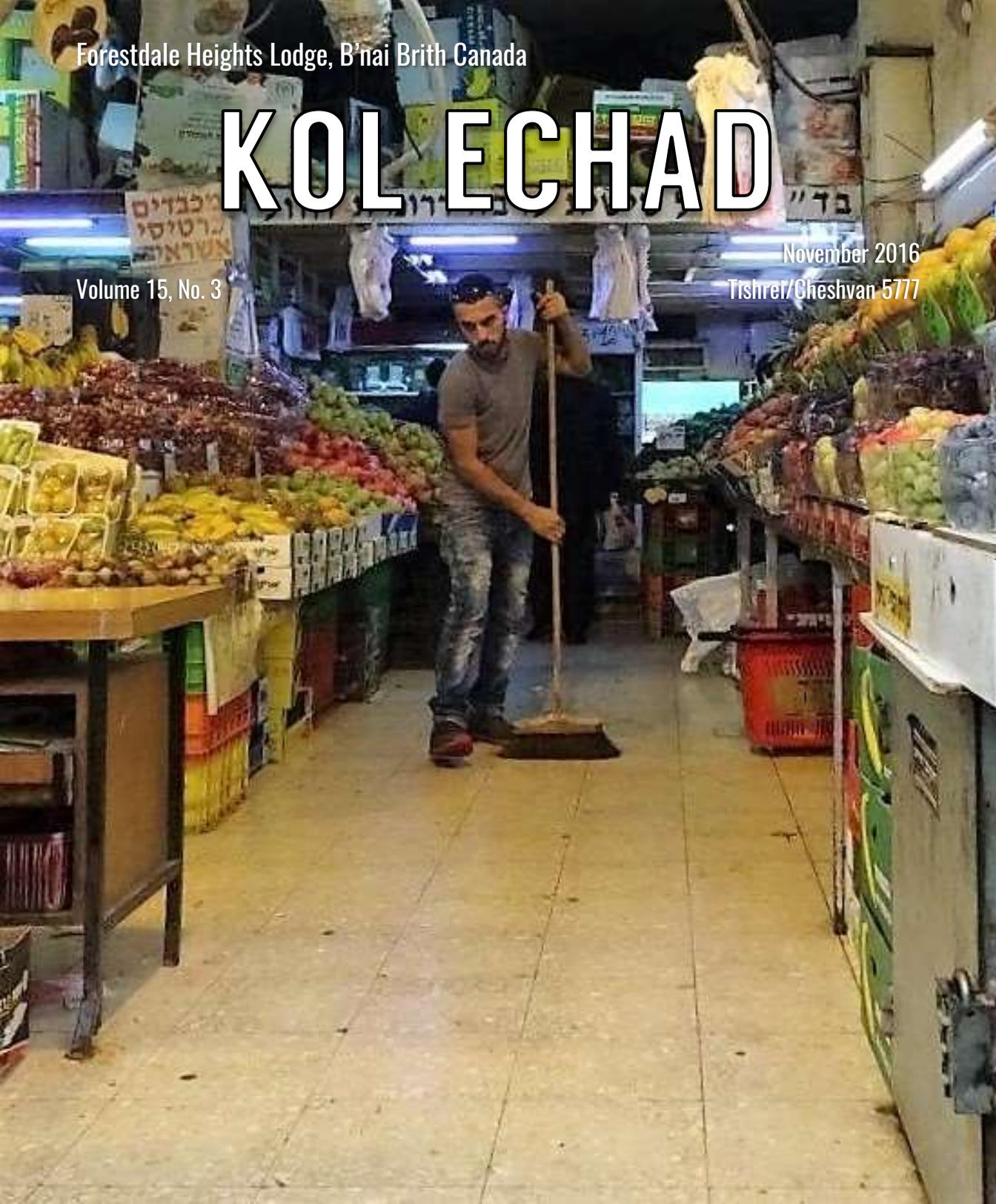


Forestdale Heights Lodge, B'nai Brith Canada

KOLECHAD

Volume 15, No. 3

November 2016
Tishrei/Cheshvan 5777



COVER ART

This month's cover photo was taken by 5-year-old Eve Kates, daughter of Marc Kates and granddaughter of Michael Kates, in the Machane Yehudah Market in Jerusalem. The marketplace, often referred to as "The Shuk," was originally open-air, but is now at least partially covered. Popular with locals and tourists alike, the market's more than 250 vendors, sell fresh fruits and vegetables; baked goods; fish, meat and cheeses; nuts, seeds, and spices; wines and liquors; clothing and shoes; and housewares, textiles, and Judaica.



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PRESIDENT'S PEN

Stewart Indig

As I sit here thinking about what to write about this month, I ponder what can I say that would be relevant to my Lodge brothers and sisters. I could talk about my trip to Chicago with my son or the Toronto Blue Jays. Instead, I decided to talk about the Lodge. At one time, Forestdale Heights was a very vibrant Lodge with many members. I do believe there were over 100 members at one time. The Lodge was a brotherhood and everybody worked together. Members contributed and things got done. There were committees for everything, and there were different people on these committees. Members actually attended Lodge functions. There was harmony and there were lifelong friendships. Ahh, those were the good old days.

B'nai Brith Canada, was also a different organization. Today membership is way down from 10-15 years ago. Happily, we have had a few new members join in the past couple of years. Unfortunately, we no longer have many committees and it seems the same people take part in them.

Despite this, things get done. The one thing we can boast about is that we have the highest percentage of members attending our monthly meetings. That, my brothers and sisters is a great thing. What we do have, for the most part, are members who care about the Lodge. Some just like the social aspect, others like the opportunity to give of themselves. Whatever your reason is, that is great.

As President, I am happy to see members coming out to meetings. What would make me even happier would be to see more participation whether it be selling Entertainment books (still need to sell another 21), or attending a Lodge function. I am looking forward to seeing what Avery and Ray have planned. Now that the holidays are behind us, we can move forward.

Perhaps, for our December meeting everyone can bring a guest, and maybe we can grow. Without growth, we would be like the 10 little monkeys jumping on the bed.

For those of you who are curious or care, the first thing we did when we got into Chicago was to go for Chicago Deep Dish Pizza. Now that was really good!

KOL ECHAD

Kol Echad is the official publication of Forestdale Heights Lodge, B'nai Brith Canada. It is also an associate member of the American Jewish Press Association.

It is published 10 times a year.

We welcome all articles and letters from members of the Lodge and their spouses.

All material submitted is subject to editing.

The editor may consult with members of the bulletin committee regarding suitability and editorial decisions.

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

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Jeff Rosen

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Lisa Rosen, Debbi Silver

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Aaron Pacter
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AT A GLANCE

November 14	Dinner Budget Meeting
December 12	Speaker & Dinner Meeting
January 9	Dinner Meeting
February 13	Nominations/Dinner Meeting
March 11	Purim Programme
March 13	Elections/Dinner Meeting
April 3	Dinner Meeting
May 8	Dinner Meeting
June 4	Gala 50 th Anniversary Installation

Dinner at 6:30; Meeting at 7:15

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OF THE MONTH
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Budget Meeting

The state of the Lodge's finances will be examined and a budget presented and voted upon, when FHL meets at its next meeting, on Monday, November 14.

EDITOR'S DESK

Jeff Rosen



Did someone in Forestdale Heights forget to pay the power bill? At times, this appears to be the case, because there seems to be a distinct lack of energy in moving the Lodge forward. Sure, long-running CVS projects continue to function, but something appears to be missing. Perhaps this is just a lull before a storm of activity, but here we are in November and everything appears to be at a standstill.

I know that our new president, Stewart Indig, has tried to inject a spark of life into the Lodge's engine, but one man cannot, and should not, have to do it by himself. The president is supposed to set the tone and direction for the coming year. To that end, Stewart has made a good start, meeting with individuals and convening an executive meeting. However, we do not appear to be moving ahead. Perhaps we are using the wrong fuel. I've heard our president make numerous requests for new committee chairs at meetings. Unfortunately, these requests are met by silence.

Years ago, a past president who is no longer with us, taught me an important lesson. If you want someone to do something, you first have to use your fingers. That means picking up the phone, asking someone to get involved and to take on a project. I admit, sometimes it works, and sometimes it does not.

It's time to ask yourself, would you join an organization that appeared to be hibernating?

The Lodge is on the cusp of celebrating its 50th anniversary. We have reached this special milestone because numerous people – far too many to name or thank – put in their time and efforts to move this organization forward. If we want to continue to mark special occasions together, everyone must pull together and get FHL back on track. By no means is this Lodge in extinction-mode. I believe what it really needs is for everyone to get behind it and give it a little push.

Remember, organizations perish for a number of reasons. One of them is through simple neglect.

It's is something to think about.

Continued on next page



Not to be all doom and gloom, it's time to now switch from Lodge-mode to personal. For the first time in 30 years, I managed to enjoy an extended getaway in September.

What a vacation!

Lisa and I headed down to Curaçao in September to mark our 30th anniversary. This was not our first visit to an all-inclusive destination, but probably one of the best.

We decided to upgrade our stay and, as a result, enjoyed a semi-private pool and semi-private buffet breakfast area. It was fantastic.

For those not in the know, Curaçao is home to the oldest functioning synagogue in this hemisphere, one with a floor covered with sand.

Overall, the food was great, the resort fantastic and the getaway just what we both needed.

Be well.



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The following has been reprinted with permission of Jeffrey Sherman, Editor of Shul Matter, Pride of Israel Synagogue.

IN PRAISE OF PAPER

We've published a couple of announcements that this newsletter would no longer be mailed out to members unless requested. **I'm glad to say that those reports were premature, and the paper newsletter will continue to be mailed out unless a member requests that it be stopped.** This newsletter is also available as a pdf file from the shul website or by email upon request to the office, if you would also like an electronic copy.

Going paperless is certainly appealing at a superficial level from the cost and "green" perspective, so maybe it's time to give the opposing view.

Paperless is not greener if you print it out anyway. This newsletter is printed very efficiently on a modern high-speed printer, double-sided, that uses toner efficiently. If you print it at home it probably uses more toner and if you print it single-sided the process consumes twice as much paper.

Reading can be a tactile process. E-book sales have stagnated, people like the feel of paper for leisurely reading. We receive more and more of our information on tablets, phones and screens, but there is a place for a leisurely read using paper. Soon there may not be paper, so enjoy it while you can.

We want you to leave this bulletin lying around. Leave it on your kitchen counter, post articles on your fridge, hand it out to friends and children. You are helping to publicize our shul.

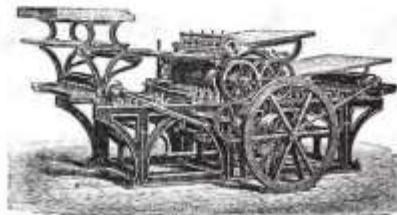
This newsletter is designed to be read on paper. The design of information on a screen is completely different from design optimized for a sheet of paper. When laying out this newsletter, I make dozens of decisions that would be very different if it were intended to be read on a screen. Just one example: a lot of thought goes into what goes on facing pages, and even whether a given article goes on the left-handed page or the right.

Receiving by mail a paper bulletin is a tangible benefit from being a member of the Pride of Israel. How often do you receive something "free"?

I could list several more reasons ... but my overall message is ... in a society of digital ephemera, there is some merit in hanging on to tangible objects as long as we can.

All the best to you and your families for a happy, healthy, and prosperous New Year.

Jeffrey Sherman
Editor
Shul Matters



FUNDRAISING



Forestdale Heights Lodge is once again selling the popular Entertainment books.

The price is \$35 for 1; \$65 for 2; \$90 for 3.

Lodge members can purchase through FHL or log on to the Entertainment website and make purchases in Canadian funds. The site also allows for the purchase Entertainment books for other cities.

Go to <https://fundraising.entertainment.com/> to log in and make a purchase. Every online purchase benefits Forestdale Heights Lodge.

For more information, contact Stewart Indig at indigs@rogers.com.



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FUNNIES

With Americans going to the polls this month, we thought it was time to lighten the mood with some political funnies.

Q: If Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump are in a boat and it capsizes. Who survives?

A: America

A new poll has Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump virtually tied, with Clinton leading Trump 46 percent to 45 percent. It's the closest Trump has ever gotten to a woman his own age.

Hillary Clinton went on Meet the Press yesterday, and I saw that Chuck Todd actually showed her a video of all the times she's flip-flopped on issues. At first, Hillary said she felt bad about it, but now she says she feels OK about it.

Three boys walk through the woods and suddenly hear cries for help. They follow the sound to the lake and see Donald Trump drowning. The boys jump into the water and drag him to shore. Trump asks the boys how he can repay them. The first boy says, "I want a boat." The second boy says, "I want a truck." The third boy says, "I want a nice tombstone." Trump asks, "Why is that?" The boy says, "Because when my dad finds out I helped save you, he's going to kill me."



GOOD & WELFARE

Birthdays

Rhona Levistan	November 6
Debbi Silver	November 17
Stan Horowitz	November 20
Michael Kates	November 23



Anniversary

Allan & Lisa Brown	November 5
--------------------	------------



FHL wishes a speedy recovery to Michael Kates and Rosalie Moscoe.

If you have any special moments in your life that you wish to share with the Lodge, please send announcements to jelijo@sympatico.ca.



FUNNIES



Donald Trump and his chauffeur are driving on a country road. Suddenly, a pig runs in front of the car. The chauffeur has no time to react, and runs over it, giving it instant death. The chauffeur stops the car, gets out and looks around. He spots a small farmhouse in the distance. Donald says to his chauffeur, “You should at least tell them that you’ve killed the pig” The chauffeur does as he’s told. A couple of hours later, the chauffeur stumbles out of the farmhouse, covered in lipstick kiss-marks and a bottle of champagne in each hand. As he stumbles to the passenger side window, Donald exclaims, “Jesus, what did you tell them?” “Exactly what you told me boss: Hi I’m Donald Trump’s chauffeur and I’ve just killed the pig”

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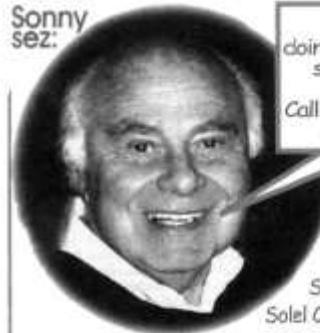
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Hello Lodges,

I am writing to you as we are rolling out a new method for membership renewals. Please add this to your newsletters to notify your members of the new and updated method of membership renewal.

We are trying to go paperless so membership renewals will not be mailed out as in past years. We are sending e-mail reminders to those members we

have e-mail addresses for. Please advise your members to contact me with their e-mail address if we do not have it. My contact information is below. If your members do not have/use email then we will be printing and mailing out statements, but prefer that we automate as much as possible.

An email reminder is being sent out with a 60-day window. Advise your members that if they wish to receive a tax receipt for 2017 to please wait until the new year to make payment and if they wish to receive a 2016 tax receipt (if they haven't yet received one) to please pay by December 19, 2016.

Once the membership dues are paid (if done online), they will receive an immediate e-mailed tax receipt. No waiting for me to send one out. If they wish to pay by cheque, then they can mail in the payment to me and I will process it with a tax receipt to follow shortly afterward.

Please be patient as we are implementing a new system and our IT guy is diligently trying to make it extremely easy for members to renew. If your members aren't sure of the lodge name or the dues amount owing, please have them contact me and I will provide that to them.

Thank you for your patience as we make a leap into the 21st century!
Shabbat Shalom,

Elyse Gruenspan
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We are counting down to our 50th anniversary celebration in June 2017.

1989

**FHL Presidents: Michael Kates/Frank Shapiro
Prime Minister Brian Mulroney; Ontario Premier David Peterson**

January 1 – The Canadian-American Free Trade Agreement comes into effect.

January 20 – George H. W. Bush succeeds Ronald Reagan as the 41st President.

January 24 – Florida executes Ted Bundy by electric chair for the murders of young women.

February 10 –President Bush meets Prime Minister Mulroney in Ottawa, laying the groundwork for the Acid Rain Treaty of 1991.

March 15 – Israel hands over Taba to Egypt, ending a seven-year territorial dispute.

March 24 – Exxon Valdez oil spill: In Alaska's Prince William Sound, the Exxon Valdez spills 240,000 barrels of oil after running aground.

June 3 – The SkyDome (now known as Rogers Centre) opens in Toronto.

June 4 – The Tiananmen Square crackdown takes place in Beijing on the army's approach to the square, and the final standoff in the square is covered live on television.

July 5 – The television show Seinfeld premieres.

July 6 –The first Palestinian suicide attack on Israel, takes place in Tel Aviv.

July 10 – Mel Blanc, the man of 1000 voices of many characters, dies of heart disease aged 81.

July 31 – In Lebanon, Hezbollah announces that it has hanged U.S. Marine Lt. Col. William R. Higgins in retaliation for Israel's kidnapping of Hezbollah leader Abdel Karim Obeid.

September 19 – The Catholic Church calls for removal of the Carmelite convent located near the former Auschwitz concentration camp, whose presence had offended some Jewish leaders.

December 6 – Marc Lépine, an anti-feminist gunman, murders 14 young women at the École Polytechnique de Montréal.

December 17 – The first full-length episode of the animated series The Simpsons is shown on Fox television in the United States.





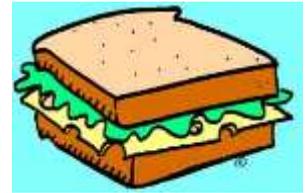
AS I SEE IT

Marc Kates

I often take inspiration from my mother's "As I See It" column for Kol Echad for what I should submit.

For the summer 2005 edition of Kol Echad, my mother wrote about the topic of being the "sandwich generation." She wrote, "... we now find ourselves confronted with responsibilities we never considered — parents, and other family members in need of assistance and care... but now [we] find ourselves 'sandwiched' between those we nurtured and those who nurtured us." My mother also wrote, "...I am not so sure that I want my children to be the "sandwich generation." In fact, I don't want them to be sandwiched at all." Well, Mommy, your wish for us never did come to fruition.

As I write this article, today marks exactly four weeks since my father was hospitalized. I await my brother's arrival so that we can now go down together to the hospital. The time on the computer reads 9:08 p.m. The kids are asleep in bed, lunches for tomorrow are mostly made, and the few minutes I have before my brother arrives affords me time to compose this month's article.



The concept of the "sandwich generation" is not a new term for me, but I would like to offer a more updated version — "the panini press." I saw first-hand how my parents found themselves stuck between dealing with their parents and with us kids. I know that my mother felt guilty that at the same time she was dealing with my younger brother, then a toddler, she was also attending to the health needs of my grandparents. This 'squish' is exactly where I am, right between generations.

I now find myself in the role of caregiver, both to my three young children and to my father. The pulls for my attention are many. Now that the clock reads 11:02 p.m., I simply don't have the 'koyach,' to start doing the things I need to do for my paying job. Of course, miraculously, it will all get done. Somehow, even adding yon-tif in the mix as well, the sukkah was put up and we will be in shul shaking the lulav and etrog on Sukkot and hosting guests in the sukkah.

My mom got it right when she wrote, "We didn't ask for this role, but it is ours." How true.

BINGO



Our next bingo will be Tuesday, November 8.
If you would like to help out, please contact Richard Kotzen (416) 783-2737 or richkotzen@rogers.com.
Future bingo dates will be Dec. 12, Jan. 10, Feb. 14, May 9, and June 13.

UPCOMING

This season we are doing something different in terms of recruiting guest speakers. Instead of looking elsewhere, this year's roster of speakers will come from within our ranks.

On December 12, Carl Zeliger, who is a lawyer, will talk about the importance of wills and having a power of attorney.

At our February meeting, Mark Spergel, from Royal LePage Signature Realty, will talk about real estate strategy.

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