



## Laugh Out Loud Comedy Comes to the Temple





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www.TempleNerAmi.org

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**Shalom**

By Rabbi Mike Lotker

Some sixteen years ago I first stood before the congregants of what was then called Jewish Families of Camarillo. I was being presented at the congregation's annual meeting as the new student rabbi. With a little bit of experience, a little bit of chutzpah, a lot of nerves and a lot of preparation, I tried to sound rabbinic. It was a disaster! It was then that I realized that I couldn't pretend; that I just had to be myself.

How lucky I was to have a congregation who was so patient, so understanding and so willing to just let me be myself.

When I describe the experience, I often say "It's like a doctor who practiced medicine for a couple of years, liked it and then decided to go to medical school." So I practiced being a rabbi for two years, loved it and then decided to go on to rabbinical school. In my last year at Hebrew Union College, the congregation, now called Temple Ner Ami, again approached me. I served for a third year as student rabbi while in my last year at HUC, and for the next nine as an ordained rabbi.

I have laughed and cried with you, named your children, Bar and Bat Mitzvahed them, married them, named their children, and, sadly, laid some of

them to rest along with our brothers, sisters, parents and grandparents. We have celebrated the holidays together, the serious and the silly. We have studied together and visited Israel together.

Words fail me as I try to express my gratitude and admiration to those who had the wisdom, courage and energy to begin this sacred congregation and who

sustained it with love. We have lost not a few of them as the years have passed yet I am confident that they continue to keep an eye on their Temple family from a much

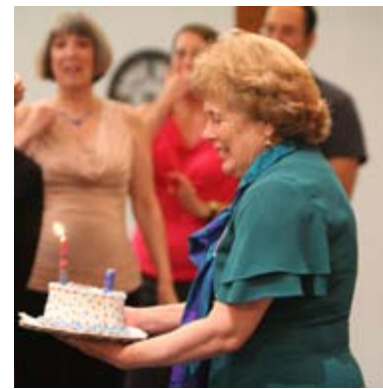
higher vantage point. Their memory is truly a blessing.

And so now I wish you all and Temple Ner Ami shalom. Shalom means far more than goodbye. It comes from the Hebrew root "shleymoot" which means wholeness. I wish you and your new rabbi, my dear friend and colleague Lisa Bock, many years of wholeness, of health, of learning, of prosperity, of friendship, of community and of peace.

*Cain y'he ratzon* – may this be God's will.

*B'shalom* – In Peace,

Rabbi Mike



Photos courtesy Arla Crane, Shari Brody & Allyson Williams.

**Fun & Surprises at 2nd Anniversary Celebration**

by Shari Brody

If "laughter is the best medicine," then over 100 people received a large dose of it on Saturday evening! The Sisterhood-sponsored evening of Music, Comedy, Champagne and Dessert was laugh-out-loud funny, thanks to professional comedian Keith Barany.

Welcoming the arriving guests was background music played by Joan Frank, whose CD Electronically Yours, Vol 1 Geony is available in the Temple gift case. Due to illness, Keith Elliott was unable to play for us as scheduled. Our "music mavens," Julia Newman and Saul Lessler, saved the day by locating a very talented high school senior who has already performed at the Lincoln Center in New York. Michael Aspinwall of Calabasas played a variety of jazz, classical and piano favorites which impressed the crowd.

Serving as MC's for the festivities were Sisterhood Officers Shari Brody and Arla Crane. Before the evening's star attraction, comedian Keith Barany, was introduced, Max Heller was wished a happy 95th birthday in a touching ceremony. Next, *Women of Valor Awards* were presented to four unsuspecting Sisterhood members—Annelies Regen (who was not able to attend), Naomi Brill, Sonia Lotker and Shari Brody.

After thoroughly enjoying the music and comedy, of the evening, the guests were invited to catered desserts and champagne.

It was an unforgettable evening and a very happy celebration!

Thanks to Rabbi Lotker's discretionary fund which provided the major sponsorship for the evening.

We are very grateful to the following Temple members whose generosity helped sponsored the evening: Naomi Brill, Howard & Shari Brody, Jay & Arla Crane, Cantor Karen Dworsky, Larry & Gail Kleinman, Saul Lessler & Julia Newman and Steve & Jennifer Moore.

The women who were on the Sisterhood 2nd Anniversary Planning Committee did an outstanding job of organizing our event: Naomi Brill, Shari Brody, Elvira Cabelli, Arla Crane, Bobbe Jacobs, Bev Kerwien and Sonia Lotker.

The following members of the Brotherhood were on hand to collect tickets, usher and clean-up: Jay Berger, Howard Brody, Jay Crane, Larry Kleinman and Dale Jacobs.

Our thanks to Mark Malloy, Kaila Kaden, & Julia Newman for their continual support.

Torah School parents did an impressive job as volunteers serving the desserts and champagne and doing the behind the scene preparation. A big thank you to Andrew Santer, Jessica Budin, Robin Elliott, and Susan Saleh, who looked quite professional!

The most important fact is that our Torah School benefited by this event, which will fund these vital programs serving the children and teens who are enrolled:

- The Newman Scholarship Fund
- The Dubin Teen Fund
- Extreme Haverim Summer Camp (financial assistance)
- Madrichim (teaching assistants)





## Presidents Column

by Sarene Wallace, Tresident

### Retreat

The temple's board has been very busy this spring in preparation for the new fiscal year starting July 1. We held a four-hour offsite retreat at Leisure Village with Ken Bock to go discuss what steps we can take to get the temple's financial health back on track. Ken (AKA Lisa's husband) has a great deal of experience with financial and temple matters.

In light of the retreat, I'm excited to announce that the board has decided to keep the dues at the 2011-2012 level. We understand that some of our congregation is able to pay more than other members, so we will be introducing some new programs to reflect that. Watch your mailbox for details.

Since the industry standard is for 70% of a temple's budget to come from dues, we'll need strong support of our fundraisers to make up the remaining 30%. Or more. Remember what fun Oy Vegas was last year? Well, we'll be doing it again this year so you and your friends can have fun and help the temple at the same time.

### Congratulations, Lisa!

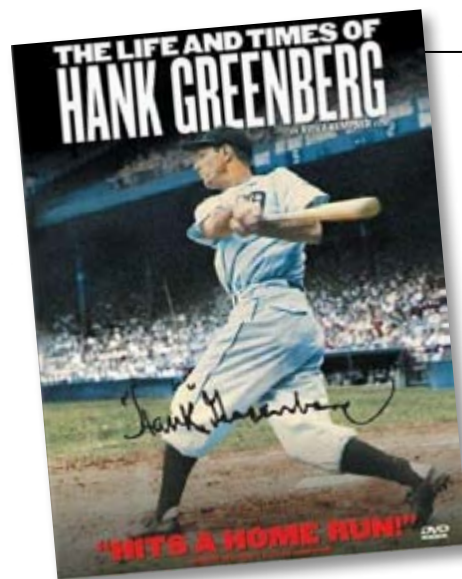
Lisa Bock is being ordained on June 4. That's a wonderful beginning for her as she transitions from Student Rabbi Lisa to Rabbi Lisa. We're all over-the-moon proud of Lisa! She's worked so hard and given so much to her studies and to the temples and families she's worked with. And we look forward to her taking the role as our temple's spiritual leader July 1.

### Thank you, Rabbi Mike

Rabbi Mike's last service before he transitions to Rabbi Emeritus will be June 29. Please come as we honor the rabbi whose work is beautifully woven into our temple's history and our congregants' lives. We are incredibly thankful to Rabbi Mike and Sonia for all they've done and for all they are. (And for all they'll continue to do. Hint, hint.)

### Hello, Goodbye

In this Megillah you'll find a slate of board offices for the 2012-13 year. We are thrilled with the caliber and dedication of the new members who will be officially joining the board in July. Thank you to Harriet Lit, Gary Lieb, and Dale Jacobs for their years on the board. Though you will be leaving the board, we know you'll still be very active in our temple community. (Hint, hint.)



## MOVIE NIGHT

Saturday Night, June 23rd, 6:30 pm

### When America Needed Heroes, A Jewish Slugger Stepped To The Plate

The story of Baseball Hall-of-Famer Hank Greenberg, is told through archival film footage and interviews with Jewish and non-Jewish fans, his former teammates, his friends, and his family. As a great first baseman with the Detroit Tigers, Greenberg endured antisemitism and became a hero and source of inspiration throughout the Jewish community, not incidentally leading the Tigers to Major League dominance in the 1930s.

Whether you're a baseball fan or not, you'll enjoy the story of a MAJOR Jewish athlete AND someone who dealt with antisemitism. The movie raises two questions: Are Jews under-represented in sports? Does this movie provide a lesson on dealing with antisemitism or any other ethnic/racial issues? Discussion after the movie will be lead by Shlomo Kreitzer.

## Mitzvah Day Muscle!



A small group of dedicated Temple Ner Ami supporters came to work on our annual **Mitzvah Day** on Sunday, April 29. Their ages ranged from 7 to 90!

In the kitchen and devoting herself to one and only major task- the refrigerator/ freezer, was Sonia Lotker. Sonia worked non stop on the inside and outside of that huge appliance. Sonia found extra food items that Julia took to the food pantry. The "unknown" was tossed and the multiples were combined. After all of that, she organized every shelf and it became clean and orderly, almost worthy of a commercial. She was assisted by A. J. Williams.

Sitting at the "sewing and knitting table" were Ann Burke and Raja Desenberg. They were creating bags and blankets to be distributed to community Social Services.

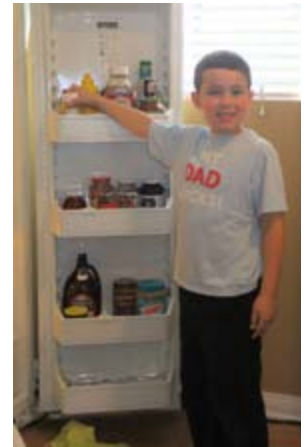
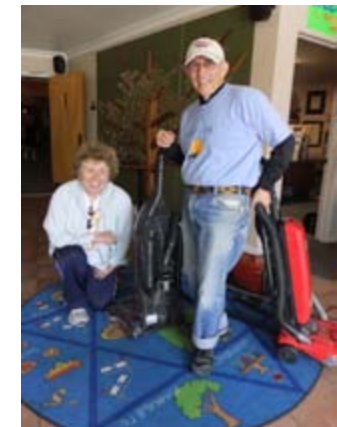
In the storage room, Arla Crane and Julia Newman were busily sorting and organizing. Jay Crane was adjusting the new additions to the legs that he had built for the Rabbi's table that is used during services.

Walking in to the sanctuary one could see Howard Brody vacuuming the pews and chairs while Irv Bergman used an entire container to remove many spots from the carpets. Rich Erlich and Saul Lessler were the carpet machine team. Arlene Bergman and Shari Brody cleaned all of the wooden pews until they shined. The large wooden table in the library received a cleaning and polishing as well. A. J. Williams was a most enthusiastic helper and spent the entire three hours assisting the adults.

Our efficient Temple Administrator, Mark Malloy, had prepared a list of things needing to be done. The group of ten worked hard and did an amazing job. Imagine how much more we could have accomplished if we had a group of 20 or 30!

We are planning a second Mitzvah Day during the summer so that we can continue working on Mark's list. Come join us! Participating in a group mitzvah accomplishes a lot and you will leave feeling very good!

Shari Brody





# Cheder Chappenings at Temple Ner Ami

by Julia Newman

Shalom Haverim,

Spring is when we have our Shabbat services led by our youngest children.

April's Family Shabbat service featured Mrs. Richman's 1st Grade class with Bradley Burke, Levi Huvad, Sydney Kamola, Elizabeth Rosenthal, Kaitlyn Sadowsky, Shirah Santer, and A.J. Williams. Classroom assistant Griffin D'Inca helped to prepare the young students. The service was conducted from our prayer book for young children (Gates of Prayer) and the program was a presentation about what the kids have been studying this year. A delightful evening!

Chicken soup on the Bimah??! Yes! That's exactly what happened during the PreK- Kinder Tot Shabbat. They sang songs about Shabbat, prepared the Shabbat table with candles, wine and a challah and said the blessings. The finale of the program was an hysterical rendition of making chicken soup—along with a pot, rubber chicken and all the vegetables. Iris Daniel has been the teacher for this wonderful class. The children include: Ethan Abergel, Zackary Abergel, Willow Brown, Victoria Rosenthal, Noah Scheerger, Ariela Trinidad and Hailey Zatkan. Classroom assistant Rachael Pritz helped to prepare the children for their program.

Our 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade class visited the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles. This annual program marks the conclusion to our study of the Holocaust. Our visit is funded by a grant from the Jewish Federation of Ventura



Iris Daniel's PreK-Kinder Torah school class getting a group hug after putting together a puzzle.

County. The students were accompanied by their parents and grandparents, teacher Saul Lessler and Julia Newman. The students include: Jack Ensey, Alyssa Greenblatt, Reed Harmon, Noah Rosen, Eric Saleh, David Schneider, Samantha Shapiro, Matthew Treitman, and Imani Zusman.

**Kvell Kolumn (July Megillah)** We'll be featuring your kids' accomplishments. You may write about academic honors, athletic awards, graduations, new jobs (college-kids), or just what makes your kid great!

I will need your entries by June 15<sup>th</sup>. You can start sending them at any time to me at: [educator@templenerami.org](mailto:educator@templenerami.org).

### UPCOMING:

- **Extreme Haverim Summer Traveling Camp. Need a brochure? Call, write or get it from our web site.**
- **Torah School resumes September 10th & 12th.** Registration materials will be sent out in June.
- **Exciting news** that we will be expanding our Torah School as we open a **preschool class for 2 and 3 year olds.** Watch your e-mail and the Megillah for more details.

Have a wonderful summer!

B'shalom,  
Julia



Group picture taken during the JOLT hike on May 6th.



If you're a Jewish PRE-TEEN or TEEN **EXTREME HAVERIM** Traveling Camp is for You!



Sponsored by:  
**For Information Contact:**  
Gil Ramot, Camp Coordinator: 223-3497  
Talia Savren, Senior Program: 701-2860  
Tahli Singer-Englar, Senior Program: 258-93095  
Rabbi Jordana Chernow, Temple Beth Torah: 647-4181  
Julia Newman, Temple Ner Ami, Extreme Haverim Director  
388-3824 or 377-2270

### **NEW this Summer!!** **RED CROSS Guard Start Program**

Pleasant Valley Aquatic Center, Temple Ave., Camarillo  
Fridays from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm  
9:00-10:00 Free Swim  
10:00 -11:00 Guard Start Instruction  
11:00 -12:45 Lunch & Camp activity  
1:00 Pick up at Temple Ner Ami

The course will cover:

- Basic water safety & swimming skills
- CPR, First Aid, AED (automated external defibrillator)
- Basic lifeguarding skills

Students will receive a certificate that they have completed a course in the Red Cross Guard Start Program.

### Extreme Haverim

is a summer outing and *mitzvah* program for Jewish teens entering Grades 6-12 to get together, hang out, have some fun and do some *mitzvah* work. The program meets in the afternoons (with some exceptions) from approximately 1:00-5:00 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Two afternoons a week are devoted to traveling and having fun together and one afternoon is planned as a *tikkun olam* (community service) project. Two adult advisors will supervise the teens every afternoon.

### How, Where, When, How Much?

Thanks to a major gift from the Jewish Federation of Ventura County each week costs only \$75 for all 3 days. This includes entrance fees. There is a little flexibility if you have a prior commitment during a week, but we expect each teen to commit to a plan of 2 social afternoons and one *tikkun olam* site.

### Registration is now open!

You may add additional weeks the **Wednesday BEFORE** the next week begins.

Transportation is provided; however there may be some events which will require carpooling and parent support. Specific **drop-off and pick-up sites and times** will be **emailed** to every participant the **Thursday before** the following week's session begins.

### EXTREME HAVERIM CALENDAR

<b>Week One</b>	6/12-6/14
Movie, Tikkun Olam, Train Trip to Santa Barbara (all day)	
<b>Week Two</b>	6/19-6/21
Kayaking, Rescue Mission, Vertical Heaven	
<b>Week Three</b>	6/26-6/28
Krav Maga, Tikkun Olam, Dodger Game (night)	
<b>Week Four</b>	7/3-7/6 <b>**No session on 7/4.</b>
Golf n Stuff, Overnight Temescal Canyon Park, Pacific Palisades (Thurs-Fri)	
<b>Week Five</b>	7/10-7/12
Sky High, Tikkun Olam, Hurricane Harbor (all day)	
<b>Week Six</b>	7/17-7/19
Ice Skating, Tikkun Olam, MB2 Raceway	
<b>Week Seven</b>	7/24-7/26
Campout (Tues-Wed), Bowling	
<b>Week Eight</b>	7/31-8/2
Secret Outing, Tikkun Olam, Ventura County Fair (all day-wristband day)	

### EVEN MORE FOR SENIOR TEENS...

In summer school? Have a job? Or just want to spend more time with your teen friends? In addition to **Extreme Haverim** we have a separate program just for Senior High Teens (entering 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders)! The price will vary depending upon the activity.

### SENIOR TEEN CALENDAR

Sat., 6/30	10am-3pm, Beach Day Kick off-State Beach
Thurs. 7/5	7pm-10pm, Movie Night (at TBT or a home)
Sat., 7/14	12pm-3pm, Park Day: Tie Dye, Hike and Picnic
Thurs. 7/19	TBD, <i>Tikkun Olam</i> (Community Service)
Fri., 7/27	6pm-10pm, Shabbat Dinner potluck and game night
Fri., 8/3-4	5pm-11am Camping at Leo Carrillo

## The Temple Says Goodbye to Annelies Regen

By now we all have heard the sad news that our beloved Annelies Regen passed away on April 9th. It took a very large bus to carry the many people who loved her so much to her memorial service at Eden Memorial Park in Mission Hills. Our thanks to Naomi Brill and Lee Edwards for organizing the transportation, and for helping Annie's daughter Nancy and her family put together such a nice farewell gathering. Those who were blessed by Annie's friendship will deeply miss the care, support and love she gave each of us for so many years.



The following story on Annelies was written by Shari Brody for the May 2011 issue of the **MEGILLAH**:

Annelies was raised in Aachen, Germany during the events prior to World War II. As a child, she recalls not being able to play with her best friend, swim in the public swimming area or go to the theater because she was Jewish. Annelies's mother was a friend of Anne Frank's grandmother, so Annelies and her sister, Susie, were playmates of the slightly younger Ann. From Aachen, Annelies and her family were able to walk on forest trails which crossed the borders in to Holland and Belgium.

When Annelies was thirteen, she was sent to a boarding school in Belgium. Just before

her sixteenth birthday, she was able to go to California, as there were fewer people waiting to come to the United States from Belgium than from Germany. She lived with her uncle and aunt in Los Angeles until her parents and sister could come a few years later and the family was reunited.

Annelies met Rudy Regen and they were married in 1944. They enjoyed a 54 year marriage until his passing in 1997. She has a daughter, Nancy, who lives in Camarillo, and two granddaughters.

Before moving to Camarillo in 1992, Annelies worked at several banks and after two robberies, she left banking. Her next position was as an Office Manager in a private office where she worked for thirteen years until she retired. She has volunteered at the Jewish Home for the Aging as well as the Woman's

Care Cottage in North Hollywood. Annelies volunteers at our Temple on Fridays and has done so for the eleven months since our move. She has also been our Sisterhood Treasurer for years.

Annelies has had many interesting life experiences and is a charming and delightful woman to know! She plays Bridge, exercises and is Past President of ORT America where she had served eleven years as the group's President. Bravo, Annelies and many thanks for your many years of devotion and service to others!



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Temple Ner Ami was started by five "founding mothers": Cindy Wolfsohn, Teli Milner, Lihi Gershater, Jeri Belzer, and Alyse Borla. The original goal was to provide a center for Jewish families to meet and share their lives together. A Torah School and Center for Jewish learning was also put in place shortly afterwards. Thus, the name began as "JFC", "Jewish Families of Camarillo".

The first Board included these five women, and joined by Karen Roy, Joe Goldberg, Jay Crane, and Jack Snader. 2nd generation board members included Marvin Krantz, Lillian Hawthorne, and Fred Mesirov. Each Board member had a specific job to do to set JFC up and keep it running.

Teri and Cindy shared the jobs as Treasurer and President. Jack - Ways and Means, Jeri Belzer acted as architect/designer, Alyse Borla was secretary, Lihi Gershater was the first book keeper. Lillian Hawthorne was the scholar in residence. Jay created the Ark and tables and eternal light for Services which were held once a month. Services were led by Student Rabbi, Alison Flash with Julie Silver (now famous singer) acting as the first cantor. Marvin Krantz led the Ritual Committee (appropriate since his son was a Rabbi). He was joined by Irv Dubin - who had



an extensive knowledge of Jewish Rituals. Our library is named after Irv.

The move to the Calle Tesoro location happened within the first few years with Rabbi Latowicz, Student Rabbi Michael Lotker, and Jay Crane et al carrying the Torah to its new location. Rabbi Latowicz helped with school curriculum and Julia Newman began her tenure as Principal of the first school. Soon Jewish Families of Camarillo would transform into a Temple and would need a name.

Teri Milner was serving as President when Natalie Krantz recommended the perfect name for our Temple: Temple Ner Ami (A light of my people). The vote was 100% in favor and so TNA was born. Rabbi Kenneth Milhander was the Temple's first ordained Rabbi, serving as part-time Rabbi. Then Rabbi Michael Lotker came on Board, serving as part-time Rabbi for the ensuing ten years. Student Rabbi Lisa joined the staff in 2008 to share rabbinic duties, allowing Rabbi Mike time to

continue with his writing and lecture activities in the wider Jewish world. Rabbi Lisa will assume full time Rabbinic duties of TNA in July, with Rabbi Mike serving as Rabbi Emeritus.



## What is Semicha?

by Lisa Bock

I've heard in the hallways the question: What is *semicha*?

Eventually though, in 425 CE, with Palestine under Roman rule, the ordination of rabbis was discontinued. It took until the 12<sup>th</sup> century for Moses Maimonides to suggest that with the full agreement of all the sages in Palestine, ordination could be restored. Though this did not truly come to pass in the formal way that Maimonides described, rabbis were ordained again, including Joseph Caro, the author of the Shulchan Arukh in Safed, a city in northern Palestine, in the 16<sup>th</sup> century. Over time, the practice of conferring *semicha* on individual students continued. It is in modern times that seminaries have come into existence, and they confer ordination on their students.

*Ordination would not have been possible for me without the instruction, mentorship, and support of so many people in my life. As I become ordained this month, I have many to acknowledge and thank, but in particular, Rabbi Mike, my teacher, mentor, and friend. Thank you.*

With Blessing,  
Lisa Bock

*Semicha* (smee-cha) is a Hebrew word literally meaning "laying on of hands," and refers to ordination. It is how a rabbi becomes a rabbi. *Semicha* comes from the Torah.

In Numbers, Moses is instructed to take Joshua and "lay his hands upon him," investing some of his authority in Joshua so that Joshua can lead the people in Moses' stead. The sages take this to mean that Moses bestowed ordination upon Joshua.

In the Rabbinic period, only those who had received ordination, passed down from Joshua and those after him, had the authority to be judges; and applied only to those who were scholars in Palestine. Those outside of Palestine who were otherwise qualified were given the title *rav*, meaning "master teacher." An ordained *rabbi* in Palestine was authorized to confer *semicha* on his own students. *Rabbi* literally means "my teacher."

Rabbi Lisa Bock's ordination ceremony will take place on Monday, June 4th at 7 PM at the Stephen S. Wise Temple. It is located at 15500 Stephen S. Wise Drive Los Angeles, CA 90077. All temple members are invited to attend this ceremony.

## Save the Date! - Do a Mitzvah!

*Spend 4 hours to help build a house in Ventura County.*

Habitat for Humanity: Sunday, [July 8th, 2012 from 8-12 noon](#)

We are invited to join in with the Brotherhood of Temple Adat Elohim to work on a building site.

**No cost to participate – just your time.**

Working on Habitat projects is a lot of fun, and good old-fashioned hard work all at the same time.

(Youngsters 15 and up may participate with a parent.)

Watch for more location and RSVP info coming soon!



## Please Join us for Rabbi Mike's Farewell Dinner

Friday, June 29th  
Wine & Hors d'oeuvres served at 5 PM

Purchase of tickets prior to the event is required. Get them at the Temple office, or mail your check to be received by us before June 25th.

Tickets \$18 each, Couples \$36.  
Children under 13, \$9.

Please stay for Rabbi Mike's Shabbat Service, 7:30 PM



## MOVIE NIGHT

"The Pianist" with Adrien Brody  
this Saturday Night at the Temple  
May 26th, 6:30 PM

## TEMPLE NER AMI HOLIDAY BOUTIQUE

Sunday, October 7th, 2012  
Temple Parking Lot

Vendors Needed! - Please call Bobbe Jacobs for details





## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

### Members & Children

Bailey Harmon, 17th	Friday June 1, 2012	Adam Sookikian, 14th	Thursday June 14, 2012
Emily Eneberg, 17th	Saturday June 2, 2012	Stephen Miller	Friday June 15, 2012
Gretchen O. Laskey	Saturday June 2, 2012	Shirley S. Heller	Sunday June 17, 2012
Andrew Greenberg	Sunday June 3, 2012	Spencer Baratta, 17th	Wednesday June 20, 2012
Terry Harmon	Monday June 4, 2012	Ayla Dvoretzky, 11th	Wednesday June 20, 2012
Sarah Scheerger	Monday June 4, 2012	Steve Moore	Thursday June 21, 2012
Cassandra Posner	Thursday June 7, 2012	Paul Needham	Thursday June 21, 2012
Helene Scherer	Saturday June 9, 2012	Lucrecia Burger	Friday June 22, 2012
Lauren Alberstone, 19th	Sunday June 10, 2012	Alice Babich	Saturday June 23, 2012
Pamela Bogen	Sunday June 10, 2012	Dr. Claudio Burstein	Saturday June 23, 2012
Alex Grant Sadowsky, 8th	Sunday June 10, 2012	Jason Ari Krastein, 15th	Sunday June 24, 2012
Robin Elliott	Monday June 11, 2012	Michael Bogen	Tuesday June 26, 2012
Richard Lefkovits	Monday June 11, 2012	Marc Grossmann	Wednesday June 27, 2012
Sandra Fischler	Tuesday June 12, 2012		

\* This table is based on Temple records. If your information is missing or in error, please contact the Temple office.

## Two Special Friends

by Julia Newman

### Violet Coshever, Miss Vee

1998. A firebrand of a teacher came into my life. Miss Violet was our senior teacher in years and experience but certainly not in energy. She was the consummate early childhood teacher—old school. She used music, poetry, and art to teach 5 year olds the *alefbet* and prayers. The Shabbat service that her little ones led every May has been unsurpassed—as the children recited their poems and blessings and sang the songs that she taught them—and the kids had a lilt of that British accent. In all the years she was with us, she never missed a day of school—even when in pain, walking with her cane (which she conveniently used to forget at home).

Violet did not teach countless students: we're a small school—but the children she taught—counted. She knew each child well. She knew their strengths and weaknesses. She talked to their parents—and became close with many of them.

On the occasion of her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday, we surprised Violet by painting her classroom a bright purple! Violet used to promise that she would not retire until she was 100 years old or I retired.

### Annelies Regen

Annie meant a lot to us at the Torah School. Every year, for many years, she would speak to our 7<sup>th</sup> graders in their Holocaust Education class. She would tell the kids about her life as a little girl; how she and her sister Suzy knew Anne Frank. She made Anne Frank, the real girl, come alive for us—not just a figure in a book or an icon that everyone

in the world knows about; but a real child, who sometimes wasn't nice, who was ordinary, just like all those other children. The kids were able to connect with Annie's stories—not like something they were reading in a history book that wasn't connected to real people. Annie was living history—sitting right in their classroom. That was her gift to our students.

To both of these grand ladies they will forever be a part of our Torah School.


*B'Shalom, Julia*




## JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Name	Date	Year
Brad & Elvira Cabelli	June 1st	26th Anniversary
Marty & Tobi Schneider	June 7th	15th Anniversary
Jay & Arla Crane	June 13th	32nd Anniversary
Jerry Lewine & Sheryl Rudie	June 13th	37th Anniversary
Charles & Libby Pierce	June 13th	58th Anniversary
Gerald & Natalie Rosen	June 16th	55th Anniversary
Donald & Mildred Seidler	June 18th	68th Anniversary
Allan & Nicole Sadowsky	June 24th	26th Anniversary
Max & Josephine Freifield	June 28th	9th Anniversary
Harold & Sharon Rosenthal	June 29th	9th Anniversary

\* Listings based on Temple records. If your info is missing or in error, please contact the Temple office so we may correct our database.




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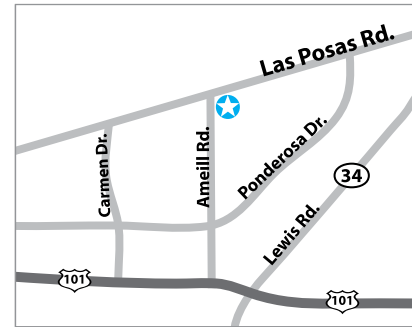
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**EAGER READERS BOOK CLUB**

Meets Tuesday, June 12, 11am

June Selection:

**Jerusalem Maiden**  
by Talia Carner



In the waning days of the Ottoman Empire, a young Orthodox Jewish woman in the holy city of Jerusalem is expected to marry and produce many sons to help hasten the Messiah's arrival. While the feisty Esther Kaminsky understands her obligations, her artistic talent inspires her to secretly explore worlds outside her religion, to dream of studying in Paris—and to believe that God has a special destiny for her. When tragedy strikes her family, Esther views it as a warning from an angry God and suppresses her desires in order to become an obedient "Jerusalem maiden."

But when a surprising opportunity forces itself on to her preordained path, Esther finds her beliefs clashing dangerously with the passions she has staved off her entire life—forcing her to confront the most difficult and damning question of all: To whom must she be true, God or herself?

**Yahrzeit Board**

The Temple's Yahrzeit Board has spaces available for remembering loved ones who have passed away. Jay Crane has just started building us a new panel that will hold thirty new plaques, so we will have space available if you would like to purchase multiple yahrzeit plaques and keep them together.

The donation for memorial plaques is \$350 each. Check in the brochure rack in the foyer for an order form, or contact Mark in the Temple office at 388-3824 to request additional information.

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## Max Heller Celebrates 95th Birthday at Temple Event

by Shari Brody

If you were in the audience at the Temple Second Anniversary Party, then you had the pleasure of celebrating the birthday of one our outstanding, longstanding and tall standing Temple members, Max Heller. Max's constant companion, Naomi Brill, saw an opportunity for Max to celebrate his birthday at the evening's festivities. Naomi graciously invited Max's family to enjoy the evening and honor him. Those attending included his son Steve and wife Deborah, his daughter Gail, Max's granddaughter Debbie & husband Keith, & granddaughter Jennifer. Max's four great-grand children were too young to enjoy the comedy. Naomi's daughter Patrice was part of the evening as well.

Max was presented with a beautifully decorated birthday cake baked by Naomi and decorated by Bev Kierwin. One hundred people sang to Max and to our delight, he shared some of his thoughts on living to be 95. Max spoke eloquently and with humor about keeping a positive outlook on life and following his impulses.

Max was born and raised in New York. During WW II, he served as a First Lieutenant in the 824th Tank Destroyer Battalion and was an Army Combat Veteran. His battalion landed in Marseilles after the D-Day Invasion. He commanded a platoon of 40-50 men and they liberated

a concentration camp on the Inn River in Austria.

Max and his family moved to California in 1952 where he worked in the furniture industry as a manufacturer's rep and then owned a furniture company. Looking for a new challenge, Max went to college when he was in his 50's. He studied computer science at UCLA, and earned a Certificate of Professional Designation. He then began a new career during the 1960's as an Independent Computer Contractor in Financial Systems.



After Max and his wife, Sylvia, who passed away in 1991, moved to Camarillo, he sought out a Friday night service group in Leisure Village. They joined the Tikvah Group, which had services in homes, and watched it grow to larger facilities and then affiliate with the Jewish Families of Camarillo, which then became Temple Ner Ami. Max is an observant Jew who remembers the services which were led by Irv Dubin, then already in his 90's.

Max met Naomi at the Temple over a challah after Friday Night services. They are constant companions who travel and enjoy their families and life together.

Happy Birthday from everyone at Temple Ner Ami! We wish you good health and a great year ahead.

## The Sisterhood Selects Women of Valor for 2012

The Sisterhood of Temple Ner Ami has selected **Naomi Brill, Shari Brody, Sonia Lotker, and Annelies Regen** as our Women of Valor for 2012.

These women share the virtue of valor because each day they help our Jewish community grow strong and give Jewish women a strong voice within our community.

Naomi Brill has the heart of a lion, the patience of Job, and an appreciation for excellence in a job well done. She has been a pillar in making each Shabbat a special night of beauty with a Shabbat table that is elegant and beautiful. She has presided over 104 Shabbats. May her brilliant light



continue to brighten up the next 104 Shabbat evenings. *Todah Rabah!*

Shari Brody and Sonia Lotker have been tireless in their leadership of our sisterhood. Today the Sisterhood stands strong, with more members than ever before, more varied activities than ever before, and more financial support for Temple Ner Ami than at any time in past years. Under the Brody-Lotker leadership our world is in a better place. *Todah Rabah!*

Annelies Regen was our treasurer from our first day to the present day. Her steadfast, positive, and thoughtful manner will be an inspiration to all of us. May we be worthy of her fine example. We will miss her terribly. *Todah Rabah Annelies!*

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# The Temple Gratefully Acknowledges the Following Contributions

**Yahrzeits - June 2012**

## Honorariums & Memorials

**In loving memory of Albert's Mother, Ray Schwartz**  
Albert Schwartz

**In loving memory of Albert's Father, Jeno Schwartz**  
Albert Schwartz

**In honor of Naomi Brill**  
Betty Stallman

**In loving memory of Betty's brother, Max Stolman**  
Betty Stallman

**In loving memory of Darryl's late wife, Carol Sobelman**  
Darryl Sobelman & Carole Warren

**In Loving Memory of Della's Father, Kos Lertzman**  
Della Carmona

**In honor of Rabbi Mike**  
Harriet Lit

**In honor of Rabbi Lisa on her Ordination**  
Harriet Lit

**In Loving Memory of Arlene's Father, Emanuel Levy**  
Irving & Arlene Bergman

**In loving memory of Israel's Father, Yechiel Feingold**  
Israel Feingold

**To Annie Regen - you are in our thoughts and prayers**  
**In deepest sympathy for the loss of their Brother-In-Law,**  
**Michael Masculine**

**Mazel Tov on the upcoming birth of your newest grandchild.**

**In loving memory of Nadine Frankel's beloved daughter, Kyra**  
Jay & Arla Crane

**In honor of Rabbi Mike, in loving memory of Nadine's daughter**  
**Kyra, and in loving memory of Annelies Regen**  
Lisa & Ken Bock

**In celebration of our new great granddaughter, Dahlia Schmit,**  
**Born to her parents Beth and Casey Schmit**  
John & Beverly Kerwien

**Get well Keith Elliott**  
Naomi Brill

**I'm loving memory of Annelies Regen**  
Naomi Brill

**I'm so sorry for your loss. With love from Naomi Brill**  
Naomi Brill

**In honor of Mark Malloy whose service, dedication and attitude**  
**creates a great image for Ner Aml. We appreciate his efforts and**  
**goals for our community**  
Robert & Bess Cohen

**In loving memory of Sandra's son, Brandon King**  
Sandra King

**In loving memory of Sharon's husband, Alvin Green**  
Sharon Green

**In loving memory of Sols parents, David and Jenny Brejensky**  
Sol & Sarah Brejensky

**In Honor of Annie Regan - Thinking of You**  
**In loving memory of Loretta's mother, Helen Levinson**  
Stanley & Loretta Reshes

**In loving memory of Sylvia's husband, Morton Leventhal**  
Sylvia Leventhal

**In Loving Memory of Judi's Father, Hervey Shaw**  
William & Judi Slapin

## Irv Dubin Teen Scholarship Fund

**In loving memory of Nadine Frankel's daughter, Kyra**  
Howard & Shari Brody

## Jaffe Library Fund

**In loving memory of my husband, S/Sgt Abraham I. Mandel, USMC**  
Phyllis Mandel

**In honor of my son William B. Mandel**  
Phyllis Mandel

**In honor of my son-in-law Crandall D. Jones**  
Phyllis Mandel

## Newman Scholarship Fund

**In Loving Memory of Frances' Mother, Irene Newman**  
Edith Kuznitz

**In loving memory of Annelies Regen**  
Howard & Shari Brody

**In celebration of our new great granddaughter, Dahlia Schmit,**  
**Born to parents Beth and Casey Schmit**  
John & Beverly Kerwien

**Happy Birthday to Julia Newman!**  
Lee Edwards  
Paul & Tobie Treitman

**To Julia Newman - Happy Birthday! Hugs, Loretta Reshes**  
Stanley & Loretta Reshes

## Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**In loving memory of Annelies Regen, Beloved Mother and**  
**Grandmother**  
Tony & Nancy Gelente

## June 1, 2012 (Sivan 6-12)

Ida Sylvia Stein.....mother-in-law of Renee Stein  
Elizabeth Wechsler.....mother of Kenneth Wechsler  
Morris Gardner.....father of Bill Gardner  
Jonas Spiegel.....father of Frank Spiegel  
Fanny Selekovic.....mother of Frank Spiegel  
Klara Aller.....grandmother of Mariana Krastein  
William Smith.....father of Jill Brody  
Jane Kaden.....mother of James Kadin  
Lena Klempner.....mother of Sarah Brejensky  
Mary Clarke.....mother of Susan Miller  
Celia Valentine.....mother of Sylvia Leventhal  
Albert Weingardt.....husband of Lorraine Weingardt

## June 8, 2012 (Sivan 13-19)

William Bailess\*\* .....grandfather of Stacy Lowenschuss  
Andrea Treitman...husband of Alan Treitman  
Benjamin Holzman...husband of Gail Wander Holzman  
Louis Pomerantz.....father of Karen Rosenstein  
Edward Harris.....father of Pam Bogen  
Ida Shvarts.....grandmother of Greg Krastein  
Edward Fine.....husband of Jane Fine  
Shirley Cohen.....sister-in-law of Renny Goldich  
Henry Nadler.....father of Clarice Shapiro  
Isadore Acker.....husband of Ruth Acker  
Esther Frankel.....Mother of Nadine Frankel  
Rose Epstein.....mother-in-law of Bernice Epstein  
Allen Levine..... husband of Elva Levine  
Ethel Huvad.....mother of Richard Huvad  
Herbert Weiss.....father of Robert Weiss

## June 15, 2012 (Sivan 20-26)

Lewis Brody.....father of Irene Olson  
William Bloom..... brother of Doris Weinberg  
Byron Meyer.....son of Marianne Lavee  
Maury Zeitz.....father of Judy Sitko  
Oscar Shev.....husband of Jean Shev  
Melvin Metz.....father of Cathye Clark  
Benjamin Acker.....father-in-law of Ruth Acker  
Mary Rosansky.....mother of Lucille Goldin  
Sidney Valentine.....father of Sylvia Leventhal  
Ida Leona Minkin.....grandmother of Stephanie Simon  
Harold Gordon.....late husband of Fayrose Gordon  
Harry Korchek.....father of Ruth Acker

\*\* Name on the Yolanda Cramer Memorial *Yahrzeit* Board.

The Temple's *Yahrzeit* Board has spaces available for remembering loved ones who have passed away. The requested donation for memorial plaques on the *Yahrzeit* Board is \$350.00 per plaque.

## June 22, 2012 (Sivan 27-Tammuz 3)

Lester Beacher.....brother of Libby Pierce  
Doris Kadish.....mother of Barbara Michaels  
Harry Robinson.....father of Kate Robinson  
Lucile Stone.....mother of Anne Burke  
Betty Bridge.....sister of Charlotte Markus  
Margaret Frank.....mother of Joan Frank  
CeCelia Levin.....wife of Richard Levin  
Ruth Putnam.....mother of Mary Grey  
Isadore Rocklin.....father of Neil Rocklin  
Theodore Shapiro.....brother of Mike Shapiro  
Jacob Kadish.....grandfather of Barbara Michaels  
Penney Dodson\*\*.....sister of Teri Milner  
Pearl Zimmerman.....mother of Rita Cooperman  
Phillip Bornstein.....uncle of William Goldstein  
Ruth Levy.....sister of Sarah Brejensky  
Robert A. Rosenberg ..... brother of Sheila Bachelis  
Mark Schwade.....father of Bonnie Shubb  
Etta Taubman.....mother of Paul Taubman  
Marvin Belzer\*\* ..... father of Dr. Maynard Belzer

## June 29, 2012 (Tammuz 4-10)

Florence Gorelick.....mother of Diane Honick  
Helen Levinson.....mother of Loretta Reshes  
George Lotker.....father of Rabbi Michael Lotker  
Henry Sol Fischler.....father of David Fischler  
Theodore Endelman.....father of David J. Endelman  
Rose Feingold.....mother of Israel Feingold  
Helen Miller.....mother of Wayne Miller  
Nathan Shack.....father of Leatrice Posner  
Bea Schwartz Erlich.....mother of Richard Erlich  
Naomi Rosen.....mother of Violet Coshever  
Samuel Rosenberg..... father of Sheila Bachelis  
Edith Goldman.....mother of Bernard Goldman  
Florence B. Weiss.....aunt of Gloria Brodie  
Abraham Berman.....father of Cynthia Urbach  
Morris Wolff Wander.....father of Gail Wander Holzman  
Manya Kirzhnerman..grandmother of Greg Krastein  
Sylvia Kerner Weisbart.....mother of Jan Safran  
Ron Fink .....son of Betty Fink  
Jeffrey Schwartz.....son of Albert Schwartz

# Tikkun Olam: תקון העולם

Our next opportunity to serve at the Rescue Mission is June 30. We'll be there from 4:00 - 6:30 pm. Please let me know if you can join us.

The Somis Pantry is looking for donations: food, money, volunteers. The food for the month of June is: **Cereal**

Please call me...and as always...thank you for all you do! *Harriet Lit, 484-9119*



# TEMPLE NER AMI - June 2012

Fri Jun 1, 2012

7:30pm Shabbat Service

Sat Jun 2, 2012

9:30am Torah Study Class

10am Eric Saleh Bar Mitzvah

Mon Jun 4, 2012

12pm Hadassah Reg. Meeting

4:15pm Torah School

Wed Jun 6, 2012

12pm Torah - Women's Perspective

Thu Jun 7, 2012

10am ORT Board Meeting

6pm Girl Scout Troop 60817 Mtg.

Fri Jun 8, 2012

7:30pm Shabbat Service

Sat Jun 9, 2012

9:30am Torah Study Class

Tue Jun 12, 2012

11am Eager Readers Book Club

Wed Jun 13, 2012

12pm Torah - Women's Perspective

7pm Board of Directors Meeting

7pm Brotherhood Meeting

Fri Jun 15, 2012

7:30pm Shabbat Service

Sat Jun 16, 2012

9:30am Torah Study Class

Mon Jun 18, 2012

10am Hadassah Board Mtg.

Wed Jun 20, 2012

Rabbi Office Day

12pm Torah - Women's Perspective

Thu Jun 21, 2012

6pm Girl Scout Troop 60817 Mtg.

Fri Jun 22, 2012

5:45pm Tot Shabbat Service

7:30pm Shabbat Service

Sat Jun 23, 2012

9:30am Torah Study Class

6:30pm MOVIE NIGHT

Mon Jun 25, 2012

9:30am City of Hope Board Mtg.

Wed Jun 27, 2012

Rabbi Office Day

12pm Torah - Women's Perspective

Thu Jun 28, 2012

12pm ORT General Meeting

Fri Jun 29, 2012

5:00 Rabbi Mike Farewell Dinner

7:30pm Shabbat Service

Sat Jun 30, 2012

9:30am Torah Study Class

4pm Rescue Mission Service



## Honorable Menschen



In the spirit of *Tikkun Olam*, and under the direction of Camarillo Hospice, **Harriet Lit** will be facilitating a grief support group with Flo Doctrow. This group is for **Leisure Village residents** and will meet in the Sunroom, every Tuesday, 3:30 - 5:00 pm. Grief is a normal reaction to loss. However, we all do it differently. Let's learn from each other! Please call me if you would like more information.

### **Kvell Kolumn (July MEGILLAH)**

We'll be featuring your kids' accomplishments. You may write about academic honors, athletic awards, graduations, new jobs (college-kids), or just what makes your kid great!

I will need your entries by June 15<sup>th</sup>. You can start sending them at any time to Julia Newman at: [educator@templenerami.org](mailto:educator@templenerami.org)

**Michaela Posner**, a sophomore, competed at the California High School Speech Association in San Francisco April 27-29. She went to several tournaments to double qualify in Policy Debate and Original Advocacy (persuasive speaking) at the State Championship. She is now state ranked in Original Advocacy, with an overall 9th place ranking in the state (out of approximately 200 competitors). Only the top 18 competitors get ranked. Her high school has not had a student rank higher than 9th place. The last 9th place ranking was in 2003 in a different event.

Please send your "Honorable Menschen" items to MEGILLAH editor Mark Malloy via eMail at [admin@templenerami.org](mailto:admin@templenerami.org).

## JUNE OUTSIDE ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

### CITY OF HOPE

No Regular Meeting in June  
Board Meetings - Monday 5/28 & 6/25 - 9:30 AM  
Donald Seidler - 805-987-0917 - President

### ORT MEETINGS

Board - Thursday, May 3rd, 2012 - 10am  
Regular Mtg. Thursday, June 28th, 2012 - Noon  
Norma & Mark Maidel from World Affairs Council of Ventura County presenting a show on India Theatre Party 6/10 to the musical "1776". For tickets, call Syliva Lipper 987-4477 or Shirley Law 987-5468  
President, Sharron Parker - 805-443-1998

### GIRL SCOUT/BROWNIE TROOP 60817

Meets alternate Thursdays: 6/7 & 6/21, 6 pm  
for info contact: [Troop60817@templenerami.org](mailto:Troop60817@templenerami.org)

### NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

Tues. Mixed Meeting 7-8:15 pm,  
Tues. Mtg. Pot Luck, 6/26  
Wed. Mixed & Ladies Mtgs. 7-8:15 pm  
Sat. Mixed 6:30-7:30 pm, Pot Luck, 6/09  
Sunday (Men only) 7-8 am

### HADASSAH

Regular Meeting, June 4th, Noon  
Board Meeting, June 18th  
Judy Meisels - Co-President 805-482-9222

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- \_\_\_ Temple General Fund
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- \_\_\_ Irv Dubin Teen Scholarship Fund
- \_\_\_ Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- \_\_\_ Temple Music Fund
- \_\_\_ Art Fund
- \_\_\_ Sigmund Jaffe Memorial Library Fund
- \_\_\_ Temple Prayer Book Fund

The **MEGILLAH** is published monthly for members of TEMPLE NER AMI. Complimentary copies are available by contacting the Temple Office.

Suggested donation for non-members is \$36.00 per year. Make your check payable to Temple Ner Ami.

For information Call 805-388-3824, or eMail your request to:

[admin@templenerami.org](mailto:admin@templenerami.org)

Submission date for all material:

**12<sup>th</sup> of each month**

**In honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**In loving memory of:** \_\_\_\_\_

**From:** \_\_\_\_\_