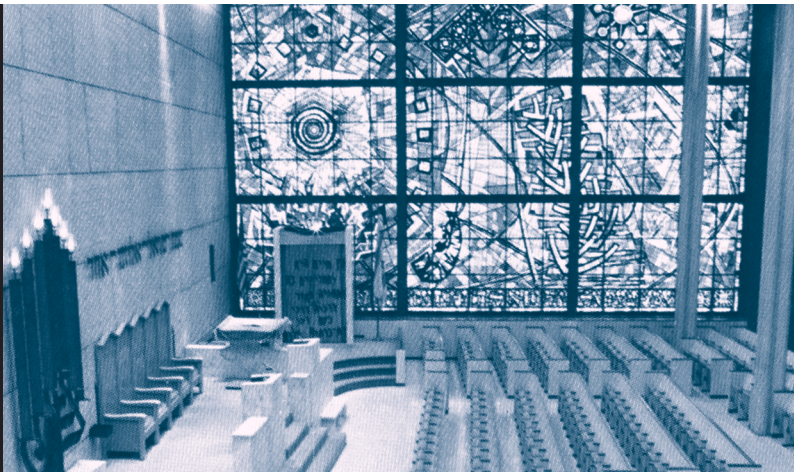


# The BULLETIN of the CHICAGO LOOP SYNAGOGUE



VOL. XLVII

MARCH-APRIL, 2010

NISAN, 5770

NO. 4

*"The synagogue bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of Sarah Berlow"*

## President's Message

My Dear Friends,

As I wrote this message following Shabbos Shekalim, which was the first of the four special Sabbaths preceding Passover, I was reminded that Passover was only a month and a half away. It was also a Shabbos Cholent! Thanks to the generosity of Herbie Berg, Rabbi Kroll prepared a special Cholent in honor of Renee Rosenberg, wife of Rabbi Gerry Rosenberg. It was a great way to warm our hearts and our stomachs on a cold February day, while showing our warmth and affection for Renee!

On that same Shabbos, we were honored by the presence of actress and comedienne Sandra Bernhard. Ms. Bernhard was in Chicago performing at the Lakeshore Theater. That's why this synagogue is so special; one never knows who'll drop by to worship with us!

The Chicago Loop Synagogue has been privileged to present some of the greatest Jewish scholars of our time at our annual Scholar-In-Residence Program. This year's program will be no exception. Our honored guest will be Rabbi Avi Weiss of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale. We are excited that the dynamic Rabbi Weiss will once again be here and share his warmth, wit and wisdom with us during the Scholar-In-Residence weekend. This year's program will take place on the weekend of May 7th. Please refer to the more detailed

program description that you will be receiving shortly.

Unfortunately, this Bulletin will go to print before our annual Purim party and costume contest. In past years, our participants have displayed marvelous creativity in their costume design, and I am sure they will not disappoint this year. Stay tuned for pictures in our next Bulletin.

Finally, it's my annual custom before Passover to remind everyone to give to Moes Chitim, the organization that provides the special foods of Passover to those unable to afford them. During these difficult economic times, your contribution is needed more than ever. Please stop by the synagogue office to make your generous contribution to Moes Chitim.

My best wishes for a Happy, Healthy and Kosher Pesach.

*Mark J. Schechter*

## Lunch & Learn Program

The Chicago Loop Synagogue is pleased to host the **Philip & Rebecca Esformes Lunch & Learn Program**, sponsored through the generosity of **Rabbi & Mrs. Morris Esformes**.

The Lunch & Learn Program 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, at no charge, every Wednesday and Thursday. 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. Space is limited. Reservations are required and must be made at the Synagogue office the day before the program. Please contact the Synagogue office for more information. We encourage you to participate in this excellent program.



The Chicago Loop Synagogue  
website is:

[www.chicagoloopsynagogue.org](http://www.chicagoloopsynagogue.org).

Contact us at our e-mail address:  
[loopadmn@chiloopsyn.org](mailto:loopadmn@chiloopsyn.org).

*from the*  
**RABBI**



Very often, Rabbinic literature uses a play on words to make a telling point. A wonderful illustration is the advice: *Mitzvah shebaah leyadekha al tahmitzenah*. “If an

opportunity to do a *mitzvah* – a good deed – appears before you, do not postpone it.” The Hebrew word for postpone is *tahmitzenah*, which means “Do not let it become *hametz*.” Or, to put it in our language: “Don’t let it sour.”

This is something we might well consider not only during Passover, but every day of our lives. So often, when we have the chance to do or say something worthwhile, we let it pass and find ourselves saying regretfully later, “If only I had done it.”

If you have something nice to say, say it now. If your child does something good, compliment him or her now and not later. If someone in the community achieves something, send a note now, not later. And, how much better to say loving things to your friends and family now – while they can still hear them – rather than saving your praises for a eulogy. If you have time and money to give, give some of it now. As our tradition tells us:

“He who gives when well, his gift is like gold;

He who gives only when ill, his gift is like silver;

He who gives only in his will, his gift is like copper.”

When we delay a gift, it turns sour, but when we give it now, it is as fresh as new made bread.

*Rabbi Stanley E. Kroll*

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

**IN MEMORY AND APPRECIATION**

**TORAH FUND**

Leon Wool

*In Memory of His Wife, Bernadette*

Steve A. Altschul

Mr. & Mrs. Philip Mappa

*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*

Bella Fruchter

*In Memory of Her Sister,*

*Bessie Odzer*

Stuart Orelove

*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*

Phil Moss

*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*

**RABBI'S FUND**

Morris I. Kalin Trust

Miriam Chaplik-Prober

Fran Simmons and Arlene &  
Shigeo Kosugi

*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*

Mr. & Mrs. M. Waldman

*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*

*(Continued on Page 5)*

**Chicago Loop Synagogue**

*Rabbi Stanley E. Kroll*

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\* Of Blessed Memory



**THE CHICAGO LOOP SYNAGOGUE**

through a grant from the  
**Arthur Rubloff Memorial Fund**  
to Perpetuate Jewish Study

proudly presents



**RABBI AVI WEISS**

*Scholar, Activist, Author & Lecturer, Founder & Dean of Yeshivat Chovevei Torah - The Open Orthodox Rabbinical Seminary, New York, Senior Rabbi of the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale, Bronx, New York, National President of the Coalition of Jewish Concern-AMCHA, Founder of Yeshivat Mahara't*

Rabbi Weiss will speak on:

**“The State of World Jewry”**

This lecture is open to the public

**SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 9, 2010**

**10:15 A.M.**

Coffee and pastries will be served at 9:30 A.M.

Chicago Loop Synagogue  
16 South Clark Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60603

**For further information, please contact the synagogue office at  
(312) 346-7370**

Stanley E. Kroll  
Rabbi

Mark J. Schechter  
President



The Chicago Loop Synagogue welcomes into membership the following individual: **Tovia Volkowitz**.



On February 13th, **Herbert Berg** sponsored a Cholent Kiddush Luncheon in honor of **Renee Rosenberg's** recovery.



On February 27th, **Rabbi Morris & Delecia Esformes** sponsored a Cholent Kiddush Luncheon in honor of the recent engagement of their daughter, **Rachi**, to **Sam Chavin**.



On February 27th, the **Chicago Loop Synagogue** hosted the **Annual Purim Party**. Following the reading of the Megillah, our guests enjoyed wonderful food, hamantaschen and treats. Prizes were awarded for the best costumes. It was truly a fun filled evening!



On March 10th, **William Posternack** sponsored a breakfast in observance of the *yahrzeit* of his father, **Louis Posternack**, of blessed memory.

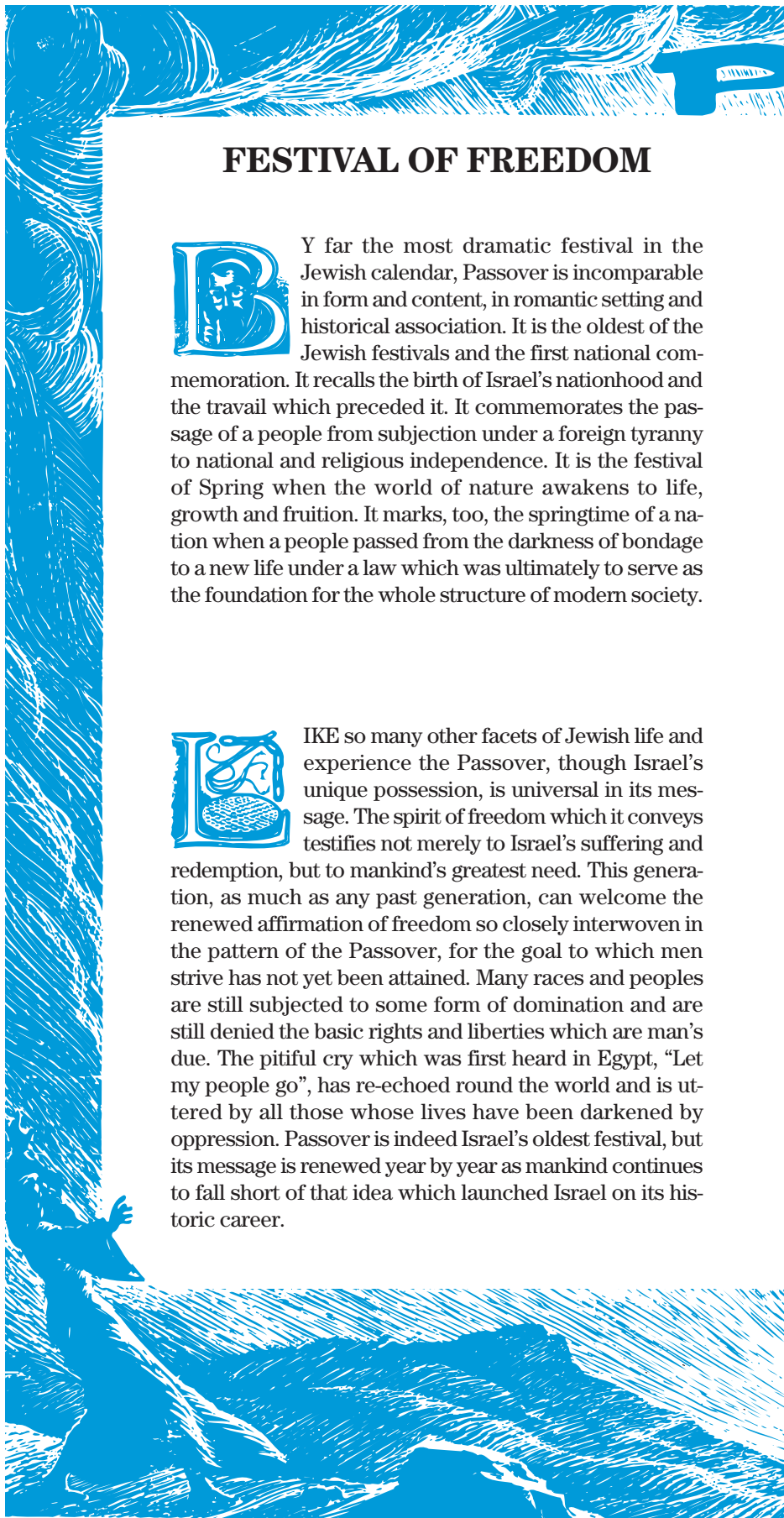


On March 13th, **David & Ronald Harris** sponsored a Shabbos Kiddush in observance of the *yahrzeit* of their father, **Milton Harris**, of blessed memory.

### Yizkor Service

The Yizkor Memorial Services will be conducted on the last day of Passover, **TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 2010**. Please note that there will be only one complete service with Yizkor recited two times – during and after that service.

<b>Services</b>	<b>Yizkor</b>
<b>Start at:</b>	<b>Starts at:</b>
9:00 A.M.	10:45 A.M.
	12:00 Noon



## FESTIVAL OF FREEDOM

**B**Y far the most dramatic festival in the Jewish calendar, Passover is incomparable in form and content, in romantic setting and historical association. It is the oldest of the Jewish festivals and the first national commemoration. It recalls the birth of Israel's nationhood and the travail which preceded it. It commemorates the passage of a people from subjection under a foreign tyranny to national and religious independence. It is the festival of Spring when the world of nature awakens to life, growth and fruition. It marks, too, the springtime of a nation when a people passed from the darkness of bondage to a new life under a law which was ultimately to serve as the foundation for the whole structure of modern society.

**L**IKE so many other facets of Jewish life and experience the Passover, though Israel's unique possession, is universal in its message. The spirit of freedom which it conveys testifies not merely to Israel's suffering and redemption, but to mankind's greatest need. This generation, as much as any past generation, can welcome the renewed affirmation of freedom so closely interwoven in the pattern of the Passover, for the goal to which men strive has not yet been attained. Many races and peoples are still subjected to some form of domination and are still denied the basic rights and liberties which are man's due. The pitiful cry which was first heard in Egypt, "Let my people go", has re-echoed round the world and is uttered by all those whose lives have been darkened by oppression. Passover is indeed Israel's oldest festival, but its message is renewed year by year as mankind continues to fall short of that idea which launched Israel on its historic career.





UT even though the message of the Passover is universal in application, it is essentially a domestic celebration. The family gathers round the parental table. The children enjoy pride of place. All efforts are turned to stimulating their interest and arousing their curiosity. The mode of celebration is educational in character, for the father's duty is to expound the theme of the Exodus, to enliven its narration and to explain its meaning in the light of current experience. Rich in historical associations, the order of the **Seder** ritual (the home service on the first two evenings of Passover) is traceable to the earliest days of Jewish national history. The **Haggadah**, the most popular of all orders of service for use in the home at the **Seder**, has enjoyed the attention of scholars, poets and artists of countless generations. No book has been elaborated upon with greater love.



UR story lives and is lived by those who tell it. The old wine-stained **Haggadah**, passed on from one generation to the next, evokes the picture of generations of parents retelling the ancient epic to their children and in the telling comparing the events of the past with the tribulations of the moment. This consciousness of the continuity of history is part of the **Seder's** inspiration. The measure of yearning for the ultimate freedom which shall be complete and absolute is written large in this compact ritual. The message of hope for the future redemption passes from father to son in the course of the narration and in the replies which are given to children's questions.



ONG is our memory and tenacious. It cannot forget past suffering. Even the wine stains which recall the **Seder** celebrations of one's forebears impel recollection of the blood-stained pages of Jewish history. Yet, the memory of those sufferings has not warped the mind of the Jew. He clings to the faith which a glorious past engendered and the recollection of that past breeds hope for the future. Sentiment and faith preserve that hope for future generations. The **Seder** projects its celebrants into the uncharted times to come, just as the Passover liturgy of the Synagogue sings of the "Passover of the future".



OPE is the motif of Passover. Indeed, as the Jewish philosopher Philo wrote in the first century of the Common Era, the Festival of Freedom, set as it is against the background of the springtime, bears eloquent testimony to a rich hopefulness. The fresh blossom, the warming rays of the Spring sunshine and the comforting verdure clothing the fields offer renewed hope for the harvests yet to come. Israel enters into the spirit of the festival in the month of Spring with reborn optimism.

*\*Adapted from "A Guide to Passover" by Isaac Levy*



## Passover Particulars

### Siyyum

In commemoration of the deliverance of the Jewish First-born at the time of the Exodus from Egypt, the eve of the festival is observed as the “Fast of the First-born.” First-born male children customarily observe this fast unless they participate in the completion of the study of a volume of the Talmud. This is known as a **siyyum**. At the **siyyum**, the rabbi completes the study of a tractate of the Talmud and invites the first-born to share the celebration with him – thereby exempting them from fasting. The **siyyum** at the Synagogue will be held after the morning services on **Monday, March 29th at 8:35 A.M.**

### Mo’os Chitim

It is traditional for Jews, who have been blessed by the Almighty with His bounty, to make sure that their less fortunate brethren have all that is necessary to celebrate a joyous Passover. Special funds for this purpose known as **Mo’os Chitim** are collected in synagogues throughout the world. The Chicago Loop Synagogue participates in this activity. If you would like to make a contribution to the **Mo’os Chitim** Fund, please mail it directly to the Synagogue or bring it in personally and earmark it accordingly. These funds will be distributed by the Synagogue to the many individuals and institutions whose Passover will be more joyous because of your generosity.

### Passover Guide

Copies of the **Passover Guide**, published by the Chicago Rabbinical Council, are available from the Synagogue without charge. This booklet contains a listing of approved Passover foods, as well as much helpful information concerning proper observance of the holiday.

The Rabbi will be happy to answer any specific questions you may have about Passover observances or to provide guidance in conducting your own Passover Seder.

### “Mechiras Chometz”

Biblical injunction provides that on Passover “no leaven may be seen **with thee**.” This was interpreted by the Rabbis to mean that the prohibition applies only when **chometz** is legally within **thy** possession. If, however, it passes out of the Jew’s ownership, it ceases to be his responsibility. Particularly in a complicated modern society where it is not possible to physically dispose of all leaven, the practice has arisen of effecting a legal transfer of ownership. This is done by authorizing the rabbi to make such a transfer. If you wish to have this done, please append your signature to the form below and mail it to the Synagogue or arrange to sign the form which will be available in the Synagogue office. This form must be received by the morning of **March 29th**. There is no charge for this service, although it is customary to make a contribution to the **Mo’os Chitim** Fund.

I hereby authorize Rabbi Stanley E. Kroll to act as my agent in effecting the transfer of any leaven or mixtures or derivative of leaven which are in my possession or for which I am legally responsible or which may be in my possession on the 14th day of Nisan of the year 5770, together with the premises on which they are located in accordance with all the requirements of the Jewish religious law.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

I am enclosing \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the Mo’os Chitim Fund.

**The Following Individuals Have Made Contributions to The Chicago Loop Synagogue**  
*(Continued from Page 2)*

**RABBI’S FUND** *(continued)*  
Dr. Lawrence Perlman  
*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*  
Cynthia Simpson  
Rabbi Gerry & Renee Rosenberg  
*In Honor of Herbert Berg*

**RITUAL FUND**  
Phillip Schneider  
*In Memory of His Mother, Irene Schneider*  
Gary & Ceil Rothbart  
*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*  
Richard & Sherry Simmons  
*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*  
Michael D. Miselman  
*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*  
Phil Moss  
*In Honor of Allen Meyer*

**PRAYER BOOK FUND**  
Steve & Jackie Waldman  
*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*  
Michael D. Miselman  
*In Honor of Rabbi Morris & Delecia Esformes’ Sponsorship of the Lunch & Learn Program in Honor of His Parents*  
Ronald B. Port, M. D.  
*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*

**LIBRARY FUND**  
Lyle & Jacqueline Genin  
*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*  
Marshall & Sharon Shifrin  
*In Memory of Dr. Arthur Shapiro*

### DAILY BOX KOSHER LUNCHES AVAILABLE IN THE LOOP

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16 South Clark Street



**THE BULLETIN OF THE CHICAGO LOOP SYNAGOGUE**

**SPECIAL SERVICE SCHEDULE FOR PASSOVER**

**Monday, March 29th  
(Passover Eve)**

Shachris.....7:45 A.M.  
Mincha .....1:30; 5:15 P.M.  
Maariv .....5:30 P.M.

**Tuesday & Wednesday, March 30th & 31st  
(First and Second Days of Passover)**

Shachris .....9:00 A.M.  
Mincha .....5:15 P.M.  
Maariv\* .....5:30 P.M.

**Thursday & Friday, April 1st & 2nd  
(First & Second Intermediate Days)**

Shachris.....7:45 A.M.  
Mincha .....1:30; 5:15 P.M.  
Maariv .....5:30 P.M.

**Saturday, April 3rd  
(Shabbat Chol Hamoed)**

Shachris .....9:00 A.M.  
Mincha .....5:00 P.M.  
Maariv\* .....5:30 P.M.

**Sunday, April 4th  
(Fourth Intermediate Day of Passover)**

Shachris .....9:15 A.M.  
Mincha .....4:30 P.M.  
Maariv .....4:45 P.M.

**Monday, April 5th  
(Seventh Day of Passover)**

Shachris. ....9:00 A.M.  
Mincha.....5:15 P.M.  
Maariv .....5:30 P.M.

**Tuesday, April 6th  
(Eighth Day of Passover)**

Shachris. ....9:00 A.M.  
Yizkor .....10:45 & 12:00 Noon  
Mincha.....5:15 P.M.  
Maariv\* .....5:30 P.M.

**Note:** \* While Maariv Services are conducted at this time, the Sabbath or Holiday does not terminate until 7:55 P.M. on March 31st & April 3rd and 8:00 P.M. on April 6th.

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