

WHY PASSOVER MATTERS

BY STEFAN LONCE + MH FRYBURG



2022 GLOBAL



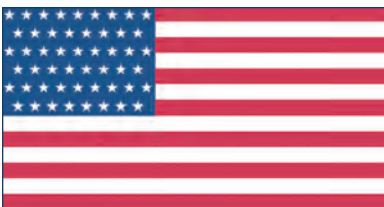
IN HONOR OF THE TREE OF LIFE SYNAGOGUE VICTIMS



SEDER™



GLOBAL PASSOVER SEDER™ • APRIL 15, 2022



HAPPY PASSOVER

חג שמח

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

The GLOBAL PASSOVER SEDER™ was inspired by an act of anti-Jewish hatred and bigotry at a town hall held by NY Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney (“SPM”), when a woman, whose name we do not know, told MH FRYBURG, “Everyone hates the Jews!”

LET US EXPLAIN that SPM’s town hall was in Putnam Valley, NY (which has lots of Jewish residents) on January 27, 2019, and was extraordinarily contentious: Many people spoke against the illegal immigrants who are “ruining” America. MH FRYBURG went to the town hall to ask SPM to support renaming the Mid-Hudson Bridge (which connects Poughkeepsie and Highland, NY) the FRANKLIN AND ELEANOR ROOSEVELT MID-HUDSON BRIDGE, which SPM said he would enthusiastically support.

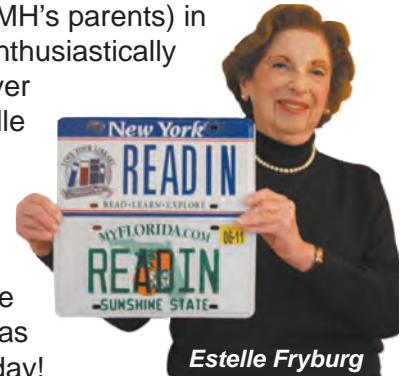
After the town hall ended, MH went to speak with SPM about renaming the Mid-Hudson Bridge after Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, who were the 2 most important and influential 20th century Americans. SPM was speaking with **BIG BIGOT** (which is what we call the bigoted woman, whose name we do not know), telling her, “I’m Irish, and when the Irish came to America in the 1840’s, we were called Micks and discriminated against.” MH then said, “The same thing happened to the Jews,” and **BIG BIGOT** turned to MH, and calmly and casually said, “Everyone hates the Jews!”

Since there is always opportunity in adversity, we decided that the best way to fight anti-Jewish bigotry would be to get as many people as possible to celebrate Passover, which celebrates the universal human values of TRUTH, FREEDOM, FAIRNESS + GRATITUDE. We thought that if **BIG BIGOT** actually attended a Passover Seder, then she would change her mind about hating the Jews.

LET US FURTHER EXPLAIN that Stefan, who is Catholic, attended his 1st Passover Seder at the Putnam Valley home of



Carl + Estelle Fryburg (MH’s parents) in 2006...and he’s been enthusiastically celebrating Passover ever since. In 2016, as Estelle was dying from cancer, Stefan cooked the food for her last Seder, which made her very, very happy because, like most Jews, Passover was her favorite Jewish holiday!



Estelle Fryburg

We decided to call our project the GLOBAL PASSOVER SEDER™...which would consist of 3 parts:

- ① Jews would invite non-Jews to their Seders and explain to them what’s going on, using our (free) mini-book, *WHY PASSOVER MATTERS*;
- ② Non-Jews would hold mini-Seders using *WHY PASSOVER MATTERS*; +
- ③ We would hold an actual (televised) Seder, at the Lincoln Depot Museum in Peekskill, NY – we wanted a non-Jewish venue, to prove that Passover is a universal holiday, and Abraham Lincoln was the American Moses, who freed the slaves.



LET US FURTHER EXPLAIN that the plague of 2020-22, caused by the potentially lethal Covid-19 coronavirus, forced us to rethink the GLOBAL PASSOVER SEDER™, since the pandemic prevents people from gathering together, in person, to celebrate Passover... or for any other reason. We want to use the GLOBAL PASSOVER SEDER™ to enlighten and entertain people, in the USA, Canada, Israel, and around the world, on Passover, which begins at sundown on April 15, 2022.

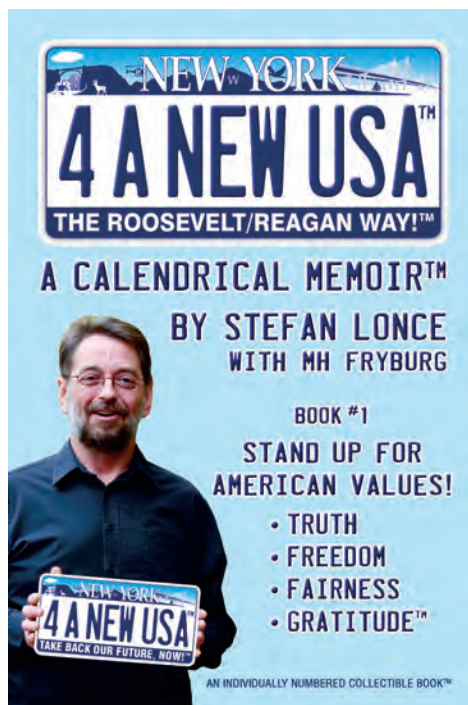
LET US NOW EXPLAIN to you *WHY PASSOVER MATTERS*, by telling you that Passover celebrates how Moses forced Pharaoh (the Egyptian king) to let the Hebrew slaves go free, more than 3,000 years ago: God inflicted 10 plagues on the

Egyptians, including the 10th plague – the death of the oldest son in each Egyptian family; the Hebrews marked the fronts of their homes so that the 10th plague would pass over them. After Pharaoh agreed to let the Hebrews go, they had to leave so quickly that they didn't have time to let their bread rise, which is why, during Passover, only unleavened bread, called matzoh, is eaten.

The Passover celebration is called a Seder (which means “order” in Hebrew) because the Haggadah, the book that Jews read during the Seder, stipulates a particular order for the rituals associated with the holiday, beginning with the washing of one's hands. A typical Seder is celebrated by families, at home, and takes about an hour to complete: every1 takes turns reading from the Haggadah... and then you have an amazing meal with special foods, all based on matzoh.

The coronavirus plague has forced most people to stay at home, alone with their families or roommates, so Seders this year will be very, very small. To make it simple for every1, let's remember that the most important Passover food is matzoh, which is widely available in grocery stores, but if you can't get matzoh, then you can use crackers instead. The Seder also calls for every adult to drink 4 glasses of wine, but you can use grape juice – or any kind of juice – instead. Each Passover Seder table has a Seder plate, which contains symbolic foods (explained in Part 2), but to make it simple, you can use Stefan's Seder plate (which is printed on Page 5) instead of a real plate. Jews should read, aloud, Part 2 of *WHY PASSOVER MATTERS* before proceeding with their traditional Seders; non-Jews should read Part 2 aloud for their mini-Seders.

Before we move on to Part 2 of *WHY PASSOVER MATTERS*, LET US EXPLAIN who we are... and why there are so many license plates in *WHY PASSOVER MATTERS*. We are STEFAN LONCE and MH FRYBURG, and we live in Croton-on-Hudson, NY, in Westchester County, just north of NYC. Stefan edits and designs *The Montauk Sun*, a monthly community newspaper which circulates in Manhattan, Brooklyn, and in Montauk and the East End of Long Island. MH is an attorney. We are the world's leading experts on vanity license plates (which have motorists' messages) and special license plates (which have distinct designs and promote causes or



organizations); Stefan designed the special plates used throughout *WHY PASSOVER MATTERS* to be actual license plates to be issued by American states.

We shall be writing about the GLOBAL PASSOVER SEDER™ and our other adventures (including the FRANKLIN AND ELEANOR ROOSEVELT MID-HUDSON BRIDGE renaming) in our forthcoming book, *4 A NEW USA THE ROOSEVELT/ REAGAN WAY! A CALENDRIAL MEMOIR*. In 2020, NY State Senator Sue Serino sponsored a bill (cosponsored by Senator Pete Harckham) to rename the Mid-Hudson Bridge after the Roosevelts, but it didn't pass due to the pandemic; we plan to get the bill passed in 2022.

Finally, in order to make *WHY PASSOVER MATTERS* more fun, we have included 5 riddles (below), and posters in Part 3. Here are the riddles (the answers are on Page 7):

- ① Can you find the 2 hidden **4ANEWUSA** vanity plates in the Pennsylvania special plate on the cover of *WHY PASSOVER MATTERS*?
- ② Can you explain the order of the 3 special license plates (New York, California, Florida) in the header on page 1?
- ③ Who had the 1st know vanity license plates, and what did they say?
- ④ Why are California's vanity license plates Ronald Reagan's greatest unknown accomplishment?
- ⑤ How many forms do you think we had to complete before we could start selling our greeting cards, prints, and calendars at the FDR Library gift shop (in Hyde Park, NY)?



Stefan Lonce (L) and MH Fryburg (R)

PART 2: RECITATION

To Be Read Aloud

If Moses had not led the exodus of the Hebrew slaves from ancient Egypt, which is celebrated on Passover, then world history would have been totally different.

That's because, if Moses had not led the exodus from Egypt, then Judaism would not have developed, and humanity would not have the Biblical 10 Commandments, which are the commonly accepted basis for morality, the rule of law, and democracy.

Jesus Christ was Jewish – the Last Supper was a Passover Seder – and if Judaism had not developed as a religion, then Christianity would not have developed as a religion either. Christians and Muslims accept the Hebrew Bible (which the Jews call the Torah and Christians call the Old Testament).

Although Passover is a Jewish holiday, it celebrates the universal human values articulated in the 10 Commandments: truth, freedom, fairness + gratitude.

The GLOBAL PASSOVER SEDER™ was inspired by an act of anti-Jewish hatred and bigotry, at a town hall held by New York Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney, when a woman, whose name we do not know, said, “Everyone hates the Jews!” We thought that, if **BIG BIGOT** (which is what we call the woman at the town hall) attended a Passover Seder, then she would change her mind about hating the Jews.

The GLOBAL PASSOVER SEDER™ became more important than ever with the advent of the Covid-19 coronavirus – the global plague of 2020-22 – which forced most people to stay at home, and prevented Jews from gathering, in large groups, to hold their Seders at sundown on the 1st night of Passover during 2020 and 2021. We call this Recitation a mini-Seder; it is intended to be read aloud by every1, Jews and non-Jews alike, on April 15, 2022, before dinner.



LET US BEGIN, as the traditional Seder begins, with all participants washing their hands [the 1st reader then points at the matzoh — or crackers — and says]:

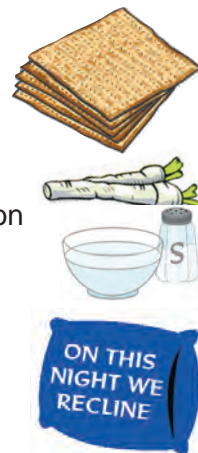
This is the bread of affliction, which the ancient Hebrews ate, after their exodus from slavery in Egypt. Let every1 celebrate Passover as if he or she had been a slave in Egypt.

LET US NOW EXPLAIN how Passover is different from every other night, by asking these 4 Questions:

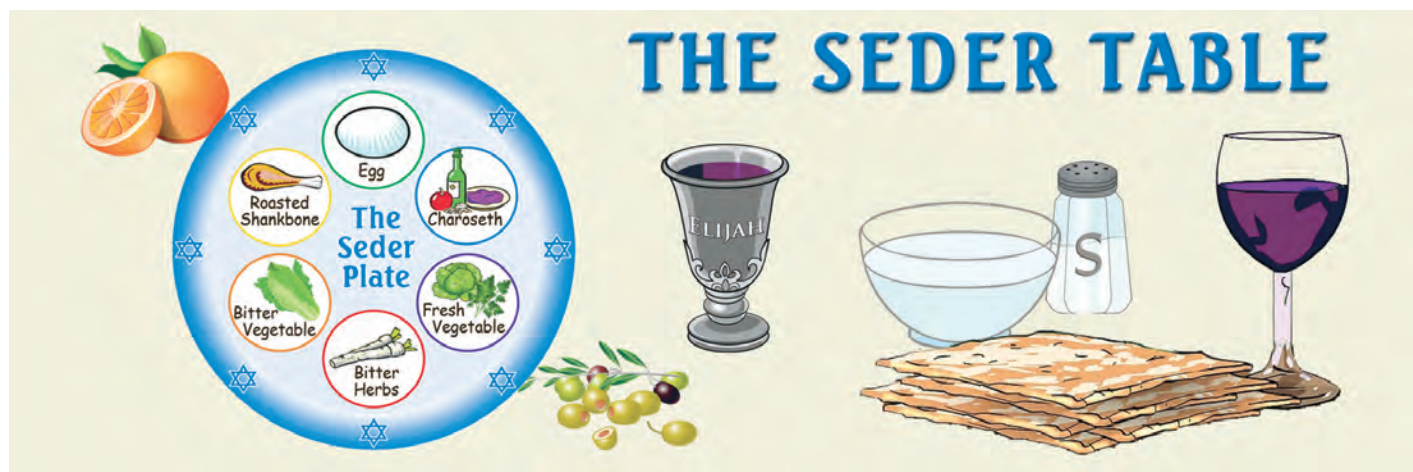
- ① Why do we eat only unleavened bread (matzoh) on Passover?
- ② Why do we eat only bitter herbs on Passover?
- ③ Why do we dip our vegetables in salt water twice on Passover?
- ④ Why do we recline on Passover?

Here are the answers to the 4 questions:

We eat only matzoh on Passover, because the ancient Hebrew slaves had to leave Egypt so quickly, after the 10 plagues that were inflicted on the Egyptians convinced Pharaoh to let them go, that they did not have time for the dough to rise. We eat only bitter herbs (like horseradish) to remind us of the bitterness of slavery; we dip our vegetables twice, in salt water, to remind us of the tears of the enslaved Hebrews; and we recline in our seats to remind us that we are no longer slaves: we are free!



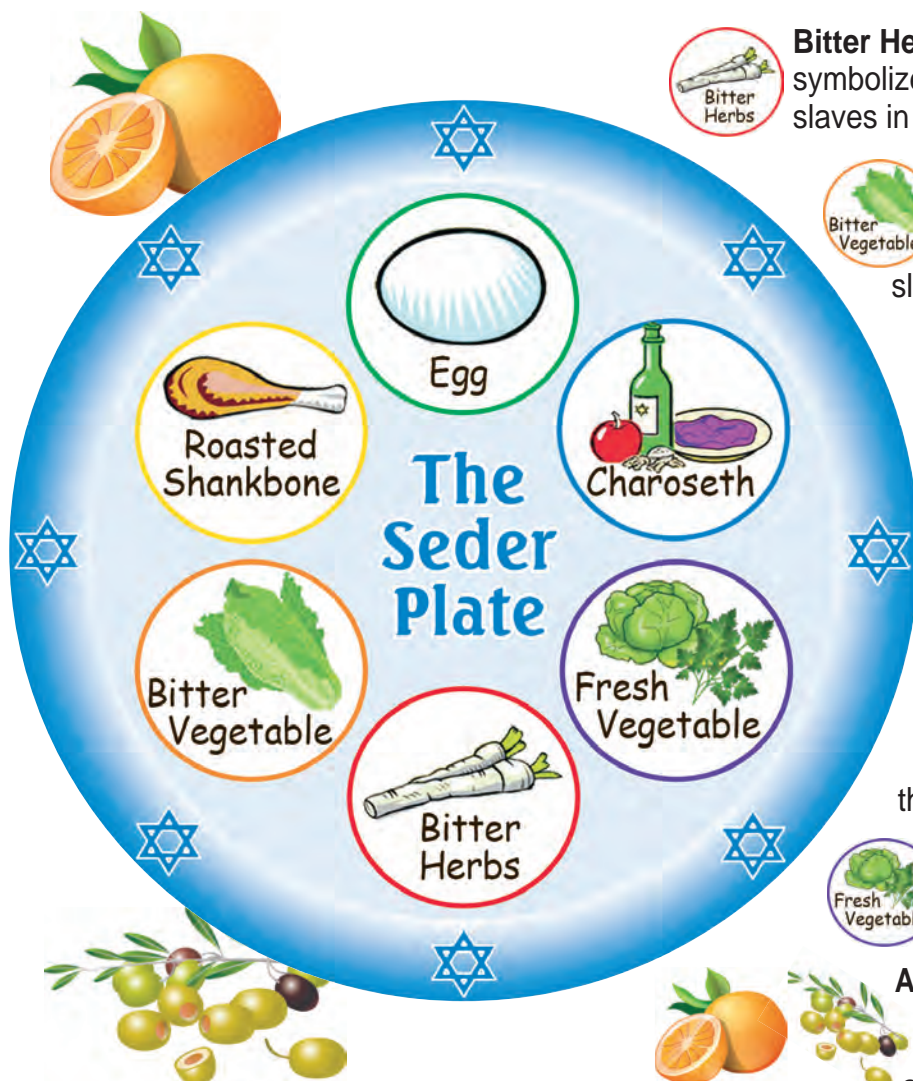
CELEBRATE! חג שמח
HAPPY PASSOVER



The traditional Seder table includes:
the Seder plate, matzah (unleavened bread),
a dish of salt water, filled wine glasses, and Elijah's cup.

THE SEDER PLATE

The traditional Seder plate includes the following symbolic foods:



Bitter Herbs, often represented by horseradish, symbolize the bitterness of the lives of the Hebrew slaves in Egypt;



Bitter Vegetable, often represented by romaine lettuce, also symbolizes the bitterness of the lives of the Hebrew slaves in Egypt;



Roasted Shankbone, symbolizes animal sacrifice, which was part of ancient Passover celebrations;



Roasted Hard Boiled Egg, symbolizes Spring and the circularity of life, and is also a reference to ancient animal sacrifice;

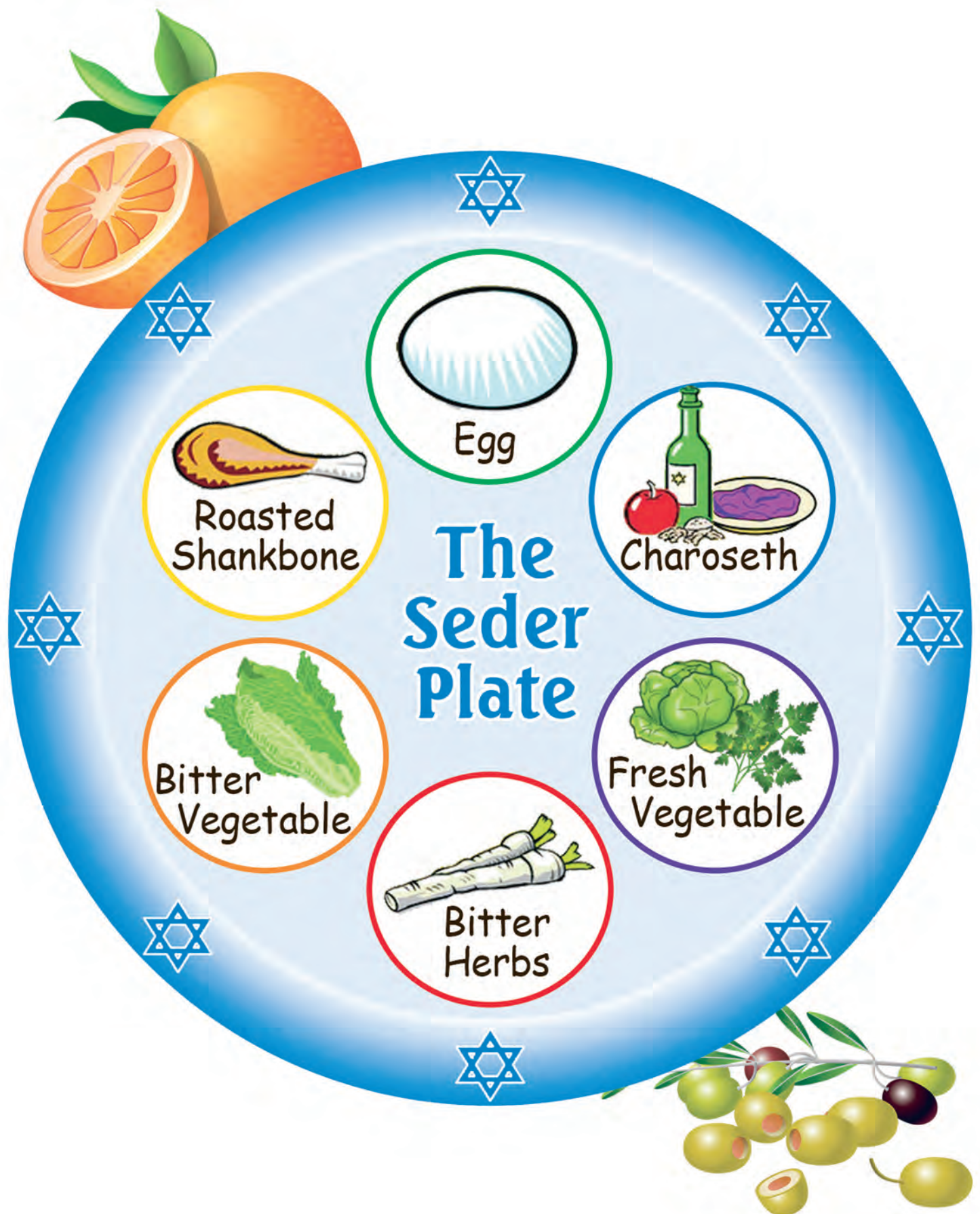


Charoseth, a mixture of nuts, chopped apples, and wine, symbolizes the clay the Hebrew slaves used to make bricks and mortar for their Egyptian masters;



Fresh Vegetable, represented by lettuce or parsley, represents hope and renewal; and...

A newer tradition adds an orange (symbolizing liberation and inclusiveness), and olives (olive branches represent peace), to the Seder plate.





These are the 10 plagues that were visited upon the Egyptians:

1. **BLOOD** (the water turned to blood)
2. **FROGS**
3. **LICE**
4. **FLIES**
5. **CATTLE DISEASE**
6. **BOILS**
7. **HAIL**
8. **LOCUSTS**
9. **DARKNESS**
10. **DEATH OF THE 1ST BORN SONS**

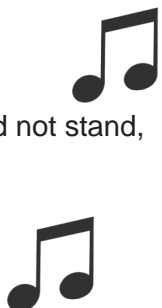
The traditional Seder includes drinking 4 cups of wine, and eating special foods, but to make it simple, we shall all say a short blessing and then drink some wine (or grape juice) and eat some matzoh (or crackers):

BLESSED ARE YOU, LORD OUR GOD, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, WHO BRINGS US BREAD FROM THE EARTH + THE FRUIT OF THE VINE.

Singing is a big part of a traditional Seder, so we shall all sing *GO DOWN MOSES*:

When Israel was in Egypt land,
Let my people go!
They worked so hard they could not stand,
LET MY PEOPLE GO!

Go down, Moses,
Way down in Egypt land,
Tell old Pharaoh,
LET MY PEOPLE GO!



The traditional Seder ends with these words, "Next Year in Jerusalem!" but we're not quite finished yet. Passover in 2022 will be remembered for the fear of the coronavirus plague that has swept the globe, but we must not let fear paralyze us; in the immortal words of Franklin D. Roosevelt, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself."

The coronavirus plague proves that all people are created equal, since every1 is potentially susceptible to this plague, whether we are rich or poor, and regardless of our religion, race, ethnicity, nationality, sex or sexuality.

We must unite to defeat the coronavirus plague, by wearing masks and protective gear and getting vaccinated. We must each remember that our health is dependent on the health of every1 else, and we must close live animal markets where the animals are slaughtered, since the COVID-19 coronavirus originated in a live animal market in Wuhan, China.

We must also make the most of our time confined at home. Talk with your family members or roommates about how we can get along better during this dangerous and difficult time. Remember that anger is a wasted emotion. Be grateful to our heroic healthcare workers, and hopeful about the future. AMEN!



PART 3: MORE INFO + POSTERS

ANSWERS TO RIDDLES ON PAGE 2 OF WHY PASSOVER MATTERS

- ① The 2 hidden **[4ANEWUSA]** plates are in the upper right hand corner and the upper left hand corner of the Pennsylvania vanity plate that says **[PASSOVER]**;
- ② The order of the 3 special license plates in the header on page 1 (NY, CA, FL) is because NY has the largest Jewish population in the USA, followed by CA, and then FL;
- ③ Franklin Delano Roosevelt had the first known vanity license plates, on his cars with hand controls that he designed at the polio clinic he founded in Warm Springs, Georgia;
- ④ Ronald Reagan's greatest unknown accomplishment is California's vanity license plates, which he signed into law on 8-21-1970 that law provides that the vanity plate fees are paid to the California Environmental License Plate Fund, and today, thanks to Gov. Reagan, California's 1,000,000 vanity plates earn the state \$43,000,000 annually, for environmental projects, statewide!
- ⑤ If you want to know how many forms we had to fill out to start selling our greeting cards, posters and calendars at the FDR Library gift shop, you will have to read our forthcoming book, **4 A NEW USA THE ROOSEVELT/REAGAN WAY! A CALENDARICAL MEMOIR** BY STEFAN LONCE WITH MH FRYBURG, which we are writing now and plan to publish as an ebook later this year.



MORE INFO:

Here is additional information to help make your GLOBAL PASSOVER SEDER a success:

Let My People Go: for a video of Louis Armstrong singing *Let My People Go*, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SP5EfwBWgg0>

For additional materials visit: www.2forseder.org (sign up to get their free Seder kits).

To download a free and easy-to-use Haggadah prepared by the Jewish Federations of North America, visit:

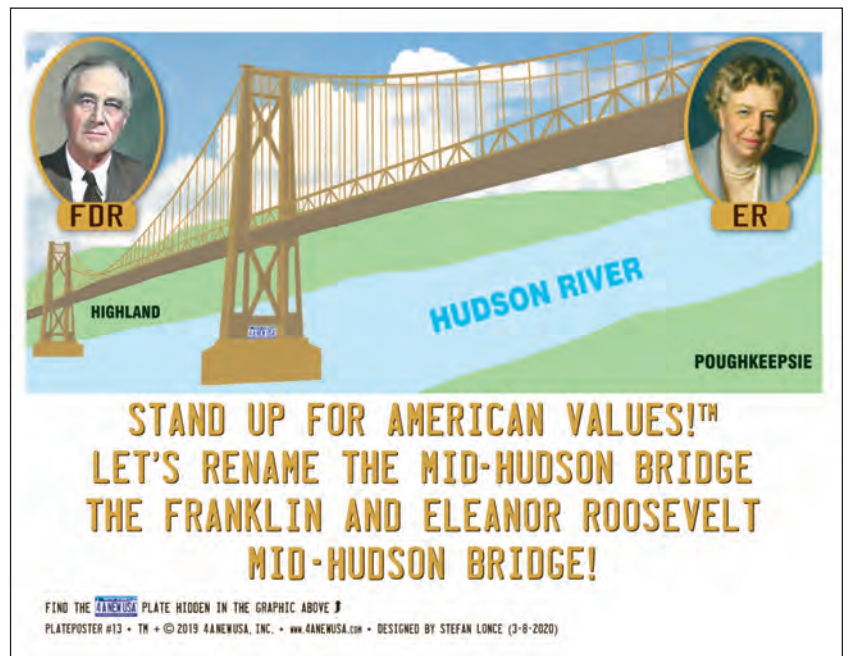
http://jewishfederation.org/images/uploads/holiday_images/39497.pdf

FRANKLIN & ELEANOR ROOSEVELT:

Let us explain that we are such huge fans of Franklin + Eleanor Roosevelt because they saved America, and the world, from the tyranny and slavery of Nazi Germany, led by Adolph Hitler, who was the 20th century's equivalent of Pharaoh. FDR was a 20th century American Moses; he was fluent in German and therefore understood the threat that Hitler posed to every1, everywhere, before almost any1 else; he rearmed America and helped the British stave off defeat by Nazi Germany in 1940-41.

On 1-6-1941, before America entered WW2, FDR gave his Four Freedoms speech, which articulated the freedoms that would be destroyed in America and elsewhere if the dictator nations (Germany, Italy + Japan) won the war: freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want, + freedom from fear.

Like Moses, Franklin + Eleanor Roosevelt provided the leadership that ultimately led to the preservation of freedom. Although they were the 2 most important and influential 20th century Americans, and although they were political as well as marital partners, there is nothing in the United States that is named after Franklin AND Eleanor Roosevelt. That's why we are working to get the New York State legislature to pass, and Governor Kathy Hochul to sign into law, a bill (S. 3938) that would rename the Mid-Hudson Bridge (located 5 miles south of FDR's ancestral home in Hyde Park, NY) the FRANKLIN AND ELEANOR ROOSEVELT MID-HUDSON BRIDGE.





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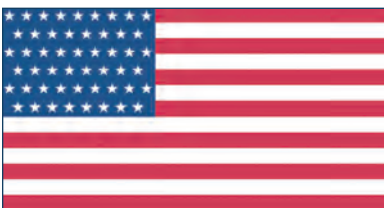
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2022 GLOBAL PASSOVER SEDER EVENT CHAIRS: MH FRYBURG + STEFAN LONCE

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CELEBRATE! חג שמחה
HAPPY PASSOVER

FIND THE 2  PLATES HIDDEN IN THE CELEBR8! PLATE, ABOVE ↑

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DESIGNED BY STEFAN LONCE