

BJC Wensa

“WENSA” MEANS “FUN” IN JUDEO-ARABIC!

WWW.BJCN.Y.O.R.G

May 5, 2012

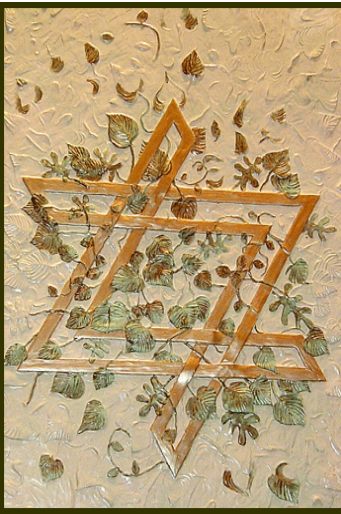
13 Iyar, 5772

VOLUME 11

ACHAREI-KEDOSHIM

SHABBAT ENDS 8:41 PM

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PARSHA OF THE WEEK....

Acharei-Kedoshim

Following the deaths of Nadav and Avihu, G-d warns against unauthorized entry “into the holy.” Only one person, the kohen gadol (“high priest”), may, but once a year, on Yom Kippur, enter the innermost chamber in the Sanctuary to offer the sacred ketoret to G-d.

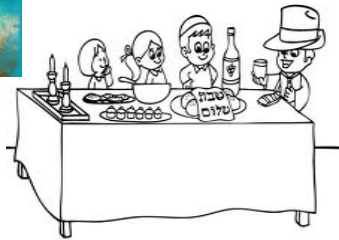
Another feature of the Day of Atonement service is the casting of lots over two goats, to determine which should be offered to G-d and which should be dispatched to carry off the sins of Israel to the wilderness.

The Parshah of Acharei also warns against bringing korbanot (animal or meal offerings) anywhere but in the Holy Temple, forbids the consumption of blood, and details the laws prohibiting incest and other deviant sexual relations.

The Parshah of Kedoshim begins with the statement: “You shall be holy, for I, the L-rd your G-d, am holy.” This is followed by dozens of mitzvot (divine commandments) through which the Jew sanctifies him- or herself and relates to the holiness of G-d.

These include: the prohibition against idolatry, the mitzvah of charity, the principle of equality before the law, Shabbat, sexual morality, honesty in business, honor and awe of one’s parents, and the sacredness of life.

Also in Kedoshim is the dictum which the great sage Rabbi Akiva called a cardinal principle of Torah, and of which Hillel said, “This is the entire Torah, the rest is commentary”—“Love your fellow as yourself.”



YOUR SISTERHOOD AT WORK

During the past year & a half, Sisterhood created THE RABBI DISCRETIONARY FUND. Donations to this fund are tax deductible & are used to help needy families here & in Israel. Sisterhood has donated \$2100 so far to this fund. The Rabbi welcomes any donation amount you would like to make for this worthy cause.

Sisterhood also arranged a tour of THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS at the Discovery Museum in NYC. The group who participated found it most interesting & educational.

Sisterhood supports donations to the BJC Bima flowers. The cost is \$200 per month which two people can share.

We thank Maggie Dror who has organized the Rosh Chodesh meetings for the past two years. Recently she decided to pass this responsibility to Dalia Shamash who we welcome to our sisterhood Board.

Last Lag B’Omer Mirra Zara organized our first Picnic at the Kings Point Park. In spite of cool weather & a drizzle, it was a most enjoyable event for all who joined us. This Sunday, May 6, it will be sunny & we hope you will all join us at the Lag B’Omer picnic. Thank you Mirra for organizing this event.

Our Sisterhood flower sale was a great success, thanks to the capable organization of Anna Hakakian & her group of volunteers. We hope to make this a yearly event.

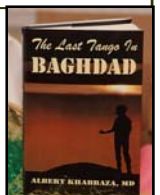
The biggest source of income for Sisterhood is the **Calendar**. We hope you will continue to support us by adding the names of your children & grandchildren's Birthdays, wedding anniversaries, as well as memorials. Sisterhood will contribute to the building fund of the BJC once the building expansion begins.

Cont. on next page

The Last Tango in Baghdad

by Dr. Albert Khabbaza is available at all online booksellers. For more info visit:

www.khabbaza.com



Jewish Jokes

Contributed by Jackie Cohen

PHILANTHROPY

A visitor to Israel attended a recital and concert at the Moscovitz Auditorium. He was quite impressed with the architecture and the acoustics. He inquired of the tour guide, "Is this magnificent auditorium named after Chaim Moscovitz, the famous Talmudic scholar?" "No," replied the guide. "It is named after Sam Moscovitz, the writer." "Never heard of him. What did he write?" "A check", replied the guide.

Q: Why did Adam and Eve have a perfect marriage?

A: He didn't have to hear about all the men she could have married, and she didn't have to hear about the way his mother cooked

Q: What business is a yenta in?

A: Yours

Q: How do Jewish wives get their children ready for dinner?

A: They put them in the car

Q: What does a Jewish woman do to keep her hands soft and her nails long?

A: Nothing at all

Q: Define "genius"

A: An average student with a Jewish mother

Q: If Tarzan & Jane were Jewish, what would Cheetah be?

A: A fur coat

Q: What mechanical device causes the most arousal in a Jewish woman?

A: A Mercedes 550SL convertible

A special Prayer for you....

May today there be peace within. May you trust that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith in yourself and others. May you use the gifts that you have received, and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content with yourself just the way you are. Let this knowledge settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us.



Israeli Independence Day Parade

Cost is \$18 for the bus & it has to be reserved the latest by this weekend.

Contact Yosi Ezrati to register.



Lag B'Omer



The thirty-third day of the Omer is an occasion for happiness during an otherwise mournful period.

Why We Celebrate

The explanations begin with the Omer period itself, those forty-nine days that are counted off one by one between Pesah and Shavuot.

This is a time of semi-mourning, when weddings and other celebrations are forbidden, and as a sign of grief, observant Jews do not cut their hair.

The plague ceased on Lag Ba'Omer, the thirty-third day of the Omer. (The Hebrew letters *lamed* and *gimel* which make up the acronym "Lag" have the combined numerical value of 33.) As a result, Lag Ba'Omer became a happy day, interrupting the sadness of the Omer period for twenty-four hours.

Cont. from front page... (YOUR SISTERHOOD...)

Sisterhood was please to participate with The BJC to celebrate the Bat-Mitzvah of Yitzhar Shalom. It was a beautiful event held last week on April 28th. Mazol Tov to Rabbi Nir Shalom, Sigal, Yitzhar and to their entire family.

Sisterhood supports having a variety of speakers to the BJC. On 4/21 the former Israeli Ambassador to Turkey, Uri Bar Ner, gave an excellent overview of the relationship of the United States with Israel since its inception during the Truman administration. He indicated that the relationship between the two countries has always been strong & mutually beneficial for both, since Israel is the only stable democracy in the Middle East. He also touched on the stressed relationship between Turkey & Israel as a result of the Flotilla incident some time ago. According to the Ambassador, the break between the two countries is healing, & he is optimistic about the future. Regarding the threat from Iran, the Ambassador believes that both the US & Israel stand united in preventing Iran to become a nuclear power. He feels the Iranian government has began to move towards negotiations rather than continuing a confrontational stance, he thinks this is due to the sanctions & international pressure on Iran. We thank Albert Nassim for inviting the Ambassador to the BJC, & hope he will continue to be our BJC international & national liaison with interesting speakers.

I thank Rabbi Shalom for his support of Sisterhood, as well as all our past BJC Presidents. I look forward in working with Ronny Ben Joseph, our new BJC President & his newly elected Board of Trustees.

We are very lucky, as a congregation, to have dedicated volunteers who spend time & effort to serve our unique & very special Synagogue. Your attendance at our events, as well as your support is most appreciated, & so is your feedback. I thank you for your trust.

Sincerely,
Alice Aboody

The Woman...

By the time the Lord made woman, he was into his sixth day of working overtime. An angel appeared and said, "Why are you spending so much time on this one?"

And the Lord answered, "Have you seen my spec sheet on her? She has to be completely washable, but not plastic, have over 200 movable parts, all replaceable and able to run on diet coke and leftovers, have a lap that can hold four children at one time, have a kiss that can cure anything from a scraped knee to a broken heart -and she will do everything with only two hands."

The angel was astounded at the requirements. "Only two hands!? No way! And that's just on the standard model? That 's too much work for one day. Wait until tomorrow to finish.

"But I won't," the Lord protested. "I am so close to finishing this creation that is so close to my own heart. She already heals herself when she is sick AND can work 18 hour days."

The angel moved closer and touched the woman. "But you have made her so soft, Lord."

"She is soft," the Lord agreed, "but I have also made her tough. You have no idea what she can endure or accomplish."

"Will she be able to think?", asked the angel.

The Lord replied, "Not only will she be able to think, she will be able to reason and negotiate."

The angel then noticed something, and reaching out, touched the woman's cheek. "Oops, it looks like you have a leak in this model. I told you that you were trying to put too much into this one."

"That's not a leak," the Lord corrected, " that's a tear!"

"What's the tear for?" the angel asked.

The Lord said, "The tear is her way of expressing her joy, her sorrow, her pain, her disappointment, her love, her loneliness, her grief, and her pride."

Jewish Proverb...



A Jewish wife will forgive and forget, but she'll never forget what she forgave.

Life's mysteries:

How a 2 lb. box of chocolates can make a Jewish woman gain 5 lbs.

When a Jewish woman hangs something in her wardrobe for a while, it shrinks two sizes!

The trouble with some Jewish women is that they get all excited about nothing; then they marry him.

The angel was impressed.
"You are a genius, Lord.
You thought of everything!
Woman is truly amazing."

And she is!

Women have strengths that amaze men.
They bear hardships and they carry burdens, but they hold happiness, love and joy. They smile when they want to scream.
They sing when they want to cry.
They cry when they are happy and laugh when they are nervous.
They fight for what they believe in.
They stand up to injustice.
They don't take "no" for an answer when they believe there is a better solution. They go without so their family can have.
They go to the doctor with a frightened friend.
They love unconditionally.
They cry when their children excel and cheer when their friends get awards.
They are happy when they hear about a birth or a wedding.
Their hearts break when a friend dies.
They grieve at the loss of a family member, yet they are strong when they think there is no strength left.
They know that a hug and a kiss can heal a broken heart.

Women come in all shapes, sizes and colours. They'll drive, fly, walk, run or e-mail you to show how much they care about you. The heart of a woman is what makes the world keep turning. They bring joy, hope and love. They have compassion and ideals. They give moral support to their family and friends. Women have vital things to say and everything to give.

HOWEVER, IF THERE IS ONE FLAW IN WOMEN,

IT IS THAT THEY FORGET THEIR WORTH!

Happy Mother's Day to all
our beautiful, courageous,
caring, loving and
hardworking BJC Moms!
We love you...



Powerful words to live by...

Contributed by Jackie Cohen:

"Action is a great restorer and builder of confidence. Inaction is not only the result, but the cause, of fear. Perhaps the action you take will be successful; perhaps different action or adjustments will have to follow. But any action is better than no action at all."

Norman Vincent Peale (1898-1993)



SOMETHING FOR YOU TO KNOW

Contributed by Jackie Cohen



Ants Problem:

Ants hate cucumbers.

Keep the skin of cucumbers near the place or ant hole.

To get pure and clean ice:

Boil water first before freezing.

To make the mirror shine:

Clean with sprite

To remove chewing gum from clothes:

Keep the cloth in the freezer for an hour.

To whiten white clothes:

Soak white clothes in hot water with

A slice of lemon for 10 minutes

To give a shine to hair:

Add one teaspoon of vinegar to hair, then wash hair.

To get maximum juice out of lemons:

Soak lemons in hot water for one hour,

And then juice them.

To avoid smell of cabbage while cooking:

Keep a piece of bread on the cabbage

In the vessel while cooking.

To avoid tears while cutting onions:

Chew gum

To boil potatoes quickly:

Skin one potato from one side only before boiling.

To remove ink from clothes:

Put toothpaste on the ink spots generously and let

it dry completely, Then wash.

To skin sweet potatoes quickly:

Soak in cold water immediately after boiling.

To get rid of mice or rats:

Sprinkle black pepper in places where you find mice

or rats. They will run away.



FAMILY SHABBAT DATES:

JUNE 2, 2012



Lag B'Omer Picnic at

Kings Point Park (area 10)

May 6 at 12:00

I knew water is important but I never knew about the special times to drink it. Did you??



אנו יודעים כי חשוב לשתות מים

אך האם אנו יודעים על הזמנים המיוחדים לשתית מים

Drinking water at the correct time maximizes its effectiveness on the Human body:

שתית מים בזמן הנכון ממקסמת את השפעתם

על גוף האדם

2 glasses of water after waking up - helps activate internal organs

1 glass of water 30 minutes before a meal - helps digestion

1 glass of water before taking a bath - helps lower blood pressure

1 glass of water before going to bed - avoids stroke or heart attack

שתי כוסות אחרי ההתעוררות - מסייעות להפעלת האברים הפנימיים

כוס אחת 30 דקות לפני ארוחה - מסייעת לעיכול

כוס אחת לפני רחיצה באמבטיה - מקטינה את לחץ הדם

כוס אחת לפני השינה - מסייעת למניעת שבץ או התקף לב

An Obituary printed in the London Times.....

Contributed by Mirra Zara

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, **Common Sense** who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- Knowing when to come in out of the rain;
- Why the early bird gets the worm;
- Life isn't always fair;
- And maybe it was my fault.



Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge). His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children. It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as criminals received better treatment than their victims.

Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realize that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap, and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death,

- by his parents, Truth and Trust,
- by his wife, Discretion,
- by his daughter, Responsibility,
- and by his son, Reason.

He is survived by his 5 stepbrothers;

- I Know My Rights
- I Want It Now
- Someone Else Is To Blame
- I'm A Victim
- Pay me for Doing Nothing

Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.