

KOL Kallah

The Newsletter of
the Hachnosas Kallah Fund of Queens

Issue 14 | Tammuz 5778 | Summer 2018

Rebbetzin Sadie Klavan

Sadie Rabinowitz, Sarah Leah bas Chana v'Alter Chaim Aron HaLevi, was born in 1916 in the Bronx. She was the first and only daughter, born to Anne and Hymie Rabinowitz, following five older brothers. Being the only daughter gave her special perks as well as additional responsibilities. She spoke of not having to wear hand me down clothing, as well as not having to share a bed on a regular basis.

She reminisced about vendors on the street selling pickles and hot sweet potatoes. She was educated in the public school system, attending both Hunter High School and College.

She graduated with a major in Math, not typical for a woman at that time, and a minor in Elementary Education. Teaching became her profession, but it really was her passion. She taught for more than forty years.

She married Rabbi Israel Klavan in 1942. The first several years were spent in small out-of-

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The next tea will take place, Y"ch, on Tuesday, November 13 l'ilui nishmas Rebbetzin Sadie Klavan and Mrs. Senta Ehrman.



Mrs. Senta Ehrman

Senta Herz, Sora bas Baila v'Shlomo, was born on the 2nd day of Shavous, June 7, 1924 in Saarbrucken, Germany, on the French border. It was a bustling community, a happy place to grow up in, until the rise of Hitler y"ts.

Kristallnacht was witnessed firsthand by young Senta Herz, as she peeked out of the window of her childhood apartment and watched as the Jewish men were forced to smash Jewish store windows and burn the synagogues. That night would haunt Senta for the rest of her life.

Senta never forgot the night the Nazis broke down the door to her apartment and took her father. He was taken to Buchenwald and later killed in June, 1938. Every year on the 9th of November, Senta would tell her family about Kristallnacht, not to scare or sadden them, but so that it would be remembered.

Senta came to America with her mother and sister, Lillian, in April, 1939. They came to America with \$10, without even knowing the language. Senta worked as a live-in while going to high school. Her mother also worked as a live-in somewhere else. Sadly Lillian had to be placed in an orphanage, since there was no place for her to go. After

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It's Not Just A Night Out! It's The Hachnosas Kallah Tea!

BY LOREY FRIEDMAN

Upon arriving at the Erna Lindenfeld Hachnosas Kallah Tea on Tuesday night, Nov.14, 2017, we feel the achdus in the air and it becomes clear that we are part of a bigger picture, part of the important work that the Erna Lindenfeld Hachnosas Kallah Fund does, as it helps kallahs begin building their *Bayis Neeman*.

Tammy Bilitzky welcomed everyone to the 33rd Annual Hachnosas Kallah Tea. She expressed sincere sentiments of how inspiring it is to see the loyal community members coming year after year to the tea. Shiurim are cancelled, parent-teacher conference nights are switched, and other events postponed, all so that the women in our community can attend the tea. The excitement in attending it year after year, reflects the eager anticipation the women have, rather than the feeling of "it's just another tea."



Our President, Mrs. Shifra Witty spoke about Eliezer who, in Parshas Chaya Sara, was instrumental in finding Yitzchak a wife, yet his name is not mentioned once in the parsha. He is always referred to as "Eved Avraham." Eliezer lived his life to help others. He took his job seriously and wanted to get it done well.

This is the hallmark of the Erna Lindenfeld Hachnosas Kallah Fund, where volunteers do what needs to be done in the mitzvah of Hachnosas Kallah.

The next speaker was Rav Yoel Schonfeld, Rav of the Young Israel of Kew Gardens Hills, who shared thoughts and memories of his mother. Yoel Schonfeld first thanked the Lindenfeld family for sponsoring the evening in memory of his mother, Rebbetzin



Ruth Schonfeld, a"h, and spoke about the special friendship she and Erna Lindenfeld, a"h, had. He thanked the women involved in Hachnosas Kallah and commended them for their "labor of love". He eloquently spoke of how his mother was

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Divrei Torah

BY RABBI SHMUEL MARCUS

Jewish tradition views the mitzvah of Hachnosas Kallah as one of utmost importance. So much so, that when the Prophet Micha exhorts the Jewish Nation to bear in mind the three most fundamental responsibilities that God imposes upon us, he says,

“כי אם עשות משפט, אהבת חסד, והצנע לכת עם אלקיך.”

“Do justice, love kindness and walk with modesty with God.” The last phrase, “walk with modesty,” is interpreted by the Talmud (Sukkah 49b) to refer to Hachnosas Kallah.

In addition, the Gemara (Kesubos 17a) directs us to even interrupt one’s Torah learning in order to perform the mitzvah of Hachnosas Kallah. Clearly this mitzvah possesses supreme significance.

The phrase *הכנסת כלה* originally referred to escorting the bride to her new husband’s home (Rashi Megila 29a). In recent centuries, however, the phrase has taken on a new meaning, referring to rendering whatever financial assistance is necessary to pay for the wedding costs.

In truth, both aspects are critical components of this unique mitzvah. One must contribute financially to enable those less privileged to enjoy their wedding with dignity and pride, but the *chesed* does not end there. Monetary assistance requires a

personal touch as well – a heartfelt demonstration that we care on a personal level for the young bride-to-be, that we care enough to invest of our own time and energy on her behalf.

It is reported that the late Rebbetzin Batsheva Kanievsky, a’h, would meet each and every day with young women who were poised to become engaged but were too nervous to proceed. The Rebbetzin would meet with each one, hear their concerns, and then decide whether to encourage them to marry or to decline. In the last ten years of her life, she met with at least one woman each day, who then became a kallah after receiving the Rebbetzin’s blessings.

Imagine, the Rebbetzin was a woman advanced in years and in declining health, yet she met every day for ten years with young brides who needed encouragement and blessings to proceed with their wedding. This, too, is Hachnosas Kallah.

And how much more so when one’s assistance is rendered to an orphan. Rav Gamliel Rabinovitch writes that when one performs a *chesed* for orphans and widows and undertakes their needs as one’s own responsibility the same way a parent cares for their own child, such a person merits a special relationship with the Shechina.

May we all merit to participate in this most worthy mitzvah, thereby earning a most coveted connection with the Shechina itself.

Mrs. Senta Ehrman

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high school, both Senta and her mother found jobs in factories, which enabled them to rent an apartment and after two long years, take Lillian out of the orphanage.

On May 22, 1944, Senta married Arnold Ermann, a soldier in the American Army. They settled in Crown Heights, where their children Aharon and Phyllis were born. In 1969, the family moved to Forest Hills.

In Parsha Terumah, it says “Make Me a sanctuary and I will dwell there.” This was the foundation of believing in Hashem that the Ehrmans instilled in their home via the Yekkish traits of Kavod HaRav, punctuality, and always doing what was correct. They were simple Yiddin, who were *zoche* to be connected to many different Rabbonim and always felt Hashem’s presence.

In 1987, Senta’s husband passed away, which was extremely hard for her. She faced another painful tragedy when her son Aharon passed away ten years later. (In 1968, Aharon had gone to Israel to learn and stayed. He lived there with his wife Esther and their daughter Chaya Fradel.) Still Senta was determined to enjoy her blessings. Senta happily spent Shabbosim in Kew Gardens Hills with her daughter Phyllis and her husband Elliot, and their children, Rivka, Naomi and Yehuda. She became a member of Congregation Ahavas Yisroel and worked in Towne Variety on Main Street.

It was clear to see the pride, pleasure, and joy she had from her family. The very close relationship she shared with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren was very special, becoming the driving force behind Senta.

In June 2011, Senta moved to KGH, where she lived near her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, until she was nifters on January 17, 2018 at the age of 93½. Until three weeks before that date, one could see Senta getting around the neighborhood with her walker. Her pleasant, kind and likeable disposition invited people to stop and talk to her.

Senta was *zoche* to see many great-grandchildren. She inspired her grandchildren – to build their homes on the foundation of always believing in Hashem, having Kavod HaRav, and doing what is correct. May Hashem be with them in Beis Shemeshe, Passaic, Kew Gardens Hills, and Far Rockaway.

May the memories she left behind to all those who knew and loved her serve as a blessing for her *neshama*. Senta Ermann is sorely missed not only by her close friends and devoted family, but also by the community she touched so dearly.

It’s Not Just A Night Out! It’s The Hachnosas Kallah Tea!

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constantly working for the good of the community and our Hachnosas Kallah organization.

Also, speaking was Rebbetzin Schonfeld’s granddaughter, Amalia Schwartz, who had the privilege of living with her esteemed grandparents for two years while attending Queens College. Amalia told how her grandmother was able to weave together two separate families into one close knit family. With genuine passion, humor and energy, like her grandmother, Amalia explained how Rebbetzin Schonfeld had her priorities straight. She cared and loved her family and her community with her entire being. Another granddaughter brought the audience to smiles and tears through a moving video of the Rebbetzin, which radiated her warmth and sparkle.

Then came the moment that everyone was waiting



for. The musical comedy entitled “The Classiest Affair in Town” written by Zisi Naimark. Musical accompaniment was played Mrs. Karen Daitchman who with her dedication and talent to is a skilled asset to all whom she works with.

The talented cast, Chaya Sara Hammer, Shoshie Koslowitz, Naomi Lamb, Rivkie Lutz, Rochie Moskowitz, Riselle Naimark, Zisi Naimark and Tova Zern, were outstanding as they entertained us with their songs and humor.

Finally, table prizes and raffle winners were announced. Whether or not one was

fortunate to walk out with a gift, everyone left with a very special *z’chus* that one gets when performing one of Hashem’s mitzvahs. So in truth, no one went home empty handed.



An Evening of Inspiration with Michal Horowitz

BY TOVA WELL

On May 12, the women of Queens participated in a unique event in which they were able to both memorialize their mother or other important women in their lives, as well as help Jewish brides establish their future homes. As Mrs. Michal Horowitz, the dynamic speaker of the evening pointed out, “You are taking from the homes of the past to the homes of the present and giving to the homes of the future. Is there any testimony more beautiful to the eternity of נוסח ישראל than that?”

The topic of the evening’s shiur was “The Pivotal Role of Jewish Women in the Transmission of the Mesorah.” Mrs. Horowitz provided many beautiful examples of women who have played important roles throughout history, including our אמהות, Sara and Rivka, as well as Tamar, Miriam, Shifra and Pua, the women in Mitzraim and Esther HaMalka. She pointed out that in the times of darkness or hardship, Jewish women have come forth to do whatever was necessary to save Klal Yisroel. They proved their emunah in Hashem even when things looked bleak.

Quoting R’ Shimon Pincus ז”ל, Mrs. Horowitz stated that since the Jewishness of a child follows the mother, the Jewish woman plays a critical role in Klal Yisroel.

Quoting Rav Soloveitchik, ז”ל, on the pasuk, “שמע בני מוסר אבירך ואל תטש תורת אמך,” Michal explained that we learn from our fathers’ mussar: discipline of Jewish law – including how to analyze, infer, understand, and conceptualize what is right and wrong. The father teaches the generations discipline of thought and discipline of action. And what of Toras Imecha, the Torah of the mother? When we see our mothers in action – davening, preparing Yom Tov and Shabbos meals, saying Tehillim, preparing m’inyanei d’yoma-we learn that Judaism is a living entity. It is from our mothers that we perceive Shabbos as a Queen, and we feel the presence of Hakadosh Barechu in our everyday lives. In this context, Rav Soloveitchik remarked that without his mother, he would have grown up a dry and soulless being.

The ladies in the audience were both enlightened and inspired. Many thanks to Judith Mittel for her hard work in putting this special event together. It was an uplifting evening, which prepared us for Kabbalas HaTorah, as Michal Horowitz reiterated the importance we women play in transmitting Torah and mesorah to the future generations of Klal Yisroel. We were able to honor those from whom we received our Mesorah and IY”H be able to pass this on to future Kallahs through the mitzvah of Hachnosas Kallah.

Rebbetzin Sadie Klavan

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town communities, Fitchburg, MA. and Williamsport, PA. They then moved and settled in Mount Vernon, NY.

The responsibilities of being a Rebbetzin had become part of her life as well as being a mother of two. The friends that were made, became long lasting relationships. Her life was devoted to her family and professions. Typical of any Rebbetzin, there were additional community responsibilities and social obligations. In 1949 Rabbi Klavan had become the Executive Vice President of the Rabbinical Council of America, the largest organization of Orthodox Rabbis in the United States, and their lives continued at a hectic pace. Her responsibilities transformed from local issues to offering advice and counsel to numerous Rebbetzins throughout the country.

Her husband passed away in 1980. For the next thirty plus years, she devoted herself to teaching, and to her extended family, children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

In 2001, she demonstrated strength and perseverance, regaining strength and function following major surgery. Doctors had informed the family to make final arrangements since it was certain that she would not leave the hospital alive. With the help of Hashem, she proved the doctors to be wrong. watching her great grandchildren grow and had the zechus to meet and hold a great, great grandchild.

From The Bidermans' Kitchens

Baked Lemon Freeze

By Miriam Biderman

Beat together with a hand whisk:

- 5 egg yolks
- 2 egg whites

Then add:

- 3/4 cup of fresh lemon juice
- 1 1/4 cups sugar
- 1 lemon rind



Put all of the above in a saucepan and cook on a low flame, stirring for about 15 minutes, until it thickens. Take off the flame and let the mixture cool.

Then whip 2 small containers of pareve whip. When whipped, add the lemon mixture to it. Take a springform pan. Line the bottom with crushed graham crackers. Then stand sugared lady fingers around the sides of the pan. Pour in the batch of lemon/whip and freeze.

When frozen, whip 4 egg whites with 4 Tablespoons of confectionary sugar until stiff. Put it on the lemon freeze mixture and broil for 2 minutes or torch it until the meringue browns. Put it back in the freezer until needed.

Cauliflower Kugel

By Malkie Biderman Gross

(Adapted from Susie Fishbein's *Kosher By Design Lighten's Up*)

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup oil plus 2 tsp. divided
- 1 very large onion chopped into 1/4 inch pieces
- 2 large eggs
- 8 egg whites
- 1 1/2 bags of frozen cauliflower defrosted
- 2 tbs. chicken soup divided
- 2 1/2 tsp. kosher salt
- 1 1/2 tsp. pepper
- 2 tbs. flour

Directions:

Preheat oven to 425° F.

Pour 1/4 cup of oil into 9"x13" baking pan and place in oven to heat up. Careful the oil will get very hot.

Heat the remaining 2 tsp. oil and sauté onions until golden — about 10 minutes.

In a medium bowl whisk eggs and egg whites.

In a food processor, with the metal blade, purée half the cauliflower. Add half the egg mixture and 1 tbs. of chicken stock and process until smooth. Remove to a large bowl and purée the remaining cauliflower, egg and stock. Add to the first half and mix in salt, pepper and flour. Distribute spices well.

Gently fold sautéed onions into mixture. Carefully remove pan from the oven — the oil will be very hot. Add the batter to the hot pan.

Bake uncovered for 1 hour 15 minutes. Serve warm.



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Tefilos Booklets are available for rental to use at your wedding.

The booklets are provided in memory of Mrs. Joan Maybruch, a"h. For information, please call Chanie Jakubowicz at (718) 263-3873.

With much hakaras hatov, we would like to thank Mr. Mark Frankel and Mr. David Graubard for the many hours they devote to Hachnosas Kallah. Their dedication to the klal has been immensely helpful to our organization.

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