

Aleph Godol and my brother Alephs,

The past three years I have spent with you in this amazing order have been filled with joy and treasured memories. When I first joined, I was unsure I would be involved. However, because of your camaraderie and the mentorship of my upperclassmen, I was able to dismiss my inhibitions and reach the standard of leadership my chapter required. The man I am today has in no small part been influenced by my experiences as an Aleph.

We all have the immense fortune of being a part of the North Texas-Oklahoma region. NTO is a leading region and is highly respected internationally. Nevertheless, we still have the potential to become the de facto top region in the order. The current regional board has made great strides with their initiatives to increase recruitment, social action, ISF donations, and Zionistic programming. The chapters in turn have admirably pursued the goals set for them. I would like to utilize this momentum to perpetuate and expand our success. All the pieces are in place; we only need to act.

In my years as an aleph, I have seen myself and my brothers develop into capable and confident men. The environment and experiences that NTO provided us with set us on that path of growth. As Regional Aleph Godol, I would like to ensure that all Alephs can find these benefits with the region, and that all members will leave to college fuller and better people than they were before. To this end, as well as all other goals named and unnamed, I will exert my utmost effort knowing I will always have my brothers to rely on as a source of strength.

Fraternally submitted with undying love for the Grand Order of the Aleph Zadik Aleph, my home chapter of Henry Monsky AZA #791, and North Texas-Oklahoma Region #74,

I remain,



Aleph Sylvan Perlmutter

"Four years ago in speaking of a Jewish nation one ran the risk of being regarded ridiculous. Today he makes himself ridiculous who denies the existence of a Jewish nation."

-Theodor Herzl

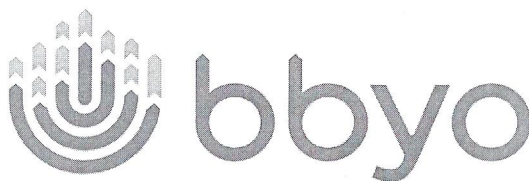
"Man is a living duty, a depository of powers that he must not leave in a brute state. Man is a wing."

-Jose Marti

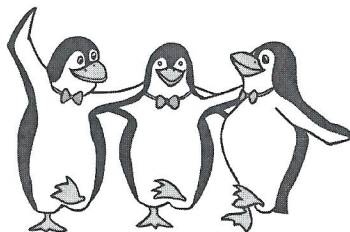
"Join the company of lions rather than assume the lead among foxes."

- the Talmud

"I have a mustachio of pistachios... yo"
-Zachary Harmon

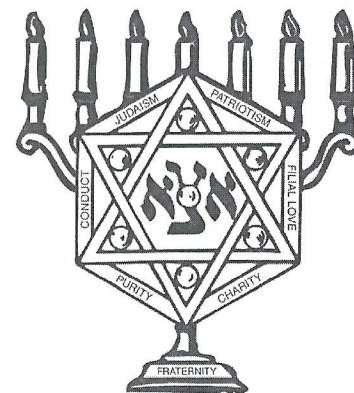


North Texas - Oklahoma Region #74



ALEPH SYLVAN PERLMUTER

*Aspiring to be the 29th
Regional Aleph Godol for
North Texas - Oklahoma
Region #74*



"I suppose leadership at one time meant muscles; but today it means getting along with people."

- Mahatma Gandhi

"Sometimes me think. 'What is friend?' and then me say, 'Friend is someone to share the last cookie with'"

-Cookie Monster

Qualifications

Aleph-in-Good-Standing of Henry Monsky
AZA #791

ILN Global Fundraising Committee (Fall 12)

NTO Kallah Steering Committee (Fall 12)

Chapter Aleph Godol (Fall 12)

Chapter Aleph Godol (Spring 11)

Chapter Aleph S'gan (Fall 11)

Chapter Aleph Shaliach (Spring 10)

Chapter AIT S'gan (Fall 10)

Conventions

IC (pending - 2013)

ILSI (pending - 2013)

Regional Convention (Fall 12)

NTO Kallah (Fall 12)

ILTC (Summer 12)

Monsky Retreat (Spring 11)

LTI (Spring 11)

Regionals (Fall 11)

Monsky Retreat (Spring 10)

LTI (Spring 10)

Regionals (Fall 10)

Outside Qualifications

National Honor Society

JJ Pearce Class Treasurer (Fall 2011-present)

Jewish Youth Tzedaka Fund

Literary Magazine

Teen Age Communication Theatre

JJ Pearce Theater

Duke TIP

Junior World Affairs Council

Aspirations

Hold Monthly Godol Meetings

Through these meetings, the chapter Godolim will have a forum to learn and collaborate with each other. The flow of information on the state of chapters to the regional administrators and regional board needs to be faster. Personal contact and interviews remain the best way to gain the necessary information to plan effective action.

Regional Committees

There are many talented members of the region whose skills go underutilized. As a region we seem to create steering committees when necessary, and then let inactivity reign when the undertaking has passed. I propose we create several standing committees appointed by the regional board based on applications. These specialized committees will serve as the councils beneath regional board members. For instance, there will be a fundraising advisory board to assist the Gizbor, and an editing staff to assist the regional Sophrim in constructing the regional newspaper. We must make full use of our human resources.

Recruitment Culture

This past year has seen some of the lowest numbers of NTO AZA enrollment in recent memory. It is obvious that we must no longer be satisfied with solely receiving a new crop of AITs from the administrators. In conjunction with this system, we must foster a culture of recruitment similar to other regions. By heavily supplementing our initial membership and providing regional awards that promote recruitment just as much as retention, we can create a trend of continued growth.

Increase The Accessibility of the Regional Board

After every regional convention, a chapter is assigned a regional counterpart. The point of the regional counterpart is to guide and advise the chapter. This can be better achieved by the 29th regional board setting a certain percentage of events that a regional counterpart must attend. With adjustments, of course, for chapters outside of Dallas.

Starting New Chapters

Over the past ten years the Jewish population of our region has grown. However, we have not experienced similar growth. It is evident that along with reviving Gilbert AZA in Ft. Worth and strengthening ties with Fraza, we must seek to tap previously overlooked sources of Jewish youth in the region. Specifically, Arlington and Oklahoma City. This will require substantial effort on the part of the chapters and regional board to actively engage their neighbors, but gaining a new set of brothers is an ample reward for any effort.

Quality Over Quantity

Too many chapters exhaust their members' enthusiasm by packing their calendars full of lower quality programming. It is to the benefit of the region that we continue to encourage the planning of quality programming. This is essential to honing the skills of chapter boards as well as to retaining interested members.

Unity

Our region's chapters have amazing spirit, but our sense of regional identity is lacking. I will do what I can as RAG to bring our region together by regularly attending K'lal Council events during my term. Furthermore, I want to foster, with the help of the regional board and administration, a NTO culture of collaboration. Providing incentives like awards for projects specifically planned to be held with two or more other chapters is one step that can be taken. No successful chapter can exist in isolation. Only by being in regular contact with other chapters can a chapter assess its own status and learn by the example of others. Ideally, this will result in a more uniform quality of excellence in the work of all AZA chapters in the region.