



The Messenger



A SHALOM BAYIT PUBLICATION – November 2013 – Heshvan/Kislev 5774

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(Please notify Marty Hoffman ((951)769-3830) of any errors or omissions in the following information. A correction will be published in the next issue of our bulletin.)

Omitted October Birthdays

Randy Forney – 10/1, Hope Wasserman - 10/2

November Birthdays

Kay Ross – 11/12, Harold Barsh – 11/26, Lloyd Margolis – 11/27, Emmy Bell – 11/29, Michelle Gasper – 11/29

November Annivesaries

Bill & Sandy Zwick – 11/06, Joseph & Michelle Gasper – 11/10

November Yahrzeits

Nettie Goldstein – Mother of Paul Goldstein, Elaine Krupsaw – Wife of Ken Krupsaw,
Dora Chamowitz – Grandmother of Carol Sherman, Rose Zwick – Mother of Bill Zwick,
Alexander Smith – Uncle of Ilene Kaplan, Blanche Glass – Sister of Larry Liebers,
Nancy Thacker – Daughter of Larry & Anne Liebers, Fred Watkins - Father of Joan Frost,
Abraham Katz – Stepfather of Claudia Schwartz

*If I was going to take up cross country skiing, I'd start with the smallest country I could find.
It takes food 7 seconds to get from your mouth to your stomach. It takes less than a millisecond to reach your hips.*

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SPIRITUAL LEADERS, “THE RABBIS”

How to observe Thanksgivukkah?

When I looked at my calendar and saw that the first day of Chanukah and Thanksgiving were both on November 28th, I thought there was an error. In the past they have sometimes been close, but never at the same time. Well, never before in our lifetime. (It happened in 1888 and 1899 — and it will occur again in 70,000 years or so.)



In the last few days, lots of articles have appeared in my email about how to celebrate the combination of these holidays. Of course, since we love to observe holidays with special foods, almost all the articles deal with how to integrate potato lakes into the turkey dinner. One suggested marinating the turkey in Manischewitz Concord wine.

Instead of looking at the practical aspects of celebrating both Chanukah and Thanksgiving at the same time, let’s think about how appropriate it is to have these two holidays coincide and wonder what lessons we can learn from this.

Chanukah is a holiday traditionally celebrated on several levels. We light the Chanukiah, the eight branched candelabra (with a ninth candle for the shamus) to commemorate the miracle of the small amount of purified oil that lasted the eight days—the time required to make new oil for the eternal lamp in the Temple.. (The word menorah is usually reserved for the candelabra with seven candles like the one in the Temple in Jerusalem.)

We also recognize that one of the first battles for religious freedom was fought by a ragtag band of Maccabees against the greater forces of Antiochus, who had desecrated the Temple with statues of Greek gods and sacrifices of pigs. The Chanukah celebration is the re-enactment of the rededication of the Temple.

And certainly in America we celebrate the holiday as a joyous occasion and a time for giving gifts and eating special foods. As a young child, I remember the candles, latkes and Chanukah gelt— but as I got older, the competition with Christmas brought the additional joy of receiving a special gift each night.

But Chanukah also has another dimension that is embedded in the celebration but not often stressed. And that is the aspect of thankfulness. We are grateful for abundance of blessings that we all have living in the most wonderful (in spite of its issues) country on earth. We have the freedom to celebrate Judaism; we have the freedom to light our Chanukiahs; we have the freedom to tell the story, sing the songs; we have the freedom that was the dream of the Maccabees — and, may I add -- the Pilgrims?

The Pilgrims came to America to find a place where they could practice their religion in peace. The Pilgrims read the Bible, and the first Thanksgiving celebration was actually inspired by Sukkot where they gave thanks to God for the fruits of the land. The first Chanukah was also a delayed celebration of Sukkot, which could not be celebrated at the proper time that year because the Maccabees had been fighting to reclaim the Temple.

Both holidays are really a time to reflect on the blessings in our lives and to say *Thank You* for them. So when you have your turkey and latkes this year remember to say a special *Thank You* for living in this wonderful country, remember to share your feast with the less fortunate, and rededicate your Jewish commitment to leave the world a better place via Tikkun Olam.

We’ll be talking about this year’s special Chanukah-Thanksgiving at Shabbat on November 15. We look forward to seeing you all, then.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT.

Well, here we are into another year. The Religious Practices Committee, chaired by Carol Sherman, Joan Frost for the music, and the Rabbis Larry and Linda, spent many hours choreographing the High Holy Days so that everything would go smoothly. It is because of them and your willing participation that makes the services meaningful for us. Thank you to everyone who played a part.

We appreciate all donations received for the High Holy Days and for our Yizkor book. Special thanks to Diana Newman for compiling and publishing the Yizkor book.

We *do* rely on donations and fund raising to support our programs. As you've heard many times, dues alone do not sustain us.

We thank the Sisterhood for taking care of the Oneg after Rosh Hashanah. Special thanks to Cathy Colt and Joan Frost. Thanks to Carol Sherman for coordinating the Break the Fast, making sure that we had enough to eat after our period of fasting. None of this would have been possible without the help of our congregants in setting up and cleaning the Fireside Room. Thanks to all of you -- you know who you are, and we are grateful for your participation.

Kudos to Marty Hoffman for his tireless efforts in publishing our monthly newsletter, "The Messenger". Additionally, we appreciate the reminders from our telephone committee, Adele Kiefer and Doreen Levin, for keeping us informed.

Now, let's put our thinking caps on and develop programs that will entice new members. We are still attempting to provide a community outreach program for our constituents. If you have any special projects you hear about, or are interested in, please contact me. All suggestions are welcome.



Hannah

2013-2014 UPDATED MEMBERSHIP LIST

By now, each of you should have received the updated Shalom Bayit membership list. Be sure to check your information for errors. If you find any, contact Ed Newman [(951)769-8850] with your corrections.

TRIBUTE CARD DONATIONS

If you wish to send a Tribute Card to family, friends, congregants, etc., and at the same time make a donation to Shalom Bayit, simply call Doreen Levin at (951)845-9288. Let her know if you are celebrating someone's birthday, anniversary, other special occasion or milestone, or sending condolences to someone, and she will send out a Tribute Card to them. You should then send a check with "Tribute Card" in the 'For' (or whatever your check shows for a notation on the bottom left) to: Congregation Shalom Bayit, 1320 W. Williams Street, Banning, California 92220. Everyone benefits!

SISTERHOOD

Our October meeting with Carol Martin's interpretation of "When Shlemiel Went to Warsaw" was an outstanding event. We'll have a full report in next month's *Messenger*.

The beautiful Tree of Life wall hanging continues to grow. New leaves seem to be added each month. Thank you all for your generous support and let's keep it growing!

September 1st was the beginning of the sisterhood's fiscal year. Your \$18.00 dues are due now. They can be paid at the sisterhood meeting or mailed directly to the sisterhood treasurer, Cathy Colt.

November's Sisterhood meeting will be on the 19th at 11:30 a.m., as always. We still are not able to return to the Sun Lakes atrium, so we will meet at The Lakes again. Hope to see you all there. Following this meeting, our next one will be in 2014!

Joan

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY.

Remember to bring whatever non-perishable food items you can spare for the church. The church is in need of food items for the needy families of our area. Please bring these items to the Havdalah or Shabbat services. Ask any board member where to place them.

**May you be blessed with a year
of health and happiness?**

Jay & Leslie Diamond

(Inadvertently Delayed New Year's greeting)

HELPING OUR MILITARY

Save the used postage stamps from letters you receive. Cut them off of the envelopes, leaving about 1/2" border around the stamp. They are used as therapy by our military hospitals. Give them to Ilene Kaplan. She will see that they get to where they are needed.

SHABBAT SERVICE

The Shabbat service will be on Friday, November 15, 2013 at 7:00 pm.

FUTURE ONEG SHABBAT SPONSORS

Sponsor's for Oneg are as follows: November: Sandra Shulkin/ Michelle Gasper/ Kay Ross, December Jay & Leslie Diamond/ Rachel Axelrad/ Lauree Feigenbaum.

2014: January - Cathy Colt & Jeff Silver, February - OPEN, March - Ilene Kaplan/ Kay Ross/ Carol Sherman, May - OPEN, June - OPEN, July - OPEN, August - Lauree Feigenbaum, September - OPEN, October - OPEN.

Contact Carol Sherman to learn how to be a sponsor, and to let her know in which month or months you will sponsor the service.

Carol

HAVDALAH

We will be having Famous Dave's catering our November Havdalah. Their food has always been a winner. The cost will be \$18.00 per person for members & guests. Please join us and bring your friends for a fun-filled night with music and a Havdalah service conducted by Adrienne Swedlove and her son Joel, who will be playing his guitar.

Reservations are a must. Call Carol Sherman 951-769-7514 **no later than Oct.28th**

You may send your check to: Carol Sherman,
505 Sandpiper St.,
Banning, CA 92220

FUTURE HAVDALAH SPONSORS

Sponsors for November (catered) are: Cathy Colt & Jeff Silver. We are in need of sponsors for Dec. 2013 (catered), Jan 2nd 2014, (pot luck) 2014, Feb. 1st 2014 (catered). March 1st, 2014 – (pot luck) Ilene Kaplan, Carol Sherman. The balance of the Year is available. Contact or call Carol me at:- [(951)769-7514] for details on how to become a sponsor.

Carol .

When you come to the Havdalah, if you have a few coins with you, drop them in one of the “donation” boxes that are always placed on each table. You will hardly miss the coins, but they add up and help our Temple.

WAYS AND MEANS

If you are dropping off recyclables at Ilene’s house, be sure to leave them at the **correct** address. It is:

5183 Rio Bravo Drive.



Her neighbor has become *very* irate at having stuff left on his property.

Keep those plastic bottles and aluminum cans coming. Give them to, or call me at (951-845-0830) when you have some to donate. You may also bring them to the Friday night or the Havdalah services.

I hope that you all enjoyed the “no party Boston tea party” tea bag and pamphlet that were in the October issue of the Messenger. If you have not already done so, make yourself a cup of tea, and while you’re enjoying it, write out a donation cheque to the temple and mail it in. An envelope was included in the Messenger. Or just send it to the temple at:- 1320 West Williams Street, Banning, CA 92220.

Our fund raiser at Der Wienerschnitzel in Beaumont will be on Saturday, December 14, 2013 from 2:00 pm til’ 7:00 pm. Come early and come often, There two are coupon flyers included in this mailing. Make as many copies of the coupons as you wish. Keep one for yourself and give the rest to friends & neighbours. You must have *our* coupon for the Temple to get credit for your purchase. No other discounts, such as **senior or mailers**, from Der Wienerschnitzel can be used, as this is a fund raiser. **Do not distribute coupons inside the restaurant, on the restaurant’s parking lot or within 100 yards of the restaurant property.** The restaurant gives us 25% of the total sales. We will lose all of the money and be barred from having future fundraisers at Der Wienerschnitzel should any coupons be distributed illegally.

Ilene

THINGS TO PONDER

*If a word is misspelled in the dictionary, how would we ever know?
Why do we say something is out of wack? What is a wack?
How come “slow down” and “slow up” mean the same thing?
Why do “wise man” and “wize guy” mean the opposite?
Why isn’t PHONICS spelled the way it sounds?
Where does your lap go when you stand up?
Why do TUG boats PUSH ships?*

Orders are now being taken for the new Mah Jongg cards. This is a fund raiser for our temple. The cost per card for the 2014 cards are \$8.00 for the standard sized card and \$9.00 for the **large** sized card.

Contact Carol Sherman [(951)769-7514] to place your order.

