

# The Family Chavurah

Volume 4, Issue 3



Closer to each other...  
Closer to G-d

## Upcoming Services

December 30th

January 13th

January 20th

February 3rd

February 17th

March 9th

at 7:30 PM,

followed by dessert.

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[www.familychavurah.com](http://www.familychavurah.com)

## MY DOG AND CHANUKAH WALKS

Of course the title of this article is intended to catch your attention. But you can relax: I am not planning a “Bark Mitzvah” for our little cockapoo! However, a walk around the neighborhood with Bubbles made me stop to think. We were walking fast, and when we came to a house with lights galore nicely arranged, shinning in the mystery of the night, the dog stopped.

There are many Christian homes with elaborate lights in our neighborhood. The Jewish homes look like little “M&Ms” sprinkled in between the others. Yes, some of the Chanukiot were even placed outside, as the Talmud recommends. This way, every passerby is exposed to the miracle of Chanukah.

After several minutes, Bubbles gave clear indication that she had had enough. So we resumed our walk. Close to the end of our little tour, we walked by a beautiful home. Behind the glass of one of its windows stood a majestic Christmas tree, decorated and lit.

I looked again at my dog who was already looking at me with her face that indicated: “And now what? Let’s go home. I am tired!” So I resumed my musings while “obeying” the wishes of the four-legged boss.

For me, it was clear that both religious traditions were aiming to bring light to the many dark spots in our world. Each one has its ways, and each one is unique. However in December we join efforts. A little bit of light can dispel a lot of darkness. May we be granted the will to persist with our mission of being a “light unto the nations” throughout 2012!

Rabbi Lilienthal

## THE CHAVURAH BRINGS LIGHT!

As one of the nicest dates in the calendar arrived, many Chavurah families came together to mark the first night of Chanukah. We lit our Chanukiot together, sang the blessings and some of the well known tunes, and of course ate latkes, kugel, sufganiyot, and salads to counterbalance!

Marvin and Melanie Kaleky spoke about their wonderful, inspiring time in Israel volunteering on an army base. Their stories are priceless, and we are thankful to them for having shared them with us.

Several of our members contributed so that we could have this dinner accessible to each and every one: some brought food, some brought drinks, some brought flowers, and others made donations to help defray the cost. An enormous thank you to each one of you. Thank you Debbie, Nina, Max, Rachelle, and Megan for your hard work! And thank you to all who helped clean up. The night was a success because of everyone's combined efforts. See pictures of our Chanukah Dinner on page 4.

## ROSH CHODESH

On Rosh Chodesh Tevet, the Rosh Chodesh group got together to learn about Chanukah. From the strength of the Maccabees, to Judith's decision to act, we discussed the various aspects of the holiday and the messages it brings to our daily lives.



Rosh Chodesh Shvat is on January 24th, and Sandra will be out of town. Instead of a Rosh Chodesh meeting, we will have a pre-Tu-B'Shvat Seder on Sunday, January 29th. If all you know about Tu B'Shvat is that we plant trees, you must join us for a wonderful night! You will be amazed at how much meaning there can be in such a minor holiday!

## IMPORTANT CHANGE OF DATES

Please mark down the following dates for our next Shabbat Services followed by dessert:

December 30th

February 3rd

January 13th

February 17th

January 20th

March 9th

We apologize for making these changes, but they are due to scheduling conflicts.

## REMEMBER OUR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT CARDS!

The Family Chavurah can now deliver your feelings and wishes to your friends.

Acknowledgement cards can be sent in memory of someone who has recently passed away or someone whose yahrtzeit is being commemorated, or in honor of a birthday, birth, graduation, recovery from illness, or any other celebration you wish to acknowledge. \$5 or more supports the Family Chavurah's work and shows your friends you care! You just give us the information and we will prepare and mail the cards out.



For more information, or to buy Acknowledgement Cards, please contact Sheila Holtzman at (954) 344-9680 or Greniblond@aol.com, or Sandra Lilienthal at Sandra@familychavurah.com

## BIRTHDAYS AND YAHRTZEITS



Happy Birthday to our  
January Birthdays

January 12th— Laura Myers

January 25th—Walter Hoffmann

December 28th - Deborah Knox

May you live to be 120!



1st of Tevet - Pinchus ben Menachem  
(Paul Pomeranz)

10th of Tevet - June Marcia Benson

14th of Tevet - Dorothy Vitoulis

May their memory be a blessing.

# Good food... even better company!

