



# THE YOUNG ISRAELITE

YOUNG ISRAEL OF PARKCHESTER  
1375 VIRGINIA AVENUE  
THE BRONX

Volume XI

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No. 9

## SHAVUOTH FESTIVAL OF TORAH

**FRIDAY and SATURDAY, MAY 23rd and 24th**

*Eruv Tavshiin*

Light Candles Thursday, May 22nd at.....7:54 P.M.

Friday, May 23rd

Morning Services .....8:45 A.M.

Light Candles at .....7:55 P.M.

Saturday, May 24th

Morning Services .....8:45 A.M.

Yizkor Memorial Services at .....10:30 A.M.

Join us in prayer and study on this joyous festival.



**The Young Israelite***Published by***Young Israel of Parkchester**

1375 Virginia Avenue, The Bronx

Tel. TAlmadge 2-9576

Maurice L. Schwartz.....*Rabbi*Sidney Robinson .....*President*Harry Brooks .....*Pres. Men's Club*

Fannie R. Brown

*Pres. Women's League***PRESIDENT'S CORNER***by Sidney Robinson*

The term "self-examination" has, of late, become almost a household expression. Universities, economic systems, governments, races, and religions have all been faced by critics with the demand that these institutions examine themselves, find their errors, and take steps to correct such shortcomings.

Mundane as it may seem, there is a lot of merit in such an experience. The National Council of Young Israel, as an example, has during the past few months conducted a series of conferences designed to look into its own activities and come up with answers that are likely to improve the efficacy of such activities.

An ideal illustration of "self-examination" is the Ten Days of Penitence, culminating in Yom Kippur when all Jews search their hearts, pronounce their sins, and seek atonement by pledging to do good.

Within our own organization, we have the means for an on-going system of self-criticism. These means are through attendance at our Executive Board meetings, which are open to the entire membership. Here, we welcome members to tell us how we can improve upon every facet of our activities. If one cannot at-

tend, letters to the officers will be given close scrutiny and their contents acted upon.

No administration can claim to have all the answers to the problems that face it. Two hundred and twenty five heads are better than ten. While the ten are elected to represent the two hundred and twenty five, the latter should not, thereupon, take a total passive view of the situation. Your opinion is as valuable as any of those sitting on the Board. Use your mouth or pen—they'll work wonders.

**ADULT INSTITUTE EXERCISES**

A large crowd attended the Closing Exercises of our Institute of Adult Studies on May 12th. Close to seventy certificates were distributed to the students who have been diligently attending the various classes and courses during the past year. Special mention was made of our extremely successful Hebrew Ulpan which attracted many of our members. The guest speaker of the evening, Rabbi Abraham Kupchik, of Kingsbridge Heights Jewish Center, stressed the importance of Torah study on all levels. A collation followed the program in Levin Hall.

**RESERVE SUNDAY MORNING,****JUNE 15th****for our****ANNUAL BREAKFAST****YESHIVA UNIVERSITY**

Help support America's oldest and largest Jewish university.

We will be honoring two of our own Yeshiva University students

JOEL KUTNER

and

NEIL WINKLER.

## Shavuot



**CHAG HAKATZIR** — (The Harvest Festival) — Commemorates the climax of the grain festival which commenced with the gathering of the early wheat crop at Pesach and ended with the harvesting of the wheat produce at Shavuos.

**YOM HABIKKURIM** — (The Day of the First Fruits) — Refers to the ripening of the first fruits which were brought to the Temple in Jerusalem in appreciation of G-d's bountiful blessings.

**CHAG SHAVUOS** — (The Feast of Weeks) — Symbolizes the counting of seven weeks from the second day of Pesach until the festival was ushered in.

**PENTECOST** — (Greek origin meaning 50th) — Philo and Josephus denote the holiday of this name because this festival occurs on the 50th day after the offering of the omer.

**Z'MAN MATTAN TORASENU** — (The Season for Giving of the Torah) — Our Prayer Books describe this holiday as the festival of Revelation because Moses received the Torah on this day from the Almighty on Mount Sinai.

**ZOHAR** — In poetic words of the Zohar, Shavuos depicts the seven weeks of courtship by Israel, the Bridegroom and his Bride, the Torah, which commenced with the betrothal at the Passover liberation and concluded by the wedlock — the giving of the Torah on Shavuos.

**MAIMONIDES** — Suggests that Shavuos represents the anniversary of the Revelation on Mount Sinai because "We count the days that pass since the preceding Pesach festival, just as one who expects his most intimate friend and counts the days, even the hours".

**SHLOSHES YEME HAGBALAH** — When Israel was to receive the Torah at Mount Sinai, G-d commanded the people to observe a three day period of intense preparation, which are known

as the Shloshes Yeme Hagbalah — three days of delimitation and preparation for the revealing of the Torah. In later generations, these three days preceding Shavuos, have gained significance because they interrupt the mourning period of Sefiras Haomer. They introduce a joyous spirit and a refreshing atmosphere of festivity when marriages may be performed and celebrations held.

**AKDAMOS** — Prior to the reading of the Torah on the first day of Shavuot, the reader chants an introductory mystical poem of nine stanzas entitled from its opening word "Akdamos." This poem is Aramaic, was written by Meir ben Isaac Nahorai, Cantor of Worms. The lines are arranged in couplets, opening with the letters of the alphabet in their usual order. The name "Akdamos" means introduction and is intended to prepare the path for the story of the revelation to be read from the Torah in the morning.

**BOOK OF RUTH** — On the second day of Shavuos, prior to the reading of the Torah, the Book of Ruth is chanted in the Synagogue. The story is indeed appropriate, for its setting is in the fields of Boaz at harvest time, which coincides with the season of Shavuot. It relates how Ruth embraced the faith of Israel, even as a Jew renews his attachment on this day. Moreover, Ruth was a great-grandmother of King David, whose birthday and Yahrzeit occur on Shavuos.

**SHAVUOS DISHES** — The food customarily served on Shavuos is an integral part of its celebration. The traditional holiday dish consists of dairy food, cheese cakes and blintzes. These are said to be suggestive of the Torah, which is symbolically described as "honey and milk" (Song of Songs). The dairy menus, a meager diet, also suggests the path needed for the study and acquisition of Torah.

**FROM THE WOMEN'S LEAGUE**

Dear Sisters:

The Bible enjoins each individual to count the days between Pesach and Shevuoth and this period is known as "Counting of the Omer."

The thirty third day of the counting is a festive day, Lag B'Omer, and according to teachings the terrible plague that killed thousands of Rabbi Akiva's students ceased on that day.

We in America should not only count the days but should take a moment out of our busy life and count our blessings. For how little we have, we have more materially than our brethren in Israel. We should remember and uphold our oath, "If I forget thee, O Jerusalem, let my right hand forget its cunning."

Remembering we should give to the Israel Emergency Fund to show them they are not forgotten and if we cannot be with them fighting side by side for existence, we are with them in spirit.

If every Jew in America were to give Five Dollars, just imagine what Israel could do and maybe then our counting and remembering would have a meaning.

Please G-d when next I write about Lag B'Omer I may write that our counting paid off, for Peace has come to our beloved land and all over the world.

Sincerely,

FANNIE R. BROWN

President

**WOMEN'S LEAGUE NEWS**

How marvelous to view the historical sites of Israel, the emotional experience of the Western Wall, the twenty one layers of civilization at Meggido, Massada, the miracles wrought by the Israelis at Golan Heights, the tomb of Rachel and most important, the feeling of warmth and belonging in all of Israel; also, the exquisite statuary of Rome and Florence, the majesty of the Alps, the sadness of Anne Frank's house in Amsterdam, and the grandeur of Buckingham Palace! How wonderful to see all these things and many more, but how good to be home again, "be it ever so humble."

President Fannie Brown informed me that at our April meeting we had second

nomination of officers and a candle lighting ceremony commemorating the twenty first anniversary of Israel. May the Israeli flag wave forever!

Hattie Haiman and Florence Maslow did a fine job on the raffle and the lucky winners were Anne Geller, winning the bond, Dorothy Werner the transistor radio and Hattie Haiman the silver dish.

We are looking forward to our Donor Dinner. It is sure to be tops as Dorothy Haimowitz and her committee are running it.

Next meeting, May 14th, we'll have election and installation of officers and our President is anticipating the pleasure of greeting you.

Honor and Abe Evans and Sophie and Harold Speck have been sunning in Florida; Allen Feinstein, son of Pearl and Charley, flew off to Acapulco and Mexico City for a vacation from the University of Corpus Christi, Texas, where among other things, Allen prepares orchestrations and plays the drums in the school band; Captain Mark Haiman, son of Hattie and Phil, is vacationing in Hawaii; Jean and Max Katz are traveling through Israel and Europe; Bertha and John Greenfield and Hannah and Irving Langer are in Israel; Marcia Panfield, Bertha's daughter, is practicing her nursing career in Hawaii; Phyllis Siegel, Norma and Charley's daughter, is enjoying California while taking her masters at U.C.L.A. We heard that Jeanne Weiss of Miami, showed up at a Koffee Klotch and surprised everyone.

Wishing you a happy Shavuos,

Your News Reporter,

SADYE R. LEVINE

\* \* \*

Every Tuesday at noon — Koffee Klotch  
Strawberry Festival—Tuesday, June 3rd

**Please Contact:**

Donor Merchandise —

Gertrude Miller — UN 3-1655

L'Maan Hayed —

Fanny Eigner — UN 3-0700

Israeli Gifts —

Ida Diamond — TA 8-9866

Women's League news items should be sent to Sadye R. Levine, 1553 Unionport Road.

**FROM THE MEN'S CLUB**

I want to devote my column in this issue to "THE IMPORTANCE OF BELONGING."

Many people belong to no organization because, they say, they cannot be active and therefore cannot join. Then there are other people who do join but never attend any meetings or take any interest other than paying their dues.

Many of our members belong to the second category. And to these people I would like to address myself. We are in the process of electing a new slate of officers for the year 1969-1970. I deem it a pleasure to invite all our members and their friends to the installation of our officers and at that time make your decision to start participating in future activities and thus give encouragement and support to those members who are active in carrying out the projects of our beloved synagogue, the Young Israel of Parkchester.

HARRY BROOKS  
President

**NEW MEMBERS**

We welcome as a new addition to our evergrowing Young Israel family, Jeffrey Amsel.

May our association be a long and harmonious one.



Our deepest sympathy to Eli and Rose Amanuel on the untimely loss of their beloved daughter Irene.

May they be comforted amongst the other mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

**GET WELL**

Our best wishes for a full and speedy recovery to Gertrude Miller, Sam Weiss and Saul Yutman.

**MAZEL TOV****Our heartiest felicitations to**

Mrs. Gertrude Drillings, on the birth of her granddaughter Natalie Jennifer

and to the parents Gail and Joel Drillings.

Mr. & Mrs. Max Green, on the marriage of their son Justin to Andrea Pastorak.

Mr. & Mrs. Ray Russnow, on the birth of their grandson Scott Alan Myers.

Mr. & Mrs. Harold Speck, on the birth of their granddaughter Lori Brooke Speck to their children Mr. & Mrs. Stuart Speck.

Best wishes and felicitations to the following members having birthdays or anniversaries in May:

**BIRTHDAYS**

(1) Justin Green, Max Green, Reba Pollack, Sidney Sussman (2) Max Schuman, David Robinson (3) Sam Berman, Gene Kohen, Marcia Panfield (4) Michael Levine (5) Irene Stern (6) Barbara Gura, Mark Steiner (2) Yetta Daniels (9) Benjamin Kohen (10) Melvin Zwisohn, Alan Groginsky, Lena Felman, Charles Siegel (11) Leslie Berliner (13) Marcus Weiden, George Rockman (15) Rachel Bernstein, Mae S. Willner, William Charifson (17) Barry Smith, Steven Weinreb, Yuditha Winkler (19) Rose Weinreb, Stephen Astor (20) Stuart Gross, Essie Ornitz (21) Harvey Berish (22) Morris Mednick, Harold Lehrer (24) Abe Ondelman (26) Rhona Jacobs, Betty Waldman, Julia Zaret (27) Theodore Gewertz, Melvyn Diamond, Mildred Berliner (28) Dr. Leonard Sussman (29) Evelyn Panzer, Joanna Harris, Rose Sherman (30) Arnold Green, Marilyn Besen, Arnold Haiman, Al Messing (31) Joel Waldman.

**ANNIVERSARIES**

(1) Mr. & Mrs. Ted Buchsbaum, Mr. & Mrs. David Astor (2) Mr. & Mrs. Calvin Schwell (7) Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. Friedman (10) Mr. & Mrs. Al Gura (14) Mr. & Mrs. Maurice Levin (26) Mr. & Mrs. Marcus Weiden, Mr. & Mrs. Sidney Sussman, Mr. & Mrs. Charles Feinstein, Mr. & Mrs. Jack Katz (28) Mr. & Mrs. Fox (29) Mr. & Mrs. Carl Felman, Mr. & Mr. Jacob Reich (30) Mr. & Mrs. Boris Stern, Mr. & Mrs. Konigsberg (30) Mr. & Mrs. Murray Weinreb \* \* \* and many happy returns.

The Young Israel of Parkchester  
1375 Virginia Ave.  
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## Schedule of Services

### DAILY

Morning .....6:45 A.M.  
Evening .....7:45 P.M.  
Friday evening .....7:00 P.M.  
(During the summer months)  
Saturday morning .....8:45 A.M.  
Sunday morning .....8:00 A.M.

### CALLING ALL BOYS

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