

MINYAN MONTHLY



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Imahot Update

The Imahot issue (should the names of the Imahot, Sarah, Rivka, Rachel and Leah, be included in the recitation of the first paragraph of the Amidah) will be discussed at the Minyan Meeting on March fifth. At that time the Imahot Committee will present their findings and proposals to the Minyan at large. Following the meeting an election statement and ballot will be mailed to all members. The final decision will be determined based on the results of that ballot.

Torah Reading Cycle Changes Proposed by Law Committee

The Minyan, like many other Conservative congregations, reads the Torah according to a triennial cycle. The details of the cycle vary from congregation to congregation in a chaotic fashion. The Committee on Jewish Law and Standards of the Rabbinical Assembly of the Conservative Movement has issued guidelines to promote uniformity. The guidelines divide each Parsha into three sections, each section into seven Aliyot, and insure that the Maftir will always be the last few lines of the section read in a given week. Further, all congregations that use the triennial cycle will read the same third of the Parsha in a given year. The new triennial cycle system is scheduled to begin in the year 5750, with all congregations reading the first third
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Triennial Cycle

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of each Parsha. The Minyan currently reads the last section of the entire Parsha as Maftir each week, and is currently reading the second third of each Parsha, and is scheduled to read the last third in 5750. To comply with the new standards would require changes in both these areas. This will be discussed at the March 5th General Meeting.

Rabbi David Aronson Book Fund

The Library Minyan wishes to thank the following people for their contributions to the Rabbi David Aronson Book Fund. So far, we have collected enough money to purchase 35 books. Please send in your order form soon so we may quickly reach our goal of donating 100 books in memory of Rabbi Aronson.

David & Lilian Zerner

in memory of Rabbi Aronson

Heinrich Guttman

in memory of my wife, Osna Guttman

Jack Becker

in memory of Rabbi Aronson

Elliot & Marlynn Dorff

in memory of Rabbi Aronson

Marshal Hannah Rachel & Miriam Kramer

in memory of our mother and
grandmother, Osna Guttman

Lida Baker & Paul Nussbaum

in memory of Margit Epstein

Cathie & Jules Kamin

in memory of Yaacov Mordecai Kamin

Cathie & Jules Kamin

in memory of Emanuel S. Lippman

Jarrey & Barbara Rabin

in memory of Rabbi Aronson

Stanley & Muriel Tharler

in honor of Gary Tharler's birthday

ATID Leadership Development Program Wins Award

The Pacific Southwest Region of the United Synagogue of America has recently presented a Regional Award to Temple Beth Am in recognition of its unique ATID Leadership Development Program.

Lay leadership is the backbone of every synagogue. Clearly, the Library Minyan exemplifies the importance of active volunteer involvement. Likewise, the involvement of dedicated and hard working lay volunteers is crucial to the overall operation of Temple Beth Am. The ATID Leadership Development Program was designed to reach out to a nurture a cadre of future lay leaders for Temple Beth Am.

The first sixteen graduates of this unique program have already assumed leadership positions in Beth Am. This year, twenty-five individuals are participating in the second leadership development group, ATID Bet. They are participating in monthly training sessions focusing on such issues as Jewish models of leadership, the role of committees, the ideology of the Conservative movement and the organization of Temple Beth Am. At the end of the training program they too will be placed on synagogue committees and the synagogue's board of trustees.

Approximately half of the participants in ATID daven in the Library Minyan. The chair of the advisory committee is Library Minyan member Dr. Hanan Alexander and the program is coordinated by Frieda Huberman. For additional information concerning ATID contact Frieda Huberman (652-7353, ext. 107).

Liaison Meeting Report

A Liaison meeting took place last October between an ad hoc Library Minyan Steering Committee (composed of committee chairs and active members of the Minyan), and Rabbi Joel Rembaum, President Leonard Smith, Vice President Howard Pilch, and Executive Director Bill Strick, to discuss the issue of Minyan-Synagogue relations. Among the topics raised at the meeting were Minyan by-laws and organization, High Holiday tickets and membership, and the possibility of the Minyan assisting in efforts to rejuvenate davening in the main sanctuary.

It was agreed that Jeff Rabin would draw up a new organizational plan for the Minyan, which would be subject to approval by the Minyan, and would be submitted to the Synagogue board to insure that they do not jeopardize the Synagogue's tax-exempt status in any way.

It was reaffirmed that membership in the Minyan, including the assignment of High Holiday seating, was to be determined by the Minyan, not by the Synagogue.

The Synagogue requested the help of the Minyan in building up attendance at Shabbat services. New, younger members of the congregation do not generally participate in these services. Various possibilities were discussed whereby the Minyan could help create an atmosphere that would attract these new people to the main sanctuary without threatening the viability of the Minyan itself or of its services. No conclusions were reached, but it was agreed to continue the discussion at a later date.

Executive Committee Report General Meeting Scheduled

The Executive Committee of the Library Minyan met in January, and decided to hold a general meeting of the Minyan at 8:00 PM on Sunday March 5th, in the Chapel. Norm Green is putting together the agenda for the meeting.

The Executive Committee was designated interim Synagogue Liaison Committee, and Ruth Askren was appointed as Liaison Chair.

Stan Goldstein Agreed to serve as Ritual Committee Chair, and agreed to set up a meeting to discuss a variety of problems. (see Ritual Committee Report for details.)

The Child Care Committee indicated that there were not enough people available to supervise on Shabbat morning. The Committee was given authority to hire an additional person to help with child care.

The problem of integrating new members into the Minyan was discussed. The Hospitality Committee agreed to meet and discuss some new ideas such as having more Kiddushes, and having old members "adopt" new members.



Ritual Committee Report

The Ritual Committee discussed various problems that the Gabbai's have faced recently.

It was determined that there was no serious problem of "quality control" among the shlichei tzibur, but that there was a problem of rudeness on the part of certain members when they personally were not satisfied with the shaliach tzibur's style of davening.

The problem of transition from one set of Gabbais to another, and the training of new Gabbais was discussed. It was determined that new Gabbais need a written guide to acquaint them with Minyan customs when they begin their term as Gabbai. Norm Green and Lida Baker volunteered to prepare a draft. It was also recommended that new Gabbais be paired with old Gabbais in a transition learning period, and that a special class be held for potential Torah Gabbais, to acquaint them with the special rituals of the Torah Service. The possibility of new classes for potential shlichei tzibur was also discussed.

The practice of reciting Misheberachs was regularized. Beginning immediately, the Torah Gabbai will issue a call for Misheberachs immediately after calling up the third Aliyah. Each Misheberach will be recited individually. In addition, after Kaddish, the Torah Gabbai will announce a collective Misheberach for anyone who did not come up at the time of the third Aliyah.

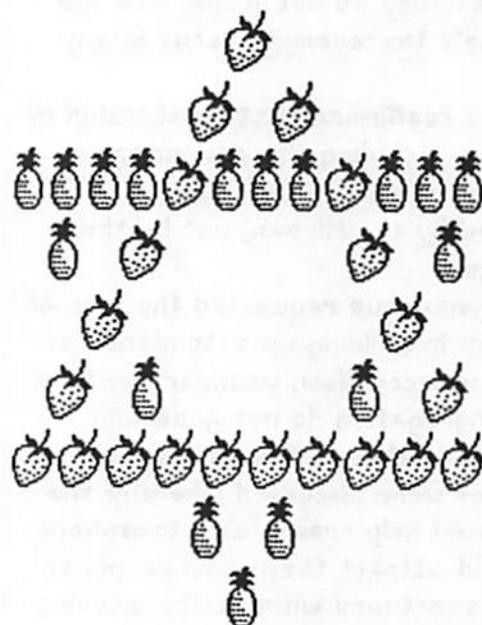
The Committee decided to place the issue of the new triennial cycle of Torah reading before the general membership at the March 5th meeting. (See story on page 1 for details.)

The committee discussed criteria by which a non-member might celebrate a

simcha at the Minyan. It was decided that a non-member could not hold a Bar/Bat Mitzvah, but that an Ufruffen, baby naming or similar simcha might be celebrated. It was suggested that non-members who celebrate a simcha at the Minyan be asked to host a Kiddush after the service.

The committee accepted an invitation to daven in the main sanctuary on the 7th day of Pesach. The Gabbai for that week, Georgia Beller, will arrange this.

A questionnaire will be drawn up and sent out in a future issue of the Minyan Monthly to establish a list of members willing and able to daven, read Torah etc. This list will be used by the Gabbais in setting up the weekly service.



Library Minyan Committees

Davening:

Judy Lederich (818) 908-9112
Elishera Hettinger 652-6825
Georgia Beller 854-0275
Ron Ostroff 836-4648

Reading Torah or Haftorah:

Lida Baker 934-3663
Sharon Kushner 659-1926

Drashot:

Fred Landau 657-7903

Torah Gabbaim & Ark Opening

Ron Cohen 658-8057
Henry Morgan 276-6371

Child care:

Ruth Askren 935-1567
Fran Grossman 933-5040
Rachel Green 938-8110

Kiddush:

Judy Bacherman 652-9280

Hospitality:

Georgia Beller 854-0275

Minyan Monthly

Fay Wouk 397-4567
Ruth Askren 935-1567
Sharon & Brad Grob 933-8872

Membership

Jeff Rabin 553-0904
Norm Green 938-8110

Treasurer & Mailing List

Eddie Rabin 286-9567

By-Laws/Grievances

Jeff Rabin 553-0904
Shelley Dorph 271-1524

Thanks for supporting us!

The minyan would like to thank the following people for their generous contributions:

Laura Moss
Linda & Amos Amit
Larry Harris
Mayer & Faith Schames
David & Marica Nimmer
Eric Lesin
Ronnie & Hilda Cohen
Samuel Jason
Rabbi Joel & Fradya Rembaum
Raphael Kanter
Sam & Miriam Shapiro
Isabel & Samuel Arshawsky
Dan & Barbara Freeman
Jeff & Amy Rabin
Nathan Krotinger
Esther Lerner Brenner
Perry & Rena Horowitz
Penny Simison



Announcements

Apt for rent - large two bedroom apartment two blocks from Beth Am. Upstairs unit in small building - light and airy. Available March 1. Rent \$975 per month. Call 659-6977.

Biblical Hebrew Class - For the last two years, I have been teaching a Biblical Hebrew class in my home on Wednesday nights. So far we have read the story of Joseph in Genesis and the entire book of Samuel I. We are currently reading the book of Ruth. We study Hebrew grammar and vocabulary by reading the text and translating it. I'd like to invite new people to join our study group. For more information, please call Lida Baker at (213) 934-3663.

Lamaze Classes - regular Lamaze classes given by Linda Levenson, R.N.M.N. in Beverly Hills. Lamaz'1 Tor class (combined Lamaze and Jewish parenting) taught by Linda Levenson and Rabbi Joel Zeff. For more information call Linda at 553-5346.



The *Minyan Monthly* is published by Sharon Grob, illustrated by Ruth Askren, and edited by Fay Wouk. If you would like to publish a letter, announcement, or article in the next issue, please send it to Fay at 4107 Inglewood Blvd, LA 90066. (Phone: 213-397-4567.)

The *Minyan Monthly* asks that each family receiving the *Minyan Monthly* pay a fee or \$10 per year. Please Make your check payable to TBA Library Minyan - *Minyan Monthly* and send it c/o Eddie Rabin, 1181 Hi Point St., LA CA 90035.