

PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES VP REPORT

This was my first year as VP of Programs & Activities. We had a full year in 2010/11. The following is a summary of our programs:

Our committee was tasked with putting a program together for the **Torah Project kick-off** last November. Michelle Gerson put together a fun program that day.

Guys Night with Rabbi V (a once a month program for Guys 35-55) was a successful program based on the feedback from those who attended. Attendance was down from the previous year and the committee will meet over the summer and figure out a way to get more participation for next year.

Scholar-In-Residence was chaired by Mara Beck. The committee consisted of Leslie Gilbert-Lurie, Lori Marx-Rubiner, Rabbi Vogel and me. This year's format was different as we had a series of three Thursdays from March–May. The theme was Ethics. The March event had Noah Alper who spoke on Ethics in Business. The April event had Zev Yaroslavsky who spoke on Ethics in Politics and the May event had Michael Josephson speak on Ethics in Education. The May event had about 110 people attend and about one fourth of attendees were not temple members.

There are three programs geared toward young families, coordinated by Amy Katz, which are as follows:

- 1) **Story Time** is a program that was chaired by Nancy Pardo. We had four Story Time events throughout the year at Barnes and Noble in Calabasas. Two of the events were on a Sunday and the other two were weekdays.
- 2) **Family Picnic/Family Fusion** occurs every second Friday of the month. This program was organized by Jordana Flores and Amy Katz.
- 3) There were four **Shabbat Romp** events this year. This program was chaired by Rina Nehdar. The average attendance was 100 people.

The **Second Night of Passover** has a big crowd. Michelle Gerson planned the entire event single-handed and did a great job! This was another successful event under the Programs & Activities Committee.

Our committee was responsible for three **Themed Shabbat Dinners**. In December we had Erev Christmas Dinner, then African Shabbat Dinner and just recently the Seis de Mayo Dinner where the Guacamole and Chips were overflowing the tables. Thank you to Meredith Van Horn for the wonderful table decorations for these dinners.

I would like to thank my directors Mara Beck, Michelle Gerson and Jerry Ross for all their help this year. In addition, my committee members Diane Braverman and Meredith Van Horn were both a big help with our programs.

Last but definitely not least, a special “thank you” to our Programs Director Lori Marx-Rubiner, who I consider an expert in her position. She works very hard to help assure our programs are successful. I look forward to another two years as the Programs & Activities Vice-President at Temple Aliyah.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jay Rosenzweig
Programs & Activities Vice President