

THE VOICE

News & Events from Kehillat Ma'arav

APRIL
2016

ADAR II/NISSAN
5776

AN EXCEPTIONAL KM ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

SUNDAY MORNINGS LIVE!

LIVE STREAMING INTERACTIVE CLASSES DIRECT FROM JERUSALEM'S RENOWNED SCHECHTER INSTITUTE OF JEWISH STUDIES

Spring Learning from Kehillat Ma'arav and Schechter Institute:

April 10

Pesach: Educating Moses – Dr. Tamar Kadari

May 15

Lag B'Omer: The Loss of Center, from Jerusalem to Bethar: Rabbinic Tales of Destruction and Renewal – Dr. Paul Mandel

June 5

Shavuot Customs from East to West – Rabbi Prof. David Golinkin

PASSOVER MEMORIES

RABBI MICHAEL GOTLIEB

Why is Passover so popular? Why does it continue to generate greater interest and participation than all other Jewish holidays, including Hanukkah, Purim, Shabbat and Yom Kippur? Even among disaffected and estranged Jews its popularity soars. More versions of the Passover Haggadah have been written than any other Jewish work. That includes commentary on the Hebrew Bible, rabbinic texts and the prayer book.

One reason is Passover takes place around a table, typically in a home,

not a synagogue. The power of ritual observance tied to an ornate group dinner cannot be underestimated.

Another reason for Passover's ongoing popularity is the holiday encourages personal creativity. Perhaps it's a song that is chanted, or the way the table is decorated, or a narrative acted out by its participants? No matter, the Passover Seder is engaging and lends itself to creative, fun-filled innovation.

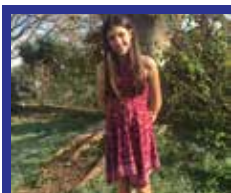
Not uncommonly, families and individuals craft their own Passover Haggadot; they form their own customs and establish guidelines

that fit their needs. Come to most synagogues, the liturgical sections of the service, while it may change periodically, are largely fixed and often passive.

Yet another reason Passover remains so popular is its universal message: Physical liberation, freedom from slavery. As the Bible recounts, we Jews were slaves in Egypt, and with God's intervention, were freed. What's more, the Biblically based principle of freedom, applies to all humanity, not just to the Jews. While the classic Haggadah is filled with allegory,

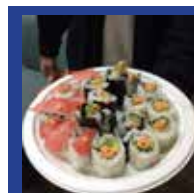
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IN THIS EDITION...



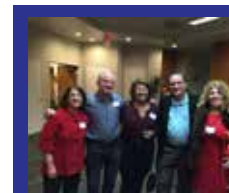
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PASSOVER MEMORIES..CONTINUED



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history and nuanced thought, the main idea behind Passover is not complex.

But there's one more reason to help explain Passover's un-equaled popularity. More than anything: Passover generates memories.

We can philosophize about our religious tradition all we want. We can pick it apart and offer new insights into its biblical and rabbinic literatures—all of which are important and definitional to what it means to be actively engaged in our religion.

Nonetheless, without memories; warm, inspiring, heart filled memories; Judaism is nothing more than a cerebral

exercise. Nothing more than intellectual jockeying, trying to prove a point, or pose a better question.

If for nothing else, Passover is a divinely prescribed dinner made for us to fashion memories. It takes place around the modern equivalent of the ancient Temple's altar, one's table. To truly fulfill the Passover rite, it must be a table filled with laughter and tears, spiritual insight, warmth, love and Godliness.

So, as you gather in observance of Passover, create lasting memories. Be moved as you reminisce over Passovers' gone by. Seated around your table, share and experience the beauty of being Jewish. Above all, do what it takes to insure your Passover Seder engenders life-long, inspirational memories.

SPRING AHEAD



**JOEL KRISCHER,
President**

Happy Spring (it's now official)!!! Purim is now behind us, and congratulations to all of us on a wonderfully spiritual day and event for our

community. Pesach is just ahead of us; contact the office if you want to join our community Seder on the first night, Friday, April 22. With Rabbi Gotlieb leading the way, our Seders are always a wonderful combination of spirituality, education and fun. The food is always great and, when it's over, there are NO DISHES TO CLEAN!

Also just ahead of us is the Los Angeles Walk to End Genocide on April 17, 2016 at the La Brea Tar Pits, from 9 am to 1 pm, organized by Jewish World Watch. KM's Social Action Committee is organizing a group to walk that day, and David Wilzig's article this month has more details about how we all can support that effort by walking and/or donating.

Which causes one to think... We Jews have so much about which we can and should be proud. Whether it is something like JWW's walk, how Israel is always among the first responders to natural and health disasters around the world, or the countless efforts by countless other Jewish-based organizations, we have a rich and ongoing

tradition of reaching out to help people far beyond our own (tiny) community, of making a real difference in the world. We do it without fanfare, because it is part of our culture, part of what makes us Jews. By just about any measure one can think of, there is no other tradition that has made contributions to the world that is so disproportionately large compared to its size.

At the same time, and with bitter irony, we must be aware of the very real strain of, and growth in, anti-Semitism in the world, including here at home. While sometimes cloaked as anti-Israel sentiment, that is a distinction without a difference. To take just one recent example, an Oberlin College professor has written that Jews, including Mossad, were behind the 9/11 attacks here and the Charlie Hebdo attacks in France, and others defend her comments as real scholarship and academic freedom. http://www.nytimes.com/2016/03/08/us/oberlin-leaders-denounce-professors-remarks-as-anti-semitic.html?_r=0

We must not be paranoid about this but we cannot turn a blind eye to it. We must recognize that there is no other demographic about which such libels would be defended – by anybody – as “scholarship” or “academic freedom.” We must point out to the world and defend ourselves against those that spread such vicious blood libels as we continue to sponsor, do and take pride in the good work that our heritage fosters and supports.

MUSICAL QUOTES



CANTOR SAM COHEN

Recently I was looking for a good quote about music and this gave me the idea to share some of the quotes that I found interesting on so many different levels.

“One good thing about music, when it hits you, you feel no pain.” - Bob Marley

“Music is a moral law. It gives soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm and gaiety to life and to everything.” - Plato

“Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent.” - Victor Hugo

I personally love this one:

“Where words fail, music speaks.” - Hans Christian Andersen

“Music in the soul can be heard by the universe.” - Lao Tzu

“After silence, that which comes nearest to expressing the inexpressible is music.” - Aldous Huxley

I really relate to the this quote:

“Without music, life would be a mistake.” - Friedrich Nietzsche

“I guess a good song is a good song is a good song, ya know.” - George Thorogood

“If you look deep enough you will see music; the heart of nature being everywhere music.” - Thomas Carlyle

“Music was my refuge. I could crawl into the space between the notes and curl my back to loneliness.” - Maya Angelou

“Music is the fourth great material want, first food, then clothes, then shelter, then music.” - Christian Nestell Bovee

This one is great:

“Music is everybody’s possession. It’s only publishers who think that people own it.” - John Lennon

“If a composer could say what he had to say in words he would not bother trying to say it in music.” - Gustav Mahler

“Music is very spiritual, it has the power to bring people together.” - Edgar Winter

After reading countless quotes, it’s clear that Music is something special to which there is no equal. It is, however, ironic that all these quotes are trying in some way to distill the essence of Music into several words. I say, “just listen to the music, it speaks for itself.” - Cantor Sam Cohen

MEET OUR BAT MITZVAH!

DANIELLE BERNSTEIN - APRIL 9TH

Hi, I’m Danielle Bernstein. I’m in the seventh grade at The City Charter Middle School. I enjoy musical theatre, drawing and running. I had my baby naming at KM almost 13 years ago and I’m excited to have my Bat Mitzvah at KM too. My Parasha is *Tazria*. *Tazria* is about how to purify yourself after giving birth and after having a disease, such as *tzaroat*. I can’t wait to go more in depth as I continue on my Bat Mitzvah journey.



RELIGIOUS SCHOOL UPDATE



SHARONE WEIZMAN,
Director of Education

Shalom Chaverim,

The year is flying by... We had our sixth Ohr L'Olam Mitzvah program this past month partnering with Friendship Circle. Gail Rollman our guest facilitator from Friendship Circle led our students in interactive activities, including simulation activities so that our students could better learn and appreciate the work that Friendship Circle does for kids with Special Needs in the Jewish community. Our learning Mitzvot centered around - Love your Neighbor as Yourself, Created in the Image of God, and Clinging to Friendship. Our program concluded with our students making masks for Purim, writing cards and packing and sending Mishloach Manot to our new friends at Friendship Circle in time for their Purim party. Our next Ohr L'Olam Program will be on Sunday, April 17th where we join the greater community and walk to end Genocide with JWW. Prior to the walk are school will be engrossed in learning activities getting us ready for the walk. This will be another amazing community-wide experience. Stay tuned for more info!

This past month our Religious School celebrated Purim with a school-wide Purim "Good Morning Shushan" "Boker Tov Shushan" Talk Show starring the entire Purim Cast (teachers in costumes) for an informational Q&A for each of the Purim characters which helped to underline the true relevance of the Purim story, each characters role and what they stood for, and the main lessons we learn from Purim. Following Boker Tov Shushan, our students rotated to three stations: Baking Hamantashen, weaving and packing Mishloach Manot baskets, and learning the Mitzvot and main values of Purim and their

relevance today. Our school also cancelled Tuesday Religious School encouraging our students to attend our big Purim Disco extravaganza on Wednesday in lieu of Tuesday Religious School. I am excited to report that our school continues to grow... We now have 13 teens enrolled in our new High School program. For our second teen night, we invited in an IDF team of three to explain the IDF and their positions and experiences while serving in the IDF, and how they were all trained utilizing Krav Maga. We also invited in an expert Krav Maga team from Krav Maga Worldwide, where our students participated in an hour long Krav Maga class, learning both verbal and physical techniques, including self defense, anti-bullying and self empowerment. Finally, the American Security team from Omega Securities, who receives most of their intelligence from Israel, taught our teens how to apply day to day life skills and safety tips for High School and beyond.

Our next High School event will be on Sunday, April 10th. Our students will meet at the Santa Monica Playhouse to view New Eyes, an acclaimed one woman show starring our very own, Yafit Josephson. Parents are invited to join us. Following the show we will take our teens out for dinner on the 3rd Street Promenade. Stay tuned for next month's article, pictures and more.

On a personal note, I attended the AIPAC Policy Conference which marks my 9th time attending. I am excited to report that my sister who lives in Florida and my parents who live in Asheville North Carolina joined me for the Policy Conference. It was so cool to share this experience with my KM community as well as my family. Each year I come back from AIPAC even more charged with advocating for Israel and excited to share that impact and enthusiasm for Israel with our Religious School and now High School students. I plan to bring in AIPAC facilitators as a follow-up from the Conference for our High School students.

Upcoming Religious School Dates to Mark:

Friday, April 8th – Last Friday night Shabbat B'Yachad for the year.

Sunday, April 10th – Next High School event

Wednesday, April 13th – First B'nai Seminar – 5th-7th Grade

Sunday, April 17th – Next Ohr L'Olam Mitzvah program - JWW



Westside Chai- Krav Maga



Ohr L'Olam - Friendship Circle



RS Purim

KADIMA

SHARONE WEIZMAN,
Director of Youth Programming

Kadima! Kadima means - Forward, Let's Go!

Last month 23 of our Kadimaniks went to Sky High a Trampoline Amusement Park. We carpooled over to Sky High in Woodland Hills and enjoyed two hours of unlimited jumping time, a party room reserved with pizza, drinks and desserts, and fun for everyone – including our parents who stayed for the event.

Mark your calendars: Our next Kadima event is Sunday, April 10th. We will meet for lunch on the 3rd Street Promenade and take our Kadimaniks and parents to see Yafit Josephson's acclaimed one woman show at the Santa Monica Playhouse.



Kadimaniks having a blast at Sky High!

OUR PJ ANNIVERSARY



MASHA SAVITZ,
Head of Early Childhood & Arts Programs

This April marks two years since KM began hosting PJ Library events on the first Friday of the month. The events, in partnership with the Federation, is advertised to PJ members in the greater LA area, and has thus brought new families to our synagogue, to mix and mingle with some of our own members/families in a sweet kabbalat Shabbat. This includes a story by PJ library's collection, a related art project and Shabbat blessings complete with grape juice, candle lighting and challah, before adjourning for a light informal dinner together.

In these last two years, a real community has begun to form. These include regular faces we see every month, new faces who are introduced to our mini PJ community, and the larger KM community as well.

Longtime member Heather Moses helps as a liaison to keep in touch with parents, while her nine –year old daughter Ayla, comes to help out as a wonderful role model to the younger ones.

Our devoted Tot Shabbat teacher, Myrna Sokoloff, joins us on these Friday evenings as a way to build bridges to our Saturday morning offering. Many of our PJ families have returned to join Tot Shabbat and our community Kiddush, in part because of the warmth and connection they have felt and experienced at 'PJ'. Some too, have joined me in the K1 class and become full members of KM.

What a pleasure to help grow KM by serving our youngest members and their families while creating wonderful Shabbat memories we hope will last a life time.

JAMES B. GREEN, ESQ.



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LOS ANGELES


WALK TO END GENOCIDE
 a project of JWW

Take a stand. Raise your voice.
 Step in the right direction.
WALK to End Genocide!

SUNDAY, APRIL 17, 2016
 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 La Brea Tar Pits (new location!)

REGISTER TODAY

Join "Team KM" as a Walker, Walker in Spirit, or Make a Donation at: www.la.WalktoEndGenocide.org/kehilatMaaray
 If you have questions, Contact Susan Bronstein at: bronstein84@verizon.net or 310-39107018



BIRTHDAYS
(18 and Under)

ANNIVERSARIES
Mazel Tov!

We celebrate the milestones of our community members!

Danielle Bernstein
Teddy Fleiss
Roey Kuba
Alexander (Sasha) Lenkin
Noa Oliva Liberman
Naomi Leemor Pearl
Noah Root
Sophie Salem
Zakary Aron Weinberg
Kate Woodhall

Emanuel and Judith Baker
45th anniversary

Seth Jacob and Anna
Cooperman
5th anniversary

Thomas and Sidne Erdosi
44th anniversary

Charles and Miriam Hamrell
45th anniversary

Benjamin Lewin and Judith
Levine
33rd anniversary

Dave Klevens and Cheryl
Lorenzo
10th anniversary

David and Elizabeth Ricanati
21st anniversary

David and Libby Silverman
13th anniversary

Thomas and Shelly Vedres
54th anniversary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>APRIL 2016 ADAR II/NISSAN 5776</p>				<p>April 22 will be the first night of Passover community seder at KM! Reserve your seat by April 14th!</p>		<p>1 <i>6:57pm Candle Lighting</i> 5:00pm PJ Library 6:30pm Shabbat Services</p>
<p>3 9:30am RS 9:15am Ed Comm Mtg 12pm Gift of B'nai Mitzvah</p>	<p>4 7:00pm Social Action Comm Mtg</p>	<p>5 3:45pm RS 2-7 4:00pm RS K-1 7:15pm KM Choir</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7 12:00pm Lunch n' Learn</p>	<p>8 <i>7:02pm Candle Lighting</i> 5:30pm Shabbat B'Yachad</p>	<p>9 9:30am Shabbat Services Bat Mitzvah- Danielle Bernstein 11:00am Shabbat Unplugged 11:00am Tot Shabbat</p>
<p>10 9am Sunday Mornings Live - Pesach: Educating Moses 3:45pm Westside Chai - Promenade Playhouse</p>	<p>11 7:00pm Membership Comm Mtg 7:30pm Investment Comm Mtg</p>	<p>12 3:45pm RS 2-7 4:00pm RS K-1 7:15pm KM Choir</p>	<p>13 10:00am Pomegranate Guild 5:30pm B'nai Mitzvah seminar (1/3)</p>	<p>14 12:00pm Lunch n' Learn 7:00pm JNET</p>	<p>15 <i>7:08pm Candle Lighting</i></p>	<p>16 9:30am Shabbat Services 11:00am Shabbat Unplugged 11:00am Tot Shabbat</p>
<p>17 9am JWW- Walk to End Genocide 12pm Gift of B'nai Mitzvah</p>	<p>18 7:00pm Men's Club</p>	<p>19 3:45pm RS 2-7 4:00pm RS K-1</p>	<p>20 6:00pm Executive Board Mtg 7:15pm KM Choir 7:30pm Board of Trustees Mtg</p>	<p>21 12:00pm Lunch n' Learn</p>	<p>22 6:30pm First Night Community Seder @KM <i>7:13pm Candle Lighting</i></p>	<p>23 9:30am Shabbat Services 11:00am Shabbat Unplugged 11:00am Tot Shabbat</p>
<p>24 9:30am 2nd Day Passover Services</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 NO RELIGIOUS SCHOOL - PESACH BREAK 7:15pm KM Choir</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28 12:00pm Lunch n' Learn</p>	<p>29 9:30am 7th Day Passover Services <i>7:19pm Candle Lighting</i></p>	<p>30 9:30am Shabbat Services/YIZKOR 11:00am Shabbat Unplugged 11:00am Tot Shabbat</p>
Pesach - 2nd Day	Pesach - 3rd Day	Pesach - 4th Day	Pesach - 5th Day	Pesach - 6th Day	Pesach - 7th Day	

SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

David J. Wilzig, Chair, Social Action Committee

Your SAC, Social Action Committee, seeks to fulfill the KM mission of obligations to the community at large. In facilitating that mission we were delighted last month to have a new member of our committee, Sophie Goldberger, address the shul about the AVIVA project which provides welcome packages to teenage girls, ages 13-17, who are entering Aviva House for their care. Sophie will direct collection of books, makeup, stuffed animals and other items for these welcome packages. We are especially proud to have our teenage leader, Sophie, take the helm of this Aviva project. She will be providing more donation information via flyers and emails.

Your KM walkers are set to raise funds for the 10th annual JWW Walk to End Genocide on April 17 and its NOT TOO LATE for you to join in by donating to "Team Km" @ <http://la.walktoendgenocide.org> or better yet, why don't you JOIN our team and walk with us! To do so contact our KM representative Susan Bronstein [bronstein84@verizon.net] who will provide you the necessary forms and we promise to cheer as you cross the finish line.

Alana Levitt of the SAC led a successful "baby2baby" drive and we thank all who donated much needed goods.

Your SAC group is working on new and interesting goals that incorporate the concept of Jews for social action:

"If I not for myself, who will be for me? But if I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?"

[Mishna Pirkei Avot 1:13].

We are considering new projects such as Habitat for Humanity "Jewish Build" project, HIAS [Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society] project while we continue to collect for Sova, Israel Bonds and the Ya'ad School in Israel. Importantly we seek ways to help the Schechter Institute which has been so generous in providing us the Jerusalem to USA virtual class program. Schechter has needs for their rabbinical fellowship program, the TALI Education Fund for children of the Israeli working poor, the Marpeh "healing" program that trains chaplains in "spiritual caregiving" and Camp Ramah Ukraine.

SAC seeks suggestions for how KM can help Schechter and others. Please bring your suggestions and thoughts to us, better yet JOIN US at a SAC meeting. Ring me at 310-562-033 or email me at david@wilzig.net for the time of our next meeting.

KM EVENTS



CINDY ROTH, Events Coordinator

NEXTGEN a blast at "Havdalah and Sushi" on Saturday, March 12. We

started off the evening with a beautiful Havdalah service followed by a sushi chef who taught us how to make our own sushi! Check out some of the photos and stay tuned for more upcoming events!



FROM THE RITUAL COMMITTEE

Dennis Gura, on behalf of the ritual committee

Amazon lists over 2300 different haggadot, and another 76 for its kindle. The Library of Congress has 2597 entries of haggadah. Perhaps this an unnecessary demonstration; we all know that there is vast number and variety of haggadot. Political seders, spiritual seders, atheistic seders (really, and it's 8 pages!); the 30 minute seder (even a two minute seder: just the basics, please, pass the horseradish), environmentalist seder, all of top of our panopoly of denominational and post-denominational haggadot (New Age, Old Age, Renewal, Reform, Conservative, LGBTQ, Diverse, Open Orthodox, Modern Orthodox, Traditional, Sephardi, Mizrahi, Charedi, Zionist, anti-Zionist, post-Zionist, gluten free and guilt-ridden).

The variety is staggering, and, overwhelmed, most of us might default to Maxwell House. or whatever might be sitting around the house, awaiting another wine drenching as we impatiently work our way through obscure language and arcane ritual.

The trick, the problem, is how to make our most ancient ritual speak to modern sensibilities. Thus the plethora of haggadot, fitted out to every variety of interest and inclination.

There are, perhaps, two principle reasons that the ritual is difficult to grasp without some "specialized" training, so to speak. First, our modern Jewish identity is very complex. In the

past 200-250 years, we Jews have tried on many different colored identity coats: the exclusively religious-spiritual (for example the 19th century reforming "Germans of the Mosaic Faith"); the strictly national, secularist early 20th century Zionists, or the Eastern European Yiddishists; the "familial-traditional" Jews, unconcerned with ideological matters, but who gravitated to familiar and familial surroundings, almost simply as a matter of comfort. Along the way, many modern Jews have come to relish a peculiar ancient-modern combination of identity: a religious base, some national ingredients, familial spices all mixed into our identity cholent.

Then how do we choose a Haggadah that works on Pesach, that gives us enough rope to fulfill our own sense of the ritual minimums, and enough license that we can enjoy getting stewed at the Pesach table?

The secret ingredient for a good Pesach table is not the food, nor the books, but the company, and the talk. Most traditional haggadot note that one is greatly praised for extensive discussion of the miracle of Pesach. It might not be our inclination to repeat endless antique *midrashim* praising God's might; but, on the other hand, on that night, there is a real miracle in the celebration. After thousands of years, across the global, in new circumstances, we continue to recall that miracle then, which is our miracle now. And talking about that is worthwhile in its own right.

MEN'S CLUB SPONSORED EVENTS

STEPHEN SHAPIRO, Men's Club President

RECENT EVENTS IN MARCH:

JEWISH WORLD WATCH (JWW): JWW Board member Vaughan Meyer inspired us with her own experience in Africa & elsewhere about Jewish World Watch's work to end Genocide & mass atrocities worldwide. The organization works by education, mobilizing individuals, advocating policy changes & funding projects in conflict affected communities.



THE BRCA GENE & CANCER IN ASHKENAZI JEWS: DECISION MAKING & THE CASE FOR UNIVERSAL TESTING:

Professor Elisa Long gave us an overview of the BRCA gene including fertility related topics. She showed the probabilities of cancer for Jewish & non-Jewish populations.



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UPCOMING EVENT: On Monday, April 18, 2016 at 7pm, Rachael Ripps (AIPAC Deputy Regional Synagogue Initiative Director) will summarize the events at the AIPAC National Policy Conference in Washington DC March 20-22, 2016. Ripps will review the comments of featured international speakers at the conference. A lively discussion with KM members will follow. Whether you attended AIPAC or not, you do not want to miss this important discussion of the Middle East. Suggested donation: \$5.

MEMBERSHIP

Susie Yuré, Vice-President of Membership

A MYSTERIOUS DINNER FOR HOSTS AND GUESTS

It was fun planning KM's 2nd Mystery Dinner. About 45 people enjoyed the evening as hosts or guests. We couldn't have done this event without our gracious hosts: Therese Attias, Helayne & Joe Levy, Judy & Ness Moadeb, and Debbie Vilinsky & Michael Sopher. They opened their homes to mostly strangers and provided a friendly environment for members to become acquainted. In addition, thank you to the guests who brought assigned dishes to enhance the meal. I have heard from many attendees about the wonderful evening they shared with KM members. These special times have rippling effects, building on the friendliness and inclusiveness of our community.

Here are but two of the experiences from the Mystery Dinner, one from Beverly Bienstock, a guest and the other, Debbie Vilinsky, a hostess. Thank you for sharing your perspectives to unfold some of the mystery.

Debbie Vilinsky: 6:45pm and we imagined people leaving KM after having been handed directions, getting into their cars and heading off to their mystery hosts' homes.

7:00pm and we wondered who would ring the doorbell with their organized-pot-luck-assignments in hand.

7:05pm and we hoped the Westside traffic wasn't too bad, our directions weren't too confusing...but as soon as the first mystery guests arrived, followed shortly by the others, there was no more wondering/anticipating. It was clear that it was all unfolding very smoothly and we were all caught up in enjoying the evening of lively and inclusive conversation over a casual dinner.

Thanks to the behind-the-scenes organizational skills of Susie Yure', who championed this event and did the evenhanded match-making, our role as hosts was easy and fun. We shared the excitement of the moments of surprise—and really, how could it have gone awry since our guests were members of the KM community, who arrived at our door not just with their food contributions, but with their spirit of welcoming each other into our evening and our lives? This was not a mystery in need of Sherlock Holmes, Miss Marple, or Inspector Clouseau; we substituted roasted salmon for red herrings, there were no bloody knives because we had a dairy meal, we all pitched in and there was no need for a butler.

Beverly Gray Bienstock: Our mystery evening could hardly have been more mysterious. After wine, cheese, and an eggplant relish to die for (thanks, Susie Yuré!), Bernie and I sat in our car, studying the cryptic instructions. They didn't seem to make much sense. We were advised to drive up the coast and then turn inland. Pretty soon we were in the middle of nowhere. The night was dim and windy, and the shadows were ominous. I wouldn't have been surprised to see a deer (or a dybbuk) cross our path.

Finally we turned onto a road with a guard house. The guard motioned us ahead, pointing to a large, brightly lit structure. It was the home of our cordial hosts, Judy and Ness Moadeb.

Judy and Ness had gathered their entire extended family to meet and greet the KM guests. Old KM friends and brand-new KM acquaintances broke bread together in the family dining room. Good fellowship made us hungry, and the delicious potluck meal quickly vanished. At dessert time, we munched on blood oranges and other freshly-picked fruit from Ness's own orchard.

As marvelous as the food and the surroundings were, they were eclipsed by Ness's stories of leaving Egypt as a young man, then slowly making his way across the world to Southern California. With Passover approaching, we were all grateful for this reminder that some of our ancestors had not left Egypt along with Moses. Ness's explanation: his family back then had no alarm clock, and so they missed the Exodus.



TRIBUTES *(as of March 15th, 2016)*

A donation by

Sarah Strassberg

In honor of

- **JOEL STROM'S BIRTHDAY,**
by Mitch Silberman
- **SUSIE YURE' FOR ORGANIZING THE MYSTERY DINNER,**
by Susan and Alan Sperling

Mazel Tov to

- **CANTOR SAMUEL COHEN ON HIS ENGAGEMENT,**
by Judy and Manny Baker, Eileen and Lew Goldberg, Sharon and Joel Krischer, Helayne and Joe Levy
- **HARLA AND PAT LEVITT ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR GRANDDAUGHTER, STELLA HAZEL PALENCIA,**
by Sue and Paul Hoffman, Sharon and Joel Krischer

Thank you to

- **THE KM COMMUNITY FOR EVERYTHING,**
by the Goldberger, Radin and Flamm families

In memory of

- **DOROTHY ANDREW,**
mother of Gary Andrew, by Gary Andrew
- **EFIM AVERBUKH,**
father of Matt Averbukh, by Matt and Svetlana Averbukh
- **ROSE BARNETT,**
mother of Ron Barnett, by Ron and Ruth Barnett
- **BARAK BEN-TOR,**
son-in-law of Gail and Irv Rosenfeld, by Beverly and Bernie Bienstock, Lolly Bennett, Sue and Paul Hoffman, Sharon and Joel Krischer
- **SHARI BERENBACH,**
sister of Morley Berenbach, by Judy and Manny Baker, Rachel Berg, Beverly and Bernie Bienstock, Andrea and Noah Jussim, Sue and Paul Hoffman, Sharon and Joel Krischer, Linda and Jack Topal, Judy and Lou Zucker
- **ALEX BERNSTEIN, FATHER OF STUART BERNSTEIN,**
by Stuart and Marlene Bernstein
- **JEAN ROSENBERG BERNSTEIN,**
stepmother of Susan Bernstein, by Susan Bernstein

- **HERB BERGER,**
husband of Evelyn Berger, by Judy and Manny Baker, Lolly Bennett, Beverly and Bernie Bienstock, Judy and Mitch Blake, Harriet and Stan Epstein, Sidne and Tom Erdosi, Eileen and Lew Goldberg, Jeff and Judy Gottesman, Karen Gottlieb, Brana and Ron Hall, Sue and Paul Hoffman, Andrea and Noah Jussim, Sharon and Joel Krischer, Marsha and Forrest Latiner, Helayne and Joe Levy, Norma Laine, Lori Mendez and David Packer, Fay and Neville Pimstone, Sandie Sampson, Linda and Jack Topal, Shelly and Tom Vedres, Julia Weinberg and Dan Zwitman, Susie and Mark Yure'

- **GLORIA FREIMAN COHEN,**
Susan's former mother-in-law and beloved friend, by Joe Fingerett, Sue and Paul Hoffman, Sharon and Joel Krischer, Norma Laine, Marsha and Forrest Latiner, Laurie and Gary Samson

- **HARRY COHEN,**
grandfather of Beverly Bienstock, by Beverly and Bernie Bienstock

- **JENNIE ECKSTEIN,**
grandmother of Karen Gottlieb, by Karen Gottlieb

- **MORRIS GARDNER,**
father of Peter Gardner, by Peter and Karla Gardner

- **JOSEPH GOTTLIEB,**
grandfather of Karen Gottlieb, by Karen Gottlieb

- **SIDNEY GOULD,**
father of Mark Gould, by Mark and Shelley Gould

- **FLORENCE GRODY,**
mother of Wayne Grody, by Wayne and Gaylen Grody

- **CLAIRE MAIBAUM,**
grandmother of Matthew Maibaum, by Matthew Maibaum

- **LOUIS POSTERNACK,**
father of Elaine Olken, by Elaine and Sherwin Olken

- **RUTH POSTERNACK,**
aunt of Elaine Olken, by Elaine and Sherwin Olken

- **HANNAH SALLO,**
grandmother of Rachel Berg, by Rachel Berg

- **SHELDON SPECTOR,**
husband of Judy Spector, by Dr. & Mrs. David S. Pearlman

- **DAVID STROM,**
father of Joel Strom, by Joel and Holly Strom

- **LENA STROM,**
mother-in-law of Shirley Strom and grandmother of Joel Strom, by Shirley Strom, Joel and Holly Strom

- **WILLIAM STROM,**
father-in-law of Shirley Strom and grandfather of Joel Strom, by Shirley Strom, Joel and Holly Strom

- **SAM TOOCH,**
husband of Rachel Tooch, by Rachel Tooch

- **WILLARD WARREN,**
father of Stuart Warren, by Stuart Warren

- **SAM WOLFF,**
father of Sharon Krischer, by Sharon and Joel Krischer

Camp Ramah Fund

- In memory of**
David Strom, husband of Shirley Strom, by Shirley Strom

Prayer Book Fund

- In memory of**
Jack Goldin, father of Sharon Janks, by Sharon and Leon Janks

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

- In honor of**
Gail and Irv Rosenfeld's 40th Wedding Anniversary, by Gail and Irv Rosenfeld

David Spierer's Pidyon Haben, by Cynthia and Joe Spierer

- In memory of**
Minnie Wexler, grandmother of Sandie Sampson, by Sandie Sampson

Thank you to

Rabbi Gotlieb for being a blessed part of our lives and for your guidance, support, and friendship, by Susan and Richard Ross

Rabbi Gotlieb for everything, by Goldberger, Radin, and Flamm families

Rabbi Gotlieb for being there in our time of grief, by Joe Fingerett

Rabbi Gotlieb for your thoughtfulness and kindness, by Bill and Miriam Cohen

CONDOLENCES TO

Evelyn Berger on the passing of her husband, Herb Berger, on Monday, March 7.

Gail and Irv Rosenfeld on the passing of their son-in-law, Barak Ben-Tor, on Monday, February 22.

Susan Freiman Ross and Richard Ross, on the passing of Gloria Freiman Cohen, Susan's former mother-in-law and beloved friend, on Friday, February 12.

Morley and Deborah Berenbach on the passing of Morley's sister, Shari Berenbach, on Sunday, February 7.

MAZEL TOV TO

Cantor Samuel Cohen on his engagement.

Harla and Pat Levitt and Alana and Sam Levitt on the birth of their granddaughter and niece, Stella Hazel Palencia, born Monday, February 1.

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PURIM 2016

Thank you so much to those who participated in our Purim Megillah Reading and Raffle. It was fabulous! We had wonderful volunteers and Megillah readers, we sold 552 tickets, we had lots of fun dancing to the disco beat!

A HUGE thank you to our anonymous donor; by your generosity, you have not only helped us sustain our synagogue community, you have allowed us the ability to plan and explore future educational and spiritual programs. For all that you do in order to make our synagogue shine, and by extension, make God's presence more keenly felt in this world, we thank you.

We want to thank all our volunteers - those who made phone calls, those who served food, those who read the Megillah and everyone who participated in this wonderful event.

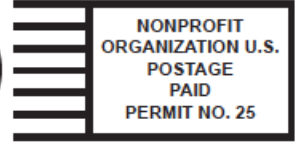
PRIZE WINNERS: GO PRO - Ronnie and Stan Rubin; BANANA REPUBLIC - Jay Jacob; NORDSTROMS GIFT CARD - Shelly and Tom Vedres; CANON CAMERA - Kathie and Phil Rose; ARCLIGHT AND PLAY - Lori and Brian Papernik; VISA GIFT CARD - Debbie and Morley Berenbach; SONOS PLAY 1 - Sonia Sabban; BLOOMINGDALES GIFT CARD - Susan and David Oberman; APPLE IWATCH - Julia Weinberg and Dan Zwitman; GRAND PRIZE!! \$3600 CASH - Sue and Paul Hoffman



To see the "whole megillah" album, please check out the KM website.



Kehillat Ma'arav
The Westside Congregation
1715 21st Street
Santa Monica, CA 90404



Rabbi	Michael Gotlieb
Cantor	Samuel Cohen
Executive Director	Kathie Rose
Director of Education & Youth Programming	Sharone Weizman
Head of Early Childhood & Arts Programs	Masha Savitz
Events Coordinator	Cindy Roth
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Executive VP	Jamie Green

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**Join us
for our
community
Seder on
April 22,
6:30pm.**



**Passover Services
Schedule:**

**1st Day:
Saturday 4/23**

**2nd Day:
Sunday 4/24**

**7th Day:
Friday 4/29**

**8th Day:
Shabbat & Yizkor
Saturday 4/30**

**All Services
begin at 9:30am.**