

TEMPLE AHAVAT SHALOM  
IS AFFILIATED WITH THE  
UNION FOR REFORM  
JUDAISM

# MENORAH

Temple Ahavat Shalom Northridge, California

FEBRUARY 2005  
SH'VAT-ADAR 5765

5<sup>th</sup> annual  
sylvia alster memorial event



klez mex music

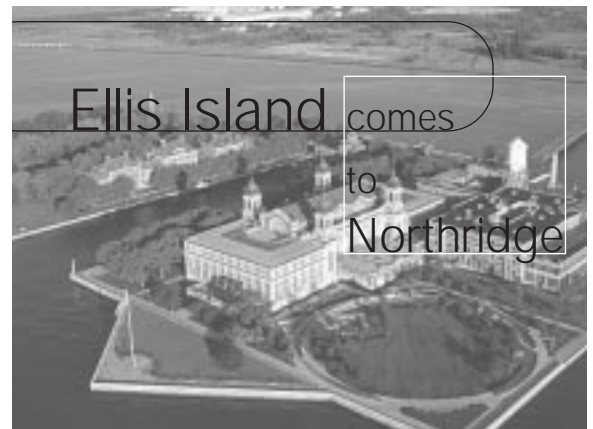


featuring the  
ellis island klezmer band

a cultural fusion of klezmer and mariachi music

saturday, february 26, 2005  
7:30 p.m.

dessert and party to follow  
temple ahavat shalom  
rsvp by february 16



The Fifth Annual Sylvia Alster Event will be held Saturday, Feb. 26. Our Temple will become the port of entry for a wonderful evening of concert and party music.

Barry Fisher's Ellis Island Klezmer Band, combined with members of Adam Ramirez's Los Dorados mariachis, will join forces to bring a truly unique performance. Imagine the early 1900s, Jews pouring into Mexico speaking Ladino and Yiddish, running head-long into Pancho Villa and the Mexican Revolution.

Founded in the 1970s, the Ellis Island Band is Los Angeles' oldest and most internationally renowned Klezmer band. They have played in the diverse settings of Nashville's Opryland, Poland's Krakow Jewish Festival, Yiddishkayt L.A. Festival, Jim Lehrer's NewsHour and a film depiction of Meyer Lansky's wedding.

Only in Los Angeles can you experience an evening of fusion of cultures which will include Ladino melodies, traditional klezmer and mariachi flavor.

Don't miss it! If you haven't received your invitation, call the Temple office.

# PULPIT CALENDAR

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4

8 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services with Rabbi Deitsch and Cantor Linsky; Sisterhood Shabbat

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11

8 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services with Rabbi Brown and Cantor Linsky

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

7:30 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services with Rabbi Lutz and Cantor Linsky

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 19

10:30 a.m.

SARA NAOR, Bat Mitzvah  
Daughter of Francine & Erjan Naor

5 p.m.

RACHEL SCOTT, Bat Mitzvah  
Daughter of Sharon and Russell Scott

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18

7:30 p.m. Erev Shabbat Services with Rabbi Lutz and Cantor Linsky

## Highlights of Board of Trustees Meeting

December 21, 2004

President Ed Lucks reported on the recent two-day rental of TAS facilities to a real estate group. This effort was coordinated by Facilities Chair Brian Hatkoff. Maintenance needs will now include regular roofer service to keep drains free of tree roots.

The budget process for 2005-2006 will begin soon, and the Fund Development Program needs to get into full swing, as we are behind current budget requirements. Ron Friedman urged that donations be made before Dec. 31.

Many TAS programs and events are planned for 2005, including The Alster Event Feb. 26, Purim Carnival on March 20 and the ongoing Book Club, which meets monthly. Esther Saritzky, as President of the Pacific Southwest Region of Union for Reform Judaism, urged the leadership of our congregation to attend the upcoming convention in Orange County, Feb. 18-20. Outstanding speakers will be featured as well as three well-known cantors from Argentina, who will entertain on Saturday evening.

Debby Lieber, ECEC liaison, reported on many of the recent and upcoming events including the Trike-A-Thon, the Annual Luncheon on April 3, a cooking class to be held by Director Debi Chesler, and the monthly Tot Shabbat. There are 71 children currently enrolled in the ECEC.

Cheri Cheney, Chair of the Security Committee, reported on the recent meeting with LAPD officers regarding the problem of skateboarders trespassing on TAS property.

Several deterrent methods are being investigated by the Committee. Sisterhood Co-Presidents Sonia Smith and Marsha Scheff urged participation in their monthly raffle, which supports the many programs Sisterhood sponsors throughout the year.

Congregants are always welcome to attend Board Meetings. The next will be held Feb. 15 in the Chapel at 7:30 p.m.

*Cathy Meyers, Secretary*

**PURIM  
2005**



kinda now,  
kinda wow!

It's around the corner, and it's going to be fun! This year's Purim Carnival will be held on March 20. And this year for Purim, you're going to want to bring all of your friends because we've got it all: thrilling rides, exciting games and awesome prizes. Yes, and yummy food to eat, and snowcones. This year, for a change, we thought we'd have a booth where you could win goldfish. You won't want to miss this carnival! If you're interested in helping, call Lila Snow at 818-832-4688. And mark down the 20th on your Palm Pilot or your Daytimer or your Bon Jovi wall calendar, because we wouldn't want you to make any other plans.

## Former TAS president receives honor

Gary Himler, who along with his late wife Bess, were among those responsible for the purchase of the land and the completion of much of the TAS campus, has been honored by Temple Beth Shalom of Peoria, AZ. In December, Gary received the Kavod Award, the congregation's highest recognition given to an active, dedicated member. Gary served as president of TAS from 1972 to 1975.



## SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mazel tov to Rhonda and Steven Schachter on the birth of their baby, Jessica Olivia, and to Sophia and Craig Redondo on the birth of their twins, Joseph and Rebeca.

## Tsunami aid

While the full extent of the devastation the earthquake and tidal waves in Southeast Asia will not be known for some time, it is clear that the assistance of the international community is needed to help those who survived rebuild their lives. The Union for Reform Judaism is working to determine the most appropriate international relief agencies to assist the people of the region and has opened a special fund, the URJ Asian Earthquake Relief Fund. We urge you to encourage your congregants to help the

*Continued on page 10*

cluknews

### Totally Active Seniors

Totally Active Seniors (T.A.S.) meet every Wednesday from 10:30 a.m. until 2 p.m. At Temple Ahavat we receive a complete lunch including milk for \$2. After lunch we have entertainment that might be bingo, current events, movies or other pursuits. If interested in joining please call Dorothy Bachelis, membership chairman, at 818-363-0844 for further information.

### Special Interest Groups

In an effort to meet the myriad needs of our congregants, we are creating a variety of special interest groups. These groups will provide the opportunity for people to connect with one another on a common-interest basis. Some ideas being considered include investment groups, bowling, gourmet groups, theater clubs, Shabbat dinner groups, pan, bridge, etc. What's your pleasure? We welcome your suggestions and your participation.

Please call us at 818-363-8017, or e-mail us at [Gusstern47@msn.com](mailto:Gusstern47@msn.com).

*Carol and Sandy Stern  
Co-chairs*

Visit the TAS website at [www.tasnorthridge.org](http://www.tasnorthridge.org)

URJ PACIFIC SOUTHWEST COUNCIL BIENNIAL CONVENTION:

## Don't miss the opportunity to worship, study, enrich your life

We in the Pacific Southwest Council have a unique opportunity to learn and study with Dale Glasser, Director of the Department of Synagogue Management of the Union for Reform Judaism. Dale will be offering a kallah on Friday, Feb. 18, preceding the Regional Biennial Convention in Costa Mesa. He is truly the "guru" of leadership training and is an inspiring and brilliant teacher.

Dale's kallah, titled "Creating a Vision: Becoming the Congregation You Would Like To Be," is a perfect leadership training day for board members and committee chairs to come to the Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel in Costa Mesa and gain the tools to be effective leaders.

There is still time to register for the URJ Pacific Southwest Council's 23rd Biennial Convention, which takes place Presidents Day Weekend, Feb. 18 to 20. This Biennial will feature a Who's Who of the Reform movement: Rabbi Eric Yoffie (President of the Union for Reform Judaism), Rabbi David Saperstein (Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism), Dale Glasser (Director of the URJ's Department of Synagogue Management), Rabbi Jan Katzew (Director of the URJ's Department of Jewish Lifelong Learning), Emily Grotta (URJ Director of Marketing and Communication), Rabbi Elliott Kleinman (URJ Director of Programs) and Rabbi Sue Ann Wasserman (Director of the URJ's Department of Worship, Music and Religious Living).

Please join us for an exceptional experience!

### PACIFIC SOUTHWEST COUNCIL BIENNIAL

FEBRUARY 18-20, 2005

Westin South Coast Plaza Hotel, Costa Mesa

"Filling Our Hearts with Wisdom: Living as Reform Jews Every Day"

the registry, go to [www.giftoflife.org](http://www.giftoflife.org), and come prepared to give the gift of life!

On top of all this, two world-class scholars from Hebrew Union College will be joining us. Dr. Gary Zola, the Director of the Jacob Rader Marcus American Jewish Archives, will teach on the American Jewish experience since the arrival of Jews in North America 350 years ago. Dr. Eitan Fishbane, Assistant Professor of Jewish Thought and noted expert on kabbalah and mysticism, will enthrall us with his lucid explanations of these arcane systems. We'll also be celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Los Angeles campus of HUC-JIR with a Saturday evening wine and cheese havdalah.

If this weren't enough, special guests will enliven this Biennial Convention. Four remarkable Argentinean Reform Jews, including Rabbi Sergio Bergman, will be traveling to the Biennial to conduct Kabbalat Shabbat services, put on a spectacular concert, and teach about the condition of Argentinean Jewry. And for something different – Joel Chasnoff – a hip young comedian, will entertain during a Friday oneg.

Of course, the Biennial will showcase inspiring, cutting-edge services, dozens of informative and thought-provoking workshops and affinity groups for presidents,

*Continued on page 10*

# A Russian rabbi teaches Jews, first off, to be Jews

By ERIN E. ARVEDLUND  
New York Times

MOSCOW – Before the rabbi reached the village, a remote town in Belarus, the local Jewish council members were at odds over the merits of their guest. At length one council member, an older gentleman, finally sighed, “Well, a woman is better than nothing.”

Nelly A. Shulman, the first and so far the only Russian-born woman to be a rabbi in the former Soviet Union, shakes her blond hair and laughs as she recalls the day she showed up in the village. Other than that incident, she says, the welcome from Jews returning to their faith here has been warm.

Ms. Shulman, 31, has a doubly difficult task in the former Soviet Union, where for decades religion was banned. She is educating Jews about Judaism first, and then must explain the Reform movement. Meanwhile, she has overcome the gender bias in some measure by staying for five years as a rabbi in Belarus and now in Moscow, where she also leads a Reform rabbinical training program.

To an extent that surprises even her, she is a trailblazer. “My replacement rabbi for Belarus went back to one of the kindergartens where I worked and introduced himself as the new rabbi,” she recalled. “The children who’d grown up with me replied, ‘But you can’t be. All rabbis are women!’”

Ms. Shulman and other Jewish leaders here are tending to a growing flock. Jews here are embracing religion, especially after Russian President Vladimir V. Putin publicly endorsed a chief rabbi in Russia and appointed a prime minister, Mikhail Fradkov, whose father is Jewish. Jews who left in Soviet times have in recent years begun trickling back, motivated by the booming, oil-driven economy and the demand for educated labor, as well as the violence of recent years in Israel.

And Jews have stopped leaving in large numbers. From a high point of 189,000 in 1990, the number of Jews leaving for Israel has dropped to about 10,000 a year, according to Avraham Berkowitz, an American-born rabbi here and executive director of the Federation of Jewish Communities in Russia and the former Soviet republics. Over the past two years, he said, more than 60,000 returned to Russia. Estimates vary, but Russia’s Jewish population now ranges from one million to two million, with most in Moscow, according to studies like one by the Russian Jewish Communities Federation. Those returning form a sort of “reaspora,” with some citing feelings of being more at home culturally, worries about terrorism, or simply the chance for a better job.

Young people are the most receptive to Ms. Shulman’s message, which is far less hierarchical than many expect to hear. “The rabbinate has changed since the 18th and 19th centuries,”

*Continued on page 10*

## Send for the Rebbe!

The Torah is the foundation of our Jewish tradition. This is the book that our people have lived with and died for. We read it. We pray with it. We chant it and we honor it. Our Torah is now the most popular book on the entire planet. After thousands of years of use by generation after generation, we, the people of today, have just one question to ask the author of the Torah. What are you trying to tell us?

We might as well start with Genesis. It is a beautiful tale of the creation of the world. There is a big problem, though, because the Torah has at least two versions of creation. How about the story of Cain, who is the child of Adam and Eve? Cain marries a woman and builds a town. But didn’t God just finish creating the first man and woman and Cain is their son? When did the inhabitants of a town appear? The Torah is filled with contradictions, repetitive descriptions and confusing stories.

Another of the problems with reading the Torah is that it is in biblical Hebrew. In English we have a choice of hundreds of thousands of words to describe exactly what we mean. Biblical Hebrew consists of only about five thousand words. And there are not even any vowels! One word can have several different meanings. We are not even sure of the proper pronunciation of all of the words.

The multiple possibilities in translation have allowed various translators the opportunity to bend the words to benefit their own interpretation. How is it possible for people to base their life and beliefs on a book that is so complex and difficult to understand?

The word Torah means teaching. It is not a book of laws to be followed as much as it is a book of instructions. In reality, it is impossible to understand what the book is teaching us without help from others. We also need to connect with those who came before us; scholars who spent their lives interpreting each letter, word and sentence while discussing what the Torah is trying to tell us. Those who follow us will connect as we did. It is a continuous thread.

Apparently, it is exactly those mystical knots in the Torah which inspire us to connect as a people. The Hebrew word for connecting or knotting something together is *kashar*. This word is used in the *shema*. God commands us to bind the words of the Torah as a sign upon our hands. An even stronger biblical word related to binding is *akad*. The Akedah, the binding of Isaac, is one of the most important episodes in the entire Torah. Thus, the purpose of the Torah is to bind us to each other as we are binding ourselves with God. Maybe that is the key to its survival and its importance. No one can figure it out by themselves. We need to cooperate. We need to study it together. We need each other.

Lox boxes are ordered and possibly done by the time you get this. We hope you enjoyed yours. If you missed out, there is always next year. Many people were thrilled with a lox box as a gift. What a great way to let people know that you were thinking about them. TASTY and Junior TASTY worked really hard to get these put together and to raise funds for scholarships, equipment, events, chaperones and much more. Thank you for your support!

#### Club 45 (4th, 5th grades)

Club 45 is having its next event on Feb. 26. We'll be having our ice cream social and movie night. Flyers should be out, or pick up yours in the religious school office, along with the permission slip which is a must for all events. The cost is only \$10. We will have a selection of movies, and the consensus wins. All movies will be PG and we will be playing a fun game, as well as Havdallah. So don't miss out on the fun. We'll be meeting in the Temple Youth Lounge at 6:30 p.m. for pizza, and the evening will end about 9:30 p.m. Hope to see you there! Questions? Call Cheryl Hatkoff at 818-701-7789.

## tasty news

#### Junior TASTY (6th, 7th, 8th grades)

Junior TASTY is having Shabbat Houses the first Friday night of each month. Come check out the new format. Dates are Feb. 4, March 4, April 1, May 6 and June 3. Come hang with Rabbi Deitsch and her great, creative ideas.

#### Senior TASTY (grades 9-12)

The next event for TASTY is miniature golfing on Sunday, Feb. 13. We will be meeting in the Youth Lounge and going to Castle Golf on Sepulveda, playing games and having dinner. Flyers should already be out, so if you need the information and your permission slip, pick them up in the Temple school office. Make sure to RSVP to the TASTY hotline at 818-360-2258, ext. 139, or e-mail Tastyrez@hotmail.com, so you have a spot in a car. Also mark your calendar for March 12 for Ice-O-Plex and April 2 for our Battle of the Bands. If you haven't seen the Youth Lounge yet, you are truly missing out. It is a great place to hang, completely repainted, thanks to Anna Fleischer and her helpers, and the furniture has been rearranged, with new equipment also on the way. Stop by. Board meetings are now on TASTY Tuesdays along with pizza, so come by and give us your input from 5:30 to 6:30 on Tuesday nights. Come early for class and hang with your friends. Make the events what you want them to be and give your feedback to the board.

## ecec NEWS

Once again I will be attending the Director's Retreat sponsored by the Association for Early Jewish Education. It is always a wonderful and enriching experience spending quality time with colleagues. It is a time for learning, relaxing and networking.

Next month our entire staff will have the opportunity to learn and network at the Bureau of Jewish Education Spring Institute. It takes place on March 7 at the Hilton in Woodland Hills. Jewish preschools all over the Los Angeles area are closed that day so their staffs can attend a day of learning together. Many interesting and diverse workshops are being planned for the day. Our staff always comes away from this day invigorated and full of new ideas to use with the children.

It is important for our teachers to participate in a conference like this. We live in a world where people who throw balls into hoops get paid millions of dollars a year, yet teachers who work with young children often barely make enough to make ends meet. Sometimes it is good to be reminded how very important the work we do is. Working in preschool is truly a gift of the heart.

Have a great month!

*B'shalom, Debi Chesler, ECEC Director*

## TAS

## in the news

Reprinted from the Jan. 7 Jewish Journal

In your Dec. 24 edition, you had an article, "Ending the Post-B' nait Mitzvah Exodus." It is interesting to me that you missed one of the most successful programs in Los Angeles. Temple Ahavat Shalom in Northridge has a remarkable retention rate. My son was confirmed in the 11th grade (two years ago) and there were more than 80 students with him. This is not unusual. It is an expected part of their Jewish education.

*June Levine Ariff via e-mail*

## Where are we now?

Joshua Levine, a student at Pierce, went to Israel with the Birthright Israel Program over winter break. Also attending Pierce (not mentioned in previous articles) are Jonathan Cooperman, Matt Goldberg, Rachel Mandell, Sean Brand and Jesse Reff. Zak Winnick attends College of the Canyons. Scott Berlin, Caryn Linder, Ariel Maccarone, Josh Sausner, Heather Schenkel and Julia Winters study at CSUN (along with other alums mentioned in previous articles). Ryan Vego attends San Francisco State University. Jody Gossom Nissa studies at Scripps College. Elliott Pershes attends UC Irvine. Jamie Steinman is studying at UC Riverside. Tori Morton and Alana Schnee attend UCLA. Melissa Sears and Michael Larner study at USC. Alan Arsenault attends Santa Monica City College. Rachael Feigelson is at the Fashion Design Institute. Julie Pollack attends Cal Poly San Luis Obispo.

Jeremy Ball is serving in the Navy. Gena Miller attends Florida State University. Josh Hall studies at Lafayette College. Rachel Londer is at the Otis School of Art and Design. Brad Steinberg studies at

Tulane University. Rebecca Bierman attends the University of Wisconsin. Ashley Levine is at Wheelock College.

Jessica Levin graduated from UC Santa Barbara in June, and after traveling in Europe for five weeks landed a job for KFWB News Radio and the Dodger Radio network (980 AM). She is an account executive selling advertising space, specializing in new business. Rebecca Hatkoff, after graduating from the University of Pennsylvania, spent a year teaching English in Japan. She is currently traveling throughout South America, and upon her return will be interviewing for teaching positions. Brad Herman is a Berkeley grad working at Berkeley. Aaron Levy works at KPMG. Amy Drell works at Universal Music.

Valerie Fishman is in a graduate program at Pepperdine University. Adam Kaiserman is in a Ph.D. program. Debby Schneider is earning her Masters in Education at the University of Phoenix. Matthew Lax attends Whittier Law School.

Soon Rabbi Brown will be visiting San Diego and Santa Barbara. Please look for e-mails with the specific dates, times and locations for these dinner get-togethers.

To the many families who have made donations this year to our Alumni program, our heartfelt thanks. Your support is necessary and always much appreciated.

*B'shalom, Wendy Krowne and Debbie Weiss,  
TAS Sisterhood Alumni Chairs, 360-2732/360-3576  
wkrowne@aol.com/phonemom56@aol.com*

**Sisterhood Judaica Shop**  
HOURS OF OPERATION  
Friday evenings during Oneg  
Sunday mornings, 9-11  
Wednesday mornings, 10-11:30

## Calling all XXs

If you are wondering if you are an XX, I am referring to chromosomes and to the females in the group. I want to let you know that the Sisterhood Mother-Daughter Tea is coming up and it is actually for all females. Whether you have a daughter, mother, aunt, cousin, friend, grandmother, niece or sister, this event is for you. The afternoon promises to be one of fun, laughter, memories, crafts, entertainment and of course...food. After all, we are a Jewish group. Don't miss out on this great time. The date is Sunday, May 1, from 2-4:30 p.m., in the TAS Social Hall. Bring two, three, four or five generations with you. Adults are \$15 and children \$10. To RSVP, watch for flyers in the mid-month mailer, call Cheryl Hatkoff at 818-701-7789, or pick up a flyer in the Temple office.

## Back by Popular Demand – TAS Rummage Sale

Please bring your clean, saleable items to the Activity Center on Saturday, Feb. 12, between 12:30 and 4 p.m. Unfortunately, we cannot accept anything earlier, nor can we pick up your items. All items should be in good condition and clean. We can no longer accept beds due to health regulations.

The TAS Rummage sale will be held Sunday, Feb. 13, between 8:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Your generosity with donations has helped Sisterhood and TAS greatly through the years. Please feel free to call if you have any questions.

*Chairpersons Marsha Scheff at 818-885-0347 or Cheryl Hatkoff, 818-701-7789*

## save the dates

### SISTERHOOD SHABBAT SERVICE

Friday Feb. 4

For info: Robin Gilmour 818-773-0431 and Sky Maccarone 818-772-1233

### TAS SISTERHOOD RUMMAGE SALE

Feb. 12 set-up noon-4 p. m.

Feb. 13 Rummage Sale 8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

For info: Marsha Scheff, 818-885-0347, Cheryl Hatkoff, 818- 701-7789

### SISTERHOOD GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, Feb. 17, 7 p.m.

Special Concert with Shira Brown Thomas at the home of Rabbi and Mrs. Brown. Reservations and Sisterhood Paid-Up Membership required. For info: Susie Zigmond, 818-993-8463, Karen Schnee, 818-368-3543

### MOTHER-DAUGHTER TEA

Sunday, May 1

For info: Cheryl Hatkoff, 818-701-7789

### MAH JONGG TOURNAMENT

Sunday May 15

For info: Phyllis Bigelson, 818-701-0600

# Music Beyond Measure

Rescheduled from September, Temple Ahavat Shalom Sisterhood is proud to present "Music Beyond Measure" on Thursday, Feb. 17, at 7 p.m. Join us at the home of Rabbi Jerald Brown and his wife, Gencie, for an informal get-together, where we will be entertained by our special guest, gifted operatic singer Shira Brown Thomas. Daughter of Rabbi Brown, Shira has been awarded many prestigious vocal scholarships and has won numerous vocal competitions. TAS Sisterhood is honored to have Shira entertain us with a program that will enchant and delight the musical soul in all of us.

Please note that this event is for TAS Sisterhood members only. RSVP by Feb. 10 to Karen Schnee (Kschnee916@aol.com or 818-368-3543) or Susie Zigmond (the3zees@earthlink.net or 818-993-8463). Seating is limited, so be sure to make your reservation early. Rabbi Brown's home is located at 10337 Laramie Ave., Chatsworth (near Devonshire and Oso) and the telephone number is 818-517-4102. There is no fee to attend this event.

For more information contact Sisterhood Programming Co-Vice Presidents, Karen Schnee or Susie Zigmond, at the e-mail addresses or telephone numbers listed above.

## Come look us over

This year Sisterhood will present a variety of monthly programs, holiday celebrations, workshops and special events to enhance your TAS membership. We offer many opportunities to become involved in Temple life, to make friends and have fun. We invite your membership.

Sisterhood is also proud of our new and refurbished Judaica Shop, extended kiddush program, annual Women's Seder, Chanukah Boutique, rummage sales, Tribute and personal invitation services. We are there to provide special onegs each Friday and sponsor Israeli dancing after our family service.

We will continue to help our preschool and religious school funding, Avodah, TASTY Tuesday, Camperships, Alumni Outreach, TAS Education Fund and other commitments. Sisterhood really needs the entire congregation's support to fund these important and amazing projects. Our "Benefit In Chai Gear" is our major fund-raiser for the year. Please help us support all the children of TAS.

*Marsha Scheff and Sonia Smith  
Sisterhood Co-Presidents*

## BENEFIT IN "CHAI" GEAR

Temple Ahavat Shalom's Sisterhood invites you to participate in a special drawing to help support the many programs that your Sisterhood contributes to throughout the year. You will be enrolled for the next five months of drawings simply by returning the form below with a donation of \$18 (for each ticket). From February-June three winning tickets will be drawn each month. First prize will be \$100 cash. There also will be second- and third-place non-monetary prizes awarded each month. That's 15 chances to win. All winning tickets will be returned to the box so that it is possible your ticket could be drawn more than once. Winners will be announced in the Menorah.

Please be assured that 100 percent of the proceeds from the sale of these tickets will go directly to support our projects. Our projects include:

Alumni Outreach	Avodah	Bibles for Confirmation
B'nai Mitzvah Gifts	Camp Scholarships	Students
Temple Youth Groups	ECEC	Israeli Dance Instruction
Social Action Projects	Religious School	Student Israel Programs
Educational Opportunity	NFTY	Oneg Shabbat and more

Your support is needed and very much appreciated.

Remember, together we make a difference. Please help us help our children by sending your check now. Thank you and good luck!

**BENEFIT IN "CHAI" GEAR** Fund-raiser for Temple youth projects  
First prize - \$100 cash, additional second- and third-place prizes  
3 drawings each month for 6 months • Cost - \$18 per ticket, payable to TAS Sisterhood

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Feel free to copy and purchase as many times as you wish

SEND TO: SONIA SMITH, 19044 LABRADOR ST., NORTHRIDGE, CA 91324

## TRIBUTE CARDS

Mel Birken is the person to contact when sending Sisterhood's tribute cards, 818-333-2397, Momel1@aol.com  
Tribute cards are \$3 each.

BAR/BAT MITZVAH ✦ WEDDINGS ✦ BIRTHS ✦

ANNIVERSARIES ✦ PARTIES

## SISTERHOOD

can help you with your personalized announcements and invitations.

For more information, call  
Judith Gottlieb at 363-6924

# Is optimism justifiable?

The death of Arafat has precipitated a wave of optimism. Dennis Ross in his book "The Missing Peace" chronicles his years since 1988 negotiating for a Palestinian-Israeli peace. The many cycles of optimism, followed by pessimism, gives us pause. Don't raise expectations too high!

There are reasons for optimism! The Palestinian Authority received \$20 million from the U.S. to finance economic reform and conduct elections in January. Mamoud Abbas, Arafat's successor, vows to seek a Palestinian State via talks, starting with the positions negotiated by Arafat and pursuing peace based on the rule of law and two states side by side. As a beginning in fulfilling security requirements the P.A. will deploy a 1,000-member force in the Gaza Strip to hunt down criminals and murderers.

Vacating settlements in Gaza may be problematic. Several Orthodox groups are encouraging the settlers and soldiers to resist efforts, by force if required. An American For Peace Now (APN) mission to determine the status of the settlement issue concluded in July, 2004, that it is important to support the Sharon initiative in order to begin the process of settlement evacuation. Geoffrey Aronson, Director of the Foundation for Middle East Peace, believes Sharon doesn't know how to end the occupation of Gaza. This, he believes, presents an opportunity for establishing a more peaceful framework for resolving age-old problems with the Palestinians.

ARZA is sponsoring Project Recovery, designed to provide Israeli children with a respite from violence. In a secure setting the children participate in peer-group activities emphasizing Reform Jewish values. Geared to fourth through 12th grade, the 12 congregations affiliated with the

Israel Movement for Progressive Judaism (IMPJ) host the groups once or twice per week. Led by youth trained in IMPJ leadership programs, the curriculum encompasses Chanukah, Passover and youth camp.

The Weizmann Institute is a source of great pride. A few of the recent developments: Professor Ruth Arnon, Department of Immunology, recipient of the Israel prize for medicine, has received approval for Copaxone, a drug that treats MS without compromising the immune system.

After 30 years of research she is developing a universal flu vaccine that is effective for up to 10 years... Professor Avri Ben Ze'ev is leading a team of Molecular Cell Biology researchers in tracing a key circuit that can lead to metastatic cancer of the colon. Thanks to Weizmann's enlightened approach to basic research, no boundaries are imposed between disciplines. Scientists from diverse backgrounds collaborate to solve some of the most complex problems.

ARZA's relationship to World Union for Progressive Judaism (WUPJ) has been redefined. WUPJ is solely responsible for raising funds to support congregations, educational programs and leadership development in Israel, the former Soviet Union (FSU) and throughout the world. ARZA is responsible for educating our constituents about Israel and representing them in Zionist organizations here and abroad. A share of our dues goes to fund projects of IMPJ and the Israel Religious Action Center (IRAC).

A Palestinian film, *Atash* (Thirst), a drama about the struggle between a domineering father and his children, received the award for best feature film at the International Film Festival held in Jerusalem. Previously, *Atash* won the

international critic's award at the Cannes Film Festival.

Reasons for cautious optimism... Twenty-two Arab youngsters from Jerusalem neighborhoods completed the first-ever Magen David Adom first-aid course for Arab teenagers... Tourism is up. More than 821,000 came to Israel in the first seven months of 2004. This is an increase of 58 percent over the same period in 2003... Indian Jews who came to Israel from Kerala, India, celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Cochin community's aliyah with a decision to turn their home in Nevatim in southern Israel into a replica of their place of origin. There are about 9,000 Cochini Jews in Israel... Two Bedoin professors at Ben Gurion University of the Negev have been elected chairs of their respective departments of Middle Eastern Studies and Social Work... The Israel Antiquities authority made two important discoveries in its excavations in Jaffa; a human skeleton dating back to the 12th century Crusader-era, and a Byzantine furnace used for forging metals.

Can optimism be justified in face of reports that over 50 percent of the Palestinians live below the poverty line on less than \$2 a day?; that the indignities they suffer at the checkpoints create martyrs; that even though Mamoud Abbas rejects terrorism, a significant number are willing to die in suicide bombings.

Can optimism be justified in the face of the greatest natural disaster in our time? The death toll from the Sumatra tsunami is 150,000 and climbing. However we must focus on the five million survivors we can help. The Jewish Journal resumed "The Human Toll of Terror" last month. Each victim of these mind-boggling tragedies has a unique story, and family and friends who survive and must be our focus. Isn't the essence of our Judaism to bless the light and tackle the task of Tikkun Olam?

Marvin Gottlieb, ARZA Chair  
818 363-6924  
msgottlieb1927@yahoo.com



## You made a child's dreams come true

What a mitzvah! Once again our caring community reached out to children in need and made their holiday dreams come true. You provided so many fabulous gifts that were able to send smiles to the original 240 children on our poster, and then send many more gifts to children in hospitals and shelters.

A special thanks to Sarah Londer, Social Action Chair; Barbara Aaronson, Myrna and DiDi Miller and Judy and Dori Daniels. They picked and sorted the hundreds of gifts, making sure each child received at least one. The Havurot including the Mayer, Stepakoff, Scott, Berman, Kent, Mondrus, Doner, Greenwald, Kantor, Hatkoff, Ingrum, Shearer and Kassan families. Each adopted a family, providing scrip for food and a gift for the caretakers as well as for the children.

Barry and Cathy Pearlman, Ron and Sandy Friedman, Lisa and Glenn Kantor, Sherry and Irv Lucks, and Cheryl and Brian Hatkoff went out of their way to provide for some children with very special needs. And our thanks to those outside our congregation who reached out with so many generous gifts.

The biggest, most heartfelt thank you goes to all of you who picked names, shopped, gift-wrapped and delivered your gifts to the Temple. Our congregation never ceases to amaze the caseworkers. They write of the joy on the children's faces as they deliver your gifts to each one. They wish they could share those moments with you.

Margaret Mead wrote, "Never doubt that a small group of concerned citizens can change the world. Indeed it is the only thing that ever has." Your concern continues to change the world of children who need to believe that there are those who care.

*Fran and Lenn Rosenfield, 818-360-2872,  
Franandlenn@verizon.net*

*"Never doubt  
that a small  
group of con-  
cerned  
citizens can  
change the  
world. Indeed it  
is the only thing  
that ever has."*

*Margaret Mead*

## LETTERS, WE GET LETTERS

Dear Fran Rosenfield:

On behalf of the Family Friends Project and Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles, we want to thank you for once again coming through for us in such a big way. You really helped to make this a much happier holiday season for many kids.

The fact that we are able to pass on so many toys and wonderful gifts to so many young people is a true testament to the hard work and organizing that you do so well. We are truly grateful for your generosity and for your support of our efforts.

Your continued support of our program is truly appreciated. Our best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year to both you and to Lenn.

*Sincerely,  
Felice Resnick, Project Director  
Family Friends Project*

*Sherri G. Kadovitz, Special Projects Coordinator  
Jewish Family Service*

## Save the Date

*The 2005 Gala will take place on Saturday, June 18. Mark it on your calendars. Think about what you'll wear, who will baby sit. Be ready! This is an evening you will not want to miss. An evening of surprises is planned. But, of course, you will not be surprised to be sharing the good food and fabulous ambiance with all the friendly, fun people that will be there.*

*The 2005 Gala Committee*

## Sale this month – only \$38,500

What is he talking about? Is it a time share? A new car? What? How about a plot? This might be the price 20 years from now. Will it be affordable? Will it be affordable for your family? Only you know that for sure. However, you don't need to spend \$38,500 for a plot of land today. Today you can buy it for a \$35,000 discount. Prices start at a mere \$3,500...but only on a pre-need basis. More important than the money is taking care of the future today and making it emotionally easier for your family. All the decisions can be made now while calm, controlled and rational. For additional information on cemetery plots, contact the Temple office or Brian Hatkoff at 818-701-7789.

## URJ RELIEF

*Continued from page 3*

people of Southeast Asia by donating to one of the relief agencies below. (Note that we will be providing up-to-date information on where donations may be sent on-line at <http://urj.org/relief>.)

*American Jewish World Service:*

[www.ajws.org](http://www.ajws.org)

*Doctors Without Borders:*

[www.doctorswithoutborders.org](http://www.doctorswithoutborders.org)

*Direct Relief International:*

[www.directrelief.org/sections/our\\_work/asia\\_earthquake.html](http://www.directrelief.org/sections/our_work/asia_earthquake.html)

*International Rescue Committee:*

[www.theirc.org](http://www.theirc.org)

For those who prefer to donate through the Union, donations to the Union's Asian Earthquake Relief Fund may be made on-line at [www.urj.org/give](http://www.urj.org/give).

Checks made payable to the Union for Reform Judaism (write "Asian Earthquake Relief Fund" in the memo section of your check) may be sent to:

Union for Reform Judaism

Attn: Asian Earthquake Disaster Relief Fund

633 Third Ave., 7th Floor

New York, NY 10017

*Rabbi Eric Yoffie, President*

*Robert Heller, Chairman*

You may also send your donation made payable to the Temple. In the memo section, write TSUNAMI.

## BIENNIAL

*Continued from page 3*

social action chairs, education committee chairs and more.

The Westin South Coast Plaza is a top-flight hotel with 392 spacious and beautifully appointed guest rooms. The hotel offers a complimentary shuttle service to and from John Wayne Airport, and the lobby has high-speed wireless Internet access. The Westin is giving an incredibly low rate to registrants of our Biennial.

This Biennial promises to be the best ever! Save this weekend! Ask the TAS office for a registration brochure or visit the website: [www.urj.org/psw](http://www.urj.org/psw) or call 818-907-8740.

## RUSSIAN RABBI

*Continued from page 4*

she said in her cut-glass British English, tempered with a smoky Russian accent.

"We're not gurus anymore, and when I teach kids about the Torah and Judaism I tell them I don't want to be the final authority," she continued, on morality and spiritual issues. "I want them to think for themselves, to use common sense and to know that they have freedom of choice in lots of parts of their lives."

Drawing out adults has been harder. "Most Jews here have all been brought up or lived in intermarried families," Ms. Shulman said. "It's hard for them because they may feel they have to forget their husbands and wives" who aren't Jewish. "We have to explain to them that they don't have to do that."

Ms. Shulman's personal history is one of circling back to Judaism with more curiosity and determination each time. She was born in 1972 in what is now St. Petersburg to parents who were nominally Jewish, she says with a laugh, but "really they were Communists." Her father did not practice at all. Her mother was more involved, lighting candles on holidays, going to synagogue once a year and studying Hebrew clandestinely.

"You couldn't do more unless you wanted to become a refusenik," Ms. Shulman said.

She recalls, as a teenager, wandering into St. Petersburg's only synagogue, which was Orthodox (and was subsequently restored by the late banker and philanthropist Edmond Safra). She felt little or nothing, she says.

"Spirituality was completely absent. We all thought religion was for old people."

It was not until 1992, when she was invited to a service, that she became intrigued with Reform Judaism, then just starting up in Russia. After college, she was invited to apply to Leo Baeck College in London, a Reform rabbinical school, in part because she was fluent in four languages, including Hebrew. She completed a six-year program – four years at rabbinical college, a year in Israel and an internship in the former Soviet Union. She moved to Minsk, capital of Belarus, in August, 1998, as one of three Reform rabbis in the former Soviet Union, and the only woman to be a rabbi. (The Orthodox do not ordain women.) Although there are now about 100 Reform congregations across Russia's 11 time zones, many operate with visiting rabbis.

She sometimes traveled hundreds of miles to remote towns. At a bar mitzvah in a village in Belarus, one elderly Jew told her he had not been to such a celebration since 1916, the year before the revolution. In another town, running a summer camp, she met her future husband. Together, they moved to Moscow last year and have a son, a toddler.

Ms. Shulman says that being a woman may actually have helped her career. "In other countries you go to a psychologist for advice, but people don't do that here," she said. "A lot of women in provincial places talk to me about issues like abortion, sexual harassment in the workplace, their families."

Anti-Semitism remains a problem in Russia, but is less pronounced than in

Europe, according to a 2003 report by a Moscow affiliate of the Union of Councils for Soviet Jews.

Ms. Shulman remembers when a university professor mocked her for choosing to write her thesis on Jewish communal life before 1917. She was one of only five Jews admitted under an informal quota in a department of 120 students, "so I couldn't hide my identity."

Nearly 15 years later, Ms. Shulman said, "things are much better." However, dozens of graves were desecrated in a Jewish cemetery in St. Petersburg recently, and in the Siberian city of Irkutsk a synagogue was destroyed by a fire the authorities called accidental. "I don't think so," sniffed the rabbi.

To many Russians now, religion is not only a comfort but is becoming downright fashionable. Russian Orthodox churches are packed most weekends, Islam is growing rapidly and Jews have a choice of Orthodox, Conservative or Reform congregations.

Ms. Shulman makes her presence known in unusual ways. She is a founding member and rabbi here for the World Union for Progressive Judaism, but still lighted candles and led services this past Chanukah at the Jewish Community Center, where a dozen or so worship each Friday.

And on a recent Saturday she led a service for deaf children, letting each child grasp the traditional shofar, or ram's horn, as she blew. "They hear the shofar by touching it with their hands," she said. "Isn't that amazing?"

*Visit the TAS website at [www.tasnorthridge.org](http://www.tasnorthridge.org)*

## MEN'S CLUB MANIFEST

### Fore! Golf Tourney

As you read this edition of the *Menorah*, there are just three months to go before the Men's Club's annual Golf Tournament. Join 100 other golfers in taking the day off on Monday, May 9, and become a "member for a day" at a fantastic local country club. We have lots of contests throughout the tournament – hole-in-one, longest drive and closest-to-the-pin. Trophies are awarded to the low-scoring foursomes, with an additional set for the best corporate foursome. Our best-ball format means that everyone has a chance to be part of a low scoring team, so join us regardless of your skill level.

Not interested in golfing? You can still support the tournament by becoming a sponsor. We have lots of sponsorship levels to suit everyone from an individual to a group to a corporate entity. As this is the Men's Club's single fund-raiser of the year, we need lots of sponsors to enable us to fund programs and activities at TAS. We welcome your support and involvement. Look for further details in future editions of the *Menorah* and the mid-month mailers.

### Men's Club Shabbat

The Men's Club wants to acknowledge co-chairmen Al Lapidés and Joel Lowell for a job very well done in coordinating the annual Men's Club Shabbat Service on Friday, Jan. 7. They guided a host of Men's Club's members in conducting a very meaningful service celebrating Reform Jewish brotherhood. We also thank Rabbi Lutz for his assistance with the service, and the TAS community that joined us in worship that night.

### Next Meeting

The Men's Club's next meeting will be on Sunday, Feb. 13. We start things off at 8:30 a.m. with our customary bagels and lox breakfast, continue with a brief business session, and finish with a presentation from a guest speaker. The Men's Club's mission is to provide a forum for our congregation's men to get to know one another. Whether you're looking to network your business, find a sports teammate or foe, or just meet a few new faces, the Men's Club could be the place for you. We hope to see you soon.

### Membership

The best way to fully experience the TAS Men's Club is by becoming a member. Dues are just \$50 for the year, \$35 for seniors, and \$15 for new Temple members. We meet every month, usually at 8:30 a.m. on the second Sunday of the month. Our meetings feature a lox and bagels breakfast, a quick business session and an interesting speaker. Please contact Men's Club President Joe Blachman (818-832-7874 or blachmanj@yahoo.com) for more information.

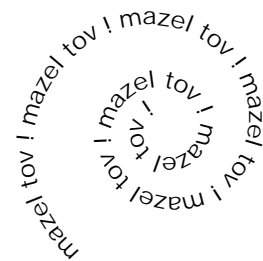
Men's Club is a great way to meet other men from the TAS community, to network professionally, and to get involved with the Temple. Please join us.

### Speakers

The Men's Club is always looking for speakers to address our meetings. Any topic is fair game, so please consider adding the Men's Club to your list of engagements. Contact Joe Blachman to get onto the Men's Club calendar.

## Christmas just wasn't any other day this year!

Men's Club and TASTY's Christmas Day had meaning. We went together and helped clean up at a park in Pasadena that served thousands of people Christmas lunch. We met at our newly decorated Youth Lounge, which, by the way, looks great thanks to Anna Fleischer and her team of elves. Since McDonald's was the only place open for lunch, we started there. Lunch was had by all and then we caravanned to Pasadena. We helped load tables, chairs and dirty dishes into trucks and then followed the trucks to the shelter, where we unloaded them. We spent about two hours helping out. We then caravanned back to the Valley and went to the movies to see "Meet the Fockers." OK, so it won't win any awards, but it was quite a fun movie and not a seat was vacant. I guess many others had the same idea. Our day ended at Golden Hunan Chinese Restaurant, where we could have held a congregational meeting. Thanks to Joe Blachman, Rabbi Karen Deitsch, Brian and Cheryl Hatkoff, Mike Thornhill and Gordon Lester for driving us and making the day possible. Charlie Carnow did a great job in planning the community service project. It was nice getting TASTY out there and helping people in need.



Mazel tov to Sharon and Mel Janis, on the marriage of their son, Michael Brooks, to Kimberly Farber.

**Alumni Outreach Fund**

Irwin and Susie Zigmond, in memory of Bill Schnee.

Mel, Les, Ben and Beccah Birken, in memory of Judi Birken Miller.

Mel, Les, Ben and Beccah Birken, in memory of Lillian Birken Cohen.

**Beautification Fund**

Judy and Dick Seligman, in honor of Carol Haaz's election as President-Elect of the Women's Council of Realtors.

**Cantor's Discretionary Fund**

Lila and Sheldon Snow, in memory of Anne Linsky.

Ronald and Harriet Davis.

Janet Hudson and Joel Miller, in honor of Cantor Linsky for Zachary's beautiful and meaningful Bar Mitzvah service.

Sandi and Lane Joel. "Thank you, Cantor Linsky, for the warm and beautiful service in memory of Mom. Your heartfelt words were a great source of comfort."

Sandi and Lane Joel, in memory of Anne Linsky, stepmother of Cantor Patti Linsky.

Mel, Les, Ben and Beccah Birken, in memory of Bill Schnee.

Mel, Les, Ben and Beccah Birken, in mem-

ory of Cantor Linsky's mother, Blanche Jacobson.

**Director of Education Discretionary Fund**

Janet Hudson and Joel Miller, in honor of Zachary's beautiful and meaningful Bar Mitzvah service.

**Early Childhood Fund**

Dafna and Richard Trites.

Sandi and Lane Joel. "Mazel Tov to Ellen Pollack on being installed as President of WRJ, Western Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, District 24. We are so proud of you."

**Education Opportunity Fund**

Jo, Jim, Annalee and Randy Schwartz, in memory of William Schnee.

**General Fund**

Sandy Tilsen, in memory of William Schnee. Sharon and Steve Drell and family, in memory of Sandi Joel's mother, Mickey Stern.

Natalie Berkowitz, in memory of William Schnee.

Roza Kasman, in memory of Lazar

Shvartsman. Joshua Rawitch. North Valley Senior Club.

**Mitzvah Network Fund**

Mel, Les, Ben and Beccah Birken, in honor of the wedding of Kimberly and Michael. "Mazel tov."

The Garelik family, in memory of Cion Bienstock's beloved father.

**Norma Rosenberg Education Fund**

Danton Weiss and Jeri Weiss, in honor of Steve Rosenberg's birthday.

**Rabbis' Discretionary Fund**

Arie and Ruth Binshtock.

Howard, Karen, Alana and Rebecca Schnee, in memory of our father, William M. Schnee.

Sandi and Lane Joel. "Thank you, Rabbi Deitsch, for the beautiful baby naming service of our granddaughter, Hanna Rae Joel."

Mel, Les, Ben and Beccah Birken, in memory of Joe Birken.

Sarah Goldflam.

Allan and Gloria Katcher.

Judy and Dick Seligman, wishing Harvey Kern a speedy and full recovery.

Rosanne and Steve Gore and family, in memory of Linda Gordon, beloved daughter.

Rosanne and Steve Gore and family, in memory of Rick Konecky's step-father.

**Religious & Hebrew School Fund**

Judy and Dick Seligman, in memory of Janis Damon, mother of Linda Roth, grandmother of Dana and Matthew.

**Ronna & Lew Edgers Memorial Israel Programs**

Lila and Sheldon Snow, in memory of Sam Bienstock.

The Alban family, in memory of Samuel Bienstock, beloved father and grandfather.

The Alban family, in memory of Judi Berkovitz, beloved wife and mother.

**LONG-TERM FINANCIAL PLANNING AND TEMPLE AHAVAT SHALOM**

Are you interested in learning how to:

- ◆ Provide for your family's needs.
- ◆ Make gifts to charities and others.
- ◆ Lower your taxes.
- ◆ Review your property arrangements

(and its passage to future heirs).

REMEMBER TAS IN YOUR WILL.

Contact the Temple Office for details.

**Santa Clarita Valley Connection**

Adam Howard and family, in honor of Mrs. Kessler. "Happy Chanukah."  
Adam Howard and Family, in honor of Mrs. Koyman. "Thank you for being an inspired Hebrew teacher."  
Adam Howard and family, in honor of Miss Forstein. "Happy Chanukah."

**Social Action Fund**

Fran and Lenn Rosenfield. "Mazel tov Sharon and Mel Janis, on Michael's marriage. "We wish a wonderful life for a wonderful young man and his wife."  
Fran and Lenn Rosenfield, in honor of the incredible Sarah Londer. "You shlepped, sorted, worked with the holiday gifts donated for 240 children, and then brought us chicken soup to cure our colds – We love you!"  
Max and Ruth Lupul.  
Judy and Dick Seligman, in honor of the retirement of Dr. Harold Bass, geneticist and pediatrician extraordinaire.

**VI & David Lieber Memorial Music Fund**

Debbie and Art Heisman, in honor of Fran Krimston. "Hope the surgery went well."

**Yahrzeits**

Max and Ruth Lupul, in memory of Esther Abramovitch.  
Lila and Sheldon Snow, in memory of Sophie Sarfaty.  
Lila and Sheldon Snow, in memory of Irving Sarfaty.  
Mrs. Syralie Avnes and Michele Avnes, in memory of Julius L. Avnes.  
Harriet Leibovitch, in memory of Sydney Zomis.  
Harriet and Eric Leibovitch, in memory of Alan Leibovitch.  
Stephanie Howard, in memory of Rose Nadler.  
Sherry and Ira Kaplan, in memory of Beth Robinson.  
Irving Reizes, in memory of my sister, Yetta Greenberg.  
Irving Reizes, in memory of Judith Reizes.  
Marc, Mary, Denise and Suzanne Eastman, in memory of Sylvia Flam.  
Tony, Nadine and Liann Tucker, in memory of Les Behr.

Wendy and Barry Krowne, in memory of Harriet Siegel.  
Abbey Klein and David Sikes, in memory of Laura Klein.  
Jerry and Cathy Meyers, in memory of Sidney David Meyers.  
Judy and Steve Wolff, in memory of Bernice Silver.  
David and Susan Cohen, in memory of Esna Cohen.  
Mel, Les, Ben and Beccah Birken, in memory of Manny Birken.  
Mel, Les, Ben and Beccah Birken, in memory of Miriam Snyder.  
Mel, Les, Ben and Beccah Birken, in memory of Bertha Kline.  
Leslie Grossberg, in memory of Arthur Irwin Sender.  
Ronald Cohn, in memory of Harold Cohn.  
Ronald Cohn, in memory of Sophie Friedman.  
Sandy Tilsen, in memory of Ernestine Miller.  
Mr. and Mrs. Larry Linder, in memory of Pearl Rubin.  
Marvin and Judith Gottlieb, in memory of Matthew Gary Gottlieb.  
Fran and Lenn Rosenfield, in memory of Herman Schermer.  
Fran and Lenn Rosenfield, in memory of Mollie Rosenfield.  
Heather and Doug Kayne, in memory of Stephanie Bryman.  
Anita Hoch, in memory of Rose Schwartz.  
Vicki Sternfeld-Rossi and Mauro Rossi, in memory of Florence Gordon.  
Marilyn Padow, in memory of Manny Rubin.  
Marilyn Padow, in memory of Walter Rubin.  
Gail, Samantha and Sasha Karlin, in memory of Cele Karlin.  
Robin Toder, in memory of Loren Toder.  
Terry and Bruce Hatkoff, in memory of Frances Sisskin.  
Terry and Bruce Hatkoff, in memory of Tillie Smith.  
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Blatt, honoring all our dearly beloved who are no longer with us.  
James and Lynnette Rahm, in memory of Ralph Starr.  
Marge Dallis, in memory of Jennie Dallis.  
Jill and Alan Morgenstein, in memory of Leonard Morgenstein.  
Ed, Fran, Beverly, Seth and Jared Handler, in memory of Mark Handler.  
Jerry and Cathy Meyers, in memory of Margaret Francis.

Jerry and Cathy Meyers, in memory of Joseph Shenfeld, father of Linda Evans.  
Debby and Aaron Weissman, in memory of Roselyn A. Weissman.  
Julie and Gary Bacon, in memory of Edward Strasser.  
Randy and Laura Wasoff, in memory of William Wasoff.  
Leon and Rona Cole, in memory of Dora Cole.  
JoAnn, Josh and Jeff Spry and Bernard and Gloria Forster, in memory of Rose Esther Rose.

CONDOLENCES

The rabbis, cantor and congregation wish to express their heartfelt condolences to:

Linda Evans and family on the death of her father, Joseph Shenfeld.

Alan and Paige Berkovitz and family on the death of his wife and her mother, Judi Schechter Berkovitz.

Howard Schnee and family on the death of his father, William Schnee.

Cion Bienstock and family on the death of his father, Samuel Bienstock.

Cecile Kornswiet and family on the death of her husband, Edwin Kornswiet..



Published monthly by Temple Ahavat Shalom  
18200 Rinaldi Place, Northridge, CA 91326

Editor: FRAN KRIMSTON  
Proofreader: MONTE KRIMSTON  
Deadlines are the 5th  
of the preceding month.

Please leave a copy of your article in the  
MENORAH box in the temple office,  
fax it to (818) 832-0076  
or e-mail fran@hillside memorial.com.

# FEBRUARY 2005

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Group 4 p.m. Junior Choir	<b>2</b> 10:30 a.m. Seniors Meeting	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 7 p.m. TASTY Shabbat House 8 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service; Sisterhood Shabbat	<b>5</b> 9:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat
<b>6</b> 11 a.m. Adult Ed: Conversational Hebrew 11 a.m. Adult Ed: Hebrew II	<b>7</b> 7 p.m.: Adult Ed: Intro to Judaism	<b>8</b> 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Group 4 p.m. Junior Choir	<b>9</b> 10:30 a.m. Seniors Meeting	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 8 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 8:30 a.m. Men's Club 11 a.m. Adult Ed: Conversational Hebrew 11 a.m. Adult Ed: Hebrew II	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Group 4 p.m. Junior Choir 7:30 p.m. TAS Board Meeting	<b>16</b> 10:30 a.m. Seniors Meeting	<b>17</b> 7 p.m. Sisterhood Meeting	<b>18</b> URJ Regional Biennial – Costa Mesa 7:30 p.m. Erev Shabbat Family Service	<b>19</b> URJ Regional Biennial 10:30 a.m. Bat Mitzvah of Sara Naor 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Minyan 5 p.m. Bat Mitzvah of Rachel Scott
<b>20</b> URJ Regional Biennial Presidents' Weekend – Temple Closed/No School	<b>21</b> Presidents' Day – Temple Closed/No School	<b>22</b> 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Group 4 p.m. Junior Choir	<b>23</b> 10:30 a.m. Seniors Meeting	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 8 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service	<b>26</b> 7 p.m. Sylvia Alster Event
<b>27</b> 11 a.m. Adult Ed: Conversational Hebrew 11 a.m. Adult Ed: Hebrew II	<b>28</b> 7 p.m.: Adult Ed: Intro to Judaism	UPCOMING EVENTS: March 1- 9:30 a.m. Bible Study Group, 4 p.m. Jr. Choir March 2-10:30 a.m. Seniors Meeting; March 4 - 7 p.m Jr. TASTY Shabbat House, 8 p.m. Erev Shabbat Service – Shabbat Across America; March 5 - 9:30 a.m. Tot Shabbat, 10:30 a.m. Bar Mitzvah of David Liberman, 5 p.m. Bar Mitzvah of Alexander Pyle.				

## TEMPLE AHAVAT SHALOM

18200 Rinaldi Place  
 Northridge, CA 91326  
 (818) 360.2258  
 (818) 360.5947 (fax)  
[www.tasnorthridge.org](http://www.tasnorthridge.org)

NON-PROFIT  
 Organization  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 Van Nuys, CA  
 Permit No. 599

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**  
**Dated Material**  
**PLEASE EXPEDITE**