



THE JEWISH CONGREGATION OF SUN CITY CENTER

JANUARY 2018



Happy New Year 2018

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Shalom News

Published monthly by Beth Israel The Jewish Congregation Editor Robin Kitzmiller (813) 645-9154 <u>E-mail</u> ShalomNews@jcscc.org Web www.jcscc.org Beth Israel, The Jewish Congregation of Sun City Center, is affiliated with the Union for Reform Judaism

FROM THE RABBI'S DESK



Rabbi Carla Freedman

Recently, I was asked during a round of "ask the rabbi" at a Friday evening service, to define the words, "oneg Shabbat". The meaning is "delight of the Sabbath".

I reminded those present that our ancestors...grandparents and further back...probably did not have much by way of material wealth. Accordingly, it was the custom to save all the best things...food, clothes, etc... for Shabbat. During the week, they ate coarse dark bread, because

they had to pay more money to the miller to grind their grain into soft white flour, which they did for challah for Shabbat. During the week, they rarely ate meat, but if they could afford to, they served it on Shabbat. So when Shabbat came, it was an occasion of real delight. The questioner then said that this seems to place all the emphasis on food and not on the spiritual elements of Shabbat.

We who have more than plenty for every meal cannot possibly imagine the joy, the delight, our ancestors would have felt at the "riches" they experienced on Shabbat. It gave them something to look forward to, through the long days of hard work and deprivation. Having the time, on Shabbat, to savor the fine braided bread, the meat, and other goodies, must have felt like an enormous gift.

A Jew is supposed to pray three times a day, and can do so alone if necessary. Even in the shtetls, Jews assembled on Mondays and Thursdays for the morning minyan before they went to work, for a quick service that included a Torah reading. But on Shabbat, they could take the service more slowly, they could sing the special melodies for Shabbat, they could appreciate the *hazzan's* leadership of the prayers, and they could listen eagerly and carefully to the rabbi's words of guidance and, hopefully, wisdom. In this too there was delight.

On Shabbat afternoon, they could enjoy a nap, unheard of during a week day. They could visit with family, friends, neighbours, something that could not happen on a work day, with its hectic pace and its serious obligations.

So *all* of Shabbat was a delight. When *we* speak of Oneg Shabbat, however, we usually refer to the table loaded with desserts, even though these things are available to us all the time, if we want them. Perhaps because we know we shouldn't eat such rich foods, we allow ourselves this treat on Friday evenings. But is it part of the larger picture of the "delight of the Sabbath"?

It may be an especially challenging thing for people who don't work, to make Shabbat a day that is different from all other days. I suggest that we need to find ways to invest all of the day, from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday, with real delight, so that Shabbat can do its part to nurture us.

And that should start with our Shabbat evening services. To me, that means praying without rushing, singing together rather than just reading the prayers (when else do we get to *sing* together?) and doing so with lightness of heart and joy of spirit. The tone of Shabbat services should be warm, joyful and uplifting. The High Holy Days are serious and somber, but Shabbat should not be like that. So there can be moments of lightness, which support and enrich the beauty of the liturgy and the importance of the Torah service.

How many ways can we communicate our delight in the Sabbath? That's the challenge. It's not just on the table in the Social Hall. Shabbat delight is a state of mind, an attitude, a point of view.

We are very lucky to have a whole day of delight every week. Let's make the most of it.

President's Message Joanne Sudman

Winston Churchill once said: "You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give."



We all know that our home here at Beth Israel could not, would not, survive if it were not for those who volunteer to be on the board of directors, the men's club and sisterhood. The volunteers who serve on all of the committees; the volunteers who step forward when we have an emergency like Irma clean up; the volunteers who put up, take down and decorate the Sukkah; the volunteers who take Bima honors on Shabbat and during the High Holy Days; the volunteers who are always behind the scenes doing something to make our home a better place. So to all of you I give you my heartfelt thanks. YOU make Beth Israel the wonderful congregation it is. A very special thank you to members of the Board who have stepped down from their duties: Sam Zians for co-chairing the Ritual Committee; Sam and Sandy were here less than 3 months when they said they would help us when our former Ritual chairperson suddenly resigned; Judy Rodman for helping Marlene Spiegal with all of the responsibilities of the Membership Committee and revitalizing the Chavurah program; Paul Spiegal for leading our fund raising efforts with Beattlemania, Jazz Concert and more; Delyse Axinn, former president, who has never said no to Beth Israel, for taking over Communications when illness required Alison Levine to resign. A very special thank you to Robin Kitzmiller, who for too many years to count, has faithfully put together our Shalom News whether she was here in SCC or wandering around Canada, Alaska, or the US mainland. Todah Rabah to all of you. We all will remember the impact Micki Groper had on us with her beautiful singing voice, enthusiasm, and embracing neshama.

Now I want to challenge those who may not yet have thought about volunteering; we have needs for people who can make phone calls, manage a computer, are willing to help with keeping our building safe and secure. Needs for people who would like to serve on the Program and Fund raising committees, and who would be ushers on a Friday night. None of these jobs are huge commitments; some only 20 minutes a month. Think about giving back; think about *"You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give."*

We have been busy this year and have made some changes: I hope you have all noticed the additional sound baffles in the social hall, new safety doors entering the building, a new sound system, the new window treatments in the social hall, and soon we will have new chairs here in the sanctuary. These improvements were all possible with monies that were donated to the congregation, with a little help from our dedicated fund. When we realized we were unable to remodel, the Board made a wish list of improvements and we are working to complete that list. We instituted a Special Volunteer program where we have and will continue to honor members of the congregation who go beyond the norm to make our spiritual home comforting to all. The recipients to date are Herb Cashvan, Delyse Axinn, and Bob Cobe. And finally the Board of Directors made a commitment for our temple to create a Legacy Fund that will ensure the future of Beth Israel in Sun City Center; you will be hearing more about the **Beth Israel Jewish Congregation of Sun City Center Legacy Fund** early next year.

We have had several people working in our kitchen on Friday nights. Cece had to leave to take care of her new grandchild. Otty had to leave because of health reasons. Now Linda and Frank Oddo have graciously committed to help us. We are blessed to have them but I want to remind you that we need to act as we would at home: clean off your tables, push in your chairs, offer to help wipe off tables. Linda and Frank's major responsibilities are cleaning up in the kitchen.

Continued on page 4.....

I would be remiss if I did not publically thank Rabbi Carla for all that she has done for us. Her classes have led many of us on a path of questioning, observation, and renewal of personal feelings and understanding of our heritage; her humor has brought some of us to tears from laughing so hard; and her kindness has touched our hearts deeply. She not only comforts those of us in need of healing and counselling, but she visits and talks to nonmembers in need as she finds them in the various rehab centers and hospitals. Rabbi Carla, todah rabah. And to Cantor Glenn who has blessed us with his beautiful voice; thank you for making our services filled with uplifting ruach.

I would like to end my remarks today with a true story that happened to me earlier this month. I was at Joell's, the kosher deli in St. Petersburg, buying some things when Ellen, Joel, and Sharon, the owners, independently told me about their experiences here at Beth Israel when they came for the Kugel cookoff. Ellen said "I was excited and nervous about coming but I knew that you and Sam would be there and I would be fine; but you were out of town. It didn't matter though, everyone was so warm and welcoming." Joel said he "was overwhelmed by the kindness he was shown and the feeling that he was part of the family." Sharon shared that "no other congregation had ever asked them to come to speak and that was so very special, but beyond that everyone acted as if we were part of the congregation." Sharon also told me that when she commented on someone's shoes the congregant offered to take off the shoe so Sharon could try it on. And lastly Sharon shared that on the way home they were filled with such "warm fuzzies" and good feelings. She will never forget her experience with our family here at Beth Israel.

I can't begin to tell you how proud I was and am to be president of this congregation. My first goal as your president was to make this congregation a home with audacious hospitality; where we take care of each other; welcome the newcomer and the stranger. This experience with Joel, Ellen, and Sharon exemplifies who and what we stand for and I say to each and everyone of you "Todah Rabah."

Heart to heart, Joanne

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND DONATIONS		
THE REUTEFERS	IN MEMORY OF MARY	⁷ Friedman, Sidney Levy & Lillian Engoran
	FOR AMY'S TRAI	<u>NSPORT</u>
ERICA AND PAUL LEINO ANNE AND JOE GRAFF ROCHELLE AND BILL LAFER LINDA BARRETT IDA AND NELSON GRIMM RUTH TURCHIN ALISON AND STEPHEN LEVINE		Peter and Bonnie Sobel Erica and Paul Leino The Jewish Club of King's Point Joanne and Sam Sudman Martin Labert Roland and Laura Retuerfors Hermine Router

Beth Israel Jewish Congregation

Officers and Directors

December 18, 2017

Officers

President:	Joanne Sudman
1 st Vice President:	Paul Leino
2 nd Vice President:	Nina Malinak
Secretary:	Joy Rosen
Treasurer:	Diane Posner
Financial Secretary:	Alan Freidel

Directors

Communication:	Dan Barwick
Facilities/Maintenance:	Bernie Katz/Richard Marshall
Fundraising	Ilene Unruch
Membership	Marlene Spiegal/Freyda Cohen
Program	Jo-Ellen Bromberg/Marcia Lederberg
Ritual	Sandy Zians/Janet Corin
Member at Large	Barbara Nova

Special Volunteer: Ronní Neckes

The quote: "A strong woman looks a challenge in the eye and then winks at it" describes our next "SPECIAL VOLUNTEER" Ronni Neckes. Ronni's determination began to shine while raising her two children. She took college classes at night until they both had graduated high school and then she entered college graduating in 1998. After graduating she began "her career" of helping others when she was a teaching assistant in a classroom with special needs children. Over the years, she has had her own Bookkeeping business,



worked as an office manager and as an Admissions advisor for Johnson and Wales College. In each of these careers Ronni was always looking to help someone else. When her daughter needed a nanny for Ronni's first grandson, she retired from Johnson and Wales and 'left Mark' for one year to care for her grandson; again always thinking of someone else.



When Ronni and Mark joined Beth Israel four years ago she immediately stepped forward helping others. Whether it be for Sisterhood or Temple, you will find Ronni behind the scenes quietly organizing, cleaning, supporting, or participating in every event. Her quietness has not gone unnoticed. Ronni says "I know I can't be a leader, but I can be a helper." So please say thank you to our next SPECIAL VOLUNTEER, Ronni Neckes, who never has a problem helping you when you want to be the leader.



IT'S TIME FOR "JUST TWISTIN HAY"!

Join us for a lively afternoon on The Emerald Isle with the very talented Irish/Scottish group "JUST TWISTIN HAY"

This special event will take place on January 28,2018 at 2 PM Location: Community Hall at <u>1920 South Pebble Beach Blvd., Sun City Center, FL. 33573</u> Tickets are \$12.00 each. Refreshments will be served This event is sponsored by Beth Israel, The Jewish Congregation of Sun City

For ticket information please call Ilene Unruch at (973) 876-3513 or Paul Spiegal at (813) 283-8011

Ritual Co-Directors Sandy and Sam Zians szians2109@gmail.com samzians2109@gmail.com

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO *ROBIN KITZMILLER* FOR HER CONTINUED DEDICATION TO OUR TEMPLE COMMUNITY AND THE SHALOM NEWS.

AND THANK YOU TO *SAM ZIANS,* STEPPING DOWN AS CO-DIRECTOR OF THE RITUAL COMMITTEE.

COMING SOON:

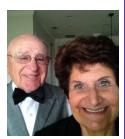
MARK YOUR CALENDARS PURIM SCHPIEL- Wednesday, FEBRUARY 28 BETH ISRAEL SEDER-Friday, MARCH 30



Drop off times: Soft Goods(clothing & linens) Sunday Feb. 4 10-1 Sunday Feb. 11 9-12 Monday Feb. 12 9-3 Please get your goods ready for

Annual Rummage Sale February 13, 2018

Hard Goods(everything else) Sunday Feb. 11 9-12 Monday Feb. 12 9-3 only





Past Women of Distinction: Joanne Sudman 2016, Nina Malinak 2014, Rochelle Lafer 2015, Sandra Hurwitz 2013, Marsha Marshall 2009, and Cyrille Cobe 2011. Missing: Delyse Axinn 2007, 2008, Ellen Stein Z"L 2010,



Sandy Zians, Woman of Distinction 2017



Ellen Weiss and Joanne Sudman from TOP

Jewish organizations in the community are asked to nominate a woman who exemplifies the mission of their organization through her leadership and commitment. Awarded annually the 'Women of Distinction' Program honors exemplary volunteerism and leadership.

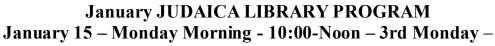
Congratulations to Sandy Zians, Beth Israel's Woman of Distinction 2017, who was honored on November 30th. Sandy has been active in Jewish life for over 50 years. She was involved in many organizations in various capacities in Youngstown, Ohio prior to her family's relocation to Tampa three years ago. She served as President of the local and district Hadassah chapter, was a board member of the Jewish Community Center, Jewish society, serving as Chairman of the Relay for Life and Co-chair of the American Cancer Center Cattle Barron's Ball.

At the age of 60, Sandy became a Bat Mitzvah and within her synagogue, El Emeth Temple, served as President from 2012-2014 and Funds Vice President of the Sisterhood.

After moving to Tampa, she immediately assumed the position of Ritual Co-chair alongside her husband Sam. She organizes religious activities with grace and charm and is an asset to the Sisterhood and synagogue. Sandra and her husband have four children and six grandchildren.

Beth Israel has a "twofer" as Joanne Sudman was honored by TOP Jewish Foundation as their Woman of Distinction 2017. Joanne has dedicated her life to helping others as a community volunteer and through her professional work as a Speechlanguage Pathologist of 43 years. Her affinity for Jewish causes began in Cincinnati, where she took on a myriad of leadersh ip roles. Joanne was the Religious School Chair at Temple Shalom, membership Chair and a member of the temple's Board of Directors. From 1980-1984, she was President of the Council for Soviet Jewry and in this role travelled to the Soviet Union in 1983 to meet and bring necessities to the refusniks. Additionally, as a committee member for the Jewish Federation of Cincinnati, Joanne chaired their Israel Program as well as the 58th General Assembly Council of Jewish Federations. Joanne represents her synagogue in Tampa in an ongoing Faith Community project of bringing hunger awareness to the community, is a past Ritual Director, Recording Secretary, Vice President and currently serves as board President. In addition to Joanne's long list of accomplishments in the Jewish community, she has distinguished herself as a community leader for TOP Jewish Foundation. Joanne embraced the importance of building the first ever legacy program, at Beth Israel Jewish Congregation of Sun City Center. Working collaboratively with TOP Jewish Foundation, Joanne educated her board on the value of creating an endowment, formed Legacy Committee, educated committee members and implemented a legacy program that will help ensure the financial future of her synagogue.

Joanne and her husband of 51 years, Sam, have two children and five grandchildren – Sadie Rose, Nathaniel, Sally, Jaden and Simon, of blessed memory.



The Women's Balcony

An Israeli hit

When a charismatic rabbi enters their lives, some women in Jerusalem attempt to unite their neighborhood and preserve their traditions. <u>wikipedia.org</u>

Heart warming and lots of fun

2017 Comedy - 96 minutes

BETH ISRAEL JUDAICA LIBRARY

IN THE SPOTLIGHT From the 2017 Festival of Jewish Books and Conversations 37 SECONDS

by Stephanie Arnold **Award-winning medical drama with spiritual implications *Premonitions, intuition, spiritual discovery *If you sense something, say something*

Also *A Perfect Life: A Novel* by Eileen Pollack - Genetics, romance and medical suspense -

Donations to the Dedicated Library Fund:

<u>Cyrille and Bob Cobe:</u> in memory of Tom Goldman Condolences to Bob and Sandy Michelson on the death of their cousin, Dick Michelson Congratulations to Sandy Zians for Woman of Distinction award Congratulations to Joanne Sudman for Woman of Distinction award

Nancy and Mike Binder in memory of Nancy's mother, Sylvia Kessler

Arlene and Bernie Cohen

Birthday wishes to Anna Foster Congratulations to Sandy Zians for Woman of Distinction award Birthday wishes to Shelly and Paul Grossman

Beth Israel Judaica Library Programs 2018

Monday Mornings		10-12 in the Social Hall		
January 15	Film	Women's Balcony		
February 19	Book	And After the Fire by Lauren Belfer		
March 19	Film	Look at Us Now, Mother		
April 16	Book	<u>The Other Einstein</u> by Marie Benedict		
May 14	Film	Rabin in His Own Words		
June 18	Book	The Orphan's Tale by Pam Jenoff		
Books for Beth Israel Readers will be on reserve at the SouthShore library. Dates changes if necessary will be announced in Shalom News and by email. <u>Contact</u> Cyrille Cobe: 633-9078 or <u>bac.cobe@gmail.com</u>				





BACK FOR ONE TIME ONLY....WORSHIP 101

Do you sometimes wonder why we do certain things in our worship services? Like: Bow at certain places but not others? Turn to face the entrance for the last verse of Lekha Dodi? Why are there some congregational responses in Reader's Kaddish? What *is* Kaddish, anyway? Who created our prayers? How do Reform versions of prayers differ from the traditional versions? What happens when (*pooey pooey*) there is no minyan for a service?

And so many more....

Please make a list of your questions and bring them to **Worship 101 on Wednesday, January 10.** We will meet from **10 am till noon**, for this one time only, and Rabbi Freedman will try to answer as many questions as possible.

Mark your calendar!! 1/10/18... from 10 am till noon.



The congregation of Beth Israel sends condolences to:

The family of Rose David, who was a long time member of our Congregation. She has been living in Virginia and is survived by four children, her grandchildren and great grandchildren.

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

RABBI'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

RABBI'S DEDICATED FUND

HARDSHIP FUND

CANTOR FUND FOR THE GENERATION OF INCOME TO DEFRAY THE CANTOR'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

CARING COMMITTEE SHIVA FUND

MICKI GROPER MUSIC FUND COMBINING WITH THE CHOIR FUND





Rochelle Lafer Sisterhood President

A huge thank you to Erica Leino and Marlene Hollander and their wonderful committee (including the Men's Club) for putting together another great Hanukkah party. We had a full house to enjoy the afternoon. A special thank you to Cantor Glenn Groper and his helpers for the terrific sing-along.

The next Sisterhood meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 9th at 1pm in the Henry Gibson Social Hall. Our speaker will be Mary Berg, the Community Relations Specialist for A Kid's Place. Located in Tampa, A Kid's Place is a unique non-profit organization providing foster care and a loving home for abused, neglected or abandoned children. When you join us for the meeting please consider bringing along one of the following to donated to this amazing place: body wash, laundry detergent pods or new baby dolls or action figures. As always, refreshments will be served.

Our annual **Sisterhood Shabbat** will be celebrated on Friday, February 2nd at 7:30pm. If you would like to be a part of this wonderful service please let me know. There are parts in Hebrew and English and we will be doing the Torah Reading as well (thanks to the first B'not Torah class with Rabbi Carla!). Send me an e-mail at <u>rlafer@gmail.com</u> or call me at 938-3824 to join the service and please let me know if you prefer Hebrew or English.

If being on the bimah is not your thing, we will also be providing the Oneg that evening. All manner of goodies are welcome. Just let me know what you would like to bring along.

Mark your calendar for a very special event in February. Susan Weidman Schneider, the editor of Lilith Magazine will be joining us for a 2-day event. On Monday afternoon, February 5th we will have a lecture and coffee hour open to the public. The cost for this program will be \$5 per person. Monday evening we will have a salon (like a book club using an article from Lilith Magazine) for Sisterhood members. Our regular Sisterhood meeting on Tuesday, February 6th will feature a lunch and lecture for Sisterhood members only. More information will be out soon on this amazing event.

A happy, healthy 2018 to you all. May we go from strength to strength.

Rochelle



Support your Temple Gift Shop New merchandise all the time

*Bar/Bat Mitzvah *New Baby and Children's gifts *Wedding *Home décor and tableware *Holidays

Hours by appointment or Friday evenings before services (7:00-7:30PM)

Joy Rosen 732-735-9579 Áddie Unterlack 813-938-3441





Beth Israel Sisterhood Meeting Tuesday, January 9th 2018 1:00 PM Speaker, Mary Berg, Community Specialist



Kid's Place is a unique non-profit organization in Tampa providing foster care and a loving home for abused, neglected, or abandoned children.

Please bring one of the following: body wash, laundry detergent pods, new baby dolls, or action figures as a donation for this worthy organization to our Sisterhood Meeting. Desserts will be provided at no charge.

Please R.S.V.P. if you bring a guest! Members do not have to respond.

Barbara Grossman 813-938-3531

Email: barbcgrossman@gmail.com



Men's Club Jeff Beller



Happy Chanukah to all!!

We had a great turnout for our November 29th annual Paid-Up Membership Meeting. First, we unanimously elected/re-elected five members to the Men's Club Board. Our Board now consists of the following:

> Jeff Beller, President Gil Daniels, Executive VP Ralph Shaw, VP Membership Steve Blesofsky, VP Programming Dick Marshall, VP At-Large Bob Whiteman, Secretary Bob Conti, Treasurer

Mr. Martin Fennelly, Tampa Bay Times sports columnist was the featured speaker for this event. He spoke to us about the Bucs, the growth & development of Bucs' QB Jameis Winston & many other sports-related topics. We also learned about the types of columns he writes & some of his day-to-day experiences. He was a real mensch & spent a great deal of time answering all of our questions. Lunch was provided by Beth Israel's own Betty Schare. All in all, a great afternoon!

At our most recent Board Meeting on December 6th we discussed the upcoming Membership Meeting (December 20th) & Bagels & Discovery (December 24th).

The Membership Meeting will feature Edward J. (Ed) Socha, a 96-year old resident of Sun City Center who was an eye witness to & survivor of the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor. Our Bagels & Discovery will welcome back Dr. Steven Derfler who will take us back to the Jewish immigrant experience & New York's Lower East Side. Two great programs in one month.

I'm kvelling!!

Shalom!



MAH JONGG CARDS FOR 2018

I am taking orders for 2018 Mah Jongg Cards . <u>Last day to order will be January 15, 2018</u>. I can only take orders for cards; the league will not let me order any accessories—sorry.

2017 CARD

All checks should be made out to BETH ISRAEL, please do not make them out to me.

PLEASE remember I need everyone's name, mailing address and card size for each person ordering a card. If a one person in the group orders cards for everyone with one check I need each person's name & address so they get it sent directly to them. Otherwise the person sending the check will get all the cards sent to her (which is fine if that's what the group wants).

Prices are the same as last year. Also, if you purchased a card from the League yourself, or through another group last year -- I need either your ID or the email that you used.

Again -- I thank everyone -- couldn't have done it without you all.

Questions contact Lois directly <u>bermanlois@yahoo.com</u>

Mail payment to: Lois Berman <u>813-938-4110</u> <u>703 Plumbrook Road</u> Sun City Center, Florida 33573

ASK THE RABBI

QUESTION : What is the Reform Movement's position on getting a Jewish divorce before one can remarry?

ANSWER: The Reform position on this has been that a civil divorce is all that is necessary if a woman wants to remarry (see below for how this applies to a man*), and many Reform rabbis do not ask whether such a woman has obtained a *get* (Jewish divorce document) before they will officiate at a marriage ceremony for a divorcee.



This stems from two factors. The first is the notion that, as the Talmud says, "the law of the land is the law". In other words, Jewish law cannot run contrary to the civil law of the land, so a civil divorce is sufficient to dissolve a marriage. Civil authorities accept rabbis and cantors as sanctioned officiants for Jewish marriages, and the filing to a marriage licence includes the signature of such an officiant, so that the marriage conforms to civil law. Therefore, a civil divorce is required to dissolve the marriage.

The second issue is that, since women cannot, according to *halakha* (Orthodox Jewish law) initiate divorce proceedings, and therefore some men have withheld a *get* as a way of controlling their ex-wives, the traditional Jewish divorce procedure is unfair to women.

In recent times, our movement has developed a *get* which can be initiated by either the husband or the wife (regardless of the presence of the other spouse), so that the matter of fairness is settled. This way, a woman can, without the co-operation of her former husband, issue a *get*, and can then be remarried. Many Reform Jews today think that a marriage that was begun with a Jewish ritual should (if necessary) be dissolved with a parallel ritual, and so they avail themselves of a contemporary *get*.

It is interesting to note that though other movements of Judaism may not permit women to issue a *get*, they now write divorce guidelines into the marriage contract (*ketubah*) so that both parties are protected, should the marriage founder.

I have issued a get on a couple of occasions, once to a woman and once to a man. I subscribe to the notion that a religiously initiated marriage should, when necessary, be dissolved by a religious ceremony. Just as we begin Shabbat with a ceremony of lighting candles and making Kiddush over wine, so do we end Shabbat with Havdallah, which also requires blessings over wine and candles. There is symmetry and completeness in this process.

*Jewish law does not require a man to obtain a *get* before he marries another time, because technically, Judaism still recognizes the legitimacy of polygamy (though, for about 1000 years now, Jews have voluntarily renounced the right to polygamy, it is still legitimate according to *halakha*). Since a man therefore *could* have as many as four wives (as our patriarch Jacob did!), he does not need to divorce one to acquire another. This has enabled some men to remarry, refuse to issue a *get* to their previous wife, and thereby prevent her from remarrying. This inequity is resolved in the Reform world by allowing both spouses the right to initiate a divorce.

Memberst

Membership Directory Changes:

Marlene Spiegal <u>mspiegal@hotmail.com</u> 813-283-8011 Freyda Cohen <u>freydacohen@earthlink.net</u> 813-966-5456

Janet Singer 1856 Pacific Dunes Dr. SCC 813-296-1992 (home) 609-634-5442 (cell) jcanesmom@comcast.net <u>Shelley Topf</u> 4934 Sandy Glen Way Wimauma 33598

<u>Reminder to all members</u>: Please let us know when you have an address, phone, or email change so that we can keep the membership directory up to date.

We had a little excitement at the Temple Thursday afternoon, December 14th but classes went on! Something electrical shorted out causing a burning smell. The class had to evacuate the building and the fire department arrived.





JANUARY BIRTHDAYS



Jan 01 Sandra Hurwitz Jan 01 Roslyn Shapiro Jan 02 Erika Beverly Jan 07 Marsha Marshall Jan 08 Skip Turchen Jan 09 Stephen Blesofsky Jan 09 Stephen Tabin Jan 09 Harvey Weiss Jan 11 Peter Sobel Jan 12 Ann Graff Jan 13 Norman Karp Jan 14 Melba Goldschlager Jan 14 Dorothy Kemp Jan 14 Paul Leino Jan 14 Frances Sheff Jan 15 Neil Raphael Jan 16 Nanci Goodstein Jan 17 Michele Patterson Jan 17 Cookie Tabin Jan 18 Alla Barwick Jan 21 Karen Kleinburg Jan 23 Amy Mogil Jan 26 Ruth Moss Jan 29 Herbert Berman Jan 30 Gary Natbony Jan 31 Fred Levine

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES



- Jan 05 Joseph & Ann Graff
- Jan 08 Sam & Joanne Sudman
- Jan 15 Martin & Erika Beverly
- Jan 18 Brad & Lisa Cohen
- Jan 24 Paul & Linda Mayerowitz
- Jan 29 Neil & Diana Raphael



Delyse Axinn is our chaplain and the organizer of our Misheberach List. If

you know of a congregant, family member, or friend that you want on the list you need to email or call Delyse by Friday at 4 PM. Only those names that are sent to her or phoned in will be added to the list that is read on Shabbat.

Please email Delyse at <u>axinnd@gmail.com</u> or call 813-633-2548.

ONEG SHABBAT Lyn Safian (634-6013) Oneg Shabbat Chairperson: lynleestep@mac.com KIKIKIKIKIKIKIKIKIKIKIKIKIKIKI 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. January Oneg Shabbat Sponsors January 5 January 19 Sandra & Martin Hurwitz Linda & Paul Mayerowitz Celebrating their anniversary Celebrating Sandy's birthday January 12 **January 26** Men's Club Shabbat Marsha & Dick Marshall Celebrating Marsha's birthday

Judaica Library Online: <u>www.librarything.com/profile/bilib</u> Catalog and social network for book lovers

daica Library Committee: Nancy Binder, Cyrille Cobe, Arlene ohen, Marsha Fader, Barbara Grossman, Barbara Nova, Sharon Privitera, Roz Shapiro and Winnie Sochacki. Dedicated Library Fund supports library programs and purchases Donation of \$5 or more to Beth Israel Sisterhood, Dedicated Library Fund Give or send checks to Sisterhood Treasurer, Diane Posner Contact Nancy Binder to send cards - nancyann121@gmail.com

HONOR SOMEONE BY PLANTING TREES IN ISRAEL IN HIS/HER NAME IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PLANT A TREE IN ISRAEL, CONTACT ELIZABETH JACOBS AT 633-3073 FOR MORE INFORMATION

SPECIAL GIFTS

If you are thinking of a way to remember or honor a loved one, don't forget our Memorial plaques or Bricks at the Meditation Garden. The Tree of Life is available for honors or celebrations only. Bricks, chair plaques, and prayer books may be purchased for any purpose.

Call the office at 634-2590 and leave a message. The cost of each of these items is as follows:

> Prayer Book \$36 Leaf on Tree of Life \$100 Plaque on Tree of Life \$275 Bricks at Meditation Garden \$100 Chair Plaque \$75 Memorial Plaque - member price \$275 Memorial Plaque - non-member \$350

SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

REPORTED BY DIANE POSNER, TREASURER

WE APPRECIATE THE THOUGHTFULNESS OF THOSE WHO REMEMBER AND HONOR THEIR FRIENDS AND LOVED ONES THROUGH THEIR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS.

Contributions received after December15th will appear in Next Month's Shalom News

DALIA & STEVEN BEHR	IN MEMORY OF DARRYL ADAM BEHR
MARTIN DAIN	IN MEMORY OF LEE DAIN, WIFE OF MARTIN
MIKE & NANCY BINDER	IN MEMORY OF SYLVIA KESSLER, MOTHER OF NANCY
RICHARD KRAVITZ/HELEN MCANNINCH	IN MEMORY OF BARBARA SORIN, SISTER OF RICHARD
DONALD DAVIDSON	IN MEMORY OF SAMUEL DAVIDSON
MARTIN & SANDY HURWITZ	IN MEMORY OF SYLVIA HURWITZ
JOSEPH & SANDRA ZELIGMAN	IN MEMORY OF BENJAMIN ZELIGMAN, FATHER OF JOSEPH
CHARLES STEINBERG	IN MEMORY OF CHARLES MOTHER RACHEL, FATHER RUBIN AND COUSIN CHARLEY
JEAN ARONSON	IN HONOR OF BETH ISRAEL
LINDA & DON MOSTOV	IN MEMORY OF LAUREN MOSTOV
MICHAEL & NANCY BINDER	IN MEMORY OF SYLVIA KESSLER, MOTHER OF NANCY
	IN MEMORY OF MILTON KESSLER
SANDRA GOLDSTEIN	IN MEMORY OF NANCY ABRAMSON & VICTOR LEVINE
THE MILLSTEINS	IN MEMORY OF SADYE ROSNER
ARLENE & BERNARD COHEN	IN MEMORY OF SHIRLEY DEBOWSKY
NORM & MARCIA KARP	IN MEMORY OF ETTA KARP
Albert Spater	IN MEMORY OF JENNY SPATER, WIFE OF AL
SANDRA & SIDNEY GOLDSTEIN	IN MEMORY OF SARAH KAGAN
BARBARA ASPIS	IN MEMORY OF SAMUEL KIERMAN
HERB CASHVAN	IN MEMORY OF ANNE CASHVAN
RICHARD KRAVITZ & HELEN MCANNICH	IN MEMORY OF STEVEN SORIN
JANET SINGER	IN MEMORY OF ABRAHAM BLOCKE
BOB & MARCY HURWITZ	IN MEMORY OF JOSEPHINE HURWITZ
RAM MEYUHAS	IN MEMORY OF ORNA ROTTBLIT, SISTER OF RAM
DOROTHY KEMP	IN MEMORY OF SARAH KAGAN, MOTHER OF DOROTHY
TRUDY BURKEY	IN MEMORY OF SADIE AXELROD, MOTHER OF SADIE
PAUL MAYEROWITZ	IN MEMORY OF BENJAMIN MAYEROWITZ
ANDREW GREENFIELD	IN MEMORY OF ROBERT GREENFIELD, FATHER OF ANDREW
NORMAN & KAREN KLEINBERG	IN MEMORY OF ESTHER LOIS KLEINBERG
ERICA LEINO	IN MEMORY OF JOAN SHMUNES, SISTER OF ERICA

JANUARY YAHRZEITS

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

JANUARY 5, 2018

ANDREA ROSEN, SISTER-IN-LAW OF JO-ELLEN BROMBERG MURRAY BAUM, FATHER OF BARBARA GROSSMAN PEARL SHERMAN, AUNT OF PAUL MAYEROWITZ LOUIS NOLE, GRANDFATHER OF LINDA MUMFORD RACHEL KAGNO, GRANDMOTHER OF MARK NECKES JAMES RUBIN, FATHER OF ELLEN OFFENBACH HELENE SHANE, MOTHER OF SHEILA RUBINSTEIN WILLIAM SCHWALM, HUSBAND OF DEBORAH SCHWALM SOPHIE BULICKI, GRANDMOTHER OF STEPHEN TABIN LINDA HERNACKI, SISTER-IN-LAW OF STEPHEN TABIN RACHEL FISCHER, MOTHER OF ADDIE UNTERLACK PAULINE ZELIGMAN, MOTHER OF JOSEPH ZELIGMAN HYMAN JONES LAWRENCE SCHWARTZ JULIUS SPIELER

JANUARY 12, 2018

REBECCA GROSSMAN, GRANDMOTHER OF MICHELLE ATKINS SCHAEFER VIVIAN BARWICK, MOTHER OF ROBERT BARWICK EMMET NEWMAN, FATHER OF SANDEE BRADDY CHLIMA MAISELLER, MOTHER OF ANNA FOSTER JACK FRIEDMAN, BROTHER-IN-LAW OF ANNETTE FRIEDMAN HARVEY KEMP. FATHER OF SANDY GOLDSTEIN HARVEY KEMP, HUSBAND OF DOROTHY KEMP MARY GREEN, GRANDMOTHER OF SHAYNA KING MAX LAFER, FATHER OF WILLIAM LAFER ROBERT ELLIS, FATHER OF WILMA LEVINE EVA GREEN, MOTHER OF RONNI NECKES MEYER ROSENTHAL, UNCLE OF ELLEN OFFENBACH DAVID OFFENBACH, FATHER OF STUART OFFENBACH HERMAN TROPP, STEP-FATHER OF DIANE POSNER HERMAN TROPP, STEP-GRANDFATHER OF HAL LAWRENCE POSNER HYMAN SHANIN, FATHER OF JEANNE SHANIN GEORGE SELIGMAN. DEAR FRIEND OF LOIS SMERILSON SARAH SPIEGAL, MOTHER OF PAUL SPIEGAL BEATRICE TANNE, MOTHER OF SHERI TANNE **BRIAN BALKANY IRWIN (CHICK) BELL** OREE M. CARROLL ABRAHAM DIPKIN SADIE GOLDBERG **CHARNA HAIMES** KATHRYN HAUFT **TUBA RAISE LERNER** JOSEPH MALONE NATHAN MILLER

JANUARY 19, 2018

JACOB BEHR, FATHER OF STEVEN BEHR PHILIP R. BELLER, FATHER OF JEFFREY BELLER NATHAN BINDER, FATHER OF MICHAEL BINDER CHARNYA FISHER, SISTER OF CYRILLE COBE BENJAMIN SASS. FATHER-IN-LAW OF GLENN GROPER JOSEPH BERMAN, FATHER OF MAGGI GUZINSKY SYDNEY A. CLIMPSON, FATHER OF ELIZABETH JACOBS ALBERT MARKOVITZ, HUSBAND OF MARLIS MARKOVITZ KAY MELTZER, MOTHER-IN-LAW OF NATALIE MELTZER REBECCA STEINHOUSE, GRANDMOTHER OF LYN SAFIAN EDNA SIETZ. MOTHER OF JOEL SIETZ FLORA SILVEREBERG, GRANDMOTHER OF ADRIENNE WEISS ARTHUR BLUMENTHAL SOPHIA FOREMAN ADELAINE HANDELMAN JACOB H. HARBATER DAVID HIRSCHHORN **ROCHELLE MESHBESHER** LEO OXORN MICHAEL SELTZER SARAH REGINA SPIELER DOROTHY SPIELER RUTH WEIL

<u>JANUARY 26, 2018</u>

MARTIN GROSSMAN, UNCLE OF MICHELLE ATKINS SCHAEFER DAVID GROSSMAN, GRANDFATHER OF MICHELLE ATKINS SCHAEFER ABRAHAM BAUMAN, FATHER OF MICHAEL BAUMAN BERTHA BECKER, PATERNAL GRANDMOTHER OF DIANE BECKER-KRASNICK MARTHA COHEN, MOTHER OF ANDY COHEN FRANK FEINBERG, FATHER OF FREYDA COHEN MARY MILLER, FRIEND OF RABBI CARLA FREEDMAN YETTA ANDELMAN GOLDSTEIN, MOTHER OF SID GOLDSTEIN JULIA SCHWARTZ, MOTHER OF ANN GRAFF ROSE HOFFING, MOTHER OF SIEVE MORRIS SIMON SUDMAN, GRANDSON OF SAM & JOANNE SUDMAN

ANITA COHEN ITZHAK FIRST FRIDMAN GERALD PAUL FURMAN ALBERT FURMAN SELMA SEIGEL



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CALL AHEAD FOR PICKUP WINDOW

IMPORTANT MESSAGE ABOUT BADGES

PEOPLE WHO WEAR PACEMAKERS SHOULD NOT BE WEARING MAGNETIC NAME BADGES!

If you have a magnetic badge and wear a pacemaker, please return your badge to the temple membership committee and they will have the magnet replaced with a pin.

January 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 1:30 Continuing Hebrew	3	4 1:30 Biblical Hebrew Grammar 3:00 Class: Bible Study	5 7:30 Shabbat service	6
						SHEMET
7	8	9 1:00 Sisterhood Meeting 7:00 Temple Bd Meeting	10 10:00 Men's Club Board Mtg	<i>I I 1:30 Biblical Hebrew Grammar</i> 3:00 Class: Bible Study	12 7:30 Shabbat service	13 10:00 Shabbat Service 12:00 Torah Study
		meeting				VA-ERA
14	15 10:00 Beth Israel Gift Shop Open 10:00 Library Program:	16 1:30 Continuing Hebrew	17	<i>18</i> <i>1:30 Biblical</i> <i>Hebrew Grammar</i> 3:00 Class: Bible Study	19 7:30 Shabbat service	20
			ROCH CHODESH			во
21	22	23 9:30 Sisterhood Board Mtg	24 12:00 Men's Club Member- ship Mtg	25 1:30 Biblical Hebrew Grammar 3:00 Class: Bible Study	26 7:30 Shabbat service	27 10:00 Shabbat Service 12:00 Torah Study BE-
		1:30 Continuing Hebrew			Men's Club	SHALLACH- SHIRAH
					Shabbat	SHIKAH
28 2:00 Entertain- ment Fund Raiser with	29	30 1:30 Continuing Hebrew	31			
Just Twistin Hay						
Community Hall						

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JANUARY 2018 NEWSLETTER

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