

Temple Beth Sholom Presents:

Our Voices - A Monthly Newsletter

October 2020 – Tishrei/Cheshvan 5781 | Issue 8 | A Jewish Center for Life, Learning, and Connections

Assistance and Events

General Assistance | Mitch Cohen – mitchell@familycohen.com

Cantor Reinwald – dreinwald@tbsoc.com

Ruth Irving – rirving@tbsoc.com If you need confidential pandemic assistance, please contact Ruth Irving.

Torah Study | Held each Saturday online through Zoom.



Services | Shabbat Evening Services will be offered online through livestream and Facebook Live. Beginning October 9th, Shabbat services will start at 7:00 p.m.

October 2, 18, 30 | 4:00-5:30 p.m. – "Beep, Honk, and Wave! It's a Shabbat Parade!" Join us as we continue to welcome Shabbat with our drive-thru parades. Enjoy free challah, candles, juice, and other goodies passed out by the membership committee.

October 2-9 | #GetYourSukkahOn – Please refer to Page 5 for details. Sukkot Services begin at 6:00 p.m. on October 2nd

October 9 | 7:00 p.m. – Shabbat Services with new start time of 7:00 p.m.

October 10 | 6:00 p.m. – Simchat Torah Services

October 15 | 5:30 p.m. – Brotherhood's first "Zoom and Schmooze" happy hour.

October 18 | 11:00 a.m. – Sisterhood Membership Event: *Sometimes, You Just Have to Laugh*

Worship at TBS

Karen Warren, Interim VP of Worship

Sukkot – Season of our Rejoicing

Sukkot 2020 Begins the evening of Friday, October 2nd and ends the evening of Friday, October 9th. Services will coincide with the TBS Shabbat service on **Friday, October 2nd at 6:00 p.m.** To assure the health and safety of our clergy, staff and congregation, services will be live streamed and will be accessible through the TBS website, tbsoc.com, and on Facebook.

Sukkot, a Hebrew word meaning "booths" or "huts," refers to the Jewish festival of giving thanks for the fall harvest. It also commemorates the 40 years of Jewish wandering in the desert after the giving of the Torah atop Mt. Sinai. Sukkot is celebrated five days after Yom Kippur, on the 15th of the month of Tishrei and is marked by several specific traditions. One is to erect a *sukkah*. *Sukkot* (the plural of *sukkah*) are commonly used during the seven-day festival for eating, entertaining and even for sleeping. (continued on page 2)

Simchat Torah – A Celebration of the Completing the Annual Reading of The Torah

Immediately following Sukkot, we observe Simchat Torah, a time when we celebrate the completion of the annual reading of the Torah and affirm Torah as one of the pillars on which we build our lives. As part of the celebration, the Torah scrolls are taken from the ark and carried or danced around the synagogue seven times. During the Torah service, the concluding section of the fifth book of the Torah, *D'varim* (Deuteronomy), is read, and immediately following, the opening section of Genesis, or *B'reishit*, is read. This practice represents the cyclical nature of the relationship between the Jewish people and the reading of the Torah.

This year, Simchat Torah is **Saturday, October 10th, with Havdalah and the Simchat Torah service at 6:00 p.m.** via Zoom. We will pass Torah from house-to-house by having families (of all ages!) sign up to receive your own letter from the Alef-Bet and then create something with that letter: art, a poem, a story, etc. that you will share during the service. To register for the Simchat Torah service and to submit your creative creation, visit <https://tbsoc.com/hhd2020/>. Thanks to www.reformjudaism.org for assistance with the Sukkot and Simchat Torah articles.

President's Message

Mitch Cohen, TBS President

This year, on October 2-9, 2020 (5781) we'll be celebrating Sukkot. Yes, we give thanks for the fall harvest, but we are commanded to build and dwell in a temporary booth or hut for seven days! (Leviticus chapter 23: 39-44.) Can you imagine, 7 days? I don't need to take a poll to know that the overwhelming majority of adults would prefer to have a roof over their head and a comfortable bed. But as we all learned during our youth, being outdoors is great fun and the challenges we face there are a source of many wonderful memories.



When I was a kid, my Dad would throw a few palm fronds on our trellis, we'd eat a meal outside, and we'd call it Sukkot. Always striving to improve on the past, Kathy and I would build a sukkah every year with Jonah and Claire, sometimes even celebrating the harvest from the bounty of our square-foot-garden. The kids would start their Sukkot evenings with every intention of sleeping outside, but usually we'd find them inside in the morning.

Once they became teenagers, eating a meal in the backyard wasn't adventurous enough, so I started a coed BSA Venture Crew to include Claire in the fun that Jonah and I were having in Scouts. Claire twice served as President and we went on many hikes in the local Southern California mountains. Sure, we had our challenges: blisters, freeze-dried food, temperamental stoves, etc. But the kids were resilient and enjoyed every trip (in hindsight.) I'll never forget taking the train back from Philmont Scout Ranch and hearing our crew leader tell the group how proud she was of everyone. The personal and collective growth we had achieved from our training hikes and then working together to have a great time in the backcountry, was something that many of them wrote about on their college entrance essays.

It's amazing how a little challenge, a few bug bites and a few days without a shower can have such a lasting, positive impression on the human spirit. I hope that this year, we take the time to find a clear sky, prepare a simple meal, and enjoy the wonder of the world G-d has given to us.

Brotherhood | Community – Fellowship – Action – Service

Sylvan Swartz, Brotherhood Director of Membership

I am pleased to announce that the TBS Brotherhood has once again awarded scholarships to new college bound TBS students. Each student has received \$500 towards college expenses: Devyn Cannedy, a graduate of Canyon High School, is going on to California State University Fullerton. Jacob Griffin, a graduate of Esperanza High School, is going on to University of Arizona. Matthew Kontur, a graduate of the Orange County School of the Arts, is going on to Shenandoah University.

We have several updates and announcements. In August, we shared sponsorship of a special Zoom Speakers Series with the Social Justice Committee and TBS Sisterhood to present the Orange County Registrar of Voters. This program was done expressly to encourage people to vote and most of all to understand all that is being done to make sure it is safe to do so using any of the voting options. We are also pleased to welcome Steve Belasco to the Brotherhood Board of Directors and to congratulate brotherhood member, John Bornstein, who has been asked to be on TBS Board of Directors. Brotherhood had a table at the *Hinenu* Drive-Thru and Shabbat Parade where we gave out all important bottles of bubbles to kids or wannabe kids for Tashlich. Lastly, On **Thursday, October 15th at 5:30 p.m.** Brotherhood will have its first Zoom and Schmooze and happy hour event. Join us with a beer, cocktail, wine or just to schmooze and get to know some other men of TBS.

Men, please join Brotherhood to support and enjoy Brotherhood's myriad of events and activities. Your membership makes a difference, so that we can make a difference. If you have not already, please send your request to sylvan@swartzcre.com. Brotherhood wishes all of you a happy and healthy New Year.

Sisterhood

Sometimes, You Just Have to Laugh

Brenda Beck, Sisterhood President

Laughter is the theme of the upcoming Sisterhood Membership Event on **Sunday, October 18th at 11:00 a.m** via Zoom, featuring comedian Joel Chasnoff. Join us as stand-up comedian and writer Joel Chasnoff “performs” his popular online show “Jokes on Us”. Joel takes a deep dive into the quirks and absurdities of his Jewish life, from his great-grandparents’ botched immigration at Ellis Island to his stint in the Israeli Army and the challenges of raising a Jewish family of his own. Watch your e-mail for your invitation and kindly RSVP by October 12.



From <https://joelchasnoff.com/about-joel/>

In addition to hilarious comedy there will be an opportunity drawing for a \$300 Grand Prize, and gift cards in \$150 and \$50 denominations. You can support Sisterhood by purchasing tickets – 1 for \$5, 3 for \$10, 7 for \$20. To purchase opportunity drawing tickets, send your check to Lori Glasky 5536 E. Valencia Dr. Orange, CA. 92869 by October 12 to be entered for the prizes.

Not a Sisterhood member yet? Don't miss out! Go to the TBS Sisterhood website and download a membership form or contact Elizabeth Cohen, VP of Membership at (714) 904-3585. See you there as we “virtually” mingle with friends, share a few laughs, and come together as a Sisterhood.

TBS and Our Youth

Early Childhood Center

Tamara Levin, Director of Early Childhood Education



The air is crisp as summer is at an end and the preschool is gearing up for Sukkot. Sukkot is a wonderful chag that engages all our senses. The taste of fruit consumed in the sukkah, the smell of an etrog, the texture and shape of a lulav frond, the sound of our singing voices, and the prideful pleasure in creating and viewing collaborative decorations as each classroom builds their indoor sukkah.

An exciting event this year is #GetYourSukkahOn. This is a contest spearheaded by the TBS Families with Young Children Committee to challenge families to select one of three categories (Best Edible Sukkah, Best Natural Material Sukkah, & Best Themed Sukkah) and build a sukkah. What a wonderful way to engage the whole family!

We are nurturing in our children a foundation of lifelong traditions and memories. We are establishing a sense of belonging, a Jewish identity, and familiarity that will serve and comfort them as they grow and evolve.

Religious School

Johannah Sohn, Ed.D, Director of Youth Education

What a wonderful first day of Religious School we had together! September 13th our Kindergarten through 7th grade students gathered online to kick off the year. We had a lovely time getting to know one another a bit, singing with Cantor Reinwald, and going through a rotation of some fun pre-High Holy Day learning.

Our incredible teachers are:

K-1: Morah Shelley Simson | 2-3: Morah Michal Elkayam
4-5: Morah Vivi Huczneker | 6: Mr. B. (Carl Bendroff) | 7: Johannah and Cantor Reinwald



Over the next week the teachers will be reaching out to students in 3rd - 7th to say hello and get a sense of where they are in their personal Hebrew learning journeys. Soon our Hebrew learning will begin too!

Please enjoy a silly photo we had fun taking at the end of our day together! Thank you for sharing your delightful children with us and for your commitment to our Religious School.

Committee Updates

Interim Rabbi Search Committee (IRSC)

Rachel Benson, IRSC Chair

The Interim Rabbi Search Committee is constantly learning new things as we are searching for our Interim Rabbi. We have learned that the hiring cycle for an Interim Rabbi really begins around mid-October, with Rabbis beginning in their new positions in July of the following year. Therefore, our committee has changed the start date for our Interim Rabbi application to July 1, 2021. This allows our committee to explore some temporary solutions to fill our congregation's immediate needs until an Interim Rabbi is in place. Our committee has been exploring various options to help assist Cantor in supporting our congregation and filling the teaching, counseling, outreach, and in-person life cycle event needs when necessary. We are currently looking at a creating some combination of virtual and in-person support. Our committee is now developing job descriptions for these roles and will begin reaching out to possible candidates once our job descriptions are solidified.

Families with Young Children (FWYC)

Arielle Ohls, FWYC Chair



The TBS Families with Young Children Committee will be passing out festoon and DIY Edible Sukkah Kits during the October 2nd Shabbat Parade to get you ready for Sukkot! Register at <https://tbsoc.com/> for your kits and join our congregation-wide Sukkah Building Contest!

Please email pictures or a narrated video of your sukkah to ruth.aptaker@gmail.com by October 8th. Don't forget to include your name and age (range). Finalists will be chosen by our guest judges and posted to the TBS Facebook page for voting by the congregation. Have fun and go #GetYourSukkahOn!

“Best Themed Sukkah”

Creativity is a must if you want to win this category. Have you ever seen a *Star Wars* sukkah? How about a sukkah made entirely of recycled materials? Well neither have we! Get your creativity flowing and send us pics of your best themed sukkah.

“Best Overall Sukkah”

Winners will be chosen for best overall sukkah in two age ranges: 0-13 and 14+. We are looking for overall creativity and representation of the holiday.

“Best Edible Sukkah”

Use the FWYC Kit or raid your own pantry to create a delectable, edible sukkah! Winners will be chosen for creativity and yumminess. Entries must be comprised of all edible materials.

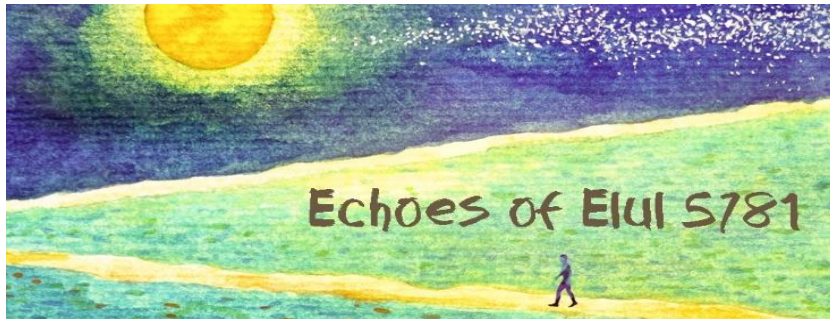
“Most Creative Use of Natural Materials”

Channel our ancestors and create an all-natural, old school sukkah. The traditional sukkah is a structure with at least three sides with a roof made from thatch or branches which provides some shade and protection from the sun, but also allows the stars to be seen at night.

Voices of TBS

Echoes Of Elul 5781/2020

Risë Kirbo, Echoes Chair



I was first drawn to the idea of Echoes of Elul because of my love of words and the power of stories. For the last two years I have overseen the Echoes submissions, tweaked them when needed, and had conversations with many of the contributors. During this collaboration, I have seen friendships deepen and new connections emerge.

We had an amazing assortment of contributions this year. One theme that came across several times were childhood memories, times of comfort and innocence: memories of generations attending services together, a grandmother's kitchen, seasonal changes, family lineage, and Mothers. We read about mitzvahs, inner children, floods, the LGBTQ+ community, and impossible survival. We heard about the sounds of the shofar, birth and death, silence, grief, and concern about the younger generations. There were stories regarding Jewish values, hope, and the nature of God. We looked at things that divide us and things that unite us, at our sense of awareness, and survival against all odds. And who will ever forget "This Cantors Life"???

This year I will be standing at the gate with my "carry-on bag" leaving behind what doesn't serve me... "awaiting the sound of the shofar" and stepping forward into a New Year. Thank you all for helping to build our community, one Echo at a time.

Shabbat Parades

TBS Membership Committee

Mary Gonzalez, VP of Membership



We had an amazing time ushering in Shabbat on September 4th and Rosh Hashanah on September 18th! On behalf of the membership committee and all attendees, we want to extend another huge thank you to those who have sponsored and donated toward these events.

We hope you will join our next Shabbat Parades on **October 2nd, 16th, and 30th from 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.** Thank you, Hollis O'Brien, for your dedication to TBS! Our October 2nd parade is being sponsored in your honor. Thank you, Annbeth and Zef Shanfield, for sponsoring our October 16th parade in honor of your 50th wedding anniversary. Mazel tov, Shanfields! If you would like to sponsor a parade, please email Ruth Aptaker (ruth.aptaker@gmail.com), or call the temple office at 714-628-4600. "Beep, Honk, and Wave!"

Thank You to Our Sponsors!

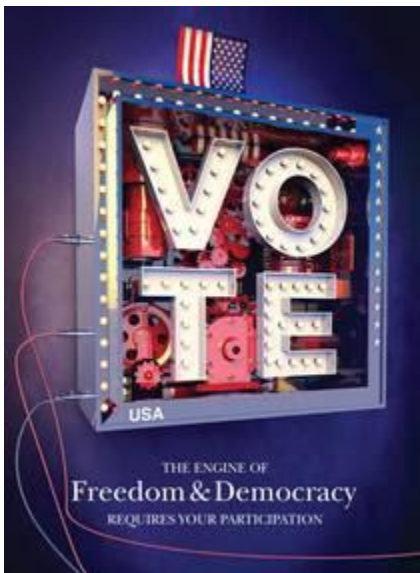
Our Voices needs your help! This newsletter is made possible entirely from donations and sponsorships. If you would like to contribute toward its continued development and distribution, please contact Ruth Aptaker (ruth.aptaker@gmail.com) or the TBS office.



We are also grateful for the generous donations of Patti Widdicomb, Barbara Ulmer, the Escoe Family, the Borchard Family, and Leonard & Susan Silberman.

Social Justice

Michele Shugarman, Social Justice Member



My father knew the importance of what he often told me: “Don’t take democracy for granted.” As a first generation American he was taught to respect the United States and be thankful for all the good that had come to the family.

Today, we are confronting profound social, economic, and political challenges. This is not a partisan issue. It is an issue of access to democracy. The only way to effect change is to ensure that our elected leaders address these critical concerns. Fortunately, in the United States of America, each of us holds the power in our hands to influence who will hold leadership positions. Now is the time for every one of us to exercise that power.

How do we not take democracy for granted? By getting out the vote in November’s general election and all other elections. By making sure that we, as Americans, each vote, and by helping others ensure their votes are counted as well. In fact, we should view voting not as a right, but as a moral and civic obligation.

I am deeply committed to each person’s vote, no matter who you are, what your background is or which candidates you support. Promoting grassroots involvement in civic engagement and public affairs has been important to me since I was first able to vote. This summer, we celebrated the 100th anniversary of American women gaining the right to vote. It was a moment to reaffirm our commitment to encouraging individual and collective civic engagement. We honor the memory of the women and men of the suffrage movement by mobilizing others. My goal is to encourage everyone to vote and make a plan to address any obstacles you may face. Everyone should be empowered to make a voting plan.

As my beloved father knew, maintaining the precious gift of democracy is a responsibility each of us must embrace. Today, we can do justice to that responsibility. We must not waste it. Don’t take democracy for granted.

Together We Recognize and Send Our Gratitude

The Talmud teaches *Kol Yisrael arevim zeh b'zeh* – “all Jews are responsible for one another.” We want to recognize and thank those participating in our philanthropic program *Kavanah*, meaning “Direction of the Heart” which provides us with the requisite funds to meet the diverse needs of our community. *Kavanah* provides the opportunity for all who wish to participate and enrich our community to do so, regardless of financial ability.

We also want to extend our heartfelt thanks to those who donated during the High Holy Days. Your gifts to Temple Beth Sholom enable the congregation to be whole and support our entire community. Together we can transform lives and inspire each other to the fulfillment of *Tikun Olam* – repairing our world. Your support helps us develop new programs while supporting our congregational mission to be a center of Jewish life, learning, and connections.

Kavanah

Anonymous
Irving & Nancy Chase
Mitchell & Kathy Cohen
Sandy Fainbarg
Harvey & Cindy Grossberg
Richard & Susan Guilford
Warren & Norri Hennagin
Brad Horwitz
Kevin Rowen
Marshall Rowen
Michael Rubin
Zef & Annbeth Shanfield
Rick Shepard & Darla Holland
Sylvan & Barbara Swartz
Robert & Karen Warren
Dan & Linda Weissberg
Brad & Bonnie Wenneberg
John & Robin Whates
Jeffrey & Caron Winston

HHD Appeal

Anonymous
Adam & Aimee Gromfin
Anita Karp
Harry & Eileen Ludwig
Albert & Sara Naudin
Bonnie Robinson
Robert & Renee Siembieda
Sylvan & Barbara Swartz
Beth & Fred Waterman
Keith & Andrea Weber
Daniel & Linda Weissberg
Brad & Bonnie Wenneberg
Maureen Winick
Jeff & Caron Winston

HHD Worship

Jeff & Amy Altshuler
Ron & Jane Ashpes
Richard Barasch
Samuel Biscay
Ray Brooks
Joe Chanin
Hershel & Grace Cherson
Sheri Clements
Ellen Diamond
Gaby Donnell
Bernard & Paulette Fainsztein
David & Amy Feldberg
Leonard & Nancy Fox
Sanford & Caryn Glasky
Evelyn & Andrew Gold
Marc Goodman
David & Sandi Gottlieb
Harvey & Cindy Grossberg
Patricia Herman Warshaw
Bernard Katz
Bill & Dawn Kay
Nancy/Aliyah Lande
Odelia Marich
Louis & Joyce Mogabgab
Jeff & Melanie Pollak
Joel Postel
Carol Reinwald
Murray & Sharon Reinwald
Bonnie Robinson
Mark Schneider
Ray Schneider
Deborah Shuman
Robert & Renee Siembieda
Doris Spector
Beth & Fred Waterman
Gary & Vicktoria Weessies,
Barbara Wellington

Michael & Michelle Winston
Ellen Wohl
Donna Wolffe

HHD AV/Tech

Leonard & Nancy Fox
Harvey & Cindy Grossberg
Jeff & Karen Merkow
Bonnie Robinson
Stephen & Heather Salvatierra
Robert & Renee Siembieda
Bill & Marla Vaughter
Keith & Andrea Weber
Daniel & Linda Weissberg

HHD Music Fund

Jeff & Amy Altshuler
Robert & Doris Bachman
Ira & Marilyn Barnett
Eugene & Louise Brown
Harvey & Cindy Grossberg
Jeff & Karen Merkow
Bonnie Robinson
Sharan Sacks
Zef & Annbeth Shanfield
Robert & Renee Siembieda
Beth & Fred Waterman
Keith & Andrea Weber

(Donations received as of September 18th)

