



## FROM THE RABBI'S DESK "THE PESACH GOY OR GUESS WHO'S COMING FOR CHOMETZ?"

The Lincoln Square community of mid-town New York experienced one of its most exciting Passover festivals this year — and it had nothing whatever to do with the *Sedarim* or the services. As most of you know, the Bible forbids a Jew from owning *chametz* (any edible substance containing the smallest amount of a grain product which had contact with water for more than 18 minutes) during the eight days of Passover. "But by the first day (of Passover) you must cause the *chametz* to cease to exist within all your habitations," declares the Scriptures. On the day before the festival, the observant Jew conforms with the divine dictum by ferreting out and physically destroying the *Chametz* of which he wishes to be rid, and by formally renouncing ownership over and declaring his total disregard for the *chametz* he might own, but of which he is unaware. However, since many Jews have large quantities of *chametz* (especially liquor) and would be subject to considerable economic loss if this had to be destroyed, the custom arose, from the time of the Gaonim, to isolate the valuable *chametz* and "sell" it to a non-Jew for the duration of the festival. The gentile gives a down payment, takes official title to all the *chametz*, and upon his taking possession, is expected to pay the market value price. If he does not make his collection by the end of the festival, all of the *chametz* reverts to its original owner. Despite the fact that great care is taken to provide for a legally valid sale, the entire transaction is generally seen by all concerned as a *pro forma* act at best, and a legal fiction (loophole in the law) at worst. But this year was different . . .

During the course of this past year, I met a delightful woman, who is the personal secretary of a close congregant. She described herself upon our first meeting — with a devilish twinkle in her eye — as a "*Shiksa*" who was fascinated by Jewish traditions, and had even attended a number of my lectures in the past. As our relationship developed, I suggested to Marie that she serve as the gentile to purchase the *chametz* of the approximately 500 Jewish families who had empowered me to be their agent for the sale. To my delight, she accepted the challenge with alacrity. The Friday morning before Passover, she arrived in my office bright and early. She accepted the rental of my pantry, together with the purchase of my *chametz*, as well as the *chametz* of my congregants, whose names, addresses, and amounts of *chametz* were carefully enumerated in precisely prepared lists, gave me a \$5 deposit, signed a contract of ownership, and provided me with an object of her apparel (a hat) as a sign of her complete acquisition. In short, she made me feel inexpressibly relieved that neither I nor my congregants would own any *chametz* on Passover. But this was only the beginning . . . On the third day of the festival, Marie called one of my most active congregants and a Vice President of our Synagogue, requesting a private meeting in his office. He knew her only as the personal secretary of another congregant and immediately granted her the appointment. "I suppose you are wondering why I'm here; well, I'm the *goy* who bought your *chametz* and I've come to select a few bottles of your whiskey," she announced demurely, taking out the various contracts from her pocketbook. In the ensuing thirty minutes, her "client's" mood changed from dismay to consternation to amusement to pride ("Now I am confident that the *chametz* sale is for real!"). Marie then left his office with a bottle of J & B under her arm, after depositing her check for "*chametz* — scotch". She then continued her rounds for the rest of the Intermediate Days of Passover, carefully choosing the names on her list and collecting a most impressive stockpile of her own Pesach *chametz*.

I must admit that the Lincoln Square Synagogue community was at first a bit shaken,

(Continued on Page 3)







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## Schedule of Services

### SHAVUOT

Midnight Bible Class ..... 11:30 P.M.

### Sunday, June 11

Shavuot Hashkama Minyan ..... 4:45 A.M.  
Shavuot Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud Class ..... 7:05 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 8:05 P.M.  
Kindle Festival Candles  
not before ..... 9:06 P.M.

### Monday, June 12

Shavuot Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.

### Yizkor Memorial Services

Talmud Class ..... 6:50 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 7:50 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 8:20 P.M.

### Friday, June 16

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 8:09 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, June 17 (Naso)

Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud and Bible Classes ..... 7:05 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 8:05 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 8:25 P.M.

### Friday, June 23

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 8:11 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, June 24 (Behaalotecha)

Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud and Bible Classes ..... 7:10 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 8:10 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 8:25 P.M.

### Friday, June 30

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 8:11 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, July 1 (Shelach)

Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud Class ..... 7:10 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 8:10 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 8:25 P.M.

### Wednesday July 5 and

### Thursday July 6

Rosh Chodesh Tammuz  
Morning Services ..... 7:00 and 7:40 A.M.

### Friday, July 7

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 8:10 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, July 8 (Korach)

Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud Class ..... 7:10 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 8:10 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 8:20 P.M.

### Friday, July 14

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 8:07 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, July 15 (Chukat)

Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud Class ..... 7:10 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 8:10 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 8:15 P.M.

### Friday, July 21

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 8:02 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, July 22 (Balak)

Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud Class ..... 7:05 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 8:05 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 8:10 P.M.

### Sunday, July 23

Fast of Shiva Asar B'Tammuz  
Morning Service ..... 8:30 A.M.  
Mincha ..... 8:00 P.M.  
Fast concludes at ..... 8:50 P.M.

### Friday, July 28

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 7:56 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, July 29 (Pinchas)

Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud Class ..... 7:00 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 8:00 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 8:05 P.M.

### Friday, August 4

Rosh Chodesh Av  
Morning Services ..... 7:00 and 7:40 A.M.

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 7:47 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, August 5 (Mattot-Masei)

Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud Class ..... 6:50 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 7:50 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 7:55 P.M.

### Friday, August 11

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 7:40 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, August 12 (Devarim)

Shabbat Chazone  
Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Mincha ..... 5:00 P.M.  
The Fast begins at ..... 7:58 P.M.  
Maariv and the Reading of  
Eicha ..... 8:40 P.M.

### Sunday, August 13

### TISHA B'AV

Morning Service ..... 8:30 A.M.  
Mincha ..... 7:40 P.M.  
Fast Concludes ..... 8:40 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 7:45 P.M.

### Friday, August 18

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 7:30 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

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The Sabbath is terminated Saturday evenings one hour after the  
official candle-lighting time on the previous Friday afternoon.

### SHABBAT SERVICES

Shabbat Early Services followed by classes in Bible and Talmud ..... 8:00 A.M.  
Regular Services ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Service for beginners and those with little Synagogue background ..... 9:15 A.M.  
Third Minyan followed by a class in Bible ..... 9:45 A.M.  
Junior Congregation ..... 10:00-11:15 A.M.  
Shabbat Nursery (3-5 years old) ..... 10:00 A.M.

### DAILY MINYAN

Weekdays ..... 7:15 and 7:50 A.M.  
If a member requires a shiva minyan at his home, the second minyan meets there.  
Sunday ..... 7:15 and 8:30 A.M.  
Legal Holidays ..... 8:30 A.M.  
Rosh Chodesh ..... 7:00 and 7:40 A.M.  
Chol Hamoed ..... 7:00 and 7:40 A.M.  
Fast Days ..... 7:00 and 7:30 A.M.



## Schedule of Services (Cont'd)

### Saturday, August 19 (Vaetchanan)

Shabbat Nachamu  
Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud Class ..... 6:30 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 7:30 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 7:40 P.M.

### Friday, August 25

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 7:20 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, August 26 (Ekev)

Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud Class ..... 6:20 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 7:20 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 7:30 P.M.

### Friday, September 1

\*Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 7:09 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, September 2 (Re'eh)

Rosh Chodesh Elul  
Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud Class ..... 6:10 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 7:10 P.M.

### Sunday, September 3

Rosh Chodesh Elul  
Morning Services ..... 7:15 and 8:30 A.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 7:15 P.M.

### Friday, September 8

Kindle Shabbat Candles ..... 6:57 P.M.  
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat 6:45 P.M.

### Saturday, September 9 (Shoftim)

Shabbat Morning Service ..... 8:45 A.M.  
Talmud Class ..... 5:55 P.M.  
Mincha ..... 6:55 P.M.  
Daily Mincha and Maariv for the  
remainder of the week ..... 7:05 P.M.

# תענוגים

## Our condolences to:

Mr. Max BARRETT, our dedicated member, on the loss of his beloved mother.

Mr. Mel MOED, Mrs. Sandra MEHL and Mrs. Nicole TRATT on the loss of their beloved mother, our devoted member and benefactor, Mrs. Ruth MOED.

Mr. Joseph ORLEANS, our devoted founding member, on the loss of his beloved wife, our founding member, Mrs. Judith ORLEANS.

Mrs. Liliane SCHWARZ, our dedicated member, on the loss of her beloved mother, Mrs. Perla KRONEN-GOLD.

May the Almighty comfort the families among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

Mrs. Albert REINHARD wishes to express her sincerest thanks and appreciation for the many expressions of sympathy she received on the passing of her beloved father, Mr. Emil KOPPEL.



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## Annual Dinner

Everyone agreed. Chazzin Goffin song his best ever and the thirteenth annual dinner, arranged by Ceil and David Olivestone, was a most professional affair. Kudos also to Morton Landowne on the successful Journal campaign.

The Getzlers, in a moving and exciting presentation received a one-of-a-kind menorah created by Ludwig Wolpert of the Jewish Museum.

Both Getzlers spoke. Stanley mentioned he always had dreamed as a child of hitting a home run and as the crowd roared he would modestly reply by doffing his baseball cap. So he asked everyone to excuse his desire to doff his yarmulke at the ceremonies. The Getzlers' son, Joshua, gave a spirited toast. *Echod* hopes to have a full picture display of the Dinner in our first Fall issue.

## Rabbi's Desk (Cont'd)

and then, quite moved by the experience. I am left with some interesting questions. How many congregants will make me their agent to sell their *chometz* next year? Will Marie still be willing to serve as our *goy* or will she convert and move to *Meah Shearim*? Or is Marie in actuality Elijah the prophet in modish Women's Lib guise, reminding the Jewish people that they had better take their ritual seriously, if they expect to usher in the Messiah before next Pesach.

(The Rabbi's article included a copy of a seven dollar check for "chometz—scotch" made out by Marie to Jerome Stern, but we were unable to reproduce the check here.)

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# מזל טוב

## **Engagements:**

The congregation was blessed with many special engagements this past month and a half. These included:

Sharon GROSS to Jeff GEFEN.

Yehudit GROSS to Ephraim LIN-KER.

Suzanne PAUL and Mark DISKIN.

Lucy REINHARD to Arthur J. HOROWITZ.

Barry SPECTOR and Sari KES-TENBAUM.

Miriam WEISS to Samuel GLUCK.

Jeffrey ZUCKERMAN and Miriam STERNBERG.

We regret that space considerations in this, our last issue of the year, make it impossible for us to list the many other mazel tovs we recently have enjoyed.

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