

November 2016



506 Walsh Street  
P.O. Box 1426  
Grass Valley, CA 95945  
(530) 477-0922  
ncjcc@sbcglobal.net  
www.ncjcc.org

# Congregation B'nai Harim

at the

## Nevada County Jewish Community Center

Dedicated to the preservation, continuity and enrichment of the  
spiritual, communal, ethical and cultural teachings of Judaism

### RABBI'S MESSAGE

There's an old joke about Adam and Cain walking past the charred remains of what had been the Garden of Eden, and Cain asks, "What happened there?" Adam replies: "Your mother ate us out of house and home."

The story of Eden has played a role for millennia in supporting a view of women that has led to the stark contrasts at play in this election. This article is only meant to illuminate the dynamics and does not represent an endorsement for either candidate, but it is worth noting that the first female candidate for president runs against a man who gets mad if dinner isn't waiting when he gets home from work.

"Guarding the Garden" is a musical I conceived and produced in the early 90's, created through improvisation and written by David Schechter, an award winning playwright who has since written screenplays based on Theo van Gogh's movies, starring the likes of Steve Buscemi, Bob Balaban and Stanley Tucci. It is based on a discrepancy noticed over 2,000 years ago, that the first chapter of Genesis says male and female were created together, while the better known tale of Eve being created from Adam's rib comes in Chapter Two.

The legend of Lilith emerges from interpreters who were bold enough to say that she and Adam were together before Adam and Eve.

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Shalom Congregation B'nai at the Nevada County Jewish Community Center.

This will be my transitional President's message as I pass the gavel on to Eva Lamm-Ruben and support her as Past President. I am excited to report that the land purchase has been completed, and the opportunities for what we can do on our property are open for discussion and moving ahead. We will now be looking for interested people to join a committee to give input and help plan for the development and uses for the property.

We had amazing High Holiday services, and I really appreciated Rabbi David's perspective on how we can frame the repentance and planning for a better, happier year this year. We held the "break the fast" potluck in our new rear yard area, and it was a wonderful way to explore the opportunities for this space. I share prayers and good thoughts for Patty Smith, our Ritual Chair, as her husband Jim recovers from lung surgery, and please support her as she continues to provide the lay services and ritual needs with Rabbi David filling roles in services and supporting people that need a minyan for Shabbat service observations. And our first Adult Education program is on November 6<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. Hannah Lilly from AIPAC will be discussing "The Changing Middle East and U.S. Political Landscape: Challenges to the U.S. Israel Relationship."

(continued on page 2)

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P.O. Box 1426  
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Phone: (530) 477-0922  
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Email: [ncjctr@gmail.com](mailto:ncjctr@gmail.com)

**Office Hours:**

Monday 10-2, Wednesday 10-1 and Friday 9-12  
Office Administrator/Newsletter Editor:  
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**Rabbi**

David Azen

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Mike Atlas—Bookkeeper

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Judy Goldman

**Men's Club Representative**

Jay Sondheim

**Adult Education**

Arlene Waxman

**Cemetery**

Ed Strongin

**Religious School Principal**

Kinneret Vinitzky

**Youth Group**

Stan Karp

**Webmaster**

Vacant

President's Message (continued from page 1)

I want to thank you for your support over the past year as solo President, previous years as Co-president, and encourage you to support our congregation and help Eva continue the great work of the Board. We have a lot of opportunities to continue to improve as a JCC, and offer more opportunities for participation. I am excited about the energy and leadership Rabbi David has brought to our community, and hope you all make an opportunity to interact, share a meal, and converse with him. He brings an interesting, thoughtful perspective on practicing Judaism. Our intent at the NCJCC is "inclusivity," "hospitality," "acceptance," and "welcoming." Lastly, if you had challenges reading the Hebrew in the High Holidays prayer books, we do offer an Adult Hebrew Class, available to help learn this skill.

And now with great enthusiasm and support, I turn the message over to your next President, Eva Lamm-Ruben.

First thing I would like to do as President is to thank Gordon for all the time and hard work he has done up to now in making the Center become what it is today. He will be a hard act to follow and I feel very lucky that he will be there to help us move forward. I am also very lucky that many people have already approached me and assured me that they would give their support whenever and wherever needed.

I look forward to serving as your President and working with the wonderful Board of Directors, Rabbi David, and all the members of the Nevada County Jewish Community Center. I and my late husband, Dana, have been members of the Center since we moved from Fremont almost 24 years ago. We came knowing no one in this county – now I have many friends and most are members of the Center.

As we learned on the High Holidays, let's make the NCJCC the Happiest Place on Earth!

Shalom, Gordon Mann, Past-President, and Eva Lamm-Ruben, President.

Rabbi's Message (continued from page 1)

Then Adam made a power play for control, Lilith stood up to him saying they were made from the same stuff at the same time and he had no right to rule over her. After he threatens her, she runs away. Eve comes along and just to make sure no one misses the point of her supposedly leading him into temptation, her punishment concludes: "Your desire shall be for your husband, yet he will rule over you."

If you weren't convinced before of the need to bring critical thinking to life, this is a perfect case. As it turns out, the serpent, with its regular shedding, was apparently a power symbol for women in an ancient Near East that was matriarchal with females as the equivalent of presidents. Aryans from the north who had chariots and composite bows invaded, took over and installed a male dominated society complete with a story about how women and serpents couldn't be trusted.

Now, I know women who believe their place is in the home, and men who are happy to be stay-at-home dads, and that's all fine, because it is their choice. When we talk about implicit bias regarding race, however, we also need to acknowledge the implicit bias about women's place in the world that the Eden myth, if read literally, leads to. So whoever we support for our President this month, may we uproot the remaining effects of the longstanding, deep-rooted impact of that story and learn as progressive Jews how to re-read the Torah and life on multiple levels.

L'shalom, Rabbi David



DELI NITE OCTOBER 14, 2017 – SAVE THE DATE

## Donations

### General Fund

*Rochelle Zak-In Honor of Jerry Pressler*

### Religious School

*Judi Kenedi-In Honor of Susan Kenedi's Birthday*

## Men's Club

The next Men's Club meeting will be Sunday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m., and our guest speaker will be Gordon Mann, Consulting Arborist, talking about how we can prepare our properties for winter storms, and positive things we can do to retain valuable trees on our properties. We hope you can join us for an interesting discussion about the trees where we live.

The Men's Club hosts monthly meetings with interesting speakers, and hosts activities such as our recent successful wine tasting and tequila tasting; or golf, or an interesting historical discussion by Ken Holbrooke about the history of Grass Valley from the gold rush and before the freeway, or a poker night to prepare for the annual poker tournament fund raiser. We co-host the Fifth Friday Film Shabbats.

The Men's Club is open to all, regardless of gender. We appreciate your interest and support in our activities. Our annual dues are only \$20. When we meet on Sunday mornings, we serve lox and bagels, coffee, and orange juice for only \$5.00 (such a good deal your mother would be proud).

Contact Gordon Mann at [sharkmann@suddenlink.net](mailto:sharkmann@suddenlink.net) or David Silber at [David.Silber@live.com](mailto:David.Silber@live.com) for more information, to suggest an interesting speaker, or to schedule an event.

**Fund Contribution Form**

We welcome and appreciate your donation to the following funds:

- General \_\_\_\_\_ Rabbi's
- Compensation \_\_\_\_\_
- Adult Education \_\_\_\_\_ Library \_\_\_\_\_
- Tzedakah \_\_\_\_\_ Cemetery \_\_\_\_\_
- Lydia Wolff Memorial \_\_\_\_\_
- Building Expense \_\_\_\_\_
- Youth Group \_\_\_\_\_
- Rabbi's Discretionary \_\_\_\_\_
- Ruth Adicoff
- Memorial \_\_\_\_\_
- Religious School \_\_\_\_\_

To contribute, check the appropriate fund, complete the form, send to NCJCC, P. O. Box 1426, Grass Valley, CA 95945

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to the NCJCC



**Religious School News**

The month of October at the Hebrew and Religious School has been very productive. The students got to learn more rituals and different customs associated with the Jewish High Holidays. We celebrated Rosh Hashanah by engaging in Challah baking. We discussed the Yom Kippur holiday and the different meanings it brings to each one of us. Later in the month we got to watch an authentic movie about a young adult growing up in a Kibbutz in Israel. The short documentary exposed the students to a life style that is slowly disappearing in modern Israel. It was especially potent because it is reflective of my life growing up in a Kibbutz. We even had enough time to build and decorate a beautiful sukkah for the holiday.

Wishing you all a pleasant month and enjoy the beautiful colors of Fall!

Yours, Kinneret Vinitzky

## **SISTERHOOD**

Sisterhood meetings are held on the 1st Thursday of each month.

There is a social time at 12:30 p.m. with the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

The informative and fun monthly presentations begin at 2:00p.m. for about one hour. The group meets at NCJCC in Grass Valley. We welcome all women.

### **Next meeting**

**November 3**

**Guest speaker is Virginia Herron,  
one of our members who will present  
Her Peace Corp. Experience in Tanzania**

**GAME DAY Mit Lunch is November 10<sup>th</sup>, noon to 4:00 p.m.**

**Congregation B'nai Harim, 506 Walsh St., Grass Valley**

**(Besides mah jongg, poker, bridge, canasta and table games there is a "shmooz table")**

**Check out our Gift Shop and Book Group**

**The Gift Shop is open before and after Friday night services, after Sunday School and by calling Arline Mehr at 530-212- 8009 for special access. There are some special items for sale.**

**The Sisterhood's November 14<sup>th</sup> Book Club meeting will be held at the home of Arline Mehr at 1:30 p.m. The book we will be discussing is "Leaving Berlin" by Joseph Kanon. Please RSVP direct to Arline at [camehr@yahoo.com](mailto:camehr@yahoo.com). *Arline will have to notify the gate with a list of who is coming.***



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**BIRTHDAYS**

Susan Halperin	5
Elianna Williams	5
Kaya Russell	9
Charles Salomon	9
Alan Greenbaum	13
Holly Leeds	17
Jordan Mann	23
Elise Rosky	24
David Rosky	26
Beth Marchio	29
Grace Trotter	29



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**ANNIVERSARIES**

Steven & Lisa Kirshbaum	9
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Yahrzeits

Name

Remembered By

Friday, November 4

Irving Weiner

Merril Kagan-Weston

Friday, November 11

Polly Murov Lerer

Richard Allan Newman

Judy Goldman

Sam & Connie Newman

Friday, November 18

Abraham Bass

Richard & Cheryl Klein

Friday, November 25

Lionel Bloom

Eleanor Cissell

Harry Waxman

Laszlo Fried

Charlotte Lichterman

Esther Weinstein

Stan Karp

Stan Karp

Jerry Waxman

Judith Kenedi

Holly Leeds & Joshua Lichterman

Stan Karp



**Mishebeirach**


Harper Faith Browning  
Iola Gold  
Meghan Rose Havery  
Lawrence Katz  
Ruth Kroot  
Judith Kenedi  
Nancy Maxwell  
Dan Geffner  
Pat Bennett-Schwartz  
Eva Florsheim  
Lara Ruben

Andrea Frankel  
Joni Gold  
Charles Morgan Havery  
Elijah King  
Bob Levine  
Jim Anderson  
Charlotte Moore  
Deborah Ruppert  
Nadine Brown  
Marilyn Salomon

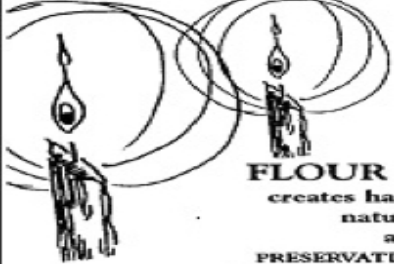
Beth Marchio  
David Grossman  
Sally Hines  
Richard Klein  
Marilyn Salomon  
Keith Ott  
Melissa Nixon-Lingk  
Jeff Lulla  
John Smoak  
Eveline Lamm







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General Manager  
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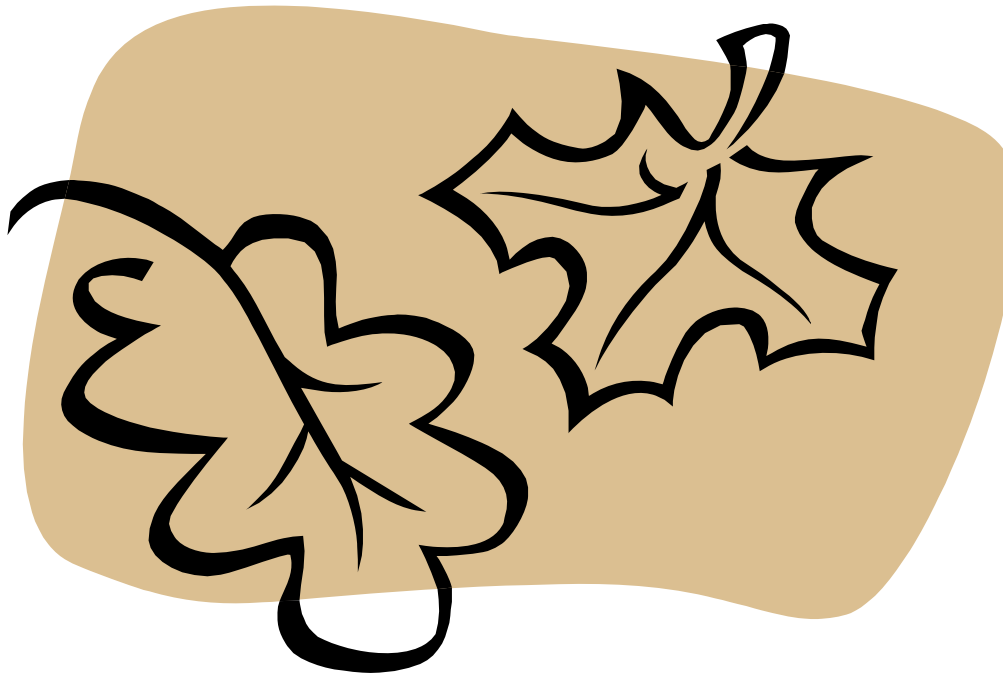
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