



New & Improved

2016 Year-End Update

Welcome

to the Kollel's 2016 Year-End Update.

The theme of this update is “New & Improved”—because so much of what happened at the Kollel this year is exactly that, new and improved. With the help of so many of you, the Kollel realized its dream of adding an additional four scholars to our staff. This addition allowed us to move the Kollel forward in many ways.

Expanded Staff

Most significantly, the expansion has improved the Kollel's primary mission of advanced Torah study. A full *minyan* of ten scholars studying together has greatly enhanced the learning environment. The Kollel is also better equipped to help the many people seeking learning opportunities with our staff. This expansion has put Cincinnati on par with many larger Jewish communities, which boast first-rate Kolllels with a full complements of scholars.

2016 Year-End Honor Roll

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Over a 24-hour period, the Kollel raised over \$280,000 to kick off the first year of the Kollel’s expansion. This campaign was made possible through our lead partners, **The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati, CCH Healthcare, Beth Medrash Govoha, and in memory of Rabbi Sharfstein ז”ל**, along with hundreds of others. The platform we used was the **Charidy 24-hour online campaign**. It was extremely exciting, gratifying, and fun, for all who even just followed it online.

Charidy Campaign:
June 22–23, 2016



New Housing

To house these additional scholars, the Kollel purchased an additional two apartment buildings, adjacent to the Kollel’s three existing apartment buildings. These real estate purchases also help to secure the neighborhood for the future of the Jewish community.

New Associate Director

Another important step this year in the Kollel’s advancement was the elevation of long-time Staff Scholar Rabbi Chaim Heinemann to the position of Associate Director. Rabbi Heinemann has been a very popular figure in the Kollel, and he is now using his significant scholarship and organizational skills to both enhance the staff’s own learning and create new opportunities for the community to benefit from the Kollel.

New in Campus Outreach

Another staff addition has been the hiring of Rabbi Aryeh Pridonoff as our new College Campus Outreach Director. A U.C. “brat” himself, Aryeh reconnected with his Judaism over ten years ago through the Kollel’s campus outreach, under the leadership of Rabbi Rafi Weinschneider.

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New Kollel Partners Leadership

The Kollel Partners program has gotten a boost with the hiring of a dynamic couple to run it: Rabbi Mechael & Kayla Soroka. Having a husband and wife team running all of the Kollel Partners activities helps the Kollel reach out more effectively throughout the community.

New Nightly Program Doubles Attendance

One of the most noticeable changes is the doubling of the Kollel’s nightly attendees. Led by Staff Scholar Rabbi Tzvi Fishman, a group of more than twenty participants study advanced Talmud, Sunday through Thursday evenings, in the Kollel’s Library. This is in addition to the existing group of participants who join the Kollel in individual and group study every evening in the Kollel’s Beis Midrash (Study Hall).

Staff Scholars and Their Own Studies

This year the Kollel’s Staff Scholars are spending their mornings in in-depth study of the laws of kashrus. At the end of each section they will be tested, and at the end of three years they will receive an advanced ordination.

Every afternoon, they study Talmud Chullin, in a program designed to complete this complex tract at the end of two years, including weekly tests.



On Monday, September 12, the Kollel celebrated its twenty-first anniversary, and welcomed its expanded staff, at a dinner at the JCC. Two of the Kollel’s “Mother Ships,” Ner Israel Yeshiva in Baltimore, and Beth Medrash Govoha of Lakewood, NJ, sent their presidents, Rabbis Sheftel Neuberger and Aaron Kotler, to honor this event. The ever inspiring and entertaining Rabbi Moshe Tuvia Lief, our guest speaker, was a special treat for all who attended.



RABBI AARON KOTLER

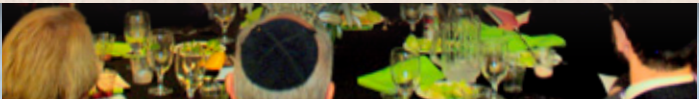


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RABBI MOSHE TUVIA LIEFF

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Standing (L-R):

Administrator Alter Raubvogel; Staff Scholars Rabbis Moshe Dovid Zeffren and Michael Soroka; Outreach Director Rabbi Yitzchok Preis; Staff Scholars Rabbis Yisroel Kaufman and Tzvi Fishman; Directors Rabbis Meir Minster and David Spetner; Staff Scholars Rabbis Ezra Stettin, Yisroel Zalman Epstein, Moshe Tzvi Crystal, and Moshe Fuchs; Associate Director Rabbi Chaim Heinemann; and Campus Outreach Director Rabbi Aryeh Pridonoff

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STAFF SCHOLARS AND THEIR OWN STUDIES CONTINUED

Every week, via Skype, the staff receives a lecture on Jewish thought from one of the world’s most significant Torah scholars, Rabbi Zvi Berkowitz. The staff also hears a weekly in-depth talk from either Rabbi Minster or Rabbi Heinemann on that week’s studies, plus a Torah portion class from Rabbi Spetner.

Highlights of Other Kollel Activities:

Kollel Partners @ the J continues to provide one-on-one study, with tailor-made Torah-mentors, each Tuesday evening.

Monthly **Kollel Partners Lunch & Learn @ the J: JCC, Jewish Federation, and JFS staff** are joined by Kollel faculty and lay leaders, for stimulating discussion of relevant topics of interest.

The Kollel staff takes turns delivering **classes** every Shabbos at **Golf Manor Synagogue, Congregation Shaarei Torah and Congregation Zichron Eliezer (CZE).**

A new & improved **Cincinnati Torah parasha** (Torah portion) sheet has been redesigned by Rabbi Moshe Tzvi Crystal and Alter Raubvogel, and it’s chock full of interesting features every week.

Every week, the Kollel’s Beis Midrash plays host to **CZE’s** successful “**Shivti**” in-depth Torah study program, using materials prepared by **Beth Medrash Govoha** of Lakewood, NJ.

Every Sunday, Rabbi Moshe Fuchs and others lead **learning groups for fourth-through eighth-grade boys** at the Kollel. This is in addition to learning partnerships with elementary school children from various backgrounds throughout the week.

Every month, more than fifty people from all backgrounds join together for a delicious **Sunday morning brunch** and an entertaining, informative Torah class led by Rabbi Chaim Heinemann.

Every Sunday Rabbi Moshe Dovid Zeffren leads a **skills-based Talmud class for beginners.**

Rabbi Preis and Rabbi Michael and Kayla Soroka facilitated a well-attended **Partners-style interactive learning session** at the **Mayerson JCC Day of Learning.**

Yad Vashem docent **Rabbi Henoah Teller** presented “**Heroic Children,**” at an event coordinated in conjunction with **Center for Holocaust and Humanity Education** and hosted by **CZE.**

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HIGHLIGHTS OF OTHER KOLLEL ACTIVITIES CONTINUED

Torah Treasures @ the J now meets weekly on Monday mornings.

“Jewish Jargon: What You Need to Know to Sound Like an Educated Jew” was well received by the entire staff of Camp Livingston, during their orientation week.

This calendar year included four special Cincinnati Shabbat Project events. Guest speakers were Rabbi Leiby Burnham, Mrs Ruchi Koval, Rabbi Mordechai Becher, and Saul Blinkoff. Lots of great plans are in the works for end-of-winter and spring Shabbat programming.

An Enchanted Evening @ the J, in conjunction with Aish on Campus, Camp Livingston, PJ Library and Hadassah, featured a Havdalah concert and Saul Blinkoff’s fascinating and inspiring “True Disney Story.”

Sephardic High Holiday services hosted by the Kollel attracted Israelis from throughout Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. The “Israeli Chevra” has been enjoying weekly Torah classes, led by Rabbi Ezra Stettin, in rotating homes.

All of this is in addition to the many, many one-on-one study partners that the Kollel provides, in the Kollel and throughout the community.

Financial Statements

Assetsfor fiscal year 2015

Cash		
Cash	206,885.87	
Petty Cash	0.00	
Total Cash	206,885.87	
Other Receivables		Liabilities & Equity:
Deposits	134.57	
A/R (NCSY)	2,150.00	
Bureau of Workers Comp	6,815.00	Payroll Withholding Liability
Total Other Receivables	9,099.57	Fed & FICA Taxes Payable2,524.42
		State Tax Payable364.88
Other Assets	3,149.00	Local Tax Payable604.56
Closing Costs—net	0.00	Total Payroll Withholdings3,493.86
Fixed Assets		Short Term Liabilities
Land	182,656.06	Notes Payable2,526.00
Building	845,597.03	Total Short Term Liabilities2,526.00
Building Improvements	366,138.83	
Furniture & Equipment	52,323.30	Long Term Liabilities
Total Fixed Assets	1,451,715.22	Chase304,737.70
		Total Long Term Liabilities304,737.70
Accumulated Depreciation		Equity
A/D—Building	-436,677.27	Retained Earning—Prior744,874.16
A/D—Leasehold Improv	-67,518.17	Retained Earning—Current67,425.23
A/D—Furniture & Equipment	-43,597.27	Total Equity812,299.39
Total Accumulated Depreciation	-547,792.71	
Total Assets	1,123,056.95	Total Liabilities & Equity1,123,056.95

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continued

Expenses

Building Improvements	42,597.02		
Equipment/Machines	11,380.36		
Mortgages/Loans (principal)	14,050.81		
Automotive Expenses	16,450.02		
Honorariums	6,023.50		
Charitable Contributions	10,350.00		
Event Expenses	15,770.84		
Dues & Subscriptions	44.00		
Gifts	130.00		
Informational Advertising	766.06		
Liability Insurance	10,331.35		
Benefits - Health Insurance	111,412.93		
Food & Entertainment	13,053.62		
Repairs and Maintenance	27,766.87		
Office Supplies	5,180.62		
Printing and Postage	26,138.14		
Wages	153,632.13		
Payroll Taxes - OBES & BWC	1,017.55		
FICA & Medicare Taxes	11,752.98		
Fellowships	151,810.16		
Parsonage	93,722.52		
Property Taxes	56.87		
Telephone and Data	9,392.18	Total Expenses	804,034.21
Travel	17,962.09		
Utilities	29,822.61	Income	799,103.44
Miscellaneous	1,113.84		
Interest and Banking Fees	22,305.14	Balance	-4,930.77

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