

Temple Beth Shalom, Polk

Chai Lites

August 2024

Grinker Family Bar-B-Que

Thank you to all who contributed. A great time was had by all who attended.





President's Musings

by Lorraine Mixer

In this edition of *Chai Lites* we share how to respond to Antisemitic or Anti-Israel posts that you may be receiving online. The posts have been increasing due to the conflict in Israel.



I am sure many of you have been approached by friends, children, neighbors and relatives to make sense out of the war that has broken out between Hamas and Israel and now Hezbollah and Israel.

As Americans we may feel isolated from the conflict and unsure where our allegiance lies in respect to a country of our brethren.

I hope the touchpoints made in this piece help you to navigate a discussion.

The Grinker Family bar-b-que was a huge success. We missed Phil, but Sandi, Debbie, Jan and Polly Weinmann put together a meal that Phil would have been proud to serve. Thank you to all of you who brought food and love.

I've arranged with Lakeland Memorial Gardens to have a speaker, Orlando Iglesias, to discuss Pre-Needs Funeral Planning. Bring your brown bag lunch and all your questions about how to plan a funeral on Saturday, August 17th at 11:00 am. We will not have a service that morning, instead we will have a frank discussion about when and how to plan for your funeral. Feel free to bring friends, family or adult children. Drinks, chips and dessert will be served.

Please join us on August 10th to listen to and learn from Professor Howard Kerner as he presents one of his wonderful lectures.

Bert Devorsetz will be leading a Classical Reform service Friday Aug 23 at 7pm.

In addition to being a real Reform service we will feature some special country western music.

Pizza will be served 6:15. Please RSVP to Bert at: bertdevorsetz@gmail.com so he can plan accordingly. In addition, he hopes to honor one of our long-time members with a special presentation, IF that person is present. Be sure to attend to see who it is!

Looking forward to seeing you there for a fun service!

Lorraine Mixer

TBS Board President

lorrainemixer@aol.com

863-409-8509

Temple Beth Shalom Board

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Vice President: Bert Devorsetz

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Brotherhood/Sisterhood President: Beverly Lerner

Trustees:

Meryl Crews

Arlene Greenberg

Sandi Grinker

Lee Ann Martinez

Uriah Rose



The Book Club will meet at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday August 13th.

The August choice is:

My name is Barbra by Barbra Streisand



The September choice is:

The Woman by Kristen Hannah



Notes from the Past Pres.

by Joseph Rodriguez

August 2024 Chai Lites

“No one is useless in this world Who lightens the burdens of others.”

~ Charles Dickens

Shalom Aleichem – *Peace to you!*

Since I have been walking with a cane, I have found that people come to lighten my burden. People assist me at Publix when I am on the electric cart. Customers and employees will ask what I need and reach up for me. People are so good.

I see all our members at Temple Beth Shalom who help each other.

We hear all the bad things that happen each day on the news. Good things are not newsworthy.

Remember Brotherhood/Sisterhood Pool BBQ on **Sunday August 18th**. Gate opens at 1:00pm. There are plenty of air-conditioned areas to relax in and if you wish the swimming pool is available. We will eat inside the card room.



Aleichem Shalom - *To you be peace!*

Joseph Rodriguez, Past President

JrodTBS2021@gmail.com

See us on Facebook or our Website – TempleBethShalomPolk.org



August Calendar

Aug 4	9:00 a.m.	Brotherhood/Sisterhood at Schalamar Creek Community Restaurant in the Clubhouse
Aug 6	10:15 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 6	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Aug 10	11:00 a.m.	Summer Lay Services – Prof Howard Kerner Presents
Aug 11	9:30 a.m.	TBS Board Meeting
Aug 11	12:00 p.m.	Game Day – Potluck Luncheon
Aug 13	10:15 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 13	11:15 a.m.	Book Club
Aug 13	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Aug 17	11:00 a.m.	Funeral Pre-Needs Presentation – Brown Bag Luncheon
Aug 18	1:00 p.m.	Pool Party & Luncheon at Baylake Motorcoach Resort
Aug 20	10:15 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 20	12:00 p.m.	Maj Jong
Aug 23	6:15 p.m.	Summer Lay Services – Pizza / Bert Devorsetz Leading Service
Aug 27	10:15 a.m.	Chair Yoga with Joyce Preston
Aug 27	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.

Brotherhood/Sisterhood Brunch Has Moved!

We now have brunch 2 miles west of the Hamptons:
Schalamar Creek Golf & Country Club Restaurant – Lower Level
4500 U.S. 92, Lakeland, Florida 33801

Come join us on the First Sunday of each Month.
@ 9:00 am for social time and monthly meeting following.
Dues are \$25.00 per year for Family Voting Rights.
Everyone is Welcome to all our Events.



Brotherhood/Sisterhood Pool Party August 17th @ 1:00pm

BayLake Motorcoach Resort
2750 Baylake Resort Road
Polk City, Florida 33868
Off I-4 [exit 44] and Hwy 559 – Behind the Loves Truck Stop
Come Join Temple Beth Shalom Brotherhood/Sisterhood
For Pool Party and Relaxation.

\$5.00 per B/S person or \$9.00 per non-member:
Kosher Hot Dogs or Chicken and Hamburgers
RSVP Joseph Rodriguez: JrodTBS2021@gmail.com
Before August 14th, 2024
Bring a Dish and BYOB!

Entry Gate will be open from 1:00pm to 3:00pm



Celebrating the Legacy of Shari Lewis and Lamb Chop

Way before Mr. Rogers and Sesame Street, legendary Jewish ventriloquist Shari Lewis, with warmth and reverence for kids, changed the face of children’s television forever.



In a new biographical documentary, “Shari and Lamb Chop,” Emmy-nominated director Lisa D’Apolito pays tribute to Lewis, a trailblazing female performer whose exceptional talents as a ventriloquist, puppeteer, children's entertainer, television show host and so much more earned her 12 Emmy Awards, a Peabody award – and even the Dor L’Dor award of B’nai B’rith.

In an interview with B'nai B'rith CEO Dan Mariaschin, D’Apolito and Shari’s daughter Mallory Lewis – who began [performing with Lamb Chop](#) after her mother's passing in 1998 – discuss “Shari and Lamb Chop” and the filmmaking process, and reflect on the brilliant life, legacy and enduring cultural impact of Shari Lewis, a Jewish American icon and one of the greatest – but sometimes overlooked – children’s performers ever.



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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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, but 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

August 23 LeeAnn Martinez
September 28 Selichot

Pre-Needs Funeral Conversation presented by Lakeland Memorial Gardens

August 17th at 11 am

Everything you were afraid to ask about:

Pre Planning a Funeral

Orlando Iglesias, Director will be available to answer questions.

This is a brown bag lunch discussion. Chips, drinks & dessert provided.

RSVP to: lorrainemixer@aol.com

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

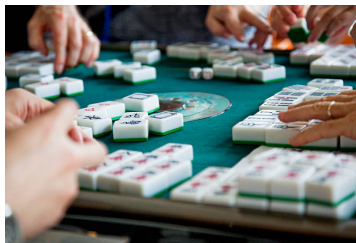


- Thank you to Rob Lerner for caring for our building and its safety.
- Thank you to Arlene Greenberg for organizing our Onegs.
- Thank you to our Soloist Meryl Crews for her musical performance during our services.
- Thank you to Margo Fleisher for her photography and directing skills during our Zoom 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.

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.
- Lorraine Mixter has made a donation in honor of the birth of her great-granddaughter.
- Sandy Gasson has made a donation in memory of Elaine Kramer.
- Deena Williams has made a generous donation to Temple Beth Shalom.

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.

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
Your name here			Joseph Rodriguez	13-Aug	2026
Your name here			Beverly Lerner	9-Jun	2028
Brotherhood/Sisterhood	4-May	2031	Jeffrey Goldblatt	13-Jun	2026
Ken Triester	4-Aug	2024	Your name here		
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

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
Aug	Alexander Mayer	father of Harry Mayer
Aug	Marie Mayer	mother of Harry Mayer
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 Yahrzeit
28-Aug	Alice Molay	Perpetual Yahrzeit
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.

How to Respond to Antisemitic or Anti-Israel Posts Online

by ReformJudaism.org

We have seen a number of deeply troubling posts on social media that are antisemitic, anti-Israel, and/or contain misinformation or disinformation. Many people have reached out asking how to respond. While this is by no means a complete guide, we hope it will help you as you face this.

- **Don't engage with strangers.** The number one rule here is not to comment on or respond to posts from people you don't know. Do not amplify these voices by adding another comment.
- **Post positive messages of support and factual information on your own pages and accounts.** And remember, it's okay to take a break from social media too.
- **If someone you do know posts something antisemitic, anti-Israel, or false, respond to what they said, but do not attack their character.** If you see an acquaintance posting something offensive or false, the best response often starts with an "I" statement: "I disagree with what you've posted here because I see it as antisemitic. Here's why...." Or "I am troubled by this post because it contains false information. Here is what I know about this..." Respond in a way that reflects the values of peace that you are defending.
- **Report hate speech to social media platforms.** The Union for Reform Judaism in partnership with the Anti-Defamation League, the world's leading anti-hate organization, offers digital resources for both congregations and individuals with the tools to respond to acts of antisemitism and hate in their communities. Learn more about this partnership and find helpful links here. The Anti-Defamation League also has a useful guide for reporting hate speech directly to social media and gaming platforms. If this person is a public figure with corporate sponsorships, contact their sponsors to lodge a complaint about the antisemitic or anti-Israel language. These tools are not perfect, but they are something tangible that you can do, and you can encourage others to join you.

Here are some talking points with a Reform Jewish lens that can guide your responses.

Both Jews and Palestinians deserve to be safe and to have self-determination. Both peoples have a history in, and claim to, the same land as their homelands. Someone can criticize and protest the Israeli government's policies and actions, including its 54 years of military occupation of and settlement expansion in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, as well as its bombing of Gaza, and still support the existence of the State of Israel as the state of the Jewish people. Or someone can criticize harshly the policies, actions, and corruption of the two governments representing the Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank and still champion Palestinian human rights and a state for the Palestinian people.

Hamas is a terrorist organization. It does not represent the Palestinian people. Hamas perpetrated a massacre of unspeakable atrocity. They are a terrorist organization and there is no defense whatsoever of the crimes against humanity that they committed. But condemning Hamas is not a condemnation of the Palestinian people. We support the Palestinians and their rights to their own state.

Nothing about this conflict is simple. If something sounds simple - as if one side is good and one side is bad - it's almost never the whole story. Choosing to support virtue on only one side of this conflict will hurt all the people who live on the land, because there is not a just, viable, sustainable, or secure future that excludes or oppresses one group of people.

Learn more about how you can support Israel during this time of great tragedy and mourning with additional resources and actions you can take.

From: https://reformjudaism.org/blog/how-respond-antisemitic-or-anti-israel-posts-online?utm_source=toolkit&utm_medium=pub&utm_campaign=TFAC

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