity to the poor. On Purim afternoon, a family feast known as the *Purim Seudah* is an important feature of the celebration.

The Meaning of Purim Today

Purim commemorates the victory over Haman, prototype of all the persecutors of the Jews, of whatever country in whatever century. Its story affirms the indestructibility of the Jewish people and directs attention to the miracle of our eternal survival. Purim affirms that where there is faith in God, there follows inevitably as the day follows the night, the same "light and joy and gladness and honor" that our fathers experienced on the first Purim long ago.

The A to Z of Purim

Adar – The twelfth month in the Jewish calendar which falls in late February or March. Purim occurs on the fourteenth day of Adar.

Adloyada – A word recently coined in Israel to designate the Purim carnival. The name is derived from the talmudic saying, "One should drink 'ad d'lo yada' (till one knows not) the difference between 'Baruch Mordecai' (Blessed by Mordecai) and 'Arur Haman' (Cursed be Haman)."

Ahasuerus – The king of Persia who plays an important role in the book of Esther. He is usually identified as Xerxes I (485-465 B.C.E.).

Al ha-Nissim (For the miracles) – A special prayer included in the Eighteen Benedictions and the Grace after Meals on Purim and Hanukkah.

Esther – The heroine of the Purim story, originally called Hadassah.

Fast of Esther – See Taanit Esther.

Grogger – Noisemaker used on Purim in the synagogue during the reading of the *Megillah* whenever the name of Haman is mentioned.

Hadassah (Myrtle) – See Esther.

Haman – Minister of King Ahasuerus and villain of the Purim story.

Hamantash – A three cornered Purim pastry filled with poppyseed. It derives its name from a combination of the two German words –Mohn (poppyseed) and Tash (pocket). The original name Mohntash was later punned as Hamantash.

Megillah (Scroll) – Usually refers to *Megillah Esther* (Scroll of Esther) read on Purim during the evening and morning services.

Mishloah Monet (Sending of Gifts) – The practice of sending gifts to friends and to the poor on Purim.

Mordecai – The hero of the Purim story and the cousin of Esther.

Purim (Lots) – The Feast of Lots or the Feast of Esther. The name is derived from the fact that Haman cast lots to discover the day most favorable to his plan for destroying the Jews.

Purimspieler (Purim player) – Purim players or actors who would go from house to house to dance, sing and produce episodes of the Book of Esther.

Seudah (Meal) – The joyous observance of Purim is culminated in a festive meal at the conclusion of the day.

Shabbat Zakor (Sabbath of Remembrance) – The Sabbath before Purim when the portion of the Maftir that is read begins with the words Zakor...Amalek (Remember... Amalek). Haman is considered a descendant of Amalek.

Shalah Monet – See Mishloah Monet.

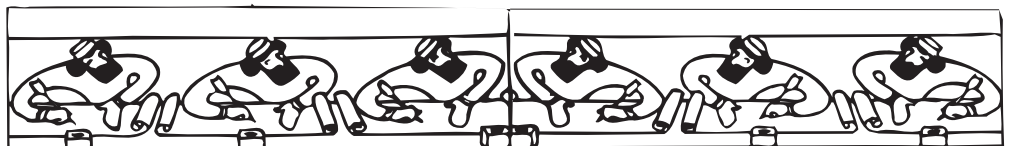
Shushan – The capital of ancient Persia where the main events of The Book of Esther occurred.

Shushan Purim – The day following Purim, Adar the fifteenth. The holiday was celebrated on this day in Shushan as final triumph was achieved in that city then.

Taanit Esther (Fast of Esther) – A fast day which occurs on the day before Purim, Adar the thirteenth.

Vashti – Queen of King Ahasuerus, deposed for refusing to show herself to his guests.

Zeresh – The wife of Haman.





CHICAGO LOOP SYNAGOGUE

Presents

The Eighteenth Annual



Scholar-In-Residence Weekend

“Learning, Fellowship and Jewish Self-Understanding”

with

RABBI JACOB J. SCHACTER

Scholar, Author and Lecturer

Professor of Jewish History & Jewish Thought at Yeshiva University

Senior Scholar at the Center for the Jewish Future at Yeshiva University

Faculty Member of The Wexner Foundation and The Wexner Heritage Foundation

FRIDAY, MAY 13 - SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2011

TOPICS INCLUDE:

1. *American Jewry and the Challenge of Choice*
2. *The Life and Teaching of Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik*
3. *The Interplay of Act and Emotion in Living Jewishly*

WEEKEND INCLUDES:

- *One Night Hotel Accommodations at the Standard Club*
- *Friday Night Shabbat Dinner*
- *Saturday Lunch*
- *Saturday Afternoon Seudah Shlishit Buffet*

Call (312) 346-7370 for reservations & information

The Scholar-In-Residence Program is partially funded through a grant from the Arthur Rubloff Foundation for Jewish Studies.

MAIL FORM & CHECK TO: CHICAGO LOOP SYNAGOGUE, 16 S. CLARK ST., CHICAGO, IL 60603

Please check one of the options and indicate

of People

Total Cost

Entire Weekend 1 Night at hotel, 3 Meals & Programs

A. Double Occupancy Per Person \$175.00

X _____ = _____

OR B. Single Occupancy Per Person \$225.00

X _____ = _____

Entire Weekend without hotel: 3 Meals & Programs

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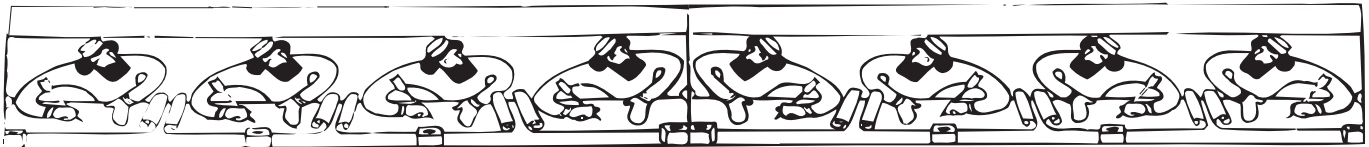
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The
BULLETIN
 of the
CHICAGO LOOP
SYNAGOGUE



THE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS
of
THE CHICAGO LOOP SYNAGOGUE
EXTEND SINCERE WISHES
for
A Joyous Purim

SPECIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR PURIM

"Megillah



March 19th and March 20th
 All members of the Synagogue and their families – especially their young children and grandchildren – are cordially invited to attend the reading of the *Megillah* on Purim evening, **Saturday, March 19th at 8:00 P.M.** After the Megillah reading, the Purim party will commence.

March 19th
 Mincha 6:55 P.M.
 Maariv 7:30 P.M.
 Megillah 8:00 P.M.

March 20th
 Shachris 9:00 A.M.
 Megillah 9:35 A.M.

... With
 Hamantaschen"

