

Temple Beth Shalom Polk

# Chai Lites

April 2024



## Purim

Our Purim celebration was Grand!

We danced and ate homemade hamantaschen!



Rabbi Herzfeld always gets the Purim celebration started. Joyce Preston got us dancing and Bert & Dottie served ice cream and homemade hamantaschen.



## **We need you!**

### NOMINATIONS

#### ARTICLE VI. NOMINATIONS

Nominations of all officers and trustees shall be made by a Nominating Committee to consist of four members of the Temple plus the chairperson:

To Current Board Members:

Slate of Nominees for the April 21, 2024 Annual Meeting @ 2:00pm  
Temple Beth Shalom, Polk County Reform Jewish Congregation, Inc.

#### **Committee Members**

Board Members: Sandy Grinker and Beverly Lerner

Congregate Members: Jeff Goldblatt and Polly Weinmann

Chairman: Past President Joseph Rodriguez

#### **Slate of Officers**

President: Lorraine Mixter

Vice President: Bert Devorsetz

Secretary: Margo Fleisher

Treasurer: Michael Craig

Past President: Joseph Rodriguez

Brotherhood/Sisterhood President: Beverly Lerner

Trustees:

Meryl Crews

Arlene Greenberg

Sandi Grinker

Lee Ann Martinez

Uriah Rose



# President's Musings

by Lorraine Mixer



April brings so many activities for our community. We started with the Mad Hatter Tea Party. Ladies from Temple Beth Shalom and Schalamar Creek Community met to make their own hats and fascinators for the party. I provided supplies and guidance. You'll see the results on April 7<sup>th</sup>. We will be having a hat fashion show and offering prizes!

The next Brotherhood/Sisterhood meeting is their annual election of officers. It will be a brief meeting so that they can adjourn to the Hampton's ball room to set up for the Mad Hatter Tea Party. I sincerely appreciate their help in making our fund raiser a special, fun event.

Part of the proceeds of this event will go to Polk County Animal Rescue. The staff at the PCAR is excited to join us.

Thank you to all of you who generously donated items for our raffle baskets and teacups and tea pots. Your help is needed to set up, serve and clean up. Please let me know immediately if you are able to help.

Our first service of the month is a zoom service. Torah study follows on Saturday morning, also via zoom.

The Annual Meeting will be held on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 2pm. Members should attend this meeting and hear about the health of our congregation.

Our Passover Seder will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. We need volunteers to set up, serve and clean up. Please let me know if you can help. The seder will be catered by 'The Catering Company of Central Florida'. The cost is \$50 for members and \$60 for non-members.

I look forward to seeing you at all these events.

Lorraine Mixer  
TBS Board President  
[lorrainemixer@aol.com](mailto:lorrainemixer@aol.com)  
863-409-8509



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.

## THE SOLDIER'S PRAYER BOOK, OR THE DECK OF CARDS.

During the 1967 war in Israel, a bunch of soldiers had been on a long hike when they arrived at the wailing wall in Jerusalem. The next day being Shabbat, several of them went to the nearest synagogue. Those who had prayer books with them took them out. One soldier had a deck of cards, so he spread them out.

After the services were over, the Rabbi came over to the soldier and said: "What have you to say for yourself for this transgression in Shul?" "Very much, Rabbi;" said the young soldier. "I have been on the march for ten days, during which time I had neither bible nor prayer book. I hope to satisfy you, Rabbi that this was not transgression nor sin". With that he started his explanation:

"You see Rabbi, when I see the Ace, it reminds me that there is but one God.

When I see the Deuce, it reminds me of the Two Tablets of the Law.

When I see the Three, it reminds me of the three Patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.

When I see the Four, it reminds me of the four Matriarchs, Sarah, Rebecca, Leah and Rachel.

When I see the Five, it reminds me of the Five Books of Moses.

When I see the Six, it reminds me that God made Heaven and Earth in six days.

When I see the Seven, it reminds me that on the Seventh Day God rested.

When I see the Eight, Rabbi, it reminds me of Abraham's covenant with G-d.

The Nine symbolizes the nine months it takes to bring life into the world.

When I see the Ten, it reminds me of the Ten Commandments that God gave Moses on Mount Sinai, on two tables of stone."

When I see the Jack, it reminds me of Joseph of old and his coat of many colors.

When I see the Queen, it reminds me of Queen Esther who with her Uncle Mordechai saved the Jewish people from destruction.

When I see the King, it reminds me that G-d, King of the Universe, is Supreme overall.

When I count how many spots there are in a Deck of Cards, I find there are three hundred and sixty-five, and there are so many days in the year."

There are 52 cards, the number of weeks in a year.

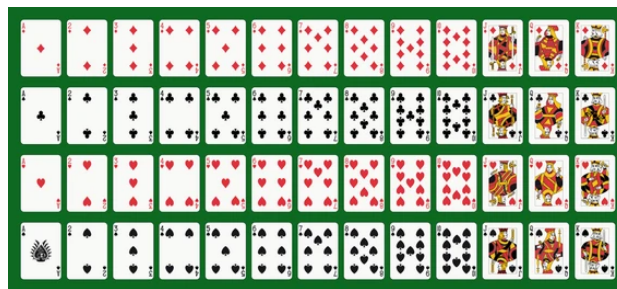
There are 4 suits, the number of weeks in a month.

There are 12 picture cards, the number of months in a year.

There are 13 tricks in a deck, the number of weeks in a quarter year.

"So you see, Rabbi, my Deck of Cards serves me as a Bible, a prayer book and an almanac".

The Rabbi was so moved by the soldier's explanation, that he blessed him with a benediction: May the Lord bless thee and keep thee. May the Lord let his Countenance shine upon thee and be gracious unto thee. May the Lord lift up his countenance upon thee and give thee peace.



# Dinner with the Rabbi

Enjoy a meal with Rabbi Herzfeld, take the opportunity to chat with the Hosts and the Rabbi. Contact Lorraine Mixer at: [lorrainemixer@aol.com](mailto:lorrainemixer@aol.com) for your opportunity to host the Rabbi.

**May 22, 2024 is your next opportunity to host the Rabbi.**

You do not have to be a member to join us for dinner. Take the time to meet the Rabbi and speak to members in a casual atmosphere.

Please contact Lorraine if you would like to host the Rabbi.

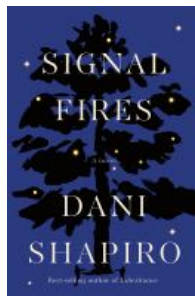
Lorraine Mixer: 863-409-8509 or [lorrainemixer@aol.com](mailto:lorrainemixer@aol.com)



The Book Club will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup>.

The April choice is:

*Signal Fires* by Dani Shapiro



The May choice is:

*The Paper Palace* by Miranda Cowley Heller





# Notes from the Past Pres.

*by Joseph Rodriguez*

March 2024 Chai Lites

“People ask me what I do in the winter when there’s no baseball.

I’ll tell you what I do.

I stare out the window and wait for spring”

~ Rogers Hornsby

*Shalom Aleichem – Peace to you!*

This past week Spring Training started and baseball is back on the satellite. Hopefully it will make me and others feel better. It is the start of warmer weather.

The Snowbirds are preparing to leave and locals will be able to come out. Each year we see the traffic increase since Polk County has one of the fastest growing populations in the country. Everywhere we see new construction and new residences. It appears that the Snowbirds are unable to fly back to their northern homes.

Also in the spring, we have spring cleaning. Get your dustpan and feather out.

I have my box of Cracker Jacks so “Take me out to the ballgame. Play ball!”

Alekhem Shalom - *To you be peace* and thank you Polly for the cheerful card you sent me.

Joseph Rodriguez, Past President

[JrodTBS2021@gmail.com](mailto:JrodTBS2021@gmail.com)

*See us on Facebook or our Website – TempleBethShalomPolk.org*



# Mad Hatter Tea Party

We have some talented ladies who have made their own hats for the Tea Party.

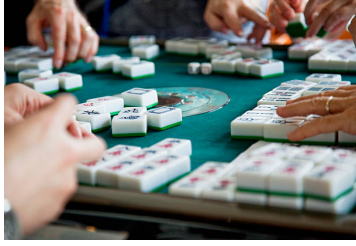
Lorraine gathered the supplies and assisted the ladies in their creations!



Who do you think will win a prize for their hat?



## Maj Jong Ladies



The Mah Jong ladies meet every Tuesday at noon.

We love our Maj Ladies. They are sharing the expense of using our building. Thank you, ladies, for your contributions of water, soda, paper towels, flatware, etc.!

Feel free to bring your lunch and eat with them before they play. If you would like to learn how to play Mah Jong, they will teach you.

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

## Passover Seder

Our Seder this year will be catered by:  
The Catering Company of Central Florida.

Gefilte Fish

Chop Liver

Matza Ball Soup

Brisket or Chicken

Salad

Potatoes

Dessert

April 23rd at 6:00 pm

\$50 for members

\$60 for non-members

Children 13 & under \$20, & 5 years & under, Free.

Your check must be received by April 16<sup>th</sup>, please mark whether you want  
Brisket or Chicken.

R.S.V.P. by April 16<sup>th</sup> to: [lorrynemixer@aol.com](mailto:lorrynemixer@aol.com)

Or text or call: 863-409-8509



# April Calendar

Apr 2	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Apr 5	7:30 p.m.	Religious Services via Zoom
Apr 6	9:30 a.m.	Torah Study via Zoom
Apr 7	9:00 a.m.	Brotherhood/Sisterhood at Angie's Restaurant in the Hamptons Clubhouse & Tea Party Set up
Apr 7	1:00 p.m.	Tea Party Fund Raiser at The Hamptons Clubhouse
Apr 9	11:00 a.m.	Book Club
Apr 9	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Apr 13	10:30 a.m.	Lakeland Funeral Home Presentation
Apr 14	9:30 a.m.	TBS Board Meeting
Apr 16	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Apr 21	1:00 p.m.	TBS Annual Meeting
Apr 23	6:00 p.m.	Annual Passover Seder
Apr 30	10:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Apr 30	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
May 3	7:30 p.m.	Religious Services via Zoom
May 4	9:30 a.m.	Torah Study via Zoom
May 5	10:30 a.m.	Brotherhood/Sisterhood at Angie's Restaurant in the Hamptons Clubhouse
May 7	10:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Mary 7	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 membership is open to all TBS members and their spouses.

Membership dues are \$25 per person annually.

Checks should be sent to: Joseph Rodriguez,  
3210 Great Heron Loop

April 7th at 9:00 am for breakfast at Angie's Restaurant in The Hamptons Clubhouse.

and a quick meeting. We will proceed to the Hamptons Ball Room to set up for the Mad Hatter Tea Party.



## **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.

Please contact Arlene to reserve your Oneg spot or to volunteer to take over this responsibility at:

[arlenegreenberg@gmail.com](mailto:arlenegreenberg@gmail.com)

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

- Thank you to Rob Lerner for caring for our building and its safety.
- 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 Beverly Lerner for sending thank you notes.
- Thank you to Polly Weinmann for sending greeting cards.
- Thank you to Polly Weinmann for making the centerpieces and door prizes for the Tea Party guests.

### Donations

- The Maj Jong Ladies continue to make donations to help cover the cost of air conditioning cost and supplies for the building.
- Baron Krisher has made a donation in support of the Jewish Nation.
- Arlene Greenberg has made a donation in honor of Dottie Fitchett and Bert Devorsetz.
- Arlene Greenberg has made a donation in memory of Korina Master’s Brother.
- Deena Williams has made a donation to the Temple.
- Sandi Grinker has made a donation in honor of the Brotherhood presenting a Leaf in honor of Phil Grinker.
- Lee Ann Martinez donated gift cards for the Mad Hatter Tea Party.

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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 – Contact Brotherhood/Sisterhood

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

Only one session in April. See 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

### 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	Joseph Rodriguez	August 13	2026
Herb LeShay	May 16	2024	Beverly Lerner	June 9	2028
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
Arlene Greenberg	June 13	2025	Varda Rottenberg	Mar 3	2025
Janis Koike	Jan 26	2027	Diana Kramer	Mar 3	2025

## April Yahrzeits

Yahrzeit Date		Deceased	Relationship
Apr	Henrietta Eisenberg		grandmother of Sue Zwerling
Apr	Sophie Guttenberg		mother of Sandy Gasson
Apr	Bessie Steckel		grandmother of Robert Poller
Apr	Esther (Tillie) Schwartz		mother of Jay Schwartz
Apr	Bertha Poller		mother of Robert Poller
Apr	Rebecca Kogan		mother of Brenda Poller
Apr	Greta Mayer		aunt of Max Mayer (sister of founding member Frank Mayer)
2-Apr	Barry Schwartz		brother of Jay Schwartz
2-Apr	Rebecca Bovarsky		grandmother of Sandi Grinker
3-Apr	Henry B Grinker		father of Phil Grinker
7-Apr	Anne Kastner		aunt of Meryl Crews
8-Apr	Raye Korn		mother of Irwin Korn
8-Apr	Jacob Neuberger		father of Stuart Neuberger
10-Apr	Betty Silverman		mother of Myran Soberman
11-Apr	Sawyer Caldwell		great-grandson of Aase Feder
12-Apr	Ruth Cooper		perpetual yahrzeit
13-Apr	Jay Burns III		husband of Dulcie Burns
15-Apr	Mattie Wolf		perpetual Yahrzeit
16-Apr	William Cohen (Velvel)		father of Allen Cohen
16-Apr	Emanuel Schwartz		father of Jay Schwartz
16-Apr	Gloria Weintraub		mother of Jo Ann Lesnett
17-Apr	Helen Forman		mother of Shelley Epstein
17-Apr	Rose Cohen Small		mother of Norman Small
18-Apr	Antinogenes (AJ) Rodriguez		father of Joseph Rodriguez
18-Apr	Steven Schlosberg		father of Rory Schlosberg
19-Apr	Mae Klaus		mother of Carolyn Neuberger
20-Apr	Irwin Cohen		brother of Allen Cohen
21-Apr	Dorothy Ort		mother of Michael Ort
23-Apr	Sarah Golfman		grandmother of Sharon Shuller
24-Apr	Melvin M Greenbaum		brother of Korina Masters
24-Apr	Sidney Zabar		perpetual yahrzeit
25-Apr	Nate LeShay		uncle of Herbert LeShay
25-Apr	Marguerite Rosenberg-Bowen		second mother of Robert Poller
27-Apr	Linda Jean Gurin		sister of Janis Koike
27-Apr	Marilou Schwachter Sniderman		mother of Barbara Brooks
27-Apr	Erica Sue Fridovich		cousin of Lorraine Mixter, mother of Sara Fridovich

**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.

**Thank you to all the members and families who donated and thank you  
to our 2024 Advertisers:**

**Angie's Grill**

**Full Cover Insurance Solutions**

**Mayer Jewelers**

**Publix**

**Steven Greenberg Insurance**

**B'nai Brith Lodge**

**Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood/Sisterhood**

**Joyce Preston**

**Crews Transportation**

**Baum and Knowles College Advising**