



What's Cooking?

at Shabbos House

Shabbos House Chabad Jewish Student Center - serving the Jewish Community at the University at Albany (SUNY) since 1976.



The Rubin Family with NYS Governor Eliot Spitzer on "Day One" (1/1/07) following the Inauguration Ceremonies at the NYS Capitol. TOP: Raizy, Rabbi Mendel and Gov. Spitzer MIDDLE: Chani, Mushkie & Moshe BOTTOM: Baby Bassy and Sara

SHABBOS HOUSE

Jewish Student Center

a project of Capital Chabad Centers
Chabad Lubavitch of the Capital District
316 Fuller Rd
Albany NY 12203

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Major Naming Gift for New Shabbos House Building!

See Inside on Page 2



Latke Eating Contestants 2006 L-R: Michael Benison, Michael Kupferberg, Adam Kris, Steve Linder, Josh Rehr, Andrew Finkelstein, Joanna Smith, Erin Jeffrey, Michael Isaacson and Marc Hayut. The winner was Michael Isaacson, 2nd from right, who ate 50 (triangle Kineret latkes) in 5 minutes! Runner-up was Michael Kupferberg, 2nd from left, who ate 34 Latkes in the same 5 minute span. The "8 Crazy Lights" event in the UAlbany Campus Center Commons was well-attended, despite being Finals Week at the University. In addition to the Contest, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and professor of Public Administration and Policy Dr. Sue Faerman led the Menorah Lighting, and a hilarious debate was held on the merits of various Latke condiments: Applesauce, Sourcream & Ketchup. More Pics Online.

OPERATING FUND

Yes! I/We would like to sponsor an event below in honor/memory of:

☐ Friday Night Dinner \$500

Help defray the extensive costs of our hallmark event. Home-cooked Shabbat dinner with warm family atmosphere. Between 120-180 students of all backgrounds participate.

☐ Shabbos Lunch \$175

"Best Kept Secret at UAlbany" (EdL.) Now 25-60 students with Kiddush, Chulent, Salads and Desserts. Often students linger all afternoon with noshing, games, chat or study.

☐ Shalosh Seudos \$50

Light meal at close of Shabbat in early Fall & Late Spring, enlivened with song & study.

☐ Kiddush \$25

L'chaim! Grape juice or wine - traditional welcome to the Shabbat meal.

☐ Challah with Love \$36

Homemade Challah baked and distributed by Students to the elderly and home-bound.

☐ Jamming Night \$120

Sat Night monthly special, with Pizza, Hot Pretzels and Nosh. Variety of musical styles.

☐ BBQ's \$150

Sukkah Building, Lag B'Omer, Summer etc..

☐ Minyan Bagel Brunches \$100

Bagels, Lox & Tefillin. Prayers and a delicious brunch, on Sundays.

☐ Learning Nights \$75

Rabbi Mendel's original, relevant Torah text studies, with Raizy's delicious dairy dinners, each Tuesday evening.

☐ Mitzvah Awareness \$54

co-sponsor popular Shofar Factory & Latke Table etc... promoting Jewish tradition.

☐ Holiday Packets \$18

Thousands of Holiday giveaways in all University cafeterias: Honey-cookies, Dreidels & Hamantaschen etc..

☐ Speakers/Performers \$750

Past speakers included Dr. Susskind "Falling in Love, Staying in Love", Dr. Laz "Diversity - Together!" & "Matisyahu" -Hasidic Reggae.

☐ Mini-Shabbat \$200

Cozy Shabbat Dinners when Campus is not in session during Winter & Summer Breaks.

☐ Amount of Your Choice!

Every bit counts! Due to minimal overhead & salary expenses, Shabbos House maximizes your contribution to best reach the students.

*Some funds for some of these events are received from partnering groups (L'chaim & Tagar (sa) Ufaratzta Fund & UAlbany Hillel), but these events and services and many others would not be possible without your support. **THANK YOU!***

BUILDING FUND

(payable over 2 years)

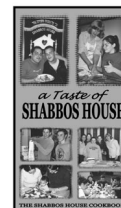
___ (\$500) Half-Share

___ (\$1,000) Share

___ (\$1,800) Mezuzah

contact us for complete list of dedication opportunities in the new building

Contributions payable to
**"SHABBOS HOUSE
- CHABAD CENTER"**
are tax-deductible.



COOKBOOK

Please send me ___
copies of "A Taste of
Shabbos House" (\$22.50
each, including S&H).

CONTRIBUTION MATTERS

- Shabbos House receives no funding from the University, or National Chabad. We do receive co-sponsorship grants from the L'CHAIM and TAGAR (Student Association) Student Groups, the University at Albany HILLEL, the UFARATZTA Fund, and support from Capital District CHABAD Centers, our parent organization.
- With minimal overhead and salary expenses, your contribution goes directly to benefit the students with dinners, atmosphere, programming and events. More Bang for your Buck!
- Our name notwithstanding, Shabbos House operates ALL week, with numerous weekday events, and is always open and welcoming to individual students for study, friendship and discussions, or to assist with urgent needs.
- As the crowd has grown, so have the expenses. It costs far more to serve a Shabbos meal to 120-180 students in 2006, than it cost to serve 25-30 students in 1997. Attendance at all our events has increased, and so have the costs. In addition, due to increased need, new services are provided, adding to the cost.
- Shabbos House is very grateful for the generous support and appreciation from our 'extended family' - YOU make it possible!

Major Naming Gift for New Shabbos House Building!

We are very pleased to announce that George and Pamela Rohr & Family of NYC pledged \$375,000 to the Shabbos House Chabad Center Building Fund. We look forward to naming the new center as "Shabbos House - The Rohr Chabad Jewish Student Center" once the new building will be built at 320 Fuller Road.

This brings the current total in the Building Fund to over \$900,000. Once the current zoning hurdles are overcome, we look forward to finalizing architectural plans, starting construction and launching Phase II of

the Building Campaign to raise the remaining funds necessary for construction of the long-overdue and much needed bigger and better Shabbos House.

Special thanks to Rabbis Moshe Kotlarsky and Menachem Schmidt of the National Foundation for Chabad on Campus for helping make this major gift possible. And many thanks to all the Building Fund contributors for their support and vision. May we celebrate a ground-breaking ceremony in the not too distant future!

10th Year Thankful Thoughts

This is our 10th year, thank G-d, as the Shabbos House Family. We've been here since Fall 1997. Below are ten of the many blessings we are thankful for.

Life-Long Learning: "We learn from students most of all." The 'first generation' classes of '98, '99 and '00 helped us get started. The techies taught us web-design, database programs and offer free tech support. Students keep us current on trends and lingo, on what works and what doesn't. Translating timeless Torah to contemporary student life reveals new layers of Torah wisdom.

The UAlbany Blessing: Unlike most campuses, the UAlbany Jewish community is blessed with a unique cooperative working relationship between Hillel and Chabad (Shabbos House) and the Jewish Student Groups, with alternating Friday Nights and coordinated scheduling. While our growing and diverse student body has many varied Jewish opportunities, we celebrate together as one community.

Volunteers: Two people can't do it all, and it's much more fun doing it with friends! Thanks to all the students who help with Shabbos and event prep, set-up, clean-up, bi-weekly couch-schlepping, packet-packing and so much more!

Vantage Point: We get to watch generations come and grow, freshmen blossom into seniors, maturing with professional, emotional and spiritual growth. It is a real gift to see our campus community increase over time, alumni building their own families, and contributing to their new communities.

Support: Shabbos House would simply not be possible without the continued support of so many parents, alumni, students and friends. This semester's Operating Fund on page 8 lists a record 165 contributors, including some who contributed more than once this semester. This growing, grassroots, broad-based, generous support is very encouraging, and enables us to keep it all going.

Friendship: One of the greatest blessings is getting to meet so many different wonderful students over the years, all of whom contribute to our atmosphere, many who have become and remain true and dear personal friends.

Feeling at Home: We are gratified that students feel so welcome here, they're comfortable sitting tightly on benches, waiting for the one restroom, and helping out in the crowded kitchen. It means a lot that students drop by, call or IM when they need to talk, trusting us with what's on their minds and in their hearts.

Our Kids: We love them! Shabbos-House-wise, we're thankful that they manage in one bedroom, love the work we do as a family, and help out in ways big and small. They bring much joy, warmth & family-feeling to our atmosphere.

Family: Many thanks to Mendel's parents who founded Shabbos House in '76, we learned much from their experience, creativity, persistence, love of learning and doing a lot on a limited budget. Raizy's parents taught us a great deal about an open home and good cooking, making the most of what you've got - with grace, dignity and style, and about unconditional dedication. To our siblings for great visits, assistance and expertise, and their endless moral support.

Inspiration: It's the Lubavitcher Rebbe's unique vision, especially his insistence that every Jew is truly family, that inspires us everyday. We're proud and honored to be "Shluchim" (husband & wife teams doing the Rebbe's work).

Ten years is a milestone. We look forward to "staying young" at Shabbos House for many more years to come. Thanks for helping make it possible!

THANK YOU!!!

Rabbi Mendel & Raizy, Mushkie, Chani, Moshe, Sara and Bassy Rubin



FROM THE SHABBOS HOUSE MAILBOX

Thanks for yet another great semester, here's to many more! **S.B. '09**

Thanks for being there for our daughter and her fellow students... **N.G.**

I'm proud of the continued Jewish vitality at Albany, thanks for being in its forefront! **M. L.**

We love getting the newsletters! **E.B.**

My father always loved hearing about you guys and the campus community. That's why we decided to sponsor a Shabbos dinner in his memory. **M.M. '04**

I'm in the midst of my residency now, working hard. But I still remember those warm Shabbos dinners and the special atmosphere at Shabbos House. **R.F. '01**

May it be another successful year at Shabbos House! Continued blessings and all that you need to keep up the amazing work to continue lighting up Jewish life at UAlbany **M.G. '00**

We love getting the updates from Albany, it always makes us smile! **E. & R. '97 K.**

You make it a very heimish and accepting atmosphere. Shabbos at your place is wonderful! **S.C.**

You made everyone feel else feel comfortable as well - suffice it to say that Shabbos House is an extraordinary and wonderful place to experience, I'm glad I had a chance to be here. **J.R.**

Celebrating together with so many young and vibrant Jews, with such Ruach and energy was delightful. **G. & K. S.**

Enclosed is a small token of my gratitude for your warmth, guidance and friendship over the years. **B.P. '06**

Other campuses I visited had larger turnouts and more opportunities, but none had the unifying, welcoming atmosphere I experienced here. I'm so glad I chose Albany! **C.M. '09**

I was at my nieces' graduation and was most impressed by the work you do. Please send me a supply of pre-addressed envelopes. Thank you! **L.L.**

Thanks for being so kind, caring and giving to our son during his 4 years at UAlbany. You've left him with wonderful memories he will cherish forever. **M.F.**

www.shabboshouse.com



FRIDAYLIGHT a pre-Shabbat Women's Candle-Lighting event with Hors d'oeuvres, mocktails and candle-lighting. Mushkie and Chani on left sang "My Mother's Shabbos Candles." The lit candles spelled UAIBany! The souvenir necklaces were sponsored by FridayLight - a national Chabad candle-lighting effort.



SUNDAY MINYAN BAGEL BRUNCHES are a long-time staple of Shabbos House programming. But this semester it has become a weekly tradition thanks to student initiative. Above left is the first of the weekly Minyans and thanks to this Minyan Mr. Zvinakovsky (our faithful Sunday cleaning-help) had his first aliyah - his Bar-Mitzvah! On left, the AEPi guys helped Matisyahu make a Maariv Minyan following his concert at the Washington Avenue Armory.



Midnight Breakfast - Reading Day - w/ Chanukah Movies



Eitz-Chaim - Torah Holder Replacement



Sukkah Party Game Auction Winner



Shofar Factory @ Campus Center



Rosh Hashanah Honey Cookie Packet Packing



Finishing Touches covering the Sukkah



Latke Eating Contest Winner & Runner-up flanked by Sportscasters & Dean Faerman



Yom Kippur Pre-Fast Buffet at Shabbos House



Tabling at SA's "Block Party" at Indian Quad



Bead-Jewelry Making for "Eishet Chayil" Jewish Womens Connection Event



Parsha and a Prayer with Raizy

Shabbat Mornings for Women before Lunch

New for the Fall 2006 semester, this round-table (or couch) learning opportunity explores the text and commentary of the weekly Torah portion and the meaning and relevance of a section of prayer. Since its inception, this group learning has been a lively springboard for fascinating Jewish discussions.

One-On-One Learning

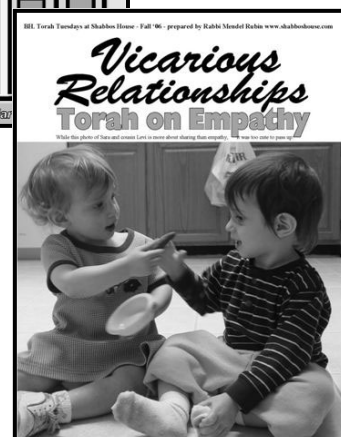
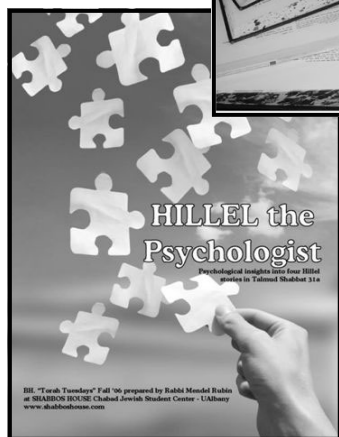
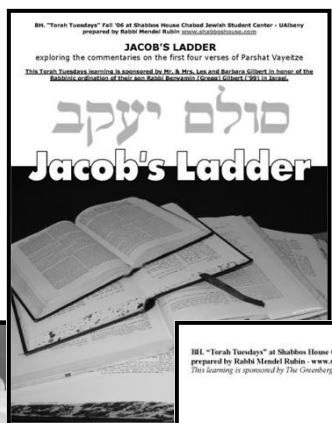
One time, many times, anytime.

Both Raizy and Mendel have individual study sessions based on periodic need (i.e. pre-marriage classes, assistance with research for classes) or set-up weekly learning upon request. We're always open for questions and discussion. There is also a weekly Rashi study with Mendel prior to Shabbat Day Minyan at Chapel House.

Torah Tuesdays with Rabbi Mendel

Now in it's 6th year, creative, original, themed text-based classes, with dairy dinner on Tuesdays

Torah
Tuesday
"Covers"
Fall '06



TORAH TUESDAYS scheduled for SPRING '07 semester:

- 1/23: **Halacha Trace** Tracing Torah > Talmud > Halacha texts using "Synagogue Mezuzah" as a sample
- 1/30: **Basi L'Gani** Cliff-Notes of a classic Chassidic Discourse (1950)
- 2/6: **Seussian Talmud** by Craig Messer & Justin Hirsch Seuss Talmud page mock-up to learn commentator styles
- 2/13: **Yours Truly** on Truth in Relationships (between us and G-d, and between people).
- 2/27: **Sleepless in Shushan** Insomnia and the Purim Story
- 3/13: **Topic TBA** Class by Moshe & Rabbi Mendel for Moshe's 7th birthday
- 3/20: **Talmud VS. US Law** on Principals and Agents
- 3/27: **Seder Song Symbolism** One Goat, Happened at Midnight etc...
- 4/17: **Jewish Medical Ethics** by Laura Novello Stem-cell Research, Organ-Transplants etc. in Halacha
- 4/24: **Building Momentum** Keeping it going strong! 3rd generation Zionism, or all good things in life.

ALUMNI: Torah Tuesdays are available by email in PDF format. Email us if you'd like to receive 8-10 per semester.

ALUMNI



Atara ('02) Marzouk and her twins.



Marc ('02) & Dawn Wolensky, and Rimma Altshuler at the Reunion



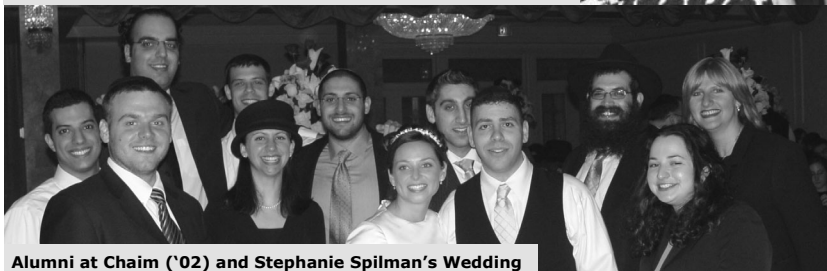
Ben Lieb ('04) visiting from Israel



Motti ('06) & Ilana (Masters '07) engagement



One Table of '98-'00 at Jason ('99) and Roni Nadell's Wedding



Alumni at Chaim ('02) and Stephanie Spilman's Wedding



Alumni at the NYC Summer Reunion 2006



The Original Shabbos House IT Support



Stacey-Shoshana Lotwin ('01) and her newborn son Menachem Manis



Group Photo at the Shabbos House Summer Alumni Reunion in NYC.

ALUMNI MAZAL TOVS

8/10/06: Wedding of Laurie Dickstein ('03) & Greg Fischer in NY. Both are studying in Johns Hopkins.

8/27/06: Bris of Menachem Manis, son of Efraim-Fred ('01) and Shoshana-Stacey ('01) Lotwin

8/27/06: Wedding of Jason ('99) & Roni (Grill) Nadell

8/27/06: Wedding of Tamar (Kushman) ('00) & Josh Miller in Houston. They live in Israel.

9/3/06: Birth of Leiba Yael, daughter of Pinchas and Yehudis Schreiber, Shabbos House Family in the 90's

9/16/06: Wedding of Jessica Mazza ('04) and Josh Silver ('03)

9/19/06: Wedding of Max Lapkovsky ('02) to Esther Brenda (Santos)

11/1/06: Birth of Ayelet Maayan, daughter to Sara ('99) and Gabe Solomon

11/15/06: Bris at Shabbos House of Yisrael Moshe - Ian, son of Jesse ('01) and Amy ('01) Weinstock

12/3/06: Engagement of Revi Hay ('04) to Adam Kerschman ('00)

12/15/06: Engagement of Adam Kofinas (Dec '06) to Alexandra Newman ('07) - Friday Night @ SH!

12/20/06: Wedding of Kaylah (Chanowitz, Shabbos House Family in the 1980's) & Sholom Kramer

12/22/06: Engagement of Yonit Roitman ('05) and Shaun Hinds ('04)

12/28/06: Wedding of Chaim ('02) and Stephanie Sara-Maya (Baskin) Spilman

Thank You for making Shabbos House FALL '06 possible.

Operating Fund

*Contributions listed below are from July 06 - December 06
Thanks to their generosity Shabbos House is possible.
* indicates Shabbat and Event Sponsors
** indicates Major Semester Sponsors*

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Paula Sindell Yehezkel
Yankel and Sarah Yuzevitch
Elaine Zeitlin
Joseph and Shirley Zeller

*Co-sponsoring Organizations
are listed in "Contribution
Matters" on Page 2.*

*We apologize for inadvertent omissions.
Anonymous Sponsors and Cookbook
purchases not included.*

SPECIAL THANKS for goods and services:

Jerry & Ilene Sykes and The Party Warehouse
David Gosman ('99) and PCAmerica for hosting our website
Ruvain & Shayna Kudan for a cheese-shredder for Torah Tuesdays
Joyce Teitelman for the kitchen a/c and a commercial hot-water urn
Levy Family for paper-goods
Seth Mellin ('02) Creative Marketing for Simchat Torah souvenirs
AEPi @ Union for yard work and landscaping
Shaun Zeitlin ('01) for the set of Gutnick Chumashim
Marshall Haber ('04) and KrazyKeepas.com for cool Kippahs
Abby ('04) and Mike ('01) Hoenig for 40 new Bentschers
Ira & Sheri Woren for handcrafted Challah napkins

Eli's Bagels in Spring Valley for the bag full of dozens of bagels
Lisa Dadush & Family for a library of books
Oren Silvers for donating the Roadmaster station-wagon & more
Tina & Laura Colliton for pre-semester organizing
Shachar Luz for dynamic live Jewish music at events and Simchas
Mr. Dan Hershberg for his tireless efforts towards zoning approval
for the new, bigger and better Shabbos House

THANKS to the CPSP semester volunteers, L'chaim Board, the
pre-Shabbat set-up crew, and everyone who helps with Shabbat and
event prep, serving and clean-up. It could not happen without you!

Building Fund

*Contributions listed below are from July 06 - December 06
including both fulfilled Pledges and new Contributions.
* Names with asterisk indicate "Shares and Dedications".*

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