



FELLOWSHIP NEWS

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Fall 2014



John C. Randolph

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

LOOKING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK

As I look forward to this upcoming season of Fellowship, I can't help looking back. I look back on when the Fellowship was conceived by a handful of people in our dear departed friend Herb Lee's living room. From that day forward, the Fellowship has been working diligently toward achieving its mission; to promote fellowship, understanding and respect among all religions and cultures within the Palm Beach community.

And, as the Fellowship partners with the Historical Society of Palm Beach County and the Jewish Federation in the exhibit, *The Courage to Remember: The Holocaust 1933 – 1945*, I can't help looking back at that period in history of unspeakable cruelty. I was sharply reminded of that cruelty in my visit this year to Yad Vashem, Israel's Holocaust Museum, and the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. Each of these visits into the past was an eye opener to me, bringing to light something with which I was familiar, but which stirred my emotions to a heightened level not previously experienced by me.

In Yad Vashem I saw exhibited hundreds of suitcases used by victims, forced to leave their homes and their families, to take with them what little they had left of their belongings. And I saw mounds and mounds of shoes; shoes of babies, of children, and of men and women, shoes stripped from these innocent people as they were led to their death. And, in the high domed ceiling, I saw hundreds of photographs of men, women and children taken in happier days, smiling down at me as if to say, "Remember Us."

And, as I left the museum, I saw a sign which said "We Are Our Brother's Keeper." Finally, in the Anne Frank House, I saw the hiding place of a beautiful young lady who, despite the cruelty which was taking place around her, had the courage and optimism to say:

"It's really a wonder that I haven't dropped all my ideals, because they seem so absurd and impossible to carry out. Yet, I keep them, because in spite of everything, I still believe that people are really good at heart."

In looking forward, it is indeed important to look back. Some would have us forget. Some would even have us deny that this cruelty ever took place. But, we know it did. And, unfortunately, we are observing how it can happen again as we see children and adults who, when they fail to denounce their faith, suffer a cruel death at the hands of those who wish to annihilate those who do not believe as they do.

The past can repeat itself, as improbable as that may seem. It is, therefore, important that we resolve to remain vigilant. It is important that we stand together in Fellowship, to educate one another, to continue our dialogue, to work toward understanding and respect and to combat bigotry of all manner and kind.

This season of Fellowship is important. We look forward to our many scheduled programs and dialogues. May we look forward with optimism, as did the founders of the Fellowship. May we also look back, having the courage to remember, so that working together going forward we may avoid the tragedies and mistakes of the past.

Please join us in our efforts. We need and thank you for your support.

"IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE STAND TOGETHER IN FELLOWSHIP, TO EDUCATE ONE ANOTHER, TO CONTINUE OUR DIALOGUE, TO WORK TOWARD UNDERSTANDING AND RESPECT, AND TO COMBAT BIGOTRY OF ALL MANNER AND KIND."

JOHN C. RANDOLPH
CHAIRMAN

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Join the Fellowship! Visit www.palmbeachfellowship.net or call 561.833.6150 to sign up!



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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Sherri Gilbert

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

WELCOME TO OUR NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND VICE CHAIR, MARGARET ZEIDMAN

The Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews is pleased to introduce several new Board members for the 2014-2015 season. They are Lew Crampton, Jeffrey Fisher, Vivienne Ivry, Patricia Lebow, David Mack, Jack McDonald, Lee Prescott, and Alan Shulman. Margaret Zeidman was also elected as the new Vice Chair.



At left (left to right):
Crampton, Fisher,
Ivry, and Lebow

Below (left to right):
Mack, McDonald,
Prescott, Shulman,
and Zeidman

HOLOCAUST EXHIBIT FELLOWSHIP RECEPTION

As a co-sponsor of the exhibit (see more info at right), the Fellowship is hosting a private reception for members and friends on Tuesday evening, November 18 (5:30 - 7:30 pm), with guest Yvonne Campbell, a Holocaust survivor. RSVP: 561.833.6150.

OUR NEW SEASON OF FELLOWSHIP KICKS OFF WITH WELCOME BACK RECEPTION

More than 100 Fellowship members and guests enjoyed the beauty of The Society of The Four Arts Gardens on November 5 as they mingled with old friends and new. Chair Skip Randolph gave an overview of the new season, and introduced several teachers sent by the Fellowship to the "Facing History and Ourselves" program in Boston in recent years.

More photos will be available soon on our web site and Facebook page.



Renee Becker, Leslie Randolph, Roger Duncan, and Board Member Will Bourbeau

Photo by Davidoff Studios Photography

MEET OUR NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

You may have noticed a new face in our new office in The Paramount Building — Sherri Gilbert. Last April, the Board of Directors recognized that our administrative needs had outgrown our management structure and a committee was appointed to conduct a search for an Executive Director. Sherri, who assumed the role in August, has had many years experience in similar roles for several nonprofit organizations.

She is well known throughout our local community as a "can do" person, a great organizer, a person who thinks out of the box, and who works both effectively and cooperatively. Sherri comes to us with a wealth of experience in marketing, public relations, special events, cultural arts, education, membership services, graphic design, writing, administration, and development.

Please welcome Sherri Gilbert, who is hard at work adding a fresh perspective and reaching out within the community to raise awareness of our mission, who we are, and what we do.



"Fellowship Friday" exemplifies our mission in action, as we work together — Christians and Jews alike — to make our community a little bit better. Choose from among five volunteer projects and join us on November 28, 2014, the day after Thanksgiving, to share our blessings. We also invite you to bring non-perishable food and sundry items, and new, unwrapped toys to be donated to local agencies. Call us at 561.833.6150 for more information or to register.

Fellowship Friday

November 28, 2014

8:30 - 9:30 am

Breakfast and Kick-Off

Royal Poinciana Chapel, 60 Coconut Row, Palm Beach

9:30 am - 12:30 pm

Volunteer Activities

The **Bloodmobile** will also be available 8:30 - 11:30 am in the Chapel parking lot. Make your appointment in advance at www.oneblood.org.

FELLOWSHIP CO-SPONSORS HOLOCAUST EXHIBIT



The Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews is a proud partner with the Palm Beach Historical Society and the Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County as a co-sponsor of the Wiesenthal Center's "The Courage to Remember: The Holocaust 1933-1945" exhibit on display at the Richard and Pat Johnson Palm Beach County History Museum (300 N. Dixie Highway in downtown West Palm Beach) through December 8, 2014.

"ENEMIES, A LOVE STORY" FELLOWSHIP OUTING

We're teaming up with the Palm Beach Opera to offer our members the opportunity to hear the world premiere of this new opera based on the novel by Nobel Prize winning Yiddish author, Isaac Bashevis Singer. Set in New York City in 1948, Holocaust survivor Herman Broder finds himself in quite the predicament juggling his second wife, mistress, and first wife who was presumed dead. Sung in English, the story examines the immigrant experience with a mix of determination, irony, and humor. Enjoy our special group rate at the 2:00 pm matinee on Sunday, February 22, 2015. Call us at 561.833.6150 for more information and to purchase tickets.



2015 ESSAY CONTEST EXPLORES MORALITY

Our annual Essay Contest asks the question, "What does it mean to be a moral person?" Palm Beach County public and private school students in grades 6-12 are invited to submit essays on the topic (500 words maximum). The authors of the top three essays selected in the middle school and high school divisions will receive cash prizes and a Tourneau watch. The sponsoring teacher of a winning student will receive a \$50 gift card from Staples (maximum one award per teacher). The submission deadline is December 15, 2014, at the Fellowship office (139 N. County Road, Suite 28, Palm Beach) or mail to PO Box 507, Palm Beach, Florida 33480. Call 561.833.5160 for guidelines and entry form.

"FEEDING CHILDREN EVERYWHERE" PROJECT

We invite our members to participate in this partnership effort spearheaded by the Episcopal Church of Bethesda by-the-Sea scheduled for Sunday, February 8, 2015 (1:00 - 5:00 pm) at the Palm Beach Day Academy Halmos Gymnasium. Call project co-chair, Frances Fisher, at 561.373.3462 for more information.

IN MEMORIAM

The Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians and Jews honors the memory of **Zachary Morfogen**, beloved director and longtime friend, who died May 27, 2014.



After moving to Palm Beach in 1998 with his late wife Marilyn, Zach became involved with the Fellowship and developed a

passionate commitment to its mission. His latest project was an exhibit of religious art on loan from Palm Beach churches and synagogues.

A painter and a playwright, Zach's last book, *Dealing With Death; Free from Fear*, was published in April.

Prior to retirement, Zach was promotion director of LIFE magazine, director of Time Inc.'s Corporate Cultural Affairs Department, and European manager of Time/Life books.

He was a member of St. Edward Catholic Church, The Society of the Four Arts, the Palm Beach Centennial Commission, and was involved with the Norton Museum of Art.

He was founding director of the National Hospice Foundation and a member of the board of directors of the Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt Institute.

He is survived by his son Paul Morfogen and daughter Ann Morfogen Weaver (and their spouses, Megan Morfogen and George Weaver III), a sister, seven grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

Zach Morfogen's leadership, generosity, and dedication to the ideals of fellowship will continue to be a source of inspiration and direction to us all.



PALM BEACH FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIANS & JEWS

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OUR MISSION

The Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews is dedicated to promoting fellowship, understanding, and respect among all religions and cultures; bringing the community together through education, dialogue, and interaction; and addressing the issues rooted in intolerance, anti-Semitism, and unjust discrimination.

SAVE THE DATE!



ANNUAL DINNER

Tuesday, February 24, 2015 | 6:00 pm | The Beach Club

Dr. Katrina Lantos Swett, chair of the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom, will speak on "Religious Freedom in a Perilous World." Dr. Swett is the daughter of the late Congressman Tom Lantos, the only Holocaust survivor to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives, and is the President of the Lantos Foundation for Human Rights & Justice.

ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Wednesday, January 28, 2015 | 12:00 noon | The Kravis Center

By popular demand, Rabbi Marc "God Squad" Gellman will return to Palm Beach to speak at the Fellowship's Annual Luncheon.



INTERFAITH DIALOGUES

with Tom O'Brien and Rabbi Howard Shapiro

Tuesday, January 27, 2015 | 5:00-6:30 pm

Monday, March 2, 2015 | 5:00-6:30 pm

Monday, March 30, 2015 | 5:00-6:30 pm

*All sessions will be held at Temple Emanu-El,
190 North County Road, Palm Beach, Florida*

STAY CONNECTED!

Contact us for more information about our events and programs.

Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews

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