

UPCOMING DATES

- Tuesday, Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22  
Noon: Mah Jongg
- Friday, Dec. 4  
6:30 p.m.  
Shabbat Service & pre-Hanukkah Dinner
- Saturday, Dec. 5  
9:30 a.m.  
Torah Study with Rabbi Herzfeld
- Sunday, Dec. 6  
10 a.m. to Noon  
Religious School
- Sunday, Dec. 13  
10 a.m. to Noon  
Religious School
- Tuesday, Dec. 15  
7 p.m.  
TBS Board Meeting
- Friday, Dec. 18  
8 p.m. Shabbat Service
- Sunday, Dec. 27  
9:30-11:30 a.m.  
TBS Brotherhood Breakfast at the Hamptons
- Tuesday, Dec. 29  
10:30 a.m.  
Needlework

TBS RABBIS, PAST AND PRESENT, HONORED

The congregation, Rabbi Herzfeld, and honored guests shared a sweet reunion and memories when a plaque with the names of all Temple Beth Shalom rabbis, past and present, was dedicated at Shabbat services, Oct. 30.

We were delighted to have Adrienne Sundheim, wife of late Rabbi Emeritus Frank Sundheim, and Rabbi Emeritus Cyrus and Mrs. Sherry Arfa with us for this

special evening.

Bobby Baum suggested and commissioned the plaque in the spring. At the presentation he spoke of similar honors in the synagogue of his youth and cherished memories of times shared with his congregation's rabbi and his family, all which deepened his feeling of connection to his temple and his faith.

Many other rabbis who

*I am so proud to see what TBS has evolved into. What a nice surprise to hear from my very first congregation over 30 years ago! What a beautiful honor!*

– Rabbi Bradd Boxman

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Left to right: Adrienne Sundheim wife of Rabbi Frank Sundheim, Sherry Arfa, Rabbi Garson Herzfeld, Rabbi Cyrus Arfa, Margo Fleisher.

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For more details visit the calendar on the temple website:  
<http://www.templebethshalompolk.org>

DECEMBER

Dec. 1 – 12:00 pm	MahJongg
Dec. 4 – 6:30 pm	Hanukkah Dinner
<i>See Page 4 for details</i>	
8:00 pm	Hanukkah/Shabbat Service
Dec. 5 – 9:30 am	Torah Study
Dec. 6 – 9:00 am	Executive Meeting
10:00 am	Religious School
Sundown	First candle of Hanukkah
Dec. 8 – 12:00 pm	Mahjongg
7:00 pm	Temple Board Meeting
Dec. 13 – 10:00 am	Religious School
Dec. 15 – 12:00 pm	Mahjongg
Dec. 18 – 8:00 pm	Shabbat Service
Dec. 20	Religious School Holiday
Dec. 22 – 12:00 pm	Mahjongg
Dec. 27	Religious School Holiday
9:30 am	Brotherhood Breakfast
Dec. 29 – 10:30 am	Needlework
12:00 pm	Mahjongg

JANUARY

Jan. 3 – 9:00 am	Executive Meeting
	Religious School Holiday
Jan. 5 – 12:00 pm	Mahjongg
Jan. 8 – 8:00 pm	Shabbat Service
Jan. 9 – 9:30 am	Torah Study
Jan. 10 – 10:00 am	Religious School
Jan. 12 – 12:00 pm	Mahjongg
7:00 pm	Temple Board Meeting
Jan. 17 – 10:00 am	Religious School
Jan. 19 – 12:00 pm	Mahjongg
Jan. 22 – 6:30 pm	Tu B'Shevat Seder
<i>See Page 5 for details</i>	
Jan. 23 – 9:30 am	Torah Study
Jan. 24 – 9:30 am	Brotherhood Breakfast
Jan. 26 – 10:30 a.m.	Needlework
12:00 p.m.	Mahjongg
Jan. 31 – 10:00 am	Religious School

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Bylaws	Michelle Wilson
Budget and Finance	Meryl Chayt
Cemetery	Jeanne Heyman
Chai Lites	Pixie Rubin
Choir	Meryl Crews
Communications	Steve and Meryl Chayt
Education and Religious School	Meryl Crews
Executive	Richard Friedmann
House	Martin Halpert
Israel-Arza	Michelle Chain
Membership	Open
Nominating	Richard Friedmann
Publicity	Phil Grinker
Pulpit	Rabbi Herzfeld
Ritual	Renee Cohen
Social	Arlene Greenberg Judy Richter
Social Action	Margo Fleisher
Temple Calendar	Janis Koike
Ways and Means	Herb LeShay (Brotherhood Chair)
Youth	Open



**BOARD TRUSTEES  
AND OFFICERS  
2015-2016**

- Margo Fleisher  
President
- Meryl Crews  
Vice President
- Meryl Chayt  
Treasurer
- Judy Richter  
Recording Secretary
- Richard Friedmann  
Past President
  
- Joyce Preston
- Sue Zwerling
- Janis Koike
- Herb LeShay
- Diana Kramer
- Bert Devorsetz

**DONATE YOUR  
UNWANTED  
GLASSES**

There will be a box for unwanted glasses that will be given to charity.

**CHAI LITES  
DEADLINE**

Please submit news items by the 20th of each month to  
web@bethshalompolk.org  
for publication in Chai Lites.

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served Temple Beth Shalom were contacted about the dedication. Though they were unable to be with us, many were touched and sent lovely greetings.

*How lovely! With blessings to you all – I have such fond memories of my time there and all I learned from the community during those years*  
– Rabbi Rachel Gurevitz

*I think it is a lovely idea and it is much appreciated by both Marilyn and me...we wish you continued success at Beth Shalom...all the best.*  
– Rabbi Robert Goodman

*I think very fondly of my time with Temple Beth Shalom; the people were (I am sure still are!) wonderful...I am so glad I was able to have some time with the congregation, and am glad to see this milestone in its life. Please convey my "mazal tov" and deep gratitude to them. May you all go from strength to strength!*  
– Rabbi Karen Soria

*I am so proud to see what TBS has evolved into. What a nice surprise to hear from my very first congregation over 30 years ago! What a beautiful honor!*  
–Rabbi Bradd Boxman

We hope to see Rabbi and Mrs. Arfa, and Mrs. Sundheim again soon.

We also look forward to catching up with our other rabbi friends!

Continue following Chai Lites and check in on our Facebook page for more greetings and updates.

Many thanks to Bobby for his meaningful contribution.

Photos provided by Bobby Baum





## PRE-HANUKKAH CELEBRATION AND SERVICE

Friday, Dec. 4

6:30 p.m. Dinner  
8 p.m. Service

Bring your  
menorahs and candles

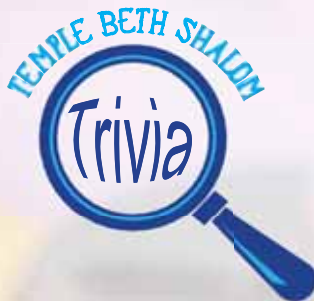
### IMPORTANT INFO FOR ONEG HOSTS

As a cost-saving measure, the board has elected to cancel the dumpster service. The overpriced, underutilized dumpster was costing us hundreds of dollars a year. If you are an Oneg host on clean up duty, you have two choices:

1. Collect all the trash and take it home.
2. Double bag the trash and throw it in the large trash bin outside the back door. Someone will dispose of it. Thanks for helping us save money!

### NEW YAHRZEIT BOARD

A new expanded Yahrzeit Board is being constructed for Temple Beth Shalom. Our current 50-plaque board, designed and built by Steven Chayt, will be replaced by a new board that will hold 150 names. The current plaques will be transferred to the new board. For those who have been waiting to purchase plaques for your loved ones, the new board should be completed by the first of the year. Please watch for additional details.



Starting this month Chai Lites will include temple related trivia questions. Look through the rest of Chai Lites for the answer (no cheating!). So here's the first question: How many rabbis, including Rabbi Herzfeld, has Temple Beth Shalom enjoyed?



6:30 P.M.

JANUARY 22, 2016

Deli Dinner catered by



Cost \$12.00 for Adults

No charge for children under 13

Please R.S.V.P by January 15

with your check to P.O. Box 313 Winter Haven, FL 33882

For more information

contact Sandi Grinker sandi @tampabay.rr.com or 863-207-7440

## THE MEANING OF TU B'SHEVAT

Tu B'Shevat, sometimes called the Jewish Arbor Day, is celebrated on the fifteenth day of Sh'vat to commemorate our relationship to trees, and by extension to the earth and the land of Israel. After the destruction of the temple and the diaspora that followed, Jews felt a special need to maintain a



relationship with Israel by eating fruits and nuts that are native to our homeland.

In Israel, Tu B'Shevat is a national tree planting holiday.

You might think that a Tu B'Shevat "Seder" is a modern invention, but in fact, the idea of the seder originated with Jewish mystics of the eighteenth century. They published a

"hagaddah" called Pri Etz Hadar. (The Fruit of the Goodly Tree). The ritual divides the ceremony into four distinct sections that symbolize the four seasons. Various fruits and nuts are eaten, as well as four glasses of wine from white to red, all of which symbolize the fruit of the earth.

*Information for this article was taken from various essays published by reformjudaism.org*



## WE GIVE THANKS ...

To Barbara Brooks and Marcia and Marty Halpert for hosting a November Oneg Shabbat

To Pat Lerner for keeping the building spotless.

To Steven Chayt for creating a new photo gallery accessed from our website. Check it out.

To Arlene Greenberg and Sharon Shuller for hosting Rabbi Herzfeld and Rabbi Arfa and Sherry for dinner.

To our Religious School and Hebrew teachers: Meryl Crews, Margo Fleisher, and Michelle Wilson.

## PICTURE YOURSELF ON FLICKR: TBS GOING DIGITAL

For years, Temple Beth Shalom has collected and saved photographs of significant events. In the old days these were collected and presented from the website. Times have changed and we have discovered a new way of making photos available to our members and friends.

The link to the Beth Shalom Flickr page is: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/131823893@N05/albums>

It will take us a little time to transfer the temple photo albums to this new site, but check it out when you can. Also, if you have any digital photos that you would like us to include, please email them to us at [web@templebethshalompolk.org](mailto:web@templebethshalompolk.org)

## SHARE THE JOY!

If you would like to share a personal success or family event with the congregation, please let us know so that we can announce the good news in Chai Lites: births, weddings, graduations, promotions, retirements, and MORE! Send your good news to the Temple email address: [web@templebethshalompolk.org](mailto:web@templebethshalompolk.org). The publication deadline is the 20th of the previous month.

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

We want to expand our membership information to include the birthdays and anniversaries of family members. You may have given us this information in the past, but some of it has disappeared. If you would like to participate, please send this information to the temple email address: [web@templebethshalompolk.org](mailto:web@templebethshalompolk.org)



TEMPLE BETH SHALOM now has a Facebook page

[https://www.facebook.com/bethshalompolk/photos\\_stream?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/bethshalompolk/photos_stream?ref=page_internal)

B'NAI B'RITH SPEAKER SHEDS LIGHT ON LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE

The November guest speaker for the Lakeland B'nai B'rith was Paula Dockery. She described her education and experiences which led to her being elected to our Florida State Legislature. Ms. Dockery explained her perspective of placing her constituency and their wants above the party positions, and the political repercussions.

Ms. Dockery spoke about her career as

both state representative and senator.

After her presentation, questions were taken from B'nai B'rith members about her legislative experience and viewpoint on current issues. Our B'nai B'rith was fortunate to have Paula Dockery speak, and found her comments to be both interesting and enlightening.

- By Phil Grinker, president, B'nai B'rith Lodge 1515



Brenda Poller led the question and answer session with several questions for Paula Dockery. Seated with her were Jeanne and Jerry Heyman. Photos by Floyd Stern.

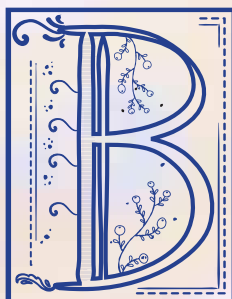
Above, Paula Dockery expounds on a point during her talk to B'nai B'rith attendees Sunday, Nov. 15. Brunch attendees included members from Temple Beth Shalom and Temple Emanuel.

Sandi and Phil Grinker (left) listening intently. Pictured far right are Art and Lois Levine.



10 A.M., DEC. 20

Dr. Cat Eskin from Florida Southern College will be the speaker Dec. 20. She will discuss the "genealogy" of the Jews of Polk County. The brunch will be at Cleveland Heights County Club in Lakeland. Please bring a non-perishable food donation for a free raffle ticket.



NAI  
RITH  
RUNCH

## DINNER WITH THE RABBI

Dinner with the Rabbi will be at 5:30 p.m., Dec. 18, at Fire Restaurant, 325 W. Central Ave., Winter Haven. Rabbi Herzfeld will be hosted by Polly and Jan Weinmann. Please RSVP by Dec. 16 to sandi@tampabay.rr.com.or863-207-7440.

## EREV SHABBAT SERVICES

8 p.m. with Rabbi Herzfeld. We are collecting canned goods or non-perishable food for the food pantry.

## Yahrzeits

Frances Brand	grandmother of Michelle Wilson
Jay Browde	father of Arlene Greenberg, grandfather of Robert Greenberg
Shirley Buch	mother of Linda Smith
Leonard Chase	Perpetual Yahrzeit
Adele Sandler Chayt	mother of Steven Chayt
Edwin S. Chayt	father of Steven Chayt
Frances Cornell	mother of Diane LeShay
Billee Erde	Perpetual Yahrzeit
Harry Feder	father of Art Feder
Jan Grayson	Perpetual Yahrzeit
Laura Halpert	mother of Martin Halpert
Jerry Kaplan	brother-in-law of Sandi Ginker
Robert Korn	father of Irwin Korn, husband of Raye Korn
Gerald Kramer	husband of Diana Kramer
Sarah LeShay	mother of Herbert LeShay
Joseph Moss	father of Judy Richter
Herman Poller	father of Robert Poller
Bobbie Ravdin	mother of Brenda Kleinman
Rosa Rotenberg	mother-in-law of Varda Rotenberg
Jerry Rubin	husband of Ellie Rubin, father of Pixie Rubin
Dorothy Salm	mother of Marc Salm
Anna Schultz	grandmother of Lloyd Chain
Morris Schultz	grandfather of Lloyd Chain
Rose Brown Schwachter	grandmother of Barbara Brooks
Lena Siegel	mother of Saul Siegel
Lillian Jacobson Siegel	grandmother of Meryl Chayt, mother of Beatrice Briklod
Fannie Kornsweit Sniderman	grandmother of Barbara Brooks
Max Soberman	father-in-law of Myrna Soberman
Ruth Spiwak	grandmother of Randy Spiwak

## DONATIONS TO TBS

General Fund Donation  
Anne Botz

Yahrzeit Donation  
In memory  
of Martin W. Lerner  
Rob and Pat Lerner

Yahrzeit Donation  
In memory  
of Robert Smith  
Vincent and  
Linda Smith

In memory  
of Irwin Berson  
Sybil Weiss

## THOUGHTS FOR THE MONTH

Achievable goals are the first step to self-improvement.

*J. K. Rowling,  
(1965 - )*

*British fantasy author*  
Small opportunities are often the beginning of great enterprises.

*Demosthenes,  
(384 BC - 322 BC)*

*Greek orator & politician in Athens*

Report errors/omissions to  
web@bethshalompolk.org

FOR ERRORS OR OMISSIONS TO THE YAHRZEIT LIST, PLEASE CALL JANIS KOIKE