

33rd Anniversary  
**BANQUET**



(CONGREGATION FOUNDED IN 1919)

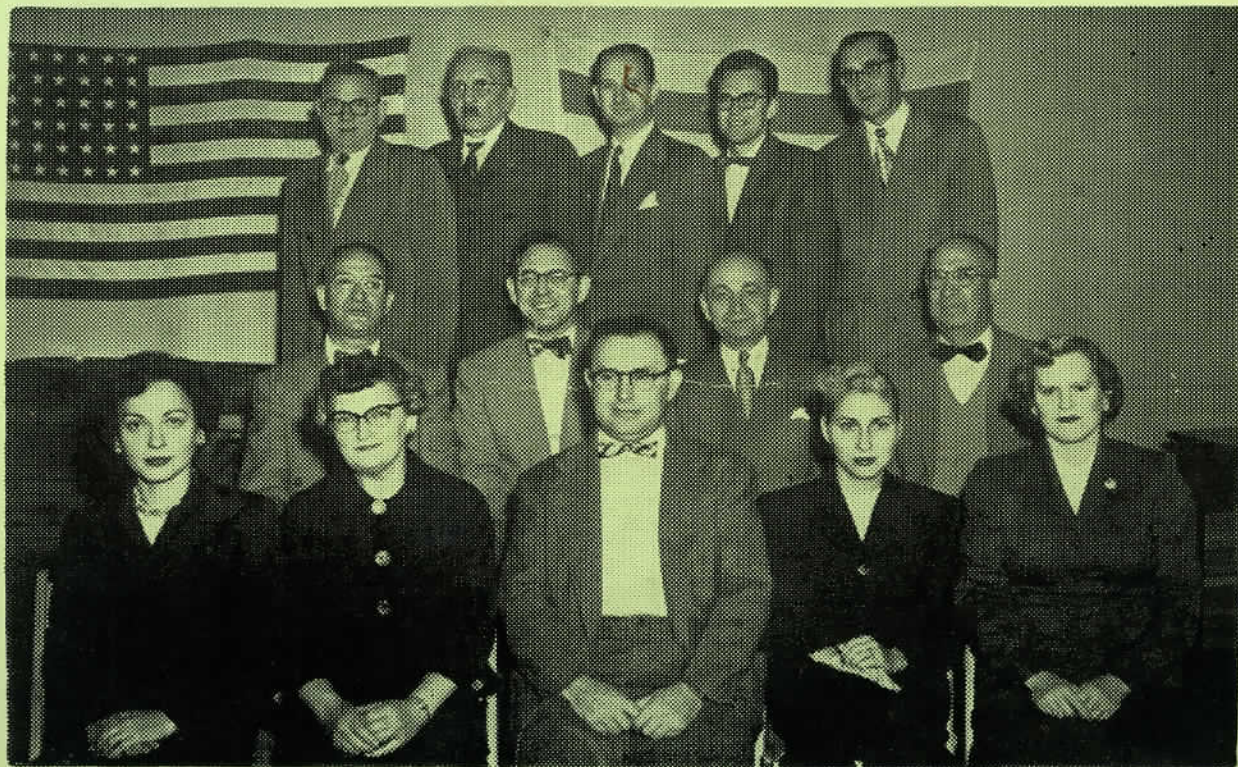
**AGUDATH ACHIM CONGREGATION**

*November 2, 1952*

*Sunday Evening - 6:30 p. m.*

(TO FINANCE THE SYNAGOGUE IMPROVEMENT AND  
KITCHEN RENOVATION PROGRAM.)





Agudath Achim Sisterhood and Congregation Officers and Banquet Committee. (Missing, B. Wilkoff, P. Recht, Lottie Cohen, Evelyn Lehman)

# OFFICERS - 1952

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## Agudath Achim Sisterhood

PRESIDENT ..... MRS. MILTON J. EGER  
VICE PRESIDENT ..... MRS. BEN KROSNEY  
RECORDING SECRETARY ..... MRS. N. D. THOMASHEFSKY  
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY ..... MRS. DOUGLAS LEHMAN  
TREASURER ..... MRS. SAMUEL COHEN

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## Agudath Achim Congregation

MARVIN PRITZKER, RABBI

PRESIDENT ..... MORRIS SELKOVITS  
VICE PRESIDENT ..... BEN KROSNEY  
SECRETARY ..... BERNARD WILKOFF  
TREASURER ..... SAMUEL A. CANSON  
TRUSTEES ..... JACOB RECHT  
BEN FELDMAN  
MILTON MORRIS

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## Anniversary Banquet Committee

NORMAN D. THOMASHEFSKY, CHAIRMAN

DINNER ..... MRS. DAVID SROLOVITZ  
BOOKLET ..... MORRIS SELKOVITS  
PUBLICITY ..... BERNARD WILKOFF

## Committee

DR. MILTON J. EGER ..... HARRY JACKSON  
PHILIP RECHT ..... MORRIS CHAMOVITZ



# THE DEVELOPMENT AND A SHORT HISTORY OF THE CONGREGATION

BY RABBI MARVIN PRITZKER

The beginnings of the Agudath Achim Congregation of Aliquippa are shrouded in the mists of doubt and uncertain memory. Its start was humble and unsung; like Topsy, it just grew. It was founded approximately in 1909 by men to whom the need for religious assembly was as much a part of life as the necessity to work. There are no official records in which are inscribed the names of the earliest Jewish inhabitants of Aliquippa, who banded together to form an "Agudath Achim," a "Union of Brothers." Presented here are the names of a few, active in the congregation, from its inception until its incorporation. M. Selkovitz, I. Thomashefsky, J. Recht, N. Nieman, M. Weinberger, A. Itzkovitz, S. Roth, H. Roth, M. Neiman, J. Rush, D. L. Klein, S. Rottenstein, B. Herskovitz, B. Neiman, M. Fineman. There are probably others who should also be listed but whose names were not made known to me.

Among the first spiritual leaders of the Congregation were the late Rabbi Lazarovitz. In those days, the teens of the twentieth century, the Jewish inhabitants of Woodlawn had no permanent house of worship. Services were successively held in the Logstown Church, in the Romanian Hall on Kiehl Street and at the German Beneficial Society on Sheffield Avenue. In 1918, a residence was purchased on Elm Alley for the Rabbi's home. The congregation then began to think of permanent quarters and the need to incorporate in order to purchase



Rabbi Marvin Pritzker

real estate with such a view in mind. On September 8, 1919, five men of the shul signed papers by which a state charter was granted to the Agudath Achim Synagogue and registered at the county courthouse in Beaver. These men were: the late Samuel Rottenstein of Evans City; Meyer Fineman, now a resident of Pittsburgh and President of the Men's Club at the Beth Shalom Synagogue; Nathan Neiman and Adolph Itzkovitz, members of the Congregation to this day; and Samuel Donner.

Shortly thereafter, the Elm Alley house was sold and a double lot on Franklin Avenue was purchased upon which the Tudor Apartments are now located. In 1921, this property was sold and the present location of the shul at 501 Church Street was acquired. At that time it was a one story, wooden frame building, belonging to the Methodist Church. In the nineteen twenties much money was spent to improve the structure. A concrete foundation and basement were added; the inside of the Synagogue proper was plastered; then the entire exterior was bricked over to improve appearances. Among the spiritual leaders between 1920 and 1930 were Rabbis Deaktor, Eiseman, Singer and Samet.

In the early nineteen-thirties the depressed economic situation of the country was reflected in the difficulties of the congregation. It was necessary to pay off the mortgage. The people of the community responded nobly in the hour of crisis and the burden of debt was removed.

In the thirties there were several men who advanced the spiritual life of the Jewish community. Among them were Rabbi Handler, Mr. Bernard Kaplan (a Hebrew teacher and Sunday School supervisor, now a prominent Pittsburgh lawyer), Rabbi Hershon, Rabbi Simches and Rabbi Appleman.

In the nineteen forties, Rabbis Miller, Weinstein and Sanders were the teachers and preachers engaged by the Shul. In the Fall of 1948, Rabbi Pritzker a recent graduate of Yeshiva University was hired, and has remained to this day.

At the present time there are fifteen children attending Hebrew School and over thirty in the Sunday School. For a while now there has been a movement to create a Community Center for Aliquippa, to broaden the scope of the Synagogue and unite it with all the other Jewish groups in town.

It may well be that the future of the Agudath Achim Congregation will develop in this form which is the unique contribution of American Jews to Judaism.

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*and Their Families*

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**SAM JACOBS**

AND FAMILY



BEST WISHES FROM ...



**ITZKOVITZ**

**AND**

**COMPANY**





# PROGRAM

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"GOD BLESS AMERICA" ★ ..... AUDIENCE

INVOCATION ..... RABBI MARVIN PRITZKER

— BANQUET SERVED —

TOASTMASTER ..... ELLIS E. KARP

SISTERHOOD PRESIDENT ..... MRS. MILTON J. EGER

CONGREGATION PRESIDENT ..... MORRIS SELKOVITS

***Music - Cantor Mordecai Heiser***

KITCHEN RENOVATING COMMITTEE ..... MRS. DAVID SROLOVITZ

INTRODUCTION OF CHARTER MEMBERS —

***Music - Cantor Mordecai Heiser***

**BERNARD KAPLAN, Esq.**

MAIN SPEAKER

PAST PRESIDENT OF PITTSBURGH DISTRICT ZIONISTS, FORMER HEBREW SCHOOL  
TEACHER AND SUPT. OF SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

BENEDICTION ..... RABBI HERMAN GEVANTMAN

"HATIKVOH" ★ ..... AUDIENCE

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★ (Words printed next to back cover.)

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PICTURES COURTESY LISKIN STUDIO, BEAVER FALLS, PA.

# « MENU »

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TOMATO JUICE                      CHOPPED LIVER

RELISH DISH                      APPLE SAUCE

***Roast Beef***

BROWNED POTATOES                      STRING BEANS

CAKE AND TEA

MINTS



***Banquet Preparation Committee***

MRS. DAVID SROLOVITZ, CHAIRMAN

MRS. BEN GREENBERGER

MRS. BEN SUSSMAN

MRS. LOUIS THOMASHEFSKY

MRS. HAROLD MORRIS

MRS. BEN FELDMAN

MRS. HYMAN GORMAN

MRS. MORRIS SELKOVITS

ASSISTED BY

SUE DAVIS

MARGIE STERN

MINNA SNYDER

SHIRLEY CITRON

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FROM OUR

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**MILTON J. EGER**

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DR. AND MRS.  
**HARRY I. SNYDER**

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MR. AND MRS.  
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**ARTHUR S. HERSKOVITZ**  
ESQ.

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**BEN GREENBERGER**

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**SAMUEL H. MALLINGER**

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**HARRY M. MARCUS**

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**DR. JERRY J. KASREL**

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MR. AND MRS.  
**MILTON SELKOVITS**

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ON OUR  
**33rd Anniversary**



BEST WISHES FROM...

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APPLEBAUM

AND FAMILY

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MR. AND MRS.

DAVID  
SROLOVITZ

AND AUDREY

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WEINBERGER

AND FAMILY

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GASTFRIED

AND FAMILY

BEST WISHES FROM ...

MR. AND MRS.

LOUIS  
THOMASHIEFSKY

AND FAMILY

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WEST PIENN  
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AND FAMILY

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MR. AND MRS.

SOIL MEFT

AND SONS



MR. AND MRS.  
BEN LEHMAN  
AND FAMILY

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STAR WALLPAPER AND PAINT  
(Distributors of Elliott's Paints.)  
Clara & Jack Greenberg  
AND SONS

---

*"If you take religion as a guide you shall find it also a friend; a joy in prosperity, a comfort in adversity, peace to the conscience, strength for duty, hope for the future, and endless blessedness in the end."*

---

MR. AND MRS.  
BEN FELDMAN  
AND FAMILY

THE OLIKERS

---

*"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, oh most high."*

---Psalms 92

---

BEN'S SHOES  
BEN SUSSMAN AND HARRY FUSHAN

---

THE  
WILKOFF  
FAMILY

MR. AND MRS.  
BARNETT FELDMAN  
AND FAMILY

---

MRS. SARAH EGER

---

*"If they hearken and serve HIM, they  
shall spend their days in prosperity, and their  
years in pleasure."*

*Job, 36*

---

MRS. GOLDIE ROTH

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# "GOD BLESS AMERICA"

GOD BLESS AMERICA  
LAND THAT I LOVE,  
STAND BESIDE HER,  
AND GUIDE HER,  
THROUGH THE NIGHT,  
WITH A LIGHT FROM ABOVE.  
FROM THE MOUNTAIN,  
TO THE PRAIRIE,  
TO THE OCEAN,  
WHITE WITH FOAM,  
GOD BLESS AMERICA  
MY HOME SWEET HOME,  
GOD BLESS AMERICA  
MY HOME SWEET HOME.



# 'HATIKVOH'

KOL OD BA-LAY-VOV, P'NEE-MO  
NE FESH Y'-HU-DEE, HO-MEE-YO  
UL-FA-A-SAY MIZ-ROCH, KO-DEE-MO,  
A-YIN L'-TSEE-YON, TSO-FEE-YO.  
OD-LO-OV-DO SIK-VO-SAY-NU,  
HA-TIK-VO SH'-NOS AL - PAYIM  
LEE H'YIOS AM CHOF-SHI B'ARTZENU  
B'ER-ETZ TZI-YON VI-RU-SHAL-A-YIM  
LEE H'YIOS AM CHOF-SHI B'ARTZENU  
B'ER-ETZ TZI-YON VI-RU-SHAL-A-YIM

*IN MEMORY OF*

*Benye Herskowitz*

*Wednesday, October 22, 1952*

*Past President, A. A. Synagogue*

# MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION



Arthur A. Applebaum  
Henry Berger  
Meyer Block  
Leonard Breckstein  
Ben Brown  
Joel Brown  
Philip Brown  
Samuel A. Canson  
Morris Chamovitz  
Morris Chotiner  
Harvey Cohen  
Ralph Cohen  
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Dr. Milton J. Eger  
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Simon Gasfriend  
Al Gladstone  
Hyman Gorman  
Jack Greenberg  
Meyer Greenberg  
Dr. Ben Greenberger  
Simon Hartstein  
Arthur Herskovitz  
Ben Herskovitz  
Louis Herskovitz  
Adolph Hirsch  
Adolph Itskovitz  
David Itskovitz  
Harry Jackson  
Louis Jacobson  
Sam Jacobs  
Ellis E. Karp

Dr. Jerry J. Kasrel  
Adolph Katz  
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Morris Klein  
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Rabbi Marvin Pritzker  
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Philip Recht  
Morris Rosen  
Mrs. Goldie Roth  
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Mrs. Katherine Selkovitz  
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Morris Selkovitz  
Samuel Selkovitz  
Dr. Sidney Selkovitz  
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