

YOUTH VICE-PRESIDENT REPORT

This is my third and final year serving as Vice President of Youth for Temple Aliyah. For the past two years, under my watch, our USY Chapter received the “Chapter of Excellence” award. I just found out this past weekend at regional USY Convention that our Chapter received its fourth “Chapter of Excellence” award in a row. I could not be more proud of this group.

This past year our Youth Department tried something different for the Wednesday night lounge night. An innovative program called TCN (Teen Community Night) was put together by our Education and Youth Departments. TCN involves 7th – 12th grade students for an hour of a Midrasha Seminar and then an informal program bringing them together with our USYers for a 45 minute informal program put together by our Youth Director Sue Shrell Leon. After the informal program, the TCN students had an option of joining the USY lounge time. This Wednesday program brought more students into our USY and gave them an insight into the comradery amongst our USYers and all the fun they have on Wednesday nights.

To recap another great year of our regular events, our USYers participated in selling and then assembling the high-holiday flower baskets. This year, we sold more baskets than the previous year.

Our next fundraiser was our USY Car Wash in November. We raised a good amount of money for Darfur which just about equaled the previous year.

Aliyah USY had its third annual Café SATO in February. This year, almost 100 USYers showed up, including Hevre. This was another great event with quality entertainment.

Our annual Bowl-A-Thon was in January. The money raised went to Familial Dysautonomia.

On Super Bowl Sunday, our Youth Department put together lox boxes to raise money for USY scholarships. Again, this year we had our USYers, Kadimaniks and parent volunteers help assemble the lox boxes and deliver them to Temple members. With our economic woes, we still were able to sell more lox boxes than in previous years. An amazing feat!

As we do every year, other programs that our USYers participated in were: Assemble Mishloach Manot for Sisterhood; Run game booths for our Purim Carnival and lead evening Minyan every Wednesday. Our annual USY Yard Sale in April grossed more than \$1,000 and the proceeds went to Tzedaka.

Also, this year our Chapter hosted a Sr. USY Israel Shabbaton last fall. It was very successful event. Last December our Chapter hosted a Sr. USY dance. This was another successful event, with many USYer’s in attendance and parent chaperones assisting throughout the night.

Part of our responsibility is to set up visits for Rabbi Vogel to meet with our college age congregants. This year, our Youth Director Sue Shrell Leon, set up college visits to UCSB, UCLA/USC combined, UC Davis and University of Arizona.

Our Temple Aliyah Youth Department and USY would not be where it is today without our amazing Youth Director Sue Shrell Leon. Sue works long hours helping our Youth make our chapter #1 in the region. Thus, we are looked upon by other chapters as a leader in USY and the Conservative movement for youth in our region.

A big “Thank You” to Sue and the parent volunteers for helping make my three years as Youth Vice-President memorable and successful.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Rosenzweig
Youth Vice President