

KOL ECHAD

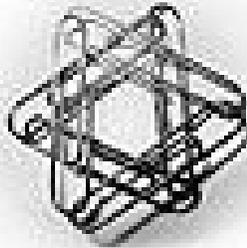
Forestdale Heights Lodge #2667

October 2006

Tishrei/Cheshvan 5767

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about
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happened
next
was a
miracle.



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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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Lisa Rosen

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



What's New

Monday, October 16 Lodge Meeting
Monday, November 13 Lodge Meeting
Monday, December 11 Lodge Meeting

Kol Echad Deadlines

November Issue October 10, 2006
December Issue November 10, 2006
January Issue December 10, 2006
February Issue January 10, 2007

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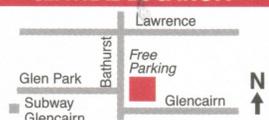
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Editor's Desk

It's time to say goodbye to an old friend. Well maybe friend is too strong a word, but in any case it's time to take our leave of the year 5766. With any luck we will not see its likes again.

For Israel the year just finished proved once again that it can count its true friends on one hand. Iran certainly made its point on repeated occasions, calling for Israel's destruction as well as downplaying the horrors of the Holocaust.

I have heard it said that Israel may have no choice but to go in and take out Iran's nuclear capabilities.

In my view, that would be a serious mistake, especially after the carnage and destruction which resulted in Lebanon when Israel tried to wipe out Hezbollah. The destruction of that country's infrastructure may have given a boost to the terrorist thugs.

No one ever said war was fair.

Despite all the misery, it was nice to finally see Canada take a firm stand in favor of Israel's efforts to eliminate its enemy.

For far too long our country's leaders have sat on the sidelines giving equal weight to both Israel and those who are calling for its destruction.

Was it a complete surprise though? I think not. Prime Minister Stephen Harper has been saying for years that our country must stand shoulder to shoulder with fellow democracies around the world.



As a life-long Liberal, I welcomed his strong support of the Jewish state.

Still, if our PM erred it was in not standing up for Canada enough, especially when Canadians in Lebanon were being shelled.

I do not think Harper's unwavering support of Israel will play a factor in the next federal election.

Strong federal policies are one thing, but when Canadians enter the ballot booth it is usually domestic issues that are in the forefront of their thoughts.

Already the PM's stand on day care, AIDS and many other issues have drawn strong condemnation from different quarters.

That's how it should be, for while we as Jews want our leaders to back Israel, as Canadians we have to remain concerned about how our government is running the show over here.

Judging by the polls, Harper is not doing too well at the moment, slipping back to pre-election numbers. That is with the Liberals leaderless of course.

I think 5767 will prove to be an interesting year, both at home and abroad. I hope that it leads to peace in the Mideast, but I am a bit sceptical.

Still, where there is a will, there is a way.

Shalom

Jeff Rosen

Good & Welfare

October Birthdays

Carl Zelig – October 12

Sandy Gordon – October 15

Ivan Bloom – October 30

Nate Salter – October 31



October Anniversaries

Elliott & Susan Schwatz – October 5

David & Arna Gorender – October 26

Harvey & Debbi Silver – October 28

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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Installation Speech



Dear family and friends, I want to thank you for being here to share with me in the 39th installation of Forestdale Heights Lodge. I want to thank the Installation, programming and social chairs, Sandy Gordon and Albert Ohana for doing such a great job in planning this evening and making it all come together so effortlessly.

I want to thank Morris Shapransky for conducting our candle lighting ceremony and for reserving this room for our installation. I love the idea of a laid back venue and a BBQ. What a great idea it was to do it this way.

I want to extend a very special thank you to Harold Davis for once again honouring me, and our lodge by serving as our installing officer. Over the last year or so, Harold and I have had many personal conversations regarding B'nai Brith. I value his wisdom, insight but more importantly, I treasure the friendship that has developed between us. I am proud to be able to call you my friend, and I thank you Harold, for just being you.

I am thrilled that Irv Pupko is serving as our MC for this evening. Thank for you doing such a great job. Tomorrow, Irv begins the lengthy process to once again, being the recipient, of stem cell transplanting. On behalf of the lodge and myself, we all wish him and his family the strength they need to see him through to a full and total recovery.

I was blessed with a team of chair people this year who did their job extraordinarily well. From Ivan Bloom heading up our CVS efforts, to those who make up Team Kol

Echad, under the direction of Jeff Rosen. There is the financial aspect of our lodge under the careful watch of Stan Zelig and our recording secretary, Barry Gordon. Not to mention our team of cracker-jack barbequers to our Night at the Races, because of David Gorender, or our annual Purim Megillah reading, under Carl Zelig, it all took planning. Each one of your efforts has been appreciated and because of your commitment to our lodge, it continues to have a reputation of excellence. You made it easy for me and I am proud that to have served with such a group of talented, dedicated people who really do care.

In the months since I was first installed, I learned from you that success in leadership results from a cohesive and strongly held set of values and tireless dedication. I must admit I had great reservations about being the first female president of our lodge. My personality is such that I wouldn't have admitted that a year ago, but I am admitting it now. I may appear confident and self-assured on the outside, but inside I was nervous, anxious and somewhat uneasy. I was sure that any mistakes, oversights, faux pas that I would make, would be held up to my gender my lack of knowledge, and leadership ability. Being the first female in any endeavour is never easy, but what I found was that my lodge embraced my ideas, supported my thought process and gave me the strength to lead our lodge into a direction that may possibly change the future of B'nai Brith Canada and Forestdale Heights.

This summer, I called a Board of Governors meeting requesting them to give me permission to launch a petition through the B'nai Brith International Court of

Appeals regarding transparency, accountability and the hosting of a proper Annual General Meeting. I presented the facts to this executive committee. The past presidents supported the idea, and the concept of this appeal, and I signed the petition on behalf of our lodge. All lodges need to take a leadership role in making change, and my lodge gave me their support to begin this process.

As we look and plan the future we need to be part of the solution in order to make our world and our Jewish community a stronger and better place. Our sense of community, increasingly an international one, dictates how B'nai Brith Canada will focus on finding the means to address these inequities across the world, as well as here at home in our own backyard. We will need to focus more globally, sharing resources and building partnerships that extend to other lodges and other community agencies, across the street, across town, and around the world.

Cynics will say the fabric of B'nai Brith Canada may be fatally torn. I say the fabric is strong and resilient, and I am confident we will emerge from our present difficulties with a renewed sense of purpose. In order to maintain anything of quality, it is necessary to be vigilant and protective of its basic nature. It is my belief that the backbone of our organization, our CVS work, our purpose and focus is to improve the quality of life for everyone. If we subscribe to that as our mission, we can only pursue excellence, and we will continue to be the fundamental strength of our organization. The truth is, with hard work and honest achievement, tempered with compassion for all humans we will and can make a difference.

Although, Forestdale Heights has limited financial resources, I would contend in many respects we are a very wealthy lodge. We are

rich in reputation; we are rich in talent; we are rich in innovative capabilities; we are rich in dreams and more importantly rich in our vision of the future. From the day this lodge received its charter, in 1967, to the present, we have benefited by the leadership of men who have had outstanding talents and great visions.

The last few weeks have been a very difficult time for Israel. Our men and women in the IDF have been under a microscope and the world is watching its actions to defend itself against terrorist. Israel now has to cope with the aftermath of the war against Hezbollah. It must first recover from the terrible destruction caused by thousands of rockets and missiles.

Extensive efforts will be necessary to repair heavy infrastructure damage. Moreover, defending its citizens has cost Israel billions of dollars, and national economic growth has slowed.

It has been our custom and tradition for the president of the lodge at the annual installation, to hands out awards to members who have excelled, exemplify or have gone above and beyond in pursuing the ideals of our lodge and that of B'nai Brith Canada. This year, with all that Israel has been experiencing, and in consultation with my Senior VP, we have decided in lieu of any awards to individuals, our lodge would be making a donation to the State of Israel to aid in its recovery. On behalf of our lodge I have purchase 10, \$100 State of Israel Bonds, totalling \$1,000. I believe investing in Israel helps secure its future, and sends a message of solidarity. Forestdale Heights, together with Israel, brick by brick and bond by bond our investment is helping to build a progressive, economically innovative and vibrant State of Israel, but more so

contributing to the national infrastructure of Israel.

Our lodge has had a full plate this year of exciting programmes, events and socializing. Once again we delivered Chanukah and Purim baskets to clients of Jewish Families and Child Services, including making it possible for some of their clients to attend a Toronto Marlies game. We honoured our firefighters and police by showing them our appreciation. We still continue to collect hygiene supplies for a number of charities in the GTA. We spent an afternoon at the theatre, experiencing the life and times of Golda Meir. We provided a BBQ and the reading of Megillah Esther to the residents of 4300 Bathurst. There was the baseball game and the Sunday morning we spent playing Board games with Reena residents. We had two exciting speakers. One who talked about advances and research into assisted medical devices and from another we learned about stem cell harvesting and the benefits that genomic will play in the future of medicine. How exciting it was to learn that it is all taking place right here in Toronto. And my personal favourite programmes of this year was the extending of tzdukah, and making personal donations to Woodbine Race Track and the Casino Niagara Gaming Commission.

Enthusiasm is one of the most powerful engines of success. When we do something, we do it with all our might. We put our whole soul into it and stamp it with our own personality. Be active, be energetic, be enthusiastic and faithful, and we will accomplish our objectives. Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm. Though we may be small in numbers we are mighty in our enthusiasm.

May we celebrate, pursue and help achieve the dreams and the visions we share together.

Having worked with the superbly talented members of our lodge, who define and shape our efforts, I cannot help but be optimistic. I believe the future for Forestdale Heights is very bright indeed, as we head into our 40th year.

May we all strive to lead full and productive lives in the New Year. May our work and our deeds as a lodge bring healing to a fractured world. May the journey we all are embarking on, be one of learning, good health, joy, excitement, and peace. Thank you.

Bonnie Kates

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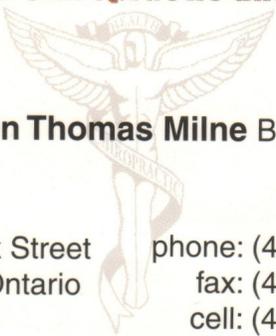
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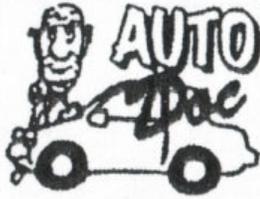


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Installation 2006 photos



Installation 2006

It was warm, *hamishe* affair and a lot of fun as Forestdale Heights Lodge celebrated its 39th annual installation on Sunday, September 10 at 4300 Bathurst Street.

As guests filtered into the party room in the B'nai Brith building, they were treated to an array of splendid and delicious appetizers including chopper liver, crackers, egg rolls, dill pickles and hummus and pita.

Once everyone was present and accounted for, Irv Pupko opened proceedings as the evening's master of ceremonies welcoming members, spouses and guests before inviting Morris Shapransky to lead the menorah lighting ceremony.

Jeff Rosen followed Morris to the microphone, reciting an opening prayer, expressing hope that *Ha'Shem* guide the new executive in the coming year.

Last year the lodge invited B'nai Brith Canada immediate past president Harold Davis to bring greetings to our lodge. This year we were very fortunate that Harold was able to return and deliver yet another important message to our lodge.

Marc Kates, son of our president, delivered *Hamotzi* to start the dinner portion of the evening.

A wonderful buffet meal was set out including steaks, chicken (or fish for

those who preferred), with tortellini, roasted vegetables, Israeli vegetables and potato knishes.

Finishing off dinner, Harold Davis returned to the microphone to uninstall the 2005-2006 executive and install the executive for 2006-2007 concluding with his installation of Bonnie Kates as she was sworn in as president for her second term.

Traditionally the wife of the president has always been presented with a small token of the lodge's appreciation. This past year, with a female president, our lodge decided to present the first male spouse of a sitting president with a similar gift. Lisa Rosen was tasked with the job of presenting Michael with a beautiful *challah* board.

Jeff concluded the formal part of the evening with the closing prayer before coffee, tea and dessert was served.

The evening was enjoyed by all present, including our lodge's newest members Marla & Avery Matlow and Morty & Dolores Green. We hope that the newest members have many years of good memories in our lodge.

Special thanks go to Albert Ohana and Sandy Gordon for putting together such a wonderful installation.

Sandy's Scripts



In reflecting on what I was going to write about this month, one word came to mind – *family*.

My sister Noreen and I recently visited Halifax, to celebrate the Bar Mitzvah of our nephew. It was a special occasion for our family because our brother Jack took his family to Israel to celebrate the Bar Mitzvah of his son Lewis in June. The plan was to have a reception after the camp season in August.

August 11 came very fast and we flew into Halifax and checked into the hotel. The walk down memory lane had begun! It was the first time since we left our family home that we actually shared a room together. It was still early in the day so we decided to take a little ride and go for coffee.

The next thing we knew, we were on the street where we grew up. There was our house, very well kept, and a man was talking to his neighbours. We parked the car and at that moment we had agreed to approach the man and tell him who we were. Noreen said, “You do the talking”.

We got to the driveway and introduced ourselves. Words came easy and before we knew it, he asked if we would like to see the house! I hadn't seen the inside of the house in about 32 years. Just in case you are wondering, the new owners had done a lot of renovations to the house and it looked wonderful. It brought back memories.

We went to the corner restaurant that we used to frequent for coffee as we didn't have a chance

to sit down when the owner recognized us. Well it was old home week again reminiscing about when we lived in Halifax.

On Sunday morning we had planned to go to the museum at Pier 21. For those who are not aware, years ago anyone arriving from Europe came through this Pier. The museum tells the story of all the various groups that once docked at Halifax Harbour, and many made their homes in our city. It was an emotional time as we knew some of the folks being interviewed in the films. Even though we grew up knowing these people, we never knew what they went through.

The reception took place on Sunday, August 13. We arrived at our brother's house to find a gorgeous setting! There were a lot of relatives to see and many acquaintances we hadn't seen in years. It was special, but nothing more special than to see our brother and his wife living in the Jewish tradition that our parents and grandparents worked so hard to provide for their children. In a smaller community, it is not easy. Our parents would have been so proud. We know, because we felt they were there!

So during the New Year and beyond, when families get together don't forget to build the memories! There is nothing more important than family. So don't think about what you don't have, because it doesn't matter, appreciate what you do have, *family!*

Until the next time.

Sandy Gordon



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Untimely Question

Two Jews, Morty and Saul, are out one afternoon on a lake when their boat starts sinking. Saul says to Morty, "So listen, Morty, you know I don't swim so well."

Morty remembers how to carry another swimmer from his lifeguard class when he was just a kid, so he begins tugging Saul toward shore.

After ten minutes, he begins to tire. Finally about 100 feet from shore, Morty asks Saul, "So Saul, do you suppose you could float alone?"

Saul replies, "Morty, this is a hell of a time to be asking for money!"

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 | 1987 | 1988 |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| PRESIDENT | Al Reider 1987-1988 | Michael Kates 1988-1989 |
| MUSIC | 1. "Open Your Heart" ... Madonna 2. "Livin' on a Prayer" ... Bon Jovi 3. "Jacob's Ladder" ... Huey Lewis and the News 4. "Lean on Me" ... Club Nouveau 5. "Nothing's Going to Stop Us Now" ... Starship | 1. "So Emotional" ... Whitney Houston 2. "Got My Mind Set on You" ... George Harrison 3. "The Way You Make Me Feel" ... Michael Jackson 4. "Need You Tonight" ... INXS 5. "Could've Been" ... Tiffany |
| POPULAR MOVIES | 1. Beverly Hills Cop III 2. Dirty Dancing 3. Dragnet 4. Fatal Attraction 5. Full Metal Jacket | 1. Beetlejuice 2. Big 3. Bull Durham 4. Cocktail 5. Colors |
| POPULAR TV SHOWS | 1. The Cosby Show 2. Roseanne 3. A Different World 4. Cheers 5. 60 Minutes | 1. The Cosby Show 2. A Different World 3. Cheers 4. The Golden Girls 5. Growing Pains |
| SPORTS | NBA: Los Angeles Lakers vs. Boston Celtics Series: 4-2 Stanley Cup: Edmonton Oilers vs. Philadelphia Flyers Series: 4-3 World Series: Minnesota Twins vs. St. Louis Cardinals Series: 4-3 | NBA Los Angeles Lakers vs. Detroit Pistons Series: 4-3 Stanley Cup: Edmonton Oilers vs. Boston Bruins Series: 4-0 World Series: Los Angeles Dodgers vs. Oakland A's Series: 4-1 |

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Happy New Year 5767

CVS BBQ



We did it again with a flip of the spatula and a turn of the tongs.

On Monday, August 28, Forestdale Heights Lodge held another successful CVS barbeque for the residents of 4300 Bathurst. Hot dogs and hamburgers cooked on an open barbeque grill were washed down with a generous supply of soft drinks along with a side order of cole slaw and potato salad. A special cake provided a sweet ending to the delectable meal.

The weather appeared to threaten the festivities, but our members quickly moved food and the (hot) BBQ under the shelter.

Once again, head chef David Gorender ensured that food loss was kept to a minimum and that all residents (and volunteers) were well fed.

Special thanks to all Forestdale Heights members who came out to ensure a successful program.

Forestdale Heights was represented by Barry and Sandy Gordon, Harvey Silver, Morris Shapransky, Ray Moscoe, Bonnie and Michael Kates, Stan Zeliger, Lisa, Jeff and Jordana Rosen, Irv and Ruth Pupko and Noreen and Harold Cohen. Prospective lodge member Isaac Aptowitz was also instrumental in making the program a success. Stan Horowitz's presence was also felt.

This year Forestdale Heights received help from members of some other lodges. We would like to thank those members from Thornhill Lodge, Raoul Wallenberg Yorkdale Circle Lodge and Doreinu Lodge, as well as staff members from B'nai Brith, who came out to lend some greatly appreciated assistance.



Random Musings



As the High Holidays approached this year I started thinking, as so many people do, about what is important in the way we live our lives. One word came to mind:

kindness. Not so much the occasional acts of kindness that we are capable of doing on a sporadic basis; rather, the overall practice of kindness as a way of life.

Can we truly say that we treat others well? How do we treat the cashier at the supermarket as we rush to purchase last minute items? How do we treat the waitress or waiter in a restaurant?

How do we treat our friends and family

members? Are we understanding of each others' foibles and shortcomings?

Are our motivations pure when we relate to others? Are we ourselves treated with kindness by others?

It seems to me that if more people cultivated the art of kindness in their relations with others, people would have a sense of dignity as they went about their daily activities.

May the New Year be one of kindness for all of us.

Elizabeth Bloom

The Friendly Greek



*Gregory Stefanidis
Manager*

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