

TOUROGRAM

2004 APRIL 5764



It's All About The Benjamins

(The Millers)

*By Andrew Lamchick,
Membership Committee Chairman*

The government is always changing and updating our currency to keep away the counterfeiters. We at Touro have some of the same concerns so we are issuing the all-new five dollar edition *Bagel Buck*.

Since most of our events are in five-dollar increments, we felt it would make "cents" to establish a five-dollar *Bagel Buck*. You also will find the image of our current chairman of the board, brother Bob Miller, on the front. The big question is whether the new *Bagel Buck* will be nicknamed "MillerMoney" or "BobbyBucks".

By the way, your old Bagel Bucks still are happily accepted. Please spend them all in one place – Touro Hall.

From the Chairman

Volunteering – is it for you?

By Robert Miller

The first thing to know about volunteering, I have learned, is to only do it if you like it. It doesn't work if you have a motive such as making connections, networking, adding to a resume, or becoming rich and famous. Those might be some of the favorable consequences, but they are poor and non-sustaining reasons for taking on volunteer responsibilities.

What motivates people to do volunteer work? My neighbor has been always involved in community organizations: the church, horticulture, taking on the position of treasurer in every organization he ever joined. I could never understand why – accounting is so boring and bookkeeping even more so. It finally dawned on me that a) he actually liked keeping books, b) he did it well, and c) it gave him great pleasure to apply this skill and knowledge where it was needed. After he retired, he also took on meals-on-wheels. Again, I was a bit puzzled, but saw that he was just the man for it. He was a genial gentleman who would always give you a cheerful hello and he loved to be helpful. He had one other piece of the volunteer puzzle – I'm sure he felt it was the right thing to do; no matter how busy he was, his life had to include community.

What are the real benefits? Through

volunteer work, you meet people and some of them become lifelong friends. Many will know this from working together planning events, doing the backroom work, and accepting the executive positions. The people are the best part: you work together, you share experiences, you have some laughs together. In a word, it is FUN. Not the least, however, there is the satisfaction of helping others.

Volunteer work may not be for everyone all of the time. First, you need time, and in some periods of our lives there are no spare cycles. Often you need support from your family. The work will distract you from them (although it can also enhance). Sometimes, you need to be on a personal crusade to change something. Certainly you need to find a good fit; and it has to feel worthwhile. The last point puts the onus on the organization to make clear where the needs are and put the volunteers to good use. We've all gone to meetings, twiddled thumbs, and made our exits.

How does one go about getting involved? You might have to try a few organizations and different kinds of roles to find the one that fits you best. Touro is a good first choice and its fun too!

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The Energizer Bunny has nothing on him.

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From the Chairman

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What are your reasons for volunteering? The personal rewards of community service are numerous and the possibilities are endless. Everyone has his or her own reasons for volunteering. Before you start looking for an opportunity, take the time to think about what you want to gain from and give to volunteering to ensure that you have a successful volunteer experience.

Here are just a few of the reasons people volunteer:

- To make a difference in the world.
- To use your talents and gain new skills.
- To meet real community needs.
- To spread positive energy and hope.
- To meet new people and establish friendships and connections.
- To better understand the issues faced by your community.
- To be part of the solution.
- To spend quality time with your family or friends.
- To teach your children the values of service and community involvement.
- To improve your health and self-esteem.
- To challenge yourself or try out a new career.
- To better know an organization to see if you'd like to further support it with financial contributions.

To have fun!

While there are no right or wrong reasons for volunteering, knowing the reasons that are important to you will help you find the right opportunity.

What are your interests and needs? Volunteer opportunities go well beyond serving food at a homeless shelter during the holiday season. Nonprofits rely on volunteers to work in a wide variety of ways: being a "phone buddy" to a senior citizen, teaching a class on a subject matter you know well, serving on a board of directors. There are so many volunteer opportunities from which to choose, finding the right one can be difficult. One key to success is to choose an issue you really care about. What are some community problems that concern you? The types of issues and problems that nonprofit organizations address vary tremendously.

Volunteering isn't about the amount of time you give; it's about the quality of time you give. Any gift of your time makes a difference in strengthening our communities. Whether an hour a month, an hour a week, or an hour a year – your contribution of time can pay off in many ways.

We at Touro welcome any and all who want to volunteer for the betterment of the association. As with the closing of every meeting, May the benefits of Harmony, Friendship and Benevolence guide you until we meet again.



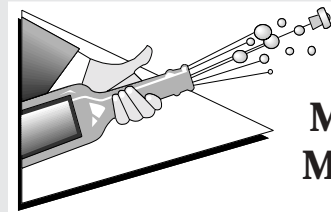
Social Scene

By Barry Jay Schiff

Your Social Committee has been working hard on the spring/summer season for you. After a busy winter season that saw Trivia Night and an evening out at Chelo's Warwick in February and the Twelve Acres Two-Fer, Bowling Party and Open House in March, the excitement just keeps on coming.

On **April 21st, Harmony Lodge hosts the Annual Joke Off** and we are especially excited to have the Joke Master General, Burt Fischman, wing in from Chicago to host. Then gear up for the catered **Annual Installation of Officers Dinner May 19th**. **June 12th** will be our most lavish event of the year, the **Two-Fer at the Venus DiMilo**. **Our famous Steak Fry with Initiation of New Members and an exciting speaker will be June 23rd**. We are also planning a trip to the Mohegan Sun, so keep your eyes peeled on our website, www.tourofraternal.org, for details. Spring has sprung at Touro!

www.tourofraternal.org



Mazels, Mitzvahs & Milestones...

...to Brother Norman and Leslie Dinerman on their new son Isaac.

...to Brother Paul and MaryAnne Dinerman on their new daughter Elise.

...to Brother Michael and Marilyn Smith on their new grandson Matthew.

...to Brother Andrew Lamchick on winning Clear Channel Radio President's Club for the 4th time.

...to Brother Arthur and Beverly Poulten on their 45th anniversary, March 29, 2004.

...to Brother Merlyn and Minnie (sorry, last name not provided) on their 60th wedding anniversary.

...to Brother Jerry and Ruth Hodosh on their 57th anniversary, March 16, 2004.

...to Brother Ed and Evelyn Wasser on their 57th anniversary, March 16, 2004.

Sam Gorman: Touro's Energizer Bunny

By Jed R. Brandes

Sam Gorman wants you to know that for him, family is most important. Now 91 years of age, he and his wife, Eva, have a daughter and two grandsons. In early February, they were blessed with the arrival of their first great grandson, Jackson Abraham Phillips. When you've been around as long as Sam, you get a few mazels. He and Eva celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary this past Thanksgiving.

But that is not all for which Sam has to be thankful. He has lived well. For 55 years he worked in the retail furniture business, most of those running his own business.

Not one to sit by idly, Sam has devoted the 19 years since his retirement as a volunteer at Miriam Hospital. He currently works in the ICU waiting room for the Family Support Program. In this role, Sam is responsible for caring after the family and visitors of patients on the ICU ward. He might give family members a tour of the ward before their loved one arrives from surgery. Or, if need be, he will deliver flowers. He visits patients. He



provides family members with humorous clippings from the newspapers to help keep their minds off their troubles.

Sam tells the story of a patient who wanted to receive communion before going into surgery. He arranged for a member of the clergy to visit with her. After the surgery, the woman's husband came to thank Sam. He noted that he'd seen Sam in the ICU, on the second floor, in the ER, etc. He asked

what Sam did for the hospital. Sam went through his litany of tasks and then concluded: "If I wasn't Jewish, I'd give communion, too!" Whatever it takes.

Although Sam is well known at Touro, it may come as a surprise that he joined as a full member in the 1930s. However, owing to his busy schedule, he could not attend many meetings or participate on committees. He observed that he did not need the insurance or other benefits. So he dropped out.

In 1994, noting that all his "alteh kocker friends" were becoming social members, Sam re-joined. He has since been a fixture at meetings and estimates that he knows 80% of the members. He looks forward to the Wednesday meetings as an opportunity to catch up.

Sam's secret to longevity? "You've got to keep doing. You've got to do what is right. Be honest, faithful. And watch your credit rating!"

From the Administrator

By Jerry Hodosh

Brothers, it is most important that as you move from one address to another that you please keep us advised of your new address (not current).

For those brothers who will be away over the winter months, please also advise us of the dates you will be away.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.



Kibitzing with the President

By Jeffrey Davis, President, Harmony Lodge

Brothers Hag Sameach!

As I write this article, elections have been held and our Friendship President Steve Dinerman is moving on to accept a seat as a member of the Board. The two years that he spent as President and a year as vice president of Friendship Lodge working with me to see that we bring more events and keep the organization going have been rewarding to me. He is a great asset to Touro and in the spirit of Harmony, Friendship and

Benevolence; I wish him good luck as a member of the Board.

By the time you receive this *Tourogram* Purim will have passed. We held our Spring Twofer at 12 Acres and Passover is now here.

Our Social Committee continues to do an excellent job under the direction of our Lodge vice presidents, Barry Schiff and Ed Deluty. They did a great job this past year, bringing you great events and speakers. If you have an idea or would like to attend a meeting, the social committee meets the first Wednesday of every month at 7:30 PM.

The rest of the year is all planned for your enjoyment: A casino trip to Mohegan Sun, Steak fry, Pawsox, etc.

In April we have scheduled the annual Joke Off and Brother Burt Fischman, who has Emceed in the past, will again be hosting this great event. It is my hope that Harmony Lodge will prevail and recapture the trophy this year. So brothers of Harmony Lodge, start getting ready and have those jokes prepared.

On behalf of the officers and board of directors of Touro Fraternal Association, have a Happy Passover.

Hag Sameach! and Good Yom Tov!



IN MEMORIAM

Brothers we lost during 2003

Irving Blazer
 Sydney Cohen
 Philip Epstein
 Sidney Green
 Dr. Leonard Komros
 Albert Levin
 Leonard Levin
 Gerald Minkin
 Kenneth Resnick
 Bernard Sarenson
 Leonard Schoenberg
 Melvin Shanfield
 Earle Slom
 Charles Tapper
 Marc Weinberg
 Joseph Weisman
 Stephen Yarlis

News from The Student Financial Aid Committee

By Alan D. Lury, Chairman

Spring is almost here and, as many of you know, it is also the time of year when Touro announces the kickoff to our Student Financial Aid Program for our members. A letter announcing the program was mailed to you in early March.

Each year the Association offers educational grants and interest-free loans to full time students in accredited institutions of higher learning. Two outright grants of \$2,500 each will be awarded. Another \$20,000 is available for loans of up to \$2,000.

Regular Touro members, their spouses and children, and children of deceased Touro members who are enrolled full time for the 2004-2005 academic year in an accredited institution

of higher learning are eligible for the grants.

Regular members, their children and children of deceased members similarly enrolled may apply for the interest-free loans, repayment of which does not begin until the student is graduated from or leaves school.

Completed applications must be received no later than July 7, 2004. The committee, comprised of members of the Association, will screen all applications and make the final decision on who will receive the grants and the loans. Last year both grants and nine \$2,000 loans were awarded.

Requests for applications must be made in writing or through an email to the Touro office.



Frank O'Donnell Takes No Prisoners

By Lester Nathan

Good food and comedy with an edge were the main servings at December's meeting, hosted by Friendship Lodge. Chairman Miller's meat loaf and mashed potatoes followed the monthly meeting and initiation of candidates. The evening's entertainment featured the quick wit and sharp tongue of comedian Frank O'Donnell.

Much to his surprise, newly initiated member Bernie Goldstein was placed on the "hot seat" by O'Donnell, becoming part entertained, part of the entertainment. But that was just the beginning, as other members, including several Touro officers, were on the receiving end of his jests.

Frank was able to quickly discover something funny about his targets and engage in repartee with any who challenged. We laughed at his jokes about his hip replacement, catheters and circumcision.

Score another success for an entertaining event planned by our Social Committee.

New February Initiate



*Touro welcomes newly initiated member
William Scheraga*

SUPER BOWL SUNDAY



SPRING TWO-FER AT TWELVE ACRES



NEW MEMBERS

who have joined in 2003

- Michael Abrams
- Daniel Adler
- Alan Axelrod
- Joshua Bell
- Joel Bernstein
- Herbert Bloom
- Richard Bloom
- John Brezack
- Mayor David Cicilline
- Robert Cutler
- Barry Forman
- James Goldman
- Bernard Goldstein
- Gary Halpern
- Alan Kaplan
- Mark Kalish
- Mark Lake
- Milton Nachbar
- David Rappoport
- Howard Rappoport
- Leon Resnick
- Steven Sack
- Richard Saltzman
- David Sloane
- Joel Smith
- Stephen Spindell
- Richard Waldman
- Saul Wilk
- Matthew Zalk

Auto Trivia Contest Winners

Pictured are the winners of the Auto Trivia Contest at our January meeting: **First Place:** (pictured center, l-r) Barry Shiff, Jed Brandis; **Second Place:** (pictured far left, l-r) Andy Lamchick, Dr. Aaron Sherman **Third Place:** (pictured far right, l-r) Bob Miller, Steve Waldman.



Visit Touro's Website at www.tourofraternal.org



HARMONY • FRIENDSHIP • BENEVOLENCE

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April 2004

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*May this Passover be a
Celebration of
Peace in your home,
Joy in your heart and
Love of friends and family*