



Peterborough Havurah Newsletter



**Issue No 14
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Newsletter Editor and Web Master: John Halper jhal@jdassoc.com

Web Site: www.peterboroughhavurah.org

Committees:

Board of Directors	John Halper, Allen Hollander, Daniella Yitzchak
Spiritual:	Allen Hollander, Nancy Harrowitz, John Halper
Tikkun Olam:	David and Grisel Levene, Jane Morrissey, Liz Halper
Finance:	Liz Halper, Jeffrey Crocker, Jane Morrissey
Seder:	Karen Bell, Nancy Harrowitz, Liz Halper
Havurah Tots	Andrea Manning, Daniella Yitzchak
Shabbat Group Liaison:	Maude Salinger
Tuesday Group Liaison:	James Moon

Recent Events

- **Friday, February 8th, 2008 - Erev Shabbat at the Hollander's in Peterborough**

Allen Hollander led Erev Shabbat services at his home on February 8th and, in place of the traditional D'var Torah, Allen introduced us to a book entitled "You Be The Judge". It's a book containing about twenty short ethical dilemmas that challenges the reader to come up with what they think the right thing to do is in these situations. Then the book discusses what might be the best decision based on Jewish law. We examined some situations and took turns explaining how we might handle them.

- **Saturday, February 16th, 2008 - Havurah gathering at the Moon / Yitzchak's in Jaffrey**

James Moon and Daniella Yitzchak hosted the Havurah on February 16th and we were treated to a hands-on demonstration of Challah making by Daniella. Her Challahs are now famous among Havurah members and it was a real treat to learn how to make them...thanks Daniella. Move over Martha Stewart!

Here are some photos from Chef Daniella's lesson:



That's a big Challah!



Florence listens intently



This is going to become a Challah?



Hard at work!



"Wow, this is fun"





“That’s ok Maude, you’ll get it right next time”



Maude gets it right!

- **Friday, March 7th, 2008 - Erev Shabbat at the Watters / Harrowitz’s in Peterborough**

Erev Shabbat services were held at the home of August Watters and Nancy Harrowitz on March 7th. Allen Hollander led the service and the Torah portion was about the building of the tabernacle, recounted in much detail. It raised interesting issues of the ethical framework necessary for a large project involving a great number of builders, donors and resources, and it provoked a stimulating discussion.

- **Saturday, March 22, 2008 - Havurah Purim Party at the Weiser's in Peterborough**

The Havurah had a wonderful Purim Party hosted by Seymour and Raymonde Weiser on March 22nd. It was a great evening - lots of fun. To add to the festive atmosphere, the Weiser’s decorated their house for Purim and we were joined by a guest, Jo Wellin, Allen Hollander’s friend from Boston.



(We didn’t really have to twist Nancy’s arm)

We were all delighted when Carole Allen appeared at the party. Carole is well along on her recovery and wanted to let everyone know how she's doing and thanked the Havurah for their support during her chemotherapy.

Carole it was great to see you!



After Havdalah, Nancy Harowitz and August Watters performed the parody: 'Frost Heaves', which they had written earlier that day. They were motivated by Maude's Emailed warning about the pot holes and frost heaves we were to encounter on our journey to the Weiser's. Very funny, guys. I've printed their parody in the 'Humor' section of the newsletter.



The evening continued with Seymour Weiser giving us an introduction to Purim followed by Allen Hollander's enthusiastic reading of the Megillah.



Who's that next to Seymour?



Of course we had to have actors in costume (masks and a crown) for the key roles in the Megillah. They were excellently represented by:



Florence Goldman as Haman (boo)



Rob Fox as King Ahashverus



Sy Lilienfeld as Mordecai and Louise Lilienfeld as Queen Esther

"Oscars for all"

The evening ended with a rousing and very funny round of “A Wicked Man” accompanied by Raymonde Weiser on the piano. If we’d had a video camera, our performance would have been a great candidate for ‘YouTube’.



Upcoming Havurah Events

- **Saturday, April 26, 2008 - Second Annual Havurah Seder**

The Havurah will hold its second annual Seder on the last night of Passover this year; April 26th. It will be held again at Reynold’s Hall in Peterborough and is being coordinated by Karen Bell, Liz Halper and Nancy Harowitz. If you haven’t already done so, be sure to RSVP to liz@brailsfordco.com by April 12th. It was a wonderful affair last year and we’re all looking forward to this year’s Seder.

- **We are planning a traditional Ashkenazi Seder dinner for Havurah members.** Meat and vegetarian dishes will be served.
 - **We will provide chicken soup with matzo balls, gefilte fish made by The Butcherie in Brookline, meat entrees, matzo, charoset and other Seder plate items.**
 - **The rest of the meal will be pot luck.**
- **Saturday, May 17, 2008 - Havurah gathering at the Moon / Yitzchak’s**

The Havurah will meet at the home of Daniella Yitzchak and James Moon on Saturday, May 17th. We’ll have a pot luck dinner, Havdalah and a special program that Maude Salinger has arranged for us:

Don Burness, poet, essayist, and translator will read from his collection of poems, "Yahrzeit". Don, who lives in Rindge, Portugal, and France, taught at Franklin Pierce College for many years and has written several volumes of poetry. "Yahrzeit" carries the sense of elegy. In side-by-side poems, his grandfather davens. A few pages later, in "Yahrzeit," he lights a candle for this father, 10 years dead. Burness's poems wander from history to politics to the personal, from his grandfather's house to the Wailing Wall. Don will have copies of his book available for purchase.

- **Saturday, June 28, 2008 - Havurah gathering at the Crocker's**

We'll meet at the home of Jeff and Martha Crocker on Saturday, June 28th for a potluck dinner, Havdalah and an evening of music. All you musicians and singers: tune up!

- **Erev Shabbat:**

The Havurah is considering having Erev Shabbat services on a more regular basis, making it easier for members to plan. It has been suggested that we have services on the second Friday of every month. We are tentatively planning to begin that regular schedule on May 9th at 7:00 PM. We'll let you know the location.

Please let me know what you think of the idea of a regularly scheduled Erev Shabbat.

- **Board of Directors**

The Havurah has formed a Board of Directors. Currently serving are John Halper, Allen Hollander and Daniella Yitzchak. The purpose of the board is to help formulate the Havurah's long range goals and assist in planning the day-to-day activities of the Havurah.

The board plans to meet once a month and any member of the Havurah is invited to attend. I will try to announce the date, time and location of the meetings in advance and will let you know by Email and in our newsletter what transpired at each meeting.

- **Tikkun Olam:**

Food Bank:

Grisel has compiled an updated list of items requested by the Peterborough Food Bank and the list is on our web site along with some other ideas for Tikkun Olam activities. Please bring items from the list to our Havurah gatherings for donation to the food bank in the Havurah's name.

The items that the food bank is currently in need of are:

Elbow Macaroni
Spaghetti
Spaghetti Sauce
Tuna
Baked Beans
Evaporated Milk
Soup

Tzedakah Box:

We have a Tzedakah box at our Havurah gatherings. Be sure to put a donation in it if you can. The Tikkun Olam committee will give us some additional suggestions as to possible recipient organizations for our donations.

• **The Humor Page**

Frost Heaves Are Coming
by Nancy Harrowitz/August Watters

(to the tune of "Frosty the Snowman")

Frost heaves are coming
Coming to your little town.
Though you pay your taxes every year
You can bet the bridge is down.

Frost heaves are growing
Under every public way
As you navigate around the bumps
Listen what we have to say.

There must have been a problem
When they came to fix the road,
For when you're driving on it
You'll be jumping like a toad.

Oh, frost heaves are lurking
As you drive 136
Better hold on to your steering wheel
Or you'll end up in a ditch.

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- **Upcoming Jewish Holidays and Celebrations**

The following holidays begin at sundown on the day before the day shown.

- Pesach (Passover) Sunday, April 20, 2008 through Sunday April 27th
- Shavuot Monday, June 9, 2008

- **Lending Library**

David Levene has started a Havurah lending library. At each Havurah, please bring a book or two in some way related to Judaism and add them to the box set aside as a Havurah lending library. At the end of the evening, members can remove a book from the library to take home and read. When you're finished reading it, please bring it to the next Havurah gathering and return it to the library box. If you would like your book back at some point, just put your name inside the cover.

- **Membership List**

If you have not yet sent in your membership form, please complete the one on the last page of this newsletter and Email it back to me or snail-mail it to me at:

John Halper
35 Old Bennington Rd.
Greenfield, NH 03047

- **Our Web Site**

The address of our web site is www.peterboroughhavurah.org and the User Name is "havurah" (lower-case letters). The site is password-protected; please Email me at jhal@jdassoc.com for the password.

To keep the web site interesting, we'll need articles and other tidbits of information from you! Please get in touch with me at jhal@jdassoc.com if you'd like to contribute something to the web site.

Shalom,

John

Please complete this page **ONLY** if you have not sent it in to me before
or if you have changes to make.

Peterborough Havurah - Member Information

>> Please Print <<

Today's Date	
First <u>and</u> Last Name(s) of Adults	
First <u>and</u> Last Names <u>and</u> Birthdates of Children	
Street Address	
City	
State	
Zip Code	
Home Phone (include area code)	
Cell Phone (include area code)	
Email Address(es) (very important)	