



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Allen Kessel - President

Parshas Shofetim

6 Elul 5768

Sept., 6, 2008

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| Candlelighting: | 7:04PM |
| Mincha & Kabolos Shabbos: | 7:10PM |
| Shacharis: | 7:45 & 9:00 AM |
| <i>Rabbi Hoffman's Pesachim Shiur – after Hashkama</i> | |
| Z'man Krias Shma (G'RA): | 9:42AM |
| Early Mincha: | 1:45 PM |
| Kollel Mincha | 6:00PM |
| <i>Rabbi Luban's Gemara Megillah shiur: 6:05 PM</i> | |
| Mincha | 6:55 PM |
| <i>Shalosh Seudos Speaker – Meir Kornfeld</i> | |
| Maariv | 8:05 PM |
| Weekday Shacharis: | |
| Sun. | 7:15, 8 & 9 AM |
| Mon & Thur. | 6:20, 7:05 & 8AM |
| Tue, Wed & Fri | 6:30, 7:10, & 8 AM |
| Weekday Mincha/ Maariv: | 7:00 PM |
| Weekday Maariv: | 10:10 PM |
| <i>Tuesday Tehillim 9:50</i> | |
| DAF YOMI SCHEDULE | |
| Monday–Fri: after Maariv | |
| Shabbos: 1 hour before Mincha | |
| Sunday: After 8 AM Shacharis | |

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

There will be a General Membership Meeting Tuesday September 23rd @ 8:00 PM. Agendas will be mailed shortly.

WELCOME

Congregation Ohr Torah welcomes the following recent new members:

- Mr. and Mrs. Larry and Reena Greenspan
- Mr. and Mrs. Gil and Nancy Reich
- Mr. and Mrs. Michael and Esther Reiss
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard and Jessica Langer
- Dr. and Mrs. Daniel and Maren Mayer
- Mr. and Mrs. Zev and Rachele Stern
- **Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan and Nadine Teitelbaum**
- Mr. and Mrs. Shalom and Yardena Cohen.

Come browse the more than 2000 CD and tape titles in the Bigger and Better newly reopened Raritan Valley Torah Tape Library. It is located on the lower level of Ohr Torah. The library is open 10 AM-12 PM on Sundays and 6-8 PM Monday through Thursday. You can browse the titles at [HTTP://RVTT.COMPUGENE.COM](http://RVTT.COMPUGENE.COM). Then decide which titles you want and come on in to borrow them. Don't forget that you need a bar coded library card; see instructions on the web site. In addition, titles by topic, i.e. Elul, the Yamim Nora'im, etc. are posted on the cabinets in the library for your convenience. Phone #'s to contact the library are 732-501-5455 or 732-828-5642, and ask for Larry Greenspan.

SEFORIM DEDICATIONS AVAILABLE

Ohr Torah has bought for shul use 20 Artscroll Rosh Hashanah & 20 Yom Kippur Machzor Harav Joseph B. Soloveitchik edited by Arnie Lustiger. If you would like to donate any (\$25 per), please inform Barry Siegel (siegeldad@optonline.net). So far 26 of 40 are dedicated.

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 September 20th and October 4th & 11th. To sponsor a Kiddush or reserve the Kiddush room, please contact Mel Barenholtz in person, by phone or email: 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 and request to be added to the distribution.

BUILDING DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Moshe Schneider at 732-618-4702 or at 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 Nat by 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 or 732-572-4408.

HOUSEKEEPING

For housekeeping issues and inquiries contact Lou Smith at ludcej@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.

SEFORIM DONATIONS

Thanks to the following for their generous Seforim donations:

- Ralph & Rochelle Dessau in memory of Ralph's father Alfred Dessau Z"L
- Sherman family in memory of Stephanie Sherman Z"L
- David Hoffer of MD Respiratory Services in memory of Andrew Freedman's father Nathan Freedman Z"L
- Moshe & Susan Wiesel in memory of Leah Levy Z"L
- Rachel Sherry in memory of Leah Levy Z"L
- Mordy & Sheila Dear, Irwin & Mildred Goldblatt, Ira & Susan Sobel, Chaya Gurkov and Leah Leff in memory of Leah Levy Z"L
- Meir & Aliza Belsh in memory of Leah Levy Z"L
- Edward & Sharon Lowinger & family in memory of Sharon's father Meir Cooperberg Z"L
- Rachel Sherry in memory of Sharon's father Meir Cooperberg Z"L
- Ira & Susan Sobel in memory of Susan's mother Fay Greenberg Z"L
- Ira & Susan Sobel in memory of Leah Levy Z"L

OHR TORAH ANNUAL YOUTH RAFFLE

Please help support Ohr Torah's youth groups by purchasing raffle ticket(s). The cost of the tickets are one for \$36, two for \$70, or 3 for \$100. The drawing will be held at the annual Shul dinner in December. Please contact Barry Siegel, Charlie Gershbaum, Lyndon Goldsmith or Meir Berg to purchase tickets. All proceeds support the OT Youth programs.

COME BROWSE THE TORAH TAPE LIBRARY

High Holiday Seating Reservation

Deadline

It is time to reserve your seats for the Yomim Nora'im. We want to accommodate the needs of each member family. In light of the growing Shul membership, seat arrangements are a challenge. Your seats were reserved only if you returned the reservation form by September 1st. After that date, last year's unreserved seats were released and assigned on a first-come basis. As was the case last year, late applicants will be able to secure seats in the Hashkama Minyan, as available. Reservation Form and Instruction Letter can be downloaded from the OT Website at OhrTorah.net

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENIOR NCSY FUNDRAISER

Senior NCSY will be running their annual Succah Building fundraiser this year, on October 5th and 12th. The cost is \$55 dollars for 2 hours.

STATE OF ISRAEL BONDS DINNER

Honey and Dr. Max Wisotsky are being honored at a State of Israel Bonds. Dinner on Wednesday September 17, 2008 at 6:30PM. Please contact NJ State of Israel Bonds Office at 732+-390-2173 for more information and to make a reservation to attend the Dinner.

MELAVE MALKA

On Motzai Shabbos Parshas Shoftim, September 6th, there will be a welcome Melave Malka for the incoming Steinsaltz/Mekor Chaim Ambassadors, Naftali Goldstein and Refael Kauders. Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz - world-renowned scholar and teacher - established The Steinsaltz-Mekor Chaim Ambassadors program to build closer personal connections between our community and Israel.

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

These Ambassadors teach in the classroom and out, lead songs and prayers, study one-on-one with students at all levels, and help organize a variety of programs in our schools, at Hillel and in local synagogues. For the 4th Straight year, the educational institutions of the this community including RPRY, Netivot Montessori, Rutgers Hillel and Kushner High School are blessed to welcome two of Rabbi Steinsaltz's outstanding Hesder yeshiva students.

The Melave Malka will take place at the Getraer residence, 801 South Second Avenue at 9PM, all are welcome. For more info regarding the Melave Malka in particular or the Ambassador program in general please contact Rabbi Shmuel Greene at 732-485-7122 or rabbishmulie@steinsaltz.org

ACTT

The ACTT organization (Achieving Change through Torah) is sponsoring a community-wide inspirational evening, Sunday Night, September 7, 2008 at 8:00 PM at Congregation Etz Ahaim for the Kavanah During Davening module 3 kickoff event. Rabbi Ron Yitzchok Eisenman, Moreh D'Asra, Congregation Ahavas Israel, Passaic, NJ, Noted Educator & Orator, will speak about "Be Careful What You Ask For - It May Come True!" Admission is free. Sponsors at \$36, \$50, and \$100 are needed. Please write your check to "Congregation Ohr Torah Rabbi's Discretionary Fund", earmarked "ACTT sponsor", and mail to ACTT; 48 Edgemount Road; Edison, NJ 08817. Thank you. For more info, call Jonathan Abrahams (732) 220-2946, Wendy Bar (732) 220-8765, Joe Friedman (732) 732-985-8014, Alice Gordon (732) 985-6848, Michael Lafond (732) 432-9860, Phil Rosen (732) 572-8762, or Aviva Siegel (732) 572-4408. Web-site: www.actt613.org, e-mail: info@actt613.org

EMUNAH EVENTS

Annual Garage Sale - Sunday September 28, 2008. Accepting donations as of September 21, 2008. For more information and to have your large furniture previewed call Sue Redlich at 732-846-8990 or 732-558-4917.

VOLUNTEERS needed -for short time increments.

Cakes and Kugel Bakers Wanted. Emunah is looking for volunteer bakers. For Sunday October 12-call Sue Redlich at 732-846-8990

Sof davar...

The Geonim: R. Aharon b. Yosef HaKohen Saragado

R. Aharon Saragado (incidentally, nothing is known of the source of his family name) had the misfortune of serving as *gaon* of the yeshiva in Pumbedissa between such giants as Rav Saadia Gaon, Rav Sherira Gaon and Rav Hai Gaon. Thus his reputation as a great scholar if not more got lost in the shuffle. He was, in fact, a great *talmid chacham* and served as Gaon of the famous yeshiva from 943 to 960. He was known for his firmness in his *halachic* decisions and his decisiveness in matters of *halachic* practice. R. Aharon did not come from a family of scholars. They were all merchants who were quite wealthy, as was R. Aharon himself. He became a renowned *talmid chacham* and eventually was selected to the post of Gaon. His tenure was marked by many quarrels and a minor rebellion broke out. A group of students actually proceeded to elect a Nechemiah bar Rav Kohen Tzedek as gaon. When Rav Sherira sided with R. Aharon the rebellion quickly petered out. Very little exists of R. Aharon's writings. However a number of his halachic decisions are quoted in the works of Rav Sherira and Rav Hai Gaon (Hai was very likely his student and regularly *davened* in his home). The Rambam also quotes some of his philosophical thoughts in his own writings. Rav Aharon ben Yosef HaKohen Saragado – the overlooked *gaon*.

or 732-558-4917.

Organization help is both welcomed and needed.

BLOOD DRIVE

End your summer with one more Mitzvah that you can do before the Yamim Noraim. Please mark your calendars - our next blood drive will be taking place on Sunday, September 7, from 9:30 - 3:00, at our home, 120 Highland Ave., HP. As usual, we'll supply freshly baked cookies and baby-sitting services for donors. Please call Ira, Heid or Batsheva at 732-393-1018 to reserve a slot (preferred). Walk-ins are also fine.

CHUG IVRIT

The next meeting of Chug Ivrit (Hebrew speaking club) for intermediate to advanced speakers will be on Sunday, September 21, at 11am, at a Highland Park area home. We chat in Hebrew and read a short Hebrew article or story. Chug Ivrit is sponsored by the Raritan Valley Chapter of Hadassah. It is free and open to both men and women. You do not have to be a member of Hadassah to join us. For location and more information, contact: Rachel Weintraub at rachel@weintraubworld.net or 732-819-9298.

AHAVASACHIM UNIVERSITY: RETIREES'

KOLLEL

Beginning on Tuesday, Sept 2, the second day of Elul 5768, we are proud to announce the formation of a Retirees' Kollel based at Ahavas Achim! All eligible men are invited to join the learning. Our first program will be called "Torah Tuesdays," meeting every Tuesday morning, and the schedule will be as follows:

7:45 a.m. Shacharit

8:15 a.m. Breakfast

8:30 a.m. First Shiur

"Parsha Gems" with Rabbi Moshe Goldberger

Prepare the parsha of the week under the guidance of a master teacher. Rabbi Goldberger is a student of Rav Moshe Feinstein zt"l and Rav Avigdor Miller zt"l, the author of numerous books and articles, and maggid shiur in New Jersey and Staten Island.

9:30 a.m. Second Shiur

"An Eye for an Eye" with Rabbi Avigdor Weitzner. This exploration of Oral Torah will focus on the laws of damages and monetary concepts based on Parshat Mishpatim and other sources. Rabbi Weitzner, a long-time resident of Highland

Park, is the former director of the Rutgers Hillel and a regular maggid shiur in the community.

DANCE CLASSES

Once again, Rikki Samel will be starting Israeli and Simcha dance classes for women. For more information, please call Rikki at 732-249-5116.

PARK MIKVAH

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

WOMEN'S DANCE CLASSES

Once again, Rikki Samel will be starting Israeli and Simcha dance classes for women. For more information, please call Rikki at 732-249-5116.

KEYLIM MIKVAH HOURS OF OPERATION

The OT Keylim Mikvah will be open Sunday Mornings from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. Please make sure to leave the area clean and neat.

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, or contact Bob Lansley at ENRV@verizon.net or 732-819-8651.

LOCAL ERUV

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

Parshas Ki Tetze

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|---------------------------|---------|
| • Candlelighting | 6:52 PM |
| • Mincha/ Kabolos Shabbos | 7:00 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. Announcements should be sent to 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.

by Rabbi Israel Poleyeff