

SISTERHOOD CORNER—May-June, 2017

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From the President's Desk...

The months of May and June prove to be very busy ones for our Sisterhood. Starting with Wednesday **evening**, May 3rd at 7:30 p.m., when our own EHNTJC Membership Chair, Judge Shelley Sutker-Dermer will present *“Work, Family, Life: A Juggling Act”*. Please join us for a lively discussion on the many roles that women play. Help support The Ark by bringing paper goods to this program. Also, our gift shop will open at 6:30 p.m.—one hour before the program begins.

The Book Club will meet on Wednesday, May 10th, to discuss *“We'll Always Have Casablanca”* by Noah Isenberg (see below). And on Saturday, May 13th, we hope you will join us for Sisterhood Shabbat when our Sisterhood members will lead the Shabbat morning service, followed by a Kiddush lunch sponsored by the Sisterhood.

On Sunday morning, May 21st, we will show *“Hava Nagila”*—the last movie in our Jewish film series sponsored by the Sisterhood and Men's Club. The movie will begin at 11:00 a.m. following minyan and breakfast. Through the unlikely prism of the song, this documentary manages to tell a complicated story of cultural adaptation while providing a fresh look at a good chunk of modern Jewish history, from poverty to plenty, from the *shtetl* in Ukraine to Israel to the suburbs of America, that “other promised land.”

Our final program of the season is our Culminating Luncheon and Installation of the 2017-2018 Officers and Board of Trustees which is planned for Wednesday, June 7th. Please mark your calendar. An invitation with more details will follow shortly. We hope to see you at one of our upcoming events!

B'Shalom! Judy Frank

News and Notes...

- Be a media mogul! A \$5 contribution makes you a sponsor of our Sisterhood bulletin. Please mail your contributions to:

Diane Rosenfeld c/o EHNTJC Sisterhood
4500 Dempster Street • Skokie, IL 60076

Our Media Moguls this month are:

**Marcy Feinberg
Bobbie Levin
Evie Lowenthal
Phyllis Marcus
Ada Rabinowitz**

If you have news to share, contact Diane Rosenfeld at raynesd@aol.com.

- Sisterhood donation cards are 8/\$10 and the Chai cards are 6/\$18. The cards are available in the synagogue office.
- If you would like to attend a Sisterhood event and need a ride, please call Flora Steigman at (847)675-9223.

**A BIG WELCOME to our new
Sisterhood Member:
Adi Dalin**



*Few recognize their own blessings, yet
are fully aware of other's.*

BOOK CLUB TO DISCUSS

“We'll Always Have Casablanca”
by Noah Isenberg

The next meeting of the Sisterhood Book Club will be on **Wednesday, May 10th** at **10:30 a.m.** at the synagogue.

“We'll Always Have Casablanca” is celebrated film historian Noah Isenberg's rich account of this most beloved movie's origins. Through extensive research and interviews with filmmakers, film critics, family members of the cast and crew, and diehard fans, Isenberg reveals the myths and realities behind *Casablanca's* production, exploring the transformation of the unproduced stage play into the classic screenplay, the controversial casting decisions, the battles with Production Code censors, and the effect of the war's progress on the movie's reception. Isenberg particularly focuses on the central role refugees from Hitler's Europe played in the production (nearly all of the actors and actresses cast in *Casablanca* were immigrants).

Filled with fresh insights into *Casablanca's* creation, production, and legacy, *“We'll Always Have Casablanca”* is a magnificent account of what made the movie so popular and why it continues to dazzle audiences seventy-five years after its release.

Please join us for a lively discussion!
Refreshments will be served.

Please RSVP to one of our Book Club Chairs:

Dorothy Lipstadt (847)673-3525
Elaine Lampert (847)537-1240
Judith Rae-Ross (847)708-4541

“Shavot, or: To Whom Does the Torah Belong?”

by Dr. Esther Javetz
Education Vice-President

Shavuot (=weeks) is the holiday of “Matan Torah” (= the giving of the Torah) that happened seven weeks after the escape from Egypt. Who escaped from Egypt? Mainly, “Bnai Israel” (the descendants of Jacob, the original Jewish people), and other people, probably slaves that used the opportunity of the Exodus. These people are called in the Bible “Asafsuf” (=add-ons or collectibles)-**Numbers, 11, 4.**

They all stood together next to Mount Sinai and accepted the Torah. The Torah was binding to all of them. Moses himself took a lady from Midian as his first wife, Tziporah, (he crossed an ethnic barrier), and an Ethiopian woman, a black woman, as his second wife (he crossed a racial barrier). Some explain that the latter was an Ethiopian woman (from the Asafsuf), and some say that it was Tziporah that was dark-skinned. In any case there is always a difference between reaction of individual people and the formal position of the Biblical text. Miriam, Moses’ sister, criticized him about the woman he married. The Biblical text clearly supports Moses, and Miriam was punished for this deed and got leprosy. Moses prayed for her. She was isolated outside of the main camp for seven days (to recover), and they all waited for her to continue their journey. – **Numbers, 12, 1-16.**

Later in history the story about Ruth became a custom to be read on Shavuot. Ruth was a Moabitess (another ethnic group), but when her mother-in-law was about to return to Israel, she said the famous quote: “Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.” **Ruth,1,16-17.**

To whom does the Torah belong? As a group the Jewish people accepted the Torah and promised to live by its rules, but it also belongs to all individuals who chose to join in. **Happy Shavuot!**

Good and Welfare...

- Our condolences to Sandy Miller on the recent passing of her husband, Jay.
- Wishing a *Refuah Shlayma* (a complete and speedy recovery) to Rabbi Neil Brief, Judy Klowden, Diane Rosenfeld and Evie Ruebner.
- **Mazel Tov** to Jan Eisbart and Barry Markowitz on the B’Nai Mitzvah of their grandchildren.

TODAH RABAH • תודה רבה • THANK YOU

- Thank you to my many Sisterhood friends for your good wishes, cards, phone calls, visits and gifts following my surgery. I look forward to seeing you all soon at *shul* and Sisterhood events.....Diane Rosenfeld
- I want to deeply thank all the volunteers who made our **“Think Spring Boutique”** a roaring success—including Marcy Feinberg and Ronia Gross along with their Gift Shop Committee. Our president, Judy Frank, assisted in every step of the way. We all worked as a team and had fun throughout the day. Your support was so meaningful to our Sisterhood!.....Judy Arkin

GIFT SHOP GAB: VOLUME TEN

Great news! We have a whole selection of new items that are perfect for Mother’s Day, Father’s Day, graduation and summer travel. Check out our gift items, home décor, accessories and fabulous Judaica items.

Thank you to everyone that supported our Sisterhood and shopped during our Spring Boutique. We had a wonderful day—selling more than \$1,200 of merchandise!

Marcy Feinberg and Ronia Gross
Gift Shop Co-Chairs

Let’s Get Together!

Sisterhood meetings and events are a wonderful way to meet and greet your friends both new and long-standing. I hope you are able to attend most of our activities. They are really very informative and lots of fun. Don’t forget to invite your family and friends! They will be grateful for the opportunity to be part of the action. We are planning some programs in the evening to accommodate our working women. That means that everyone can come. We will plan car pools for those who do not drive at night.

Thank you for your support throughout the year. Our Sisterhood is growing and very successful because of your commitment and involvement. We appreciate all you do to make this organization special!

Ada Rabinowitz, Membership Vice-President
(847)673-0697



EHNTJC Sisterhood
an affiliate of Women’s League for
Conservative Judaism