



CHAN-LIGHTS

December 2020
Pacific Community of Cultural Jews

Orange County, CA 714-739-1366
PacifComm@aol.com www.pccjews.org

Pacific Community's Annual Chanukah Party (via Zoom)

December 12, 2020 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.



We will be having a Virtual Menorah Lighting,
Yiddishkeit Bingo Games (with \$25.00 gift cards),



A Chanukah Sing-A-Long,
And most importantly, a chance to
celebrate together.

RSVP's are required so we can send you your Bingo Cards so you can print them in advance. (If you do not have a printer, or if you do not want to print them, there will be a way to play virtually. Instructions will be given in the email with the link to the party & Bingo games) This will be a separate email in additional to the Zoom link email.



Please RSVP for our Chanukah party to Karen Knecht at Knechtfour@aol.com no later than December 7th. This will give us time to get you the Zoom link and the Bingo Card link.

If you have any questions regarding the Bingo game, please contact Nancy Okamoto at naokamoto@roadrunner.com.

We look forward to having you celebrate with us.

And now a word from our President:

Hope everyone had a good Thanksgiving and were able in some way to stay safely connected to family and friends. While we have not had a lot of good things to look forward to this past year with the life changing virus hanging over us, we are starting to see some improvement on the horizon with the proposed upcoming vaccines. Hopefully everyone during Thanksgiving had time to give thanks for the good things existing in ours and others lives. Thankful for us and our family members who have been able to stay healthy, thankful for the dedication of the doctors and nurses who have been taking care of the sick during this virus crisis, thankful that our group has been able to stay connected as we adjusted to the virtual means of communicating with each other.



Speaking of virtual communications, the Program Committee has put together a special and fun virtual Hanukkah program. There will be a variety of activities, including candle lighting, music, an inspirational reading, and Chanukah bingo with prizes. Hope to see everyone on the 12th. Stay tuned,

Bryon Baron
Pacific Community President

DINE OUT

Canceled until further notice.

Philosopher's Café

(Our Friendly Discussion Group)

December 4, 2020 - 7:30 p.m.

Via Zoom

The Zoom link will be sent out to those who RSVP to Jim Rothman by December 1st. Look for it in your email. Then on December 4th, click on the link and join in the fun.

To make sure we have your correct email address, please email Jim at jrbythec@aol.com, so he can include you.



Congratulations

Happy Birthday!

Zena Jacobi - 12/12

Suzy Baron - 12/24

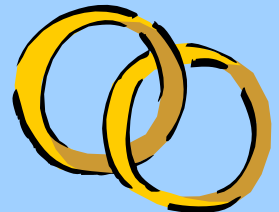
Sylvia Rothman - 12/29

Happy Anniversary!

Lee & Zena Jacobi - 12/15

David & Pnina Shichor - 12/20

Joss & Gina Moss - 12/28





Jews to Know

Allard K. Lowenstein

1929 - 1980

Allard K. Lowenstein was born in Newark, NJ in 1929. His parents were Jewish immigrants from Lithuania. His mother died from breast cancer when he was very young. Lowenstein earned a BA degree from Univ. North Carolina, and then attended Yale Law School. After graduating in 1954, he started his career as a college professor and administrator.

Lowenstein became a political activist for the causes of civil rights, anti-apartheid, anti-war and human rights. He worked as a staffer for several politicians, including Sen. Hubert Humphrey. He was active in the 1964 Mississippi Freedom Summer campaign, although he was criticized by some for being too much of a compromiser. In 1959, Lowenstein made a clandestine tour of South-West Africa (now Namibia), where he collected testimony against its South African controlled government.

In 1967, Lowenstein started the “Dump Johnson” movement that opposed a second term for President Lyndon Johnson. Lowenstein backed liberal Sen. Eugene McCarthy. Johnson bowed out of the 1968 primary.

In 1968, Lowenstein successfully ran for Congressman in Long Island, NY. He served 1 term, but lost the 1970 election after Republicans gerrymandered the district’s boundaries.

In 1971, Lowenstein became head of the Americans for Democratic Action. His activity there to “Dump Nixon” earned him the 7th spot on Pres. Richard Nixon’s infamous Enemies List.

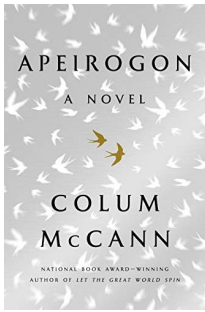
In 1975, Lowenstein appeared on the PBS show *Firing Line*, where he disputed the assumption of a lone gunman in the June 1968 assassination of presidential candidate Sen. Robert F. Kennedy.

Pres. Jimmy Carter in 1977 appointed Lowenstein as the US representative on the United Nations Commission on Human Rights. He resigned this post in 1978 to run for Congressman again; he lost narrowly in the primary.

In March 1980, Lowenstein was killed by a mentally ill gunman. The Allard K. Lowenstein International Human Rights Project was founded at Yale Univ. in 1981 to encourage law students to work in the field of human rights.

Written by Lee Jacobi. Credits: Jewdayo 3/16/2015; Wikipedia





BOOK REVIEW

By Jerry Zwick

APEIROGON BY COLUM MCCANN

The title of this novel “Apeirogon” refers to a geometric figure with an infinite number of sides. It discusses the many sides of the Israeli and Palestinian conflict.

The main characters are an Israeli citizen named Rami, and an Arab Palestinian named Bassam. The only thing they have in common is that they both had daughters who were killed by the other side. They meet at an organization called the Parents Circle. It is made up of Israelis and Palestinians who faced the same tragedy.

The two become close friends and speak around the world about the endless conflict.

There are two aspects of the book that I found difficult: first was the graphic description of the jail time experienced by Bassam, and second, the author’s style in which he skipped around to the different characters and time frames. The latter led to confusion for me at times and I found it somewhat difficult to follow.

However, on the whole, the book was well worth reading because it provided new insights into the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, the occupation, as well as the emotions of the families on both sides. No permanent solutions were arrived at.

On November 14th, Pacific Community members shared some of their favorite movies and books. Here is a list of their suggestions:

Books-

Apeirogon by Colum McCann (see above)
A Woman is No Man by Etaf Rum
A Higher Loyalty Lies & Leadership by James Comey
Stay Where I Can See You by Katrina Onstad
A Time for Mercy by John Grisham
A Girl with Seven Names by Hyeonseo
Everything is Illuminated by Jonathan Foer



Recommended By

Jerry Zwick
Leslie Zwick
Karen Knecht
Sheila Bass
Suzy Baron
Pnina Shichor
Jonathan Levley

Movies/Series-

The Man in the High Castle, Amazon Prime
Unorthodox, Netflix
Crip Camp (Documentary), Netflix
African Doctor, Netflix
What Happened to Ms. Simone, Netflix
The Plot Against America, HBO
The Devil’s Double, DVD
The Ballad of Lucy Whipple, DVD
The Comey Rule, Showtime
Godless, Netflix
Queen’s Gambit, Netflix
The Way I See It (Documentary), Amazon Prime



Cheryl Cohen
Cheryl Cohen
Sheila Bass
Sheila Bass
Sheila Bass
Hana & Aviv Avishay
Jonathan Levley
Nancy Okamoto
Karen Knecht
Bryon Baron
Bryon Baron
Jerry Zwick



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

All events via Zoom until further notice

Philosopher's Café - December 4, 2020

Pacific Community Board Meeting - December 5, 2020

Chanukah Celebration - December 12, 2020

What Is Truth? - January 9, 2021

Philosopher's Café - January 15, 2021

Philosopher's Café - February 5, 2021

2020 - 2022 PACIFIC COMMUNITY BOARD

ELECTED OFFICERS

President	Bryon Baron	Bryonbaron@sbcglobal.net
Vice President	Jerry Zwick	jerlesz@verizon.net
Secretary	Sylvia Rothman	sobaysyl@aol.com
Treasurer	Leslie Zwick	jerlesz@verizon.net
Membership	Nancy Okamoto	949-386-0400
Program Co-Coordinator	Suzy Baron	Bryonbaron@sbcglobal.net
Program Co-Coordinator	Cheryl Cohen	Cjbcohen47@gmail.com
Program Co-Coordinator	Karen Knecht	Knechtfour@aol.com
Publicity	Nancy Okamoto	949-386-0400

COMMUNITY AND BOARD POSITIONS

SHJ Representative	Lee Jacobi	LeeJacobi123@gmail.com
CSJO Liaison	Leslie Zwick	jerlesz@verizon.net
Board Member-At-Large	Di Bunin	DBF331@hotmail.com
Board Member-At-Large	Lee Field	SLWF@cox.net
Board Member-At-Large	Deborah Holland Penley	DHollandpenley@gmail.com
Board Member-At-Large	Lee Jacobi	LeeJacobi123@gmail.com
Board Member-At-Large	Pnina Shichor	info@boundtotravel.com
Newsletter Editor	Karen Knecht	Knechtfour@aol.com
Sunshine	Cheryl Cohen	Cjbcohen47@gmail.com
Webmaster	Marissa Jacobi	theMarissa@gmail.com

Chai-Lights is published monthly by the Pacific Community of Cultural Jews, Orange County, CA

Affiliated with
The Society for Humanistic Judaism
and
Cultural and Secular Jewish
Organization



Editor: Karen Knecht
PCChaiLights@aol.com
Phone: 714-739-1366
Email: PacifComm@aol.com

PACIFIC COMMUNITY OF CULTURAL JEWS

Calendar of Events - 2020 - 2021

EVENTS

Sept. 19, 2020 - Rosh Hashanah Observance
Sept. 28, 2020 - Yom Kippur Observance
Oct. 10, 2020 - League of Women Voters
Nov. 14, 2020 - Book & Movie Sharing
Dec. 12, 2020 - Chanukah Party
*Jan. 9, 2021 - What Is Truth?
Jan. 30, 2021 - Tu B'Shvat Hike
Feb. 13, 2021 - Valentine's Day with Sheila Bass
Feb. 27, 2021 - Purim Party
Mar. 27, 2021 - Passover Seder
May 09, 2021 - Potluck / Comedy Night
June 27, 2021 - End of Year Party / Games
* New event

For more information,
contact Suzy Baron, Cheryl Cohen or Karen Knecht
bryonbaron@sbcglobal.net / 714-639-4906
cjbcohen47@gmail.com / 949-616-6288
Knechtfour@aol.com / 714-739-1366

DINE - OUT

Join us for dinner at a variety restaurants once a month. All locations will be decided upon the month before and announced in our newsletter. All dinners are at 6:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

(Sept. through March - Dine-out is canceled due to social distancing. April through July TBD)

Apr. 25, 2021
May 09, 2021*
June 13, 2021
July 11, 2021

For more information, or for suggestions for restaurants, contact Karen Knecht
714-739-1366 or Knechtfour@aol.com

*Different Time - watch for information

BOARD MEETINGS

All members are invited to attend board meetings and give your input. Meetings start

at 11:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

Meetings are held via Zoom until we can meet in person again.

Next Meeting - December 5, 2020 11:00 a.m.

MONTHLY HAPPENINGS

Philosopher's Café - People get together on a monthly basis to discuss a topic - either issues of the day, or any topic of general interest. Where they meet is up to the group. The discussions take anywhere from an hour to . . . ?

Philosopher's Café is being held via Zoom. Please check our monthly newsletters for information on our Philosopher's Café and our Dine Out locations.

Schedule subject to change

Pacific Community is an affiliate of 2 International Organizations -
Society for Humanistic Judaism and the Cultural and Secular Jewish Organization