



November 2014



8 Heshvan – 8 Kislev, 5775

MITZVAH DAY 2014 - BIGGER & BETTER THAN EVER!!

Come join your Temple family on this special day to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others throughout our community and the world!

On the morning of Sunday, November 2nd, TAS will again be conducting our congregational-wide event to help the neediest by performing Tikkun Olam and Repairing our World.

Here's how you can help and what you can do:

- * Donate Items beforehand for our Collection Drives to support the needy, (list is below).
- * Participate in on-site activities offered to help others less fortunate, (Adult volunteers, use the link at the bottom to sign up).
- * Get connected as special speakers offer insight into social action issues.
- * Join others off site to perform mitzvot throughout our community.

All ages are welcome to help out, plus it's fun for the

whole family! The Religious School has specific grade level activities for students.

Free bagels, cream cheese, juice, and coffee for all participants.

Morning Schedule Location Time

Refreshments Social Hall 8:45a.m. to 9:00a.m.

Opening Assembly Sanctuary 9:00a.m. to 9:30a.m.

On-Site Activities Social Hall 9:30a.m. to 11:30a.m.
(or as specified below)

1. **“Caring Community”** card decorating for TAS members in need
2. **Jewish World Watch** “Little Ripples” project decorating canvas refugee tents
3. **Sisterhood** coupon cutting for overseas military families
4. **Turkey Basket** assembly for L.A. County Dept. of Child and Family Services

Mitzvah Day

Building a Better World One **מִצְוָה** at a Time



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MAZEL TOV TO OUR NOVEMBER B'NAI MITZVAH FAMILIES

Saturday, November 8, 2014

Edward and Nancy Kaplan and Family
on the Bar Mitzvah of Kyle Kaplan

Saturday, November 22, 2014

Eric and Joy Creditor and Family on the
Bat Mitzvah of Riley Creditor

Saturday, November 15, 2014

David and Laura Kritzer and Family on
the Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Kritzer



Temple
Ahavat
Shalom

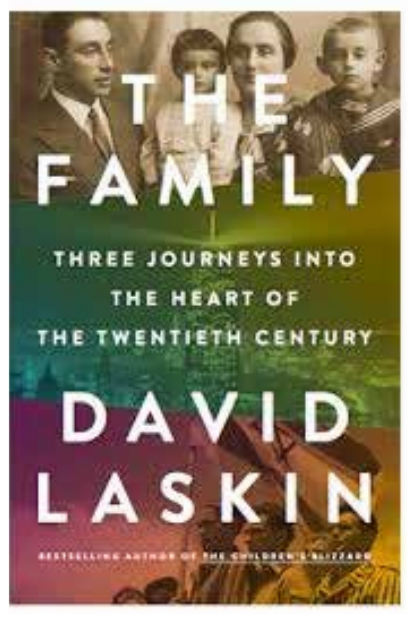
"THE FAMILY: THREE JOURNEYS INTO THE HEART OF THE 20TH CENTURY" IS BOOK GROUP'S NOVEMBER SELECTION

Please join us as Dr. Allan Katcher facilitates the Book Group's discussion of David Laskin's highly acclaimed portrait of his family, *Three Journeys into the Heart of the 20th Century*, on Thursday, November 13.

Laskin conveniently provides a family tree to assist readers as they trace the far-flung journeys taken by the descendants of his maternal great great great grandparents, Shimon Dov Hakohen and Beyle Shapiro.

As Laskin explains: "The three branches of my mother's family endured and enacted the great Jewish upheavals of the twentieth century — mass immigration to the United States, the founding of Israel, and the Shoah. My grandfather and his first cousins fought in two world wars, ran two successful businesses, copied Torah scrolls,

planted citrus groves in Palestine, lived in a mansion by the sea on Long Island, and watched tanks draped in swastikas grind through the boulevards of Vilna. One family — three fates. History made and broke my family in the twentieth century."



Book Group meetings take place in the Library/Chapel. Refreshments are available at 7:00 p.m. and the discussion begins promptly at 7:30 p.m. A \$5 donation per person is requested.

Phyllis & Hal Bass

5. Men of TAS (**MoTAS**) hands-on repairs to the ECEC facilities
6. Yard work for **ECEC landscaping**
7. **Sisterhood** knitting and crocheting prostheses for breast cancer patients
8. **Operation Gratitude** creative card making and letter writing

Speakers

All Sessions held in the Sanctuary

Organization/ Presenter	Topic	Time
Dina Garcia	Disability Rights - A Personal Journey	9:30 a.m.
Samantha & Shawn	"Back off Bully" to End Bullying	10:00 a.m.
Rabbi Jonathan Klein	Reform California -Congregations Unite to take Legislative Action	10:30 a.m.
Rhonda Mayer & Loren Lieb	Brady Campaign Against Gun Violence	11:00 a.m.

Itinerary	Location	Time
Grade Level Activities	Classrooms	9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

(or as specified below)

- Tikkun Olam* Lesson, plus:
- K) Card-making for TAS members from Caring Community
 - 1st) Cookie-making for LAFD/LAPD
 - 2nd) Toiletry Kit making for L.A. Family Housing
 - 3rd) Card decorating for Jewish Home residents
 - 4th) Purim cards for Jewish soldiers; Operation Gratitude letters
 - 5th) Candy sorting for Frontline Foundation
 - 6th) Turkey Box decorating and assembly for L.A. County Dept. of Child and Family Services
 - 7th) Day Care tent decorating for refugee children in Darfur for JWW

Special Musical Performances

1. Opening Assembly in the Sanctuary with our kids choirs - 9:15 a.m.
2. Concert with Robbo & 3rd graders Jewish Home - Afternoon
3. Adult Choir with Cantor Roher Aegis of Granada Hills - Afternoon

COLLECTION ITEMS NEEDED

Turkey Box Items

Turkey Boxes for Thanksgiving dinner to help families through L.A. Dept. of Child and Family Services.

Canned: Veggies, Yams, Cranberry Sauce, Olives, Turkey Gravy, Pumpkin Pie Filling (15 oz.), Evaporated Milk (12 oz.)

Boxed: Mashed Potatoes, Cornbread Mix, Stuffing Mix, Pie Crust Mix

Other: Aluminum Pie Tins, Turkey Gravy packets

Toiletry Kit Items

Toiletry Kits for formerly homeless families through L.A. Family Housing.

Bars of Soap, Shampoo, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Toilet Paper, Boxes of Ziplock Bags (1 gallon sized), Baby Wipes, Baby Powder, Baby Lotion

All personal care items welcome (no razors)

Clothing

Clothing for families in need through MEND.

Gently used clothing; Boys, Girls, Men, Women, and Shoes for Infants

School Supplies

Tools for school supplies for needy children through Jewish Family Service.

Colored Pencils, Broad Line Markers, Highlighter Pens, #2 Lead Pencils, Pink Erasers, Crayon Boxes (24 Count), Notebook Paper, Glue Sticks, Ink Pens (Red & Blue), Spiral Notebooks, Rulers, Scissors, Pocket Folders

Halloween Candy

Halloween candy for skid row residents through Frontline Foundation. Please be sure it is wrapped.

Comfort Items

Comfort items for U.S. Soldiers through Operation Gratitude.

Beanie Babies, Webkinz, or other Small Plush Toys (6" or smaller), New Socks (black, brown, green, or tan – not white)

Coupons

Coupons and coupon books for Military families overseas.

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Manufacturer coupons only.

Coupon Books and from Women's Magazines (leave in mail room or bring with you on Mitzvah Day).

[Birthday Party Items](#)

Birthday parties for underprivileged children through "On the Day You Were Born" (TASTY-sponsored collection).

Toys, Sports Equipment, Preschool Age Books, Rolled Wrapping Paper, Clothing, Shoes

[Off-Site Activities](#)

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2014

TreePeople - Planting in Arleta or Santa Monica Mountains (Calabasas). Help rescue a park in Arleta from drought by deep watering. Beautify local neighborhoods or restore a location in the Santa Monica Mountains.

- To sign up for the Arleta event, [click here](#). Event is from 9:00 a.m. to noon.
- To sign up for the Santa Monica Mountain event in Calabasas, [click here](#). Event is from 8:30 a.m. to noon.

MEND "Super Saturday" - help with interviews of Valley families for participation in the holiday gift program. For more information or to register, [click here](#).

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2014

CROP Walk- 5K interfaith walk to end hunger, starting at Northridge United Methodist Church at 1:30 p.m.

[Click here to register](#).

REMEMBER, DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS AT 2:00AM ON NOVEMBER 2 – TURN BACK YOUR CLOCKS, GET AN EXTRA HOUR OF SLEEP, AND THEN JOIN US AT TAS!



**STOP BY THE TEMPLE JUDAICA SHOP,
BROUGHT TO YOU BY SISTERHOOD,
AND VIEW OUR LATEST TREASURES!
HANUKKAH BEGINS DEC. 16.**

See our wonderful selection of holiday items to enhance your celebrations. Throughout the year we carry a versatile collection of Judaica -- jewelry, tallits, kippahs, mezuzahs, yads, candleholders, yahrzeit memorials, cards for every occasion and more!

We are open during Shabbat evening onegs,
on Sundays from 9 am to 11:45 am and Wednesdays 10 am - Noon.

Special appointments? With pleasure,
Laraine Miller at (818) 993-0796 or Linda Sculler at (818) 701-7117.

Credit cards, checks and cash accepted.
Shop proceeds help fund the many Sisterhood projects and services provided to the temple.

MEN OF TEMPLE AHAVAT SHALOM (MoTAS)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

“T-A-G for TAS”

When I was in my teens, I was a member of the youth group TAG at Wilshire Boulevard Temple. TAG stood for Torah-Avodah-Gem'lut Chasadim. You probably recognize this phrase if you're familiar with the song Al Shelosha D'varim, derived from Pirke Avot 1:2: Upon three things the world stands: Upon Torah, Upon service, and Upon acts of loving kindness.

In thinking about MoTAS and its role in the congregation, we've been a bit unbalanced with respect to T-A-G. We've had Torah in our monthly D'var Torahs, in our MoTAS Shabbat (coming in January), and our Men's Seder. We've had Gem'lut Chasadim in the financial support we provide to congregational activities. But our service has been more limited to building the Sukkah and providing food service at events.

This year, MoTAS is leveling things out. We're joining with the rest of the congregation in participating in Mitzvah Day on the first Sunday in November. We're going to be “Jews with Tools for the Schools”, as the recent ECEC clean-up demonstrated that there are a number of simple repairs we can make around our school facilities to make them even safer, more functional and operate efficiently.

But that's not all: We're already planning to participate in the Sundays of Service in April 2015, working with the Social Action Committee and Food Forward to pick fruit from trees for the community.

The world stands on three things: Torah, Service and Good Deeds. We invite you to participate with MoTAS in standing strong in these areas.

Note: These commentaries are first posted as a featured entry on the MoTAS Website, www.tasnorthridge-motas.org; they are then shared in the Menorah the month after they are posted. You're invited to discuss this article at <http://wp.tasnorthridge-motas.org/2014/09/26/t-a-g-for-t-a-s-2/>.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

MITZVAH DAY

On Sunday, November 2nd join MoTAS (and the rest of the congregation) as we kick-off the 2014 Mitzvah Day. There is information on Mitzvah Day in the Social Action article, which I won't repeat here. What I will talk about is what MoTAS is doing: “Jews with Tools for the Schools”. We'll be addressing a number of maintenance and repair items in our religious school facilities – primarily painting and light maintenance.



OCTOBER SPEAKER



On Sunday, November 9th at 8:45 AM, join the Men of TAS in Activity Center 3/4 for a scrumptious breakfast typically consisting of bagels, lox, eggs, cookies, fruit, juice, and coffee/tea (donations appreciated). Our normal monthly meeting (d'var torah, introductions, and a review of upcoming activities), starts at 9:00 AM, followed by our speaker. This month Dr. Allan Katcher will be speaking on “*Managing Your Strengths*.”

Have you ever wondered why you're successful in some situations and not in others? In this presentation you will learn how to confirm and capitalize on your own personal strengths. Using The Life Orientation Method you will identify which of the four major life orientations characterize your way of coping with ordinary and stressful conditions. You will also learn about the strength-weakness paradox that demonstrates the inter-relationship between strengths and weaknesses. The presentation will also provide six basic strategies for making you more effective in dealing with people and helping them to deal effectively with you. Everyone will receive a complimentary copy of a book to further enrich your understanding.

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Dr. Allan Katcher has been a consultant for many of the Fortune 500 companies. He has lectured and conducted seminars in more than 26 countries. He has a PhD in psychology from UC Berkeley, and has taught there, at Brooklyn College, Cal Tech, UCLA and the University of Washington. He is the author of books both in English and Portuguese and written many articles on The LIFO Method (which he co-developed) and a variety of business applications. LIFO seminars have been given to more than 10,000,000 people around the world. His major interests are in coaching, managing change, self-concepts and team-building. He is also an ardent photographer. Prior to work on The LIFO Method, he was manager of executive development for Douglas Aircraft Company, head of management development for System Development Corporation and a human factors scientist at The RAND Corporation. He is married to Gloria Katcher and is a member of Temple Ahavat Shalom.



your MoTAS friends and families? We'll pick a couple of movies and coordinate getting together to see them, and then go to a local Chinese restaurant for dinner.

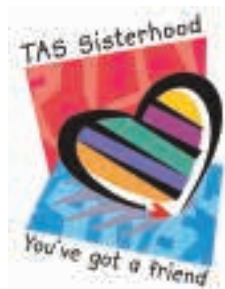
RECENT ACTIVITIES

SUKKAH BUILDING

On the heels of the closing of the gates on Yom Kippur, the Men of Temple Ahavat Shalom got together on Sunday, October 5 to build the TAS Sukkah. Thank you to the following volunteers for joining us that morning: Scott Yollis, Mike Thornhill, Daniel Faigin, Steven Zonis, Larry Hoffman, Roger Lowe, Mike Rayfield, Steven Rosen, David Kramer, Brian Hatkoff, Ben Tenn, Bob Levine, Eric Lowe, Ali Lowe, Kathy Pullman, Steve Zidell, Dave Friedman, Steve Berlin, Joe Blachman, Barry Mann, Howard Miller, and Rabbi Lutz and Zoey. There is a full gallery of pictures online at <http://www.tasnorthridge.org/men-of-tas-sukkah-building-20145775/> (go to the temple website, and select About | Photo Archives). Here are a few of the best:



HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE



Sisterhood will be holding their Holiday Boutique on Sunday, November 23rd; more details are in the Sisterhood article. MoTAS traditionally helps Sisterhood with the food service. We need volunteers to help us do this; you can sign up at <http://motascybermaven.eventbee.com/event?eid=124624375>.

DECEMBER ACTIVITIES

As a teaser, here are some activities to look forward to in December:

- Sunday, December 14 at 8:45 AM. Our December meeting will feature a Judaica show and tell. Every temple member I visit has a lovely Judaica collection. This is your opportunity to tell the story behind one or two pieces: Where did you get it, and why is it meaningful to you. Let's share our stories.
- Sunday, December 21 at 6:00 PM. Our December Men-Only Hangout will have a Chanukah theme. We will cook our favorite greasy Chanukah food and discuss our monthly topic (or not).
- Thursday, December 25, Time TBD. What do Jews do on Christmas? For many, the tradition is to go to a movie and have Chinese food. Why not do this with

OCTOBER SPEAKERS MEETING

Our October speaker was our own Aaron Solomon on how the temple operates. We had a very interesting discussion about the Temple's organizational structure, how the finances flow and how everyone is working together as a mutually supportive whole to address the



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temple's mission: to provide a caring and joyful community, with diverse opportunities to discover personal meaning through enriching and sanctifying our relationships (k'hillah kedosha), exploring our connections with the Divine (brit), celebrating Jewish Life and Torah (talmud Torah), and being a force for healing and justice in our world (tikkun olam). Everyone came away with a better understanding of Temple Ahavat Shalom and its staff.

MOTAS CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT

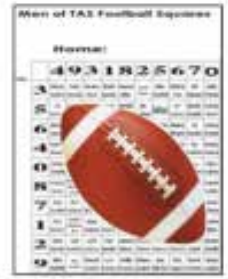
As I write this we're about a week away from the Golf Tournament; as you read it, the tournament will have just happened. We'll have a full write-up in the December Menorah, but all indications are that the event will be loads of fun and very successful. When you stop by the Temple, pick up a copy of the Calendar/Ad Book that the Golf Tournament produced; you'll find it a handy reference of all congregational activities. You can find a copy online at <https://www.copy.com/s/37j1d0NsJjhE7jot>.



SPORTS SQUARES

Our sports squares program is continuing with new

winners every week. You can find a list of the winners, and a description of the program, at <http://squares.tasnorthridge-motas.org/>.



At the Golf Tournament, it was announced that registration was open for the 2015 Super Bowl Squares. More information, including a printable registration form and a link to on-line registration, is at the link above.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Menorah can't contain all that MoTAS is doing! The easiest way to keep up to date with MoTAS is to read our weekly email newsletter, which is also posted on the MoTAS Website at www.tasnorthridge-motas.org. On the website you can find information on all our activities, sign up forms, biographies of MoTAS members, and records from MoTAS executive board meetings. We also have a Facebook group at www.facebook.com/groups/tas.motas that you can join. The best way to learn about us, however, is to come to a MoTAS event or a TAS Shabbat, introduce yourself to anyone with a MoTAS nametag, and participate. We want to build a relationship with you.

HAVE YOU EVER BEEN BULLIED AND WANT TO HELP DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT?

Back Off Bully is the perfect program for you. Back Off Bully was founded by two students who were both victims of bullying. Samantha is a 7th grade student and Shawn is a 12th grade student. Samantha is preparing for her Bat Mitzvah in June, and has created Back Off Bully for her Mitzvah project. Back Off Bully is an organization that is working to end the bullying epidemic and give self-confidence to those affected by it. Back Off Bully has partnered with Happy House, a non-profit organization founded by Nancy Cartwright, who is the voice of Bart Simpson, from the TV show "The Simpsons." Make sure to come to Mitzvah Day on November 2nd at TAS, for information on Back Off Bully and to buy a Back Off Bully bracelet

for \$2 and wear it proudly! For more information visit <http://backoffbully.org>.



ECEC

We have had an extremely busy month at the ECEC. For Rosh Hashanah, our preschoolers not only learned all about the new year, but they also counted and cooked with apples and different types of honey. Animaly, a company that connects nature with Jewish holidays, brought bees to school so that the children could observe the activities of bees.

The children then learned that “sorry” is one of the hardest words to say. They are, for the most part, too young to understand empathy and to actually feel regret, but hopefully, this is the start of learning that trait.

Sukkot and Simchat Torah brought fruit and vegetables and plenty more cooking to the classrooms. Edible sukkahs were a favorite!

Of course we had our own Great American Shake Out here at ECEC. We were unable to participate in the actual city wide Shake Out event, due to school closing for Simchat Torah, but we practiced the day before and dropped and covered, and then evacuated the building when we got the all clear. We pray that we are never in a position to have to implement our training in the “real world.”

Our moms had a wonderful Rosh Chodesh night out at Stone Fire Grill. Don't worry; we did not forget the dads. They have a different event planned for November 9. These events allow our parents to get to know one another in an environment without children and we hope that everyone can attend as many of these events as possible.

This year, we are offering vision screening to our children. The California Elks Association has very kindly offered to sponsor having our ECEC children checked to see whether any one may need additional screening. Vision problems may lead to numerous other developmental and learning

issues and so diagnosing this at an early age is imperative.

Remember our next Bim Bam Bimah is on November 14. This month the Monkeys will be hosting the dinner afterwards. We look forward to seeing you all.

Now we are looking forward to possibly having some cooler weather and preparing for Thanksgiving. Our children will help prepare a delicious feast and parents will be invited to join us. They will dress up in pilgrim and Native American costumes made at school and we will have a small songfest. This should be an exciting week for all of us.

Wishing you all a Happy Thanksgiving and a wonderful weekend with friends and family.

L'Shalom,

***Tessa Cramer,
ECEC Director***



SPOTLIGHT ON SISTERHOOD

MEMBERSHIP



Please join Sisterhood and help support TAS. Dues are \$45 for members, \$72 for sponsors and \$118 for patrons. If you would like more information, please contact Cheryl Frumes at tas.cherylf@gmail.com or Margaret Chroman at Margaret@chroman.com

PROGRAMS

On Sunday, November 16, 2014, 10 a.m. in the Social Hall we will have our phenomenal Paid Up Membership event. Please note the "PAID UP" part. Join us for a catered brunch and a presentation by comedian Stephanie Blum, an "apathetic mom-next-door whose trademark laziness and procrastination is sarcastic, hilarious and universally adored by audiences." Ben Stein calls her "a comic genius." This event is free, but you must be a Sisterhood member to attend. If you have not joined yet and want to come to this event, just RSVP that you are coming and bring your check that day. We'd love to have you as a member.

We are ordering a catered lunch so be sure to let us know you'll be joining us.

RSVP Margaret Chroman (818) 577-5645 or Margaret@chroman.com

GOODWILL TRUCK

Start 5775 with clean closets-- contribute your cast-off clothes and raise cash to support Sisterhood and the Temple! Goodwill is coming to our Temple on Sunday, November 23. You get a tax deduction, and Sisterhood gets cash from Goodwill. They will accept clothing, shoes, accessories, books, CDs, DVDs, records, videos, household items and all electronics (anything with a cord, working or not.) Bring your discards to the Temple on Sunday, November 23, and then shop the boutique for gifts or to fill your now-empty shelves. Can't make it to the Temple on the 23rd? Call Jackie Zev at (818) 832-9099, and she will pick up your donation. Invite your friends, your co-workers and your relatives to clear their clutter - what a win-win for you, them and the Temple!



HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Please join us at the Holiday Boutique on Sunday, November 23 from 10:00 am-3:00 pm. The Temple will be filled with

vendors with all sorts of wonderful items to choose for your holiday gift and personal needs. Bring your gift lists. Don't forget your kids' teachers, beauty professionals, office gift exchange, babysitter and all your loved ones. This year's vendors will also include a few with emergency preparedness items to help you start, add to, or complete your emergency kits. Once again, lunch will be offered by The Men of TAS followed by the bake sale for a treat.

SAVE THE DATE:

Thursday, December 18, 2014 - 7:00 p.m. Hanukkah - Latkes and Gift Exchange

Thursday, January 15, 2015 - 7:00 pm Genealogy

DREAMS TO REALITY: PLANNING THE NEXT 100 YEARS

The above theme of the Women of Reform Judaism Pacific District Convention, which was held October 23-26 in Pasadena California, shares our story of years devoted to bringing Reform Jewish women together. We are committed to sharing this vision in the future.



Our Sisterhood attended the conference--16 women strong! Highlights included our Sisterhood women Erika Barnathan and Kathy Barker, writing the Friday night Shabbat service. Rabbi Shawna Brynjegard-Bialik and Cantor Emerita Patti Linsky led this beautiful service for over 180 women. Cantor Linsky led a wonderful song



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session after dinner that evening.

Sara Charney, WRJ Vice President, Programs and Education, was our invited guest. She led workshops and spent many hours working with the Sisterhoods of the Pacific District.

Dr. Madelyn Katz, Associate Dean HUC-JIR, was our Scholar-In-Residence. Her keynote address, "Leadership in the 21st Century" inspired all of the attendees. Madelyn and her husband are members of Temple Ahavat Shalom.

On Saturday night Rabbi Barry Lutz installed the new Women of Reform Judaism Pacific District Board which included Phyllis Bigelson as President and Erika Barnathan as an Area Director. Mazel Tov to our Sisterhood women!

EDUCATION

Did your child attend a Jewish camp or go on a trip to Israel this past year? Did you know that every year our Sisterhood and the Men of TAS give camperships to help support these activities? If you have any questions, contact Roseanna Sculler at rsculler@aol.com, (818) 886-7320 or Eileen Roseman at scoobydoodle1@mac.com, (818) 807-3917 Education Co Vice Presidents.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MAH JONGG

Don't miss out on our monthly mah jongg games. We play on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 6:15



p.m. at the Temple. We always have a teacher present to give lessons, but you can't learn if you don't show up. Every level of play is accommodated. There is a \$5 donation to play. Contact Anita Hoch for more information at anitapearl47@gmail.com.

CELEBRATE A SIMCHA



Do you want to honor a special birthday, anniversary, baby naming or an auf ruf? How about honoring a special someone or accomplishment? Why not co-sponsor a Friday Night oneg? For a \$125 donation to TAS Sisterhood, your name and the reason for the simcha will be included in the Shabbat Shalom pamphlet. Contact Cindy Spoon in the Temple office at (818) 360-2258 if you have any questions.

Sisterhood Board meetings are now on the First Tuesday of each month at the Temple from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. If you would like to attend, please contact me at (818) 416-3637 or at tas.sues@gmail.com.

Sue Sculler
Temple Ahavat Shalom Sisterhood
President



THE 2015 MAH JONGG CARDS ARE NOW ON SALE THROUGH SISTERHOOD.



If you would like to purchase one or more in either regular or large size please find the order form attached, online or in the Temple foyer. For every card that is sold Sisterhood makes a minimum of \$1.25 (and a bonus for selling over 200 cards) and the cards cost you no more than if you bought straight from The Mah Jongg League. Last year you helped Sisterhood raise over \$800.00. That's a lot of cards and help for the Temple.

Any questions please email Robyn Blachman at blachmanj@yahoo.com or call at (818) 832-7874.



TWO SCORE AND TEN YEARS AGO

MAX GOTTESMAN (PAST PRESIDENT)

I was talking to a congregant the other day about the early history of the temple. She heard that TAS was started about 50 years ago by a small group of Porter Ranch residents who realized the need for a Reform temple in the Northridge area. They bought the land, hired an architect and erected the sanctuary and school buildings we have today. Since this is wrong, I thought I should share the true story since I was involved from the inception, and I am one of only seven living founding members.

The first Reform temple in area was the North Valley Reform Temple (NVRT) formed in the fall of 1961 when a number of members of Temple Beth Torah, located in the Arleta/Pacoima area, decided to form a new temple partially based on the fact that young Jewish families were moving from the Arleta/Pacoima area to the Northridge area. In the early 1960s there were now two temples. North Valley Reform Temple, which held services and used the classrooms at the Methodist Church on Reseda Boulevard and Temple Beth Torah who continued to hold services and classes at their temple in Arleta.

Initially, North Valley had student rabbis, but as membership increased, they hired a full time rabbi, cantor and education director. In the fall of 1964, the officers of North Valley heard rumors that Temple Beth Torah was thinking of selling their building and moving to the Northridge area. It was also rumored that Beth Torah might want to merge with North Valley. Many members were former members of Beth Torah and still had “issues” with their former temple, so the informal proposal was rejected.

In early 1965 rumors of an intended move by Beth Torah were increasing so much so that the local office of the Reform movement, then known as the Pacific Southwest Council of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, became involved. At that time our Rabbi Emeritus Solomon Kleinman was the Director of the Pacific Southwest Council.

According to Rabbi Kleinman, two temples in the same area competing with each other for membership was not a good idea. Forming one larger temple was by far the better alternative. Several joint meetings were held with the board members of each temple. After lengthy discussions, objections were overcome and it was decided that a merger of the two temples would be the best solution. The board of trustees of each temple selected eight members to serve on a joint committee and prepare a new constitution for the new temple. This constitution was to be submitted to each temple by the end of August for ratification.

At our first meeting I was named Chairman of the committee and President of the new temple, pending approval by a vote of both congregations. We endured three weeks of arguing over many issues, mostly how “Reform” the new temple would be. Beth Torah leaned toward Conservative while North Valley was more Reform.

After much discussion and planning on how the new temple was to be structured, we had agreed on everything except for the name of the new temple. We had left that until last. Beth Torah members of the committee wanted the name to include the word “Beth” or “Torah.” North Valley members obviously wanted the words “North Valley.” After considering and rejecting several dozen names, someone said, “I’m tired. I’d love a little peace.” Someone else asked Rabbi Paskow, who attended many of the committee meetings, “What is the Hebrew word for “love?” He answered, “ahavah.” We already knew the Hebrew word for peace, thus the name Ahavat Shalom: lovers of peace. We had agreed on a name. The committee’s work was done. At the end of August both congregations ratified the constitution and a new temple was born.

To be continued.





PURCHASE YOUR 2015
MAH JONGG CARD and HELP SUPPORT THE
TEMPLE AHAVAT SHALOM SISTERHOOD

\$8 standard card-\$9 large card

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/St/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

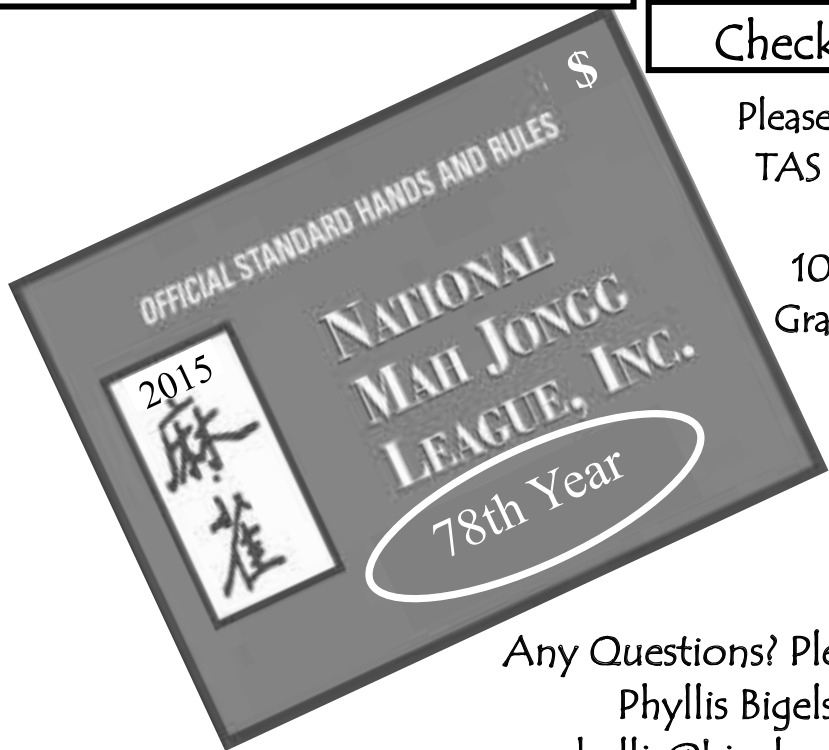
If payment(s) is for more
than one person
PLEASE include ALL
names and addresses

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Order Deadline:
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Any Questions? Please Contact
Phyllis Bigelson at
phyllis@bigelsoncpa.com



**SUKKOT WITH DAN
NICHOLS
OCTOBER 8, 2014**

TAS SOS (SUNDAYS OF SERVICE)

HARVEST FOOD - FIGHT HUNGER - BUILD COMMUNITY



That's **Food Forward's mission:** to **reconnect people with people – through food –** by bringing together volunteers and neighbors to share in the gleaning and distributing of locally grown food from private homes and public spaces which is then distributed to local food pantries and organizations serving those in need.

This December, TAS will again be teaming up with **Food Forward** to join this incredible organization in its dedicated effort to nourish the needy in our own community. And it's wonderful to volunteer with Food Forward since **100%** of the harvested fruit and vegetables are donated to local food pantries across Southern California, including our social action partners SOVA and MEND.

Since forming in 2009, Food Forward has harvested over 1.25 million pounds of fruit from its Backyard Harvest Program, all of which has fed the hungry. That impressive number has more than quadrupled – to over 5.4 million pounds of food recovered, altogether – through the successful launch of its Wholesale Market Recovery Program earlier this year. Let's celebrate this holiday season by picking fruit for others in need. You'll be so glad you did!

- WHO:** Everyone of all ages can join in the harvesting fun!
- WHAT:** A local backyard fruit pick
- WHERE:** Designated residence in the NW San Fernando Valley
- WHY:** To supply our local food pantries with fresh fruit to nourish others in need in our community
- WHEN:** Sunday, December 14, 2014
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- HOW:** Roll up your sleeves, grab your gloves, and start pickin'!
- RSVP:** To TAS SOS Coordinator, Shellie Turer at (818) 993-2255, or via e-mail at: PetsRPeopleToo@att.net

Space is limited to 15-20 volunteers, so sign up now!



DEAR TAS,

I want to send thanks to a number of people in the congregation who have reached out to us over these last months as Paul and I have had our health challenges:

...to Joan Krimston and the Caring Community who have maintained contact with us, checking in regularly, visiting, sending goodies, making us feel that people really care about us. Paul enjoyed visiting with Barry Krowne, who brought the High Holy Day bag from the Caring Community.

...to Diane Levine who called and chatted and wished us a good year on behalf of the TAS Board.

...to Sharon Janis for providing excellent handicap accessible seating for us at services.

We have been TAS members for 45 years, and TAS continues to enrich our lives.

Warmly,
Elinor Christian

Thank you!

"A SWEET YEAR" AT THE JEWISH HOME

On Sunday October 12th, seven TAS members from just two families volunteered as Sunday Concert Companions at the Jewish Home. They assisted many elderly residents at Grancell Village by wheeling and walking them to the synagogue to attend their weekly Sunday concert. These "Sundays of Service" volunteers gave of their time and love to start the New Year out "sweetly" for others.

A heartfelt "thanks" goes to the wonderful **Schachter** family: **Rhonda, Steve, Rachel,** and **Jessica**, and to my two terrific younger kids: **Shane** and **Nicole Turer**.

"How beautiful a day can be when kindness touches it!"
~ George Elliston

Shellie Turer, TAS SOS Coordinator



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GENEROUS GIFTS

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Howard and Beth Bidna in memory of David Garfinkel
“Thank you for opening your doors to the community for Yizkor, the service was lovely!” from Ronald and Marlene Sostman

Fran and Alan Lapidés to Aaron Solomon, “Thank you for everything!”

AVODAH FUND

Wilbur and Veronica Cohn in honor of Sara Cohn, Elana Cohn and Craig Ebersold

CARING COMMUNITY FUND

With appreciation for High Holiday Honors, Abbey Klein
Fran Krimston for the privilege of reading “Jonah” on Yom Kippur afternoon
Fran Krimston in honor of Abbey Klein’s retirement from Pierce College

EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

Mel and Les Birken to Anita Hoch, with thanks for your High Holy Day Ambassador work

LIBRARY FUND

Marvin and Marilyn Alkin in honor of Yizkor Service on Yom Kippur

RABBI’S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In memory of parents, Sonia and Aron Bogorad and Berka Dein
Sandy and Eric Lertzman in honor of Rabbi Shawna for the Caring Committee Aliyah

VI AND DAVID LIEBER MEMORIAL MUSIC FUND

Fran Krimston in honor of Roni Faccini’s 70th birthday
Fran Krimston in honor of Rhonda Mayer’s special birthday
Fran Krimston in honor of Marcia Strauss’ special birthday

Yahrzeits

Ronnie Gelernter in memory of Eva Gross
Ronnie Gelernter in memory of William Gross
Anita and Steven Hoch in memory of Gussie Yoss
Anita and Steven Hoch in memory of Samuel Billy Yoss
Nick and Rosie Mandel in memory of Isaac Presburger
Nick and Rosie Mandel in memory of Belina Eskenazi
Nick and Rosie Mandel in memory of Esther Presburger
Nick and Rosie Mandel in memory of Jose Gniazardowitz
Terry and Bruce Hatkoff in memory of Samuel Sisskin
Terry and Bruce Hatkoff in memory of Ann Stark
Joe and Linda Sculler in memory of Bob Eisenman
Joe and Linda Sculler in memory of Simon Sculler
Mindy and David Free in memory of Fannie Plutsky
Harriet and Joel Feinstein in memory of Eva Pandrowitz
Kay, Marshall, Justin, Evan and Rod Silverman in memory of Anne Cohen
Max and Ruth Lupul in memory of Erika Fokschaner
Max and Ruth Lupul in memory of Sara Fokschaner
Max and Ruth Lupul in memory of Israel Werner
Marvin and Rochelle Skolnick in memory of Albert Skolnick
Lawrence and Rosalind Porton in memory of Cora Porton
Steven and Elaine Rosenfield in memory of Frances Rosenfield
Arthur and Mary Hirsch in memory of Gertrude Asch
Bice and Gordon Recht in memory of Ciro Scudieri
Bice and Gordon Recht in memory of Maria Scudieri
Edward Bubar, Candy Bubar and Andi Brauer in memory of Eleanor Michaels
Harriet and Wayne Long in memory of Leo Bernstein
Edward and Fran Handler in memory of Stanley Handler

Laura Weissbar in memory of Manuel Green
Sue Miller, Daryn Pakcyk and The Robin Family in memory of Jacqueline Wolff
Gordon and Karen Silverstein in memory of Elwin Henry Silverstein
Anita and Steven Hoch in memory of Rose Yoss
Gloria and Allan Katcher in memory of Samuel Smola
Sheila Reback in memory of Clay Yancy
Anita and Steven Hoch in memory of Tom Lamont
Anita and Steven Hoch in memory of Harry Yoss
Anita and Steven Hoch in memory of Kenny Yoss
Hildie Gold in memory of William Mallet
Paul and Elinor Christian in memory of Arlene Sarison
Karen and Gordon Silverstein in memory of Ruth Levinson
Rhonda and Steven Schachter in memory of Sidney Davidson
Lynda and Herb Folkman in memory of Joel Herskowitz
Leonard and Judy Soloff in memory of Anne Soloff
Leonard and Judy Soloff in memory of Bernard Faye
Leonard and Judy Soloff in memory of Elinor Faye
Daryn Pakcyk and Sue Miller in memory of Mildred Pakcyk
Marvin and Rochelle Skolnick in memory of William Skolnick
Marvin and Rochelle Skolnick in memory of Sarah Skolnick

*Thank you all for your
generous donations!*



SIMCHAT TORAH
OCTOBER 15, 2014





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Condolences

Joanne Tilner and family on the death of her uncle,
Fred Hauswirth

Debra Weiss and family on the death of her brother,
Daniel Srery

Scott Gluck and family on the death of his mother,
Helene Gluck

May their memory be a blessing



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For more information call:

Fran Krimston

Family Advisor and Liaison to Temple Ahavat Shalom

310.641.0707 x 272

fran@hillsideMemorial.org



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NOVEMBER 2014 AT TEMPLE AHAVAT SHALOM

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

						1 6:00pm - TASTY Progressive Mystery Dinner - Away 6:00pm - Junior TASTY Havdalah and Movie Night
2 Mitzvah Day at TAS 9:00am - Adult Hebrew	3 9:00am - Council District 12 Community Meeting	4 9:30am - Torah Study 6:30pm - Sisterhood Board Meeting	5 6:00pm - ECEC Dad's Night Out - Away 7:00pm - Synaplex Committee Meeting	6 10:00am - Melton Class 7:00pm - 50th Anniversary Committee Meeting	7 9:15am - ECEC Parent and Me 6:45pm - Synaplex: Lay-led Torah Study 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Service	8 9:00am - Shabbat Morning Yoga 4:45pm - Bar Mitzvah of Kyle Kaplan
9 8:45am - Men of TAS Monthly Meeting 9:00am - Adult Hebrew 9:00am - Adult Ed: iEngage Israel Seminar 9:00am - Caring Community Meeting 11:00am - Facts of Life: Fathers and Sons 1:30pm - Grief Workshop	10	11 Temple Offices and School Closed	12 7:15pm - JNET Meeting	13 10:00am - Melton Class 4:00pm - Adult Intermediate Hebrew 7:00pm - Book Group Meeting 7:30pm - Religious School Parent Board Meeting	14 9:00 am - Free 2 Be 9:15am - ECEC Parent and Me 5:30pm - ECEC Bim Bam Bimah 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Service	15 10:30am - Torah On the Trail 4:45pm - Bar Mitzvah of Jacob Kritzer
16 8:00am - Blood Drive 9:00am - Sisterhood Paid Up Membership Lunch 9:00am - Adult Hebrew 9:00am - iEngage Israel Seminar 11:00am - Facts of Life: Boys	17	18 9:30am - Torah Study 5:30pm - TASTY Food Truck Fundraiser 6:00pm - Adult Ed: TAS Tuesdays	19 7:15pm - TAS Board Meeting	20 10:00am - Melton Class 4:00pm - Adult Intermediate Hebrew 7:00pm - Budget and Finance Committee Meeting 7:00pm - Worship Committee Meeting	21 9:15am - ECEC Parent and Me 6:00pm - Community Shabbat Dinner hosted by Third Grade Aleph 7:00pm - Erev Shabbat Early Service 8:30pm - Synaplex: Lay-led Torah Study	22 10:15am - Bat Mitzvah of Riley Creditor
23 8:30am - Sisterhood Holiday Boutique 9:00am - Adult Hebrew 11:00am - Facts of Life: Boys	24	25	26 No Hebrew School 11:00am - ECEC Thanksgiving Feast (with parents) 6:15pm - Sisterhood Monthly Mah Jongg	27 Thanksgiving Holiday: Temple Offices and School Closed	28 Temple Offices and School Closed 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Service	29
30 No Religious School						

The Menorah is . . .

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