

TEMPLE SHALOM



To Embrace, Promote, and Teach Jewish Life and Values

VOLUME 14

ISSUE 7

APRIL 2016

FROM THE ARCHIVES OF RABBI SOLOMON AGIN:

The Purpose of Passover

Passover activates us; it literally puts us to work. Think of all the things we have to do. We have to clean the house and change the dishes, order the Matzo and wine, invite the family, make sure that the youngest knows the four questions, maybe buy a new pair of shoes and so on. The Seder itself makes participants of us all. There are those of us who have to do the cooking, preparing the meal, there are those of us who have to lead the Seder, everybody has to sing, everybody has to eat the Matzo and all the other foods.

Aside from motivating and energizing us, the Passover observance teaches us an important lesson: all of us must participate in the great drama of liberation, all of us must share in creating a better society, all of us must move from inaction to action if we are to better the world. As one wit put it: "You may be on the track, but if you just sit there you will be run over."

Finally, Passover is a way of making vivid through our senses our ancient trials and historic purpose. The Seder, with its symbolic foods, enables the Jew to relive and recreate his past. Israel Zangwill correctly said, "On Passover the Jew eats history." He literally ingests the bread of affliction, and so the meaning of freedom becomes a part of the very marrow of his bones. Jews have always known what it means to suffer. The Seder simply presents the story of this suffering and of redemption — in a way that makes us feel with all our senses. We hear the crackling of the Matzo, we taste the Haroset, we smell the sharpness of the horseradish, we feel the Haggadah in our hand, and our eyes take in the entire scene of Jews actively recreating their tradition. Through this personal involvement a Jew senses completely the meaning of Passover and the underlying message of freedom.

The late Ludwig Frank said: "The Seder nights tie me with centuries before me."

BULLETS FROM THE BOARD
MARCH 24, 2016

- Rabbi Agin read an article entitled "Straight Ahead"
- The Board received a card from Rabbi Agin thanking everyone for their hard work and attendance at his party honoring his 50th year as a Rabbi and 13th year as Rabbi of our Temple
- Rabbi Agin reviewed all of the wonderful functions we had in the month of March, and upcoming functions for April
- Our 92nd Street Y programs will continue
- Rabbi met with Mr. Norwich, publisher and editor of the Forward, who is married to Marian Ugoretz' niece.. They would like to promote our Lunch and Learn program throughout the country.
- Alvin Lubiner will conduct Shabbat Services on April 8th, as Rabbi Agin will be at a conference.
- On April 10th, at 3:00, we will have a DVD as part of our Jewish Film Festival. It is entitled "Jews in Baseball". A ballpark dinner will be served. The cost is \$10.00 per person.
- Hadassah is having a Fanny Brice impersonator perform on April 3rd at 2:00. Tickets are \$10.00 each. Refreshments will be served.
- The treasurer's report was approved
- Sisterhood's final meeting is a luncheon meeting on April 18th at 11:00am at Phil's 41 in Punta Gorda. The Sisterhood game day made \$3,000. There were 130 people attending. Naomi Alexander made a donation from Sisterhood to the Temple for \$2,000.
- The permit for the door finally came through. Everything is being ordered. The job should begin within the next three weeks. Once the door is complete, the remodeling of the bathrooms will start.
- Rodger Richardson is checking into making the outside menorah electric.
- Bimah honors will rotate throughout the year for Shabbat services.





**"When the solution is simple, God is Answering"
Albert Einstein**

The Question is: Was Albert Einstein a Kabbalist?

In the 1500's, a Jewish Mystic Isaac Luria defined Kabbalah having sublimed insights of creation and the nature of God.

Luria describes God as a singularity, alone, infinite in energy. God then retreated to make room for space and time, creating a ray of light and in the seemingly ensuing chaos, God became within the matter of creation "like a pearl in a shell".

Our purpose as man, taught Luria, is to raise this light, spark within ourselves and the Universe, Redeeming all Creation.

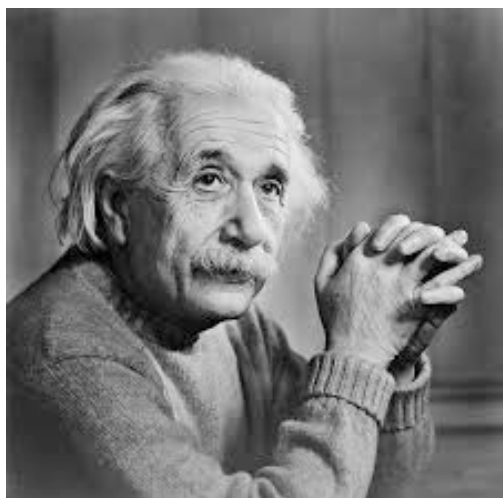
Centuries later, Albert Einstein gives us the simple equation " $E=Mc^2$. Within this equation, one finds that all mass is simply energy in a rested state, trapped within itself.

Einstein's equation shows us the pure energy within every particle of mass, every atom of our being. Similarly, Luria teaches us, our physical existence is merely a shell containing within, an energy of pure divinity.

"The finest emotion of which we are capable is the Mystic Emotion".
Albert Einstein

I believe Albert Einstein was a Jewish Kabbalist.

Shalom.





Our Jewish Festival Series continues with the film, "*Jews in Baseball*". This will take place on Sunday, April 10th at 3:00pm. It is timely, as the baseball season gets underway. For additional information, please contact Odette Port at 941-505-1409.

The 92nd Street "Y" Live Series continues with its final program of the season at 7:00pm on Tuesday, April 19th. The program is "*US Foreign Policy and the 2016 Election*":

Unprecedented turmoil in the Middle East. Belligerence and muscle flexing from Moscow. Economic and political uncertainties in Europe. A China determined to supplant US influence in Asia. How should America's next president deal with all this? What can we learn from this year's election campaign about the likely future of US foreign policy? A free-wheeling discussion with four of America's most distinguished experts: the Hudson Institute's Walter Russell Mead, Foreign Affairs editor Gideon Rose, Foreign Policy editor David J. Rothkopf and Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Bret Stephens of The Wall Street Journal.

This program is open to the community at no charge and is sponsored by the Sylvia Hershkowitz Memorial Fund.

The *Temple Shalom Passover Seder* will take place on Saturday, April 23rd at the Kingsway Country Club in Port Charlotte starting at 5:30pm. The Seder will be under the direction of Rabbi Solomon Agin. Seating is limited. For reservations, call Cindy Melser at 941-456-0247.

Concluding Services for Passover will be held on Friday evening, April 29th at 7:30pm. Yizkor will be said during the Service.

Temple Shalom is Charlotte County's only Reform congregation affiliated with the Union of Reform Judaism



THE MONTH OF MARCH – HOW SWEET IT WAS

The month of March at Temple Shalom was just overwhelming. For a congregation of our size it was packed with joyous events.

March 4th Sabbath Services, Rabbi Agin together with David Katz presented a Shabbat Friday Night Service. This was a musical Service with Rabbi Agin playing his bass and David on keyboard. The Oneg was in honor of Rabbi Agin.

Saturday evening, March 5th, over 150 people attended a dinner and dance at the Charlotte Harbor Yacht Club to honor Rabbi Agin for his 50th year in the active rabbinate and 13th year as Rabbi of Temple Shalom. People came from various parts of the country to honor Rabbi Agin.

Jonah Katz was called to the Torah on Saturday morning, March 12th in honor of his becoming a Bar Mitzvah. Jonah is the son of Todd Katz and the grandson of Dr. Brian and Karyl Katz. Temple Shalom was most honored by Jonah with his leading of Services and read of Torah.

On Tuesday, March 15th we had the 92nd Y Live presentation of “Joel Grey: Master of Ceremonies”, that was well received by the many people who attended.

Rabbi Agin and David Katz teamed up to present another Friday Night Live Shabbat Service on March 18th to honor Marian’s 100th birthday and all who were celebrating a Zero birthday this year. This all culminated with a Zero Party on Saturday Evening at the Temple. It was a great event with great food and music.

The month will conclude with Purim and a Lunch & Learn with the Forward.

A Wonderful Month!



HADASSAH

Although the “season” is coming to a close, we still have two events to look forward to:

SUNDAY, APRIL 3RD, 2 PM: “AN AFTERNOON WITH FANNIE BRICE”. This will take place at Temple Shalom. Tickets are \$10.00. For info/tickets, please call Odette at 505-1409.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13TH, 11:30 AM: ANNUAL DONOR LUNCHEON. This will take place at Kingsway Country Club. There will be more information in the Hadassah Bulletin. Please call Odette, 505-1409, to give her your lunch order.



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SISTERHOOD

The end of the season Sisterhood Luncheon will take place on Monday, April 18th, at 11:00am at Phil’s 41 in Punta Gorda.

YAHRTZEITS

April 1, 2016

Louis Berkowitz
Goldie Friedman
Sylvia Harris
Harry Levine
Ann Nohrr
Irving Rosenthal

Frances Boyden
Samuel Goldberg
Theodore Jarrett
Wanda Lojko
Esther Pollack
Adele Saxe

George Crim
Jacob Gooltz
Marcia Kraus
Marcus Lowenthal
Nathan Pritikin
Ann Schumann

William Epner
Mina Gutttag
Sarah Lang
Alvin Melser
Sophie Rosen
Coleman Tribitz

April 8, 2016

Irving Baskind
Moishe Dennis
Herman Fleshman
Beri Kahan
Ruchel Netzer
Robert Thosath

Alex Buchwald
Helen Duke
Nettie Glickstein
Dora Mallow
Esther Nozik
Harry Wagenheim

Nathan Carroll
Renee Eckhoff
Louis Hoffman
Miriam Miller
Phyllis Scheller
Bertha Wassermann

Solomon Cohen
Frank Fefer
Sam Hyatt
Muriel Moser
Adam Schuster

April 15, 2016

Frances Blumenthal
Esther Eisenberg
Lea Kirschbaum
Ida Nachbar
Rose Schnur
George Weisman

Ruth Carson
Sydell Goldberg
Dorothy Kirschner
Dora Rosenthal
Johanna Selinger
Abe Wolson

Benjamin Cook
Peter Goldner
Louis Krieger
Leah Schecker
Salina Schochat
Johanna Zeisler

Carl Gerry
Morris Kaplan
Richard Levy
Nathan Schnur
Sidney Vegotsky

April 22, 2016

Ida Bearak
Fannie Chait
Julia Goldmuntz
Morris Hermovoth
Leonard Rood
Martin Wilson

Louis Bernstein
Abraham Edelstein
Frances Gottlieb
Francis Morris
Anna Spencer

Evelyn Duberstein Brown
Anna Feldman
Emma Handleman
Sally Roark
Louis Widzer

Jack Bursack
Leah Gehler
Carl Olsan
Martin Wilson
Sam Widzer

April 29, 2016

Herman Brooks
Max Cohen
Carole Hoffman
Harry Shayman

Isaac Brown
Eleazar Friedman
Rose Kornfield
Cantor George Weinflash
David Castro
Hirsch Gehler
Mae Peskin
Rabbi Solomon Zeides

Frank Cohen
Fritzi Goldstein
Yetta Rosen
Jack Young

FAMILIES THAT ARE OBSERVING A YAHRTZEIT DURING THE MONTH ARE REQUESTED TO ATTEND THE FRIDAY EVENING SHABBAT SERVICE DURING WHICH THE NAMES WILL BE READ PRIOR TO KADDISH. A DONATION TO THE TEMPLE IN MEMORY OF YOUR LOVED ONE IS AN HONORED TRADITION.



Second Night of Passover Seder

Saturday, April 23, 2016 – 5:30pm

at

Kingsway Country Club

13625 Kingsway Circle, Lake Suzy

Take I-75 to exit 170 – Kings Highway. Go east on Kings Highway to Kingsway Circle. Make a left on Kingsway Circle and follow signs.



Conducted by Rabbi Solomon Agin

Dinner - \$40.00 per person (ages five and up)

Children under five – no charge

BYOB - \$5.00 corkage fee per bottle and cash bar

RESERVATION DEADLINE – APRIL 9TH – NO EXCEPTIONS

Payment must accompany reservation form

Questions? Call Cindy Melser at 941-456-0247

Make your check payable to Temple Shalom and mark it “Seder Reservation”

Mail check and reservation form to:

Cindy Melser

4400 Riverside Drive

Punta Gorda, Florida 33982

TEMPLE SHALOM FAMILY SEDER RESERVATION FORM

Name _____

Number of Adult Dinners at \$40.00 _____ Number of Children Under Five _____

All seating is reserved. Please list whom you would like to be seated with:



THIS IS A CARD THAT ODETTE PORTS' TWO DAUGHTERS SENT HER IN HONOR OF HER 80TH BIRTHDAY:

*odette is facing the big 8 oh
she is having quite a day oh
with all her friends both old and new
she even got the rabbi to play oh*

*with fun and food and big balloons
celebrating all the way oh
she deserves the best of times
on her special day oh*

*we wish that we could join the fun
and be there ourselves to say oh
you are the best mom there is
from georgia to san francisco*

*best wishes to tata from the ones
who live so far away oh
wishing you health and happiness too
each and every day oh*

*from loretta, aman, bryan and tim
susan and victor we say oh
from orion and isaac, the mishpaha
happy birthday to the one who is 8 oh!*

Love
the
ZeroS

Happy
Birthday
MOM

“0” PARTY A MIRACLE

A miracle happened last Saturday, March 19th, 2016. I turned 80 years old, and to think that 72 years before, when I was eight years old, there were forces in the world that wanted to snuff me out!

72 years is four times CHAI! That’s a lot of LIFE!

Thank you. So many thanks must go out:

To Judi Migdol. whose talents made it happen and added so many beautiful touches.

To all the celebrants who enriched it with their presence, their enthusiasm, and their contribution.

To all who came, and brought joy and smiles, and a lot of very good food.

To Jane Galler and her friend who provided beautiful music.

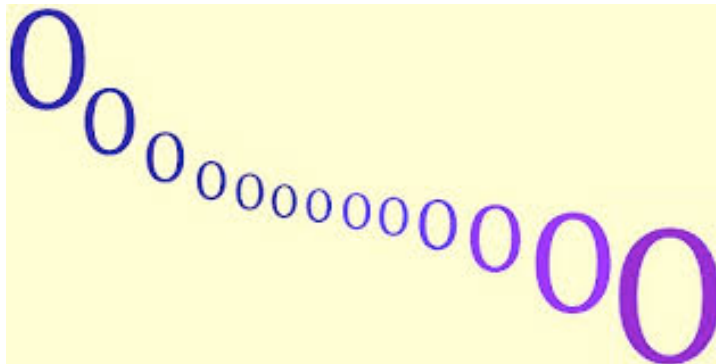
To Rabbi Agin who added to the religious, and to the musical with his own special touch.

To Jeanette Burke, for her wonderful “0”headbands

To Dan who held the whole thing together.

To my good Mazel that it all happened on my birthday!

Who would ever believe that people would willingly declare “I am a ZERO, too!”



APRIL CELEBRATIONS

Jared Yankwitt	April 1 st
Ethan Katz	April 6 th
Larry Zeides	April 6 th
Gabrielle Levin	April 7 th
Judy Post	April 7 th
Rachel Zusman	April 8 th
Naomi Alexander	April 10 th
Shelly Pollack	April 13 th
Karyl Katz	April 16 th
Helen Meyer	April 20 th
Barbara Goldberg	April 21 st
Joseph Kelley	April 22 nd
E.C. Roark	April 23 rd
Nina Sours	April 23 rd
Ryan Zusman	April 24 th
Concetta Weinflash	April 25 th
Dr. Catherine Bukovitz	April 29 th



Dr. Matthew and Michelle Bagan	April 1 st
Dr. Michael and Ada Alpern	April 8 th
Dr. Neil and Amy Zusman	April 8 th
Gary and Linda Wein	April 15 th
Dr. William Dworet and Dale Doyle	April 23 rd
Samuel and Ingrid Carroll	April 26 th

DONATIONS General Fund

Judy Falk
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday

Howard Guralnick
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday

Robert and Jeanette Burke
In memory of Burton Burke
In honor of Rabbi Agin
In memory of Harry Loeb

Ellen and Jay Plavner
In honor of Rabbi Agin

Richard Davis
In honor of Rabbi Agin

Doug and Ann Devore
In memory of Emmy Loeb

Helena Coley
In memory of Emmy Loeb

Rich and Debbie Nemesi
In memory of Emmy Loeb

Max Buczynski
In memory of Emmy Loeb

Mitzi Souchak
In memory of Emmy Loeb

Sylvia Segal
In memory of Emmy Loeb

Dr. Gerald and Shelia Laboda
In honor of Rabbi Agin

Odette Port
In memory of Moses Sarfati

Richard and Joyce Greenwald
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday
In honor of Marian Ugoretz' birthday

Larry Zeides
In honor of Rabbi Agin

Carol and E.C. Reb
In memory of Emmy Loeb

William Dworet and Dale Doyle
In memory of Melvin Dworet
In memory of Bernice Dworet

Klara Brokmeier
In memory of Emmy Loeb
In memory of Edith Seeliger

Catherine Bukovitz
In memory of Harry Loeb
Get well to Manny Bronowitz
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday
In honor of Marian Ugoretz' birthday
In memory of John Bukovitz
In honor of Rabbi Agin

Karen Siegel
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday

Sharey and Don Slimowitz
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday

Harry Loeb
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday

Marcia Dunsker
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday

Marilyn Wald
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday

Lynn Markowitz
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday

Rabbi Solomon and Arline Agin
In honor of Rabbi's 50th year in
Rabbinate

Alvin and Elaine Lubiner
In honor of Al's birthday

Judith Roth
In memory of Lee Roth

Judi Migdol
In honor of Marian Ugoretz' birthday
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday
In memory of Emmy Loeb

DONATIONS
Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Dr. Alan and Barbra Solomon
In memory of Howard Solomon

Gary and Linda Wein
Donation

S. Frederic and Anne Horwitz
In memory of Yahr Zeit
In memory of Mort Segall
In memory of Col. Walter Hoar

Allen and Gabrielle Levin
In memory of Emmy Loeb
In memory of John Finks

Myron and Judy Post
In honor of Al Lubiner's birthday
In honor of Marian Ugoretz'
birthday
Get well wishes to Chris Ahern

Lydia Gattanell
In memory of Samuel Reisner
In honor of Rabbi Agin
In memory of Gary Singerman

Rabbi Solomon and Arline Agin
In memory of Diana Agin
In honor of Rabbi's 50th year in
the Rabbinate

Drs. Robert and France Smith
In honor of Rabbi Agin

Howard Guralnick
In memory of Gary Singerman
In memory of Emmy Loeb
In memory of John Finks
In memory of Joan Guralnick

Marian Ugoretz
In honor of Marian's birthday

Elaine Sless
In memory of Alma Sless

Judi Migdol
In honor of Rabbi Agin

Myron and Judy Post
In memory of Jack Post
In memory of Lester Post
In memory of Harold Shleifer
In honor of Rabbi Agin





FUND RAISING NEWS

Are you aware of the many ways you can help benefit temple with little or no cost to you? You get all you pay for, and additional percentages from the sites go to the Temple. Plus, you can spend more time with friends! These are win-win situations!

GIFT CARDS will now be ordered every month now that we are back in season. Orders can be dropped off at the Temple office on Tuesdays and Thursday mornings, as well as the first Friday of the month at services. They will be available the at the second Friday evening of the month, or will be held for you to be picked up the following Tuesday or Thursday morning -- so that gives you a lot of time to order your cards!

GIFT SHOP

Our Judaica Gift Shop is now open before and after Friday evening Shabbat services. We have great items to be purchased. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Elaine Lubiner at 941-625-0849

FUNDRAISING TOOL FOR THE TEMPLE

Amazon Smile is a charitable component of Amazon Corporation that provides income to charitable organizations, such as the Temple, based on purchases made by Amazon customers who have identified the Temple in their Amazon profile. It is very easy to sign up.

You just have to go to wwwsmile.amazon.com. Select *Jewish Community of Port Charlotte* as your charity. Then, just make your purchase. One-half of one percent of your purchases is donated to the Temple.





You are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item as a sign of a “Mitzvah of Concern”. that we have an obligation to help those who are in need in the community.

If you know of any member of the congregation who is ill or in assisted living/nursing home, please contact Judy Falk at 941-627-8908 or email her at tibajay@comcast.net. The Temple has instituted a Sunshine Correspondent and she needs your help in identifying these people, so they will know that we are thinking of them. Thank you. (See form on table in Temple).

Please be aware that rides to and from Temple for Shabbat services can be arranged. Please call Judy Falk at 941-627-8908 if you are in need of a ride, or are willing to provide a ride for a member.

Do you play an instrument? Rabbi Agin would like to organize a small musical group to play once a month on a Friday evening for Shabbat. If you have some musical talent, please let Nicole or Rabbi Agin know. It would be wonderful to create something different for a Shabbat service.

Do you have any **GOOD IDEAS** for the Temple – functions, fundraisers, committees? If so, please let us know. Please contact any board member with your thoughts. This is **your** temple and we want **your** input!!!!

Would you like to sponsor an Oneg Shabbat? It could be for a life cycle event – birth of a child, birthday, anniversary, or just to do it. Please call Naomi Alexander or Marlene Friedman to schedule it.

Would you like to advertise in the Shalom (and reach all of our congregants)? Please call Judi Migdol at 941-764-0992 for information.

We have a wonderful library in Temple Shalom. Please let us know what kind of books you would like us to obtain for your reading pleasure.

Please visit our new web page – www.TempleshalomFL.com.

CUBA ANYONE?

Several members of the congregation have shown interest in going on a mission to Cuba.

If you are interested, please contact Rabbi Agin at the Temple office.



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