

SHALOM שלום

**HAPPY
PESACH**

Supplement to KALEIDOSCOPE - A multicultural publication March 1993.

WINTER 1993

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1992

1992 brought more than 76,000 olim, about 64,000 from the republics of the former Soviet Union - 35% of whom were rescued by the Jewish Agency from areas of strife.

January

Conflict continues in Yugoslavia, Moldova, and Georgia, with growing concern about Moslem fundamentalism and political instability in the Central Asian Republics.



February

Operation Opportunity operating 11 technological incubators for 59 high tech industrial projects, providing employment for 515 persons in the Galilee, Negev and Jerusalem.

March

Direct flights to Israel are inaugurated from Baku, Azerbaijan.

April

120 youngsters are rescued from Yugoslavia and settled in Youth Aliyah frameworks.



May

2,400 escaping refugees in Jewish Agency transit stations in Odessa and Kishinev are flown to Israel.

June

Keren Hayesod - UIA holds its annual Conference in Moscow and Jerusalem, June 15 - 17.



July

8,000 youngsters, many from areas of turmoil, at Jewish Agency summer camps all over C.I.S.

August

100 more Jews flown to Israel bring the total rescued from Yugoslavia to about 700.

September

13,929 youngsters including 7,000 olim, start the school year in Youth Aliyah frameworks.



October

138 refugees from Abkhazia are flown out from Tblisi, Georgia. 280 Jews rescued from Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

November

Ethnic battles in the Caucasus region in the Republic of Russia create concern about 30,000 Jews in neighboring Dagestan.

December

The first candle of Chanukah is lit in Moscow at a celebration attended by the new Israeli Ambassador.



TOTAL: A YEAR OF RESCUE AND ABSORPTION

While the everyday work of the Jewish Agency continued - emissaries were risking their lives to rescue Jews from areas of conflict. And their efforts must continue.

your United Israel Appeal contribution helps make it happen !

Jewish Agency activities are funded by Keren Hayesod/UIA

SHALOM

שלום

**The Atlantic Jewish
Council Quarterly**

**WINTER 1993
VOL. 18, No. 2**

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The Shalom Magazine is the official publication of the Atlantic Jewish Council. Its purpose is to communicate to the Jewish population of Atlantic Canada, to instill pride in their achievements, to exchange and discuss ideas and information about all areas of Jewish interests. The opinions expressed in the Shalom Magazine are those of the authors and not necessarily of the Atlantic Jewish Council or its editorial board.

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Message from the President



by Larry Freeman

In a recent article in the *Canadian Jewish News*, **Sheldon Kirshner** portrayed Halifax as a community on the decline. I do not take issue with the facts and figures, but I do believe that Halifax and our other Atlantic centres, although not growing in numbers, are still active and committed to perpetuating strong Jewish communities. We do understand that, unfortunately, some of our communities will disappear over the next number of years, but Atlantic Jewry will remain strong and we at the Atlantic Jewish Council are committed to ensuring that we continue to have strong, vibrant communities. The issue of continuity has become a regular topic of discussion at our executive meetings and we are trying better to understand ways in which we can ensure Jewish survival. We will continue to provide programming for our seniors and youth. Recently, we held a successful Shabbaton for teenagers, and we will hold a seminar for Jewish working women. We are becoming more pro-active in the Secular community, and in January, we co-hosted a breakfast for religious leaders to commemorate the birthday of **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** The Atlantic Jewish Council is representative of Atlantic Jewry. We are committed to ensuring the survival of our communities, and through our survival, we are better able to continue our moral and financial commitment to Israel.

In closing, on behalf of the executive of the Atlantic Jewish Council, we wish you a Happy Passover.

Jon Goldberg appointed to AJC staff

Larry Freeman, President of the Atlantic Jewish Council, is pleased to announce the appointment of **Jon Goldberg** as Regional Program Coordinator.

Jon, a 47 year old native of Halifax, will be responsible for Programming (Youth and Adult), Community Relations and for implementing the Canadian Jewish Congress agenda in Atlantic Canada. Jon was a graduate of the United Jewish Appeal Practicum Program in the early 80's, served as past chairman of the Atlantic Israel Action Committee and also as a member of the CJC National Executive. Prior to this staff appointment, Jon has spent over thirty years in various lay leadership roles with Young Judea, Canadian Zionist Federation, United



Jon Goldberg

Israel Appeal, Israel Bonds, Jewish National Fund, Camp Kadimah and was himself a founding member of the Atlantic Jewish Council.

Jon can be reached through the Atlantic Jewish Council office at (902) 422-7491.

From the desk of Jon Goldberg

Regional Program Coordinator

It's early March and the sun is shining here on Spring Garden Road. The temperature is finally moving above 0c and maybe spring is in the air. Nevertheless, we've been busy this past winter and I look forward to visiting 90% of our Jewish communities in Atlantic Canada this spring and summer.

A few weeks ago I was in Moncton, NB, for a meeting of the Christian-Jewish Consultation Association. At that time members of the local community, together with clerics and lay people from the Moncton area, have agreed to hold a convention in Moncton in October of 1993. With the help of Canadian Jewish Congress, **Marcia Levy** of Montreal and two ministers from Toronto, helped to get the ball rolling. Let's hope the Moncton Jewish community and their non-Jewish neighbours can work together on this common goal of social justice and tolerance for all Faiths and Peoples.

This weekend [March 12] I'm off to Fredericton to introduce **Aviad Ivri**, First Secretary of the Israel Embassy

in Ottawa, who will be appearing at UNB. Mr. Ivri will spend a day in PEI at the request of **Dr. Joe Naylor** and **Clive Pickles**, to meet the local Jewish community and brief them on the current Middle East situation prior to coming to Fredericton.

The last weekend in March I'm in Toronto for a United Israel Appeal seminar, followed by CJC meetings in Ottawa and then its the Canada Israel Committee Dinner on March 30th. I feel there will be a good turnout in Ottawa of Atlantic Region people.

Next week, on March 19th, **Dr. Leon Bass**, a black soldier of World War II, who helped liberate Jewish Holocaust survivors will be in Halifax to meet and address the Jewish university students and, later that evening, a community meeting. Many of our black friends will be included and invited to hear Dr. Bass speak.

Larry Riteman, our regional Holocaust Chairperson, assures me that all communities are planning to commemorate Yom Hashoah on April 18th and I am working to present

Continued on Page 5

From the desk of Jon Goldberg

Continued from Page 4

an Israeli entertainment group to the region for Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel Independence Day, on April 25 or 26.

Since our last edition of *Shalom*, Yaacov Sassi performed to great reviews in a number of our communities. We held a great AJC-CYJ-Kadimah rally and Shabbaton in Halifax the end of January, and also an inter-faith breakfast to observe the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. here in Halifax.

My duties as Regional Program Coordinator will include programming (youth and adult), Community Relations, and the implementation of the CJC agenda in our region. One of the areas I've been concentrating on is Israel Summer Programs. Do you know that I have information on over 100 different programs here in this office? Of the 60+ people in our region ages 17-24, over 20 have already enrolled in one of these programs for the summer. That's a great start but I believe that we must do all in our power to make the summer a Jewish Experience for the youth of our region - Kadimah for 7-16 year olds and Israel for 17+. We are a very little island of people in a sea of other faiths. The sea is constantly eroding our base as more and more of our youth either assimilate, drop out of Jewish circles, move away or just stop being Jewish. Our youth is our future and we at the AJC believe that all efforts can and should be made to inculcate them with a love for Israel and

Zion. The leaders of this organization and Camp Kadimah have stated that no Jewish child or teen in Atlantic Canada will be denied a summer of Jewish Experience because of financial need! If you can not afford to send your child, swallow your pride and call either myself or the Camp Chairman.

You know it is funny, while as a people we are indeed a minority in our communities. I also believe that we as Jewish citizens must not just limit our scope and activities to Jewish causes and programs. Time after time when we attend Human Rights Seminars or Multi-Culturalism programs, the one

constant is that our gentile neighbours do not know very many or any Jews, don't know anything about Judaism, and we know ignorance breeds fear and anti-Semitism. Get involved in your towns and cities! With school boards, with Multi-Cultural groups, with charitable organizations and service organizations. The days of overt anti-Semitism are over by and large and believe it or not, the more you contribute to your town or community,



Jon Goldberg

the more respect and admiration your neighbours will have. Yes, participate and be active but don't hide your Jewishness or be afraid of your heritage. If you do have a problem, then contact us at the AJC. One of our main tasks is to combat any overt anti-Semitism in the region. You are not alone and the office and resources of all your fellow Jews can and will be used to assist.

The other day I had occasion to witness a dress rehearsal of "Oliver", the

musical presentation of the Queen Elizabeth High School Drama Society. I went to take some pictures for *Shalom* (a photographer, I'm not!). As I walked in to the auditorium, my mind flashed back thirty years to my days at QEH and I realized that this June will be the 30th anniversary of my graduation. Gosh, how time goes by but, to the point I want to make and I'm sure it holds true in many other communities, is that by and large the kids in the play who were Jewish were the same teens who are active in Young Judaea, Camp Kadimah, synagogues, etc., and their parents are themselves leaders in these areas. In the orchestra was Tova Rosenberg (strings), and Byron Gaum (percussion). Both their fathers have been presidents of the synagogues in Halifax. In the musical with leading roles were Morris Glazman, Daniel Freeman, Jacob Medjuck, Heidi Lipkus and Lizzie Oore, most of whom have been to Kadimah, Biluim, Young Judaea or all of the above. Playing for the QEH basketball team the same night was Louis Wolfson, son of Camp Co-chairman Andrew Wolfson, and who was a graduate with many of the others of the Kadimah CIT program, and the UIA March of the Living program. These teenagers are the future of Atlantic Jewry along with your son or daughter wherever you live. Congratulations to them, their parents and their grandparents, whether it be in Halifax or St. John's, NF, or Kentville, NS.

In closing I wish to thank all of you who have worked and continue to work for the future of Jewish life in the Atlantic Region.

Happy Pesach to all.

1993 AJC DIRECTORY

We will soon begin the production of this important reference book of our community. Ensure your name and address (including Postal Code and Tel. #) is included by writing to:

AJC DIRECTORY

1515 South Park Street, #304

Halifax, NS

B3J 2L2

Club Masada news

The regular monthly meeting of Club Masada was held February 18, with **Edith Schneiderman**, co-president, presiding.

Sara Yablon gave a most interesting talk on seniors.

Under the direction of **Betty Miller**, a musical program was presented. **Marven Sherman** and **Ray Caplan** sang solos accompanied by a choir that included **Doris Stone**, **Joyce Gordon** and **Edith Schneiderman**.

Doris Stone donated delicious squares, which were raffled, and won by **Joyce Gordon**.

Our programs for past meetings included a talk given by **Mr. & Mrs. Leon Doof**, who spoke of their years in Holland before taking up residence in Nova Scotia.

Betty Miller directed a play with a cast that consisted of **Beatrice Zemel**, **Marianne Ferguson**, **Shoshanah Katz**, **Ella Morris** and **Rose Argand**, which was enjoyed by all.

Jon Goldberg has spoken to us about programming.



*Club Masada Musical Program (l-r) Director **Betty Miller**, and her choir **Edith Schneiderman**, **Doris Stone**, **David Block**, **Marven Sherman** and **Ray Caplan**. Missing from photo is **Joyce Gordon**.*

Refreshments are capably looked after by **Marianne** and **Lawrence Ferguson**.

Co-presidents **Betty Miller** and

Edith Schneiderman invite you to join Club Masada. Our next meeting is scheduled for March 24 at the Shaar Shalom Synagogue.

News from Newfoundland

by **Claire Frankel-Salama**

I'm sure that you're all wondering just what is happening out here "on the rock" vis-a-vis the Jewish community.

First of all we had an extremely enlivening performance by **Yaakov Sassi** of Montreal. He was able to get everyone to dance and sing, from the oldest to the youngest and including our newest community members from the former Soviet Union. His communication skills seemed to transcend the purely linguistic, and he was able to create a true feeling of "Simcha" among us all. We would like to thank **Jon Goldberg** and the **AJC** for organizing this concert.

We also enjoyed the well-known **CJN** columnist, writer and humourist, **Dr. Allan Gould**. He entertained us with a lecture on the nature of Jewish humour. He also donated a number of

his books to enrich our synagogue library.

In November we had a successful **UIA** evening with **Nardy Nathanson**, **Emmanuel Zabbar** and **Professor Denise Nevo**. After a moving film on the Jews of Sarajevo, **Denise** spoke to us most eloquently about her experience as a volunteer for the Israeli army.

Our next important event was the visit of **Susan Davis**, National Executive Director of the Jewish Immigrant Aid Services (**JIAS**) and **Perry Romberg**, head of **JIAS** Toronto. The primary purpose of their visit was to train a part-time social worker in order to assess and aid the many new people that have come to the synagogue in the past few months after defecting in Gander. After visiting the Association for New Canadians and Legal Aid, they spoke to some eighteen members of the community about what **JIAS**

does, and about the state of the new Jewish immigrants and political refugees in Canada.

At present time we are gearing up for our annual Purim bash, including the Megillah reading, refreshments, music, and to top it off, a play by the students of the Hebrew school. On Sunday morning we will be holding "Breakfast with Mordechai and Esther", which will include a carnival for all the children in the community.

Finally, I wish to remind you all that if you visit St. John's for a conference, a business trip, or even for pleasure, please do not hesitate to contact me, your **AJC** representative, or the community at large, by attending our Friday evening or Saturday morning services. The former are particularly well-attended, especially by our new Russian-speaking members, who now constitute at least half of the congregation. **Nasdarovya** and **Shalom!**

February was **Youth Aliyah Month** for Canadian Hadassah-WIZO. Our National President **Esther Matlow** treated us by coming to be our guest speaker at a luncheon hosted by **Joan Pink**, convenor of Youth Aliyah. During her time in Halifax, Esther was given a tour of Mount Saint Vincent University. Hadassah-WIZO donated a scholarship in Women's Studies to that institution during the Year of the Woman, in honour of **Flora MacDonald**.

Pictured are **Esther Matlow**, **Sheila Zive**, a national vice-president of Hadassah-WIZO and **Dr. Sheva Medjuck**, chairperson of Women's Studies at Mount Saint Vincent University.



The Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science

by **Dr. Jayson Greenblatt**

The Weizmann Institute of Science at Rehovoth, Israel, was founded over half a century ago (originally as the Daniel Sieff Research Institute) by **Dr. Chaim Weizmann**, a pre-eminent scientist and later to be Israel's first president. The Weizmann Institute of Science is recognized throughout the world as a centre of scientific excellence. From the outset, Dr. Weizmann insisted that the scientists and facilities at the Institute must be judged by the standards of the best international universities and institutions. He foresaw the need for first-rate scientific research to speed Israel's development in agriculture and industry, and to train its youth in advanced technology. He recognized that survival depended upon the qualitative superiority of her scientists and technicians.

The Institute attracted brilliant established scholars as well as young and gifted graduates and they were organized to stress pure science - science for its own sake and also to focus on practical problems arising from the socioeconomics of the new developing country.

The Canadian Society was founded 16 years ago and during those years

has brought the message of the Institute and Israel to major centres across Canada. Canadians - Jews and non-Jews - young and old, have created several major projects at the Institute. Included among those projects are: The Lester B. Pearson Chair of Protein Research; The Henry and Bertha Benson Chair of Mathematics; The Lady Davis Chair of Experimental Physics; The Koffler Accelerator of the Canada Centre of Nuclear Physics; The Dr. Gordon M. Shrum Scientists Exchange Fund; The John Roberts Chair in Cancer Research; The Dobrin Centre for Nutrition and Plant Research; The Paul Godfrey Foundation in Children's Diseases; The Dr. Phil Gold and Dr. Samuel O. Freedman Career Development Chairs in Cancer Research; The Chief Justice Bora Laskin Chair in Science Teaching; The Canadian Institute for the Energies and Applied Research; and The Sieff Chair in Neurosciences and Behavioural Research.

The Atlantic Chapter of the Canadian Society for the Weizmann Institute of Science has established a fund to promote interaction between scientists at Dalhousie University working under the aegis of the Dal-

housie Medical Research Foundation and scientists doing similar work at the Weizmann Institute in Israel. To date three Dalhousians have visited Rehovoth, and three Weizmann scientists have visited Dalhousie. A fourth exchange has been set up for 1993. This collaboration has been fruitful and benefitted both institutions.

This year, the tenth anniversary of the Halifax Chapter, will be marked by a fund raising dinner to be held on May 16. The dinner will celebrate medical science and technology, and will honour **Dr. Allan Cohen**, who conceived the idea of a collaboration between Dalhousie and the Weizmann Institute, but contributed much of the effort to make it a reality and to see it continue. The income from the original funds raised has fallen as a result of decreased interest rates and, to keep the scientific exchange and collaboration viable, more capital must be raised to keep income up.

The exchange program does two things. It makes available Israeli contribution to the betterment of humankind to Atlantic Canada, and this provides a very good positive public relations benefit for Israel among an influential segment of the Atlantic Canadian public.

Martin Luther King remembered

by Joel Jacobson

It was a total love-in for the children of the 1950s and 1960s, who were trying to get a message to the people of today.

The late **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** was the catalyst for the 60 clergy and community leaders of all faiths who gathered at Beth Israel Synagogue January 15 to remember the birthday of the late civil rights leader.

People attending reflected that, if his 39-year-old life had not been terminated by an assassin's bullet, Martin Luther King Jr. might have celebrated his 64th birthday with that august body.

His spirit was certainly in the room. His words were echoed again and again by black and white, Jew, Buddhist and Christian, who spoke warmly and with awe about the man who never reached his 40th birthday but had the impact of someone twice his years.

The standard King lines were quoted, "I had a dream!" "You are somebody!" "We will be free one day!"

But there was more to this fellowship breakfast, co-sponsored by the Atlantic Jewish Council and the Anti-Racism and Human Rights Network, than just King's words.

There was a feeling of understanding and respect, an outpouring of emotion by guest speakers that wove through the audience and, at the event's conclusion, brought Jew and Gentile, black and white, to a higher point of mutual understanding.

"Martin Luther King dreamed of having a beloved community. We have assembled that today and we're working to fulfill his dream," said **Rev Darryl Gray**, national co-chair of the Canadian Anti-Racism and Human Rights Network.

Rev. Gray urged the audience to understand King's dream of one day seeing his four children "not be judged by the colour of their skin but by the content of their character."

Rabbi Oren Ismailoff of the Beth Israel Synagogue said "We realize the process is slow but each year, we must re-dedicate ourselves to King's message."



Halifax Mayor Moira Ducharme; AJC President Larry Freeman; and Rev. Darryl Gray at the birthday remembrance of Dr. King.

JCC/Kaleidoscope Photo

He called for community leaders to convince younger people to commit themselves to the message of love and understanding. "We have to teach children at a young age what is right and wrong. Too many problems are not realized until it is too late."

Moh Hardin, director of the Buddhist Church in Halifax, recalled his teenage days in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Hardin took part in the civil rights movement and told of attending a service at a black Baptist church where everyone interlocked hands and sang, "We Shall Overcome."

"Dr. King was an inspiration who transformed society in my lifetime," he said. "There are still problems. There is still discrimination. But the changes are breathtaking because of Martin Luther King."

"I'm a Buddhist, speaking in a synagogue in commemoration of a Baptist minister. That's also breathtaking."

Hardin stressed the importance of transforming aggression into nonaggression. If you try to get rid of all your enemies, you'll never do it. If you get rid of the aggression within yourself, you get rid of all your enemies."

Other speakers were **Rev. Elizabeth Miller**, paster, Universal Unitarian Church of Halifax, **Rev Donald Fair-**

fax, senior counsellor, African United Baptist Association and **Moira Ducharme**, mayor, City of Halifax.

The mayor closed the gathering by saying she will be forming a Mayor's Task Force on Race Relations and "I want it to be an active group, not one that just talks."

She expressed her thanks for being allowed to focus on the important issues, "not those that have been dividing our city council" (which has been battling about petty items while forgetting the major problems facing the city).

Jewish violinist **Mary Kanner** and black vocalist **Rose Marie Armstrong** of the Church of God of Prophecy, offered musical presentations.

Members of Masada prepared and served the breakfast.

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Another resounding success for JNF!

Phones were ringing all over Atlantic Canada on Sunday, February 7, as JNF marked the holiday of Tu Bi'Shevat with its annual Tree-a-thon. A large contingency of volunteers, some from such organizations as Hadassah Wizo, ORT and Beth Israel and Shaar Shalom Synagogues, made calls to homes throughout Nova Scotia and P.E.I., obtaining hundreds of pledges for tree planting.

In Moncton, 15-year old **Leigh Lampert**, following in his father, **Irwin's**, footsteps of leadership, spear-headed the entire drive and himself called the members of his community.

The Fredericton Tree-a-thon will be held later this spring and JNF Chairman **Warren Cohen** says he anticipates enthusiastic response from his community, as well.

Tu Bi'Shevat, the celebration of the "New Year of the Trees", marks the onset of spring in Israel, and JNF, through its tree planting program, has always been synonymous with this festive holiday. This event has become an annual resounding success throughout the Atlantic Provinces, as well as



L-R: Doris Stone, Flo Kirsh and Celia Fried - Tree Canvassers!

across Canada. All trees pledged in the Maritimes will be credited towards the specific Forests and Groves in Is-

rael designated for these particular regions.

Maccabiah Games '93

by Joel Jacobson

Few Atlantic Canadians have participated in the Quadrennial Maccabiah Games in Israel but the summer of 1993 could see athletes from this region - if they meet the criteria which, while not at Olympic standards, certainly, in some sports, are close to world standards.

The Games will bring together Jewish athletes from 50 nations for 10 days of competition. They will battle in a wide variety of sports, 23 of which will find Canadians competing, either individually or in a team concept.

Individual sports will include golf, gymnastics, karate, lawn bowling, squash, tennis, 10-pin bowling, wrestling, rowing, badminton, clay pigeon shooting, fencing, judo, sailing, table tennis and weight lifting.

Team sports include men's basketball, mini football, rugby, softball and waterpolo.

Four years ago, **Victor Goldberg** of Halifax was in the bridge competition, a distinction which earned him the right to represent the region on Maccabi Canada's executive committee.

Victor or Jon Goldberg, Programming Coordinator at the Atlantic Jewish Council office in Halifax, has the criteria for qualification to the Canadian team.

Tryouts have already been held in several sports including golf, karate, lawn bowling, mini-football, rugby, softball, squash, tennis, water polo and wrestling.

Track and field and swimming have qualifying times to be met, a list of which are available at the AJC office. The teams were to be named by mid-March.

Gymnastics tryouts will be held in early April in Concord, Ontario. Ten-pin bowling tryouts will be in Montreal in April, while basketball tryouts will take place in Toronto, April 17 and 18.

Bernie Offstein of Toronto, Chairman of the National Athletic Committee, said an athlete is termed Jewish if either parent is Jewish.

LATE NEWS! Good luck to **Steven Indig** of Yarmouth, NS; **Jonathan Honey** of Kentville, NS, and AJC Vice-President **Victor Goldberg** who are participating in Games try outs. Jon has ticket and travel information for Games at AJC office.

Give **SHALOM** a chance to carry your business or professional message. Our rates are very competitive. For more information please call the publisher's office at (902) 468-2920

An open letter to the Atlantic Jewish Community

To the Reader: In October of 1992, I received a call from Dr. Alpeza, who told me her story and sent me a fax she had received from her mother in Serbo-Croatia in Sarajevo. Needless to say, the fax was a horror story right out of the front page of our newspapers. I informed Emmanuel Zabar and Barney Harris of United Israel Appeal, and also Canadian Jewish Congress, of this situation. I'll let Dr. Alpeza continue from here - Jon Goldberg

I am happy that I have this opportunity tonight [November 7] to share my happiness with all of you, with special thanks to Mr. [Jon] Goldberg and Mr. [Emmanuel] Zabar from Halifax for rescuing my mother from Sarajevo, but also to thank to each one of you who made this rescue possible.

I was born and grown up in Sarajevo. When the war started all my family was living in the city - my mother, brother, my grandparents, two aunts and their families. Last contact I had with my mother was in May this year [1992], she was taking care of my grandparents. She told me over the phone that my grandparents' apartment got blown up, so they had to move in with my aunt. Since then I've lost every contact with them.

It was devastating for me to watch TV news every day showing massacres of civilians and war in Sarajevo and not being able to contact them or help them in any way. Taping the news every day and watching it over and over again I was hoping that I might recognize some of my family which also left me with fear that some day I might see one of them in the camp, wounded or dead.

I, myself, never experienced war or any other disaster and it was hard for me to imagine what they would be going through. I wanted to help them so much, but everything that I have tried got me to the brick wall. I went to Red Cross in St. John's to ask for help. I was told that they don't have any organized way for help, but that they would try through their office in Toronto. Weeks went by, I never got any answer back from the Red Cross.

I contacted Red Cross Head Office in Geneva, Switzerland and I was told that situation in Sarajevo was too dangerous and they couldn't do anything for me. I phoned United Nations in Sarajevo and I was told that unless my family had Canadian citizenship or citizenship of some other foreign country, they couldn't help me.

In Immigration in St. John's I was refused as my family didn't have Canadian citizenship, their help was limited to issuing visa but not rescuing the people from the city. I am in Canada since January 1989. I have no family other than my son Robert here. I was afraid that I would have no family left. I felt so helpless. Working at the clinic saving the lives of the animals made me often think how I was able to help and save the animals and at the same time, I was not able to do anything for my own mother. At that time all I had was God and my prayers.

Suddenly, on the beginning of October 1992, I got fax from my mother in Sarajevo pleading for my help. My family was separated, as security kept moving people from shelter to shelter, so my mother ended up with my sister-in-law, and my niece. My mother

didn't know anything about the rest of my family. My mother told me that she was on the waiting list in Jewish community in Sarajevo and that she was hoping to leave the city with their help. My mother also told me to contact Jewish community in Canada.

I contacted Jewish community in Halifax and spoke to Mr. Jon Goldberg. I explained that my grandmother originated from Jewish family, but I myself wasn't brought up in Jewish faith. It was very hard for me to ask Jewish community for help as I felt that they didn't have any obligations to help me. People that I expected help from turned me down and this made me appreciate more what Jewish community did for me.

Ten days after I spoke to Mr. Goldberg my mother was safe in Jewish shelter in Croatia together with my niece, her mother and her grandmother. There is no words to explain how happy I am. This was nothing but the miracle for me. I am very impressed with the efficient work of the Jewish organization.

Once again, I want to give special thanks to Mr. Jon Goldberg and Mr. Emmanuel Zabar but also I want to thank each one of you because without your support this wouldn't have been possible.

I would like to become part of Jewish community and I hope that I will have your support. I would ask you to give me a chance to work together with all of you so that I may express my gratitude in deeds as well as in words.

Sincerely,

Dr. Marnina Alpeza
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Halifax Hadassah-WIZO celebrates 75th anniversary

This year marks the 75th anniversary for Canadian Hadassah-WIZO. Celebrations are planned for individual communities across the country culminating in the ultimate celebration at the 1993 Hadassah-WIZO convention this coming November in Israel.

Halifax will mark the event with a gala dinner dance to be held at the Prince George Hotel on Sunday, June 6th. The evening is being coordinated by the Dahlia chapter, whose Presi-

dent **Andrea Nathanson** is also chairperson for the event. Guests will be treated to a delectable gourmet dinner prepared by the Prince George Hotel's award winning Executive Chef **Stephen Houston**. There will be dancing to the sounds of the Ben Templer Band, a Silent Auction featuring works of art by various Nova Scotian artists and a collection of Halifax Hadassah-WIZO memorabilia on display for all to enjoy.

Noted guests such as the Premier

and the Mayor will be in attendance along with **Sophie Kettner**, National 75th Anniversary Chairperson.

The evening promises to be a joyful and festive celebration honoring the achievements of all those who have worked in Halifax Hadassah-WIZO throughout years.

The Dahlia Chapter is anticipating full support from the community for this important celebration which will definitely be an evening to remember.

Sar-El '93 (Volunteers for Israel)

by **Naomi Honey, Kentville, NS**

My recent experience on the Sar-El program (Volunteers for Israel) has left me feeling even more pride in being Jewish and with greater personal need to support Israel in every way I can. The young (and I mean young) officers I met are bright, articulate and passionate in their loyalty and belief in Israel. They would give any Jew a feeling that Israel is in good hands. But they need our help - financially, physically and morally. Painting, sorting uniforms, washing dishes all helped me to feel that I was able to

help, even for a short time.

This meant so much to me as I have two brothers and a sister who served in the I.D.F. and now I know just a little

more of what they may have experienced.

(Mrs. Honey is a member of AJC Executive.)

JNF luncheon

JNF, one of our favourite Israel-based organizations, sponsored a buffet luncheon for approximately 100 people at the Moncton '92 AJC Convention. A number of plaques and awards were presented by Executive Vice President **Morris Zilka**. Mr. Zilka also spoke on the current situation in Israel. Col (Res) **Avner Ilanai**, Jerusalem Emissary, was introduced

and assisted in awards presentation by **Judge Irwin Lampert**.

The entire community thoroughly enjoyed the kiddush. We in Atlantic Canada will continue to support JNF throughout the years as we have over for over four decades. For further information on JNF activities and projects call Mrs **Rachael Barzilai** at (902) 422-7491.



Naomi Honey at the Hatzot Base in Israel, in the Women's living quarters, January 1993.



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From around the region...

The stars of "Oliver", the musical drama performed by Queen Elizabeth High School students in Halifax: (Clockwise)



Tova Rosenberg on strings



(R) Jacob Medjuck as Bill Sykes
and Morris Glazman as Fagin



Yaacov Sassi and Miriam Cohen in
Fredericton, after his Chanukah performance.

Byron Gaum on percussion.



Camp Kadimah rally

by Brian Indig

On the weekend of January 29th through the 31st a Shabbaton was held at the Beth Israel Synagogue for the kids in Halifax between the ages of 13 and 16. Friday night there were services at the Beth Israel Synagogue followed by a sit down dinner catered by Mrs. Cathy Fox. In attendance there were ten students from the Atlantic Provinces Jewish Student Federation, which is located at Dalhousie University. A sing along of old songs led by Aviva Rubin, Michael Soberman and Rabbi Oren Ismailoff concluded the night.



time for parents to meet some of the staff, the camp director, Sheldon Cohen, his assistant directors, Michael Soberman and Bill Chernin. Also many camp parents heard about the upcoming camp season which is our 50th year. A lovely deli brunch was served which was followed by public skating at the Dalhousie arena. The Shabbaton could not have been accomplished without the help of Jon Goldberg and Bill Chernin. Everyone enjoyed themselves immensely, and it was nice to see camp friends both old and new.

On Saturday morning there were services followed by a luncheon after which Michael Soberman lead a program on Israel. That night all of the kids congregated at the Beth Israel for a night of karaoke. Joining the group was a special guest: Sheldon Cohen, Director of Camp Kadimah. During the night pizza was served and prizes were awarded to the best singers.

On Sunday the whole community was invited to a Camp Kadimah rally which was held at the Beth Israel synagogue. During the rally a slide show of camp was shown and it was a



Kadimah reunion update

by Joel Jacobson

It was only mid-winter but summer camp was on the minds of 40 teenagers attending a Shabbaton-Camp Kadimah rally in Halifax.

Youngsters from New Brunswick and Nova Scotia recalled the good days of summers past and looked forward to more of the same in 1993 while sharing a Jewish experience that happens all too infrequently in small communities.

"The highlight for all of us was to see the kids together in this atmosphere," said **Jon Goldberg**, Regional Program Coordinator of the Atlantic Jewish Council. "It was geared to be a chevra experience and it was."

Organized by the AJC, Canadian Young Judea and Camp Kadimah, the rally kicked off with a Friday Shabbat dinner at Beth Israel Synagogue. Led

by the orthodox shul's **Rabbi Oren Ismailoff**, the youngsters participated in discussions of Jewish teen values. Saturday's post-services Kiddush was followed by another discussion period.

Saturday evening was time to party with a Karaoke and Pizza Night. Camp Kadimah director **Sheldon Cohen**, a Glace Bay native now teaching in Montreal, joined the group as did camp assistant director and programming head **Mike Soberman** of Toronto and assistant director and scouting and tripping coordinator **Bill Chernin** of Halifax.

Sunday, a rally for all past and potential campers, ages seven and up, attracted more than 100 children and parents. A slide show of past Kadimah summers was greeted with enthusiasm. Prospective camp parents had an opportunity to meet with Sheldon, who is entering his 13th consecu-

tive year as director, and members of the camp's board of directors.

"The turnout Sunday was exceptional," said Mr. Goldberg. "We're disappointed there was not more participation from other communities in the region but this was a beginning. We can build and improve for next year."

Camp Kadimah, in Barss Corner, NS, is entering its 50th summer serving the Atlantic, and now North American, Jewish community. Plans are well-underway for a 50th reunion to take place July 30-August 1, 1993.

Co-chairs **Gloria & Steven Pink** have received more than 800 indications of interest from past Kadimahites and expect a registration of more than 700 for the reunion.

Continued on Page 15

CAMP KADIMAH

50th YEAR!

Lake William, Barss Corner

Lunenburg County, N.S.

Thursday, July 1st to Thursday, August 12th, 1993

Visiting Day - Sunday, August 1st, 1993

GIBORIM - ages 7-9 yrs., **GOSHRIM** - ages 10-11 yrs., **KOCHOT** - ages 12-13 yrs.,
MACHAR - ages 14-15 yrs., **C.I.T.** - age 16 yrs. Fees: \$1,935.00* - Camper, \$2,035.00* - C.I.T.

There is a reduction in camper fees for families with 3 or more campers; first 2 campers - regular fees;
3rd camper - \$1,635.00*, 4th or more - \$1,535.00*.

Applications received after March 30, 1993 will be subject to a \$50.00* surcharge, for a total fee of
\$1,985.00* camper, \$2,045.00* C.I.T.

* Plus applicable G.S.T.

I am interested in Camp Kadimah, Summer 1993.

Please send me complete information and _____ application forms.

Complete and return to Camp Kadimah

c/o Atlantic Jewish Council
1515 South Park Street, NO. 304
Lord Nelson Hotel
Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 2L2

Child's Full Name _____

Age as of December 31, 1993 _____

Grade completed as of June 30, 1993 _____

Previous Camp Kadimah Camper? Yes _____ No _____

Address _____

City _____ Province _____ Postal Code _____

Phone Number (____) _____

Alumni of Camp Kadimah

By Joel Jacobson

By the time you read this, you will have received your registration package for the 50th Anniversary of the camp. 99.9 per cent of you have grown to love it over the years, more than you loved it when you attended somewhere in the period from 1943 to 1992.

Fill out the registration forms. Send them to the designated address. Prepare to have a great time seeing old friends. Be sure you're there to share memories (and to ensure no one tells those stories about you that you were sure were long forgotten).

Kadimah's 50th Anniversary Reunion will take place from July 30 to August 1 in Halifax and at the old stomping' grounds in Barss Corner.

Kickoff will be Friday July 30 when registration takes place at the Halifax Hilton (formerly the Nova Scotian Hotel for you real old timers). A cocktail hour (Hey! we're old enough to drink now) and a Kadimah shabbat dinner (we're still young enough to remember chicken fricassee) will take place Friday evening. Stories and songs will follow as well as tributes to past camp directors.

Saturday morning, more memories will wash over us (if we've showered) as we attend Shabbat services at the Hilton, led by former campers and counselors. Will those services have the same reverence and awe as forty years ago when we chatted and threw things at each other while trying to be

attentive to the reading of the Torah or the singing of Sim Shalom? I certainly hope so.

After an afternoon of leisurely wandering the streets of Halifax, the assembled masses will congregate at the Via Rail Station for an evening barbecue and social, a la Camp Kadimah as you all remember.

Will the boys stand on one side of the hall and the girls on the other as the disc jockey spins all the hits from the 40s to the 80s? We think not. There will be too much to talk about, too much to lie about, even too much to laugh and cry about.

And it will go on until the early hours of Sunday morning. But be ready by 8:30 a.m. Sunday, for that's when the first buses leave for camp. Sunday August 1 is Visiting Day. For those alumni who desire it, a tour through the south shore of Nova Scotia will be on the agenda - visits through Chester, Lunenburg, Bridgewater.

There will not be a stop at the Midway Restaurant and Gas Bar (remember, it was half way from Halifax to camp and provided a pit stop and refreshment break?) It's no longer there.

You won't be able to visit the Radio Cafe in Bridgewater because it, too, is gone, but you'll be amazed at the growth of the small hamlet we knew once as a small town but which has now grown to be the "big city" of Lunenburg County.

You could stop at DeLong's Dairy Kone which carried all sorts of different monikers when we were going to camp but was the mecca of hamburger joints when we were able to take a break from camp.

And everyone will be hit with a rush of emotion when the bus passes the general store and heads down the hill where Camp will come into view, a moment we all remember as the one when that cherished song broke out - As Long As We All Pull Together, Kadimah Will Grow More and More.

Other buses travelling directly to camp will depart the Hilton mid-morning. During Visitors Day, scheduled from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., the campers and staff of 1992 will present a special program.

But seeing the cabins where you once spent a glorious six weeks, the campfire site where you roasted your first marshmallow, the lake where you captured your first leech (or vice versa), the dining hall which served those meals you passed by for peanut butter and jam sandwiches, and all the other sites which bring back personal and intimate memories for you, will be a priority for you on this one day in 50 years you have been anticipating for so long.

Back in Halifax in the evening, the final banquet will be held at the Hilton. camp chairmen will be honored and awards will be presented.

A 30-minute multi-media slide show will highlight the 50 years of Kadimah.

And, as we write, a series of skits are being rehearsed by groups from all across the country which are not to be missed, if the early reviews can be believed.

There will be memorabilia room set up at the Hilton, a hospitality suite that will probably never close, for who ever heard of Atlantic Canadians ever shutting down hospitality.

Stop reading. Get that registration form. Fill it in (or out, if you prefer) and mail it. Be part of the excitement. Be part of Kadimah 50th Anniversary Reunion 1993.

Kadimah reunion update

Continued from Page 14

Responses have been received from Israel, Australia, Europe, many areas of the United States as well as Canada from coast to coast.

"What started as a small camp in 1943, with maybe 100 people from the Maritime provinces attending, has expanded to a camp of 220 children and 75 staff from as far away as Florida, Arizona and western Canada," said Mr. Pink.

"In their correspondence to us, people have expressed tremendous enthusiasm about returning to see what Kadimah is like many years after they have been there."

And in another 50 years, those attending the 1993 rally in Halifax will look forward, with the same excitement to the 100th anniversary of a camp that has been a great unifying force for the Atlantic Jewish community.

Camp Director & wife visit Israel

by Sheldon Cohen,
Kadimah Director 1993

When the plane touched down at Ben Gurion Airport on that December 19 evening, a thrill of a lifetime was finally realized. I was in Israel. As a young boy in Hebrew school we learned of our Jewish heritage and were introduced to many biblical heroes and their adventures. As a camper we took part in many programs focusing on Israel and her history. Now here I was, on the soil where all these events took place. My wife Freda and I were overwhelmed by the beauty of the country, the developed land and the warmth of the people.

A special feeling was felt at the Western Wall, Masada and Yad Vashem. The many camp programs over the years now meant so much more to us. At Kadimah we can be

proud of the quality programs we offer to our campers and staff.

We visited Ein Gedi, and took some stones from the Dead Sea. We ventured to the Golan Heights and Galilee. We walked along Mount Scopus and Ammunition Hill. We toured the museums and walked the streets and quarters of the old city. We visited Jaffa, Herzlia and Nataya.

Camp Kadimah made its presence felt as we spent time with **Bena Medjuck** and **Michael Ostroff**, who were our official tour guides for part of the trip. Other Kadimah staff we met were **Amnon** and **Anat** and the **Gonen Family**. We met **Simone** and **Michelle Vigod** at breakfast one morning. They were staying at our hotel. What a small world indeed!

The sights and sounds of Israel will diminish in time - but the memories will last a lifetime. This was a most rewarding experience and we hope to return soon. Shalom.



Sheldon and Freda Cohen at the Western Wall.

Halifax Mirium Lieff Chapter of Emunah Women tea

The members of the chapter tendered a tea and reception to honour **Rose Pritzker**, who left Halifax in December, at the home of **Mrs. Reva Spatz**. **Beatrice Zemel** arranged the affair with the help of some of the members. Rose was presented with several gifts crafted in Nova Scotia.

Rose thanked the members for the reception, and the thoughtful gifts. She also expressed her appreciation to **Tena Goldfarb** for the guidance and encouragement she has brought to the chapter over the years. She called on the members to maintain their traditional dedication to Emunah for the sake of Israel and the community.

The organization will continue with its annual campaign.

The committee consists of **Doris Stone**, treasurer; **Bea Zemel**, membership; **Ella Morris**, recording secretary; **Clara Dankner**, financial secretary as well as committee members: **Tena Goldfarb**, **Anna Newman**, **Shirley Wolman**, **Rachel Rafuse**, **Mindy**

Jacobson, **Betty Arron**, **Lil Borshy**, and **Rose Argand**.



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Shaarei Zedek mural receives international acclaim

by Teri Levine, Fredericton

In the Spring of 1991, the children of Shaarei Zedek Hebrew School, in Saint John, NB created a mural for the vestry of the synagogue with the assistance of their teacher, Mrs. Sidi Schaffer.

This mural has received high praise from all who have seen it.

The United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism puts out a calendar every year. This year they asked for submissions from all of their members for pieces of community art work to accompany each month of the year.

Shaarei Zedek Synagogue submitted the mural as its entry. We were notified not long ago, that our mural was one of the winners in this competition. It will accompany one of the months in the Jewish calendar for the coming New Year.

The mural is entitled "To Israel With Love" and was painted by the following students: Lynn and Mark Bessoudo, Keri Calp, Daniel Levine,

Cory Goodman, Rebecca and Eli Wolpin, Lori Green, Gregory Davis, Robbyn Fallon, Tara Joyce, and Micah Tait.

State of Israel Bonds

by Dr. Jayson Greenblatt

From the very day of their conception, State of Israel Bonds have been offered for sale in Halifax during a yearly Bond Campaign. It has always been emphasized during "the Bond Campaign" that bonds are not charity dollars but investment dollars to be used in Israel for capital developments, such as the building of a public works infrastructure; and the financing of industrial expansion or new industries. Over the years the types of available investment instruments have changed and today not only are there the fifteen year bonds that we are all

familiar with, but shorter term higher interest bonds of higher face values and, at long last, an investment instrument in Canadian Funds paying 7% with a minimum value of \$25,000. This is meant for institutions, funds and investors who would normally be investing larger sums in GICs.

In Atlantic Canada, State of Israel Bonds Campaigns are run by local volunteers backed up by professionals who visit the various communities during the Campaigns. Originally these gentlement came from the Montreal office, but now we are linked with the Ottawa office.

State of Israel Bonds Organization now offers the following high yield investment opportunities:

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Canadian Jewish Congress report

by Mike Cohen, National
Direction of Communications,
Canadian Jewish Congress

Helpful shipment

Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) has been greatly concerned over the atrocities being committed in the former Yugoslavia. Congress recently sent pharmaceuticals and winter clothing to assist refugees from the former Yugoslavian republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The shipment was sent to Vienna and then redirected to Zagreb for distribution to refugees on a non-sectarian basis. This was a joint project of the CJC National and CJC Ontario Region offices, the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and the American Joint Distribution committee. More than 1000 pounds of goods was sent to Zagreb which included 540 pounds of much needed pharmaceuticals being donated by Toronto-based Novopharm and its chief executive officer **Leslie Dan**. In addition, winter clothing, which was collected from Ontario area manufacturers and importers, formed part of the first shipment. This was part of a concurrent initiative sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. A second consignment of warm clothing was transported later to the region.

Commutation of sentence sought

CJC has reaffirmed its call for the commutation of the life sentence to time served for former United States Navy analyst **Jonathan Pollard**. On June 28, 1991, CJC adopted a resolution which read: the National Officers' Committee of Canadian Jewish Congress supports the World Jewish Con-

gress American Section's resolution calling for the commutation of the **Jonathan Pollard** sentence to time served. Pollard was sentenced in 1987 for passing secrets to Israel. Congress has sent copies of its '91 resolution to Federal Justice Minister **Pierre Blais**, Federal Minister of Multiculturalism and Citizenship **Gerry Weiner** and Secretary of State for External Affairs **Barbara McDougall**. CJC President **Irving Abella** commented that he believes it is time for our representatives in Ottawa to play a role in righting this wrong. Recently, CJC Quebec Region Executive Chair **Rabbi Reuben J. Poupko** and Canada-Israel Committee Quebec Chair **Thomas O. Hecht** met with Pollard personally at the prison in Illinois he is incarcerated at.

CJC National Archives

After seeing its available shelf space dwindle alarmingly over recent months, the CJC National Archives has made arrangements for the outside storage of certain restricted access portions of its document collection. This development allows the Archives to resume an active role in the preservation of the archives of the Canadian Jewish community. The mandate of the CJC National Archives is to collect original material pertaining to the experience of Jews in Canada, and to a certain extent, their experiences prior to immigrating to this country. "Of particular interest are documents which enhance our specialization in immigration and settlement and in the history of organized community life," states Archives Chair **Dr. Alti Rodal**. For more information contact **Janice Rosen** at (514) 931-

7531.

Network Chair appointed to decision-making body

When Professor **Irving Abella** was elected President of CJC last May he made a commitment to the agenda items of Youth, Jewish Continuity and more specifically Jewish students on campus. At the last CJC National Officers meeting in Vancouver, attended by **David Attis**, **Ivan Levine** and **Larry Freeman** from the Atlantic Region, it was unanimously agreed to accept Jewish Students Network of Canada Chair **Talia Klein** as a member of the decision-making body. This is a historic move in CJC's 74 year history, the first time ever a Network chair has been given such a post. CJC's National Education and Continuity Committee is also working hard along with United Israel Appeal and the Jewish Federations on the Anguish to Hope university student mission to Poland and Israel May 5 to 20. Call **Shellie Ettinger** (514) 931-7531 for more information...

Potpourri

The CJC National Israel Affairs Committee, chaired by **Moshe Ronen**, recently sponsored a trip to Charlottetown, PEI and Fredericton, NB by Israel Embassy Press Officer **Aviad Ivri**. ... Congratulations to **Jon Goldberg** on his appointment as program coordinator for the Atlantic Jewish Council. It has been a great pleasure for me over the years to work with the likes of **Jon**, **Christina MacNeil** and the AJC staff. ... CJC congratulated Prime Minister **Brian Mulroney** for his support of Jewish community issues following his announcement that he will be stepping down as leader of the Progressive Conservative Party. ... A CJC delegation, comprised of Professor **Abella**, **Mr. Ronen**, National Executive Chair **Charles Zaionz** and National Executive Director and General Counsel **Jack Silverstone** were in Israel recently. They had a one hour private audience with Prime Minister **Yitzhak Rabin**.

1993 AJC DIRECTORY

We will soon begin the production of this important reference book of our community. Ensure your name and address (including Postal Code and Tel. #) is included by writing to:

AJC DIRECTORY

1515 South Park Street, #304

Halifax, NS

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The Ada Zebberman Chapter of Halifax Women's ORT

by Barbara Alberstat

The Ada Zebberman Chapter of Halifax Women's Ort has been up and running successfully since the first opening meeting in September. We have held meetings each month at members' homes, which makes it a very, nice comfy atmosphere in which to conduct our business. **Helen Israel**, President and many loyal ORTists come to the meetings.

The "Flowers for the High Holidays Project" was convened by **Carol Green** and her large team of telephone callers. Another year of a profit-making project was successfully and capably done.

The winter raffle was again held this year with the first prize of a teddy bear and \$50.00 cash pinned to his bow, and second prize of a "cheesecake of your choice of flavour" from the LaCave Restaurant. Both prizes were donated, so all money raised was pure profit. Again it was an extremely successful project and thanks goes to all the ladies who helped in these two projects.

ORT will be holding its Annual Mother's Day Basket fund raiser again this year, with **Vicki Lipkus** as convener. This year you will see a bit of difference in the baskets. The items will be personal items for the special ladies, including a special surprise gift. The baskets will be made up by Lawton's Drug Store and delivered by our group of drivers. Best of luck and many thanks goes to **Vicki** and her group of volunteers that work, year after year on this project. I'm sure all the ladies receiving this special basket on Mother's Day will be very pleased.

The new large project this year for our ORT members is the special Tribute Evening to honour **Shirley Burnstein**, who has been an ORT member since it's inception. As anyone who knows Shirley, she has done much to better the lives of many people in the Jewish and non-Jewish community. She has spent many hours and months, and years, bringing song and happiness to many people.

This will be a singular honour to Shirley. The special event is being con-



Rose Pritzker shown with her framed certificate of appreciation for her years of service to Halifax Women's ORT.

vened by our past-president, **Mindy Jacobson** and a large contingent of ORT and non-ORT members. Everyone is very excited and pleased to do their bit to help make this a successful tribute to Shirley and her entire family. The date is May 30th, Lord Nelson Hotel at 7:30 p.m. I'm

sure many of her friends and family will want to attend this wonderfully planned evening to add their greetings to Shirley.

Three new members have been added to our ORT membership list. These ladies are: **Beatrice Zemel**, **Marianne Ferguson** and **Betty Miller**. Great having these ladies on board.

Mrs. Rose Pritzker has left Halifax amidst many farewell teas, meetings, kiddushes and dinners. Rose has left many fond memories in ORT with her 17 years of devoted work. There wasn't many projects that Rose didn't have a hand in. We could always count on her to host a meeting or take a phone list. She took and prepared the minutes for us for many years.

Thanks, Rose, for all your work for Halifax Women's ORT. Rose was presented with a special framed certificate honouring her for all her work in ORT over all the years. Rose, and Rabbi, we wish you well in your retirement in Toronto, and know that you will be back to visit Halifax and ORT in the years to come.

Peace and good health to you both.

Arthur Saffron receives community service award

The Government of Nova Scotia, through its Department of Community Services, recognizes and expresses appreciation to those who have served their communities and fellow citizens and given unstintingly of themselves in the interest of better lives for the people of our Province. The Community Service Award has been established for that purpose.

Arthur Saffron, a Springhill, NS, businessman, has provided ten years of faithful service as a board member for Family and Children's Services of Cumberland County. During his decade of service, Mr. Saffron spent four of those years as President of the Board.

Arthur Saffron continues to demonstrate his dedication and commitment to children and families as the representative for the Cumberland agency on the Nova Scotia Family and

Child Welfare Association and as the Chairman of the Advisory Committee established to review the new Children and Family Services Act.

Mr. Saffron serves his community in a variety of capacities. He has been a member of the Springhill Chamber of Commerce for almost 35 years and has served on the Board of Directors for the provincial and Atlantic Chambers of Commerce.

He has been an executive member of the Canadian Red Cross Society for five years, and a member of the Atlantic Jewish Council for fifteen years, and the Canadian Jewish Congress for four years. He is also involved with the Ship's Company Theatre.

It is for his hard work and dedicated service to his community that Arthur Saffron was honoured on December 4, 1992.

Halifax bids farewell to Rabbi Chinitz

by Joel Jacobson

The future success of Shaar Shalom Congregation in Halifax depends on three things, said **Rabbi Jacob Chinitz**, who recently left the pulpit of the 40-year-old conservative congregation after eight years.

"You must not disappear as a congregation. You must not merge Hebrew schools with (orthodox) Beth Israel because that would eliminate the ideals of the congregation, established when it was founded 40 years ago. And you must not continue without rabbinical leadership."

He challenged members of the Shaar Shalom to "get rid of the inferiority complex" he thinks they hold in the Halifax Jewish community.

During a retirement presentation in December, Rabbi Chinitz told more than 100 of his congregants he felt a subconscious, unspoken assumption that Shaar Shalom people thought the real Judaism in Halifax was at the 101-year-old Orthodox congregation at Beth Israel Synagogue.

"Stand up for what you believe," he said. "If you don't believe Conservative Judaism is legitimate, you should dissolve (the synagogue) and join the Beth Israel."

But, he insisted, Conservative Judaism is "as legitimate as Orthodoxy and may be even more legitimate," and urged the members not to disappear as a congregation but to find, and keep to the fullest, a new rabbi.

Rabbi Chinitz asked to be let out of his contract, which

had one year to run, so he could slow down. He will become rabbi of Congregation Beth Ami in Boca Raton, Florida, as of January 1, 1993, replaced a man of 87 years of age.

His new congregation is comprised of members 55 years old and live with no children. "I'm tired of teaching and will now be able to deal with mature people. I will give sermons, hold some classes for the congregants."

"Besides," he said with a smile, "I like the warm weather. It will be better for my health."

Rabbi Chinitz, born in Russian 72 years ago, was brought up on New York's East Side and Brooklyn. He followed his father into the Orthodox rabbinate when he was ordained at Yeshiva University and accepted his first pulpit in Detroit in 1952.

"Most of my friends were Conservative rabbis," he recalled in an interview. "I was torn between orthodoxy and conservatism, and felt I could not honestly be an orthodox rabbi. It was not consistent with itself."

After seven years in Detroit, he moved to the Beth Ami Congregation in Philadelphia. After 20 years there, he went to Israel where he was associate rabbi at a Jerusalem conservative congregation.

He returned to the United States and congregations in Pittsfield, Mass. and Rockford, Illinois, and finally retired to Israel where his children and grandchildren reside.

However, a desire to return to the rabbinate brought him to Halifax and Shaar Shalom in 1984.

"When I came to Halifax, I found a peaceful community with nice people who were making great sacrifices to maintain their shul. But, even by saying shocking things, I couldn't get a rise out of people. It seemed their prime purpose was not the rock the boat."

Lloyd Newman, president of Shaar Shalom, paid tribute to the man whose eight years of service was the longest of any Shaar Shalom rabbi.

"You have married us, buried and eulogized over us, blessed, and I'm sure, privately cursed us. (Your wife) Ruth can vouch for that. But you have become part of our lives. You will never know how many lives you have touched."

"I will miss your humour, your scholarships, your probing thinking and the friendship you have extended me."

Alan Stern, president of the congregation in 1984, said Rabbi Chinitz was "the most wonderful orator and scholar we've had in the community, never afraid to express his opinions. He has been an outstanding representative for the Jewish community in the non-Jewish community."

Shul secretary Ruth Slade said working with Rabbi Chinitz was "one of the greatest experiences of my life. I'm not Jewish but he never tried to sway my opinion. He answered questions in an unbiased, factual way."

Ralph Garson, co-chair with his wife Ruthe of the Shaar Shalom League, said Rabbi Chinitz will be missed. "He is a great religious leader, very inspiring and runs a wonderful service."

Ruthe Garson said she hates to see him leave. "He is a brilliant man who talks to the congregants at our level."

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DADY LATE

Shaar Shalom identified

by Joel Jacobson

Isn't it nice to realize, in today's world of bigotry, racism, and the "me" syndrome, that people of different cultures and backgrounds are willing to work together for a common good.

The Shaar Shalom Synagogue in Halifax is the beneficiary of such co-operation. The Shaar building, at the corner of Oxford and Pepperell Streets, now has an identifying sign on its front wall because Jews, Egyptians and German-Dutch people coordinated their efforts to produce a sign identifying to the entire community of Halifax that Shaar Shalom Synagogue exists.

The family of the late **Saul Offman**, seeking a significant memorial to a man who was a founder of Shaar Shalom made a contribution to the Shaar Shalom Congregation 15 years ago that made the sign possible.

It was designed by **Gad Almaliah**, an Israeli graphic arts professor who spent time at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design as a visiting lecturer. The computer layout of the design was done by **George Jeha**, an Egyptian engineer and a new Canadian. He designed the castings and installed the sign.

Lunenburg Foundries, a German-Dutch company from Nova Scotia's south shore, cast the aluminum Hebrew and English letters.

And it was all done for a Polish Jew, a prominent Halifax furniture store owner, who worked for so many vital causes in the Jewish community. His long time friend, in business and com-

munity affairs, **Peter Herschorn**, was responsible for arranging the design, construction and installation.

Lloyd Newman, president of Shaar Shalom, said at the fall dedication ceremony, "Saul Offman knew, and the whole Jewish community knew, and the wider non-Jewish community knew, where he stood and who he was. This congregation has for almost 40

years existed, 36 years on this site, without properly posting its identity.

"Perhaps because of that, and because Saul was the kind of man he was, it is all together proper that we dedicate this sign in memory and recollection of Saul Offman.

The lesson is obvious. We can all learn from Saul Offman's real legacy to this community."

Shirley Burnstein to be honoured

by Joel Jacobson

Mention the name **Shirley Burnstein** and people think, "possessor of an operatic voice", "music director"; "writer of fine music."

Shirley Burnstein has been all that and more. And she will be feted for her contribution to the Maritime music scene at a gala dinner, sponsored by Halifax Women's ORT, to be staged in Halifax at The Lord Nelson Hotel on May 30, 1993.

"I am honored," she said in an interview. "It's thoughtful of ORT to have selected me. I just hope the evening relates to the public that what I am able to do is what I love the most. That is to bring music to young people and to seniors and to everyone."

Shirley has been a life member of ORT since its inception in Halifax, jumping at the opportunity to join when she found out the chapter would be named after **Ada Zebberman**, a lifelong friend of her mother's and a longtime next door neighbor.

"I loved her dearly," she said.

Mrs. Burnstein started her musical training in Halifax but, at age 16, followed her voice teacher to Toronto. She lived there for 10 years, from where she based concert tours and radio appearances.

At 17, she was the youngest person ever to appear on "Singing Stars of Tomorrow", a CBC Radio weekly production. She joined the newly-created Canadian Opera School but, because of her young age, did not sing solos, but performed only in the chorus.

She did get solo appearances with the Toronto Jewish Folk Choir and sang in the chorus of the famed Toronto Mendelssohn Choir.

Some of the high lights of that stage of her career was singing in concert with both **Paul Robeson** and **Jan Peerce** at Toronto's Massey Hall.

Today, Shirley is involved in writing and directing musical shows for Northwood Centre Players in Halifax and dabbles in helping synagogue and community events with her musical talents.

"Israel Today"

"Israel Today" is the title of a new TV program on Israel which is now available in Canada, coast to coast, through the efforts of United Israel Appeal. The program is syndicated internationally and is also called "Jerusalem on Line". Produced in Israel, "Israel Today/Jerusalem on Line" features veteran news broadcaster **Mike Greenspan** who introduces the professionally produced and well paced news segments on Israel.

The producer of the Canadian version of the program is **Len Butcher**,

who also serves as managing editor of the *Canadian Jewish News*. (Len Butcher's involvement with "Israel Today" is an independent business venture and is not related to his work at the *CJN*.) Canada's Vision TV will carry the 30 minute program every Thursday evening at 8:30 pm AST (9:00 pm in Newfoundland) with rebroadcasts on Friday at 1:30am, 11:30am and 4:30pm AST.

The first broadcast, which was aired on March 4th, contained a feature on Montreal's assistance to Beersheva's

Ethiopian olim, an interview with **Yair Tzaban**, Israel's Minister of Immigration and Absorption, and a segment on Israel's growing fashion industry.

As the first ever weekly Israel program to be broadcast on a national basis in Canada, "Israel Today" has enormous potential to reach out to Canadian Jewish viewers with a positive Israel message.

Please find the time to watch "Israel Today", as we would be very interested in hearing your feedback on the above mentioned program.

A trip of a lifetime

by Joanna Rieber, Charlottetown

The most exciting, enriching, and meaningful experience of my life occurred in the latter part of this past summer [1992]. I was lucky enough to be part of a youth to youth mission between Jewish Canadian teenagers and their counterparts in Israel.

Before long, I received official word that I had been accepted to participate in the program. I also learned that I was to help in hosting the four Israeli students who would be visiting PEI for several days. Their visit really made me feel as though I had a connection with Israel. We spent three days together talking, laughing, and sharing personal experiences and opinions. I was sad when they left, but our time together increased my anticipation and enthusiasm for my own upcoming trip. The time passed rather quickly, and before I knew it I was boarding the airplane in Charlottetown.

When we finally reached our destination, and the airplane touched down, the cabin exploded with applause. We made our way to the door and stepped down onto Israeli soil - well actually it was pavement. The heat hit us full force and overwhelmed our already exhausted bodies. Nevertheless, we were all so incredibly thrilled to finally be there that we could barely stand still as we waited for our luggage to arrive inside the airport; and wait we did - two hours to be exact. When all our paraphernalia was finally arranged, we maneuvered ourselves out the door to meet our billets. To our surprise and pleasure, each one of us was greeted by our billets and presented with a flower. We then boarded the bus and began the journey to our "home away from home". This first bus ride was quite awkward as each of us attempted to make friendly conversation with our hosts. Although they had an incredible knowledge of English, they felt somewhat self-conscious when it came to speaking it, so the language barrier added to our uneasiness. Little did we know that three short weeks from that day our twenty-three member family of Canadians and Israelis would become in-

separable.

On the first leg of our journey, we travelled to the old city of Jerusalem. I can't begin to explain what an extraordinary feeling it was to look out at the beauty that appeared before our eyes and think that people had been coming there for thousands upon thousands of years.

As we walked through the old city, we Canadians hadn't been hit with the reality that we were actually there; it felt as though we were watching a movie or looking through a child's picture book. Everything was ancient and beautiful and seemed to be bursting with history; each stone seemed to have a story to tell.

The following day was more serious and emotionally provoking. We visited the Holocaust Memorial Museum which included a separate memorial in remembrance of all the innocent children who perished during the Second World War. I have never been so moved or so overcome with emotion in my entire life. We were all overwhelmed and shocked into speechlessness. I didn't know whether to feel sad or angry that such a horrid event could have been allowed to take place.

Our tour guide was a truly great young man, and he initiated several fascinating discussions throughout our trip in which we all participated. We also took part in several organized seminars dealing with the Holocaust, peace in Israel and the Middle East, and the issue of whether or not all Jews

should live in Israel. It was truly fascinating and eye-opening to hear such diverse opinions on these topics, particularly the difference of opinions and feelings between Israelis and Canadians. I learned a great deal about these issues and was introduced to different points of view and aspects of these subjects which had not occurred to me previously.

Following our stay in Jerusalem, we ventured to the southern tip of the country called Eilat. There we stayed at a youth hostel, which is an experience in itself as you can well imagine. There were so many young people there from so many different parts of the world, yet we all felt some common connection with one another.

There were many more experiences had by all, and many more wonderful stories to tell, but unfortunately, I'm unable to include them all. When asked what stands out in my mind about my experience in Israel, or what I will remember the most about my trip, I don't hesitate to reply, "The people". I have never felt so close to a group of people in my entire life. We are all emotionally bonded together and share many special memories of our times together. When we parted at the airport in Israel, we were leaving a part of ourselves behind; our spirits were wilted and our faces tear-stained as we boarded the plane that night. The ties between us are incredibly strong and will hopefully not grow weaker as time passes.

Where are they now?



Can you name this debating team?

Atlantic Provinces Jewish Student Federation update

by **Jonathan Mendleson**,
Co-president

The Atlantic Provinces Jewish Student Federation sent 13 delegates to the National Jewish Students' Network convention, which was held in Montreal over the winter break. Our delegates included two students from Fredericton, one from Moncton, one from Charlottetown, and ten from the Halifax/Dartmouth area. The purpose was to unite Jewish students from across Canada to discuss common issues and events that concern us as we head into the new century.

Upon returning from Montreal, APJSF has had a Tu b'Shevat dried fruit drive. All Jewish students received a bag of dried fruit with a little note explaining what the significance of the fruit was, as well as what Tu b'Shevat signifies.

Although January and February were slow months, we have been very busy organizing all the upcoming events for March. In March we have a number of programs. A Purim Masquerade Party kicked off the month for all of our students in the Metro Halifax/Dartmouth area.

Following this joyous occasion, was our first student program in Fredericton on the University of New Brunswick campus. Mr. Aviad Ivri, Press Attache to the Israeli Embassy in Ottawa will be discussing, "Israel in the Changing World." The community was invited to listen and discuss what the Jewish homeland is currently facing. Mr. Ivri was in Fredericton on March 15.

On March 19, we will be fortunate to have with us Dr. Leon Bass. Dr. Bass is a renowned lecturer on two very important subjects: Racism and the Holocaust. Dr. Bass will share with us, his experiences growing up in the southern States during segregation as well as how he was a liberator of a concentration camp during the Second World War. This program is definitely one that should not be missed so plan on attending. The program will be at the Beth Israel Synagogue Auditorium at 8:15pm. Prior to Dr. Bass' presentation,

APJSF will be hosting a Shabbat dinner for the Jewish Students, in honor of our special guest.

To end this very busy month, we will be having a Bagel Brunch.

As a favour to our students, we would like to ask those members in the Atlantic Jewish community to invite a

student or two for a Passover Seder. If you would be willing to host a student, please contact **Jonathan Mendleson** at (902) 477-5795, **Timna Gorber** at (902) 464-1421 or **Jon Goldberg** at (902) 422-7491.

Thank you in advance for your support and hospitality.

Canadian Jewish War Veterans Atlantic update, post #4

by **Gar Meltzer**, Commander

Saturday morning previous to November 11, 1992, Remembrance Day services were held in all shuls in the eastern seaboard, except Saint John, NB, where services were held the following Saturday. Attending veterans were all given honours and some conducted the entire service.

Names of the Jewish veterans who had passed away were called out and a minute of silence was observed in their memory. Kiddishes were held in the vestries of the shuls, in which all the congregations participated.

November 11, wreaths were laid at the cenotaphs in Fredericton, Moncton, St. John's, Sydney, Halifax and in Saint John.

We lost two members, who passed away this past year - **Allie Meltz** of Woodstock, NB, and **Wilf Mosher** of Halifax.

David Myer is in Camp Hill Hospital, and would appreciate visitations.

We welcome associate members **Mark Calp**, **Norman Holtzman**, **Norman Hamburg**, **Marc Koven**, and **Phil Bloom** of Saint John; **Jim Spatz**, **Jon Goldberg**, **Victor Goldberg**, **Dr. Jayson Greenblatt**, **Seymour Prince**, **Mark Rosen**, and **Andrew Wolfson** of Halifax; **Ivan Levine** of Fredericton, and **Dr. Joseph Naylor** of PEI. We have thirty more promises from individuals to join, but as yet they have not come forward.

We are presenting ourselves wherever necessary, fighting anti-Semitism with pamphlets, videos and

ourselves. Please join us as Associate Members at \$20 per year.

On June 20th we hope to sponsor a Father's Day get-together and dance in Halifax. This will be strictly for fun and no solicitations will be asked. We hope to be able to charge \$30 per couple. It would be nice to have everyone from all the communities in the eastern seaboard to come and join in the fun. We need a fun evening. Everyone is invited. Please drop **Jon Goldberg** a note and tell him if you would come and bring friends.

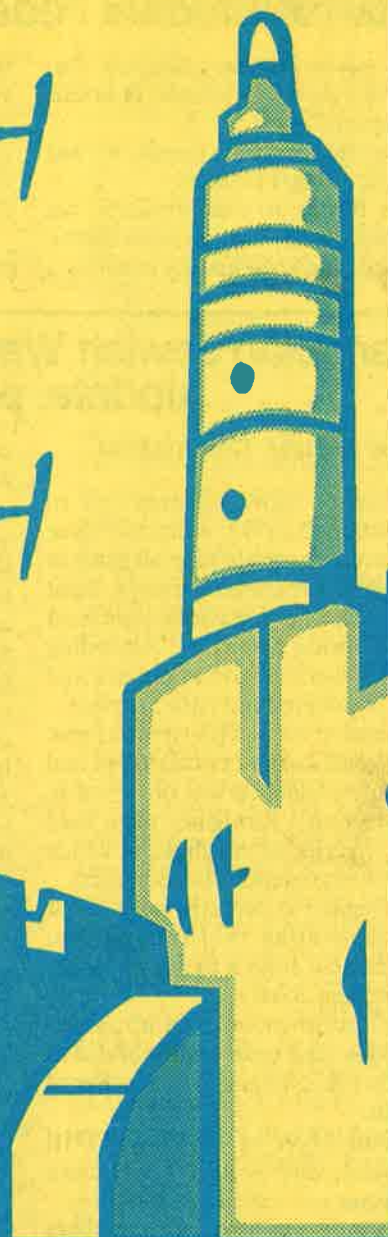
A Russian invitation

A letter was received from the Association of Jewish War Veterans, St. Petersburg, Russia, via **Senator Jack Marshall**, proposing a program for Jewish War Veterans of Canada to visit St. Petersburg. Accommodations would be with Jewish families. They have several English speaking Jewish families, who would be happy to have such guests and would be able to provide separate rooms, meals and hospitality. They would also be able to arrange sight-seeing tours, extensive cultural programs and other entertainment.

The estimated cost for a one-week stay, based on a maximum group of ten persons, would be \$200 US per person, including accommodations, food and guided tours. Transportation would be extra.

Some of our members have indicated an interest in the tour. For further information, please contact the AJC office.

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