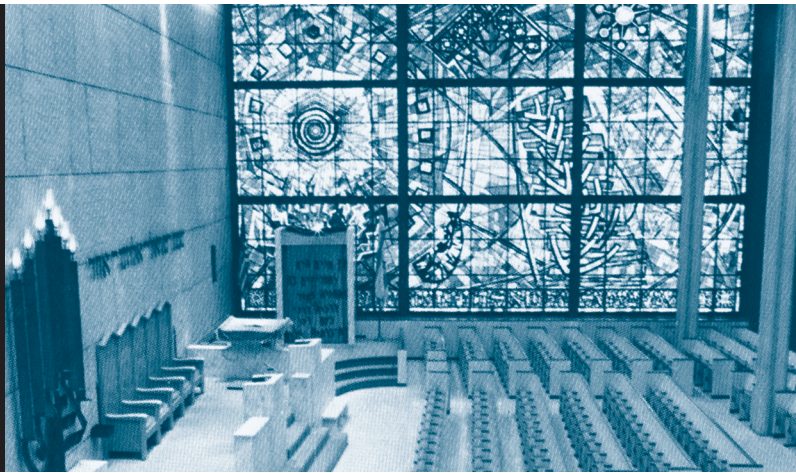


# The BULLETIN of the CHICAGO LOOP SYNAGOGUE



VOL. XLVI

MAY - JUNE, 2009

SIVAN - TAMMIZ, 5769

NO. 5

*"The synagogue bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of Sarah Berlow"*

## President's Message

Dear Friends:

As I write this message, we have just concluded Passover and are counting the Omer to Shavuot. I hope your Passover was as enjoyable as was mine.

I am pleased to report that this year's Hol-Hamoed lunch program was a success. My thanks to all those who participated. Special thanks to those who made a generous contribution to Moes Chitim at the lunches. The lunch program provided a great opportunity to enjoy the camaraderie of fellow members in observance of the Passover holiday, while at the same time giving back to the community by helping to provide Passover meals to those less fortunate. Yasher Koach to all of you!

At this writing, our annual Scholar-In-Residence program is little more than a week away, so you'll have to wait for a complete report. The program is a sell-out, given the fact that this year's scholar is renowned author and radio talk show host Dennis Prager. I'm sure that I'll have plenty of good things to say about the program in our next bulletin.

One special note: The Scholar-In-Residence program requires weeks of preparation. While there are many who work hard to make this program a success, one person ensures that everything runs smoothly. Every last

detail of the program is supervised by our office administrator, Mary Lynn Pross. Each year, this program comes together through Mary Lynn's hard work and dedication. That dedication is especially evident this year. Mary Lynn recently underwent surgery that she specially scheduled so as not to interfere with the program's preparation. I am pleased to say that the surgery was a complete success and that Mary Lynn is now back at work and will be in attendance at the program. Thank you, Mary Lynn, for all your help and my heartfelt wishes to you for continued good health for many years to come.

*Mark J. Schechter*

## Important Announcement

The Ritual Committee requests the cooperation of all synagogue worshipers who are available for Mincha and Maariv Services on Shabbos and Sunday to make a special effort to be at these services, thus helping us to maintain uninterrupted Minyanim for the remainder of the Spring and beginning of the Summer months. The Mincha service begins at 4:30 P.M. on Shabbos and Sunday.

We thank you for your participation in this important Mitzvah.

## An Important Announcement from the Ritual and Seating Committees

**Enjoy, Celebrate and Observe Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur 5770 as you never have before at the Chicago Loop Synagogue.** This year, the liturgy will again be chanted by the internationally renowned **Cantor Moshe Stern**, accompanied by the Tel Aviv Lev-Ran Singers under the choral direction of Menashe Lev-Ran. Services will be conducted by Rabbi Stanley E. Kroll.

For your convenience and pleasure, **hotel accommodations** will be available at the Standard Club, 3 1/2 blocks from the synagogue. **Gourmet holiday cuisine** will be provided by Danziger Kosher Caterers. The price for the entire package, which includes a High Holiday ticket, hotel and meals, will be \$1,375.00 per person for single occupancy; \$2,250.00 for double occupancy. High Holiday ticket and meals will be \$850.00. High Holiday tickets will be \$300.00 per seat.

In as much as we expect that the demand for seating in the Main Sanctuary will be greater than the supply, we urge those who wish to worship in the Main Sanctuary to respond **promptly** when they receive their seating reservation forms in the mail in the next few weeks.

*from the*  
**RABBI**



One morning, a man living in a condominium building woke early and was disappointed to find that his newspaper was not waiting outside the door. The doorman explained that the newspaper delivery boy had not yet come adding, but what difference does it really make. It's the same news. It's just happening to different people.

There is a grain of truth in that statement. The same things happen to all of us without exception; so, we must not develop tunnel vision.

Think of the world as a large highway. Things pass by: Winter and Spring, rain and sunshine, death and birth, illness and health, failure and success. We exit from one crisis and enter another. If we keep going along the highway of life, we pass all the landmarks, experience all the vicissitudes of fortune.

Do you recall that, after the Jews left Egypt, it wasn't all miracles and manna? There were trials and travails too. They had to wander through the dangerous desert and, then, literally fight their way into the promised land.

We have to see things in perspective. This is the advice Napoleon gave his generals. At a critical moment in one of his military campaigns, the commanders rushed into his tent panting, "Sir, the enemy is getting closer." Napoleon shrugged and replied, "Get bigger maps and they won't seem so close."

*Rabbi Stanley E. Kroll*

**The Following Individuals  
Have Made Contributions  
to The Chicago Loop  
Synagogue**

**IN MEMORY AND APPRECIATION**

**RABBI'S FUND**

Rabbi Gerry & Renee Rosenberg  
*In Honor of Mary Lynn Pross'  
Speedy and Complete Recovery*

Beatrice Crain  
*In Memory of Her Husband,  
Richard J. Crain*

Phil Moss  
*In Honor of His Mother,  
Pauline Moss', Recovery*

Marvin Davis  
*In Memory of His Beloved Brother,  
Jerome.*

**TORAH FUND**

Ira C. Feldman  
*In Memory of His Father,  
Sol Feldman*

Mrs. Allen Hartman  
*In Memory of Her Husband,  
Justice Allen Hartman*

William Wigoda  
*In Honor of His Mother's  
85th Birthday*

Phil Moss  
*In Honor of His Mother, Pauline  
Moss', 60 Year Membership in  
Pioneer Women/Na'Amat*

**PRAYER BOOK FUND**

Mrs. Charlene Landsberg Smith  
*In Memory of Her Parents,  
Fay J. And Dan C. Landsberg*

William Wigoda  
*In Memory of His Father,  
Paul T. Wigoda*

**LIBRARY FUND**

Ellis B. Rosenzweig  
Louis Schneider  
*In Memory of His Mother,  
Reva P. Schneider*

Sol Lerner  
Stephen & Terri Geifman

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DONATION REQUIRED

**Yizkor Service**

The Yizkor Memorial Service will be conducted on the second day of Shavuoth, **SATURDAY, MAY 30, 2009** at the following time. Please note that there will be only one complete service.

<b>Service Starts at:</b>	<b>Yizkor Starts at:</b>
9:00 A.M.	10:45 A.M.

*All are Welcome*

**Chicago Loop Synagogue**

*Rabbi Stanley E. Kroll*

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Mark J. Schechter*

*Chairman of the Board  
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*Vice Presidents  
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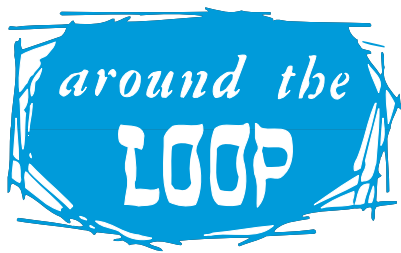
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David S. Bern, Esq.\*  
Edward Harris\**

*Presidents Emeriti  
Max Niernan\*  
Samuel Shkolnik\**

\* Of Blessed Memory



The Chicago Loop Synagogue welcomes into membership the following individuals and their families: **Victoria Martin, Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Neuman, Richard Werner and Dr. & Mrs. Ronald D. Wise.**

On March 21st, **Herbert Berg and Michael Miselman** sponsored a Cholent Kiddush Luncheon in honor of their fellow congregants.

On April 11th, **Shari Vass** sponsored a Kiddush Luncheon in honor of her family, who were in Chicago for a visit.

On April 13th and 14th, the **Chicago Loop Synagogue** facilitated the annual **Passover Lunch** program. Over 150 people joined us and enjoyed both wonderful food and Divrei Torah.

The **Sixteenth Annual Scholar-In-Residence Program** took place during the weekend of May 1st - 3rd and was extremely well attended. **Dennis Prager, renowned author, radio talk show host and teacher,** was the guest scholar. This program was made possible through a grant from the **Arthur Rubloff Memorial Fund to Perpetuate Jewish Study.**

On May 5th, **Albert Karoll** sponsored a breakfast in observance of the yahrzeit of his father, **Howard Karoll,** of blessed memory.

On May 9th, **Mr. & Mrs. Harry Gendler** sponsored a Shabbos Kiddush Luncheon in memory of all the soldiers and partisans, who fought against the Nazis.

On May 19th, **Jeff Kwall** sponsored a breakfast in observance of the yahrzeit of his mother, **Clara Kwall,** of blessed memory.



**Shavuoth, The Feast of Weeks,** falls this year on **May 29th** and **May 30th.** The holiday derives the name by which it is best known from the fact that it falls seven **weeks** (**shavuoth** in Hebrew) after Passover. In ancient Israel, these seven weeks had been the time for gathering in the grain harvest. At the conclusion of the harvest, on **Shavuoth,** a communal offering of two special loaves baked from the newly harvested grain was brought in the Temple. In addition to being the end of the grain harvest, **Shavuoth** is also called in the Bible “the day of the first fruits” (Numbers 28:26) and the “harvest feast” (Exodus 23:16).

The holiday is, then, a harvest thanksgiving festival; and this is why many homes and synagogues are decorated on **Shavuoth** with boughs, flowers, and green foliage. While many of the harvest thanksgiving aspects of the festival have been reintroduced in modern Israel, it is still the religious and historical associations of the holiday which make it so important in the Jewish religious calendar. For according to tradition, **Shavuoth** is the anniversary of the giving of the Torah on Mount Sinai. In the siddur, it is referred to lovingly as **zeman matan torosenu,** the time of the giving of our Torah.

Accordingly, the Torah reading for the first day of **Shavuoth** is the account of the giving of the Ten Commandments. The eleventh-century liturgical poem, **Akdanut,** is chanted to a special melody before the Torah reading begins. The excerpt which follows indicates something of its spirit:

Could we with ink the ocean fill,  
Were every blade of grass a quill,  
Were the world a parchment made  
And every man a scribe by trade,  
To write the love of God above  
Would drain that ocean dry;  
Nor would the scroll contain the whole,  
Though stretched from sky to sky!

Among the customs which have become associated with **Shavuoth** is that of spending all or part of the first night of the festival in the study of Torah. Very often, a special anthology of representative selections of the Torah known as **Tikkun LeI Shavuoth** is recited. According to one mystic legend, on **Shavuoth** night the heavens open at midnight and receive with favor the prayers and studious meditations of those assembled to observe the night long vigil on the eve of the Festival of Revelation.

A more familiar custom is that of eating dairy foods on the holiday. A prosaic explanation of the custom is that **Shavuoth** is a late Spring festival and, in hot climates, light dairy dishes would be appropriate at this time of year. It has also been suggested that dairy products are eaten on **Shavuoth** because the Torah, which was given then, is compared in the Bible to milk and honey. Still others declare that since the dietary laws of the Torah were given on **Shavuoth,** the Jews were not yet able to prepare meat foods in compliance with them, and hence ate only dairy foods which were permitted.

These pleasant customs associated with **Shavuoth** help to make the holiday more delightful. It is, however, the profound moral lesson of the need for man’s awareness of the Almighty’s gifts to him – spiritual as well as material – which make **Shavuoth** of basic importance in Judaism.



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**THE BULLETIN OF THE CHICAGO LOOP SYNAGOGUE**

**Special Service Schedule For Shavuoth**

**Thursday, May 28th  
Shavuoth Eve**

Shachris .....8:05 A.M.  
 Mincha .....1:30; 4:45 P.M.  
 Maariv .....5:00 P.M.

**Friday, May 29th  
First Day of Shavuoth**

Shachris .....9:00 A.M.  
 Mincha .....4:45 P.M.  
 Maariv .....5:00 P.M.

**Saturday, May 30th  
Second Day of Shavuoth**

Yizkor Memorial Services will be conducted on the Second Day of Shavuoth, **May 30th**. Please note that there will be only one complete service.

**Services Start At:**  
 9:00 A.M.

**Yizkor Starts At:**  
 10:45 A.M.

Mincha.....4:45 P.M.  
 Maariv\*.....5:00 P.M.

*\* While Maariv Services are conducted at this time,  
 the Festival does not terminate until 8:55 P.M. on May 30th.*

**THE OFFICERS and DIRECTORS**  
 of the  
 Chicago Loop Synagogue  
**EXTEND SINCERE WISHES**  
 for  
*A Joyous Shavuoth*  
 and  
*a Pleasant Summer*