

March 3, 2023
ד'תשפ"ג



newsletter

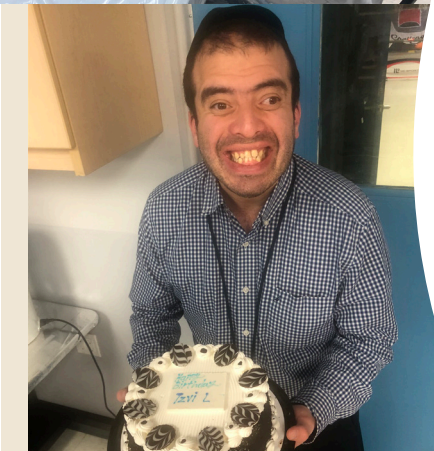
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This week in review!

As we mentioned previously the Chevra was excited about our visit with **Rabbi Moshe Tuvia Lieff Shlita**. Let's just say it was nothing short of remarkable. As soon as we all got seated there wasn't a sound to be heard. Everyone became silent as the Rav approached the room. He sat down and began to give words of praise and encouragement to the group. He continued by bringing in some inspiring words of Devrei Torah to the Chevra. We then spoke about Purim and the Rav was very impressed by the Chevra's ability to answer many of the questions that were discussed. The Rav mentioned on several occasions that we, the Chevra have more of an impact to the greater good for the world than we even realize. He even said that "there are people who look for a Yeshua and seek out Rabbanim to give them a Bracha. Really, the people who want a Bracha should ask you Bachurim at the Chevra! The Rabbi knew several individuals in the Chevra and mentioned it to them. Some individuals had a few personal words with the Rabbi as well.

A particular memorable moment was when the Rav asked everyone to stand up to dance and sing. Of course without hesitation everyone immediately got up and started dancing with Rabbi Lieff in the Beis Medresh! Afterwards, **Nachum A.** asked Rabbi Lieff if he could ask him a question, the Rav said sure! Nachum asked how come we eat Hamantaschen on Purim? The Rav said that was a very good question. He explained that there are a few reasons why it's triangular and why we fill it with different fillings. One reason it is called Hamantaschen is because it comes from the words Mohn (poppy seed) and Taschen (pockets) and back in the days of





Purim, this was a common pastry to eat. We also eat it because the fillings are mostly hidden in the pastry and so too we want to hide our sins from Hashem and hope he looks the other way. Another widely accepted reason is that Haman's hat was shaped triangular which was common for kings to wear back in those days so we shape the Hamantaschen in a triangle form to remember the amazing miracles that Hashem performed for us during the holiday of Purim. Amazing question by Nacham A. and followed by an in depth analysis by Rabbi Lieff!

Rabbi Lieff ended the visit with a special photo opportunity and was able to take a picture with every individual that came. He also told the Chevra "more than any zechus out there, by you coming here is the biggest zechus for me and you have given me a tremendous amount of Chizuk".

The Rav thanked us tremendously for coming and we thanked the Rav in return. It was an amazing day that we will remember forever!

Back to the reality of regular activities our music therapy and martial arts classes were enjoyable this week as everyone participated even more than they normally do, (maybe it had to do with being spiritually uplifted by Rabbi Lieff). During martial arts, at first **sensei Dennis** had the group do some warm up exercises by having a brief cardio workout session. The guys jogged around the matted karate arena many times until they increased their heart rates slightly to be prepared for what was next. Once we were all warmed up we followed, sensei Dennis lead the group with self-defense karate kicks and punches. The guys all felt good about themselves after completing their exercises. During music therapy everyone feels very comfortable bashing away on the drums and letting it go at the piano. Both classes are all full of smiles as they learn so much in the process.

Back at Otsars Chevra the entire group made their own Hamantaschen from scratch! The group was extra pumped to make these since they just recently learned all the spiritual secrets about Hamantaschen. **Anat**



helped the individuals prepare the dough by mixing all the ingredients together and following all the steps of the recipe until we had a beautiful mixture. Then everyone picked out which type of filling that they wanted to put on their custom Hamantaschen. They had a blast making them and enjoyed eating them even more!

Happy birthday to **Tzvi Lowinger**! During Tzvi's celebration with the **Chevra, Chaim & Lipa** each wrote up a small speech and said it over beautifully which included some nice birthday wishes! Thank you to the Lowinger family for sponsoring the delicious ice cream cake. Happy birthday Tzvi, Ad Me'ah Ve'esrim Shanah!

Have a wonderful Shabbos & a Freilichen Purim!

Mr. Kerper

Thoughts on Parshas Tetzaveh:

The Gemara tells us that the robe of the Kohen Gadol atones for the sin of Lashon Hara, because Hashem said: "Let something that makes sound come and atone for an act of sound". Aharon had bells on his clothes. Everyone knew when he was in the vicinity. There is a Halacha that someone must knock on the door before entering a room or a home, even his own home, in order not to frighten anyone or catch someone at an awkward moment. In other words, announce your presence. There are things people would prefer not having other people see them doing. There are conversations which shouldn't be suddenly interrupted. If like Aharon HaKohen we announce our presence, we not only avoid embarrassing situations, we approach Holiness. *[Source- Finding the Right words- Rosally Saltman- Targum/Feldheim]*

Enjoy Menuchas Shabbos! Enjoy Chag Purim!

Sincerely,

Rabbi Gross



(This week **Evan** came over to **Hillel** and requested on his own if he would be able to help with typing up some of the newsletter for this week. Of course the answer was yes and in fact this D'var Torah which was written by **Rabbi Gross** was actually typed up by none other than **Evan Dweck**! Thank you!)

A few jokes for you...

Q. What was Queen Esther's royal gown made of?

A. POLY-ESTER!

Q. Who has the tallest family tree in history?

A. Haman!

Q. How do we know that the people in Shushan were hard of hearing?

A. Because it says in the Megillah, Vayi'he bemay Achashverosh... who? Achashverosh!

Q. How do you know that Haman was drunk?

A. Because he was hung over!



Cheera visits Rabbi Lief Shilta!



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