



January 2019

A MESSAGE FROM ADDIE
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Thank you to all who came out to support our Chanukah Program and vote for our incoming Board. A special welcome to our newest Board members Lee Danzig and Enid Rapkin who will serve as Co-Chairs of Membership and Joanne Heit who will serve as Secretary. We are delighted to have them on Board! A list of the 2019 Board appears at the end of this Newsletter.

A big thank you to all our members who have paid their dues for 2019. If you have not done so yet, we ask that you please do so as soon as possible. We are aiming for 100 % renewal and want to extend a warm welcome to our newest members, Louise Siegal and Bob Ancowitz. Do not hesitate to contact any Board member should you have questions. Your questions and feedback are important!

In last month's Newsletter, I indicated JHC would like to plan an information meeting about Chavurah (plural is Chavurot). Chavurah comes from the Hebrew word chaver meaning friend. It is a self-directed group of people who come together to socialize and provide an opportunity to meet new people, build relationships and enjoy Jewish living. A few people have already expressed their interest. If you would like to learn more about this or are already in a Chavurah and would like to share your group's success, please email me at aunterlack@yahoo.com. A meeting will be scheduled shortly.

Addie

A MESSAGE FROM LEE DANZIG AND ENID RAPKIN, CO-MEMBERSHIP VPs
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Lee: My name is Lee Danzig, and I am a newbie to Valencia Lakes. My first encounter with the Jewish Heritage Club was at a New Member Get-Together in August. Starting in January, I will join the Board as co-chair of Membership. I am very excited to be involved in the Club and serve on its Board. I look forward to meeting many of you and getting to know you better, so please come up and introduce yourself when you see me.

Enid: When my husband, Les, and I moved to Valencia Lakes 6 months ago we were hoping to find a group of people with similar backgrounds, heritage, and interests to ours, people with whom we'd want to spend time. We found them in the Jewish Heritage Club. So, when asked to co-chair the membership committee I jumped at the offer. My goal as co-chair is simple...to introduce and involve others in this wonderful club.

If you would like to be part of the Membership Committee, please contact Lee or Enid (e-mails above).

Lee and Enid

A MESSAGE FROM BARBARA SILVER, 1st VP
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 Tu B'Shevat is a time to celebrate the *Birthdays of Trees*, so why not plant a tree in Israel during this month. You can order your tree through JHC, and the Jewish National Fund will send a tree certificate to the recipient. If you order your tree through our Club, the cost is \$14 per tree. Complete a form from the JHC Binder and put it in an envelope with your check; then put it in the lockbox at the Clubhouse, attention JHC, Barbara Silver.

Barbara

A MESSAGE FROM MICHELLE SCHAFER
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The Program Committee is planning a variety of programs for 2019 that incorporate many ideas expressed in last year's Survey. We will kick off the year on **January 7th** with a Movie Night featuring "Crossing Delancy". Refreshments will include traditional **Tu B'Shevat** snacks. There is no charge for this evening, but we ask that you sign up in advance so we can plan the amount of refreshments needed.

In **February**, we will be treated to a lecture on "Klezmer and Jewish Music" facilitated by Baila Miller. Ms. Miller studied World History and the Arts, resides in Sarasota, and lectures throughout the Community. Jewish music is quite diverse and dates back thousands of years, so join us for an interesting and educational evening.

In **March**, we will celebrate **Purim** with a Purim Schpiel and Hamentashen. Don't pass up the opportunity to join the Program Committee or provide suggestions for future programming.

Remember, **JHC programs** are held the **first Monday** night of every month unless otherwise stated. More details on all programs to follow.

Remember to bring your non-perishable items to each meeting for the local Community Food Bank.



TU B'SHEVAT

Tu B'Shevat is **January 21st** this year. Often called the "New Year for Trees", it is a Festival of Nature. In Israel it is time when the rainy season is over and the trees begin their new year of growth. It is considered a post-biblical holiday and in ancient times when a determination of tithing (contribution to a religious organization) was made. The early Rabbi's interpreted the day as one of the ways we meet our obligation to care for G-d's world. It is common to share fruits and the other bounties of the earth with family and friends. In some cases people hold Seders in which they partake of the traditional seven foods including *Wheat, Barley, Dates, Figs, Pomegranates, Olives, and Grapes*. Nuts such as almonds are often included. In fulfilling the obligation to care for G-d's world, we can celebrate by actively engaging in eco-friendly behaviors and purchasing a tree to be planted in Israel. A festive meal including the 7 foods can also be served without the formality of a Seder.

Question: What is the best way to get back on your feet and start walking (an eco-friendly action)?

Answer: By missing your car payment.

Todah Rabah...

A special thank you to **Allison Davis** for maintaining our website throughout the year.



Check it out at jhcvlw.org

Editor: JHeit 

[Jewish Heritage Club Board 2019](#)

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