

2nd North American

Chevra Kadisha Conference

Jewish Communal Obligations in Dying and Death
Las Vegas, Nevada June 6th - 8th, 2004

Kavod v'Nichum and Temple Beth Sholom of Las Vegas are pleased to present the second annual North American Chevra Kadisha Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada from June 6-8, 2004. The conference will explore the obligations of the community, the synagogue and the Chevra Kadisha in facilitating Jewish funeral, burial, and mourning practices. Through teaching, discussion, training, networking and exploration of available resources, we will further refine the role of the Chevra Kadisha in the 21st century.

The conference is geared to Chevra Kadisha committee members, lay leaders and professionals including synagogue administrators, rabbis, cantors, chaplains, students, funeral coordinators and directors, cemetery administrators, counselors, educators, medical professionals and other interested parties. Whether you are new, or experienced, observant or just interested, the Chevra Kadisha conference will provide you with a first class and hands on experience, including top speakers, thought -provoking workshops and opportunities to network and find answers to all your questions.

You may want to spend additional time before or after the conference to enjoy the wildlife of Las Vegas, either on the "Strip" or hiking in our beautiful national parks and surroundings.

Looking forward to seeing you in June. Please let us know if there is anything we can do to make your stay more enjoyable.

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Program

The Chevra Kadisha Conference will offer a variety of thought-provoking sessions led by knowledgeable and interesting speakers and workshop leaders. We will do our best to allow for networking time and not over-program you to the point of exhaustion!

Plenary sessions will cover "The Challenge of Redefining the Role of Chevrah Kadisha in the 21st Century"; "The Jewish Afterlife"; "Building Kavod v'Nichum into our Communities" and "Jewish Communal Obligations in Death and Dying". Plenary speakers include David Zinner and Rabbis Brad Artson, Alfredo Borodowski and Felipe Goodman.

There will be five workshops, each with 5 choices, some of which will be repeated. Workshops will include:

- Practical ways to learn Tahara rituals and maintain skills
- Discussion and sharing of the spiritual uplift of Tahara and coping skills necessary to maintain positive mental health
- Educating the community about Tahara and Chevra Kadisha
- Outreach and recruitment of Chevra members
- Information regarding organ and tissue donation

In addition there will be three hands-on Tahara demonstrations (3.5 hours total) including preparation, supplies, health concerns, washing, purification, dressing, knot tying and casketing.

The Conference Committee has put a lot of thought into the planning of the Plenary Sessions and Workshops and we are excited with the high caliber of speakers and topics. We look forward to your evaluations and feedback following the conclusion of the conference and hope your experience as participants will be as positive as ours as planners.

Pre-conference activities begin at 10:15 AM on Sunday, June 6 with an open brunch and tours of Temple Beth Shalom and its' Warsaw Ghetto Memorial Garden. The Conference Welcome begins at 12:30 PM, with workshops and activities continuing through 3 PM on Tuesday, June 8.

Logistics

It is an exciting time for the Las Vegas Jewish Community, the fastest growing Jewish population in North America. We have matured from about 20,000 people fourteen years ago to about 80,000 today.

All conference sessions will take place at Temple Beth Sholom, the oldest synagogue in Las Vegas and the newest and most beautiful Jewish house of worship in the entire southwestern U.S. The state-of-the-art facility was opened August, 2000. Temple Beth Sholom is a dynamic Conservative congregation with a membership in excess of 600 families. The temple contains magnificent Jerusalem stone, marble and mosaics in an ultra-modern design, set upon a seven-acre tract in the Summerlin South section of Las Vegas at 10700 Havenswood Lane. (702-804-1333).

All meals and snacks provided during the conference will be under Conservative kashrut supervision. Orthodox supervised meals are available if requested prior to May 28. Meals provided include Sunday brunch and dinner, Monday breakfast, lunch and dinner, and Tuesday breakfast and lunch. Please be sure to mark on your registration form if you have special meal requirements.

We have secured rooms at the Suncoast Hotel for Sunday and Monday nights at a reduced rate of \$77 (taxes included) per person (double occupancy). Deluxe rooms have one King or two Queen beds. This rate is only guaranteed until May 6. Contact the Hotel directly at 1-877-677-7111 (M-F 7am-11pm S-Su 9am- 5pm Pacific Time) and give them group code Chevra Kadisha. There are a limited number of rooms at this price, so make your reservation early.

The hotel is located at 9090 Alta Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada 89145 (Rampart between Charleston and Summerlin Parkway). There are six free shuttle runs a day from the airport to the hotel. You must make a shuttle reservation with the hotel in advance. The conference will provide shuttles from the hotel to the conference site, a 10 minute drive. If you prefer to rent a car, please let us know so we can plan shuttles accordingly.





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Chevra Kadisha Conference

June 6-8, 2004

Kavod v' Nichum

Registration:

Title First Name Last Name

Organization and affiliation

Web Address (if applicable)

Your mailing address

City State / Province Zip / Postal Code

Work Phone Home Phone

Cell Fax

E-mail address

\$250 - Early registration must be received by May 15th.
\$300 - Regular registration through June 4th.
\$350 - Walk-in registration.

If you are not staying at the hotel, please indicate where
you will be staying _____

Payment:

VISA MasterCard

Credit card on line
www.jewish-funerals.org/conference/creditcardcharge.htm

Credit card by phone: 410-733-3700
 Through the mail: credit card check

credit card number

expiration date Signature

Total Payment: _____
Make check out to Kavod v'Nichum
8112 Sea Water Path Columbia, MD 21045

Orthodox supervised kosher meals

Call 702-804-1333 for daily registration rates

**Mail all registration and payment information
to Kavod v'Nichum, 8112 Sea Water Path,
Columbia, MD 21045**