

THE SHALIACH

News and Views from the Young Israel of Plainview



FROM THE RABBI'S STUDY Little Lambs and Does Eat Oats

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The five grains, listed in Menachot 70a, represent singular items within our Halachik tradition, *Chita*, *Seora*, *Kusemet*, *Shipun*, and *Shibbolet Shual*, unlike other items which grow from the ground, are blessed either as *Hamotzi* or *Mezonot*. Moreover, only these grains can ultimately become leavened and prohibited on Passover. So too, one may fulfill the mitzvah of matzah only with matzah made from these five grains. The Tur notes that these items achieve their status, as they are unique produce of the land of Israel.

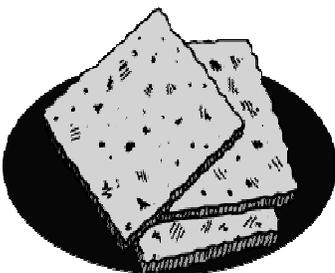
Normatively, we identify the five grains as wheat (*chita*), barley (*seora*), spelt (*kusemet*), rye (*shipun*), and oats (*shibbolet shual*). Barley and wheat's status as two of the five grains has been established for years. It is the final three that have inspired some difficulty. The Talmud (Menachot 70b) defines *kusmin* as *gulba*, which Rashi calls spelt. Dr. Yehuda Felix, in his *Flora and Fauna in the Mishna*, notes the similarities between *shipun* and barley. It is therefore more sensible to say, like the Aruch, that *Shipun* is spelt, as it is most similar to barley. *Kusemet*, according to Felix is actually emmer wheat, a grain that was common in ancient Israel.

Rashi defines *Shibbolet Shual* as oats. The problem with this definition, as all those with celiac know, is that it has no wheat gluten. It would be hard to define it as a grain, if grain's main element were absent. Dr. Felix therefore concludes that *Shibbolet Shual* is, in fact, a two row barley (*hordeum distichum*), as opposed to the more popular six row barley. Both were commonly grown in Israel and contain gluten.

The upshot of Felix's interpretations is that rye and oats are not members of the exclusive 5 grains. That said, would the blessing on Cheerios and oatmeal (made with oats) now be *Shehakol*? Would they be kosher for Passover? Can someone who suffers from celiac no longer fulfill the mitzvah of Matzah?

We consider our Halachik process as guided by Divine hand. Indeed, the tradition of the Jewish people to act according to a particular interpretation or decision represents, from a Halachik perspective, Divine fiat. The Talmud declares on a number of occasions, "if we are not prophets, at least we are the children of prophets;" thus our decisive communal, generational actions take on powerful meaning. Thus Felix's observations need not undermine one thousand years of practice.

The categorization of oats as one of the 5 grains has allowed many allergy-sufferers to participate actively in our traditions that demand the bread. This all stems from a problematic interpretation by Rashi, which perhaps was aided by the hidden and inclusive hand of God.



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MALI News

“When Adar arrives, we increase our joy.”

For Purim this year, MALI began a new project: the sale of pre-packaged Purim Cards and custom cards that could be personalized with the names of recipients. We hope that this will be a successful annual project that will continue to support our Mikveh. A master e-mail address list has been compiled, and if for any reason you are not receiving e-mails, please send a message to us at maliplainview@gmail.com so that you can receive up-to-date information. Please save the date, Sunday morning, April 29, 2012 for our 15th Annual Mikveh Breakfast, celebrating a major milestone—the 10th Anniversary of the Mikveh’s opening. We are pleased to announce our honorees: Rochelle and Lou Sroka, who have been active supporters of the Mikveh for more than a decade. Please consider helping out on one of the committees for this event (program, journal, raffle prizes, etc.) and contact us or send us an e-mail to volunteer.

Thank you in advance, and we look forward to celebrating with you.

Diane Rabin and Ruth Lorbert

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The Shaliach

Meryl Altabet Fried.....Editor
yipshaliach@gmail.com

President's Pen

משוכנס אדר מרבים בשמחה!

Resilience and intelligence are characteristics which at least partly define our people. History has demonstrated time and again how these abilities have helped save us from subjugation and annihilation. The eternal struggle between good and evil is highlighted in the Jewish calendar as Purim approaches. In Talmud, Ta'anit 29a, it is taught that on the first day of Adar joy is multiplied in eager anticipation of Purim, but on Shabbos Zachor we are implored to remember Amalek, yemach shmo, who is intent on striking the Jewish people in every generation.

In the Book of Esther, it seems like the luck of the draw that wins out as God appears to be noticeably absent. In the story of the Exodus read before Pesach, the Jews are saved and redeemed and find freedom under God's protective care and direction.

Purim reflects the situation of a people surviving by their wits and cleverness within a world of moral uncertainty. But in the story of the exodus it is the intervention of divine authority that determines the survival of the Jews.

For a community to survive, it is important that there be a balance between the divine and the mundane --the everyday struggles and uncertainty and ultimately the joys of daily living.

Our country is experiencing economic uncertainty and in our own community, there have been people who have unfortunately faced uncertainty and instability in their employment as well as challenges to their physical health. We have seen the shul struggle with growing pains. But through it all, it is the resolve and determination of our members of the YIP community that demonstrates the tenacity and the overriding resilience necessary to ensure our survival and continued growth.

This has been evidenced by regular joyful announcements of births, brides, and other celebratory events of our members' children, including many engagements and weddings. The membership has increased and the next generation of community leaders is already becoming established and assuming leadership positions. The eruv has been updated. The constitution has been revised. One Oak Drive ("Blue House") has been renovated. A new NCYI leadership has committed itself to a new relationship with its branches.

As for divine fortification, we have committed ourselves to rabbinic training; and only worthy institutions of reputation and of guidance by our Mora D'Atra, Rabbi Weissman would qualify.

Let us appreciate all the good that has come to us. Let Purim again represent the joy and good fortune that has been bestowed B'H on our community. And let Pesach remind us of the celebration of our freedom and redemption.

Wishing you a Freilichen Purim and Zeisen Pesach

Irving Gomolin, President

Sisterhood Committees

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 Program Guide Shani Kaufman

New Family Welcome Bag

If anyone has anything that they would like to add to the bag (a coupon, advertisement, give away, etc), feel free to contact Jen Hoch at

thehochfamily@verizon.net.

We currently include Pearls challah, grape juice, Hunkis magnet and pen, Sisterhood notepad and recipe book, YIP Calendar, dry cleaning coupons, etc.

Looking forward to welcoming potential new members to our shul and making our welcome bag the best it can be!

Thanks so much,

Jen Hoch



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KIDDUSH / SHUL CALENDAR

JULY 2012

7/7/2012 LOWY (GABRIEL BAR MITZVAH)
7/14/2012 KATZ, STEVEN (BENJAMIN BAR MITZVAH)

AUG 2012

8/25/2012 LESSNER (MARC'S AUFRUF)

MARCH 2013

3/30/2013 COHEN (SAM'S BAR MITZVAH)

AUG 2013

8/31/2013 LIEBERSTEIN (JULIA'S BAT MITZVAH)

OCTOBER 2013

10/5/2013 COHEN (ADENA'S BAT MITZVAH)

APRIL 2014

4/12/2014 GROSS (SAMMY'S BAR MITZVAH)

SEPT 2014

9/13/2014 FLAUMENHAUFT (JASON'S BAR MITZVAH)

SEPT 2015

9/5/2015 SCHWARTZ, RHONDA (LIANA'S BAT MITZVAH)

To reserve, remove or correct a date on the Shul calendar, please contact Office Manager, Rita Rubin by e-mail at "officemanager@yiplainview.com", or at 516-433-4811 extension 100.

No food may be brought into the Shul by anyone for any purpose or event without the knowledge and approval of Abe Alper.

All kiddushes must be paid in full, one week in advance except for a bris or a baby naming..

If you are making a Meat Kiddush, you must be available to receive deliveries of food and equipment. Speak to Abe Alper for details.

The Board of Trustees and a vote of the Membership, in keeping with current law governing minors and drinking, adopted the following Shul policy:

It is the policy of the Shul that there be no consumption of alcohol by anyone under 21 years of age on synagogue premises or at synagogue events.

Your support in maintaining this policy is appreciated.



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LIFE CYCLE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mazel Tov to

Joyce and Irving Gomolin on the marriage of Molly to David Katz, son of Linda and Herb Katz of Lawrence

Sheldon Shreiner on being named Chairman of the Board of the NCYI

Ruth and Roni Lorbert on Yoseph's engagement to Chavie Tropp, daughter of Rabbi Mordechai and Amy Tropp of Elizabeth, NJ

Jeannie and Ezra Appleman on the Bat Mitzvah of Tzvia

Dorothy and Arthur Ritholtz on the marriage of their grandson Jeffrey to Batsheva Leibtag

Vera and Glen Reichenbach on the Bar Mitzvah of Jared

Miriam Rafailovich and Jonathan Sokolov on the birth of a granddaughter to Sara and Ami Brochin of Tel Zion

Debbie and Eddie Simpser on the birth of Leah Aliza to Brad and Michal Goldsammier

David and Abby Bienenfeld on the birth of Gavriel Ovadiah

Morris Friedman, Moshe ben Yitzchak, grandfather of Jeff Hoch, on his 100th birthday

Ronnie and Marty Lichter on the birth of a granddaughter to Katie and Rabbi Ian

The extended Weissaman family on the birth of Daron Yaakov and Matan Yisrael

Rebbetzin Shelley Portnoy on the birth of Leora to Shira and Yossi Samsonowitz

Condolences

Arie Kaufman on the loss of his mother, Menucha Miriam Kaufman

Jonathan Sokolov on the loss of his brother, Bernie Sokolov, Binyamin Zev Ben David

William Mlotok on the loss of his brother, Marc

May the Omnipresent console you among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem

Welcome New Members

Bruriah and Joey Grover and their children

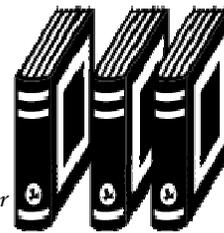
Ena and Yoram Haase

Sherri & Alan Sofer and their children

Shmuela Grunspan

Vered and David Wolfstein and their children

Seforim Dedication



YIP Sisterhood is pleased to continue to offer you the opportunity to purchase and donate Siddurim, Chumashim, Tehillim and Megillos. Books can be purchased to memorialize or honor a friend or family member. At the same time, your donation allows the shul to continue to add brand new books to the shelves.

The books are inscribed with a personalized message, and the family or friend is notified of your donation. Please note our newest book, for Tisha B'Av.

Cost of Books

RCA Artscroll Siddur	\$36
Artscroll Stone Chumash	\$54
Artscroll Tehillim (Hardcover)	\$25
Artscroll Book of Megillos (Hardcover)	\$25
Judaica Press Tisha B'Av Compendium - Tefillot & K'not (Hardcover)	\$40

Questions or requests, please contact
Liz Vilkas at 931-6848 or email at
Vilkasmd@aol.com.

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The Shul email – yip@yiplainview.com

The Rabbi's email – rabbi@yiplainview.com

The President's email – president@yiplainview.com

Mail addressed to the **Rabbi, president, treasurer, or MALI** is received and read within a reasonable amount of time. All other mail should be mailed directly to the recipient to insure it is read in a timely fashion. For example, all Sisterhood mail **must** be mailed to the **home address** of the person in charge of the activity that you desire (Calendar, Mishloach Manot, Wine, Siddurim & Chumashim, etc.). Information about where to direct your mail is usually included in the flyers.

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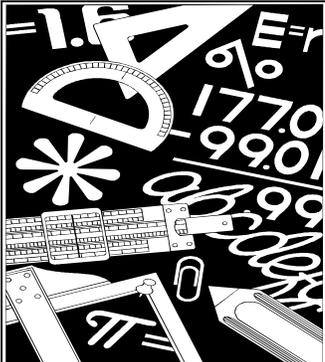
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