

MINYAN MONTHLY

Vol. 5, No. 7

May 1991

Iyar 5751

FROM THE MINYAN STEERING COMMITTEE

--Robert Braun

A meeting of the Library Minyan Steering Committee was held on April 7, 1991 at the home of Sandra and Robert Braun. The following is a brief summary of the meeting.

Liaison to Executive Committee

Bob Braun announced that the Temple Beth Am Executive Committee had proposed amending the Temple Bylaws to include, among other things, a Library Minyan Liaison as a member of the Executive Committee. The Steering Committee recommended that, in accord with the Minyan Bylaws, a Liaison should be elected by the Minyan as a whole. An accompanying article in this edition of the Minyan Monthly describes the election process and the duties of the Liaison.

Minyan Building Committee

Bob Braun also announced that Dvora Colker, President of the Temple, had asked that a representative of the Minyan be designated to give input to the

Temple's building committee, especially with respect to the new chapel. David Ackerman discussed his understanding of the current status of the building plans. Bob Braun noted that the Minyan members, as members of Temple Beth Am, would be asked to contribute to the Temple's building fund, which was currently being organized. All those in attendance agreed that additional information needed to be presented to the Minyan so that the membership could define its commitment to the project and could help ensure that the plans meet the needs of the Minyan.

After further discussion, Robert Pflug and Mitch Miller volunteered to serve as representatives of the Minyan on the Temple Beth Am Building Committee. Bob Braun was asked to convey this to the Temple, and to emphasize that the Minyan's representatives would serve on the Committee only as full voting members, not merely as observers.

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SCHEDULING EVENTS AT THE MINYAN

--Lida Baker

On the last page of each Minyan Monthly there is a list of people who are in charge of various Minyan functions. The last item on the list reads "Scheduling Events - Master Calendar," and my name and phone number are given. This means that anyone planning an event at the Minyan should call me first and find out whether anything else is scheduled for the same day.

The decision to put me in charge of the master calendar was made at a Minyan Executive Committee meeting several months ago, but very few people seem to be aware of the proper procedure for scheduling an event at the Minyan. For future reference, here are the steps you should follow:

Step 1. Contact me and ask me to put your event on the Minyan calendar. At the same time, arrange Torah/Haftorah readings for your event with me.

Step 2. Call the synagogue and ask them to put your event on the synagogue calendar. If you want to have a kiddush in one of the large synagogue rooms, arrange it with them.

Step 3. If you want to sponsor a kiddush for the Minyan, call Elke Tenner.

Step 4. If you want to arrange for a drash in the Minyan, call Julia Arango.

Step 5. If you want to arrange to participate in the service in a way not listed above, contact one of the gabbais (Michael Beals, Alan Broidy, Sharon Kushner or David Wolpe).

TREASURER'S COLUMN

--Norman H. Green

Thank you to all of the following people whose contributions to the Minyan fund for sponsoring Lyudmilla Orlovskaya and Roman Zverev have not yet been acknowledged here:

- Tove & Carl Sunshine
- Mayer A Brenner
- Peachy and Mark Levy
- Eric Chaim Kline
- Stanley & Valerie Goldstein
- Renalee S. Pflug
- Frederick & Diane Landau
- Leon L. & Ann C. Kramer
- Drs. Felice & David Gordis
- Alan F. Broidy
- Walter & Frances Ackerman
- Donna Sudarsky
- Henry & Suzanne Morgen
- Adele & Rick Burke
- Cary Glass Family in honor of Betty Kotler's Bas Mitzvah
- George & Regina Morantz-Sanchez
- Shoshana & Murray Gershenzon
- Mark Huberman
- Patti Zeitlin
- Janet R. Halbert
- Eve A. Tobin

As of April 15, this fund has received \$3,590; 71% of our \$5,000 goal. The basic \$3,350 commitment has been forwarded.

**PLEASE SEND YOUR ARTICLES
OR STORIES TO THE
MINYAN MONTHLY**

Submission Deadline
June 20, 1991
Mail to: Susan Grinel
1127 11th St. #204
Santa Monica, Calif. 90403
Or Call: 445-4282 (W)
395-2572 (H)

**DON'T FORGET WE'RE STILL COLLECTING
CANNED AND PACKAGED FOODS FOR
SOVA**

BRING YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS SOON!

LIBRARY MINYAN ELECTIONS

The Bylaws of the Library Minyan provide that the Minyan will each year elect an individual to act as liaison to the Temple Beth Am Executive Committee. This role has been filled by unelected individuals since the inception of the Minyan. At its April 7th meeting, the Library Minyan Steering Committee determined to hold elections in June to select an individual to serve as liaison to the Temple Beth Am Executive Committee and to act as Chairperson of the Steering Committee.

The Steering Committee is soliciting nominations for this position. The following guidelines describe the position, qualifications and method of nomination.

Description of the Position

The individual chosen as Liaison to the Executive Committee (the "Liaison") will serve in that position until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified. The Liaison will be obligated to serve as a member of the Temple Beth Am Executive Committee. This obligation includes regular attendance at monthly meetings, attendance at meetings of the Board of Trustees, and periodic other service on behalf of Temple Beth Am.

The Liaison serves as the primary person through whom the elected, lay and professional staff of Temple Beth Am convey requests and opinions to the Steering Committee and the Minyan as a whole. As an example, decisions as to the holding of joint services are typically made through (but not by) the Liaison. The Liaison must therefore exercise a certain amount of discretion concerning whether a matter can be decided by the Liaison alone, with the aid of the Steering Committee or by the entire Minyan Membership.

As Chairperson of the Library Minyan Steering Committee, the Liaison coordinates the various standing and special committees of the Library Minyan and calls and chairs Steering Committee meetings when and as needed. The Liaison also coordinates requests for information and action to the Temple Beth Am leadership and staff.

Qualifications

The Liaison must be a member in good standing of the Library Minyan. As such, that person must be current in all dues obligations to Temple Beth Am, must regularly attend the Library Minyan and must contribute to the functioning of the Library Minyan through service, e.g., by participation in child care, davening or other activities.

The Liaison must be prepared to devote the requisite amount of time necessary to fulfill the functions described above. Attendance at Executive Committee and Board of Trustee meetings requires a commitment of approximately 4 hours monthly, plus the time necessary to prepare for those meetings. The Liaison should probably expect to spend an equivalent amount of time, outside of attending Minyan services, in fulfilling his or her duties.

Nominations

Nominations may be made either by or on behalf of a nominee by advising Robert Braun in writing. Each nominee, by agreeing to allow their name to be placed for election, agrees to commit to fulfill, to the best of his or her ability, the obligations of the Liaison and represents that he or she is not subject to any limitation which would prevent that person from fulfilling these duties.

Nominations should be submitted no later than May 15, 1991. Nominations will be made public in
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STEERING COMMITTEE--Continued

High Holiday Services/Membership

The Committee then discussed High Holiday Services. Lida Baker offered to serve on the High Holiday Coordinating Committee, whose offer was gratefully accepted.

There was a heated discussion regarding whether the Minyan should authorize using a microphone at High Holiday services. That discussion evolved into a general discussion of the Minyan's High Holiday Services.

Bob Braun then advised the Committee that he had been asked by the Temple to help prepare a letter to Minyan members who are delinquent in dues, noting that those individuals and their families will not be entitled to benefits of Minyan membership, including High Holiday seating. The Committee approved sending out such a letter.

The Committee spent a great deal of time discussing the qualifications for entitlement to High Holiday seats. It was recalled that the "official" (and rarely enforced) policy of the Minyan was to limit seating to Library Minyan members and their out-of-town relatives. This was also seen as unfair to those who wished to spend the holidays with their families who were not lucky enough to live outside Los Angeles. The Committee also discussed the fact that despite the Minyan's yearly efforts, non-members who had no affiliation with the Minyan seemed to obtain tickets from the Temple.

This issue was not resolved, but it was noted that a more concerted effort should be made this year to determine who are active Library Minyan members for the purpose of determining seating at High Holiday Services.

Personal Note from the Chair:

Additional discussion on High Holiday Services will be held at the next Steering Committee meeting,

which will probably be held after Shavuot. Personally, and after some consultation with my unnamed (and unknowing) advisors, it may be time to review and possibly revise our High Holiday policies, including seating, use of microphones and other matters. I encourage Minyan members to bend their thoughts to this so that we can come up with some sort of consensus.

Other Business

The following additional suggestions were made at the meeting:

1. It would be appropriate for someone to hold the Torah during Haftorah reading, and the Minyan will encourage this practice.

2. Members should remember that Lida Baker keeps the official Minyan calendar. Lida should be informed if you are planning a special occasion to avoid any timing conflicts.

3. If you are planning a special Shabbat or holiday service and expect a large turnout, please advise Stan Goldstein in advance so that we can arrange for additional seats.

4. It is apparent that we need a new Torah Scroll. Lida Baker will be looking into the details and financial consequences. Look for details.

TERI COHAN LINK & BARUCH LINK
Happily Announce the Birth
of their daughter

TAL RUHAMA

Tal was born on April 6, 1991
23 Nisan

Schmuel is proud to be a big brother.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
PROGRESS REPORT
--Leon Rogson

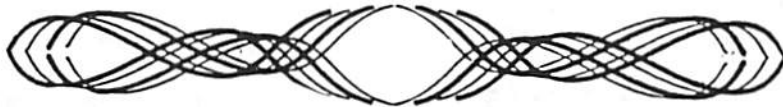
Creating a comprehensive membership list, and trying to ascertain the available skills and training required by our Minyan has been an interesting and hopefully rewarding task. Although not complete, the information we currently have, and that we still hope to compile, should permit us to plan training activities and to organize Shabbat services more effectively next year.

To those of you who have answered our questionnaire, thank you. The response you sent shows that the Minyan has very large resources from which to draw service participants. It also shows that many of us would like to increase our capabilities so as to more fully participate in services.

The questionnaire did not ask for volunteers to train others, but I hope we will find such volunteers so that our Minyan can become ever more involved, ever more democratic in its involvement of Minyan members in Shabbat and other services.

To those who have not yet answered our questionnaire, we will be calling on you in the near future. We hope, by Rosh Hashana, to have completed our survey and have used it to plan further Minyan activities.

P.S. We are thinking about organizing a Shabbat Mincha, nosh and drash activities. Anyone interested should contact Michael Beals at 657-5172.



LIBRARY MINYAN
SHAVUOT TIKKUN

COME STUDY WITH OUR SCHOLARS
IN THE MINYAN ON SHAVUOT

SATURDAY MAY 18, 1991
SERVICES BEGIN: 7:30 P.M.
TIKKUN BEGINS: 8:30 P.M.



I will be coming to the TIKKUN.....

I can lead a half hour session on _____

NAME _____ PHONE NO. _____

MAIL TO:
Sharon Kushner
1517 S. Bedford #5
Los Angeles, Ca. 90035
Or Call With Questions: (213) 271-5845

MINYAN COMMITTEES/RESPONSIBILITIES

Chair, Steering Committee	
Robert Braun	838-4272
Minyan Treasurer	
Norm Green	938-8110
Reading Torah or Haftorah	
Lida Baker	934-3663
Gabai'im-Shabbat/Holiday Services	
Torah Honors	
Michael Beals	657-5172
Alan Broidy	933-8894
Sharon Kushner	
Dan Wolpe	
Drashot:	
Julia Arango	276-5083
Torah Gabai'im	
Norman Saiger	837-5927
Evan Greenspan	818-760-0774
Ark Opening	
Carl Danielsen	655-9850
Child Care	
Mark Bodenstein	937-7443
Rachel Siegel	473-2029
Judy Massarano	551-0162
Kiddush	
Elka Tenner	932-0688
Sharon Kushner	271-5845
Robin Moss	
Laurie Wallock	
Membership	
Michael Rogson	939-5124
Mailing List	
Leon Rogson	202-1329
Minyan Guide	
Carl Sunshine	934-7889
Minyan Monthly	
Susan Grinel	395-2572
Ritual Committee	
Stan Goldstein	813-8100
Scheduling Events-Master Calendar	
Lida Baker	934-3663

MINYAN ELECTIONS -- Continued

the June edition of the Minyan Monthly, at which time details of the election will be described. Any nominee feeling it necessary to submit a statement as to why he or she would like to be Liaison can do so in the Minyan Monthly; however, any submission should be brief. The definition of brief shall be made by the current Chair of the Steering Committee, who reserves the right to be capricious, especially regarding statements of more than 100 words.

Elections

Elections will be held by written ballot at the general meeting of the Library Minyan in June. The Steering Committee will establish a procedure and determine whether individuals may vote by mail or proxy. Only members in good standing in the Minyan (i.e., members who are current in payment of Temple dues, who regularly attend Minyan services and who contribute to the operation of the Minyan) may vote for the Liaison. Persons interested in assisting in this process should contact Robert Braun.

April 18, 1991

DEAR MIRIAM

WE HAVE got the invitations and
YOUR LETTER. WE WERE EXTREMELY touched
BY YOUR CARE FOR OUR ARRIVAL IN
AMERICA and OUR FUTURE LIFE THERE.
THANK YOU VERY much FOR EVERYTHING
you ARE doing for us.

UNFORTUNATELY WE CAN'T TELL YOU THE
DATE OF OUR ARRIVAL, AS WE HAVEN'T
got tickets yet. It's the GREATEST
PROBLEM now for us. HOWEVER THE PERMISSION
to LEAVE THE USSR is VALID till JUNE 19.

WE ARE doing OUR BEST TO LEAVE AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE THE SITUATION IN THE
COUNTRY is going FROM bad to WORSE.

AS SOON AS WE GET THE TICKETS WE'LL
LET YOU KNOW. WE LOOK FORWARD TO

HEARING FROM YOU SOON. YOUR LETTER WILL BE
A GREAT SUPPORT FOR US.

SINCERELY

Ljudmilla and ROMAN.

P.S. YOU PROBABLY know that ROMAN IS
A CARTOONIST. THAT'S HOW HE SEES US.

ROMAN
GENN
1994 P.

