

# MINYAN MONTHLY

Vol. 6, No. 3

March 1992 Adar 5752

## LIBRARY MINYAN ELECTIONS

--Robert Braun

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. Since the inception of the Minyan, this role has been filled by individuals not elected by the membership. At its February 9, 1992 meeting, the Library Minyan Steering Committee determined to hold elections not later than June 1991 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 profession 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

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### **--Minyan Elections - Continued**

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 also 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 must be submitted no later than May 15, 1992. Nominations will be made public in the May edition of the Minyan Monthly. 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 to 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.

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### **MINYAN MONTHLY SPECIAL PASSOVER EDITION**

Please send your stories, memories, thoughts and ideas to the Minyan Monthly for a special Passover Edition. Use this as an opportunity to "talk" with other Minyan members as if you were sharing a Passover Seder. Send only a few lines on the back of an envelope if you wish, but send them now!

Minyan Monthly  
c/o Susan Grinel  
1127 11th St. #204  
Santa Monica, Ca. 90403  
(310) 395-2572

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LIBRARY MINYAN  
STEERING COMMITTEE

Minutes  
February 9, 1992

A meeting of the Library Minyan Steering Committee was held at the home of Robert and Sandra Braun, 1743 South Holt Avenue, Los Angeles, on Sunday, February 9, 1992 at 7:00 p.m.. In attendance at the meeting were Stan Goldstein, Marshall Kramer, Elka Tenner, Mark Rothman, Vicky Rothman, Leon Rogson, Mike Rogson, Robert Pflug, Ronnie Cohen, Sandra Braun and Robert Braun.

Robert Braun acted as chair of the meeting and took the minutes of the meeting.

1. Minyan Elections Bob Braun announced that the Minyan would hold elections for Chairman of the Steering Committee before June. The Committee reviewed the election procedures proposed by the current (and lame duck [or at least lame]) chair and no objections were made to using the proposed procedure.

The Committee also discussed the desirability of establishing a better system of successors for the various committee chairs in the Minyan. Leon Rogson suggested that each committee chair choose a vice chair to serve the following year, who could also act as a backup to the committee chair. It was felt that this would increase the continuity and smooth functioning of the Minyan without imperiling the general anarchist slant of Minyan governance.

2. High Holiday Seating Bob Braun noted that there had been a number of concerns that had developed about the adequacy of High Holiday seating relating both to additional seats requested by the Minyan and the procedure by which seats are allocated by the Temple

staff. After discussion, it was determined that the Minyan should take a more active role in allocating seats, and develop an order form to ensure that Minyan members are equitably allocating seating.

3. Membership Issues Leon Rogson addressed a number of membership issues. It was recommended that a meeting be held with Sonia Silverblatt to review and refine membership intake procedures.

The Committee also reviewed the status of Minyan membership lists. It was recommended that Minyan membership lists be posted to encourage members to provide correct and accurate information. It was also noted that the membership database could provide a means of involving members in the many activities which require additional participation and create a greater sense of community in the Minyan.

4. Capital Campaign/Building Project Update Bob Braun gave an update on the status of the Capital Campaign for the new school building and refurbishing of the existing sanctuary building. Robert Pflug gave an update on the status of the building project.

5. Ritual Committee Stan Goldstein announced that he would no longer act as Chair of the Ritual Committee. The Steering Committee noted that he had served as Chair of the Ritual Committee for five years, and that it was about time someone else took over this duty.

6. Hospitality Committee Mark Rothman addressed the possibility of the Minyan extending its services to include a Kabbalat Shabbat. After discussion, the Committee authorized Mark and any volunteers who are interested to establish a Kabbalat Shabbat service, but noted that

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**--Minutes - Continued**

there were certain inherent difficulties in the project.

Vicky and Mark Rothman also discussed the desirability of enhancing the warmth of the Minyan by encouraging more interaction among members. Vicky and Mark offered to coordinate Shabbat afternoon lunches among new members and existing members, and the Committee encourages all members of the Minyan to become involved.

7. **New Business** Marshall Kramer brought up the importance of encouraging study at the Minyan. The Committee determined to establish an example and precedent by establishing a Shabbat afternoon study group.

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**TREASURER'S COLUMN**

**--Norman H. Green**

Thank you to Efrem M. Grail and Karen Goldman for a generous contribution in honor of Ronnie and Hilda Cohen's 22nd anniversary. Mazel Tov.

Thanks also to Joel and Susan Stern, Max Stern, E. Chaim Kline and Judy and Glenn Massarano, who have redeemed their Simchas Torah pledges. Remaining Simchas Torah (and other) donations may be sent to me at 1172 Hi Point St., Los Angeles, 90035.

Thanks also go to Samuel Jason and Dorothy Jason for very generous contributions, and to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Greenspan for a contribution in honor of their sons Evan and Brent.

Last, but far from least, a hearty Mazel Tov and thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Eric Horowitz (I believe she used to be Karen Goldenberg) on the joyous occasion of their recent wedding and to Rabbi Bill Cutter who officiated. They made a most generous contribution.

As of February 19, the Minyan's general fund had \$2,277.91

**TO KABBALAT OR NOT TO KABBALAT  
SHABBAT**

**--Mark Rothman**

(My apologies to William Shakespeare)

It seems strange that even amongst the panorama of corner schuls, betai midrash and long-standing synagogues, it is common for people to feel there are few satisfying choices for Kabbalat Shabbat services. Yet, a few conversations with a handful of Minyan members have suggested to me that this is in fact true.

In order to experience the beauty of welcoming Shabbat, I proposed at the last Steering Committee meeting that the Library Minyan explore providing some kind of Friday night service.

Though those at the meeting raised several practical problems with starting an Erev Shabbat Minyan, if there is a core group interested in this idea, I am confident we will overcome any obstacles. The first step is to try to identify this core group.

Thus, Vicki and I are offering to host a short Kabbalat Shabbat service in our home on March 20th at 6:30 p.m. at 829 S. LeDoux #3, L.A. (If there is sufficient interest in holding the service earlier or later, the time is flexible, depending on the group's needs and interests.) If you have any questions or comments, call Mark or Vicki Rothman at (310) 659-0269.

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**THE LIBRARY MINYAN  
EXTENDS ITS CONDOLENCES TO  
SUSAN LIEBMAN  
ON THE PASSING OF HER HUSBAND**

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## 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	
Alan Broidy	933-8894
Sharon Kushner	271-5845
Dan Wolpe	
Paul Young	
Drashot:	
Julia Arango	276-5083
Torah Gabai'im	
Norman Saiger	837-5927
Evan Greenspan	818-760-0774
Child Care	
Mark Bodenstein	937-7443
Matt Chazanov	936-3901
Child Care Volunteer Coordinator	
Diane Landau	657-7903
Kiddush	
Elka Tenner	932-0688
Sharon Kushner	
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

### Library Minyan Birthdays for the Month of March

Name	Birthday
Gabriel Shlomo Chazanov	03/08/1991
Arielle Derby	03/05/1979
Aaron I. Sunshine	03/16/1984
Jordan Kelly Schames	03/26/1989
Daniel Glass	03/12/1984
Ethan Stern	03/28/1988
Carin Andron	03/01/1974
Benjamin Brandfon	03/25/1984
Aaron Ackerman	03/14/1989

## CAJE CONFERENCE

Conference on Alternatives In Jewish Education is the largest gathering of Jewish educators in the world. Leading Jewish educators and academics will offer sessions including: current issues facing the Jewish community, adult education, early childhood, women's issues, Jewish literature, spirituality, prayer, music, etc.

Place: University of Southern California

Date: August 16-20 1991

Cost: \$460 resident adult  
\$390 commuter

It is also possible to attend for one day, Wed. Aug 19, 1992. Please phone (213) 653-9653 if you have any questions.

## QUANTUM LEAP ISRAEL TOUR

"Quantum Leap" is the expressive title given to a unique study-tour to Israel to take place this summer, June 30 through July 12, 1992. The subject of the study is Jewish Spirituality; and the organizers, former Los Angelesans Micha & Yael Taubman now living in Jerusalem, feel that those ready to explore their Jewish identity, spirituality and connection to Israel will deeply benefit from this study-tour.

Some of the foremost teachers in the spiritual arena will be lecturing and the guide "par excellence", Professor of Biblical History, Moshe Dann, will show us a stunning view of Israel.

Accommodations will be first class and you will see the mystical side of Israel you would not ordinarily see. For further information contact Susan Grinel at (310) 395-2572.