

## Recent Events

### Genetics Presentation Intrigues Bay Area AFTAU Members

**August 22, 2007**

**Professor Gil Ast, hosted by Dr. Gary and Mrs. Lisa Gershony in Bay Area of the Western Region.**

Prof. Gil Ast, Department of Human Genetics & Molecular Medicine of the Sackler School of Medicine at Tel Aviv University, was welcomed at a dessert reception by Dr. Gary and Mrs. Lisa Gershony on Wednesday August 22, 2007, at their home in the Bay Area.

Prof. Ast spoke to a group of AFTAU constituents about potential therapies for certain neurodegenerative diseases. He is the leading researcher of Familial Dysautonomia (FD), a very rare Ashkenazi Jewish genetic disease, in the world, having identified the single gene that accounts for the mutation. There is reason to hope that Prof. Ast's work will contribute significantly to the prevention and treatment of multiple sclerosis, ALS and Parkinson's disease as well.



*Lisa and Gary Gershony with Gil Ast*



*Michael Rancer, Aaron Salloway and Susan Rancer*



*Michael Rancer, Dafna Wu and Gil Ast*



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