This year our Purim Parade and Festival has a special opportunity for children with special needs and their families. Children with special needs and their families are welcome to enjoy the festival’s arts and crafts booths, face painting, balloon artists, and other selected activities from 10:30am to 11:00am, prior to the public opening time. Contact Susan Robinson at robinson_susan@hotmail.com for more information.

The Purim Committee has been hard at work to make this year’s festival filled with fun and excitement. The festival features rides for all ages, including bungee jumping, rock climbing, tea cups, bounce houses, train rides, amazing face painting, balloon artists, arts and crafts, delicious food, and a vendor marketplace featuring art, clothing, books and toys. Come in your most creative costume for a chance to win first place!

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS (Rain or Shine):

PARADE 11:00 AM
(Parade begins in the Toco Hill Shopping Center Kroger, makes its way down LaVista Road, and ends at Beth Jacob)

FESTIVAL 12:00 NOON – 3:00 PM
Beth Jacob Atlanta, 1855 Lavista Road, Atlanta, GA 30329

Be A Part of the Purim Fun:
• To march in the Parade, contact Shalom Teller at michaeldteller@gmail.com.
• To be a vendor in the Marketplace, contact Trudy Robbins at tbfrobbins@aol.com.
• To be a sponsor of the Parade, contact Harvey Steele at hsteele@bethjacobatlanata.org or Shoshana Jeter at jeter@montag.com.
• To volunteer at the Festival, contact Shira Malka Asherman at lasherm@emory.edu.
• To help prepare food, contact Jacquelyn Allen at batia@bellsouth.net.
At least four people came to mincha and maariv services at Beth Jacob on Super Bowl Sunday. They were at services because of the Super Bowl.

These were not football fans imploring the Perfect One to preserve Patriot perfection, nor were they attempting to ask the only real Giant to help His earthly namesakes. They were there simply to daven. During the Super Bowl.

One of them may have had no choice; three did.

You see, it is a particularly inconvenient truth that in Atlanta in the first week of February, sunset ranges from 6:07 to 6:14 PM, guaranteeing that, as long as the rulers of the NFL continue their practice of starting the Super Bowl at 6:17PM, attending minyan inevitably means that a football fan will miss the kickoff and a good part of the first quarter of regulation play. This solar/football convergence produces a uniquely Orthodox Jewish American dilemma for anyone caught up in Super Bowl excitement, because, while true fans allow nothing to get in the way of their obsession, it is hard to rationalize skipping a minyan one otherwise regularly attends. But, I dare say the decision is agonizing: does one forfeit the excitement of the opening kickoff and the newest Budweiser commercial in favor of duty?

There are situations that develop from time to time that cause a rabbi to be absent from mincha/maariv services: a timely hospital visit or an unavoidable meeting or program are examples. But on Super Bowl Sunday, no one dares schedule a conflicting program or meeting. Anyone noting the rabbi’s absence from minyan on this particular Sunday would be hard pressed not to entertain at least a fleeting image of his rabbi with a beer in one hand, peanuts in the other, joining 97 million others to watch football while his flock gathered in shul in the belief that joining 60 others to serve the Eternal was more sublime than what is, after all, only a game. One’s credibility as a rabbi is at stake.

So I was there because of the Super Bowl, and you can see that I had almost no choice.

But three others did.

These were the three men who had, only minutes before minyan, invited me to join them to watch the Super Bowl. I graciously accepted, but told them I would be late because I was going to minyan, that after that I was to be at a Sefardic bris-eve celebration, and I also wanted to be with “the gang” at the Josh and Jodi Wittenberg home for their annual Super Bowl gathering. Then I added, “I’m sure you know this is the most difficult minyan of the year to attend,” and I described the opportunity I saw to exercise supreme self control by going to shul in spite of the game.

I hung up the phone, wondering why anyone would even consider having me around when they wanted to have fun if I offered conversations like this, turned on the radio to prepare for mincha, and forgot about it.

20 minutes later I entered shul. I surveyed the crowd, marveling at the 6 score regulars who were either not interested in football or were relying on TIVO.

Then I noticed The Three. The ones who had invited me. They were the only non-regulars there, who did not have yahrzeit that night. I sensed the exquisite choice they had made.
They had built their schedules that Sunday around the Super Bowl, and then had been confronted with the Jewish quandary – habit, immediate gratification or follow the crowd vs. self-denial, self-discipline, serving the higher self and serving the Most High – and had chosen, in the moment, for the moment, to be reciting Shma Yisrael while almost half the nation would be watching a stranger launching a football in Glendale, Arizona.

They reminded me that, to live life fully alive, one need not wait until he somehow becomes a tzaddik. One need only realize this: each moment of our lives provides choices – one mincha, one blessing over food, one gift to charity – and in each choice, we can discover freedom.

Oh, elsewhere in this favored land the football lights shine bright;  
The band is playing everywhere, and all over hearts are light,  
And everywhere men are laughing, and everywhere children shout;  
But there is real joy in BJ – three men have opted out.*

*With apologies to Ernest Thayer and Casey at the Bat.

Even before I attended day school, my father, alav hashalom and my mother, may she continue to live and be well, instilled in me the positive character trait of seeing the good in all people, especially fellow Jews. Being a member of this holy congregation and being associated with the Rabbis Feldman and Rabbi Freundlich, I have been privileged to see the kedusha, the holiness, in every Beth Jacob member. Hashem commands us in Parsha Kedoshim, chapter 19, possuk 2, “you shall be holy,” and this holy congregation strives mightily to perform this mitzvah.

All of us are still basking in the glow of the 12/12/12 celebration. Our challenge is to build on that magnificent accomplishment and continue to move ever forward and upward. As we now move beyond that commemoration there are still many meaningful ways to contribute to that effort: the writing and dedication of a new Sefer Torah, the Shul dinner, and plans for a commemorative book, just to name a few. Volunteers are critical to the success of any Shul, and ours is no different. Upcoming projects like the Purim Parade and Festival are still in need of people to contribute their time.

I have chosen to lead this holy congregation because its Rabbis and its members have inspired me to contribute positively to its running. Every time I speak with a member, whether longtime or new, I learn why they chose Beth Jacob to be their Shul and how they contribute to its well being. Kay and I have been members for approximately 25 years and the phenomenal growth both in members and spirituality is nothing short of miraculous. I truly believe in Jewish unity and realize we must respect the difference and preference of others.

I welcome ideas that facilitate this goal. This year with Hashem’s help and our money, the Shul will be undergoing the sanctuary renovation that promises to carry it into the next several decades and beyond. We should strive to increase the spirituality of the davening that goes on in it and thereby become a draw for countless others to join us in our sanctification of Hashem’s name. This aspect of the sanctuary project cannot be emphasized enough. As we move forward, please do not hesitate to contact me at president@bethjacobatlanta.org with any suggestion or concern you may have. I really do enjoy getting your input because it indicates to me how much you care about our Shul.
"Man, you look exhausted."

It was true. Pesach was just around the corner and David had been up well into the night several nights in a row trying to get ready. Rodney, one of his non-Jewish colleagues at the Law Firm, couldn’t help but notice his swollen eyes and dreary look.

“What’s going on?” he asked with genuine concern. “Is everything ok at home?”

“Yes, everything’s fine,” David said. “Thanks for the concern but there’s nothing to be worried about. It’s just that Passover is coming up and there is a ton to do to get ready. It’s exhausting.”

“You mean like the day before Thanksgiving?” Rodney asked. “My wife once sent me to the supermarket three times on the same day! And then she asked me to help her set the table for 15 people! Can you believe it? It was crazy.”

David couldn’t help but laugh out loud.

“Thanksgiving is a joke,” he said. “It’s only one day of preparation and then one meal. Big deal. Passover is simply nuts. It’s literally off-the-wall craziness for several weeks getting ready, and then it’s like living in an insane asylum during the actual Holiday, which lasts for 8 straight days!”

Rodney was a little taken aback. “I’m sorry,” he said, “but are you describing a religious Holiday? It sounds like you’re living through some sort of low budget horror film.”

“Well, yeah,” David said, “that’s a little bit what it feels like.” His exhaustion was evident and his voice was beginning to develop a little bit of an edge to it.

“First we clean the entire house to make sure there are no leavened products – no breads, cakes, or, oh yeah, cheerios. You know, the ones my two year old likes to eat while wandering all over the house. Do you know what it’s like to search through every game, every toy chest, and every closet in the house looking for one? It takes days to get through everything!”

Rodney wasn’t quite sure what he had gotten himself into. “Cheerios?” he asked. “Did you just say you were searching your house for cheerios?”

David didn’t hear the question. He was already onto his next item.

“And after that I spend an entire night schlepping all the Passover dishes up from the basement. Oh how I dread the night we turn the kitchen over.”

“Turn your kitchen over?” Rodney asked. “To whom?” He wasn’t sure who in their right mind would want to step in to manage this kind of situation.

“To Passover,” David said. “We can’t use any of the same dishes or pots and pans that we do during the year, so I bring up an entirely different set of Passover cooking utensils from our basement.”

“Wow,” Rodney said, “so you have to make everything from scratch yourselves just for Passover?”

“No, not quite,” David said sharply. “We have to buy some things too. Like matzah.”

“Hey, I heard of that,” Rodney jumped in, hoping to calm David down a bit. “Matzah is that simple flour and water cracker, right?”

“Well, yes, it’s just flour and water, but apparently there is nothing simple about it, because they charge over $20 a pound for it. I don’t know why I wasted my time on Law School. I should just have learned how to bake matzah instead.”

Rodney couldn’t help but chuckle. “Well, how much matzah can one person eat?” he asked.

“One person wouldn’t be so bad,” David answered, “but guess who joins us every year? That’s right - my in-laws. They move into my house for the entire week. As does my sister and brother-in-law, with their three children. I tell you, it’s an insane asylum. After all the craziness of the preparation leading up to Passover, we then stay up until 2 o’clock in the morning sitting around the Seder table…two nights in a row! Nobody sleeps. Everybody is on top of each other. You’ve really never experienced anything like it.”
“No, I haven’t,” Rodney said with a mix of bewilderment and disbelief. “I always wondered what you did when you were off for the Holidays.”

“Oh, and that’s the cherry on top,” David snapped. “I have to manage this craziness at home, and then when I come back to work, I’m overwhelmingly exhausted and woefully behind. And the best part - I get to use up all of my vacation days on this!”

Rodney had heard enough. “I’m sorry,” he said, “I hope you don’t mind me asking, but I have heard nothing but complaints, resentment, and negativity about this Holiday that you and your people supposedly ‘celebrate’. I don’t get it. Why do you do it?”

David paused for a moment. The words “complaints, resentment, and negativity” were reverberating in his head. “Is that really what I sound like?” he wondered to himself. “Is that how my wife and children also perceive me? No wonder no one in my house gets excited when Pesach rolls around.”

“You know,” David said to Rodney, “I don’t think I’ve given you the full picture of this Holiday.” He was now talking more to himself than to his friend. “Sure, preparing is hard, but this Holiday is actually one of the most inspiring and significant experiences of the year. It defines who we are as a people and what our relationship to G-d could and should look like.”

Rodney stared him at suspiciously. “That’s not what you described a minute ago,” he said.

David smiled. “Well, you just need to understand what’s going on and focus on what’s really important.”

To be continued...

Every day, we get up and look at our day and what we have to do. Drive the kids to school; go to work; do the marketing on the way home; get the car fixed; don’t forget the dry cleaners and, oops, the roof is leaking! We get involved in what is right in front of us. Shabbos is coming; plan for putting up the succah; don’t forget to sell the chametz!

Sound like “Can’t see the forest for the trees”? We are often so busy with our day-to-day commitments that we forget the whole context of why we are here and what we are committed to!

Fifty years ago, there was a group of Jews who looked at the future and put down the stake in the ground. “If we build it, they will come.” And we have! Who could have foretold the growth and vibrancy of Torah life in Atlanta? They didn’t. But with emunah (faith) in the One Above, we did. And many of us have “returned” to the way of our ancestors.

Now, it is our turn to build for our future: for our children, for our grandchildren and for our great-grand children, for yours and for mine. The Beth Jacob Legacy Fund has been established to provide for that future. Rather than just dealing with the “crisis du jure,” our leaky roof, the spotty air conditioner, we are putting away our resources for future expansion and for our descendents’ security, so that they will have what they need to continue the mission Hashem gave us for all times.

I invite you to pick up a brochure in the office; consider YOUR future; let’s have a thoughtful conversation that focuses on what’s really important to you and how you can make a difference in ways you didn’t know. Let’s prepare for the next Jubilee!!
In January I had the privilege of attending the annual OU Synagogue Executive Directors Conference in New York. I participated in working sessions, networked, and dined with 40 people who play roles similar to mine in their Shuls. We covered issues such as member relations, human resources, fundraising, budgets and dues collection, disaster planning and insurance coverage, productivity and time management, facilities, and security.

It was enlightening to interact with others who have faced the same issues and as I do and in many cases have developed solutions. For example, it occurred to me after the High Holidays this year that we should prepare a detailed written plan of special facilities related preparations, custodial schedules, facilities needs that arise only at this time of year, and breakdowns after the season ends. We have some documentation, but it could be more complete and specific. The High Holiday season at Beth Jacob is delivered to a great extent using the oral tradition. I plan to work with Tony Barkley, our Facilities Supervisor, to create a detailed facilities plan prior to the next High Holiday season. At least one of my peers already has such a plan that I can use as one of my sources. By extension, I now have access to a group of peers across the US and Canada whom I can consult for ideas and advice on the full range of Shul matters.

I was very surprised to learn at the conference that many Executive Directors work for Shuls other than the ones at which they are members. In New York, New Jersey, and Canada, where there are regions with a number of Shuls in a small geographic area, this is not an uncommon practice. Those who daven at a Shul other than the one for which they work recommended the arrangement, saying that they did not feel as though they were working 24/7.

Such a situation would not be ideal for me. I take great pleasure in serving my own community. I would not feel as invested in my role if I worked at a different Shul. I cannot imagine not being at Beth Jacob on Shabbos most weeks. True, I need to handle issues that arise on Shabbos and Yom Tov, but perhaps they would not be handled at all or as well in my absence. Members and guests speak with me about Shul matters at Kiddush and Shalosh Seudas. But these are the only times I get to meet some of the people I serve.

Since I am Executive Director at my own Shul, I was very excited when one of my peers presented time management and productivity tips. Each of us at the conference has the goal of being effective without allowing our Shul role to take over our whole life. To that end, I adopted a suggested practice of responding to my emails in batch two or three times a day, rather than each minute they come in, and to night and weekend emails at the beginning of the next business day. (I can be reached by phone or in person for matters that are more time sensitive.) This allows me to work on other Shul needs without interruption as well as to have some much needed time off for myself and to be with my boys.

So if you send me an email and don’t hear back from me instantly, please forgive me. I am using tips learned at the OU conference to serve you, my fellow community members, efficiently and effectively while maintaining a personal life for myself and my family. It is a privilege to earn my livelihood helping all of you who have made this place our home.

**Purim Cards**

Cards purchased from Rabbi’s Charity Fund can fulfill your obligation to give charity on Purim (matanos l’evyonim) and can be given to friends and family in lieu of multiple shalach manos. All proceeds will benefit those in need in our community both during and after Purim. The cards were designed by Beth Jacob members Laura Bogart and Marcy Karon, and are available in the shul office, call (404) 633-0551. Suggested donation is $3 each. Checks should be made payable to Beth Jacob Charity Fund.
Dress Up is Not Just for Kids
Rabbi Yechezkel Freundlich

Pre-Purim, Tuesday, February 19th, 7:45 pm / Conference Room / For Men & Women

Everyone looks forward to the fun and creative costumes of Purim. But what is the deeper meaning behind the masks and dress up? What are we trying to hide, and why do we specifically cover it up on Purim? This class will uncover why even grown ups should hide their true faces.

Getting Your Kitchen Ready for Pesach
Rabbi Reuven Stein

Tuesday, March 12th, 7:45 pm / Conference Room / For Men & Women

It’s not as daunting as you think! Let Rabbi Stein guide you through the details of cleaning your ovens, covering your counter tops and kashering your burners. Navigate the supermarkets with confidence, knowing which products do and do not need special Pesach certification. Thank you to Rabbi Stein and the Atlanta Kashrus Commission for making this class possible.

ASK Pesach Beis Midrash Learning Program

Pre –Pesach Learning:
Rosh Chodesh Nissan, Tuesday, March 12th - Erev Pesach, Monday, March 25th
Open Beis Midrash and light breakfast provided for those staying to learn.

Chol Hamoed Program:
Thursday, March 28th, Friday, March 29th and Sunday, March 31st
Open Beis Midrash and deluxe Pesach breakfast of scrambled eggs and matzah for those staying to learn.
SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE: RABBI DOVID KATZ

Shabbos, March 16, 2013

Rabbi Dr. Dovid Katz is the Rabbi of Congregation Beth Abraham of Baltimore, Maryland, and a Professor of History at the Johns Hopkins University (Dept. of Near-Eastern Studies). A Contributing Editor to the Art Scroll Schottenstein Edition of the Babylonian Talmud, Rabbi Katz has fascinated audiences around the country by demonstrating the timeless lessons and relevance of Jewish History and Rabbinic Literature. He earned his ordination from Ner Israel in Baltimore.

STEP UP FOR ISRAEL

Step Up For Israel is an initiative of JerusalemOnlineU.com, an organization committed to teaching and inspiring people of all ages about Judaism and Israel. Beth Jacob, with appreciation for a grant from the Marcus Foundation, is excited to screen four short Step Up For Israel films critical to understanding the issues facing the Modern State of Israel and the role she plays in the world today.

Motzei Shabbos, March 2, 2013 at 8:45pm, Heritage Hall

The Intifada Comes to Campus

Is anti-Israel rhetoric a form of anti-Semitism? This frightening film (29 min.) examines how the Intifada has actively targeted college campuses and is winning the battle for the minds and sympathies of the next generation.

Israel in the Media

This disturbing film (26 min.) chronicles how the global media perceives and relates to both Israel and the Palestinians, evaluates some of the biases the media perpetuates and analyzes the role that the media plays in shaping negative myths about Israel.
**50 Purim Schedule**

**Ta'anis (Fast of Esther) • Thursday, February 21/ 11 Adar 5773**

Fast Begins ........................................................................................................ 6:03am
Shacharis (Selichos will be said, Daily Minyan) ........................................ 6:40am
Shacharis (Selichos will be said, Kollel) ....................................................... 7:30am
Mincha (Kollel) .............................................................................................. 2:30pm
Mincha (Main Shul) ....................................................................................... 5:50pm
Fast Ends .......................................................................................................... 7:02pm

**Erev Purim • Motzei Shabbos, February 23/ 13 Adar 5773**

Shabbos Ends .................................................................................................... 7:04pm
Maariv (Main Shul) ......................................................................................... 7:04pm
Maariv (Kollel) .............................................................................................. 7:14pm
Megillah Reading (Main Shul & Kollel) ......................................................... 7:30pm
Ice Cream Party Melava Malka (Heritage Hall) ............................................ 8:30pm
Late Megillah Reading (Main Shul) ............................................................... 9:30pm

**Purim Day • Sunday, February 24/ 14 Adar 5773**

Sunrise Minyan (Kollel) .................................................................................. 6:50am
Followed by Megillah Reading ..................................................................... approximately 7:25am
Shacharis (Main Shul) ................................................................................... 7:30am
Followed by Megillah Reading ..................................................................... approximately 8:05am
Shacharis (Kollel) .......................................................................................... 8:30am
Followed by Megillah Reading ..................................................................... approximately 9:05am
Shacharis (Main Shul) ................................................................................... 9:20am
Followed by Megillah Reading ..................................................................... approximately 10:00am
Children’s Megillah Reading, Megillah not actually read (Main Shul) ...... 11:30am
Mishteh Esther Hamalka (Feast of Queen Esther) and
Art Project for Girls grades 1-5 (Youth Lounge) ........................................ 11:30am
Father/Son Learning (Yeshiva Mordechai Hatzaddik)(Kollel) ............... 12:30-1:30pm
Megillah Reading for homebound ............................................................... contact Rabbi Y
Mincha (Kollel) ............................................................................................... 1:30pm
Mincha (Daily Minyan) ................................................................................ 3:00, 4:00, 5:00pm
Purim Seudah, by reservation only (Heritage Hall) .................................... 5:00pm
Followed by music and dancing, open to the community ....................... 7:00pm
Maariv (Daily Minyan) ................................................................................ 7:30, 8:30pm
Maariv (Kollel Beis Midrash) ..................................................................... 9:45pm

**BJ Alcohol Policy**

In view of ongoing challenges teenagers have in dealing with alcohol, and in view of confusing messages sent by synagogue communities when alcohol is used in religious settings, Congregation Beth Jacob sets forth its policy regarding alcohol:

1. No alcohol other than Kiddush wine shall be formally dispensed by the synagogue during synagogue festivities.
2. The law prohibits dispensing alcohol to minors. Adults who bring alcohol onto campus may not share any of this with minors.
3. Any persons who are perceived to be inebriated will be asked to leave by the synagogue administration as their presence creates an environment which is inappropriate and unsafe for the religious center of a community.

**Motzei Shabbos, Feb. 23 approx. 8:30pm**

After the Megillah reading join us for DANCING, live music, ice cream and hamantashen in Heritage Hall for men, women & children. Pizza will be available for purchase for $2 per slice. Sponsored by Sisterhood.

**Sunday, Feb. 24, 7:00pm**

After the Purim Seudah join us for music and dancing in Heritage Hall. Having your own Seudah? Come with your guests afterwards! For men, women & children.
QUEEN ESTHA’S FIESTA
Sunday, February 24
5pm
BETH JACOB HERITAGE HALL
Community invited to dancing at 7:00pm

RSVP TO SYBIL GOLDSTEIN SGOLDSTEIN@BETHJACOBATLANTA.ORG
OR 678-244-6642 BY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 18

ADULT MENU: TACO & FAJITA BAR WITH GRILLED BEEF & CHICKEN
AND ALL THE FIXINGS
KIDS MENU: HOT DOGS, TATER TOTS, SLICED VEGETABLES, MINI CORN ON THE COB

PAYMENT:
- Check enclosed
- Mastercard
- Visa
- AMEX
- Discover

Name on Card: ___________________________ Billing Address: ___________________________
Credit Card #: ___________________________ Expiration Date: ___________________________

Please note, we cannot charge your Beth Jacob account for this event.

*Register by Wednesday, February 13 to receive the early bird registration discount!*
PRE PESACH

Rabbi Stein, Getting Your Kitchen Ready, Tuesday, March 12 ................................................................. 7:45pm
Pot Kashing, Meat Kitchen, Sunday, March 10 & Sunday, March 17 ......................................................... 10:00am – 12:00pm
Rabbi Feldman’s Shabbos HaGadol Drasha, Shabbos, March 23 ............................................................... 6:10pm
Selling Chometz: Rabbi Ilan D. Feldman will be available for in-person authorization to sell chometz/kinyan on Thursday, March 21 following Mincha Maariv. Forms are also available in the shul office and the Daily Minyan. Authorization to sell chometz must be completed no later than at 11:30am on Monday, March 25.
Search for Chometz, Sunday, March 24 .................................................................................................. no earlier than 8:27pm

EREV PESACH • MONDAY, MARCH 25

Shacharis, Main Shul, followed by siyum and meal for the firstborn .......................................................... 6:50am
Shacharis, Kollel Beis Midrash, followed by siyum and meal for the firstborn .......................................... 7:30am
Community Chometz Burning, parking lot across from Daily Minyan ....................................................... 10:00am – 12:30pm
Latest Time to Eat Chometz ....................................................................................................................... 11:40am
Latest Time to Burn, say nullification of chometz and sell chometz ......................................................... 12:41pm
Candlelighting ............................................................................................................................................... 7:35pm
Mincha, Main Shul ........................................................................................................................................ 7:35pm
1st Seder ......................................................................................................................................................... begin no earlier than 8:28pm
Chatzos (halachic midnight, latest time ideally to eat afikomen) ............................................................. 1:43am

FIRST DAY PESACH • TUESDAY, MARCH 26

Shacharis:
  Early Minyan, Kollel Beis Midrash ........................................................................................................... (note time) 8:30am
  Main Minyan, Main Shul .......................................................................................................................... (note time; no chumash class preceding davening) 9:00am
  9:00am Minyan, Daily Minyan .............................................................................................................. 9:00am
Teen Minyan, Conference Room ........................................................................................................... 9:15am
Early Mincha, Daily Minyan ....................................................................................................................... 5:00pm
Yom Tov Speakers, Main Shul ..................................................................................................................... 7:00pm
Mincha, Main Shul ....................................................................................................................................... 7:35pm
Maariv, Main Shul ....................................................................................................................................... approx. 8:05pm
Candlelighting ............................................................................................................................................... no earlier than 8:29pm
2nd Seder, begin counting of Omer ........................................................................................................... begin no earlier than 8:29pm
Chatzos (halachic midnight, latest time ideally to eat afikomen) .............................................................. 1:43am

SECOND DAY PESACH • WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27

Shacharis:
  Early Minyan, Kollel Beis Midrash ........................................................................................................... (note time) 8:30am
  Main Minyan, Main Shul .......................................................................................................................... (note time; no chumash class preceding davening) 9:00am
  9:00am Minyan, Daily Minyan .............................................................................................................. 9:00am
Teen Minyan, Conference Room ........................................................................................................... 9:15am
Early Mincha, Daily Minyan ....................................................................................................................... 5:00pm
Yom Tov Speakers, Main Shul ..................................................................................................................... 7:00pm
Mincha, Main Shul ....................................................................................................................................... 7:35pm
Maariv/ Yom Tov Ends ............................................................................................................................... no earlier than 8:29pm

Continued on page 12
**CHOL HAMOED DAVENING • THURSDAY/FRIDAY, MARCH 28/29**

- **Early Shacharis**, Daily Minyan ................................................................. 6:40am
- **Sunrise Minyan**, Conference Room.............................................................. 7:09am
- **Shacharis**, Non-tefillin Daily Minyan, Tefillin Kollel, followed by breakfast for those who stay to learn .......... 8:00am
- **Shacharis**, Conference Room ............................................................ 9:00am
- **Thursday Early Mincha**, Kollel ................................................................. 2:15pm
- **Thursday Mincha**, Main Shul ................................................................. 7:40pm
- **Friday Candlelighting** ........................................................................... no earlier than 6:38pm/7:38pm
- **Friday Mincha** (Early Mincha in Main Shul/Late Mincha in Daily Minyan) ........................................... 6:25pm/7:40pm

**SHABBOS CHABBOS HAMOED PESACH • MARCH 30**

- **Shacharis**, Main Shul, Shir Hashirim is read ................................ (note time, preceded by 8:00am Chumash class) 8:30am
- **Early Shacharis**, Kollel Beis Midrash, Shir Hashirim is read .................... 8:00am
- **9:00am Minyan**, Daily Minyan .................................................................. 9:00am
- **Teen Minyan**, Conference Room .............................................................. 9:15am
- **Early Mincha**, Daily Minyan .................................................................. 5:00pm/6:00pm
- **Mincha** (no Shalosh Seudos in shul), followed by learning ..................... 7:20pm
- **Maariv, Shabbos Ends** ............................................................................ no earlier than 8:32pm
- **Late Maariv**, Kollel .................................................................................. 8:42pm

**CHOL HAMOED DAVENING/EREV YOM TOV • SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

- **Early Shacharis**, Daily Minyan ................................................................. 6:40am
- **Sunrise Minyan**, Conference Room.............................................................. 7:04am
- **Shacharis**, Non-tefillin Daily Minyan, Tefillin Kollel, followed by breakfast for those who stay to learn .......... 8:00am
- **Shacharis**, Conference Room ............................................................ 9:00am
- **Candlelighting** ....................................................................................... no earlier than 6:39pm/7:39pm
- **Mincha** (Early Mincha in Main Shul/Late Mincha in Daily Minyan) ............. 6:25pm/7:40pm

**SEVENTH DAY PESACH • MONDAY, APRIL 1**

- **Shacharis**, Main Shul ............................................................................... no chumash class preceding davening, 8:45am
- **Early Shacharis**, Kollel Beis Midrash .......................................................... 8:00am
- **9:00am Minyan**, Daily Minyan .................................................................. 9:00am
- **Teen Minyan**, Conference Room .............................................................. 9:15am
- **Early Mincha**, Main Shul ......................................................................... 5:00pm
- **Yom Tov Speakers** .................................................................................. 7:05pm
- **Mincha**, Daily Minyan ............................................................................ 7:40pm
- **Candlelighting**.......................................................................................... no earlier than 8:33pm

**EIGHTH DAY PESACH • TUESDAY, APRIL 2**

- **Shacharis**, Main Shul, Yizkor is recited .............................................. (note time, no chumash class preceding davening) 8:30am
- **Early Shacharis**, Kollel Beis Midrash, Yizkor is recited ....................... 8:00am
- **9:00am Minyan**, Daily Minyan, Yizkor is recited ..................................... 9:00am
- **Teen Minyan**, Conference Room, Yizkor is recited ................................. 9:15am
- **Early Mincha**, Daily Minyan .................................................................... 5:00pm
- **Neilas Hachag** (End-of-the-holiday celebration) ..................................... 7:00pm
- **Mincha**, Main Shul .................................................................................. 6:40pm & 7:40pm
- **Maariv/ Yom Tov Ends** ........................................................................... no earlier than 8:34pm
Pre Pesach Meals

We will once again be offering Pre Pesach meals on Friday Night, March 22 & Shabbos Lunch March 23 in Heritage Hall. We hope you will join us; further information to follow.

Shalosh Seudos

In an effort to make our Shalosh Seudos the best it can be, we can updated our sponsorship categories to better serve our membership and to help cover the weekly cost. Below are the Shalosh Seudos sponsorship categories:

- **$54 Donation to Shalosh Seudos Fund**: This donation helps offset the weekly cost of Shalosh Seudos.
- **$72 Sponsor Shalosh Seudos**: Includes: Tuna fish salad, Rolls, Chips, and Salsa.
- **$180 Deluxe Shalosh Seudos Sponsorship**: Tuna fish salad, Rolls, Chips, Salsa, Soda, Choice of 1: Pickled Herring in Wine Sauce or Gefilte Fish balls with horseradish, Choice of 1: Bean salad or Corn salad. For an extra $50.00 we will provide a ½ Pareve sheet cake.

Seudah Havra’ah Committee

Beth Jacob is looking for volunteers to help out with a chessed of setting up a post-funeral meal/seudat ha’avorah in the houses of mourners. The chessed involves picking up a small number of groceries from Publix (on Shul's charge card), picking up a platter from Kosher Gourmet, picking up supplies from Beth Jacob and bringing them over to the mourner’s house. In the house, the food is arranged and the mirrors are covered, unless the family requests otherwise. These jobs are usually split between two or more women. The total time commitment is about two hours. The set-up usually takes place while the family is at the cemetery, and you would have a choice of whether to stay to console them or to leave upon finishing setting up. If you have children, this is a wonderful way to involve them in chessed. If you feel that you cannot help with shopping/picking up/setting up, perhaps you would be willing to watch the children of others so they could help out.

The nature of the chessed is such that there is, unfortunately, no predictability as to how often your services would be needed. Also, if there is a large base of volunteers, chances are higher that someone can do it or help out with a part of this mitzvah.

If you would like to volunteer or have further questions, please contact Gail Vexler at gvexler@bethjacobatlanta.org or Ilana Gimpelevich at noscreennames@yahoo.com.
Wanting to do something for the Jewish community in New York and New Jersey devastated by Superstorm Sandy, the Beth Jacob Sisterhood went into action. The idea was presented to buy yardage of fleece fabric, on sale at Hancock’s fabric store, that could be used as a wrap during the day and a blanket at night. Jody Wittenberg, co-president of Sisterhood immediately allocated $100 for the fleece purchase. She also sent out an email asking for additional funds. Immediately, one family sent in a check for $100. Soon other things began to arrive at Janie Feldman’s, the designated drop-off spot: toys, coats, boxes of new skirts and shells from Trudy Robbins, yardage of fleece, a dozen adorable fleece blankets for babies made by the Beth Jacob preschool, and more monetary donations.

Quickly, the Sisterhood had over 12 boxes ready to be shipped. One shipper offered to send the boxes at no cost but later declined the offer to ship for free. The search began for another way to get the boxes to New York.

In the meantime, it was learned that Elisa Iteld had been on a Federation committee to organize a citywide coat-drive for poor people. The coat-drive had been very successful and hundreds of coats were distributed. And there were 200 extra coats. Did we want them? Of course the answer was yes.

Janet Afrah offered her Judaica store as the place to store the boxes until they could be shipped somehow. Little did she know that the boxes would be in her store for over two weeks. Then Steve Gilmer, owner of Kosher Gourmet of Toco Hills, had the solution. He was expecting a delivery from one of his New Jersey suppliers. When the truck dropped off his order it would return to New Jersey with our boxes. And now there were close to 40 boxes. Last stop for that truck would be New Jersey. However, we wanted the boxes to go to New York. It took countless additional phone calls to arrange for another truck to deliver the boxes from New Jersey to Far Rockaway, New York where over 1000 families are still in desperate straits in some of the Five Towns.

Steve was invaluable in his efforts to find a way to deliver the 49 boxes and we cannot thank him enough. Please give Steve big thanks when you see him. On January 20, 2013, we received word that the boxes were safely delivered to Far Rockaway, and the families there are very thankful to us.

Our thanks to everyone who donated the fleece, clothing, toys and money and to the many that helped pack and move the boxes. Our thanks go to Elisheva Beck, Sheryl Blatt, Laura Bogart, Steve Gilmer, Elisa and Simone Iteld, Diane Farhi, Harriet Cortell, Sue and Len Epstein, Linda Gross, Esther Pransky, Shani Schwartz, Selma Schultz, Trudy Robbins, Janie Feldman, Barbara Fisher, the Afrah family, The Sasoon Family, Vicky Kayser, Ezra and Jeff Weener, Tamar Yaffe, and Steve Zuckerman for their assistance.

We have started to study the long range burial needs for Beth Jacob. We will be publishing a report for the members to review and give their input. Other areas we are working on include:

- The front entrance of Crest Lawn Cemetery will be refurbished with a new landscape design that should be completed by March 15.
- We will be beginning the yearly raising of foot markers and leveling of monuments in the next few weeks.
- We are preparing an updated version of the Beth Jacob Cemetery Handbook that will be completed for fall publishing.
- There are still opportunities to sponsor benches in memory of your loved ones. Please contact Burt at bwitt613@bellsouth.net or Andy at rlrsouth@aol.com for more information.
Yonasan and Esti Gavant (nee Esral) moved to Atlanta to be closer to Esti’s family. Yonasan, who is from Memphis, learned in Yeshivas Ner Yisrael in Baltimore, where he also taught a Gemara class. He holds a Masters in Clinical Counseling from Johns Hopkins and works part-time in counseling, and also works with Zaidy Esral in the family’s chemical business. After studying for two years in Israel, Esti obtained a Bachelors in Psychology. She worked previously at the Talmudical Academy in Baltimore and for a popular Jewish website, and now devotes herself full-time to their 2-year-old daughter Hadassa. You may know Yonasan – or at least recognize his voice – as he led the davening for the High Holidays this past year at Beth Jacob.

Rochel Leah Klein married long-time community resident Nathaniel Klein late last year. Rochel Leah is from Montreal and moved here after the wedding. She currently works as an administrator at the Atlanta Kashruth Commission. We wish the newlyweds much happiness and welcome them into the Beth Jacob family.

Rabbi Tzvi and Temima Oratz moved here last summer so Tzvi could join the family business – working with his uncle Rabbi David Silverman at the Atlanta Scholars Kollel. Tzvi learned in Yeshivat Kerem B’Yavneh for two years in Israel, Ner Yisrael Rabbinical College for seven years and he earned a Masters of Science in Education from Johns Hopkins.

Temima is a registered nurse at Grady Memorial Hospital, where she works on the hematology and oncology unit. She earned her Bachelors of Science in Nursing from Adelphi University. The couple has a one-year-old daughter Tzipora and a two-year-old son Yeshaya, both of whom attend BJ Preschool.

Danny and Rachel Wasserman moved to Atlanta last summer to be closer to family. Danny works as an attorney and Rachel is a social worker. Their children are 5-year-old Yaakov, 3-year-old Avraham and Asher and Chana – both of whom are under one. A little-known fact about Danny is that he went to high school with New York Giants quarterback Eli Manning.
The preschool certainly hasn’t been hibernating this winter! Both seasonal and weekly curriculum learning continues to provide wonderful multi-sensory experiences throughout the school. Our three-year old classes delved into their hibernation unit by first self-determining what they already know and moving on to research what they want to know. This approach generated a lot of interactive discussions and enthusiastic exploration of fiction and non-fiction books. Of course, the children decorated and furnished oversize boxes to create their own cave to hibernate in. Stuffed bears were invited to join the class to enjoy a special snack and move in for a long ‘sleep’!

Pre-K classes weave letter and sound awareness throughout their learning. For example, introduction of the letter “J” prompted the class to spend time on a mini-unit about junk food vs. healthy food. The children practiced forming the letter J and decorated it with jewels. They honed their public speaking skills for joke day and sharpened pre-math skills when they estimated the number of jelly beans in a jar.

Whether they are learning about the seasons or brachos on food, our two-year old classes are constantly engaged in sensory rich and skill based activities through the day. Every experience broadens their vocabulary and engages the children in ways to get those neurons firing away! Even our one-year olds and infants explore themes about shadows, ice, or even paper. We are always looking to spark a sense of wonder and motivate students of every age to develop questions about their world!

We recently hosted a parent education class that was attended by both preschool and non-preschool parents. Mrs. Graiser and Mrs. Gopin led an informative class outlining speech, language, and motor developmental milestones. As certified speech and occupational therapists, they presented thoughtful tips and suggestions for parents to do at home. Their advice included engaging children in constant dialog, reading books daily, offering obstacle courses, encouraging social role playing, and practicing pre-writing skills by writing in mediums such as shaving cream. Upon hearing their ideas I couldn’t help but feel proud that I send my own children to Beth Jacob Preschool, where I know the morahs offer these kinds of activities daily.

Are you looking to give your child the gift of becoming a life-long learner in a nurturing, Torah atmosphere? Look no further...registration for the 2013-2014 school year and our summer camp has begun! Our teachers are among the most highly trained in Atlanta Jewish schools; our school has the lowest tuition for any Jewish Bright from the Start accredited preschool; our ratios remain unusually low, allowing your children incredible individual attention; we also offer extended hours for working parents. Applications are available in the preschool and shul office, or online at www.bethjacobatlanta.org. If you would like to schedule a tour please contact Mindy Tanenbaum at mtanenbaum@bethjacobatlanta.org.
BIRTHS
• Rabbi Joey & Melissa Cavalier on the birth of a son.
• Rabbi Yerachmiel & Michal Donowitz on the birth of their grandson, Yonason, born to Shmuli & Batsheva Katz in Far Rockaway, NY.
• Rabbi Menashe & Randee Goldberger on the birth of a granddaughter, born to Yom Tov & Ahuva Goldberger in Lakewood, NJ.
• Dr. Dan & Chana Grove on the birth of a son.
• Dr. Stan & Sharon Harris on the birth of their granddaughter, Ruti, born to Doron & Devora Hornstein in Netivot, Israel.
• David & Evi Reznick on the birth of a grandson, born to Rabbi Chezky & Zivia Esther Edleson in Ramat Eshkol, Israel.
• Paul & Cheryl Rodbell on the birth of their granddaughter, Ayla Rose, born to Noach & Allison Oppenheimer in Santa Monica, CA.
• Clive & Sandy Slovin on the birth of their grandson, Blake, born to Adam & Tali Weber.

ENGAGEMENTS/MARRIAGES
• Noah Alhadeff on his marriage in Israel to Batel Greenwalk of Mitzpeh Yaaccov.
• David & Renee Chernin on the engagement of their daughter, Ruby, to Naftali Topas, son of Mahti & Judy Topas of Baltimore, MD, and to grandparents Victor & Nelda Rousso, George & Bella Topas of Lakewood, NJ and Samuel & Gladys Berman of Providence, RI.
• Dr. David & Sheila Elkon on the engagement of their son, Daniel, to P.J. Neuberger of Atlanta.
• Pete & Leslee Morris on the engagement of their daughter, Hadassah, to Raymie Henessey, son of Gabriel & Chana Henessey.
• Khosrow & Lida Radparvar on the engagement of their daughter, Esther, to Mordechai Golian of Los Angeles, CA.
• Dr. Tom & Judy Spira on the engagement of their son, Avi to Hudi Milch, daughter of Fischel & Leah Milch of Pittsburgh, PA.

CONDOLENCES
• Marlene Bercovitch and Erica Bercovitch on the loss of their husband/father, Ed Bercovitch.
• The family of Dr. Ephraim Frankel.
• Eileen Joseph on the loss of her mother, Sylvia Wolper.
• The family of Jack Lieberman.
• Elie Miller on the loss of his mother, Irit Miller.
• Paul Miller on the loss of his brother, Donald Miller.
• The family of former Beth Jacob member, Yetta Rose.
IN HONOR OF
• Yosef Beck: Jerry Pepper
• Kivi Bernhard: Jack & Pam Williams
• Dr. Allan & Sheila Bleich on their 50th wedding anniversary: Mildred Bleiberg
• Michael & Betsy Cenker: Harold & Lora Schroeder
• Sara Malka Cenker: Dr. Allan & Sheila Bleich
• Rabbi Ilan & Miriam Feldman: Michael & Kim Solomon
• Barbara Fisher: Clive & Sandy Slovin
• Rabbi Yechezkel & Rifki Freundlich: Sharon Breiner, Chazon Jerry & Goldy Kopman, Carl Smiley
• Yael Hirsch on becoming a Bat Mitzvah: Dr. Michael & Yael Wolf and family
• Andy Lewis: Aaron & Jennifer Green
• Matt Lewis: Jack & Pam Williams & family
• Dr. Kevin Rodbell for caring & treating their son, David: Amitai & Sima Romanelli
• Nelda Rousso: Dr. Allan & Sheila Bleich, Mildred Bleiberg
• Gail Vexler: Si & Marsha Londe

REFUAH SHLEMAH
• Marlene Bercovitch: Dr. Allan & Sheila Bleich
• Rhonda Graiser: Dr. Allan & Sheila Bleich, Jack & Pam Williams
• Bill Gris: Larry & Eleanor Bogart

IN MEMORY OF
• Ed Bercovitch: Dr. Allan & Sheila Bleich, Lucy Carson, Si & Marsha Londe, Gail Silverman
• Dr. Jack Bleich: Michael & Carol Benator
• Sherman Cohen: Lucy Carson
• Moshe Esral: E. Marilyn Alhadeff & Marvin Berstein, Steven & Judith Cooper
• Dr. Ephriam Frankel: Rabbi Gabriel & Gabriella Bachrach, Si & Marsha Londe, Louis & Bunny Tatartoot
• Eileen Joseph’s mother: Si & Marsha Londe
• Daniel May: Joseph & Kay Fink
• Donald Miller: Ben & Sheryl Blatt, Drs. I.J. & Adina Jagoda
• Dr. Esther Novak’s mother: Andrew & Sydney Lewis & family
• Ida Schwartz: Si & Marsha Londe
• Julie Silverman’s father: Lucy Carson, David & Debbie Goldschmidt, Drs. I.J. & Adina Jagoda, Victor & Nelda Rousso, Harold & Lora Schroeder, Louis & Bunny Tatartoot
• Mr. & Mrs. Bernie Sirower: Michael & Carol Benator
• Bobby Sosnik: Si & Marsha Londe
• Dr. Mort Waitzman’s sister: Lucy Carson
• Dr. Louis Weinstein: Dr. & Mrs. Joel Berenson, Dr. Robert Brochstein & Marsha Berger, Mark & Paula Donahue, Gloria Goldberg, Douglas & Raye Gray, Myra Hamilton & family, Dr. Al & Florence Rabin, Lori Allan, Adam & Scott Struletz
• Sylvia Wolper: Si & Marsha Londe

BOOK DEDICATIONS
SIDDURIM
In Memory of
• Max Fried: Dr. Sylvia Arnold

Thank you to our Donors!
NCSY

The Yeshiva Atlanta NCSY Jewish Unity Mentorship Program (JUMP) team, the 2012 year’s champion, has returned with new vigor taking projects to the next level. JUMP is NCSY’s national training program for tomorrow’s community leaders. This year, 35 Yeshiva Atlanta students have joined the team. Led by Rabbi Chaim Neiditch, teens meet on a weekly basis at Yeshiva Atlanta’s JUMP club to learn valuable skills in leadership. These skills include: community service, planning and organization, time line management, public speaking, and Israel advocacy. The teens at Yeshiva Atlanta’s JUMP club are competing against 30 other yeshiva high schools around the country in 3 different challenges. The challenge finalists will present in front of a panel of judges including members of the OU and Trump Organization, including Donald’s daughter Ivanka Trump.

Rabbi Chaim Neiditch has been coaching the Yeshiva Atlanta NCSY JUMP team in community outreach, teaching them how to teach the Chanukah story, relay the laws of lighting the menorah, and how to facilitate discussions about the significance of miracles in our lives. Yeshiva Atlanta NCSY JUMP members visited 15 JSU (Jewish Student Union) Jewish clubs in public high schools with Rabbi Neiditch to teach over 500 unaffiliated Jewish teens about Chanukah. New this year, the JUMP team launched a “Spread the Light” campaign. In order to assist more families with celebrating the holiday and lighting menorah, each public school teen was given a box of colored chanukah candles and a wooden menorah to decorate and personalize. The JSU teens reported not only taking their menorahs and candles home for lighting, but also engaging their families to join them. For many unaffiliated teens, this was their first time lighting a menorah on Chanukah.

The JUMP team organized a holiday carnival for 120 non-Jewish underprivileged children. Planning this large scale community service event and fundraising for it gave the teens an invaluable hands-on leadership opportunity.

Rabbi Neiditch and members of the JUMP club would like to thank Mrs. Nancy Weissmann, Dr. Paul Oberman, and the entire staff of Yeshiva Atlanta for their support in empowering the Jewish leaders of the future.

For more information about NCSY contact Rabbi Chaim Neiditch call 404.486.8787, email rcn@ncsy.org, or visit our website www.ncsyatlanta.com.

Boy Scout Troop 613

Torah Day School Scout Troop 613, for boys of all ages, has been very busy hiking, biking, swimming, rock-climbing, camping out, canoeing, barbecuing, building the BJ sukkah, davening, learning, locking-in and publicizing summer scout camp, all under the direction of Avraham Warga. For more information contact Mr. Warga at 404-806-1446.
### Mission Statement:
Guided by Torah Judaism, we nurture a continuously growing, spiritual, intellectual, social, and loving, synagogue-based community which encourages personal growth, and connects Jews of all backgrounds to each other and to G-d.

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#### Schedule of Services

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<tr>
<th>Friday</th>
<th>Parshas</th>
<th>Earliest Candle Lighting</th>
<th>Candle Lighting</th>
<th>Early Friday Mincha</th>
<th>Friday Mincha</th>
<th>Shabbos Mincha</th>
<th>Shabbos Ends</th>
<th>Weekday Mincha</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 15</td>
<td>Terumah</td>
<td>6:04PM</td>
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<td>Feb 22</td>
<td>Tetzaveh</td>
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<td>March 1</td>
<td>Ki Sisa</td>
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<td>March 8</td>
<td>Vayakhel-Pekudei</td>
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<td>March 15</td>
<td>Vayikra</td>
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<td>March 22</td>
<td>Tzav</td>
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<td>March 29</td>
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<td>April 5</td>
<td>Shemini</td>
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<td>Tazria-Metzora</td>
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<td>April 19</td>
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<td>April 26</td>
<td>Emor</td>
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<td>Behar-Bechukosai</td>
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<td>May 10</td>
<td>Bamidbar</td>
<td>7:02PM</td>
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