



# Congregation Ohr Torah

## Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

**Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi**

**Allen Kessel - President**

*Parshas Bereshis*

26 Tishri 5769

October 25, 2008

**Friday October 24, 2008**

**Candlelighting:** 5:46PM  
**Mincha:** 5:55PM  
**Shacharis:** 7:45 and 9:00 AM  
**Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA):** 10:00AM  
**Early Mincha:** 1:45 PM  
**Rabbi Luban's Shiur in Megillah at 4:55PM**  
**Mincha:** 5:40 PM  
*Shalosh Seudos Speaker: TBA*  
**Maariv:** 6:50 PM

**Weekday Shacharis:**

**Sun** 7:15, 8 & 9AM  
**Mon** 6:20, 7:05 & 8 AM  
*Earliest Talis and Tefillin 6:28 AM*  
**Tues. & Fri.** 6:30, 7:10 & 8 AM  
**Weds & Thurs. (Rosh Chodesh)**  
 6:15, 7:05 & 8 AM  
*Earliest Talis and Tefillin: 6:30 Wed, 6:31 Thurs*

**Weekday Mincha/ Maariv:** 5:45PM  
**Weekday Maariv** 7:30 PM and 10:10 PM

**NOTE START OF 7:30 MAARIV**

*Monday evening, 9:10 in Bais Medrash, Rabbi Luban's shiur in She'eilos Uteshuvos (responsa) Tuesday Tehillim 9:50 PM*

### BARUCH HABAH

Ohr Torah would like to welcome newcomers, visitors and guests who are joining us. If our President, Allen Kessel or Rabbi Yaakov Luban does not get a chance to welcome you personally, please come up and introduce yourself.

### KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP

Kiddush sponsorship is available for October 25th and November 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th. To sponsor a Kiddush or reserve the Kiddush room, please contact Mel Barenholtz in person, by phone or email: [mbarenh@yahoo.com](mailto:mbarenh@yahoo.com)

To sponsor a Shalosh Seudos, please contact Moshe Wiesel.

### OHR TORAH NEWSLETTER

To subscribe to these Announcements, please email [info@ohrtorah.net](mailto:info@ohrtorah.net) and request to be added to the distribution.

### BUILDING DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Moshe Schneider at 732-618-4702 or at [mschneider19@yahoo.com](mailto:mschneider19@yahoo.com)

### TREE OF LIFE and/or YAHRZEIT PLAQUES

To dedicate a Yahrzeit Plaque or a Leaf for the Lobby Eitz Chayim Tree, please contact Moish Natby sending a detailed fax with all dedicatory wording to 732-442-8022. For more info. Call Moish at 732-442-5751 during work days or 732-572-4132 in the evening.

### SEFORIM DEDICATIONS

Book/Seforim Dedications of all types are available by contacting Barry Siegel at [siegeldad@optonline.net](mailto:siegeldad@optonline.net) or 732-572-4408.

### HOUSEKEEPING

For housekeeping issues and inquiries contact Lou Smith at [luddeju@gmail.com](mailto:luddeju@gmail.com) or 732-572-5633.

### OHR TORAH YOUTH PROGRAM EVENTS

Children can register for events on Ohr Torah's website "ohrtorah.net" or by calling Mayer Berg at 732-572-3429.

### ISRAELI ESROGIM

Please note that Israeli Esrogim must be treated with special care, because they were grown in a Shmitta year. (This is the case even though the esrog was grown under Otzar Bais Din.) There are 3 options:  
 - The esrog should be sent back to Israel.  
 - The esrog should be allowed to dry and wither. When this occurs, the esrog is wrapped in paper or placed in a bag and discarded.  
 - The esrog is eaten. However any portion not consumed (such as peels or pits, or left over parts of the flesh) must be left to dry as in the previous option before being discarded.

### MAZEL TOV

... to Cheryl & Yussi Strauch on the birth of a girl to their children Shana & Ari Schick on Simchas Torah. Mazel Tov also to the great grandmother Rebbitzin Shirley Maza & the entire family.

...to Tamima and Simcha Klerer on the birth of a son to their children Michal and Moshe Klerer. Mazel Tov to aunt and uncle Sari and Michie Klerer to grandparents Faigie and Shlomo Zakheim and the entire Klerer and Zakheim families.

### SIMCHAT TORAH KIDDUSH

Yasher Koach to the following who helped make our Simchat Torah Kiddush a great success:

- Russell Adler
- Yair Adler
- Arthur Atlas
- Mark Goldblatt
- Aliza Goldblatt
- David Kornfeld
- Marion Kornfeld
- Janice Lustiger
- David Moskovic
- Gedalia Reiss
- Barry Siegel
- Jonas Waizer
- Allan Weitz
- Barry Wolf
- Boys from the Teen Minyan

Thank you to the following sponsors who did not make it onto the sponsor list:

- Ami and Bracha Avraham
- Mark and Mira Epstein
- Lyndon and Lois Goldsmith
- Gedalia and Phyllis Reiss
- Moshe and Debbie Schneider

### ANNUAL OHR TORAH DINNER

This year's Shul Dinner will take place on Sunday December 14, 2008. Mazel Tov to Fay and David Moskovic, the Guests of Honor, and Shelley Schoenfeld and Matthew Holland, this year's Sevice Awardees. Details and Invitations will follow.

### PRESIDENTIAL DEBATE

Agudath Israel of New Jersey in conjunction with Central Jersey Jewish Political Affairs Committee will be hosting a Presidential Forum this coming Wednesday evening, October 29, 2008 at Congregation Ohr Torah at 7:00 pm. Both campaigns will be sending representatives to inform the community of their candidate's positions on the important issues. Representing the Obama Campaign will be the Honorable Governor Jon S. Corzine of New Jersey. We are awaiting final confirmation from the McCain Campaign as to who will be their representative. We ask that everyone come to this informative event. You will have an opportunity to ask your questions to the speakers. For further information please call Josh Pruzansky at 732-690-7074.

### YOUTH EVENTS

Ohr Torah is heading to United Skates of America for a fun night of roller skating on Saturday night November 15th at 8 PM. We will return to the Shul at 11:15 PM. This event is for children in Grades 3-8 and includes round trip bus transportation to/from the facility plus admission, skate rental, 2 hours of skating time and snacks on the bus. The cost is \$20 per participant. Please contact Mayer Berg at [mgberg@optonline.net](mailto:mgberg@optonline.net) to register.

### SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE & FILM

Dr. David Shatz, Professor of Philosophy at Yeshiva University, will serve as scholar in residence at Ohr Torah on the Shabbat of November 7-8, 2008. Editor of the *Torah u-Madda Journal*, and series editor of *MeOtzar HoRav: Selected Essays of Rabbi Yoseph B. Soloveitchik*, Dr. Shatz has written and taught extensively on the thought of Rav Soloveitchik zt"l. Dr. Shatz's lectures at Ohr Torah will be followed by the filming of *The Lonely Man of Faith*, a documentary on the life and teaching of the Rav, sponsored by the Orthodox Forum, to be shown at Ohr Torah, Motzai Shabbos, Nov. 8 at 8 PM.

**REMINDER: The emergency Defibrillator is in the Beis Medrash Chazzon's shulchan. PLEASE SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR MORE OHR TORAH INFORMATION**

### VISITING REPRESENTATIVE FROM KARNEI SHOMRON FOUNDATION

We welcome to Ohr Torah on Shabbat Parashat Noach (November 1) Sondra Baras, Barbara Kessel's sister in law who is visiting the U.S. on a fundraising tour on behalf of the Karnei Shomron Foundation. Karnei Shomron, where Sondra and her family have lived for more than two decades, is a model interdenominational community of 7500 Religious Zionist and secular families. The town, whose new construction has been frozen by the government, has taken a large loan to purchase trailers for young couples who wish to live there. They need assistance in repaying the loan. Please introduce yourself to Sondra and learn more about this wonderful, growing community. If you can be supportive of the Foundation, you can make tax deductible checks out to Friends of Israeli Communities, and give them to the Rabbi or the President.

### COMMUNITY SHABBAT DINNER

Congregation Ohr Torah invites you to our 4<sup>th</sup> Community Shabbat Dinner on Friday, November 14 (following ma'ariv). The evening includes dinner, drinks, zmiros, and programming for children, and has been created to share shabbos with our Shul family, make new friends, and join together in achdus. Early bird pricing applicable until October 31, reservation deadline: November 7.

Please check your mail for your invitation and response form. Please contact Shelley Schoenfeld with all questions at 732-572-5808, or via email at [shelley.schoenfeld@cmpmedica.com](mailto:shelley.schoenfeld@cmpmedica.com).

### REOPENING OF TORAH TAPE LIBRARY

The Torah Tape Library will reopen after Yom Tov on Wednesday October 29th. The new weekday hours will be Monday-Thursday 5:30PM-7:30 PM. Sunday hours will still be 10:00AM-12:00PM. Moshe Schneider for Larry Greenspan.

### UNVEILING FOR ROSE GOLDSMITH

There will be a Hakomas Matzeivah for Rose Goldsmith on Sunday, October 26, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. at Floral Park Cemetery in Deans.

### COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### MTJ ANNUAL MELAVE MALKA

The annual Mesivta Tifereth Jerusalem will be held motzei Shabbat, Nov. 15<sup>th</sup> at 8PM, at Ohav Emeth. Guest of Honor is Rafie Miller, who will receive the distinguished Alumnus Award. HaGaon Ha'Rav Moshe Feinstein, shlita will be the guest speaker. Please call Shimon Jakubovic for info and reservations at 732 246-1037.

#### BIKUR CHOLIM

#### VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION BRUNCH

Bikur Cholim of Raritan Valley will be having its annual Eli and Frieda Stern Memorial Volunteer Appreciation Brunch on Sunday, November 16 from 9:30-11AM at Cong. Ohav Emeth. Everyone in the community is invited to join us in honoring Marcia Freedman. Admission is free. Reservations are not required. For more info, please call Diana Hakakian (732-393-0506) or Irene Siegelman (732-819-9371).

#### ACTT

Save the date: Motzai Shabbos, Nov 22, 2008 - Community Wide gathering and Judging Favorably Module 3 kickoff event. More details to follow. To volunteer or for more info on ACTT, e-mail [info@actt613.org](mailto:info@actt613.org), see the ACTT web-site: [www.actt613.org](http://www.actt613.org).

#### PARK MIKVAH

The Edison/Highland Park Mikvah is open from 9pm to 11pm, including Saturday nights, until the clock changes. FRIDAY NIGHTS are by APPOINTMENT ONLY. Call 732-249-2411. Fee \$15. OUT OF HOURS - ADDITIONAL \$20 fee.

### AHAVAS ACHIM UNIVERSITY

Ahavas Achim University and the Torah Conferencing Network present Rabbi Yissocher Frand, every Thursday at 9pm, live via satellite from Baltimore. Join the most popular shiur in the country, broadcast to the AA Beis Medrash every week, for halakhic insights into the parsha and a meaningful dvar Torah at the end. After the Yomim Tovim, Rabbi Yisroel Reisman's Saturday Night Navi shiur resumes. Admission: \$5.

### KEYLIM MIKVAH HOURS OF OPERATION

The OT Keylim Mikvah will be open Sunday Mornings from 9AM to 12 Noon. Please make sure to leave the area clean and neat.

-If you inadvertently left a set of dishes in Arnie Lustiger's car after being toveled, including a Lenox plate, please call him at 732-718-0811.

### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Rabbi Jacob Joseph School Seeks experienced Full Time secretary. Computer knowledge essential. Call 732-985-6533 or fax 732-985-6553

### EMPLOYMENT NETWORK RARITAN VALLEY

For info, go to [www.ENRV.org](http://www.ENRV.org), or contact Bob Lansey at [ENRV@verizon.net](mailto:ENRV@verizon.net) or 732-819-8651.

### LOCAL ERUV

Please call 732-247-ERUV for status of the Eruv.

### Parshas Noach

- |                           |         |
|---------------------------|---------|
| • Candlelighting          | 5:37 PM |
| • Mincha/ Kabolos Shabbos | 5:45 PM |

### VISIT OHR TORAH ON THE WEB!

Ohr Torah can now be found on the internet at <http://www.ohrtorah.net> You can join the email list for Weekly Announcements. Any ideas and comments about the site can be sent to [webmaster@ohrtorah.net](mailto:webmaster@ohrtorah.net) Announcements should be sent to [announcements@ohrtorah.net](mailto:announcements@ohrtorah.net) Submit all announcements by 7 PM Wednesday.

**TELEPHONE:** Call 732-777-6840, press Newsletter option (spell all names)

**PLEASE NOTE:** Please make sure that you leave a contact/callback name and phone # in case there is a question regarding the item you wish to be printed, otherwise it may not be included.

## Sof davar...

by Rabbi Israel Poleyeff

### Tannaim and Amoraim: Rav Achai

Quick! Who was the first Talmudic scholar to author a *sefer of halacha*? No, it was not the Rambam or the Rosh. The distinction goes to Rav Achai whose *sefer*, called the "Sh'-iltot d'rav Achai Gaon", is quoted extensively primarily in *tosafot*. Rav Achai was a first generation gaon who hailed from Pumbedissa in modern day Iraq. He was in line to become the gaon of the yeshiva in Pumbedissa (a very prestigious position) after the passing of the gaon Rav Shmuel bar Mar. But the Reish Galuta, Rav Shlomo bar Chasdai, chose Rav Naturai Kahana bar Rav Emunah as the gaon. What must have upset Rav Achai even further was that R. Naturai was one of his students! Perhaps out of bitter disappointment Rav Achai left Bavel for Eretz Yisroel never to return. It is his *sefer* Sh'-iltot that has earned Rav Achai lasting fame. The *sefer* follows the *parshiot* of the Torah and is divided into four sections: an introduction, questions of *halacha*, medrashic *droshot*, and a summation. Some suggest that the *sefer* was written primarily for his son. It seems his son was not the most studious of students. Studying the *sefer* each week would keep his son in touch with the *halachic* and *medrashic* world. In the copies of the Sh'-iltot that have survived to this day a number of parts are clearly missing. Missing also is any information about Rav Achai in Eretz Yisroel. After leaving Bavel for the Holy Land we know nothing of his life or activities there other than the fact that he passed away there in either 752 or 762.