



# Touro Tradition



TOURO TRADITION  
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NISSAN 5770

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Service Schedule
- Community Seder
- The Karigal Club

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# HAPPY PASSOVER

## Message from the Rabbi

**T**he holiday of Passover is quickly approaching. This is the appropriate time to think about the seder. Whether we observe Pesach as a community or as a family, we are compelled to utilize the Haggadah, the guide book for the rituals of the seder.

One of the memorable aspects of the seder is giving some thought to the passage describing the four sons, meaning the four personalities, which are believed to be found among our people: the wise, the evil, the simple, and the one who doesn't even know how to ask a question. Most people view the first personality, the wise one, as being the exact opposite of the second one, the "evil" personality. The next comparison is then between the simple son to the one who doesn't know to how ask a question about Passover.

The illustrious Rabbi Elijah of Vilna, known as the Vilna Gaon, believed that we should use a different yardstick. He believed that the opposite of the wise personality is not the evil one, but rather the person who doesn't know how to ask. He also believed that the simple son is not simple, but rather, pure of heart. His opposite, according to the Rabbi, is the evil personality. What the Gaon is telling us is that wisdom consists in caring enough to ask the most basic question, "What are the laws and

testimonies which the L-rd has commanded us?" This personality exemplifies the highest virtue in Judaism. His opposite is actually the "evil" person. Why? By not asking he learns nothing. By learning nothing, he observes nothing. By observing nothing he is totally lost to Judaism. What is evil about this is that his behavior endangers the very existence and future of of our people.

We, at Touro synagogue, are privileged to have many opportunities to ask and to learn. Certainly those of us who attend our Sabbath services have the opportunity to ask me what is of interest to them. Classes are also available to those who wish to further their knowledge of our beautiful religion. The four questions were never purely intended to be the purview of little children. As we read the passage of the Four Sons at our seder, may we experience the words as a motivation for all of us to wonder, question, learn and ultimately rejoice in the precepts of Judaism.

The rebbetzin and I wish each and every one of you a happy and kosher Pesach.



Rabbi Eskovitz

# Passover and Shavuot Services

## *Passover Services 2010*

### Fast of the First Born

Monday March 29, 8:00 AM

### Passover 1st Day

Monday March 29, 7:00 PM  
Tuesday March 30, 8:45 AM

### Passover 2nd Day

Tuesday March 30, 7:00 PM  
Community Seder 7:30 PM  
Wednesday March 31, 8:45 AM  
Wednesday March 31, 7:00 PM

### Chol HaMoed Passover

Thursday March 31 through  
Sunday April 4  
Services 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM  
except Saturday April 3, 8:45 AM

### Passover Days 7 and 8

Monday April 5, 8:45 AM  
Monday April 5, 7:00 PM  
Tuesday April 6, 8:45 AM  
*Yizkor* April 6, 10:30 AM

## *Shavuot Services 2010*

### Shavuot Services

Tuesday May 18, 7:00 PM  
Wednesday May 19, 8:45 AM  
Wednesday May 19, 7:00 PM  
Thursday May 20, 8:45 AM  
*Yizkor* May 20, 10:30 AM



## Message from the Presidents



**J**ust as the Karpas (greens) on our Seder plate symbolizes a rebirth of spirit, the community Seder at the Levi Gale House is a symbol of a rebirth of activity at Touro Synagogue. We have again persevered through another dark winter. Our dedicated management committee had taken the helm of the Touro ship during those dark months, ensuring continuity and a safe and sound course into the light and warmth of spring.

The Seder marks our first activity at the Levi Gale House since its partial closing after our Chanukah dinner. With the arrival of warmer weather, we are looking forward to the return of our “snow birds” along with increasing activity and events at Touro that lead up to our busy summer months and the re-opening of the Visitors Center. A

number of activities, Bar/Bat Mitzvot, weddings, and events are being scheduled for the coming season, and I encourage everyone to participate when they can. Needless to say, these are busy times for Touro. In addition to Touro events, there are a number of community events, such as the Newport Jewish Movie Series, as well as JCC, and Kollel sponsored events around the state, which might be of interest to our members. We will try to keep all informed of these events as information becomes available to us.

Bea and I want to wish the entire Newport Jewish community a Happy Passover. We look forward to seeing you around Touro.

*Saul Woythaler*

*Congregation Jeshuat Israel  
is pleased to announce its*

## *Annual Passover Family Seder*

*Please join us on the 2nd night of Passover  
Tuesday March 30, 2010  
Services are at 7:00 PM in the Synagogue  
Seder begins at 7:30 PM at the Levi Gale House*

*\$50/adult and \$30/child under the age of 13  
or \$150 for a family of  
2 adults and 2 or more children*

*Space is limited  
Reservations must be made no later than  
March 16 and must be accompanied by your payment*

*Indicate if you wish chicken, salmon,  
or stuffed portabella mushroom as your entrée*

*Make checks payable to:  
Congregation Jeshuat Israel  
85 Touro Street  
Newport, Rhode Island 02840*

*Please address queries to Seder Chair Inez Fenster*

# Remember When?

## The Karigel Club

by Jack Abrams

**S**ome time ago I had the occasion to go up to the attic of the Jewish Community Center. I hadn't been there for almost sixty years. And did it bring back memories!!

From about 1936 until 1942, we had a club up there called the Karigel Club. It was named after Rabbi Hayim Isaac Karigel. He was a famous Rabbinic scholar who came to Newport in 1773 and lectured at the Synagogue. He had made the trip to America to raise funds for a school in Israel.

Mike Horowitz took it upon himself to clean the attic and fix it up so that we had about three nice rooms for our club. The community center was usually open, but if it wasn't, we had the keys to get in. Mike was always there. We had a pool table, a ping-pong table, a radio (no TV in those days), as well as other furniture. It was comfortable and inviting, a home away from home.

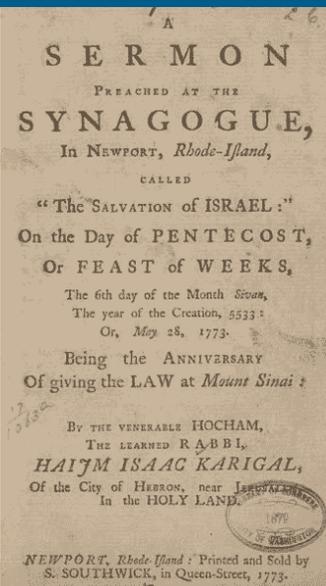
In those days we didn't have too much money so it was an ideal place for Jewish fellows in their late teens to meet. Some of those who came to the club were: Irving Katzman, Irving Nemtsov, Abe Piesacov, Seymour Kaber, Yiddle Feldman, Hermie and Max Meierowitz, Esau Friedman, Mort Kosch, Monro Doroff, Sam Novich, Lester Mines, Bernie Kusnitz, Aaron Slom, Sonny Friedman, Irving Tobak, Butch Herman, Morris Berman, Bill and Milton Cohen, Bobby Siegal, Morris Brown, Norman Klein, and Jake Belofsky. I am sure there were more.

Some of the Jewish girls would sometimes come up too. They included; Eleanor Davis and her sister Tema Siegal, Bella Warner, Rene Herman and others whose names I can't remember. Everybody was welcomed. We even had a basketball team which played in the Church League, and we were good!

I just thought that Newporters should know that in those days just before World War II we had a very busy community center with an active bunch of Jewish fellows and girls and plenty of social activity - dances, parties and meetings. Jewish kids had a closer association in those days and even though the dollar was tight, we had lots of fun. After the War, things were different. Many people moved away and our social lives did not center around the synagogue as much. But those of us who were part of it will always remember the Karigel Club!!



Rabbi Hayim Isaac Carigal



## “Sale of Chometz”

In preparation for the Passover Holiday, it is required that we clear our homes of all forms of “chometz”, all products made from or containing grains which have fermented in any manner, as well as all utensils with which these products have come in contact. Therefore, bread, cereals, yeast products, liquor and beer as well as all the dishes and pans used with them are all considered chometz and must be removed from the home.

One method of “removal” is to sell those items that one does not want to destroy, and which cannot be used up by Passover, to a non-Jew. Since the procedure involves many complicated religious-legal laws, it is customary to appoint the Rabbi as an agent to sell the chometz. These items are then purchased back from the buyer immediately after Passover. During the Passover period one must have all these foods stored in an isolated, closed area and subject to inspection by the purchaser.

**To appoint the Rabbi as your agent, complete the form at the bottom of this page and mail or return it to the Touro office, 85 Touro Street, Newport by Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM. It is only valid if the above mentioned conditions are observed.**



### “SALE OF CHOMETZ” FORM – PASSOVER 2010

In preparation for Passover, I \_\_\_\_\_, (please print name)

residing at \_\_\_\_\_, (please print address)

wish to remove all forms of chometz from my home. I hereby appoint Rabbi Mordechai Eskovitz to act as my agent in selling my chometz before Passover 2010. I understand that this sale is completely legal, and I will isolate all of these products in a separate, closed area during the entire Passover period (Monday, March 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 AM until Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> 9:00 PM) subject only to the purchaser’s inspection.



**Do you need to wish someone “Mazel Tov” or “Get Well”? Is someone you care about in need of condolences? Why not send them a Touro Sunshine Card? Cards are available for many occasions and can be purchased separately and sent for you by Marcia, or in packs for you to send. Each card features a beautiful lithograph of Touro Synagogue. And best of all, your donation for the card helps Congregation Jeshuat Israel. Cards are just \$5 each.**

**Contact Marcia Cohen, Sunshine Chairperson  
Or the Touro office 847-4794 X10**



# Save The Date

Maria Ana Travassos Valdez

Touro Scholar at the John Carter Brown Library at Brown University will speak following services on Saturday, May 1

An Ancient and Portuguese Early Modern History scholar, Ms. Valdez will talk about her research into the work of Manasseh ben Israel, "The Hope of Israel," who predicted that the end of the world would force Catholics and Sephardic Jews to unite under the banner of "Chosen Nation of G-d"

## From Our Archives



### United Hebrew School - Model Seder 1950

Rabbi Lewis and Reverend Katz preside over a model Seder for the Hebrew School children. Do you recognize any of the children or the teachers?



Dedicated in 1763 and designated as a National Historic Site in 1946, Touro Synagogue is the oldest synagogue in the United States and a world renowned symbol of religious freedom.

The Touro Tradition is a publication of:

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## Around Touro

### Congratulations to:

**Mitchell and Paula Chalfin on the engagement of their daughter Megan to Nicholas Lewis**

**Alan and Cindy Smith on the bar mitzvah of their son Ross**

**Michael and Joy Feldman on the forthcoming bat mitzvah of their daughter Samantha**

### Belated Birthday Wishes to:

**'twins' Sam Friedman and Irving Kessler on the anniversary of their joint second bar mitzvah at Touro Synagogue**

### Get Well Wishes to:

**Donna Pimental**

Please let the Office or the Rabbi know when you, a family member, or fellow CJI member is ill, in the hospital, or for any simchat - mitzvot, births, birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, new jobs, awards, etc.

Call 847-4794 ext. 10 (Office), or ext. 15 (Rabbi).