

Temple Beth Shalom Polk

# *Chai Lites*

August 2023

The Annual Bar-b-que followed by a Classical Reform Service was held on July 21<sup>st</sup>. Sandi and Phil Grinker outdid themselves with a tasty bar-b-que and tons of side dishes provided by guests. Bert Devorsetz led the service that was attended by so many old and new friends.



Thank you to Bert Devorsetz & Dottie Fitchett for performing the Lay Service.

Thank you Phil & Sandi Grinker, Polly & Jan Weinman and all our kitchen

clean up help.

# President's Musings

by Lorraine Mixer

Its so sad when a good thing dies. I have been unable to find a Chairperson for our Annual Chai Notes Directory. We may not have a directory this year, if a volunteer does not come forward. If you know of someone willing to take on the responsibility of seeing that our Directory does not become history, please let me know.

I was not able to find a volunteer to head the Rabbi Search Committee. If you are interested, or know someone who is – no experience is needed – please let me know.

The Chai Lites Booster fund raiser has funded a new head set microphone for the use of speakers on the Bima, improving sound quality for Zoom users. Thank you to all of you donors for your continued support of this program. For only \$18 (Chai) your name is posted in our Chai Lites newsletter. Your donation is used to fund the 'wish list' of new items needed or necessary repairs to the Temple (new lights in the Rabbi's office and Ladies Rest Room are next).

Your Brotherhood/Sisterhood has another great event planned for September. Info about the trip to Tiger Town can be found in this newsletter. For only \$8 each, we can watch America's Favorite Game of Baseball. Brotherhood/Sisterhood meet once a month over breakfast at Angie's Grill in the Hamptons' clubhouse. Stop by and join them.

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> Purse Auction volunteers are looking for gently used purses for the event as well as sponsors for the event. The first organizational meeting will be held August 20<sup>th</sup> at 11a.m. at the Hamptons. If you would like to be in on the planning of the event, please let me know, or speak to Sandi Grinker at: 863-207-7440.

Lastly, for those who did not attend the lovely wedding reception last year you might not know that your Treasurer, Michael Craig and I are now Mr. & Mrs. We have waited all year for Michael to be granted a Green Card to allow him to stay in the U.S.A. Congressman Scott Franklin's office has obtained permission for Michael to return to Canada to wrap up his personal business there. I will be traveling to Canada as well in the next few weeks. I will continue to work via email, phone and Zoom. Your Vice President, Bert Devorsetz will be taking over in September of the TBS Board Meetings.

I thank you all for your participation and dedication to seeing that TBS remains a vibrant, active and inclusive congregation.

See you on Zoom!



Lorraine Mixer

TBS Board President

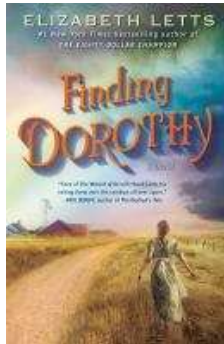
[lrrainemixer@aol.com](mailto:lrrainemixer@aol.com)

863-409-8509

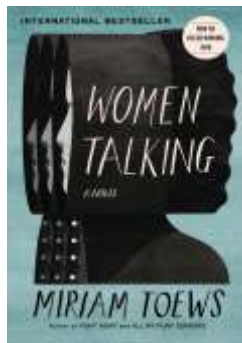


The Book Club will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 8<sup>th</sup>.

The August choice is  
*Finding Dorothy* by Elizabeth Letts



The September choice is  
*Women Talking* by Miriam Toews



Did you know?

We have Hebrew Lessons! Learn the Aleph, Bet or dig deeper into sentence structure or vocabulary...

Contact us at:

863-292-0722 or [web@templebethshalompolk.org](mailto:web@templebethshalompolk.org) for future dates.

# Notes from the Past Pres.

by Joseph Rodriguez

“Sometimes you’ve got to let everything go – purge yourself.

If you are unhappy with anything... whatever is bringing you down, get rid of it.

Because you’ll find that when you are free, your true creativity, your true self comes out.”

~ Tina Turner

Shalom Aleichem!

Just think how Tina Turner would perform at 80. She moved all over the stage, while we move slowly with our walkers. Who needs exercise when dancing can help the whole body movement. Let us see how many of us can ‘break-dance’. The only problem is that we cannot get up once we go down without help. I would like to spend more time gardening but then I have to crawl to the fence to pull myself up.

Each year, we as Jews purge ourselves. We attempt to better ourselves. We need to have a positive attitude. Some of our congregation members sometimes are negative to ideas other members are creative. We have members who propose ideas and others who are negative towards the new idea. The status quo will not help us to remain a place of worship. Just as Tina Turner left us, so are some of our members. Without a positive attitude, we cannot attract new members.

This past month we saw an improvement to our Web Site thanks to a new member’s help. New members bring their knowledge and creativity. So let us keep “*Rolling On The River*” of life. “*I Don’t Wanna Lose You*” as a member. Stay with us and support us. Bring your ideas to us.

**Let your true self come out. Come out and** join us on our next outing on September 7<sup>th</sup> to watch the Lakeland Flying Tigers. Please contact me if you plan to attend.

So “*What’s Love Got to Do with it*” - plenty. Remember to love our neighbor.

May Peace Be With You!

Joseph Rodriguez, Past President

JrodTBS2021@gmail.com

See us on Facebook or our Website

TempleBethShalomPolk.org



# 2024 Purse-a-Palooza and Tea Party

Your gently used purses are needed for our April 7<sup>th</sup> event.

Have you ever experienced Afternoon Tea?

Sit, sip and remember to keep those pinkies in the air while you bid on our purses.

Each purse comes with a mystery surprise inside!



If you have questions regarding the presence of a service dog, please contact me:

[lorrainemixer@aol.com](mailto:lorrainemixer@aol.com) or 863-409-8509.



## Mourning the Loss of a Language (with Tears of Laughter)

Submitted by Beverly Lerner

Many Jewish people around the world share the legacy of Yiddish, the language of their grandparents and great-grandparents and the “greats” before that. They lament the loss of a colorful language whose nuances, they claim, cannot be replicated in the lingua franca. Though I cannot count myself among the fluent, I have admired their love for the language and their hope that it will be revived.

Yiddish has all the attributes of a language: a literature, a culture, and at one time a geographical center; however, dispersion, assimilation, and the horrific tragedy of World War II have taken their toll. Yiddish is in the twilight of its life.

A relative of high German with hints of Slavic and Eastern European languages, Yiddish probably originated in the 10<sup>th</sup> century in Germany. The earliest written record is from the 12<sup>th</sup> century; and by the 14<sup>th</sup> century, Yiddish was the vernacular of Jews in Central Europe.

By World War II, there were about 17 million Jews worldwide. About twelve million spoke Yiddish. World War II took the lives of over 6 million.

Languages are ever-changing. They are born and they die, but rarely is one killed.

“Yiddish will survive in English,” I often say, reciting a handful of the fifty or so Yiddish words which live comfortably in the English language. Many English speakers know *shmo*, *kibbitz*, [\*chotchke\*](#), *chutzpah*. They also know the word *glitch* though few realize that it is a Yiddish word. I read a novel once where a character was sure that “conniption fit” was Yiddish. It’s not, but it should be.

Years ago Yiddish was taught in a small number of private schools, but other subjects competed for the time slot and won. Prior to WWII senior adult classes were common in Jewish Community Centers where participants learned some phrases and words, but mainly told stories and laughed a lot.

At one time Yiddish humor is very much in vogue. It’s not the Yiddish words (actually there are very few); rather, it’s the expression, the accent, and the characterization of our friends and relatives, all of which make us laugh.

Me, I never used Yiddish words unless I was specifically recalling a Yiddish word. Growing up, I heard the language occasionally, and rarely at home. My maternal grandparents were not born in the “old country,” but

rather in Chicago where they went to school and university and raised their children. My paternal grandfather came to the U.S. as a young man, but my paternal grandmother’s family moved to St. Joe, Missouri when she was just two. As a child, I noted that she was the only one of her friends who spoke English without the “accent.”

My sister Debby, however, married into a family where Yiddish words occasionally peppered the household conversation. Her husband, Mark, knows a lot more Yiddish than we do. Some years ago, I met with Debby and her daughter Amanda to plan her wedding in Orlando. As we discussed the options offered by the hotel, Debby asked, “What’s that Yiddish word which means “all that other stuff’?” I shook my head; Amanda laughed; Debby texted Mark.

Her phone beeped within seconds. A message from Mark: “How do you say, “I don’t know!” in Yiddish?



Yes, this “happy guy” is our own, Rabbi Herzfeld as he left for his vacation!  
He sent this to me as he was waiting to board his flight for Frankfurt and then on to Tel Aviv.  
He wished us well. I know he will have wonderful stories to tell us of his trip.  
Be sure to join us for the:

**Welcome Back Dinner**  
**September 9<sup>th</sup>, 6pm**





## High Holidays are early this year.

High Holiday Tickets are \$100 per person in advance. Please send your check to: Temple Beth Shalom, HH Tickets, P.O. Box 313, Winter Haven, FL 33882

If you are a Member in Good Standing your tickets are included with your annual dues.

## Our High Holiday Schedule is:

September 9, 2023		
6:00	p.m.	Dinner with the Rabbi
7:00	p.m.	Selichot Program and Service
September 15, 2023		
7:30	p.m.	Erev Rosh Hasahnah
September 16, 2023		
11:00	a.m.	Rosh Hasanah Morning Service
September 24, 2023		
7:30	p.m.	Kol Nidre
September 25, 2023		
10:30	a.m.	Yom Kippur Morning Service
3:00	p.m.	Discussion
4:00	p.m.	Yom Kippur Afternoon Service
4:30	p.m.	Stone Service followed by Yiskor
5:00	p.m.	Neilah
6:00	p.m.	Break the Fast



## Meanwhile, we are still enjoying: **SUMMER LAY SERVICES**

August 4<sup>th</sup>

Howard Kerner is our Guest Speaker:

"4 Jewish forgers & 3 Jewish Celebrities"

August 18<sup>th</sup>

Guest Speaker - Jessica Lawson

Development and Community Relations Associate at:

Peace River Victims Center





## **Are you the Son or Daughter of a Holocaust Survivor?**

We are an active group who share a common heritage and are partnered with the Florida Holocaust Museum. With our monthly (zoom) Book Club and Movie programs, we have all become enriched with the depth and breadth of our history. For those seeking to broaden their friendships, we also have monthly In-Person lunches and other social functions.

For more information, please contact Susan Nolan at 954.592.1992 or [srnolan318@gmail.com](mailto:srnolan318@gmail.com)

## **Maj Jong Ladies**



The Mah Jong ladies meet every Tuesday at noon. Feel free to bring your lunch and eat with them before they play.

If you would like learn how to play Mah Jong we will teach you.

For more information [sandigrinker@gmail.com](mailto:sandigrinker@gmail.com) 863-207-7440.

# August Calendar

Aug 1	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Aug 4	7:00 p.m.	Lay Services – Speaker: Howard Kerner
Aug 6	9:30 a.m.	Brotherhood/Sisterhood at Angies Restaurant in the Hamptons Clubhouse
Aug 8	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 8	11:00 a.m.	Book Club
Aug 8	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Aug 13	9:30 a.m.	TBS Board Meeting
Aug 15	10:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 15	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Aug 18	7:00 p.m.	Lay Services – Speaker: Jessica Lawson from Peace River Services
Aug 22	10:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 22	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Aug 29	10:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 29	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong

For more information, please email: [web@templebethshalompolk.org](mailto:web@templebethshalompolk.org)

or call: 863-292-0722





The Brotherhood/Sisterhood will meet:  
Sunday, August 6th at 9:30 a.m.  
at Angie's Restaurant in The Hamptons Clubhouse.  
Come early to enjoy breakfast and conversation with other caring people.

Let's welcome summer.....  
**TAKE US OUT TO THE BALLGAME**



Join us. Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood/Sisterhood September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
Lakeland Flying Tigers vs Tampa NY.

Gates open @ 5:30 pm --- Game starts @ 6:30 pm.

Cost is \$9.00 for under 60 years old.

Cost is \$8.00 for 60 years Plus.

Food and drinks are at your cost.

Parking is FREE!

Make payment to: Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood  
c/o Joseph Rodriguez, 3210 Great Heron Loop, Polk City, Fla. 33868

**Payment must be received by August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023.**

Root, root, root for the Home Team.

Catch a foul ball.



Contact Joseph Rodriguez at [jrodtbs2021@gmail.com](mailto:jrodtbs2021@gmail.com) for more information.



## Onegs (also known as Kiddush)

**The mitzvah of sponsoring an Oneg is a great way to celebrate any milestone from a birth, birthday, bar/bat mitzvah, anniversary, graduation, or a loved one’s yahrzeit.**

A Congregational Oneg not only provides a meaningful tribute to a loved one with an acknowledgement in Chai Lites and a charitable donation receipt, it more importantly provides blessings to the family with the words spoken by friends, members, and attendees to the sponsoring family. Kiddush/Oneg sponsorship helps strengthen your connection to the community while enhancing our community’s Shabbat experience.

To celebrate your milestone with an Oneg, please contact Arlene Greenberg.

**Arlene Greenberg, our Oneg Coordinator is retiring. She is looking for a person to take over coordinating sign ups as host or hostess for Onegs.**

Please contact Arlene to reserve your Oneg spot or to volunteer to take over this responsibility at: [arlenegreenberg@gmail.com](mailto:arlenegreenberg@gmail.com)

August 4	Korina Masters
August 18	Beverly Lerner
September 8	Volunteer Needed
September 9	Selichot Welcome Back Dinner (Meryl Crews Organizer)

## Thank You's: there is always something to be thankful for!



- Thank you to Polly and Jan Weinmann for helping cook and decorate at our annual Bar-b-que.
- Thank you to our Maj Jong players for donating items for our kitchen.
- Thank you to Bobby Baum for baking challah for our Onegs.
- Thank you to Arlene Greenberg for organizing our Onegs.
- Thank you to our Soloist Meryl Crews for her musical performance during our services.
- Thank you to Margo Fleisher for her photography and directing skills during our Zoom Services and our Board meetings as well as her secretarial skills.
- Thank you to Margo Fleisher for proofing Chai Lites and sending our meeting notices to all of you.
- Thank you to Meryl Crews for mailing Chai Lites to members who have no access to email.

## Donations

- Korina Masters has made a donation to Chai Lite Booster.
- Ken Triester has made a donation to the Temple.
- Margo Fleisher has made a donation in honor of her son, Elliott Bond's, enlistment in the Florida National Guard.
- Margo Fleisher has made a donation in celebration of Josef Bond's graduation from High School.
- Margo Fleisher has made a donation in memory of Jacquelyn Henderson who passed on July 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Judy Richter has made a donation in honor of Sandi Grinker's birthday.
- Baron Krisher has made a donation in support of the Jewish Nation.

## Good Cheer Committee

Our resident artist, Polly Weinmann is our new Chairperson of the "Good Cheer Committee".

Please share your name and date if you wish to receive greetings on your birthday, anniversary or at times when you just need an uplifting note.

Email: [mom2furkids1@gmail.com](mailto:mom2furkids1@gmail.com)

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	BIRTHDATE (NO YEAR)	ANNIVERSARY
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**B'NAI B'RITH  
INTERNATIONAL**

Dear Friends,

B'nai B'rith is on hiatus for the summer.

We are hoping to continue our brunches and discussions  
In the fall.

Shalom Aleichem,  
Bobby Baum  
President  
B'nai B'rith Lodge 1515

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### **Temple Beth Shalom Committees**

Do you want to be an integral part of our temple community?

Join one of the volunteer committees below.

Contact Beverly Lerner for more information on how to become a member at: [bevlerner@aol.com](mailto:bevlerner@aol.com)

Executive Committee

Pulpit

Publicity

Directory, Chai Lites

Book Club – **New members are welcome**

House – **Volunteer needed**

Membership

Onegs – **Volunteer needed**

Social Action – **Volunteer needed**

Dinner with the Rabbi – **Volunteer needed**

Special Projects



A great action photo of the Tuesday morning Yoga practice.

From Left to Right: Joyce Preston (yogi), Sybil Weiss, Arlene Greenberg, Beverly Lerner, Judy Richter and Sandi Grinker.

## Chair Yoga at the Temple

See the August calendar for dates and times.

Join us for chair yoga at the Temple. Temple member and certified yoga instructor Joyce Preston guides us through this gentle, beneficial activity using simple props, music and clear directions. Joyce makes it fun and easy while still challenging for even our more advanced participants.

Come join us. \$5 per session.

Contact Beverly Lerner for more information. 863-294-6042 (home)

[Bevlerner@aol.com](mailto:Bevlerner@aol.com)

## Mishaberach List

For those of you who do not plan to worship in person, you may add names to the Mishaberach list that is read at each service.

Please send names to: [lorrainemixer@aol.com](mailto:lorrainemixer@aol.com)



Temple Beth Shalom introduces:

Chai Lites Boosters, a Wish List for much needed upgrades for our building.

By donating Chai, \$18 your name will be published as a "Chai Lites Booster" in our monthly newsletter for a period of one year.

Yes, I want to be a Chai Lites "Booster"

Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_

for \_\_\_\_\_years.

Please show my name as: \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate Chai Lites Booster on your check.

Please mail your check to: Temple Beth Shalom

Attn: Boosters

P.O. Box 313, Winter Haven, Fl 33882



## Chai Lites Boosters

Donor Name	Month	Expiration	Donor Name	Month	Expiration
Korina Masters	June 7	2024	Arlene Greenberg	June 13	2023
Herb LaShay	May 16	2024	Beverly Lerner	June 9	5 years
Brotherhood/Sisterhood	May 4	2031	Jeffrey Goldblatt	June 13	2026
Ken Triester	Aug 4	2024	Bobby Baum	May 16	2024
Jerry Kosten	July 19	2026	Jerry Heyman	June 16	2026
Clint & Barbara Brooks	Aug 28	2024	Korina Masters	Aug 18	2025
Janis Koike	Jan 26	2027	Dick Ross	Aug 18	2023
Varda Rotenberg	Aug 5	2023			
Diana Kramer	Aug 25	2023	Jackie Korn	Nov 15	2023

**Do you have a question and don't know who to ask, contact our Board members.....**

### Our 2023 – 2024 Temple Board of Directors

**President: Lorraine Mixer ( [lorrainemixer@aol.com](mailto:lorrainemixer@aol.com) )**  
**Vice President: Bert Devorsetz ( [bertdevorsetz@gmail.com](mailto:bertdevorsetz@gmail.com) )**  
**Treasurer: Michael Craig ( [michaelcraig179@gmail.com](mailto:michaelcraig179@gmail.com) )**  
**Secretary: Margo Fleisher ( [margosfb@hotmail.com](mailto:margosfb@hotmail.com) )**  
**Past President: Joseph Rodriguez ( [jrodtbs2021@gmail.com](mailto:jrodtbs2021@gmail.com) )**

### Trustees

**Meryl Crews**  
**Lee Ann Martinez**  
**Arlene Greenberg**  
**Sandi Grinker**  
**Judy Richter**  
**Beverly Lerner**

## August Yahrzeits

Yahrzeit Date	Deceased	Relationship
Aug	Sol Sandler	Brooks family
Aug	Phil Lamoureux	father of Michelle Chain
Aug	Leslie Korn (Zave ben Yakov)	father of Howard Korn
Aug	Betty Rosenthal	sister of Carol Stern
Aug	Ruth Eisenberg	mother of Sue Zwerling
Aug	Becky Zwerling	grandmother of Steve Zwerling
2-Aug	Dennis Lerner	husband of Bev Lerner
3-Aug	Helen Monaca	mother of Jeanne Heyman
4-Aug	Fred Haas	Perpetual Yahrzeit
10-Aug	Beverly Serpa	Lerner family
11-Aug	Morris Sniderman	grandfather of Barbara Brooks
14-Aug	Marcus Wiley	grandson of Marvin and Elsa Kahn
14-Aug	Julia Sundheim	mother of Rabbi Frank Sundheim
19-Aug	Florence Shuller	mother of Sharon Shuller
25-Aug	Betty Ann Greenbaum Miller	niece of Korina Masters
25-Aug	Rita Rodriguez	sister of Sandy Gasson
27-Aug	Sheldon Steinberg	brother of Sandi Grinker
28-Aug	Sam Lite	perpetual yartzheit
28-Aug	Alice Molay	perpetual yartzzeit
30-Aug	Blake Gerard	cousin of Lorraine Mixter
31-Aug	Milton Gasson	father of Harry Gasson
31-Aug	Anna Clausen	mother of Aase Feder
31-Aug	Henry Stern	perpetual yahrzeit
31-Aug	Mary Steinberg	mother of Sandi Grinker

### **Yahrzeit Reminders - May their memories be a Blessing A candle should be lit the night before at sundown.**

You may say Kaddish with the Temple Beth Shalom community during Friday services.

It is customary at this time to give tzedakah in memory of your loved one.

To make a donation to any Temple Beth Shalom fund or to purchase a yahrzeit plaque, please contact us at: 863-292-0722.





One of our Sponsors, JoAnn Lesnett is offering the cute cottage in the photo above for rent at: 2116 ½ King Ave., Lakeland 33803

Rent is \$1,100 and is negotiable.

Please contact JoAnn at: 863-398-7907 for info on property.

**Thank you to all the members and families who donated and  
thank you to our 2023 Advertisers:**

**Angie's Kitchen at The Hampton's Grill**

**Baum and Knowles College Advising**

**B'nai B'rith**

**Central Buick GMC**

**Crews Transportation**

**Full Cover Insurance Solutions**

**Jo Ann Lesnett – Paramount Properties -Remax**

**Mayer Jewelers**

**Publix**

**Steven Greenberg Insurance**

**Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood/Sisterhood**

**James Truitt, DMD**

**Joyce Preston**