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.

Saturday, November 4, at 10:30 a.m.
Kristallnacht Service with the Voices of the Humanaires

Kristallnacht, known as “Night of Broken Glass,” refers to the wave of violent anti-Jewish pogroms which took place in Germany and Austria on November 9 and 10, 1938. It owes its name to the shards of shattered glass that lined the streets in the wake of the pogrom – broken glass from the windows of synagogues, homes, and Jewish-owned businesses plundered and destroyed during the violence.

This Service is Sponsored by Joan and Ron Fox in Celebration of Ron’s 85th Birthday and their 30th Wedding Anniversary

Friday, November 17, at 7:30 p.m.
Thanksgiving Service with the Humanaires, and Speaker Herb Silverman on Candidate Without a Prayer: An Autobiography of a Jewish Atheist in the Bible Belt

Following our 7:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Service, Herb Silverman will speak to us on Candidate Without a Prayer: An Autobiography of a Jewish Atheist in the Bible Belt. Silverman, a Distinguished Mathematics Professor Emeritus at the College of Charleston, SC, is founder of the Secular Coalition for America and of the Secular Humanists of the Lowcountry in Charleston. His book, Candidate Without a Prayer: An Autobiography of a Jewish Atheist in the Bible Belt, describes his challenge to the South Carolina Constitution and his Supreme Court victory, nullifying the anti-atheist clause in the South Carolina Constitution. He has debated on topics such as: Can we be moral without God? Does God exist? Is America a Christian nation? In June, he received a lifetime achievement award from the American Humanist Association.

CHJ BACKPACKS FOR KIDS PROGRAM

Thank you to all of our generous members who have again this year supported CHJ’s BackPack for Kids. Our Rosh Hashanah campaign is off to a very good start. For those of you who are just beginning to come down to Sarasota, we need you too.

Please send your checks or credit card information to All Faiths Food Bank, 8171 Blaikie Court, Sarasota 34240. Make sure to indicate CHJ Backpack for Kids on your check or credit card information. Each dollar you are able to donate makes a huge difference in the life of a child. If you have any questions please contact Renee Crames.
From our President Rick Stein

As I shared during the holiday services, we have many opportunities to not only have an impact on social issues in our part of Florida, but we may also attract others to our Humanistic Judaism involvement.

The Board is determined to redouble our Social Action Committee objectives and we need your ideas as well as your participation.

CHJ’s Vice President Annette Wolfe, will lead these efforts. She approaches this outreach with an open mind and in a humanistic direction.

In addition to these activities, we all must share the philosophy of Humanistic Judaism....making the world a better place is up to us. It is our responsibility. As Humanistic Jews, "we say what we mean and we mean what we say," so watch for opportunities that interest you and call Annette to volunteer.

Cordially, Rick

Looking For Sponsors for the 2017 – 2018 CHJ Services, Onegs, and Speaker/Programs

Our sponsors contribute significantly to defraying the cost to CHJ of our many varied events. After you've had a chance to take a look at our Calendar for 2017-2018 on page 8, please think about which Service, Oneg or Speaker/Program, you would like to sponsor.

A contribution of $150 will make you the sponsor for a speaker or topic that you particularly like, and you may do it on your own or with a fellow member. You will be identified as the sponsor(s) of that Service, Oneg or Speaker/Program on our Calendar, and in articles about that speaker and program in The Connection. You will also have the honor of lighting the candles during the service preceding the program.

To sponsor a Service, Oneg or Speaker/Program please contact the CHJ office at 941-929-7771 or chjsarasota@hotmail.com.

No October Board Action

This is a special request from our members who work the Name Tag Table. They ask you to read it carefully.

THE NAME TAG SONG
(to the tune of Ballin' the Jack)

First you take the string gently from your neck.
You smile to the right, then you smile to the left.
You take your two fingers and keep them tight,
Then you twirl the string, twirl the string with all your might.
Then you tuck the string in to the pouch
You do it very gently so there is no ouch.
Then you drop it in, drop it in, in to the bag
And that is how you treat your NAME TAG

Board of Directors

President: Rick Stein
Vice President: Annette Wolfe
Secretary: Kay Levy
Treasurer: Joe Newman
Directors: Alice D'Souza, Sandy Fishman, Susan Friedman, Fredy Jacobson, Janet Leon, Stephanie Louis, Margo Restrepo, Phil Silverstein

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
Advisor to SHJ: Lou Altman
The Congregation for Humanistic Judaism extends a heartfelt “thank you” to the individuals and couples named below who have chosen to add to their annual dues. Friend Donors have donated under $100 and Sustaining Members have donated more than $100. Their combined generosity has added almost $4,400 to CHJ’s coffers contributing considerably to CHJ’s ability to meet the needs of our members. We thank you very much!

**SUSTAINING MEMBERS**

- Eleanor & Louis Altman
- Lois Altman & Bill Lakin
- Susan & Joe Boston
- Sandy Cadman & Mel Kalfon
- Sandi & Stephen Cooper
- Alice D’Souza
- Amy Eliezer & Julian Dorf
- Sandy Fishman
- Joan & Ron Fox
- Naomi & Bernie Gerbarg
- Marilyn Golden
- Susan & Stanley Gordon
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- Myrna & André Block
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- Marilyn Goldman
- Arlene Lerner & Evan Paisley
- Ernie Kent
- Ellyn Batko
- Terry & Marvin Dolgov
- Barry Shapiro
- Annette & Barry Wolfe
- Lois Friedman
- Toni & John Gartner

Collage by Jules Altenberg

Yom Kippur Memorial.
Closing Service and Break-the-Fast
November Birthdays

Sasha Koulish  
November 1
Fagie Perlmutter  
November 2
Damien Jaques  
November 3
Carol Heckert  
November 5
Marilyn Goldman  
November 6
Susan Robinson  
November 6
Bernie Gerbarg  
November 10
Jack Vendeland  
November 12
Annette Wolfe  
November 12
Doris Hasson  
November 18
Irv Horowitz  
November 20
Renee Crames  
November 21
Susan Juda  
November 22
Linda Vendeland  
November 25
Kenneth Stock  
November 27
Michael Beltzman  
November 30

November Anniversaries

Judith & Donald Black  
Nov. 2  21st
Susan & Stanley Gordon  
Nov. 3  54th
Annette & Ivan Krakowsky  
Nov. 26  65th
Susan & Joe Boston  
Nov. 28  30th

CARING

Do you know any members who would appreciate a card from CHJ? Do you know anyone who has suffered a recent or lingering illness, or to whom we can offer our condolences?

Alice D'Souza

Please contact the office, Alice D'Souza or Sandy Fishman.
All phone numbers and e-mails are in the CHJ Directory.

Community Interfaith Thanksgiving Service: Sunday, at 5:30 p.m., November 19
First Presbyterian Church, 2050 Oak Street, Sarasota

We hope to see many CHJ members at this Interfaith Thanksgiving Service this year. It will take place, once again, at First Presbyterian Church in the Sanctuary. There will be Jews of all stripes, Muslims and Christians, also of all stripes, participating, a terrific chorus and great munchies after so people can meet each other.
COMING EVENTS

Saturday, December 2, at 10:30 a.m.
Shabbat Service and Speaker Dennis Maley on
The Failure of Government Institutions to Properly Maintain
the Constitutional Separation between Church and State

Following our 10:30 a.m. Shabbat Service, Dennis Maley, a featured columnist and editor for The Bradenton Times, will speak on The Failure of Government Institutions to Properly Maintain the Constitutional Separation between Church and State and the way that it can isolate atheists, while potentially subjecting them to prejudicial treatment.

His weekly column focuses on community issues in Manatee County. He is a former captain in the United States Army and a graduate of Shippensburg University, where he studied Government and Economics. He is also the author of several works of fiction, including the 2015 novel A Long Road Home. Like much of his fictional writing, it delves into the practical, scientific and historic arguments for atheism.

Collage by Jules Altenberg
BIKERS  We will ride on November 11. We plan to bike our annual ride in Venice going around Venice island and the Intracoastal Waterway. The view is great and the company even greater. Lunch will be after the ride in Venice. For further information call Sandy Siegel.

JEWISH HISTORY SEMINAR  The CHJ History Seminar welcomes back its snowbirds and vacationers, and extends a warm welcome to all new participants.

The first meeting of the CHJ Seminar for the 2017-18 season was held on October 25 at Unity. The session focused on the two introductory topics covered in the first two chapters of Sachar's *A History of the Jews*: 1. Palestine before the arrival of the Hebrews: Sachar - I. The Cast of Characters, and 2. The origin of the Hebrews, the role of Moses and the founding of the Mosaic faith: Sachar - II. Origins of the Hebrews.

The next session will be on Wednesday, November 22, at Unity, Room B from 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. The pages to be covered in Sachar are—pp. 23 - 42: Chapter III. The Hebrews Enter Palestine, and Chapter IV. The Growth of National Consciousness. Please consider volunteering to lead the November 22 discussion. For more information, contact Stan Katz.

THIS I BELIEVE: Two Jews, Three Opinions  The first group is scheduled to meet on Sunday, November 5 at 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at my house. Please call or e-mail me for directions if needed. We need to get ourselves some discussion and essay topics. We welcome contributions from those who are out of town. If you are here in Sarasota, please show up, we need warm bodies and personal interaction. Even if you are merely curious, come by to kibitz. Snacks and coffee will be served. All are welcome!! Margo Moore.

HUMANAIRES  The Humanaires and conductor Robert Lischetti are happy to include Lynne Koral in our soprano section and are looking forward to welcoming snowbirds as you return in the next few months. We are also very pleased to welcome Edie Kaplan to our ranks as a Humanaires Associate. Edie will now be preparing PowerPoint presentations for lyrics and translations of the songs projected in each service.

We are looking for more of you to join the chorus. If blending your voice with others brings you joy, whether you are a soprano, alto, tenor or bass (and even if you have no idea what part you would sing), we will welcome you warmly. There are no auditions. We meet every Wednesday from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary at Unity. Let us know when you plan on coming so we can have music ready for you. For more information please leave a message at the CHJ office at 941-929-7771 or email chjsarasota@hotmail.com and someone will get back to you.

DIGITAL IMAGING GROUP (DIG)  We meet at 3:30 p.m. on the 4th 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.

LIFE STORIES  We meet to learn about the fascinating lives of the members in our group. We all have stories to tell. We meet on the 4th Monday of most months at 2:00 p.m. Our meetings will resume in December. Please contact Alla Rabinovich for further information.

WINE GROUPS  Our meetings resumed in October. For information, please contact Joan Fox.

Contact information for the members on this page can be found in your CHJ Member Directory, or you can leave a message with the CHJ office: chjsarasota@hotmail.com or 941-929-7771.
A tribute is a wonderful way to recognize any occasion and benefit CHJ. Complete this form and send your check for $10 or more made out to CHJ.

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

| Berman Music | Congregant Emergency | Education | General | 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 Road, Sarasota, FL 34231.
Arlene Pearlman, Past President of CHJ, and current President of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, (AU) which celebrates its 70th anniversary this year, will speak on We Did Build a Wall. The first amendment of our Constitution established a wall of separation between religion and government and almost every religious and secular group, elected officials and community leaders signed on then, and keep signing on. To keep that separation we need to fight stronger and harder with more voices than ever to protect the rights of everyone.

SAVE THE DATE: DECEMBER 3, 10:30 a.m.
Arlene Pearlman Speaking on We Did Build a Wall
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 322 15th St W, Bradenton