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Introducing

NEVE
Neve
PASSAIC • CLIFTON

A DIVISION OF
PASSAIC TORAH INSTITUTE

Neve-PTI of Passaic-Clifton's mission is to give women a solid foundation in the **knowledge and philosophy of authentic Torah Judaism**. We are initially offering one morning class and two evening classes taught by a select staff of renowned teachers.

Winter 2009

| TIME | CLASS | INSTRUCTOR |
|-----------------|--|---------------------|
| Tues., 11:00 am | Taamei HaMitzvos (Reason for the Mitzvos) | Mrs. Ivy Kalazan |
| Wed., 7:30 pm | Chumash | Mrs. Rena Dworetsky |
| Wed., 8:30 pm | Hashkafa (Jewish Philosophy) based on the Rambam | Rabbi Pinchus Jung |

SAVE THE DATE
FEBRUARY 6 - 7, 2009

**Opening Shabbaton
& Melava Malka**
Rabbi Yona Refson, Scholar in Residence

Cost for each class is \$50 per semester. Classes begin Tuesday, February 10, 2009. We hope to expand our repertoire as the program grows. For information, please contact Mrs. Shuli Mintz at 908-278-4059 or nevepti@gmail.com. Sponsorships of shiurim and other programs are available, please call or email us for availability.

Philadelphia Kollel Holds Eighth Annual Dinner

On Sunday, January 11, the Philadelphia Community Kollel held its eighth annual dinner, honoring several people for building Torah in the community. Erwin and Rochelle Nosenchuk were the guests of honor, Sid and Susan Laytin received the Bonei Torah Award, and Rabbi Peysi Adlerstein and Jonathan Friedman were honored as Chavrusos of the Year.

The Philadelphia Community Kollel is a unique organization in the greater Philadelphia area. Its staff of ten rabbis and their families foster Jewish education and awareness among men, women, and children of all affiliations through an energetic program of Torah study.

Kollel rabbis reserve most of their daytime hours for the intensive learning necessary to maintain a high level of scholarship, and in the early morning and evening they study with community members and give lectures and classes at the kollel and elsewhere. Programs include daytime and nighttime *beis medrash* learning, Sunday-morning sessions, a Motzoei Shabbos *masmidim* program for children, a *Daf Yomi shiur*, and special speakers. In addition, the kollel's *beis medrash* and extensive libraries are available at all times of the day for community use.

Close to 400 individuals a week take advantage of the kollel's classes and programs, which are free of charge, beginning before dawn and extending past 11 p.m. daily.

The dinner began with comments from Mr. Naphtali Perlberger, president of the kollel, who stated that it was a *brachah* that everyone was able to come together despite the economic hardships. He commented on the kollel's beautiful new building, and then offered special thanks to journal chairs Ted and Phyllis Kosloff, the journal committee, dinner chairs Michael and Lisa Wachs, and the close to 300 people who took time out to attend the dinner and show their support. He also thanked all of the kollel members, making special mention of their wives for their efforts in spreading Torah in Philadelphia.

Rosh Kollel Rabbi Yechiel Biberfeld took the podium next to discuss the Mumbai massacre and the war in Gaza, after which he led participants in the recitation of *Tehillim*. He mentioned the Jewish officers in Mitzrayim who took beatings in place of their brothers, an act of empathy that served as a *zechus* for the *geulah*; we too, he urged, must empathize with our brothers in Eretz Yisrael, and hopefully, this *zechus* will bring Moshiach soon.

Rabbi Biberfeld then honored Rabbi Paysach



Rabbi Avraham Yitzchak Levine, Rabbi Emeritus of the Lower Merion Synagogue, acknowledging the Guests of Honor, Mr. and Mrs. Erwin Nosenchuk.



Rabbi Yechiel Biberfeld, Rosh Kollel



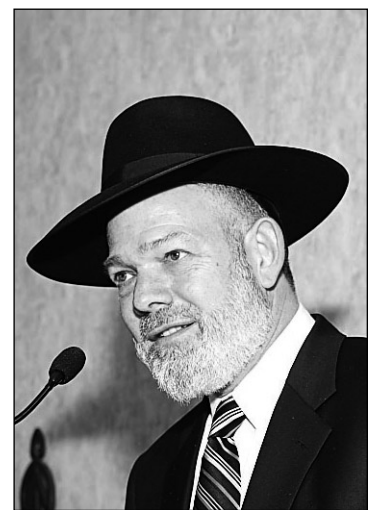
Mr. Naphtali Perlberger, Kollel president

Adlerstein, a kollel member, and Dr. Jonathan Friedman as the first recipients of the Chavrusa of the Year Award. This pair was honored for their wonderful partnership over the past four years, which has resulted in a *siyum* on *maseches Makkos*.

Sid and Susan Laytin were honored for their devotion to the kollel and for overseeing the construction of the new building. Mr. Laytin described the journey he and his wife made back to a Torah way of life. "We are not quite sure what happened to us in late 2000," he stated. "Our lives are not recognizable as compared to before, but they are immeasurably better in every way."

Mr. Laytin praised the kollel for giving him the opportunity to learn and to help build a *makom Torah*. He expressed *hakaras hatov* to *Hakadosh Baruch Hu* and also thanked the many people who helped him along the way, especially Harav Shmuel Kamenetsky, *shlita*, and Harav Shalom Kamenetsky.

Rabbi Avraham Yitzchak Levine, Rabbi Emeritus of the Lower Merion Synagogue, acknowledged guests of honor Erwin and Rochelle Nosenchuk, who have been supporters of the kollel since its establishment. Rabbi Levine recalled how he started the Lower Merion Synagogue over 40 years ago, at a time



Mr. Sid Laytin, Bonei Torah honoree

when no one believed the community would develop as it has. The Nosenchuks joined the shul shortly after it was opened and have been a driving force in the growth of *Yiddishkeit*, Torah and *chesed* in the community ever since.

The kollel was extremely appreciative of the community's support during a time of economic difficulty, especially because the new building has increased its operating costs.

Rabbi Yoel Dovid Zeffren, assistant *Rosh Kollel*, stated, "It was tremendously encouraging to see the community's desire to help spread Torah, and we are proud to be part of such a warm and wonderful community."