



## ChaiVillageLA Joyously Celebrates Our Two-Year Anniversary

On Sunday, June 24 150 ChaiVillageLA members and guests gathered to celebrate the two-year anniversary of our very special community of adults from Temple Isaiah and Temple Emanuel. The joyous occasion, held at Temple Isaiah, celebrated new and old friends, basking in the accomplishments of the past two years and looking forward to the future of our vibrant virtual village.

Rabbi Zoë Klein Miles kicked off our event started with amusing member questions, such as “Have you ever written a love letter and sprayed it with perfume?” (Quite a few members had!)



Co-Chair Terry Pullan provided a treat—a slide show that highlighted some of the accomplishments of ChaiVillageLA. He pointed out that in the past two years, over 220 members have taken part in over 600 activities and events, building friendships, learning and laughing together, and—in quite a few cases—being there for one another. Terry Pullan explained, “We all feel energized, happy to be part of a very special and vibrant community” and his slide show of field trips, our community seder, classes, group walks, and movie meet-ups made the point.

Throughout the program, members had the opportunity to do what we do best—schmooze and nosh! And we heard from four members—Lorna Belman, Ira Laufer, Ellen Isaacs and Renee Cronenwalt—who each spoke movingly about why our community means so much to them. We were also treated to special music by long-time Temple Isaiah member Steven Wynbrandt.

Smiles were visible all around. According to Devorah Servi, Director of ChaiVillageLA, “By being part of ChaiVillageLA, our members tell us that they feel energized and excited – about the lives they are living now and where they are heading.”



Our celebration neared its close with special remarks from Rabbi Laura Geller, Rabbi Emerita of Temple Emanuel, who reflected on the importance of a village in everyone's lives. Rabbi Geller also explained the significance of cotton, the traditional gift for second anniversaries, and announced that we were each receiving a ChaiVillageLA cotton tote.

What a wonderful afternoon!

