

The Messenger

Congregation Shalom Bayit



October 2015

Tishri – Heshvan 5776

congregationshalombayit.com

Webmaster : Ken Foberg

President
Hannah Riceberg
951-769-3678
hr3555@hotmail.com

Secretary
Leslie Diamond
909-553-9544
Jayles2@verizon.net

Sunshine
Adele Kiefer
951-845-1064
Doreen Levin
951-845-9288

Vice President &
Sisterhood President
Cathy Colt
951-392-5380
cathycolt@verizon.net

Treasurer & Newsletter
Steve Benoff
310-413-4896
steve.benoff@verizon.net

Tribute Cards
Doreen Levin
951-845-9288

Past President
Edward Newman
951-769-8850
edjnewman@aol.com

Religious Practices
Carol Sherman
951-769-7514
carollois21@gmail.com

Membership
Open Position

Fundraising
Joan Frost
951-845-9757
mjfrost9@verizon.net

Rabbi
Kenneth Milhander
714-792-0522
roshpina@sbcglobal.net

October Havdalah

Saturday October 3, 2015 - 5:30

Sponsored by Edward and Rachel Axelrad in memory of Ruth Axelrad

CATERED - Cost: Members \$14.00, Guests \$17.00

Reservations a MUST. Send check to:

*Carol Sherman
505 Sandpiper St.
Banning, CA 92220*



SAVE THE DATE!

Don't forget that the November 7th Havdalah is being sponsored by Kay Ross at the South Clubhouse, Sun Lakes. In addition to our regular Havdalah Service led by Rabbi Ken, there will be delicious food and entertainment. Kay has invited our congregation to celebrate with her, so don't miss it.

President's Message



I want to say a few words about how Rabbi Kenneth Milhander has brought great enthusiasm, wise guidance to the Board, and a fresh approach to Judaism, which has helped to increase our membership (or at the very least, to make up for our 4 unexpected losses). We are grateful to have him to lead us.

The single greatest member-generating group is you, our current membership. The turnout at Shabbat and Havdalah Services has been great, in spite of the extreme heat. Even more than numbers, is the warmth the attendees show each other, especially to guests and visitors. Thank you all for projecting what Congregation Shalom Bayit is all about.

I'll preface this next portion by saying I don't do this to annoy you, but to convince you that in order to operate the temple, we need funds from you in several ways. We ask you for annual dues. Some of you, for legitimate reasons, hold off paying your dues at or near year's end. Ouch, that hurts! We sell you leaves, we invite you to attend fundraisers, etc. Don't let your fellow congregants down. Let's continue to look to the future for growth and success.

Hannah

From the Rabbi

October 2015



Shalom Chaverim,

Some time in the late 1960s or early 1970s, the American media discovered that they could drive ratings, viewership, and readership by presenting issues as two diametrically opposed positions. Instead of presenting issues as nuanced, well-thought-out, and complicated, they would now be presented as one side against the other, black and white, red and blue. And soon politics would be injected into every arena and argument.

I learned this lesson the hard way soon after I arrived at my first congregation following ordination. A newspaper reporter called me up and wanted to get my opinion on homosexuality and gay marriage – at least that is what he told me. What I didn't know was that the ultimate published article was not really about that topic but about pitting two clergymen against one another in order to manufacture and generate controversy.

Today nearly every issue is framed by the media as controversy, outrage, and a “war on...(fill in the blank).” Every topic, no matter how complicated, is boiled down to bumper-sticker slogans and extreme rhetoric, and the more extreme, the better. With the advent of the 24-hour news cycle and social media, our nation has become even more polarized than ever before. Can you even remember the last time you had a rational, respectful conversation with someone with whom you disagreed? Most people today just repeat the red-meat slogans they hear on cable news in an effort to “win” the argument, to shut down the conversation, and to denigrate and disrespect the “other side.”

As a rabbi, I am often asked Judaism's view on a variety of issues. What most people are searching for are quick, simple answers. Judaism, however, is not a bumper-sticker religion and Jewish Law cannot be boiled down to simple slogans and extreme rhetoric. Jews, Judaism, and Jewish Law are not monolithic but nuanced, not absolute but complicated, not black and white – but grey. Like I always say, that is why God gave us two thumbs – on one hand...and on the other hand. Judaism is a very old tradition, and its teachings have been open to a variety of opinions over the centuries which is why if you look hard enough, you can almost always find various opinions on almost every topic. In addition, Judaism has never been stagnant, but its approach to the world has been flexible, adaptable, ever-changing, ever-growing, and ever-learning.

In our society there are certain issues that seem to be perpetually controversial and adversarial because the arguments have been boiled down to two diametrically opposed, strident, and unwavering positions. The discussion of such topics itself is always framed as a zero-sum game with neither side willing to concede even an inch. Do I have to even tell you what those issues are?

These issues are what I call (and I didn't invent this phrase) “Hot Topics.” It's important to understand the nuance and the complexity of these topics because that is what Jews do – as Israel means “to wrestle with God,” we Jews wrestle with our tradition, wrestle with these hot topics, wrestle not just with both sides of an argument but with all sides of an argument. So in the coming months, I will present the Jewish view of some of these “Hot Topics” during our Havdallah programs. For October, let's begin with probably the most controversial, most divisive, most polarizing issue, that of course being abortion. On October 3rd, I will present the Jewish view of this hottest of topics. You may be surprised to learn what Judaism has to say about this issue and how complex and nuanced the arguments are.

Lech L'shalom – May you go in peace,
Rabbi Kenneth Milhandler



Sisterhood

Sisterhood meets monthly at the Sun Lakes Atrium. Our business meeting is extremely brief and is followed by a nice lunch with a lively discussion of a variety of issues. Our Sisterhood year officially started September 1. We look forward to seeing everyone at our lunch meetings at the Sun Lakes Country Club Atrium room on the Tuesday after Friday night services each month.

Sisterhood provided sliced apples and honey on Erev Rosh Hashanah evening after services. Since Sisterhood's regular meeting time was on Erev Yom Kippur we did not meet in September.

If you would like to purchase a leaf for the Tree of Life, look for the Sisterhood flyer in this newsletter or see Cathy Colt.

Cathy Colt
President, CSB Sisterhood



Yahrzeits

Frank Hutchings Colt	Father of	Cathy Colt
Nellie Mote	Grandmother of	Cathy Colt
Harry Nathan	Uncle of	Ilene Kaplan
Irving Schwartz	Father of	Barry Schwartz
Jack Silver	Stepfather of	Claudia Schwartz
Jacob Sattinger	Grandfather of	Carol Sherman
Joseph Logan	Father of	Sandra Shulkin
Rita Silver	Mother of	Jeff Silver

Birthdays

Randy Forney	Oct. 11
Rabbi Ken Milhander	Oct. 23
Ken Krupsaw	Oct. 26

Tribute

Ken Krupsaw/Carol Sherman in
Tribute to Esther Katz

Yahrzeit Donations

- Barry & Claudia Schwartz in memory of his mother Eleanor Schwartz
- Leon & Nancy Darling in memory of her father Richard Altheimer and sister Carol Pohja
- Doreen Levin in memory of her husband Bernard Levin and mother Mary Bobrowa
- Lauree Feigenbaum in memory of her daughter Erica Feigenbaum and sister Janis Wulfe
- Sandy Hoffman in memory of her father Sidney Bossin
- Marty Hoffman in memory of his mother Esther Hoffman
- Carol Sherman in memory of her mother Celia Sattinger
- Adele Kiefer in memory of her mother Violet Brandt

Please note the purpose of your donations on your checks to the temple.

Oneg and Havdalah Sponsorship

Havdalah

October Edward and Rachel Axelrad
in memory of Ruth Axelrad

November Kay Ross (party at Sun Lakes
South Club House)

December Judi & Lloyd Margolis/Fran Rayner

Oneg

October Claudia & Barry Schwartz

November Kay Ross/Ken Krupsaw

December Sandy & Marty Hoffman

We need sponsors for January through June, 2016.

TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT ORDERING OUR NEW MAH JONGG CARDS FOR 2016. THEY WILL BE DELIVERED AT THE END OF MARCH.

THE PRICE WILL BE:

\$8.00 FOR STANDARD CARD

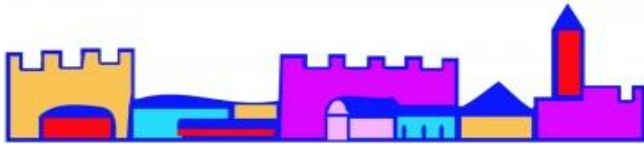
\$9.00 FOR LARGE CARD

BUY THEM THRU THE TEMPLE AND HAVE A SWEET YEAR WITH LOTS OF WINNINGS

CONTACT: CAROL SHERMAN 769-7514

October 2015

MONDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
					10:30 – Board Mtg.	5:30 – Havdalah (catered)
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		11:30 – Sisterhood				
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



Congregation Shalom Bayit

1320 West Williams Street
Banning, CA 92220

Congregation Shalom Bayit



A very special Havdalah with our S'lichot service welcoming the new year.

Published monthly. The editor must receive articles by the 10th of the month to be included in the next issue.

Ad rates:

Business card: \$30

¼ page: \$37.50

½ page: \$75

Full page: \$150

Rates shown are for 3 months and are subject to change and can be adjusted for long term advertisements.

Joíño'ahs!