



Girl Scout Troop 1250 sleeps in the Sukkah

Charlotte Salzman, Elisabeth Epstein and Judith Cabelli

Girl Scout Troop 1250 Leaders

As the first group ever to sleep over in the Olam Tikvah Sukkah, Girl Scout Troop 1250 celebrated with songs, s'mores and smiles...and yes, even some sleep!

Troop 1250 is a rainbow troop, comprised of 23 Daisies, Brownies and Juniors, who are in kindergarten through fourth grade. The troop generally meets after religious school twice each month, most often at OT. Throughout the year, the troop experiences the connection between the Jewish values of Tikkun Olam and the Girl Scout's mission of making the world a better place.

For many of the girls and the troop leaders, this was their first-ever opportunity to sleep in a Sukkah. The troop is grateful to Olam Tikvah for welcoming us to the Sukkah, to perform this mitzvah while furthering friendships.

The night began with the arrival of our troops and their families. We celebrated Havdalah together outside in the Sukkah, where the beautiful sound of the prayers mixed with the cool fall breeze. The faces and smiles of the troops shone as brightly as the light of the Havdalah candle, and later the campfire. The kids enjoyed making s'mores, singing songs, and telling stories, while actively learning what it means to be a Jewish Girl Scout Troop.



"I got to eat TWO s'mores!" said Daisy Scout Sylvia, when asked later to share her favorite part of the event. After saying goodnight to family members and some of the younger Scouts, four adults and 12 Girl Scouts remained to snuggle into sleeping bags in the Sukkah. The troop made it through most of

the night sleeping outside before retreating indoors when the rain began!

"Even though it rained on us in the middle of the night, and we had to go inside, the sleepover was really really fun," Brownie Scout Deena said of the event.



Congregants receive Simchat Torah Honors

Lisa Friedman

On Simchat Torah, as we complete the Torah cycle and then begin it again, the Rabbis and the Ritual Committee present two unique, traditional honors—Kallat or Chatan haTorah, before the last verses of Deuteronomy are read from the first scroll, and Kallat or Chatan B'reishit, preceding the reading of the beginning of Genesis from the second scroll. Each honoree is called up to the Torah with a special piyyut (liturgical poem).

At OT, the recipients of these special honors are individuals who have made major contributions to our community. The 5780 honorees were Annie Schwartz and Abby & Rabbi Evan Ravski.



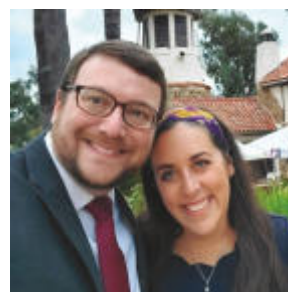
Annie Schwartz is deeply dedicated to maintaining our daily minyan. If there is any chance that 10 people won't be there, she attends, often bringing family members in order to be sure. As part of the team of evening minyan leaders, she is one of the first people to offer to fill in if another leader has a conflict.

When there are weekday Torah readings, even when there is not lots of time to prepare, Annie is one of the first people to say, "I'll take care of it."

Five years ago, Annie sparked the founding of the OT Chesed Committee. She now coordinates a number of volunteers who regularly visit homebound elderly congregants who need companionship, and drive people who are no longer able to drive themselves to services and other OT events.

Abby & Rabbi Evan Ravski

have opened their home, on Shabbat and holidays, for celebrations with many families, especially those with young children. They have hosted the Confirmation class for dinner, as well as various Yachad events.



On Sukkot, they welcome many people to their Sukkah, which is a highlight of the OTPS Sukkah Hop.

The next morning the families arrived to enjoy breakfast and celebrate the investiture and flying up ceremonies, in which new girl scouts were welcomed into the troop, and returning scouts "flew up" to the next level. Experiencing this special ceremony together after waking up as a group in the Sukkah created a memorable moment for the excited participants.

Reflecting on the experience, Junior Scout Ariana said, "I enjoyed sleeping in the Sukkah! It was cool and exciting. It was special for my friends in the Girl Scout troop to be the first people to sleep in the synagogue Sukkah."

See SCOUT SLEEPOVER, page 2

SCOUT SLEEPOVER, *from page 1*

As a girl-led Troop, the girls have lots of fun and learn important skills throughout the year. They will continue to share experiences that allow friendships to blossom and grow, earn badges and help make the world a better place. New girls are welcome to join the troop at any time.

Troop 1250 is thankful for the support and warm welcome of the OT community. The Troop appreciates the financial support of the Olam Tikvah Sisterhood, which enables us to participate in activities like this and others throughout the year. The Troop looks forward to many more special events ahead with the Olam Tikvah Community.

If you have a girl who is interested in joining Troop 1250, please contact troop leaders Charlotte Salzman (Daisies), Elisabeth Epstein (Brownies) and Judith Cabelli (Juniors) at t1250@gmail.com.

**LEARN ABOUT THE OT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board of Directors establishes the basic operating philosophy of, and sets the goals and objectives for, the Congregation, following the Bylaws and Constitution and the authority of the Congregation as exercised at membership meetings.

It also establishes basic policies that impact on the synagogue as a whole, and reviews and approves the decisions and activities of management and committees.

The Executive Committee consists of the Officers of the Congregation: President, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Vice Presidents, Secretary, Financial Secretary, and Treasurer.

The full Board of Directors consists of the Executive Committee, chairs of each standing committee, 10 elected Directors at Large, and one officer representative from each Auxiliary Organization (Sisterhood, Men's Club, OTRS, OTPS, etc.).

Officers and directors serve two-year terms.

President, Vice Presidents, Treasurer, Secretary and 5 Directors begin their terms in even-numbered years. Financial Secretary and the other 5 Directors begin in odd-numbered years.

Exec meets once a month, and joins the full Board in an additional monthly meeting. The rabbis, Synagogue Administrator and Program Director sit in both monthly meetings as non-voting participants.



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Open Letter TO THE WORLD
We, the families of the Pittsburgh Synagogue Shooting, want to thank you for your support and love over the past year.
Our families lost 11 irreplaceable, beautiful Jewish souls. The sorrow and agony was deeply personal and unending. Through your unwavering support, you showed us that we are all one in our sorrow. You showed that the mindless hate that stole our loved ones has no place in America.
Thank you for showing us that we are one Community - one Jewish, one interfaith, one Pittsburgh, one country, and one world. We are truly stronger together.
With love from the families of:
Joyce Fienberg Cecil Rosenthal Daniel Stein
Richard Gottfried David Rosenthal Melvin Wax
Rose Mallinger Bernice Simon Irving Younger
Jerry Rabinowitz Sylvan Simon

MEET THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Brittanie Werbel, President

I've served on the OT Board since 2003, as Safety & Security Chair, Membership Chair, and in positions on the Executive Committee.

I serve because: There is a warmth within 3800 Glenbrook Rd that is entirely unique. I have non-Jewish friends who rave—4 years later—about how this community welcomed them as guests when they attended Jonah's Bar Mitzvah.

For the coming year: On Rosh Hashanah, I spoke to the congregation about who and what we welcome into Congregation Olam Tikvah, including: Israel, ruach (spirit), generosity, Judaism, learning, our interfaith partners, and a desire to give back. I made two specific challenges—to donate more pints of blood than last year, and to increase our Power Pack output from 1000 to 1500—but I encourage everyone to deepen their involvement in whichever facet of OT they find appealing.



For the coming year: While we always want new members, it is also extremely important that current members feel involved and a part of the community. I am interested in working with congregants who want to become more involved. I am eager to help you find the right fit.

Talk to her about: What is working for you as members of the OT community, and what ideas do you have for improvements?

Michelle Pearlstein, 3rd Vice President

I've served on the OT Board for 11 non-consecutive years, as OT Preschool President/Board Liaison; Education Committee Chair; and Membership Chair.

I serve because: I grew up at OT, where I developed a strong Jewish identity and found excitement and meaning in connecting "Jewishly." I want to ensure that those opportunities and many more

are available for others.

For the coming year: As Rabbi Ravski looks to lead his own congregation, I will chair the Assistant Rabbi Search Committee. Watch for information about the process later this winter and become involved! We plan to host several candidate-visiting weekends, mid-February through mid-March. You will have opportunities to meet and hear from candidates, and a process for you to provide feedback to the committee will be in place. YOUR input is key. Make sure your voice is heard!

Talk to her about: I love "big picture" conversations, e.g. Who are we as a community? What are our guiding values? What issues will we be facing in 5 years, etc. I also love connecting people with similar interests, helping them find a space in our community that feels just right for them, and encouraging people to take on lay leadership roles.

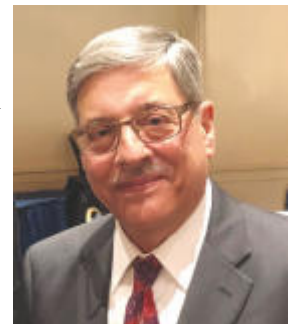
Peter Maer, Secretary

I am entering my fourth year on the Board of Directors. I previously served as at-large director. Currently proud to serve as Board Secretary.

I serve because: Now that I have retired, I am pleased to give as much time as I can to OT. I want to do everything I can to assure the future of our wonderful congregation.

For the coming year: I hope to help find ways to attract new members to the congregation, while supporting everything that makes OT such a special and vibrant place. I enjoy meeting new people and sharing our goals.

Talk to him about: Let's discuss what we can do to continually encourage the ruach that makes Olam Tikvah such a special congregation. Let's find even more ways to make our beloved congregation even more welcoming to people of all ages and stages in life.



See **MEET THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**, Page 8

Alan Gorowitz, 1st Vice President

I've served on the OT Board for 7 years, as ABBA coordinator; Safety and Security; Secretary; 3rd VP, and 2nd VP.

I serve because: This is a wonderful community, with people who are passionate about connecting with each other and spiritually. As a member of the Board, I can be part of that energy and find opportunities to play a small role in contributing.

For the coming year: I want everyone to know that there is an opportunity to be connected in a way that is unique and special to each individual. Many opportunities that exist today, and we can create even more together.

Talk to him about: How you want to connect, in a small or a large way. We are all Olam Tikvah. We are not leaders and members; we are all a community, each bringing something different to the table. Tell me about ways you can connect to the community that nobody has talked to you about.

Laura Strouse, 2nd Vice President

This is my 6th (non-consecutive) year on the OT Board of Directors. I have served as chair of the Membership Committee and OT Preschool president, and this is my second year as 2nd vice president.

I serve because: Regardless of what is going on in our lives, OT has been our safe place nearly every Shabbat over the past 11 years. Watching my children grow (and run) confidently in a shul that they call "theirs," I feel optimistic that their love of Judaism will continue to thrive. I am grateful for those who came before me and worked to create and grow this community. I want to try my best to continue to shape OT as a warm and vibrant community to members of all ages.



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Around Olam Tikvah

B'nei Mitzvah

Saturday, November 9
Harrison Willens,

son of Michele & Michael and older brother of Meggie, is a 7th grader at Thoreau Middle School. He enjoys running, especially cross-country, and competing in 5k road races. Harrison likes solving Rubik's cube puzzles and participating in cubing tournaments. He also plays chess and piano. In addition, he is a voracious reader and is a trivia wizard on the Marvel Cinema and DC Universe. He recently became a Second Class scout in his Boy Scouts Troop. Harrison is looking forward to celebrating his Bar Mitzvah.



Parashat Lech Lecha



Saturday, November 16
Bruno Leinhardt,

son of Toni Glickman and John Leinhardt and sister of Gigi Jacobsen, is a 7th grader at Longfellow Middle School. Bruno has quite a personality and loves to perform. He enjoys golf, swimming, and snow skiing, and he recently played the role of Antonio in Shakespeare's Twelfth Night at the McLean Community Theatre. Bruno plans to raise money this winter for Children's Cancer Research. He is excited to celebrate his bar mitzvah with friends and family from both the U.S. and the U.K.

Parashat Vayera

From Our Hearts

Kiddush Sponsors

*Thank you for your donations to the Kiddush Fund,
 in honor of your November anniversaries.*

November 1-7

Anna & Irwin Jacobs (25); Marilynne & Steve Specht (20); Fraida & Alan Zusman

November 8-14

Shula & Jacob Friedman (50); Traci & Eliot Goldberg; Barbra & Arnold Golub (25); Rebecca Tulkoff & Adam Lesser;
 Abby & Rabbi Evan Ravski (10); Beth & Barry Reisig; Jamie & Andrew Schiffman

November 15-21

Laura & Seth Herz; Miriam & Albert Pinto; Beverly & Norman Polmar; Shana Weiss & Coleman Sachs

November 22-28

Donna & Jeffrey Ackerman; Eileen & George Billinson; Rachel & Benjamin Hofstatter;
 Shelly & Fred Kerman; Elizabeth & Peter Maer; Joan & Donald Sacarob

November 29-30

Brenda & Marvin Klemow

Thank you to Shari Boyett, Linda Meyer, and Carol Shaman, for making anniversary calls.

Mazal Tov

We wish a hearty mazal tov to...

Claudette & Evan Kraus, on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter,
 and Margery & Stephen Kraus, on the Bat Mitzvah
 of their granddaughter, Ainsley Kraus

Nachay Johnson & Josh Renne, on the Bat Mitzvah
 of their daughter, Kairi Galindo

Evie & Jerry Stein on the birth of a grandson,
 son of Jessica & Rudy Lukow

Alison & Josh Stern, on the birth of their son
 Brandon Werbel, on receiving his Yad award

Condolence

We acknowledge the passing of ...

Jack Goldstein

Mary Ellen Kaye, stepmother of Howard Kaye

Edith Krantzman

Eugene Reiser, husband of Judy Reiser

Tzedakah

Thank you for your donations,
which were received by September 27

Comfort and Condolence Fund**IN HONOR OF**

65th wedding anniversary of Mimi & Len Levine, by Jessica Seiler

**Gerald Brissman/Lyle Miller/Carol Samuels
Youth & College Fund**

IN MEMORY OF

Irving Greenspon, by Caryn & Charles Brissman

Jerry Werbel Memorial Landscape Fund**IN MEMORY OF**

Edward Goldberg, by Dotty & Alvin Fuchsmann

Jack Klevan, by Rita & Lester Gordy

Jack Goldstein, by Alice Sue & Arnold Hecht

Kitchen Fund**IN MEMORY OF**

Fred Shoon, by Ellen Finberg

Rabbi Itzhaq M. Klirs Memorial Adult Education Fund**IN HONOR OF**

65th wedding anniversary of Mimi & Len Levine,
by Debbie & Mark Weber

Birth of Evie & Jerry Stein's new grandson, by Debbie & Mark Weber

IN MEMORY OF

Judith Gomperts, by Jane Rosenthal

Norman S. Rosenthal, by Jane Rosenthal

Jack Klevan, by Diane & Joel Miller

Rabbis' Discretionary Fund

In appreciation of Rabbi Kalender and Rabbi Ravski's supreme efforts on
our special weekend, by Mimi & Len Levine

In grateful appreciation of Rabbi Kalender for his assistance with our family
wedding traditions,

by the Loevner, Friedman, and Storz Families

IN HONOR OF

Brenda & Marvin Klemow's anniversary, by Phyllis & Donald Keith

Rabbi Kalender, by Zee Loevner; Janice & Eric Litt

Rabbi Kalender, for everything he has done, by Beth & Barry Reisig

IN MEMORY OF

Larry Kalender, by Phyllis & Donald Keith

Morton Kirsch, by Debbie & Steve Kirsch

Robert Natkin Religious School Fund**IN MEMORY OF**

Joan Mullane, by Randee & Jerry Markowitz

Stahl Family Experience Israel Fund**IN HONOR OF**

Mazal Tov to Debbie & Mark Weber on your birthdays,

by Deedy & Ed Eisenson

Tzedakah Fund**IN HONOR OF**

65th wedding anniversary of Mimi & Len Levine,

by Nancy & Gregg Seiler

IN MEMORY OF

Abrasha Rabin, by Karen Rabin & Jeff Handler

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Benjamin Nattboy, by Rochelle Salzman

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Bernard Tursky, by Steven Tursky

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Chris Driessen, by Paul Driessen

David Gugick, by Bonnie Siegel

David Werber, by Elaine Tolk

Edward Goldberg; May you and your family find comfort

in your memories, by Sharon & Lance Sherry; David Margolis

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Joseph Dinnin, by Ellen Rosen

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Lizzie Hoffman Cornell, by Judy Schretter

Madelyn Wolson, by Bernice Stern

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Nathaniel Miller, by Rhoda & Mark Miller

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Reuben Chesler, by Bernice Stern

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Samuel Leshan, by Norman Leshan

Samuel Zarkin, by Diane & Jeff Zarkin

Sara Dolin, by Jane & Herb Myers

Seymour Sidney Sobel, by Beverly Redler

Shirley Block, by Barbara & Jordan Baker

Sylvia Meyerowitz, Jane & Herb Myers

Vera Kohn, by Ellen Dubin

*OT Chorale, Fine Arts, and Social Action Committee
contributions are listed in the Tzedakah Fund.*

TIME TO APPLY

FOR JEWISH SUMMER PROGRAM FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Congregation Olam Tikvah has established guidelines for requesting need-based financial assistance for Jewish summer programs. Through generous donations to the Brissman/Miller/Samuels College & Youth Fund, limited financial assistance is available to Olam Tikvah youth whose parents are members in good standing, current with synagogue fees, or who have made prior arrangements regarding payments or waiver of fees.

To apply for financial aid, please complete the application form and return it via email or hard copy to Olam Tikvah, Attn: Rochelle Goldberg by Monday, December 16. Notifications will be made by January 13. All requests for financial aid and all decisions will remain completely confidential.

Consideration for assistance for a summer program will be given if 1) it is an overnight program; 2) Shabbat is observed; and 3) kashrut is observed. This includes but is not limited to programs of the Conservative movement as well as Jewish camps that satisfy the above conditions.

We will notify all applicants of financial aid decisions by mail by January 13. All funds will be sent directly to the organizations, not the family applying.

This form is not connected to teen travel to Israel, which is supported through Olam Tikvah's Stahl Family Experience Israel program.

For more information, please contact Rochelle Goldberg, rgoldberg@olamtikvah.org.

If you have additional questions about funding, eligibility, or eligible programs, please contact Rochelle Goldberg.

To download application, **CLICK HERE:** olamtikvah.org/campscholarship

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November-December 2019 Calendar Highlights

NOVEMBER 2019

SUN	3	2:00pm	Power Pack Program at St. Mark's Catholic Church
WED	6	7:30pm	Adult Ed: What Dreams May Come
SUN	10	9:30am	Sisterhood Cider Tour
WED	13	7:30pm	Adult Ed: What Dreams May Come
SUN	17	9:00am	All Sizes Clothing Swap
SUN	17	9:30am	Young Families Play Date
SAT	23	7:00pm	OT's Got "Some" Talent Fundraiser

DECEMBER 2019

SUN	1	9:00am	Hebrew on One Foot
SUN	8	9:00am	Chanukah Bazaar
SUN	8	9:30am	Young Families Pre-Chanukah Craft Day
SUN	8	5:00pm	Sisterhood Membership Dinner
WED	11	7:00pm	Men's Club Casseroles for SOME
WED	11	7:30pm	Adult Ed: Magic vs. Miracles
SAT	14	7:00pm	ABBA Mezcal & Mishnah
SUN	15	8:00am	Blood Drive
SUN	15	11:30am	Sisterhood Book Club
SUN	22		Erev Chanukah

MEET THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, continued from page 3

Bill Behrmann, Treasurer



After 8 non-consecutive years on Exec, I am beginning my 4th year as Treasurer. "I plan on taking a break from the board for at least awhile; but I certainly intend to continue playing an active role at OT."

For the coming year: I want to help OT and its Jewish community grow. "I see growth as a commitment to the OT community; the Washington Jewish community and—most importantly—a

personal commitment to a Jewish lifestyle."
I want to make certain the Congregation is financially secure, and that all who desire have an opportunity to participate.

Talk to him about: How we, as a Jewish community, are responding to your needs. What we are doing well, and where are we falling short?

Allen Zabler, Financial Secretary

This is my 1st year on the Board of Directors.

I served on Budget Committee for the past two years.

I serve because: I want to give back to a congregation that welcomed Lori and me so warmly into the community.

