

Ahoy maties! Aarr, 'tis time for the BJC Annual Dinner and Auction!

This year we'll be shivering in our boots instead of baking in the sun at our first non-June Dinner! We hope you are ready to start planning all of the events and items that you would like to donate. The auction is a fantastic opportunity to bid on your social calendar for the upcoming year, acquire wonderful items, and take advantage of useful services. The dinner will take place on Sunday, February 26th, 2012 and we will be planning events for the whole year (March 2012 through February 2013).

The highlight of the Dinner is the contributions of our very own members and friends! Believe it or not, **everyone** has something to offer at the auction. The possibilities are endless: whether you've got a green thumb, a knack for cooking, an ear for music, or a way with computers. Many of the evening's most successful donations aren't even items, but provide the buyer with a unique event. They're opportunities to set your social calendar for the year! Think of the ever-popular Rock n' Roll Havdalah, Smoke and Scotch, Superbowl Party, Wine Tasting, or the chances to sample cuisine from around the world: from the Middle East to south of the border.

The Annual Dinner and Auction is the most significant fundraiser of the year for Beth Jacob, and we all help to make it a success. If you'd like to participate but you're not sure what to donate, please let us know! We would love to help you develop an event or help sponsor an event from a vendor, whether by helping to underwrite a special outing or providing the winning families with a picnic lunch. Examples of contributing vendors are Safari West, the Academy of Sciences, the Oakland Zoo, and Chabot Space Center. We'll try to match your interests with a special event.

The deadline for submissions is February 1st, 2012. One of us (Adrea Gerber or Naomi Dardik) will be in touch with you individually as we approach the deadline to make sure all members of the Beth Jacob community can contribute in a way that is personally meaningful.

If you already know what you'd like to offer up, please complete the auction item form on our website (www.bethjacobokland.org/pdfs/auction_form_2012) and send to jndardik@yahoo.com or print it out, fill it out and drop it off at the BJC office.

If you will be offering to host an event, we MUST receive a proposed date for the event at the time of submission. We will be keeping a master calendar, and if you submit an event for a date that has already been taken, one of us will be in touch ASAP to help select an alternative date if necessary. Get your donations in early to get the best shot at your preferred date and time, *particularly if your event is limited to a specific holiday or season.*

Thank you!

Adrea and Naomi