

## SPECIAL PURIM INSERT (HUMOUR... IN HONOUR OF PURIM)

In the last bulletin, we asked for humorous submissions. The response was underwhelming! However, a few of our comic stalwarts rose to the occasion. Here they are, with a few additions from your friendly editor ... enjoy!



*From Paul Socken...*

### JEWISH VOCABULARY LESSON

**BUBBEGUM** *n.* Candy one's mother gives to her grandchildren that she never gave to her own children.

**CHUTZPAPA** *n.* A father who wakes his wife at 4:00 AM so *she* can change the baby's diaper.

**DEJA NU** *n.* Having the feeling you've seen the same exasperated look on your mother's face but not knowing exactly when.

**DISORIYENTA** *n.* When Aunt Sadie gets lost in a department store and strikes up a conversation with everyone she passes.

**DIS-KVELLIFIED** *v.* To drop out of law school, medical school or business, as seen through the eyes of parents, grandparents, and Uncle Sidney. In extreme cases, simply choosing to major in art history when Irv's son, David, is majoring in biology is sufficient grounds for *diskvellification*.

**FEELAWFUL** *n.* Indigestion from eating Israeli street food.

**IMPASTA** *n.* A Jew who starts eating leavened foods before the end of Passover.

**JEWBILATION** *n.* Pride in finding out that one's favourite celebrity is Jewish.

**JEWDO** *n.* A traditional form of self-defence based on talking one's way out of a tight spot.

**MEINSTEIN** *slang.* "My son, the genius."

**MINYASTICS** *n.* Going to incredible lengths and troubles to find a tenth person to complete a *minyán*.

**SHOFARSOGUT** *n.* The relief you feel when after many attempts the *shofar* is finally blown at the end of Yom Kippur.

*From Shimmy Roth...*

### SHUL ANNOUNCEMENTS YOU'D LIKE TO HEAR, BUT WILL NEVER HEAR THE PRESIDENT MAKE

WE'D LIKE TO INFORM OUR MEMBERS THAT HATZOLOH HAS CHANGED ITS PHONE NUMBER SEQUENCE.

PRESS 1: IF YOU ARE LOCKED OUT OF THE HOUSE WITHOUT YOUR SHEITAL ON.

PRESS 2: IF YOU FORGOT TO MAKE CHULENT FOR SHABBOS.

PRESS 3: IF YOUR BABYSITTER CANCELS.

PRESS 4: FOR ALL OTHER EMERGENCIES.

WE SADLY ANNOUNCE THE UNTIMELY PASSING OF PLONI BEN PLONI. HE WAS THE MEMBER WHO WON AND ATE 500 PIECES OF KISHKA LAST MONTH.

OUR SISTERHOOD FASHION SHOW THAT WAS SCHEDULED ON CHOL HAMOED HAS BEEN CANCELLED SINCE IT ALREADY TOOK PLACE ON THE FIRST DAY OF YOM TOV DURING MUSAF.

WE URGE THOSE MEMBERS WHO WILL BE HONORED WITH OPENING THE ARON KODESH TO PLEASE PRACTICE THEIR TECHNIQUE AT HOME WITH THEIR SHOWER DOORS AND CURTAINS.

WE WISH A REFUAH SHELAIMAH TO THE PRESIDENT OF OUR KIDDUSH CLUB. IT SEEMS THAT WHEN HE RETURNED FROM HIS WEEKLY L'CHAIM DURING THE READING OF THE PARSHA, HE FAINTED BECAUSE THE KRIAT TORAH WAS AT THE SAME PLACE AS IT WAS WHEN HE HAD LEFT.

THE RABBI'S CLASS ON THE LAWS OF PESACH WILL TAKE PLACE TUESDAY EVENING. PLEASE BRING YOUR CLEANING LADIES.

THE SHUL HAS DESIGNATED 5 WOMEN TO THROW CANDIES AT ALL SHUL AUF-RUFS. LAST AUF-RUF THERE WERE 100 PACKAGES DISTRIBUTED, BUT ONLY 4 WERE THROWN.

THE CAMPAIGN TO GET MEMBERS TO RETURN SHUL LIBRARY BOOKS HAS BEEN A HUGE SUCCESS. UNFORTUNATELY, THE LIBRARY WILL NOW NEED TO BE CLOSED FOR RENOVATIONS TO ACCOMMODATE ALL THE RETURNED BOOKS.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD HAS UNANIMOUSLY DECIDED, IN LESS THAN 2 MINUTES, TO REVOKE MEMBERSHIP FROM MR. PLONI. IT SEEMS THERE WAS AN INCIDENT WHERE A SEFER TORAH AND A JAR OF HERRING WERE FALLING AT THE SAME TIME, AND HE CHOSE TO CATCH THE SEFER TORAH. THERE IS NO APPEAL.

THE FIRST CASE OF SHUL RAGE OCCURRED WHEN A MEMBER PUT \$10.00 IN THE PUSHKA AND WANTED \$9.50 BACK, UNAWARE OF THE "EXACT CHANGE" POLICY.

TODAY A MEMBER WHO HAS NEVER RECEIVED THE HONOR TO OPEN THE ARON KODESH, IN 27 YEARS, ON YOM KIPPUR BOASTED THAT HE OPENED IT TWICE IN HIS DREAM. THE GABBOIM REVOKED HIS MEMBERSHIP FOR HIS IMPURE THOUGHTS.

TO THE UNKNOWN MEMBER WHO HANGS HIS COAT IN THE ARON KODESH EVERY WEEK, WE CONGRATULATE HIM FOR HIS ORIGINALITY, BUT WE THINK IT'S IN POOR TASTE.

THE SHUL HAS HIRED A BOUNCER TO MAKE SURE GUESTS (WHO SHOULD KNOW BETTER) DON'T SIT IN MEMBERS' SEATS.

DUE TO THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS SNEAKING IN TO PRIVATE KIDDUSHES, ALL MEMBERS WILL BE FINGERPRINTED AND MUST NOW WEAR NAMETAGS.

*And here's a few more, not from Shimmy, but from other sources... These announcements were found in actual shul newsletters and bulletins ...*

Don't let worry kill you. Let your synagogue help.

Join us for our Oneg after services. Prayer and medication to follow.

Remember in prayer the many who are sick of our congregation.

For those of you who have children and don't know it, we have a nursery downstairs.

We are taking up a collection to defray the cost of the new carpet in the sanctuary. All those wishing to do something on the carpet will come forward and get a piece of paper.

The Associate Rabbi unveiled the synagogue's new fundraising campaign slogan this week: "I Upped My Pledge - Up Yours."

### ***From Howard Lyons...***

President Bush calls in the head of the CIA and asks, "How come the Jews know everything before we do?"

The CIA chief says, "The Jews have this expression - "Vus tutzuch?" which in Yiddish means "What's Happening?". They just ask each other and they know everything."

President decides to personally go undercover to determine if this is true. He gets dressed up as an Orthodox Jew (black hat, beard, long black coat) and is secretly flown in an unmarked plane to New York, picked up in an unmarked car, and dropped off on a Borough Park Brooklyn street.

Soon a little old man comes shuffling along. The President stops him and whispers, "Vus tutzuch?"

The old guy whispers back..... "Bush is in Brooklyn."

After years of painstaking research the world-renowned etymologist, Dr. Irwino Diamondopolous, has concluded unequivocally that the word "VELTENSANG" does NOT exist! However, a similar sounding word WAS found to be used as a curse word hurled at passersby by Mongolian monks, in the 11<sup>th</sup> century.

**And NOW for some PURIM TORAH, from sundry sources....**

**"To observe annually the fourteenth day of Adar" (9:21)**

QUESTION: Moshe Rabbeinu was born on the seventh of Adar, thus his *bris* took place on the 14th day of Adar, which is Purim. Was the *bris* performed before the reading of the *Megillah* or after?

ANSWER: Moshe was a great *tzaddik* and he died on the same day he was born. Since Moshe passed away on Shabbos, he was also born on Shabbos. Thus, his *bris* took place eight days later, on Shabbos - on the 14<sup>th</sup> of Adar. Since it was Shabbos, the reading of the *Megillah* took place on Thursday the 12th of Adar.

**"Observe them as days of feasting and gladness" (9:22)**

QUESTION: Is eating a festive meal on Purim and becoming intoxicated a Torah rule or only a Rabbinic ordinance?

ANSWER: From the *pasuk* in *Bereishis* 21:8 "*vaya'as Avraham mishteh gadol beyom higameil es Yitzchak*" - "And Avraham made a great feast on the day Yitzchak was weaned" - we can derive that eating and drinking on Purim is a statute of the Torah.

The Torah is telling us that Avraham made a great feast and drinking party on the day of "*Higomel*" - which can be rearranged to spell the word "*Megillah*," on Purim, when the *Megillah* is read.

Since Avraham's festivities were in honor of Purim, why does it say "*Higomel*" and not "*Megillah*"? This proves that during the Purim meal it is incumbent to become intoxicated to the extent that one does not know the difference between "*Megillah*" and "*Higomel*."

If that is the case, why does the *pasuk* conclude "*es Yitzchak*"? What does Yitzchak have to do with the reading of the *Megillah*?

Because from Yitzchak we learn an important *halacha* regarding Purim. The *shofar* is blown on Rosh Hashanah to recall the *Akeidah* of Yitzchak. However, when Rosh Hashanah falls on Shabbos, our Rabbis tell us to refrain from blowing *shofar* because one may forget and carry the *shofar* four cubits in a public domain. Similarly, when Purim falls on Shabbos, the *Megillah* is not read for the same reason (Rosh Hashanah 29b).

Rabbeinu Aryeh Boruch ben Tuvia (aka "the RABbiT") asks about the need for *tzitzis* on *hamentashen* and on five-cornered garments. He does not, however, ask about five-cornered *hamentashen*, and rightfully so. A five-cornered *hamentash* is strictly forbidden. The name for a five-cornered object, "pentagon," is derived from the Hebrew "*pen tagun*", meaning "lest you fry them." Now we know from this, that the five-cornered *hamentash* is forbidden because of the fear that we may fry them, like doughnuts or pancakes, and thus end up eating them on the wrong holiday.

Q: Why do we daven only half of the Amida during Mincha on Erev Purim?  
A: Because then we are accustomed to give machatzis ha-shuckle.

Q: What does a German Hasid wear on Shabbos?  
A: A Yekishe bekkishe

Q: What is the origin of the custom of bringing sheep to shul on Shavuos and shechting them for lunch?  
A: Shavuos is known as "Chag Mutton Torah."

The wonderful comic, Sam Levinson, had a great answer to anti-Semites. "It's a free world and you don't have to like Jews, but if you DON'T, I suggest that you boycott certain Jewish products, like ....  
The Wasserman Test for syphilis; Digitalis, discovered by Doctor Nuslin; Insulin, discovered by Doctor Minofsky; Chloral Hydrate, discovered by Doctor Lifreich; The Schick Test for Diphtheria; Vitamins, discovered by Doctor Funk; Streptomycin, discovered by Doctor Woronan; The Polio Pill by Doctor Sabin; and the Polio Vaccine by Doctor Jonas Salk.  
Go on, boycott!  
Humanitarian consistency requires that my people offer all these gifts to all people of the world.  
Fanatic consistency requires that all bigots accept:  
Syphilis, Diabetes, Convulsions, Malnutrition, Infantile Paralysis and Tuberculosis as a matter of principal.  
You want to be mad at us? Be mad at us! But I'm telling you, you ain't going to feel so good!"

FINALLY, on the subject of diseases, here is some important health advice - please pay attention:

- (A) The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.
- (B) On the other hand, the French eat a lot of fat and also suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.
- (C) The Japanese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.
- (D) The Italians drink excessive amounts of red wine and also suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.
- (E) The Greeks drink wine, beer, whiskey, and smoke 2 packs of cigarettes a day, but still suffer fewer heart attacks than the British or Americans.

Conclusion: Eat, drink and inhale what you like. It's speaking English that kills you!

**A FREYLICHEN PURIM TO ALL!**