



FROM THE BIMA: RABBI SYLVIN WOLF, PH.D.,D.D.

DEAR FRIENDS,

**R**ecently, someone reminded me of my Hanukkah message from a year ago, with the request that I offer it again. In response to that request, here is the article.

### A JEW IS WHAT A JEW DOES

Jane Eisner, Editor-in-Chief of The Forward wrote: There's a classic story in my family about the time many years ago when we sat around the table at Aunt Sarah's house loudly debating what it meant to be a Jew in America. Bubbe Esther, my husband's grandmother, sat quietly in the corner until someone thought to ask her. How do you define being a Jew. Bubbe? I'll never forget her answer: A Jew is what a Jew does.

A Jew is what a Jew does. A Jew lights Hanukkah candles. I celebrate Hanukkah. It has nothing to do with the legend of the oil lasting for eight days. As for the Maccabees, I'm not sure that they would accept my approach to Judaism. So, why do I celebrate Hanukkah? I celebrate Hanukkah because with the lighting of each candle, I affirm my Jewish self. I affirm my link to the generations of Jews who lit their candles and affirmed their Jewish selves.

A Hasidic story tells of a conversation between a rebbe and one particular member of his community. The man once asked: Rabbi, what is a Jew's task in this world? The rabbi answered: A Jew is a lamp-lighter on the streets of the world. In olden days, there was a person in every town who would light the gas street lamps with a light he carried on the end of a long pole. On the street corners, the lamps sat, ready to be lit. A lamp-lighter has a pole with a flame supplied by the town. He knows that the fire is not his own and he goes around lighting the lamps on his route. And that is the Jewish mission? asked the man. The rabbi thought for a long moment and finally responded: Yes, that is a Jew's calling. The man continues, But Rabbi, I see no lamps. The rabbi responds: That is because you are not yet a lamp-lighter. So, the man inquires: How does one become a lamplighter? The rabbi answered: One must begin with oneself, cleansing oneself, becoming more refined, then one is able to see the other as a source of light, waiting to be ignited. When, heaven forbid, one is crude, then one sees but crudeness; but, when one is noble, one sees nobility. The Jewish contribution at the darkest time of the year is "In the dark time, let's be here for one another."

*(Continued page 3)*

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK: SUZANNE PALEY

**A**s we enter the month of December, we have much to look forward to. Several more of our snowbird members return this month just in time to celebrate Chanukah with us! The Federation's annual Community Celebration will be held on Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, on the lawn at Mercato. Our own (NJC) annual **Chanukah Celebration on December 8<sup>th</sup>** promises good food, good entertainment and good luck to the winners of the Reverse Lotto! Tickets are \$45.00 for members, and there is still a little time for last minute reservations. Iris Weissman is always happy to accommodate you; she can be reached at (230) 431-7944. Don't let the lack of transportation keep you from attending. Bonnie Lechtner will do whatever she can to make arrangements for a ride and she can be reached at (239) 734-3640.

We round out the month with Rabbi's Adult Enrichment classes on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>; Men's Club on the 17<sup>th</sup>; Sisterhood's Book Club on the 21<sup>st</sup>; and **Sunday at the Movies on the 27<sup>th</sup>**. The movie this month is **Cast a Giant Shadow**.

As January follows December, and a new year begins, the calendar starts to fill up

*(Continued page 2)*

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<i>For up-to-date information, check the website <a href="http://www.naplesjewishcongregation.org">www.naplesjewishcongregation.org</a></i>		

(Continued from page 1, President) with many educational, informative and fun activities and events. We hope you will take advantage of the **Roaring 20's** evening and encourage your friends and neighbors to attend as well. This event will take place on **January 23<sup>rd</sup>** and be held at the Pelican Marsh Community Center. Your ticket for only \$20.00 (or \$25.00 at the door) provides appetizers, wine/beverages and dessert along with great jazz music performed by The White Caps under the direction of our own Art Blatt. **Part of the proceeds of this event will be donated to help provide weekend meals for homeless children in Collier County.** Many of you will remember the campaign we had almost two years ago to sponsor this program where we raised enough to pay for a year and a half of weekend meals. The children are still out there and the program is as involved as ever before. So let's get out there and sell some tickets!! This is an event that everyone can enjoy and is open to the entire Naples community. (See flyer in this newsletter.)

The other BIG event you have been hearing about (also with a flyer in this newsletter) is our **Artist/Scholar in Residence Program on February 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.** Those of us who have been involved with the preparations are looking forward to this two-day event with great anticipation and excitement. Rabbi/Stand-Up Comic Bob Alper has sold out to audiences all over the eastern half of our country, including Naples about 10 years ago. We certainly hope to have a sold out comedy performance on **February 4<sup>th</sup>**, and a crowded sanctuary on **February 5<sup>th</sup>** when he speaks on The Spirituality of Laughter.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** - Some of you are aware that the last Friday evening in December happens to be on the 25<sup>th</sup> – Christmas Day. The staff that we employ to assist with setting up and breaking down for Shabbat services will have the time off so that they may celebrate their holiday with family and friends. THEREFORE – we are in need of volunteers to set up the sanctuary and break it down after services as well as volunteers to help set up the Oneg and clean up the Oneg room and kitchen afterwards. If you are able and willing to assist, please call me [239-776-7559] or see me after services on any Friday night beforehand. Given that we already have cancelled services for New Year's Day – January 1<sup>st</sup> – it would be sad if we have to cancel two Shabbat services in a row because we don't have enough people willing to help.

Adam joins me in wishing you all a very Happy Chanukah – may you be blessed with the gifts of good health and peace.

(Continued from Page 1 – Rabbi)

A rabbinic colleague wrote: This Hanukkah, each of us has an opportunity, a chance to really see the lights of our menorah. Turn off the lights in the room and watch the lights. Notice the flickering of the lights, the combination of colors, and even the dance of the flames and wicks.

Even if there are no children or grandchildren around, light the candles. Even if you don't believe in God or in miracles, light the candles. Light the candles to affirm your Jewish self. Use the traditional blessings, available on-line, or use your own words. Join yourself to the Jewish story!

Sandy joins me in wishing you and yours Hag Urim Samech-May you enjoy a Happy Festival of Lights.

L'shalom

### NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

By Steve McCloskey, Chair Membership Committee

On Thursday, October 29, Ruth and Ken Ruskin graciously opened their beautiful home to host the first of two new member receptions to recognize NJC's new members since 2014. The reception was attended by 16 new members, some of whom were also NJC Board members and/or members of the Membership Committee. In addition to the new members whose picture and names are on the next page, the attendees were: Gayle and Marty Dorio, Les and Betty Schwartz, Barry and Marilyn Goldenberg (all 3 couples are members of the Membership Committee), Rabbi Wolf and Sandy, and Suzanne Paley. The reception was truly a collaborative effort. A number of members brought food or drink and all brought their good natures and warm personalities. We all spoke to convey our back story and what activities we are pursuing as we all enjoy our time in paradise. The new members are all quite interesting and we hope that all will contribute in some meaningful way to help NJC thrive.

The second New Member Reception will be in January hosted by Rich and Toni Jacobus.

A picture and short bios appear on the next page.

### FROM SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood held its opening luncheon on Tuesday, November 10, at Brio's where Jean Packard, accompanied by Art Blatt entertained us with both nostalgic and lyrically witty music. An accomplished jazz pianist, singer and lyrical parodist, Jean played her electric keyboard while Art, whom we all know from his inspiring blowing of the shofar on Rosh Hashanah, played the jazz trombone. Old favorites like *Always* and *Someone to Watch Over Me* were contrasted with jazz numbers like *Sweet Georgia Brown* and by parodies such as the *Watergate Waltz* set to the music of *Some of My Favorite Things*. Having been in the original production of *Cabaret*, Jean ended the program with a medley of songs from that well-known musical. Sisterhood thanks Barbara Cott for arranging the luncheon, Eve Naumoff for the table centerpieces, and Helen Blatt for arranging the entertainment. And we especially thank Jean and Art for charming us with their musical talents.

#### Future Events

**Friday, Feb. 12, 7:30** – Women's Service

**Wednesday, Feb. 17, 11:30am** – "Minorities in Baseball," combined Sisterhood & Men's Club luncheon at Pelican Marsh.

**Monday, Mar. 14, 11am** - PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE– Game Day at Cypress Woods Country Club.

**Monday, April 11, 12noon** – Closing luncheon at Imperial Country Club.

**If you are interested in continuing our yearly Women's Weekend with an event on Saturday, and are willing to help arrange and coordinate the Saturday event, please contact Helen Blatt at 592-9205 or heleninfla@comcast.net. Otherwise there will not be a Saturday event.**

### DEDICATION OF FLAGS

On Dec. 4, at Friday Shabbat Services, NJC will dedicate both the Israeli and American flags which have been generously donated by Marv and Carol Weisberg. This evening will also include a special Oneg sponsored by Sue Blum to honor our Choir, our music director, Alla Gorelik and our cantorial soloist, Jane Galler. Please join us for an evening of celebration and dedication.



## WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS



Pictured standing left to right: Erwin Neiman, John Szczesny, Craig Frankel, Steve Cacciatore, Helayne Frankel, Marciadee Newman, Pamela Szczesny, Mel Bubrick, Sandra Neiman, Richard Goldstein, Herb Newman, Jane Kleinfeld, Doug Kleinfeld. Seated: Donna Goldstein, Steve McCloskey, Shelley McCloskey.

Mel Bubrick-hails from Chicago, Illinois, is a retired general surgeon, enjoys literature; is a dog lover & a novelist.

Steve Cacciatore-Boston, MA, continues to work at Merrill Lynch; enjoys golf & cooking.

Donna Goldstein-from E. Greenwich, RI, retired teacher, loves exercise, reading & politics; is interested in mental health & substance abuse issues.

Richard Goldstein-E. Greenwich, RI, retired math professor, into politics, reading, biking, microbiology & biostatistics

Douglas Kleinfeld-Summit, NJ, lawyer, devoted student of investments & the financial markets, condominium board member, co-editor of condo newsletter & Naples lover.

Jane Kleinfeld-Summit, NJ, retired attorney, co-editor of condo newsletter, swimmer, avid reader & Naples enthusiast.

Steve McCloskey-comes from Washington, Pa, is a retired attorney, enjoys walking, reading on the beach & teaching English as a second language with Shelley.

Shelley McCloskey-from Washington, Pa, retired teacher & office manager, enjoys yoga, reading on the beach & ESL teaching.

Erwin Neiman-Highland Park, Ill., retired attorney, enjoys reading, flying & golf.

Sandra Neiman-Highland Park, Ill., retired small business owner of nut & chocolate enterprise; she & her therapy dog travel to various places in Naples to provide support to individuals, & she mentor a high school student

Marciadee Newman -Pittsburgh, Pa, former Yeshiva principal, currently reading specialist & tutor, loves knitting & reading.

Herb Newman-Winchester, Ky, retired lawyer, interested in all religions, spirituality, choir singing & seismology.

Pam Szczesny-Cliffside Park, NJ, retired real estate investor, interested in cooking, hiking & cruising; loves reading & comedy; also Floridian for over 30 years.

John Szczesny-Hackensack, NJ, retired rheumatologist; interests include cooking, gardening, comedy & cruising; also Floridian for over 30 years.

**BE SURE TO GREET OUR NEW MEMBERS IN TEMPLE AND AROUND TOWN.**

<b>Todah Rabah</b> <b>Contributions / Donations</b> <b>OCTOBER 25 - NOVEMBER 25</b> <b>IN MEMORY OF:                      REMEMBERED BY:</b>	
Ione Budner	Carolyn & Bill Greenberg
Morris Zoldan	Judy Lansat
Paul McCloskey	Steve & Shelley McCloskey
Dorothy Levy	Steve & Shelley McCloskey
Jerry Zeff	William & Bonnie Zeff
Joseph Silverstein	Sylvin & Sandy Wolf
Arline Weissman	Harvey & Thelma Sandberg
Robert Patrick Moss	Neil Moss
Norman Greenberg	Pamela & John Szezesny
Millie Koenig	Elaine Koeniz
Blanche Rosenberg	Elaine Koenig
Ma Goldberg	Dotty Scott

IN HONOR OF	FROM:
Eve Naumoff's Birthday	Maraline Rane

IN MEMORY OF:	BY:
Daniel Fogelson: son of	Mae Castello
Hal & Nancy Fogelson	Barry & Marilyn Goldenberg
	Ruth Ruskin
	Richard & Bonnie Lechtner
	William & Carolyn Greenberg
	Harvey & Thelma Sandberg
	Maraline Rane
	Anne Kurz
	David & Hedy Weinberger
	Art & Helen Blatt

IN HONOR OF HIGH HOLIDAY HONORS
Richard Berenson

IN APPRECIATION FOR HIGH HOLIDAY TICKETS
Dr. Jerry & Bea Camiener

### DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Harold Fogelson	4	Charles Levine	14
Elaine Rapoport	5	Barbara Suden	21
Marcy Berenson	7	Alena Bornstein	23
Stephen Suden	12	Stuart Nayer	26
Geri Rothwell	13	Rae Brodell	30
Gayle Dorio	14		

### DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES



Erwin & Sandra Neiman
Stan & Jill Kamin
Arnold & Alena Bornstein
Barry & Iris Weissman
Henry & Nancy Greenberg
Alla & Valentin Stadnik
Patricia & Lester Levy

**From the Oneg Chair: Jill Goode**

**C**elebrate or commemorate your special occasion with NJC by sponsoring an Oneg. The following dates are available: Feb. 19, 26; March 11, 18; April 1, 8, 15, 29. For more information call Jill Goode at 239-304-9550 or 239-272-3141 [jskgoode@gmail.com](mailto:jskgoode@gmail.com)

*I would like to thank all the volunteers who are doing onegs in December:*

Dec. 4 – Sue Blum – In Honor of the Choir  
 Dec. 11 – Maraline Rane  
 Dec. 18 – Nancy & Harold Fogelson  
 Dec. 25 – Nancy & Harold Fogelson

**DONATIONS** in memory, appreciation, congratulations and to the Rabbi's Discretionary Fund should be sent to:

**Naples Jewish Congregation**  
**PO Box 111994**  
**Naples, FL 34108**  
**Attention: Suzanne**

If you know of members who would like a call or visit from the Rabbi, please contact Rabbi Wolf, 239-653-9874.

**Hospital Visits:**  
**NCH** – When patients register, they may choose to have their clergy notified.  
**Physicians Regional** does not have a process for clergy notification. If you are hospitalized at either facility and would like Rabbi Wolf to visit, please have someone notify him.

## FROM THE MEN'S CLUB, by HARVEY SANDBERG

On Thursday, Nov. 19, Michael Sullivan, a financial advisor with Raymond James gave an interesting and informative talk on today's financial conditions.

### Future Events

Thursday, Dec. 17 – Round table discussion "Life before Naples"

Wednesday Jan. 20 – Steve Gilner – President and Chief Operating Officer of the Miracle Baseball Team. We have invited Temple Beth Tikva to join us for this event Lunch

Wednesday, February 17 - Annual Sisterhood & Men' Club Luncheon- Professor Stan Rothman, aka Dr. Stan the Stats Man, will be our guest speaker. He will be discussing minorities in baseball. More information will follow.

March 7, 2016--Friday Evening--We will have our annual Men' Club Service.

Please join us at Pelican Marsh Country Club at 12 Noon for our monthly luncheons.

**RED SOX BASEBALL GAME – Date to be determined.** If you wish to attend, please let me know by December 1. Tickets have to be ordered by Saturday, Dec. 5. If interested contact me at [sandbergth@aol.com](mailto:sandbergth@aol.com) or 513-1638.

### SUNDAY @ THE MOVIES

*Cast a Giant Shadow - 4 PM*

Set at the time Israel became a nation, Colonel David Marcus (Kirk Douglas) is recruited to help form an Israeli army.

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### SISTERHOOD BOOK CLUB

Book Club meets at noon on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at Perkins on Pine Ridge Road. The books selected for this season are:

**December 21**, The Art of Racing in the Rain, Garth Stein; Nancy Fogelson, Facilitator

**January 18**, Euphoria, Lily King

**February 15**, Run You Down, Julia Elizabeth Dahl

**March 21**, Sunflower, Simon Wiesenthal

All members are welcome. To attend, please notify Maraline Rane, [marabil4@aol.com](mailto:marabil4@aol.com) 594-5123 or Bonnie Zeff, [zeff63@aol.com](mailto:zeff63@aol.com) 498-6344

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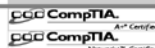
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ERIC VON LEUE



# Chanukah Party & Reverse Lotto Drawing

Tuesday, December 8, 2015 @ 5:30 PM - 3<sup>rd</sup> Night



## Longshore Lake Clubhouse

11399 Phoenix Way Naples 34119

(East of I-75 just North of Immokalee Rd at 2<sup>nd</sup> light at Valewood Drive)

for directions call: 566-2304

Leading...Rabbi Sylvin Wolf with Jane Galler & Alla Gorelik

SEATING WILL BE LIMITED TO 8 PER TABLE MAXIMUM

Members: \$45.00 Non-Members: \$60.00

Full Plated Dinner including: Roasted Chicken or Brisket

Potato Latkes served family style with Seconds

Send all checks made out to: NJC to: Iris Weissman

16353 Camden Lakes Circle Naples, FL 34110

If unable to print this flyer, phone or email: 431-7944,

[bweissman@comcast.net](mailto:bweissman@comcast.net)

-----  
PLEASE RETURN THIS PORTION WITH YOUR CHECK.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Number in Party: \_\_\_\_ Members: \_\_\_\_ Guests: \_\_\_\_ Total: \$ \_\_\_\_

# \_\_\_\_ Roasted Chicken # \_\_\_\_ Brisket

**FINAL RESERVATIONS DUE BY: Monday, November 23rd, 2015**

Please seat me with: \_\_\_\_\_

**NJC REVERSE LOTTO**  
**Is a BIG**

**WIN-WIN**

- YOU too can **WIN \$500**  
or A \$100 Gift Card
- NJC **WINS \$\$\$\$\$**

(Thanks for helping support NJC's Operating Fund)

---

- Order your tickets today-\$25.00 each or 5 for \$100.00
- **Only 150 tickets to be sold...ORDER SOON**
- Drawing to be held at Hanukah Party in December 2015
- **Open to Family and your Friends**

Fun for all....ask your past winners---

Harriet Stein, Jill Kamin, Elaine Rapoport

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Yes. I want to **WIN**.

Send me \_\_\_\_\_ Lotto Ticket(s) at \$25.00 each  
or (5 Tickets for \$100.00)

My check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

Send Check To: NJC, PO Box 111994, Naples, FL 34108. If unable to print the flyer, contact Barry Weissman, [bwweissman@comcast.net](mailto:bwweissman@comcast.net), 431-7944.



# BOB ALPER

## RABBI/STAND-UP COMIC

OFFICIAL HONORARY COMEDIC  
ADVISOR TO THE POPE  
(YES, REALLY!)

**Thursday  
February 4**

**5:30PM**

**Longshore Lakes  
Country Club**

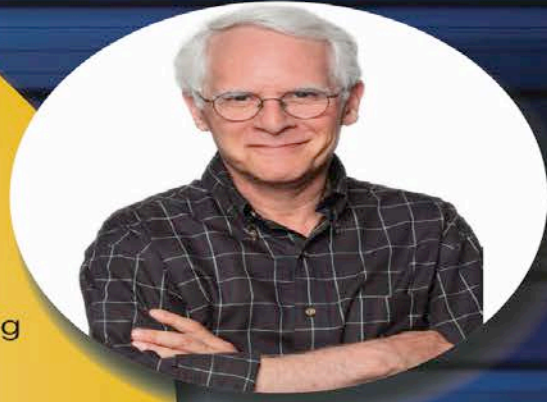
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Please mail your check made out to  
Naples Jewish Congregation, along with  
your name, address and phone number, to:  
NJC, PO Box 111994, Naples FL 34108, Attn BOB



**Friday  
February 5**

**7:30PM**

**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation**

**6340 Napa Woods Way, Naples**

Rabbi Alper will be our guest at  
Shabbat services, and will give the  
sermon on "The Spirituality of  
Laughter: A Jewish Look at  
the Holiness of Humor."

*Free admission!*

Rabbi and  
stand-up comic  
Bob Alper can be  
heard multiple times  
daily on Sirius XM Radio.  
He has been featured on *The  
Today Show, Good Morning  
America, ABC Evening News,*  
CNN, Comedy Central and in  
hundreds of newspapers.  
Alper will make you laugh  
in a way that's uniquely  
kind, intelligent, and  
100% clean.



## NAPLES JEWISH CONGREGATION

Shabbat services are held every Friday night at the  
**Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6340 Napa Woods Way, Naples**  
More information at 239-431-3858 or [www.naplesjewishcongregation.org](http://www.naplesjewishcongregation.org)

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# **The ROARING**

Featuring Art Blatt and *THE WHITE CAPS*



January 23, 2016; 6:30 – 9 PM

Pelican Marsh Community Center

\$20 advance tickets - includes wine,  
appetizers and dessert (\$25 at the door)

RSVP: Sandra (239) 566-0674

Carolyn (230)- 566-7339

A PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS OF THIS EVENT WILL BE DONATED  
TO HELP PROVIDE WEEKEND MEALS TO THE HOMELESS CHILDREN OF COLLIER COUNTY

**MAKE YOUR TAX DEDUCTABLE CHECK PAYABLE TO: NAPLES JEWISH CONGREGATION**

NAPLES JEWISH CONGREGATION  
 PO BOX 111994  
 NAPLES, FL 34108



<b>DECEMBER 2015</b>		
Dec. 4	Shabbat/Torah Service	7:30 PM
Dec. 8	Chanukah Party/Lotto	5:30
Dec. 10	Board Meeting	2:00PM
Dec. 11	Shabbat Service	7:30 PM
Dec. 13	Adult Enrichment	10:30 AM
Dec. 17	Men's Club Luncheon	Noon
Dec. 18	Shabbat Service	7:30 PM
Dec. 21	Sisterhood Book Club	Noon
Dec. 25	Shabbat Service	7:30 PM
Dec. 27	Adult Enrichment	10:30AM
Dec. 27	Sunday @ the Movies	4 PM
Jan. 1	No Services	

**SAVE THE DATES:**  
**CHANUKAH DINNER PARTY**  
**REVERSE LOTTO**  
**SIT DOWN DINNER WITH LOTS OF LATKES**  
**TUESDAY, DEC. 8, 2015**  
**5:30 PM**  
**LONGSHORE LAKE**  
 (IMMOKALEE RD EAST OF I 75)  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**ROARING 20'S PARTY**  
**SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 2016**  
**PELICAN MARSH**  
**ENTERTAINMENT: ART BLATT'S**  
**DIXIELAND BAND**  
**WINE, APPETIZERS, DESSERT**  
**FUN FOR ALL**  
 \*\*\*\*\*

**SCHOLAR / ARTIST IN RESIDENCE**  
**RABBI BOB ALPER**  
**Feb. 4 – Feb. 5, 2016**