

PACIFIC COMMUNITY  
OF CULTURAL JEWS



# CHAI-LIGHTS

October 2016

**Pacific Community of Cultural Jews**

Orange County, CA 562-592-0999  
PacifComm@aol.com www.pccjews.org

## Sukkos Celebration

October 15, 2016 12:30 p.m.

Come celebrate the harvest holiday of Sukkot at the Jacobi's home. Bring a dish for a potluck lunch at 12:30 p.m. After lunch, we will learn about this happy holiday, and decorate the "Sukkah" in our backyard.

23 Alameda, Irvine 92620

RSVP to Lee Jacobi at [LeeJacobi123@gmail.com](mailto:LeeJacobi123@gmail.com)  
or leave a message at 714-838-2836



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## Election Night Vote Results in Real Time.

### 'This Just In'...

Surf the web and/or Network TV together. Cheer or jeer, react, discuss, pontificate as you nosh. Let's watch the returns together.

November 8, 2016 7:30 p.m.

Arnold Klugman's home

2 Arborglen Irvine

949-551-8529

Hosted by Milt Bernstein ([nosher04@yahoo.com](mailto:nosher04@yahoo.com)) and  
Arnold Klugman ([arnoldklugman@gmail.com](mailto:arnoldklugman@gmail.com))

Please RSVP to Arnold by Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>.



## Mark Your Calendar

Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2016

Dine Out (see page 2)

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016

PC Board Meeting  
Lee Jacobi's Home

Saturday, Oct. 15, 2016

Sukkot Celebration  
(See page 1)

Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2016

Film Club (see Page 3)

Friday, Oct. 21, 2016

Philosopher's Café  
Stein's Home (see page 3)

Tuesday Nov. 8, 2016

Election Night Event  
(see page 1)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hi Everyone,

I hope to see many of you at our Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur observances. We welcome the New Year in a very meaningful way for our Secular Jewish community.

Then we have our Succos potluck lunch the following week. It is always a fun afternoon. Remember to bring a can or two for our ongoing food drive.

We recently hosted 2 members of the League of Women Voters to help us be more informed about the Propositions on the upcoming ballot. It was very helpful.

I would like to wish everyone a Healthy and Peaceful New Year,

Leslie



## DINE OUT a.k.a. Break the Fast

Oct. 12, 2016

5:30 p.m.

Mandarin Restaurant  
18420 Brookhurst Ave  
Fountain Valley



Please join us for Break the Fast  
A check for 25.00 per person to must be received  
by Karen Knecht no later than Oct. 10, 2016.

## PHILOSOPHER'S CAFÉ

(Our Friendly Discussion Group)

Friday, Oct. 21, 2016  
7:30 p.m.

At the home of  
Bernice Stein's Home  
21152 Lockhaven  
Huntington Beach  
Jstein7901@aol.com  
714-968-0998

RSVP by Oct. 18, 2016

No Cost event

## FILM CLUB

Tuesday, Oct. 18, 2016 7:30 p.m.

The African Queen -- Charlie Allnut  
(Humphrey Bogart), the booze-  
guzzling, captain of a broken-down East  
African river boat, teams with a  
straitlaced, iron-willed missionary  
(Katharine Hepburn) to take on a  
menacing German gunboat during World  
War I.

At the home of Di Bunin  
19562 Windward Huntington Beach  
RSVP to Di Bunin by Oct. 14<sup>th</sup> at  
dbf331@hotmail.com or  
714-962-9140

No Cost event



## Happy Birthday !

Bernice Stein - 10/7  
Arnold Klugman - 10/27  
Karen Knecht - 10/31

## Happy Anniversary

Bob & Karen Knecht - 10/29



## RECIPE OF THE MONTH

This is our once a month contribution to your meals and desserts. If you would like to submit a recipe, please send it to Bernice Stein at [jstein7901@aol.com](mailto:jstein7901@aol.com).

### **Black Bean Brownies**

1 (15.5 ounce) can of black beans, rinsed and drained  
3 eggs  
3 tablespoons vegetable oil  
1/4 cup cocoa powder  
1 pinch of salt  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
3/4 cup white sugar  
1/2 cup milk chocolate chips (optional)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Lightly grease an 8x8 square baking dish  
Combine the black beans, eggs, oil, cocoa powder, vanilla extract and sugar in a blender;  
Blend until smooth; pour the mixture into the prepared baking dish.  
Sprinkle the chocolate chips over the top of the mixture.

Bake in the preheated oven until the top is dry and the edges start to pull away from the sides of the pan, about 40 - 45 minutes, or until a cake tester inserted in the center comes out clean.

Note: don't lick the bowl, the batter isn't great tasting but the finished brownies are!

## MAHJONG

There's a variety of activities you can do to keep your mind sharp and alert. Researchers tell us that memory loss can be improved by doing mental exercises. The brain is like a muscle — use it or lose it!

With the above in mind, we will be starting up a Mahjong group. Mahjong will give you an excellent mental workout. Beginners will be taught the basics of how to play, using the 2016 card. (New cards are issued every April).

If you are interested in learning how to play this game, please contact Barbara Price at [barbaraprice@aol.com](mailto:barbaraprice@aol.com). Groups of 4 are needed to play, so encourage your friends to sign up too.



## Pacific Community of Cultural Jews - Part #2

Several of our members have asked how Pacific Community came to be. So for the next several Chai Lights, you will read about our International Organizations, and the two organizations that merged and became Pacific Community of Cultural Jews.

The Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (CSJO) held its first meeting, brought together by Harold Gales of the Jewish Parents Institute of Detroit, in March 1969. Joining this meeting were representatives of secular Jewish local communities and schools from the U.S. and Canada, whose ideas and interests were similar. At that time, the primary concern was secular Jewish education, which resulted in exchanges of curricula and programs. The very first name of the organization, in fact, was the Conference on Jewish Secular Education. Thirty-nine delegates from nine organizations (Ann Arbor, Bethesda/Chevy Chase, Chicago (2), Cleveland, Detroit (2), Palo Alto, and Toronto) were present at that meeting.

Five years after the Congress was created, it became obvious that the organization was attracting secular Jewish groups that were not involved in schools, yet their needs for exchanging ideas and programming were as great as those of the schools. Consequently, the name was changed to the Conference of Secular Jewish Organizations and then, in 1982, at its annual meeting, it was changed again, and remains, the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations...CSJO.

What is significant to note is that with the establishment of CSJO and, as a result of the first three conferences held in Detroit, several groups in major cities such as Chicago, Cleveland and Los Angeles were granted permission to rent facilities in Jewish community centers. This had previously been denied, because the groups were not considered to be "mainstream" Jewish organizations.

CSJO has always wanted our young people to find a place where they don't have to explain themselves to anyone. Young people need like-minded young people with whom they can share ideas and thoughts. The young people are the lifeblood and future of CSJO. This was recognized early on and in May of 1975, in Cleveland, Ohio, the first Teen conference was held concurrently with the adult conference. As these conferences continued, the teens became young adults and asked that a place be made for them, too, at the conference. So, the title was changed to the Teen/Young Adult conference still taking place alongside the adult conference. In 2004 the Young Adults again asked for, and received, permission to create an Older Young Adult segment of CSJO. Keeping our young people involved is a major goal for CSJO.

The Teens, young Adults, and Older Young Adults do all of their own planning of conference workshops. The adults are invited to attend these workshops as the younger people are invited to the adult workshops. From these conferences have come basic administrative decisions such as Teens, Young Adults and Older Young Adults having an important place on the board of directors.

CSJO is a member of the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism (IISHJ) and a number of CSJO officers sit on its Board of Directors.

CSJO has a long-standing Social Action committee. There are a number of statements that the committee, and then the entire membership, have agreed upon, thereby making it much easier to articulate statements to the media in the name of the Secular Jewish movement in North America.



# A WOMAN IN THE WHITE HOUSE

by Greta Singer

When I was in high school in 1955, a friend decided to run for Student Organization president. No girl had ever attempted to become SO president before this. Her campaign speech began, "I am not Clare Booth Luce or Margaret Chase Smith, but I am Arlene Sager asking for your vote for SO president. I was thrilled that she was running. Not surprisingly, Arlene didn't beat the basketball star Morty Zisk. This year, 2016, is the first time a woman has been the nominee for president from a major party in our country. It took all these years for the United States to catch up to a Brooklyn high school.

Not that a woman hasn't tried to excel in politics before this. Luce and Smith were Republican women who were among the first women members of Congress and were influential in the country. In 1972 Shirley Chisholm, a black Democratic member of Congress, ran in the primary for the presidential nomination. In 1984, Democrat Geraldine Ferraro ran for Vice President on the Democratic ticket with Walter Mondale. In 2008, Sarah Palin ran on the Republican side with John McCain.

In this 2016 election a woman is running and has a good chance of winning. Whatever one thinks about Hillary Clinton, this possibility alone is amazing. I have been a feminist all the years that I have been able to think about such things. I remember in a course in my counseling program in grad school an exercise where we were asked to think about all our various roles in life. I am a woman, Jewish, a wife, a mother, a teacher. When I was asked to put those roles in order of importance, there was no doubt that being a woman is what most describes me. I know there

are many women in America who picture a woman in the White House as a big improvement over all the men who have been there until now. It will be interesting to see how a woman deals with Congress, war and peace, equal pay and rights for women, the Supreme Court, etc. etc. As a country full of women and their daughters, I am certainly looking forward to the changes that will come. I only hope it happens...



This article reflects the author's opinion and does not speak for Pacific Community of Cultural Jews.

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## NEW MEMBERS

A special welcome to our  
new members

Steven & Elana Feldman-Leiken  
Sheila Bass  
Pnina & David Shichor

Welcome to our Pacific Community  
Family!

# JEW DAYO

## The Jewish Treasurer of the Chicago Mafia

Jake Guzik, who became the treasurer for the Chicago "mafia", was born near Krakow, Poland in 1886. In America, greenhorn Guzik got involved in prostitution and "white slavery". He gained the trust of gangster Al

Capone by tipping him off to a plan to kill him. Guzik was then given the job of handling the money of Capone's "Chicago Outfit." In addition to becoming Al Capone's most trust adviser, politicians and police. In 1923, a low-fight with Guzik -- who never carried a Guzik complained to Capone, who killed made life difficult for Capone for more finally sent to jail only on tax evasion his family until Capone died in 1947, and the early 1950s. He was noted for his businesslike and low profile way of



keeping track of the illegal profits, Guzik and the "bagman" for bribing Chicago level hoodlum named Joe Howard picked a gun or used violence in his criminal activity. Howard. The threat of arrest for this murder than a decade, though he -- and Guzik -- were charges! Guzik remained loyal to Capone and he remained involved in mafia finances into loyalty to the organization and for his quiet, taking care of gang affairs. He died in 1956 at

age 69.

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### MARCEL MARCEAU -- WHO KNEW?

Marcel Marceau's extraordinary talent for pantomime entertained audiences around the world for over sixty years. It also saved hundreds of Jewish children during the Holocaust. Born to a Jewish family in Strasbourg, France in 1923, young Marcel Mangel discovered Charlie Chaplin at age five and became an avid fan. He entertained his friends with Chaplin imitations, and dreamed of starring in silent movies.

When Marcel was 16, the Nazis marched into France, and the Jews of Strasbourg - near the German border - had to flee for their lives. Marcel changed his last name to Marceau to avoid being identified as Jewish, and joined the French resistance movement.

Masquerading as a boy scout, Marcel evacuated a Jewish orphanage in eastern France. He told the children he was taking them on a vacation in the Alps, and led them to safety in Switzerland. Marcel made the perilous journey three times, saving hundreds of Jewish orphans. He was able to avoid detection by entertaining the children with silent pantomime. Documentary filmmaker Phillipe Mora, whose father fought alongside Marcel in the French resistance, said, "Marceau started miming to keep children quiet as they were escaping. It had nothing to do with show business. He was miming for his life."

Marcel's father perished at Auschwitz. Marcel later said, "The people who came back from the camps were never able to talk about it. My name is Mangel. I am Jewish. Perhaps that, unconsciously, contributed towards my choice of silence." While fighting with the French resistance, Marcel ran into a unit of German soldiers.

Thinking fast, he mimicked the advance of a large French force, and the German soldiers retreated.

Word spread throughout the Allied forces of Marcel's remarkable talent as a mime. In his first major performance, Marcel entertained 3,000 US troops after the liberation of Paris in August 1944. Later in life, he expressed great pride that his first review was in the US Army newspaper, Stars and Stripes.

In 1947, Marcel created his beloved character Bip, a childlike Everyman with a stovepipe hat and a red carnation.

For the next six decades, Marcel was the world's foremost master of the art of silence. Pop star Michael Jackson credited Marcel with inspiring his famous moonwalk.

In 2001, Marcel was awarded the Wallenberg Medal for his acts of courage during the Holocaust. When the award was announced, people speculated on whether Marcel would give an acceptance speech. He replied, "Never get a mime talking, because he won't stop."

Until his death at age 84, Marcel performed 300 times a year and taught 4 hours a day at his pantomime school in Paris. He died on Yom Kippur, 2007.

**2016 - 2018 PACIFIC COMMUNITY BOARD MEMBERS**

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The Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations



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