

# MIKAEL AVRAHAM STEIN

Aspiring to serve as your 89<sup>th</sup> Grand Aleph Godol

*"Judaism isn't about power; it's about love." –My Grandfather*

## **The Godol as an Ambassador**

***Any Godol should serve as a representative of the Aleph Zadik Aleph***

- Work with my counterparts on the R/C/Ch level to help them establish partnerships with local organizations
- Help counterparts establish stronger connections with their region's international partner
- Work with the Godolim to foster professionalism amongst the many boards in their region.
- Work with Godolim to help them utilize their boards to the fullest.

## **In The Beginning**

***The tone of my term would be set from the start***

- Send out questionnaire to all R/C Godolim before August Execs 2013 to gage the status of the chapters and Godolim in their region. (Do the same with R/C Godolim that are elected in the winter)
- Work with R/C Godolim to set realistic goals for each chapter, region, and council. Re-evaluate and reassess these goals every three months.
- Organize Hub calls every three months, along with partner Godolim calls.

## **Working With Staff**

***One of the most critical relationships a Godol has is with his advisor***

- Send weekly emails to staff updating them on the success of our chapters, councils, regions, and global communities.
- Help create open dialogues between R/C Godolim and their advisors in order to establish the most productive relationships.
- Meet with R/C staff on my visits to set goals, assess their communities, and understand the chapters in their region from an adult perspective.

## **The Visit**

***The purpose of a visit from the GAG is to not only better understand our communities, but to invigorate them as well.***

### **Before**

- Make a checklist with the Godol of ten things that we need to accomplish while I am there.
- Schedule productive times to meet with the regional board, chapter Godolim, regional staff, and as many Alephs as possible.
- With the Godol, research organizations within the community that they can start or strengthen partnerships with.
- Work with 89<sup>th</sup> Grand Board to establish what info I need to get and give on my visits.
- Do research individually about the Jewish community and its history.

### **During**

- Visit with as many chapters as possible to capitalize on the amount of Alephs I connect with.
- Amend previously established goals.
- Work with Godolim to better assess how they can adapt the five teen priorities and other international initiatives to the needs of their R/C.
- Work with R/C boards to recognize issues within the chapters and set achievable goals in order to solve them.
- Work with Godolim to energize the leadership within the R/C/Ch.
- Kick back and bond with my brother Alephs.

### **After**

- Check back with Regional and Council Godolim one month after the visits to ensure that the goals we set are being put into action.
- Highlight the successes of the Region or Council that I just visited to the International Order through social media and correspondence.

***"The Jewish people, ever since David slew Goliath, have never considered youth as a barrier to leadership." –John F. Kennedy***

***What makes our fraternity so strong are the bonds we build. Our relationships aren't predicated on a means of social propulsion, but are sincere. Judaism is built upon genuine love: love for our brother Alephs, our sister BBGs, our communities, and to G-d. Our leadership should be aware that every move they make is to better the community they love enough to represent.***

\*-Coordinated +-Committee <-head delegate

Rubin Kaplan AZA #841

**AIT Shaliach 2009**(3 months)

*Gained vital experience in planning my first program*

**Shaliach 2010**(6 months)

*Learned what it meant to serve on board and planned several programs and services.*

**Moreh 2010** (6 months)

*Trained an amazing class that now has 3 members on NTO's 29<sup>th</sup> Regional Board.*

**Godol 2010-2011** (1 year)

*Increased chapter membership as well as program quality by utilizing the board to the fullest.*

**Member in Good Standing 2009-2013**

North Texas Oklahoma Region #74

**28<sup>th</sup> Regional Aleph Godol (1 year)**

*Worked vigorously with every board member to ensure that everything was done with the chapter member in mind. Together we shattered our membership goal set at Execs in three months and increased the program quality throughout the region.*

**Regional Convention 2009**

**Regional Convention 2010**

**Regional Convention <2011**

**Regional Convention+ 2012**

**Regional Kallah+ 2012**

**Texoma Convention 2011**

**Texoma Convention 2010**

**LTI\* 2012**

**LTI+ 2011**

*One of NTOs first ever LTI steerers and planned a program attended by the 86<sup>th</sup> GAG.*

**NTO Execs\* 2012**

*Instituted the first ever NTO Executive conference at the start of the fall term.*

**NTO AIPAC Board 2011**

*Represented NTO and volunteered at local AIPAC events as well as advocated for Israel*

**JFS Board 2010**

*Represented Dallas Council on the Jewish Family Services junior Advisory Board*

**MIT/ AIT+ 2012**

**MIT/AIT 2009**

**CLTC or DIE 2010**

*Sold beaded bracelets to all of NTO as well as hosting a garage sale. My efforts earned me over \$800 towards attending CLTC.*

International Order of the Aleph Zadik Aleph

**CLTC 3 2010**

*Gained fundamental know-how while serving as S'gan for my CLTC chapter*

**ILTC 2011**

*Chosen as Color War Captain for the victorious green team.*

**International Kallah 2011**

**Operation IGAF 2011**

*Much like CLTC or DIE I sold bracelets throughout the order and raised \$1,500 towards Perlman Summer 2011.*

**ILSI 2012**

**AIPAC's Schusterman Advocacy Institute 2011**

**February Execs 2012**

**August Execs 2012**

**International Convention 2011 (voting delegate)**

**International Convention <2012**

**International Convention 2013**

**Program Administrative Assistant for ICDC '13**

*Worked closely with the Grand S'gan, steering, and staff to plan the largest BBYO convention in history.*

**CLTC 1\* 2013**

***What makes AZA so spectacular is that every facet of the movement exists as a celebration of the Jewish people.***

## **Embrace Diversity**

***"Diversity is not about how we differ. Diversity is about embracing one another's uniqueness." -Ola Joseph***

- Broadcast the varying successes of our chapters to the greater Jewish community in an effort to not only better our reputations but also inspire one another.
- Every region, council, chapter, and global community should carry their own swagger. We need to embrace our differences and ever evolving cultures while still maintaining the traditions of AZA and the Blue Book.
- Instead of pushing an overarching membership goal, work with R/C Godolim to establish chapter membership goals that are realistic and work for each chapter.

**My Brother Alephs,**

I confidently stand before you today caucusing for the high and honorable position of your 89<sup>th</sup> Grand Aleph Godol, but don't let my self-assurance mislead you; I'm very nervous standing up here.

In order to comfort myself I'm wearing a t-shirt under my suit, one that carries much significance with it. This shirt was passed down to me by NTOs 26<sup>th</sup> Regional N'siah; and before that it belonged to two of the most prolific RAGs in NTO history.

This simple t-shirt represents *pirkei avot*, the teachings of our fathers. Within all of us we carry the lessons of the past. Whether it is a nod of confidence passed down from a past leader or the morals taught by our rabbis, our people's traditions inspire us to move on the path of greatness.

This basic grey tee carries the spirit of the Jewish people. On the back it reads, "Two little mice fell in a bucket of cream. The first mouse quickly gave up and drowned. The second mouse, wouldn't quit. He struggled so hard that eventually he churned that cream into butter and crawled out. **I am the second mouse.**"

Gentleman, we are that second mouse. Our people's history is filled with those that wish to drown us, but we survive every time by revitalizing the Jewish spirit. AZA is rapidly energizing Jewish communities across the globe and because of the **tenacity of the Jewish spirit** we cannot stop now.

I ask you to join me in continuing our success by celebrating our triumphs, embracing our differences, tackling the impossible, and remembering the importance of our heritage. **Join me in allowing Jews everywhere the opportunity to enrich themselves through our fraternity.**

Fraternally Submitted with Undying love for the Grand Order of the Aleph Zadik Aleph and my heart and home Rubin Kaplan AZA #841,

I remain,

Aleph Mikael Avraham Stein

*Aleph Mikael Stein*