

THE CHEVRA CHADASHOT

CHEVRA MISHNAYES SYNAGOGUE NEWSLETTER



THE CHEVRA MISHNAYES BOOK CLUB

STACKS N' SNACKS: IT WAS 'BOUND' TO HAPPEN!

The Chevra Mishnayes Sisterhood, unofficially headed by Danny Waldman, invites you to join the maiden meeting of our new book club!

Stop by the shul Wednesday, December 14th at 7 pm with a title (or two!) that you'd like to kick off the club with.

Can't make the meeting? Send us your pick by email!

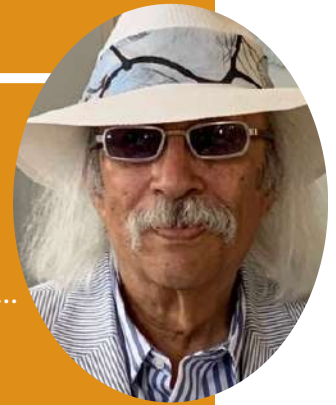
AK CLUB

Find out what's on the mind of our favourite "AK" - Allan Kiesler!

MEMO FROM A MINYANNAIRE

E*GAL*I*TAR*I*AN

As a Minyannaire, I am proud to say that our Shul is considered "egalitarian" and I often wondered exactly how the term is defined ... basically it "...relates to or believing in the principle that all people are equal and deserve equal rights and opportunities ...".



This past weekend I attended a meeting with a group that embodied the term as all in attendance are people who advocate and support egalitarian principles, including myself.

The organization, "Gaser" ("Bridge" in Arabic and Hebrew) is an interfaith dialogue group that works to promote awareness, dialogue, and empathy-building regarding Israel and Palestine.

Gaser'a efforts are directed to fostering dialogue locally regarding Israeli/Palestinian and Muslim/Jewish relationships. Their vision includes "creating spaces for dialogue between Jewish and Palestinian people, as well as allies, with the intent to "humanize the other" and "nurturing empathy and compassion" – the first step towards reconciliation.

Basically, their goals are similar to ours but in a different context. Our Board is making efforts to cultivate a sense of community amongst our membership through shared goals, narratives and food – comparable to Gaser.

I'm presenting Gaser to our members as I strongly believe that we need to step "out of the box" within our Shul Community and reach out to embrace others who want to see peace in the Middle East.

My decision to write this was predicated by a recent Parsha (Hayai Sara) we read at Shul, when I came across a commentary by the late Rabbi Jonathan Sacks (Covenant & Conversation – Genesis, Pg. 144) –

viz. "Beneath the surface of the narrative in Hayei Sara, the sages read the clues and pieced together a moving story of reconciliation between Abraham and Hagar on the one hand, Issac, and Ishmael on the other. Yes, there was conflict and separation, but that was the beginning, not the end. Between Judaism and Islam there can be friendship and mutual respect. Abraham loved both his sons, and was laid to rest by both. There is hope for the future in this story of the past." Food for Thought

– Allan Kiesler



UPCOMING EVENTS

What's happening in the community?
We have some very exciting events to
highlight ahead!

5, 6, 7, ATE

KADIMA DANCE COMPANY TO DAZZLE GUESTS AT UPCOMING CHANUKAH DINNER

We are proud to welcome the talented members of Kadima to our shul for the first time on Thursday, December 22nd. (AGM at 5:30 pm, Dinner at 6:30 pm). There's still time to reserve your seat by email, and don't forget to B.Y.O.C. (Bring Your Own Chanukiah)



MEETING THE BOARD

THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!

Robbie Waldman (President), Murray Greenfield (Treasurer), Skye Kneller (Vice President), Benji Winestock (Secretary), Ruth Stargardter, Danny Waldman, Frank Dahle and Cam Poitras - what a group!

Want to join the Board? This is your last chance to let us know before the AGM!

wishing you
A HAPPY
HANUKKAH

**THANKS FOR
READING THIS ISSUE!**



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KNELLER**
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SHMATTE DIVISION



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