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# the Shofar



Etz Chayim Conservative Synagogue's Monthly Newsletter

JULY, 2022

TAMUZ/AV, 5782

The synagogue is open for in-person Friday night services and other events.  
For information on joining virtual services, please see our website:  
<http://www.etzchayim-hsv.org>

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you to all who attended and voted at the Congregation Meeting on June 1. We approved the Budget and the incoming officers.

Rabbi Listfield will be with us in person for the High Holidays in September-October and for seven monthly gatherings from November to May to follow. Please contact Bill Goldberg if you have a special event weekend that you would like to recommend we have the Rabbi in town, as there is still some flexibility in the calendar dates at this time.

I wish everyone a fun-filled summer free of COVID.

Steve Goodman, President

## BOOK CLUB

Book Club meets on Thursday, July 14, 11:30 am at the synagogue to review the last half of the book, "A Short History of the Jews," by Michael Brenner. You are

welcome to come and join us, even if you have not read the book, we will share our doughnuts with you.

For those of you who donated the delicious food for our family, the beautiful cards, for attendance at the gravesite funeral and donations to the synagogue, we can't thank you enough!

You don't know how much it helped us with our grieving for Jeff.

Best regards,

Joe and Sue Paddock

## SISTERHOOD

Greetings!

During the long years of Covid when the synagogue was closed, your Sisterhood Board and members tried to be of service as much as possible. Our Board members continued to meet virtually every month.

We held drive-by giveaway days for Passover wine, hamantaschen for Purim,

Rosh Hashanah honey and honey cake and Hannukah latkes.

We managed to support our synagogue when the building and playroom were damaged by a rainstorm.

We were there to distribute prayer books and holiday booklets.

We even organized an indoor Yard Sale during Covid through the generosity of the synagogue members' many donations of items to sell and their time helping us man the event inside and out. It was truly a congregational effort.

I would like to take this moment to thank my Board, Brenda Liles, Millie Rosenthal, Sue Paddock, Nanette Schwartz, Donna Lyonais, Natha Hancock, and Shirley Roberts for coming forward every time the Sisterhood was needed. It is a wonderful feeling to know that so many people will step up when there are families at the synagogue that are in need of our help and services. Their selfless devotion is much appreciated.

Our primary purpose is to do whatever we can to serve the needs of Etz Chayim. It is wonderful that we are currently open again, and that the people who come to services and do the oneg are doing so responsibly.

This week we had the pleasure of getting together with the women of Sisterhood and the congregation for our first Lunch Bunch since the beginning of Covid. We had a wonderful time and a large crowd. It felt great to spend time together again and enjoy each other's company. We hope to continue having a Lunch Bunch at different restaurants every other month. They are always open to all Sisterhood members and women members of Etz Chaim.

Hopefully, you've received a letter from Sisterhood regarding the 2022 New Year

Booklet. In the entry hall are sheets for advertisements in the booklet, which is the main fundraiser for the year. If each family could get at least one ad from a restaurant or a business you frequent, it would increase our revenue incredibly. Keep in mind that this money goes towards supporting the synagogue and allows us to fund projects that we all enjoy. Purim Hot Dog Dinners, Chanukkah Latke Parties, Saturday Luncheons, supplies for the kitchen as well as improvements to our building are just a few of the things that are paid for with the funds we raise from the New Year Booklet.

Our synagogue is like a family. We are incredibly lucky that there are so many people we can depend on; men and women who are willing to pitch in and support Etz Chayim.

Sandra Wiederecht



Now that summer is upon us, we want to make sure you heard about the Open Doors campaign. Open Doors is a brief survey where graduating high schoolers indicate a bit about themselves, including where they are journeying to next. Our goal is to open doors for them through connections to Jewish community and experiences in their next chapter of life.

We look forward to connecting emerging adults to USCJ synagogues near them in the future. Use the following address to find the Open Door Survey:

<https://crm.uscj.org/odsurvey-phis>

USCJ's Engagement Department is leading this initiative to strengthen and grow our Conservative Movement. Please share your questions, thoughts or ideas with them by

contacting Rebecca Weisman  
(Rweisman@uscj.org) or Chelsea Werde  
(Cwerde@uscj.org).

3080 Broadway  
Suite B208  
New York, NY 10027-4650  
United States

## DONATIONS

### General Fund

From: Julie Lindy  
To: Sue & Joe Paddock - In Memory of their  
son, Jeff Paddock

From: Joann Andrew  
To: Sue & Joe Paddock - In Memory of their  
son, Jeff Paddock.

From: Arlene Averbuch  
To: Sue & Joe Paddock - In Memory of Jeff  
Paddock

From: Margaret Ann Goldsmith  
To: Sue & Joe Paddock - In Memory of Jeff  
Paddock

From: Eva & Barry Berman  
To: Sue & Joe Paddock - In Memory of their  
son, Jeff Paddock

From: Donna Lyonnaise  
To: Sue & Joe Paddock - In Memory of Jeff  
Paddock

From: Brenda & Cliff Liles  
To: Sue & Joe Paddock - In Memory of Jeff  
Paddock

From: Donna & Bruce Paddock  
To: Joe & Sue Paddock - in Memory of your  
son, Jeff Paddock from a loving Aunt &  
Uncle who will miss him.

From: Sue & Joe Paddock  
In Loving Memory of our son, Jeff Paddock

### Rabbi Fund

From: B.J. & Bill Brigadier  
To: Sue & Joe Paddock - In Memory of your  
son, Jeff Paddock

### Outdoor Lighting Fund

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

Two Shiva gift cards to Kosher catering companies in Atlanta were sent from the Sisterhood and the Congregation to Rabbi Listfield for the loss of his wife, Leslie.
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

Jul 14 Book Club at 11:30  
Jul 17 17 Tamuz Fast Day

## 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 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

## Yahrzeits\*\*

Jun 26	27 Sivan	Al Krupnick*
Jun 29	30 Sivan	Phyllis E.A. Schreiber
Jul 03	04 Tamuz	Marc Lyonnais
Jul 03	04 Tamuz	Lydia Saporta Vitoulis
Jul 04	05 Tamuz	Charles Klazmer
Jul 04	05 Tamuz	Doris Mae Aaronson Kirshtein
Jul 04	05 Tamuz	Morris Schindler
Jul 05	06 Tamuz	Abraham Kalachman*
Jul 05	06 Tamuz	Meyer (Mike) Zelickson*
Jul 06	07 Tamuz	Jacob Milton Ludmer*
Jul 06	07 Tamuz	Jacob Zarovsky
Jul 06	07 Tamuz	Virginia Johanna McDonald
Jul 08	09 Tamuz	Etta B. Roberts
Jul 09	10 Tamuz	Rose Flashner*
Jul 10	11 Tamuz	Annette Honan Cassuto
Jul 16	17 Tamuz	Milton Fuerst
Jul 17	18 Tamuz	Sam Goldstein*
Jul 17	18 Tamuz	Benjamin Sainker*
Jul 22	23 Tamuz	Paula Levy Goldberg*
Jul 24	25 Tamuz	Samuel H. Cohen*
Jul 26	27 Tamuz	Harry Freedman
Jul 27	28 Tamuz	Lynda Citron Siff
Jul 29	01 Av	Naomi Miller*
Aug 03	06 Av	Harold Isadore Yalowitz

### **\*Plaque**

**\*\*Light Memorial candle sunset of previous evening**

## ONEG LIST

Jul 01	Hancock
Jul 08	Kolchin
Jul 15	Honan
Jul 22	Roberts
Jul 29	Lyonnais

## 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 were 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.

In a way, they were the Chasids of Christianity – without the joyfulness. They prayed more than they played. They spent more on candles and more New England nights studying Leviticus than they did 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 forebearers 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 "Abe, 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!

**HUNTSVILLE CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUE**

*Etz Chayim Congregation, 7705 Bailey Cove Rd., Huntsville, AL 35802*

**2022 NEW YEAR BOOKLET**

Advertising Form

**DEADLINE FOR CHANGES IS JULY 15**

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**P.O. BOX 4924**

**HUNTSVILLE, AL 35815**

REPRESENTATIVE'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_