

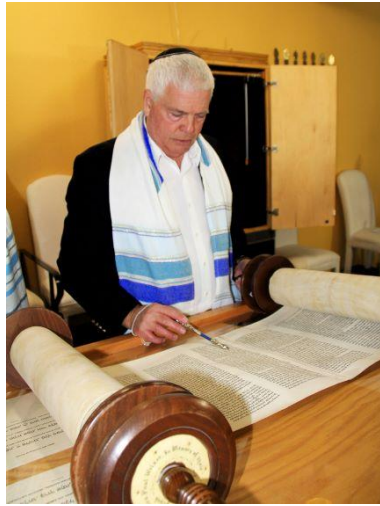
*A Very Sappy Chanukah*

*from*

*Congregation Sinai*



*December 25, 2024 - January 3, 2025*



## **From the Bimah**

Now that the war in Israel is 14 months long, do we simply go about our business as if this must be the new normal? I hope not. The results of the presidential election in the United States have left some people discouraged and others hopeful for the future. We will see how this impacts Israel and the rise of antisemitism. So, what are we to think and do? I continue to do what I can to support Israel financially and by communicating with some folks in Israel to be an encouragement. The area in central Florida where we live is fairly quiet with very little in the way of antisemitic activity by comparison. I continue to feel that the Jewish people have more friends than enemies in the USA, but that the enemies are more vocal and more in the public arena. Nevertheless, we must continue to be vigilant and protective especially when we gather in the synagogue and for other religious events. I do believe that God takes care for Israel and the Jewish people but as with Tikkun Olam, we have a responsibility to do our part. Chanukah is just a few weeks away and we will celebrate the holiday as we have done all of our lives. Yes, we celebrate the miracle of the oil for the Temple menorah which lasted eight days instead of one. We eat sufganiot and latkes. My thought is that the real miracle is that for the first time in recorded history, a nation fought a war for religious freedom and with the help of God we won that right. May God bless us and all Israel with peace, good health and prosperity.

Joe & Robin

# President's Message

## December 2024

### Lou Chern

Hi Everyone! Now that Thanksgiving is over, it's SHOPPING TIME, and time to look forward to our Hanukkah celebrations, and Latkes by Pete and Lew.

Shalom Y'All had a Craft Fair on November 10 th at the Clermont Arts & Recreation Center. We had a nice turnout from our members. I know that many of us are looking forward to the Sisterhood Cruise December 1-6 on Virgin Voyages. We have 22 people going, so there should be plenty of "Happenings" that stay on the ship. By now, we're almost on the ship and I'm sure that we will have a great time!

I'd like to thank Joe for his Tuesday evening discussions. We had two weeks discussing Antisemitism and one for the prayers during the services. I look forward to future topics, and recommend that everyone join. It's good to see some of our SnowBirds return for the winter. I hope that you all have a wonderful holiday season.

Have a great month!  
Lou

## *Just one joke –*

Not very long ago two brothers named Pinchas and Asher Nussberg open a tailor shop in Manhattan's Lower East Side. Hoping that their business is going to allow them to go global, they call their shop NUSSBERG INTERNATIONAL.

Over the following years, their business grows, but not as fast as they think it should. So, they go to a business consultant for advice. The consultant strongly suggests that anglicizing their firm's name and type of business would definitely bring in more customers. So, they take the expert's advice, complete all the necessary paperwork, and change the sign above their shop to their new name NUSS - HIGH CLASS TAILORS LTD.

Then finally, they tell Hannah, their receptionist, that from now onwards she must answer the phone with "Good Morning. You're through to the Nuss high class tailors. Who would you like to talk to?"

As soon as Hannah hears this, she says, "In that case, gentlemen, I resign". Shocked, they say, "But why, Hannah? We need you! What's wrong with such an introduction?"

Hannah replied, "Because if the caller then says he would like to talk to Mr Nuss, I would have to ask whether it was Mr. A. Nuss or Mr. P. Nuss".



**Beverly Chern**

Ahoy there friends!

Whatever time you are reading this, I am enjoying being on Virgin Voyages Valiant Lady cruising the Caribbean with 19 Congregation members and 3 friends of theirs. It's so nice to be able to relax with my temple family and friends, and that's all I can say because you all know *"what happens on the ship, stays on the ship"*.

Thanks to our wonderful Sisterhood members, we have a vibrant Sisterhood that is always ready and willing to help out when needed. Thank you sisters for all you do.

Thank you to all the ladies who came out to support us for a fun afternoon at our Game Day. It was awesome that so many people attended and had a great time.

Our Sisterhood is continuing our outreach for the community. With the cooler weather coming, please don't forget to donate any hoodies and toiletries for the children living in the woods. With the holidays coming, please don't forget to bring non-perishable foods to our temple to be donated to the Neighborhood Center of South Lake. Of course, we can't forget about our fur babies by donating sheets, blankets and unopened cans or packages of dog food. With your help, we do make a difference in the lives of others.

For those of you that would like to help us, please sign up and use RaiseRight, our scrip/gift card program. You can order e-gift cards from the comfort of your home and email friends and family their holiday gifts. You can also use them when you shop for everyday items. Each time you order scrip, a rebate % is donated back to Sisterhood. You might think it doesn't matter but if you use it and we earn \$10 a month it's more than we had, but think what would happen if 50 people used it and we earned the same \$10 per month; together that's \$500 monthly. So see, YOU can make a difference. Thank you in advance for signing up by reaching out to me for our Sisterhood code.

Karen Miller will be well rested next week so she will be looking forward to sending our Tributes. You can send them to others and not just congregation members. It's only \$6.50 per tribute and Karen sends the card out for you and you don't even have to go to the mailbox. Payments go to Marsha Norden.

**SAVE THE DATE** - We are very excited to announce that we are doing a Murder Mystery evening on **January 25, 2025**. It will be an interactive fun evening trying to figure out who the suspect is. Was it you?????

Check your emails for more information and a flyer for it. We hope you will invite your friends, family, neighbors, groups that you play cards and mahjong with, post it on your community billboard etc. This is replacing our Fashion Show Fund Raising event so we really need your support.

Wishing everyone Happy Holidays, stay safe, and I'll see you when I get back from this cruise.

Bev

# Please Join



## For a HANUKKAH Party

Thursday, December 19th – Noon

Latkes by Pete with sour cream or applesauce. Salads! DONUTS!!!

**Optional White Elephant Gift Exchange - \$15 value.**

**If you choose to participate you must bring a wrapped gift.**

1. Players draw numbers to determine what order they will go in
2. Players sit in a circle or line where they can see the gift pile
3. The first player selects a gift from the pool and opens it
4. The following players can choose to either pick a wrapped gift from the pool or steal a previous player's gift.  
Anyone who gets their gift stolen in this way can do the same – choose a new gift or steal from someone else.
5. After all players have had a turn, the first player gets a chance to swap the gift he or she is holding for any other opened gift. Anyone whose gift is stolen may steal from someone else (as long as that person hasn't been stolen from yet).
6. When someone declines to steal a gift, the game comes to an end.

**Three Swaps and You're Out.** If you get stolen from three times during the game, you are out of the game and can no longer be stolen from.

**Three Swaps and the Gift is Out.** If a present gets stolen three times, it's out of the game and the person who holds it gets to walk away with it.

**\$10 Per person – Payment must be received by 12/10**

**Pay online at [www.congregation-sinai.org](http://www.congregation-sinai.org)**

**Sisterhood Items - Sisterhood Hanukkah Party**

Congregation Sinai Sisterhood Invites you to



## **Midnight at the Masquerade**

### **A Masquerade Murder Mystery**

Location: E. L. Puryear Building 243 S. Lake Avenue, Groveland, FL 34736

**As Seen on ABC's "Shark Tank":**

**Saturday Evening, January 25, 2025 – 6 PM**

**Serving: LITE BITES**

**Cost: \$36 per person**

**We will have raffles and baskets to be raffled off**

**= = = = =**

**The rustle of silks and feathers under muted conversation was probably the last thing heard by the tragically and unexpectedly deceased at the Billionaire's Club Annual Masquerade Ball.**



**With a mystery under each feathery façade, unmasking the killer may be quite a challenge. It's up to you to determine which partygoer is guilty, bring this crime to justice, and save the party!**

**Attend the Billionaire's Club Annual Masquerade Ball and help get this soiree back on track by trading clues with your guests, gathering information, and solving the crime before the masked menace gets away! Evening wear, ball gowns, Venetian masks, suits, and tuxedos are what to wear (Optional) to this high class night of masks and murder.**

**Get ready for a glamorous evening of mystery, intrigue, and murder at this masquerade ball murder mystery party!**

Pay online by January 5<sup>th</sup> at [www.congregation-sinai.org](http://www.congregation-sinai.org),  
Sisterhood Items, Sisterhood - Murder Mystery Tickets

For more information, contact Joyce Cohen at  
[jyce524@yahoo.com](mailto:jyce524@yahoo.com)

# Yahrzeit Contributions

**November 2024**

## **Donor**

Michele Sobel

Basha Schlazer

Andrew & Ilene Feldman

Karen Miller

Miller Family

Richard Donow

Barbara & Evan Cronson

Gwen Levy

Phi & Janet Bloom

## **Loved One**

Sidney Lebowitz

Gertrude Lebowitz

Dr Albert Schlazer

George Schlazer

Rosaline Tepper

Herman Tepper

Dave Schlazer

Charlotte Schlazer

Louis David Feldman

George Bernhardt

Stuart Miller

Carol Donow

Fay Cronson

Raymond Flaxman

Dorothy B Cohen

## In Memory Of

Robin Silpe Morel

Steve Silpe



## Happy Birthday to our December babies!

Rocky Coleman	December 05
Michele Sobel	December 05
Darlene Hornstein	December 06
Sandy Gartner	December 08
John Levy	December 08
Evan Cronson	December 09
Ellen Hess	December 11
Alan Morgenstern	December 12
Alan Spickler	December 24

## Tributes: Happy Birthday Tributes

<i>Ruth Ross</i>	<i>Barbara and Evan Cronson</i>
<i>Carole Pritzker</i>	<i>Gwen Levy</i> <i>Rick and Lynne Vincent</i>
<i>Susan Levy</i>	<i>Lynne and Rick Vincent</i> <i>Karen Miller</i> <i>Gwen Levy</i>
<i>Lou Chern</i>	<i>Lynn and Lou Vincent</i>
<i>Barbara Cronson</i>	<i>Lynn and Rick Vincent</i>
<i>Mike Sail</i>	<i>Gwen Levy</i>
<i>Karen Miller</i>	<i>Gwen Levy</i> <i>Rick and Lynn Vincent</i>

## Happy Anniversary

Sue and John Levy	Gwen Levy Karen Miller Lynn and Vincent
Regina and Alberto Behar	Lynn and Rick Vincent Janet and Phil Bloom Gwen Levy Karen Miller

## Condolences

To

Susan Tchon

From

Sisterhood

Ava and David McKean

## Thank You

Janet Bloom

Karen Miller

Karen Mandel

Ava Mc Kean

Beverly Chern

Karen Miller

Karen Mandel

Ava McKean

Basha Schlazer

Karen Miller

Ben and Trish

Lynn and Rick Vincent

# **Get Well**

Rick Vincent

Karen and Joel Mandel

Marsha and Lee Norden

Karen Miller

Janet and Phil Bloom

Ava and David McKean

Rocky Coleman

Susan Chern

Fran Kaplan

Sisterhood

Ava and David McKean

# CALENDAR

December 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
1 No religious school	2 Beginning Hebrew – Joe  Advanced Hebrew – Robin	3  Your Choice ??????????	4 Torah Study 7:00PM	5	6 Healing Service 6:30PM  Shabbat Service 7:00PM	7 Torah Study  Synagogue  Bagels and Bible
8 Religious School 10:00am  Mens club meeting 10:00am	9 Beginning Hebrew 7:00PM  Advanced Hebrew – Robin	10  Your Choice ??????????	11 Torah Study 7:00PM  Sisterhood Board meeting 10:00am	12 Congregation Sinai Board Meeting 7:00pm	13 Shabbat Service 7:00PM	14  10AM Torah Study online
15 Religious School 10:00 am	16 Beginning Hebrew 7:00PM  Advanced Hebrew – Robin	17  Your Choice ??????????	18 Torah Study 7:00pm Online	19 Sisterhood general mtg Hanukkah Party 12noon with latkes and salad	20 Shabbat Service 7:00PM	21  10AM Torah Study online
22 Religious School 10:00 am	23 Beginning Hebrew 7:00PM  Advanced Hebrew – Robin	24	25 HAPPY HANUKKAH	26	27 Kabbalat Shabbat Hanukkah party with Latkes by Chef Pierre	28  10AM Torah Study online
29	30	31  HAPPY NEW YEAR!!				