

# JEWISH AGGIES

ROHR CHABAD JEWISH CENTER AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY®

Volume VII 2015 | 5775

Jewish Empowerment in Aggieland



## SINAI SCHOLARS SOCIETY | JUDAISM COMES TO COLLEGE

*Sinai Scholars Society invites students to engage in an open community of study and self-discovery that will help them to become passionate, informed Jewish leaders on campus and in their respective communities.*



Sinai Scholars Class Spring 2014

I found ***Sinai Scholars*** to be a unique opportunity to broaden my horizons in all aspects of Judaism. The class explores many different topics, all of which are exciting and engaging. - **Justin Katz**

***Sinai Scholars*** gave me a stronger connection to my Jewish identity by allowing me to learn about not only the ten commandments, but also the essence of Judaic scholarship. I recommend this class to anyone who wants add a new layer of depth their understanding of Judaism and wants to richen their Chabad experience. - **Scott Mash**

***Sinai Scholars*** helped shape me into the young Jew I am today! The real world explanations have helped me understand how Judaism translates to today's society. It's an amazing class and I suggest everyone take it immediately!! -

**Mandi Coppock**



Sinai Scholars Class Fall 2014



# MESSAGE

From the Directors



Each year we pause and reflect on the past years. This one was full of educational, social, hand on, vibrant, nurturing, and inspiring programming and events. Take a peak inside this newsletter to get a taste of the energy and joy in our Aggies Chabad house , or better yet, stop in and be a part of the magic.

It is a pleasure serving the community and we look forward to increasing and expanding all the programming that we offer to the students, community & faculty at Texas A&M.

**Rabbi Yossi & Manya Lazaroff**

*Menachem, Lazer, Leibel, Mussia, Menucha, & Levi*



We thank our dedicated student board for their love and commitment to Jewish student life at Texas A&M University. #ChabadLovesYou

## Aggie Engagements



Miranda Hurwitz  
to Kenny Abitbol



Dana Norton  
to Eythan Hofman



Ashley Waronoff  
to Ben Ciotti



Samantha Caplan  
to Graham Schlanger



Samantha Rosenbaum  
to Jason Wise



Marny Itzkowitz  
to Cody Weaver

## Aggie Weddings



Jody & Kyle Stein



Ari & Golda Hutchison



Rachael & Nathan Baum

## Aggie Babbies



Esther Kabins



Noor Faithful



Nathaniel Beddok



Alexander Lieb

## GRADUATES SPEAK

### MY HOME AWAY FROM HOME

Chabad brings warmth to my heart and feeds my soul. When I was alone in College Station, my new family Manya and Yossi and the kids picked me up from the airport and moved me into my new house. I will forever be grateful for the Lazaroff's warmth and giving nature. I look forward to a life long friendship with Manya, Yossi, and the kids.

- Dr. Odelia Bouganim, DVM



Chabad gave me an outlet to both learn about Judaism and discover my roots. I thoroughly enjoyed the various programs and activities that were offered. Not only did they enhance my collegiate experience, but they made me a better person. Chabad was my home away from home.

- Ben Pisik



Chabad at Texas A&M wasn't just a "home away from home" for me for my four years at A&M; it WAS home. All of the hours spent playing with the kids, all of the hours pretending to help cook; all of the hours of incredible and fun conversation - Chabad at A&M helped me get through college and come out a slightly more mature but infinitely more enriched young man. Rabbi Yossi, Manya, Menachem, Lazer, Leibel, Mussia, Menucha and Levi are my family in Texas, and I'm so incredibly grateful to have them in my life .

- Cory Nagelberg



My experience at Chabad and in the Jewish community at A&M has shaped my future in so many ways. The knowledge and experiences I've gained over the past few years by interacting with peers who have similar beliefs and being able to have individual time with Manya and Rabbi have been invaluable. I cannot wait to be able to continue down the Jewish path I have shaped for myself with the help of the Aggie Jewish Community!

- Riley Greenberg



Chabad greatly enhanced my college experience. It was great to know that I was always welcome there, whether it be for Shabbat Dinner or any of the many programs that are held on a weekly basis. I was even able to travel to Israel for free with Rabbi Yossi via Mayanot Birthright, which was a fantastic trip. I learned a great deal from participating in the Sinai Scholars class at Chabad, and it was definitely one of the highlights of my time at A&M. I'm very thankful for the hospitality I was shown by Rabbi Yossi and Manya throughout the four and a half years I was in College Station, they make being active in the Jewish Community both fun and rewarding for students .

- Joseph Garcia



I came to college to get an education. Little did I know that I would leave knowing so much more about the world and about myself. When I look back at my college years, Chabad will be seen as a major part of it. Rabbi and Manya do so much to help the students grow and learn as Jews, but the biggest thing I think they do is show how much they care so no student ever has to feel alone. I can't thank them enough.

- Evy Brown



# WEEKLY KOSHER COOKING CLUB

Every Friday night you find 50—70 Jewish Aggies gather together to celebrate Shabbat! There is always great company, great conversation and of course great food! After many request for these recipes, we are sharing them with everyone. Feel free to join us for Shabbat any time you are in Aggieland!



## CHABAD'S FAMOUS CHALLAH

4 cups warm water

4 Tb. yeast

1 1/2 cup sugar

Allow this mixture to bubble and foam then add:

3/4 cup oil

2 Tb. salt

4 eggs- checked for blood spots

5 lbs flour ( can be a mixture of whole or white flour)

Preheat oven to 350

Knead the mixture well\* Cover it with a damp towel and let it rise about 1 hour\* Take off a piece and burn it and make the following Bracha: *Bo-ruch ata Ado-nay E-lo-hey-nu melech haolam asher kidshanu bemitz-votv vitzivanu Lehafrish Challah.*

Burn the small piece that was separated.\* Shape your Challah, place them on a floured aluminum pan \*Brush the Challah with an egg wash.

Bake for about 1/2 hour for 40 minutes until golden brown and delicious\* Invite some friend over and share shabbat together.

**Just make sure you make an extra one to eat right away!**

## CHABAD'S FAMOUS GREEN DIP

10 jalapenos,

2- 3 cloves fresh garlic,

1 handful of fresh cilantro leaves

1/4 - 1/2 cup mayonnaise

salt to taste.

\*De-seed 1/2 the jalapenos

\*Rinse, clean and check the cilantro well  
put all the ingredients in a blender

\*puree until the ingredients  
are well blended.

\*Serve with fresh Challah!

*"Kosher cooking club is where I can relax, spend time with incredible people, and cook amazing food. I love coming out to cook on Thursday nights because you will be able to learn how to make new and delicious dishes, and of course the fresh challah!!"*

*-Jackie Ettinger*





# Chabad provides Social & Educational

## COMMUNITY & FAMILY PROGRAMMING

Sunday Men's Tefillin Club

Wednesday Women's Torah & Tea

Chabad Hebrew School

Challah Baking

Shabbat Dinner Family Style

Holiday Celebrations



**Chabad Hebrew School** was founded with grass roots efforts from families in our community. Its objective is to provide a positive educational opportunity to instill in our children a love and excitement for their Jewish identity.



**Our Curriculum** is designed so that the children walk away daily with feelings of Jewish pride and belonging. All this while acquiring Knowledge of our Torah, her stories, their values, and Mitzvahs. It is a safe environment where we celebrate asking questions and engage in honest discussions .



The proof is in the results. Our children have a light and joy when the day is done and don't actually want to leave.





# Opportunities For All Jews in Aggieland



*Semester Kick Off BBQ*



*Mega Challah Bake*



*Finals Care Packages*



*Dessert & Discussion*



*Falafel Fest*



*Dallas Chili Cook-Off*



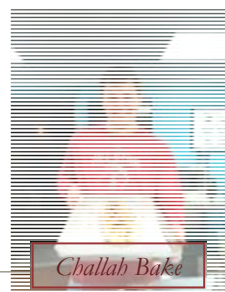
*Kosher Dinner with the Corp*



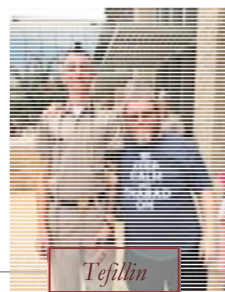
*Dinner & Discussion*



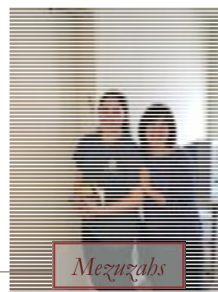
*9/11 Mitzva-thon*



*Challah Bake*



*Tefillin*



*Mezuzahs*



*NYC Shabbaton*



**Chabad Jewish Student & Community Center** provides, educational & social programming to cater to **ALL** ages. From Chabad Hebrew School to Wednesdays womens Torah & Tea, to Sunday Morning Tefillin & Shmooze, Family Kosher Cooking Club & Shabbat Dinners,- Family Style. Come join us and be a part of a **WARM, VIBRANT & JOYOUS** Jewish Family Center.

There are a myriad of social and educational programming that are designed to cater to the different demographics that make up our Jewish Aggie Community. From Student programming, family programming, women's class, alumni events, parents, grad students, Staff & Faculty.

Each program is thoughtfully designed with intentionality to cater to unique and targeted demographics, providing opportunity to network, socialize and strengthen their Jewish identity.



*Freshman Pizza Night*



*Sushi Social*



*Midnight Breakfast*



*Bowling League*



An evening that brought together, students, community, parents and supporters, the Rohr Chabad Jewish Center at Texas A&M University celebrated 7 years with a Gala Dinner.



It was only 7 years ago, in June 2007, that Rabbi Yossi & Manya Lazaroff moved to College Station, Texas to establish the Chabad center in Aggieland. Now one of 210 Chabad houses on campus. Their first Friday night they were joined by 8 students in their home the following week, 18. The students kept coming back, week after week. By the time Rosh Hashanah arrived, they had 40 people at their table.

In October of 2007 Chabad acquired a 4,000 sq ft center as a permanent home and established what is now known as the Rohr Chabad Jewish Student & Community Center at Texas A&M University.



The Chabad Center continues to provide a warm and pleasant atmosphere for everyone that walked through the door. Every week you can find students studying, napping on the couches or stopping in for a quick bite. Chabad

is a home for Jewish Aggies.

Now annual occurrences, Chabad built the first sukkah on campus, erected the first Menorah on campus and started a Passover Dining Program to provide fresh gourmet meals for the holiday. In 2009 Chabad began the Texas Shabbaton, an annual intercollegiate weekend attracting student from around the Lone Star State and beyond, to Aggieland.

Year after year, students have joined Rabbi Yossi on trips to Israel for birthright, strengthening their Jewish connection to the land of Israel.



Classes on Judaism are held throughout the semester. Students have an array of learning opportunities, Pizza and Parsha on campus, Girl's dessert and discussion, Sinai Scholars Society course which integrate the study of

classic Jewish texts, social programming, and national networking opportunities. These all provide a fresh and exciting context for Jewish life and learning on campus. Additionally, Chabad's classes invites students to engage in an open community of study and self-discovery that help them to become passionate, informed Jewish leaders on campus

and in their respective communities.

The Chabad Jewish Enrichment program caters to the educational needs of the young families with hands on Judaic and Holiday programming and weekly gatherings. Women of the community join together weekly to learn, explore, share and grow as well.

"Our Students and community know that they can call on us anytime". exclaimed Manya, co-director of the Chabad. "Whether it be for a hot bowl of Matzah Ball Soup, a lending ear, or a ride to the Doctor, Chabad is here to help!"



The Dinner Gala honored Dr. Leonard Berry a distinguished professor of Texas A&M University, and the Mayor of College Station, Nancy Berry. "Rabbi Yossi & manya are the most charming and

welcoming people. It's great to have them as friends and for them to be a voice of Judaism in our community" said Mayor Berry. Feelings are mutual, for the Lazaroffs. "It has been a privilege to get to know the Berrys. Their passion, friendship and support is an integral part of our success here in Aggieland" Rabbi Yossi Lazaroff said.

Allison and David Nagelberg of NJ were honored as the 'Parents of the year' as extraordinary examples of dedicated Aggie Jewish parents. "We don't know how they do it; the sheer number of hours on their feet, and always with kindness, humor and compassion, is simply daunting. They ask nothing of us in return, but we owe them everything." said Allison Nagelberg. The Nagelberg's son Cory has just graduated from Texas A&M. Cory served as President of the Chabad student group and is also a proud member of A&M's only Jewish fraternity, Sigma Alpha Mu. Cory is moving to Boston to begin the next part of his journey in life.



The Young Alumni award was awarded to Jason Wise class of '09 as being a shining example for young Jewish Aggies. "I met my fiancé, Samantha, through the Chabad social programs." said Wise. "Both Yossi and

Manya have helped us both connect from the beginning. Whenever I am in town I always make sure to see Rabbi Yossi, Manya, and the kids."

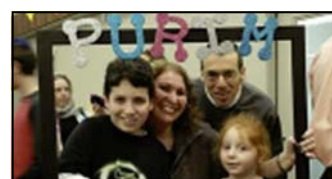
As Chabad enters their eighth year serving the community, they are proud of their achievements, but never completely satisfied. "We will continue to work tirelessly to provide a Jewish Oasis in Aggieland." Manya said with a smile.



# HOLIDAYS WITH CHABAD

## IN AGGIELAND

*Our Mission at Chabad is to create an environment for vibrant warm homey Jewish experiences. All our Holiday classes, programming and services are designed with this mission in mind. We put together some of the pictures of the many opportunities that Jewish*



### CHANUKAH



Purim now has an additional significance in Aggieland. Our only Jewish sorority at Texas A&M, **Zeta Beta Sigma is becoming AEPhi.**

Purim night, the Texas A&M Collegiate Panhellenic council voted to bring AEPhi to join the Greek community at Texas A&M.

Chabad welcomes AEPhi to the Jewish community in Aggieland.  
**#ChabadLovesYou**

### PURIM SPRING 2015







**ROHR CHABAD  
JEWISH STUDENT  
& COMMUNITY CENTER**

SERVING TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

201 LIVE OAK ST, COLLEGE STATION, TX 77840

**D**riven by a mission of *Ahavat Yisroel*, unconditional love, the Rebbe imbued his *Shluchim*, emissaries with a mission to take care of the physical and spiritual needs of the Jews in their Communities. With the Rebbe as our inspiration we are proud to serve the Texas A&M Community and student body.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Chabad at Texas A&M is financially independent. Our efforts come with significant financial responsibilities and it is with the partnership of students, alumni, community and friends that we are able to keep our programs going and growing. Every dollar goes a long way at Chabad. Your contribution will have huge impact, especially now. Twice annually we ship in pallets of food to cater to the needs of the Jewish Aggie Community, Partner with us!

[www.JewishAggies.com/donate](http://www.JewishAggies.com/donate)

## CHABAD JEWISH STUDENT BOARD



## THANKS and Gig 'Em

Delaney Becker, President  
Barri Bellinson  
Doug Coppock

Bryce Erickson  
Justin Katz  
Scott Mash

Michael Mendelsohn  
Jamie Reedholm  
Stephanie Tssys

**Faculty Advisors:**  
Dr. Jenny Wollock  
Dr. Sholom Shlomo

## WHY I DONATE TO CHABAD

For four years Chabad at Texas A&M was my home. I can go on for hours with stories and memories about everything the Lazaroff family did for me and the people and experiences I had there. However, Chabad doesn't simply exist; it takes considerable amount of funds to feed students, provide programming, and provide an amazing experience for students. I donate to Chabad at A&M every chance I have and I am proud to be a partner with them in providing a home for Jewish students in Aggieland. - **Cory Nagelberg '14**

Chabad had made a huge difference in my life. The Lazaroff are the most selfless and hardest working families I know. They have brought so much Judaism to Texas A&M and have made Texas A&M the Jewish community it is today.

- **Jody Stein '09**

I cannot thank Rabbi Yossi & Manya enough for everything they do for Jewish student life at Texas A&M. - **Delaney Becker President, Zeta Beta Sigma**