

KOL ECHAD

Forestdale Heights Lodge #2667

May 2006

Iyar/Sivan 5766



*Please join us as we welcome
our guest speaker*

Frank Dimant
Executive vice-president
B'nai Brith Canada

Monday, May 1, 2006

15 Hove, 6:30 p.m. dinner with meeting
and speaker to follow

Cost is \$5/person for dinner

Please RSVP to Albert 416-494-2636 or e-mail salonpiaff@rogers.com

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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Website:
http://ca.geocities.com/k_echad



What's New

Sunday, June 11

Sunday, June 18

Monday, August 21

Sunday, Dec. 10

AGM, Montreal

FHL Installation

BBC Blue Jays Day

Chanukah Parcel

Deliver

June's monthly meeting has been cancelled.

Kol Echad Deadlines

June Issue

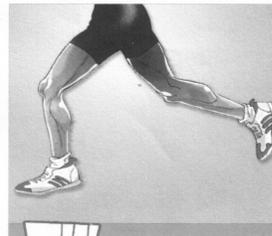
May 10, 2006

Summer Issue

July 25, 2006

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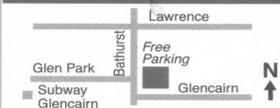
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Editor's Desk

For a change of pace, I thought we would devote this month's column to the wonderfully complex world of health care. Before we begin though, let's begin with a quick question.



If you became incapacitated and required extensive medical care, whom would you consider the most important person on your "team"?

If you answered "your doctor," I would have only awarded you 5 points (out of 10).

To get full marks on the Rosen Medical Quiz, you would have had to answer, "My advocate."

Now by this time, I imagine a good many of you are scratching your heads and saying, "my what?"

Encarta World English dictionary defines advocate as "*somebody who supports or speaks in favour of something*" or "*somebody who acts or intercedes on behalf of another*".

From my personal experience I have found that without a great advocate on your side, all the sorted medical advice and treatments are liable to be confusing and may be detrimental to your long-term health in some cases.

I realize that this may sound quite cynical, but unfortunately, I have come to this position from personal experience.

A decade ago, medical personnel, many of them so called "experts," wrote my wife, Lisa, off after we were involved in a major motor vehicle accident (MVA) and she suffered brain damage. Her life would never amount to much some said, while others said she would be unable to process new information and because of the MVA, she should not be allowed to be alone with our daughter for any length of time or to assist her as she grew up.

Unfortunately (or fortunately depending on your point of view) Lisa had one stubborn husband on her side who refused to listen to the advice being offered by most of those "experts." Instead, he insisted that everyone give his wife a chance to see what would develop over the long term.

A decade after our accident, Lisa has developed a phenomenal, loving relationship with our daughter. She has taught her so many things about life and living and the two share a deep love of shopping that I probably will never comprehend.

Outside the house, she has developed a full life helping at a synagogue in the office and as a teacher's assistant. This for someone who the "experts" once said would never be able to teach our own daughter!

What really got me thinking about everything that has happened in our lives came last month when Lisa headed off on her own to a family *simcha* in Florida.

It was then that I finally thought of my own role. What would have happened if I had simply listened to all the sage advice offered over the past decade?

More importantly, it made me think about the larger question. How many people out there actually take the "experts'" words as gospel?

For the sake of you and your loved ones, make sure you have someone who truly believes in you and your welfare in case you do get sick. Your future may depend on it.

Shalom.

Jeff Rosen



39th Annual Installation

Sunday, June 18, 2006

Cocktails: 5:30 p.m.

Dinner: 7:00 p.m.

Baycrest Terrace

55 Ameer Avenue

Cost: \$30 per person

Guests: \$40 per person

President's Pen



This month marks 90 years since the passing of one of the worlds most noted, authors, Sholem Rabinowitz.

I bet you never heard of him before, so why was he a most noted author? To many he was the sequential Jew documenting the present, taking us back into the past and often telling what he saw in the future for his people, through his words. Few authors of present day have captured the imagination of our people as this famous author. He was a humorist, a poet, a playwright and a novelist. He was born in the Ukraine, often writing in Russian, Hebrew and Ukrainian.

He found it difficult to support himself, but when he had a few extra rubes, he would speculate on the Kiev stock exchange.

His father-in-law, a wealthy businessman, mocked him because he chose to write in Yiddish, not the scholarly language of Hebrew or Russian.

What Mr. Rabinowitz soon learned, was that he received the highest pay for his works written in Yiddish. He captured the imagination of a generation throughout Europe by writing about life's experiences,

the struggles of the Jews and of their rich culture and heritage.

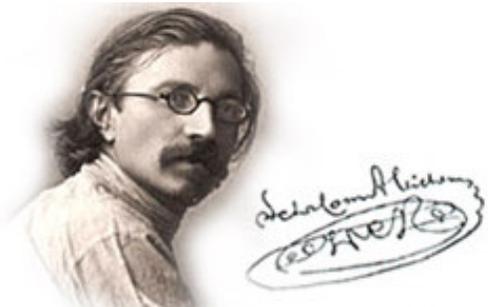
After a pogrom in 1905, he moved to the United States, which was his most prolific time of his life. So not to embarrass his father-in-law, he wrote under a pen name. Many daily newspapers carried his column and when he died, they say hundreds of thousands of Jews followed behind his casket and took the day off work to mourn this beloved author. Long after his passing, his works are considered classical Jewish literature, translated into many languages.

In his will he said he wanted the world to remember him on his *Yarzheit* by people getting together, drinking a cup of tea with a piece of honey cake, while reading one of his many works.

He wrote *Tevye's Daughters*, which was later turned into the play *Fiddler on the Roof*.

On May 13, why not invite some friends over, make a pot of tea, and enjoy a piece of honey cake to mark the 90th *Yarzheit* of, Sholem Aleichem.

Bonnie Kates



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Random Musings

With this issue, Kol Echad welcomes Elizabeth Bloom as a monthly columnist to our roster.

The Editor



When I was a child, my friends and I would spend hours smashing small rocks with a large one. Our work was constructive, rather than destructive, much like a child taking apart a toy to discover its inner workings. We each seemed to be going through our own private evolution.

Out of the most ordinary grey surface of rock, we were carefully searching for the hidden gems within: glints of mica, jagged angles of quartz, and most desired of all, rose quartz.

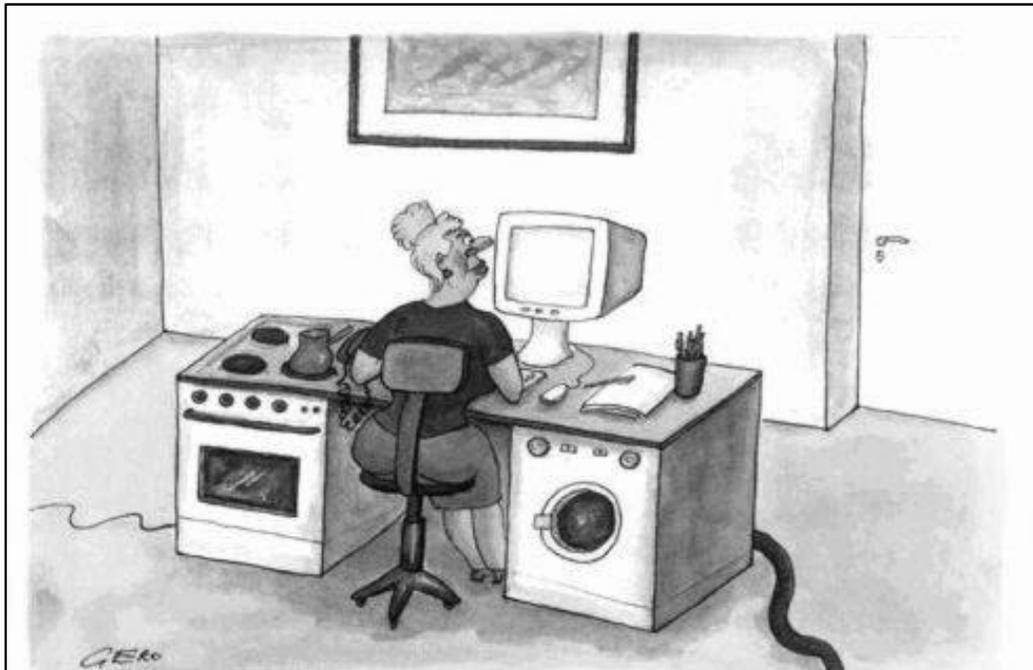
We felt a sense of peace and accomplishment as we viewed the glimmering minerals within each rock, a microcosm of the universe within our grasp. Like so many things in life, the beautiful core had been hidden below the surface.

Always present, it required effort and determination to have its essence revealed.

Jews have always had to search deeper for meaning, their circumstances not always aesthetically pleasant on the surface. The key has been to look beyond the obvious, to dig deeper.

As my friends and I learned, the inner discovery brings a sense of serenity.

Elizabeth Bloom





A much anticipated Forestdale Heights event took place on Thursday, March 30. Our warm and friendly group attended a taping of Royal Canadian Air Farce.

We congregated in a sitting area in the lobby, catching up on the latest news as we waited for the action to begin. Those present included our greatly esteemed Madam President Bonnie and Michael Kates, Lisa Rosen, Irv and Ruth Pupko and son Aaron, Nate Salter and his friend, Stan Zeliger and his lovely daughter and her friend, Sandy and Barry Gordon, my husband and son, Harold & Chuck Cohen, as well as myself.

The show did not begin promptly as there seemed to be a make-up problem backstage.

The skits were timely and humorous. The actual show, which was aired the next evening, began with the last skit we saw taped. It revolved around the meeting in Mexico between U.S. President George Bush, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Mexican President Vincente Fox. It ended with the Bush and Harper actors doing a slow dance.

There was a spoof of the cheese lady “can’t get your kids to leave home” commercial. Both skits were very funny.

There were several more skits taped. The one that stood out the most was a mimic of the show starring Evan Solomon, *CBC News Sunday*. The comedian playing Evan was introducing the Daniel Richler character – the emphasis on the “ch” in Richler’s name was the object of the skit poking fun at a more Jewish pronunciation. It ended with the Solomon character saying *Shalom*. That skit got an extra chuckle from the Jewish contingent. The warm-up musicians, who entertained as the sets were being changed, were amazing. The floor director with his “deadpan” monotone voice encouraged us to laugh. He was amusing enough to be in a skit of his own. It was a delightful evening enjoyed by everyone. Our group was acknowledged along with others on the monitor and stage whereby we gave a robust cheer for Forestdale Heights Lodge.

There was one little glitch however, with all that. Sandy and I had no time for dinner. We were starving.

I would encourage any member who has not been to a taping to join us at this annual event. We had a lot of laughs being the fun-loving cohesive group that we are. See you there next year!

Noreen Cohen

Purim 5766

On the evening of March 13, we continued our warm tradition of organizing the Purim *Megillah* reading and party at the 4300 Bathurst St. B'nai Brith residence. This has been a meaningful annual event for both the residence and our lodge.

It is apparent that if this programme did not take place many of the residents would not experience the joy of the Purim holiday or partake in the *mitzvah* of hearing the *Megillah*. This year over 100 attended our event. *Gregars* and *Megillahs* with Hebrew



or Russian translation were passed around to the residents. After the *Megillah* reading refreshments were handed out including *hamentashen*, potato chips and clementines.

The actual *Megillah* reading was handled beautifully by Joshua Gutenberg. Josh is the third member of the Gutenberg family to help carry out this *mitzvah*. His father, Alan, was our first reader who in time passed the tradition on initially to his eldest son and now to his youngest son. Josh's proud grandfather, Rabbi Joseph Kelman also attended.



A number of our lodge members and their wives were present to enjoy the festivities and to kindly volunteer their services. Those in attendance included Bonnie and Michael Kates, Jeff and Lisa Rosen and their daughter Jordana, Irv Pupko, Elizabeth Bloom, Stan Zeliger, Debby Zeliger and our son Josh, and Morris Shapransky on the horn.

Our programme is an event all of us should be very proud to have as a regular part of our lodge calendar. Pearl Gladman, who regularly attends this special program, recognizes this as one of the best annual community volunteer programmes in B'nai Brith. Congratulations Forestdale Heights.

Carl Zeliger

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 life from the past 40 years, exploring two years every month.

YEAR	1979	1980
PRESIDENT	Murray Fallen 1979-1980	Norman Aronson 1980-1981
MUSIC	1. "Too Much Heaven" ... Bee Gees 2. "Da Ya Think I'm Sexy?" ... Rod Stewart 3. "I Will Survive" ... Gloria Gaynor 4. "Tragedy" ... Bee Gees 5. "What a Fool Believes" ... Doobie Brothers	1. "Please Don't Go" ... KC & the Sunshine Band 2. "Rock With You" ... Michael Jackson 3. "Do That to Me One More Time" ... The Captain and Tennille 4. "Crazy Little Thing Called Love" ... Queen 5. "Another Brick in the Wall" ... Pink Floyd
POPULAR MOVIES	1. Superman 2. Every Which Way But Loose 3. Rocky II 4. Alien 5. The Amityville Horror	1. Airplane 2. All That Jazz 3. The Black Stallion 4. The Blue Lagoon 5. The Blues Brothers
POPULAR TV SHOWS	1. 60 Minutes 2. Three's Company 3. That's Incredible 4. Alice 5. M*A*S*H	1. Dallas 2. The Dukes of Hazzard 3. 60 Minutes 4. M*A*S*H 5. The Love Boat
SPORTS	NBA: Seattle Supersonics vs. Washington Bullets Score: 4-1 Stanley Cup: Montreal Canadiens vs. New York Rangers Series: 4-1 Super Bowl: Pittsburgh Steelers vs. Dallas Cowboys Score: 35-31 World Series: Pittsburgh Pirates vs. Baltimore Orioles Series: 4-3	NBA Los Angeles Lakers vs. Philadelphia 76ers Series: 4-2 Stanley Cup: New York Islanders vs. Philadelphia Flyers Series: 4-2 Super Bowl: Pittsburgh Steelers vs. LA Rams Score: 31-19 World Series: Philadelphia Phillies vs. Kansas City Royals Series: 4-2

Sandy's Scripts



What do you do when you hear the siren of an emergency vehicle coming from an unknown direction? Once you establish its direction, what do you do? For instance, say I am going north on Bathurst and the emergency vehicle is going south.

I immediately pull to my right (if I am in the right lane and can do it safely). My question is, what does the person in the left lane do? They usually just kind of speed up and go forward rather than slowing down, checking room in the right lane where hopefully people have pulled over to let them in. Not so lucky, as a lot of the left lane people think they are okay as the emergency vehicle is coming toward them on the other side of the street and it won't affect them. So they think.....not true!

How many times have you seen an ambulance in this situation having to negotiate the other side of the road because drivers will not slow down and get out of its way? You need to have



eyes in the back of your head...what if it was someone close to you in the ambulance?

If everyone would slow down and pull over no matter what side of the street the emergency vehicle was on, it would make the roads safer. The emergency vehicles would not encounter these roadblocks and would be able to negotiate the roadways more effectively while ultimately saving more lives.

I think there has to be stronger enforcement of drivers who do not adhere to the sound of a siren.

Until the next time.

Sandy Gordon

Learn from the past, Hope for the future, Live in the present

-- Ken Lancaster

Good & Welfare

March Birthdays

Barry Gordon – May 15

Morris Shapransky – May 19

Condolences to Stan Horowitz on the loss of his mother, Irene.

Mazel Tov to David and Arna Gorender who recently became grandparents.

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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B'NAI B'RITH MOURNS THE LOSS OF MEMBERS IN CHILEAN BUS CRASH



It is with deep sadness that B'nai B'rith International confirms that twelve members of a group organized by the B'nai B'rith Ponds Unit, Monroe Township, New Jersey, were victims of a tragic bus crash in Chile.

Sixty-four members of the Ponds Unit were on a 14-day Celebrity Cruise of South America. On Thursday, March 22, 2006, a group had gone ashore for a bus excursion to Lauca National Park and on the return trip to the ship, the bus plunged off the road. Of the twelve people who lost their lives in the crash, eight were members of the B'nai B'rith group. Two additional people – both B'nai B'rith members - were injured and are in stable condition. Early this morning, the two injured and the bodies of the victims were airlifted to Miami. The bodies will arrive at Newark Airport on Saturday, March 25, after Shabbat.

Upon hearing of the news while at a United Nations meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, B'nai B'rith International President Joel S. Kaplan and Executive Vice President Daniel S. Mariaschin both expressed their shock and deepest sympathy. “We are devastated by the tragic and untimely deaths of our B'nai B'rith brothers and sisters. These long-time active members of B'nai B'rith will be sorely missed. We extend our heartfelt condolences to their families and friends, as well as to all other members of B'nai B'rith in the group. And, we pray for a speedy recovery for all those injured.”

B'nai B'rith International President Kaplan had asked Ram Tapia Adler, director of B'nai B'rith Chile, to rush to the hospital in Arica, in northern Chile, to help comfort family members of the victims and the injured and assist in any way possible. Rabbi Roberto Feldman accompanied him, and both comforted and offered condolences on behalf of B'nai B'rith.

***More important than talent, strength, or knowledge is the ability to laugh at yourself
and enjoy the pursuit of your dreams.***

-- Amy Grant

Bingo!



On March 19 members of FHL responded to an invitation from Thornhill Lodge to help run a bingo at Kensington Place Retirement Residence. Members of our lodge, including Bonnie and Michael Kates, Morris Shapransky, Barry and myself, met at the retirement home on Sheppard Avenue between Wilmington and the Allen Expressway for this fun afternoon program.

The program was to start at 3:00 p.m. and the residents started congregating in the dining room area shortly after our arrival. Everyone looked forward to an enjoyable afternoon of bingo.

People sat at their usual tables and we were assigned to assist the residents as the numbers were being called. When there were winners we had to call back the numbers back to confirm they were called.

After the last game was played there was coffee/tea and sweets for everyone. It was a very nice finish to a lovely afternoon for the residents of Kensington Place. We had the opportunity to chat with some of the residents and they were very appreciative that this program was scheduled for them. When they heard that it might be the last bingo for the season, well, you can imagine what went on!! However, there will be another bingo in May.

Barry remarked that he thought he would not be invited back because there was one lady he was helping who managed to win a number of games. Not to worry, as members of Thornhill Lodge made sure everyone received a prize at the end of the afternoon.

Sandy Gordon

Mankind must put an end to war, or war will put an end to mankind

-- John Fitzgerald Kennedy, Jr.

Forestdale Funnies



In a slalom race, the skier must pass through about 20 “gates” in the fastest time.

Well, it happened that a very Orthodox yeshiva in Montreal had an exceptional skier among its students. So fast, that in practice, with *tzitzis* streaming out behind, he had beaten the world record several times. After first checking to make sure none of the men's slalom races would be on the Sabbath, he tried out for and made the Canadian Winter Olympic team. With his times in the trial heats, he was the favourite for an Olympic gold medal. Came the day of the final, the crowd waited in anticipation.

The French champion sped down the course in 38 seconds.

The Swiss in 38.7 seconds.

The German in 37.8 seconds.

The Italian in 38.1 seconds.

Then came the turn of the Canadian yeshiva “*bocher.*”

The crowd waited, and waited.....

Finally, after a full five minutes, he crossed the finish line.

“What happened to you?” screamed his coach when the skier finally arrived.

Breathing hard, the exhausted yeshiva student replied, “All right, who's the wise guy who put a *mezuzah* on every gate?”

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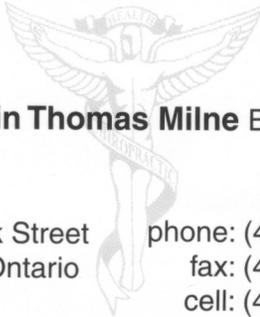
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