

News & Fun Activities

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Tri-Valley Cultural Jews

Your East Bay Secular Humanistic Jewish Community

TriValleyCulturalJews.org

info@tri-valleyculturaljews.org

(925) 485-1049

Affiliated with the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations

Our mission statement: "A Secular Humanistic community serving those who identify with the Jewish People through family, culture and history, rather than through religion."



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September 6th 2018



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TVCJ Community News

Come to Our Events

Rosh Hashanah



Date: Sunday, September 9th, 2018

Time: 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Place: Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Street, Livermore, CA 94550

Cost: FREE for members \$10.00 per Non-Member Adult

We will start with Tashlich (4:30 p.m.) which is a walk to the nearby creek to symbolically wash away our misdeeds of the past year. Then we will have a potluck back at the Bothwell Center (5:30 p.m.) followed by a secular humanistic Rosh Hashanah observance (6:30 p.m.) followed by apples and honey. This is a child friendly but not child-centered event.

For more information please call: (510) 888-1404

Board meeting/TVCJ Planning

Date: Tuesday, September 11th, 2018

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Place: Ireland Home, 19663 Fremery Court, Castro Valley 94546-3540

All members are welcome

Yom Kippur - Kol Nidre



Date: Tuesday, September 18th, 2018

Time: 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Place: Bothwell Arts Center, 2466 8th Street, Livermore, CA 94550

Cost: FREE for members \$10.00 per Non-Member Adult

For more information please call: (925) 485-1049

Sukkot & First Day of [Jewish Culture School](#)

Date: Sunday September 23rd, 2018

Time: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Place: Pepper Home, 6448 Owl Way, Livermore 94551

Cost: \$10 per non-member adult; members free.

For more information please call: 650-296-5295

Please join us for the first day of [Jewish Culture School](#) and our annual Sukkot celebration. We will build a sukkah and enjoy a potluck brunch to celebrate our harvest holiday.

We will have activities for children and adults.

Please bring:

- a dish to share (we have members with allergies, so please label ingredients)
- a branch for the roof of the sukkah
- a piece of fruit or gourd to hang

If you have one, also bring your hammer and/or power drill so you can pitch in and help build our sukkah!

A Message from Our President

It might seem strange to celebrate Sukkot--the harvest--right after the new year. After all, we tend to think of harvesting as coming at the end of things. You've planted, you've tended, and then you harvest. Yet in the Jewish calendar, the year starts in the autumn. Summer is the end.

And doesn't summer also feel like an ending? The kids go back to school, the weather gets cooler (ostensibly, though we've certainly experienced otherwise). To start a year with a harvest means to store up, budget, plan for whatever may come. If we started our year in January, the middle of winter, we might have nothing.

So let's celebrate what we DO have. Psychologists say focusing on what we're grateful for develops a positive world view and makes people happier overall. Celebrate the harvest in whatever form it arrives in your life. And store up all your good memories and feelings to warm you on the colder, more difficult days.

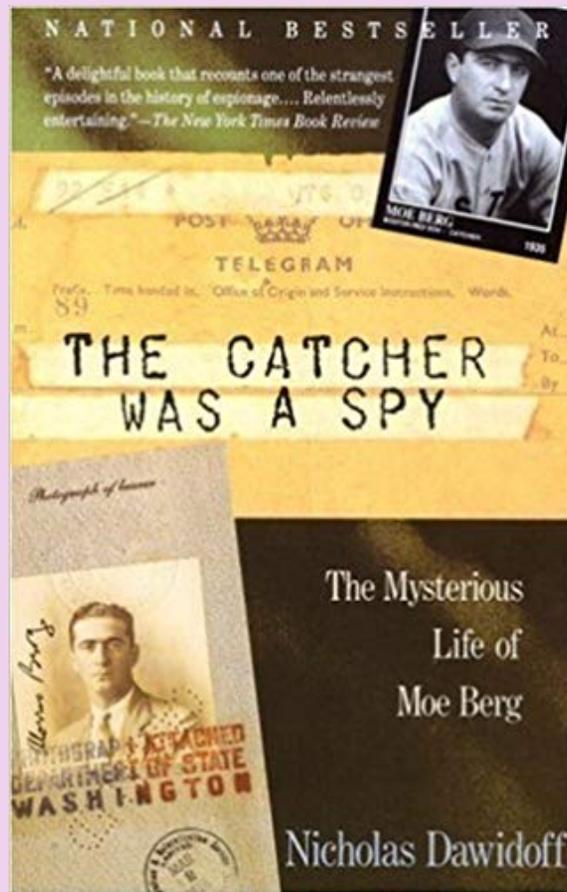
Scott Pepper



BOOK REVIEW

THE CATCHER WAS A SPY: THE MYSTERIOUS LIFE OF
MOE BERG

By Nicholas Dawidoff



This is a biography of Moe Berg. If you look in the dictionary for "Renaissance Man", you might find his picture there. The man could do seemingly everything.

He was a professional baseball player with the Boston Red Sox and Washington Senators, a spy for the OSS in Europe during WWII, educated in Princeton and the Sorbonne, and could speak a dozen languages.

He was a child in an immigrant Jewish family. He had a difficult relationship with his pharmacist father who wanted him to become a lawyer (so he passed the Bar Exam on his first try but never really pursued this career). His first loves were always baseball, languages and spying. He led a mysterious and nomadic life, living with many personal friends, such as Albert Einstein and Joe DiMaggio, but never had a permanent residence.

A wide variety of people were drawn to him, but he was always extremely secretive about his past as well as his personal story.

The book in parts read like a sports digest, a spy novel, and a personality treatise. I found it a fascinating read and hard to put down. [Click here to purchase the book.](#)

By Jerry Zwick

Hebrew Free Loan

[Hebrew Free Loan](#) provides zero-interest loans at no cost to Jewish individuals in Northern California to help them achieve their dreams. [Click here for more information.](#)

J-West Conference 2019

J-WEST CONFERENCE

World of Jewish Music ...
come learn, enjoy and sing

January 18-20, 2019
La Quinta Inn
Hayward, CA



Planned sessions include:

- Getting Kids to Sing
- Molly Picon & Jewish Musical Theater
- Easy Songs for Everyone to Sing
- Songs for Holidays and any Day
- Social Justice Music, then and now
- Famous and not-so-famous (who are we kiddin'—unknown) Jewish Composers
- Beyond Klezmer band, music of Sephardic and Mizrahi Jews

Featuring:

- Dr. Ezra Donner, Doctor of Music, Composition; Composer, Pianist, Teacher
- Cantor Deborah Davis, lead singer for Second Avenue Klezmer Ensemble
- Cantor Jonathan Friedman, Ph.D., Professor of Jewish Music History



Save the Date!
(More Info to Come)



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Yahrzeit Memorial

In September We Remember:

The anniversary of the death of our loved ones.

Who We Are

Board Members:

Jamie Ireland 510-888-1404
Rebecca Ireland 510-888-1404
Joy Randel 925-362-3245
Karen Furst 925-784-1775
Scott Pepper 650-296-6295

Newsletter: Joy Randel 925-362-3245

Webmaster: Noah King 925-371-8585

JCS Teachers: Judith Seid,
Jamie Ireland

Family Shabbat/Havdalah Coordinator: Scott Pepper 650-296-6295



Movie Coordinator: Wendy
Berenson 925-829-0554
Adult Programming: Karen
Furst 925-784-1775

Happy September Birthdays:

Sophia Ireland
Jane Morrison
Ed Looney
Anne Lubran
Ilan Seid-Green
Wendy Berenson Garcia
Evangeline Pepper



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