ONE KIND ACT DESERVES ANOTHER

by Rebecca Freund

Working at the National Jewish Outreach Program, I hear inspiring and moving stories every day. Children whose parents have taken the Hebrew Reading Crash Course are now attending weekly services; men and women in a Hebrew class in California are brought to soaring emotional heights as they master "Dayenu" in time for Passover; and a volunteer instructor, despite his busy schedule, teaches two simultaneous HRCC classes.

The real power of these stories, is not in each one's individual poignancy, but in the idea that in reaching one individual, one family, one class or one instructor, NJOP is actually touching the lives of hundreds, if not thousands of Jews. By training one volunteer to teach a class, or to conduct a Beginners Service, NJOP is providing a Jewish education to all those who attend the program, and perhaps to many of their friends and families as well. That one individual can, through a simple act, influence the lives of many others in a meaningful way, is both a Jewish concept and a Jewish expectation.

Acts of kindness have no limits.

I recently heard a story that delivers this message in a most striking manner: Many years ago, a woman went to Lincoln Square Synagogue to hear a rabbi speak at a Shabbaton. She was immediately struck by the warm atmosphere of the synagogue and impressed by the rabbi's enthusiasm and charisma. She soon became a 'regular' at the synagogue and a part of the community.

Esther Judith Manischewitz developed a strong connection to the synagogue and to the dynamic rabbi she encountered there, Rabbi Ephraim Buchwald. Mrs. Manischewitz described him as being, "a very different kind of rabbi than any I've known. He welcomes everyone, and he has a wonderful sense of humor."

Many years after Mrs. Manischewitz's first visit to Lincoln Square, she was hospitalized. Upon returning home, she received a phone call from one of the members of the Beginners Service, Liane Wolff (then Liane White), who heard that Mrs. Manischewitz was alone at home and wondered if she would like some company.

Despite the disparity in their ages, (Liane not yet married, and Mrs. Manischewitz was soon to turn 80), the two women quickly became friends. Only a few weeks later, Passover arrived and, due to complications resulting from her illness, Mrs. Manischewitz was unable to attend her family's out-of-town Seder. Liane arranged for Mrs. Manischewitz to join her for a seder at the home of LSS member, Stuart Blaustein.

Mrs. Manischewitz was "very appreciative" of the interest Liane took in her, and during her weeks of recuperation at home, began to think about the impact these events had made on her.

Mrs. Manischewitz had grown up in Cincinnati, Ohio, a city still considered to be, "the stronghold of the Reform movement." Her parents were active Zionists and adhered to orthodox Jewish values and traditions. Yet, she recalls, "I didn't grow up in a way that was spiritual. Shabbos was a list of things you couldn't do." Throughout her adult life, Mrs. Manischewitz remained active in Jewish organizations, always feeling a strong connection to the Jewish people.

Her experiences at Lincoln Square Synagogue, with Rabbi Buchwald, and with the generosity and compassion of LSS member, Liane Wolff, inspired Mrs. Manischewitz to become more involved. "I felt that I wanted something more," she explains. It was at that point that she contacted Rabbi Buchwald and asked to meet with him.

"If outreach programs could attract people like Liane, I thought I should look further into it," Mrs. Manischewitz said. Aware of the alarming statistics on intermarriage and assimilation, and intrigued by Rabbi Buchwald's methods of drawing Jews back to Judaism, Mrs. Manischewitz began attending the Beginners Service herself, and offered to help support the efforts of the National Jewish Outreach Program.

Mrs. Manischewitz has since sponsored several NJOP events and advertising campaigns, simply saying, "I get a lot of satisfaction out of feeling that whatever I can do will help other people."

It all began with one act of kindness, one measure of chesed performed by one person for another. This single act of chesed has grown exponentially. Today, Esther Judith Manischewitz's involvement with the National Jewish Outreach program enables thousands to attend Hebrew Reading Crash Courses, Basic Judaism classes, Beginners Services and TURN FRIDAY NIGHT INTO SHABBOS programs.

Rebecca Freund is the Public Relations Coordinator at NJOP.

CONGRATULATIONS AND MAZAL TOV

ENGAGEMENTS

Miriam Assouline and Emile Avital
David Basch and Wendy Brody
Loren Braumer and Avi Finbreg
Rory Grohman and David Malin
Perla Hartman and Robert Hirsch
Susan Seltzer and
Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Schnaidman

BIRTHS

Lisa and Steven Abramowitz, on the birth of a girl, Gabrielle Mollie
Julie and Ron Aronowitz, on the birth of a son, Avraham Elazar
Lynn Glickman and Eli Moore, on the birth of a girl, Michal Shira (Melanie)
Aviva and Michael Gottlieb, on the birth of a boy, Alexander Misha
Gail and Michael Haas, on the birth of a girl, Margot Francine
Daniela Reik and Rabbi Ari Komblit, on the birth of a girl, Haviva Zahava
Rivkah and Howard London, on the birth of twins, Meir Neryah and Aviya Michaela
Nancy and Alan Miller, on the birth of a girl, Chana Esther
Hani Dorn and Rabbi Charles Rudansky, on the birth of boy, Gavriel
Karen and Dr. Ed Weissberg, on the birth of a girl, Mara Leah (Miriam)

BAT MITZVAH

Dalia Ruth, daughter of Elyse and Rabbi Reuven Kruger

TODAH RABBAH (Thank You)

To Lawrence Homer, for the wonderful evening of poetry reading at the Beginners Schmooze

MARRIAGES

Lisa Bernstein and Shelly Freedman
Olga Hiiva and Andrew Teirstein
Sarita Rosenhouse and Bruce (Daniel) Diker
Mazal Tov to parents Val and Charles Diker
Phyllis Snyder and Jeff Kapelus

TZEITCHEM L'SHALOM (To live and/or study in Israel)

Zev and Pat Gilman

CONDOLENCES

To Ilyce Siegel, on the loss of her husband, Kenneth Siegel

CONGRATULATIONS

Miriam Cyrulnick, upon her election to Presidency of the Brooklyn Bar Association
Beverly Davidman, upon winning the Citibank Success Award for Excellence in Teaching
Sharon and Steven Goodman, upon being honored by Congregation Ahavas Shalom, Columbus Ohio
Annie Wiesenthal Linhart, for her successful exhibition "Place: unknown, Date: unknown," at the midtown Y Photography Gallery
Steve Reich, for receiving the Jewish Cultural Achievement award from the National Foundation for Jewish Culture
Miriam and Dr. Rick Shields, upon being honored at Yeshiva Kesser Torah of Queens
Michael Somoroff, featured in the New York Times, Sunday, April 24th 1994, for his creative TV advertising commercials
Sharona and Steve Spivak, on being honored as Parents of the Year by Chabad Lubavitz of the West Side.

REFUAH SH'LEIMAH (Speedy recovery)

Margot Zitter

Kenneth Siegel

Ken was a very special friend, and very special member of the Beginners Service. A professional photographer, Ken shot untold numbers of photos on behalf of LSS, the Beginners Service and its programs. Ken was the "Shofar Blower" at the High Holiday Beginners Services for many years, until he "graduated" to the Ballroom Service. Ilyce and Ken Siegel were hosts to countless Shabbat guests. His untimely passing is an irretrievable loss to all.

-EZB-

Beginners Shabbat Luncheons
June 4
Cost $15
All-Night Shavuot Learn-in
Sun, May 15, 11:30 PM-6:45 AM
Rosh Hashana Services
Mon-Wed, Sept 5-7

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Friday, May 13th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....7:46 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 7:50 p.m.

Shabbat, May 14th (BEMIDBAR)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi....6:10 p.m.
Bible Class....6:40 p.m.
Talmud Class....6:55 p.m.
Mincha....7:40 p.m.

Sunday, May 15th - Shavuot
Kindle Yom Tov Candles....7:48 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Yom Tov....7:55 p.m.
Midnight Bible classes....11:30 p.m.

Monday, May 16th - Shavuot
Hashkama Minyan....5:05 a.m.
Main Minyan....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi & Bible classes....7:05 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Yom Tov....7:50 p.m.
Kindle Yom Tov candles not before....8:48 p.m.

Tuesday, May 17th - Shavuot
Yom Tov Morning Services including Yizkor....8:00 & 8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi & Bible classes....7:05 p.m.
Mincha followed by Seudah Shlisheat
Neilat Hachag....7:50 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....7:55 p.m.

Friday, May 20th
Kindle Shabbat candles....7:53 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 8:00 p.m.

Shabbat, May 21st (NASO)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi....6:20 p.m.
Bible Class....6:50 p.m.
Talmud Class....7:05 p.m.
Mincha....7:50 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:00 p.m.

Friday, May 27th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....7:59 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 8:05 p.m.

Saturday, May 28th (BEHAALOTECHA)
Morning Services....8:45 p.m.
Daf Yomi....6:25 p.m.
Bible Class....6:55 p.m.
Talmud Class....7:10 p.m.
Mincha....7:55 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:05 p.m.

Monday, May 30th Memorial Day
Morning Services....7:05 & 8:30 a.m.

Friday, June 3rd
Kindle Shabbat Candles....8:04 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 8:10 p.m.

Shabbat, June 4th (SHELACH - SHABBAT MIVARCHIM)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi....6:30 p.m.
Bible Class....7:00 p.m.
Talmud Class....7:15 p.m.
Mincha....8:00 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:10 p.m.

Thursday - Friday, June 9th & 10th Rosh Chodesh Tammuz
Morning services....7:00 & 7:40 a.m.

Friday, June 10th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....9:08 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 8:15 p.m.

Shabbat, June 11th (KORACH)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi....6:35 p.m.
Bible Class....7:05 p.m.
Talmud Class....7:20 p.m.
Mincha....8:05 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:15 p.m.

Friday June 17th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....8:11 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 8:15 p.m.

Shabbat, June 18th (HUKKAT)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi....6:40 p.m.
Bible Class....7:10 p.m.
Talmud Class....7:25 p.m.
Mincha....8:10 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:15 p.m.

Friday, June 24th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....8:13 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 8:20 p.m.

Shabbat June 25th (BALAK)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi....6:40 p.m.
Bible Class....7:10 p.m.
Talmud Class....7:25 p.m.
Mincha....8:10 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:15 p.m.

Sunday, June 26th
Fast of 17th Day of Tammuz
Fast begins....4:14 a.m.
Morning services....7:00 & 8:30 a.m.
Mincha....8:05 p.m.
Fast concludes....9:02 p.m.

Friday, July 1st
Kindle Shabbat Candles....8:13 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 8:20 p.m.

Shabbat, July 2nd (PINCHAS)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi and Bible Classes....7:10 p.m.
Mincha....8:10 p.m.
Daily Mincha Maariv....8:15 p.m.
Monday, July 4th
Morning Services....7:05 & 8:30 a.m.

Friday, July 8th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....8:11 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 8:15 p.m.

Shabbat, July 9th (MAATOT/MASEI) ROSH CHODESH AV
Hashkomah Minyan....7:40 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi and Bible Classes....7:10 p.m.
Mincha....8:10 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:15 p.m.

Friday, July 15th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....8:07 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 8:10 p.m.

Shabbat, July 16th (DEVORIM) Shabbat Hazon
Daf Yomi....8:00 a.m.
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Mincha....6:30 p.m.
Fast begins....8:25 p.m.

Sunday, July 17th
Tisha B'Av
Morning Services....7:00 & 8:30 a.m
Mincha....7:55 p.m.
Fast concludes....8:55 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:10 p.m.

Friday, July 22nd
Kindle Shabbat Candles....8:03 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 8:10 p.m.

Shabbat, July 23rd (VAETCHANAN) Shabbat Nachamu
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi & Bible Classes....7:00 p.m.
Mincha....8:00 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....8:05 p.m.

Friday, July 29th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....7:56 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 8:00 p.m.

Shabbat, July 30th (EKEV)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:4
Daf Yomi & Bible Classes....6:5
Mincha....7:50
Daily Mincha & Maariv....7:55 p.m.

Friday, August 5th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....7:48 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 7:55 p.m.

Shabbat, August 6th (REEH)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi & Bible....6:45 p.m.
Mincha....7:45 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....7:50 p.m.

Sunday, August 7th
Rosh Chodesh Elul
Morning Services....7:00 & 8:30 a.m.

Monday, August 8th
Rosh Chodesh Elul
Morning Services....7:00 & 7:40 a.m.

Friday, August 12th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....7:40 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....6:45 & 7:45 p.m.
Last Week of Early Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat

Shabbat, August 13th (SHOFTIM)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi & Bible Classes....6:35 p.m.
Mincha....7:35 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....7:40 p.m.

Friday, August 19th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....7:30 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....7:35 p.m.

Shabbat, August 20th (KI TETZE)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi & Bible Classes....6:25 p.m.
Mincha....7:25 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....7:30 p.m.

Friday, August 26th
Kindle Shabbat Candles....7:19 p.m.
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....7:25 p.m.

Shabbat, August 27th (KI TAVO)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi & Bible Classes....6:15 p.m.
Mincha....7:15 p.m.
Daily Mincha & Maariv....7:15 p.m.
Early Selichot....10:15 p.m.
Rabbi's Drasha....11:45 p.m.
Midnight Selichot....1:00 a.m.

Sunday August 28th
Morning services....7:10 & 8:30 a.m.
Monday-Friday August 29th - September 2nd
Selichot & Morning Services....6:40 & 7:30 a.m.

Friday September 2nd
Kindle Shabbat Candles....7:0
Mincha and Kabbalat Shabbat....7:1

Shabbat September 3rd (NITZAVIM)
Shabbat Morning Services....8:45 a.m.
Daf Yomi and Bible Classes....6:05 p.m.
Mincha....7:05 p.m.

Sunday, September 4th
Selichot and Morning serives....6:40 & 8:30 a.m.
Mincha....7:10 p.m.
Monday, September 5th Erev Rosh Hashanah Labor Day
Selichot and Morning Services....5:45 & 7:30 a.m.