



April 2019

Adar II - Nisan 5779

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Message from our Clergy



Passover - a time for reflection and thankfulness

At this time of the year we commemorate the liberation of our people from human bondage Yes, Passover is a time set aside to remember the birth of a nation both physically and spiritually. And it is a time for us to understand that all people regardless of color or creed have been created in the image of God and deserve and must achieve independence of thought and mind and body.

There are many ways to feed those yearning to be nourished: food for sustenance; words to encourage redemption, actions to accomplish the Divine will, and courage to meet the challenges that accompany everyday living.

The observance of Passover is an invitation to experience the wonders of light and freedom and fulfillment. It is not important to envision a miraculous happening. What is important is the idea that has echoed through the ages: "That all men are created equal and endowed by their Creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." (Declaration of Independence of the United States)

Part of this legacy is the requirement to save lives, ensure the safety and survival of all who walk this good Earth. Perhaps it can be described by a story I read attributed to the Chofetz Chaim, a remarkable Sage whose wisdom is world renowned: "Streaming through the center of a certain town was a deep river that was spanned by a rickety bridge. One day, a group of about thirty men were crossing the bridge. When they were at the halfway point, the bridge gave way and collapsed, sending the men plummeting into the river below. Two bystanders immediately dove into the water and began swimming towards the men in order to rescue them. Another bystander gazed at what was transpiring, and called at the men, who had jumped into the water, 'You fools!' he shouted. 'Why are the two of you jumping into the water? Can't you see that their group consists of

about thirty men? In any event, you won't be able to save them all. You would therefore have been better off simply remaining on the riverbank.' It goes without saying that this man was speaking nonsensically. For even if the two men had succeeded in sav-

ing only one person from drowning, it would have been well worth their efforts."

The Chofetz Chaim explains that the same thing applies to giving Tzedakah. There are instances when a man thinks to himself, "How much of a benefit will truly be accrued by my giving a pittance to Tzedakah? There are so many poor people anyway." The Chofetz Chaim explains further that another Sage was quoted as saying that it does not matter whether one does more or less, provided the intention was in the trying.

To me, that is the essence of Passover. To me, that is the message of freedom. To me, that is the true meaning of redemption. We escaped the clutches of degradation and humiliation by knowing full well that only together can we ever achieve significance in our lives.

The plagues wrought upon those who tormented us helps to remind us of our frailties and failings. The parting of the Sea allows us to grasp the message of walking unafraid toward our destiny. The birth of our religious identity accomplished at the Mountain is a clear sign that human beings are capable of great things. These signs and wonders are a testament to the realization that we were created for the purpose of connection to each other and to the Creator of us all.

We should be thankful for all we have with no reservation, no stipulation and no expectation. God has given us untold blessings and we sometimes take them for granted. Now is the time to share and now is the time to say "Thank You," even if only for one person. Rabbi Irwin Wiener, D.D.

Presídent's Message

"Ma nish ta nah..." As a child, I was filled with anticipation and dread thinking about these words. Anticipation because my sister, three cousins, and I would gather for our annual Passover seders at my grandparents' apartment, and being together was always fun. Yet dread because my grandfather always conducted the entire seder in Hebrew, and I mean the *entire* seder. I mean every word in the Hagaddah, or so it seemed to us. My grandparents' dining room was not particularly large, so we were crammed around a table that included not only the five of us, but my grandfather, my father, an uncle, a great uncle, and seats for my mother, my grandmother, my aunt, my great aunt, and a dear unmarried adult female cousin. The women were always in the kitchen.

Of everyone present, only three men could read Hebrew. The rest of us sat around that table waiting endlessly for the service to conclude. My cousins and sister and I invariably began to giggle uncontrollably as this seder gibberish went on and on. The more we laughed, the more my grandfather's face became red. He was very stern about our comportment during what he considered to be a solemn occasion but it never occurred to him to include us in an English-speaking rendition of the reading of the Hagaddah or even tell us what the story of Passover meant. He would yell at us to stop laughing, which of course only made us laugh harder until tears would fall down our faces.

Sometime during the seder, Grandpa would sneak off to hide the afikomen. But every year he would hide it in the same place atop their stately old grandfather clock in the foyer. Even though I was the oldest (by only five months!), my cousin Patti was always the tallest, and she was always the one to reach for the wrapped matzoh first. Grandpa always gave her a small prize. Those of us who hadn't found it were always a little jealous. The last thing I remember about the seder service itself was the full glass of wine set on the center of the table for Elijah. We opened the apartment door to invite Elijah in, and we all swore that the amount of the wine in his glass was less than that originally offered after this ghostly prophet shared our table for a few moments. Maybe this was the precursor to Harry Potter's invisibility cloak!

What remains in my memory of these annual seders was the food. The food! First there was hot, steaming chicken soup with matzah balls and Nannie's special farfel kigelah. They looked and tasted like caramel-covered rolls that were hollow inside like popovers and always yummy. After the soup, we had gefilte fish. This was not the fish that I serve today from a jar sold by Manischevitz . No, this was homemade gefilte fish. My grandmother would order several varieties of fresh fish (i.e. pike, whitefish, carp), always cleaned and headless when she got them, and then she would grind them, remaining bones and all, in a grinder that would screw on to the top of her wooden kitchen table. Once the fish was ground up, Nannie would add spices, chopped onions, and some matzoh meal. Then she would shape this mixture into individual small balls for cooking. Into a large, cast-iron pot filled with a watery broth went these ovals, along with cut up carrots and other raw vegetables. When they were perfectly cooked through, she scooped them out and refrigerated them. We were served cold gefilte fish. I have to admit that although I eat it every year for tradition's sake, it's not one of my favorite foods.

Next came a little dish of hard-boiled eggs, cut up in pieces and served in lightly salted water. Then the main meal was brought in. It's easy to see why the women seemed to be in the kitchen practically the whole night. All they did was prepare courses, serve them, wash dishes, and bring in the next course. I'm sure they must have sat down with us to eat, but I cannot remember them ever at the table. Finally came dessert. My mother and aunt were both very good bakers, so we always had a Passover sponge cake with Nannie's stewed fruit compote to go with it.

Over the years, Jim and I have hosted many seders, inviting family and friends and our kids' friends as they grew up. And it's always pretty traditional. Yet in my mind when I think of Passover, I always go back to that dining room at Nannie and Grandpa's place. Don't we all go back to those warm, early family memories? Dayenu!

Congregational News

Havurah Chaí

Wishing you and those you love peace, health, and happiness, at Passover and always.

Good friends are the people in life that make you laugh a little louder and smile a little brighter. Days cheer up when we are all together! Come brighten your day with Havurah Chai.

On April 3rd Havurah Chai will be attending the Scottsdale Culinary Institute and April 20th we will enjoy the 2nd Seder of Passover with the SLJC at the Palo Verde CC in Sun Lakes.

You are invited to attend the Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation for Shabbat Services on the 2^{nd} Friday of the month and then kibbutz with Havurah friends at their Oneg Tables after the Service.

For information contact: Lainy Sardina lainysardina@gmail.com 480-894-0974

Sísterhood

SLJC SISTERHOOD IS RETURNING TO THE SCENE OF THE FUN!

Please Join Us for the SLJC Sisterhood Annual Membership Luncheon Thursday, May 16th – 11:30 a.m. Singing Pandas 757 E. Chandler Blvd. (Between Arizona Ave. & McQueen)

A previous membership luncheon was held at Singing Pandas, and it was such a hit, many have asked to go back.

We will enjoy a buffet lunch and some captivating musical performances.

While there is no charge for members, we will require a deposit of \$25 which will be returned to you upon your arrival at the restaurant. We ask this to avoid having your Sisterhood dollars go to pay for people who sign up, but don't attend. We are obligated to give a count to the restaurant ten days prior to the event, and payment is based on that figure. As a result, we have in past years had to pay for a significant number of people who signed up, then did not come.

We appreciate your indulgence and support. We look forward to seeing you at the luncheon.

RSVP by April 30th, by sending your \$25 check payable SLJC Sisterhood, to:

Anita Kolifoff 24530 S. Saddletree Drive Sun Lakes, AZ 85248



Membership Committee

The Rabbi talked at The Renaissance about "Aging is a blessing." His next presentation on April 15, 1030am-1130am, will be about "Passover and Easter." Please join us,

Membership and Outreach Committee.

Men's Club

Here is a short recap of the speakers for the April and May 2019:

Tuesday April 9, 2019 - John Wolfe - Owner of Sibley's West - The Chandler and Arizona Gift Shop

Sibley, Lindsay & Curr (1868-1986), known informally as Sibley's, was a Rochester New York based department store chain with stores located exclusively in the state of New York. As a native of Rochester, the name Sibley's brings back many fond memories from my childhood. Members of John's family are descendants of the Sibley family, and when they created their store in downtown Chandler, they put up one of the original cornerstones from the iconic downtown Sibley's store. Opened in December 2010 at 72 S. San Marcos Place in Chandler's historic square, Sibley's West features a wide variety of gift items — pottery, glass art, candles, food, candy, books, jewelry, apparel, stuffed animals and souvenirs. John will give us a presentation about the store, the history behind it, and their passion for promoting local authors and artists.

<u>Tuesday May 7,2019 - Eleanor A. Gobrecht - Retired University Professor, Musician, and World Traveler</u>

Ever dream of leaving it all behind to cruise to Tahiti on your own yacht? Eleanor and her partner Suzanne, both University Professors in their early 40's did just that in their 30-foot sloop-rigged sailboat accompanied only by her Siamese cat and Suzanne's poodle. Three voyages during the 70's took them over 21,000 miles - as far south as the Galapagos, as far west as New Zealand, and as far north as Papua New Guinea with many stops along the way. Eleanor invites you to enjoy the landfalls, the close calls, the new cultures, and the ever-changing beauty of the ocean and the lessons they learned along the way. Eleanor holds a B.A., M.A.(Ohio State) and PHD (USC). Unwilling to cut her voyages short, she resigned her professorship and began her sailing adventures. She recently retired from the Mesa City Band in 2016.

lease mark your calendar and be sure to join us for these presentations. As always, guests are always welcome. Also, if you know any prospective members, bring them along as well.

Passover 2019 Second Seder

Saturday, April 20th marks the night of the second Seder of Passover. The Sun Lakes Jewish Congregation welcomes all to join us in a meaningful and fun Seder experience, led by our Rabbi Irwin Wiener and Cantor Ronda Polesky. Children/grandchildren are encouraged to join us – prizes to all affikomen hunters!

The Seder will be held in Palo Verde Country Club, in Sun Lakes.Contact Marilyn Behr for reservations at (480) 895-7750, or send the completed reservation form.found on page 13.

We look forward to sharing the Passover holiday with you!

Adult Education

THE FILM: "GI JEWS: JEWISH AMERICANS IN WW II"

This film tells the profound and unique story of the more than 550,000 Jewish men and women who served in WW II. Through their eyes, the film brings to life the little-known story of the Jewish people's active participation in the fight against Hitler's bigotry and intolerance. Trying to save their brethren, they emerged more dedicated in the fight against Facism and more powerfully American and more deeply Jewish.

This movie had its national premiere on PBS last April. Come have your own private showing on May 4th at the "Village at Ocotillo" at the corner of Alma School and Ocotillo from 2-4. Light refreshments will be available free of charge.

Don't miss this very informative and important movie!! Call Gail at 480-802-1832 to reserve your space.

Rítual Commíttee

If you would like an honor for our Friday night Services please contact Shelly Henden at 895-8851 Shelly Henden

Book of Remembrance

This is the time of year when we plan for our annual **"BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE"** in which we honor and memorialize our departed family members. This printed book is given out at the **YOM KIPPUR MEMORIAL SERVICE**. Since there are many members who leave for the summer months, and will want to have a listing in the book, we ask that you fill out the form below and send it in as soon as possible. A completed form, even if your information has not changed, must be included with your payment and be received no later than **FRIDAY**, **SEPTEMBER 13, 2019**.

NAMES WILL BE COUNTED, NOT LINES. EACH NAME ON A LINE WILL BE COUNTED INDIVIDUALLY.

Prices for the publication are as follows:

One quarter page	\$18.00	one to ten names
One half page	\$36.00	one to fifteen names
Full Page	\$72.00	one to twenty names

Please cut out form along dotted lines

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Susan & Michael Cohen, 9008 E. Stoney Vista Ct., Sun Lakes, AZ 85248 - questions call 895-4660

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Community News

Shalom Hadassah

It's hard to believe we have only two more months before our summer hiatus. Our 2018/2019 schedule has been filled with interesting and fun programs.

On Tuesday, April 9th, we continue our movie and lunch series with the showing of "The Best of Enemies" at Harkins Theater at Chandler Mall. Based on the true story of an outspoken civil rights activist and a local Klu Klux Klan leader who reluctantly co-chair a community summit, battling over the desegregation of schools in Durham, NC during the racially charged summer of 1971. The incredible events that unfold would change Durham and the participants' lives forever.

We will meet at the Harkins Theater in the morning. Lunch will follow at Stone and Barrel in the Oakwood (Sun Lakes) Clubhouse. You will purchase your own movie tickets and lunch.

Please email Barbara Silverman at bsilverman44@gmail.com no later than April 6th if you are planning on joining us FOR LUNCH.

On May 14th we look forward to our last program when we will host a local guest author and enjoy our end of year luncheon. More information will follow.

Devorah Hadassah

Friday, April 5
Flick Chicks, movie TBD. Please contact Barbara G. hadassah.evinfo@cox.net for details
Wednesday, April 17
Dinner Fundraiser, Portillo's, Tempe
Thursday, April 25
Ladies Literary Book Group at Ruth K.'s. Discussing <u>The Room on Rue Amelie</u> by Kristin Harmel at 1:30 p.m.



Lexíe's Bat Mítzvah

Lexie Midtun will become a Bat Mitzvah on Saturday April 6 at 10 am in the Sun Lakes Chapel. The service will be Officiated by Rabbi Weiner and Cantor Ronda. Lexie is the daughter of James and Debbie Midtun, sister of Kylie and Cody Midtun and Granddaughter of Loretta Mangel (Michael Mangel deceased) and Lee and Dana Midtun. For Lexie's Mitzvah project, she knitted 75 hats for the charity Hats for Hope. This charity donates the hats to NICUs all over the country.

Mílestones

Bírthdays



March

Due to technical error the following birthdays were omitted from March Shpiel

- 31 Sheldon Silverman
- 31 Robert Stone

Apríl

- 4 Sheila Asroff
- 4 Rita L. Tanen
- 5 Annie Stern
- 7 Anita Kolikoff
- 8 Michael Milgroom
- 11 Jason Sherter
- 16 David Israel
- 20 Elaine (Lainy) Sardina
- 21 Charles Wolin
- 22 Myron Bernstein
- 23 Gail Kollman
- 23 Sandra Schulman
- 25 Howard Weiner
- 27 Alan Behr
- 30 Gina Caplan

Anníversaríes



Apríl

- 9 Sean Turner & Jennifer Stuart
- 13 Marilyn & Harvey Fein
- 14 Roberta & Maishe Levitan



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Yahrzeíts

Apríl

Morris Levitin Irving Levy Barney Meltzer Judy Moise Siegfried Moses Morris Nelson Isidore Pinsly Janet Plotkin Robert J. Rossow



Hanan Sakulsky Bennit Scheck Esther Schulman Joseph Shagrin Joseph Shagrin Jr. Harriet Sharff Emma Smith Joan Steinberg

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SaraRuth Rossow	Robert Rossow	Allen Lavin	Gertrude Lavin
March 2019)	Allen Lavin	Irving Lavin
Ruth Muenzer	Gerhard Muenzer	Alan Behr	Henrietta Behr
Carol Biales	Sheldon Biales	Marilyn Behr	Clara Kaufman
Carol Biales	Ida Goldberg	Ellin Merritt	Esther Schulman
Ruth Dolin	Lily Freedman	Anita Kolikoff	Irwin Kolikoff
Ruth Dolin	Stanley Dolin	Colette Goldstein	Marcelli Glicenstein
April 2019		Colette Goldstein	Henry Glicenstein
Myron Bernstein	Anna Bernstein	Morton Huskey	Samuel Huskey
Ronald Codkind	Nathan Codkind	Ruth Dolin	Louie Freedman
Janey & Jeff Burnce	Harriett Sharff	Shirley Gersten	Abraham Gersten
Joann Rubinstein	Harry Kimmelman	Gail Dante	Jack Dante
John & Sharon Becker	Joan Becker	Gail Dante	Morris Nelson
Sandra Wiener	Joseph Blumenfeld	Gail Dante	Rae Cohen

Famíly Fu	Famíly Fund		cg j ulu	
Donor	Occasion	Donor	Occasion	
Marjorie & David Levinson	In honor of Ron Codkind]	March 2019	
		Maishe Levitan	Isaac Levitan's memory	
Musíc Fu	nd	Sisterhood	Monthly donation	

Lana OyerEleanor Miller's BirthdayMarilyn & Sheldon RaizesEleanor Miller's Birthday

Chapel Fund

Donor Shelly & Arnie Henden **Occasion** Regina Milgroom's recovery Donor Ruth Dolin Roberta Levitan Alan & Marilyn Behr Ruth Dolin Ruth Dolin Nuth Dolin

Occasion

Flower Fund

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Passover 2nd Seder

Reservation Form

2ND SEDER 4/20/2019 PALO VERDE COUNTRY CLUB STARTING AT 5:30 PM (DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM) SERVICES BY RABBI IRWIN WIENER CANTOR RONDA POLESKY

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> Marilyn Behr 25803 Eastlake Dr. Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

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E-mail:

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With special guest **Bjorn Krondorfer**, director of the Martin-Springer Institute at Northern Arizona University

THURSDAY, MAY 2

East Valley JCC, 908 N. Alma School Road, Chandler 85224

• Through the Eves of Youth: Life and Death in the Bedzin Ghetto"

11 am

Bjorn Krondorfer leads a tour of the Będzin Ghetto exhibit as part of Open Beit Midrash. Cost is \$14, which includes a kosher lunch following the tour. *Reservations required by April 29 at 480-897-0588.*

1 pm

Screening of "Shalom Italia," a documentary about 3 Italian Jewish men who journey through Tuscany, hoping to rediscover the cave where they hid from Nazis as children.

4 - 5:30 pm Workshop for educators led by Bjorn Krondorfer. *For more details, visit evjcc.org.*

6 pm

Yom Hashoah commemoration ceremony

Reservations required: evjcc.org/yom-hashoah-2019 Questions: 480-897-0588

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