



Shofar

December 2014
Cheshvan and Kislev 5774

Jewish Center
of the Moriches



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.

Note that contact by phone will allow immediate response.

President.....	Michael Leselrod	786-0763	mleselrod@yahoo.com
1 st Vice President.....	Larry Kiss	874-4928	the3kisses@optonline.net
2 nd Vice President.....	Doug Sherter	874-4570	shardou@optonline.net
Treasurer	Judith Hean	878-0466	jwje68@hotmail.com
Recording Secretary	Marilyn Zoilo	874-4341	home_cooks@yahoo.com
Corresponding Secretary	Donna Ash	395-3346	desj1975@hotmail.com
Trustees	Sherry Schwartz	878-4880	ss12@optonline.net
.....	Arthur Miller	281-0012	
.....	Eric Slifstein	874-9449	cmhoops@optonline.net
.....	Donna Bruno-Marotta	871-6499	dbm81698@optonline.net
Immediate Past President	Donna Bruno-Marotta	871-6499	dbm81698@optonline.net
Cantor Zachary Konigsberg		917-696-0749	cantorzkonigsberg@gmail.com

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

Web site: www.jewishcenterofthemoriches.com

Some Web Sites of Interest

Check out our new Web Site with a calendar of upcoming events!

<http://www.jewishcenterofthemoriches.com>

Pass this Web site on to your family and friends!

November 2014

D'Var HaRav
(The Cantor's Message)

As November arrives so too does the beautiful season of autumn, which always seems to go by so fast. Indeed, we are already well into the month of November and that means that Holiday season has arrived once again for us Jews, and for society at large, as well, here in the good-old USA. It is a very fun and busy time, filled with excitement and anticipation. Thanksgiving, of course, is the first Holiday to arrive and it is the one which we all share in this country.

It brings together families of all religions and peoples. We rejoice in our thankfulness, as we enjoy the company of family and good friends, and delicious foods prepared by devoted chefs in kitchens across all 50 states. Once Thanksgiving concludes we begin to prepare for the Holidays which are of a more religious nature. For us Jews it is the Hanukah, the festival of lights. While for Christians it is Christmas, a celebration which is also associated with lights and decorations. While we bring in light through the fire of our menorahs, they adorn their trees with ornaments of light. The streets are filled with brightly lit designs of the season.

The theme of light is not the only one which these two Holidays share. They are also both associated with gift giving. This may be somewhat of a complicated or even controversial topic. There are those who feel that gift giving is of central importance during these Holidays; that it is even the most important aspect of the occasion. And then there are those who feel that gift-giving is over indulged and not necessary, or even that it may interfere with other themes of the day, becoming an artificially exaggerated point of focus. From our Jewish perspective, there are those who suggest that Hanukah, here in America, has become more oriented towards gift-giving because of the influence of the way that Christmas is observed. There may be some truth to this idea. But I would suggest that the opposite may be true as well. Perhaps it is we Jews, with our Hanukah, who have influenced the Christians into giving so many gifts. Because Hanukah, for many centuries, has been connected with the theme of giving, especially to children.

We all know about Hanukah gelt! Today most Jewish children are given little bags of chocolate coins to eat and enjoy, perhaps in addition to other gifts which they receive. This tradition of distributing chocolate coins has its origins in the older tradition, going back hundreds of years, of giving actual coins to children. They were given money as gifts, so that they could purchase toys, candies, or whatever else might please the heart's desire of a child. Who knows how much money they were actually given? Almost certainly it varied based on the income and generosity level of each family.

When Jews from Europe came over to this country they brought with them that custom of gift-giving on Hanukah. Perhaps when Christians saw Jewish parents giving monetary gifts to their children, they decided to bestow such treasures upon their children as well.

This is only my theory but, who knows, it might even be true.

Either way, whatever the custom of your family may be, I hope and pray that all of us will have a Holiday season filled with joy, happiness, community togetherness, health, and peace for everyone! May God bless us all during this autumnal season.



HEBREW SCHOOL NEWS



All is well at the Jewish center Hebrew school. Believe it or not we are already busy getting ready for Chanukah. Our students are very excited about leading the candle lighting ceremony at our Friday night service/ dinner on December 19th. I hope many of you are planning to join us. We also hope that you will consider joining us for our next Shabbat morning service, December 6, at 9:30 followed by a special Kiddush luncheon. It is a very special experience and a great way to spend a winter morning. Enjoy the changing seasons everyone. See you at the Jewish center!

Contributions to the Jewish Center of the Moriches Memorial Donation

Kol Nidre Donations

Leonard & Karen Schnall	Andrea Mottola
Maddy Yellin	Harvey & Esther Gralnick
Ina Ferrara	The Covey Family
Helene James	Harriet
Ina Ferrara	The Edel Family
The Stark Family	The Isaacson Family
The Leselrod Family	Marilyn & Joseph Zoilo
	Donna Ash
Laurence & Sandra Gluck	Charles & Marilyn Gingold
Rita & Alan Powers	Dominick Nocera
Gayle Osman Lopata	Marvin Bluman
Dorothy Rose	David & Marlene Sharinn
Millie Slifstein	Jeffrey Kussoy
Steven & Sherry Schwartz	Melne & Steven Thomas
Stuart & Janet Bossert	Risa Sandra Leitman

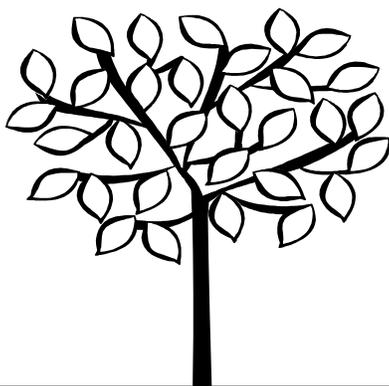
Other Donations

Maddy Yellin	In memory of Richard Beatus
Herb & Joan Kronman	In memory of father & mother, Morris & Helen Kronman & mother Celia Safier
Steve & Matty Alter	In memory of Father Paul Alter
Jeffrey Pribut	In memory of Mother & Father, Howard & Annette Pribut Smith
Judy Hean	In memory of Uncle Sam Bernstein
Steve & Sherry Schwartz	In memory of Father & Mother, Alfred & Ellen Jane Schwartz
Marlene Bieler	In memory of Father & Mother, Reuben & Frances Kvares & Sister Rohna McKenna
Steve & Madelon Alter	In memory of Mother Minnie Cohen

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 Judy, 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



Tree of Life or Memorial Plaques

Engrave a joyous memory such as an anniversary, birth, wedding or Bar/Bat Mitzvah. The cost for a leaf on the Tree of Life is \$150.00.

Preserve an everlasting name in the Sanctuary with a Memorial plaque for \$175.00 or \$350.00 for non-members.

For further information, please contact Janet Bossert 848-7192 or Shirley Bergman at 878-1053.

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 persons 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 at PO Box 12, Moriches, NY 11955.



Proposed New Board For 2015

The following slate has been proposed for the new board and will be voted on at the annual board meeting on Jan 11, 2015.

President: **Michael Leselrod**

Vice President: **Doug Sherter**

Treasurer: **Farra Isaacson**

Recording Secretary: **Marilyn Zoilo**

Corresponding Secretary: **Donna Ash**

Trustees: **Sherry Schwartz, Arthur Miller, Eric Slifstein, Donna Bruno-Marotta, Judy Hean, Larry Kiss**

All are invited to participate in the Annual January Board Meeting on Jan 11.



Chanukah Dinner and Party December 19th, 2014



Our Annual Chanukah Dinner at the Jewish Center of the Moriches will be held Friday, December 19th at 5:30pm.

Reservations must be made by December 5th by sending your check made out to the Jewish Center of the Moriches to:
Judy Hean, PO Box 127, Center Moriches NY 11934.

Reservation Form:

Name _____

Phone # _____

Adults \$18.00 _____ Children up to age 13 \$12 _____

Non Member Adult \$25.00 _____ Non Member Children \$14.00 _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____



Member News

November / December

September Happy birthday to Preston Mott, 9/22;

October Happy birthday to twins Jordan & Justin Kornreich, Oct. 2; Laura Ryan, Oct 9; Elaine Bernstein, Oct.12; Mark Isaacson, Oct. 12; Adam Mottola, Oct. 13; Benjamin Isaacson, Oct. 22; Cantor Zach, Oct. 26; Lorna Leselrod, Oct. 29;

November Happy birthday to Marilyn Zoilo, Nov. 10; Happy Anniversary to Doug & Shari Sherter, Nov. 15; Elaine Berntein & Bruce Phillips, Nov. 22; Arthur & Gail Miller, Oct. 28.

Welcome new members The Mott family & Sydney & Selma Sherter.

A special oneg for Bruce and Helen Kronman on Friday night Dec. 5th. It should be mentioned that they are moving to Virginia and have been long-time members of the temple and that Bruce had served as president in 1993.

New Years at the Kisses

The Kisses will be an afternoon social at our home on New Year's Day between 1:30 and 4:30. Those who wish to attend should contact Larry or Barbara by Dec. 28th to let them know you are coming and what refreshment (cake, cookies, candy) you would like to bring. The Kisses will provide beverages. Contact Larry or Barbara @ 874-4928

As always, if you wish to see your happy occasion listed in our Shofar, e-mail to Michael Leselrod, mleselrod@yahoo.com or send a message through our website 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 . 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

Participation in Services

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; 631-878-4880) or Cantor Zach (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

Sisterhood News

Dear Members & Friends,

Happy birthday to all of our December celebrants.

On Dec 5 we will be having an Oneg for long time members Bruce & Helen Kronman. They are sadly leaving our community in Jan.

On Jan 1st 2015 Larry & Barbara Kiss will be having an Afternoon Tea from 2:30 -4:30 at their house.

Yours in Sisterhood
Marilyn Zoilo



November, 2014

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:

November 7	Sidney Schlansky
November 7	Joseph Harris
November 7	Benjamin Laube
November 14	Isidore Hirschenfang
November 21	Ilene Ellis
November 28	Sidney Edel
November 28	Lillian Rudnetsky
November 28	Leo Moscowitz
November 28	Celia Juskowitz
November 28	Lynda Zelda Boker

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”



December, 2014

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 5	Dr. Philip Willner
December 5	Isadore Scharf
December 12	Ray Levine Schulman
December 12	Lillian Levine
December 19	Murray Bernstein
December 19	Roza B. Erdos
December 19	Gussie Steiner Abeloff
December 26	Gusta Lipsman
December 26	Rueben Kwares
December 26	Joan Gottlieb
December 26	Alex M. Safier
December 26	Ellen Jane Freund Schwartz
December 26	Eugene Ash

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 Knitting Class	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Knitting Class	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 Knitting Class	19	20	21 Early Family Service 6:30pm	22
23	24	25 Knitting Class	26	27 Thanksgiving Day	28	29
30 No Hebrew School						

December 2014 Cheshvan and Kislev 5774

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 Kronmen Oneg	6 Shabbat Morning Services 9:30am
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 First Night of Chanukah	18	19 Chanukah Party 5:30pm	20
21	22	23	24 Last Night of Chanukah	25	26	27
28 No Hebrew School	29	30	31	1 Afternoon Tea @ The Kisses		

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- Chanukah Party Information
- New Board for 2014

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Address corrections requested –
contact Editor (see inside cover)