



Congregation Ohr Torah

Weekly Announcements

<http://www.ohrtorah.net>

48 Edgemount Road Edison, NJ 08817

Rabbi Yaakov Luban – Rabbi

Jeff Klein- President

Parshas Vayakhel

25 Adar 5776

March 5, 2016

Candlelighting: 5:35PM
Mincha: 5:45 PM
Shacharis: 7:45, 9 & 9:15 AM
Rabbi Hoffman's Halacha B'iyun shiur after Hashkama
Sof Z'man Krias Shma (GR"A): 9:16AM
Rabbi Luban's Taanis Shiur – 4:40PM
Mincha: 1:45 & 5:30 PM
 Shalosh Seudos Speaker : Meir Kornfeld
Maariv: 6:40 PM
Weekday Shacharis:
Sun. 7:15, 8 & 9 AM
Mon. 6:20, 7:05, & 8 AM
Tues., Weds. Fri. 6:30, 7:10 & 8 AM
Thurs. & Fri. (Rosh Chodesh) 6:10, 7:05, & 8 AM
Weekday Mincha/ Maariv: 5:40 PM
Late Maariv: 7:30 & 10:10 PM
Rabbi Akiva Sauer Daf Yomi Iyun shiur – after 7:15 Shacharis on Sunday
R. Luban's Shelos Uteshuvs Shiur- Mon. 9:10 PM
Tuesday Night Tehillim – 9:50- 10:10 PM
Kollel Learning: Wednesday 8-10:10 PM
Daf Yomi
 Friday night-after Maariv
 Shabbos -8:15AM & after Hashkama
 Sunday-after 8AM Shacharis
 Mon-Thurs-after 7:30 Maariv

KIDDUSH

Kiddush this week is sponsored by Yael Raymon and Shai Stahl, together with Susi and Hillel Raymon, in honor of Chen Chasidah Stahl's birthday. Kiddush sponsorship is available for March 19th & 26th and April 9th & 16th.

SHALOSH SEUDOS

Shalosh Seudos is sponsored by the Kornfeld family in memory of the 1st Yahrtzeit of David Kornfeld, Dovid Tzvi ben Michael A"H.

CONG. OHR TORAH ANNUAL DINNER

Please join us on March 27, 5:30pm at the Rutgers Chabad House in New Brunswick, as we honor two very special couples, Sheila & Henry Schanzer and Bracha & Ami Avraham. This year, for the very first time, you can reserve, place your ad and pay entirely online at www.ohrtorah.net/dinner.

Dinner Chairs: Noa & Judah Elbaum

Aviva & Erez Shimoni

Journal Chairs: Hinda & Barry Herman

OHR TORAH ANNUAL YOUTH RAFFLE

Please help support Ohr Torah's youth groups by purchasing raffle ticket(s). The cost of the tickets is one for \$36, two for \$70, or 3 for \$100. The drawing will be held at the annual Shul Dinner on March 27th. Please contact Barry Siegel, Charlie Gershbaum, Jason Jurkevich or Mayer Berg to purchase tickets.

MAZEL TOV

... to Eileen and Mel Wagshul on the birth of a son to their grandchildren Shana (Wagshul) and Ilya Alayev. Mazel Tov to grandparents Leah and Yitzchok Wagshaul and the entire Wagshul family.
 ...to Mel Barenholtz on the Bar Mitzvah of his grandson, Noam Hillel, last Shabbos at the Young Israel of Teaneck.
 ... to Moshe Schreiber on his engagement to Esti Levy. Mazel Tov to Ryfka and Shimon Schreiber, to David and Susan Levy and to the entire Schreiber, Chaitoff and Levy families.
 ...to Batsheva Schreiber on the forthcoming marriage of her granddaughter Adina to Zach Cohn. The wedding will take place IY"H this coming week in Israel.
 ... to Toby and Michael Eleff and Bonnie and Alan Borck on the birth of a son to their children Emily and Tzvi Eleff. Shalom Zachar at the Borcks, 22 Harrison Street, Edison starting at 8:30 PM.

MISHLOACH MANOT ORDERS DUE

Reminder to please get your Mishloach Manot orders in as soon as possible. All orders are due by March 10th.

ENHANCING OUR TEFILLA EXPERIENCE

The Hebrew word for Jew, Yehudi, means "one who gives thanks." So, ignite your essence as a Jew and give thanks to Hakadosh Baruch Hu for everything He does and gives to us, including what we sometimes take for granted such as breathing. Pay particular attention to the parts of the davening where we express our gratitude to Hashem. Daven those tefillos with extra kavanah, concentration, such as Modim, Hodu, Mizmor L'Todah, etc. Throughout the day, get into the habit of recognizing Hashem's goodness and thanking Him with your own personal prayers – Hodu LaShem Ki Tov Ki L'Olam Chasdo; Thank Hashem for He is good, His loving-kindness is forever.

SECURITY TRAINING SESSION #2

The next OT security training session will take place on Sunday March 13th from 8-11 in the OT Kiddush Room. The early start is to accommodate those with family plans scheduled. If unable to attend the complete session please make time to attend some portion as there will be practical material presented. Coffee etc.. will be provided.

YESH TIKVA MARATHON GOAL MET

Congratulations to Jack, Gabriel and Elie Salomon on completing their races in the Disney Princess Half Marathon Weekend. They ran the "Mickey Mile", Kids 100m Dash and 5k & Half Marathon respectively to raise money and awareness for Yesh Tikva - a Jewish Fertility organization. They have raised close to \$8,500 so far and donations are still being accepted, so please drop checks off at the Salomon home to help them reach their goal.

LUNCH AND LEARN

"The Golden Age of Second Avenue", a film about the Yiddish theatre at the turn of the century, will be presented on Wednesday March 9 at 12 noon. Mrs. Harriet Gersten will introduce the film and Gene Wasserman will present a Dvar Torah. Cost is \$10 pp.

CONDOLENCES

We regret to inform you of the passing of: -Florence (Frima) Singer, mother of Carl Singer (former OT member). The Levaya will be in Cleveland, Ohio.

Schedule of tefillos: Mincha / Maariv:

Tuesday March 1st -- afternoon: TBD (family hopes to return from Cleveland in time for Mincha/Maariv). Schachris: Wed.- Friday & Monday: 6:30 AM, Sunday 8:15 AM. Mincha/Maariv: Wednesday & Thursday: 5:30 PM, Sunday: 5:35 PM, Friday Mincha: 3:15 PM

Please no visitors after 10:00 PM

Address: 70 Howard Avenue, Passaic (Corner of Spring & Howard).

-Chana bat Yosef, the sister of Heshy Gottlieb,

May the family be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

ASSISTANT RABBI PROBEH

We are honored to have Rabbi Yitzchak Brand joining us for Shabbos.

Rabbi Brand studied in Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh, the Mir Yeshiva, and Chevron Yeshiva. He is a graduate of Yeshiva College, and received his rabbinic ordination from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary in 2012.

He currently is a Rebbe and physics teacher at the Rae Kushner Yeshiva High School. He previously taught at the Yeshiva University High School for Boys and he has served as guest Rabbi at various shuls.

Rabbi Brand is married to Adina (nee Loewy) and they have three sons ages 7, 6, and 3.

The schedule for Shabbos is as follow:

REMINDER: Emergency Defibrillators are located on the upstairs wall hallway & the entry hallway downstairs wall. CHEVRA HATZOLAH OF MIDDLESEX COUNTY 732-640-5545

First aid kits are available in the President's Shtender in the main Shul and in the back room of the kitchen.

Friday night at 8:30 P.M. Rabbi Brand will speak on the topic Hotspot or Not-Spot: Unauthorized Use of Wireless in Halacha and Hashkafa. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

He will be speaking at Hashkamah, YFM and the Main Minyan on Shabbos morning. Kiddush to follow.

On Motzei Shabbos there will be a Q&A session and "get to know you" at 7:45 P.M. in the Beis Medrash. Refreshments to follow. We strongly encourage everyone to attend as many of these events as possible to get to know this wonderful candidate!

ASSISTANT RABBI VOTE

The Assistant Rabbi Vote and Membership Meeting will take place at the following times:

Sunday, March 13 from 8:30 to 10am

Wednesday, March 16 from 8-10pm

All full members in good standing are entitled to vote. All voting must be done in person provided that a spouse may serve as a proxy vote for the other spouse (with a signed proxy). Ballots will be made available in advance and will also be available at the shul.

YOUTH EVENTS

-On Sunday March 13th at 2:00 PM Cong. Ohr Torah will be going by school bus from the Shul to the Big Apple Circus located in a heated tent adjacent to TD Bank Ballpark in Bridgewater, NJ. We will return to the Shul at 5:30 PM. This program is for children and parents. All children six and under must be accompanied by an adult. The all new show entitled "The Grand Tour - A Circus Extravaganza!" will include clowns, jugglers, acrobats, and aerialists, from Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, North and South America, as well as domestic and rescue animals, all creating performances that will leave audiences smiling and cheering. The show runs 1 hour and 50 minutes including a 20-minute intermission. Our seats are in the back of the center ring with an amazing view of all 100+ performances.

Cost is \$30 per person including transportation for all reservations made in advance. On the day of the event, the price goes up to \$35 per person. Max \$100 per family.

-On Wednesday night March 23rd, Ohr Torah has a grand celebration being planned for Purim night. There will be shows and entertainers starting promptly at 7:45 pm lasting until 9:15 pm in the YFM room and classrooms. Here are the details for Purim night:

- Balloon Twisting from 7:45-9:15pm (1.5hrs) in a classroom
- Party Caricatures from 7:45-9:15pm (1.5hrs) in a classroom
- Juggling/Fire Eating Show from 8:30-9:00pm or later (~ 30 min) in the YFM room

To make a reservation for The Big Apple Circus please send an email to Mayer Berg at marcberg@verizon.net. Please include names and phone numbers for all attendees. In addition, checks can be dropped off at the home of Mayer Berg @ 15 Edgemount Road in Edison or in the Shul mailbox @ 48 Edgemount Road in Edison, NJ (please note on the check the specific OT youth event that you are paying for).

MISSING COAT

Two weeks ago, dark colored winter coats with hoods were accidentally switched. If you have the wrong coat, contact the office.

SEFORIM DONATIONS

Thanks to the following for their generous Seforim donations:

- Edward & Sharon Lowinger in memory of Lisa Goldberg's mother Rhoda Presser Z"L
- Barry & Hinda Herman in memory of Barry's mother Helen Herman Z"L
- David & Fay Moskovic in honor of the birth of great grandsons to Rebecca & Israel Rivkin
- David & Fay Moskovic in honor of the birth of grandsons Roni & Dani Kaplan to Michael & Penny Kaplan
- David & Fay Moskovic on the engagement of Benjamin Kaplan & Batchen Callen
- Rena & Jeff Klein in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Nadav Callen
- Michael & Penny Kaplan in honor of the Bar Mitzvah of Dovid Klerer

SHAIMOS COLLECTION

Congregation Ohr Torah will hold this year's community Shaimos Collection on Sunday, March 27 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The cost is \$20 per large garbage sized bags. Please make all checks out to Congregation Ohr Torah.

(Coordinator/questions) Barry Siegel,

siegeldad@optonline.net

Seforim sale: There will also be a used Seforim sale at this time, Great Bargains!!! Come find your hard-to-find and/or out-of-print books and stock up your home libraries.

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

YESHIVA SHAAREI TZION

GIRLS HEALTH INFORMATION EVENING

Yeshiva Shaarei Tzion is offering a Girls' Health Information Evening for the entire community with Dr. Sue Brill, Chief of Adolescent Medicine at St. Peter's University Hospital. This interactive lecture will take place on Sunday, March 6th at 8pm in the YST Preschool Basement. For more info/RSVP, email mekorfitness@gmail.com. Suggested Donation: \$18

YIEB'S ISRAEL ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

Save the Date: Sun March 13th, 12 Noon at YIEB
YIEB's Israel Advocacy Committee Presents: *"Ever thought about buying or investing in property in Israel? Now's your chance to learn from an expert!"* Attend a relaxed, informal educational session led by Shelly Levine of Tivuch Shelly, the premier real estate agent & developer in Israel, who will share tips, strategies, & detailed information about various residential projects in Israel. Bring family & friends; learn about the

benefits & features of Israeli home ownership in American-style, American friendly neighborhoods: Single Family Villas, Terraced Cottages, Apartments & Townhouse in some of the best-selling communities sought after by the Anglo community in Israel. March 13th at 12 Noon, at YIEB. Free of charge. Light refreshments will be served. Questions? Contact:

IsraelAdvocacy@yieb.org

Disclaimer: Neither YIEB nor YIEB Israel Advocacy Committee makes any endorsement for any product/service referred to in this meeting notice, nor has any financial interest in same; this info does not constitute an offering of sale.

FRIENDS OF THE ISRAELI DEFENSE FORCES

FIDF Program Friends of the Israel Defense Forces, Middlesex County Division, NJ Chapter, cordially invite you to attend From Israel's Front Lines: A Conversation with IDF Soldiers. Wed March 16, 7:30PM, at a private home in East Brunswick. RSVP Cara.Chernin@fidf.org or 646-274-9646. For more info, David Moskovic at 732-580-1052

-Friends of the IDF NJ chapter First Womens luncheon at a private home in Montclair Sunday March 13th 12:30PM. Couvert \$36. Contact Cara.Chernin@fidf.org or 646-274-9646

NORPAC MISSION

Join us on our annual Mission to Washington to support the U.S.-Israel relationship on Wednesday, May 18th. Buses leave for Washington from our area 6:30AM and return between 9-10PM. There will be briefings on the bus. All meals provided. www.norpac.net or call (201) 788-5133 Adults - \$125, Students - \$75 (must be over 12. Those under 18 must be accompanied by parent or legal guardian). For more info contact Marc Hanfling docdad@aol.com Neer Even-Hen, Yosef Schreiber or Barry Wolf.

BIKUR CHOLIM

- ANNUAL EVENT: Bikur Cholim of Raritan Valley Annual Event will be held THIS Sunday, March 6th at 9:30 AM at the Pines Manor, 2085 Route 27, Edison. Guests of Honor: Dr. Barry & Susie Wolf; Keter Shem Tov: Doron & Sari Shalmon. Gomlei Chessed Awardees are the Hotline Coordinators: Bonnie Borck, Dawn Botnick, Pearl Dolinger, Toby Eleff, Raizy Krauss, Tammy Nussbaum, Debbie Schneider, and Mina Tiefenbrunn. Guest speaker: Rabbi Eli Mansour. Dairy buffet brunch will be served; Birkat Hamazon at 11:30 AM. Couvert \$50 per person; Complimentary Babysitting.

- HOMEBOUND VISITATION: Seeking adults and 11th graders and older who would be interested in volunteering to visit homebound people in our community. For more info, please call Bikur Cholim at [732-572-7181](tel:732-572-7181).

- NURSING HOME VISITATION: Seeking volunteers to visit at the Regency nursing home on DeMott Lane in Somerset. For more info, please call Rahel Baruh at [732-672-4673](tel:732-672-4673) or email rbaruh@yahoo.com

- TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: Drivers and coordinators needed. Coordinate rides to and from medical appointments - match requesters with an available driver. Each coordinator serves for two weeks at a time. To volunteer to coordinate or to drive, please call Bikur Cholim hotline at [732-572-7181](tel:732-572-7181) or fill out the volunteer form on the website bikurcholimrv.com

- NEW WEBSITE: bikurcholimrv.com. The new website provides information regarding Bikur Cholim services, including how to access our local

hospitals on Shabbat, how to borrow medical equipment, and how to get prescription medication on Shabbat.

ROSH CHODESH ADAR SHIDDUCH MEETING

Rosh Chodesh Adar Shidduch Meeting. Wed night March 9th 8PM in the Ravitz home. Check Facebook for more info.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/171252243246001/>

JUMPING JELLY BEANS

Join AA Youth at upcoming Jumping Jellybeans event with [Fresh Theatre Arts](#) THIS Sun, March 6 at 10:30am. *Please note: Class will take place in the UPSTAIRS social hall. Classes are held at Ahavas Achim at 10:30am. Cost is \$5 per child and includes snack. Parent must attend with child.

RSVP Miriam at ayouth100@gmail.com.

Sponsored by the Jewish Fed. in the Heart of NJ..

SOFER AT JUDAICA GALLERY SUNDAY

The Sofer will be available to check your Mezzuzot and Tefillin Sun, March 6th, 10AM at Judaica Gallery, 300 Raritan Ave, HP. If possible, please call ahead for an appt. For questions or to make an appt, call [732-828-7722](tel:732-828-7722).

SURI GRANEK TOMCHE SHABBOS PURIM CARDS

The Suri Granek Tomche Shabbos of Middlesex County is selling Purim cards again. These cards can be used in lieu of Mishloach Manos and fulfill the Mitzvah of Matanos L'Evyonim so it is a 2-for-1 special. The funds raised will help us continue to provide necessary weekly boxes of food for families. Additionally, the funds raised will go towards purchasing piece of items for the Pesach boxes. The cost is \$2= 1 card, \$15 = 10 cards and \$35= 25 cards. For more info or to purchase cards please contact: Tzippy Newman at [732-983-2581](tel:732-983-2581), Tiki Nussbaum at tiki613@gmail.com, or Rachel Leora Rosen [732-801-7813](tel:732-801-7813).

PURIM CARDS FROM THE KINDER (CHILDREN'S) FUND

The Kinder Fund in memory of Dina Eisner, a"h, (formerly The Children's Fund) is selling Purim Mishloach Manos cards for \$2.00 each. The cards are perfect to send to all friends & relatives. All proceeds from the sale enable The Kinder Fund to help subsidize needed services for many local children. To obtain cards, contact Tova Josefovitz at 732.572.9432, Shoshana Diskind at 732.572.7755, Lani Eisner at 732.572.1087 or Janice Lustiger at 732.819.4919 or e-mail your request to thekinderfund@gmail.com.

FREE LARGE PRINT HAGGADOT

For 85 years, the JBI Library has enabled visually impaired people all over the world to participate in the most treasured of Jewish rituals, the Passover Seder, by providing FREE Large Print Haggadot. If you or someone you know needs a Large Print Haggadah this year, please call JBI toll-free [1-800-999-6476](tel:1-800-999-6476) before April 15 and they will be happy to send you a Large Print Haggadah, completely free of charge. Enjoy the Seder!

RABBI WEISS' SHIUR

Rabbi Yisroel Weiss' shiur for men and women on the Parsha, with a focus on Emunah and Bitachon,

will be held on Wednesday nights at 8:30PM at the Shenkman's residence, 26 Leslie St, Edison.

FOR WOMEN

-The AY Women's Learning Program is pleased to announce this month's shiur" Rachel Glaser will speak on the topic: " Judging Others Favorably: We Are All Supreme Judges Everyday" Join us Shabbos afternoon, March 5th 3:45 PM at the home of Sharon and Leon Glaser 15 Barlow Rd Edison. All women and girls high school age and older are invited to attend.

-Bikur Cholim OWLS (Overnight Women Labor Support): A complimentary service for maternity situations whereby volunteers will come to stay with your kids during the night. For more info on receiving this service or becoming a volunteer, please contact Rikki at [732-249-5116](tel:732-249-5116).

-Tiferes DVD for women: Motzai Shabbos, March 12 at 9:15 PM at the Siegel house. Weekly teleconferences with topics such as shalom bayis and parenting are also available to Tiferes members. Current teleconference: "How Old are You?" Speaker: Mrs. Mindy Blumenfeld. For more info or to become a member, please contact Aviva sieglmom@optonline.net. The Highland Park / Edison group of Tiferes is zeher l'nishmas Malka bas Shalom.

- Mrs. Miri Cohen's Parsha class: Thursdays 10AM sharp at Riki Samel's house. Call hotline to confirm at [206-666-8911](tel:206-666-8911).

-Rebbitzen Eichenstein's classes for women: No class on Sunday, March 6; Parsha class on Monday, March 7 at 8:00 PM at Cong. Ohr Torah. For more info, please contact Aviva at [732-572-4408](tel:732-572-4408) or sieglmom@optonline.net

-SemPlus evening shiur for post seminary girls meets on Sunday evenings. Please call the hotline to confirm at [732-841-1885](tel:732-841-1885).

-Mrs. Leah Drillman's Shimras Haloshon class: Mon, March 7 at 7:30 PM at the home of Ellen Smith, 407 North Eighth Ave., Edison. info call Ellen at [201-410-1893](tel:201-410-1893) or [732-777-6787](tel:732-777-6787).

Women's beginning Israeli Dancing: Due to the Bikur Cholim Breakfast, class will be held this Sunday, March 6 at Noon at Etz Ahaim. All women and girls are invited to join us for ruach, fun, and aerobic exercise. Dance costs \$10/per session, (Rutgers students 1/2 price \$5) made out to Daughters of Etz Ahaim. Please RSVP to Rachel at [732-819-9298](tel:732-819-9298) or rachel@weintraubworld.net.

Dance group is co-sponsored by Raritan Valley Hadassah and Daughters of Etz Ahaim.

-A weekly discussion for women on the Parsha of the week based on the essays of Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz and led by Steinsaltz Ambassador, Betzalel Strauss, continues to meet Mondays 1PM at AA. All women are invited. Questions? cynthiaandlloyd@yahoo.com

HIGHLAND PARK MIKVAH HOURS

Highland Park Mikvah hours for Standard Time: Sun-Thursday evenings 8PM – 10:30 PM;

Friday nights by appt only. Motzai Shabbos March 5, 12: 8:15 – 10:45 PM. Please arrive with enough time to be out before closing time. *In case of a snow storm / inclement weather, call the mikvah at [732-249-2411](tel:732-249-2411) or see www.parkmikvah.org for*

an updated status. For more info, call [732-249-2411](tel:732-249-2411) or email hpmikvah@gmail.com.

OHR TORAH NEWSLETTER: To subscribe to these Announcements, please see the Ohr Torah website: www.ohrtorah.net

E-MAIL LIST: To get on the Ohr Torah e-mail list, please contact Gene Wasserman at genew@compugene.com.

KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP: To sponsor a Kiddush or reserve the Kiddush room, please contact Mel Barenholtz by email: mbarenh@yahoo.com.

SHALOSH SEUDOS SPONSORSHIP: To sponsor a Shalosh Seudos, please contact Moshe Wiesel.

BUILDING DEDICATION OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Moshe Schneider at 732-618-4702.

TREE OF LIFE / YAHRZEIT PLAQUES: To dedicate a Yahrzeit Plaque or a Leaf for the Lobby Eitz Chayim Tree, please contact Moish Nat by sending a detailed fax with all dedicatory wording to 732-759-8558. For more info, call Moish at 732-759-8070 during work days or 732- 572-4132 in the evening.

SEFORIM DEDICATIONS: Book/Seforim Dedications of all types are available contact Barry Siegel siegeldad@optonline.net.

HOUSEKEEPING: For housekeeping issues and inquiries contact Lou Smith at ludeeju@gmail.com or 732-572-5633.

OHR TORAH YOUTH PROGRAM EVENTS:

Children can register for events on Ohr Torah's website "ohrtorah.net" or by calling Mayer Berg at 732-572-3429.

REFUAH SHLEIMAH LEARNING: Please see the Ohr Torah website, www.ohrtorah.net, for the various schedules of learning as a Z'chus for a RefuahShleimah for members of our shul and community.

FUNERAL/ SHIVA ANNOUNCEMENTS:

For funeral and Shiva email and phone mail announcements contact Reena Greenspan 732-828-5642 (home) 732-678-8848 (cell), reenagreenspan@yahoo.com or Gene Wasserman 732-397-0130 or genew@compugene.com

YAHRZEIT DATABASE: To register a family member in the Yahrzeit data base, please go to ohrtorah.net and click "Register for OT Yahrzeit Notification" or speak with Ralph Dessau or Gene Wasserman.

LOCAL ERUV: Please call 732-247-ERUV for status of the Eruv

Shabbos Pekudei

Candlelighting:	5:42PM
Mincha:	5:50PM

Ohr Torah can be found on the internet at <http://www.ohrtorah.net>. You can join the email list for Weekly Announcements. Announcements should be sent to announcements@ohrtorah.net. Please submit all announcements by 7 PM Wed. Please make sure that you leave a contact/callback name and phone number.

R. Benyamin Aronowitz (1864-1945)

Born in Lithuania in 1864, Benyamin Aronowitz received his early Talmud education at the newly founded Telshe yeshiva. The Telshe yeshiva had been established in 1875 by three great talmidei chachomim: Rabbi Meir Atlas, Rabbi Zvi Yaakov Oppenheim, later *Rov* in Kelm; and Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Abel, Rabbi Shimon Shkop's brother in law.

The young Benyamin Aronowitz became a close disciple of R. Meir Atlas, who incidentally, among his many merits was '*zocheh*' to have three distinguished sons in law. One daughter married R. Elchonon Wasserman, another daughter married R. Chaim Ozer Grodzinski, and a third daughter married R. Yehuda Kahana Shapiro. After several years studying at the Telshe yeshiva, Aronowitz went to the great yeshiva of Volozhin, where he remained until its closing in the early 1890s.

R. Aronowitz then returned to the city of Telshe to become a dayyan in the community beis din. During his years as *dayyan*, he helped establish a new yeshiva for young teenage boys, designed to prepare them for the more advanced level of the famed Telshe yeshiva.

It is not clear what prompted R. Aronowitz to leave Europe, but in 1906, he came to the United States. He served as a pulpit rabbi in Lowell, Massachusetts for four years. And in 1910, he moved to New York to become a Talmud rebbe at the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS). The R. Yitzchak Elchanan yeshiva was a small institution in 1910, but this would soon change in 1915, upon the appointment of Rabbi Dov Revel as President and administrative head of the yeshiva. R. Dov Revel was a fellow graduate of the Telshe yeshiva and greatly admired R. Aronowitz. R. Revel helped his friend and colleague play an important role in the stewardship of RIETS. In particular, Rav Aronowitz was asked to join Rabbi Moshe Soloveitchik and Rabbi Dov Levinthal on the RIETS ordination board. It was these three individuals, who for many years tested, reviewed the credentials and signed the semicha for those receiving ordination at RIETS.

R. Aronowitz was as a member of the Agudath ha-Rabbonim for almost 40 years. He served as president of the Vaad ha-Rabbonim of New York from 1935 to 1937, and you can read many of his published articles in the rabbinic journal, *Yagdil Torah*.

R. Aronowitz remained a Talmud rebbe at RIETS for 35 years, until his death in 1945. His gravestone can still be seen at the Mount Judah cemetery in Queens.