

# SHOFAR



## Jewish Center of The Moriches

December/ January 2017   Kislev – Tevet, 5777



# Happy Chanukah

# The Jewish Center of the Moriches

## Temple Board and Spiritual Leader

The Cantor and Officers invite members of the Congregation to contact any of them with ideas, opinions, questions, complaints (hopefully accompanied by a helpful suggestion!), and offers of support or just to talk of your concerns. Members of the Congregation are always welcome to attend the monthly Board meetings and participate in discussions. E-mail addresses and phone numbers are listed for those who also like to correspond directly with the Cantor or Board members.

President	Michael Leselrod	786-0763	mleselrod@yahoo.com
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Doug Sherter	874-4570	<a href="mailto:shardou@optonline.net">shardou@optonline.net</a>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President	Melvin Lobb	281-7703	thejoneses2@optonline.net
Treasurer	Farra Isaacson	909-4422	<a href="mailto:mfisaac@optonline.net">mfisaac@optonline.net</a>
Recording Secretary	Randi Mott		
Corresponding Secretary	Donna Ash	395-3346	desj1975@hotmail.com
Trustees	Sherry Schwartz	878-4880	<a href="mailto:ss12@optonline.net">ss12@optonline.net</a>
	Arthur Miller	281-0012	
	Larry Kiss	874-4928	<a href="mailto:the3kisses@optonline.net">the3kisses@optonline.net</a>
	Marilyn Zoilo	874-4341	home_cooks@yahoo.com

Cantor Zachary Konigsberg

917-696-0749 [cantorzkonigsberg@gmail.com](mailto:cantorzkonigsberg@gmail.com)

Jewish Center (messages picked up daily): (631) 878-0388

Web site: [www.jewishcenterofthemoriches.com](http://www.jewishcenterofthemoriches.com)

[www.facebook.com/jewishcenterofthemoriches](https://www.facebook.com/jewishcenterofthemoriches)

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

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*Please join us at the 2016 Chanukah Dinner/Service on December 16<sup>th</sup>. Sign-Up form included in this newsletter.*

*Proposed Board to be elected at the January meeting*

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We have almost arrived at the month of December which means that the Holidays are on their way once again. Really, as for the Jewish Holidays, there is just one of them coming our way. But it is a long one, eight days and eight bright nights. Of course, the occasion I am referring to is Hanukah, our joyous festival of lights.

For us, Hanukah is our next Holiday season. We may enjoy the lights and positive sentiment in our midst as Christmas approaches, and certainly most of us celebrate January 1<sup>st</sup> as a day on which to embrace the New Year, but our main focus is on the observance of Hanukah itself.

To some degree, though, there is a difference of opinion among Jews ourselves as to the level of importance of Hanukah. Some Jews do not, for various reasons, observe a great many of the traditions of their heritage. They may not celebrate Shabbat, they may not go to Synagogue for Holiday services, and they may not even fast on Yom Kippur. Many of these Jews do, however, light the candles of the Hanukah Menorah at least at some point during the Holiday. It has been suggested by sociologists of the Jewish people that the two most common things done by Jews of all backgrounds throughout the world are to have a Passover Seder of some sort and to celebrate Hanukah. What these two rituals have in common is that they are performed in the home and that they are usually associated with getting together with family. They are generally considered to be fun and they also involve eating delicious foods. With all this in mind it is perfectly logical, even appropriate, that they are the most widespread of Jewish customs. To many of these Jews Hanukah may be considered the most important and meaningful Holiday of the entire year.

There is another group of Jews who are far more involved in observing Judaism throughout the year. They probably go to Synagogue almost every Shabbat, celebrate all of the Jewish Holidays, and contemplate the significance of their heritage of Judaism on a daily basis. These Jews may realize that although Hanukah is a long and beautiful Holiday it is actually considered to be a relatively modern Holiday which the Rabbis do not hold in nearly as high esteem as the High Holidays or the three pilgrimage Festivals of Pesach, Shavuot, and Sukkot. They understand that we are permitted to work during Hanukah and that Hanukah does not carry with it the same commandments, both positive and negative, which apply to the most revered of Jewish days. These Jews certainly enjoy the celebration of Hanukah, but they do not necessarily consider it to be the most sacred of Jewish occasions.

There is yet one more category of Jews in respect to our regard for Hanukah. There is a small group of Kabbalists, spiritual Jewish mystics, who most definitely do observe all of the Jewish Holidays and rituals, yet who feel that Hanukah, along with Purim, may actually be the most holy of all Jewish Holidays. Despite the fact that Hanukah has often been looked upon by traditional Jews throughout history as less important or central than other Jewish Holidays, these Kabbalists come to our festival of lights from an altogether different angle and perspective. To them Hanukah possesses great spiritual power. In a mysterious way they connect Hanukah and its symbolism of light triumphing over darkness, good over evil, with the central Jewish concept of Tikkun Olam, fixing the world. The warm radiant lights of Hanukah, for them, are a deep and constant reminder of what our place in this World is all about: making a difference, creating a tangible spiritual change in our reality which will allow people to live with true, penetrating joy. The burning candles of the Hanukah Menorah are the ultimate symbol of this vision. To the Jewish mystics, the Kabbalists, there is nothing more crucial than this in all of Judaism.

So, you may want to ask yourself the question, how do I relate to Hanukah? Please come join us for our annual Hanukah/ Shabbat dinner and service on Dec. 16th. I also invite you to join us for the next adult education class on Sunday, December 18th at noon. We will be learning more about Hanukah and looking into where the name of the holiday itself is derived from. I hope to see you at these events! Perhaps we can share with each other our feelings for what this Holiday means to each of us. Happy Hanukah!

## Hebrew School News

As usual, everything is very busy in our growing Hebrew school. We now have over 20 students enrolled in our program and we are so excited to have the opportunity to educate these wonderful children in our Jewish traditions. We are currently having a great time preparing for Hanukkah; making our own menorahs, learning Hanukkah blessings and songs, and enjoying games of dreidel. We hope you will attend our annual Shabbat/ early Hanukkah dinner on December 16th. There you will have the opportunity to hear some of what our students have learned, in addition to eating and celebrating with your Jewish center community. Also, please join us for our next Shabbat morning service, which will take place on Saturday, December 10th, at 9:30. The entire community is welcome! Happy Hanukkah to one and all!



## Hebrew School Bowling



## Hoshanah Rabbah



# The Jewish Center of The Moriches

## 2016 Chanukah Dinner

Friday, December 16th 5:30pm  
rsvp by December 10th

**Dinner, Candle Lighting, Songs,  
Fun for the whole family**



**For Members**  
Adults: \$ 18  
Kids Under 13: \$ 12

**For Non-Members**  
Adults: \$ 25  
Kids Under 13: \$ 16

Call Mike @ 631-786-0763 or email  
jewishcenterofthemoriches@gmail.com for more information

Reservations must be made by December 10th  
by sending your check made out to  
The Jewish Center of The Moriches to

Treasurer  
PO Box 127  
Center Moriches, NY 11934

### Reservation Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Adults \$18\_\_\_\_ Children under 13 \$12\_\_\_\_

Non Member Adult \$25\_\_\_\_ Non Member Children \$16\_\_\_\_

Total Enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_

## Proposed New Board For 2016

The following slate has been proposed for the new board and will be voted on at the annual board meeting on Jan 10, 2016 at 10AM

President: **Michael Leselrod**

Vice President: **Doug Sherter**

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: **Melvin Lobb**

Treasurer: **Farra Isaacson**

Recording Secretary: **Randi Mott**

Corresponding Secretary: **Donna Ash**

Trustees: **Sherry Schwartz, Arthur Miller, Larry Kiss, Marilyn Zoilo**

All are invited to participate in the Annual January Board Meeting on Jan 8 at 10AM. There will be refreshments.

Dear Members & Friends,

Happy birthday to all our December celebrants. Our annual Chanukah dinner will be held on 12/16. I am sure the cantor has a wonderful program planned for our talented children.

Yours in Sisterhood,  
Marilyn Zoilo

### Member News November/December



**November Member News:** Marilyn Zoilo, Nov. 10; Doug & Shari Sherter Anniv. Nov. 15; Elaine Bernstein & Bruce Phillips, Anniv. Nov. 22; Arthur & Gail Miller Anniv. Nov. 28.

**December Member News:** Rebecca Kornreich Dec. 4; Jason Hean Dec. 4; Joyce Schweibish Dec. 6; Mark Schweibish Dec. 9; Melvin Lobb Dec. 20; Phyllis Konigsberg Dec. 2; Donna Ash Dec. 29.



# Contributions to The Jewish Center of the Moriches

## Kol Nidre Donation

William Paness  
Martin & Pamela Edel  
Stephen & Sherry Schwartz  
Jeffrey & Merrill Kussoy  
Alan Powers  
Gwen Stark  
Dominick Nocera  
The Konig family  
Judy Hean

The Sheren Family  
Anne Kirsch  
Janet Grossman  
Jill Bastable  
Bernd Allen & Alix Kane  
Andrea Mottola  
Janet & Stuart Bossert  
Selma & Sidney Sherter  
Marc Sheeger  
Stanley & Jane Blum

Judith Steinberg  
Mark & Farra Isaacson  
Risa Leitman  
Charles Gingold  
Judie Greenspan  
Barbara & David Robinson  
Dorothy Rose  
Allen Levine  
Barry & Phyllis Cohen

Donations	
Kevin & Madeleine Sheren	IMO father/grandfather Perry Sheren
Elaine Bernstein	IMO Shirley Bergmann and Evelyn Kalish
Morton & Gwen Stark	IMO mother Charlotte Stark, Sister Rhoda Harrison
Judy Hean	IMO Grandfather Louis Cohen, Aunt Mae Laube, Grandmother Annie Bernstein, Uncle Sam Bernstein, Cousin Carol Mae Bernstein, Cousin Evelyn Kalish, friend Shirley Bergmann, friend Augusta Jacobowitz
Judy Minkin	IMO Shirley Bergmann, Herb Kronman, and Millie Slifstein
Joan Kronman	IMO mother-in-law Helen Kronman, IMO mother Celia Safilo, father-in-law Morris Kronman
Anne Kirsch	IMO Father-in-law Joseph Kirsch, and Herb Kronman
Helene James	IMO sister Lillian Rudnety
Maddy & Steve Alter	IMO father David Cohen
Armand & Rita Karyo	IMO the Karyos and the Fogelhuts
Jeffrey Pribut	IMO mother Annette Pribut, father Howard Pribut
Sherry & Stephen Schwartz	IMO mother Ellen Jane Freund Schwartz, father Alfred S. Schwartz
Jill Bastable	IMO Shimon Peres
Anne Kirsch	IMO Herbert Schwartz
Martin & Pam Edel	IMO father
In the last newsletter there were donations that should have been for Harriet Matysko's brother, Jerome Kuhl, but were written as Philip Kuhl	

### DONATIONS AND HOW TO DO SO-

Donations have always been welcomed and are greatly appreciated. Other than membership dues your donations have also helped in the continual financial welfare of the Jewish Center of the Moriches. To properly designate your donation please write on your check or attach a note to where you might want the fund deposited, such as Kol Nidre, Memorial, Sanctuary, General or specific fund raising accounts and so on. By doing this it will enable Farra, our treasurer to correctly distribute all monies.

Thank-you all for such tremendous donations and contributions that help benefit the future of our Jewish Center

As always, if you wish to see your happy occasion listed in our Shofar, e-mail to Michael Leselrod, [mleselrod@yahoo.com](mailto:mleselrod@yahoo.com) or send a message through our website [www.jewishcenterofthemoriches.com](http://www.jewishcenterofthemoriches.com). Also, **we need your e-mail address!** This will enable us to send you important Temple updates, cancellations, new and spontaneous activities placed in our calendar, etc., etc. So, please e-mail these to Mike as well. THANK YOU !!

Reminder to anyone who might make any purchases from the **Deborah Sisterhood**, please remember to make your check payable to the "Deborah Sisterhood". Thank you for your donations.

**Friday Night Shabbat Services.** In an effort to keep the services from ending too late at night, and thus to make attending services more attractive to families with children, we will be starting services **promptly at 7:45 pm**. The building will be open from about 7:30 onwards to allow socializing before the services. Please make every effort to arrive promptly. Thank you for your cooperation. Steve Schwartz, for the ritual committee

Almost every Friday night people attend services specifically to say Kaddish. In order to recite the Kaddish, a Minyan (minimum of ten adults) is required. Unfortunately there are times when fewer than ten people attend services. This is very upsetting to those who are denied the opportunity to say Kaddish. Friday night services only last about an hour and a half. Please try to attend as often as possible so we have a Minyan.

If there is anyone interested in coming to Friday night service or a function at the Temple and you **need transportation** then please call Cantor Konigsberg 917-696-0749 and leave a message with your name, phone number and the date you are looking to attend. Cantor will return your call with the member's name that will be more than willing to assist you. Please send all birth announcements, deaths, change of address or all other **imperative information** for the Jewish Center to **Donna Ash**, our Corresponding Secretary at 395-3346 or e-mail [desj1975@hotmail.com](mailto:desj1975@hotmail.com). This will allow all information to be distributed to the right board member or committee.

Interested in sponsoring an Oneg Shabbat through the Deborah Sisterhood? Call :Sherry Schwartz @ 878-4880



As members of the Jewish Center know, we welcome participation of members of the Congregation and guests to participate in the service to the extent of their capabilities and desires. We are fortunate to have several members of the Congregation who contribute by leading the singing of some of our most familiar prayers. Others contribute by reading the Haftarah. Another contributes by blowing the Shofar. Many contribute by leading English readings or by opening the Ark. Still others help by greeting Congregants and guests and by assisting with the proceedings on the Bimah. But we can always benefit from more participation.

Perhaps there is a role you would like to play and are just waiting to be invited. We invite you to let us know what you would like to do and we will make every effort to accommodate you. Please contact Steve Schwartz, chair of the Ritual Committee ([ss12@optonline.net](mailto:ss12@optonline.net); 631-878-4880) or Cantor Zach ([cantorzkonigsberg@gmail.com](mailto:cantorzkonigsberg@gmail.com); 917-696-0749) and let us know how you would like to participate.

Looking forward to seeing you all at Services.

Steve Schwartz





*December, 2016*

*The following are names of individuals whose yahrzeits are memorialized by plaques in the sanctuary and the dates of the Friday evening services on which their yahrzeits will be observed and Kaddish recited in their memory:*

December 2	Sidney Edel
December 2	Lillian Rudnetsky
December 2	Leo Moscowitz
December 9	Celia Juskowitz
December 9	Lynda Zelda Boker
December 9	Dr. Philip Willner
December 16	Isadore Scharf
December 16	Ray Levine Schulman
December 23	Lillian Levine
December 23	Murray Bernstein
December 30	Roza B. Erdos
December 30	Gussie Steiner Abeloff
December 30	Gusta Lipsman
December 30	Rueben Kwares
December 30	Joan Gottlieb
December 30	Alex M. Safier
December 30	Ellen Jane Freund Schwartz

*Worshippers who are observing a yahrzeit and who would like any additional name mentioned at the time of Kaddish are asked to present that name in writing to the Cantor prior to the service.*

*“The memory of the righteous is a Blessing”*



*January, 2017*

*The following are names of individuals whose yahrzeits are memorialized by plaques in the sanctuary and the dates of the Friday evening services on which their yahrzeits will be observed and Kaddish recited in their memory:*

January 6	Eugene Ash
January 6	Yetta Zion
January 6	Katie Stark
January 6	Belle Weissman
January 13	Sigmond Lantz
January 13	David Zion
January 13	Emilie Sheren
January 13	Florence Cooper
January 20	Yetta Heller
January 20	Bennett Steiner
January 20	Regina Lantz
January 20	Hyman Lipsman
January 20	Seymour Steiner
January 27	Michael Fisher
January 27	Bennett J. Stark
January 27	Rose Miller
January 27	Ann Foster
January 27	Sam Silfen
January 27	Bruce Matthew Steinberg
January 27	William Goldstein

*Worshippers who are observing a yahrzeit and who would like any additional name mentioned at the time of Kaddish are asked to present that name in writing to the Cantor prior to the service.*

*“The memory of the righteous is a Blessing”*

## **Plant a tree in Israel**

Anyone who would like to plant a tree in Israel in honor or memory of someone, please call Stuart Bossert at 848-7192. The person should have the name of the person that they want honored, and the person's name and address that you want the certificate for the tree sent to.

The donation for this honorarium is \$18.00 and the check made out to sisterhood. Please mail your check to  
Stuart Bossert  
424 N. Midland Pond Ct., Moriches, 11955



## **Upcoming Schedule**

### **December**

*Dec 4: Religious School- 9:00am*

*Sat. Dec 10: Shabbat morning service- 9:30 am*

*Sun. Dec. 11: Religious School- 9:00 am*

*Sun. Dec. 11: Adult Education- 12:00 pm*

*Fri. Dec 16: Special Family Service and Hanukah dinner - 5:30 pm*

*Sun. Dec. 18: Religious School- 9:00 am*

*Sun. Dec. 25: No School, Winter Recess*

### **January**

*Sun. Jan. 1: No School, Winter Recess*

*Sat. Jan. 7: Shabbat morning service-9:30 am*

*Sun. Jan. 8: Religious School- 9:00 am*

*Sun. Jan. 8: Annual Board Meeting. All invited- 10:00 am*

*Sun. Jan. 15: No School ( Martin Luther King Day)*

*Fri. Jan. 20: Special Family Service- 6:30pm*

*Sun. Jan. 22: Religious School- 9:00 am*

*Sun. Jan. 29: Religious School- 9:00 am*

# ***INSIDE THIS ISSUE.....***

- Chanukah Dinner Sign Up
- New Board Members

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Address corrections requested –  
contact Editor (see inside cover)