

KOLECHAD

Forestdale Heights Lodge #2667

January 2007

Tevet/Shevat 5767



The year was 1967 and Canada was celebrating its Centennial – its 100th year. That same year a group of young men came together to form a new lodge under the B'nai Brith Canada banner. Since then, Forestdale Heights Lodge has developed a stellar reputation in the areas of Community Volunteer Service and lodge communications.

Forestdale Heights is now preparing to celebrate its 40th anniversary which will culminate with a gala installation at Beth Radom Synagogue on May 27. As part of our celebrations, we will be publishing a commemorative book chronicling the history of our lodge.

You can help make our 40th anniversary a success by supporting the installation and commemorative book. Equally important, make FHL an important part of your life by taking part in our many programs. The lifeblood of the lodge its members. There is something here for everyone.

Happy Anniversary Forestdale Heights Lodge!

KOL ECHAD



Kol Echad is the award winning official publication of Forestdale Heights Lodge. It is published 10 times a year. We welcome any and all articles or letters from members of the lodge and their families. All material submitted is subject to editing. The editor may consult with members of the bulletin committee regarding content suitability and editorial decisions.

All opinions expressed in Kol Echad are those of the individual writer and do not reflect the views of either Forestdale Heights Lodge or B'nai Brith Canada.

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What's New

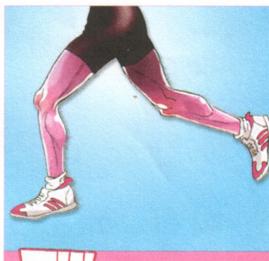
Monday, January 8	Lodge Meeting
Saturday, January 20	Race Night
Monday, February 12	Nomination Meeting
Saturday, March 3	Megillah reading
Sunday, March 4	Purim Dance@Reena
Monday, March 12	Election Meeting

Kol Echad Deadlines

February Issue	January 10, 2007
March Issue	February 10, 2007
April Issue	March 10, 2007

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Join us on **Monday, January 8** when our guest speaker will be

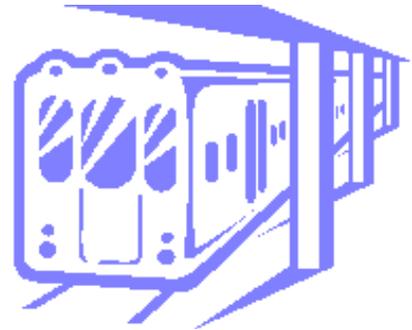
Dr. Richard Soberman



Dr. Soberman, a graduate of Dalhousie University and MIT, currently holds an endowed Chair at the University of Toronto. As Director of Research in the Canadian Transport Commission, he directed the Toronto Commuter Rail Study which led to the implementation of new GO Transit service on the Richmond Hill, Georgetown and Milton routes. Following cancellation of the Spadina Expressway he directed the Metropolitan Toronto Transportation Plan

Review which recommended a comprehensive transportation and land use plan that stressed intensification of future development around transit supported nodes and corridors.

Dr. Soberman recently completed two studies of the TTC and GO Transit, both of which concentrated on future issues and priorities related to the changed funding environment resulting from the creation of the new City of Toronto, as well as the Greater Toronto Services Board.



Dinner 6:30 with speaker & meeting to follow

Starting time 7:15 p.m.

Location: Tov-Li Pizza & Falafel

3519 Bathurst Street (across from Baycrest)

Please RSVP to Albert by January 4

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Editor's Desk

And the winner is.....?

After a grueling day of jockeying and lobbying, the Liberal Party of Canada exhibited democracy at its finest last month when they chose a man who started the convention in fourth place.

By now Stéphane Dion is probably getting used to his new role as Leader of the Official Opposition.

If he and his party have anything to say about it, he just might not have that much time to settle in before going after the top prize, the job of Prime Minister of Canada.

There is no doubt that Dion will not be able to shed all the political baggage the Liberals carried with them into the last election. That is as it should be. The party of Pearson, Trudeau, Turner, Chrétien and Martin made many mistakes during their years in power.

Still, I have no doubt that these faux pas will soon be forgotten for a couple of reasons. The public tends to have a short memory when it comes to forgiving their political leaders and their parties. One day they are demons, the next saviors who can do no wrong.

Whether good or bad, the easiest place to campaign from is from the opposition's side. It is difficult, if not impossible to constantly defend your every move in government and come out on top. This is precisely the position Stephen Harper finds himself in today.

To ensure the public's loyalty, the Conservatives answer is tax cuts. They never met a problem that can't be solved by cutting programs and taxes. However as most Ontarians remember from the days of Mike

Harris, sooner or later these constant cuts cause the smooth functioning of society to choke and seize up.

There is no doubt that come election time the Conservatives will attempt to make inroads with the Jewish community by pointing to their strong support of Israel last year. At that same time they will try to paint the Liberals as fair-weather friends whose support changes like the weather. I guess it does at times.

I do not think Israeli Prime Minister Olmert lies awake at night worrying about Canada's votes at the UN. Like most politicians, he knows how the game is played.

Certainly Harper's Tories have quickly learned how the game is played. While initially voting against every anti-Israel resolution at the UN, they later settled into a more familiar Canadian pattern by voting against supporting Israel in some motions and abstaining on others.

There goes their trump card – maybe their only one. At the same time Dion will play his own ace – as a strong defender of the environment and call on his new “dream team” to convince Canadians to give him a chance.

Right now some may view him as a lightweight. Unfortunately many Liberal candidates did the same thing at the start of the convention, to their detriment.

For political junkies like myself, 2007 is going to be an interesting year.

Shalom

Jeff Rosen



President's Pen



FORTY YEARS is a long time. Four decades is a real milestone.

In the bible 40 is the numerical value given to anything considered “a great many” and for 40 days and 40 nights the rains flooded the world in Noah’s time. In the time of Moses the Israelites wandered aimlessly for 40 years, before they found the promised-land. Yet, in pop culture there is a much vaunted saying: “Life begins at 40”. Whichever way you look at it, 40 is a pivotal age.

In 1967, a group of community minded young men came together to form a volunteer service group under the B’nai Brith Canada banner. For 40 years, Forestdale Heights Lodge has maintained an important tradition of giving back to the community, through its Community Volunteer Service program.

The lodge sponsored BBQs for seniors and disabled residents. I can’t even begin to imagine how many hotdogs and hamburgers we cooked. We delivered Chanukah, Purim and Pesach baskets to families in need. We purchased a bus for physically challenged kids. We were instrumental in preparing some developmentally handicapped young men to be called to the Torah for their Bar Mitzvah. We provided outings for clients of so many charitable agencies; it would

take up this whole column, if I listed them all. There is so much more that we have done to make a difference. The community is richer because of our efforts. We have much to be proud of.

Our past and our future is worthy of such a celebration, and celebrate, we will. Your 40th



Anniversary Gala Committee is hard at work marking this milestone in our lodge’s history, with a gala celebration. Mark the date down, **Sunday May 27th**, on your calendar for our 40th anniversary event.

Take a moment to create your personal text that you want to appear in our anniversary publication. Share the excitement with your butcher, your baker and even the candlestick maker, by encouraging them to put a greeting in our publication. Get your friends to join our lodge; we have a lot to offer. Let them share in the pride of being a member of Forestdale Heights Lodge. We have done much to be proud of and let’s all join in the festivities with your Forestdale family as we celebrate the past and imagine the future.

Bonnie Kates

Contact: VITO



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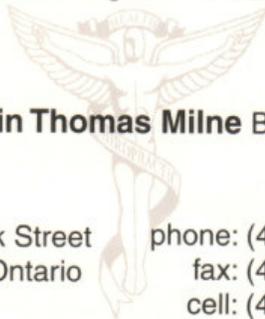
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Sandy's Scripts



There is so much to be said of the songs we listen to or sing and the impact they make in our lives.

It may be a special occasion, engagement, wedding or something strikes you for the moment and it remains in your memory – there is something to it!

Sometimes you can tell what a song is trying to say but other times it not so easy! But of course the kids can tell you right away.

Did you ever take song titles and insert them into a conversation or a story just for the fun of it? Here is my attempt to have some fun with song titles:

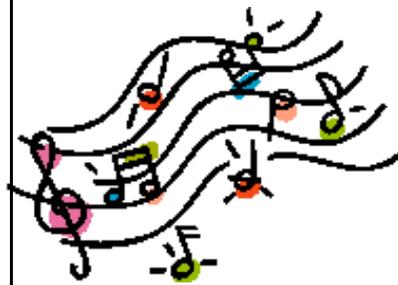
When you are out shopping and you're walking up and down the aisles to see what you like, you might say "*These Are A Few of My Favourite Things*" or you bump into somebody at the cash and you start humming "*Getting to Know You*".

Bobby Darren went "*Beyond the Sea*" and Barry Manilow hangs out at the "*Copacabana*". Frank Sinatra had a life filled with "*Baubles, Bangles and Beads*" and he never saw a "*Blue Moon*" but "*In*

Other Words" who knows "*Anything Goes*"! Did you know that "*Everybody Loves Somebody Sometime*" and then "*You Go Tell it on the Mountain*" or to the paparazzi.

Tony Bennett "*Left His Heart in San Francisco*" but he found it because he is still going strong at 80 years young.

We are "*The Way We Were*" but



Barbara

Streisand is on tour singing with Il Divo. She can be a very "*Funny Girl*" and

always asks "*Papa Can You Hear Me*".

Who gives "*All or Nothing At All*" and then "*The Angels Sing*" and when "*Dancing In The Dark*" "*In The Still Of The Night*" – take the time to "*Teach Me Tonight*" for "*It's Not For Me to Say*" that "*It's All In The Game*"!

"*What A Difference A Day Makes*" that my rumblings are over. I hope "*You Are There*" and you are "*Young At Heart*" because "*That's Life*"!

Until the next time.

Sandy Gordon

1967

FHL @ 40 2007

In June 1967, B'nai Brith Lodge #2667 was granted its charter to begin operating as **Forestdale Heights Lodge**.

In June 2007, **Forestdale Heights Lodge** will celebrate its 40th anniversary. To mark the occasion, Kol Echad will take a look at lodge life during the past 40 years, exploring two years every month.

From the Desk of the President



FHL EXECUTIVE 1994-95

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chairperson,
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Albert Ohana
Chaplain

I am now well into my term as your president and although I knew it would involve a significant input of time and effort I have miscalculated the actual contribution that is required. I find that the commitments in my dealings with lodge members and their families, representatives of B'nai Brith Canada, and the public at large make it almost impossible for a day to go by without attending to some matter of lodge business.

Although there are times when I feel swamped, as I also have significant family and business commitments of my own, I still accept this position with pride and honor.

It has firstly brought me into closer contact with most of the active membership. I have had the pleasure of knowing you better. Although our lodge is filled with its share of 'characters' (including myself), the things that bind the active membership together are our good hearts and desire to make a constructive difference. It is because of your work that I see first hand that we can improve our community. I thank you for bringing to me a more positive outlook on life.

It is also quite evident that we have a highly respected name among the other lodges in the Toronto area and at B'nai Brith Central. I am often contacted by those who wish to initially feel out the position of the lodges by contacting the more prominent and active lodges of which, in knowledgeable circles, Forestdale Heights is so considered.

Our work is recognized and appreciated. Let us all feel that much better about our community and ourselves.

December 1994

Carl Zeliger
President
Forestdale Heights

1993: President Albert Ohana

Timeline

January 17: Calculating Your Future with Sonny Goldstein

January 31: Vaughan's 4th annual Winterfest

March 7: Purim Megillah Reading, 4300 Bathurst St.

March 14: Purim Party at Cheltenham Nursing Home

May 23: A Night at the Races

June 26: FHL helps out at Caravan's Jerusalem Pavilion

July 1: FHL runs BBQ at Vaughan's Canada Day celebrations

July 6: Kosher BBQ Steak Dinner at Spotlight Nightclub

August 22: CVS Summer Picnic

Labour Day Weekend: FHL mans phones for Jerry Lewis Telethon

December 4: Lodge Auction

December 13: Chanukah concert at Cheltenham

December 14: Membership Stag

Around the Lodge

Monthly Kiddush Club launched in October at 4300 Bathurst



1994 President Carl Zeliger

Around the Lodge

FHL wins top award for CVS at the B'nai Brith convention

Lodge Brother Michael Kates serves as vice-chair of Caravan's Jerusalem Pavilion.

Timeline

January 14: Dealing with Violence program

January 30: FHL & Don Mills hold special information evening on situation in Israel with guest speaker Frank Dimant

February 12: Valentine's Day social

February 6: Vaughan's 5th annual Winterfest

April 12: Carl Zeliger installed as president at 27th annual installation

May 22: Night at the Race

May 29: FHL helps out at UJA Community March

June 12: FHL holds CVS baseball game and BBQ with Kadima Centre

July 1: FHL runs BBQ at Vaughan's Canada Day celebrations

August 21: Lodge Picnic, Earl Bales Park

Labour Day Weekend: FHL operates Monte Carlo for Jerry Lewis Telethon

October 23: Concert at Cheltenham

December 4: Lodge Chanukah Party

Good & Welfare

January Birthday

Stan Udell – January 30

January Anniversary

Nate and Andrea Salter – January 14



If you have something special happening in your life that you would like listed in Good & Welfare, send it to jelijo@sympatico.ca. We will make every effort to include it. Birthdays of members only will be listed in this space.



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Random Musings



In an effort to be a good citizen, I've gotten into recycling in a big way. We now have three baskets in every washroom, one for tissues, one for cardboard and plastic, and one for *real* garbage. Hanging in the broom closet are bags of newspapers. Under the kitchen sink are bins for bottles and cans, plus a container for food scraps.

It takes about 15 or 20 minutes to sort through all the receptacles in order to get the garbage to other appropriate receptacles in the garage. If someone puts tissues in the wrong basket too frequently, a discussion ensues about the hardship of sorting. Never before in my lifetime has garbage been such an all-consuming topic of conversation.

Despite the extra workload, I do have a strange sense of pride on garbage day when I roll out that green bin, three blue boxes, and only one regular garbage bin. However, sometimes I wonder how long this intensive filing system for garbage can continue. I think longingly about

incineration, and the prospect of harnessing the power generated from it.

When I was a young child, I remember people burning leaves and paper goods in special large incineration barrels in their back yards. The smell of those burning dried leaves was heavenly. Could something that smelled that good be bad?

Of course, if incineration were done now, there would have to be proper regulations on emissions so that we could avoid polluting the environment, but wouldn't it be nice to have a simpler way to be good to our planet, and benefit from energy at the same time?

As I write this, I am avoiding going outside on this cold winter night to collect



the blue boxes, green bin, and garbage pail. It's been a windy day, so I don't know if the garbage bin or its lid will be nearby or down the street. I'm hoping someone else in the family has the energy to bring everything back into the garage. I'm exhausted just thinking about it.

Elizabeth Bloom

They're at the Post!

Join members of FHL as we head to Woodbine Racetrack



Saturday, January 20, 2007

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Please RSVP to Michael Kates at

(905) 669-2408 or e-mail katesfamily@sympatico.ca

Membership

*FHL would like to welcome
the latest people to join our lodge family.*

Sonya & Sam Holtzman



**RESERVE THE DATE:
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BETH RADOM SYNAGOGUE
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CVS Program



During the month of December, members of FHL took the time to show the lodge's appreciation to our hard working emergency support services by delivering holiday gift baskets. In response to one delivery, we received a letter from a paramedic, which we have included in this issue, along with a response from our president.

My name is Susan & I am a paramedic from the Bathurst /Finch Street station. I wanted to thank you for your gift of holiday chocolates that we received in our station the other day, however, in reading the letter attached I do feel a mistake was made in delivering it to us...the paramedics.

In the 3rd paragraph of the letter it states "we are once again reminded that it is you-OUR BRAVE POLICE AND THE FIREFIGHTERS-who are out there putting yourself on the line so we can be protected."

With paramedics not being mentioned I can only assume it was delivered to us because we share the fire hall building & that the "brave firefighters" were the intended recipients of this gift....I will take it over to their quarters for them to enjoy.

Happy Holidays.
S. Morris

Dear Susan:

Thank you for your lovely letter. Please keep the gift and share it with the paramedics--you folks are just as important to the welfare of our community, as is our Fire and Police. You equally put yourself on the line, and we are proud of the work that you do. Have a wonderful holiday, and enjoy the treats.

Warmest Regards,
Bonnie Kates

Purim 5767



This year FHL will be operating two CVS programs at Purim.

On Saturday, March 3 (after Shabbat), FHL will head to 4300 Bathurst for its annual *Megillah* Reading.

The next day, Sunday, March 4, we will be helping out at a Purim Dance for the residents of the Reena facility on Clark. The program will run from 2 p.m.-3:30 p.m.

*Come on out in costume and celebrate Purim with FHL.
It's twice as much fun this year!*

Allocations

The lodge recently received five letters from recipients of our *tzedakah*. The organizations include:

- Canadian Friends of Yad Sarah
- Friends of the Western Galilee Hospital
- Hill House Hospice
- Jacob's Ladder
- ZAKA Rescue and Recovery

Full text of the letters can be found on the lodge's website.

http://ca.geocities.com/k_echad

FHL @ Fallsview Casino

A group of members from Forestdale Heights Lodge including Barry & Sandra Gordon, Michael & Bonnie Kates, Jeff & Lisa Rosen, Ethel Segar, Morris & Grace Shapransky, plus a few friends, went to Niagara Fallsview Casino on November 26. The bus was so packed we were all scattered around the bus and were not able to sit together. Fortunately we were able to take in a movie on our trek to Niagara, as well as on the way back.

Everybody had a wonderful day. When we got there we all headed straight to the Casino. Some of us won, but most of us lost a few dollars. Later we went out for lunch followed by a walk to the falls. Before heading back to Toronto we even had the chance to do some window shopping at the stores in the casino complex. Finally, it was time to say goodbye to Niagara and we headed back to the city.

Lisa Rosen

The Friendly Greek



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