

TEMPLE BETH SHALOM

May 2016



Chai Lites

Phone: 863-292-0722 • Website: <http://www.templebethshalompolk.org>

President's Notes From The Annual Meeting

Dear Temple Beth Shalom Congregation, welcome to a new year of service with our Board of Trustees, Officers, and Committees! As you heard at our Annual Meeting, we still have some challenges, but together in 2015-2016 we accomplished a great deal, and see much strength to take us further with our goals in 2016-2017.

A summary of our meeting:

■ We wish to acknowledge the contributions of our outgoing Board members. Bert Devorsetz submitted some valuable ideas and was generous to our congregation in many subtle and unspoken ways. We appreciate his trips from the other side of the Bay for our meetings! Herb LeShay did a lot to keep us connected with the Brotherhood and his support was tremendous. Many thanks to Judy Richter for her diligent and reliable service as Recording Secretary! Everything we needed to document our activities for the year was there because of Judy, and she was an important part of the Social Committee's activities as well.

■ It is hard to categorize the contributions of our committee chairs and members; individuals were so diverse and flexible in what they shared. We are so glad to have had Sandi Grinker supporting so much of the Social Committee's activities with our many dinners and events, communicating with us to enhance membership and also so much fundraising. Diana Kramer did multiple duties as a Social and Ritual Committee member. Thank you Arlene Greenberg for coordinating event reservations, and Deena Williams for all the work you did at events.

■ The Brotherhood was an ideal part of our Temple Beth Shalom family in keeping us engaged with the community, and generously donating proceeds of the successful Dinner Auction. Howard Korn was a great lead on that effort, along with Herb, Phil, and many others. Thanks to Howard and Phil along with the Watson Foundation we have an AED in our facility and hope that it is forever unnecessary (but good to have — don't want to give us a kenahora!). Not sure where to thank Past President Richard Friedmann, so we'll do it here. Richard donated valuable skills with refinishing the floors and very hard work spearheading the annual Yard Sale which was a great source of revenue and a lot of fun!

■ Renee Cohen, we hope to follow your elegant example in organizing the numerous High Holiday pieces as you did in this last year.

■ Many thanks Vice President Meryl Crews for your leadership of the multiple committees. Our Religious School students showed great achievement in becoming Bar Mitzvot in the last year or so, and that is a reflection of your dedication! Our Shabbat and festival services are lovelier because you share your voice with us. (continued on the next page)

President's Notes From The Annual Meeting continued

■ The work Meryl Chayt did along with her Finance Committee (Dr. Lerner and Jerry Heyman) to cut expenses and identify risks is immeasurable in how it moved us toward greater efficiency and fiscal stability. Meryl performed valuable administrative, technical, and creative functions as well.

■ Speaking of creative functions, the Communications Committee with Meryl along with Steven Chayt added beauty as well as correspondence to our temple and congregation with a new High Holidays publication, new yahrtzeit board, and updates to our website. Thank you also Patricia Lerner and Dr. Lerner for assisting House Committee Chair Marty Halpert to keep our building beautiful and in good condition. Many thanks to Janis Koike for clarifying and updating our Cemetery policies and for gracefully maintaining much of our correspondence.

■ There were many beautiful moments in the last year. The presentation of the plaque honoring our Temple's Rabbis was touching, and Bobby Baum initiated and brought that to reality, showing that these relationships between congregations and rabbis endure as long as we remember them. Joyce Preston, Meryl Crews and I were privileged to witness our 120+ -year-old Czech Holocaust Torah scroll reunite with 25 of its sisters in Hollywood, FL, and this joined us to an infinite community; it has no temporal or geographic limits.

■ That was not all we did, and please forgive what will surely be an incomplete attempt to acknowledge everybody, but lastly we thanked the congregational members present for being there, for their steadfast commitment, and in advance for what they were going to do in the coming year with contributing their ideas, providing sincerely wanted and needed service on our committees, and most importantly; creating new member connections and healing some that may have become weakened by adversity in the last year. A congregation by definition is not possible without people, and we need all of ours — whether enjoying professional growth and success or challenged in unemployment, building or rebuilding a family, able to lift chairs and tables or only a pen or a telephone. On May 1st we resolved to show more of our worth, and to not give up on a few that say they are too tired (need Shabbat with us, always refreshes!), too broke (you are worth more than you think!) or too stressed (Torah Study, Religious School, social activities like our dinners, singing together, game nights, and Mah Jongg help you literally re-create!) to keep up with Temple Beth Shalom — so do not be surprised if you are subject to some friendly, welcoming, loving noodging – that is one of the things we do best!

Margo Fleisher

Our New Board of Directors

Margo Fleisher, *President*
Meryl Crews, *Vice President*
Meryl Chayt, *Treasurer*
Janis Koike, *Recording Secretary*
Richard Friedmann, *Past President*

Joyce Preston, *Trustee*
Martin Halpert, *Trustee*
Sue Zwerling, *Trustee*
Diana Kramer, *Trustee*
Jessica Brucks, *Trustee*



Calendar

MAY

May 1 – 9:00 a.m.....	Executive Meeting
May 1 – 10:00 a.m.....	Religious School
May 1 – 5:00 p.m.....	Annual Meeting/Pot Luck Dinner
May 3 – 12:00 p.m.	Mah Jongg
May 6 – 8:00 p.m.....	Shabbat/Yom Ha'atzmaut Service
May 8	Religious School Holiday
May 10 – 12:00 p.m.	Mah Jongg
May 10 – 7:00 p.m.	Temple Board Meeting
May 15 – 10:00 a.m.	Religious School
May 17 – 12:00 p.m.	Mah Jongg
May 20 – 8:00 p.m.	Shabbat Service
May 22 – 9:30 a.m.....	Brotherhood Breakfast
May 22 – 10:00 a.m.	Religious School
May 24 – 12:00 p.m.	Mah Jongg
May 29 – 10:00 a.m.	Religious School
May 31 – 10:30 a.m.	Needlework
May 31 – 12:00 p.m.	Mah Jongg

Dinner with the Rabbi scheduled for Friday, May 20th, will be held at the Olive Garden in Winter Haven at 5:00 pm. Arlene Greenberg is hosting. Please RSVP to arlenegreenberg@gmail.com or call (561) 374-0266.

JUNE

June 5 – 9:00 a.m.....	Executive Meeting
June 7 – 12:00 p.m.....	Mah Jongg
June 10 – 8:00 p.m.....	Shabbat
June 14 – 12:00 p.m.	Mah Jongg
June 14 – 8:00 p.m.....	Board Meeting
June 21 – 12:00 p.m.	Mah Jongg
June 28 – 10:30 a.m.....	Needlework
June 28 – 12:00 p.m.	Mah Jongg

There will be an additional service with Rabbi Herzfeld in June. Please check your email for this information when it becomes available.

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

Temple Auction Photos



Annual Meeting Photos



Trivia Question???????

Which two members knew each other professionally for several years before they realized they shared the same religion?

New Members

Welcome to new members Jerry Goldblatt and Rory and Stephanie Schlosberg and family. We look forward to getting to know you.

HOHO chair on *Out and About Art*

Dion Spires, producer of Polk Government Television's May episode of "Out and About Art" has included a piece on the HOHO chair including an interview with the artist, member Steven Chayt. The segment is about a third into the show.

You can check it out on YouTube by searching:

Out and About Art #12 (Jewel of the Ridge Festival, Lawn Chair Project, Bloomin Arts Festival)



Thank You's & Donations

- Thank you to Renee and Allen Cohen and Sandi and Phil Grinker for hosting an Oneg.
- Thank you to the following individuals who donated items and/or money for the Brotherhood Auction Aase Feder, Anne Botz, Barbara Brooks, Linda Brown, Michelle and Lloyd Chain, Renee Cohen, Arlene Greenberg, Sandi Grinker, Angelo Ibanez, Janis Koike, Irwin and Brenda Kleinman, Howard Korn, Herb LeShay, Ken and Helyne Treister, Elaine Pincus, Judy and Michael Richter, Pat Lerner, Joyce Preston, The Mah Jongg Ladies
- Thank you to Rabbi Herzfeld for leading us in the Passover Seder.
- Thank you to members and nonmembers who helped with the Seder, which was a huge success. For setting up the tables and chairs: Arlene Greenberg, Debbie Grinker, Sandi Grinker, Marcia Halpert, Lois Levine, Lee Martinez, Elaine Pincus, Sybil Weiss and Sue Zwerling. For Shopping: Sandi Grinker. For making the eggs: Meryl Crews, Sandi Grinker and Lois Levine. For making the charoses : Sandi Grinker and Judy Richter. For making the seder plates that day: Meryl Crews, Sandi Grinker, Diana Kramer, Art and Lois Levine, Bobby and Brenda Poller. For making a vegan dish: Judy Richter. For taking the tablecloths home to be cleaned : Aasse Feder. And last but not least, for cleaning up and putting the tables and chairs away: Meryl Crews, Margo Fleisher, Phil and Sandi Grinker, Diana Kramer, Pat and Rob Lerner, Art and Lois Levine.
- Thank you to Ken and Helyne Treister for making a donation in honor of the temple.
- Thank you to Margo Fleisher for monthly donations to the temple.
- Thank you to Janis Koike for making a yartzeit donation in memory of Richard Weiss.
- Thank you to Herb LeShay for making a yartzeit donation in memory of Nate LeShay.
- Thank you to the Temple Brotherhood for their generous donation of \$5,000.00 from the dinner/auction to our general operating fund. And thanks to all temple members and non-members, vendors and contributors who helped make the auction a huge success!!

May Yahrtzeits

Theresa Baum	mother of Robert Baum
Jules Briklod	father of Meryl Chayt and husband of Beatrice Briklod
Aharon Bromberg	father of Varda Rotenberg
Bessie Browde	mother of Arlene Greenberg
Zina Chain	grandmother of Lloyd Chain
William Cohen	father of Allen Cohen
Irwin Cohen	brother of Allen Cohen
Rosalie Gasson	former wife of Harry Gasson
Miriam Gessner	perpetual yartzeit
Victor Golfman	grandfather of Sharon Shuller
Beatrice Greenberg	mother-in-law of Arlene Greenberg
Sarah Gripp	mother of Jacqueline Korn
Nat Heyman	father of Jerry Heyman
Gay Hill	mother of Linda Small
Martin N. Kogan	father of Brenda Poller
Elizabeth Kohen	grandmother of Margo Fleisher
Alex LeShay	father of Herbert LeShay
Frank Mayer	brother of Max Mayer
Mark Miller	perpetual yartzeit
Irving Ort	father of Michael Ort
Leslie Peckman	brother of Renee Cohen
Pearl Safir	mother of Elaine Pincus
Jack Safir	father of Elaine Pincus
Stephen Soberman	husband of Myrna Soberman
Rabbi Frank N. Sundheim	Rabbi Emeritus, husband of Adrienne Sundheim
Alan Treister	son of Ken and Helyne Treister
Frieda Weitzenkorn	mother of Paul Weitzenkorn
Lillian Zwerling	mother-in-law of Susan Zwerling

Condolences to Rabbi Herzfeld, whose mother Lila Held, passed away on May 1st. Mrs. Held suffered a stroke late last month, and Rabbi Herzfeld left Florida to be with her. Please keep the family in your thoughts during this difficult time.

Get Involved! Volunteer Now!

**To keep our temple alive,
we need YOU to fill committee openings!
Please contact Meryl Crews 863-258-1462**



Temple Beth Shalom Cemetery

Included on the next page are the contents of the new Beth Shalom cemetery brochure and regulations which the Board of Directors introduced at the annual meeting on May 1. Thanks to Steven and Meryl Chayt for the new design and layout.

First, we have streamlined and clarified the regulations. We no longer refer to “rights of burial” which we now think may have been a misspelling of “rites of burial.”

Second, we have simplified and updated the price structure. The pricing structure is described below.

Third and most important, we have emphasized the services that Temple Beth Shalom provides to its members in time of need.

Take a look. . .

As indicated in the brochure, the cost of a cemetery plot for a member is now \$1,000; for a non-member, \$1,500. The member cost is in line with the city rates for Rolling Hills Cemetery. The cost is for the plot of land only; it does not include services provided by the city, funeral costs, or any fees owed to the clergy. However, the price does include a \$50.00 transfer of deed fee.

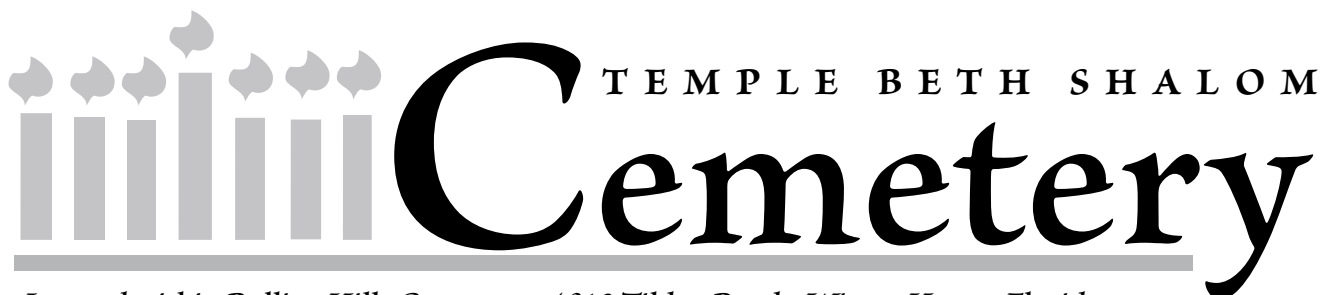
To ease the transition, the Board has established a 60-day grace period. Through June 30, 2016, members can purchase plots at the previous rate, \$700.00 plus \$50.00. Members who choose this option will have one year to complete payment. A deed will not be issued until payment is complete. If full payment is not received by the due date, then the new rate will apply.

Non-member spouses are subject to non-member pricing.

Questions may be directed to any member of the cemetery committee: Janis Koike, Meryl Chayt (treasurer), Steven Chayt. You may also email us at web@TempleBethShalomPolk.org or leave us a message at (863) 292-0722. Your call will be returned.

To download the complete printable version of the brochure go to:

<http://www.templebethshalompolk.org/0000newstuff.6.30.2014/Cemetery%20Brochure%202016.pdf>



Located within Rolling Hills Cemetery • 4810 Tilden Road • Winter Haven, Florida

Temple phone 863.292.0722

<http://www.templebethshalompolk.org>

Fulfilling Tradition

Through the ages, Jewish communities, large and small, have provided for one another. As a community, we share in life's events. Together we celebrate the joys of birth, B'nai Mitzvot, and weddings. Inevitably we mourn together the death of loved ones.

Jewish communities have historically purchased land for a cemetery and provided a school for their children before building a sanctuary. In keeping with Jewish tradition, Beth Shalom fulfilled that sacred trust and purchased land for a Jewish cemetery even before we built our Temple.

The Jewish cemetery is located within the Rolling Hills Burial Park of Winter Haven and is marked by two stone pillars donated by Beth Shalom families, Dr. Robert and Pat Lerner and Major (Ret.) Jesse and Betty Mehrlust. The cemetery is regulated by the city of Winter Haven and congregational policy.

Jewish funeral and burial rites honor the deceased and provide comfort to the mourners. All members of Jewish families are welcome to be buried in our cemetery, regardless of their religious background.

At time of death, thoughtful considered decisions are essential. Jewish families who want to follow tradition often seek the help of a nearby Temple or Synagogue to assist them through this difficult time.

by Offering Assistance

Beth Shalom will assist members with funeral arrangements and ritual, whether or not burial is in the Jewish Cemetery. Temple facilities are available to members for funeral services. We will help procure rabbinic services and a minyan for shivah. Members of the congregation are also available to lead memorial services and shivah, and to officiate unveilings.

Cemetery plots must be purchased directly from Temple Beth Shalom. The cost of a plot is \$1,000 for members and \$1,500 for non-members. Non-member spouses are subject to non-member fees. The transfer of title fee is included in the cost of the plot. Fees payable to the funeral home, to the city (for opening the gravesite), and to the rabbi are not included. All fees are subject to change.

Temple Beth Shalom maintains a yahrtzeit list for members as well as a perpetual yahrtzeit list of those who died while members of the congregation. The deceased need not be of the Jewish faith. Names are read aloud at all services held during the anniversary month of the death. A reminder notice is sent to the family. Beth Shalom also prepares a Yiskor list, which is distributed at the Yom Kippur Yiskor service. In addition, Temple Beth Shalom has placed a memorial board in the main sanctuary. Memory plaques may be purchased for \$150.00. The plaque is lit during the month of the yahrtzeit.

and Support

The authority and responsibility for all cemetery affairs is vested in the Cemetery Committee appointed by the President of the Congregation. This committee consists of a chairman and additional members.

All money pertaining to the cemetery is to be kept in a separate general ledger account by the treasurer of the congregation. Plots must be purchased from Temple Beth Shalom. Payment is due at the time of purchase; extended payments may be arranged. A deed will be issued when payment has been made in full.

Plots may not be sold except back to the Congregation for the original purchase price less a transfer of title fee and any obligation owed by the seller.

Inquiries may be directed to the Cemetery Committee. Please call the Congregation at 863-292-0722. A member of the Cemetery Committee will return your call.

Our goal is to be of comfort and assistance to those in mourning.



Temple Beth Shalom Yahrtzeit Plaque Order Form

\$150.00 contribution.

Arrangement for payment to be made with the Temple Treasurer, Meryl Chayt, 294-6976

Requested by _____

Telephone Number _____ E-mail _____



Actual size sample shown.

■ **Line One** English date of death _____

■ **Line Two** Memorial Name in English _____

■ **Line Three** *optional, please check.*

_____ Memorial Name in Hebrew.

_____ or Memorial Name in Hebrew transliteration.

_____ son / daughter of _____ and _____
Hebrew name Father's Hebrew name Mother's Hebrew name

(If you do not know the Hebrew names we will gladly look them up)

■ **Line Four** *optional, please check.*

_____ Date of death in Hebrew.

_____ Date of death in Hebrew transliteration.

Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

(If you do not know the Hebrew date we will gladly look it up)