Humanistic Judaism embraces a human-centered philosophy that combines rational thinking with a celebration of Jewish culture and identity. It affirms that human beings possess the power and responsibility to shape their own lives, and that ethics and morality are not divine in origin but are human responsibilities. Our mission is to meet the needs of humanist, secular Jews as well as their non-Jewish family members/partners and friends in the greater Sarasota and Manatee area.
April 14, 2015

I am writing this shortly after experiencing another outstanding Shabbat morning. The Yom Hashoah service, written by members Sy and Marilyn Golden, was again warmly received by all, including our august guest speaker, Suzanne Vromen. If you were not present, you missed a moving experience!

Our communal seder at Michael’s On East was another spectacular success enjoyed by nearly 130 people. Many of you visited Patriot Plaza at the Sarasota National Cemetery on March 22nd, CHJ’s final Educational program. I know I was greatly moved by the vistas, artwork and thought that went into establishing this jewel within our midst! Do go and see this spectacular place on your own. Docents are on-site to assist you.

Now I want to express how much I’ve enjoyed representing you, our members, during the past year as Co-President. I have passed the learning curve and am now a microphone expert! It was a challenging time for me, though, and I have decided to step down a year earlier than usual for personal reasons. I will still greet you at Shabbat services and you may actually see more of me at various committee meetings and activities.

Alice D’Souza solely will take on the position of President and we must all step up to assist her. CHJ has a very capable Board that acts on your behalf, but more participation by you, the individual members, is necessary. I will continue to serve on the Board in the coming year and will encourage you to get more actively involved in the workings of our “family”, namely CHJ.

Enjoy your summer months, wherever they may take you. For me, it will be the freeing up of time and responsibilities that lead me to opportunities to visit family and friends.

Shalom, for now…, Lois

April Board Action
- Approved acceptance of Lois Altman’s resignation as Co-President, effective April 27, 2015
- Approved CHJ Seder be held at Michael’s On East on Saturday, April 23, 2016

TRIBUTES

Berman Music Fund
"Honoring Joseph Newman and Anita Sampson - thank you for inviting
Dan and I to that wonderful concert on March 15," from Muriel Shindler
"In honor of our many past dedicated and much appreciated retired members and especially our most recent retiree, Janet Sheff," from The Humanaires

Speaker Program Fund
"In honor of Alice D’Souza’s daughter’s wedding,” from Lois Altman
For Ernie Kent – “Many thanks for those fascinating episodes from your childhood,” from Jo Arora

Board of Directors

Co-President: Lois Altman 923-4347
Co-President: Alice D’Souza 735-1937
Vice President: Leonard Rosen 355-1786
Secretary: Susan Boston 927-4433
Treasurer: Barney Sack 378-0355
Directors:
Lou Altman 847-530-2104
Sandi Cooper 383-3049
Susan Friedman 752-4857
Stanley Katz 343-0095
Harriet Lane 371-1008
Terry Langlois 524-3985
Sheila Rosenthal 377-2147
Phil Silverstein 377-2147

The Board meets at 3:30 P.M. on the second Monday of every month at the Roskamp Center for Arts and Humanities, 1226 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota. All CHJ members are welcome.

Board Appointed Designee to SHJ:
Ellie Altman 847-530-2104
CHJ Summer Beat the Heat Movie & Meal

James’ Journey to Jerusalem

Our June program will be held on Saturday, June 27 at Unity: 4:00 P.M.

The movie will be shown first and then TooJay’s box dinners will be served, or you may Brown-bag it. The cost for a TooJay’s meal will be $11 for each person. Bottled water will be provided by CHJ.

It is very important that you complete the form below indicating that you will come, your dinner choice, or if you are Brown-bagging it.

Reservation deadline is June 18.

James’ Journey to Jerusalem. Director Ra’anan Alexandrowicz’s film is a look at the contrast between hypocritical Western Values and cultural Israeli divisions. South African actor, Siyabonga Melongisi Shibe, stars as a devout Christian who becomes part of Tel Aviv’s migrant force after making a pilgrimage from his African village to the Holy Land. In his quest to find spiritual fulfillment, James becomes involved with the impoverished migrant workforce and finds his religious journey sidetracked by an increasing desire to give his comparatively wealthy employers an unanticipated run for their money.

The choices for dinner boxes from TooJays are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sandwiches</th>
<th>Wraps</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corned Beef</td>
<td>Breast of Turkey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roast Beef</td>
<td>Chicken Caesar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Breast of Turkey</td>
<td>Tuna Salad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Turkey Pastrami</td>
<td>Roasted Veggies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuna Salad</td>
<td>Gluten Free Chicken Salad</td>
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<td>Dill Chicken Salad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Egg Salad</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(Sandwiches come with potato chips and black and white cookie)

(Wraps come with fruit salad and black and white cookie)

Members and non-members, please return this form with your check ($11.00 per person) to CHJ, 3023 Proctor Rd., Sarasota, FL 34231, or Brown-baggers may make their reservations by calling the CHJ office at 929-7771 and leave your name(s) and telephone number(s).

Name #1______________________________________________________________________________

Brown-bag ( ) or Dinner Choice:___________________________________________________________

Name #2______________________________________________________________________________

Brown-bag ( ) or Dinner Choice ;___________________________________________________________

Total amount enclosed_________________________________ Phone #__________________________

If you have any questions, please call Sheila Rosenthal, Chair of this event, at 377-2147

THIS MOVIE IS FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.
PASSOVER: A SYMBOL OF CHANGE by Fagie Perlmutter

It is a dramatic picture to attend a Passover Seder, both with our family and with friends. I will not talk about the Haggadah, the ritual service read at the meal, which comes in many flavors. Rather I will talk about the composition of the guests at the table, an interesting indication of how things are changing, sociologically speaking, in our contemporary American society.

Let me start with our family’s Seder, a mixed picture for sure. We have a son-in-law who is a non-practicing Catholic, and a daughter-in-law who was raised in a mixed marriage with no religious identification. The Seder has served a very important function for our grandchildren, from our point of view, as it helps them to identify with our Jewish heritage. We use a secular Haggadah, which we wrote more than 50 years ago, with some modifications over time to include the changing role of women.

Several years ago when our grandson, Lev, was 6 years old, he started to cry at the Seder table, sobbing that he did not want to be Jewish, he wanted to be Christian. We asked him why, and he responded, “I do not want to be a slave.” So the Haggadah did serve a purpose and did educate. Interestingly, the next year, he went around the table pointing to each of us and saying, “I am Jewish, Bobi is Jewish, Zaida is Jewish,” and on and on.

We always invite some non-Jewish friends who certainly enjoy the experience with us and are important in our primary friendship group.

This year we attended a Seder at a friend’s house and the picture was very different. Of the 16 guests at the table, there were only two couples where both partners were Jewish. The remaining 6 couples were mixed, with one Jewish partner in each union. All had participated in Seders over the years and were very comfortable both in chanting the texts and helping to prepare the Passover food.

These Seders are a sure sign of change, one which confirms the findings of the recent Pew study of the current status of Jews in America.

We Will Remember Her

Elisa Lakin

Elisa Lakin, 69, passed away in Vermont Respite House on April 7, 2015 after a ten-month battle with lymphoma. She and her husband Bill have been snowbirds and longtime CHJ members.

Elisa was a Social Worker. She earned her B.A. in Sociology at the University of Toronto, and her MSW at Norfolk State University. She studied for her Ph.D. in Mental Health Policy at Virginia Commonwealth University, where her doctoral research focused on developing programs to support families of chronically ill or disabled children. She was an avid reader and loved movies and travel. Recent trips included visits to the Amazon Rain Forest and Machu Picchu in Peru and a camera safari in Tanzania, as well as frequent trips to Italy.

Beloved wife, mother, grandmother, and friend, Elisa will live on in the memories of her family and those who knew her. She is survived by her husband Bill, her children Heather Lakin Camp and Jonathan Kelso Lakin, and her grandchildren Ryan and Tyler Camp.

RITUAL COMMITTEE

New Ritual Committee forming for the 2015-16 season.

Interested??

Call Sandi: 383-3049 or email: cooper2120@yahoo.com
## May Life Cycles

### May Yahrzeit
- **Ida Bachman**, mother of Ruth Weinberg
- **Norman Bachman**, brother of Ruth Weinberg
- **Lee Midlo Boston**, mother of Joe Boston
- **Bernard Cohen**, father of Carol Segal
- **Bernice Cohen**, mother of Carol Segal
- **Charles "Chuck" Crames**, husband of Renee Crames
- **Milton Factor**, brother of Arnold Factor
- **Maury Faden**, husband of Helen Faden
- **Abraham Feltman**, loved one of Adrienne Feltman
- **Louis Freed**, father of Pauline Kabcenell
- **Zangwill Freed**, brother of Pauline Kabcenell
- **Miriam Gordon**, mother of Adrienne Bailin
- **Samuel Haimowicz**, loved one of Adrienne & Howard Feltman
- **Frank Himelfarb**, loved one of Betty Weiner
- **Rose Horowitz**, mother of Irv Horowitz
- **Norman Jaques**, father of Damien Jaques
- **Nan Kay**, sister of Janet Sheff
- **Wanda Lomazow**, sister of Terry Dolgov
- **Jim Schiffman**, husband of Solo Schiffman
- **Rita Schwartz**, mother of Lisa Kramer-Torop
- **Lottie Shulman**, mother of Mark Shulman
- **Irving Silverstein**, brother of Phil Silverstein
- **Eleanor Sokolow**, mother of Arlene Pearlman
- **Geraldine Weiss**, wife of Sandy Weiss

### May Birthdays
- Alice D'Souza May 2
- Susan Gordon May 2
- Rona Loewenthal May 3
- Mark Shulman May 4
- Stanley Gordon May 5
- Craig Harris May 6
- Donald Marshall May 6
- Carol Segal May 6
- Walter Ulin May 6
- Judy Beltzman May 7
- Paul Temmer May 7
- Jeanette Gardner May 10
- Elaine Altenberg May 11
- Mickie Rumaner May 11
- Karen Hirsh May 13
- Marvin Waldman May 14
- Mel Kalfon May 16
- Edie Zolondek May 16
- Alla Rabinovich May 17
- John Gartner May 18
- Karen Roth May 19
- Daniel Perlmutter May 24
- Martin Kabcenell May 27
- Eleanor Altman May 28
- Sonia Fuentes May 30
- Jo Arora May 31
- Alexander Rafalovich May 31

### May Anniversaries
- **Laura & Marvin Mills** May 1 65th
- **Annette & Barry Wolfe** May 3 28th
- **Myrna & André Block** May 15 55th

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**Our Congregant Emergency Fund**, created to help CHJ members at times of financial emergencies, could use a new infusion of funds. Please keep it in mind the next time you make a tribute to CHJ.

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**How Can I Be Jewish and Not Believe in God?**

SHJ Executive Director, Bonnie Cousens’ answer was, “I am and I don't.” She then enumerated six concepts inherent in Humanistic Judaism:

**Judaism, defined as the culture, traditions, and historical experience of the Jewish people:** As Humanistic Jews we value our Jewish identity; celebrate the human, natural, and historical aspects of Jewish holidays; mark the passages of life with culturally Jewish events; and teach Jewish culture and history.

**Responsibility:** We believe that responsibility for our world lies within ourselves and not an external supernatural power. Each of us accepts responsibility for our own actions and decisions.

**Power:** We accept that each of us possesses the power to accomplish what we want and to change those things we believe must be changed.

**Reason:** We make evidence-based decisions.

**Conscience and Morality:** We recognize our ability to distinguish right from wrong, good from evil. We apply sensitivity and compassion, especially when assisting others in need.

**Courage:** Each of us has the strength of character to live our convictions. Our words match our behavior. We say what we believe and believe what we say. *Excerpt, On The Move, March 2015*
June Yahrzeit

Sydney Abrams, father of Carol Heckert
Lawrence Altman, husband of Lois Altman
Dorothy Eichenblatt, mother of Arlene Horowitz
Bill Gross, brother of Shirley Gotthelf
Joseph Kiel, uncle of Sora Yelin
Rose Kiel, aunt of Sora Yelin
Morris Levinson, father of Jerry Levinson
Harry Marder, father of Ann Orkin
Dina Miller, mother of Jo Arora
Leo Moses, father of Marilyn Oslander
Albert Nadler, husband of Bina Nadler
Lillian Perkoff Glassman, mother of Susan Boston
Gita Rafalovich, mother of Alex Rafalovich
Pinkus Rafalovich, father of Alex Rafalovich
Malcolm Robinson, MD, husband of Susan Robinson
Etta Schweitz, mother of Bob Schweitz
Minnie Spiegeland, mother of Barbara Relles
Irene Brody Winer, mother of Sandi Cooper
Sherman Wolfson, husband of Adele Wolfson
Belle Yelin, mother-in-law of Sora Yelin

June Birthdays

Marvin Mills  June 1
Marcy Moore  June 1
Joan Koulish  June 2
Susan Boston  June 4
Marilyn Golden  June 5
Evan Paisley  June 5
Jerry Paskovitz  June 5
Rita Basist  June 6
Lisa Kramer-Torop  June 8
Gerald Levinson  June 8
Irma Young  June 8
André Block  June 10
Janet Sheff  June 22
Adelle Bernard  June 23
Mindy Kates  June 23
Myrna Block  June 25
Carol Rickard  June 25
Gay Kaplan  June 26
Harry Scherzer  June 26

June Anniversaries

Eileen & Stephen Brown  June 12  55th
Doris & Abe Epstein  June 13  61st
Kay & Henry Levy  June 15  18th
Terry & Marvin Dolgov  June 16  64th
Michael & Karen Hirsh  June 16  47th
Arnold & Jill Factor  June 18  54th
Janet Leon & Jerry Paskovitz  June 22  24th
Marilyn & Leon Franco  June 24  26th
Carol & Erwin Segal  June 24  53rd
Sim & Irv Lesser  June 26  60th
Alla Rabinovich & Damien Jaques  June 26  0th
Rhoda & Steven Rothschild  June 27  50th

AND THE SIGN SAID...

On a Plumber’s truck, ”We repair what your husband fixed.”

On another Plumber’s truck, ”Don’t sleep with a drip. Call your plumber.”

At a Car Dealership, ”The best way to get back on your feet - miss a car payment.”

At a Muffler Shop, ”No appointment necessary. We hear you coming.”

CHJ Member, Sonia Pressman Fuentes

Excerpt from Jewish Women’s Archive

In the early days of second wave feminism, Sonia Pressman Fuentes spearheaded the effort to extend the Civil Rights Act’s protections of equal opportunity to all people regardless of gender. First in her class at University of Miami School of Law, Fuentes worked as an attorney before joining the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which was founded in 1965 to enforce the Civil Rights Act. Fuentes drafted many of the commission’s most important decisions and was the driving force behind many efforts to ensure opportunities and equal pay for women. Tired of resistance from colleagues to issues of women’s rights, Fuentes told Betty Friedan that women needed an organization that would fight for them the way the NAACP fought for African Americans. Fuentes then joined Friedan as one of the founders of NOW, fighting for the Equal Rights Amendment and Title IX. Fuentes also helped found the Women’s Equity Action League and Federally Employed Women, and served on the Board of Trustees of the National Women’s Party. She continues to write and speak on women’s rights.
SOCIAL ACTION

Community Haven

During the 2014-2015 season, the signature program of CHJ's Social Action Committee has been Community Haven, a long-standing community agency for Adults and Children with developmental disabilities. Two of our members actively spent many hours interacting with the adult clients and assisting staff as needed. Their efforts have been greatly appreciated and their mitzvahs recognized. CHJ's involvement with Community Haven is expected to continue in future years and we hope to involve more of our members in this wonderful humanistic gesture.

For information on how to be involved in CHJ's Social Action Committee and Community Haven, please contact Judy and Mike Beltzman at mikebeltzman@comcast.net.

CHJ BackPack Program for Kids

CHJ's participation in the BackPack Program could certainly welcome more volunteers. We help once every 2 weeks, usually less than an hour. The work can be done sitting or standing, nothing heavy to lift - merely slide a plastic bag along a table.

The program continues during the summer when students don't get free breakfasts or lunches - The non-school summer months are critical for the 21,000 children who need food. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Don Marshall 371-5567 or sarasotadon@msn.com.

A Message from Terry Langlois, Program Chair

Dear fellow Congregants:

I am preparing for a fuller return to my duties in the CHJ family. I have taken on the responsibility as Program Chair. Many of you have indicated your willingness to assist in this endeavor and I welcome you to join in. Please contact me at langloisterry81@gmail.com or 524-3985, or contact Joe Newman who has offered to continue to help: joejnewman4@gmail.com.

I look forward to a wonderful year for all of us and hoping you will join me in making this so.

Thanks, Terry

SPECIAL & SOCIAL GROUPS continued from page 10

BIKERS

The group rides monthly, usually on a Saturday morning. We ride about 1-1/2 hours and try different scenic routes. Scheduling is flexible depending on the weather. All are welcome. We go to lunch afterwards or brown-bag it. For information contact Sandy Siegel at 927-4645 or sndrsgl@aol.com.

Tell me About the Groups You Wish We Had

As the season ends, let's think of some new Special and Social Groups for you and our members to participate in. Contact me, Norman, with your ideas and suggestions at normannfrmn@comcast.net.
THE HUMANAIRES

The Humanaires have concluded our schedule after a very productive and rewarding season. We will resume rehearsals with conductor Robert Lischetti in the Unity Sanctuary at 2:30 P.M. on Wednesday, August 19, 2015. At that time we will be preparing music for the High Holidays when we will sing at all three of the services for Rosh HaShanah and Yom Kippur. If you would like to sing all kinds of Jewish and Humanistic songs with a group of warm and welcoming folks who meet weekly from mid-August to the end of April, please check us out. We need more male voices, but we can also use more women as well. If you don't sing but would like to be part of the gift of song the chorus brings to our congregation, please consider becoming a Humanaires Associate. We're looking for more associates who are able to help in the A/V booth projecting lyrics on the screen for the benefit of those assembled at our services, plus associates to do other tasks related to the chorus. For further information about being a singer or an associate with The Humanaires, please contact Sandy Cadman at s.g.cadman@hotmail.com or 941-379-9894.

CELEBRATION!

First Anniversary!

CHJ Jewish History Seminar

Summer schedule—May thru August:

Second WEDNESDAY of EACH month, 1:00 – 2:30 pm at Unity.

For information call Stan Katz at 342-0095.

SUNSETTERS

Ours is always an open group that can accommodate an infinite number of people. We meet on the 3rd Sunday of every month on Lido Beach – in front of the pavilion. Our only agenda item is the sunset. It is very informal and casual. We arrive about 1-1/2 hours prior to sunset. Bring your own picnic dinner (something you can grasp, like a sandwich, because the seagulls are pretty hungry.) Bring chairs, of course. If you'd like to join us contact Barbara Shapiro at ms.shappy@verizon.net or 365-3756

Sandy & Jill Dorfman, Myrna & Andy Block, Terry & Marvin Dolgov, Barbara Shapiro, Marty Hollander, Carol Harris, Sue Boston, Craig Harris, Joe Boston, Gerry Shapiro in front. Sandy Siegel took the picture.

DIGITAL IMAGING GROUP (DIG)

We meet at 1:30 P.M. on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at The Fountains Cinema, Parking Lot #4. An assignment is made and members e-mail their required pictures, along with the best picture taken during the past 30 days. Photos are projected onto a large screen and editing software is applied to demonstrate possible enhancements. In addition, tutorials are presented with some guidance for the next month’s assignment. Camera functions and general photography tips are addressed. New members are welcome. For further information contact Jules Altenberg at jules@altenberg.com.

Send Group information by the 15th of the month to Jo Arora at tajdurbarr@yahoo.com
A tribute is a wonderful way to recognize any occasion and benefit CHJ. Fill out this coupon and send your check for $10 or more made out to CHJ.

Please circle the fund in which your donation should be placed:

- General
- Berman Music
- Congregant Emergency
- Education
- Speaker/Program

Person/s to be recognized
Occasion
Donor

A lovely card will be sent to the honoree and a notice will be placed in the next newsletter. Checks should be made out to CHJ noting the specific funds to which they are donated. Send all tributes to the Congregation for Humanistic Judaism, 3023 Proctor Rd., Sarasota, FL 34231.

CHJ Members Tour Patriot Plaza

On a sunny Sunday, March 22, fifty-one CHJ members toured Patriot Plaza, located at Sarasota’s National Cemetery. Six tour guides explained the background of the Plaza and provided information about each section. The 12 million dollar project was privately funded and endowed for future maintenance by the Patterson Foundation. No public funds have been, or will be, used for the project. Through photos, sculpture and murals, the Plaza is designed to honor all past and current military personnel and their families. Although there are 147 National Cemeteries in the U.S., Sarasota’s Patriot Plaza is the only one of its kind in the country. Visiting the Plaza was a moving and educational experience for all CHJ members who participated.

By Susan Boston

Collage by Jules Altenberg
CHJ Calendar May — September 2015

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>May 9</td>
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<td>Annual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>Jun 27</td>
<td>4:00 PM</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Mon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues</td>
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<td>7:30 PM</td>
<td>Yom Kippur Kol Nidre Service</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed</td>
<td>Sept 23</td>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
<td>Yom Kippur Memorial Service &amp; Break the Fast</td>
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*=Not at Unity  H=Humanaires sing  (P)=Program  (O)=Oneg

Yom Hashoah Service & Prof. Suzanne Vromen

The Congregation for Humanistic Judaism
3023 Proctor Road, Sarasota, FL 34231

Deadline is June 15 for July—August Issue

Editor: Jo Arora
Editorial: Sandy Cadman, Carol Rickard, and Edith Sack
Photography: Jules Altenberg and Barney Sack
Send Groups information, articles and other information to Jo Arora at tajdurbar@yahoo.com
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