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.

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Friday, December 15, at 7:30 p.m.
Chanukah Service with the Humanaires

**Chanukah** is a festive holiday celebrating two events—the miraculous military victory of a small band of Jews over the occupying Greek army in the 2nd century BCE, and the miracle of the oil which occurred after the liberation of the Temple in Jerusalem, when a jug was found containing enough pure oil to light the lamp for one day; instead it lasted for eight days.

Last year during Chanukah, I was in Tel Aviv where my Israeli experience was unlike anything I had encountered in America. Children did receive Chanukah gelt and had parties, but everything else was unfamiliar and fascinating. For one thing, there were no latkes! Tel Avivians eat donuts, and, may I add, not just everyday garden-variety donuts, but often fabulous patisserie-type concoctions with elaborate toppings. During Chanukah, at the designated moment, wherever they may be - be it in a store, a mall, or hotel - many Israelis gather for an impromptu prayer service - put on their yarmulkes, a menorah appears, candles are lit, and they join together in prayer. Then come the donuts.

*The Service is Sponsored by Sandy Siegel and Marty Hollander*
*The Oneg is Sponsored by the Four Wine Tasting Groups*

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**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

**Arlene Pearlman**, Past President of CHJ, and current President of the Sarasota/Manatee Chapter 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 to protect the rights of everyone.

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**SAVE THE DATE: FEBRUARY 19, 4:00—5:30 p.m. at Unity**

**CHJ FUNDRAISER - SPECIAL OPERATIC EVENT with Tatev and Zara Baroyan**

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**Inside This Issue**

- Page 3  
  Fiddler Reservation Form
- Pages 5, 6, 7 & 8  
  Coming Events & Calendar
- Page 10  
  Life Cycles
- Page 11  
  Special & Social Groups
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.
The stories of Sholom Aleichem seemed an unlikely subject for a musical, and certainly of limited appeal. We’ll see how genius director-choreographer Jerome Robbins guided his creative team to find universality in the material, and how a "Jewish musical" was made that struck a responsive chord in virtually every country in the world.

Charles Troy’s award winning multimedia presentation tells the stories behind the greatest musical of the 20th century, in a seamless 90-minute program with original graphics, scanned photos, edited audio tracks with the lyrics displayed onscreen, historic video clips, and thoroughly researched, scripted narratives that weave the pertinent events into cohesive, dramatic tales.

A Multimedia Presentation by Charles Troy

CHJ FUNDRAISER TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR A CONTRIBUTION OF $15 OR MORE IN ADVANCE, OR $20 OR MORE AT THE DOOR.

Please send check payable to CHJ with Fiddler on memo line.

Mail to: CHJ, 3023 Proctor Road, Sarasota, FL 34231.

Enclosed is our contribution of $_______.

Please send _______tickets for Fiddler

Name(s): ____________________________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________________________________

Phone No.____________________

ALL TICKETS WILL BE HELD AT THE DOOR.
KRISTALLNACHT SERVICES
11/04/2017
Barney Sack
EDUCATION SERIES: Thursday, January 11, at 3:00 p.m.
Carrie Seidman on FACEing Mental Illness: The Art of Acceptance
Fellowship Hall, at Unity, 3023 Proctor Road, Sarasota

Since 2010, Carrie Seidman has been the Sarasota Herald-Tribune's lead columnist and an award-winning journalist specializing in the arts, dance, and mental health. Seidman will discuss her 2016-2017 project as a fellow of the Carter Center for Mental Health Journalism, FACEing Mental Illness: The Art of Acceptance.

This arts/journalism initiative was designed to change cultural attitudes about mental illness and eliminate the stigma of a mental health diagnosis. Her book (of the same name) is a collection of stories and self-portraits from participants in the project, all of whom are in recovery from a mental health challenge.

Seidman received the national Mental Health America Media Award in 2016 for her series The S Word: The Stigma of Schizophrenia. Her writing has garnered awards many from state and national journalism organizations, including the Gold Medal for Public Service from the Florida Society of News Editors in 2015. She is the single mother of one son with a mental health diagnosis and lives in Sarasota.

This Education Program is open to the public: Guests: $5.00. Members free.
RESERVATIONS: Please notify the CHJ office if you are planning to attend:
e-mail – chjsarasota@hotmail.com or phone – 941-929-7771.
Give your name, phone number and the number of people who will attend.

January 18 at 4:00 p.m. The Creation of Fiddler on the Roof (see page 3)

Friday, January 19, at 7:30 p.m.
Tu B'Shevat Service with the Humanaires, and ACLU Speakers on The CRC - the Constitutional Revision Commission

Following our 7:30 p.m. Tu B'Shevat Service, we will welcome two ACLU members who will present the discussion topic: The CRC - the Constitutional Revision Commission.

Pete Tannen is President of the Sarasota ACLU and former Chair of the Communications Committee of the State Board, and Grissim Walker, an attorney, is the ACLU's longest-serving Sarasota Chapter Board Member as well as the ACLU State Board Representative. They will speak on the CRC. This commission, by law, meets every 20 years to propose amendments to the State of Florida Constitution. Members are appointed by the Governor, in this case Rick Scott. Amendments proposed by the Commission go directly onto the 2018 ballot without any review for constitutionality, misleading language, or clarity by the Florida Supreme Court, which vets all other amendments (from the public or legislature).

Given the super-conservative makeup of the current commission, many groups, including the ACLU and Planned Parenthood, are deeply concerned about the amendments that will be placed on the ballot. The ACLU will learn specifics in the coming months, and their Political Director will be keeping them up-to-the-minute on the proposals.

The Program is Sponsored by Toni & John Gartner
The Oneg is Sponsored by Toni & John Gartner, and Joe Newman in Celebration of his 105th Birthday

Saturday, February 3, at 10:30 a.m.
Havdalah Service and Jeff Rodgers on A Scientific Take on What it Means to be Human

Rodgers is Provost and Chief Operating Officer of the South Florida Museum in Bradenton, Florida. He has been with the museum for thirteen years, and served as the museum's Director of Education and Director of the Bishop Planetarium prior to taking his current position. He came to Florida from the American Museum of Natural History and Hayden Planetarium in New York City, where he worked for nine years as an educator and lecturer. Despite his current administrative roles, he is at heart a science communicator, spending the bulk of his time trying to de-mystify the universe and our place in it.

We, humans, are the result of a remarkable series of atomic, chemical, physical, biological, ecological, and sociological interactions spanning 13.8 billion years. The very fact that we've figured out how we came to be is testament to how special we are. What are these peculiar traits that got us to where we are today? And how did we come to have them? Join us for an exploration of how we came to be, what makes us so noteworthy, and why having humans on the planet is certainly consequential.
**EDUCATION SERIES:**  **Thursday, February 8, at 3:00 p.m.**  
**Jens Albiez on A Nazi in the Family**  
**Fellowship Hall, at Unity, 3023 Proctor Road, Sarasota**

Jens Albiez will discuss, from his personal perspective of growing up in Germany in the 1960s, how the different phases of discovering, questioning, and understanding the Third Reich evolved. He will describe the impact the Weimar Republic and the Nazi regime had on his family, and how Germany and how the Germans dealt with the accumulated guilt and shame. Are there lessons to be learned that could be applied to improving the ways we deal with the nationalist and populist political movements of today? By contrasting his personal family experiences with the bigger historic context, he hopes to encourage the audience to engage in lively discussion.

Albiez holds a Masters in Business Administration from Cologne University, Germany. He is a financial advisor with Waddell & Reed, Inc. He moved to Sarasota in 2001 with his wife and four daughters.

*This Education Program is open to the public: Guests: $5.00. Members free.*

**RESERVATIONS:** Please notify the CHJ office if you are planning to attend:  
e-mail chjsarasota@hotmail.com or phone 941-929-7771.  
*Give your name, phone number and the number of people who will attend.*

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**Friday, February 16, at 7:30 p.m.**  
**Shabbat Service with the Humanaires, and Speaker Rachel Dulin on Control of the Temple: The Importance of the Temple Mount in Yerushalayim to Jews Worldwide**

Rachel Zohar Dulin was born in Israel and served as a teacher in the Israeli Defense Force. She was sent as a sh’lichah to teach in Fargo, North Dakota. She holds a B.Sc. in Education from Moorhead State University, Minnesota, and a Masters Degree and PhD. in Religious and Theological studies from Northwestern University, Illinois. She was a professor of Biblical Literature and Hebrew Language at Spertus College, Chicago, and New College of Sarasota, Florida, (Ret).

Dulin has published articles and books on the subjects of women, aging and politics in the Bible, and writes a monthly column in JUF newspapers, and her articles appear frequently in the Jewish News Sarasota-Manatee on the etymology of Hebrew words and concepts.

She has appeared on radio and talk shows, and she is also is a proud wife, mother and grandmother.

*This Program is Sponsored by Marilyn Golden*

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**Monday, February 19, 4:00—5:30 p.m. at Unity**  
**FUNDRAISER: Special Operatic Event with Tatev and Zara Baroyan**

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**Tuesday, February 27, 2018, at 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.**  
**at the UU Church, 3975 Fruitville Road, Sarasota**  
**Joint Presentation by CHJ, the Unitarian Universalist Church (UU) & AUSCS**  
**Rob Boston Speaking on Defending Our Values in Difficult Times**

Rob Boston is the Director of Communications at Americans United for Separation of Church and State. Boston, who has worked at Americans United since 1987, also serves as editor of AU's *Church & State* magazine. He is the author of four books, the most recent being: *Why Religious Freedom doesn't give you the Right to Tell Other People What to Do.*

The wall of separation between church and state and secular government is under assault like never before. In this talk, Boston will outline the threats facing real religious liberty and discuss what you can do to defend our rights.

*This Event is Sponsored by CHJ, U-U and AUSCS.*

*It is Free and Open to the Public.*

(For those who cannot drive at night, the event will be repeated on February 28, 10:00 a.m. at Fruitville Library.)

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**Saturday, March 3, at 10:30 a.m. Purim Service with the Humanaires**
Friday, March 16, at 7:30 p.m. Service. Speaker TBA

Saturday, March 31, at 6:00 p.m. Second Night Seder, Michael's On East

Saturday, April 7, at 10:30 a.m. Yom Hashoah Service with the Humanaires

Friday, April 20, at 7:30 p.m.
Israel Independence Day Service with The Humanaires, and
Speaker Rabbi Geoff Huntting on Israel: Do we have a Voice? The Tension between the Israeli Religious and Political Establishment and the American Jewish Community

Born and raised in Connecticut, Rabbi Huntting received a B.A. in Liberal Arts from Johns Hopkins University. After serving in Vietnam, he moved to California, where he received a Juris Doctor degree from Loyola Law School, and worked as deputy attorney general for the state of California. In June 1991, he was ordained by the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion. Following rabbinical school, Rabbi Huntting served Temple Emanuel in Beverly Hills, California, before joining Temple Sinai in Sarasota in December 1993. The title of Rabbi Emeritus was bestowed upon him on the occasion of his retirement in June 2016, after 23 years of service to Temple Sinai. A month before his retirement, he was awarded the degree of Doctor of Divinity, honoris causa, at the at the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion. This honorary degree is given to rabbis who have served the Jewish community for 25 years, a milestone not always reached by second-career rabbis like Rabbi Huntting.

He has supported and been involved in social justice causes, and speaks and writes about Israel as a strong supporter of JStreet, the political home for pro-Israel, pro-peace Americans who want Israel to be secure, democratic, and the national home of the Jewish people, and who advocate policies that advance shared US and Israeli interests as well as Jewish and democratic values, leading to a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The Program is Sponsored by Rick Stein
The Oneg is Sponsored by Carol & Erwin Segal

Saturday, May 5, at 10:30 a.m. Service. Speaker TBA

Saturday, May 12, at 10:30 a.m. Annual Meeting, Fellowship Hall
### CHJ CALENDAR DECEMBER 2017—MAY 2018

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>DAY</th>
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<tr>
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* = Not at Unity  
H = Humanaires sing.  
(O) = Oneg  
(P) = Speaker/Program  
(S) = Service

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**Stories from Trailblazing Women Lawyers: Lives in the Law**

This book by Jill Norgren is a captivating story of how a diverse group of women, including Janet Reno and Ruth Bader Ginsburg, broke the glass ceiling and changed the modern legal profession. The book is based on the oral stories of 85 of the 118 women lawyers who were interviewed by the Women Trailblazers Project.
**AmazonSmile and How You Can Help CHJ**

**AmazonSmile.** This program is an easily accomplished way to arrange for funding to come to CHJ. Anyone who purchases items from Amazon can do this, and it won’t cost you anything. On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), before you begin shopping you need to select a charitable organization in order to channel donations from eligible purchases to CHJ. Please Indicate ‘Congregation for Humanistic Judaism, Sarasota, FL.’ You only need to put this information in once as your choice of charity will have been linked to your account.

The subsequent process is to first type in AmazonSmile when you are purchasing anything from Amazon. Then go ahead, select your purchase, and 0.5% will be given to CHJ. This works with Prime as well. Every little bit adds up. You can ask family and friends if they would be willing to help CHJ. Please contact me, Annette Wolfe, with any questions you have concerning AmazonSmile. Thank you to Alice D’Souza, for bringing AmazonSmile to our attention. Annette Wolfe

**HELP! HELP! HELP! WANTED FOR OUR HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE**

The Hospitality Committee desperately needs extra volunteers to help with Onegs.  

Please call or e-mail Fredy Jacobson. You will be pleased you joined us. It’s fun and rewarding. Thank you!

**HELP WANTED - Excellent Volunteer Job for Snowbirds!**

We need someone willing to choose and introduce three or more films over the winter season. This involves selecting a film with a Jewish theme of interest to our community. Video Renaissance has been my go-to place for rentals, 2243 Bee Ridge, (941) 925-2780. Amazon is the place to purchase a film if you can’t rent it, and it goes to CHJ Library after showing. The best days for the events seem to be on Tuesdays or Wednesdays, 3:00 or 4:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. January, February and March have worked well, and more than three films can be planned.

Involvement includes: deciding on the films; checking availability; reserving Fellowship Hall; having people sign-up with the office so you know how many people to expect; arranging for the chairs to be setup; purchasing water; and, reminding our members that guests pay $5.00 each. Chair set up, film rental, and water are reimbursed fees. If necessary, Barney or Alice will prepare the equipment.

Advertising will be a bit different this season because we won’t have The Connection. An E-blast will need to be sent to our members and information put on JNET. For information, please contact Alice D’Souza.

**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?

Please contact the office, Alice D’Souza or Sandy Fishman.

All phone numbers and e-mails are in the CHJ Directory.

**WELCOME NEW MEMBER**

Sam Gahr, husband of Rona Gahr

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 into 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.

**Correction to November issue**

Ron Fox’s birthday sponsorship for the Kristallnacht Service was for his 85th birthday, not his 80th. Congratulations Ron!
December Yahrzeit

Sally Joan Altman, first wife of Lou Altman
Albert Bachman, brother of Ruth Weinberg
Robert Basist, husband of Rita Basist
Milton Brown, father of Stephen Brown
Harry Chemerow, father of Ben Chemerow
Esther Cohen, mother of Arlene Lerner
Lena Davidow, mother of Lorynne Cahn
Irving Devorsetz, loved one of Amy Eliezer
Lester Dinoff, prior husband of Kay Levy
Esther Edelstein, mother of Phil Silverstein
Howard Edman, father of Jill Factor
Yetta Gahr, mother of Samuel Gahr
Bonnie Gahr Zaret, sister of Samuel Gahr
Fanny Haimowicz, loved one of Adrienne & Howard Feltman
Milton Hinden, husband of Iris Hinden
Irving Hollander, father of Marty Hollander
Howie Kaplan, husband of Edie Kaplan
Sam Kutikoff, father of Stephen Kutikoff
Marshall Rosenthal, father of Lois Altman & Sheila Rosenthal
Nathan Shapiro, father of Gerry Shapiro
Deborah Siegel, stepdaughter of Sandra Siegel
Robert Siegel, husband of Sandra Siegel

December Birthdays

Geraldine Elias  December 3
Susan Friedman  December 12
Norine Zimmer  December 12
Kay Levy  December 15
Norma Goldberg  December 16
Priscilla Molnar  December 18
Joan Rosenstein  December 25
Frederick Bloom  December 26
Paul Molnar  December 29
Barbara Relles  December 29
Rona Gahr  December 30

December Anniversaries

Priscilla & Paul Molnar  Dec. 8  66th
Adrienne & Howard Feltman  Dec. 9  61st
Jeanette & Jim Gardner  Dec. 21  66th
Addie & Len Rosen  Dec. 24  62nd
Alice & David Berman  Dec. 27  64th
Diane Schulman & Peter Woodall  Dec. 29  17th

Sponsors: The information below was received after our November issue went to press.
Lou and Ellie Altman sponsored the November 17 Speaker/Program with Herb Silverman that followed our Thanksgiving Service.

TRIBUTES

General Fund

For Arlene Pearlman – “Wishing you a speedy recovery,” from Amy Eliezer

Program Fund

“To everyone at CHJ who visited me, shlepped me, fed me, brought goodies, offered me a safe place during Irma, kept me company, sent cards, called, and much, much more. My deepest gratitude for helping me get through this tough time,” from Arlene J. Pearlman

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.
### Special & Social Groups

#### HumaRAIRES
We Humanaires, conductor Robert Lischetti, and our accompanist Zara Baroyan are happy to greet our returning snowbirds. We’ve missed you and appreciate having you here to share the pleasure of singing in this chorus. These days we’re focusing on songs for Chanukah and are practicing both familiar and new pieces to add to our services.

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.

#### Sunsetters
A very special interest group, began again in November under the leadership of Carol and Craig Harris. We are an open group and 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 is the sunset and camaraderie. It is very informal and casual. **Arrival is 1 - 1 1/2 hours prior to sunset.** At this time of year (no daylight savings time) some of us might go out to dinner afterwards to a casual restaurant. You will need to bring chair(s), perhaps a towel to shake off the sand, a snack or drink (plastic only). If you are interested in joining us, **please contact Carol Harris.**

#### Bikers
We usually meet once a month for a sociable bike ride about 12 miles with lunch after the ride. Our December ride will be in Benderson Park and The Meadows. We look forward to having new members join us. **Please contact Sandy Siegel for further information.**

Our November Venice ride: From left: Naomi Gerbarg, Bernie Gerbarg, Ken Heckert, Sandy Siegel, Marty Hollander, Linda Purves, Carol Heckert, Doug Purves.

#### THIS I BELIEVE
We will meet **Sunday, December 3, 10:00 a.m.-noon**, at my house. Snowbirds, please bring your opinions and good ideas to our fest. We are about writing, talking and learning from each other! We are just getting started, so please join the fun! **For information, please contact Margo Moore.**

#### Jewish History Seminar
The Seminar resumed its 2017-18 series on October 25. The discussion centered *(inter alia)* mainly around the consolidation of the scattered Hebrew desert tribes; the role of (the real or mythological) Moses in leading the Hebrews out of bondage and welding them into an identifiable Nation, essentially based on Mosaic precepts; the absence of historic facts or information from the 12th to the 6th centuries; and the turn to the Bible as an alternative source of history. *(Sachar, Ch. I and II.)*

Our next Seminar will be held on **Wednesday, December 27, 1:00-2:30 p.m., Unity Classroom B**. The discussion will focus mainly on the material in *Sachar*: Ch. V: *A House Divided Against Itself*, pp. 43-60; and Ch. VI: *The Prophets*, pp. 61-77.

**It’s not by chance that we Jews have the longest and most tortured history of any people on earth. We have the distinction of having been expelled from every major country in Europe. And the Nazis were not the first to try to annihilate us. A lesson we should have learned by now is that the past is prelude to the present. The CHJ History Seminar is intended to help illuminate that past.**

In 2018, we will be meeting on the **last** Wednesday of every month.

**For Information contact Stan Katz.** The Seminar is open to all CHJ Members. **Try us—you’ll like us.**

#### 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 information contact Jules Altenberg.**

#### Wine Groups
We have resumed our meetings. **For information, please contact Joan Fox.**
Thanksgiving Service & Speaker Herb Silverman

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