

# The CHABAD Update

at Dartmouth



April 2011, Edition 10

Nissan 5771

## A Year In Review... by Paul Lazarow '13

Fall term started with the holiday of Sukkot, which commemorates the time that the Jewish people spent in the desert after their Exodus from Egypt. On this holiday, Jews get together to celebrate and reflect on all that they have to be thankful for. On the first night of Sukkot, 60 Dartmouth students shared a meal together in the backyard Sukkah, which was constructed by the Gray family and students. Celebrating Sukkot at Dartmouth helps instill a sense of Jewish community, and students enjoyed sharing the last



bits of the fall term's warm weather together. Whether students ate all their meals in the Sukkah, or just one they were able to better understand the meaning of the holiday and its importance to the Jewish people. This Sukkot also had an environmentally friendly theme with some students speaking about the importance of the environment to Jewish customs.

*Fall Alumni Event at the Arad's P '10* Throughout the fall term, 14 students gathered for weekly discussions as part of the 6th Sinai Scholars Society program offered by Chabad at Dartmouth. Led by Rabbi Gray, the class learned about, discussed and challenged the Ten Commandments, while exploring the applications of these laws to their modern lives. After a stressful summer and first term for most, the students assessed the relevance of their Judaic studies to common collegiate themes. Relationships, cheating, family and the search for one's identity were among the themes considered. The Dartmouth news articles and Rabbi and Chani's wedding video were instrumental in our studies. A culminating experience in Montreal also opened the eyes of the Sinai Scholars students to Jewish practices in North America. The trip consisted of a (luckily uneventful but a bit lengthy) drive up to the city of Montreal, where the students visited a mikvah, the ritual bath used by Religious Jews, a yeshiva and seminary, and a yummy kosher sushi dinner. Now with 120 Dartmouth College Sinai Scholars graduates, we are more than excited to welcome the newest students for class this spring!



*Graduating fall Sinai Scholars class*



*Meli Garber '08 and Jenny Friedman '11*

Every Friday night, students take a brisk walk along School Street to spend Shabbat with the Grays. The cold winter of Hanover doesn't stop them from the 10-minute walk, after which they are always greeted by the delicious smells of Chani's cooking, and the warm smiles of friends at Chabad. Each week over 40 Jewish students sit cozily, side-by-side, singing "shalom alechem" and listening

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## Upcoming Events

**April 1-3: 3rd annual Sinai Scholars Symposium at the University of Pennsylvania**  
[www.sinaischolars.com/symposium](http://www.sinaischolars.com/symposium)

### Sinai Scholars 7th Semester

A Jewish Studies Fellowship with an innovative program of study, activities and national networking. Open to 20 select students

### April 18-26: Pesach

**Join Chabad for the Seders in our outdoor Tent. Monday 18th, Tuesday 19th 7:30pm**

### May 3: 5th Annual Dr Tzvi Yehuda Saks Memorial Lecture

Guest Lecturer Rabbi Shlomo Yaffe

### May 13: 5th Annual Shabbat 400 Sponsored by Chabad and Hillel

Alumni Hall, Dartmouth College

### June 10: Grand Graduation Celebratory Shabbat Dinner together with 50 year class reunion @ Chabad

**June 17th: Special Reunions Shabbat Dinner 7:30pm at Chabad.**

### August 16-21: Sinai Scholars National Retreat Greenwich, CT

*These are just some of the things going on this term at Dartmouth. For more information or to be informed about other events please sign up to for our list by e-mailing [Chabad@Dartmouth.edu](mailto:Chabad@Dartmouth.edu)*

## A Special Thank You...

Chabad at Dartmouth would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to Mr. and Mrs. David and Daphna Arad for hosting our alumni event in December at their home.

To Ms. Eva Talel for hosting our first annual Chabad at Dartmouth Shabbat dinner in New York City. Thank you for your hospitality and opening your home to the Chabad at Dartmouth Family.

# Fostering Jewish Life at Dartmouth

## From the Directors

Dear Friends,

In the Lubavitcher Rebbe's first public address, he outlined his mission statement. The Rebbe said that if we have unconditional love for every Jew, then we will ultimately come to love God. The simple realization that every human being is created in the image of God, and therefore all people are relevant, is the pillar upon which all of our actions rest.



We are grateful and feel honored to provide for the community here at Dartmouth College and the Upper Valley. As we enter the season of our freedom as a people, we want to thank you for your continued help and support and wish you a very joyous Pesach and summer.

-- Rabbi Moshe and Chani Gray

## A Special Mazal Tov...

Chabad at Dartmouth and the Grays extend a hearty mazal tov to the Rebbe's Shluchim to the great state of NH, Rabbi Levi and Shternie Krinsky, on the engagement of their eldest daughter Mushka to Dovi Barber from Melbourne, Australia. May the chassan and kallah build a *bayis neman b'yisroel* and be *zoyche* to an overabundance of blessings.

## The Rebbe... Our Inspiration

G-d has enabled the Jewish people to live as sovereigns in the Holy Land, the place of our forefathers--the land promised to the Jews by G-d. This reality places a special burden and privilege upon Israel's citizens and its government: to preserve the Jewish integrity of the country. Its educational system must be founded and inspired by Jewish values and the Jewish tradition so that its citizens grow to be proud keepers of their Jewish heritage. In its relations with other nations, those responsible for representing its government in foreign affairs must proudly assert its Jewish pride and traditions. This is certain to enhance the esteem with which Israel will be regarded. Jewish law sets forth the criteria necessary for Israel's peace and safety: these can only be achieved from a position of military strength and secure borders. Any sign of willingness to even speak about relinquishing land to our enemies is sure to encourage terrorism in Israel and abroad.



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to the Rabbi say Kiddush. The fact that so many students take out time from their precious Friday nights to attend Chabad is no surprise, Chani's food is superb! The Rabbi's discussion of the weekly Torah portion is replete with words of wisdom. He has an ability to analyze the Torah, and then captivate a room of 40 students, all while giving them very relevant advice applicable to their lives in the Dartmouth bubble. We also discuss sports, politics, religion, and the latest campus news. Every Friday night, due to Rabbi's gregarious disposition and Chani's quality cooking, Jewish students come together for a few hours to talk, laugh, and learn. Amazingly the cold and snow has not stifled attendance and the 14's are proving (finally) that maybe they won't be the worst class ever.

In December, Chabad had its annual menorah lighting ceremony outside on Collis porch, on the first night of Chanukah. A massive gathering of 100 students came together, despite the pouring rain, to light the menorah. We sang the Chanukah blessings on the candles, as well as *Ma'oz Tzur*. After the lighting, the students enjoyed latkes, hot apple cider, and birthday cake for Lieba's birthday. On the following Monday, the Gray family had a Chanukah party at their house. More than 30 students came, in the midst of finals, to further celebrate the holiday. Rabbi made freshly fried latkes in almond oil, and everyone enjoyed fresh jelly donuts and cheese. It was the perfect way to procrastinate during finals week.

Over winter break, the Arads (P10) graciously hosted an alumni reunion, at their home in Alpine, New Jersey. Students, alumni, and family mingled and reminisced about Dartmouth, while enjoying a delicious buffet breakfast. It was great to see old faces and realize how

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### Student Board, Fall 2010

Jenny Friedman #1	President
Sarah Jewett #2	Shabbat Chair
Josh Lewin #1	Speaker Chair
Randall Bryer #2	Programming Chair
Gabi Tudin #2	Israel Chair
Paul Lazarow #3	Communications Chair
Esty Yanco #3	Social Chair
Max Schneck #3	Membership Chair

Professor Lewis Glinert PhD Faculty advisor

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# Fostering Jewish I

## Reflections on Chabad at Dartmouths Alumni Shabbat Dinner, March 18th 2011, New York City

Ben Selznick '07

The Shabbat Dinner on Friday, March 18<sup>th</sup> was one that any participant in the past six years of Chabad at Dartmouth would easily recognize. At the front of the table sat Rabbi Gray and Chani, young children were romping around the table and living room, the Amen after Kiddush was enthusiastically intoned, a lesson from the Torah was shared and considered, introductions were made and lots of delicious food was consumed. However, a few things were noticeably different. To begin, the dinner was on the Upper West Side rather than a short ride from Upper West Lebanon, with its promises of Wall-Mart and special brews from Seven Barrel. Also the conversations were slightly different, focused instead on lives outside of Dartmouth filled with marriages, graduate schools and exciting new jobs. Yet, despite these differences, the recent alumni Shabbat dinner in New York City seemed to bring everyone ó the Rabbi included ó back to an earlier time of The D, Greek Organizations and the house on School Street. In this familiar setting, other alumni and I were invigorated with the spirit of Jewish community and left the table with renewed pride in our individual and collective Jewish identity. Of course, the Rabbi and Chani would never publicly boast about the great success that is Chabad at Dartmouth and how they work tirelessly to create this community and engender active participation in Jewish life on a daily basis. Instead, they will happily let the coming together of over 40 young alumni on a Friday night in New York City speak for itself.

Michele Nudelman '05

As an alumna, I have come to fondly remember many evenings in Hanover spent with Rabbi Moshe and Rebbetzin Chani Gray at their home for Shabbat dinner. When the invitation to attend an alumni Shabbat dinner in New York fell in my inbox, I didn't hesitate to attend. The evening was graciously hosted by Eva Talel, mother of Alex Talel '07, who opened her home to strangers who had no connection to her besides their appreciation of the work the Grays carry out on Dartmouth's campus. In trading stories of my time at Dartmouth with current students over dinner, I happily learned that Shabbat dinners at Chabad have grown from the handful of people when the Grays first opened their doors. As I left the dinner, Chani said that as long as there are generous and gracious people like Ms.

Talel to host events, like the alumni dinner, they will keep doing them. My response is that one day I hope to be in a position that I can host my fellow Dartmouth alumni in my home.

Alex Talel '07

On behalf of the Talel family, thank you to all those who turned out for the inaugural Dartmouth Chabad Alumni Friday Night. I didn't believe the rabbi's RSVP figure until the crowd began streaming in. For those of us in attendance who graduated prior to 2008, eating a Shabbos dinner with the Grays amidst a group of almost 50 was a first. Chabad at Dartmouth is now firmly entrenched on campus as a banner organization for Jewish life.

On the nature of worldly engagement, the Lubavitcher Rebbe had this to say: "The Torah instructs us not to escape the physical reality but to inhabit it and elevate it." The growing pains which Rabbi Gray and Chani have endured are a testament to their character and commitment to maintaining a thoughtfully grounded spiritual presence on the campus of a spectacular institution. The fruits of their labor were on full display on Friday evening, March 18, when over 40 alumni gathered to inhabit and elevate a Friday night with the Gray Family, as they've so often done before. For those of you still at Dartmouth: in the event that you've yet to enjoy a Friday night at 22A School St, I urge you to visit the Rabbi and Rebetzen. You will not be disappointed.

### Student Spotlight



Name: Josh Lewin '11

Age: 22

Major: Government Major with Honors

James L. Freedman Presidential Scholar

Former director of the War and Peace Fellows

Unlike most Dartmouth students, my first trip to 22A School Street occurred before I ever enrolled at the College. In the summer of 2006, while I was visiting Hanover as a prospective student, I received a phone call from my father suggesting I spend Friday dining with Rabbi Gray and the Chabad community. Despite being shy and incredibly timid about the prospect of meeting so many new faces, I finally acquiesced. Within five minutes of sitting at the table for Shabbat dinner, any nervousness I felt had vanished. The friendly atmosphere of Rabbi Gray's home, the welcoming Chabad community and most importantly the sense of Jewish tradition made a lasting impression on me. To this day, I still remember a Dartmouth senior teaching me the prayer for washing one's hands before everybody recited the Kiddush and broke bread.

A lot of things have changed since I spent my first Friday night at 22A School Street. I have studied abroad, changed my major more times than I would care to remember, and tried new activities at Dartmouth that I would have never thought were possible in high school. However through the tough winters, fast-paced academic calendar and unpredictable aspects of college life, Chabad has always been there for me. Every Friday night I enter Rabbi Gray's home and face the same welcoming atmosphere that I experienced as a high school student in 2006. This warmth, and the sense of tradition that defines every Shabbat dinner, represent the essence of what it means to be Jewish. Whenever a friend asks me about my religion, or what it is like being a Jewish student at Dartmouth College, my reply never changes ó "You should come with me this Friday night to Chabad."



The Gray family with the Chabad Alumni Shabbat Dinner hostess Eva Talel, Alex Talel '07 and Chabad student president Jenny Friedman '11. Photo taken before Shabbat.

## Chabad in Action



Jenna Pfeffer '12, Sinai Scholar



Singing Ma'oz Tzur, Steps of Collis



Esty Yanco '13 and Rochel Leah



Sinai Scholars Dinner, fall '10



Bake sale to raise money for terror victims in Israel



Dan Jose '09 meets Gil Locks at the Kotel



The Grays with students after menorah lighting



Some of the 50+ Menorahs given out at Chabad's Grand Menorah Lighting in front of Collis



Dartmouth Group on Birthright Israel, December 2010

strong our community has become thanks to Chabad at Dartmouth. It was truly wonderful to catch up with old friends and hear about what they are all doing in their post Dartmouth lives. Not surprisingly common to each and every alum was the importance of Chabad and the Jewish community at Dartmouth in their lives. Whether their interactions with the Rabbi came from a trip on Birthright, from a weekly Shabbat meal, or Sinai Scholars, they were all thankful for the impact Chabad had on their Jewish experience at Dartmouth.

During winter break, Rabbi Gray led another Birthright trip with 18 Dartmouth students. This ten day trip was an eye opening experience as we all traveled throughout Israel and learned about our culture, history and religion. We went shopping in Tel Aviv, swimming in the Dead Sea, and all the boys got to experience going into a Mikvah. In Jerusalem, we had Shabbat at the Kotel, and many of us were lucky enough to spend Shabbat lunch with Dartmouth alums and their families. We also organized a 'Dartmouth Israel Reunion' where the current students mingled with the many alumni who are living in Israel. The bonds that we all formed on Birthright over winter break have had a lasting impact and upon returning to campus we have all stayed very close. Not all of us were involved with Chabad before the trip. After, though, we all come together for Shabbat meals and the majority of us are now continuing to learn about Judaism in Sinai Scholars with the Rabbi. Birthright provides an additional, highly educational and cultural, Jewish experience for Dartmouth students off of the Dartmouth campus. Chabad's ability to provide students with a Jewish home after such an experience is what truly makes it such a special place. Israel is our homeland, and Chabad is our home at Dartmouth.