



# Shabbat Announcements

Parshat Vayikra

March 28, 2009 3 Nisan, 5769

**TORAH**  
ARTSCROLL, 544  
HERTZ, 409

**HAFTORAH**  
ARTSCROLL,  
1165  
HERTZ, 424

**BAR MITZVAH**  
BEN BRAUNSTEIN

Times

Candle lighting	6:56 pm
Mincha	7:00 pm
Hashkama	8:00 am
Minyan	
Parsha Shiur	8:30 am
Youth	8:30 am
Main Minyan	9:00 am
Beit Midrash	9:15 am
Gemora Shiur	5:45 pm
Mincha	6:45 pm
Shabbat Ends	8:06 pm
Sunday,	7:30 am
March 29,	8:30 am
Mon., & Thurs	6:35 am
Tues., Wed., & Fri.,	6:45 am
Second Shacharit Minyan (Daily)	7:45 am
Mincha (week of March 29)	7:05 pm
Latest times for Shema/Shmoneh Esrei	
March 28	9:52/10:55 am
April 4	9:45/10:49 am
Next Shabbat - Tzav Shabbat Hagadol	
Candle lighting	7:04 pm
Mincha	7:05 pm

**GNS TEFILLA DIGEST: A Weekly Discussion about the Fundamentals of Jewish Prayer**

By Rabbi Brahm Weinberg – Rabbinic Intern

Issue # 35 – Hallel on Pesach Night

We will be taking a few weeks break from our discussion of the Shema in order to discuss the Hallel prayer which we will be reciting many times over the course of Pesach which is just two weeks away.

Last year before Pesach we also took a few issues of the Tefilla Digest to discuss Hallel. We discussed the mitzvah of reciting Hallel, its origin, and when it is recited in full versus when it is recited in its abridged form. This year we will focus on some other interesting aspects of this part of our prayers.

The first interesting thing I would like to note about Hallel is that the first two nights of Pesach (outside the Land of Israel) are the only time when we recite Hallel at night; it is otherwise said only during the day. While everyone recites it once at night during the seder, some even have the custom of reciting it once in shul at the end of the maariv service and then again as part of the haggadah during the seder.

The gemara says, specifically, that we are not supposed to recite Hallel at night which is why it is not usually said. The gemara says that in the first passage of the Hallel the verse states that we are supposed to praise G-d's name "from the rising of the sun until the setting," "*mimizrach shemesh ad mevo' o mehullal shem hashem*" (Tehillim 113:3). While one might have interpreted this verse in a figurative sense, the gemara sees it literally and, thus, deems it inappropriate to recite Hallel at night under normal circumstances (Megilla 20b).

Nevertheless, because the seder night (the night of the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the Hebrew month of Nisan) was the night of the actual exodus from Egypt which was probably the largest salvation ever experienced by the Jewish people we make an exception to this rule and recite Hallel *even* at night. Since Hallel is recited to mark the occurrence of a miracle (Gemara, Arachin 10b) and we are able to actually pinpoint the exact time of the miracle of Pesach which is the NIGHT of the 15<sup>th</sup> of Nisan, it becomes worthy of being an exception to the rule of not reciting the Hallel at night. In

addition, the Hallel itself speaks of the miracles of the exodus from Egypt which makes its recitation on the night of Pesach even more appropriate.

It is not 100% clear how or why the custom developed to say Hallel on Pesach night BOTH in shul and at home during the seder. It has always been a controversial issue amongst the poskim whether Hallel should be recited in shul on Pesach night or not and whether it should be recited with a bracha.

The **Shulchan Aruch** decides that the full Hallel should be said in shul with a bracha on both the first two nights of Pesach. However, the **Rema** quotes that Ashkenazim do not follow this practice at all and should not recite it in shul (Shulchan Aruch 487:4). For a very long period of history the custom in Israel and in Sefardic countries was to recite the Hallel in shul but for Ashkenazim not to recite it.

Nevertheless, today that custom has changed to some degree and many Ashkenazi shuls recite Hallel after davening on the two nights of Pesach as well. If it is your family custom to recite Hallel on Pesach night in shul and you find yourself in a place where they are *not* reciting it you may recite it to yourself. Conversely, if it is your custom not to recite it

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SARI & STUART BRAUNSTEIN  
IN HONOR OF THE BAR MITZVAH  
OF THEIR SON  
BEN**

**SEUDAH SHLISHIT IS  
SPONSORED BY  
MICHELE & HOWARD WOLF  
IN MEMORY OF HER  
MOTHER  
RUTH BERMAN  
AND HIS FATHER  
JULIUS WOLF**

and you find yourself in a shul that *does* recite it you should recite it as well along with them.

While it is pure conjecture and I have no sources to back this up, I would like to suggest a reason for the shift in practice from the old Ashkenazic practice of the Rema not to say it, to the current practice to say it in many places.

I believe that the reason could be, at least in part, because of a statement of the Ari Z"l (R. Isaac Luria – A very prominent kabbalist who lived in Tzfat in the 16<sup>th</sup> century and influenced much of later religious life, thought, and practice). The Ari Z"l did have the practice of reciting the Hallel in shul on the night of Pesach (cited by the Be'er Hetev on this clause in the Shulchan Aruch).

The practices of the Ari Z"l had a huge influence on the customs and practices of the Chassidim whose philosophy was largely based on the kabbalistic thought of the Ari Z"l. The Chassidic movement began in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century with the Baal Shem Tov in Eastern Europe. Chassidut really spread like wildfire in Eastern Europe throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Demographically, the chassidim made up a very large portion of Ashkenazic Jewry even up until the Holocaust. Since a large majority of the Jews who came to America especially in the late 1800's were from Eastern Europe, it would have been likely that they were of Chassidic stock and followed the practice of the Ari Z"l.


Since so many of the rabbis in America were descendants of those Jews and so many of the shuls here were started by them or by their descendants it would make sense that many of them would continue to have the practice of reciting Hallel on Pesach night in shul.

In next week's Tefilla article we will try to define the nature of the Hallel we recite on the night of Pesach and how it might differ from the one we recite during the daytime on Pesach or other holidays.

Question to Ponder



How do you think that reciting Hallel in shul on the night of Pesach or not reciting it impacts the way that you experience the holiday and the way that you say Hallel later on during the seder?

If it is your custom to recite it both in shul and at the seder think about ways in which the recitation at each stage of the night is different and ways you can work to get something out of each one even though the words are the same.

	<p align="center"><b>Great Neck Synagogue Shabbat Activities Program</b></p>
<p align="center"> <b>Dale Polakoff, Rabbi</b>  <b>Shalom Axelrod, Assistant Rabbi</b>  <b>Brahm Weinberg, Rabbinic Intern</b>  <b>Dr. Ephraim Wolf, z"l, Rabbi Emeritus</b>  <b>Zeev Kron, Cantor</b>  <b>Eleazer Schulman, z"l, Cantor Emeritus</b>  <b>Mark Twersky, Executive Director</b>  <b>Howard Silberstein, President</b>  <b>Harold Domnitch, Chairman of the Board</b> </p>	

## PASSEOVER IS COMING

Help those in need!  
Please pick up a bag  
from the shul  
And fill it with Kosher  
for Passover foods.  
Return it to either the Shul Office or  
Adina Moskowitz,  
27 Hampshire Rd. (off Wooleys Lane)  
Drop off by April 1.

**PASSEOVER  
SHMURAH MATZAH  
GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE**

**is again pleased to serve its membership with the sale of  
Hand Baked SHMURAH MATZAH**

**Pick-up for Matzah will be on Monday, April 6, 2009  
Between 6:30 PM & 8:30 PM**

**All orders must be prepaid  
Please make checks payable to  
GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE**

**Limited supply. Please order early.**

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**Order Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (Home) \_\_\_\_\_

(Bus.) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ lb. Shmurah Matzah @ 18.50 per lb. \_\_\_\_

Total Cost \_\_\_\_\_

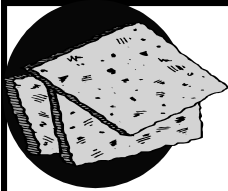
**CHECK MUST BE INCLUDED WITH ORDER**

# YOM HASHOAH COMMEMORATION

SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER

## FANYA GOTTESFELD HELLER

A LEADING EDUCATOR AT THE  
MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE IN NEW YORK CITY  
WILL SHARE HER EXPERIENCES OF  
*"SURVIVING IN THE UKRAINE  
WITH THE HELP OF TWO CHRISTIAN RESCUERS"*  
**MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2009 , 8:00 P.M.**



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND  
Monday evening, March 30, 8 pm



“Why is this night different than all other Seder nights?  
Join Rabbi Axelrod and explore new insights of the  
Haggadah which you can share at this years Seder table

### **Repeat showing**

The Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation Announces a Global Torah Event:

### **“The Inner Meaning of the Birkas Hachamah”**

To be shown at Great Neck Synagogue, on Tuesday, March 31, at 8:00 pm  
This year on Erev Pesach, Klal Yisrael will be granted the rare opportunity to  
recite the blessing of Birkas HaChamah, the blessing on the sun,  
which is recited only once every 28 years.

Now that you have seen the movie and heard all about  
Birkas Hachamah  
come hear Rabbi Axelrod explain this special prayer,  
Monday, April 6th at 8 pm.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## RABBI REISMAN SATURDAY NIGHT TELECAST

Weinstein Torah & Technology Center Sat., 9:30pm [www.gnstorah.org](http://www.gnstorah.org)

## YOUTH SNACKS

This week's youth snacks are sponsored by **Diane & David Rein** in honor of their daughter, **Sophia's**, 6th birthday.

## LADIES DANCE CLASS

There will be no dance classes until after Pesach! Class will resume April 22nd.

## UPCOMING MEN'S CLUB EVENTS

May 6th 8pm– Talk by **Michael Tuchfeld**, Commentator and correspondent Israel TV2 News—The Knesset Channel 99, co-sponsored by JPEF, publisher of the Jewish Political Chronicle.

## CHOFETZ CHAIM GLOBAL TORAH EVENT

Special repeat showing of "The Inner Meaning of the Birkas Hachamah" at GNS, on Tuesday, March 31st. at 8pm. This year on Erev Pesach, Klal Yisrael will recite the blessing of Birkas HaChamah, the blessing on the sun, which is recited only once every 28 years. **Rabbi Avraham Chaim Feuer** and **Rabbi Paysach Krohn**, will provide deep, and inspiring insights into the inner meaning of the Bracha.

### PASSOVER IS COMING

Help those in need! Please pick up a bag from the shul  
And fill it with Kosher for Passover foods.  
Return it to either the Shul Office or Adina Moskowitz,  
27 Hampshire Rd. (off Wooleys Lane) Drop off by April 1.

## CHOMETZ FOOD DRIVE

Cleaning for Pesach? Bring your chometz to Great Neck Synagogue on Tuesday evening March 31st between 7 and 8:30pm to the Coat Room Lobby. The food will be donated to a local food pantry.

## GREAT NECK SYNAGOGUE SISTERHOOD MEETING

On Wednesday morning, March 25th at 10:00am there will be a meeting at Temple Beth El to discuss plans for the Combined Sisterhood Luncheon which will be held on April 30th at Temple Beth El. Members of the Great Neck Synagogue Sisterhood are invited to come and participate in the plans.

## AM HASEFER

Thurs., March 26th 7:45pm An illustrated lecture with **Larry H. Schiffman**, Professor and Chairman of the Skirball Dept. of Hebrew and Judaic Studies at NYU. Rebuilding the Temple: The Blueprint of the Dead Sea Scrolls.

## SISTERHOOD EVENT

Tuesday, March 24th at 8pm, **Morah Susan Lieberman** will give a Pre-Pesach shiur for women entitled "Nissan - Its Significance as the First Month of the Year." Cost is \$5/person. It will be held at the home of **Margery & Barry Libin**, 19 Shore Park Road.

## HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR COOKBOOK FOR SALE

The Sisterhood Gift Shop is now selling the Holocaust Survivor Cookbook for \$30. It includes 250 kosher family recipes, and 129 amazing and miraculous stories of courage, survival, and hope.

## SAVE THE DATE GREAT NECK LADIES NIGHT OUT

The 57th Annual Combined Sisterhoods will be held at Temple Beth El, Thurs. April 30th at 6pm. With award winning author **Beth J. Harpaz**, as our guest speaker, delicious hors d'oeuvres and desserts by Lederman Caterers, a boutique, and raffle prizes! We are proud to participate in this community event, and encourage you to become an event sponsor for \$36. Reservations are required! RSVP at 487-6100 or email [drein@verizon.net](mailto:drein@verizon.net). We are collecting toiletry items to donate to victims of domestic violence in conjunction with the UJA. Please drop off donations in the synagogue office by April 24th.

## DRIVERS NEEDED

Drivers are needed to deliver food for Tomchei Shabbos on Wednesday evenings. A once a month commitment is needed. Call **Jeff Bilfeld** at 509-0396. Earn chesed hours for school.

## GIVE OLD MAGAZINES A NEW LIFE

Please drop off your current used magazines to the Synagogue office to be donated to NSUH. Please cut off labels, do not tear.

## WITHIN OUR FAMILY

**Mazal Tov** to **Mina & Herman Kotler** on the birth of a grandson born to their children **Corinne & Avery Kotler**.

**Mazal Tov** to **Betsy Leiberman** on the birth of a grandson born to her children **Cara & Seth Cohen**.

**Mazal Tov** to **Sari & Stuart Braunstein** on the Bar Mitzvah of their son **Ben**.

**Mazal Tov** to **Cynthia & Jeffrey Wiesenfeld** on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter **Maxine**.

## WOMEN'S TEFILA

Please join us for Mincha on March 28th, at 6pm in the Beit Midrash for the Bat Mitzvah of **Maxine Wiesenfeld**, daughter of **Cynthia & Jeffrey Wiesenfeld**, will deliver the Dvar Torah. Kiddush following services sponsored by the **Wiesenfeld family**.

## SAVE THE DATE

2nd Annual "Koby Memorial Day Baseball Game," for the benefit of Camp Koby and the victims of terrorism: Monday May 25, 2009 3 games: ages: 6-12; 13-18; and 19 and up! See **Barry Libin** for details.

## NEWS FROM NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL

North Shore University Hospital is building a wonderful new Chesed Room. It will be stocked with food, challah and a refrigerator. It is located on the 4th floor Tower Building near the Palliative Care Unit. Anticipated grand opening is before Pesach. For questions, please contact the Pastoral Care Department at 562-4013.

## ART EXHIBIT

**Joe Lemonik** son of **Celia & Jack Lemonik** will be showing his artwork in an exhibit entitled *Driven to Abstraction* opened March 22nd, at Great Neck Arts Center, 113 Middle Neck Road.

## SHOP DELIGHT DISCOUNT CARDS

The Sisterhood of GNS is selling VIP Shop Delight Cards for \$10. The VIP cards give you 5% off every \$100 you spend at Shop Delight, no expiration date. Contact **Diane Rein** at [drein@verizon.net](mailto:drein@verizon.net)

## SAFETY REMINDER

**Please park all strollers in the coatroom lobby. DO NOT** leave them near the gym entrance. **It is a safety hazard.**

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### Saturday, 3 Nisan

Susan Kaufman for Marvin Goldsmith  
Charlene Milun for Israel Israelite  
Carl Mosesson for Norman Mosesson  
Mimi Rosenberg for Elias Kosow

### Sunday, 4 Nisan

Ebrahim Gabbazadeh for Sarah Gabbazadeh  
Ebrahim Gabbazadeh for Yehuda Gabbazadeh  
Pia Shlomo for David Spilky

### Monday, 5 Nisan

Lorraine Domnitch for Sidney Spiesel  
Mark Gersten for Richard Gersten  
Mindy Hercman for Bernard Grosser  
Jeffrey Kaufman for Martin Kaufman  
Roselin Wagner for Miriam Seider  
Howard Wolf for Julius Wolf  
Michele Wolf for Ruth Berman

### Tuesday, 6 Nisan

Gedale Horowitz for Florence Horowitz  
Amir Mardkha for Nassrollah Mardkha

### Wednesday, 7 Nisan

Joyce Swartz for Seymour Zeff

### Thursday, 8 Nisan

Ronald Braun for Renee Braun  
Mark Bunim for Gladys Bunim  
Benjamin Greszes for Moises Greszes  
Nechama Liss-Levinson for Morris Liss

### Friday, 9 Nisan

Jack Cohen for Bessie Poretzky