
the Shofar



Etz Chayim Conservative Synagogue's Monthly Newsletter

JULY, 2021

TAMUZ/AV, 5781

Due to Covid, services are not being held in the Synagogue. For information on joining virtual services and events, please see our website.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Jun 30 Deadline for New Year Booklet entries and/or changes
- Jul 06 Virtual Gathering with Rabbi Listfield, 6:45 PM
- Jul 11 Sisterhood Community Yard Sale, 11 AM - 4 PM
- Jul 15 Book Club meeting at 11:30 AM, first of two meetings,
The Origins of Israel: A Documentary History
- Jul 17 Tisha B'AV Services at 8 PM
- Aug 01 Virtual Gathering with Rabbi Listfield, 9:45 AM
- Aug 16 Sisterhood Lunch Bunch at Char, 11:30 AM
- Aug 22 EC Men's Club Baseball Outing

SISTERHOOD

All,

Last month we had our first social event in person since 2020 - a dessert reception at Bev Weiner's house. We had a wonderful turnout and a great time!! We had so many delicious desserts, and it was so nice to see

everyone again. We voted on and approved our new slate of officers for the coming year:
President: Sandra Wiederecht
VP Fundraising: Shirley Roberts
VP Membership: Millie Rosenthal
VP Programming: Manya Fuerst
Recording Secretary: Sue Paddock
Corresponding Secretary: Michelle Persons
Treasurer: Brenda Liles

Manya is planning to move to NC in the fall, so her position as VP Programming will be available after then. Please let me know if you would like to join us and plan our social events!

We have a big event coming up this month. On July 11th, we have our Community Yard Sale. We have already collected tons of valuables - thank you so much! - and now we are looking for volunteers to help that day with set up and clean up. Come as early as 8:30 am for set up, or 3:30 pm for clean up.

Next month we will have Lunch Bunch at Char on August 16th at 11:30am. Looking forward to seeing you all again. Thank you for your support and friendship as the Sisterhood President for 2020-2021. While I still plan to be a part of the

Sisterhood, my obligations at home are my priority with a 1.5-year-old and now a new baby on the way, due in November.

Thanks again and see you soon,

Amy

DONATIONS

General Fund

From: Natha & Scott Hancock

Rabbi Fund

From: Shirley Roberts

To: Sandra Lieberman - So sorry to hear about your accident. Looking forward to seeing you when you are well.

From: Millie & Max Rosenthal

To: Sandra Lieberman - We miss you. Take care of yourself and get well soon.

From: Mary E. Dunne

Sisterhood

From: Rosalind & Dale Howard

From: Manya Fuerst

From: Dorothy & Bill Goldberg

From: Clare & Michael Grisham

From: Mr. & Mrs. Jules Gutin

From: Natha & Scott Hancock

From: Linda Kamisher

For: High Holiday Flowers

For: Sisterhood projects

From: Lynne & Steve Edmondson

From: Michal & Gary Hall

From: Lauren & Steve Goodman

Thank you to Sisterhood for the morale boosting holiday goodies and on-line activities during Covid.

From: Rita and John Neely

From: Susan and Alan Sacks & Family

From: Nannette Schwartz

Outdoor Lighting Fund

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

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 Johns
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

YAHARZEITS**

Jul 03	Tamuz 23	Paula Levy Goldberg*
Jul 05	Tamuz 25	Samuel H. Cohen*
Jul 07	Tamuz 27	Harry Freedman
Jul 08	Tamuz 28	Lynda Citron Siff

Jul 10 Av 01 Naomi Miller*
 Jul 15 Av 06 Harold Isadore Yalowitz
 Jul 19 Av 10 Sadie Kopkin*
 Jul 23 Av 14 Bernard Roberts
 Jul 25 Av 16 Beatrice Goldner*
 Jul 26 Av 17 Fannie Feldman*
 Jul 26 Av 17 Rabbi Bernard M. Honan
 Jul 27 Av 18 Gilbert A. Greenbaum

* Plaque

**Light Memorial candle sunset of previous evening

FOURTH OF JULY: OUR HOLIDAY TOO!
 By Ted Roberts, (1930-2020), the *Scribbler on the Roof*



Thomas Jefferson, the author of the Declaration of Independence, was not Jewish. Sure, Adam Sandler, Goldie Hawn, Kirk Douglas, Alan Greenspan, and Bill

Goldberg (a wrestling champ like Jacob) are Jewish. So is Madeleine Albright (though she forgot to tell us for a long time). And so was Sigmund Freud and Albert Einstein and Binyomin Disraeli and Jesus Christ. That's the good news.

But alas, fellow Jewish Americans, George Washington – what a jewel he would be in our crown – is not. We know this because no Jewish property holder would sit on a 400-acre real estate package in suburban Washington without ONCE calling up a developer to carve it up into house lots. Besides, whoever heard of a Jew with a mouth full of wooden teeth because he couldn't afford a date with his orthodontist.

So, I'm afraid our first president never attended a minyan. But he was a believer when it came to religious freedom.

America – the new Zion – founded by those quirky Puritans has provided a flourishing home for Judaism. The founders envisioned their brave new world with all the sanctity of Jerusalem. They were a rare breed, with an affinity for Zion because they were Old Testament believers; separatists who'd left the Church of England in their theological dust. Their basic idea was to introduce religion into every facet of their life. Like it or not – Church and State were one to them.

EVERYONE WELCOME!

ETZ CHAYIM MEN'S CLUB
 BASEBALL OUTING

Sunday, August 22, 2021 @ Toyota Stadium
 Gates open at 5:35 PM • Game starts at 6:35 PM

TRASH PANDAS VS. CHATTANOOGA LOOKOUTS

COST IS \$16 PER TICKET.
 EACH TICKET COMES LOADED WITH \$2 STADIUM CREDIT.
 SEND CHECKS TO JONATHAN PERSONS OR DROP OFF
 AT THE SYNAGOGUE DURING JULY 11 YARD SALE.

In a way, they were the Chassids of Christianity – without the joyfulness. They prayed more than they played. They spent more on candles and New England nights studying Leviticus than playing Stud Poker.

In the dull old days when public schools taught American History instead of Hot Air Ballooning, every high school freshman knew that those prim Puritans had a strong Old Testament core. McCauley, the famous English historian, tells us that they began to feel for the Old Testament a preference. . . which showed itself in all their sentiments and habits. They were not frivolous folks. These, then, were the forebears of the group of dead, white Caucasian males who signed the Declaration of Independence that epochal Fourth of July, 1776.

Who would have thought that the proclamation of the Constitutional Congress on that hot July day in Philadelphia would eventually affect the lost, wandering tribes of Israel? But it did. A little over a hundred years later, the dispossessed of Israel flocked to the New Zion. They knew a good thing when they saw it.

Our team missed the Mayflower by a couple of centuries. We also missed the Queen Mary. There were no deck chairs on the cattle boats that brought our ancestors to the New World of golden streets paved with dreams. They were stuffed in the hold like pickles in a jar and probably didn't spend the eight-day crossing mourning what they left behind – the poverty, hunger, persecution that ruled the masses of Eastern Europe – Jew and Gentile alike.

There's a deep ache in our hearts when we think of the Old World they left behind, because a few decades later it was consumed in the ovens of the Holocaust. What would those martyrs – pious and profane alike cleansed by their sacrifice – say about America in 2014? What would

they think to see our cars and homes and VCRs and bulging pantries? What would these cultural loners say to our integration with a warm, tolerant society?

So, there was this grim, Old World fast receding in the rear vision mirror of the Good Ship Hatikvah – steaming for the shining city on the Hudson where the only king was “Abie, the King of Corned Beef” on lower Hester Street.

They poured out of their boats into the sidewalks of New York, which they found to be of concrete, not gold. But concrete was better than the muck and mud of Polish villages. And sweatshop bosses had hearts as hard as the concrete sidewalks, but they couldn't kill you or take your daughters for pleasure and your sons for their army. The Charter of the New Jerusalem prevented that.

They could only fire you. And right around the corner was another who'd give you the same handful of silver that bought lots of bread and vegetables and even meat.

There was too much work and not much leisure. But nobody starved. And if a family jammed up in a cheap flat and emptied all their silver in a single pile, eventually they could transform themselves into the nobility of this Brave New World. Here, it only took money; money for goods, money for education. This was a game they knew how to play. Suffer now – prosper tomorrow. A bargain – a very small price compared to the fate of those they left behind. L'chayim!