
THE ROLLING PAPER

TWO'S INDUCTS NEW CLASS

Two's AZA headed to the country for chapter inductions and a camping overnight Saturday night, Oct. 26, in Drexel, Kan. The new Alephs formally inducted into the chapter were: freshmen Rex Heberd, Micah Kramer, Ethan Kucherovsky, Daniel Nevat, Josh Snitz and junior Hudson Zack.

Alephs roasted hot dogs and s'mores over a campfire and enjoyed some football, fishing, music and brotherhood.

"It was kind of scary," said Two's Aleph Godol Bryan Persky. "I'm not gonna lie - to look up and there are no streetlights, there are cows mooing and chickens. It was just kind of cool to be out in the middle of nowhere with 10 guys who of are all here for the same reason."

The chapter woke up early on Sunday morning and headed to Miss B's Cafe in Louisburg, Kan., for breakfast to conclude the weekend festivities.



TWO'S ALL IN AT 2ND ANNUAL CASINO NIGHT



Two's AZA held its second annual "Casino Night" on Sunday, Oct. 20 at the home of Alephs Bryan and Jason Persky. After playing Poker and Blackjack, the chapter split up into two teams for a game of "Jewish Jeopardy," hosted by Two's Advisor David Wexler.

WE ROLL AGAIN

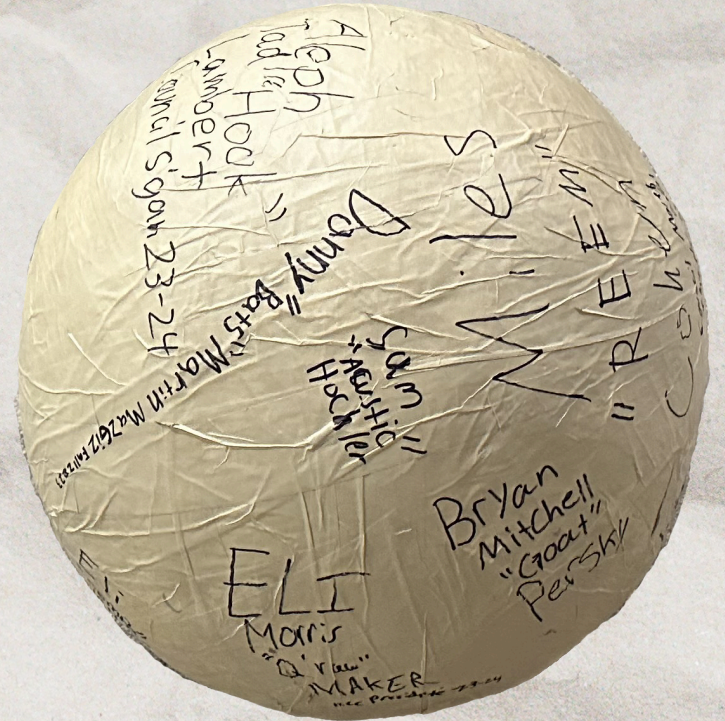
From the Editors:

We are thrilled to announce the long-awaited return of **The Rolling Paper**, our beloved chapter newspaper! After a brief hiatus, we are reviving this vibrant platform to keep you updated, informed, and engaged with everything happening in our chapter.

The Rolling Paper has a rich history, alongside its predecessors: The Lazy A, The Aleph Beth, The North American Hyper Bible, The original Rolling Paper, The Bolling Paper and the Two's Aficionado. Each of these publications has contributed to our shared narrative, celebrating our unique stories, achievements and perspectives. We are committed to making **The Rolling Paper** a true reflection of our chapter and its 101-year-old history. In addition, you can explore all the latest news and information about Kansas City AZA No. 2 on our new website, twosaza.com.

“The winds of change are blowing. So get ready to roll.”
- Bob Marley

Judah Bassin, Aleph Sopher
Michael Furey, Aleph Sopher



WHAT DOES AZA MEAN TO YOU?

Bryan Persky, senior

“The brotherhood is the most important part. You go in kind of like strangers and then you go out as a family.”

Judah Bassin, sophomore

“To me, AZA means family. I come out and I hang out with these guys at least once a week or more and it's just really fun. I've gotten so close to everybody here. To me, I just want to create and make this a safe space where everybody can freely express themselves and have a fun time or not be un-included from things.”

Micah Kramer, freshman

“I love AZA because it truly is a brotherhood. You get with these people, you're in the same chapter and doesn't matter where you're from, it doesn't matter what other differences - you guys come together to do cool stuff and you all have fun. We just slept in tents in the middle of rural Kansas. I mean, that's not something you get to do at every organization.”

Shaefer Spizman, sophomore:

“AZA means to me a brotherhood. I get to foster my relationship with Jewish people I might not have known if I haven't joined and I can just basically be myself while being able to represent my Jewish identity without having to worry about it.”

Q&A WITH GRAND ALEPH GODOL DAN MEZISTRANO



Two's AZA recently sat down with Dan Mezistrano, the 100th Grand Aleph Godol, for a Q&A. (The full video interview can be found on twosaza.com)

Two's AZA: What are your goals for the year as Grand Aleph Godol?

Mezistrano: I have a lot of big goals for this year. Definitely one of them is bringing back AZAA to how it was in the past. When AZA was founded and AZA was really gaining its traction, a lot of the traction was surrounded by the idea of bringing Jewish teens together to really bond together through sports. I think it's something that's been lost a little bit and something that we have the capacity to really bring back to the former strengths that it was once at.

And then I think also bringing back teen leadership in a really, really impactful way. Teens very much so are still at the front of the room leading programs across the Order, which is really exciting to see. But at the same time, I think there's a lot of space for teens to continue step up and continue taking on bigger leadership roles and I'm really excited to have the opportunity to work with teens and empower them to do so.

Two's AZA: What are some of the things you've done so far as Grand Aleph Godol?

Mezistrano: So far, I've been traveling around the country meeting with communities just like Kansas City Council. I actually just got back from Minnesota and I'm working my way through Mid-America right now, which has been super, super exciting. And a lot of what I've done so far is really just coming to chapter business meetings, like we just had today. It's been really, really awesome to be able to see how all of the different communities program differently and recruit differently and have their different traditions, and it's been really exciting to take what I've seen in each community and continue to bring it to other communities and implement it in meaningful ways.

Two's AZA: AZA has lasted for over 100 years. What makes the order of the Aleph Zadik Aleph so special?

Mezistrano: I think the Aleph Zadik Aleph is so special for so many different reasons. Look at everything AZA has accomplished from the day it was founded.

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IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?

By Joshua Mellicker | Correspondent Abroad

(Originally prepared for the North American Hyper Bible, Winter 1994)

1) No known species of reindeer can fly. BUT there are 300,000 species of living organisms yet to be classified, and while most of these are insects and germs, this does not COMPLETELY rule out flying reindeer which only Santa has ever seen.

2) There are 2 billion children (persons under 18) in the world. BUT since Santa doesn't (appear) to handle the Muslim, Hindu, Jewish and Buddhist children, that reduces the workload to 15% of the total - 378 million according to Population Reference Bureau. At an average (census) rate of 3.5 children per household, that's 91.8 million homes. One presumes there's at least one good child in each.

3) Santa has 31 hours Christmas to work with, thanks to the different time zones and the rotation of the earth. Assuming he travels east to west (which seem logical). This works out to 822.6 visits per second. This is to say that for each Christian household with good children, Santa has 1/1000th of a second to park, hop out of the leigh, jump down the chimney, fill the stockings, distribute the remaining presents under the tree, eat whatever snacks have been left, get back up the chimney, get back in the sleigh and move on to the next house. Assuming that each of these 91.8 million stops are evenly distributed around the earth (which, of course, we know to be false but for the purposes of our calculations we will accept), we are now talking about .78 miles per household, a total trip of 75.5 million miles, not counting tops to do what most of us must do at least once every 31 hours, plus feeding and etc. This mean that Santa's sleigh is moving at 650 mile per second, 3,000 time the speed of sound. For purposes of comparison, the fastest man-made vehicle on earth, the Ulysses space probe, moves at a poky 27.4 miles per seed - a conventional reindeer can rub, tops, 15 miles per hour.

4) The payload on the sleigh adds another interesting element. Assuming that each child gets nothing more than a medium-sized lego set (2 pounds), the sleigh is carrying 321,300 tons, not counting Santa, who is invariably decribed as overweight. On land, conventional reindeer can pull no more than 300 pounds. Even granting that "flying reindeer" (see point #1) could pull TEN TIMES the normal anoint, we cannot do the job with eight, or even nine. We need 214,200 reindeer. This increases the payload - not even counting the weight of the sleigh - to 353,430 tons. Again, for comparison - this is four times the weight of the Queen Elizabeth.

5) 353,000 tons traveling at 650 miles per second creates enormous air resistance - this will heat the reindeer up in the same fashion as spacecrafts re-entering the earth's atmosphere. The lead pair of reindeer will absorb 14.3 QUINTILLION joules of energy. Per second. Each. In short, they will burst into flame almost instantaneously, exposing the reindeer behind them, and create deafening sonic booms in their wake. The entire reindeer team will be vaporized within 4.26 thousandths of a second. Santa, meanwhile, will be subjected to centrifugal forces 17,500.06 times greater than gravity. A 250-pound Santa (which seems ludicrously slim) would be pinned to the back of his sleigh by 4,315,015 pounds of force.

In conclusion - If Santa ever DID deliver presents on Christmas Eve, he's dead now.

"I'm hopeful that it will come to an end sooner than later because what's going on isn't right. Even if one side thinks that one party is wrong, there's still different ways to go about it."

**- BRYAN PERSKY | Two's AZA Godol
On the Israel-Gaza War**

RACE, CREED & COLOR

(The following essay was written by Philip Klutznick and first appeared in the 1924 edition of *The Nautilus*.)

Into a land where peace predominates, into a land where liberty, beauty and love have found their resting places, creeps the God of War. He exacts his toll and all is gone. Life, beauty, peace must again begin at the bottom and build up. Civilization receives the shock, rebounds momentarily and all is well again. Those who are gone are forgotten and those who live put their shoulders to the wheel of life and grind it slowly around again.

What is war? From what source does such a monster spring to stamp under his feet the bubbling springs of life. Friends. war is bred in the hearts of the discontented, those whose ideals have been shattered, and here enters the consideration of race, creed and color.

One race has its ideals, another opposite ideals and likewise with creeds and colors. When we, as a race, shatter the ideals of another through scorn and mimicry, we sow into the hearts of that race the seeds of discontent. To such conditions, the world owes the shocks it has received, the blows to civilization and the loss of human life.

When at Concord, the shot which sounded and resounded throughout the world, was fired, it marked the beginning of a war in which friend was fighting against friend. Out of that war came the ideals of America – the greatest of which is toleration. Out of that struggle, even shining through the wearisome hours of warfare as the shining sun, shone the principles of a people fighting for its rights, fighting for its ideals, fighting for its posterity, and when through the dark hours of night, the light of victory shone, it brought to an end another struggle of ideals, a struggle in which races and creeds had played their part.

Do not assume that racial differences, creed and color wars are a part of the dim and distant past. Russia is today bringing upon herself well-earned scorn because of her utter disregard of that which is sacred to the man who possesses it – religion.

Racial differences mean war. War means the loss of human life, and life is dear to us all, for it holds in reserve the glittering array of achievements and tasks well done.

Life is truly such. When you enter into a worldly existence, life is not imposed upon you as a privilege to abuse, to throw into a seething caldron of racial discontent. You are not born to scorn those of opposite creeds, to oppose those of other color, o. This privilege is given to you to build up in this world of ours some achievement to be dedicated to you after your worldly work is done. But, when you turn from that which is wonderful to a life of radicalism, a life in which war and fight are dominant, you have abused nature's greatest gift, the right to life.

We are taught, but we forget. It seems we have already forgotten the black-robed horrors of that last world struggle—a war of race against race and creed against creed. God grant that such a struggle be never repeated.

On one side we had Germany, with her one predominant ideal to rule over a world free of all traces of democracy. A taunt by Serbia, and the German ideal had been given the impetus necessary for it to exhibit its lashing, biting tongues of hate. Into a state of war swept Germany, for her ideals were not the ideals of other nations.



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SIX-FOLD SUNDAY



Saadia BBG joined Two's AZA for a six-fold program Sunday, Oct. 6, at Mitzvah Garden KC. "Six-Fold Sunday" started with a program led by Ruby Sokol, Saadia's Shlichah, to commemorate the first anniversary of the October 7th terrorist attacks in Israel. The BBYO'ers learned about the lives of members of Maccabi Tzair, BBYO's sibling movement in Israel and then shared what they are worried about, hopeful for and challenged by because of the war. The group then harvested tomatoes, lettuce and hot peppers, before competing in a 3-and-3 basketball game on the outdoor courts of Temple, Congregation B'nai Jehudah. "Six-Fold Sunday" concluded with a Two's AZA lunch at Piazza Tascio. For our complete video, visit www.twosaza.com.

GRAND ALEPH GODOL (CONTINUED)

They've been a huge political entity and have campaigned and lobbied for different pieces of legislation. They fundraise - when October 7th happened BBYO came together and raised tens of thousands of dollars to donate to Israel. And just the power that that a group of Jewish teens has been able to amass and really enact in super meaningful ways for the last 100 years is really, really special. I think that 100-years piece, the longevity of BBYO and how BBYO has just not died through the Holocaust, through the Great Depression, through wars - we have continued to survive and thrive through all of these really difficult times for the Jewish people through history. And you can go back and you can listen to the alumni who were in BBYO, and our same chapters, our same regions going to these same events that we are going to today, it's really, really special.

Two's AZA: Where do you see BBYO in the future? Do you see a AZA lasting another 100 years, just like the past?

Mezistrano: Absolutely. I think AZA is not going anywhere. We've stood for 100 years. We will easily stand for a hundred more. What's so powerful is that the teens who keep on coming to BBYO keep being inspired by the very same things that inspired Alephs from decades ago and those same inspirations are going to continue working their magic and continue bringing in Jewish teens for many, many years to come.

Two's AZA: So at International Convention, there's over 4,000 teens. Do you have stage fright?

Mezistrano: I guess we'll see when I'm up there. I don't know if I can say I've ever stood in front of 4,000 teens, so it'll be interesting for sure. But we'll see how it goes.

Two's AZA: What has been your favorite memory in BBYO?

Mezistrano: I think my favorite memory in BBYO was leading my first Separates. Growing up in Evergreen, I had a lot of great Separates experiences, but after I'd gone on ILTC, I had really, really powerful Separates memories... Separates and really taking in those Separates and seeing everything that it could live up to be. I was really excited to take what I had seen and bring it back to my community. And I poured hours and hours and hours into my first Convention Separates and I just remember getting up there and leading it and not really sure how it was going at the beginning ... but by the end I saw people engaging and really grappling with what we were talking about, and people coming up to me after was really, really exciting. It felt good that I had finally brought a goal that I'd thought about so much to back to the region.

RACE, CREED & COLOR (CONTINUED)

But the combined forces of England, France, Belgium and Italy did not hold those death-defying Germans, and a nation whose taste of liberty had hardened its people against one-man rule and world dominance by one nation, entered the combat. The people of the United States of America had their ideals, had their principles, had their desires, and they did not conform with those of Germany. So, we entered the war to fight for the maintenance of that ever-inspiring liberty we hold so dear. Out of that war came the American stars and stripes flying freely in the breeze without the imprint of that dastardly foot of autocracy upon them.

But as we rejoice in the victory, we forget the results. Where was that never-to-be-forgotten battle fought? Some say it was the field of honor. It might have been that, but notwithstanding, it was rightfully named "No Man's Land." Picture, friends, barren devastated fields, dotted with barbed wire fences and vermin-filled trenches. Throughout the day and night the air boomed and vibrated with sounds of opposing guns. Into this flame of almost unimaginable hell went the finest of the young manhood of America, France, Germany and almost every other nation in the world. Some came out, some became heroes through the supreme sacrifice, and others were torn, maimed and shattered for life. The tragedy of that war is overwhelming. When you shear a man of his principles, deprive him of his honor, you bring into being a Flanders field where:

"The poppies blow
 Between the crosses row on row
 That mark our place; and in the sky
 The larks, still bravely singing fly,
 Scarce heard amid the guns below.
 We are the dead. Short days ago
 We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
 Loved and were loved, and we lie
 In Flanders fields.
 Take up our quarrel with the foe;
 To you from failing hands we throw
 The torch; be yours to hold it high.
 If ye break faith with us who die
 We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
 In Flanders fields."

When we realize the sacrifices of others, their overbounding faith in humanity and civilization, can we scorn the other man because of his race, can we laugh at his creed or his color?

Members of the coming generation, the world is looking to you to bring about an era in which "Good will to man and peace on earth" will predominate. Start at the bottom, eradicate the racial differences, the opposition of creed against creed, when they are both working toward the same end, and the struggle of color against color. Breathe into the world the ideal of races, creeds and colors co-operating, and humanity will breathe more freely.

(Philip Klutznick was the second Aleph Godol of Kansas City AZA No. 2 and the second Grand Aleph Godol.)



**It's more than just a chapter ...
it's a state of mind**

A LITTLE POEM ABOUT CHANUKAH

By Jared Cole

(From The Two's Aficionado | December 1998)

C is for all the candles we light so that we can see our women's good-looking bodies (in the clothes we got them, of course)

H is for the heat that making lov ... latkas creates

A is for all the anticipation that is involved in waiting for the climax of opening presents/pants

N is for the naughty I mean nice things that we do

U is for the undressing we will do, that is of the potatoes to make latkas

K is the kissing that will be done (of visiting relatives, what did you think I was going to say)

A for the affection that will be given (given in hugging relatives)

H is for the happiness we will have that there are eight days of this exciting holiday and that the satisfying presents will keep coming (you know I mean)

ADVISOR'S CORNER



By David Wexler | Advisor

Kansas City AZA No. 2 is off to a strong start to the 2024-25 school year. The chapter added six new members: Thomas Burns, Andrew Burns, Ethan Kucherovsky, Josh Snitz, Hudson Zack and Jake Williams. This fall, Two's launched a new website, twosaza.com, as well a YouTube channel. The website is a great source of information for members, alumni, parents and anyone interested in learning about AZA No. 2. ... In September, Two's kicked off its "Stand Up" campaign to end hunger in our community. Members of the chapter are volunteering once a month at Mitzvah Garden KC, a volunteer-supported, nonprofit garden with 100% of its harvests going to local food pantries. Saadia BBG joined Two's in October for a six-fold program at the Garden. BBYOers helped harvest tomatoes and peppers, before helping close down the garden for the winter. Two's checked off all six folds during the program: Community Service/Social Action, Education, Athletics, Health, Judaic and Social ... Eli Nathan bowled a perfect 300 score on Tuesday, Sept. 3, at Olathe Lanes East. It was the first time Nathan has recorded a perfect game. Nathan won six bowling medals in the 2024 JCC Maccabi Games in Houston, including first place. ... The chapter wishes to extend its deepest gratitude to the Bergh family for offering their property for Two's Inductions/Overnight in Drexel, Kan. Eleven Two's Alephs attended the overnight.