**English Newsletter No. 2062 8.7.2022**

**Kibbutz Yizrael**

**Translated and edited by Eddie Solow**

**Proofreading; Rachel Piekarski**

**Edi-torial**

Lots of the usual this week. Important reports that cover all aspects of our lives.

News of the lives of our fellow members who share their proud and sometimes sad moments with us

There is a jewel in the crown towards the end of the Newsletter. Ilana Peleg tells of the visit of the delegation from our "Bet Hamusika" to Poland. I was personally touched as I translated the lines, I had a lump in my throat. Don't miss it.

|  |
| --- |
| **R.I.P.**  **to Zahava Rozilio and all the family**  **We would like to express our condolences on the passing of your father**  **Nissim Dayan** |

**Congratulations**

To Smadar (Chikorel) Dolev

**on the birth of your daughter**

Mazel Tov to Rinat, Damiyan, Einat, Sagi and Olga, the proud great-grandmother

**Thank you**

ZImra wants to thank the CMC for deciding to continue with the newsletter (Alon) in the current format.

The newsletter is our collective memory

As **Yigal Alon** said:

"If a nation does not respect its past, its present is colorless and its future, murky"

**Congratulations!**

Karen's family wish to congratulate Karen on the completion of her MA degree from the Haifa university from the Department of "Jewish Peoplehood"

Karen has completed her research project "The Culinary Culture of Brazilian Jewry" as a way of understanding the culture of the Jewish community.

The family are very proud of her and support her all the way to her doctorate.

**From the Corona Team - Thoughts and Dilemmas**

As you all have come to understand, Corona is now part of our lives and here to stay. Sometimes more so, sometimes less so.

During the course of the epidemic, we have attempted to adjust ourselves to the regulations of the state policies, taking into account our particular small, closely knit committee lifestyle.

As part of the attempt, we published the names of those members under quarantine. Lately more and more people are refusing to allow the publication of their names. Some ignore their quarantine or do not test for Corona. In short, the people, by their behavior, are telling us that they want the freedom of choice.

Therefore, henceforth we will not publish names. Whosoever would like to inform the community, may do so of his own accord? The committee is at your disposal if you need our help.

Each one of us is at liberty to take such steps to cut the chain of contamination as he deems fit.

We will let you know if there is any change in our policy.

Yours in health and mutual concern

**Report from the General Assembly 29.6.22**

**Controllers' report on the Electricity Dept.**

Phil suggested that we should postpone the discussion in view of the fact that Alon Reuven was not present. In reply the chairman explained that it is sufficient that his boss Erez was present. The controller said that Alon had cooperated fully.

**Main Points**.

The controller, **Uri Greenberg**, presented the gist of the main points of weakness - changes needed

1. The (short) version was published in Kehilanet for all to read.
2. The aim is to ensure that the kibbutz is not exposed to legal action or being taken advantage of by crooked suppliers. We should make sure that all deals and terms of employment should be backed up by the proper signed agreements and signatures.
3. We should check prices and get alternative estimates.
4. The branch should hold staff meetings periodically, to discuss improvements and solutions to problems.
5. We should find a computerized solution to double payments.

**Irit Shemesh** asked if the report is in the hands of the CMC and whether it was not preferable for the branch to have a club car as opposed to a motor car?

**Erez** replied that there is a need for the vehicle because of the frequency that they need to travel to Afula at short notice. The policy is to keep minimum stock. The private use of the car is paid for in keeping with our decisions.

It is hard to stand by the budget because expenditure is a function of the number of unforeseeable breakdowns.

**Avner Alterlevi** thinks General Assembly is not the place for these reports. Bringing the report before the public is both cruel and unnecessary.

**Eddie** feels that it is a serious situation when a Branch Manager refuses to attend the General Assembly when his branch is being discussed and requested that Erez deal with the matter accordingly. He asked that the CMC discuss the findings and learn the lessons

**Elad Ilan** asked whether the branches are paying realistic prices. He is of the opinion that there are, here, lessons that should by applied in the other service branches.

**The Constitution of the Management Board.** (Ne Mazkirut - Ed)

There is a need to include a representative of Yizre'el Holdings and a representative of the Mutual Savings Fund (Keren Miluim) on the board.

**Shlomo Levi** requested that we get legal advice as to whether Jeremy can sit on the board which is responsible to oversee the workings of the Mutual Savings Fund, when he himself manages the fund. (Conflict of interests)

**The motion was passed in the subsequent ballot**

**Regulations regarding members working outside the kibbutz.**

Presented by Peter Pezaro.

Interesting statistics:

\*80 members work off the kibbutz (Some part-time)

\*24 in the teaching profession

\*11 in health relate work (nurses and therapists)

\*8 in High- tec

\*20 in Low - tec

\*4 in government service

\*Income from outside workers - NIS13,000,000

\*Average monthly income – NIS10,800 (slightly lower than the national average. Those who do not earn the required income (National minimum wage + 30%) are under the wing of the manpower Department.

**Significant Changes to the Rules**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Subject** | **Current regulation** | **Change** | **Remarks** |
| Definition of head of branch | Coordinator (Rakaz) | Manager | The number has grown and there is a need to manage the branch |
| Expenses | NIS1,050 monthly with receipt  or  automatic monthly credit of NIS525 without receipts | NIS1,050 monthly with receipts  or  automatic monthly credit of NIS588 | - |
| Transport | No reference | NIS1.5 per km |  |
| Cellphone | Management receives NIS1,800 to buy phones the monthly cost (NIS36) | No reimbursement for phones but we will cover the monthly cost (NIS36) and if need be, an appropriate reimbursement for overseas work | Cellphone is a necessity for everyone. |

(The above table includes changes in the wording in the transport section as agreed upon during the discussion. – Ed).

**Vote:**

For - 28

Against - 20

The motion was carried

**Report from the Finance Council 29/6/22**

The council was due to discuss the reimbursement of members for the building costs of the extra 20 square meters in their homes, paid for from their own pockets.

**Due to a lack of quorum, the meeting was postponed to a future date.**

Shlomo Levi

**Mutual Savings Fund (Keren Miluim) General Assembly**

1. **2% of 10%**

It was agreed that henceforth the fund will credit the Life fund of senior members with 2% interest p.a. for that part of their savings that they are obliged to leave in the fund (All the rest (90%) can be withdrawn at the age of 67 and what is not withdrawn is credited 2% p.a.)

This was not the case until till now - A member pointed out the injustice of the decision and now it has been put right. (Thank you Issy Levitan – Ed)

**Vote 35/4** Motion carried

**Financial performance of the fund for the year 2021**

Jeremy presented the report. The fund enjoyed a successful year on the stock exchange and the balance grew. The fund is standing by its monetary goals and the Life fund (Keren Hayim) is full

(The numbers do not appear in the Hebrew Alon either – Ed).

**From the Manpower Desk**

In the last newsletter, appeared a reference of the running of the shop in Nitzan's absence. Racheli inadvertently omitted to mention that **Yarden Naor** ran the shop in the interim and thanks to her and the dedicated team, things ran smoothly

Thank you Yarden from the bottom of my heart. I wish you all the best.

Racheli Arava

**Meeting of the Planning Committee 21.6.22**

1. **Housing for the Young Generation**. Last week the Committee asked to see a rough plan of the two additional buildings in the pipeline. The number of rooms planned do not come close to the number required, therefore the architect will be asked to return to his drawing board and this time to plan more space saving buildings, the same height as the existing buildings.
2. **Parents' Housing Project.** Last week the committee asked to revise the plan so that the houses are not larger than the standard permanent family home (110 Square meters). The plan has been revised but a number of questions still need to be answered. (To be continued – Ed)
3. **Benches along the way.** Representatives of the Landscape Gardening Branch and the Planning Committee presented a plan to place benches and picnic tables along the main paths. The two bodies together intend to place the request the before bonus committee**.**
4. **Landscape plan for the new "Cottage" housing project.**  The committee discussed the updated plan. The architect weighed up the Cohen family's request to change the pathway (leading straight from their front door) and found it unfeasible and unjustified. There will be a public garden and a parking area between the entrance to their house and the road, therefore the committee is of the opinion that there is no need for the change.

The committee ratified the landscape architect's plan.

1. **Shed for the Sassi family.** Permission was granted.
2. **Project Update**
3. Cottages – Building commenced January, 2022

Completion of the inside of the house – September, 2022

1. Roads –
2. On the west side, roadwork commenced in June. Completion date October.
3. Road no. 1. Work commences in July, 2022.
4. New housing project (Old rugby field)

– Awaiting building authorization from Regional Council

– Updated plan will be presented to the members soon

– awaiting government subsidies

- We are negotiating with the Regional Council re project management and infrastructures (I suppose we are requesting subsidies – Ed)

- Open meeting on the 22.6.22 in the club room to present the individual house plan.

Presentation of the final plans by the end of July.

**Open meeting of the Planning Committee 22.6.22**

The committee and the architect met with 15 members attending, to present the plans for the individual houses in the new housing project (Old Rugby field).

Questions were asked and answered regarding various possible changes to the plan, some more feasible than others.

Adi Ilan prepared and presented a three-dimensional video. Thank you, Adi.

Soon the final plans of the entire project will be presented to the public

**Report from the Ad-hoc committee preparing alternatives for the future of the dining room.**  (Pathways committee? -Ed)

Weekly meetings are held. Each committee member has a defined task to fulfill and homework to do, before each meeting. At present the Committee is gathering information from various sources. The Committee is currently defining the needs and wants of all sides and learning from other kibbutzim that underwent the same process.

The various alternatives will be presented to the public. No one alternative will suit everyone, therefore each alternative will be presented with its pros and cons.

**Perhaps** the committee will suggest a "pilot stage" whereby we can practically try out the various chosen options.

**Report from the Startup and Small Business Committee.**

**Oded Fink** requests to return to the format of a startup. (Break away from the landscape gardeners – Ed)

The nursery and Neomi's will share the same area… "A Café in Plant Nursery". Oded's time will be spent between the Nursery (60%) and Neomi's.

Open six days a week. Closed on Shabbat.

The partnership should promote the sales of both sides. Oded will vacate one hut which will house "Moran's Confectionary Bakery"

The cost of the project NIS80,000 including a "Mobile Hut", fence and equipment.

**The request was granted**

**Estie Mittelberg concludes her studies towards a Master's Degree in Drama Therapy**

Estie relates how strange it was to study this subject online in the days of the epidemic. She thinks she learned flexibility in all conditions

Before Estie lies an intensive year of (unpaid) apprenticeship

**The return of the Musical delegation to Poland**

Ilana Peleg

Last week a combined delegation of musicians from "Bet Hamusika" and the "Nof Hagalil" conservatorium visited Poland – "The Stars of the Galilee" with our own "Gilboband" The audience was impressed by the virtuosity of the musicians

They gave a concert in a school in the town of Zumbro, in the North of Poland. And were royally entertained.

The next day, the group played at a gathering of music teachers from the town, who came together to celebrate the end of the school year. The concert was followed by a traditional Kabbalat Shabbat. The locals were elated by the special atmosphere created.

Saturday was the opening of the annual orchestra festival. Here the Big Band played in the park. Simultaneously other concerts were going on in different venues in the same park. In the evening all the participants in the festival were invited to a jazz event in one of the local coffee houses.

Next day was the parade through the city streets and our musicians played the Tsahal March while marching. Not an easy task especially since it was their first time. They were met with applause from the crowds. Our delegation played on the central stage in the local stadium, both together with the other bands and on their own.

On to Warsaw. The program was planned to perfection by Stas who ensured the cultural and historical enrichment of all. In the evening the Sextet played in a concert organized by the Jewish Agency and conducted by Rafi Holzer, emissary from the Jewish agency in charge of Uranian refugees.

Early the next morning the group toured the museums including the Warsaw Ghetto Museum.

Travel South, on to Optov. They were stuck in the traffic but the audience waited in the café' and were rewarded with a concert. This town is currently making a huge effort to restore its Jewish heritage. The local park is strewn with Jewish graves, soon to be restored. At noon they opened a stage outside the Jewish school. The town was once famous for its two Klezmer bands (Each a different family) It is said that "even the stones know how to play in Optov. Our musicians were overwhelmed to play on the stage and to bring to life the tradition that once was …... 80 years ago

That evening the local musicians played together with our delegation. It was the first time ever that in the history of Optov that a jazz concert was held. The audience was very excited.

As expected, the delegation toured the old city and historical sites in the area.

We would like to mention our very own trumpet players, **Guy Perling** and **Michal Zinenko**. Our pride and joy.

In conclusion, the tour was a grand success. The students were not bored for a moment thanks to the boundless energy of **Stas Gavrilov, Yarden Zinenko** and **Naim Ben Abu**.

Wherever they went, they were warmly received. Their hosts praised the professional way they conducted themselves and their exemplary behavior.

Written by Ilana Peleg after interviewing the returnees.

(I would like to thank Ilana for sharing this amazing story – Ed)

**Lidor Nanikoshvili completes his year of** **voluntary service**

**Zivit and Yuval** (The proud parents)

Lidor just completed hisvoluntary service at Nesher in the framework of the Hechalutz movement.

The family would like to thank those who helped with the seminar, Yifat Asaf, Itzik and the dining room staff, and Idan Zelas who conducted an enlightening tour of Maytronics.

"We are very proud of Lidor. There is no doubt that his success this past year is due to the values of cooperation, brotherhood and giving, that he absorbed growing up here on the kibbutz, which is our home.

Being part of the Yizre'el and Israel rugby teams inculcated in him a sense of responsibility."

**Congratulations to the Yizre"el Basketball team**

Congratulations to the Yizre'el basketball team on their second win in the local league. By defeating the "Bat Shlomo" team 26/21? They ensured themselves the third (and very respectable) place in the local league,

Next and last game is on Tuesday 12.7.22 on Kibbutz Hazorea

You are all invited to cheer them on

**English is Fun - with Rahel**

WILDE ABOUT OSCAR

Wit and wisdom from Oscar Wilde, one of the most

popular and controversial writers of the 19th century.

When people agree with me I always feel that I must be wrong.

*I never put off till tomorrow what I can possibly do the day after.*

I sometimes think that God, in creating man, somewhat overestimated His ability.

As along as a woman can look ten years younger than her own daughter, she is perfectly happy.

Women are meant to be loved, not to be understood.

After a good dinner one can forgive anybody, even one's own relations.

*I like men who have a future, and women with a past.*

Women give to men the very gold of their lives, but they invariably want it back in small change.

Nowadays people know the price of everything and the value of nothing.

The Americans are certainly great hero-worshippers, and always take their heroes from the criminal classes.

No great artist sees things as they really are. If he did he would cease to be an artist.

In this world there are only two tragedies. One is not getting what one wants and the other is getting it.

*Experience is the name everyone gives to their mistakes.*

A gentleman is one who never hurts anyone's feelings unintentionally.

The one duty we owe to history is to rewrite it.

The basis of action is lack of imagination. It is the last resource of those who know not how to dream.

A STRANGE LAWSUIT

These days, it seems that people will sue each other over practically anything.

THE PLAINTIFF: The Swedish Government

THE DEFENDANT: Elizabeth Hallin, mother of a five-year-old named (wait for it) Brfxccxxmpcccelllmmnprdvclmnskssqubb11116 (which she pronounces "Albin")

THE LAWSUIT: For five years, the Hallins, who say they believe in the surrealist doctrine of "pataphysics", refused to give their son a name. Then Swedish tax officials informed them that it was a legal requirement.

The couple insisted that the "typographically expressionistic" name was merely "an artistic creation", consistent with their pataphisical beliefs.

THE VERDICT: The Government disagreed. The Hallins were fined 5000 kroner (about $830) and ordered to come up with a different name.

…………….more next week