
the Shofar



Etz Chayim Conservative Synagogue's Monthly Newsletter

JULY, 2020

TAMUZ/AV5780

Friday evening services begin at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday morning services begin at 9:45 a.m.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings,

This will be my last contribution to our newsletter. On July 1 Gary Hall will take over as president with his new slate of officers.

The last two years have gone by very quickly. There have been many ups and downs. Many decisions that I was a part of, many places that I had to go to represent Etz Chayim. I had no idea how many things the President is asked to do and has a say in. The one absolute constant that I had, that was always there for me, was my Board. They were at every meeting discussing, giving their advice and showing their support. I know that if you ask Bill Goldberg, he will tell you that he is not on the board, but in my mind he is. I am going to miss our daily phone calls. He, Barry, Kevin and Scott have always kept me in the loop which helped me make informed decisions. We do not have to always agree with everything. What's most important is that there was respect for one another and support for what was decided. Even if

you don't like a decision, it is so important to not hold a grudge. When we leave the board room, we leave our differences behind and remember that we all love the synagogue and our hearts are in the right place. The board took their responsibility very seriously and were always there for me. I couldn't have asked for a better board. I have always tried to finish in an hour, but sometimes there was more work to be done (you wouldn't believe how many hours were spent discussing the new by-laws). I was very surprised when I asked if they would like to call it a night and pick it up next month. They would tell me to continue until it was done. They are hard-working and dedicated to improving our synagogue and ensuring it continues for many years to come. I could never have accomplished anything without them, and I am eternally grateful to each and every one of them for their caring and patience with me. I have come to understand that there is a tremendous amount of time and effort behind the scene that makes running the synagogue and maintaining the building look seamlessly easy.

I would like to thank the members of the congregation and our Rabbi, who were there for me with advice and support. I wish much luck and success to Gary. I know that he will be a wonderful president.

Sandra

SISTERHOOD

Ladies,

This is my last article as president of the Sisterhood (for about the last 4 years, I think). Thanks to everyone for their support and help with the Sisterhood and all of the work we, as Sisterhood members, do for our Synagogue. I want to welcome Amy Mauldin as our new president and hope that all members will give her their support. She has done a wonderful job as our programming chairperson for the last 2 years, and I know she will do an equally good job as President. I will remain as kitchen chairperson.

Hopefully the quarantine will be over soon so that we can meet to honor our new officers and meet for lunch to visit a little.

The Synagogue Board has approved some new landscaping of our building. Some of it will help with our security, and some of it will hopefully beautify our surroundings. Lynne Edmondson and I will be coordinating this effort. If you are interested in helping to plant and maintain our grounds (weeding, watering, etc.), please let one of us know. We would appreciate your help. Removal of some

of the overgrown greenery will begin this month.

Please remember to send Brenda your advertisements and your memorials for the New Year Booklet as well as your Sisterhood dues of just \$18.00. The funds raised help the Sisterhood support the Synagogue in many ways (carpet, flooring, Purim dinner, Rabbi Luncheons, etc.).

Natha Hancock

BOOK CLUB

We had a great discussion on Theodor Herzl. He was a great writer with vision. His experience with politicians helped his growth as a statesman. He envisioned a home for European Jews, especially for Russian Jews. Although he originally thought Jews should assimilate, he began to envision and write about Zionism. He wrote works such as the play, *The New Ghetto*. A noticeable change takes place in the perspective from *The New Ghetto* to his small book, *Der Judenstaat* (*The State of the Jews*), which was published 14 February 1896. It is subtitled "Versuch einer modernen Lösung der Judenfrage," ("Proposal of a modern solution for the Jewish question").

Though he died at 44 years of age, he not only envisioned how Zionism would work on a large scale, but he also wrote his vision in the Jewish paper he founded, helped organize and spoke at 6 World Jewish Congresses, proposed a flag for the Jewish nation, raised money, and negotiated for land.

Our next meeting is virtual, and will be held on August 13, 2020, at 11:30am. The book is *Man's Search for Meaning* by Viktor E. Frankl. The address for contact information is Book.Club@etzchayim-hsv.org.

Lynne

NEW ITEMS IN THE GIFT SHOP

Our Gift Shop has brand new inventory and is available at your convenience!

Donna is our new Gift Shop Chair, and she has been busy organizing and purchasing new things. Please think about choosing something from the Gift Shop when you need a gift, something for yourself, or just some Shabbat candles.

Donna will be more than happy to meet you at the Synagogue so you can take a look at our new Gift Shop items. You may contact her at 803-508-1803 or email her at donnamayo1950@gmail.com.

****PLEASE MAKE SURE TO WEAR A MASK****

DONATIONS

General Fund

From: L.P. Galvin

In Memory of Rhoda Kaplan

From: Sandy Pepper

To: Greg Smyth & Family – In Memory of Robert Smyth, Father of Greg Smyth.

From: Millie & Max Rosenthal

To: Diane & Stan Belsky – To let you know your Huntsville friends are thinking of you.

To: Dorothy Goldberg – Your surgery is over, continued good eyesight.

To: Lucy and Charlie Fisher – We are thinking about you. Best wishes for your full recovery.

From: Diana & Howard Polin

To: Diane & Stan Belsky – You are in our heartfelt thoughts and prayers.

From: Thomas W. Falvey

Rabbi Fund

From: Diana & Howard Polin

To: Charlie Fisher – Hurry back to good health. We love you.

To: Dorothy Goldberg – So glad you are doing well after the surgery on your eye.

From: Millie & Max Rosenthal

To: Mary Dunne – Thinking about you, good to hear the good news about your health.

From: Shirley Roberts

To: Mary Dunne- So glad you are doing well.

To: Charlie Fisher – Get well soon.

To: Diane Belsky – Thinking of you and hope all will go well for you.

From: Janet Schindler

To: Mary Dunne – Good news, continued good health.

From: Sandra Wiederecht

To: Diane & Stan Belsky – Best regards, wish we could be there with you.

To: Charlie Fisher – Get well and hope to see you soon.

BBYO Fund

From: Shirley Roberts

To: Greg Smyth & Family – In Memory of Robert Smyth, father of Greg Smyth.

Outdoor Lighting Fund

In Memory of Gertrude & Perry Schlein from their daughters Natha Hancock & Robin Slomka and their families.

A big “Thank you” to Shirley Roberts for the beautiful Synagogue Donation Cards and Envelopes. They are so much nicer than the ones we have used in the past.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jul 06 Rabbi Listfield & a Virtual EC Gathering, 6:45 PM
- Jul 20 Rabbi Listfield & a Virtual EC Gathering, 6:45 PM
- Jul 29 Erev Tisha B'Av Virtual Service, 7:45 PM greeting, service at 8 PM
- Aug 03 Rabbi Listfield & a Virtual EC Gathering, 6:45 PM

BIRTHDAYS

- Jul 02 Erick Lyonnais
- Jul 03 Michal Hall
- Jul 03 Mante Polin
- Jul 09 Sandy Martin
- Jul 15 Debbie Leites
- Jul 15 Michelle Persons
- Jul 16 Shayna Johnson
- Jul 16 Sam Kleiner
- Jul 17 Christie Berry
- Jul 18 Sandy Pepper
- Jul 20 George Drake
- Jul 21 Alana Palermo

- Jul 22 James Wesley Stone, III
- Jul 23 Jacob Fuerst
- Jul 28 Stan Belsky
- Jul 29 Sarah Kirshtein

ANNIVERSARIES

- Jul 03 Amy & Matthew Mauldin
- Jul 04 Dr. Louis B. & Beverly Weiner
- Jul 28 Karen & Bob Feigenblatt

YAHREZEITS**

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|--------|----------|------------------------------|
| Jun 26 | Tamuz 04 | Marc Lyonnais |
| Jun 27 | Tamuz 05 | Charles Klazmer |
| Jun 27 | Tamuz 05 | Doris Mae Aaronson Kirshtein |
| Jun 27 | Tamuz 05 | Morris Schindler |
| Jun 28 | Tamuz 06 | Abraham Kalachman* |
| Jun 28 | Tamuz 06 | Meyer (Mike) Zelickson* |
| Jun 29 | Tamuz 07 | Jacob Milton Ludmer* |
| Jun 29 | Tamuz 07 | Jacob Zarovsky |
| Jun 29 | Tamuz 07 | Virginia Johanna McDonald* |
| Jul 01 | Tamuz 09 | Etta B. Roberts |
| Jul 02 | Tamuz 10 | Rose Flashner* |
| Jul 02 | Tamuz 10 | Joel Mendelson |
| Jul 04 | Tamuz 12 | Lydia Saporta Vitoulis |
| Jul 09 | Tamuz 17 | Milton Fuerst |
| Jul 10 | Tamuz 18 | Sam Goldstein* |
| Jul 10 | Tamuz 18 | Benjamin Sainker* |
| Jul 15 | Tamuz 23 | Paula Levy Goldberg* |
| Jul 17 | Tamuz 25 | Samuel H. Cohen* |
| Jul 17 | Tamuz 25 | Annette Honan Cassuto |
| Jul 19 | Tamuz 27 | Harry Freedman |
| Jul 20 | Tamuz 28 | Lynda Citron Siff |
| Jul 22 | Av 01 | Naomi Miller* |
| Jul 27 | Av 06 | Harold Isadore Yalowitz |
| Jul 29 | Av 08 | Rabbi Bernard Menahem Honan |
| Jul 31 | Av 10 | Sadie Kopkin* |
| Aug 04 | Av 14 | Bernard Roberts |

* Plaque

**Light Memorial candle sunset of previous evening



Eric Jackson and Karen Hirsch
Proudly announce the forthcoming

Bat Mitzvah

Of their daughter

Eileen Dorit

On Saturday, August 8th 2020

At ten o'clock in the morning

Temple B'Nai Sholom

Via virtual services

All Details to Follow Electronically

FATHERS, YOU MUST MARK THE TRAIL

By Ted Roberts, the Scribbler on the Roof

“If Oedipus Rex had taken that kid to the ballgame more often, we wouldn’t have had all that trouble.”

— Ancient Greek Historian

OK, so my good friend, Herb, and his two sons go down to Florida every year for Spring training. Big deal. I just know they spend the whole week arguing about the younger kid’s new house with the flat roof that collects water better than the LA Reservoir. (“Four years of college at 5K a year and he buys a house with a flat roof. Why didn’t he take a basic roofing course instead of American Lit?”)

My other pal, Randy, and his kid, they get a guide and go fishing up in Michigan. Every year. How much fun can that be? Father, son, and total stranger in a faded mackinaw, huddled around a dying campfire. Picking fish bones out of their plate and wishing there was a McDonald’s around the curve of the stream. Randy, just dying to make some constructive comments about the kid’s wife – but the guide, who’s spitting tobacco in the fire, likes to stay up all night and tell stories about really successful fishing trips – not like this one. “You shoulda been here in the Summer of ‘92 – Gee Golly!”

Well, me and my boys don’t shiver around campfires or pontificate over roof design. But we’re plenty close. Don’t we spend hours on the phone talking about their sister – my daughter – who only remembers my birthday if I begin a barrage of postcards “Don’t forget Pop’s birthday” six months early. Me and the boys are pretty close. We talk about stuff like that all the time.

Fathers and sons. Just like any relationship, there’s a duality involved – the dream and the real world. In the boys’ eyes there are two fathers. FATHER, the Icon; and then there’s Pop, who thinks it’s 1960 and a five-dollar bill buys supper and a movie for two. Pop, the champion sleeper who nods off in the living room recliner. He’d be in the Olympics if there was an early to bed category.

Dad is the large male adult in the house whose happiness is wrapped around economic survival and a synchromatic release of the five-speed clutch in the old, 2004 family Honda. He hates that stone-on-blackboard sound, coming out of the garage when Jr. misses reverse gear.

And since he can't gracefully find reverse or a part time job, Pop wonders if this cub will ever learn to hunt alone.

But most sons, like wolf cubs, can't wait to leave the den. There's a neat parable about a family who lives happily in a modest cabin surrounded by a thick, pathless woods. Beyond the woods is a bright meadow with streams and orchards.

The father knows that sooner or later the son – energized by an impulse to see the world – will leave the bosom of his family. The father knows about the memorable and honorable rebellion of sons: since a replica of the man's heart beats in the bosom of the son. He's been there. Ah, but those woods. Dark, frightening, full of brambles. The boy will never find his way back to the cabin once his restless heart is satisfied.

"When you leave," said the father, "you must mark your trail because someday you'll want to return. Don't forget."

"Right," replied the confident youth. "But why do you always think me a half-grown fool who can't even find his way home and why do you assume I'll return? The people out there (and he gestured beyond the cabin walls) will think me wise and beautiful. You'll see."

Soon after this confrontation, the boy left. Early in the morning he stole out of his bedroom window and stepped into the impenetrable forest. He brashly rushed through the woods in his eagerness for freedom. At a safe distance followed the father, diligently marking the trail through the dark green woods. Then with a long look at his son briskly striding over the meadow, the father returned home.

Some days later, the youth returned full of wondrous tales of the woods and the world beyond.

"And did you have any trouble finding your way back to us?" asked the father.

"None whatsoever," replied the son. "Piece of cake – the trail is clearly marked".

So says the legend. It's not a bad moral. They all come home sooner or later. But you must mark the trail.