

Opportunities in Learning For Adults

New Opportunities in Learning Begin March 2

The Haggadah and How It Grew

Rivka Widerman will teach a class on "The Haggadah and How It Grew." You'll come away with a deeper understanding of why the Haggadah tops the Jewish bestseller list and has brought life to one of our most important rituals for centuries.

The class will meet on 5 consecutive Tuesdays, 7:30-9:00 pm, beginning March 2 through March 30. (Members pay \$60, non-members \$90).

Ta'amei HaMitzvot: The Flavor of the Mitzvah: Rationales for Kashrut

Rabbi Kalmanofsky will present a class on what are called "Ta'amei HaMitzvot" or the "Flavors of the Mitzvah: Rationales for Kashrut." Since Judaism sometimes seems to be a mere "religion of pots and pans," often Jews have wanted to ask Why? What's the big deal? Does God have something against shrimp? Does keeping kosher make you healthier? Are these just primitive taboos? We'll examine what philosophical Jews, mystical Jews, moralistic Jews and other schools have said to explain our sacred eating practices. *This class begins on March 3, for four consecutive Wednesdays, until March 24. (It is free for members. Non-members pay \$65.)*

Yom Iyyun - A Learning Day on King David in Literature, Art, and Music Sunday, March 21 from 1:00 to 4:00 PM

King David is the most beloved of Biblical characters, not only of God but also of the Jewish people. Join us for a day of study revolving around this most complicated and romantic of Biblical heroes. Keynote speaker: Professor Alan Cooper. With violinist Shem Guibory and Rabbi Lewis Warshauer.

Ongoing Learning

Talmud Study Group

This is a great time to join the on-going weekly Talmud study group led by Rabbi Kalmanofsky, since they are about to switch tractates. On March 3, the group will begin the 2nd chapter of Tractate Pesachim, which focuses on the laws against possessing Hametz during Passover, as well as on the making of Matza and Maror for the Seder. The group meets every Wednesday at 6.30 pm in the Chapel. Most members of the class use the (excellent) Artscroll Talmud (in this case, Pesachim vol 1) which permits everyone to follow along in the Hebrew text, while also understanding a very helpful English translation. (This is free to everyone.)

Israeli Fiction Reading Group

Tuesday, January 20, 7:30 PM
All are welcome to join this group, which meets on the first Tuesday of the month. Next meeting March 2. The group will discuss Yaakov Shabtai's "Uncle Peretz Takes Flight" in Gershon Shaked's *Six Israeli Novellas*. Info: Janet Burstein, Jburstei@drew.edu or call the office.

Zionist Reading Group

Next meeting March 15 at 7:45 PM. The group will discuss read Ch. 5 of Benny Morris' *Righteous Victims, World War II*. Info: PaulHF@erols.com

Jewish History Reading Group

Third Tuesday of each month at 7:30 PM.

Hevrat Sarah – Women's Study Group

Next meeting Tba

eBay Anti-Clutter Drive Sunday March 7th (Purim) to Sunday March 14th

When Purim is around the corner, Passover and Spring aren't far behind. In the spirit of Pesach and as a way of helping our members clean/de-clutter their homes and lives - and at the same time, do a little good for our shul, we have come up with an innovative strategy: you donate - we eBay!!!

Ansche Chesed will be accepting clothing (gently used, in good condition), jewelry, home goods, objets d'art, furniture and otherwise "eBay-able" stuff. We will give you a donation letter for your taxes. The synagogue will then be working with The Auction Ladies - an eBay consignment firm - to sell the items - with the proceeds benefiting Ansche Chesed.

What is ebay-able? Almost anything -- clothing and accessories that you don't use/wear/fit into -- gently used cameras, computers, appliances and/or equipment -- collectibles ranging from pottery to baseball cards, art, furniture, cars, jewelry -- almost anything. If you're uncertain, you can call Jane at The Auction Ladies (917-885-2596) for guidance.

Please bring items that you no longer love, no longer have room for, no longer have use for, wish you had never bought in the first place, or were given to you as a gift and don't fit with your taste to Ansche Chesed on Sunday March 7th, Tuesday March 9th, or Sunday March 14th. We'll let you know the exact hours in next week's bulletin.

For immovables like that breakfast or dining room table that you've always hated and have been looking for an excuse to replace - you can call Jane at The Auction Ladies (917-885-2596) to arrange to have them come and photograph/measure it for eBay listing (if it sells, the buyer will pay to move it and Jane will work with you to arrange the details around YOUR schedule).

We are also looking for volunteers to: Help on March 7th, March 9th or March 14th to accept donations and give receipts, move donations from the lobby to the storage area, help sort through the materials

♦ Offer to use their car to pick up donations from people who cannot get to the synagogue

♦ Offer to come to Ansche Chesed on March 8th or 9th during the day or evening to accept donations

If you can help for an hour or more, please contact Judy Oppenheim
212-874-4653, judyopp@aol.com