CANDIDATE FOR THE NASSAU SUFFOLK REGION'S 63RD GODOL Garett Andrew Nogid

VISION STATEMENT:

NSR is one of the largest regions in the International Order by number. We have over 650 Alephs in NSR, yet we struggle to get 200 to our conventions, and often have even less at chapter events each week. We have chapters that do not receive the support that they need to give their Alephs the best experience possible, and nothing is done about it. We recruit members to chapters that struggle to hold regular programs and then wonder why attendance declines. We need to show our senior-most Alephs why they fell in love with NSR so they can help the next generation to grow into the leaders that they have the ability to. We need to help chapters to grow to close the gap between large and small chapters. We need to use our spirit to make the region the best place that it can be. The passion that exists within our Alephs needs to be harnessed in a way that allows every single Aleph to grow and flourish and make NSR their home.

Given the large number of chapters in NSR, how will you make sure that each individual chapter has its needs met and identity recognized while still aligning their vision with your overall plan for the region?

NSR's chapters are the lifeblood of the region, acting as the first place that most Alephs get introduced into AZA, as well as their continual strongest connection to it. Emphasizing long-held chapter traditions, and supporting chapters in having regular high-quality programming will be my top priority for the upcoming year. Creating a brother chapter system that pairs chapters based on both geography and size will both help smaller chapters to have an example of how to grow, as well as providing bigger chapters with new ways to enhance brotherhood within themselves. Chapters can survive without a region, but the region cannot survive without the chapters, so maintaining programming, membership, and leadership, excellence is essential.

One of the most prevalent issues with our region is a lack of general knowledge of AZA and BBYO. How will you work with the rest of your board to ensure that the future AITs of NSR have strong knowledge of AZA?

Our roots grow deep as they connect us to thousands of Alephs over the past 96 years, so they cannot be forgotten. As with almost everything in BBYO, education starts at the chapter level. Each chapter will have the opportunity to work with myself and the regional Moreh to create an AZA history and traditions program at least once a term, as well as mandatory yearly inductions into the chapter. New Member Overnight is another great opportunity for these new members to learn more about BBYO surrounded by other teens their age. Alephs who attend summer programs come back with a renewed excitement for AZA, so a renewed focus on summer programs will also help to educate.