

# SHALO/NNEWS X

THE JEWISH CONGREGATION OF SUN CITY CENTER

# NOVEMBER 2013

# jcscclist@jcscc.org

At the head of this article is the address of the NEW Beth Israel congregational e-mail list. Because of all the problems we were having with the yahoogroups, our list administrator, Dick Marshall, has switched us to a new system. This list was constructed from our current membership list.. If you know of any member who is not getting the Temple email, please contact Dick Marshall at listadministrator@jcscc.org. An email was sent to the entire list asking those who received it to reply, but unfortunately only half of you did so.

# PLEASE DO NOT USE THE YAHOOGROUPS ADDRESS.

There are now four new lists: jcscclist@jcscc.org for the entire membership list jcsccboard@jcscc.org for Board members bimensclub@jcscc.org for men's club members bisisterhood@jcscc.org for sisterhood members

You must be a member of the list in order to send to it. For example, if someone is a member of the jcscclist only, they can send mail to that list but no others. Of course, people can be members of more than one list; for example, a sisterhood member who is also a member of the Temple would be able to access both bisisterhood@jcscc.org and jcscclist@jcscc.org.

Dick Marshall is the administrator of the four groups we have created (board, temple, mensclub and sisterhood). There is NO subscription procedure as there was in yahoogroups. If someone should be added to a list, Dick will be the one to add them to jcscclist and jcsccboard, Paul Grossman for bimensclub and Nina Malinak for bisisterhood.

Thank you, Dick, and our list editors Nina and Paul and those who have offered to help as list editors. We would also like to thank Joanne Sudman for directing us to the new service. Hopefully this will solve our email list problems. I hope our members will keep this page next to their computers for future reference. IN THIS ISSUE

| ASK THE RABBI           | 14 |
|-------------------------|----|
| BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES | 13 |
| CALENDAR OF EVENTS      | 10 |
| CONTRIBUTIONS           | 15 |
| JUDAIC/ARTS COMM.       | 8  |
| LIBRARY NEWS            | 9  |
| MEMBERSHP               | 6  |
| MEN'S CLUB              | 16 |
| ONEG SPONSORS           | 11 |
| PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE     | 3  |
| PROGRAM                 | 6  |
| RABBI'S DESK            | 2  |
| RITUAL                  | 7  |
| SISTERHOOD              | 11 |
| TRIBUTE CARDS           | 13 |
| WAYS & MEANS            | 12 |
| WEBSITE 101             | 8  |
| YAHRZEITS               | 17 |
|                         |    |

# Shalom News

Published monthly by Beth Israel The Jewish Congregation Editor Delyse Axinn (813) 633-2548 E-mail ShalomNews@jcscc.org Web www.jcscc.org Beth Israel, The Jewish Congregation of Sun

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# FROM THE RABBI'S DESK



When you receive this, we will be days away from Rosh Hodesh Kislev, the beginning of the month of Kislev, the month in which Chanukah occurs. Some of my rabbinical colleagues, male and female, will be travelling to Israel for that occasion, to express solidarity with the Women of the Wall, the group that has, by its insistent presence at the Western Wall at the beginning of each Hebrew calendar month, forced the Israeli government to accommodate non-Orthodox prayer at that holy site. The rabbis will pray with the WoW group, and meet with various Israelis to demonstrate support for egalitarian worship. Perhaps Beth Israel's trip to Israel will coincide with Rosh Hodesh next October, and we can also be part of this moving experience.

Rosh Hodesh Kislev will occur on November 3 (and 4...the Hebrew calendar is very complicated!) which is unusual, since Kislev usually occurs in December, and on rare occasions, it spills into January. But as everyone must by now know, Chanukah will actually begin the evening before Thanksgiving, and that is not going to happen again for something like 70,000 years. This has given rise to all sorts of clever and silly ideas, including a chanukiyah made to look like turkey feathers, and a recipe for brining turkey in Manischewitz sweet wine. We can expect to see latkes on the table along with the sweet potatoes and marsh-mallows (and next year, everyone will want latkes with their turkey again...thus will a new tradition arise). Latkes and cranberry sauce, anyone?

Chanukah already receives more attention than it truly merits, because it often coincides with that other December holiday. By Jewish standards, Chanukah is a minor holiday, because it celebrates events which took place after the Torah was canonized. Other than the Shabbat which occurs (sometimes twice) during the eight days, there is no requirement to stop working during Chanukah, a sure sign that it is not a holy day but a holiday.

There is some evidence in the Talmud to suggest that Chanukah was not widely celebrated just a couple of hundred years after the Maccabean revolt. The great sages Hillel and Shammai (early first century CE) debated how to light the candles, and as usual, Hillel's idea prevailed, so that we light more candles each successive night. Until that time, it seems that Chanukah was mainly a celebration of the surprising victory of the Maccabees over the Seleucid Greeks. But the rabbis, reluctant to disturb the status quo with the current occupying forces of Rome, chose to refocus the holiday on the miracle of the little jug of oil, making it a celebration of spiritual triumph, not a military one.

In truth, the Maccabees fought probably the first battle for religious freedom. Everywhere the conquering Greeks went, they imposed the Greek religion on the peoples they defeated. But originally when Alexander the Great conquered Judea in the 4<sup>th</sup> century BCE, he allowed the Judeans to practise their own religion, as long as they paid their taxes and otherwise complied with Greek rule. But Alexander died soon afterward, and his empire was divided between two factions, each of which claimed Judea as its own; the Seleucids won that war and increasingly withdrew the rights of the Jews to worship in their own way. The Maccabean victory in 165 BCE resulted in an autonomous Jewish state, but that lasted only about a century, during which time the Maccabees lost the support of the people because of rampant corruption, so that, when the Romans defeated the Greeks in Syria in 63 BCE, they took Judea as well with little resistance. Jews did not enjoy control of that land again until the State of Israel was created.

In Jerusalem today there is a street called 29<sup>th</sup> of November (Kaf-Tet b'november), in honour of the day on which the United Nations held the famous vote which created the State of Israel in 1947. It is an amazing thing that this year, the 29<sup>th</sup> of November will be the second day of Chanukah, bringing the origin of the Maccabean Jewish state and the origin of the modern Jewish state together in a most unlikely alignment. Since it won't happen again for thousands of years, we must make the most of this occasion!

# **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



ELLEN STEIN

Now that Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, Sukkot, Shemini Atzeret AND Simchat Torah have passed, we have just completed a month with no Jewish holidays (except for Rosh Chodesh). Can you believe it? Not until Chanukah at the end of this month (very early this year) can we anticipate another celebration. So now we are given time to reflect on vows and assignations made and the bad we have promised to turn into good. If it didn't work the first time 'round, God has given us another chance to get it right. And GET IT RIGHT we must! Time to turn pessimism into optimism - see the glass half full. Jean Anouilh (French dramatist, 1910-1987) said, "Beauty is one of the rare things that do not lead to doubt of God". How wonderful it would be if we learned to see the beauty in all things, to create a good out of every evil, to use words like assure, confirm and agree rather than their antonyms. Optimism and pessimism are both based on assumptions that things will play out in certain ways. Yet people who are able to tolerate the ambiguity of uncertain outcomes are able to assimilate facts AND faith at the same time. While optimism is usually connected to certain outcomes, it can be faith in God, faith in yourself or just a general feeling that the world tilts toward the greater good. It's a belief that things eventually work out OK, even if the process is messy and you don't know what OK is going to look like. Embracing ambiguity is hard for us humans. The optimists and the pessimists may seem sure of their perspectives, but the truth is, nobody knows for sure how life will play out. Perhaps it is better not being able to tell what's coming. Wikipedia defines ambiguity as expressing yourself with more than one interpretation. In other words, some words are open to vagueness by having two meanings, which leads to the possibility of two different ways to interpret what someone is saying. Oy vey! So now we have to deal with the other issue of how we hear and interpret things; or what he or she said is not what I thought he or she actually said. The point is we just never know. Life is uncertain and continues to throw us unexpected curve balls. We might as well get used to the idea of ambiguity. Perhaps we can unlock our minds from one track thinking and expand our possibilities. "Take advantage of the ambiguity in the world. Look at something and think what else it might be." (Roger van Oech, 1948-. American speaker, author and toy-maker). It has become apparent that the time has come for us to think seriously about following up on those of our members who are still in need of some kind of assistance following or during an incapacitation. Many of our congregants who have been visited in hospitals or rehab centers are not followed up on when they are either recuperating or suffering an ongoing illness. If you are interested in becoming an angel to those in need of this kind of assistance. please let me know and I will direct you to the proper person. Call me at 813-633-0134 or e-mail at ellennstein@yahoo.com.

Until we meet again, may the lights of Chanukah usher in a better world for all mankind.



# SISTERHOOD'S OPENING MEETING

New Sisterhood members were introduced and welcomed at the opening Sisterhood meeting on October 1st. It was a very well attended meeting (with 50+ members in attendance) and Rabbi Carla's presentation about "The Women of the Wall" was quite informative.

The new members in the photo from left to right are: Ronni Neckes, Carol Katz, Joanne Natbony, Barbara Bauman, Debbie Earley, Wilma Levine, Joy Rosen, Myra Rudin, Susan Linke and Addie Unterlack.

#### YOUR BOARD IS PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

#### By: Bob Cobe - Past President

At the October Board meeting the Budget Committee proposed next year's budget with a \$12 increase to cover the increasing operating expenses that the Temple is experiencing.

This well thought out operational budget projects the revenue needed to pay the expected expenses over the next 12 months

But the Board just had a wakeup call as to some impending costs of our aging Temple when 1 of our 5 air conditioners had to be replaced at a cost just over \$6000. And 2 of those remaining are 15 years old and the other 2 are 13 years old. While the roof of the Sanctuary was replaced 4 years ago, the roof on the Henry Gibson Social Hall is now 13 years old. And depending on how long it takes before these air conditioners die or the roof leaks, the replacement costs for these major items will cost up to \$42,000 within a very few years.

And we have serious additional problems that need to be addressed:

\*The 4 large windows in front of the Social Hall possibly need to be removed and then reinstalled to allow the sills on which they rest to be replaced and the rotted wood beneath them repaired.

\*A roof leak in the northwest corner of the Hall needs to be repaired before further damage is done.

\*Safety posts need to be installed in front of the 5 air conditioners to protect them from someone possibly driving into them and destroying \$30,000 worth of property.

\*Perimeter lighting in the Sanctuary is uneven and unattractive and needs to be fixed.

\*And the list goes on.....

Our wonderful Temple is looking old and tired, because it is old and tired.

Virtually nothing has been done for at least 13 years in the Social Hall and possibly 25 years in the Sanctuary. At the very least the inside needs to be painted and the outside as well. Better noise reduction in the Social Hall is badly needed. And this list goes on....

While we do have money in our treasury other than some restrictive dedicated funds, here is how it breaks down. We have around \$90,000 in our "General Fund" which has accumulated cash through donations and occasional budget surpluses from the past 26 years. It is also used to cover any budget shortfalls, which also happen occasionally. Unfortunately, there have been no recent budget surplus additions and all donations are used just to balance the budget. An amount of \$21,000 was left a few years ago by a past member, Marvin Lee, which comprises almost a quarter of that total. But since no more gifts seem to be coming, when the money from this fund is spent, it may possibly be gone forever and not replaceable.

The "Maintenance and Improvement Fund" now has around \$57,000 after \$30,000 was just used to finally improve our parking lot. This fund will be replenished by the new member's obligation to this fund of \$70 per year for 5 years. But let's look at that.

Assuming we have 20 new members a year, they would generate only \$1400 each year.

Just to replace the \$30,000 spent on the parking lot with \$1400 will take over 21 years. And the upcoming possible \$42,000 to replace the 4 air conditioners and the Social Hall roof will take 30 years of \$1400 increments.

So the Board reasoned that just by raising the dues of our 275 members by another \$20 per year, this would add an additional \$5500 to the Maintenance and Improvement Fund. The yearly total going into this fund would now be \$6900. So the \$30,000 parking lot cost could be recovered in just 4.3 years instead of 21 years, and the upcoming \$42,000 could be covered in 6 years instead of 30 years. Every

\$10,000 spent will now be covered in less than 1.5 years and not 7.

Are we going to continue to do nothing to our shop worn and tired looking facility, or are we finally going to make some long overdue cosmetic improvements?

Painting the inside of the Temple will cost almost \$8000; the outside almost \$5000.

Carpet tiles or new vinyl flooring in the Social Hall will cost over \$15,000; new carpet in the Sanctuary around \$7000. What will better noise reduction in the Social Hall cost? Who knows what new lighting in the Sanctuary might cost? And this list also goes on......

Are we going to try to expand? While we can't even begin to guess what the costs might be at this time, we know that it will take a lot of money. The bottom line is that we are going to need money. The Board wisely voted this additional \$20 increase agreeing that it is time to prepare for our future and not just the coming year.

Your \$250 per person annual Temple dues is still the "bargain of the year" and the lowest Temple dues that I have ever heard mentioned. Who among us paid only \$250 for their Temple dues "up north"?





MANY THANKS TO NINA MALINAK FOR THESE WONDERFUL PICTURES OF OUR SIMCHAT TORAH CELEBRATION. RABBI CARLA FREEDMAN IS SHOWN READING FROM THE TORAH THAT HAD BEEN COMPLETELY UNROLLED AND HELD BY THOSE PRESENT. AFTER READING THE LAST SENTENCES OF DEVARIM SHE IMMEDIATELY STARTED READING FROM BERESHIT, AND THE TORAH WAS THEN RE-ROLLED, DRESSED AND RETURNED TO THE ARK. WHAT A JOYOUS OCCASION THIS WAS!





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# PROGRAM DIRECTOR CHERYL KAPLAN

Beginning Hebrew has started and is an ongoing class for Beth Israel, facilitated by our Rabbi Carla. We meet on Tuesdays at 1:00 - 2:30 PM in the social hall of the temple. If you have not attended this class, please come and join us.

We will be having a Shabbat Dinner on November 15, 2013 in the social hall before services. It will be a potluck dinner and the theme will be *Italian*.Dairy, pasta and/or vegetarian dishes will be served. A flyer will be sent out closer to the date for you to make a reservation and tell me what dish for 8 people you will be bringing, but please mark your calendars.

Mark your calendars for January 13 and 14, 2014 for our Scholar In Residence. The Rev. Dr. Carol Johannsen will be talking to us about Aging and Spirituality. This will be an exciting program that will get you thinking and is certainly not anything we have experienced in the past. Please plan on attending. More information will follow by email.

The plan for our trip to Israel is going forward and I will announce a meeting to discuss the particulars of the trip in the near future. Please watch your email for the information on the trip.

If you have any questions or programs you would like to see and help run, please let me know.

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BRAND NEW

# MEMBERSHIP REPORT Shelly Grossman & Sandy Abramson Co-Directors

Since last month, a couple of events have occurred. The first day of autumn has passed, and we notice that the days are shorter, and somewhat cooler. The other is that on Sunday, Oct. 13, we had our Prospective and New Member Brunch. We had 8 very enthusiastic potential new members and 18 of our newest members.

After the Rabbi said the h'motzi, we all enjoyed a wonderful brunch, while getting to know each other better. The prospective new members then took a tour of our sanctuary and lovely gift shop.

Our first Shabbat Dinner of the New Year, was a resounding success. We have some of the best cooks in Sun City Center!! The food was terrific and the variety was amazing.. A good time and full stomachs made a very enjoyable night.

So sorry.... Omitted from last months list of returning members are Addie and David Unterlack. Welcome back!

# NEW MEMBER

We welcome the following new member to Beth Israel. Please add her information to your membership directory and welcome her when you see her:

Harriet Seckel

1041 Emerald Dunes Dr.

Sun City Center, FL 33573

813 734-8902

Harriet1-41@ymail.com

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# RITUAL DIRECTOR FRED LEVINE



After celebrating Rosh Hashanah two days after Labor Day, and having Yom Kippur and Sukkot over before the start of October, you may be wondering what is going on with the Jewish calendar this year. Well, it gets even stranger. If you look ahead to November, you'll notice that the first night of Chanukah falls on erev Thanksgiving!!! Why is this happening?

Let's remember that the Hebrew calendar is a lunar calendar, based on a twelve month year that is regulated by the cycles of the moon around the earth. Our secular calendar is a solar calendar which is based on the movement of the earth around the sun. Since the solar year is longer than the lunar year, it is expected that the Jewish holidays will occur on different dates from one year to the next.

Each Hebrew month begins with the new moon, an event we celebrate as Rosh Chodesh. Hebrew months are either twenty-nine (29) or thirty (30) days long, so each year of the Hebrew calendar lasts precisely three hundred and fifty four (354) days in total. This discrepancy between the three hundred and sixty-five (365) days of the secular calendar and the shorter Hebrew calendar year is compensated for by periodically adding an additional month, called Adar II, to the calendar to lengthen the number of days in that particular year. Adar II occurs in the springs after Adar I, seven times in each nineteen year period.

Therefore, every so often, the two calendars fall significantly out of alignment just before the appearance of another leap year, which is what happened this year. Hence, the big discrepancy between the secular and Hebrew calendar.

This year, however, something even stranger is going on because the first day of Chanukah and Thanksgiving never occurred on the same day before, and it will never happen again. Thanksgiving was established as a formal national holiday by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 and was set as the fourth Thursday in November, which means the latest it can fall is November 28<sup>th</sup>. The earliest date Chanukah can occur, according to the Hebrew calendar is also on November 28<sup>th</sup>. The last time Chanukah occurred on that date was 1861, before Thanksgiving was an established American holiday.

In the future, the earliest that Chanukah can occur will be on November 29<sup>th</sup> because the Hebrew calendar is drifting forward to compensate for the fact that it is very slowly getting out of sync with the solar calendar by the rate of four days every one thousand years. To bring the two calendar systems into alignment, holidays are slowly drifting forward. Therefore, as it turns out, the next (and last) time that Chanukah can fall on November 28<sup>th</sup> is in the year 2146, one hundred and thirty-three (133) years from now, and that just happens to be on a Monday.

Therefore, if the occurrence of early Jewish holidays really bothers you, don't worry, because you won't have to put up with it again. Meanwhile, enjoy all of the holidays, regardless of when they occur.

# Are You Interested In Being Part Of A Havurah!!!

The word havurah comes from the Hebrew word "haver", meaning friend. A havurah is a small circle of friends who share your values and interests. They will become your extended family within the greater synagogue community. Your "haverim" (friends) will be there to rejoice with you in times of happiness and support you in times of difficulty. If you choose to join a havurah, it will become a wonderful way to experience the warmth and support of a close-knit community. It's an opportunity to develop friendships with individuals and/or couples who share similar interests by creating an extended family. Your group might enjoy an evening out to dinner or the theater in addition to meeting monthly at a member's home. There is no end to the variety of activities in which havurot can participate. Your havurah will enrich every aspect of your Jewish life.

Beth Israel currently has 3 very successful havurah groups. If you are interested in learning more about havurat or in finding a havurah to join, contact Carol Balent at monkeyandwife@yahoo.com, 813 829-7227.

# Website 101 Update – October 2013

The following new additions have been made: Under the drop down Worship tab there is now information following Holidays which briefly describes each holiday and is accompanied by Beth Israel photos where available.

An introduction to the Archives section has been posted and may be found under the Community tab Library as well through the link to the Library in the Sisterhood section.

A review of the number of times the website has been viewed indicates that the number of visits continues to increase.

# Beth Israel now has a JUDAIC/ETHNIC ARTS COMMITTEE

People who are downsizing, entering retirement facilities or moving away often seek special disposal of treasured, religious or ethnic paintings, tapestries, jewelry, sculptures, etc.

If the job is left to family, please let them know that you'd like unwanted Judaic/ Ethnic items donated to the Temple. (If the Committee feels it cannot properly handle them, they may be refused.)

Committee Members Bob Cobe, Lynn Safian, Joan Kramer Chairperson, Charna Bogdany 633-1159

# **REMEMBRANCE GIFTS**

If you are thinking of a way to remember a loved one, don't forget our Memorial plaques or Bricks at the Meditation Garden. Call the office at 634-2590 and leave a message.

The cost of each of these items is as follows

Prayer Book \$ 30.00 Leaf on Tree of Life \$75.00 Plaque on Tree of Life \$250.00 Chair Plaque \$50.00 Memorial Plaque - Members \$225.00 Non-members \$275.00 Bricks at Meditation Garden \$75.00

# **Beth Israel Library News**



NOVEMBER, 2013

# New Additions with Recommendations:

**Once We Were Brothers** by Ronald Balson, a practicing trial attorney, is a blend of intrigue, court-room drama involving the accused, the accuser, and the lawyers. This legal thriller takes place in Chicago and Zamosc, Poland. (Historical **FIC**tion)

**Miriam's Kitchen** by Elizabeth Erlich. This is a wonderful memoir that blends recipes and food reminiscences with family narratives and observations about the author's personal evolution as a Jew. It is a warm, sometimes humorous, sometimes sad, loving story that reminds the reader of tradition, history, and family dynamics.

# **Coming in November**

# The Second Annual Frances Freedman Cookbook Extravaganza

# Monday, November 18 – 10:00-12:00

- Check out a cookbook from the library
- Find a traditional recipe to prepare

Bring it to share with 8 others

We'll talk about cookbooks, kibbitz, reminisce, laugh over stories, remember Frances Freedman and enjoy a potluck brunch.

RSVP if you plan to attend bac.cobe@gmail.com

**Prayer Books for Disposal may be left in the Genizah basket in the foyer.** All other books may be left in the Donations Basket in the Henry Gibson Social Hall near the Library Sign-Out and Book Return Basket.

Next Library/Archive Committee Meeting

Monday, December 16, 2013, 10-12

Author I. Betty <u>Grebenschikoff</u> – <u>Once My Name</u> <u>Was Sarah – A Memoir</u> from Shanghai

Thanks for supporting our Library! Cyrille Cobe

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| November 2013   | er 2013  |  |  |                      |  |                                 |    |
|---|--|--|--|----------------------|--|---------------------------------|----|
| Sun   | Man  | Tue  | Wed  | Thu                  | Fri  | Sat                             |    |
| SHABBAT SERVICES WILL BE LED E<br>AT 730 PM AND ON THE 2ND & 4TH<br>VICE, SHE ALSO LEADS TORAH STI<br>WILL BE LED BY PAUL GROSSMAN. | SHABBAT SERVICES WILL BE LED BY RABBI CARLA FREEDMAN EVERY FRIDAY EVENING<br>AT 730 PM AND ON THE 2ND & 4TH SATURDAY AT 1000 AM. WHEN RABBI LEADS AM SER-<br>VICE, SHE ALSO LEAD\$ TORAH STUDY. ON ALTERNATE SATURDAYS, TORAH STUDY<br>WILL BE LED BY PAUL GROSSMAN. | ARLA FREEDMAN EVE<br>/ AT 1000 AM. WHEN R/<br>LTERNATE SATURDAYS | RY FRIDAY EVENING<br>ABBI LEADS AM SER-<br>, TORAH STUDY |                      | 1<br>7.30 PM Shabbat Service                           | 2<br>12 N Tarah Study<br>TOLDOT |    |
| ω   | 4  | 5  | 5  | 7                    | 8  | 9                               |    |
|   |  | 1 PM Hebrew class  | 1 PM Canasta   | 10 AM Jewish History | 7:30 PM Shabbat Service                                | 10 AM Shabbat Service           |    |
|   |  |  |  | 1 PM Mah Jongg       |  | 12 N Torah Study<br>VAYETZE     | 10 |
| 10  | =  | 12   | 13   | 14                   | 12   | 16                              |    |
| 10:30 Bagels & Discovery  |  | 12 N Sisterhood paid up lunch<br>7 PM Board Meeting              | 10 AM Men's Club Board Mtg<br>1 PM Canasta               | 1 PM Mah Jongg       | 6 PM Potluck Shabbat Dinner<br>7:30 PM Shabbat Service | 12 N Torah Study                |    |
| 3   | Ō  | ā  | 90   | 2                    | 77   | VAYISHLALH<br>72                | -  |
| 2:00 Movies & Bissel Nosh   | 10 AM Library Committee  | <b>11 AM Healing Service</b>                                     | 12 PM Men's Club Meeting                                 | 1 PM Mah Jongg       | 7:30 PM Shabbat Service                                | 10 AM Shabbat Service           |    |
|   | 10 - 12 Gift Shop Open   | 1 PM Hebrew Class  |  |                      |  | 12 N Torah Study<br>VAYESHEV    |    |
| 24  | 25   | 26   | 27   | 28                   | 29   | 30                              |    |
|   |  | 9:30 AM Sisterhood Board   | l PM Canasta   | THANKSGIVING         | 7:30 PM Shabbat Service                                | 12 N Torah Study                |    |
|   |  | 1PM Hebrew class   | <b>IST CHANUKAH CANDLE</b>                               | ZND CANDLE           | 3RD CANDLE   | 4 TH CANDLE                     |    |
|   |  |  |  |                      |  | MIKETZ                          | -  |



Spotlight on

Sisterhood

SANDRA HURWITZ, PRESIDENT

# BETH ISRAEL SISTERHOOD CALENDAR 2013-2014 SEASON

October 1, 2013 – Opening meeting with guest speaker Rabbi Carla Freedman in the Henry Gibson Social Hall at 1 pm.

November 12, 2013 – Paid-up members luncheon in the Henry Gibson Social Hall at noon.

December 1, 2013 – Hanukkah Party with Men's Club. Location and time to be announced at a later date.

January 7, 2014 – Regular meeting with guest speaker on health improvement in the Henry Gibson Social Hall at 1 pm.

February 4, 2014 – BINGO fundraiser in the Henry Gibson Social Hall at 1 pm

March 4, 2014 – Sisterhood trip to the Tampa Bay History Museum with lunch out (at your own expense). More details to follow.

April 1, 2014 – Women's Seder in the Henry Gibson Social Hall at noon.

May 6, 2014 – Closing brunch in the Henry Gibson Social Hall at 11 am

# HELP WANTED

ARE YOU AN OUTGOING FRIENDLY PERSON WHO WOULD LIKE TO HELP ENSURE THAT SHALOM NEWS WILL CONTINUE?

IN ORDER TO HELP CURTAIL THE HIGH COSTS IN-CURRED TO PRODUCE SHALOM NEWS EACH MONTH, IT IS NECESSARY TO HAVE ADVERTISERS. IF YOU ARE WILLING TO CONTACT AREA MER-CHANTS TO ADVERTISE IN OUR NEWSLETTER, PLEASE

CONTACT DELYSE AXINN (813) 633-2548,

# ONEGS SHABBAT Oneg Shabbat Chairperson Lyn Safian (634-6013) *lynleestep@mac.com*

Our thanks to those people who sponsor Onegs. Supporting an Oneg Shabbat is a mitzvah. If each member would sponsor just one Oneg a year, our calendar would be full.

Please check the Oneg Shabbat list on the bulletin board and sign up to celebrate your special occasion. If you want information about sponsoring an Oneg, please contact the chairperson.

The committee is willing to shop only for those members who are physically unable to shop for themselves. Thanks for your participation. Also, if you have just signed up, please call the chairperson to confirm the date.

Oct. 25 Tom Goldman - his birthday

Nov. 1 - TBD

Nov. 8 - Ellen Stein - Yahrzeit of mother and father

Nov. 15 - Myra and Harold Rudin - their anniversary

Nov. 22 Shelley and Paul Grossman - their birthdays and anniversary

Nov. 29 - Men's Club

# Don't Forget....

# Beth Israel's

Judaica Gift Shop and Judaica Library

Is open from 1000 AM – 1200 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday morning of every month

For congregants and the community

Shop for gifts and borrow books





# Ways and Means Carol Balent, Director

The Ways and Means committee has been busy planning our next exciting fund-raiser for the year 2014.

# Beth Israel presents "A NIGHT AT THE RACES"

# SAVE THE DATE

Sunday May 4, 2014 @ 430pm LOCATION Community Hall 1910 S. Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City Center, Fl 33573

You will receive further information via email.

Last year we requested donations of wine, liquor, and any *new* item/items that you have no use for. Our Temple family came through for us in an incredible way. Once again, Ways and Means needs your help. We will not turn down any type of donation as long as it is brand new.

It's not too early to bring your donations to the Temple. Please leave all items in the office marked Carol Balent.

# RUMMAGE SALE

February 9, 10, 11, 2014

Thank you to all members that supported the Bob Evans fundraiser. I would also like to thank Sheila Rubenstein for purchasing an item from the wish list.

# TRIBUTE CARDS

CALL Verdna Kelley at 677-3017, email vjk2338@ij.net or call Eve Gilbert at 642-0707.

Send donation checks to Verdna at

10353 Mercadier Lane, Riverview, FL 33578-

# GET WELL

Pearl Moss from Bob & Lil Solin Bob Rubin from Bob & Tzippora Whiteman Barbara Millstein from Ted Stockel, Bob & Cyrille Cobe Marlene Torma from Bob & Cyrille Cobe Dale Schindler from Jacqueline Schindler Holly Slamowitz from Jacqueline Schindler

# **CONDOLENCES**

Dick & Robin Kitzmiller in memory of their son, Ricky, from Bob & Cyrille Cobe, Bob & Lil Solin Sally Rose & Family in memory of their beloved Dr. Ernst Rose, from Bob & Tzipporah Whiteman, Bob & Cyrille Cobe, Joe & Ann Graff

# MAZEL TOV

**Bob & Idalea Rubin** on moving into a new home from Bob & Lil Solin **Joe & Ann Graff** on the birth of their greatgranddaughter, Abigail, from Bob & Cyrille Cobe

# BIRTHDAY

Cyrille Cobe from Nelson & Ida Grimm

# **CONDOLENCES**

We mourn the passing in September of two of our Beth Israel members.

Bertram Fendrick passed away on September 23. Our condolences to his family and friends.

Dr. Ernst Rose passed away on September 30. Our sincere sympathy to his wife Sally and family.

# MAY THEIR MEMORIES BE FOR BLESSING



Nov 01 Joel Sietz Nov 01 Sheri Tanne Nov 07 Paul Grossman Nov 07 Thea Silverstein Nov 08 Phyllis Taylor Nov 10 Tess Silverman Nov 11 Gregory Balent Nov 11 Alice Worth Nov 12 Richard Kravitz Nov 14 Trudy Burkey Nov 16 Marion Sharkey Nov 18 Tony Carrion Nov 19 Ellen Offenbach Nov 23David Markowitz Nov 24 Linda Greenfield Nov 25 Butch Cohen Nov 25 Annette Friedman Nov 25 Stanley Zirofsky Nov 28 Shelly Grossman

# Congratulations to the following couples who are celebrating anniversaries this month

- Nov 02 Bernard & Arlene Cohen
- Nov 10 Donald & Sandy Zion
- Nov 15 Sherwood & Gloria Rubin
- Nov 19 Herbert & Sharon Berman
- Nov 24 Harold & Myra Rudin
- Nov 24 Alan & Trina Ryan
- Nov 26 Jeffrey & Diane Rosenfeld





Good luck in your new home to Bob and Idalea Rubin 819 Freedom Plaza Cr. #104, Bldg 10, Sun City Center, FL

Also please make the following changes in your membership directory:

Larry & Naomi Foreman, change apartment number to 203 Betty & Art Sarlin's email is Bsarlin@tampabay.rr.com

# ASK THE RABBI



*Question*: During The High Holy Days, you mentioned in a sermon that you support the idea of organ donation. Is this concept approved of by Orthodox Jews or is it something that only Reform Jews approve of?

*Answer:* The idea of organ donation is that a healthy organ (heart, lungs, kidneys, liver) can be taken from a corpse and transplanted into a living person who would not, without such a transplant, survive. It is perhaps the most extreme way in which we can fulfil the religious obligation (mitzvah) of saving a life.

The concept of saving a life is so important in Jewish values that one is permitted to violate the Sabbath to do so.

Thus, today there are Orthodox authorities who permit the donation of organs to save lives. The Reform movement goes just a bit further, also approving of cornea transplants, which Orthodox authorities do not permit since the procedure might result in a better quality of life for the recipient, but that person's life is not at risk without the transplant.

The lists of candidates for organ transplants are very long, and it is not uncommon for patients to die before their turn arrives and a match is found. So it would be a great thing if we could offer our useable parts to give someone a second chance at a meaningful life.

I carry a card in my wallet that identifies me as an organ donor, and my brand-new Florida driver's license also says that right under the mug shot.

And I encourage everyone to join me in planning to fulfil this final mitzvah.



# WOMEN OF THE WALL TALLIT

During our Worship 101 class on Wednesday, October 2, 2013, the conversation turned to women in the congregation wearing a tallit. A suggestion was made to purchase a tallit from the Women of the Wall for our congregation. Barbara Aspis will begin accepting donations to purchase a tallit for our Beth Israel women. If you would like to donate, please make your checks out to Beth Israel and send them to Barbara at her home, 2415 Emerald Lakes Dr. Apt 201, Sun City Center, FL 33573. If you have questions concerning this, please send Barbara an email at <u>rbabxtwo@gmail.com</u>.

The central mission of Women of the Wall, is to achieve the social and legal recognition of their right, as women, to wear prayer shawls, pray, and read from the Torah collectively and out loud at the Western Wall, While Women of the Wall understands that women may not be obligated to wear tallitot, they are certainly not forbidden to so.

# Tallit Description:

The corners of the Tallit are embroidered with the names and graphic representations of the four matriarchs: Sarah, Rebecca, Leah and Rachel.

# SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

# As of October 14, 2013

#### Reported by Elizabeth Jacobs, Treasurer, and Paul Grossman, Financial Secretary

We appreciate the thoughtfulness of those who remember and honor their friends and loved ones through their generous contribu-

# General Operating Fund Barbara Aspis

Barbara & Michael Bauman June & Nate Bell Nina Block **Doreen Carrion** Butch & Judi Cohen Bob & Janet Corin **Debrah Earley** Mel & Marsha Fader Arnold Greenstein Shelly & Paul Grossman Shelly & Paul Grossman Richard & Barbara Grossman Lewis Konigsberg **Dick Kravitz** Rochelle & Bill Lafer Rochelle & Bill Lafer Nina Malinak **Richard & Marsha Marshall** Lawrence Martasin Jerome & Barbara Millstein Ronni & Mark Neckes **Diana Raphael Doris Richman Doris Richman** Gloria & Sherwood Rubin **Theodore Stockel** Martha Terry Cookie Weisman Women of Shalom Havarah Judy & Stan Zirofsky

Chair plaque in memory of Ricky Kitzmiller, son of Robin & Dick Kitzmiller In memory of Richard Komisser, father of Barbara In support of Charna's Kitchen Fund In memory of Bernard Block, father of Nina In memory of Israel Jack Green, father of Doreen In memory of Edythe Cohen, mother of Butch In memory of Benjamin Corin, father of Bob In support of Beth Israel In appreciation for Bimah honors In memory of Sydelle Greenstein, wife of Arnold In memory of George Kronen, father of Shelly In memory of Adam Kronen, nephew of Shelly & Paul In memory of Henry Grossman, father of Richard In memory of David Gross, father-in-law of Lewis In memory of Morris Kravitz, father of Dick In support of Charna's Kitchen Fund In memory of Ricky Kitzmiller, son of Robin & Dick Kitzmiller In memory of Elinore Malinak, mother of Nina In memory of Ricky Kitzmiller, son of Robin & Dick Kitzmiller In memory of Dave Martasin, father of Lawrence In memory of William Millstein, father of Jerome In memory of Bertha Green, grandmother of Ronni In memory of Delia Cruz, mother of Diana In memory of Benjamin Abramson, father of Doris In memory of Harry Richman, father-in-law of Doris In memory of Evelyn Paper, mother of Gloria In memory of Lloyd Stockel, twin brother of Theodore In support of Charna's Kitchen Fund In memory of Selma Goldberger, mother of Cookie Towards Wish List purchase of new printer In appreciation of Bimah honors and Shemini Azereth viskor service

# DIRECTED GIVING

This is the list of the funds which were set up to help ensure that your donations are put to use in the area of your choice. When making contributions to Beth Israel, the Jewish Congregation, whether it be for a Yahrzeit, a mitzvah, or for any other reason, please specify the fund (or funds) to which you would like your donation directed. Undesignated donations will go to the General Operating Fund.

GENERAL OPERATING FUND for a wide variety of operating needs

MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT FUND for ongoing Temple maintenance and improvements FURMAN/LEE FAMILY MEMORIAL/RABBI FUND for the generation of income to defray Rabbi's expenses CANTOR FUND for the generation of income to defray the Cantorial Soloist's expenses

JANE FISHMAN KITCHEN FUND for kitchen improvements

PRESIDENT'S DISCRETIONARY FUND for assistance of community and individual needs

ARTHUR & SELMA PELLEGRINO STAINED GLASS WINDOW FUND for the addition of stained glass windows to the Henry Gibson Social Hall

CHAPLAIN EDUCATION FUND for providing educational opportunities

SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE FUND for a weekend seminar

# **MEN'S CLUB REPORT**

# Paul Grossman – President



Many applications from both renewing and new members, along with \$18 checks for membership dues, were received in October. If you haven't sent yours in yet, please consider doing so, this month.

This month we have three activities planned.

# Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 AM – Bagels & Discovery

Our speaker for this program is Russ Kavala, President of South Shore Toastmasters, and past president of Federation of Zorastrian Association of North America. Russ will speak, on Iran (Persia) past & present. Emphasis will be on the history of Jews in Persia/Iran. Do plan on joining us that Sunday. <u>All members of Beth Israel Men's Club, Sisterhood, and Beth Israel congregation and their guests are welcome to attend.</u> RSVP's are a must, so if you haven't already done so, please respond to Steve Blesofsky, at 813-634-6013 or <u>lynleestep@mac.com</u>, by November 5<sup>th</sup>. The cost is \$7 per attendee, and can be paid at the door. If possible, please have checks made out in advance to Beth Israel Men's Club and bring it with you

# Wednesday, November 20, 2013, at 12 PM

Our speaker for this program is Col. James Prebitere, with the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Department. Col. Pebitere will cover discuss such subjects as crime trends in our area, legalization of marijuana, prescription drug abuse, and other topical issues. We will be offering pizza for lunch, with a cost of \$6. Please RSVP to me at 813-634-8092 or

# pinchas2@aol.com.

**Friday, November 29, 2013** – your Men's Club will be participating in bimah honors at Shabbat services and will be hosting the Oneg that evening.

Later this month, in anticipation of our annual membership business meeting in December, all members of the Men's Club will receive an informational packet, containing the agenda, slate of nominees for director positions, and revised bylaw recommendations. The annual membership business meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Dec.18, 2013, at 12 PM. This will be our paid-up members' luncheon. More details will be provided later this month.

Enjoy this autumn, while it lasts.

# **NOVEMBER YAHRZEITS**

Yahrzeits are read at the Shabbat Service on the date listed which includes the yahrzeits for the following week-Friday through Thursday.

#### **NOVEMBER 1, 2013**

MARION ARNOLD, Mother of BRUCE ARNOLD DOROTHY LEVINE, Mother of SHIRLEY BERGMAN HERBERT BLOCK, Brother of NINA BLOCK LEE DAIN, Wife of MARTIN DAIN ROBERT GORDON, Husband of LYNNE GORDON ANDERS ERIKSSON, Father of ROLAND REUTERFORS FRANCES (Cookie) RUBIN, Late Wife of ROBERT RUBIN SOPHIA LEFF, Mother of ELLEN STEIN BARRY ZION, Father of DON ZION MEYER BOCHNER

#### **NOVEMBER 8, 2013**

SAMUEL KIERMAN, Father of BARBARA ASPIS MORRIS GOLDBERG, Father of ROBERT GOLDBERG SYLVIA HURWITZ, Mother of MARTIN HURWITZ MARC JASON ROSEN, Son of NEAL & JOY ROSEN ARNOLD SPIEGAL, Brother of PAUL SPIEGAL NATHAN NEITLICH, Father of ELLEN STEIN BENJAMIN ZELIGMAN, Father of JOSEPH ZELIGMAN ANDREW K. ASHER CAROLYN MEADOWS JOSEPH SOBEL MAX LANDAU RUTH ROUTMAN

#### NOVEMBER 15, 2013

DR. VICTOR LEVINE, Family of SANDY ABRAMSON IRWIN LUKIN, Father of GLORIA AUGENSTEIN HILDA MAYE BELL, Mother of NATE BELL MANNY CASHVAN, Brother of HERBERT CASHVAN ANNA KRIPS KAY, Mother of EVELYN DAVID DIANA TURCHIK, Mother-in-law of SIDNEY GOLDSTEIN REBECCA MARSHALL, Mother of RICHARD MARSHALL GLORIA GOLDBERG, Mother of JOY ROSEN SAMUEL SPIEGAL, Father of PAUL SPIEGAL MORRIS SUDMAN, Father of SAM SUDMAN MAX SOBEL MOLLIE DODELL RUTH NATHANSON

#### **NOVEMBER 22, 2013**

FRANCES ABRAMSON, Family of SANDY ABRAMSON SARAH KAGAN, Grandmother of SANDY ABRAMSON ROSE BETH, Mother of ALAN BETH RUTH COBE, Mother of ROBERT COBE SHIRLEY DEBOWSKY, Mother of ARLENE COHEN WILLIAM COHEN, Father of ANDREW COHEN SADIE LAZER, Mother of SHEILA GOLDBERG ETTA KARP, Mother of NORMAN KARP BARBARA SORIN, Sister of RICHARD KRAVITZ BARBARA SORIN, Sister of RICHARD KRAVITZ SADYE ROSNER, Mother of BARBARA MILLSTEIN ARTHUR SHATKIN, Father of SANDEE WHITE HAROLD WEINER, Father of TZIPPORAH WHITEMAN EDITH MOGUL GEORGE BERSON HARRY FERBER MAX WOLFELD NISSIM MORENO

#### **NOVEMBER 29, 2013**

PEARL SCHECTMAN, Sister of RICHARD AXINN HELEN SAPERSTEIN, Mother of ANNETTE FRIEDMAN HAROLD GREENBERG, Father of SAMUEL GREENBERG ROBERT GREENFIELD, Father of ANDREW GREENFIELD J. EDWARD ROSENVAIG, Brother of CHARNA HAIMES ELAINE GASS, Sister of HILDE KLEIN RUTH KLEINMAN, Step-Mother of GERALD KLEINMAN ANNA LOHN. Mother-in-law of JULIA LOHN ARTHUR MARSHALL, Father of RICHARD MARSHALL MOSES MALKIN, Uncle of RICHARD MARSHALL FLORENCE KLOTZ, Sister-in-Law of DORIS RICHMAN ELAINE HAMLIN, Sister of LYN SAFIAN FANNIE FEINBERG, Mother-in-law of SEYMOUR SCHAFFER SOLOMON GITLIN, Uncle of HAROLD TALIN EDNA HIRCH PELLEGRINO **GLADYS WOLFELD** SHIRLEY JONES SHIBI FY SI UTZKY



Charles D. Segal, LFD

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#### CALL AHEAD FOR PICKUP WINDOW

Ruskin / Sun City Center 723 Cypress Village Blvd Ph (813) 633-BEEF (2333) Fax (813)633-8443

# Join us on Sunday, December 1, 2013 at 4 p.m. for the annual Beth Israel Chanukah Party Co-sponsored by Sisterhood & Men's Club of Beth Israel

Enjoy an evening of dining and dancing to the music of the Scott Blum trio

The menu will include beef brisket or roasted chicken or vegetarian option, potato latkes with all the fixings, assorted salads, jelly donuts, wine and cold drinks





Donation : \$20 for members of Beth Israel or Beth Israel Sisterhood or Men's Club \$25 for non-members

For additional information contact Rochelle Lafer at (813) 938-3824

All reservations MUST be prepaid. Please return the form below with your payment by Friday, November 15<sup>th</sup> to: Rochelle Lafer 2247 Oakley Green Drive Sun City Center, Fl. 33573

Reservation for Beth Israel Chanukah Party on Sunday, December 1, 2013

Name\_\_\_\_

Phone number\_\_\_\_\_

Dinner choice: \_\_\_\_\_beef brisket \_\_\_\_\_roasted chicken \_\_\_\_\_vegetarian

Donation: \_\_\_\_\_ members (including spouse) at \$20 per person

\_\_\_\_\_ non-members at \$25 per person

ALL RESERVATIONS MUST BE PREPAID MONEY WILL NOT BE TAKEN AT THE DOOR

#### **CONGREGATION OFFICERS & DIRECTORS**

# Rabbi Carla Freedman

| Ellen Stein          | President                      |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| Dick Kravitz         | 1st Vice President             |
| Arnold Greensteinn   | 2nd Vice President             |
| Elizabeth Jacobs     | Treasurer                      |
| Paul Grossman        | Financial Secretary            |
| Maggi Guzinsky       | <b>Recording Secretary</b>     |
| Nina Malinak         | <b>Corresponding Secretary</b> |
| Delyse Axinn         | Communications                 |
| <b>Richard Axinn</b> | Facilities                     |
| Sandy Abramson       | Co-Membership                  |
| Shelly Grossman      | Co-Membership                  |
| Cheryl Kaplan        | Program                        |
| Fred Levine          | <b>Ritual Director</b>         |
| <b>Carol Balent</b>  | Ways & Means                   |
| Don Zion             | Director-at-Large              |
| Sandra Hurwitz       | President-Sisterhood           |
| Paul Grossman        | President-Mens's Club          |
| Delyse Axinn         | Chaplain                       |
|                      |                                |

Beth Israel is a member of the Sun City Center, South Shore, and Riverview Chambers of Commerce.

BETH ISRAEL THE JEWISH CONGREGATION OF SUN CITY CENTER P. O. BOX 5203 SUN CITY CENTER, FL 33571

# **FIRST CLASS**

