

President's Message - Leo Silberman

This year marks the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany and our liberation from the Nazi concentration camps. We held two major events to commemorate this monumental occasion: the Annual Yom Hashoa Commemoration, which was held on Thursday, May 5, 2005 at Park Synagogue; and the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Liberation and New Lives party, which was held on August 21, 2005 at B'nai Yeshurun Congregation.

The Annual Yom Hashoa Commemoration was very well attended. We honored forty-five U. S. World War II veterans and thirty-five Soviet veterans all of whom fought bravely and brought about the ultimate defeat of Nazi Germany. Some of the veterans were among our concentration camp liberators.

The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary: Liberation and New Lives party was jointly sponsored by the Kol Israel Foundation, the Kol Israel Sisterhood and Second Generation Kol Israel. Over 300 persons attended this special party, which honored our liberation and the much respected and beloved Dr. Leatrice Rabinsky. Committee members, who worked hard to make this evening successful, deserve our heartfelt thanks. Proceeds from the event will be donated to the Needy Holocaust Survivors Initiative Fund.

Second Generation Kol Israel Foundation has been working for the past three years to address the needs of Holocaust Survivors who receive their services from the Jewish Family Services. We had several meetings with the leadership of the Jewish Community Federation and the Jewish Family Services expressing our concerns that survivors have been turned away without their needs being met, that the Jewish Family Services has been using Claims Conference moneys to support their organization, and that the Jewish Community Federation has not shown any concern for the needs of Holocaust Survivors. It is our expectation that by the end of September, the Jewish Community Federation and the Jewish Family Services will respond more meaningfully to the needs of survivors.

Please join us on Sunday, October 9th, 2005 at Zion Memorial Park for the Annual Memorial Service in memory of our lost six million Jewish martyrs who perished during the Holocaust.

On behalf of the Kol Israel and my family, I would like to wish you all a healthy and happy New Year.

Refuah Shlema! Best wishes for a speedy recovery are extended to:

Jack Baigelman

Sally Bergrin

Rose Epstein

Pearl Goldstein

Mori Grunspan

Jacob Hennenberg

Rafal Majorczik

Eva Reis

Renee Schwartzberg

Rachel Sherman

Julian Solonitz

Condolences are extended to:

Helen Gutowitz on the loss of her son

Max Solomon on the loss of his sister

Deepest Sympathies are extended to families of

Sam Dicker

Herman Frank

Samuel Greenstein

Andor Klein

Chaim Shepps

Edith Simon

Congratulations and best wishes are extended to:

Mike Frum on the marriage of his grandson

Louis and Harry Gips on the marriage of their granddaughter

Judith and Ted Hersh on the birth of their grandson

Mania Horn on the birth of her great granddaughter

Nina and Al Leska on the marriage of their grandson

Josephine and Louis Muller on the birth of their grandson

Tilly Poster on the bat mitzvah of granddaughter

Sara and Larry Warn on the marriage of their granddaughter

Miriam and Philip Wexberg on their 55th anniversary

Bertha Wieder on the birth of two granddaughters

# Kol Israel Life Membership

Our life membership continues to grow. We currently have over 200 life members. We would love to see you join this special honor list of "Kol Israel Foundation Life Members."

Harry Abraham	Molly & Abbie Akst	Kornelia Albert	Liza Alpert
Florence & Issac Alpert	Jack Baigelman	Tova & Sam Baron	Estelle & Sam Beder
Sally Bergrin	Betty Berry	Meyer Blecher*	Sam Burke
Nathan Burzinski	Elias Cala	Mary & Harold Chaitoff	Shirley & Carl Cohen
Jacob Cemel	Max Curtis	Ann Cyncynatus	Eva and Eugene Davidovits
Clara & Abe Donner	Alan Edelman	Rose & Philip Epstein	Rachel Faigenbaum
Murray Farkas	Alice & Simon Fixler	Esther & Herman* Frank	Genia Frankel
Judith & Herbert Frankel	Nina Frankel	Rina & Sam Frankel	Elaine & Roman Frayman
Arnold Friedman	Anne* & Mike Frum	Shery & Howard Frum	Shirley Garn
Rose & Arthur Gelbart	Jack Gildar	Louise and Harry Gips	Erika Gold
Avi Goldman	Pearl Goldstein	Bernice & Saul Gottlieb	Ileen & Philip Green
Sarah & Joe Greenberg	Samuel Greenstein*	Helen Gutowitz	Nitza & Nehemia Hampel
Bernice & Zev Harel	Miriam & Sam Hauptman	Hilda & Jacob Hennenberg	Judith & Ted Hersh
Denise & Jacob Herskovitz	Clara & Alex Hertz	Mania Horn	Rose Ickowicz
Vera & Paul* Isakowitz	Elizabeth & Armin Jacob	Leah & William Kagan	Eva & Boaz Kahana
Helen & Irving Kalski	Miriam & Isak Kampinski	Rose Kaplovitz	Sara Kay
Ella Kieselstein	Eda Kochman	Fanie* & Isak Koen*	Suzanne & Bernard* Krakow
Marcia Krause	Paula & Karl Lasman	Martin Lax	Chaya & Anchel Lebovits
Lee Lerer	Anna Lerer	Aranka & Moshe* Loeb	Miriam & Rafal Majorczik
Lola & Morry* Malcmacher	Sylvia & Izidor* Malcmacher	Lola Mandelbaum	Rose Marmor
Ruth Marmorstein*	Sara Marocco	Helen & Joseph Matlow	Sam Meizner
Alla &Boris Mikhli	Celia & Abraham Milchiker	Miriam & Henry Miller	Ruth Miller
Josephine & Louis Muller	Helene Najfach	Frances & Stanley* Neuman	Dina Offman
Helen & Jack Pahmer	Goldie & Joseph* Perl	Sheila & Herschel Pickholtz	Helene & Steven Pincus
Joseph Pollack	Helen Potash	Leatrice & Irving Rabinsky	Eva Reis
Judith & Marshal Rosenberg	Ruth & Henry Rosenfeld	Rose Rosner	Ghitla Rzepka
Hanna Saar	David Schneider*	Manny Schneider	Margaret & Harry Schuster
Darlene Schwartz	Ruth Schwartz	Paula & Leo Silberman	Mayer Silberstein
Zelda & Lary Simon	Edith & Sid Simon	Florence Singer	Sylvia & Perec* Slivka
Evelyn & Steve Slomovitz	Peter Smilovitz	Bertha & Julian Solonitz	Henrik Sperling
Dora Stankowicz	Sophie Steinbuch	J. Swede	Gisele & Hans* Walter
Sara & Larry Warn	Norman Weinstein	Margaret & Sol Weintraub	Jack Weiss
Josephine & George Weisz	Marcia Wexberg	Miriam & Philip Wexberg	Eva & Jack* Wieder
Idele & Abraham Wolf	Hildegard Wolk*	Pearl & Bernard* Yaeger	Abraham Yagour
Rita York*	Ruth & Al Zelczer	Chaya Zryl*	

# From the Jewish Family Service Association, Ellie Shoag and Gilda Katz

The Jewish Family Services continues to serve Holocaust survivors individually and with the Europa Café program. One new program offered is the Help-line .

For more information about the Europa Café program or any other Holocaust survivor programs, please contact Ellie Shoag or Gilda Katz at 216-378-3439.

## Yom Hashoa V'Hagvurah 2005

The annual Yom Hashoa 2005 took place on May 5, 2005 at Park Synagogue. Alan Binstock and Susan Hennenberg served as Co-Chairs for this very important event in our history. It marked the  $60^{th}$  anniversary of our liberation from the evils of Nazi Germany. The major theme for this year's commemoration was the sixtieth anniversary of our liberation and the defeat of Nazi Germany. Like at the 1995 Annual Commemoration, which marked the  $50^{th}$  Anniversary of our liberation, we honored veterans who served with the brave Allied Forces who fought against and brought about the ultimate defeat of Nazi Germany. The honored veterans included 45 U.S. and 35 Soviet Union World War II veterans. Several of the WWII veterans were among the liberators of concentration camps. As every year, and maybe more so this year, this event was very meaningful for the survivors and the community.

# 60th Anniversary: Liberation and New Lives

The sixtieth anniversary of our liberation was planned and organized by the three-survivor organization, the Kol Israel Foundation, the Kol Israel Sisterhood and the Second Generation Kol Israel. Much energy was invested into the planning and organization of this party, which honored the sixtieth anniversary of our liberation and recognized a very dear friend of survivors, Dr. Leatrice Rabinsky.

The party was both beautiful and very meaningful. The reception and the dinner were both very much enjoyed by all who were present. The themes of liberation and the toasting of Dr. Rabinsky were very meaningfully expressed by the speakers. Dr. Rabinsky, who has earned a national and international recognition as a leading Holocaust educator, has also earned the respect of our survivor community. In addition to leading journeys to the sites of our horrors, she has conducted numerous Holocaust education events and provided leadership for the Annual Commemoration of Yom Hashoa V'Hagvurah.

#### Annual Memorial Service Zion Memorial Park October 9<sup>th</sup> 2005, 2:00 p.m.

The annual Memorial Service will take place at Zion Memorial Park on Sunday October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2005. Simon Fixler and Avi Goldman have been hard at work to make this annual event a meaningful one.

# Message from the Kol Israel Sisterhood Sylvia Malcmacher, Vice President

Rose Kaplovitz, Kol Israel Sisterhood President, along with her husband Jack Beigelman is relocating to Florida for personal reasons. We are very sorry that she is moving and we will miss her. We wish her good luck and good health in her new home.

We elected Louise Gips to take over our presidency and we are very glad that she accepted. With the help of our devoted members we will go on with our work in support of needy causes here and in Israel.

We have beautiful printed cards for all occasions. Please call 216 382-9742. We have JNF trees for planting in Israel. Call Sylvia Malcmacher 216 381-1726.

We wish everybody a healthy and happy New Year.

# Chabad House of Cleveland Jewish Learning Institute 2005 Fall Course

"Beyond Never Again:" The Holocaust Speaks to Our Generation Six consecutive Wednesdays or Mondays. For information call Rabbi Marozov at Chabad House 216 381-4736

# TRAVELS OF A SURVIVOR:

a Torah's journey from Mělník, to London, England, to Beachwood, Ohio U.S.A.

The first survivor that we learned about was "Izchak," (Genesis 22:12) surviving a near-death situation when Abraham almost sacrificed him. World War II also produced survivors, many who almost perished. Here, we have a survivor of the Holocaust that is a Holy Scroll, a Torah. A special Torah from the small town of Mělník was recovered in 1945. Jews lived in Mělník ever since the very beginning of the town's history, in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries. In the sixteenth century the Jewish Community was only a few Jewish families. It was only in the 1850's that the Jewish people received the right to live in other parts of the town, including the Historic Center. Many Jewish people were entrepreneurs, lawyers and doctors. During the period between the two world wars the Jewish people were involved in the town's economy, the building of the town and its cultural life. The community was a part of the rabbinate of Prague, under the direction of Rebbi Karlín. The synagogue of Mělník-Záduší was inaugurated in 1862. It closed in the beginning of WWII and fell to decay soon after. Sometime in the 1960's it was demolished. When the Jewish community had been established, a cemetery in Mělník-Podolí was founded. Black polished stones with golden Hebrew signs can still be found in the cemetery today, which is in good condition. In 1942, Heidrich, the Nazi governor, of what was then called Bochemia and Moravia, established a bureau of dealing with the so called, "Final Solution of the Jewish Question." Unintentionally, he created the largest accumulation of Jewish Religious objects, which he stored in, "The Central Jewish Museum." During the final years of the war, the museum was a warehouse for materials of the doomed people.

Through arrangement with the Czechoslovakian government, some Torahs were brought to England, and later distributed throughout the world. With the much appreciated effort of Sidney and Betty Blumenthal, the Torah from Mělník now has a home in Fairmount Temple, Beachwood, Ohio. It stands in dignity and reverence, in a specially crafted *Aron*, with a *Parochet*, made out of a *tallit*. In 1996, my granddaughter, Julia, decided to read her Bat Mitzvah Torah Portion from that scroll, to reaffirm that we did not forget from where that scroll came from, and under what conditions and circumstances. The poem, "A Single Lamed," was also written by her, about that special Torah from Mělník.



#### A Single Lamed

#### Julia Esther Hennenberg

Miss, excuse me.
You miss,
With the tallit over your shoulders.
You are to be Bat Mitzvahed, aren't you?

Here! Please, look here!

I know it is hard for you to notice me.
You're looking at
The torah portion you have chosen to read on
your Bat Mitzvah
But this is me...
Please look closely, see
A Lamed, at the end of the word yisrael?

That is me.

I know it is hard for you to notice me... Me, among a scroll full of Hebrew letters. Especially, when all of us look too much alike; Faded black.

Actually, we were all
A gorgeous jet black,
And very defined
Thick and thin lines with smooth curves,
Drawn with the finest quill.

For 89 years I lived on this torah In a gorgeous ark Often dressed with fancy jewelry

The rabbi used to parade me around
The synagogue,
While the congregation gazed at me with
happiness
I glowed with pride

The most wonderful *sofer* gave me life. He carefully carved each one of us, Making sure to not leave anyone out, He had a daughter, much like you, Matter of fact.

This is why I have decided

To talk to you

Not many people read me anymore,

And when they do they never, but never notice me

I have tried not to fade
With the hope
That someone will pay attention
To me, an individual letter.
After all,
I had a life of my own . . .

I remember. . . The days when the *sofer* wrote this Torah His daughter used to sneak down to his study Late at night,
Just so she could learn
From the piece of history her father was creating.

She paid special attention to Me, a single Lamed For I was her **favorite** letter, It began her name, Leah

I was so loved
In the small town of Melnik,
Where I participated in services often
Together, with the other letters
We told stories, and taught lessons
To the young children.

In 1939, I was taken away, Away from my family, from my home, And from those who loved me.

I survived, managing to stay alive In Czechoslovakia
I was selected . . .
To be in a museum,
Of a so-called "vanished people"
Which was to be on display.
Once the the Nazis won the war.

It was dark and cold,
In the warehouse,
Where the museum was to be.
I am so comfortable
In the plain Aron that houses me now,
Yet I think back often,
And remember,
Those days before the war,
Where I was so needed,
So important to Leah.

Forgive me for being personal, miss, Have you someone dear

Named Leah?

Please, when you see them
Talk to them,
Think of me, remember me,
A little Lamed
In a lonely Torah
Of a large congregation
At Fairmount Temple.



# SECOND GENERATION KOLISRAEL PO BOX 24376 CLEVELAND, O+10 44224



#### Anne Lukas, President

Shana Tovah! Happy New Year!

I know that many of our members, families and supporters are revisiting painful memories as they have watched and read about the refugees in New Orleans, Biloxi and other gulf cities. It is shocking to me that preventative measures could have been taken to prevent some of these problems, but were ignored in deference to Homeland Security. Isn't this insecurity?

We have been busy with the Holocaust Survivors' Life Needs Initiative this summer. You will read more about our efforts-from Sam Hoenig and Irene Marocco.

If you would like to make a contribution, we would welcome your support. Please send it to the address above in any amount. Every penny goes to survivors.

We again participated in the Gross-Schechter Rib-Burn-Off on Labor Day, by selling latkes to support Jewish education. We sold 917 latkes, earning \$922 (included a \$5 donation) for Gross-Schechter Day School! It's always a lot of fun.

Thanks to Tibor Rosenberg of Tibor's Kosher Market, Scott Klein of the Gas House, Cindy Feuer, Steve Slomovitz, Evelyn Slomovitz, Mike Frum, Avi Goldman, Art Rosenfeld, Celia & Marvin Rosenberg, Irene Marocco and Sam Hoenig for their assistance.

# 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Liberation & Tribute to Dr. Leatrice Rabinsky

The dinner celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of liberation and the tribute to Dr. Leatrice Rabinsky had over 300 people in attendance. We are grateful for the dedication and work of Avi Goldman and Simon Fixler, Co-Chairmen for the event, Evelyn Slomovitz, Cindy Feurer, Kol Israel President Leo Silberman, Alice Fixler and Mike Frum, who provided assistance.

Additionally, we thank Moishe Berkovic. of Davis Catering for his generous support.



### Sam Hoenig, Chairperson Holocaust Survivors' Life Needs Initiative

Members of the H.S.L.N.I.
Committee have been busy meeting with community leaders pleading the case for the needy survivors. We plan to start active fundraising shortly. So far we have raised over \$10,000 and have 60 volunteers who have offered to help in a variety of ways. As a temporary measure, we are in the process of getting Marc's prescription cards to those who need them through JF.S.A., (where every person's identity is kept strictly confidential.)

If you are a survivor in need, or know of one, please call Ellie Shoag at JFSA, 292-3999. Even if you have previously been turned away, you may be eligible for help!

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# <u>Volunteer Coordinator,</u> <u>Holocaust Survivors' Life</u> Needs Initiative

If anyone is interested in volunteerring to help survivors, please contact Kathy Levine at Jewish Family Service Association at (216) 378-3475.

#### Hoffenung

Hoffenung is a group for survivors, which meets every first and third Wednesday of each month at the Green Road Synagogue from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. For further Information, please call Irene Marocco or Jane Belkin at (216) 292-2165.





... to Anita Cohen on the birth of her grandson, Andrew Garrett Herbst!

Many thanks to Rachel Kugelman for her invaluable assistance with this newsletter!



#### Interesting Articles by Email!

# It just takes a phone call to get connected!

Please consider calling Anne Lukas with your email address so that we can add you to our distribution list. This group receives letters and articles on anti-Semitism, Israel, the Holocaust and other aspects of interest. Call (216) 382-0789 to be added. Or send your request by email to Alukas@ursuline.edu.

## **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL!**

Please expect to find membership renewal materials in the mail in the next few weeks. Since we continue to keep our dues so low, we would appreciate your assistance in helping us save mailing dollars. We are trying to move to electronic mail for notices. If you are not on the email list yet. be sure to include your email address. If you are on, but haven't received mailings lately, please contact Anne Lukas (216)382-0789 or Cindy Feuer (216)691-0123 with that information as soon as possible. If you are unable to receive emails, we will continue mailing notices through the postoffice.

Kol Israel Foundation P.O. Box 21146 South Euclid, Ohio 44121

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