

**Sunday Evening, June 2
7:30 p.m.**

* * *

Join us as we honor

**Herta Shriner
Rabbi Michael Paley
and
Sarah Jacobs & David
Kronfeld**

and their years of service to the
Anshe Chesed Community

Dessert, entertainment,
celebration

IN THESE DIFFICULT TIMES

We can let our voices be heard
President@whitehouse.gov
www.senate.gov

We can use our money for good
www.MagenDavidAdom.org
(1-866-583-8539)

We can write letters to soldiers
Lettertosoldier@jazo.org.il

We can choose to buy Israeli goods,
both directly
www.shopinIsrael.com
www.isralexport.org

and here, by looking at labels (Israeli
industry includes food, knit clothes,
locks and underwear!)

THE GHOST OF ANTI-SEMITISM HAS COME TO LIFE

BY Rabbi Jeremy Kalmanofsky

All my life, I have been happy and safe as an American Jew, and I have believed that anti-Semitism was a ghost: a handful of ignorant but non-malicious comments, a few meaningless exclusions from WASP sanctuaries. That was the extent of anti-Semitism in my own life. The 1991 Crown Heights riot was as bad as I have ever seen Jew-hatred in America, but at no time did I think that was more than an outrageous isolated case. And really, who worried about a few misfits who liked to dress up in swastikas and march around Idaho? All that was vastly outweighed by the evident clout Jews carry in American life. If that clout occasioned some anxiety about Jewish power in American life, so be it. I would rather have power and be regarded suspiciously than lack it and be slaughtered. Looking around the world, it seemed to me that the long history of European anti-Semitism had concluded with the self-immolating orgy of World War II. The veil had been torn away with Nazism, I figured, and the reflection Europe saw in the mirror should cure it of its chronic Jew-hatred. Certainly there were Soviet persecutions, but that was a police state; the Soviets persecuted everyone. As for the Jean-Marie Le Pen gang, they hate Arabs and Africans at least as much as they hate Jews.

In all these cases, in America and Europe, it seemed safe to assume that Jew-hatred was significantly far from the mainstream, certainly among the intelligent

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ONE WAY WE CARE FOR EACH OTHER: SHIVA MEALS

By Sarah Jacobs

There is a story about a person being shown both heaven and hell. They looked identical. In both places there were long tables set for a sumptuous banquet and people sat at both sides, but their arms were unable to bend at their elbows. In hell, the people just stared at the beautiful banquet set before them, miserable and unable to eat it. In heaven, the scene was the same, but people were having a delightful time, eating and talking and laughing. The difference was that in heaven they were feeding each other across the tables.

About a year ago, a member of Anshe Chesed lost her brother. When I talked to her about our community providing meals during the week of *shiva*, she said "It's

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Calendar Page

Toda Raba

Thank you for your generosity

The verse "they who provide charity for the many are like stars forever and ever" (Daniel 12:3) refers to collectors for charity. (Babylonian Talmud: Baba Batra 8b)

GENERAL DONATIONS

Hilda Actor

Richard Ballinger in memory of his grandmother, Celia Felder

Arnold Barkman in memory of his mother, Pauline Barkman

Michael Brochstein in memory of Beth Levine, Marvin Frankel, Navah Harlow's mother, Pauline Chasman, and Susan Newman's father, Herbert Weiss

Melissa Crespy & Lawrence Kaufman in memory of her father, Victor Crespy

Evelyn Dichek in memory of her husband, Maurice Dichek, and her father, Sam Rosenberg
Dianne Cohler-Esses & Larry Cohler

Tilden Euster in memory of his parents, Harry & Augusta Euster, and his relative, Vera Schildkrout

Stanley & Shirley Fischler in memory of his mother, Molly Fischler

Beryl Goldberg

Esther & Walter Hautzig in memory of Esther Hannah Cunzer, Rachel Polak and Sonia Etingin Rudomin

Barry Holtz & Bethamie Horowitz in memory of Navah Harlow's mother, Pauline Chasman

Sharon Kass

Beatrice Koren in memory of her husband, Lester Koren

Morton & Vera Leifman in honor of the many people who sent them Mishloach Manot

Hannah Mark in memory of her grandfather, Sandor Mark

Richard & Maura Mark in memory of his father, Sandor Mark

Jack & Linda Messing in memory of her mother, Frieda Zaban Waldman, their friend, Beth Levine, and Paul Shapiro's father, George Shapiro

Martin Miller & Sophia Gutherz in memory of his parents, Fay & David Miller

Sol Rosenkranz in memory of his relative, Sam Cooper

Alex Ross in memory of his father, Selik Rosovsky

Beverly Schneider in honor of Yocheved & Yochanan Muffs and Nancy & Walter Dubler

Marion & William Shulevitz in memory of her relative, Sarah Cohen Levinson

Ian Yudelman in memory of his mother, Lena Yudelman

Bonnie Zaben in memory of Paul Shapiro's father, George Shapiro, and Risa Schulman's grandmother, Anne Schulman

KIDDUSH FUND

Esther & Walter Hautzig in memory of Paul Shapiro's father, George Shapiro, and Susan Newman's father, Herbert Weiss

KOL NIDRE APPEAL

Holly Schneier

LIBRARY FUND

Anonymous in memory of Paul Shapiro's father, George Shapiro; in honor of the B'nai Mitzvah of Sarah Rebell and Ezra Smyser

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Deborah Brodie in memory of Paul Shapiro's father, George Shapiro, Navah Harlow's mother, Pauline Chasman; in honor of Sarah Rebell's Bat Mitzvah and the birth of Ruby Eloise Klawans
Paul & Mary Feinberg

Josh Hanft & Claudia Chernov in honor of their son, Paul Hanft

David Morris & Elisheva Urbas

REFUAH SHELEMA

Martin Cucchiaro

Ronald Cucchiaro

By Ann Glassman

Jules Harlow

By Beverly Schneider

SHELTER FUND

Bernadine Agocha

Vicki Brower & Michael Gottsegen in memory of her father, Edward Brower, Beth Levine, Arlene Eisenberg, and Howard Berkowitz's father, Fred Berkowitz

Louise Crowley in memory of her grandmother, Pauline Gold, and her great aunts, Ella Strassheim and Marie Strassheim

Jan Faibish

William Jaffe

Charles Sanders

LESTER SHRINER FUND

Sylvia Weber in memory of her father, Norton Harry Lang

Anti-Semitism

Continued from page 1

and sophisticated. Anti-Semitism was a ghost to me once alive, now dead, frightening, but ultimately a phantom. One should get past one's paranoia, hysteria and narcissism. One should not believe in ghosts.

In the last two years I have been convinced that I was naïve, ignorant and deluded. Jew-hatred is alive and sick in 2002, returning with more vigor than at any time in recent decades. The French police report that more than 330 violent attacks took place against Jews in the last year, especially the recent burning of a synagogue in Marseilles. Belgium and Germany have likewise seen a surge in violence against Jews. Were it not driven from the headlines after September 11, last summer's Durban conference against racism would still be on our minds. Jewish participants reported that officially sanctioned booths sold the *Protocols of the Learned Elders of Zion*, the early 20th-century forgery that purports to be a Jewish cabal's plan for world domination. Ralliers at that conference chanted "Kill the Jews," and carried posters that said Hitler should have finished the job. Non-governmental agencies meeting at Durban branded Israel an apartheid state guilty of "crimes against humanity," and called for world isolation and the boycott of Israel. In a widely reported incident, the French ambassador expressed to his dinner companions the frustration that all the world's troubles are caused by Israel, "that [adjectival expletive] little country."

Clearly, much of this tide of Jew-hatred is prompted by the war in Israel and the territories. Without doubt, the world hates Arik Sharon, whom European journalists and jurists regularly compare to Slobodan Milosovic. Obviously, criticism of Israel is in no way to be confused with disloyalty to Israel, let alone Jew-hatred. A great many fine Jews and Israelis have the harshest criticisms for Sharon and the post-Passover incursion into West Bank cities. But it must also be said that criticizing Israel is not self-evident proof that one is not a Jew-hater either. (Like Lenny Bruce's old line: just because you're paranoid, doesn't mean that they are not out to get you.) It is not easy to tell whether Israel and its problems are themselves text or merely the pretext for the onslaught of anti-Semitic rhetoric of today.

In my judgment, when criticism of Israeli tactics yields the conclusion that Jews do not belong in that land at all, or when criticism of Israel takes no account of the subtleties of the demands of self-defense against terrorism, or when the standards of international condemnation are so utterly incommensurate when applied to Israel, then we have effectively crossed from fair criticism in the community of nations to persecution of the Jewish nation.

The British novelist A.N. Wilson observed last fall, long before Jenin, when Sharon's worst crime was closure of the territories, that "the logic of supporting the Palestinians is to question the very right of the State of Israel to exist. It is to that bitterly sad conclusion that the policy of Ariel Sharon has driven so many of us. Of course, we do not want the Israelis to be 'driven into the sea.' But the 1948

experiment, claiming the 'Israelis' had the 'right' to exist as a state just because a few brave terrorists such as Menachem Begin killed some British army officers—this was lazy thinking." Speaking of lazy thinking: the world only permitted Israel's existence because the Irgun was netlesome? Perhaps Wilson has forgotten that Jews endured centuries as an often-persecuted, sometimes slaughtered minority in Christendom and Islam; that like all peoples they have the right to national self-determination; that the Europeans in particular killed them and even today live in their stolen houses and run their stolen factories; that the Jewish community built a society in its ancestral homeland in order to protect and absorb refugees from the other 'benevolent' nations of the world; that Israel is the only guarantee that in one country at least, Jewish existence is society's business, not merely a tolerated accident.

Not every Jew has to choose to live in Israel, or even to support an ethnic nationalist program for the Jewish people. But to deny that there should be a Jewish country, that instead all Jews must be consigned to being minorities in the lands of the Muslims or the Christians—given the track record of our hosts, I fear such a position crosses the line into Jew-hatred. Before the Shoah—perhaps. After the Shoah—absurd.

Similarly, it is horrifying to watch the world wail only at the deaths of Palestinians during this war, while blithely, apologetically ascribing suicide bombings to the "rage" and "frustration" of the Palestinians under occupation. Not everyone has to think that the best way to stop suicide bombers is to invade Jenin. But to say that Israel should have no response to suicide attacks except to offer Arafat more and more until one day he will be satisfied—given the track record of our interlocutors, I believe this is so cavalier about Jewish well being as to raise questions about whether one gives a damn if Jews live or die.

European peace activists come to form a human shield around Yasser Arafat—the man who to this very day pays the suicide bombers. Why don't they form a human shield around grocery shoppers in Mahane Yehuda? I cannot explain this except to think that a) the peaceniks know the suicide bombers would not hesitate to blow them away too, and or b) they simply don't give a damn when Jews die.

The writer Oriana Fallaci put it squarely when she said: "I find it shameful ... that in Sweden they asked that the Nobel Peace Prize given to Shimon Peres in 1994 be withdrawn, and left solely in the hands of the dove with the olive branch in his mouth—that is, Arafat. I find it shameful that the esteemed members of the Nobel Committee ... are taking the request into consideration and thinking of fulfilling it. To hell with the Nobel Prize and hooray to those who don't receive it."

It is all horribly grim stuff, but I cannot help but conclude that Jews today should notice that the ghost has come to life. Anti-Semitism is no phantom. It is still how part of the world relates to us.

March 2002 Shelter Volunteers:

Trudy Balch*
Jessica Bloome*, Alix Davidson* and parents for
Wednesday evenings
Eliav Bock for being Shelter Custodian
Whitney Briton for coordinating JTS students on
Thursday nights
Eun Young Choi for coordinating Columbia students
Tuesday nights
Steve Collins
Pat Corrigan
Howard Eisenberg*
Rob Fine
Miriam Goldberg
Stephanie Gros* for coordinating KOE minyan
volunteers on Monday evenings
Esther Hautzig*
Clement Joseph
Rosie Kahn
Jan Kaufman*
Russ Kelner
Lou Klein*

Ann Koenig*
Danielle and Raphi Levin-Salem
Naomi Marcus* for being Evening Volunteer Coordinator
Daniel Messing*
Linda Messing*
Leigh O'Connor for being Assistant Director
Fraiser Ramjon for volunteering weekends
Raphael Rohrig
Richard Rosenfeld*
Dan Schwarzbaum*
Joy Silber
Russ Singer
Peter Smith*
Brent and Alison Spodek*
Marlene Streisinger* with Kinu* and Aya Yamamoto*
Peter Ward
Devorah Young
Gennady Yusim

*AC member

Shiva Meals

Continued from page 1

ok, we can order out if we need food". Of course she could. She and her husband both have credit cards and could order food from anywhere. This was the first time that I realized that providing meals during *shiva* has very little to do with simply making sure that the *shiva* family gets fed. Rather, feeding the family is a way in which we can express our love and concern for the *shiva* family. During this time of loss and loneliness they can actually eat the love we feel for them. I loved coordinating the meals for this particular *shiva*. Many of the people who cooked called to discuss what foods they were making. Many of them called me back to say "This was the best soup I ever made," "I cook chicken every week but this one came out really great," "the vegetables in the farmers market were beautiful this week, so the salad is really something." By the end of the week, the woman sitting *shiva* agreed with me ... she said that it was actually fun to see what food would arrive for each meal.

Again and again I have been told by families how lovely it is to get food both from people they know well, as well as from people they hardly know. Sometimes the meal is assembled by one individual, sometimes the salad is made in one home while the main dish comes from another and the *challa* for Shabbat comes from yet another home. Sometimes the food is takeout from the Kosher Marketplace or from another source. We provide for each other according to our abilities. People with a kosher kitchen cook, someone whose kitchen is not kosher cooks a meal in the home of a friend with a kosher kitchen or brings cold food (such as a green salad) or kosher prepared food. Someone might bring in a favorite meal for a child in the family or just seltzer ... all of it is appreciated. My job is to coordinate the needs of the families with what the community can

provide. I let people know how many people we are feeding and any special dietary needs. If the crowd we are feeding is large, we assign the various components of the meal across a larger number of people.

Again and again I'm struck by how quickly people at Anshe Chesed jump to the opportunity to take on this mitzvah. (At one *shiva*, all the meals were claimed within twenty minutes of posting it on the email.) I love how once people were provided meals during their own *shiva*, they are among the first to respond when the need arises for the next *shiva*. I love how this mitzvah changes the texture of this community for the better.

The woman who was ready to order out during *shiva* was recently at another family funeral. After the cemetery, the family came home to a deli platter ordered by the relatives for themselves. She thought "How weird that they have to do it for themselves. Why isn't their community doing it for them?? What's wrong with them???"

So in the end, what people eat during the week of *shiva* isn't food alone but is a reminder that at this time of personal loss they are in fact not alone but part of a larger and caring world. It is both physical and emotional sustenance. Thank you for continuing to provide it.

If there is a death in your family, you can get in touch with Rabbi Kalmanofsky at AC (865-0600) or Sarah Jacobs at sj.hand@verizon.net or by phone at 864-5279. Members of Minyan M'at can contact Dinah Rosenfeld and Howard Berkowitz. It doesn't matter who you call—all of us work together to provide for the mourning family.

Come One, Come All!

Mark your calendar for 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, June 2! You are invited to Anshe Chesed for an evening of entertainment, tributes and delicious dairy desserts to benefit AC and honor Rabbi Michael Paley, Herta Shriner, and Sarah Jacobs & David Kronfeld.

The honorees have served AC in many and varied ways. AC members who have attended adult education classes taught by Michael Paley can attest that he is a wonderfully engaging teacher with far-reaching knowledge. Rabbi Paley is currently Executive Director of Synagogue and Community Affairs at UJA-Federation of New York as well as an adjunct professor at the Columbia School of Journalism. He is a mainstay of Minyan M'at, and in addition to serving on two Rabbi Search Committees at AC, has been an important advocate for intra-community relations at AC.

Herta Shriner has worked tirelessly for the AC community for many, many years, and has done everything from stuffing envelopes to chairing the kitchen committee to serving on the Board to giving her opinion on the running of the Sanctuary Minyan. For many years Herta's role in organizing the food at AC events has been indispensable and she has tirelessly run the dessert table at the Hanukkah Arts Festival. She has taken on tasks both large and small, and had a hand in everything from policy-making to the nitty-gritty of running the shul.

Sarah Jacobs has served on the Board, Nursery School Committee, Personnel Committee, and the last Rabbi Search Committee. She has run fundraisers, been part of the AC staff, and for fourteen years has given unstintingly of her time and energy as head of the Menachem Aveilim committee, which coordinates services to mourners. As an artist working with textiles, Sarah has created the ongoing Mihseh project, creating a casket cover memorializing the community's loved ones. Her role as Vashti in the children's Purim play is memorable, and for eleven years she led the children's High Holiday services. David Kronfeld, Sarah's husband, has co-written Minyan M'at's Purim Spiel for many years, most often performing as Haman. Years ago David was also a coordinator of Kabbalat Shabbat services, and for some years ran a Festival of Short Jewish Films at the Hanukkah Arts Festival, showing funny and wonderful films.

Please join us on June 2nd to honor these valued members of our community. Remember the celebration will also include a journal, so dream up a wonderful ad. Your invitation with information about the journal is already in your mailbox. Reply quickly so you won't miss out on the fun.

Join us for a night you won't soon forget!

Deviants, Dissenters, & Heretics:
Pushing the Boundaries of Tradition
Throughout the Ages

**United Synagogue
of Conservative Judaism**

Lunch & Learn on 5 Wednesdays

155 Fifth Avenue, NYC
212-533-7800, ext. 2159

May 1 Rabbi Jeremy Kalmanofsky on Shabbetai Zvi

May 8 Rabbi Manuel Gold on The Greatest Woman
in the Bible

May 15 Rabbi Burt Visotzky on Yehuda HaNasi

May 22 Rabbi Gordon Tucker on Spinoza

May 29 Rabbi Julie Schonfeld on Mordechai Kaplan

12:30 p.m. Lunch/1:00 p.m. Lecture
Bring your own dairy or parve lunch. No charge.

Shavuot



Thursday, May 16
8:30 p.m.— Ma'ariv Service

9:00 p.m. to midnight—
Rabbi Jeremy Kalmanofsky
and others will teach on
"The Myth and Meaning
of Revelation"

Friday, May 17
10:00 a.m.—Shaharit Services
6:30 p.m.—Mincha/Ma'ariv

Saturday, May 18
10:00 a.m.—Shaharit Services
11:30 a.m.—Yizkor



Shabbat and Family Programming

Family Little Tot Service

Elaine Perlman

Every Shabbat, 10:45–11:15 a.m.

For families with children under the age of three

Family Big Tot Service

Elaine Perlman

11:15 a.m.–12:00 noon

For families with children ages three and four.

Family Service

Elena Sassower

Every Shabbat, 10:45 a.m.–12:00 noon

For children ages 5–7 and their parents.

Family Davening

Mindy Fischer & Tommy Treitel

Every Shabbat, 11:00 a.m.–12:00 noon

For children ages 8 and up, and their parents.

Young Judaea Youth Groups

Ansche Chesed has joined with Young Judaea for all of our youth groups this year, and will be meeting on a regular basis for the following age groups:

Ofarim: 3rd–5th grades

Tzofim: 6 & 7th grades

Bogrim: 8–12th grades

Young Judaea is a national peer-led Zionist youth movement, with clubs all over the country. Call the office for more information, x413.

Shabbat Learning

Torah Study Group

Dr. Deborah Mowshowitz,
Linda Shriner-Cahn, Rabbi
Marion Shulevitz and
Rabbi Jeremy Kalmanofsky

Each Shabbat we read the parshat hashavuah (weekly Torah portion) in translation and discuss it. Everyone is welcome.

Every Shabbat

9:00–10:00 a.m.

אנשי חסד ANSCHÉ CHESÉD

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Friday Night

Kabbalat Shabbat Service

6:30 p.m.

Shabbat Morning Services

10 a.m.

Sanctuary Minyan

Minyan M'at

West Side Minyan

Minyan Rimonim

May 4 & 18

Family & Children's Davening Options

See back page