

Getting to Know You...

MEET THE PEOPLE THAT MAKE UP THE YICC FAMILY



Jamie, Rena, Etan, Danielle & Yaakov Frankel

Jamie and Rena Frankel, and their three children, Etan, Danielle and Yaakov, have been members at YICC for 10 years. For a number of years, Jamie and Rena co-chaired the YICC Yom Ha'atzmaut celebration, and more recently, Rena has co-chaired a Scholar-In-Residence dinner. They are also very active at the Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy, and Bnei Akiva of Los Angeles.

YICC: What attracted you to join YICC?

JAMIE & RENA: A lot of our friends started going to YICC and it seemed like a great environment for raising our children.

YICC: Tell us something about yourselves?

JAMIE: I am a native Angelino. I grew up on "the other side of town", where my family were members of Shaarei Tefilah. I attended Yavneh, Hillel, Rambam Torah Institute (of blessed memory!), graduated from Skokie Yeshiva and CSUN. I spent most of my summers either as a camper or working at Camp Moshava in Big Bear, California. After college, I worked in my family-owned businesses and now we own and operate a wholesale produce company and invest in real estate, which keeps us very busy.

RENA: I was born in St. Louis, and moved to L.A. with my family in 1971. I went to Toras Emes, Bais Yaakov and graduated from YULA. I then attended CSUN, where I majored in Communications. I also attended Camp Moshava for many summers. I've both worked at and volunteered at Hillel for many years, and now I help Jamie with our business.

JAMIE & RENA: We met through Bnei Akiva, and maybe that's why we hold it so close to our heart. We have been very involved for the past 15 years in improving Bnei Akiva in L.A. This year we are very fortunate to have Dani & Dorit Yemini, fellow YICC members, as shlichim. We are also very involved at Hillel, where we served as chairpeople of the banquet honoring Brad & Mia Markoff last year.

YICC: Tell us a little about your family?

JAMIE & RENA: We have the three greatest kids! Etan, almost 20, will be starting his Junior year at Yeshiva University. He is studying Business and Finance and hopes to return to Los Angeles after graduation. Danielle, 16, is our artist. She will be going into the 11th grade at YULA in September. She is very talented and we hope she continues to develop her creativity. Yaakov just celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at YICC at the end of May. He will go down in history as the first Bar Mitzvah boy at YICC to need paramedics, but that's behind us now! He loves all things sports and will be starting 8th grade in the fall. It's hard to believe that after so many years we will actually be graduating Hillel when Yaakov finishes 8th grade.

YICC is a family affair for us - both of our sisters and their families, Tina & Michael Loboda (Jamie's sister) and Cheryl & Avi Ibgui (Rena's sister) are members here. Rena's parents, Avrum & Sandi Reiss, and Jamie's mother, Martha Frankel all live nearby. Jamie's father, Jack, Z"L, passed away 13 years ago. Rena's brother, Shlomo, and his family live in Maale Adumim, Israel.

YICC: What are your hobbies?

JAMIE & RENA: Jamie really enjoys playing hockey in a local league, with a lot of other YICC guys, though he readily admits he isn't the best player. Rena, when not running to a Bnei Akiva or Hillel event, enjoys crocheting kipot and reading. We really look forward to family vacations!

“IF NOT NOW, WHEN?”

“Getting To Know You” is a feature of our weekly Seat Announcement, with the aim of introducing you to our members. It can also be found on our website at www.yicc.org.