

Events of the Month

Shabbat services at de Toledo High School

Saturday, May 6 - 10:30 am
Birthday Shabbat

Saturday, May 27 - 10:30 am
Anniversary Shabbat

JWW Walk to End Genocide Sunday, May 7, 11:30 am 1000 Oaks Civic Arts Plaza

Our Team is participating in this annual Canejo Valley event. See article on page 6 or call Rae Wazana at (818) 881-5549.

Mother's/Father's Day Social Action Committee Celebration Friday, May 12, 1:00 pm

Join the Committee at the West Valley Healthcare Center, 7057 Shoup Ave. in West Hills to celebrate Shabbat and Mother's/Father's Day with the residents. See article on page 4 or Call Fran Kobulnick at (818) 345-2405.

Torah and Shabbat Study Saturday, May 13, 10:30 am at Northridge Mobile Home Park

Stan Schroeder leads our monthly study and discussion session. Call Stan at (818) 718-7466 or see flyer.

Around the Rabbi's Tisch Thurs., May 3, 11, 18, and 25 7:30 pm at the Vorspans'

Our 5777 season of Rabbi's weekly discussion concludes its second half. Call Rabbi at (818) 888-9817 or see flyer.

Visit our website:
www.shirami.com



Rabbi's Column

I had a fairly frustrating experience trying to correct a problem created by my television and internet provider.

The details aren't important, and after about 90 minutes we got the situation resolved.

But I had the opportunity to use the chat feature to access live people who could guide me through the process.

And every now and then, a comment would appear in the typed window: "Not to worry."

It actually had a bit of a calming effect on me. When I got a little frustrated, my helper posted that sentence. Even when I was doing fine, I was reminded that s/he had everything under control and I had nothing to worry about.

It occurred to me that it would be nice to have that person on the other end of the internet connection follow me around, whispering in my ear, "Not to worry" when I would begin to do exactly that!

That I shouldn't worry when a student was starting to get on my nerves. That I should be reminded that worrying wasn't going to change the weather, or the risks my family members took just to get through their day, or the growing responsibilities I might have with life cycle events occurring within my community at inopportune times.

That worrying won't change what concerns me, nor correct what is beyond my control.

That worry is so very natural, yet can also be so detrimental to one's happiness.

There aren't any easy ways to diminish the worry in one's life, but I've discovered, from a computer chat with a stranger online, that reminding oneself of a simple slogan can actually elevate one's spirit at the most needed of times: "don't worry, be happy."

Rabbi David Vorspan



Yom Hazikaron
Israel Memorial Day
Monday, May 1



Yom Ha'atzmaut
Israel Independence Day
Tuesday, May 2



Yom Yerushalayim
Jerusalem Day
Wednesday, May 24



U.S. Memorial Day
Monday, May 29



Mother's Day
Sunday, May 14

President's Report

Shalom,

Two more months to go before we walk into our summer break. And walk we will as we get into the Shir Ami walking season.

On Sunday, May 7, the Shir Ami Walking Team will be joining walking teams from other congregations and groups for the **Jewish World Watch Walk to End Genocide**. Please sign up at cv.walktoendgenocide.org.

Then on Sunday, June 4 we will hold our annual **Walk Around Lake Balboa**, this year to benefit needy Holocaust survivors through the Blue Card Fund.

In June, we will begin a new five Sunday series of video presentations by Rabbi Vorspan of the PBS series *The Story of the Jews*. Yes, we old dogs can learn some new tricks. So, come be a part of it.

Of course, we are all still up to our old tricks. There are only four more Shabbat services left until our Summer break, and you won't want to miss them. And two more Shabbat Torah Study Sessions. Before you know it, you'll be waking up on Saturday mornings wondering what you're going to do! So, this is the time not to be standing idly by.

And there are just a few more sessions of *Around the Rabbi's Tisch* (and on the Rebbitzen's Chairs) on Thursday evenings. All of this is included in your dues, which you have already paid, so you might as well get your money's worth.

Every month we get a new opportunity to get involved in something bigger than ourselves and that is something money can't buy. Shir Ami is here to help you do it.

As always, if you have any questions or want to provide your input, please feel free to email me at JDPistol@aol.com.

Thank you.

Jordan Pistol, President



A Thread is Broken

by Owen Delman

As has been noted by many, **Betty Cohen** was a unique person -- a warm and giving lady who gave love and received much love in return. The following is a small remembrance of this very special person.

She was the second member we met upon joining Shir Ami. "This is my wife, Betty", Harvey said by way of an introduction. And then to her he said, "She's a Bette, too."

Her eyes twinkled even more, "Well, then you must be a nice person," she said as she laughed and gave my Bette a hug. And that's how we fell in love with this very special lady -- slightly mischevous, part pixie, grand-mother to all.

As we got to know her and her background, we realized her lively, always positive spirit, warm heart and outgoing attitude to the world were a testimony to her strength in overcoming profound sadness early in her life. Her interest in our welfare, our children's lives and the progress of our future grandson was sincerely Betty-warm.

I always made it a point to seek her out at any gathering to kiss her and answer expected questions to update our family. Once, early on, I didn't get to her quickly enough and when I finally approached she was frowning with her mouth turned down in the saddest way. It was an act, but it was effective and I played along. "I'm so sorry, Betty. I should know better than to treat the 'Czarina of All the Russias' in such a cavalier manner."

She looked up at me with her ever-present twinkle, paused for a moment and said, "Well then, all right."

From that day on, I always greeted her as 'Czarina of All the Russias', but thought of her as the 'Czarina of Shir Ami'. I will miss her, a lovely thread in the fabric of Shir Ami that stretched back to its early days.



Congregation Shir Ami Tribute Cards

Thanks to **Phyllis Schroeder** for sending your cards celebrating *simchas* and conveying your get-well and condolence messages.



She is creative with individualized, artistic cards that include a message and color graphics. Call her at (818) 718-7466. Minimum donation of \$5 per card is appreciated.

Change to our roster

Harvey Cohen

18729 Romar St.
Northridge, CA 91324
Home phone: (818) 886-7590
Cell: (818) 284-1222
Email: hhcohen22@gmail.com





DONATIONS

Congregation Shir Ami wishes to acknowledge the following donations:

Yahrzeits

- Karen Benson for Sadie Williams
- Lynn Cherney for Dora Cherney, Ed Cherney, and Meryl Moore
- Judy Eisikowitz for Elsie Eisikowitz and Herman Solomon Eisikowitz
- Fran Friedman for Arnold Friedman, Hilda Glassman, Chana Mosk, and Sol Wohlberg
- Philip Hockmeyer for J. Hockmeyer
- Irwin and Carol Koransky for Blanche Koransky
- Louis and Paula Loomis for Jay Goldfarb, Doris Loomis, and Rose Rosen
- Andrea and Leon Nachenberg for Sheila Nachenberg
- Ann and Seymour Potell for Morris Blankstein
- Edward Schneier
- Lonny and Nancy Scharf for Gabriel Scharf
- Lewis and Claire Silverman for Aarion Verity-Rubin
- Irving Strassner for Anna Perelmutter and Mary Stanger
- Fiona Taylor for Grace Konrad and Norman Miles
- Bonnie and Rabbi David Vorspan for Sandy Vorspan

Birthdays

- Sylvia Hockmeyer
- Linda Tapper
- Ben Vorspan

Anniversaries

- Lou and Paula Loomis

In memory of Betty Cohen

- Carol Cramer
- Ellen Fremed
- Hamishkites Havurah
- R and S Schweitzer
- Judy Eisikowitz
- Roger and Melody Goodman
- Lynn and Jerry Hoffman

Other

- Judy Eisikowitz in honor of Wazana 50th anniversary

Congregational News

Get well wishes *rafuah schleimah* to:

- Fran Kobuknick
- Al Simon
- Paulette Pistol
- Sam Hochberg
- Gerry Hochberg



May they be blessed with a complete recovery in body and spirit.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

- Harvey Cohen..... 5/12
- Debra Geffen..... 5/12
- Sally Shane..... 5/16
- Linda Tapper..... 5/19
- Jerry Kovar..... 5/21
- Cheryl Niesen..... 5/21
- Ellen Fremed..... 5/23
- Gladys Sturman..... 5/30

Anniversaries

- Pat and Jerry Michaelson..... 5/15 29th

Our Condolences

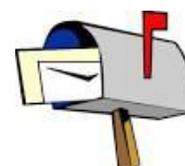
We regret to inform the congregational family of the passing of: longtime member **Bernice Lipschultz**.



May God comfort Bernice's daughters **Rena Perez** and **Bonnie Goldman** and their families at this time of their bereavement.

Mailbox

Rabbi David Vorspan
Congregation Shir Ami



Dear David and Congregation Shir Ami,

Thank you very much for your contribution to my discretionary fund.

The Talmud teaches that "one who does acts of tzedakah and justice fills the entire world with God's lovingkindness." Thank you for your generosity.

Wishing you and your family an abundance of blessings.

Sincerely,
Rabbi Ed Feinstein
Valley Beth Shalom





New Member Spotlight: Elinor Grayer

by Barbara Joan Grubman

Elinor Grayer has had an interesting life, enriched by family and adventure and I am happy she chose our Congregation to be a part of her life now. She was born in Youngstown, Ohio. Her family was, as she says, "Basically conservative in religious practice."

She was lucky enough to have a grand-mother, **Pearl Mintz** as a member of the household. Pearl was born in Poland, and was "rather orthodox". In a time when many women were 'stay at home', Grandma Pearl was educated far longer than most women of her era. She was married to a man named **Abraham Zunamon** and took back her maiden name after they were divorced.

Elinor also was well educated, and graduated from the University of Michigan with a degree in Public Health Administration. Sadly, there were almost no jobs open to women in that field and she was offered a position in Marion, Ohio but did not choose to go to such a small town. "Now I would, but then I wanted a city and all that was offered in one". As a young woman, at that time there were not many doors open in Public Health Administration.

She met **Bill (also known as Ze'ev) Grayer**, her future husband at a Intervollefiate Zionist Federation of America national conference in Rolling Prairie, Indiana. After their marriage they moved to California, and Elinor attended UCLA, receiving her Masters in Social Work. She then worked until her first daughter was born, and shortly afterward, a set of twin girls entered the family. Elinor returned to school and work and receiving a PhD in 1981. Bill died in 2008, and Elinor retired in 2014. Today she says, "I am still mostly retired". I'd say that's a good place to be.

Elinor's daughters each have two children, and live in a different city or country. They get together every year for a family reunion for Pesach and Thanksgiving, if possible. She has six grandchildren: two boys and four girls. One lives in London, one in Portland, Oregon, two in Israel, one in college in Ithaca, New York, and one in Montana who will be graduating from University of Montana next month. One daughter lives in Medford, Oregon, one in Israel and another will soon depart for India, then the Sudan, where she and her husband will teach at a university.

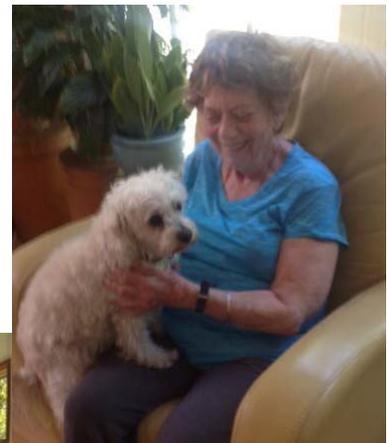
We say, "Welcome and happy to know you, Elinor." Please welcome her at Shir Ami services or events.

Editor's note:

I visited Elinor (Ellie) at her home in Sherman Oaks to take a picture for this article. I had been in her home before because she is a member of my Reconstructionist havurah. I was impressed with her house before and now, again. I also got a chance to get acquainted with Charlie, her dog and constant companion. Stan Schroeder

Ellie: My living room is truly a room for living in, napping in, looking out of the windows in, staring at the garden, sky, trees in. It was not always so. It once was a smaller, close room leading to a den and an outside room with a huge stone fireplace that had three faces. Thank you 1994 earthquake because it cracked and damaged that fireplace so it had to be taken down. Voila - a large space. We consulted and hired architect **Rick Chun** who redesigned the space into the open and magical space it now is with a large skylight. It took 2 years to complete and we watched it grow and change over that time. It is magical throughout the day and evening. It faces west so the light changes as the day develops into night. Sometimes, when the light is just right it feels magical.

Ellie and Charlie



Ellie's living room overlooking back yard

Jewish World Watch Walk to End Genocide

by Rae Wazana

The Conejo Valley JWW Walk to **End Genocide** is about a week away on Sunday, May 7th. It will take place at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza at 2100 Thousand Oaks Blvd. The Walk and other events are from 11:30 am – 2:00 pm. The Walk is about 2 ¼ miles from start to finish with an opt-out shortcut.

**JEWISH
WORLD
WATCH**

Our Congregation Shir Ami Walk Team has about 20 people signed up to participate so far. We will once again be led by **Rabbi David and Bonnie Vorspan**. To date, we have raised over \$1100 for JWW! This money will be used to support the many JWW programs of education, advocacy, and on-the-ground projects which support survivors and victims of mass atrocities and genocide in places such as Sudan, South Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo. We will “walk the Walk” to show our support for many people who have no voice. With your help and generous support, Congregation Shir Ami has demonstrated that **WE WILL NOT STAND IDLY BY!**

Even if you cannot walk on May 7th, you can still help by making a donation to Jewish World Watch to show support for Shir Ami's Walk Team. You are also invited to come out to Thousand Oaks to visit the on-site **Global Village at the Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza**. You can make your voice heard and TAKE ACTION at the Advocacy Booth, buy lovely items at the Global Village Marketplace, enjoy art projects for young activists, and nosh on pizza, fresh fruit, and other goodies. This will also be from 11:30 - 2:00.

To register on-line or to make a donation on-line, please visit the JWW Website at : **cv.walktoendgenocide.org** You can also call the JWW office at (818) 501-1836 and tell them you want to support the Congregation Shir Ami Walk Team for the Conejo Walk. My Shir Ami Walk Team co-captain **Fiona Taylor** and I thank you for your continued and generous support!



2016 Shir Ami Jewish World Watch Walk team

Ritual Committee

Before the *Amidah* prayer at our ongoing Shabbat services, Rabbi Vorspan asks the congregation to share what each of us is thankful for. Mostly we share recent *simchas* such as birthdays, anniversaries, vacation trips, and our grandchildren's accomplishments. Last Shabbat my wife Phyllis said how thankful she is for the volunteers who set up and clean up our kiddush after the service. Here are these dedicated members:

Claire Silverman
Jacquie Gordon
Sheilah Hart
Judy Eisikowitz

Also regular contributors:

Coffee preparers:

Jerry Gort, Sheilah Hart, and Phyllis Schroeder
Kiddush wine: Lee Dollins
Sunshine lady: Fran Friedman
Lifeline chair: Helga Unkeless

Thanks for your service to our Congregation.

PBS produced a five part TV documentary series ***The Story of the Jews*** with **Simon Schama**, an English historian who is Professor of History and Art History at Columbia University. Congregation Shir Ami has arranged for **Rabbi Vorspan** to present this series via DVD to our members at his home on Sunday afternoons. Each episode will be followed by a presentation and Q and A period. The first session will be in June at a date to be announced, Look for details in the June *Shir Notes*.

Stan Schroeder, Ritual Vice President

The Yom Holidays 5777

by Stan Schroeder

After World War II the nations of the world (in particular the United Nations) recognized the need for the Jews of Palestine to have a nation of their own. The UN voted for a partition plan that would divide Palestine (administered by Great Britain since the end of World War I under a League of Nations mandate) into a Jewish state and an Arab state. The Jews of Palestine accepted the partition plan and established the State of Israel. The Arabs of Palestine and the other Arab nations rejected the partition plan and attacked the fledgling State the following day. Actually fighting had been going on between the Jews and the Arabs since the UN vote, while the British looked the other way or actually aided and abetted the Arabs.

As we know Israel survived the onslaught of the Arab armies and a succession of truces were declared. However over 4,000 fighters and 2,000 civilians were killed before the final truce. That was almost one percent of the entire population. To honor those fallen in the War of Independence and subsequent wars, Israel commemorates the holiday of *Yom Hazikaron* (Day of Remembrance or Memorial Day). At first it was combined with the anniversary of the declaration of the State, but since 1951 this solemn holiday has been the day before *Yom Ha'atzma'ut* (Independence Day).

Yom Hazikaron (May 1 this year) now honors members of security and paramilitary units who were killed fighting Arab attacks going back to 1860 when Mishkenot Sha'ananim, the first modern Jewish settlement outside the walls of the Old City of Jerusalem was built. These civilians were murdered by acts of terrorism. This year there will be over 23,000 military and over 2,500 civilian terror victims honored.

The custom of sounding air-raid sirens throughout Israel is carried out twice for *Yom Hazikaron*: a one-minute siren at 8:00 pm in the evening at the start of the holiday, and a two-minute siren at 11:00 am on the day, itself. There are ceremonies at military cemeteries throughout the country. Almost everyone visits a cemetery as almost everyone has a relative who fought and died during Israel's 60 years.

This brings us to the next of the "Yom" holidays, *Yom Ha'atzma'ut* (Independence Day, May 2 this year). At nightfall (when three stars are visible in the sky) following *Yom Hazikaron*, the



Israel Declaration
of Independence
May, 1948

mood changes from solemn to joyous as Israelis celebrate their anniversary of independence. The journey we have followed: from slavery to redemption to the ovens of the *Shoah* with the murder of six million Jews, to the ultimate sacrifice of Israel's brave men and women in gaining a State and preserving it, to the celebration of the only Jewish State in the world.

And it is in our lifetime that we can see these events in context. So as we tell the story around our seder tables, we appreciate what we have, because the freedom from slavery in Egypt has led inevitably to the freedom we enjoy in America. And on *Yom Hashoah* as we remembered our people murdered in Europe, and recognized their suffering brought the attention of the world to our plight. And the opportunity to have a Jewish State was created. On *Yom Hazikaron* let us pause to recognize the terrible price already paid, and Israel's men and women are continuing to pay, so that a Jewish State guarantees us a safe home if we need it. And finally on *Yom Ha'atzma'ut* let us celebrate Israel, the only democracy in the Middle East, and their achievements we can all be proud of.

Jerusalem Day (*Yom Yerushalayim*) is an Israeli national holiday commemorating the reunification of Jerusalem and the establishment of Israeli control over the Old City in June 1967. The Chief Rabbinate of Israel declared Jerusalem Day a minor religious holiday to thank God for victory in the Six-Day War and for answering the 2,000-year-old prayer of "Next Year in Jerusalem". This year it occurs on Wednesday, May 24 and is the 50th anniversary of this momentous achievement.

The day is marked by state ceremonies, memorial services for soldiers who died in the battle for Jerusalem, parades through downtown Jerusalem, reciting the Hallel prayer with blessings in synagogues, and saying the *Pesukei Dezimra* (hymnal verses) of Sabbath and High Holidays. There are also lectures on Jerusalem-related topics, singing and dancing, and special television programming. Schoolchildren throughout the country learn about the significance of Jerusalem, and schools in Jerusalem hold festive assemblies. The day is also marked in Jewish schools around the world.

Under the 1947 UN Partition Plan, which proposed the establishment of two states in the British Mandate of Palestine—a Jewish state and an Arab state—Jerusalem was to be an international city, neither exclusively Arab nor Jewish for a period of ten years,

continued on page 8

The Yom Holidays 5777 (continued)

at which point a referendum would be held by Jerusalem residents to determine which country to join. The Jewish leadership accepted the plan, including the internationalization of Jerusalem, but the Arabs rejected the proposal.

As soon as Israel declared its independence in 1948, it was attacked *en masse* by its Arab neighbors. Jordan took over east Jerusalem and the Old City. Israeli forces made a concerted attempt to dislodge them, but were unable to do so. By the end of the 1948 Arab-Israeli War Jerusalem was left divided between Israel and Jordan. The Old City and East Jerusalem continued to be occupied by Jordan, and the Jewish residents were forced out. Under Jordanian rule, half of the Old City's fifty-eight synagogues were demolished and the Jewish cemetery on the Mount of Olives was plundered for its tombstones, which were used as paving stones and building materials.

This state of affairs changed in 1967 as a result of the Six-Day War. Before the start of the war, Israel sent a message to King Hussein of Jordan saying that Israel would not attack Jerusalem or the West Bank as long as the Jordanian front remained quiet. Urged by Egyptian pressure and based on deceptive intelligence reports, Jordan began shelling civilian locations in Israel to which Israel responded on June 6 by opening the eastern front. The following day, June 7, 1967 (28 Iyar 5727), Israel captured the Old City of Jerusalem.

Later that day, **Defense Minister Moshe Dayan** declared what is often quoted during Yom Yerushalayim:

"This morning, the Israel Defense Forces liberated Jerusalem. We have united Jerusalem, the divided capital of Israel. We have returned to the holiest of our holy places, never to part from it again. To our Arab neighbors we extend, also at this hour—and with added emphasis at this hour—our hand in peace. And to our Christian and Muslim fellow citizens, we solemnly promise full religious freedom and rights. We did not come to Jerusalem for the sake of other peoples' holy places, and not to interfere with the adherents of other faiths, but in order to safeguard its entirety, and to live there together with others, in unity."

The war ended with a ceasefire on June 11, 1967.

On May 12, 1968, the government proclaimed a new holiday—Jerusalem Day—to be celebrated on the 28th of Iyar, the Hebrew date on which the divided city of Jerusalem became one. On March 23, 1998, the Knesset passed the Jerusalem Day Law, making the day a national holiday.

One of the themes of Jerusalem Day, based on a verse from the Book of Psalms, is "*Ke'ir shechubra la yachdav*"—"Built-up Jerusalem is like a city that was joined together" (Psalm 122:3).

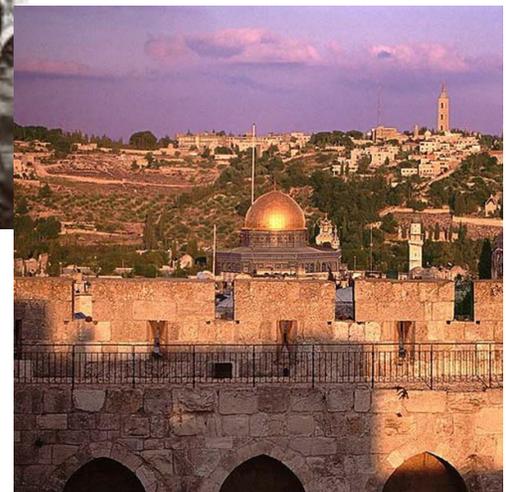
Although most Haredim are averse to observing days associated with the modern State of Israel, Yom Yerushalayim is an exception and some will observe it in various ways. This is because it marks the time from which Jews could once again pray at the Western Wall.

Following the liberation of the Old City **Naomi Shemer** added a verse to her new popular song **Jerusalem of Gold (Yerushalayim Shel Zahav)** to celebrate the realization of the Jewish dream for the City.

See my poem *Two Holidays - One Israel* on page 9.



IDF paratroopers at Western Wall June, 1967



Jerusalem view into Old City

TREE OF LIFE

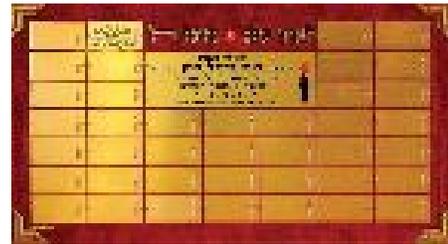


This beautiful Tree of Life, with leaves priced at \$100 and rocks at \$250 (one remaining), makes a perfect way to celebrate family occasions and support Congregation Shir Ami.

The Tree is on a rosewood background and consists of gold-colored leaves and rocks. It is displayed at all Congregation Shir Ami services and events.

For more information or to place an order, call Sherry Dollins at (818) 886-7590.

Congregation Shir Ami Memorial Board



If you would like to honor the memory of your loved ones by dedicating plaques on our new Memorial Board, please call Sherry Dollins at (818) 886-7590 so she may mail you an order form. The cost of each plaque is \$36.

Each plaque may contain up to three lines of engraving: English name, Hebrew name, and the years of birth and death. Both of our Memorial Boards are displayed at all our services.

TWO HOLIDAYS – ONE ISRAEL

by Stan Schroeder

Many have fought, too many have died;
We commemorate their sacrifice with pride.
That we are here proves they've not died in vain -
And we must share their sorrow and pain.

It is up to us on *Yom Hazikaron*
To remember that we are not alone.
The legacy of the fallen in war after war
Is carried by Jews from every shore.

This day of remembrance and sorrow
Is followed each year by a glorious tomorrow.
The day we proclaim a Jewish State
Where our people know freedom instead of hate.

A State where our values to our children are
passed,
And they can be sure their children won't be
gassed.

On *Yom Haatzmaut* all our voices must cry:
The people of Israel live, *Am Yisrael Chai* !!!



Now we celebrate sixty years
Of hard fought victories and many tears.
Six decades of our people on our land
Working to sustain the place where we stand.

Six decades a source of inspiration,
Young and old, our Jewish nation.
Let us all pray from our heart
That sixty years is only a start!

Started in Israel during the March of the Living
Yom Ha'atznaut May 2, 2006 4 Iyar 5766

Concluded in Israel with Hadassah 60th
Anniversary Mission
Yom Ha'atzmaut May 8, 2008 3 Iyar 5768

Shop at Ralphs - Earn Money for Shir Ami

by Maralyn Soifer

Here is an easy way to earn money for our Temple. We are now officially a **Ralphs' community agency**. All you have to do is follow these simple instructions to help earn money for Congregation Shir Ami.



1. If you don't have a Ralphs' rewards card already, go to the store or go to website **www.ralphs.com** and select **Order a Ralphs reward card**.
2. Once you have your card, go to the website: **www.ralphs.com** and select **Create an account**
3. If you have an account, your email address is your account ID. If you forgot your password, select **Forgot your password?** and you will receive an email with instructions to reset it. Follow the instructions to enter your email address and create a new password.
4. If you already have a Ralphs' reward card and an account, you will see Account Summary when you login. You can change to our Temple by clicking on **Edit** within **Community Rewards**.

You can do a search for Congregation Shir Ami by putting in the number **92785**. Our congregation will pop up and click on the button next to the name. Click on the button that saves the changes.

5. You should also check the bottom of your receipt when you shop. It should say "**At your request, Ralph's is donating to CONGREGATION SHIR AMI**".
6. If all else fails, call me in the evening at (818) 704-0306. I'll be happy to walk you through it.
7. Start Shopping!

Make sure that the clerk swipes your card each time you shop. Verify that your receipt shows a contribution to Congregation Shir Ami at the bottom.

Important Note: All participants must confirm their selection annually starting in September. On or after September 1, sign into your account and reconfirm Community Rewards selection.

Woodland Hills, CA 91365
P.O. Box 6353
Congregation Shir Ami

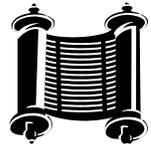
Thursdays May 4, 11, and 25, 7:30 - 8:30 pm “Around the Rabbi’s Tisch” at the Vorspans’



This popular Shir Ami educational series concludes the second half of its 5777 season. Come join us for our weekly discussion of Rabbi Vorspan’s selected topics of Jewish interest. We discuss Jewish texts and current events as they relate to Jewish values and our lives as Jews. This is a unique opportunity to learn and share in an informal format around the Vorspans’ dining room table.

The Vorspans’ home is located at 22320 Philipprimm St. in Woodland Hills. Call Rabbi Vorspan at (818) 888-9817 for more information.

Saturday May 13, 10:30 am: Torah/Shabbat Study at Northridge Mobile Home Park



Stan Schroeder leads a Shabbat study session one Saturday morning a month at 10:30. We discuss the weekly Torah portion, the Shabbat prayers that are included in our Contemporary service, and various subjects relevant to Conservative Judaism.



The Torah reading will be the Parsha Emor (Leviticus 21:1 - 24:23) that defines Judaism’s holy days including Shabbat and the festival holidays. We are commanded “*la asok b’divre torah*” (to engage in the study of Torah). Join us and fulfill the mitzvah.

Call Stan at (818) 718-7466 for more information.



Let's go for a walk around Lake Balboa!

Join Congregation Shir Ami's Social Action Committee on **Sunday, June 4th at 9:00 am.**
 Registration required starting at 8:30 am

All proceeds go to Blue Card Fund for Holocaust survivors

Minimum donation: \$10 per person, NO MAXIMUM! Following the walk, a brunch will be provided by our Social Action Committee near the lake. Please bring vegetarian salad, side dish, or dessert to share, and remember to wear your Mitzvah Patrol shirt.

The Blue Card organization started in 1934. It now provides services for the 2100 most needy Holocaust survivors in the U.S. 100 % of our donations will reach them, most of whom are over eighty.

Also please bring non-perishable and non-breakable food for SOVA.

Sit-down activities are available for those who don't walk. Call **Fiona Taylor** at (818) 903-6381 or **Sheilah Hart** at (818) 884-2342 or **Claire Silverman** at (747) 237-7130. Sign up by returning this tear-off with your check for \$10 (or more) per person to Congregation Shir Ami, P.O. Box 6353, Woodland Hills, CA 91365. Make check payable to **Congregation Shir Ami.**

Total Donation \$ _____

Walker Names: Brunch (y/n)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Donation Amount: \$10 [] \$18 [] \$36 []
 \$72 [] Other []

Phone no. _____

In honor/memory of _____

Number of participants _____

I will bring: Salad [] Dessert [] Side dish []