



Mitzvah Club Report

Volume 1, Issue 1

January - March 2013 / Tevet - Adar 5773

Special points of interest:

- Sold out event that attracted over 500 attendees
- Successful launch of the Mitzvah Club
- Opening of the Jewish Children's Library & Resource Center
- New lunch time classes for women

First Quarter Off to a Great Start

Dear Friend, partner and supporter,

I'm very pleased to present to you, our first Mitzvah Club Report newsletter, summarizing the position of our Chabad, during the past quarter.

During the past quarter, we have witnessed great success thank G-d, in many different areas of our work, from the programs offered to the community, to our financial position.

Please read through this report, to learn about a sold out event that attracted over 500 attendees, new lunch time classes for women, three very successful Purim events, the successful launch of the Mitzvah Club, the opening of the Ganz Family Jewish Children's Library & Resource Center, and successful areas which we have found to save on our spending.

I would like to take this opportunity, to thank and appreciate everyone of you, our partners, without your generous financial support we would not be able

to be where we are today!

Your investment in Chabad of Placer County, to build a strong Jewish community for our families and children, is guaranteed to produce a great return, spiritually and materially, just stop by and see the faces of the Jewish children learning about their rich heritage, at the Gan Yeladim Jewish Preschool, and Chabad Hebrew School, and see if for yourself.

May Hashem bless you and your family, with tremendous nachas, prosperity and good health, in the merit of your generous tzedakah, to ensure a strong Jewish community in Placer County.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Yossi Korik

TORAH THOUGHT

When light pushes away the darkness, eventually another darkness shall come.

When the darkness itself is transformed into light, it is a light that no darkness can oppose.

From the wisdom of the Lubavitcher Rebbe, of righteous memory; words and condensation by Rabbi Tzvi Freeman, chabad.org

30 Donors in the Monthly Mitzvah Club

Since the launch of the Mitzvah Club in December of 2012, 30 participants have joined so far.

This participation generates \$2146 per month for Chabad of Placer County.

Thank you to all our current Mitzvah Club participants:

Miha & Regina Ahronovitz, A.D. & Rochel Berkowitz, Kyle & Tammi Bezanson, Marvin Boyd, Jerry &

Sandy Bright, Judith Carter, Murray & Andrea Cleaner, Judy Cohen, Robin Crosby, Rick & Miriam Daniels, Geeta Dardick, Jon Ellis, Len & Kris Ganz, Dale & Alyce Glazer, Rita Glenn, Thomas & Tikvah Gonzalez, Alan & Sandy Hersh, Sy & Beverly Karfiol, Bob & Carol Keller, Al & Zalia Lipson, Sue Ann Moore, Dr. Mikhail & Alla Palatnik, Scott & Celia Rothenberg, Mark & Linda Starr - Schwartz, Gennady & Inna Shapiro, Mikhail & Inna

Shtilkind, Cheryl Smith, Tammy Theodore, Julie Van Horn, Al & Carol Witten.

All of your support is of tremendous significance to ensure a financially strong Chabad of Placer County! Thank you!



Dressed up in costumes at the Purim celebration.

Photo Credit: Miha Ahronovitz



Purim @ Chabad

Purim is always one of the most fun events of the year. This year, we hosted 3 Purim celebrations, throughout the 24 hours of the holiday.

On Saturday night, February 23, a megillah reading followed by delicious hamantashen refreshments, and lechaim was held, with over 30 participants.

Sunday morning, just after the weekly Sunday morning Tefilin Club, which included a bar mitzvah aliyah for Zachary Sasson, we hosted an exciting Purim party for children of all ages and their parents. Over 40 children

and their parents enjoyed, making and eating, Kosher pizza with their favorite topping, Italian gelato, making graggers (noise makers) and of course hearing the story of Purim from the meggila.

Just 4 hours later, over 50 participants had a great Purim time, at the adult Purim party, with an Italian theme. Delicious Kosher Italian food was served, as well as an open Kosher wine bar, featuring a very nice selection of Kosher Italian wines. A caricaturist, drew images of the participants, and all 4 Mitzvot of Purim were fulfilled at the event. 1) reading of the

meggila, 2) Mishloach manot - exchange of gifts of food, 3) Matanot Loevyonim - gifts to the poor, 4) Seudat Purim - a festive meal.

A total of \$167 was collected for the poor at the Purim events, and all these funds were sent to Colel Chabad, an organization which provides food and clothing for poor families in Israel.



Ribbon cutting for the Jewish Children's Library & Resource Center

Jewish Children's Library & Resource Center

On Tuesday, March 5, 23 Adar, we opened the Jewish Children's Library and Resource Center at the Chabad Jewish Community Center. The opening was held at the Ushernish (inaugural haircutting) ceremony for Hershel Korik, which close to 100 community members attended.

During the event, participants had the opportunity to purchase Jewish children books, ranging from 2-12 years of age, and donate them to the library, including a dedication in honor

or memory of a loved one. Many books were purchased and donated to the library.

The library finds itself in one of the rooms at the Chabad JCC, which was completely renovated, with a new floor, ceiling lights, window coverings, and beautiful brand new furniture.

A very creative and artistic tree was painted one of the walls, by a teen age volunteer, Rachel Lowen from Rocklin.

The library was made possible by the generosity of the Ganz Family from Auburn.

We still have more books available for purchase and dedication to the library, they cost \$12 each, and it is a great way to honor a birthday or yartzeit in your family.

“over 50 participants had a great Purim time, at the adult Purim party, with an Italian theme”

Soup, Salad & Soul

A new monthly class was started for women, led by Malkie.

The class meets on Mondays, during lunch time, for a soup & salad lunch, a study and discussion on various topics.

The first class was held on January 21, and since then twice more, in February and

March.

Why does G-d test us?, Anxiety relief and Joy and pleasure are the topics which were covered during these lessons.

Another class is scheduled, G-d willing for Monday, April 15th.

Soup: Matzah ball

Salad: Citrus delight

Soul: Doubts and indecision

The class is open to women of all ages, and it is held at the Chabad JCC - from 12:00 - 1:00 PM. The cost is \$5.

To RSVP email malkie@jewishroseville.com

Anne Frank's stepsister shares experiences - By: Laura O'Brien Press Tribune Correspondent

In a testament to her perseverance in the face of unfathomable evil, Holocaust survivor Eva Schloss spoke about her experiences at the Auschwitz concentration camp to a packed 529-seat Rocklin Event Center on Jan. 17.

"It's wonderful to see such a huge crowd with lots of young people as well," the 83-year-old Schloss said. "It is those young people who will have to carry on the message when we are not around anymore."

Schloss' story became entwined with the most well-known story of the Holocaust when she became Anne Frank's posthumous stepsister.

Schloss actually met Anne Frank in Amsterdam in 1940, months before the Nazis invaded the Netherlands. Schloss and her mother survived Auschwitz, as did Anne Frank's father, Otto Frank. His wife and two daughters, including Anne, perished in concentration camps. Otto Frank later married Schloss's mother, also widowed in the Holocaust.

Members of the Chabad of Placer County in Roseville partnered with other Northern California Chabads in bringing Schloss to Rocklin, said Rabbi Yossi Korik.

Themes of youth, love and death — sewn together with much-needed humor — permeated Schloss's talk. She has spoken to 1,000 audiences and authored two books, including "Eva's Story," since 1986, when an exhibit from the Anne Frank House museum toured England, where she now lives.

Originally from Austria, she met Anne Frank, who was from Germany, when both girls were 11 years old.

"She was actually one month younger than me but she was much more sophisticated than I," Schloss said. "She was interested in her hair styles and in her clothes ... and in boy-friends. I had an older brother, so boys had no mystery for me."

She said a call-up letter for her brother Heinz Geiringer, older by three years, and for Anne's elder sister, ostensibly for work in factories, propelled both families into hiding in 1942.

The Geiringers shuffled between hiding places for two years. The women and men hid separately because it was too difficult to find a hiding space for a family of four. A Dutch double agent discovered the men first and tracked the women back to their hiding place after visiting the men. The family was taken to a camp in Holland then loaded onto cattle trucks headed east.

"That was really the last time I was together with my father and brother," Schloss said. "My father, who was a wonderful person, a real family person, he cried and he said, 'I can't protect you anymore.'"

Upon arriving at Auschwitz, the SS wrenched the men and women from each other. Schloss then faced the first instance when she could have been selected to be killed.

"My mother gave me at that moment her hat and coat and the hat had a rim so when (the SS officer) looked at me he didn't realize how young I was, and that is how I slipped through the first selection."

The women were taken to the barracks, stripped and made to lie naked, and tattooed.

"We were told, 'From now on you're not a human being. You're just like an animal who gets stamped with a number.'"

Schloss and her mother endured the camp for less than a year before the Nazis left.

"One day we woke up and it was very quiet and we went outside, no shouting, no screaming, and the camp was deserted. The Nazis had left, taking most of the inmates with them."

She said about 300 women and 300 to 400 men remained, including Otto Frank. Soviet soldiers led Schloss and her mother eastward from the camp toward Odessa before the women found their way west, eventually returning to Amsterdam, as did Frank.

Schloss was devastated upon learning that her father and brother Heinz died at Mauthausen concentration camp in Austria days before American forces liberated it.

But Heinz lives on in his paintings that Schloss found after the war. She brought copies of some of them with her to the Rocklin Event Center, including, "People Playing Tennis in an Imaginary Beautiful Background" and "Boy Crying with Mother's Body in Background," both painted in 1944. Schloss's 1998 book "The Promise" describes Heinz, who also wrote poetry and played piano, as a means of preserving his memory.

Schloss attempted to resume her life after the war, going to school and becoming a photographer, but she was deeply depressed.

"I was full of hatred. I hated not just the Germans. I hated the whole world, and it was Otto Frank who came to our house very often and said, 'You know, if you hate people you will be miserable. The people you hate don't know it, and so they don't suffer.'"

Schloss moved to London where she met her future husband, from Israel. The couple married in 1952, the same year Anne's Frank's diary was published in America, and they had three children.

Otto Frank and her mother carefully responded to every fan letter about Anne Frank's diary, said Schloss, who is trustee of the Anne Frank Educational Trust.

Young people that came to hear Schloss speak had not yet read Anne Frank's diary. They said they wanted to learn more about the Holocaust



Eva Schloss, Anne Frank's posthumous step sister, answers questions from the audience.
Photo Credit: Anne Stokes/Courtesy of the Roseville Press Tribune

"Holocaust survivor Eva Schloss spoke about her experiences at the Auschwitz concentration camp to a packed 529-seat Rocklin Event Center on Jan. 17."



Eva Schloss, Anne Frank's posthumous step sister, spoke to a full house at the Rocklin Event Center.

Photo Credit: Anne Stokes/Courtesy of the Roseville Press Tribune