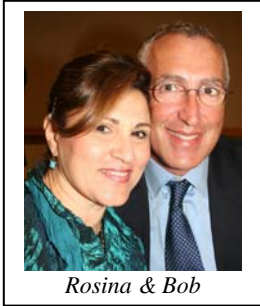




# West Coast News

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## June 19<sup>th</sup> is the Date and the Sephardic Temple is the Place.....



Rosina & Bob

Please join us as we honor two very deserving couples who are very involved in our community and Israel. **Rosina and Robert Korda** will be presented with the **OU Keter Shem Tov Award** and **Rosalyn and Dr. Stephen Rothman** will be presented with the **OU Synagogue Leadership Award**. The Kordas are both natives of the Southland, Long Beach and LA respectively. After law school, Bob became the third generation of his family to join their residential property business – now called RPK Development. Rosina began a career in Special Ed and then raised their three boys. She is active in a variety of community projects. The Rothmans stem from the East Coast. Steve is from the Bronx and Roz from Boro Park. Roz was an elementary school teacher and after raising their three kids and taking an



Roz & Steve

active role in their *yeshivot*, she now enjoys their four granddaughters. Steve is a neuroradiologist who loves liturgical music. He has been in many *shul* choirs and has served as a cantor on High Holidays. He is very active in **Young Israel of North Beverly Hills**.

We will also be honoring 6 young people from West Coast communities who were chosen to be this year's **Senator Joseph Lieberman Scholars and National Directors Fellows**. These are joint projects of the **OU's Institute for Public Affairs (IPA)** and the **National Conference of Synagogue Youth (NCSY)**. The goal of both programs is to educate and cultivate leaders of the Jewish community and American society for the decades ahead. The program occurs during the students' senior year in high school. They monitor issues in Congress and initiate programs of community interest and attend educational programs and seminars. Some attended AIPAC this year.

### Lieberman Scholars

### The National Directors Fellows



Rita Carla Bron



Ori Kanefsky



Ariela Rosenberg



Asher Millman



Ari Platt



Rachel Schultz

## Sefer Torah in Memory of Ahuva Wernick, ז"ל

With the blessings of the extended **Wernick Family** we have begun a campaign for a Sefer Torah for our Teen Center. The Sefer will have a permanent home in our Beit Midrash on the second floor of 9831 Pico when completed. The project will be chaired by **Dr. Larry & Wendy Platt** and **Allan Dalfen**.

**Ahuva, ז"ל** was a true "Mom" to our NCSYers and always believed that the youth are the key to our future. To participate in the Torah writing, please contact the OU at [westcoast@ou.org](mailto:westcoast@ou.org) or call 310-229-9000 ext 200.



## Shiva Asar B'Tevet – Tuesday evening July 3

Our annual Community-wide **Shiva Asar B'Tevet Mincha-Maariv** will be hosted this year by **Beth Jacob of Beverly Hills**. We have invited **Rabbi Jonathan Rosenberg**, the recently appointed Rabbi of **Shaarey Zedek, Valley Village**, to present the *D'var* and meet the community.

## Rabbi Seth Mandel Visits Shuls & Yeshivot in LA and Gets to the Meat of the Topic!



The weekend of May 3-5 was a very busy one for **Rabbi Seth Mandel**, OU National Director of Kashruth for Meat.....he was in Los Angeles to try to establish an OU supervised slaughter house in Pico Rivera. He spoke at **Mesivta Birkas Yitzchok** and **Touro**

**College** and met with OU Member Synagogue Rabbis for lunch at 9831 Pico. Rabbi Mandel was also at **AISH** on Shabbos morning and at **YICC** for an afternoon shiur and then at **Adas Torah** for a *Shalosh Seudus shiur*. A *Melave Malka* for the Young Israel of Hancock Park at the Zeffren's home rounded out the weekend.

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## LA Clippers and the OU: Jewish Heritage Day at the Staples Center

On Sunday, April 15, the OU participated in Jewish Heritage Day at the Staples Center by purchasing a block of 150 seats for the Clippers vs. the Sacramento Kings for an exciting basketball game. Although the local L.A. Clippers lost, we were happy for our affiliate OU shul in Sacramento, **Kenesset Israel Torah Center**, whose team won, 105 to 100.

The score board lit up welcoming the **Orthodox Union** to the game, and all who attended received a free jersey. *Yashar koach* to **Jeff Presser** for chairing this event and rallying support for the ticket purchases.

We also extend our thanks to an anonymous donor, who purchased tickets for the 30 youths who attended from **Yachad**, the OU's division for the developmentally disabled, and who were bussed to and from the game in time to welcome the Clippers into the stadium through the fan tunnel. "Watching the group's enthusiasm and excitement was one heartwarming feeling!!!" (As witnessed and coordinated by the OU's Susie.)



Jeff Presser flashing the "V" sign, prior to the Clipper's loss



Yachad - having a great time! They even got to "high 5" the team into the stadium!!

## The Stern Family Synagogue Leadership Seminar: An Amazing Success



Rabbi Weiner delivers his outreach topic as rest of panel looks on: (r to l) Rabbi Brander, Rabbi Goldberg, Marc Firestone

This year's OU Synagogue Leadership Seminar was dedicated in memory of **Emanuel Stern, ז"ל**, a beloved figure in the Los Angeles Jewish community and long-time supporter of the OU on the west coast. Mr. Stern's son, **Larry Stern**, spoke movingly about his father and his passion for the OU at the seminar.

Guest speaker **Frank Buchweitz**, director of community services for the Orthodox Union in New York, spoke on "Increasing Membership through Outreach." The enthralling talk included a PowerPoint presentation on the importance of keeping our shuls open, warm and friendly, and making sure that we are

accommodating unaffiliated Jews by having user-friendly *siddurim* and *kippa* boxes at the entrance of the sanctuary. The lecture will be available shortly at the OU's west coast web site, at [www.ouwestcoast.org](http://www.ouwestcoast.org)

Over dinner, we heard from a panel of four local outreach experts. **Rabbi Jason Weiner**, the 'rabbinic fellow' at Young Israel of Century City, spoke about outreach to young couples. **Rabbi Effie Goldberg**, NCSY West Coast director, addressed all the important kiruv work that NCSY is doing and has been doing for years. **Rabbi Asher Brander** of the Westwood Kehilla spoke about the importance of being passionate about your own Yiddishkeit in order to do successful outreach. Finally, **Mr. Marc Firestone** of Aish HaTorah showed a trailer of Aish's upcoming motion picture, "Inspired Too," and spoke about AISH's international initiative of getting more Orthodox Jews involved with *kiruv rechokim* (outreach).

Synagogue rabbis, presidents and board members came from all over the region, including from Santa Barbara and Sacramento. We are grateful to the Stern family and to Frank Buchweitz of the OU for making this seminar such a success. We are already planning next year's Synagogue Leadership Seminar, scheduled for next May.



Frank delivers his presentation



The crowd takes a dinner break

## The Ciments are Being Honored



Mazel Tov to **Sari and Jason Ciment** who will receive the NCSY National Leadership Award at the 109<sup>th</sup> Orthodox Union Anniversary Dinner on May 20<sup>th</sup> at the New York Hilton. So if you happen to be in

New York that weekend – please make plans to join the OU for dinner.

who regularly 'daven for the *amud*'. **Rabbi Hershel Schachter** will join us to provide the important components of this mitzvah. Rav Schachter spoke at last year's very successful **Gabbaim Conference**, and we anticipate that this year's conference will be similarly well attended by all of our talented *chazanim* and *ba'alei tefila*.

## Project Arevim - We're Busy Visiting Shuls in the Region

We have an outing to **Beth Jacob-San Diego** this summer. On July 13-14, 10 couples will be in San Diego visiting **BJ-SD** while their **Rabbi Avram Bogopulsky** is away. **Rabbi Daniel Korobkin** will be the Scholar-in-Residence. Some members are part of the Chevra Group from **YICC** and they will go on to view the Dead Sea Scroll Exhibit Sunday. There are a limited number of rooms available. Email [EstherR@ou.org](mailto:EstherR@ou.org) for more information.

## Hold the Date – Shaliach Tzibur/Ba'al Tefilah Conference – Sept 9

We are pleased to present to the community a **Shaliach Tzibur/Ba'al Tefila Conference**. This is open to those

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