



The Newsletter of Kol HaEmek (Voice of the Valley)

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Please note: All submissions sent by the 20th of each month to Carol Rosenberg (carolrosenberg@pacific.net)

Coming Events

Saturday, March 19, at 10: a.m. Torah Service in person at the Shul, and on Zoom with Paige Licenberg. Ten persons past Bat /Bar Mitzvah age required for a Torah Service. Proof of vaccination will be required for in-person attendance. Or proof of a negative Covid test within 48 hour.

Sunday, March 20, 2:00 p.m. KHE serves lunch at Plowshares. If you want to help make sandwiches call Dan Hibshman 707-462-7471



We will not be having a Community Seder this year due to Covid.

However if you are will to accept guests to your family Seder or if you would like to attend a family seder call Carol Rosenberg at 707-463-8526, I will try to find guests or hosts for you.

A recent covid negative test will be required.

The KHE Board wants to thank those committed members that contributed so much to the Annual meeting Sunday February 13, 2022

Healing Prayers To:

For Linda Koppel
Nancy Merling
Lee Wacht

Congratulations to:

Nancy Merling on the Bar Mitzvah of her grandson
Levi Aaron Stone
son of her daughter Divorah Merling
on Saturday February 19, 2022 in Berkeley CA.

Portion of the Week and Holidays

Book of Exodus

March 5 - Pekudei

March 9 - Vayikra

March 17 - **Purim**

March 19 - Tzar

March 26 - Shimini

April 2 - Tazria

April 9 - Metzora

April 15 - **Erev Pesach -16- 23**

April 17 - Counting the Omar begins

April 28 - **Yom Ha Shoah**

April 30 - Achei Iyar

Opportunities for Tzedakah

Kol HaEmek (the Voice of the Valley) is funded by your member dues as well as your generous contributions to a **number** of funds including

- 1) Building Fund
- 2) Religious School Fund
- 3) Scholarship Fund
- 4) General Fund
- 5) Honoring and Remembrance Board
- 6) Tzedekah Fund
- 7) Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
- 8) The Marion and Sanford Frank Fund for feeding the hungry in Ukiah and Willits
- 9) Mazon -a Jewish Answer to Hunger
Call: David Koppel, 485-8910

send checks to:

Kol HaEmek, P.O. Box 416, Redwood Valley, CA 95470

We Remember

Betty Wolf	March
Dottie Marans	March 1
Samuel Johoshua Cole	April 3/Adar II,5
Mildred Rosen	March 4
Ann Barr	March 4
Carrie Hamburg	March 4
Isaac Mandel	March 6
Walter Browne Parker	March 13
Bill Roberts	March 14
Glenn Star	March 27
Bessie Dale	March 29 /Nissan 12
Samuel Orton	March 30
Michael HaKohen Selah	April
Regina L. Klayman	April
Dorothy Waterman	April
Nanette Tver	April 1
Allen Micah Rosenberg	April 1
Sidney Epstein	April 1
Patricia Mary Tysoe	April 3
Edward Sessler	April 7
Milton Coren	April 7/ Nisan 25
Sanford Samel Elberg	April 8
Joan Bistrin	April 10
Saul Ginsburg	April 13
Leah Frankle	April 16 /Nisan 7
Allen Dale	April 17
Irving Batz	April 18
Rose Cecelia Ray	April 21
Arthur B. Miller	April 21
Nathan Pelner	April 22
Eleanor B. Miller	April 22
Evelyn Reed	April 22
Gabrielle Welford	April 24
Beatrice Hecht	April 27/Nissan 22
Leah Frankle	April 16 Nisan 7
Adeline Rosen	Nisan 14
Pearl Renee Horowitz	Nisan 18
Charles Sorkowitz	Nisan 28

KOL HaEMEK ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN for 2022-23

A few months ago the Board started to put together an annual plan for annual Shabbat services, holiday services, and general services that relate to KHE. This plan was presented at the KHE Annual Meeting. It represents the 22-23 year, from July 1st 2022 – June 30th 2023. As our Board ages it is essential that we include more members of the community and help reduce the need for the Board to do so much.

Board members, as well as community members, have volunteered their services. There are still volunteers wanted who can step up for the few remaining unfilled responsibilities. Please check out the plan below and notice what still needs to be filled. Are you available? Can you offer tzedakah in the form of time and energy and bring a mitzvah to yourself and to your community? Todah MeRosh! Thank you in advance!

Leadership

President: Sherrie Ebyam
 Vice-President: Sara Esserman-Melville
 Secretary: Carol Rosenberg
 Treasurer: David Koppel
 Other Board Members: Nancy Merling,
 Vicki Patterson, and Barbara Stanger

Holidays/Services

Selichot	Organized by the Board	
Rosh HaShanah AND Yom Kippur	Organize Torah readers and congregant participants; contact person for leaders	Sherrie Ebyam
	Supervise sanctuary	still needed
	Zoom Coordinator	Sara Esserman-Melville
	Yizkor (Yom Kippur only)	Nancy Bertsch
Sukkot		Robin Sunbeam
Simchat Torah		Sara Esserman-Melville
Chanukah		Carol Rosenberg
Tu B'Shevat		Vicki Patterson
Purim		Nancy Bertsch, Elizabeth Raybee
Passover		still needed
Shavuot		Carol Rosenberg
Chevra Kadisha	Contact persons	Helen Sizeman, Norm Rosen
Community Contact	Contact person/liason	still needed
Shul School		Sara Esserman-Melville
Zoom		Sara Esserman-Melville
Budget	Prepare/revise annual budget	Sherrie Ebyam
Operations	Contact person for landscaping, maintenance issues	David Koppel
Hiring	Oversee hiring procedure	Sherrie Ebyam, Vicki Patterson
Shema/Newsletter	6x/year	Carol Rosenberg ,Vicki Patterson
KHE Board	Monthly meetings	still need: 2 addt'l members

Purim Extras by Vicki Patterson

Purim this year is on Wednesday, March 16. The familiar story is recounted in the Book of Esther, the name of the beautiful but secretly Jewish queen of King Ahasuerus of Persia. Her Uncle Mordecai discovers a plot to kill all the Jews at the hands of Haman, the King's grand vizier. He asks Esther to intervene with her husband which is not traditionally allowed. Esther, with courage, reveals the plot and the King, with his great love for Esther denounces Haman and the Jews are saved.

We traditionally eat hamantaschen, the triangular cookie, which are thought by many to represent Haman's tricornered hat but others have different interpretations. Some believe the shape represents his ears as reflected in the Hebrew name "oznei Haman" literally "Haman's ears." Others think the three corners represent the three patriarchs whose power weakened Haman and strengthened Esther. The German word "tasche" means "pouch" or "pocket" so some think the treat's name stems from Haman's pockets filled with the money he offered the King for permission to kill the Jews. Finally, in recent times, some feminists have asserted that the shape signifies fertility.

Esther apparently was a vegetarian during her time in the palace eating primarily legumes so as not to break any rules of kashrut. This led to the tradition of eating peas and beans for Purim.

The Book of Esther is one of only two biblical books which do not mention God's name. The other is Song of Songs. In the Book of Esther, there is no mention of the Temple, prayer or Jewish practice. These omissions have led some scholars to believe the story is an adaptation of Babylonian tradition with their god, Marduk, as Mordecai and goddess Ishtar as Esther as a response to the Babylonian exile.

Purim is usually celebrated one day later for people living in cities that have been walled since the time of Joshua around 1250 BCE. The Book of Esther distinguishes between the Jews who fought for two days inside the walled city of Shushan and those outside the walls who fought for only one day. So as a result, the 15th day of Adar is called the Shushan Purim.

It is a tradition to send gifts of sweets and food to friends and others during Purim. The instruction is "to send" the gifts, not give them directly. The United States Post Office counts as a go-between!

Recipe for Hamantaschen

3 eggs

$\frac{3}{4}$ cup vegetable oil

2 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsps. vanilla extract

$\frac{1}{2}$ cup orange juice

5 $\frac{1}{2}$ cups all purpose flour

1 tbsp baking powder

1 cup fruit preserves (fig, apricot, poppy seed)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Beat eggs and sugar until fluffy, stir in oil, vanilla, and orange juice. Combine flour and baking powder, stir into batter to make a stiff dough (you can put in fridge over night). Roll dough to $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thickness. Cut into circles. Place on cookie sheet and spoon 2 tsps of preserves in middle and pinch the ends to form a triangle. Bake for 12 – 15minutes until lightly browned. Allow to cool before removing.

Jewish Superwomen by Vicki Patterson

As Purim approaches, we think of the Jewish heroine, Esther, whose courage saved the Jews of Persia. But there are other Jewish superwomen you may not be aware of.

Most people are familiar with the origin of the super heroes of Marvel and DC comics- a group of Jewish writers and artists who could not get jobs in the 1930's at most newspapers due to anti-Semitic quotas- started their own form of reporting by creating characters to fight crime. Captain America, one of the first, was portrayed as fighting Nazis. He was followed by Superman, Green Lantern, Batman and others. Gotham City was based on the lower east side of New York where many Jews lived at the time. In fact, it is surmised that the name Gotham came from a Jewish jewelry store called Gotham Jewelers. This history has been fictionalized by Michael Chabon in his Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, "The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay" and has been documented by many others.

Included in this pantheon of super-powered characters are a group of Jewish women. One of the first was Katherine (Kate) Pryde, also known as Shadow Cat. She was born in Deerfield, Illinois, and, due to her special ability to move through solid matter and her high intellect, she was sent to the Charles Xavier School for Gifted Youngsters. She is a martial artist along with her other skills. She has said, "I'm Jewish. I don't have a quote unquote Jewish-sounding name. I don't look or sound Jewish whatever that looks or sounds like. So if you didn't know I was Jewish, you might not know unless I told you." Her costume includes a Star of David necklace and she fights against anti-semitism.

Another super woman is the Scarlet Witch or Wanda Maximoff, of the award-winning TV series, WandaVision. She is a native of fictional Sovokia. Her parents met in Auschwitz and carry the trauma of that experience to Wanda and her brother who are Jewish and Romani. She sometimes pairs with another Jewish mutant, Magneto, who also has Holocaust trauma although he is usually an evil character. In the Marvel Universe, mutants are a human subspecies with an X gene that grants them super human abilities and traits.

Then there is Batwoman who has undergone a series of transformations during her tenure at Marvel. She started out in 1956 as a companion to Batman to allay suspicions that he and his sidekick Robin were more than friends. Then Bat Girl was introduced as Robin's friend and in 2006, Batwoman as Kate Kane, emerged as a lesbian Jewish martial artist. She celebrates Hanukah and Shabbat and has a relationship with Gotham City police detective, Renee Montoya. She is the maternal cousin to Bruce Wayne (Batman) as her father is brother to Batman's mother. So is Batman Jewish too? Her creators, Bill Finger and Bob Kane, who are Jewish, have added a few hints to her story by showing a Jewish funeral at Batman's butler's grave. She uses Yiddish expressions from time to time.

Another character is Deborah Konigsberg aka Masada. She was born in Israel and is a giant who gets her powers from the souls of Jews who died at Masada and other places of Jewish sacrifice. She is joined by Sabra, who was also born in Israel, and grew up on a kibbutz. Sabra, aka Ruth Bat Seraph, is able to transfer life energy to others giving them temporary mutant powers. Her costume is based on the colors and designs of the flag of Israel. She is equipped with high end Israeli technology. She works with Mossad and fights to defend Israel.

Article by vicki continues.

Others, like Willow Zimmerman known as Whistle, and Harley Quinn ,who breaks the Joker out of a mental institution, also have Jewish roots. Unfortunately, with the onset of XMen movies and other super hero venues, their Jewish backgrounds, which were prominent in the comic strips, have been pushed aside. But their origins were clearly Jewish and we can count them as heroines along with Esther.

Donations THANK YOU List for December 2021 and January 2022

Louisa Aronow	Margo Frank and Marc Levine
Lucy Bayer	Darline Bergere and Josh Bergere
Lillian Cohn and Thomas Evans	Marilyn Katzel and James Katzel
Judith M. Corwin	Leon Springer and Nancy Marotta Springer
Rachel Elkins and Dana Thibeau 1	Darline Bergere and Josh Bergere
Jay Joseph and Jennifer Joseph	Jean Morawski
Judith Fuente and David Nelson- General/homeless	Andy Coren and Yvonne Coren
Nancy Bertsch	David Vilner
Carol Park and Steve Park	Joel Cohen
Elizabeth Raybee	Matthew Gurvitch In memory of Bruno Piretti, father of Karen Rosen.
Milton & Mildred Rosen Foundation	
Jean Morawski	
Andy Coren and Yvonne Coren	
David Vilner	
Joel Cohen	

Ma'Ariv by Deborah Rosenberg (April 24,2020)

In theater it looks like magic.
We file in with the house lights on.
We chat and flip through programs.
The house goes dark and we hold our breaths,
together. Then,
I love this part...
the lights come up on stage.

One day while reading stage directions,
I realized, stunned,
this moment is intentional.
It is the dawn and twilight place between day and night and day.
The curtain rising is the sun!
It rises on the story that unfolds before us,
Until the story's end when night descends again.

In every performance this repeats, day to night to day.
the story's told again.
And every time there's the breath between,
the metaphorical ma'ariv we anticipate.
From its root, erev to avrit to the word I am searching for.

A guarantee

Yom HaShoah 2022 / 5782 יום השואה Holocaust Memorial Day ☆

Yom HaShoah for Hebrew Year 5782 begins at sundown on **Wednesday, 27 April 2022** and ends at nightfall on **Thursday, 28 April 2022**.

Yom HaZikaron laShoah ve-laG'vurah (יום הזיכרון לשואה ולגבורה; "Holocaust and Heroism Remembrance Day"), known colloquially in Israel and abroad as Yom HaShoah (יום השואה) and in English as Holocaust Remembrance Day, or Holocaust Day, is observed as Israel's day of commemoration for the approximately six million Jews and five million others who perished in the Holocaust as a result of the actions carried out by Nazi Germany and its accessories, and for the Jewish resistance in that period. In Israel, it is a national memorial day and public holiday. It was inaugurated on 1953, anchored by a law signed by the Prime Minister of Israel David Ben-Gurion and the President of Israel Yitzhak Ben-Zvi. It is held on the 27th of Nisan (April/May), unless the 27th would be adjacent to Shabbat, in which case the date is shifted by a day.

HISTORY OF YOM HA SHOAH

Yom HaShoah translates to 'Yom HaShoah Ve-Hagevurah' in Hebrew, meaning 'Day of the Remembrance of the Holocaust and Heroism.' 'HaShoah' also translates to 'whirlwind.' The day was officially recognized on April 12, 1951, in the Israeli parliament. Falling on the 27th of the month of Nisan on the Jewish calendar, the day comes a week after the Passover holiday.

This Remembrance Day began to be commemorated due to the lack of sympathy Israeli youngsters had towards the Holocaust victims who, according to the youngsters, were taken for slaughter like sheep, without any form of resistance. Once authorities came to know about such views, they made it a point of illuminating the heroes who fought against Hitler and his forces. Stories of bravery and determination began being taught in educational institutions.

From 1951 onwards, people have been honoring the occasion by lighting special wax candles that have the star of David in them. Recognized as a national holiday in Israel, Yom HaShoah also sees Jews visiting synagogues for their holy book recitations and to share stories, etc. On the day, at 10 am, sirens also ring through the streets for 2 minutes, and everyone is required to stop for the entirety of the sirens to remember the Holocaust atrocities. Any vehicles running on roads also stop. Every aspect of life on Yom HaShoah is geared towards the recognition of Jewish heroism and resolve during the hard times of the Holocaust from 1933 to 1945.

Anyone interested in a cross-stitch Pesach table cloth ?

Nancy Merling is looking to give away, at no cost, a large rectangular table cloth for Pesach. You will need to finish the embroidery work. The design on the cloth is 1/4 complete. Call Nancy at: 707-456-0639



Kol Ha Emek MCJC-Inland
P.O. Box 416,
Redwood Valley, CA 95470

Our purpose is to create an environment in which Jewish culture, religion and spiritual life can flourish, to perpetuate and renew our Jewish connections with ourselves and our homes, within our community and the world.

- To provide space for religious study and prayer.
- To share life cycle events through meaningful Jewish traditions
- and sponsor Jewish education for all ages
- To be inclusive of all partnerships and family configurations
- To include interfaith families and Jews-by-choice
- To network with other Jewish communities
- To educate and share our culture with other Mendocino County residents
- To be a foundation for *Tikkun olam* (healing the world) as a community through socially just actions and and by Mitzvot)
- To offer to our membership in exchange for financial and other contributions and allow all to participate regardless of the ability to pay

Kol HaEmek Information & Resources

Kol HaEmek

(707) 468-4536

Board Members

Sherrie Ebyam President	530-414-1104 < ebyam@sbcglobal.net >
Sara Esserman-Melville Vice President	391-9244 < sesserville@gmail.com >
David Koppel Treasurer	485-8910 < davekoppel@yahoo.com >
Carol Rosenberg Secretary	463-8526 < carolrosenberg@pacific.net >
Nancy Merling	456-0639 < nancymerling@att.net >
Barbara Stanger	234-3261 < aurnaenterprises@gmail.com >
Victoria Patterson	467-1932 < patterson.victoria2@gmail.com >

Brit Mila: Doctors willing to do circumcisions in their office or your home; Robert Gitlin D.O. (465-7406),

Chevra Kadisha (Jewish Burial)) Helen Sizemore (367-0250)

Community support: Willits, Divora Stern (459-9052), Ukiah, Margo Frank (463-1834)

Interfaith Council: Cassie Gibson (468-5351)

Rabbinical Services/Special Ceremonies are available; send your e-mail request to Sherrie Ebyam