

YLC Report

Seven YLC Members to Join OU Jewish Tuition Sub Committees and First YLC Intern Appointed

After months of planning, the OU has launched a special committee that will attempt to tackle the multi-faceted tuition crisis.

Led by the OU's Senior Vice President, Mr. Elliot Gibber, and Deputy Director to the Executive Vice President for Community Planning Ms. Betty Ehrenberg, the committee aims to address seven specific areas which include: Superfund, Federation and Foundations, Government Sources, Financial Management, Tuition Structuring, Creative Alternatives and Triage.

Following a Tuition



Committee meeting attended by **David Gerstley** and **Charles Harary**, it was decided that seven YLC members who are part of the YLC's Jewish Tuition Initiative will work on the seven sub-committees including: **Ovadya Aryeh, Michael Davis, David Gerstley, Simcha Goldstein, Shlomo Koyfman, Dov Robinson, and Atarah Yudin.**

Intern Appointed

Shifra Koyfman has been named the YLC's first research intern. She will coordinate research efforts into day school finances in the tri-State area.

Working with executive directors of major modern Orthodox day schools, the data collected will be used to understand more about the financial pressures facing schools, how money is spent, and which areas of expenditures are causing the significant rise in tuition.

For more information contact Shlomo Koyfman, at:

sak42@omega.med.yale.edu

Project Areivim Scholars in Residence Impact Communities Nationwide

Project Areivim **Scholars in-Residence** have begun to make their mark on small communities across the United States. Under the leadership of YLC member **Uri Schneider**, Project Areivim has already sent five OU lay leaders and professionals who served as volunteer scholars-in-residence in

five cities including Buffalo, NY; Linden, NJ; Richmond, VA ; Stamford, CT ; and Worcester, MA.

On Nov. 3, YLC member Yitzie Stern went with his family to spend Shabbat with Congregation Anshe Chesed in Linden, NJ. Yitzie spoke about *Political Issues*

Facing American Jewry and *The Role of the IPA*, and *Halachic Boundaries of the Land of Israel*.

David Helfgot, Anshe Chesed's VP of Membership wrote:

Areivim Feedback Continues on pg. 5

Orthodox Union

Steven Savitsky, President

Rabbi Tzvi Hersh Weinreb,
Executive Vice President

Rabbi Moshe Krupka,
National Executive Director

Young Leadership Cabinet

Charles J. Harary,
Chairman

Rabbi Daniel Schonbuch,
Director



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Attracting Members to OU Synagogues Nationwide



45 Synagogues Register on Orthodox Communities Network Website

The OU officially launched a new website called the Orthodox Communities Network OCN (www.ou.org/ocn).

Created and guided by YLC members **Shlomo Koyfman and Kostia Feldman**, the site aims to build a data base and display important information about community size, Jewish day schools, Mikvaot, kosher restaurants and profes-

sional contacts.

Within the first week, 45 synagogues submitted an extensive community questionnaire that will be edited and displayed by March, 2006.

The OCN has also begun discussing sharing resources with the OU's ParnossahWorks that helps Jewish community members find jobs nationwide.

For more information please contact Kostia at kostia.feldman@gmail.com.

For a **complete listing of synagogues** that have registered OCN please turn to **page 5**.

Long Island NCSY Launches New Friday Night Lights Program

Friday Night Lights is a new NCSY program that aims to reach out to unaffiliated Jewish teens, through innovative Shabbatons, Shabbat meals and post-Shabbat social events in outlying Jewish communities throughout Long Island. On Nov. 5, FNL went to

the community of North Bellmore, LI, where over 200 community members participated in the Shabbat activities.

YLC Members **Charlie Harary** and **Elisheva Diamond**, who chair NCSY's Long Island Youth Commission, are working closely with

NCSY National Director Rabbi Steve Berg and Long Island NCSY Director Rabbi Stephen Berger to reach out to unaffiliated Jewish high school students in Nassau and Suffolk Counties. More FNL programs are being planned in the near future.

"Touching the lives of unaffiliated Jewish teenagers across Long Island"

UPCOMING EVENTS

YLC Chanukah Reception with OU Leadership Dec. 17



YLC Members and their spouses are cordially invited to a special YLC Chanukah Reception.

Please join us for this evening with former and present **leaders and presidents of the Orthodox Union**.

When: Saturday Night, Dec. 17, 8:00 pm.

Where: The home of Mr. and Mrs. Zev Wolfson, 140 Harborview East, Lawrence, NY 11559.



Please RSVP Rabbi Daniel Schonbuch at schonbuchd@ou.org or call 646 206 7665.



YLC Proposes National Strategy on Shidduch Crisis

Led by YLC member **Zahava Farbman**, and a committee consisting of YLC members Meir Frankel, Charles Harary, and Uri Schneider, the YLC's Shidduchim Initiative aims to:

1. Explore the causes behind the "Shidduchim" crisis and propose national programs that can alleviate the difficulties facing singles today.

2. Launch a website dedicated to better match singles within the Orthodox community.

One of the first priorities of the group is to convene a conference with leading OU rabbis, psychologists, shadchanim, and lay leaders to better understand the issues underlying the crisis in the Jewish community.

For more information contact Zahava at

zahavaf@aol.com.

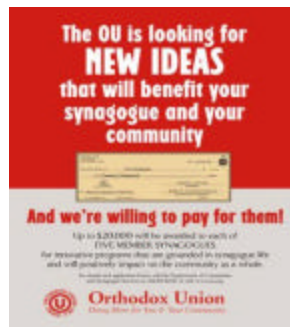
YLC Member Participates in Synagogue Services Grant Committee

YLC member **Neima Chasky** participated in two meetings as a member of the Synagogue's Service Grant Committee. Chaired by Mr. Emanuel Adler a Senior Vice President of the OU, the committee chose six synagogues to receive up to \$20,000

towards new and innovative programs.

For more information concerning her involvement on the committee please contact Neima at:

Rachel.Chasky@gs.com.



UPCOMING EVENTS

YLC Member to be honored at Yachad Event, Dec. 5

YLC member **Benjamin Rieder**, will be honored at the Yachad Oscars and Benefit Awards Ceremony, Monday, December 5, 2005.



For more information contact Benjamin Rieder at:

brieder@chestnutholding.com

The event will be held at the American Airlines Theatre, 227 West 42nd St (between 7th & 8th Avenues), NYC.

Tickets are still available at a reduced rate for YLC members!



YLC Long Island Political Activity Group



Chaired by YLC member, **Gavri Butler** and composed of YLC members **Jeremy Frenkel, Elliot Ganchrow, David Gerstley, Charles Harary, Yehuda Samter, Kenny Sicklick, Yitzi Stern, Joshua Summers and Atarah**

Yudin, the YLC Long Island Political Activity Group is working closely with the IPA to educate and involve the Long

Island Jewish community in important local and regional political issues.

The committee held several meetings with community leaders in the Five Towns.

One area of focus will be the upcoming District 15 school board election that will be held on Lag B'omer, Tuesday, May

15, 2006. For more information contact Gavri at gbutler@nyu.edu.

YLC to produce Video on eating disorders in the Orthodox Community

After months of extensive research and meetings with experts in the field of eating disorders, YLC Elisheva Diamond is moving forward with the production of a new film that will be called "Dying to be Thin." The film which will run approximately 20 minutes

and will highlight experts in the Orthodox community and present the stories of teenagers and parents in the Orthodox community who have personally dealt with the difficulties and consequences associated with eating disorders. The film will be distributed to

parents who have daughters in Jewish day schools in the New York area.

For more information please contact Elisheva at elishevadiamond@yahoo.com.

"Addressing a hidden crisis in the Orthodox Community"

OU Parenting Conference in Highland Park

A workshop for parents on *Strengthening Parenting Skills* will be held in Highland Park High School, Highland Park, NJ on Dec. 10, 2005. As part of the popular "Positive Parenting" series of workshops and



lectures run by Community and Synagogue Services, the evening will highlight a keynote address by Dr. David Pelcovitz on "The Internet and Other Media

Influences on our Kids." YLC member **Ami Avraham** is

working closely with Frank Buchweitz, Director, Community Services, to help promote and staff the evening. For more information, please contact Frank at: frank@ou.org.



Areivim Cont; OCN Cont;

Areivim Feedback Continued

"Dear Rabbi Schonbuch, Anshe Chesed benefited from the Areivim program in a number of ways. First, we were provided with a good, solid speaker to educate the shul about important and timely topics. Second, the program helps us continue our efforts to place Linden back on the NY-metro area map as a viable, Modern Orthodox community with a bright future, via the excellent work of the OU. Third, a scholar-in-residence weekend brings our community together in beautiful ways, through eating together at communal meals, increased socialization, and discussion of the topics presented amongst fellow congregants. Fourth, and finally, it provides us with a convenient fundraiser. For these reasons alone, we are happy to continue to host more scholars-in-residence as part of OU's Areivim program."

Following the November 18 Shabbaton in Buffalo, NY with former YLC member and current IPA Deputy Director, **Howie Beigelman**, Rabbi Mordechai Friedfertig of Kehillat Ohr Tzion, wrote the following letter:

"I once again wanted to thank you and the OU for including my shul, Kehillat Ohr Tzion, in the Areivim program. The Shabbat was a great success. Firstly, Howie Beigelman was really terrific - besides being a sweet neshama, he is articulate, thoughtful and up-to-date on current events. He is a great model of dedication to Torat Yisrael, Klal Yisrael, Medinat Yisrael, Eretz Yisrael and American society in which we live. Secondly, he attracted many people. When we usually have Shabbat dinners we average between 30-40. For this Shabbat we had 65, and his 15-20 minute talk on "Being Frum and in Politics" was over 45 minutes because of questions. He gave a wonderful Dvar Torah on Shabbat morning, and at the Melave Malka we had another 35 people, when a lot of different events were happening around town. His discussion on the "Jewish View of Political Activism" was well over an hour because people kept asking more and more questions, and he was on top of all of the issues. After the talk, people came up to me and besides praising him, asked if I thought that the OU would be willing to send someone else in the spring. As a small shul, with little money for scholars-in-residence, this program

was great to energize us. Thank you so much for including us, and please keep us in mind for future programs."

OCN Synagogues

The following synagogues have registered their information on the OCN website:

Nusach Hari Bnai Zion
 Young Israel of Merrick
 Synagogue on the Palisades
 YI of North Bellmore
 Lincoln Square Synagogue
 Young Israel of Kendall
 Beth Israel Synagogue
 Stony Brook Hebrew Congregation
 Lido Beach Synagogue
 Bais Abraham Congregation
 Silver Spring Jewish Center
 Young Israel Of Tampa
 Silver Spring Jewish Center
 Hebrew Institute of White Plains
 Beth David Synagogue
 Cong Shaare Tora
 Lido Beach Syn.
 Cong. Aitz Chaim
 Brith Shalom Beth Israel
 Young Israel of Southfield
 Congregation Sons of Israel
 Pacific Jewish Center
 Cong Ahavath Achim
 Y.I. Of Long Beach
 Cong Ahavath Torah
 Shaar Hashamayim
 Young Israel of East Brunswick
 West Side Institutional .
 Kiever Synagogue
 Manhattan Beach Jewish Center
 Congregation Anshe Chesed-
 B'nai Israel Congregation
 Knesseth Israel Congregation
 Avenue N Jewish Center
 Baron Hirsch Congregation
 Am Echad
 Congregation Shaarei Tefillah
 Congregation Sherith Israel

"Sharing the message nationwide that "Kol Yisrael Areivim Ze Ba Ze"



YLC

OU Dinner—April 2, 2006

As of one of the premier events in the Jewish community, the OU Dinner will be held on April 2 at the Grand Hyatt in NYC.

YLC member **Michael Gewirtz** will chair YLC’s participation in the dinner that last year was attended by over 1000 participants.

A pre-Dinner YLC reception will be held as well as special opportunities to meet with political, business and religious leaders.

For more information please contact Michael at:
michael.gewirtz@us.cibc.com.



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Mazel Tovs

Mazel Tov to **Uri** and **Dena Schneider** on the birth of their son, **Chayim Tzvi**.

Mazel Tov to **Avi** and **Esty Esses** on the birth of their daughter, **Yael Bracha**.

Mazel Tov to **Micheal Davis** on his engagement to **Aliza Fessel**.

IPA Launches *Washington Wire*

In order to keep on top of current political events affecting the Jewish community, the OU’s Institute of Public Affairs has launched A new weekly email, *Washington Wire*.

If you would like to receive the Washington Wire email please register online at:

www.ou.org/public/subscribe.htm

For more information please contact Michael Bleicher IPA Legislative Fellow at:

mbleicher@ou.org