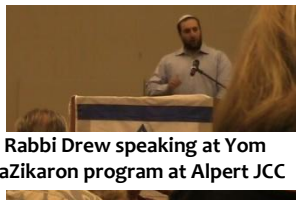




# Israel Week with Beach Hillel

As Yom HaZikaron was on April 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> and Yom Ha'atzma'ut was on April 19<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>, April 16-22 was Beach Hillel's celebration of Israel Week. The festivities began with an Israel Shabbat dinner that featured two young Israelis who joined us on Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup>. The two Israelis - Nadav Musay, an officer in the Israeli Defense Forces, and Raaya Ealu, an Israeli college student – who were in Long Beach courtesy of the Jewish Federation of Greater Long Beach and West Orange County, provided an excellent opportunity for the



Rabbi Drew speaking at Yom HaZikaron program at Alpert JCC

students to interact and hear about Israel at the Shabbat dinner.

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup>, the Jewish Federation of Greater Long Beach

and West Orange County held a dinner accompanied by a Yom HaZikaron service, led by Rabbi Drew, followed by a speaker, speaking on current America-Israel relationship. Beach Hillel sponsored dinner for the students.



Beach Hillel students with the Kaplans at the Yom HaZikaron / Yom Ha'atzma'ut Program at the Alpert JCC (picture by Anna Shabtay)

On Monday 19<sup>th</sup>, Beach Hillel had a krav maga instructor lead an introductory session on krav maga (Israeli self-defense), followed by a picnic at CSULB. The following day, we had our tent, passing out birthday cake and snacks.



Rabbi Drew in front of the Beach Hillel tent on Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> with students

On Thursday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>, which was Earth Day, we were back on campus, passing out flyers about how environmentally conscious Israel is, as well as having posters showcasing some of the environmental technologies coming out of Israel from Coast Hillel, and passing out plants.

That evening, we concluded Israel Week with a showing an Israeli-themed movie.



(From left to right) Professor Bruce Derflinger (Coast Hillel Faculty Advisor), Ron Furman (StandWithUs West Coast campus coordinator), Esther Yukilevich (Beach Hillel student president), and Rabbi Drew at Beach Hillel tent on Thursday 22 April, promoting Israel's environmental efforts (picture by Rachel Kaplan)

## Hebrew Hammers Finish the season



Post-game cheer, led by the Hammers' coach, Michael Rayhan (picture by Krystal Barrad)

Beach Hillel's intramural softball team at CSULB, the Hebrew Hammers, finished up their season on 27 April. Although the Hammers won only

one game, there was certainly improvement over the course of the seven-game season amongst the team (including, of course, Rabbi Drew, who often played at third base), giving hope for the fall semester for the



Post-game celebration with Rabbi Drew (picture by Tyra Ward)

Hammers.

Towards the end of the season, on Friday 23 April, Beach Hillel held a Hebrew Hammers Shabbat dinner, which brought the largest crowd of the semester to a Beach Hillel shabbat dinner.

## Inland Empire & Desert Hillel End of the Year Reception



Inland Empire & Desert Hillel's End of the Year Reception at UC-Riverside on April 29th; Rabbi Drew (at far right, speaking with Farley Herzek) was recognized for his rabbinic presence at Hillel activities at the various campuses in the region (picture by Scott Talkov)

## Torah on Tap Class

On Thursday 29 April, Rabbi Drew lead a text-study discussion on the topic of the Sabbath for CSU-San Bernardino students with Inland Empire & Desert Hillel. The program, entitled "Torah on Tap", is an ongoing opportunity for students to engage with texts from the Jewish tradition in a relaxed atmosphere in a pub, with the first round of drinks provided by Hillel. It is in such an atmosphere where they feel comfortable attending.

This Torah on Tap class was the third and last of the spring for CSUSB Hillel students. Torah on Tap with Rabbi Drew was a significant part of the Jewish educational programming for CSUSB students by IE&D Hillel this spring.



Rabbi Drew teaching, leading a text-study discussion on the Sabbath in the Bible and Rabbinic texts (picture by Scott Talkov)

The SoCalJSS Newsletter is a monthly publication of Southern California Jewish Student Services (SoCalJSS), a project of Beth El Synagogue, a synagogue without walls, generously funded by Allen & Deanna Alevy. SoCalJSS's mission is to facilitate Jewish learning and living on college campuses. SoCalJSS provides the only rabbi for four universities (California State University (CSU) – Fullerton, CSU-Long Beach, CSU-San Bernardino, University of Redlands), seven colleges (College of the Desert, Cypress College, Fullerton College, Long Beach City College, Orange Coast College, Riverside Community College, & Santa Ana College), and Polytechnic High School's Jewish Club, in addition to another three universities (Chapman University, UC-Irvine, & UC-Riverside). **Tax-deductible donations can be made to Beth El Synagogue.** Contact info: Rabbi Drew Kaplan, 562.400.5627, RabbiDrew@SoCalJSS.org.