

## Poly HS Jewish Club Restarts

After the summer break, the Jewish Club at Long Beach Polytechnic High School resumed in September on a weekly basis. Rabbi Drew returned along with the group, as he had in the spring semester. Not only did he resume his teaching, speaking on a variety of Jewish topics, but bringing up pizza from the Hebrew Academy of Huntington Beach. The first weeks of the club resuming were around the holiday of *Sukkot*, upon which Rabbi Drew spoke.



Rabbi Drew showing the lulav and associated arboreal species that are a part of the Jewish rituals related to the holiday of *Sukkot*.

Beginning with issue #4, this space will be host to whomever would like to sponsor it. Sponsorship opportunities are available for \$100 per issue (although if you would like to contribute more, that is also welcome). For more details, you can contact Rabbi Drew (information on the backside).

## Torah on Tap at CSULB

Following off of the spring success of bringing the Torah on Tap model of informal Jewish education to San Bernardino, Rabbi Drew brought Torah on Tap to Beach Hillel, holding the first discussion on 20 September at CSULB.

This first one focused on the message and meaning on "Why Do We Have These Booths?" for the holiday of *Sukkot*. Rabbi Drew provided classical Jewish texts to bear on the discussion, allowing Beach Hillel students to have their own eyes on the texts of their heritage and to take part in a discussion to help them better understand this important component of the Sukkot holiday.

Rabbi Drew will continue to be a part of leading Beach Hillel's discussions for Torah on Tap as the year goes on. Having the gathering on campus, in the pub, allows students to come from studying and in an informal place, making it less of a barrier for them to attend.



Students with Rabbi Drew at Beach Hillel's First Torah on Tap discussion of the year at CSULB.



Rabbi Drew sounding a shofar on 1 September to promote Beach Hillel's Rosh HaShanah activities.

# Tabling on Campuses!

As area schools resumed classes for the fall semester, tabling for the various area Hillels was at its most active. Primarily, these tabling activities took place as part of the various schools hosting "Welcome Weeks" for students to check out the clubs active on campuses, although tabling was also done, in the case of Beach Hillel to get out the word of what activities were taking place for the fall Jewish holidays season.



Rabbi Drew along with Ben Deering, OCC Hillel student board member and Professor Bruce Derflinger on 14 September 2010 at Orange Coast College's Club Rush Day put on by the InterClub Council.



Rabbi Drew and California State University-Fullerton students tabling during CSUF's Discoverfest on 1 September.



Rabbi Drew tabling during CSULB's Welcome Week on 8 September with Zach Katona, CSULB student, and Phyllis Kenigsberg, Beach Hillel programming associate and

## Israel Activism Seminar

On Sunday 19 September, SoCalJSS hosted a seminar in Orange County, primarily for students to help prepare them to get them more involved with activism on the behalf of Israel. With UCI known for being a hotbed of anti-Israel activity, other area schools have not been immune to anti-Israel activity and rhetoric. The goal of this program and others is to help prepare the students in the area how to deal with these activities.

A project of SoCalJSS's LeMa'an Zion Initiative, the goal is to run two further such seminars for area Jewish university students, primarily at schools in Orange County and Long Beach, but available for students at nearby counties, as well. Rabbi Drew was the MC of the seminar, while students from CSUF, CSULB, and UCI were present, along with other young adults and community members in attendance.

The SoCalJSS Newsletter is a monthly publication of Southern California Jewish Student Services (SoCalJSS), an enterprise of Beth El Synagogue, a synagogue without walls, generously funded by Allen & Deanna Alevy. SoCalJSS's mission is to facilitate Jewish living and learning, and engaging with the Jewish people in colleges and universities in Southern California. SoCalJSS provides the only rabbi for two universities (California State University (CSU) – Fullerton and CSU-Long Beach) and Polytechnic High School's Jewish Club, in addition to providing rabbinic support to five other universities (Chapman University, CSU-San Bernardino, UC-Irvine, UC-Riverside, and University of Redlands) and students at many area community colleges. Tax-deductible donations to support the work of SoCalJSS can be made out to Beth El Synagogue and mailed to Rabbi Drew, 3801 E. Willow Street, Long Beach, CA 90815. Rabbi Drew Kaplan can be contacted at 562.400.5627 and RabbiDrew@SoCalJSS.org.