

HERZL HERALD

JANUARY 2019

Agenda

Opening ceremony
Reading of previous minutes
Errors and omissions
Adoption of the minutes
Candle lighting - Bro Mark Goldberg
Domestic matters
President's Report
Treasurer's Report
Management Committee Report
Chaplain's Corner
General
Closing Ceremony
Table Lodge

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Dr Herzl Lodge

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Committee	Wor Bro Ian Ralph	011 6402202	083 4140418	hiralph@icon. co.za

PEASE NOTE THAT SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 2019 ARE NOW DUE

There will be no increase in fees for 2019 and a 10% discount will apply for payment before 31 March

Please contact Bro Jonathan Shapiro on 082-3983744 with any queries

Hebrew Order of David INTERNATIONAL

The Hebrew Order of David International is a forum for an ever growing number of Jewish adult males, operating as a cohesive fraternal unit supporting its members and serving the community, applying Jewish ideals and values while providing its members with the opportunity for personal development.

Ve-ahavtah Le-arechah Kamochah
Love thy neighbour as thyself

*Upholding the principles of
unity, fraternity, love and peace*



SOUTH AFRICA: Johannesburg * Benoni * Cape Town * Durban * East London * Port Elizabeth
UNITED STATES: Atlanta * Boca Raton * Dallas * Houston
ISRAEL: Jerusalem * Netanya * Ra'Anana
CANADA: Toronto
UK: London

DR HERZL LODGE

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

January 2019

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all Brethren a healthy and prosperous 2019.

On Monday the 19th of November, Dr. Herzl Lodge held our annual Tommy Etkind evening to honour long serving members of the Lodge. Tommy Etkind was a Past President of Dr. Herzl Lodge and the Grand President of the Order from 1952 to 1954. He was instrumental in running the event to honour long serving and outstanding Brethren. The event was very well attended by Dr. Herzl Lodge Brethren. A delegation from Governing Lodge led by Worthy Brother Ian Ralph, and Brethren from other lodges visited. Our thanks go to Worthy Brother Joe Cronsin and Worthy Brother Mike Haimowitz for the highly competent way that they took over the offices of Master of Ceremonies and Preceptor, while Worthy Brother Ian Ralph and Worthy Brother Avron Krasner were part of the delegation. Awards were presented to long serving Brethren: Worthy Brother Joe Cronsin, Brother Charles Eppel, Worthy Brother Hymie Radomsky, Worthy Brother Eddie Schnaid and Worthy Brother Joe Yudelowitz. Forty year membership awards were presented to Brother Allan Jacobson and Worthy Brother Eddie Schnaid. Worthy Brother Joe Yudelowitz received the award for commendable service. He is passionate and enthusiastic about lodge affairs and his qualities of loyalty and dedication are appreciated. The awards were followed by a very enjoyable dinner in the board room which was also attended by the wives of the Brethren. Worthy Brother Stan Klaff reported on his visit to Atlanta to make a presentation, The Shield of David, to the Grand President, Worthy Brother Allan Rubenstein, who has not been well. We wish him Refuah Shleima. Worthy Brother Stan told us that he had presided over the initiation of 22 Brethren in Atlanta and it is gratifying to see the growth of the order.

The year closed off with a chavershaft braai at the home of Worthy Brother Ian Ralph. This annual event is always an excellent opportunity to cement fraternal bonds.

Also in November, Dr. Herzl Lodge Brethren attended a talk by David Saks, who is the deputy director of the SAJBD and a renowned historian and expert on Jewish affairs. He told us that the SA Jewish population is down to 50,000 mostly concentrated in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Pretoria. He is not optimistic about growth and is in fact worried that this uniquely unassimilated community will shrink. Worthy Brother Stan Klaff pointed out that the emigration of South African Jews to the US, UK, Canada and Israel created a window of opportunity for the order to expand into an international organization. Saks blames uncertainty, crime and the Zuma era for the emigration of especially the younger generation.

On the 10th of January HOD presented its first broadcast on Chai FM. This is a great opportunity to publicize the Order and explain its objectives. Worthy Brother Stan gave a brief history of the order's founding in 1904 after the Boer war, as a self-help organization. Emigration has created a presence overseas and the order has been in existence for 20 years in the UK, 15 in the US and 25 years in Israel. Sarah Gon, of the SA Institute of race relations was interviewed on her opinions on anti-Semitism. She expressed the opinion that anti-Semitism is prevalent in a minority of South Africans mainly in the political and academic spheres. She is of the view that anti-Semitism can be countered by presenting the facts. Worthy Brother Solly Baskin who has been a member of the order for 38 years was interviewed. Worthy Brother Doron Blackman of Lodge Hillel-Menora in Port Elizabeth was also introduced.

It is my wish that 2019 will be a productive and positive year.



Bro Jeff Sulski
President, Dr Herzl Lodge

DR HERZL LODGE

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

January 2019

Dear Worthy Brethren and Brethren,

As we usher in yet another new year, 2019 has started with a pleasant "bang" for the Hebrew Order of David.

The Hebrew Order of David now boasts a weekly slot on ChaiFM, South Africa's premier Jewish radio and talk station. That's right brethren, every Thursday afternoon between 6pm and 7pm, the HOD has been given a full hour to host guest speakers, as well as to inform the public about Jewish topics and events which are relevant to our community. This is a huge and significant step forward in introducing the concept of the HOD into the public sphere.

One week ago (10th February) the show was hosted by Wor Bro Stan Klaff with guest speakers Wor Bro Solly Baskin representing Sir Harry Graumann Lodge and Wor Bro Doron Blackman representing Lodge Hillel-Menorah

This week, (17th February) Wor Bro Stan Klaff hosted the following speakers:

Rabbi Gedalia Kauffman (Aish Hatorah) gave us a rather grim insight into the challenges of assimilation amongst American Jewry - some of the statistics he shared were very troubling. Rabbi Kauffman stressed what a privilege it is to be born Jewish, as well as the responsibility we bear.

Wor Bro David Joss (Past Governing Lodge President of North America) gave us an excellent explanation of how the lodges were started in USA, many of the pioneers of those lodges being South African immigrants, including Grand President Alan Rubenstein, and how these lodges grew exponentially.

Wor Bro Ian Ralph (SA Governing Lodge President) gave an overview of the state of South African lodges.

Wor Bro Stan Klaff (Grand Secretary) explained some of the ways in which the Order operates as a fraternity, and stressed that while it has never been the stated goal of the Order to enforce religious belief on any brethren, the Constitution of the Order clearly stipulates that one of the core requirements for membership into the Order is that only Jewish males who are married within the faith are eligible. He stressed that Jewish values form the cornerstones of the Order.



We urge all brethren to support this initiative by tuning-in to 101.9 ChaiFM every Thursday 6-7pm

*ChaiFM is not only live on air, it features live streaming as well:
<http://www.chaifm.com>*

Parts of the show will be re-broadcast on Sunday mornings.

Recordings of the show will be available on the site and we will distribute regularly

Any queries:
stanklaff@gmail.com

**Thursdays 6-7pm
101.9 ChaiFM**



Wor Bro Ian Ralph in studio
17/1/2019



Bro Neville Kahn

Vice-President, Dr Herzl Lodge

*It is with sadness that we were informed that **Wor Bro Harold Shapiro**, father of **Bro Jonathan Shapiro** has recently taken ill.*

*On behalf of the brethren of Dr Herzl Lodge we wish **Wor Bro Harold** a REFUAH SHLEMAH and a speedy and complete recovery*

Birthdays and Anniversaries

*Wishing the following Brethren who have, or will be celebrating their **BIRTHDAYS** during January*

18 Jan *Bro Jeffrey Epstein*



*Wishing the following Brethren who have, or will be celebrating their **ANNIVERSARIES** during January*

7 Jan *Bro Michael Pimstein and Ann*

8 Jan *Bro Stephen Goldberg and Lynette*

16 Jan *Wor Bro Eddie Schnaid and Eve*

21 Jan *Wor Bro Avron Krasner and Zelda*



'The problem with socialism is that you eventually run out of other people's money'
Margaret Thatcher

Dr Herzl Lodge No 1

NOTICE BOARD

21 January 2019

UPCOMING EVENTS

*Johnny Sonnabend
Memorial Golf Day*

Chavershaft putt-putt

Sunday family outing

Movie Magic

Arcadia outing

Venues and dates
to be confirmed

Dr Herzl Lodge

is proud to present

Dr Roelf Meyer

"South Africa - 25 years into democracy"

Tuesday 19 February, 8pm

HOD Centre, Johannesburg

Dr Roelf Meyer

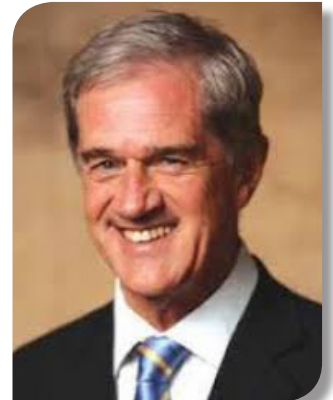
SA politician and businessman

Known for the prominent role he played
in ending apartheid in South Africa

He co-founded the United Democratic Party

He is currently a director of Armscor and
is involved in conflict resolution worldwide

*Dont miss this opportunity to
hear an expert's opinion on some
of the most pressing challenges
facing South African society today*



Cost: **R80.00 per person**

All proceeds to charity

Payment can be made at the door

Dress: Smart-casual

Ladies and guests are welcome

Refreshments are included

Please make every effort to attend

Please RSVP:

011 6403017

info@hodavid.org



What's in the JEWISH COOKING POT...?

Monday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
21 January	20 March	21 March	19 April	20 April
15 Shevat	13 Adar	14 Adar	14 Nissan	15 Nissan
TU-BISHVAT	FAST OF ESTHER	PURIM	EREV PESACH	PESACH DAY 1

A history of Tennis in SA during the 1960's and 1970's and beyond

Part 2

Since then Wayne Ferreira has been one of our best mens' players. Also we now have 31-year old Kevin Anderson. My story is as follows: In 1998, I was coaching chess at St. Stithians Boys Prep in Randburg. One day I stood outside the chess classroom and looked at the noticeboard. One chess player told me that the no 1 and no 2 players at the school were excellent. Who were they? That's right! Kevin Anderson at no 1 and his brother Greg Anderson at no 2. Recently, Kevin Anderson has just reached the finals of the US Open in September – only losing to world no 1 Rafael Nadal in the finals at Flushing Meadows.

During the early 1980's Bill Venter was our most successful Business person. He sponsored tennis tournaments. His two eldest sons, Craig and Robbie, had attended a tennis university in the US. On completing their academic curriculum, they returned home. Robbie made a name for himself by reaching spot number 65 in the world rankings. Both now are directors at Altech.

In November 1982 I took a trip back to Ellis Park. The SA Open was being played and I saw a match of Vitas Gerulaitis (who had reached number 4 world wide) against Andre Gomez of Ecuador. Gomez must have been 6 foot 5 inches tall. He wacked that ball so hard that he convincingly won the first set. Then down came the rain. Covers were pulled over the court. But in the changeroom Gomez smoked a cigarette. This was too much to handle. On coming back to the court Garulitis won sets 2 and 3 to take the match.

Sometime later in the 80's I saw Amos Mansdorf of Israel winning the SA Open in the final. I also saw a Mens Doubles match with another player from Israel, Shachar Peer.

In ladies'tennis we have also had our share of winners. During the early 1970's our best players were Annette van Zyl, Pat Pretorius, Ilana Kloss, Linky Boshoff and Rene Weatherspoon. I remember posting a picture up of three of the above players in my own room at home. Ilana Kloss won Junior Wimbledon in 1972. She beat Glynnis Coles of Great Britain. Also back in 1972 or 1973, I remember her at 4–4 in the final set against Chris Evert at Ellis Park. Even though the outcome did not go Ilana's way, Ilana Kloss won two Grand Slam titles. Both were Mixed Doubles wins in the USA and France in both the same year, 1976. Another top South African Lady player is Marlene Bethlehem who once won the plate at a Wimbledon Ladies Singles' competition.

So let me give you my impressions of tennis in the 1960's and 1970's generally. They say that the success of a singles player is based on the number of titles won. In that case the hero of my youth, Jimmy Connors, stands at number one. He scored a massive total of 109 singles titles. Next up we have Ivan Lendl of Czechoslovakia on 92. But we must remember that Roger Federer has recently equalled that same tally of 92. So maybe he is also second. Based on the number of Grand Slam victories, first then is Roger Federer on 18 and second Pete Sampras on 14. Third in line is Australia's Roy Emerson on 13. I do know that Bjorn Borg scored 11 with Jimmy Connors and Ivan Lendl at 8 each. It is amazing the Roy Emerson's record of 13 had been achieved during the 1960's. It was only beaten in approximately 1990 or so by Pete Sampras.



Bro David Mendelson
Scribe

The First month of the Year

The first commandment Hashem gives to the Jewish people as a whole -- to decree the beginning of the Jewish month. This is important for setting the date of each Jewish holiday. It is so important that when the Romans were persecuting us at the time of the Hanukah story, they forbade the Jewish court to decree the beginning of the new month.

The Torah states, Exodus 12:2:

"This month shall be for you the first of the months (referring to the month of Nissan when Pesach occurs. The new year of the reign of king starts with the month of Nissan. The new year for the creation of mankind starts with the month of Tishrei)."

What lesson for life can we learn from this verse? Rabbi Moshe Feinstein commented that the month of Tishrei is the month of the creation of the world. The month of Nissan is the month of the exodus from Egypt. Both months are lessons in our awareness of the Almighty's power.

The first lesson is that the Hashem is the Creator of the universe. The second lesson is that of Divine Providence. Hashem controls the events of the world and therefore He is the One who enslaved the Children of Israel and He is the One who freed them. The Torah is telling us in this verse that the lesson of Hashem's guiding historical events is even more important than the lesson of the creation of the world.

One can believe that Hashem created the world and this might not make any difference in a person's behaviour and attitudes. However, once a person is aware of the supervision of Hashem in daily events, he will improve his behaviour. Moreover, his trust in Hashem will free him from worry. The month of Nissan is the first month of the year and by remembering this, we remember all that is symbolized by the Exodus. This will have a major effect on what we do and think.

Bro Martin Greenberg
Chaplain

AVOIDING AN ISRAELI-RUSSIAN CONFLICT IN SYRIA, AFTER US WITHDRAWAL

Israel and Syria have been enemies since Israel was established, in 1948.

BY EHUD EILAM

10 January 2019

The United States is about to take its forces out of Syria in the near future. This development might increase the probability of a clash between Israel and Russia in Syria, which might escalate into a dangerous crisis. Israel, the United States and Russia could work together to prevent that, by taking care of the main problem in Syria: limiting as much as possible the Iranian deployment there.

There are about 2,000 US troops who are deployed in Syria, a relatively small number, particularly in a country that spreads more than 71,500 sq. mi. Nevertheless, for Israel even this quite tiny American presence helps, mostly in the effort of containing the Iranian military deployment in Syria. In Syria, the United States confronts ISIS not Russia and its Syrian ally, Bashar Assad. The United States also seeks to reduce the Iranian influence in the Middle East, including in Syria. Israel asked the Trump administration to stop its retreat from Syria or at least to slow it down, not because of Russia, but due to the Iranian military deployment in Syria.

Israel and Syria have been enemies since Israel was established, in 1948. The two states had a series of wars; the last one was in 1982. Furthermore, in their main front, the Golan Heights, there has been quiet since 1974, until 2011, when the Syrian civil war erupted. Since then, there was a friction between Israel and Syria, mostly because Israel had launched hundreds of air sorties inside Syria that destroyed weapons like surface to surface, on their way from Iran to Hezbollah, its protégé in Lebanon. During one of those strikes, on September 18, the Syrian air defense, probably by mistake, shot down a Russian reconnaissance plane, killing 14 Russian crew members who were on board. Russia blamed Israel for that incident and sent the S-300, an advanced anti-aircraft system, to reinforce the air defense in Syria.

Russia has reasons why not to let the Syrians to run the S-300 completely by themselves. It is a gamble because if the S-300 fails, it could impact Russia's prestige and arms sales around the world. Such humiliation could push Russia to be more aggressive. By 2018, 63,012 Russian troops have fought in Syria, which shows how deeply Russia has been involved in that country. Still, Israel's leaders declared that Israel will continue to do what is needed to secure their state. Russia and Israel have developed a coordination mechanism, aiming at allowing Israel to bomb inside Syria. It has been quite effective, yet in recent months, Russia had made it more difficult for Israel in this matter.

Russia has in Syria not only the S-300, but even a more sophisticated anti-aircraft battery, the S-400. If those batteries open fire on Israeli aircraft, the latter might return a favor. The last time such a confrontation happened was during the attrition war in Egypt in 1969-1970. A clash between Israel and Russia might have more severe outcome than the one that occurred between Turkey and Russia after Turkey shot down a Russian aircraft in late November 2015. Israel has powerful US weapons, including the F-35 stealth fighter. Yet Israel requires not only American military assistance, but a diplomatic one as well, particularly if there is a serious friction between Israel and Russia.

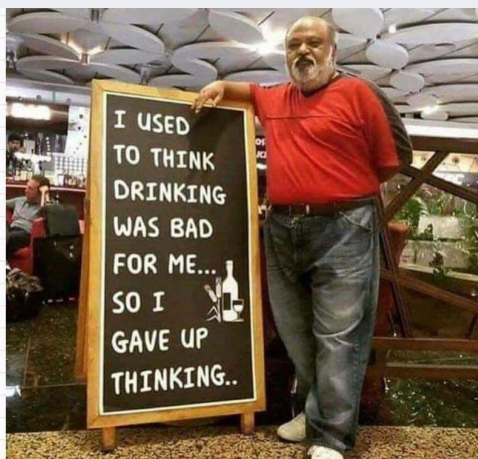
It is essential to get rid of the Iranian presence in Syria, before the latter turns into a strong Iranian base, as part of Iran's regional ambitions, aimed against both Israel and the United States. This is the source of the problem. As long as Iran exploits Syria for that purpose, Israel will bomb inside Syria, which can force the Russians to act against Israel.

Israel and the United States are not pleased with the Russian grip on Syria, but this challenge can wait. The more burning issue is how to deal with the Iranians in Syria. Here Russia might actually help. Russia needed Iran as long as the war went on in Syria, which seems now close to its end. In this new circumstance, Iran and Russia compete with each other for which one will be the dominant foreign power in Syria. Therefore, Israel and the United States can collaborate with Russia, officially or not, in kicking Iranian forces out of Syria. It will be a way to both contain Iran and avoid a clash between Israel and Russia.

The writer is a Ph.D. and analyst of Israel's national security and is the author of Israel's Military Doctrine (Rowman & Littlefield: Lexington Books, 2018).

Disclaimer:

Views expressed do not reflect the opinions of the Hebrew Order of David



AFTER MY WIFE DIED, I COULDN'T
EVEN LOOK AT ANOTHER WOMAN
FOR ALMOST 20 YEARS.

BUT NOW THAT I'M OUT OF JAIL, I
CAN HONESTLY SAY IT WAS
WORTH IT.



When there's a will, I want to be in it

If I agreed with you, we would both be wrong!

To steal ideas from one person is called plagiarism

To steal ideas from many is called research

I didn't say it was your fault, I said I was blaming you.

You do not need a parachute to skydive. You only need a parachute to skydive twice!

I'm supposed to respect my elders. But it's getting harder and harder for me to find one now!

We never really grow up, we only learn how to behave in public



DID YOU KNOW that the song "***Somewhere Over the Rainbow***" was a song written about Israel? It was perhaps the most poignant song to emerge out of the mass exodus from Europe.

The lyrics were written by Yip Harburg. He was the youngest of four children born to Russian Jewish immigrants. His real name was Isidore Hochberg and he grew up in a Yiddish speaking, Orthodox Jewish home in New York. The music was written by Harold Arlen, a cantor's son. His real name was Hyman Arluck and his parents were from Lithuania. Together, Hochberg and Arluck wrote "Somewhere Over the Rainbow," which was voted the 20th century's number one song by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). In writing it, the two men reached deep into their immigrant Jewish consciousness - framed by the pogroms of the past and the Holocaust about to happen - and wrote an unforgettable melody set to near prophetic words. Read the lyrics in their Jewish context and suddenly the words are no longer about wizards and Oz, but about Jewish survival:

*Somewhere over the rainbow Way up high,
There's a land that I heard of Once in a lullaby.
Somewhere over the rainbow Skies are blue,
And the dreams that you dare to dream Really do come true.*

*Someday I'll wish upon a star And wake up where the clouds are far behind me.
Where troubles melt like lemon drops Away above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me.*

*Somewhere over the rainbow Bluebirds fly.
Birds fly over the rainbow. Why then, oh why can't I?
If happy little bluebirds fly Beyond the rainbow, Why, oh why can't I?*

The Jews of Europe could not fly. They could not escape beyond the rainbow. Harburg was almost prescient when he talked about wanting to fly like a bluebird away from the "chimney tops." In the post-Auschwitz era, chimney tops have taken on a whole different meaning than the one they had at the beginning of 1939. The land that the Jews heard of "once in a lullaby" was not America, but Israel. The remarkable thing would be that fewer than ten years after "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" was first published, the exile was over and the State of Israel was reborn. Perhaps the "dreams that you dare to dream" really do come true."

Next Open Lodge Meeting:

Monday 18 February 2019, 7.30pm sharp

We urge all Brethren to make every effort to attend

