Temple Ahavat Shalom



Northridge, CA

1 Kislev – 2 Tevet, 5777

December 2016

# NORTH VALLEY JEWISH PARTNERSHIP IS CREATED

Temple Ahavat Shalom and Temple Ramat Zion have been neighbors for fifty years. The Conservative and Reform movements share a common history. In fact, the modern Conservative and Reform movements are the result of a split which occurred about a century ago. We have much in common in our view that *Halacha* (Jewish practice) must move with the times. Recognizing this, we have decided that it is about time we engaged in some joint programming to create a stronger North Valley Jewish Community for the next fifty years.

We want to tell you about the first few fruits of our collaboration.

On Sunday, March 12, we will hold a joint Purim Carnival on the TRZ campus. We hope to close White Oak Avenue, adjoining the TRZ campus, to create the biggest and best Purim Carnival in years. We are pleased to announce that representing TAS the 2017 Purim Carnival co-chairs are April Minsky, Brooke Liberman and Andrea Luboff. Further, TAS students will join with TRZ students, prior to the Carnival, in a special program (more details on this coming soon). We hope to invite our other Jewish neighbors to this festive event.

Additionally, Cantor Ken Cohen of TAS has invited Cantor Daniel Eli Friedman of TRZ to be a guest performer at the TAS Cantor's Concert on Saturday, February 4. We have discussed adult education programs, lectures and a variety of other possible programs and events that we hope to share.



Top Left to Right: President of TRZ, Mark Weinstein, Executive VP of TRZ, Barry Greenberg, Cantor Daniel Eli Friedman of TRZ and Rabbi Barry Lutz Seated Left to Right: Fran Krimston, TAS President, Rabbi Ehud Selah of TRZ and Cantor Ken Cohen.

In the meantime, we look forward to hearing your ideas and suggestions for making this a rich and rewarding collaboration for our synagogues and our community.

B'shalom,

Rabbi Barry Lutz, TAS Senior Rabbi Fran Krimston, TAS President Rabbi Ehud Selah, TRZ Senior Rabbi Mark Weinstein, TRZ President

# cartor, corcert

# SAVE THE DATE

for our 2017 Cantor's Concert showcasing CANTOR KEN COHEN with friends



Temple Ahavat Shalom 2/4/2017

**7:30 PM AT TAS** 

Dessert Reception

sharing music you never thought your Cantor would sing!

# MAZEL TOV TO OUR DECEMBER B'NAI MITZVAH FAMILY

December 10, 2016

Howard and Geraldine Sisko and Family on the Bat Mitzvah of Julia Sisko



Temple Ahavat Shalom

SEE PAGE 3 FOR DECEMBER B'NAI MITZVAH SPOTLIGHT





# DECEMBER B'NAI MITZVAH SPOTLIGHT: JULIA SISKO



This is one in a series of articles featuring interviews with the B'nai Mitzvah class of 2016-2017. We hope that you will get to know about our wonderful new Jewish adults, and welcome them into your own family, as part of the extended TAS family we all belong to.

"Soles for Souls" is the apt moniker for Julia Sisko's Bat Mitzvah project, a big part of her Bat Mitzvah experience, which will be celebrated December 10. She is concerned with poverty throughout the world. Julia wants to do something about it, so she is collecting gently worn shoes --- adult's or children's ---- to be donated to a collection center where they will find their way to Africa, Haiti, and other places. Ok...as long as the shoes aren't completely falling apart....Perhaps if your kid's or grandkid's shoes have been outgrown, or they're just not your cup of tea anymore, they're just perfect for the bin that Julia is setting up at the Temple. She says that people who want more information about her project can go to soles4souls. org to learn more.

Her father, Howard, describes her as loving, giving, and caring to family and friends. She takes pride in her academic success, is ambitious and shows initiative around the house. Julia attends Nobel Charter Middle

School and is getting ready for Granada Charter High next year. Her straight-A average so far will no doubt keep her in the forefront of her peers when she arrives.

Julia's favorite school activity is participating in the writing of, and taking photographs for the school yearbook. She is focusing on activities related to the History and English departments, which exposes her to many areas in the school. She likes to write, particularly for her English class, which is her favorite subject.

Julia is the daughter of Howard and Gerri Sisko, and she has two older sisters. The Sisko family has been part of the TAS community for four years, and is seen frequently at Shabbat services. She will be joined at her Bat Mitzvah by out-of-town friends and relatives from places as far away as Florida, New York, Utah, and Arizona. She will also be surrounded by at least 40 young people around her age.

Julia's involvement in Judaism is her participation in BBYO, where she is actively engaged, and learning from the older teens who attend. When not in school, doing homework, or with BBYO, she has participated in many sports, including baseball, soccer, and volleyball. Oh, and of course, preparing for her Bat Mitzvah. She can't thank Cantor Ken enough for all the hard work he has done helping her get ready.

To sum up, Julia is a level-headed teenager (Her 13th birthday is the same day as her Bat Mitzvah, something she thinks is quite cool), she has many varied interests, and is open to explore many options regarding her future. She is very organized, and loves to clean (Maybe she isn't a typical teenager after all!), and shop (Then again, maybe she is....). Outside of a little personal shopping, she intends to put most of whatever gifts she gets into savings for college. Her final comment for this article: "remember Sole's for Souls."





# Men of Temple Ahavat Shalom

# **Dining Does Good**



# Two Guys from Italy

http://www.2guysgranadahills.com/

When: Monday, December 12, 2016

11:00 AM to 9:30 PM

Where: Two Guys from Italy

16915 San Fernando Mission Blvd

(at Balboa, Behind Trader Joes)

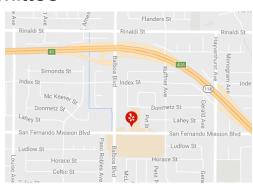
Granada Hills, CA 91344

(818) 360-2292

Benefitting: Men of Temple Ahavat Shalom and

TAS Alumni Committee

Dine at Two Guys's anytime on our selected day (including the lunch buffet), present this flyer when you pay, and Two Guys's will donate 20% back to MoTAS, which will be split with our selected organization.



**Dining Does Good** is a program of MoTAS where we partner with a local restaurant to raise money for both MoTAS and a selected temple organization. When you dine out at our partner restaurant on the event day, the restaurant donates a percentage back to MoTAS, and MoTAS splits that donation 50/50 with our selected TAS organization.



The **Men of Temple Ahavat Shalom (MoTAS)** is an auxiliary of **Temple Ahavat Shalom**, 18200 Rinaldi Place, Northridge, CA 91326 MoTAS Website: <a href="www.tasnorthridge-motas.org">www.tasnorthridge-motas.org</a> TAS Website: <a href="www.tasnorthridge.org">www.tasnorthridge.org</a>







# SPOTLIGHT ON SISTERHOOD

#### MARK YOUR CALFNDAR!

Thursday, Dec. 15	Sisterhood Hanukkah Party and Gift Exchange
Thursday, Jan. 19	Meeting - Climate Change
Sunday, Jan. 22	Pala Casino Trip (Pala Casino)

#### **NOVEMBER EVENTS**

November was full of fun! The paid-up lunch was yummy and the singers were marvelous. The a cappella group who entertained us chose



a nice mix of songs, from nostalgic to modern – some familiar and others new. Their voices were great - they were a real treat. The Holiday Boutique the following weekend was fantastic – our Social Hall was full with fantastic vendors offering visitors everything from clothes to toys to home goods and unique gifts for all. Thanks to everyone who braved the rain and showed up to shop – this was our best year ever! As a bonus, the Goodwill drive filled 10 bins and raised \$500.

# DECEMBER HANUKKAH GIFT EXCHANGE



No need to wait until the December 25 to start eating latkes! Back by popular demand, our traditional Hanukkah gift exchange will be Thursday, December 15 at 7:00 p.m. To

participate, bring a wrapped gift valued at \$15 (no scented items.) Please RSVP by December 8 to Kathy Barker at Kathy@chipsandbits.com and let us know if you are able to make latkes. This event is always a hoot with people "stealing" each other's gifts and trying to decide whether to choose something already unwrapped or to try one of the wrapped items.

# JANUARY CLIMATE CHANGE PRESENTATION AND MORE

In January, we have another timely presentation—climate change. The Sierra Club will visit Ahavat Shalom on

Thursday, January 19 (7:00 p.m.) and educate us on this important and timely topic. Put this date on your calendar, because this meeting will definitely be worth attending. Admission is free for Sisterhood members and Friends of Sisterhood. We request a \$5 donation from guests.



Our popular Pala Casino trip is **Sunday, January 22**, but at last report the bus is full and there is a waiting list. You can contact Anita Hoch at (818) 360-0160 to see if there have been cancellations.

#### THANK YOU, MOTAS!



At the Holiday Boutique, the Men of TAS showed yet again how handy they are by fixing Sisterhood's broken coffeepot. We are very grateful to

MoTAS for taking care of this problem for us! We also appreciate that they washed the coffeepots and provided food at rock bottom prices during the Holiday Boutique for our vendors, volunteers and shoppers. Thank you MoTAS for helping to make this day a real success.

#### **WRJ-PD CONVENTION**

The Women of Reform Judaism, Pacific District (WRJ-PD) convention was the first week in November and it was amazing. Six women from our Sisterhood went:







Jackie Zev, Ellen Pollack, Erika Barnathan, Alyce Schultz-Rozsa, and, of course, Phyllis Biegelson, who was ending her term in office as WRJ-PD President.

The convention was filled with interesting speeches and workshops. We heard about the first woman rabbi. We heard from Shelley Berkley, a retired congresswoman, who talked of her days in Congress. We heard from WRJ's Julia Weinstein who spoke about WRJ's work with the UN. We heard from Rachel Slaton, the Six Points Sports Camp Associate Director. We heard from two NFTY teens, Samantha and Joey, who talked about their journeys to involvement in Jewish life and how NFTY has made a difference in their lives. We heard from Rabbi Jessica Oleon Kirschner from the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism ("the RAC".)

The cream of the crop was Blair Marks, the President of WRJ (International). She spoke several times during the weekend, and we could not get enough of her. She spoke about the many, many ways that WRJ programs and actions make a difference in society. The list includes: advocacy in Washington on issues such as immigration, gay rights, distracted driving, and pay equity; programs to create caring communities, such as Chai Mitzvah, Lilith Salons, and PJ Library partnerships; assistance for Sisterhoods in the form of WRJ Consultants, a Speaker's Bureau, and calls from WRJ board members; money for incubator grants; support for training new rabbis; Leadership training; support for youth, both through supporting NFTY and by supporting Jewish camps. And that's not all. Over and over we listened to her words and thought, "WRJ does so much. I am so proud to be a part of WRJ."

Not only were the speakers incredible, but the women attending the convention were impressive too. It was humbling to meet one amazing women after another. WRJ and WRJ-PD conventions are worth attending, just for the caliber of women in workshops, at meals and at services. The incredible workshops, speakers and performances are just a bonus!

We all had a great time and look forward to our next experience. We hope you join us!

#### **CAMPERSHIPS**



Did you have a child who attended a Jewish camp, or went on a trip to Israel this past year? Did you know that every year our

Sisterhood and the Men of TAS provide camperships/ scholarships to help support these activities? In order to receive a campership, your child must submit an application and volunteer five hours for Sisterhood or the Men of TAS prior to the March deadline. Giving your child the experience of Jewish camp has been proven one of the best ways to ensure that they continue to live a Jewish life into adulthood, and we are here to support your efforts. Contact Laura Silverman at laurasilver818@aol.com or (818) 895-1789 for more information.

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT MAH JONGG

Don't know how to play? Want to learn? Come to our monthly Mah Jongg game. We play on the fourth



Wednesday of every month at 6:15 p.m. at Ahavat Shalom. We always have a teacher there to give lessons, but you can't learn if you don't show up! Every level of play is accommodated. Don't miss out. There is a \$5 donation to play. Contact Anita Hoch for more information at anitapearl47@gmail.com.

## **ONEG SPONSORSHIP**

If you want to celebrate a milestone or achievement, or honor or remember a love one, please consider marking





the occasion by sponsoring an Oneg Shabbat. We would like to share the time with you, hear the story behind the sponsorship and help you make the occasion a bit more special. In addition, your



sponsorship will go a long way to support the work of the Sisterhood for our Temple, our youth and the Jewish community.

If you have questions or are interested in sponsoring an Oneg, please contact the Temple Office at: (818) 360-2258.

#### **EXTENDED KIDDUSH**

If the full cost of a Bar/Bat Mitzvah reception is casting a shadow on the day, Ahavat Shalom Sisterhood can provide a low cost luncheon after your child's service for your family and friends. This is not the big schebang with a DJ and dancing – it's a low key way to provide a nice meal after the service for your guests. Contact Sharon Janis at (818) 886-1295 if you are interested.

#### JUDAICA SHOP



Stop by the Temple Judaica Shop, brought to you by Sisterhood, and view our latest treasures! 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 9:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. (when Sunday School is in session) and Wednesdays 10:00 a.m. - Noon.

Special appointments? With pleasure! Call 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.

#### **COUPONS FOR MILITARY FAMILIES**

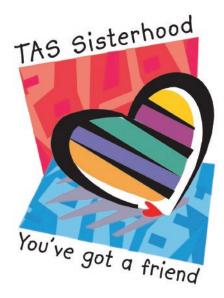
For years, Sisterhood has been sending boxes of coupons to overseas bases. The coupons have gone to Japan, to the Air Force/Marine Unit and to the Navy. The families appreciate the coupons, as prices are very high overseas.



Mel Birken has been taking care of shipping out the coupons and Sisterhood covers the cost. We very much appreciate all the time Mel has put in over the years to help out military families stretch their dollars just a little further.

Sisterhood is looking for someone to take over the job of boxing up and shipping the coupons. Its an easy way to make a difference without a big time investment! If you would be willing to take this on, please contact Mel at (818) 366-2397 and she will give you all the details and support you need as you ease into this role.

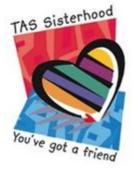
Jackie Zev Temple Ahavat Shalom Sisterhood President







# TAS SISTERHOOD



Invites you to our Annual



# CHANUKAH CELEBRATION and GIFT EXCHANGE

Gift Value: \$15. New items only or Gift cards
No scented items, please.

# Thursday, December 15th @ 7 pm

Serving light repast: Latkes and sides
Free to members and Friends of TAS Sisterhood
\$5 to Non-members

RSVP by December 8th to

Kathy Barker at Kathy@chipsandbits.com

Please let us know if you will make LATKES









# Sisterhood and Men of TAS Campership/Scholarship Application Summer 2017



Dear Camper and Family:

We are pleased to be able to offer camperships/scholarships again this year. This program is only for Jewish camps and Israel programs.

Sisterhood and the Men of TAS have limited resources and therefore we encourage you to apply to other funding sources as well. Other sources include the Jewish Federation (<a href="www.jewishla.org/Camp.cfm">www.jewishla.org/Camp.cfm</a>), Jewish Free Loan at the JCC (<a href="www.jfla.org">www.jfla.org</a>), Temple Ahavat Shalom sequestered funds, Foundation for Jewish Camp: One Happy Camper (<a href="www.onehappycamper.org">www.onehappycamper.org</a>), Peachy Levy Scholarships for URJ camps, (<a href="www.urj.org/youth/levyscholarship">www.urj.org/youth/levyscholarship</a>) and of course, the camps themselves.

Please make sure to complete this application with your family. The camper and parent/guardian letters can be completed on separate pieces of paper and attached to the application. See the rules for 2017 summer applicants on the following pages for details. All volunteer hours must be performed with Sisterhood or MoTAS events only. General Temple and outside community volunteer hours will not qualify for this Campership program.

Applications should be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to "Camperships" and turned into the Religious School Office, or placed in the "Campership" envelope in the Sisterhood mailbox in the Chapel closet, no later than 8pm Wednesday, March 15, 2017. All applications will remain confidential.

All recipients of a campership were required to write a thank you note to both the Sisterhood and MoTAS by December 31, 2016. If unable to do this, a 2017 campership request WILL NOT be honored. The same rules apply for 2017 campership allocations.

Checks will be made out and sent to the appropriate camp or program by April 10th. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely, Laura Silverman TAS Sisterhood Co-Education VP laurasilver818@aol.com 818-207-6886





### Temple Ahavat Shalom Sisterhood/Men of TAS Campership/Scholarship Guidelines

Do you have a child who would like to attend a Jewish camp, Jewish volunteer program, or an Israel program? Sisterhood and Men of TAS are excited to once again help make dreams come true. Sisterhood and Men of TAS support many programs as part of our commitment to our Temple community and we welcome your membership. While all families are encouraged to apply, preference will be given to the children of <a href="mailto:active">active</a> members of Sisterhood or Men of TAS.

#### Campership/Scholarship Requirements:

#### ◆ Application Deadline:

Applications must be placed in a sealed envelope, addressed to "Camperships" and turned into the Religious School Office, or placed in the "Campership" envelope in the Sisterhood mailbox in the Chapel closet, no later than 8pm Wednesday, March 15, 2017. All applications will remain confidential. All volunteer hours must be completed at that time. (Please complete hours early on when more volunteer opportunities are available.)

#### ♦ Limit:

Only one Campership/Scholarship will be given to a child per year (July-June). Camperships/Scholarships are only for Jewish programs.

#### Participation:

Families must be Temple Members in good standing (dues paid up-to-date).

#### ♦ Service:

Each applicant must complete **5** hours of service for **Sisterhood or MoTAS** events. (Working a Temple event does not count as those would be Avodah hours.) Children 10 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Hours must be completed between 6/1/2016 and 3/15/2017 by 8:00 pm.

#### **Service Opportunities include:**

- Sisterhood Oneg Shabbat setup & cleanup (Fridays, weekly)
- Sisterhood Extended Kiddush (Saturdays, occasionally)
- MoTAS Shabbabeque (June & August)
- MoTAS Pancake Breakfast (September)
- MoTAS Golf Tournament (September)
- Sisterhood Apples & Honey packaging (October)
- MoTAS/Sisterhood Allan Sherman Songs Concert (October)
- Sisterhood Holiday Boutique (November)
- Sisterhood Mahjongg Tournament (December)
- Sisterhood Dreidels & Gelt packaging (December)
- Sisterhood Bingotini (February)
- MoTAS Purim Carnival food booth (March)
- Sisterhood and MoTAS Mailings (occasionally)
- Additional volunteer opportunities may be available

For Sisterhood events, contact Laura Silverman at <a href="mailto:laurasilver818@aol.com">laurasilver818@aol.com</a>. For MoTAS events, contact Frank Soronow at <a href="mailto:president@tasnorthridge-motas.org">president@tasnorthridge-motas.org</a>.

#### ♦ Thank you:

All recipients of a campership are required to write a thank you note to Sisterhood and MoTAS for providing the scholarship. If you received a campership in a prior year and did not fulfill this obligation by December 31, 2016 please do not fill out a form for summer 2017 as you will not be considered for a scholarship.

All camperships/scholarships are subject to approval and available funds. We hope that you will join us throughout the year. Come enjoy the programs Sisterhood and MoTAS have to offer.





# Sisterhood/MoTas TAS CAMPERSHIP/SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION SUMMER 2017

**Camper Applicant Information** 

Camper Applicant Name	Age					
GradeSchool	cell phone					
Mother/Guardian Name	Sisterhood Member: Yes / No					
Father/Guardian Name	MoTAS Active Member: Yes / No					
Address						
Parent Contact PhoneE	mail					
Would you like information on Sisterhood or MoTAS? Yes / No						
Camp/Prog	gram					
Jewish Camp/Program Name:						
Program Address (mandatory):						
1 <sup>st</sup> year attending: Yes / No If returning	g, # of years at program					
Program Session:	Number of days:					
(Award check will be made out and	sent directly to the Program.)					
Sisterhood/MoTAS Service H	OURS (minimum of 5 hours)					
EVENT: service of	description:					
Date: Signature of Supervisor:	Hours:					
EVENT: service of						
Date: Signature of Supervisor:						
EVENT: service of						
Date: Signature of Supervisor:						
Total Service Hours worked between 6/1/	/2016 & 3/15/2017:					
* Application deadline is 8pm on Wednesday, Ma Late applications will not be accepted.	arch 15, 2017.					
* Applications must be in a sealed envelope, add the Religious School Office, or placed in the "C mailbox in the Chapel closet.	• •					
* Your family must be a member of TAS in good	standing throughout the 2016-2017 year.					
* All applications will remain confidential.						
Camper Signature	Date					
Parent/Guardian Signature	Date					





# TAS CAMPERSHIP/SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION SUMMER 2017

To be completed by camper (may be dictated). (You may use a separate sheet of paper). I believe that this camp/program experience will: To be completed by parent/guardian. (You may use a separate sheet of paper.) Please explain why you are requesting a campership/scholarship for your child:





# WE WANTED TO SHARE WITH YOU

A SPECIAL MOMENT THAT TOOK PLACE ON NOVEMBER 9, WHEN NINE LOCAL RABBIS COMPLETED THE EDAH FELLOWSHIP...INCLUDING OUR VERY OWN RABBI SHAWNA.



# MAZEL TOV TO THESE EDAH GRADUATES:

Rabbi Sarah Bassin Rabbi Shawna Brynjegard-Bialik Rabbi Becky Hoffman Rabbi Jocee Hudson Rabbi Ari Lucas

Rabbi Heather Miller Rabbi Joel Nickerson Rabbi Nick Renner Morateinu Alissa Thomas-Newborn

The Jewish Federation's Edah Fellowship empowers emerging young rabbis to become spiritual changemakers within the Los Angeles Jewish community.

The Edah Fellowship is offered to a select group of Los Angeles-area congregational rabbis across denominations who each have three or more years of experience in the rabbinate.

The Fellowship is a seven-month program that includes: monthly seminars and workshops in leadership development and community building; an immersive retreat; executive coaching from industry expert entrepreneurs, sociologists, leaders in organizational transformation, educators, and renowned rabbis and the development of an individual "change project" to engage the Jewish community through innovation and creative new models of synagogue participation.

Through these sessions, Fellows developed their rabbinic vision and skills, and addressed key issues within their synagogue communities.

The graduation ceremony took place on November 9 and included opening remarks by Jay Sanderson, President and CEO of The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles and closing remarks with a special graduation presentation by Becky Sobelman-Stern, Executive Vice President and Chief Program Officer of The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles.

Plus, Rabbi Joshua Hoffman and Rabbi Adam Kligfeld who spoke at the graduation and shared their experiences of having completed the Rabbinic Leadership Initiative at the Shalom Harman Institute in Israel.





# Men of Temple Ahavat Shalom



# 2017 SUPERBOWL SQUARES

The Men of Temple Ahavat Shalom (MoTAS) announce the 2016 edition of "Super Bowl Squares," the Super Bowl version of our popular "Football Squares" game for the February 5, 2017 Super Bowl. The earnings from this program (potentially as much as \$1125) are used to supports special Temple programs and needs; funding that is above and beyond money available from normal TAS budget allowances.

A brief reminder of how the game works:

- 1. There is a chart set up, numbers 0-9 across the top for the NFC champion and 0-9 down the side, for the AFC champion and the numbers are randomly arranged. There are 91 total squares on the board. Your \$25 contribution gives you one square in the grid. As the grid numbers are randomly selected, it makes no difference where your square is located. For the 2017 Superbowl: we have eliminated certain number combinations. These numbers are weighted and it was decided that even though players are placed randomly on the grid, they have an unfair advantage over other combinations. More details will be provided at the end of the regular football season. If one of these combinations is a "winner," it will be considered an unsold space, and the payouts with go to the players with the correct total number of points tie-breaker. Since a person can win only one tie-breaker, those closest to the exact score may also share in the proceeds if more than one square needs a tie-breaker to determine the winner.
- 2. Payouts are \$230 for a matching score for home and visitor (determined by the last digit of the score, so 17 is a 7) for each of the first, second, and third quarters. The final score earns \$460. You can win once, twice, or maybe all four times, if your random grid combination wins.. If the board is not fully subscribed, the payout is proportional based on the number of subscribed squares.
- 3. To address the possibility that all 91 available squares might not be subscribed, the following is the procedure for empty squares that win: each player will make a guess as to what the total number of points both teams will score. If you purchase more than one square your "number" will apply for all your squares. Closest to actual score wins (payouts divided with ties). For example: Superbowl: 28-21 = "49"
- 4. Any adult is eligible to play. A player can reserve up to 3 squares and up to 3 more for their spouse.

Official rules, an on-line signup form, and printable signup forms are on the MoTAS website at <a href="http://squares.tasnorthridge-motas.org">http://squares.tasnorthridge-motas.org</a>.

Payment must be received by Tuesday, January 31, 2017. Unpaid squares will be cancelled and made available to other participants.

Your support of this program is greatly appreciated. You might win some money, but the Temple is the big winner! A warm "Thank you" from the Men of TAS.

Source ALLATION OF THE STATE OF	2017 9	emple Ahavat Shalom Super Bowl Squares Sign Up Form	Owl Squares OFOrm  Total Points:  Total Points:	
Player Name:		Total Points:	× \$25 =	
Player Name:		Total Points:	× \$25 =	
Mailing Address:			TOTAL DUE:	
_				
City:	State:	Zip:	OFFICE USE ONLY	
Phone #:	Email:		Grid Square:	
_	<del>-</del>	_		
Payment Information	n:		Check#:	
□ Check payable to "TAS Mens Club   MoTAS"			Cash:	
Credit Card: [	□ Visa □ Mastercard □ Discover		C/C:	
Card Number			IOU:	
Expiration:	CVV:	Signature: (below)	Amount	
Name on Card	d:	X		

Please fill in this form and drop off/mail to:

Men of TAS Football Squares • Temple Ahavat Shalom 18200 Rinaldi Place • Northridge CA 91326





# FRAN ROSENFIELD'S GIFTS FROM THE HEART PROGRAM

# THE TAS TRADITION OF GIVING CONTINUES

Give a Holiday Gift to a Child in Need: Victims of Abuse, Poverty, Illness & Disability.

Help make this program a success by just bringing an unwrapped gift and placing it in the box located in the Temple main hallway between Monday, November 28 and Sunday, December 11, 2016.

Help us make this a joyous and wonderful holiday season for families in need! Fulfill a mitzvah by adopting a family for the holidays. Please contact Sarah Londer at sarublon@aol.com to learn more about adopting a family, the gift program, and other ways to get involved. We need help on Monday, December 12th at 5:00pm to wrap the gifts, bring your Scotch tape and scissor and contact Sarah to volunteer to wrap gifts and get the directions for the gift wrap location. A second opportunity to wrap will take place on Friday, December 16, 2016.

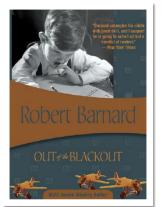
ALSO, we are collecting unused holiday cards, wrapping paper, and 2017 calendars. If you receive complimentary cards, calendars and or gift wrap and do not know what to do with it, donate it! Drop it off in the same box as the toy collection.



# BOOK GROUP SELECTION, *OUT OF THE BLACKOUT* BY ROBERT BARNARD IS THE BOOK GROUP SELECTION FOR DECEMBER 8 SHERRY LUCKS WILL BE THE FACILITATOR.

Imagine being a young child sent to live in the countryside during the nightly Nazi bombing of London in WWII. You were being sent there for your safety. After the Blitz someone was suppose to come and get you and return you to your home, only no one came for you as they did for all of the other children. Young Simon Thorn experienced this tragedy. His name was on no list of the evacuated children; his meager belongings gave no hint of who he was or where he came from. Now an adult, Simon

has moved to London. He is puzzled by an odd sense of familiarity when he walks down certain streets. He remembers his years of screaming nightmares that would terrify his bewildered foster parents. He resolves, once and for all, to find out where he originally came from...



even as everything he uncovers suggests that he doesn't want to know. Barnard untangles his riddle with great skill, and is likely to outwit all but a handful of readers. This is a mystery that will keep you in suspense to the last page.

The Book Group meets in the Library/Rothenberg Chapel on the second Thursday of the month. Refreshments are available at 7:00 p.m. and the discussion begins at 7:30 p.m. A \$5 contribution per person is

requested. Feel free to join the group even if you have not read the book. Note: January selection will be, *Trials of the Century* by Mark Phillips and Aryn Phillips.

Tyree Wieder, Ed.D.





# **VOLUNTEER CORNER**

TAS thrives with the dedicated efforts of many congregants who volunteer countless hours planning and executing a multitude of activities, projects and services. As the TAS Volunteer Coordinator, my tasks are to track who is volunteering for what, where do we need volunteers and linking congregants to volunteer opportunities based on their interests, talents and skills.

We have numerous activities, programs, services and areas of interest for you to explore, while helping our community and making friends. Would you like to know about our *Adult Learning Programs*, perhaps join a *Havurah*, help with *Social Action* and our *Caring Community*, assist with our *Preschool* and *Religious School Programs*, enhance our *Holiday Celebrations*, join the *Adult Choir* or participate in *Musical Programs* with Cantor Ken? We welcome you to our auxiliaries – *Sisterhood and Men of TAS*. Both have extensive calendars and opportunities to be involved more in temple life.

My phone number is (818) 993-0796 and you are welcome to call or email me about activities, projects and services you may wish to participate. Our calendar is chockfull with many opportunities to enhance your Judaism. I look forward to help you make TAS your second home.

Sincerely,

Laraine Miller, TAS Volunteer Coordinator

tzlady@socal.rr.com

# WHAT MOTIVATES ME TO VOLUNTEER AT TAS

(responses from a sampling of current volunteers when asked why they choose to volunteer at Temple Ahavat Shalom)

We joined Temple Ahavat Shalom in 1994. Our son, Jason, was 9 and needed to start Hebrew school. Jason and our daughter, Lyndsey, had many friends from Castlebay Elementary School who went to Hebrew school at TAS. So TAS became our temple. TAS and

Rabbi Lutz have literally watched our family grow up. We joined TAS because we wanted Jason and Lyndsey to have to have a Bar and Bat Mitzvah. And we have gotten SO much more. We have made life long friends and so have our kids.

Both of our kids have remained very close to their TAS friends. A few years ago Lyndsey and 8 of her TAS friends, were out at a Tuesday night happy hour after work. They took a picture of themselves and sent it to Rabbi Lutz, saying they are still getting together, but instead of Tuesday night confirmation, it's Tuesday night happy hour.

I often share our 14 year tradition of "Jew Night". It's with these same kids. When Lyndsey started Chatsworth High, many of her friends didn't know about Judaism. So, that December we invited a few of her new friends for a traditional Hanukkah dinner. Fourteen years later, we have thirty young adults who come every year to "Jew Night" to celebrate Hanukkah and our traditions. They can all recite the blessings over the candles and I make brisket and Latkes for all. They play pin the Shamash on the Giant menorah taped to our wall. It is a night they say is better than New Year's. And it's a tradition I hope we can host for many years to come. This December we have a few married couples and three new babies to include and the tradition grows to include another generation.

Last but not least, Jason and Amanda were married in May 2013. Jason told Amanda that she could plan whatever, but he wanted Rabbi Lutz to marry them. Amanda loved the classes that they had to take with Rabbi Lutz, before they got married and didn't want them to end. She then understood why Jason wanted Rabbi Lutz to marry them. This past June, Jason and Amanda had Sadie, our first grandchild. And of course, it was Rabbi Lutz who they wanted to name her.

So, we have seen how our family has grown full circle





and how that is maybe because we stayed committed to our Judaism, and so have our kids.

Our takeaway is that we have made a commitment to TAS to be a part of our community and our family, and we have received SO much more back in return.

Debbie & Scott Weiss

# **HELP WANTED - VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

RELIGIOUS SCHOOL OFFICE: Reception Desk most weekdays 4:00-6:00 p.m.; On Mondays any time need light clerical work; Any weekday help with shopping needs for school. Contact Barb Gelb, Director Life Long Learning.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD ENRICHMENT CENTER (ECEC):

Any weekday reading, baking or sharing your skills and hobbies with the children. Need help with building items, painting rooms, doors and equipment. Contact Tessa Cramer, ECEC Director.

SOCIAL ACTION: Contact Judy Stehr, jesterjudy@gmail. com or Jill Cullen, soccermomjill@gmail.com, to learn about the many community outreach efforts.

LIFELONG LEARNING: please contact Diane Levine, levinedp@gmail.com, to help with TAS Tuesday Adult Education Nights, setting up the wine & cheese table.

MEMBERSHIP: help us with ideas to bring in more members to our community, and keep the ones we have! Contact Pam Kramer, shortshaq@socal.rr.com

WELCOMING: a new committee is forming to enhance our programs for introducing our new members into our temple family. Please contact Ava Silver, silver@socal.rr.com

KESHER (FORMERLY SYNAPLEX): help brainstorm ideas to increase connections between our members. Contact Sue Issler, sissler@socal.rr.com

MARKETING: Contact Steve Schacter, steven@socal.rr.com, to help with publicizing our community, special events and ongoing services and activities.







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# ECEC



Summer is finally over. It feels good to be wearing warm sweaters as the weather gets cooler. Thanksgiving is over, and now we begin preparing for Hanukkah. Once again, we had over one hundred people attend our Thanksgiving Feast. The children sang beautifully, accompanied by Cantor Ken, and the food they had prepared was delicious.

The year has flown by, and our ECEC children have grown in so many ways. Our families are getting to know one another, forming warm connections and are involved in community



activities. Our second Rosh Chodesh night for moms is coming up soon. The first one was a great success, and we anticipate a large turnout for the upcoming event. Our Dads had such a great get together that they, too, are looking forward to their next meeting.



The ECEC is enjoying Wacky Tuesdays. On the second Tuesday of every month, we choose a "wacky" theme and dress up accordingly. Our November 8 theme was, of course, America Day. Everyone wore red, white

and blue. We made flags, red, white and blue cupcakes, painted faces, and everyone got to vote on what snack they wanted to eat that day. Apples and Ritz crackers were



the unanimous winners. December's *Wacky Tuesday* is Crazy Pattern Day. I look forward to seeing how many different patterns we will all come up with.

We have so much planned for this month. Every child is making a special Hanukkiah to bring home. It is hard to make anything as wonderful as the Thanksgiving centerpieces, but these will be very special treasures. We are learning about the Maccabees and the small group of Jews who were able to defeat such a large army, as well as the oil that burned for eight days. Walking through the classrooms we hear Hanukkah music, see dreidels spinning and most importantly, smell the oil from all the latkes being fried – What a wonderful holiday this is!

On Friday December 16, we are having a Bim Bam Bimah and Hanukkah Sing-a-long at 5:30 p.m. Join us to welcome Shabbat and stay for a latke dinner. Preorders are required so make sure to reply. Our children have been very busy practicing their Hanukkah songs and are looking forward to having their families come watch the performance. We hope you are able to join us at this fun event.

I would like to wish you all a joyful, light filled Hanukkah and a very happy and healthy New Year.

L'Shalom, Tessa





# TAS SISTERHOOD HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

# THANK YOU!

Thank you to everyone who made the Holiday Boutique such a success, and to all the shoppers who made the boutique one of the most successful. The vendors always comment what a nice, welcoming congregation we have. This makes me so proud to be a part of our Temple. To the vendors who braved the rain to bring their wares to us. To my dedicated volunteers who picked up bake sale donations, worked the bake sale, the cashier tables, and the gift shop, you are all incredible. The Avodah kids who helped set-up, take-down and help get the vendors their lunches, thanks a million. A special shout out to Abe Sculler who kept the electronics humming at the cashier's table. To the office and janitorial staff we couldn't have such a successful day without you. A special shout out to Bonnie Covelli whose marketing skills really helped to bring out the crowd and made us look great on social media & event platforms. And to the Men of TAS who put out a fantastic lunch (and fixed and washed our coffee makers.) Of course, I could not have done it without Joe and his Menorah hat by my side. Until next year-thanks again, and Happy Holidays!



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# **GENEROUS GIFTS**

### **ALUMNI OUTREACH FUND**

Barry and Wendy Krowne Shirlee Kline in memory of Henry Robert Kline

#### ANNUAL GIVING/ GENERAL FUND

Bruce and Terry Hatkoff in memory of Esther and Edward Firestone, the parents of Lynn Miles

Sue and Paul Issler and Joe Esquenazi, "Dear Gloria and Allan, Wishing you a very Happy Birthday!"

Cathy Meyers in memory of Esther and Edward Firestone, the parents of Lynn Miles

Hildie Gold and Sherman Gratch in honor of the Birthdays of Allan and Gloria Katcher

Alyce and Jim Caskey in memory of Esther and Edward Firestone

#### **BEAUTIFICATION FUND**

The Pearlman Family in memory of Edward Firestone Ava and Paul Silver in memory of Max Lupul Susan Cohen in memory of Max Lupul Janet Himler Rice in memory of Max "The Masterful" Lupul

#### **CARING COMMUNITY FUND**

Abbey Klein in memory of Lois Bass, Sister-in-law of Hal and Phyllis Bass, Aunt of Laura and Alana

Mélissa and Alan Kassan in memory of Edward Firestone Sherry and Irv Lucks to Barb Gelb, "Hope you are feeling better."

Sherry and Irv Lucks to Hildie Gold and Sherman Gratch, "Congratulations on Scott and Tanya's wedding."

Sherry and Irv Lucks to Tessa Cramer, "Congratulations on Adam and Mika's wedding."

Sherry and Irv Lucks in memory of Edward Firestone, father of Lynn Miles

Sharon and Mel Janis in honor of the Birthdays of Gloria and Allan Katcher

Shelly and Phil Trop in honor of the Birthdays of Gloria and Allan Katcher

Cathy Pearlman in honor of Fran Lapides, "Thank you for your wonderful presentation for The Ballot of 2016."

Shelly, Phil and Jonathan Trop in memory of Harald Bruffer

Shelly, Phil and Ĵonathan Trop in memory of Harold Bruffey Thornhill

Shelly, Phil and Jonathan Trop in memory of Lois Bass Sandy Lertzman in honor of her Aliyah with The Caring Community on Rosh Hashanah

Phyllis and Hal Bass in honor of Gloria and Allan Katcher's Special Birthdays

Becky and David Breuer in honor of Gloria and Allan Katcher's Special Birthdays

Men of TAS

Fran and Al Lapides in loving memory of Max Lupul Fran and Al Lapides to Gloria and Allan Katcher in honor of their Birthdays

Phyllis and Hal Bass in loving memory of our dear friend and Havurah member, Dr. Max Lupul

Shirlee Kline in memory of Max Lupul

Brian and Cheryl Hatkoff in memory of Max Lupul

Brian and Cheryl Hatkoff in memory of Esther and Edward Firestone, the parents of Lynn Miles

Sheila Reback in loving memory of Max Lupul

Sheila Reback in memory of Esther and Edward Firestone and their 75 years of marriage

Sheila Reback in honor of the "Special Birthdays" of Gloria and Allan Katcher

## EARLY CHILDHOOD FUND

Men of TAS to the ECEC/Infant Toddler Center Sally and Gary Lax in honor of the Bris of Dylan Jackson Lax and the Baby Naming of Lilah Madison Lax

#### **EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY FUND**

Sharon and Mel Janis to Sally and Gary Lax in honor of the birth of your grandson, Dylan Jackson Lax Shelly and Phil Trop to Sally and Gary Lax in honor of the birth of your grandson, Dylan Jackson Lax

# MARISA INGRUM FUND-RESILENCE OF THE SOUL

Michael and Deborah Thornhill in honor of Sarah and Dan Cirimele and our new grandchild Sofia

## RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

Hildie Gold and Sherman Gratch Michael and Deborah Thornhill and Family in memory of Harold Bruffey Thornhill Mel and Les Birken to Gloria and Allan Katcher in honor of their Birthdays

# RELIGIOUS AND HEBREW SCHOOL FUND

Phill Weissman in memory of Harold Thornhill, father of Michael Thornhill

The Lertzman Family in honor of Michael Lertzman's Aliyah with Confirmation Class on Yom Kippur

# RONNA AND LEW EDGERS MEMORIAL ISRAEL PROGRAMS

Arnold and Judy Alban in memory of Max Lupul

#### **SOCIAL ACTION FUND**

Sue and Paul Issler in memory of Edward and Esther Firestone

#### YOUTH FUND

Sharon Janis to Fran and Asher Levin in memory of Kathy Weiss

Shelly and Phil Trop to Fran and Asher Levin in memory of Kathy Weiss

Renee Cooperman





# **YAHRZEITS**

Judy and Leonard Soloff in memory of Bernard Faye Judy and Leonard Soloff in memory of Elinor Faye Beverly Shore in memory of Dorothy Shore Hal and Phyllis Bass in memory of Minnie S. Bass Cathy Meyers in memory of Charles Francis Kathy Barker in memory of Louis Bluman 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 Ludwig Lupul Max and Ruth Lupul in memory of Marcel Lupul Jill and Alan Morgenstein in memory of Albert Zuckerbrow Daryn Pakcyk and Sue Miller in memory of Mildred Pakcyk Jan and Michael Saltsman in memory of Bessie Mikkelson Ted and Pam Brodsky in memory of Fannie Goldfine Hildie Gold in memory of Monte Mallet Mel and Les Birken in memory of Sy Schuster David and Becky Breuer in memory of Rose Breuer Sheldon and Lynda Spector in memory of Abram Spector Todd Reznik and Karen Goldman in memory of Joseph Reznik Neal and Arlene Hoffer in memory of Irving Hoffer Terry and Bruce Hatkoff in memory of Natalie Resnick Karen and Gordon Silverstein in memory of Ruth Levinson Charles Padow in memory of Marilyn Padow

Sue Miller and Daryn Pakcyk in memory of Lynne Marder Alan and Melissa Kassan in memory of Shirley Koran Alan and Melissa Kassan in memory of David Blender Alan and Melissa Kassan in memory of William Monell Alan and Melissa Kassan in memory of Nancy Aarons Blender Sheila Reback in memory of Clay Yancy Anita Hoch in memory of William Oberman Anita Hoch in memory of Martin Luckner Michael and Jan Saltsman in memory of Helen Saltsman Nick and Rosie Mandel in memory of Moritz Mandel Myrna and Curtis Miller in memory of Albert Comroe Phyllis and Hal Bass in memory of Al Appell

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# RENTING AND SELLING NEW YORK CITY

As a licensed associate real estate broker in NYC, and former TAS member, I've had the privilege of helping TAS members and their friends and family to rent, buy, sell and invest in real estate in New York City.

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As a parent of a child going to college in New York, and not being able to see things for myself, it was comforting to know that Karen Stone could be my eyes and offer endless solutions and options to where our son would live. Karen's knowledge of New York, coupled with her intelligence for knowing the right questions to ask on the renter's behalf put my mind at ease. Her team is amazing, her ability to consider the best options, and her quick responses were exactly what was needed at a time of feeling helpless. I strongly recommend Karen Stone for your real estate needs, in any way. If she doesn't have the answers herself, she will go out of her way to find them for you and put your mind at ease.

~Cantor Emerita Patti Linsky

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# ATTENTION TAS PHOTO LOVERS!

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## Condolences

Michelle Schwab and Family on the death of her husband and our Temple Member, Judge Howard J. Schwab

Ruth Lupul and Family on the death of her husband and our Founding Temple Member, Max Lupul, Ph.D.

Daniel Rubanowitz and Family on the death of his brother, Eric Rubanowitz

Bob Levine and Family on the death of his cousin, Norman Schlissel

Ben Tenn and Family on the death of his sister and our Temple Member, Miriam Kolitz

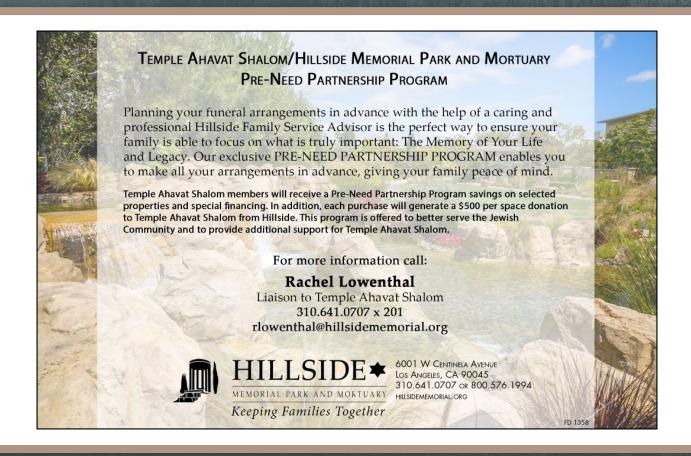
May their memory be a blessing

# Congratulations to:

Gary and Sally Lax on the birth of their grandson, Dylan Jackson Lax. The proud parents are Lindsey and Daniel Lax.

Bob Levine and Kathy Pullman on the birth of their grandson, Jackson George Bash. The proud parents are Debbi Levine and Chris Bash.







# **DECEMBER 2016 AT TEMPLE AHAVAT SHALOM**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 10:00am - Adult Ed: Melton Class 4:00pm - Adult Hebrew Class 7:00pm - Sisterhood Board Meeting - Away 7:00pm - ECEC Rosh Chodesh	2 6:45pm - Pre-Shabbat Circles presented by Kesher 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Service	3 1:30pm - Club 45 Laser Tag - Away
4 3:00am - Sisterhood Mah Jongg Tournament	<b>5</b> 10:00am - Adult Judaica Art Class	<b>6</b> 9:30am - Torah Study	7 4:00pm - Adult Hebrew Class 7:00pm - Marketing Committee Meeting - Away	8 10:00am - Adult Ed: Melton Class 4:00pm - Adult Hebrew Class 7:00pm - Book Group Meeting 7:00pm - Cantor's Concert Committee Meeting	9 6:45pm - Lay-led Torah Discussion 7:30pm - Erev Shabbat Service	9:00am - Shabbat Morning Yoga 10:15am - Bat Mitzvah of Julia Sisko
11 1:45am - Men of TAS Meeting 10:00am - Hanukkah Play "Hanukkah Rocks To The Fifties"	12 MoTAS Dining Does Good – Two Guys From Italy 10:00am - Adult Judaica Art Class	13 9:30am - Torah Study 6:00pm - TAS Tuesdays Adult Learning	<b>14</b> 4:00pm - Adult Hebrew Class	15 10:00am - Adult Ed: Melton Class 4:00pm - Adult Hebrew Class 7:00pm - Sisterhood Hanukkah Celebration	16 5:30pm - Bim Bam Bimah - Hanukkah Sing Along 6:15pm - Community Shabbat Hanukkah Dinner 7:15pm - Erev Shabbat Service	17
18 7:00pm - Men of TAS Mens Hangout - Away	19 ECEC Mini Camp Begins 10:00am - Adult Judaica Art Class	20 NO Dalet/TAS High	<b>21</b> NO Hebrew School 7:15pm - TAS Board Meeting	7:00pm - Social Action Meeting 7:00pm - Adult Ed: Movie Night – "Nora's Will"	23 6:15pm - Lay-led Torah Discussion 7:00pm - Erev Shabbat Service	<b>24</b> First Night of Hanukkah
<b>25</b> NO Religious School 5:00pm - Men of TAS Jewish X-Mas Dinner & Movie - Away	<b>26</b> Federal Holiday Observed - Temple Offices and School Closed	27 NO Dalet/TAS High	28 NO Hebrew School 6:15pm - Sisterhood Monthly Mah Jongg 7:00pm - Budget and Finance Committee Meeting	29	30 7:00pm - Erev Shabbat Service	31

# The Menorah is . . .

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