

Chai Lites

May 2024



Annual Meeting

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

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 Mixer

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



Our Brotherhood/Sisterhood held elections on April 7th. Beverly Lerner is President, Jeff Goldblatt is Vice President, Joseph Rodriguez is Treasurer and Ethan Feldman is Secretary. *Mazel tov* to all.

Our Annual Fund Raiser and our Annual Meeting were held, and both were successful.

Polk County Animal Rescue participated in our fund raiser, and they were thrilled to be a part of our event as well as the recipient of funds and any purses and prizes left at the end of the event.

Thank you to all of you who generously donated items for our raffle baskets and teacups and tea pots. Your help was needed to set up, serve and clean up. Your generous donation of time and energy made our event so special for so many ladies.

I'd like to relate the generosity of our volunteer members to altruism or the principle and practice of concern for the well-being and/or happiness of other humans or animals above oneself. Some say altruism is really at the heart of many core Jewish teachings. I would say our volunteers give of themselves so that others can enjoy the offerings of our temple.

I am grateful for the assistance of our many board members and the past board members, whether they assist for altruistic reasons or some other reason.

Lorraine Mixer
TBS Board President
lorrainemixer@aol.com
863-409-8509



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

lorrainemixer@aol.com or 863-409-8509.

Weird And Wonderful Things

"At the supermarket today, I found a small, elderly woman standing in front of a high shelf holding @BonneMamanUS preserves. She was having trouble finding the flavor she wanted because the jars were set back on the shelf.

She couldn't read the labels. She could barely reach them. I offered to help.

After I handed her the raspberry preserves, she thanked me, paused, and then asked, "Do you know why I buy this brand?"

I laughed and replied, "Because it tastes good?"

"Yes, it tastes good." She paused again. "I am a Holocaust survivor."

This was not the conversation I expected on a Sunday grocery run. "During the war, the family that owns the company hid my family in Paris. So now I always buy it. And whenever I go to the store, my grandkids remind me, 'Bubbe, don't forget to buy the jelly.'"

I told her that that was the best reason I ever heard to buy any company's product. And then we both smiled behind our masks and went our separate ways."

Someone else on Twitter looked into the story and indeed, the town that Andros Company, the makers of Bonne Maman, comes from, hid and saved Jewish families in WW2. It was called Biars sur Cere, which then had about 800 villagers.

From an article, "You have to understand what it was like then. There were posters on the walls, from the Nazis and from the collaborators, and they said that if you are found to help a Jew, a freemason, a communist, a socialist, or a pervert, you will be shot on sight." Despite the great danger in which helping them put the villagers in, still they kept the children safe."

A good reason to buy Bonne Maman products. And a poignant reminder that when we look out for each other it can change lives, and that there are good and selfless people in the world.

♥ Bonne Maman! 🇫🇷



Dinner with the Rabbi

Enjoy a meal with Rabbi Herzfeld, take the opportunity to chat with the Host and the Rabbi

May 17th at 5:30 pm

Host: Trish Safer

Nutwood

132 AVE B SW, Winter Haven, FL 33880

Lorraine Mixer: 863-409-8509 or lorrainemixer@aol.com



The Book Club will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 14th.

The May choice is:

The Paper Palace Fires by Miranda Cowley Heller



Notes from the Past Pres.

by Joseph Rodriguez

April 2024 Chai Lites

Last month's Past Pres message was eliminated, and we are printing it here.

*"The idea that it is possible to move from slavery to freedom and
From darkness to light and
From despair to hope – that is the greatest Jewish story ever told."*

~ Rabbi Sharon Brous

Shalom Aleichem – *Peace to you!*

Get your dust pan and feather out, it is time to spring clean. Pesach commemorates the slavery of the Israelites in Egypt and their ultimate exodus to freedom. This story has shaped our consciousness and values.

Spring cleaning dates back 3,000 years to Persia. A tradition started with the change in the weather and growing of crops. *THE START OF A NEW LIFE!*

Several of us are starting a new life. We have lost a family member, friend or pet. Some of us have had long illnesses or are recovering from a long illness. Some of us have problems walking but are attempting to enjoy the light. We hope that the future will be better than today.

Remember our Annual Meeting on April 21st @ 2:00pm. Not the last Sunday of the month due to Passover.

Alechem Shalom - *To you be peace.*

Joseph Rodriguez, Past President

JrodTBS2021@gmail.com

See us on Facebook or our Website – TempleBethShalomPolk.org



Mad Hatter Tea Party

We had a wonderful time at the Mad Hatter Tea Party.

So many to thank: Bobby Baum, Uriah Rose, Cathy Orr, Meryl Crews, Arlene Greenberg, Joseph Rodriguez, Sandy Grinker, Polly & Jan Weinmann and so many others.....



Uriah Rose and Krystal Rose share photos of their hats!

The Hat Fashion Show.



Our guests listening for raffle winners.

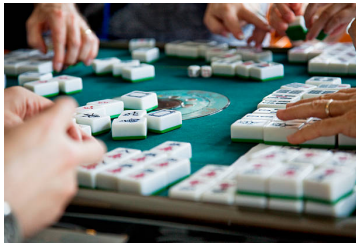
Meryl Crews studying purse selection.



Our guests and their lovely hats!

Polk County Animal Control shared the proceeds.

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 863-207-7440.

Passover Seder

The Catering Company of Central Florida made us a wonderful meal.

Thank you to Uriah Rose and Jeff Goldblatt for helping set up.

Thank you to Judy Richter for making delicious charoset.





May Calendar

May 3	7:30 p.m.	Religious Services via Zoom
May 4	9:30 a.m.	Torah Study via Zoom
May 5	9:00 a.m.	Brotherhood/Sisterhood at Angie's Restaurant in the Hamptons Clubhouse
May 7	10:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
May 7	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
May 12	9:30 a.m.	TBS Board Meeting & Mother's Day
May 14	10:00 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
May 14	11:00 a.m.	Book Club
May 14	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
May 17	7:30 p.m.	Religious Services in Person
May 18	9:30 a.m.	Torah Study via Zoom
May 21	10:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
May 21	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
May 28	10:30 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
May 28	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong

For more information, please email: 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

May 17	Lee Ann Martinez
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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

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	BIRTHDATE (NO YEAR)	ANNIVERSARY
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Thank You's: 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.

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

Executive Committee

Pulpit

Publicity

Directory, Chai Lites

Book Club – **New members are welcome**

House

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

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	7-Jun	2024	Joseph Rodriguez	13-Aug	2026
Herb LeShay	16-May	2024	Beverly Lerner	9-Jun	2028
Brotherhood/Sisterhood	4-May	2031	Jeffrey Goldblatt	13-Jun	2026
Ken Triester	4-Aug	2024	Bobby Baum	16-May	2024
Jerry Kosten	19-Jul	2026	Jerry Heyman	16-Jun	2026
Clint & Barbara Brooks	28-Aug	2024	Korina Masters	18-Aug	2025
Arlene Greenberg	13-Jun	2025	Varda Rottenberg	3-Mar	2025
Janis Koike	26-Jan	2027	Diana Kramer	3-Mar	2025

May Yahrzeits

Yahrzeit Date	Deceased	Relationship
May	Zina Chain	grandmother of Lloyd Chain
May	Irving Ort	father of Michael Ort
May	Lillian Zwerling	mother-in-law of Susan Zwerling
May	Gay Hill	mother of Linda Small
1-May	Lila M. Held	mother of Rabbi Garson Herzfeld
2-May	Janet Miller	mother of Steve Miller
2-May	Abraham Meyer	father of Lee Ann Martinez
4-May	Evelyn Goldstein	grandmother of Lorraine Mixter
4-May	Victor Golfman	grandfather of Sharon Shuller
6-May	Louis Jay Masters	son of Korina Masters
7-May	Beatrice Greenberg	mother-in-law of Arlene Greenberg
7-May	Yudell L. Luke	father of Janis Koike
8-May	Alan Treister	son of Ken and Helyne Treister
10-May	Jules Briklod	father of Meryl Chayt and husband of Beatrice Briklod
10-May	Miriam Gessner	perpetual yahrzeit
11-May	Elizabeth Kohen	grandmother of Margo Fleisher
11-May	Mark Miller	perpetual yahrzeit
13-May	Nat Heyman	father of Jerry Heyman
15-May	Bessie Browde	mother of Arlene Greenberg
17-May	Theresa Baum	mother of Robert Baum
18-May	Aharon Bromberg	father of Varda Rotenberg
18-May	Robert Poller, PhD	husband of Brenda Poller
19-May	Belle Ross	mother of Dick Ross
19-May	Edith Weiner	mother-in-law of Dick Ross
21-May	Frank Mayer	brother of Max Mayer
22-May	Rabbi Frank N. Sundheim	Rabbi Emeritus, husband of Adrienne Sundheim
23-May	Natalie Lubin	mother of Edward Lubin
23-May	Leslie Peckman (Lazah Michel)	brother of Renee Cohen
23-May	Alex LeShay	father of Herbert LeShay
24-May	Martin N. Kogan	father of Brenda Poller
24-May	Stephen Soberman	husband of Myrna Soberman
25-May	Bernard Masters	husband of Korina Masters
29-May	Stephen Shuller	brother of Sharon Shuller
31-May	Sarah Gripp	mother of Jacqueline Korn
31-May	Jeanne Heyman	wife of Jerry Heyman

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.

“May, more than any other month of the year,
Wants us to feel most alive”

~ Fennel Hudson

Shalom Aleichem – *Peace to you!*

In May, we see the flowers due to April showers. Plants become alive with color.

In May, college seniors will soon graduate and start a new life.
Hopefully, they will feel alive while paying their student loan.

In May, couples are preparing for marriage.
Their parents are alive and in distress about how to pay for the wedding.

In May, the Cubs and the Mets fans are already crying.
Some fans feel alive with the thought of “Wait for next year”.

In May, the Snowbirds and Canadians have left Florida.
Locals feel alive not having to wait for the Early Bird Special.

In May, anticipation of vacation begins.
Once we get away from the job, we feel alive again.

Finally, three quarters of a century ago, on May 18th, I was involved in a new beginning. I do not remember this truth happening, but my mother and birth certificate claim this fact of I am alive.

Aleichem Shalom - *To you be peace!*

Joseph Rodriguez, Past President

JrodTBS2021@gmail.com

See us on Facebook or our Website – TempleBethShalomPolk.org

Thank you to all the members and families who donated and thank you to our

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Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood/Sisterhood

Joyce Preston

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Baum and Knowles College Advising