YOM HAATZMAUT CELEBRATION

April 15 - Preparation for for Yom HaatZmaut in NOAM Kyiv group.
This month the NOAM Kyiv group has thoroughly prepared for Yom Haatzmaut. They took part in an international action: they made video clip shot, with Israeli flag colouring. The flag was sent to Israel for capsule, which would be buried for 30 years during the Independence Day celebrating ceremony. This fact was a great inspiration for children and teens.

April 20 - Yom HaatZmaut

April 22 - Mesibat Ivrit

There were three different days when our community celebrated Yom HaatZmaut. One day Rav Reuven Stamov told about about Independence day of Israel and its 70-years history. There were more than 40 people. The other day the Mesibat Ivrit devoted to Yom HaatZmaut took place in the Kyiv MASORET community. There were held competitions and quizzes about Hebrew language and Eretz Israel. Many participants have demonstrated a good knowledge of the language and a history of Israel. Together with NOAM members we made Culinary midrash “Ani Israeli”. There were more than 50 people.

Two days after Yom Haatzmaut the members of our community watched videos of the great celebration of the holiday in Eretz Israel. NOAM Kyiv group also joined the watching with their madrichim. In addition, the community visitors had an opportunity to learn about Lag-Baomer through the video research in Eretz Israel.

April 15, 23 – Lectures by Rav Reuven Stamov

In addition to the traditional program community members had great pleasure to listen really interesting lessons about Jewish holidays and Sfirat HaOmer. Also, there was an initial lecture devoted to Yom Haatzmaut. This year Israel has celebrated 70 years of its Independence. There were about 20-35 people.

April 13, 15, 20, 22, 27 – Culinary Midrash
Everyone had the opportunity to cook Israeli food with Lena Stamov on the Culinary Midrash. This time everybody had a great opportunity to learn how to cook Israeli spring salad on lavash. All the participants appreciated the unusual taste of the salad, which was reached up to with the help of such spices and herbs like peppermint, coriander and cumin. The next culinary Midrash was dedicated to the Omer counting and lechem, all cooked traditional Israeli dish - shawerma bepita and be legal. There were about 25 participants together with children.

April 15, 22, 29 – Master classes and Artistic Studio

This month master-class was dedicated to Yom-Haatsmaut. Children and adults made an Israeli flag to 70 years of Independence of Israel State. The materials were unusuall and the result was impressive. Talented painters study tradition in such an interesting way and it is one of the best methods to grasp information for them. In fact, they are not only engaged in their favorite thing, draw and learn new painting techniques, they also learn about traditions. Lena Stamov told about the oncoming Yom-Haatsmaut. More than 10 people attended artistic studio.

April 15, 22 – Baby club “Khibukim”

Once a month we have babies and parents meeting, where parents and children can play together, discussed their problems, share experience. Now the children had a master-class devoted to YomHaatsmaut.

April 6, 13, 20, 27 – Shabbat

Every Friday one of the community members prepared several interesting moments from Parashat Hashavuah, everyone took part in Shabbat quiz, Drama Midrash related to Parashat Hashavuah topic. In April the light day allowed to There were at least 30- 35 peoples of all ages.

April 7, 14, 21, 28 – Parashat Hashavua and Havdalah
On Shabbat day community members spent time with Mincha and lessons on Parashat Hashavua and Halachic in the community finished with Havdalah ceremony. On Shabbat day community attended from 15 to 25 members. Rav Reuven Stamov prepared people for conversion. Lena and Reuven Stamov had a meeting with the families of community for dinner. Also, Rav Reuven Stamov does a personal meeting for Conversion preparation.

**April 26 - "The Dessert with Rebbetzin"**

In collaboration with Moishe House Kyiv Masoret community held the fifth meeting in one of the cozy cafes of Podol. Lena Stamov told about the essence of female beauty and attraction through "The Song of Songs" by King Solomon. There were many questions about an appearance of a modern woman and the attitude of the religious world and conservative trend conceptions. There were about 15 people.

**April 1, 15, 22, 29 - NOAM**

Children happily take part in Kabbalat Shabbat prayer, Parasha Shavua peula, reading Jewish stories and play fun games. Twice every week is working on NOAM activity program. This month, mostly all peulot were dedicated to the Weekly Torah Portions, Yom HaShoah, Yom Haatsmaut and Lag BaOmer. There are two groups in age between 8-12 years and 13-18 years. NOAM group started to count Omer and created with madrichim really an extraordinary calendar. On April, 13 chanichim had very serious discussion dedicated Yom ha-Shoach. Together were nearly 20 people.

**April 15, 22, 29 - Songs**

Members of our community are very fond of singing. People did not just sing, they learn new songs from our vocal coach and even invent your own songs. After these lessons all enjoy musical performances on Shabbat. Every Sunday children with great pleasure learn a song, performing with them on Shabbat and holidays. Also, all had a great opportunity to learn Hebrew in the process of
learning the songs, because the Hebrew teacher also helps in these classes. And we are keeping on to prepare for Kyiv Klezmer Fest with songs in Yiddish. This class attended by 10-15 people of different ages.

**April 22- 26 NOAM group in Sambation School in Dnipro**

The part of the Kyiv NOAM group took part in School for Judaica for High School Students "Expedition to the Origins - 2" that was held in Dnipro. Teenagers have learned how to hold the polls, studied genealogy, Jewish philosophy, Hebrew, Polish and Yiddish languages class etc. and started their own history projects.

**April 9, 15, 22, 29 – Tzvet meetings**

The Kiev Masorti Community team gathered five times this month to do preparation before the Pesach, prepare activities and programs for the whole month. At each meeting, all share their impressions and gave feedback. Children also take part in a festive performance and did rehearse with their morim. With all tzvet we thought over all the details of the evening and all activities.

**April 5, 12, 15, 19, 22, 26, 29 – Ulpan. Hebrew Classes**

As usual in Kiev Community took place Ulpan three times a week. We have groups for children, teens and adults in two groups of different levels. There were about 15 people.

**April, 13 – Yom HaShoah ceremony in honor of the memory of victims and the lecture by Lena Stamov**

All the community gathered before the Shabbat to honour the memory of victims, lit the candles and did the minute of silence. Lena Stamov held the lecture about Yom HaShoah and made emphasis on the future generation, and the impact of the alive who remember and do a lot for continuing the tradition and ideas of Judaism.

**Lena Stamov meetings**

- Meeting with Ilona Didenko – The Head of educational programs at the Hillel Kiev
- Meeting with Julia Goldenberg – Director of the charitable foundation “2U”
- Meeting with Natella Andryushchenko – Director of the Jewish school "Mitzva-613” in Belaya Tzerkov
- Meeting with Valeriy Pinchuk - resident of Moishe House Kiev
- Meeting with Tatiana Abovich – Director of the Hillel Kiev
- Skype with Reut Rahav
Private meeting during the month with people who want to do the conversion
Meeting with Natalia Sklyarskaya – The Director of the Festival of Podol Nation's Culture, and Mitya Gerasimov – The organizer of the Festival of Podol Nation's Culture
Meeting with Ekateryna Karlshtein - The Resident of Moishe House Kyiv
Meeting with Katerina Rabina – The Head of Youth programs in JAFI Ukraine
Private meeting during the month with people who want to do the conversion
Meeting with Ron Garfield – The Head of Sochnut Ukraine
Family camp planning
Meeting with Tatiana Voitalyuk - regional representative of Project Kesher
Family camp planning
Every Wednesday – Skype with Shlomo Zakharov and participant of the ashgaha lessons.
Lena Stamov visited Chernovitz

Rav Reuven Stamov meetings
March, 29 – Aril, 2 - Rav Reuven Stamov visited Odessa. He leads Last Seder Pesach, Kabbalat Shabbat, MAROM group and Giyur lessons for Odessa Tiferet Community members.
Skype consultations with communities members in other Masorti communities
Meeting with Rav Geetik
Private meeting during the month with people who want to do the conversion
Meeting with Alexander Zaslavskiy
Meeting with Katerina Rabina – The Head of Youth programs in JAFI Ukraine
Preparations to the Bar Mitzva
Meeting with Ron Garfield - Director of the "JAFI Ukraine"
Meeting with the director of Nativ - Genadiy Polishuk
Reception at the Israeli Embassy devoted to the 70th anniversary of the Independence of Israel

Cooperation with other organizations and foundations: The partnership continues with Hillel, JUICE, project KESHER and Jewish Agency for Israel, Juice, Moishe House, City Municipal Administration. Youth from Hillel and JAFI visited Kabbalat Shabbat.

Many thanks for all who made this work possible.
The more photos you can find on our page on Facebook- https://www.facebook.com/masoretinkiev Our YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCfBOQS_ABBnns150PBifDzQ/videos