

SHALOM! שלום

Spring 2011 Vol 36 No. 1

Nisan 5771

Happy Passover



SERGEI RATCHINSKI

The Exodus/part of a triptych/1993. (Ink on Paper)

- TOM FORRESTALL IN ISRAEL
- WHEEL OF CONSCIENCE UNVEILED
- NEWS FROM AROUND OUR REGION



25TH ANNIVERSARY

SAINT JOHN JEWISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

MARK THIS DATE
THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 2011

Celebrate with us

25 years ago The Saint John Jewish Museum opened in the basement of the old Jewish Community Centre on Wellington Row. Today it occupies much of the main level of a historic former home on Leinster Street and attracts thousands of visitors every year. The museum presents educational programmes in cooperation with the school system and hosts events throughout the year for people of all ages. It continues to build and manage an archives and library. We would like you to join us to celebrate this achievement at a reception and dinner at the Delta Brunswick Hotel.



25TH ANNIVERSARY

SAINT JOHN JEWISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Dinner features a traditional-style Jewish meal of beef brisket and all the trimmings. (A salmon option will be available if specified in advance.) **Music** at the reception features the **Saint John String Quartet**.

Derek Oland will **chair** our evening's celebrations. The theme of the evening will be tradition and fun.

Our **guest speaker** is **Jacques Steinberg**.

Tickets can be purchased by calling (506) 652-7582 and then press 0 (zero). Visa and Mastercard accepted.

The cost is \$100 each or \$800 for a reserved table for 8. A tax receipt will be issued for the eligible part of the price.

More information and updates about the **Celebration** will be posted on the Museum's website:
<http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/sjjhm>

Call us soon to guarantee a seat!



Jacques Steinberg has been a staff reporter at *The New York Times* for two decades. He currently serves as a national education correspondent and is the moderator of *The Times'* Choice blog, which he created as a way to help parents and students navigate the complex college admissions process.

Mr. Steinberg has had the opportunity to interview such notables as Larry King, Katie Couric, Barbara Walters, Diane Sawyer, Matt Lauer, Meredith Vieira, Jon Stewart, Stephen Colbert and Peter Jennings.

Author, correspondent, reporter and interviewer, Mr. Steinberg will bring insightful and entertaining anecdotes to the evening.

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Cover artist Sergei Ratchinski

Sergei Ratchinski was born in Ukraine in 1967. He attended the Studio of Visual Arts and Painting in Odessa. Sergei participated in a movement of future artists in Odessa in the 80s. His works has been exhibited in the Odessa Folk Art Museum, as well as at private galleries in the Ukraine and Israel.

שלום!

President: Shulamith Medjuck

The Atlantic Jewish Council

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NOTE TO OUR READERS

Our Atlantic Jewish community is losing more and more members as the years go on.

In the past, Shalom has printed stories of regional community members who have passed away.

While we try to acknowledge the major contributions of many of our late friends and family members, we request that you inform Shalom of passings of which we may be unaware so we may recognize these individuals.

Shalom's editorial staff reserves the right to determine the length of memorial pieces to be printed in the magazine.

Written articles are the opinion of the individual writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the AJC.

President's Message

by Shulamith Medjuck



As the holiday of Passover is upon us, we think of its meaning to us as a Jewish community and to Israel. God charged Moses with the task of enabling the Jews of Egypt to practice their religion. Moses himself was not given the privilege of realizing this dream. To us in Atlantic Canada who

have recently experienced the loss of senior members of our community, we mourn their loss but we are faced with a similar dilemma. These members brought meaningful contributions to our Jewish community and we are indebted to them and their families. We must ensure that the dream of a vibrant Jewish community is realized.

As we watch the dramatic governance changes in the Middle East we on the one hand applaud the democratization of these countries and yet we are concerned. We have no certainty what this will mean for Israel. Having as a people been oppressed in Egypt, we understand better than most the tyranny of oppression. None of us has a crystal ball and can foretell what form of government will take hold in each of these countries and what their relationship will be with Israel. Is this an opportunity for more moderate Arab positions or will the vacuum be filled with radical organizations such as the Moslem Brotherhood?

As we watch the environmental horror that has befallen Japan, we need to be empathetic to their plight and thankful for what we have. Despite, our kvetching about the weather being cold and or wet; we are blessed. Passover is a joyous holiday. Sheva and I hope that you will be able to tell the story of the exodus and experience the happiness of being Jews in Atlantic Canada.

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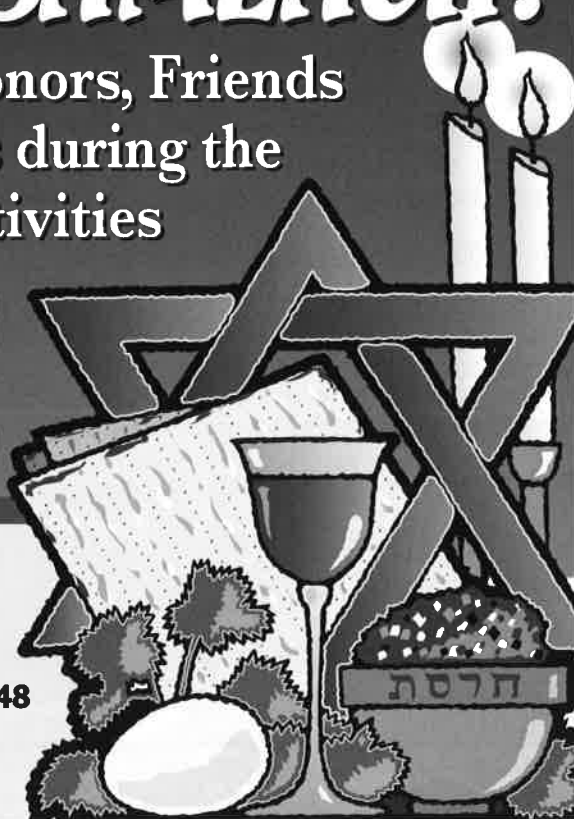
To all our Donors, Friends
and Families during the
Passover festivities



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**ISRAEL CANNOT SURVIVE WITHOUT MAGEN DAVID ADOM
MAGEN DAVID ADOM CANNOT SURVIVE WITHOUT YOU**

From the Desk of

Jon Goldberg, Executive Director

On Reaching Three Score and Five

Shalom everyone and welcome to our Pesach 2011 edition of Shalom magazine. I trust you will find our magazine informative, entertaining and in some ways bring you closer to our roots as Jews here in Atlantic Canada.

Just two short months ago I turned 65! It's hard to believe! I certainly don't feel that old, and nor do most of my friends say I act that old! I want to thank all my family and friends, many of whom are Shalom subscribers, for your good wishes, and in particular my brother and sister-in-law Victor and Judith Goldberg for hosting a kiddush at the Synagogue in my honour for about 200 of my closest friends and acquaintances. Just last weekend my old friend Bill Mosher of 50 plus years joined me at 65, Mazel Tov to Billy and all my other peers who have or will reach the threshold since the beginning of the year. Now that the baby-boom generation has reached the senior citizen status it becomes particularly apparent in the demographics of the Jewish community here in Atlantic Canada. Walk into any synagogue in our region the average age will certainly be 50 or over, unless it's a particular children's oriented Shabbat. In some of our communities that 50 could be 70. So what do we do? Well, some have left for Toronto, Montreal, and beyond. Some throw up their hands in despair, complain and cry about the shrinking and aging of our Jewish population. Others acknowledge the reality of Jewish life in Atlantic Canada and try to confront the problems head on. Sometimes they can affect some changes and sometimes not. But at least they try.

One of the major complaints I receive from newcomers to the region is the clickishness of our communities. I understand their point, having lived in Halifax all my life, however I don't think it's on purpose. It's just the way we are

because of the few immigrants and newcomers that have come to our Jewish communities since the late 1940s. However "times are a changin'" if we are to maintain Jewish

continuity here in our region we must be prepared to change the way we have operated our Jewish communities over the last 100 years. If not, there will be a wasteland of Jewish life in this country east of Montreal by 2050. Some of you may not agree, some of you may even be insulted, but my friends, this is where we are in 2011.

Our main challenge over the next few years is to keep organized Jewish life alive here in our region. Now you may say how does one do this, recognizing the factors that exist which work against this premise, aging community, most of our youth goes away to college and never comes home, lack of interest from our younger generation, and socio-economic changes that have taken place over the last thirty years. These and other reasons cast a dark shadow over our future.

However, I'm pleased to tell you that in many of our communities there are people of all ages who want to preserve their heritage and provide some Jewish life for their families and friends. As we move into the second decade of the 21st century, these are the people whom you should support and encourage in your respective communities. If you don't live in Atlantic Canada anymore I'm sure they could use both moral and financial encouragement. It can be depressing to live in a community where there are more funerals than weddings, more unveilings than births and on and on. Such is life here in the Atlantic Jewish



community. Let's face it, and recognize the contributions of those that pass on, cherish their memories, and honour them by helping to maintaining the Jewish life that they themselves and their families contributed to over the decades. Too many of our people have given up on Jewish life here in our region, either physically by moving away, or psychologically, by adopting a permanent sense of melancholy when it comes to Jewish continuity. It is time to reverse the course. This may very well involve some difficult and revolutionary decisions for many of our communities. We cannot live as Jews in 2011 the same way as we did 25 years ago. So you may ask, what exactly can be done? I do have some ideas and suggestions but I certainly don't have the ultimate answer. I sure wish I did. However, I do believe in the ability, the character, and the strength of the Atlantic Jewish community to survive. Maybe I'm a bit prejudice but I feel we are among the best and brightest of Canada's Jewish population.

Some of the things that I feel are happening to keep Jewish continuity alive here in our region are: 1. Chaplaincy: The AJC initiative now in its 12th year, is providing rabbinical presence and a sense of Halachic authority to Cape Breton on a continuing basis. Rabbi Ellis is also available to PEI, Newfoundland and numerous Jewish individuals spread around our region. 2. Immigration Initiative: In Moncton, Fredericton, Saint John, and Halifax members of the community, together with the synagogues and the AJC, have for the last few years supported the immigration of newcomer families most of whom originated from the Former Soviet Union. My congratulations, to all the volunteers in these communities who have worked so hard at what is a very difficult and time intensive program. In Halifax, we are now expecting our

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All Newcomer Families in the Maritimes



With help from a grant from the Stephan and Sophie Lewar JIAS Canada Fund the Atlantic Jewish Council is pleased to announce the first Maritime Shabbaton for Newcomer families.

When: Weekend of August 26th-28th, 2011

Where: Camp Kadimah, NS

Theme: Being Jewish in the Diaspora

What to expect: Enjoy celebrating Shabbat, kosher meals, a weekend with music, dancing, fun, games and activities to explore our theme in a relaxed camp atmosphere.

Many new families have moved to Atlantic Canada and attending this camping event will assist in bringing us all together to get to know each other, create new friendships and share our experience about being Jewish in Atlantic Canada.

For more information and registration please contact:

Edna LeVine

Director of Community Engagement
Atlantic Jewish Council

(902)422-7491 X226 elevine@theajc.ns.ca

Imagine green all around you, with the lake just a stone throw away.

Imagine summer breeze on a sunny day.

*Imagine friends together, children's laughter, good food,
music, fun, games and activities.*

Imagine camping in a beautiful place.

**Come and experience Shabbat with your family and
share your experiences with new friends.**

**Let's all make an effort to provide ourselves and
our families with new friends and some outdoor fun!**

From the Desk of

Edna LeVine, Director of Community Engagement

Attraction and retention of new immigrants are essential for communities facing a decline in their Jewish population. Consequently, there is a need to better understand the purpose of the host community and how to welcome newcomers to facilitate integration and encourage participation. Change is difficult for both the host community and the newcomers. Maintaining the status quo is uncomplicated, comfortable and accomplished with ease in a small community thereby creating hardships for newcomers to integrate into the social and cultural lives of the community. Successfully enabling integration requires the host community to communicate the willingness to welcome. This summer the AJC will host the first Maritime Shabbaton for Newcomers. In an effort to provide a forum for the newcomers in our region the AJC applied for and received a grant from the Stephan and Sophie Lewar JIAS Canada Fund for new immigrant programs. The theme for the shabbaton, selected by a dedicated group of newcomers who are helping to organize this fun family weekend, is "Being Jewish in the Diaspora". In a warm camp atmosphere newcomer families from communities in New Brunswick and Halifax will be encouraged to share their stories and

experiences while enjoying a Shabbat weekend with family and friends. Halifax is expecting an additional 25 new families to arrive during the spring, summer and fall and Saint John will also be welcoming their first wave of new immigrants this summer; please see the article "Newcomer Program Blossoming in Saint John" in this magazine for their inspiring story by Joel Jacobson. With this new influx of families in our region we hope the shabbaton will be a positive experience for both the families participating and for their respective communities.

Holocaust education has continued to demand the assistance of Holocaust survivors in our region and this year Francis Weil, Israel Unger, David Korn and Philip Riteman responded to requests from schools and community groups interested in expanding their knowledge of this part of our history. This fall Sydney, Cape Breton will host their first Holocaust Education Week and the AJC will sponsor a program during

their inaugural event. Holocaust Education Week programs (last week in October and first week in November) are in the initial planning stages in Halifax with local community partners. The AJC is continuing the successful sale of signed copies of Philip Riteman's book, "Millions of Souls" as a fundraiser for our Holocaust Education programs;



Edna LeVine, left, with Benita Goldin, Coordinator of Community Relations, Cummings Jewish Centre for Seniors, Montreal.

please contact the AJC if you are interested in purchasing a copy.

This spring I attended a conference in NYC offering workshops and presentations on issues relating to Holocaust survivors. Intergenerational programs for survivors and the role of survivors as an educator were informative. Holocaust education resources for educators were developed by the Museum of Jewish History and are available for educators teaching the Holocaust in their classroom. The Company for Location & Restitution of Holocaust Victims Assets (Hashava) in Israel is a non-profit organization designed to locate the beneficiaries of assets left behind in Israel by Jews who were killed by the Nazis. Many people are unaware of the fact that Jews from across Europe invested in pre-State Israel as part of the Zionist dream to create a Jewish homeland. They purchased land, bought stock & bonds and opened bank accounts, most of which were all but forgotten. Please check their website: www.hashava.org.il/eng/ for a complete list of names and assets.

Yom HaShoah programs will be offered in our communities in Atlantic Canada and a complete list is in the centerfold of this magazine.



Edna LeVine, right, with Anne Max, Social Worker, Toronto, who presented the Café Europa program for Holocaust survivors at Baycrest, at the conference in New York City.

Tom Forrestall's Amazing Israel Experience

by Joel Jacobson

Dartmouth artist Tom Forrestall has done scores of solo exhibitions, has seen his work hung in the finest art galleries, received dozens of awards and painted via many commissions.

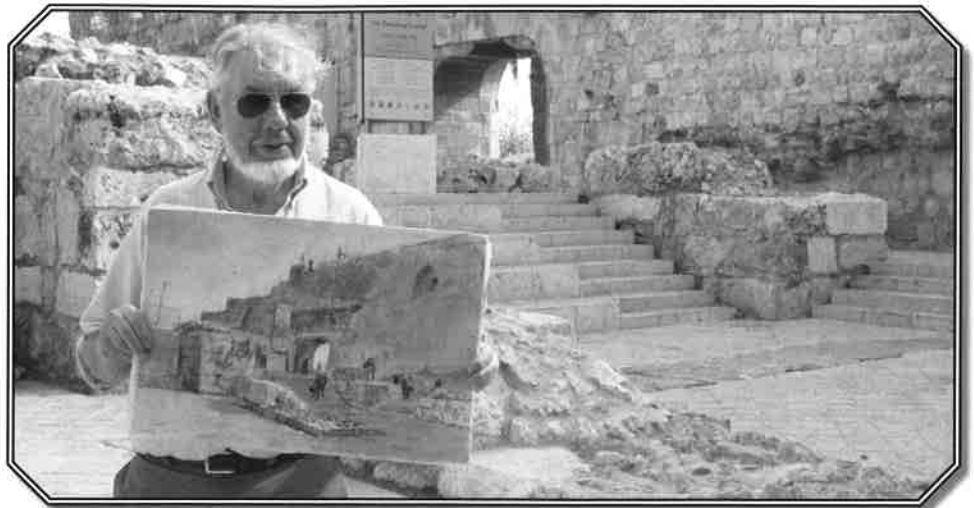
Last fall, the water color and egg tempura artist travelled with, and after, an Atlantic Jewish Council mission to paint various scenes in Israel.

"Israel has a spirit, a mystique," he said after his five-week experience travelling from north to south and putting scenes on canvas from Metulla, Golan Heights, Jerusalem, Masada, the Dead Sea and more.

Forrestall spent the first week with the mission attendees, soaking up the culture, looking for subjects to paint and, as he says, focusing on all the senses – seeing, hearing, feeling, smelling, even tasting – before deciding on his subjects. He estimates he did 45 paintings of which he chose 35 for showing.

His work, all framed, will be on sale April 14 at a special showing in Halifax. Then, the AJC, which supported the trip and owns all the work Tom created, will select one to be sold in print form to a wider audience.

His son, Frank, an artist in his own right,



Tom Forrestall shows artwork he painted of the Israeli site behind him.

also travelled on the mission and spent the rest of the time with his father, filming the journey for a documentary to be used in other media, and helping Tom select locations.

"It was truly a remarkable journey," said Frank. "We were in Israel from October 27 to December 2, five weeks. Tom had an exhibition in Israel about 25 years ago but this was so much more than being in one place."

Tom agreed. "We definitely saw a lot of changes."

Tom had the original idea to do this tour and series of paintings. He approached Jon Goldberg, AJC executive director, with the idea, to be used as a fund raiser for the organization.

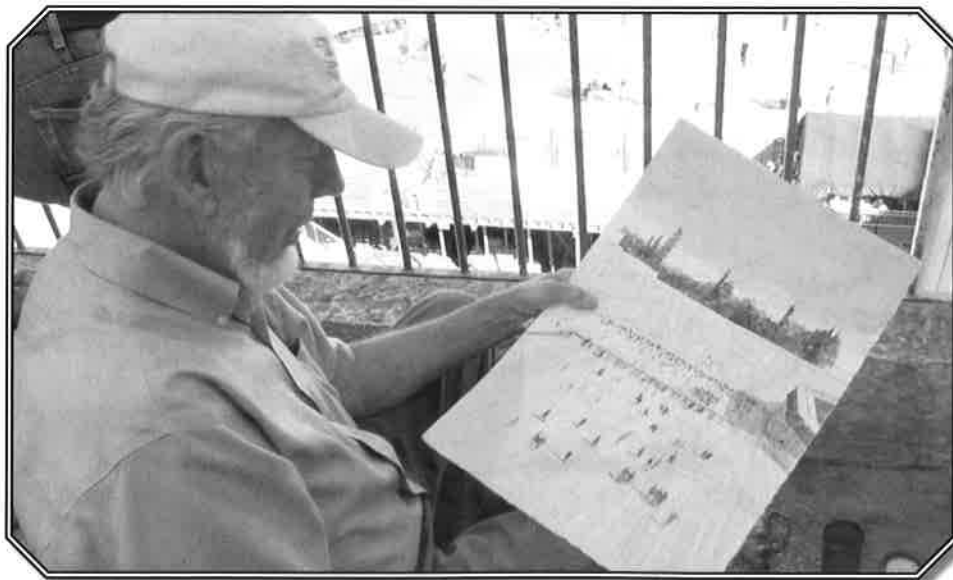
"The Jewish community has supported my work greatly since I started (as a full-time painter in 1960)," Tom said.

His subject choices were left to him, "whatever grabbed me," he said. "This was a more complete picture of Israel than the Tel Aviv exhibition. I had a real feeling for the country. It was so peaceful and the people were extremely helpful."

Frank's video shows quiet times as Tom totally concentrated and other situations where crowds gathered around to watch him work, something that Tom enjoys.

At times, Tom put his brush in the dust and painted with it to see how it would mix with the water colours. "The desert reminded me of the coast of Nova Scotia with the waves of sand of Israel comparing to the waves of water in Nova Scotia. It was an awesome side of nature."

Among the 35 works, Tom painted Toward the City of David, Jerusalem from the Olive Grove, the old city from Mount Scopus Campus, the Western Wall, the Hula Nature Reserve, a tank memorial at Metulla a sundown on the beaches of Tel Aviv, an



Forrestall prepares to do a painting of the Wailing Wall.

amphitheatre at Beit She'an, and a river on the Dafna kibbutz. He painted as many as four pieces a day but mostly one or two.

Tom met an old friend from his home turf in the Annapolis Valley, Seamus McClafferty, who emigrated to Israel in the 1970s, changed his name to Yehuda Miklaf and has become a renowned bookbinder. Tom recalls Seamus was a Franciscan monk who married a Jewish woman and converted.

Tom speaks passionately about his work. "I usually have a slight letdown when I finish painting, hoping that I'd do better than I've done."

When asked which of the 35 pieces is his favourite, he laughs. "My favourite is usually the next one."



Tom Forrestall at work

From the New Chair of the Atlantic Jewish Foundation

by Kathy Zilbert

The Atlantic Jewish Foundation has been in existence since 1996. During that time it has grown to a value of approximately \$900,000 and is made up of 2 designated funds, the interest from which is used for scholarships, and the remainder in undesignated funds.

In 2007 the financial management of the fund was given to the Montreal Jewish Community Foundation to be invested with a much larger pool of funds.

In December I was asked to become the chair of AJF and have spent the last few months familiarizing myself with it and recruiting a new group of Trustees to oversee it.

I would like to thank the previous chairs - Victor Goldberg and Jim Spatz who worked for the betterment of our foundation for many years.

Victor has agreed to stay on as a trustee which will make the transition to new leadership a smooth one. Mark Rosen, Howard Budovitch, Sheva Medjuck, Jack Haller and Curdis Karroll have all agreed to sit as trustees. I thank them all for

agreeing to be part of the management and growth of this very important aspect of the Atlantic Jewish community.

The reason d'être of the Atlantic Jewish Foundation is to help preserve and enhance Jewish life here in our own backyard and beyond. Providing scholarships for young people and others in our community broadens their Jewish education and experiences.

Raising funds for chaplaincy services will become a major initiative as there is only funding remaining for this service for 2 more years. Holocaust education and immigration initiatives are two of the many focused of the AJC which require stable funding as well.

As some Atlantic communities shrink and demographics and desires change



the AJF is the answer to dealing with issues as they arise.

The national Jewish community also could and should benefit from such a foundation as many national Jewish initiatives such as campus life for Jewish students and advocacy issues for all Canadians are the responsibility of our national system.

And then of course Israel, in particular our partnership region of the Upper Galilee, is always in the hearts and minds of the Jewish community of Atlantic Canada and it, along with our own regional issues can be supported through Bequests and or endowments to the Atlantic Jewish Foundation .

It is a pleasure to speak to you through Shalom on this topic and hope this article and the information you will receive in the near future will encourage you to think about what you can do for your community at home , nationally and through Israel. Please feel free to contact me for more information about AJF.

Campus Life

by Bill Chernin, Director of Campus Services, Atlantic Provinces

Another term and another year on campus comes to a close. This term saw our first Israel Apartheid Week at Dalhousie in six years, and I will provide an update on that, but first, good news:



We had a strong year on campus. Dalhousie, Acadia and Mt. Allison all had successful JSAs, as did the Dalhousie Law School. We also made significant inroads at King's, where we believed we could engage more Jewish students than we had, and are now doing so. Our signature programs, including Shabbat dinners and Smoked meat dinners, ran well also. We also made significant improvements and additions to our programs.

We made Matzo ball soup this year and delivered it to our members, which was very popular. We'll definitely do it again. We also found strong ways to increase our Jewish content. For example, we engaged a local professor as our keynote speaker at our Shabbaton and used our student house as the venue. This was popular and cost effective, and engaged different students. There are other local popular Jewish professors we can engage, and we will do so next year, on a more regular basis. We also came upon a simple formula for including more Jewish discussion at our dinners, in a way that allows students to comfortably choose to participate or not. Our basketball league swelled to 65 players, resulting in games two nights a week instead of one. Our social justice group, ROW, had an excellent first full year, is planning to ratify at Dalhousie, and is recruiting new leaders for next year. We now have many points of access for students with different interests, and this is important for engagement.

Our Israel Affairs Committee came to life in the second term, and our executive was made up of students with diverse political views. This was an important achievement, as we are a pluralistic organization.. We had a Hookah night program, a straight-talk session for students to discuss issues concerning Israel, an Israel information table at Dal, and organized a response to Israel apartheid week. We also have a plan to engage more students next year, and for raising the level of debate which Israel Apartheid Week lowers.

Israel Apartheid Week (IAW). I'll try to address the most common questions.

Is it ugly? Yes, it is ugly. Michael Ignatieff describes it as bigoted and I agree. There is a palpable animosity towards Israel, relentless equivocation for the Palestinians and Arab nations, ceaseless vilification of Israel, and hypocrisy that would make your head spin. The organizers pretend to be idealistic human rights advocates, but their radicalism is obvious.

Will it ever be cancelled? Probably not. Academic freedom and the freedom of speech rule supreme on campus, and most would agree they should. They are at the heart of the spirit of academic inquiry, and are embodied in the concept of tenure.

The usual response from the administration to complaint is an invitation to host our own events. This is considered balanced and fair, and it is what we do. Our students, for the most part, don't want to stoop to the IAW organizers levels, and it is believed that the more obnoxious IAW becomes, the less sympathy the student body will have for them. Many feel administrations could be more vocal in condemning IAW. This may be true.

Is it anti-Semitic? Well, in legal terms it is not, or at least (as a lawyer might correct me), it has never been proven to be. It is obnoxious and they are willing to tread on Jewish feelings with what I would describe as little regard. They are unwilling to tread on any other religious or ethnic feelings however, and this is part of the hypocrisy that damns them I believe. They also have several Jewish organizers (as they describe themselves) and offer them as a proof that they cannot therefore be anti-Semitic. This is imbecilic in my opinion, seeing as racism is expressed through action, and to suggest a person cannot commit a racist action because of their "race" is... racist. The foolishness of this confounds people I have spoken with. The prominence they give to their Jewish members, and their habit of engaging Jewish speakers, who generalize about Jews, in non-positive ways, also damns them I believe. The level of their content relating to Jewish attitudes and Canadian and American Jewish institutions, not to mention Zionism, strains decorum. Were they to do the same to any other identifiable group the same questions pertaining to racism would be asked. They've earned the scrutiny they've acquired, and they deserve it.

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Judaic Studies in Israel

by Tamar S. Ellis

I know there are many readers of Shalom who have had the immense privilege of living and visiting Israel so you understand that there are simply no words to fully describe the amazing power of Israel and what an incredible opportunity it is to be home in our own land. For those of you who haven't been to Israel yet I highly recommend a visit (and aliyah) as soon as possible!

Most of my classmates from the International Baccalaureate Program at Citadel High School are currently sitting in various universities around Canada in full pursuit of their undergraduate degrees. I am presently enrolled in a year program in Jerusalem devoted to Judaic studies, community service and touring the land of Israel from north to south, from the Mediterranean to the Jordan River to the Gulf of Aqaba. I was unique among all my peers in school in choosing to take a year off and spending it learning about my heritage in the land of my ancestors. Many were doubtful and even sceptical of my decision but I have never regretted it for a second. The past few months have been unbelievably rewarding and ultimately life changing and I am enjoying and gaining from every minute.

It is truly miraculous to see how much Israel has changed since the modern Jewish exodus. Every morning I wake up to the view of the Jerusalem forest outside; a forest that didn't even exist a hundred years ago. I walk down the streets and I hear Hebrew everywhere, a language that was considered lifeless outside of the synagogue a hundred years ago. On Shabbat where I live it is rare to see a car. Everywhere I can see evidence of a proud Jewish state that is thriving and it is amazing to be a part of it.

It wasn't easy to pack for a year in two suitcases and go away and face new challenges in a different environment. There are times when I miss the ocean, Sunday vacations, Hershey chocolate and all the familiar faces and places of Nova Scotia but living in Jerusalem is something I would



Hannah Walt, left, and her mother, Peggy, right, spent time with Tamar in Israel.

never exchange. Jerusalem: the Eternal City, the Holy City, Jerusalem the Golden. It has been conquered by the Greeks, Babylonians, Persians, Romans, Byzantines, Crusaders, Ottomans and the British and now it finally back in Jewish hands once again. Jerusalem is filled with history and yet also full of new development. Jerusalem is also bursting with diversity: minutes away from modern downtown is the ultra Orthodox neighbourhood of Mea She'arim. Moments away from the bustling Mamilla Market is the walls of old city containing the remains of our ancient temple. New and old, secular and religious all blend together in Jerusalem. Where ever I go I feel a sense of peace and a feeling of being a part of the Jewish People.

I have been on many trips outside of Jerusalem. Our land is rich with the history of our people, every inch holding a holy site or the place where history happened. I have visited the grottos of Rosh Hanikra, swam in the Kinneret, floated in the Dead Sea, rode a camel in the Negev Desert, and hiked up a mountain in Eilat to see sunrise over the Gulf of Aqaba and the mountains of Jordan. The Bible comes alive at every turn in Israel. In Chevron, city of the Patriarchs and Matriarchs I visited the tomb of our ancestors. I have been to the battlefield of David and Goliath and have seen the modern battlefields of the State of Israel. The new city of Tel Aviv, the first Jewish city built in hundreds of years lies beside the antique city of Jaffa, the city that Jonah left from to warn the people of Nineveh to repent. Our ancient history was written here and now we are

carrying on writing a new chapter of Jewish history and I am very proud to be about of it.

There have been many highlights of my stay in Israel but those that rank among my favourites is seeing people from Nova Scotia who have come to visit. In October I have the privilege of spending a very pleasant evening with the participants from the AJC mission. Just last month I was able to spend a fun filled afternoon with the Walts during their stay in Jerusalem. I also met up with the Appleton Family during their trip to Israel which was as always entertaining, including getting lost on the highway. I have also had the opportunity to be hosted by former Haligonians. I visited the Brock family in Mitzpeh Yericho after not seeing them for over ten years! I have also spent a very enjoyable Shabbat with the Ludmans in Ranana. It is a nice change to visit them in Israel instead of them coming to us in Halifax. The trip from Jerusalem from Ranana is defiantly easier and shorter than Ben Gurion to Halifax International.

The entire country of Israel has been preparing for the holiday of Purim. There are banners and signs everywhere, the bakeries are selling hamentashen in a dozen different flavours, all the supermarkets have pre-packaged mishloach manot and there are costumes for sale all over the place. We read on Purim of the triumph of Queen Esther and the Jewish people over the wicked Haman. While we prepared to celebrate, we received a loud and harsh



Ari Isenberg, spiritual leader at Shaar Shalom Synagogue in Halifax, and Tamar connected in Israel.

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wakeup call that even though Haman is gone, there are still those who are more than willing to carry out his plan on destroying the Jewish people. The brutal murder of the Fogel Family in Itamar came as a shock to many. We forget sometimes that there is so much hatred surrounding us even though the media doesn't report it. The media will run to report construction beyond the Green Line but the senseless and violet murders of five innocent people goes unreported. In Israel there is feeling of solidarity. We are all

connected to this family because we are all a part of the Jewish people, no matter what we believe or what we look like. We must all stand up for the injustices of our people no matter where we are. I urge you to keep yourselves updated on the news in Israel and to complain from abroad. Every voice counts and is important. One of the most important things I have learned in Israel is that we are one people with one land. We may not get along or even like each other but we are one nation. I therefore ask you all to join together and build up our community, not to separate

with ideologies or differences but to find similarities. We have strength in numbers. The situation may seem dismal: waiting for minyanim, no participation in community projects and stumbling leadership but in the words of Theodore Herzl "If you will it, it is not a dream." If we join together with a will there will be a way to rebuild and to strengthen.

Wishing one and all a very happy and healthy Purim full of happiness and a meaningful and enjoyable Pesach. May we all celebrate in unity next year in Jerusalem!!

First Mini-Nahum Goldmann Fellowship Conference in North American

by Morris Samuel, Moncton NB

Upon checking into the Minto Suites Hotel located in downtown Ottawa, each participant of the mini- Nahum Goldman Fellowship received a large brown envelope containing a schedule, profile of all participants and faculty and a name tag. The hotel itself was quite impressive and had all the amenities one expects of an upscale establishment. The rooms were large clean and had a quite modern decor. It was the perfect setting for any conference.

I could not help but wonder what it was that we were actually doing there. I had a rough idea of the lectures we would be getting, but the whole purpose for this gathering had eluded me. I took a deep breath and walked into the conference room where I would be meeting "the others" for the first time. It was just informal coffee and cake, but still, I always find meeting new people for the first time a little stressful let alone a room full of them. Everyone who was there already seemed to be huddled in groups engrossed in conversation. I walked around trying to engage someone but couldn't seem to find an opening anywhere. It was then when I was approached by none other than Dr. Jerry Hochbaum, the Executive Vice-President of the foundation, himself. Surprisingly he knew exactly who I was when I told him my name. He seemed genuinely glad to see me and said how he wanted representatives

from the smaller communities. It turns out that most of the other participants belonged to various Jewish organizations that do very important work for Klal Yisroel (All Israel - the Jewish people). Dr. Hochbaum then introduced me to some of the other participants and that was how the proverbial ice was broken.

At orientation, Dr. Hochbaum spoke of the previous conferences that took place all over the world and how they were a success pointing to former alumni that went on to do great things for their communities. He stressed that the Fellowship has no political agenda and the objectives of this conference was to provide us with tools so that we as individuals can change our communities according to our own visions and work with other Jews regardless of denomination.

The forty participants were divided into three groups allowing for a more intimate setting for the Workshops. These were held throughout the three days and were group discussions on various Jewish topics. We all sat in a circle spoke our minds and most importantly listened to each other. Since we all came from different backgrounds and had different opinions about everything, it became quite an exercise in restraint, self-control and the ability to listen and maybe even learn something.

The first Workshop started with individual introductions followed by a discussion of the problems facing each of our communities.

The most prevalent problem, it seemed, was that the Jewish communities are never truly united. The group finally agreed that rifts within a community should not be and that this could be worked out with dialog, tolerance and a bit of humility - so no realistic solution was forthcoming.

Although none of the great questions that plagued our people for the past two thousand years was answered, we did come out with a better understating of the issues facing the various Jewish communities of North America but this time we weren't alone. We had successfully connected with dozens of highly motivated, highly intelligent fellow Jews who would do anything in their power to help a fellow friend. I can honestly say that I have indeed learned a great deal from my experience at the Nahum Goldman Fellowship in Ottawa. I am also comforted by the fact that despite all the problems facing the Jewish people, there are so many young motivated and dedicated Jewish leaders doing great work for their communities and Israel. Am Yisrael Chai!



My Personal Perspective on the Mini-Nahum Goldmann Fellowship Conference

by Irina Epelbeym, Halifax NS

Are all Jewish people the same? No, I don't think so. Sure, we share the same religion and history, but we also come from a wide-range of countries. From Asia to Africa to North America..., we are everywhere.

This fact became even more evident to me after I had the pleasure of attending the Mini-Nahum Goldmann Fellowship conference in Ottawa, Ontario on March 27th and 28th. 40 young leaders from all over Canada and the United States gathered to attend lectures by Professors' Irving Abella, Jack Wetheimer and Rabbi Saul Berman. These three gentlemen provided us with fascinating insights and theories into our culture.

And from these lectures, came an even deeper question. Is being Jewish an ethnic

identity or a religious identity? According to last researches related to Jewish social life Canadian Jews identify themselves more as an ethnic group, while American Jews identify themselves as more of a religious group.

And then, there is me. I am neither Canadian nor American. I immigrated to Canada from Israel 2 years ago. Previous to that, I lived in the former Soviet Union. As you can imagine, I have a slightly different perspective than people who have grown up in North America. To us, it was more difficult to follow the religious doctrines of Judaism because of the political structure. Communism accepted no religions. Be it Judaism, Christianity, Islam or Buddhism. However, we still embraced Judaism as our common "nationality" and it helped form our moral centre.

But, that was what was so wonderful about this conference.



There was no right or wrong answer. There were only thoughtful discussions with different perspectives. At the end of the day, we are all Jewish. And it is our diverse backgrounds and different perspectives that will allow our community to grow and thrive. No matter where we came from or where we live now!

If you want to know more about the Nahum Goldmann Fellowship Program please see <http://ngfp.org/index.htm>

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Camp Kadimah

by Jared Goldlust, Director

Over the past number of years, as I have been immersed in the Jewish camp world, I have had the opportunity to engage in conversations with many individuals who once attended Jewish summer camp. Whether they grew up in a small Jewish community or a city with a significant Jewish presence, or if they went to Kadimah or another Jewish camp, their eyes would light up when talking about their days at summer camp. Without fail, individual after individual would speak of the formative and transformative power of Jewish summer camp. The message repeated over and over again was "Jewish summer camp made me who I am today."

These inspiring words and stories continue to affirm my belief that Jewish summer camp has a tremendous long-term impact on our youth, not only Jewishly but more importantly nurturing and instilling strong individual values. Even though many past and present camp goers (like me) have always known the impact of Jewish summer camp anecdotally, it has never been corroborated with substantiated data. That is until now...

The Foundation for Jewish Camp (FJC), who provides support to the 150 non-profit Jewish summer camps in North America and has been the catalyst in bringing summer camp to the forefront of Jewish communities, has recently released a study that illustrates precisely what we have always known. Jewish camp works! The study entitled, "Camp Works: The long-term impact of Jewish overnight camp", offers several striking conclusions when comparing the Jewish attitudes and behaviours of those who went Jewish overnight camp to those who did not. Across the board those who went to Jewish overnight camp are more engaged in Jewish rituals, traditions and charity than those that did not. It is worth highlighting a couple of the key findings that continues

to be a focus at Camp Kadimah today. With all other things being equal, attendance at a Jewish camp raises the likelihood of feeling very emotionally attached to Israel by 55%. As well, Jewish camp goers are 21% more likely to feel that being Jewish is very important in their lives. The list goes on and I urge you to read the study which is available on the FJC's website at www.jewishcamp.org.

For the Atlantic Canadian Jewish community, we need not look much further than the prominent leaders that Camp Kadimah has produced. Look at any major Canadian university campus and you will be sure to find a Kadimah alumnus or staff leading the Jewish student body, promoting the State of Israel and dedicating significant time and energy to social justice causes. Across Jewish institutions you will find management positions that are laden with former Barss Corner inhabitants and individuals with deep maritime roots. One day soon, we will have to commission our



own study to show statistically the long-term impact Camp Kadimah has had on its campers and staff.

Given the impact that Camp Kadimah and Jewish camp can have on an individual and subsequently on a community, we must continue to wave the Jewish camp flag high. As you join together with your family at the Passover seder, I ask you to take a look around the table and think about who there has been impacted by the power of Jewish summer camp. Look to our youth and ponder what their Jewish future holds. Are they proud to be a part of the Jewish people? Ten years from now, what impact could Jewish summer camp have on them?

The holiday of Pesach, also means that the 2011 summer is just around the corner. We are in full swing preparing for another amazing summer at Camp Kadimah. In March, Kadimah had a successful youth program in Halifax with over 25 energetic kids in attendance. This is just the beginning! It is our hope that every Jewish child in Atlantic Canada is able to experience one of our programs this summer. Whether it is our traditional 6-week program, a shorter program or one of our day programs, Kadimah has something to offer to our youth. Please contact me (jared@campkadimah.com) if you have any ideas or want to get more involved. Chag Pesach Sameyach!



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Newcomer Program Blossoming in Saint John

by Joel Jacobson

Dan Elman might be in his 80th year, but he is one of the most forward thinking people you would want to meet.

The Saint John, N.B. resident is a life-long, very active member of the Jewish community, one that has dwindled from as many as 250 families in the mid-1900s to a mere handful today, one that was compelled to sell its synagogue building a couple of years ago because of increasing upkeep costs, but bought a new building that has kept the small community together.

Now, Saint Johners are looking ahead to the arrival of almost 60 newcomers, including 25 children ages one to 14, a number that will more than double the current Jewish population in the port city.

Elman, and a working committee of about 15, are eagerly anticipating August 30 when the first newcomer family, of 17 who have agreed to emigrate from Israel to Saint John, will arrive.

"We looked back at the early 1900s when my grandparents and many others like them came to Saint John to start new lives," Dan says. "It was a successful emigration of these people from Eastern Europe who wanted to leave where they were to set up a new life. If they didn't stay, it was okay but many did remain and built Saint John into a vibrant Jewish community. We hope these newcomers will have the same impact and bring Jewish vibrancy back to Saint John."

He said his grandfather, Israel Elman, started a group called Habonim as the welcoming committee for other newcomers. The current committee has retained that named.

"I set up a website called Habonim Online (now non-existent) inviting interest in emigrating to Saint John from Israel and we received a couple of hundred resumes," he recalls of the start of this newcomer program a year or so ago.

Seventeen families agreed to come to Saint John after two groups visited separately in Fall 2009 and Spring 2010. The working committee hosted the families for a week, holding receptions and special events at the synagogue, showing them the city's environs and areas to live, setting up interviews and meetings with Enterprise Saint John to discuss housing and business opportunities, and sessions with multicultural associations and the newcomers resource centre.

"The role of our support committees within the Jewish community is to help the newcomers settle," says Dan.

For example, Linda Hamburg, Susan Isaacs-Lubin and Lorne Daltrop will assist in housing. Phillip Bloom will guide them to financial institutions. Robert Selby, Herzl Kashetsky and Kate Elman-Wilcott will develop cultural contacts and assist with finding education opportunities for the children, with Elman-Wilcott also coordinating youth programs and activities. Cathy Tait has taken the responsibility of assisting in employment contacts, while Murray Goodman has taken charge of recreational programs.

Ruth Koven and Diane Bloom will inform the newcomers about transportation. They even considered shopping, as all will have to know there the best buys are, and Lois Bessoudo and Lorie Cohen-Hackett are coordinating that. Dr. Ricardo Bessoudo and Shelley Cohen-Thorley are assisting with medical contacts, of obvious importance to families with young children.

Dan notes many of the committee members have remained in touch with the newcomers via telephone and e-mail following those early visits, just to assure them their arrival is being anticipated and is under control from the Saint John end.

As of February 15, eight families have their official provincial nominee number, meaning Ottawa has the background it

needs and the process is underway. The others expect to be confirmed by this issue's deadline.

Dan smiles and added, "We have one family already living here, and they came outside this newcomer program. The husband searched the web, discovered a Woodstock N.B. company needed truckers and would arrange work permits. They came to Saint John to our Jewish community and they've already integrated with us. Both children are in Hebrew school and he is working steadily."

One lawyer from Israel, who will have to earn his certification in Canada, tells Dan he'll do anything just to be here, "even shovel snow" until he is able to practise in his profession.

"We told all these people we want them in our community. We said we want you to have our (shul) building. We want to preserve our Jewish history and move ahead and you can help us do that," says Dan.

Most of the newcomers are originally from Russia and the Ukraine. They come with backgrounds in security, music, engineering, welding, program management, nursing, human resources, translation, pharmacy, sales, and even restaurant development and management. Their English is good, but Dan says most have been studying on-line to improve their language skills. They're employable, Dan says, unlike his ancestors who were educated but only through books, not work experience.

"When we drove them to Fredericton to meet provincial government officials, they were so entranced with the area – the landscape and the rivers – after coming from Israel where things are brown, not green to the same extent as here. They truly feel they can relax here and can settle here."

Wheel of Conscience Unveiled at Pier 21

by Joel Jacobson

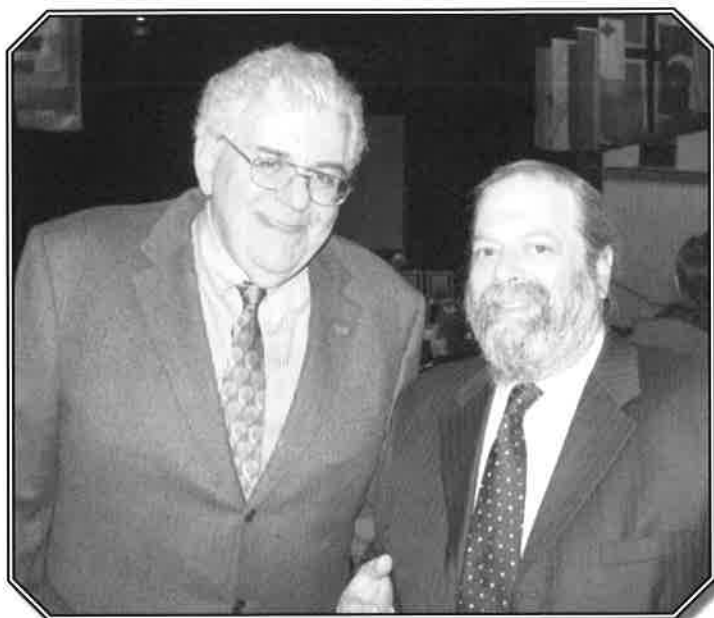
"If Canada had taken a stand (in 1939) and opened its doors to people on the MS St. Louis, probably 620 of them would have passed through these halls (at Pier 21 in Halifax) seeking Canada's promise of peace and prosperity."

With those words, Minister of Citizenship, Immigration and Multiculturalism Jason Kenney bemoaned the actions of his predecessor in the 1930s.

"My predecessors led to the tragedy of the St. Louis," he continued at a ceremony January 20 at Canada's Immigration Museum at Pier 21. The St. Louis sailed from Germany in 1939 with 937 Jewish passengers seeking a life free of persecution. The ship was refused

admittance to Cuba, the United States and Canada, and sent back to Europe where two-thirds of the passengers eventually perished in concentration camps.

"None is too many" became the policy of the Canadian government because of indifference and political subterfuge," said Kenney. "Today I say Canada will never close its doors to legitimate refugees who need our help."



Jon Goldberg and Shimon Fogel share thoughts on being executive director of AJC. Shimon was one of the early leaders of the AJC.



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Michael Argand, Halifax, AJC first vice-president, and Karen Conter, Halifax, in conversation at the celebratory event.

A monument, Wheel of Conscience, was unveiled by the Minister and designer Daniel Libeskind, an architect of Toronto, and the son of Holocaust survivors. The large round metal sculpture has moving intermeshed cogs denoting hate, xenophobia, racism and Anti-Semitism on one side, and the names of those who sailed on the St. Louis engraved on the other.

"Today we remember those who were consumed by the Holocaust and those who survived it," said Kenney. "Today, we are learning our own history of Anti-Semitism and teaching people to contemplate this memorial, teaching that hate can lead to xenophobia which leads to racism and can lead to Anti-Semitism."

The unveiling was witnessed by more than 200 people including Members of Parliament, members of the provincial legislature and city officials. Canadian Jewish Congress president Mark Freiman and CJC executive director Bernie Farber also addressed the audience.

Freiman said he came to Canada through Pier 21 at age four, 59 years ago. "My parents told me it was a place of safety, possibility, and a home."

He praised Mr. Kenney's vision in 2009 to take the initiative "to eliminate the stain of (the St. Louis) and learn from it. This project is emblematic of the partnership between government and the Congress."

is a fulfillment of a long-standing dream. It's not necessarily to memorialize the victims of the St. Louis and the Holocaust

Through the Community Historical Recognition Program, the government allotted \$475,000 to CJC to memorialize the events. Part of the funds will go to a St. Louis education program that, Farber said, will go to every high school across Canada.

In a later interview, Farber said, "This



Kathy Zilbert, Halifax, Chair of the Atlantic Jewish Foundation, chats with Mark Freiman, CJC president, at the Wheel of Conscience unveiling.

but to act for future generations. It's not really enough to create a monument but to engage the public in a productive, democratic way of responding to genocides and crimes today."

Ruth Goldbloom of Halifax, who was vitally responsible in the development

of Pier 21 from a shabby waterfront shed in the late 1990s to its museum status today, and is now on the board of trustees, said, "This has such historic value. I feel as excited today as I did July 1, 1999 when 10,000 people saw us cut the ribbon to re-open Pier 21. The St. Louis happened in a dark and tragic time in our government's outlook. Today, symbolizes how every ethnic group entering our country has suffered and I hope young people will see how tragic it was to turn away people because of their ethnic background."

The manager of development and partnerships of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic in Halifax, John Hennigar-Shuh, developed a St. Louis exhibition two years ago in conjunction with the Atlantic Jewish Council.

"The display includes a scale model of the ship and many pictures and artifacts," he said. "We want to develop a travelling exhibit and are trying to arrange use of the film about the St. Louis tragedy produced by CJC."

Master of ceremonies Irving Abella of Toronto, a noted author and professor on Holocaust and Jewish subjects, later said, "Today was unique. It reminds us of a time when Jews in Canada were at the bottom of society and were not always comfortable. Today, things seem to be going well in Canada with multiculturalism and openness. It used to be a very different Canada."



The Wheel of Conscience was designed by architect Daniel Libeskind, son of Holocaust survivors.

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If My Picture Was on the Wall

by Rebecca David

Editors note: Last spring 15 Maritime students from our community completed the Asper program and traveled to the United States Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC. This article and the one that follows are reflections from two Halifax students.

At the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., there stands a two story tall room filled top to bottom with pictures. These pictures are of thousands who perished, which included husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, friends and acquaintances – husbands who might have been doctors, and wives maybe in the midst of cooking a Shabbos meal. The pictures on the wall cannot properly advocate the suffering that happened because their pictures were not from times of pain, but times of everyday happiness. If the pictures were in any other setting, you might not even take a second glance – they might as well be your family portrait or your first day of school. It is unnerving to think that these pictures, that were once looked upon adoringly, now are viewed as haunted memories of what came just before the unspeakable tragedies.

For example, there is a favorite picture in my house of my siblings and I. We are happily smiling at the camera, a picture most likely taken by our parents, with the oblivion and naïveté of children. You would never suspect that a happy picture such as that could bring such dark memories to mind, or especially be hanging in a museum about genocide. Every picture individually represents a family and a memory, but together they signify a tragic unintentional reminder of the horrors that led those specific pictures to be on the wall.

I wonder how different my life would be if my picture was on the wall. Would I be alive? Would someone be looking at my picture on the wall? The harsh reality is that if I had been born seventy years

ago, any one of those pictures on the wall could have been of me and it would be a mystery to museum-goers who might wonder if I had survived. It frightens me how twisted the world had become and how inconceivable it is for me to currently understand what it would be like to live without freedom. At the end of the day, only survivors can truly understand the pain of enduring the Holocaust, no matter how educated someone may be about it. No amount of books or movies can ever truly quantify the ongoing anguish that those who came before us felt.

But the museum was relentless – exhibit after exhibit, I came face to face with those who had died. And yet, in a way, it bothered me less than I had anticipated. Throughout my education as a Jewish individual, I have encountered countless videos and accounts of the Holocaust, which, right or wrong, have had a numbing effect. By this I mean to say that my Jewish education led me to understand that the Holocaust was a matter of my ancestry, and therefore a personal matter that is a part of me. Naturally, we are not afraid or scared of ourselves, and seeing the exhibits that I already knew so much about were incapable of packing the same shock value for me compared to someone who knew nothing about the Holocaust. Nevertheless, I could never fathom the idea of going through the Holocaust personally and I can never fully understand the gravity of the situation having not been there at the time.

The Holocaust Museum tries hard to give its patrons an experience in order for them to understand as much as possible. For me, the most profound experience was walking through the freight car. I think this was because the freight car gave me a sensory experience rather than just a visual experience. When I stepped into the freight car, I saw a silver of light shine through the cracks, almost as if it was a thin thread that somehow connected me to the people who had once stood in this car. It smelled forgotten and musty, and that shocked me

because for the first time in the museum, it was something that you could not read about, but rather had to experience. It was an unfamiliar atmosphere, and something that you cannot be prepared to face. After reflecting upon it, I feel lucky that I was able to walk out of that car back into freedom and my life, when victims of the Holocaust were not as fortunate, and walked out into captivity.

Being in the freight car allowed a different experience; it was more than just looking at a picture on the wall, it was looking through from the other side. In looking at a picture, we cannot make ourselves understand it more than simply a visual, it has an apparent disconnect since it is not our experience, only something we have looked at. We have fond memories looking over our own family albums since we can recall memories, however, looking at a complete stranger's albums would not invoke any deep emotion. The same is true about the Holocaust – looking at the pictures on the wall, I could not appreciate them more than just pictures, since I had no experience with that world. As soon as I was in the freight car, I suddenly found myself immersed in their world and could see beyond the surface of the pictures.

The Asper Foundation provides a solid Holocaust and Human Rights education for modern teenagers. For me, the Asper Foundation provided a chance to not only read about the Holocaust, but to, in a small way, experience different aspects of my history. Over the course of the program, it occurred to me that I could not instantly understand the pain behind the photographs because I had not been there, and therefore I could not properly speak for those who are now unable to speak for themselves. Through this experience, I have realized that a picture is just a picture if we cannot understand the story behind it. Because of this, we must first understand before we can truly see.

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Asper Foundation Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Program

by Robyn Budovitch

At the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., there stands a two story tall room filled top to bottom with pictures. These pictures are of thousands who perished, which included husbands and wives, brothers and sisters, friends and acquaintances – husbands who might have been doctors, and wives maybe in the midst of cooking a Shabbos meal. The pictures on the wall cannot properly advocate the suffering that happened because their pictures were not from times of pain, but times of everyday happiness. If the pictures were in any other setting, you might not even take a second glance – they might as well be your family portrait or your first day of school. It is unnerving to think that these pictures, that were once looked upon adoringly, now are viewed as haunted memories of what came just before the unspeakable tragedies.

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Yom HaShoah Programs in Atlantic Canada

- Sydney, Cape Breton:** *Sunday, May 1st, at 2:00pm, Temple Sons of Israel. Guest speaker: Mr. Herb Goldstein, Holocaust survivor.*
- Fredericton:** *Sunday, May 1st, 3:00 pm, Sgoolai Israel Synagogue. Guest speaker, Mr. Alexander Eisen, Holocaust survivor, his topic will be "A Time of Fear."*
- St. John's:** *Sunday, May 1st, 2 pm, Inco Innovation Centre, Memorial University Campus. This year the theme will be Remembrance and Responsibility: Remembering those who died, their rich cultural contribution and our Responsibility that it not happen again.*
- Moncton:** *Sunday, May 1st, 6:30pm, Congregation Tiferes Israel. Guest speaker: Mr. Leo Adler. His topic will be "The Shame of the Shoah". There will also be a presentation by the children of West Riverview School on "The Power of a Penny" project.*
- Halifax:** *Sunday, May 1st, 7pm, University of King's College. Guest speaker: Dr. Philip Riteman, Holocaust survivor; with Asper students (2010) receiving their program certificates.*
- Prince Edward Island:** *Monday, May 2nd, 6:30pm, Memorial Hall, Confederation Centre of the Arts, Charlottetown. Guest speaker: Mr. Leo Adler.*
- Saint John:** *Monday, May 2nd, at 7:30pm, Shaarei Zedek Synagogue. Guest speaker: Mr. Alexander Eisen, Holocaust survivor.*

For more information please contact:

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Louise Wolfson, Halifax, shows a glass seder plate she created during a Chabad Lubavitch of the Maritimes workshop conducted by noted glass artist Marcela Rosemberg of PEI.



Mark Goldhar discusses what colours to add to his seder plate, while Matthew Robinson concentrates on finishing his Elijah Cup at the Young Leadership Event "Passover Painting at the Clay Café"



Jenna Conter and Simon McKnight painting at the Clay Café workshop.



Elinor Itzhakov proudly shows her completed project to her mother Ella, at an AJC family art workshop conducted by Halifax artist Margarita Fainshtein, standing in back.



Jon Goldberg, executive director, AJC, thanks Judie Oron, Toronto, author of award winning book, 'Cry of the Giraffe,' during her presentation at an AJC- sponsored event in Halifax.

Club Massada – 2011

by Barb Alberstat, President

Our seniors club has once again survived another year, successfully. We have given many of our Jewish Seniors a venue to meet with their relatives and friends and to enjoy a couple of hours of togetherness with the Jewish community. If Club Massada did not push to succeed with our mandate of bringing our seniors out for these once a month gatherings, many of them would not share this wonderful opportunity.

We have had many lunches and meetings at Northwood who supply room and delicious dairy meals. We gratefully appreciate what Northwood and their team has done for us through many years. They have gone out of their way to make these arrangements easy and delightful. Our thanks, to Jon Goldberg

and the AJC, for their financial assistance throughout the years. A great deal of thought has gone into these meetings with the assistance of Shirley Burnstein, myself and all of the people on the executive and board. Many thanks to all.

We will greatly miss Sarah Rose, Leonard Fineberg, Lil Aronson, Max Fishman and Harry Freeman. May they rest in Peace and may their families know of no further sorrows. Get well wishes to all members who are ill at home or in the hospital.

We shared one lunch with the Beth Israel Synagogue Seniors group, which was well attended and enjoyable. As we all age, it is getting harder for many of the supporting cast to carry on for another year. Many thanks to Marianne Ferguson for her faithful and long standing job of

Massada Card chairperson. We will miss you on the board.

Being the President or any position on the board is not an onerous job. There is generally 5 meetings a year, with a couple of hours preparation during that time. Shirley and I are finding it harder due to age and health reasons to continue. We need younger people to take up the little work of keeping Club Massada running for another term. It has been in existence here in Halifax for about 30 years. Don't let it go now. Consider a few hours of your time to keep this great club going. As they say "Call me".

We will be having our closing Annual Dinner in May, and we hope many of you will be able to attend.

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News from JNF Atlantic

by Lea McKnight

When the devastating fires in the Carmel mountains were blazing last December, the JNF response was swift with their firefighting teams out in full force. With the help of many other first responder teams thankfully the fires were brought under control before they reached the city of Haifa. However, the worst forest fires in Israel's history took a heavy toll with the tragic loss of lives, trees and wildlife. November had been particularly dry leaving the forest more vulnerable than usual at that time of year but thanks to the winter rains many beautiful shrubs and wildflowers are now poking through the ground from amidst the burnt remnants of the fire. With the power of nature the renewal of the forests has begun and JNF is working tirelessly to help in the rehabilitation and efforts to prevent future forest fires.

Swift response came as well from people around the world in the form of generous donations and I'm proud to

say that Atlantic Canadians were part of that outpouring of support. You opened your hearts and your wallets when asked during our emergency appeal and annual Tu B'Shevat Telethon in January. All of the funds raised went toward the clean up and restoration of the Carmel forests.

Our telethon was a success thanks to a great bunch of volunteers who made countless phone calls. My heartfelt thanks goes to Nancy Cieplinski, Sue David, Jamie Ferguson, Bonnie Katz-Webber, Ethel Kostman, Eric and Rebecca Malloy, Simon McKnight, Sylvia and Gerry Mendelson, Diane Morrison, Beverly Parsons, Molly Rechnitzer, Kayla and Matthew Robinson, Merlinda Weinberg and Leo Weniger. A big thank you as well to Jim Spatz and Southwest Properties for lending us their offices once again this year and to all of you for your generous donations.

Unfortunately, Mark Mendelson, the Executive Director of JNF for the Eastern Region will be leaving JNF at the end of June. Mark has spent



Lea McKnight, chair JNF Atlantic Canada, thanks phone telethon participants, Sylvia Mendelson, Molly Rechnitzer and Leo Weniger, all of Halifax.

the past 17 years working tirelessly out of the Montreal office to build relationships and raise funds for JNF. He will be missed but we wish him best of luck in his new position as National Executive Vice President of Canadian Associates of Ben Gurion University.

Planting trees is a heartfelt way to honour friends and family. Please contact me when you want to purchase trees, return a blue box or get a new one. You can call 902 444-4563 or email atlantic@jnf.ca. Keep in touch with all the latest news on JNF at www.jnf.ca.

Warm wishes for a Happy Pesach.

Fredericton News

by Marilyn Kaufman, AJC Community Representative

The Fredericton Jewish Community celebrated Tu B'Shvat with a Kiddush and an aboriginal drum presentation by Elder Carlos Gomes following services in the community hall. It was well received by those in attendance. Artist Carlos Gomes is a well-respected member of the Fredericton Aboriginal Community known to many members of the Jewish community for his positive stance on Human Rights.

The Purim celebration was well attended Sunday morning by parents and children, the latter who were dressed in costume. A brunch followed services. Chedar children then proceeded to perform a Purim skit. Hamentashen were served, aptly prepared by members of the congregation. Our thanks to those who baked and to members of the Sisterhood who assisted with the brunch. Also a thank you to those who delivered Purim treats to seniors who were unable to attend.

The Holocaust Memorial Presentation scheduled to take place May 1, 2011 at the Sgoelai Israel Synagogue and is organized by Israel and Marlene Unger. Please reserve this date.

Correction to the article on Morton Cohen, 300 Pints of Blood Donations, in the previous issue, the last column should read, "Morton retired to Toronto with his mother Lillian Budovitch."

Report from Beautiful PEI

By: Anna Serapins, AJC Community Representative

In late February, the community was present to share some traditional Jewish food at a multicultural event, in Stratford. The visitors to the Jewish community's booth were encouraged to eat and enjoy. Our most popular food item was the cheese blintzes. We were grateful for the invitation to participate in this event and had a

good time.

Our Purim Party was hosted by Leslee Sack in her home, the afternoon was enjoyed by all who attended.

In preparation for Passover, Manischewitz was made available locally to Prince Edward Island. The Pesach Seder will be held again as a communal gathering. In working together, we aim to make this

year a great success and strengthen the bonds within our community. The Service will be led by our President John Zarwan.

Yom HaShoah will be observed on Monday, 2 May 2011. Rosalie Simeone will be using her teaching skills to visit schools and bring awareness to the youth and the greater community on Prince Edward Island.

Moncton Report

by Nancy Cohen, AJC Community Representative

In spite of a record amount of snow falling on Moncton this winter, minyans continued and there were good turnouts for several community events. A special event was held to honour Rabbi Nachum Rosenberg for his work on the mikvah. As reported in the last Shalom, Rabbi Rosenberg, a well known mikvah expert, raised the funds needed to renovate the mikvah, and stayed in Moncton at his own expense to oversee the renovations. Those who attended this event were entranced by Rabbi Rosenberg's inspiring stories.

Morris Samuel, a recent immigrant to Moncton, has started a Torah study group. The group meets at his home on the first and third Thursday of the month and has been discussing Jewish philosophy. Learning is also taking place at Rabbi Yagod's monthly "Lunch and Learn" where Montreal smoked meat sandwiches are served up with the discussion of many interesting topics.

Many people showed up for a lively reading of the megillah on Purim. All of the children and some of the adults were dressed in costume. The service was followed by a delicious brunch prepared by Anne Jochelman and Carole Rinzler.

Mazel tov to Sam and Terry Cohen on

the birth of their granddaughter Saige Kristina-Rose, a sister for Piper. The proud parents are Brian and Megan Cohen.

Congratulations and good luck to Joshua Makarov, son of Michael Makarov and Victoria Volkanova, who will be taking part in the provincial chess tournament. Joshua is a grade 6 student at Lou MacNarin School in Moncton.

Our heartfelt condolences to John and Joan Sichel and family on the loss of

Joan's father Eli Louis Ilson, and to Barrie and Evy Carnat and family on the passing of Barrie's mother Ruth Carnat. May their memory be a blessing to all.

Some people in Moncton are placing bets on when the piles and piles of snow will finally be gone. Here's hoping we'll be able to see the grass by Pesach. On behalf of the Moncton community I wish everyone a happy and healthy Passover.

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Saint John Jewish Museum Celebrating 25th Anniversary

by Katherine Biggs-Craft, Curator

This year the Saint John Jewish Historical Museum celebrates a new milestone: 25 years since it first opened its doors. "We hope you will come to Saint John for our big celebration on June 2 to join us in this festive occasion," said founder and Curator Emeritus, Marcia Koven.

The Jewish Museum opened officially in July 1986 in a modest space that Marcia liked to call "the lower level" of the former Jewish Community Centre in Saint John. Now it occupies much of two floors of an historic house at 91 Leinster Street, not far from King's Square. Congregation Shaarei Zedek generously provides a perfect setting for the Museum's exhibits, library and archives. It is visited by thousands of people every year from the local community, families "coming home" for a visit, friends and tourists. There have been nearly 90,000 visitors since it opened in 1986 and it generated more than a million dollars in economic activity.

Exhibits tell the stories of Jewish immigrants and the new lives they created for their families in Saint John and provides information about the broader Jewish community and Judaism. It operates educational programmes for young people, guided tours to school, church and private groups, and other events.

In its heyday the Saint John Jewish Community had 200 families, including many children. Today it is closer to 30. "Growing from Marcia's inspiration and her energy along with a small group of dedicated supporters, the Museum has become a widely recognized institution that preserves many aspects of the community's history through artifacts, photographs and videos," said Gary Davis, President of the Saint John Jewish Historical Society. The library and archives provide resources for



For the past two years the major temporary exhibit featured weddings that took place since the founding of the Saint John Jewish Community. It will be replaced in 2011 by two exhibits about where Jewish people lived and worked in Saint John.

many aspects of research on Jewish topics and family histories. One of its most successful outreach programmes is the Holocaust Studies Programme, in which students from local high schools meet regularly and work on projects, culminating in Yom Hashoah observances.

Since 1986 many exhibits have been produced to show the community's history, including weddings, bar mitzvahs, immigration, Israel, organizations, medical professionals, military involvement, and much more. This year's exhibits will be "Open for Business" and "There's No Place Like Home", describing where

members of the community lived and worked over the last 150 years.

On June 2 a celebration dinner is being held by supporters of the Museum. (See the ad in this issue) or email the museum at sjjhm@nbnet.nb.ca or look at the website at: <http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/sjjhm>.



The permanent exhibit in the "Religion Room" includes artefacts like these that were used by members of the Jewish Community over the past century.

Marcia Koven Receives High Honour

by Joel Jacobson

Like most volunteers, Marcia Koven sought no credit for starting the Saint John (N.B.) Jewish Historical Museum 25 years ago and for fostering it into a model for small, effective museums across Canada.

"I did it because it was fun," she said, expressing awe and disbelief when told she was the 2011 recipient of the Louis Rosenberg Canadian Jewish Studies Distinguished Service Award.

Annually or from time to time, as may be appropriate, the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies presents an award honouring an individual, group or institution, who has made significant contribution(s) to Canadian Jewish Studies in one or more fields. The award will be presented in Fredericton, N.B. May 29 at the annual conference of the organization, just four days prior to the 25th anniversary dinner of the Saint John Museum.

Koven, 84 and still active, is a retired teacher and was volunteer leader of the museum for more than two decades. She said she'd go to work every day (at the museum) "like it was a real job. It was my whole life for a long, long time."

In the early years, she worked from a tiny office before finding space in the basement of the Jewish Community Centre, attached to Sharrei Zedek Synagogue in downtown Saint John. Born and raised in the community, and a mature graduate in sociology from UNB-Saint John when in her 50s, Koven collected photos and memorabilia, and did oral histories with senior members of the community (since converted to video and now DVD).

With government grants for museum development and summer student employment (more than 100 have been employed through 25 years), the museum flourished from its opening date in July 1986. Between Marcia,

a couple of teachers in the Jewish community, and Katherine Biggs-Craft, currently the curator and a summer student in year one, Holocaust education programs were developed for New Brunswick high school students, along with outreach programs for junior high teachers to present to their classes on Jewish holidays, life cycles and the Holocaust.

Today, Jewish Heritage Tours, focusing on cruise ship passengers, are conducted by community volunteers. Displays change annually with Biggs-Craft currently preparing a panorama of No Place Like Home, focusing on family Jewish life in early Saint John, and Jewish businesses, highlighting artifacts and clothing from the 1930s forward.

She estimates 88,000 people have visited the museum through the years with the greatest summer in 2004 when 6,000 people came through the doors. Last year, over 5,600 were tallied.

It operates full time from March through October (closed Saturdays, of course) and part time and by appointment through the winter months.

"I've enjoyed working with Marcia," said Biggs-Craft. "I've learned a lot about a culture not my own," she adds, chuckling, "I think I know more about Saint John than some of our community folk. They've lived it by being here for decades, so I learn a lot from them, too."

Marcia, who in her 50s was the first female to be bat mitzvahed at Sharrei Zedek (originally orthodox but changed to conservatism in the 1960s), described that as "my proudest moment" despite the honour being bestowed for her museum development.



Through the years, Koven served as president of the synagogue sisterhood, president of the Saint John chapter and member of the National Executive of Hadassah-WIZO, was a New Brunswick representative on the Atlantic Jewish Council, head of the women's Hevra Kadisha in Saint John, and in a variety of capacities with other organizations, such as the local Shomar Seniors Club and the Holocaust Committee of the AJC.

The Saint John Jewish Historical Museum has received awards from the American Association for State and Local History, (1987), The Church and Synagogue Library Association, (1996), and the Province of New Brunswick, (2000).

She said she saw the museum as a preservation of the heritage of a diminishing Jewish community and to educate the wider population about Jewish traditions and history.

"I'm proud of everything that has been accomplished," she said.

Report from Saint John

by Dr. Joseph Arditti, AJC Community Representative

Shalom from Saint John!

As we approach the holiday of Pesach, Exodus from Egypt, we, the community of Saint John looks forward to welcoming new immigrants in the near future. Most are originally from the Soviet Union, via Israel. I know that communities in the Maritimes have welcomed similar immigrants in the past. This will be our first experience in this regard.

Here in Saint John, we all are excited in anticipation of the increase in our dwindling numbers of Jewish persons in our city. We all realize that all may not be rosy as we would wish. After listening to our Maritime neighbours' comments, we have concerns that the new immigrants may not integrate or participate in our Community. Nevertheless, we are looking forward with optimism to their arrival and their participation.

We have established committees and individuals to extend help to the newcomers, as they seek employment, housing, healthcare, shopping, schooling for the children, banking, transportation, and orientation to the city and community at large. As we understand,



Moshe Granik at bimah, and Joe Arditti lead the reading of the Megillah at Purim in Saint John.

most are fluent in English and those who are not will be assisted with introduction to local English language Training programs.

We celebrated Purim in our Synagogue. Prior to reading the Megilla, we recited Motsae Shabbat prayer, and lit the flame, (according to the Halacha). Then we proceeded with the reading of the Megillah, which was done by Moshe Granik, our Hebrew teacher, and by those attending the service. Some of the reading was in Hebrew, and some in English.

After the reading of the Megilla, we concluded the service by reciting Haddallah. Two of the children, Veronica and Sapir, wore costumes appropriate for the occasion. We enjoyed very much the Hammantachen sent to us by the AJC. For this, we thank Jon Goldberg for undertaking the task, and ensuring

we had the treats on time.

We are looking forward to the return of some of our congregants who have spent the winter in the south. They will receive a very big welcome upon their return. Then we can resume our regular Shabbat morning services. You know, occasionally, we have a bit of difficulty achieving Minyan on Shabbat mornings.

In the recent past, one of our members, Sam Koven, passed away. The funeral parlour was packed with people of all denominations. Shiva was held at his home.

Our Museum is planning to celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary on June 2, 2011 at the Delta Hotel. There will be a reception, followed by a dinner. The guest speaker will be Jacques Steinberg, who is an author, interviewer, correspondent and reporter with the New York Times.

As I mentioned at the beginning, as we approach Pesach, we shall not forget that there is still some slavery in this world, and remember that our ancestors were slaves in the land of Egypt. We are committed to live a meaningful life and lovingly committed to our fellow citizens, as well as to our heritage.

Happy Pesach to everyone!



Moshe Granik and Joe Arditti enjoy well-costumed Veronika and Sapir during the Purim celebration.

Report from The Rock

by Claire Frankel-Salama

"Le monde est un mouchoir" (The world is a handkerchief). This well-worn French comment on the fact that we live in a small world has again been proven to be oh, so true in our little Jewish community in St. John's.

At last year's Rosh Hashanah services and community dinner we were pleased to welcome two new students, one from Toronto, Michael Cooper, and another from Israel, Michael Seider. Michael Cooper, the son of friends of very close friends of mine in Toronto, has become our new Hebrew School teacher. Every Sunday morning four children, aged 4 - 10, attend classes to learn Hebrew, Jewish customs and holidays. We are thrilled to report that even the four-year-old is reading Hebrew, and the pupils (and their parents) are participating more eagerly in synagogue life.

The second young man, Michael Seider, is a graduate student in Economics. Unfortunately, he recently became ill and his mother came over from Israel and stayed with us while he was in hospital. Needless to say, we got along like long-lost relatives (who knows ?) and Lilya quickly became comfortable with St. John's and the members of Beth El. It was also comforting for her to hear a Mishe Berach for her son, Michael,



Members, young and old, of Beth El Synagogue in St. John's celebrated a joyous Purim.

who, thankfully, is now on the mend. Additional thanks go to Dr. Sharon Koubi who helped with communications and kept Lilya and her family back in Israel informed. I would also like to thank Avi Lewis, the Consul for Eastern Canada in Montreal for his help and support. The Israelis certainly look after their young people when they are abroad.

Just after Lilya returned home, I received an email from a young man, Yossi Abkin, who stayed with us for a week several years ago

at the start of a post-army summer trip to the island. Yossi lives slightly north of Haifa and has just completed a degree in architecture at the Technion. In fact, I mentioned getting his on-the-spot reports about the forest fires on the Carmel in a previous article.

This time, Yossi wrote us that he had just found out that Lilya, the mother of his very good friend, Oleg (Michael Seider's



Delicious food was served at the Purim party.



Colourful costumes highlighted the celebration.

younger brother), had stayed with us in St. John's in the very same bedroom that he stayed in several years ago. I had not bothered to mention that we knew Yossi to Lilya, as it seemed foolish to cite the names of all the people we know in Israel. Unbelievable! There truly are only about one and a half degrees of separation among Jewish people.

And now Yossi is contemplating coming back to Newfoundland as a graduate student as well!

Other happenings in the synagogue include several Oneg Shabbats, including one on January 7th to mark Tu B'shvat and to honour Ernie Mauskopf on the occasion of his 85th birthday. We were also glad to see Philip and Christine Cull that evening as well.

On January 17th we welcomed 120 Religious Education students (in two batches, thank G-d) from Holy Trinity High School in Torbay. On March 15th we had an excellent group of 60 students from St. Kevin's High School in the Goulds, and on the 30th several classes



Religious Education students from Holy Trinity Junior High and High School in Torbay, NL, were welcomed to Beth El to learn about Judaism.

from Frank Roberts Junior High.

Very shortly, Dr. Michael Paul will giving a talk at the Synagogue to members of St. Mark's Anglican Church.

On Saturday evening, March 19th, we held our annual Purim party. Ernie Mauskopf read the Megillah, accompanied by a terrific cacophony provided by our

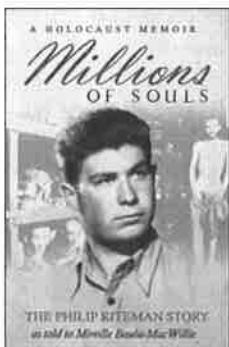
Hebrew schoolers and the rest of the congregation. The reading was followed by a dairy supper and three different lots of Hamantaschen provided by Bonnie Leyton, Dr. Barbara Grandy and myself. I'm still using a wonderful recipe given to us by a

former congregant, Dr. Shelly Hasinoff, who returned to Winnipeg from where this recipe originates.

At this point we are all busy getting ready for Passover and our Community Seder on Monday, April 18th. If you are planning to be in town for business or pleasure, please do not hesitate to contact us; you will always have a place at our table.

Best wishes for a speedy recovery go to Prof. James Rosen and Mary Pratt, and we hope to see you both once again at our Seder. Congratulations to Dr. Anat Rahamimov and Dr. Joel Stemmer, former members of Beth El, who now reside near Boston on the upcoming marriage of their son, Ophir, to Rachel Jacobs in August. Ophir and his sister, Ella, were once students in our own little Hebrew school and were known to wield their greggors (almost) as loudly as our present students.

MILLIONS OF SOULS: THE PHILIP RITEMAN STORY by Philip Riteman as told to Mireille Baulu-MacWillie



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Millions of Souls is told in three parts. First is Philip's account of life in his hometown and as an eyewitness to the struggle for survival in the concentration camps. Second is the story of Philip's exodus to Newfoundland after the war, where he discovered that there was still some humanity left in the world. Third is the story of Philip Riteman today, and his commitment to his mission.

Philip Riteman's story was recorded by Mireille Baulu-MacWillie during a series of interviews at Philip's home in Nova Scotia, Canada.

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Close attention was paid to the reading of the Megillah.

Jewish Community Havura

by Ruth Noel and Nancy Bennett

With the snow slowly disappearing, the crocuses and snow drops are appearing in areas of exposed lawns – the first flowers of spring which come up even when “old man winter” is still hanging around.

The winter months have not been a time of hibernation for the Jewish Community Havura. Bi-weekly Shabbat services, talks in schools, and Hebrew school for young and old alike are but a few of the activities we have been involved in. The Hebrew School for the “wee ones” is continuing with great success with parents sharing in planning and directing activities. Elizabeth Siegel has started a Hebrew class for adults and children nine and older and this is proving to be a great success. She is showing it is never too late to learn and the group has been making great strides. Bar Mitzvah lessons have started for Nick Bendzsa, who will be making his Bar Mitzvah in about a year – our third in two years!

Havura members are still speaking in schools as well as being invited to speak to community and religious organizations. Recently Elizabeth-Anne Malischewski and Ruth Noel teamed up to speak to speak to five classes of 4th graders. They got high marks from both students and teachers.

Nancy Bennett was invited by the Royal Commonwealth Society of Newfoundland and Labrador to represent the Jewish community here and throughout the

Commonwealth, at their annual service at the Anglican Cathedral on Sunday March 13. Their warm invitation said, “We celebrate the diversity of peoples and religious faiths as an essential part of the Commonwealth and its role as a force for peace”. The Lieutenant Governor, the Honourable John Crosbie, read the Queen’s message to the Commonwealth. As the Commonwealth theme this year is “Women as agents of change”, Nancy chose to speak about a Jewish heroine, Queen Esther, whose holiday was about to be celebrated. She told the story of Purim and likened the brave women of Egypt and Libya fighting for their people, to that brave woman so many centuries ago.

The St. John’s Refugee and Immigrant Advisory Council’s Centre for Social Justice and Memorial University’s International Students Advising Office hosted their first Human Library event this year and invited the Havura to participate. The Human Library helps to encourage open and safe dialogue between people of all backgrounds, experiences, and cultures. “Readers” at the Library “borrow” a human book for 30 minutes, and the two sit and chat and get to know one another. The human book is someone who, for reasons of their ethnic, religious, or cultural background,



Yona and Andrea prepare hamentashen for the Purim party.

sexual orientation, gender identity, or occupation may have experienced stereotyping or prejudice and is willing to speak about this experience. Ruth Noel participated as a human book. It was an eye-opening experience for her and for the “borrowers”, some of whom had never before met a Jew.

The events of Purim started with a hamentashen-baking and mask-making get together along with a Hebrew School session at the home of Elena Hammel and Jonathan Kitzen and their children Siena and Beckett. Jennifer Miron organized the mask-making and other craft events. Elizabeth-Anne Malischewski organized the hamentashen baking and ensured that a variety of luscious fillings were put into



A fourth grade religion class learns about Judaism from Ruth and Elizabeth-Anne.



Elena reads the story of Purim to students.

over a hundred delicious cookies. The kids made enough for snack time, too. Inbal Bahar, Yona Koubi, Andrea Monro, Joy Hecht, and Nancy Bennett were on hand to help.

Our Purim party was bigger than ever – we had so many coming we had to move locations. The Newish Klezmer Ensemble played for us and both adults and children danced to the infectious tunes. Charlotte Anne Malischewski was home for a long weekend and she entertained with some beautiful violin pieces. She joined the klezmer band as well as playing solo. Our number totalled between sixty five and seventy (with so many children running around it was hard to do an exact count). Arnold Bennett wrote a new translation of the Purim Megillah and Elizabeth Siegel led the service and did a great job cueing the exuberant groggers. Several adults shared the reading and everyone had fun drowning out Haman's name. Falafel with all the trimmings, salads, sweets and our hamentashen made for a delicious meal. It was a successful evening. Elizabeth-Anne Malischewski organized the evening and coordinated the volunteers who set up and cleaned up. She also single-handedly made enough handmade mishloach manot for all the children and others added to this so most children went home with two bags. There were many tired but happy members on Sunday.

In the week following Purim, the Havura helped pay for a visit to St. John's by a Brooklyn-based klezmer group, the

Michael Winograd Trio. It was a highly successful effort to make Jewish culture available, not just to the Jewish community, but also to Newfoundlanders of every heritage. This immensely talented group of New York Jews – a clarinetist, an accordionist and a cellist – taught four master classes at the University, taught Yiddish dancing to the public one evening, and gave a powerful concert of Ashkenazic music and Yiddish poetry set to music at Memorial University's Petro-Canada Hall. They also tutored members of the St. John's-based Newish Klezmer Ensemble, who regularly perform for Havura events including Purim, Hanukah, and Bar Mitzvahs. Nancy Bennett assisted with the publicity and Paul Bendzsa helped arrange events at Memorial University's Music School. One week the city was rocking with Irish Music for St. Patrick's day and the next week we were singing and dancing to Jewish folk music.

The Havura is one of several organizations in The Religious Social Action Coalition of Newfoundland and Labrador. They recently launched a website www.candidatesagainstopoverty.ca to give every Canadian the ability to see

which candidates in their riding have pledged to

work to close the growing gap between rich and poor. Jewish, Christian, Muslim and Hindu leaders across the country signed on as supporters of the website as a consciousness-raising tool in the campaign to eliminate the injustice of poverty in a rich land. During the federal election, the Coalition asks voters to talk to candidates about the issue of social fairness – and to be sure to vote.

The winter has seen two new babies join our Havura:

Mazel tov to Elena Hammel, Jonathan Kitzen and Siena on the birth of baby Beckett Mendel.

Mazel tov to Inbal Bahar, Sharon Koubi, Noam and Daphna on the birth of daughter/sister Ayallah.

Passover coming and this year primary seder-givers the Noels and the Bennetts will be in Ontario visiting their children. So members are organizing seders to accommodate all who wish to attend.

As usual, the welcome mat is down, so please let us know if you are in town and you can join us at Shabbat services.



Falafel and so much more – the Purim feast begins.



Ava and Queen Esther (Charlotte-Anne) at the Purim party.



The kitchen crew takes a break from its preparations.

Cape Breton Report

by Adam Conter, AJC Community Representative

Spring has arrived to Cape Breton Island and with the thaw of our record snow fall, and the return of the birds and the sun, comes another great season full of many reasons to celebrate.

To begin, we had Purim. A wonderful celebration of our people's triumph over our oppressors, however this time celebrated in costume with graggors for the kids and alcohol for the adults. With energy and enthusiasm our community celebrated! Drawing a crowd of 30 members for our meal and megillah reading. It was a very fun evening and for that we must thank all who contributed.

We are already at the drawing board in preparation for Passover, also we are

looking forward to May with even more on the horizon for all members here in Cape Breton. I would like to especially thank Rabbi Ellis for his efforts and his continuous support as we build more and more events for our community.

I would like to pay tribute to Dr. Gason Lecker, a special member of our congregation who passed away this past month. Dr. Lecker was an incredible man and

dedicated member of our congregation and community. A fashionable, family oriented



Photo of the Holocaust Education Committee: Members and position:

Front row: Shirley Chernin, Evy Druker, Fran Morrison, Marjorie Bursey, Carmelita Cousins

Middle row: Diane Lewis, Avvie Druker

Back row: Mike Kelly, Pam Van Dommelen, Dr. Graham Reynolds



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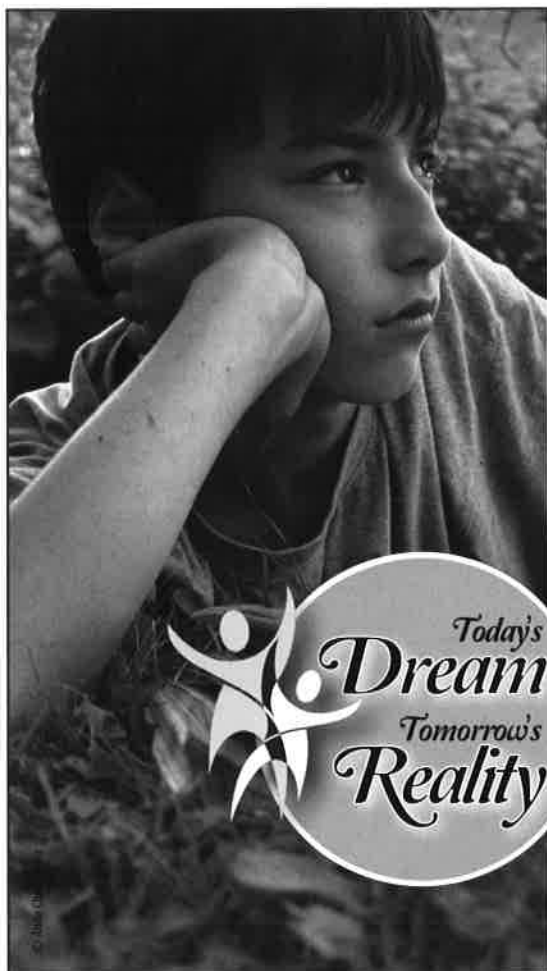
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About
CHW

Canadian Hadassah-WIZO (CHW) is Canada's leading Jewish women's philanthropic organization. Founded in 1917, **CHW** is non-political, volunteer driven and funds programs and projects for **Children, Healthcare and Women** in Israel and Canada.



man who was a dedicated community volunteer. We will miss his Saturday thank you speeches from the Bimah and his stories over coffee at Tim Horton's. I experienced Gason's generosity and

hospitality first hand when he and his wife, Edith, opened their home to me when I first arrived in Cape Breton three years ago. I will miss you Garson, as we all will. Rest easy knowing the community will support

Edith as you supported us.

That is the report from Cape Breton, please enjoy our photos and the articles contributed by our Holocaust Education Committee.

Tubishva'at at Temple Sons of Israel

On a cold and windy winter day in Sydney our thoughts were of warmer places as we gathered at the Synagog for a Tubishv'at learning session, lunch and some coloring for the younger members of the community as we talked about spring time in Israel and a reflection on what it means to be Jewish, respect the land

learn about the trees and plants around us. Rabbi David Ellis visited the community and lead the congregation in a lesson about Israel and the celebration of Tubishv'at and with the help of Linda Cerezny, lead the kids in a coloring activity and the planting of the first seeds for their little plants in planters they colored and decorated themselves. Take a look at the turnout

by enjoying our photos, a good time was enjoyed by all members, young and old. Thanks to the Rabbi for his contributions as well as Linda, Shayna, Tamara and all helpers in the kitchen. Stay tuned to other articles about great activities in Sydney!

Sydney Congregants Flock to Celebrate Purim at Temple Sons of Israel

by Lynda Ceresne

More people than usual—many in costume—came out to celebrate Purim this year in our small Sydney congregation. We had Haman in the crowd who chased the children whenever his name was read. The children delighted with

peals of laughter and ran off in various directions, homemade graggers in hand.

Congregants Shayna Strong and Lynda Ceresne organized a Feast of Esther on Sunday March 20, 2011 after services. And though there were skeptics about attracting congregants for a second Megillah reading,

a crowd of over 30 people turned up to celebrate and indulge in the lovely food congregants had prepared.

The graggers are now tucked away and we are all looking forward to more homemade hamantaschen and Haman's antics next year.

The Museum of Tolerance, Los Angeles, California

by Marjorie Bursey

Last April, I had the privilege of spending 3 days in an educational retreat at the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles. The Program in which I participated, Glassman Tools for Tolerance focused on justice, tolerance, diversity, values and civic responsibility. I had the privilege of meeting and listening to Eddie Elan, Holocaust Survivor, who appeared in the film "Freedom Writers". To hear him speak was truly humbling. I also met Dr. Terrance

Roberts from The Little Rock Nine, who was part of the vision to help end segregation. He was just a teenager when he and 8 others courageously had the guts to fight for the end of segregation. While there, I was also able to meet people like myself who were interested in learning what they could do to make a small difference in the world in the name of peace. The museum exhibits and interactive activities had the potential to play on your emotions but this was not their focus: keeping hope alive in

the name of change for the good was the message I clearly understood from my experiences there. Simon Wiesenthal once said "hope lives when people remember." Remembering injustices that happened in the past in order to not have them repeated in the future is the message I took away with me. The emphasis was on the power of the "ordinary person" and the power we have, each and every one of us, to make a change in the name of good for this world.

Only in Glace Bay

Rabbi David Ellis, AJC Regional Chaplain

It was typical Glace Bay from beginning to end.

Last fall between holidays, I was coming over to Glace Bay from Sydney to stay a day or two in the "Chabad House," as Ruth Lewin calls it.

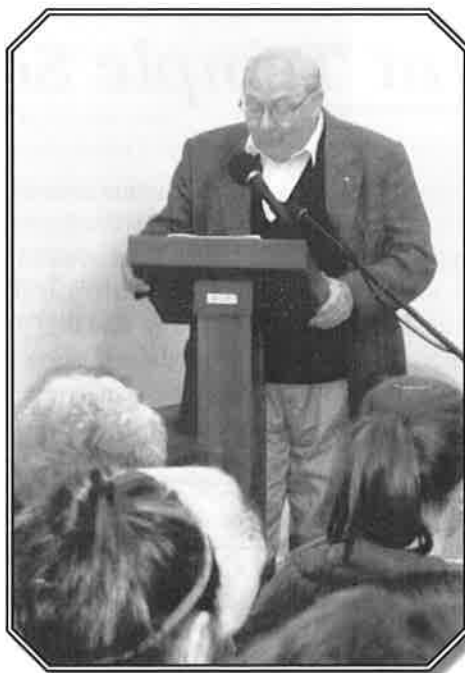
It is the house once owned by the late Norman Lipschutz which I have stayed in for the last many years. While not Lubavitchers, the owners, Reuven Schmidt and Asher Pillar from New York, have been fervent patrons of Glace Bay for many years, and we appreciate their generosity.

But as I approached the house, I just happened to cross the path of Raymond Goldmann, en route downtown for his mail.

"Rabbi! Rabbi! You've gotta come tonight! They called at the last minute. The regular speaker can't make it, so I'm speaking at the (Glace Bay) Historical Society."

Sure enough, Raymond gave the presentation at the refurbished museum in the old city hall building. A very large crowd was there.

While Raymond gave a marvelous presentation about the storekeepers,



Raymond Goldman speaks at the Glace Bay Historical Society.

doctors, dentists, and business people from the Jewish community who had contributed to Glace Bay's history, as much was given by questions and remembrances from the audience. All of them remembered Jewish holidays and what they were. They recalled special Jewish cooking over the years.

Glace Bay was one of the notable communities of all Jewish history. It was that rare place where one could be fully and maximally Jewish and also contribute to its civic society.

Was it pure coincidence that I met Raymond? At that very moment? Just after he'd been called and couldn't notify anyone about his speech? Or was it a miracle from above? Take your choice. Let's just say, it was Glace Bay. Things like that have always happened there.

Many lament the demise of the Jewish community of Glace Bay. Many have moved elsewhere. But as we know in Jewish life, the stories we share of things can be as inspiring as the events themselves.

Yasher Ko-ach, Raymond—I'll see you on the street again sometime soon.

Rabbi David Ellis is available for introducing persons looking for Jewish mates in the region. All inquiries and discussions are strictly confidential.

Rabbi David Ellis
902-422-7491, ext. 228
rabbiellis@theajc.ns.ca

From the Desk of Jon Goldberg, Executive Director continued...

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sixtieth family by the end of 2011. As in the other communities retention and integration have continued to be a major challenge but we must persevere. 3. In Halifax there is a voluntary group of community leaders that has been meeting to discuss the future and well-being of the overall Halifax community. The group is appropriately called Next D'Or which means "The Next Generation." You will be seeing and hearing much more from this group in the near future. 4. The Atlantic Jewish Foundation, now chaired by Kathy Zilbert with trustees

representing the entire region and staffed by Perry Romberg, is embarking on a concerted effort for community building and securing our future here as a Jewish community. There is much more to come from the AJF in the next few years. 5. Camp Kadimah must and will be supported by its over 15,000 alumni and by the new generation of potential campers wherever they live.

In closing, I want to say that there is much that has changed over the last 65 years, and yet much remains the same. We have some great communities with terrific leaders, outstanding citizens, and

many talented individuals here in Atlantic Canada. We are not ready to close the doors on Jewish life here in Atlantic Canada. I believe we can, and we will, maintain Jewish continuity in our region. "If you will it, it is no dream".

My best wishes to all our readers and their families for a Happy and Healthy Pesach. Particular thanks to the hard working staff here at the AJC and to the officers and board of directors for the continuing advice and support.

Chag Sameach

Yosef – a Careless Optimist?

By Rabbi Yosef Goldman, Sgoolai Israel Synagogue, Fredericton

A couple of months ago, I was asked by my father to give a Dvar Torah (a short idea on the Torah Portion of that week) in a family gathering we had in Israel.

The idea was that each of the children and grandchildren who were willing, would share something about the building of the Mishkan (The Tabernacle), and my father would put it together towards the conclusion of the Shabbos.

I chose to discuss the two times in the entire Torah that we have the number eleven. Yosef was the eleventh son of Jacob, but it does not say that about him. What it does say is, that in his second dream, he dreams of the sun and the moon and eleven stars bowing down to him. We sing this as part of "Echad Mi Yode'a" Who Knows One, at the end of the Seder night. His father reprimands him: "are we to come - I and your mother and your brothers - to bow down to you?!" but Jacob does not punish or demand that Joseph apologize.

The second time in the Torah we find the number eleven, is when the Mishkan is

being built. Moses is commanded and tells the people of Israel: "you shall make curtains of goat hair for a tent... eleven curtains shall you make them".

The result of this interesting command, is that there was "left over" or extra length of these curtains. What caused this "problem"? Did people bring more than needed and Moses felt compelled to use everything? I don't think so. It seems that Moses invented the "boidem system" but with a twist. Always save for a rainy day, always put stuff that you don't need right now, away in a cupboard you will probably never open, or a garage shelf that is too high to reach anyway. But you must make sure to use it eventually.

In the hospital this winter I heard so many times the following mantra: hope



for the best and expect the worse! I totally disagree! Joseph was the rejected brother, yet he went to seek the peace and welfare of his brothers. If he thought he was going to his death (or slavery) he would not have gone. He trusted his father's judgement and his brothers to be able to overcome the differences between them. If he were a 'careless optimist', our Rabbis would not have put his dreams into our Seder night song! Of course, we need optimism, and I try to always be one. I believe that Joseph and Moses together taught us the right balance. Hope for the best, and try to work out whatever seems 'not to fit'.

Moses chose not to store away the eleventh curtain, but rather 'make it fit' into the complex puzzle of the Jewish people - VEHAYA HAMISHKAN ECHAD (and the Mishkan shall be made into one), we have to learn that there are no 'rejects', there are no Jews that cannot be welcome in our community. If we learn this message, our Passover will be more meaningful. Have a Happy and Kosher Passover!

Unity, Diversity and Moncton

By Rabbi Yitzchak Isaac Yagod, Congregation Tiferes Israel, Moncton

It's been a little over a year that I have been in Moncton and I am enjoying it immensely. I see tremendous growth potential for this community. We have a terrific shul with great people. New people are joining the community. I am happy to announce our mikvah has recently been renovated and brought up to the highest standards of kashrut. There are still ongoing renovations to the mikvah, but it is usable and open.

We are looking forward to a very exciting to the first intercommunity event

involving the children of our communities. We are planning on hosting a great NCSY Shabbos weekend sometime in the spring, hopefully, right here in Moncton. This coming summer we will once again bring back, by popular demand, the Tiferes Israel summer Day Camp, serving children who are too young to go to Camp Kadima. We are working on increasing the availability of kosher goods in our region. Although our communities



Masquerading at the Moncton Purim party.

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may seem small in number compared to Toronto or Montreal, yet when taken together, we form a very strong component of the Canadian Maritime provinces. As I write these lines, in the synagogue this week we will be reading the Torah portion in which we recount the story of the Jews going down to Egypt and being enslaved under terrible conditions, and, yet, emerging as a powerful, independent Am Yisrael that we are part of today. There is a Talmudic reference to the following fascinating statement that was said by Elijah the Prophet.

"In Egypt the Jews made a pact and a bond amongst themselves. They promised each other that they would never gossip about one another and there was not a single gossipier that was found among the Jews

that left Egypt. And so, Elijah the Prophet explains it was partially in the merit of this great promise that the Jews were redeemed from Egypt."

The Jews in Egypt faced a very difficult situation, but they were united, and this saved them. This, my friends, is the lesson the Passover can teach us. We can still be diverse and achieve unity. This is my hope and my dream for all of our communities. We find that the foundation of Israel originates in great measure from the twelve sons of Jacob, the leaders of the twelve tribes of Israel. Each one was different and, yet, they came together through shared spiritual values, especially, later on in life. They left behind a legacy of Israel

that is diverse, but united. Thus, there were no gossipers amongst all the Jews in Egypt, for a gossipier is a divider.



Moncton congregants and Rabbi Yagod, standing left, thank Rabbi Nachum Rosenberg, for his work raising funds for, and overseeing the renovation of, the mikvah at Congregation Tiferes Israel.

Don't be a Boss, be a Leader

by Rabbi Ari Sherbill, Beth Israel Synagogue, Halifax

What would you say is the difference between a boss and a leader? Many people are bosses: they tell their employees what to do, how to do it and are generally fond of instilling fear in the hearts of everyone in the office. There are plenty of bosses and we need less of them.

Leaders on the other hand do not give people something to do, but something to believe in. Leaders give people something to be inspired by and excited about, and so their followers are driven to act. Actions and work done with vision, passion and inspiration is what creates the products,



Chabad Lubavitch Rabbi Mendel Feldman and Beth Israel Synagogue Rabbi Ari Sherbill, in costume at the Halifax Purim party.

companies and teams that the world loves and can't get enough of. There are few leaders and we need more of them.

Here's a story:

Late one night years ago, a Bobov Hasid (Ultra-Orthodox Jew) made a wrong turn off the highway and found himself in Harlem. This man was not too concerned, thinking to himself that he'll just turn around and drive back on the highway. Confident he was, until his car sputtered and died on a dimly lit garbage-strewn street. He got out of his car to check under the hood until he saw three menacing figures step out of the shadows, moving quickly toward him.

The street was deserted with no one to call for help. He was sure that his end was near so he quietly began to say the Shma.

The three men encircled him as a fourth ran to him from another corner and shouted, "Hey, wait a minute before you hurt him. He's Jewish and I have a question



to ask him." The fourth guy went right up to this Hasid and pulled out a white business card, put it right up against his face and asked, "Hey, do you know who this is?"

His heart went racing trying to read the name and to his shock he knew who it was. "Of course, that's Reb Shlomo Carlebach, of course I know who he is." He stammered in confusion, "He's the greatest, the holiest." The fourth man appraised the Hasid, looking him up and down and said, "Relax guys, he's cool. Leave him alone, he's under my protection now."

As the three men moved away in confusion, the fourth man helped the Hasid fix the car and told him the following story. "I'm helping you because Shlomo always helped me. Years ago, I was among the homeless who lived in cardboard boxes in Riverside Park near Shlomo's shul. I used to live on the handouts I got begging. The biggest handouts were always from Shlomo Carlebach. Every time I met him he gave me no less than \$10 of his money and 5 minutes of his time.

He always greeted me with, 'Hey holy brother, what's happening?' and tried to help me change. I've never forgotten him, and I carry his card with me always. It's

because of Shlomo Carlebach's love that I saved your life tonight."

A leaders' actions are felt years later. A leaders' passion gives others passion. A leaders' love helps others love.

Imagine if Shlomo Carlebach would have treated the homeless man the way most people do, like bosses. Even if they were to give some money, they would never give their time. Even if they were to give of their time, most people would say or think, "You should work. Get up off the street and do something with your life."

Shlomo treated this homeless man the way he treated everyone: like a leader does. He gave him something to believe in, he cared about him, he showed him that anything is possible. Shlomo was a true leader whose

help and guidance helped so many people in unimaginable ways.

Parents, spouses, teachers, Rabbis, Cantors, CEOs, Employers, Politicians, Presidents and many more all have the ability to be either a boss or a leader. A parent can act like a boss to their children who just tells them what to do, where to be and to get it done. A spouse can tell their husband/wife what to do, where to be and to get it done. The same is true of all of the above. The question to ask yourself is: am I telling people what to do or am I giving something people to be inspired by?

A leader inspires because they don't hand out tasks, they give out values. Leaders inspire because of the cause that they embody and guide others with. Those

values are what changes the world. Not with what but why.

There are many whats in Pesach: the seder, no chametz, the 4 cups, the 4 questions, the afikomen. You know all the whats, but it's the whys' that inspires.

At your Seder, try to lead your family and friends with why. We don't do this because we have to, because we can choose not to. We have Seders to drive us to deeper places. All the what's are in order for us to ask why. The more why's we have, the more inspired we'll be. The more inspired we'll be, the more we'll change the world.

Don't be a boss or an employee at your Seder. Be a leader and change the world.

Celebrate Freedom Today

by Rabbi Mendel Feldman, Chabad Lubavitch of the Maritimes

In just two weeks Jews the world over will be celebrating the first Seder. During the Seder, we observe various traditions such as eating Matzah, Maror and drinking four cups of wine. All of these rituals are reminders of the Jewish people's exodus from Egypt 3,323 years ago.

However, the question often presents itself, what meaning does an ancient story and its associated ceremony hold for the average Jew in 2011? How can we look at events which transpired so long ago and still be spiritually inspired by them?

The answer lies in the Talmudic dictum (which we recite in the Hagadah): "In every generation a person must feel as if he or she was actually liberated from Egypt". In other words, we have a responsibility to make an ancient experience important to us living in modern times.

We achieve this by recognizing that the imprisonment from which the



ancient Hebrews sought emancipation is conceptually still present. Slavery finds many forms and takes on various appearances. In days of old it was depicted by a task-master standing over a slave with a whip in hand. Today, bondage is often found in our character and attitudes where we find ourselves addicted to a certain negative trait and find it excruciatingly difficult to "break free" we might feel trapped with no easy way out.

Hence the Torah's command to remember the Exodus of Egypt each and every day of the year, since we must constantly seek to free ourselves from this spiritual slavery as well.

Every detail of the Torah's account of the physical exodus contains directives to us regarding our spiritual and conceptual exodus. One such significant detail is the first plague with which the Almighty broke the proud spirit of Pharaoh and his people - the plague of blood, in which the waters of the Nile River were turned to blood.

The Almighty is the ultimate source of life. Hence, everything associated with G-dliness and holiness has vitality and



Renee Ross, Robyn & Jason Berman, Jon Ross, enjoy the Purim Feast at Chabad

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life - which is characterized by warmth. Coldness, on the other hand, is the 'mark of the grave' it is the very antithesis of life, and therefore the very opposite of holiness.

The idolatry of Egypt, the basic evil of their culture, was coldness - icy indifference to G-d. This was symbolized by the cold waters of the Nile River which the Egyptians worshipped as a god. The very first step, therefore, towards breaking the spirit of Egypt and towards freedom from the Egyptian exile was to strike at the

"waters of the river" - the deathly coldness and convert it to blood, symbolizing warmth, life and vitality.

The lesson for our own "Yetzias Mitzrayim" spiritual liberation, is that the very first undesirable trait against which we must struggle is coldness, indifference and apathy to our Yiddishkeit. The approach to religion must be, one of warmth, interest and enthusiasm.

Therefore, every year as we begin the holiday of Passover and the celebration of freedom, we are reminded that the stories we recount and the rituals we observe

are more about a commitment to the present then reminiscing about the past. During this time of year we once again reaffirm our obligation to fight all forms of negativity and slavery, be they within or without. And most important, we devote ourselves to being positive members of our community with renewed involvement and enthusiasm.

Wishing you a Kosher and joyous Pesach

Based on the teachings of the Lubavitcher Rebbe of righteous memory.

A Message in Honour of Jon Goldberg's 65th Birthday

by Rabbi Isenberg (Cantor Ari) Spiritual Leader,
Shaar Shalom Congregation, Halifax

Walk into Jon's office at the Atlantic Jewish Council, and the foremost feature, impossible to miss, is the number of pictures displayed.

Pictures of his sister, Susan, his brother, Victor, his sister-in-law Judith, his cherished nephew Eric and niece Rachael. Pictures with friends from the many missions and conferences he's led and attended. Pictures of other relatives and very close friends.

Walk down Spring Garden Road with Jon and, impossible to ignore are the dozens of people - shopkeepers, businessmen, Jews, Gentiles, police officers, custodians, grocers - Haligonians who all warmly say "hello Jon, how are you?" as Jon passes by.

Happen to go to the same dentist or barber as Jon? Well, from the minute you walk-in to the minute you leave, you find yourself showered with story after story about Jon, all of which paint Jon accurately: as a kind, compassionate, attentive, charismatic, and insightful gentleman, with a flair for wit and cleverness.

Jon is a big man with a big heart, perhaps

with one noteworthy distinction:

Jon's physical stature, though overwhelming and impressive, is measurable.

Underneath it, though, lie a heart and a neshama whose depths are limitless and immeasurable. Jon simply cares. He cares about the state of our Jewish community, he cares about the state of our synagogues, he cares about how we are portrayed on the national and global stage, and he cares profoundly about each individual with whom he interacts and to whom he is related.

Perhaps it is no surprise and no coincidence that this week's Parsha is Terumah. We read this week about God, Moses, and the People of Israel all preoccupied with building the Mishkan, building that sacred dwelling place in the desert where the Jewish people will all gather together, focus their energies, concretize their relationship with God and their identity, and lure God to dwell among them. It seems to me that this is precisely reflective of the work Jon has undertaken for decades. In the Maritimes, establishing Jewish institutions that can

act as a place for celebration, gathering, and unity; investing in an organization that can help concretize our identity and provide the resources to ensure that Judaism can continue to flourish.

Like Moses and the Children of Israel in the desert, the stakes are high, but Jon continues to persevere.

In recognition of his sincerity, his countless contributions, his dedication to the Shaar Shalom, the Halifax Jewish Community, and the Atlantic Jewish Council, and in recognition of his love of the Jewish people and the State of Israel, it is an honour to wish Jon a happy 65th birthday.

Jon, I wish you health and the continued fulfillment of all that you do. To you, many more years filled with health and happiness.

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The Atlantic Jewish Foundation Announces

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR 2011

Scholarships & Bursaries Available

THE NOA AND SARAH HEINISH FOUNDATION TRUST

Throughout their lives, Noa and Sarah Heinish devoted themselves to the betterment of their community, their house of worship and the State of Israel.

Passover of 1943 found Noa and Sarah assisting in the preparation of a Seder for hundreds of young Jewish servicemen stationed in Halifax before shipping out to Europe.

At the end of WW II, Noa was one of a group of interpreters who met the ships which brought Holocaust survivors from Europe to the shores of Halifax. Speaking in Yiddish, he helped them transfer to the trains which took them to family members awaiting their arrival in upper Canada.

Noa Heinish was one of the founders of Shaar Shalom Congregation and served as its first president. Together with Sarah they lent their support to every arm of the congregation.

Sarah Heinish was an active member of Women's League, Hadassah, Neptune Theatre, the Soroptomists and the Nova Scotia Institute for the Blind. Both Noa and Sarah gave generously of their time and resources in the support of Israel Bond drives, United Jewish Appeal, Camp Kadimah and other groups and were leaders in the Canadian Jewish Congress. For many years they operated a successful clothing business on Gottingen Street in downtown Halifax which closed in 1972.

To carry on their good works, the Heinish family established the Noa and Sarah Heinish Foundation. This charitable foundation has provided endowments supporting Jewish educational and health care institutions in Canada and Israel. A portion of the funds has been allocated to the Atlantic Jewish Council Foundation to provide an annual merit scholarship for a student from the Maritime Jewish community to study in Israel. Dependent on the vagaries of the market, the scholarship should provide a stipend of several thousand dollars to the successful recipient.

Application deadline: June 30, 2011

The Miasnik-Rein Trust

A limited number of scholarships of \$2,000 each are available to worthy students, one or both of whose parents profess the Jewish faith. The scholarship is open to students of the Atlantic Region for the purpose of establishing or continuing exposure to their Jewish heritage by means of study, travel, community service or other suitable means. Application deadline: June 30, 2011

Halifax Endowment Fund (Jayson Greenblatt Bursary)

A \$500 bursary awarded to a Jewish student from Atlantic Canada to further Jewish studies in Israel or in the Diaspora. Deadline: June 30, 2011

For further information and applications please contact the Atlantic Jewish Foundation (scholarships and bursaries) in c/o Jon Goldberg, jgoldberg@theajc.ns.ca; 422-7491x222



ATLANTIC JEWISH FOUNDATION BUILDING OUR JEWISH FUTURE



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The Atlantic Jewish Foundation supports:

- The Atlantic Chaplaincy program
- Services for new immigrants to the Atlantic region
- Camp Kadimah
- Israel Experience programs for Canadian youth & young adults
- Programs and services to communities in northern Israel



For more information contact Perry Romberg
Director Financial Resource Development, UIA Federations Canada
Email: promberg@uiafed.org Tel: (416) 634-3070

*Atlantic Jewish Foundation Chair: Kathy Zilbert
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3 words. 1 country. 2,000 years of dreaming. Over 7.5 million citizens.



The State of Israel's **promise** of a bond is...
to manage your investment for the good of the nation
to strengthen a nation whose innovations benefit the entire world.

to be strong
to be stable
to be innovative
to grow
to build
to be.

"Lihiyot am hofshee b'artzenu."

"To be a free people in our own land."

—Hatikvah

This **promise** is unbreakable.

This **promise** is unshakable.

This **promise** has stood the test of time.

After all, this is the **Promised** Land!

*Hi, I'm Marcia Cantor, the Executive Director
for Ottawa and Atlantic Canada. I look forward
to speaking with you about Israel Bonds, their
important role in strengthening the State of Israel
and your important role in making that happen.*



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