



## PESACH EDITION!

פרשת צו  
March 31, 2023

### This week in review!

The Chevra had a great time preparing for the upcoming holiday of Pesach with an array of related activities.

We started the excitement off by taking a trip to the Chareidy Shmurah Matzah Bakery, not too far from us on New Utrecht Ave. While we were there we saw that each person had a specific job. It was a sight to see just how organized each person working was and how all the bakers must work in unison to have the job completed correctly. As our group was watching, we were amazed how hot the ovens were. Yes, we could even feel some of the heat draft blowing from where we were standing! Almost as soon as the Matzahs were rolled out into the ovens, they were practically taken out within seconds after putting them in!

After watching dozens of Matzahs being made right before our eyes, the Chevra group was eager to have our very own hands on Matzah baking experience. And that's just what we did. We took a trip to the Matzah baking workshop located at the Chabad of the Upper West Side. This class was given by **Rabbi Fried**. The Rabbi was so happy to see our group again as he knows the Chevra from when we previously made Shofars & Olive oil with him. As soon as we walked into the room to bake the Matzahs, there was a nice smell of freshly made matzos from the previous class. We couldn't wait to see a new perspective on the Matzah baking since this time Rabbi Fried was leading it. Rabbi Fried proceeded to ask the Chevra several questions about Matzah and then taught the Chevra







how Matzah's are made from scratch. He first showed us the wheat stalks and then broke off the kernels with the chaff. He had everyone blow the chaff out, leaving only the kernels behind. Then he brought his very heavy manual wheat grinder and the Chevra worked their muscles by turning the lever to manually grind the kernels to flour! At that point he added the flour and water to a bowl and started kneading the dough. Everyone got a piece of raw dough that they rolled out, each with their own rolling pin. They even had a special "poker" which allowed them to poke holes in the Matzos, just like the professionally made Shmurah Matzos have. Once the dough was all rolled out everyone was counting the clock making sure we did not exceed the 18-minute mark from when we began baking! In a dramatic fashion the Rabbi put the matzos into the oven, and he asked, "Guess how long it takes to bake the matzos in the oven?" By the time anyone got a chance to answer the question he started pulling out the perfectly baked matzos! We then understood that it takes seconds to make Matzah. Everyone had a chance to eat their own special piece of Matzah that they made themselves. We then schmoozed a bit more with Rabbi Fried, took some pictures and headed on out. As we were walking back to our vans, the guys were discussing how much they enjoyed baking the Matzahs with Rabbi Fried.

We all enjoyed our amazing mock Pesach Seder that we had. Thank you to Rabbi Gross who led our Seder together with our staff, **Nachum R** who assisted. At the start of the Seder, we all stood up and sang the Kadaish song. The Chevra said Kiddush together as we started the festivities. We learned and reviewed a bit about each part of the Seder. We also sang many of the Pesach songs in the Haggadah and heard some very nice Divrei Torah. The Seder was beautifully done and we really felt Pesach in our Chevra room. We are all looking forward to having our Pesach Seder with our





friends and families.

To finalize our Pesach preparations the individuals went to get our vans washed. We vacuumed out each of the vans and the individuals went into all the nooks and crannies for each van trying to vacuum each spot. After that we followed up with a nice exterior wash. The vans have not looked this clean in a long time! The group felt fulfilled in all the Mitzvahs and preparations that they were involved in.

Mazel Tov to the Lichtenstein family on the birth of a baby boy to **Simcha's** sister Saralah Weber in Eretz Yisroel. May we continue to only share in Simcha's

Have a wonderful Shabbos and a Chag Kasher V'sameach!

**Mr. Kerper**

### **A thought on Parshas Tzav:**

A man by the name of Yossi asked a Rav a Halachic question: The Halacha states that a yard needs not to be checked for Chametz, since any Chametz that might have been there was probably eaten by birds. The Gemara gives us an insight: Birds can sense when food belongs to stingy people and they avoid eating it. When stingy people bait their traps, they just waste their food, since the birds avoid their food. "Perhaps this also applies to me", explained Yossi. "Perhaps the birds avoid the Chametz in my yard, since they know how stingy I am". Answer: No matter how stingy Yossi is, he still does not need to check his yard for Chametz. There are 3 reasons for this. 1) When he does Bitul Chametz, the Chametz becomes ownerless. Since it's no longer his, birds have no problem eating it. 2) Since Chazal ruled that one may rely on birds to eat the Chametz in in his yard, the bird's nature follows this ruling. 3) A Halacha should not be changed based on Supernatural considerations.



Enjoy Menuchas Shabbos! Chag Kasher V'sameach!

Sincerely,

**Rabbi Gross**

### A few jokes for you...

**Q. What food was Pharaoh given to eat?**

A. Makkah-roni!

**Q. Why did the Matzah baker rob the bank?**

A. He needed the dough!

**Q. Why did the Matzah go to the doctor?**

A. Because he started feeling crumby!

**Q. Have I ever told you the joke about the Matzah and butter?**

A: I better not tell you, it might spread!

**Q. You want to hear a good Matzah pizza joke?**

A. Never mind, it's pretty cheesy!



The kids never let David forget the year he just couldn't find the afikoman

Kids seem to sense when Pesach is drawing near.





# *Chebra's very own Matzah baking class!*





# *Chevera's Mock Seder with Rabbi Gross!*

