

# MINYAN MONTHLY



Vol 4, No. 3

February/March 1988 Adar 5748

## Thanks for the support!

The Minyan would like to thank the following people for their recent contributions.

Bill & Isa Aron  
Ronnie & Hilda Cohen  
Sheldon & Gail Dorph  
Sheryl Eisenberg  
Marc & Joanne Epstein  
Donald Gilbert  
Larry Harris  
Jerry Horn  
Samuel Jason  
Luis Lainer  
Kayla Landesman  
Annette Lawrence  
Judy Lederich  
Eric & Navi Lesin

Jonathon & Janis Lightman  
Marci Maniker & Maury Leiter  
Mitch & Phyllis Miller  
Debbie Rich  
Sherrin & Phil Rosenthal  
Mayer & Faith Schames  
Gene Senyak  
Mimi & Michael Shefrin  
Max Stern  
Susan Tober & Saul Andron  
Allan Tobin & Janet Hadda  
Amy Wallk  
Tamara & David Wilkof  
Menachem & Selma Wities

*...and to everyone else who  
helped out in large ways  
and small...*

## Israel Bonds Leadership

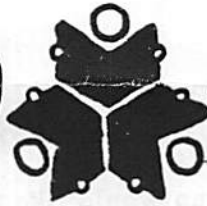
The New Leadership Division of Israel Bonds will be sponsoring a variety of activities throughout the fall and spring, including a Purim Party and an art gallery reception to be held at the Martin Lawrence Gallery. The reception will feature a showing of the work of notable Jewish artists, Yaacov Agam, Theo Tobias and Peter Max. Israel Bonds encourages your active participation in both the planning and attendance of upcoming events. If you would like to be placed on the mailing list or obtain further information, please contact Lorrie Berman at 653-8400.

## Hachnasat Orchim

The Hachnasat Orchim Committee would like to thank the many people who have generously hosted guests for Shabbat lunch. We still are in need of hosts for the month of February. If you would like to open your home to a Library mInyan guest, please call:

Robin Moss                      652-2261  
or  
Georgia Beller                      854-0275

Thank You!



**DON' T FORGET!**

**PRESSMAN ACADEMY OF TEMPLE BETH AM  
ANNUAL BENEFIT**

**SUNDAY EVENING, MARCH 20, 1988**

**FEATURING THE RENOWNED IMPROVISATIONAL GROUP "MICE"**

**Support our schools and our children  
Send in your reservations now. For more information call 213-938-1851**

## Individuals Reaching Out

by Leonard Zev Muroff

I believe that one person can make a difference. I was a teenager on a youth tour to Israel when I first realized this. The person who convinced me was Danny Siegel, the poet, writer and Tzedakah messenger. It was through his efforts, that I saw that individuals with a vision and with much energy can have an impact.

I first met Danny Siegel in Israel in the summer of 1978. He had a clear and simple message for us that summer. Giving is not enough. One also had to do. Danny taught that we should not wait until we have the inclination to help others. Instead we should follow the teaching in the *Schulchan Aruch* which says that: "A person should give pleasantly, joyously, with a good heart, showing sympathy for the poor, sharing in his sense of pain and sorrow." It was upon this that Danny bases his entire approach to life. He himself expressed it best when he wrote in his booklet entitled Tzedakah Jewish Giving, A Privilege : "As a result of Menschlich acts, we will become more aware of the nature of being a Mensch. That is a basic Jewish idea- *the doing forms the theory*, and not the other way around." Danny pointed out that the first step is to make doing an important part of our lives. He also helped us become aware of the segments of the population which universally need special attention.

By encouraging individuals to visit those less fortunate than

ourselves and to contribute our time, energy and money on their behalf, he was making a difference in the lives of those usually ignored by society.

Purim also provides us with an example of one person who is able to make a difference. Queen Esther could have chosen to sit back and not risk her comfortable and secure position. Instead, she risked her life and high social standing in the kingdom and approached King Ahashuerus regarding the plot by evil Haman to exterminate the Jews. Esther did hesitate at first, as many of us do when confronted with the need to do something which makes us uncomfortable. Eventually, Esther did realize the severity of the situation. She is said to have remarked: "Then I shall go to the king, though it is contrary to the law; and if I am to perish, I shall perish!" (Esther 4:16) It was a bold step, yet it was one that Esther realized was necessary to take.

In 1980, I met another woman who is an example that one person can make a difference. I will call her "Jennifer" to protect her identity due to the sensitivity and confidentiality of much of what she does. She has worked unceasingly on behalf of Syrian Jews for over a decade. She too like Esther, could have sat back and remained secure in her world of comfort in her affluent neighborhood. Instead, once she realized the severity of the situation, she too chose to risk her life and to act. "Jennifer" has been able to improve the condition of the lives of the Jews who remain in Syria and to some

extent make it possible for some Jews to leave. In addition, she has sent *Siddurim*, *Tallitot*, *Kippot*, and *Humashim* to try to improve their quality of life in Syria. In the process she has done much to incur the wrath of the Syrian government.

That their quality of life is deplorable is not debatable. As residents of the only Arab country that did not allow its Jewish citizens to emigrate to Israel in 1948, or in any year since, their situation is especially precarious. On a daily basis, they face incidents of anti-Semitism at school, at work and even in their homes at night. They live with the knowledge that they are always at risk of being attacked verbally or physically.

Thus "Jennifer"'s contribution on their behalf is especially important. She has been a doer on a large scale. By raising

money, speaking out on their behalf, forming committees to advance their cause and establishing a link with the Syrian Jews themselves, she has done much to ease their pain. From this we can see that one person can indeed make a real difference.

Things have only deteriorated in the year since I spoke to the Minyan about the plight of the Jews of Syria. The borders have been sealed, thus removing any chance of escape for these people. It is clear that they need our help. The examples of Danny Siegel and "Jennifer" show us that individuals can make a difference.

Anyone interested in helping to finance the shipments of religious books and ritual objects to Syria should send a check to:

THE DR. RONALD FELD FUND  
FOR JEWS FROM ARAB LANDS Beth  
Tzedec Congregation, 1700 Bathurst  
Street, Toronto, Canada M5P 3K3

The phone number there is  
:(416) 781-3511.



## To Volunteer

Contact the following people to help:

To daven:

Norm Green	938-8110
David Rubin	937-5164
Donna Silver	382-2407
Elliot Sturman	461-2455

To read Torah or Haftorah:

Seth Rosen	216-1594
Sharon Kushner	659-1926

To give a drasha:

Jeff Rabin	553-0904
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To get help preparing a drasha:

Levi Shnairson	653-9439
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To learn to Daven or read Torah or Haftorah:

David Rubin	937-5164
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To help with child care:

Irit Sorokin	938-1437
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To sponsor a kiddish:

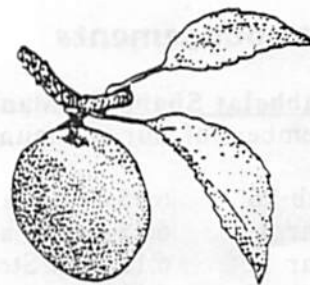
Sereta Stevens	275-0931
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To host a Shabbat lunch for Hachnasat Orchim

Robin Moss	652-2261
Georgia Beller	854-0275
Sharon Kushner	659-1926
Judy Massarano	652-9652

To contribute to the *Minyan Monthly*

Larry Harris	551-0161
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## Library Minyan List

By now, everybody should have received the new Minyan list. If you haven't, please contact Eddie Rabin at 930-1939.

A big thanks to Bill Strick at the Temple for duplicating and sending out the lists.

Please make the following corrections to your new lists:

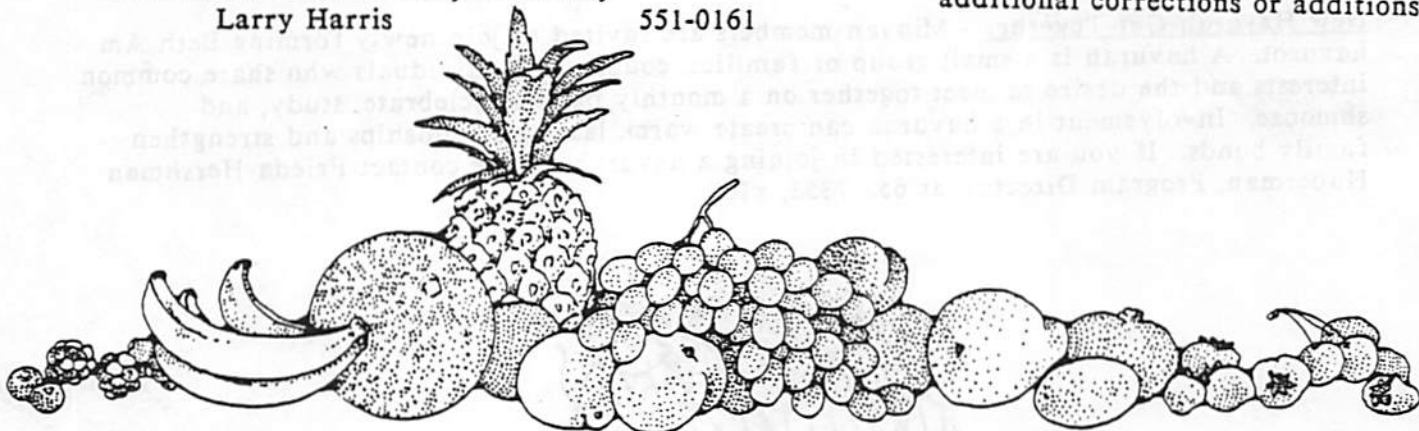
Mark Bander's work phone: 614-3823

Dana Geller's last Name: Bander

Marshall and Hanna Kramer's Address: 6406 Lindenhurst Ave.

Eddie Rabin's work Phone: (818)-594-5181.

Please call Eddie Rabin with any additional corrections or additions.



The *Minyan Monthly* is published by Sharon Grob, illustrated by Ruth Askren, and edited by Larry Harris. If you would like to publish a letter, announcement, or article in the next issue, please send it to Larry at 1449 S. Canfield, Los Angeles CA 90035. Phone (213) 551-0161 at home or (213) 743-8362 at work. Submissions on IBM PC diskette are encouraged and greatly appreciated. (The diskette is promptly returned.)

The *Minyan Monthly* asks that each family receiving the *Monthly* pay a fee of \$10 per year. This amount is now due. Please make your check payable to TBA Library *Minyan-Minyan Monthly* and send it c/o Eddie Rabin, 1181 Hi Point St., Los Angeles, CA 90035.

## Announcements

**Kabbalat Shabbat** - Many of us meet each Friday night for Kabbalat Shabbat services. All members of our community are invited to join us at the following places and times:

Feb 26	6:15 Eddie and Ellen Rabin	1181 HiPoint Street
Mar 4	6:15 Glenn and Judy Massarano	1055 S. Wooster #1
Mar 11	6:15 Max Stern	1449 S. Point View #9
Mar 18	6:15 Sharon Kushner	8545 Saturn #203
Mar 25	6:15 Brad and Sharon Grob	1021 Stearns Drive
Apr 1	Pesah - No minyan	
Apr 8	6:15 Eddie and Ellen Rabin	1181 HiPoint Street

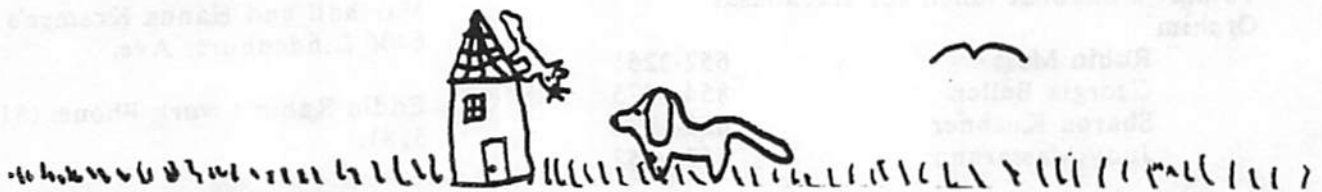
If you have any questions, please call Brad Grob (276-2634) or Glenn Massarano (652-9652).

**Minyan List Corrections** - Please send phone and address corrections to Eddie Rabin, 1181 Hi Point Street, Los Angeles CA 90035 (930-1939).



**Sublet Available** - Very large two bedroom apartment near Pico and Doheny, one mile from Beth Am. Available late May for 15 months. Call Larry, 551-0161.

**Roommate Wanted** - Kosher or vegetarian, non-smoking female wanted to share 3 bedroom duplex in Pico-Robertson area. Includes washer/dryer, and backyard. Call Susan March at (213) 854-0939.



**New Havurah Get-Together** - Minyan members are invited to join newly forming Beth Am havurot. A havurah is a small group of families, couples, or individuals who share common interests and the desire to meet together on a monthly basis to celebrate, study, and shmooze. Involvement in a havurah can create warm, lasting friendships and strengthen family bonds. If you are interested in joining a havurah, please contact Frieda Hershman Huberman, Program Director, at 652-7353, x107.

