

March 18, 2020

"A Conversation

The Breakers Palm Beach

with James Patterson moderated by Michael Ainslie

plus presentation of the

2020 John C. Randolph Award!

6:00 pm

featuring

# Fellowship NEWS

## Join us for another great season!



Annual Dinner co-Chairs: Debora Weinstein and Vivienne Ivry









## Chairman's Message

**Annual Fellowship Dinner** 

John C. Randolph

Welcome to the Fellowship's 27<sup>th</sup> year of working within this community to bring people of different faiths and beliefs together in order that we may form a better understanding and respect for one another, and that we might make some headway toward eliminating prejudice and bigotry within our community and elsewhere. We are not so naïve to believe that we can eliminate prejudices which have existed for hundreds, if not thousands, of years, but we can attempt to do so; we can attempt to change hearts and minds through education and dialogue and by getting together in fellowship as we do throughout the year.

Friends, it is important, perhaps now more than ever, that we stand together, that we support one another against those who would attack us for nothing more than our faith and what we believe, as evidenced by the horrific hate crimes and killings being perpetrated within this country and around the globe. I am sure you are aware that anti-Semitism has increased dramatically in recent years, even on college campuses where one would think intelligent students would stand together in solidarity against such hateful activities. So let us make it our mission to speak out and stand by our brothers and sisters who are victims of prejudice and bigotry.

We have a busy year in store for all of our members again this year. *Fellowship Friday* was a great success, giving us an opportunity to come together to volunteer time to various worthwhile projects within the community. *Sunday Conversations* will continue, with popular speakers René Silvin, Harvey Oyer, and a program exploring views of the afterlife in the ancient and modern world with Msgr. Thomas Klinzing, Rabbi Moshe Scheiner, and Pandit Satyanand Sharma. Our *Pathways*, *Perspectives...and Pizza* series, featuring moderators Rabbi Howard Shapiro and Tom O'Brien, will again address intriguing topics (see details in this newsletter).

We are excited to announce our speaker for our *Annual Fellowship Dinner* will be James Patterson, who will have some stories to tell about his experiences and thoughts regarding prejudice, bigotry, and anti-Semitism in today's world.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our members and their guests for your continued support, both financially and by your attendance at our various functions. We could not do it without you. Best wishes for a happy and blessed 2020.

Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews

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Palm Beach County educators who attended "The Holocaust and Human Behavior" seminar in Memphis, Tennessee, last July: Bob Bayless, Nathan Ginnetty, Mary Cooney, Bridget Langford, Martyna Klepacka, Leslie Wilson, Kyle Schlett, and Amanda Ladd.

## Palm Beach County Educators Receive Scholarships from the Fellowship for Holocaust Education Training

The eight Palm Beach County teachers above, representing seven public and private schools, attended the Facing History and Ourselves (FHAO) "Holocaust and Human Behavior" seminar in Memphis, Tennessee this past July on full scholarships provided by the Fellowship. Two alums of the program, Chrissie Ferguson and Chuck Hagy, attended the new "Beyond Borders" seminar in Boston in July to build upon the training they had previously received.

"The purpose is to teach the teachers how to educate middle and high school students about Anti-Semitism, the Holocaust, genocide, racism, and bullying. In a word – hate; hatred of others," Fellowship Vice-Chair Maggie Zeidman told the crowd at the Welcome Back Reception in November. "We put our money, and yours, where it counts; where it will make a difference in how our children regard other people."

In an effort to maintain the connection with local teachers who have participated in FHAO seminars, the Fellowship held an inaugural Implementation Workshop in late October to offer ongoing support and inspiration as the teachers use the curriculum in their classrooms. The half-day program, coordinated by Education Committee co-Chair Chuck Hagy with assistance from Chrissie Ferguson and Anne Franzen, was held at The Chesterfield in Palm Beach. Based upon its success, future workshops will be scheduled, and a listserv was created to allow the teachers to continue to share their experiences with each other throughout the year.

Holocaust education was mandated 25 years ago by the Florida legislature but is unfunded. To help provide this vital training, the Fellowship has been sending 5-10 educators to Facing History summer seminars annually, but with a goal of expanding that reach, plans are in the works to host the Holocaust education seminar here locally next July to train up to 40 teachers at once.

For more information or to help support the program, contact the Fellowship office at (561) 833-6150 or write info@palmbeachfellowship.net.



Local Facing History alums who attended the Implementation Seminar in late October included Anne Franzen (The Benjamin School), Maureen Carter (Palm Beach County School District Holocaust Education coordinator), Amanda Ladd (Eagles Landing Middle School), Rachael Kelly (Loggers Run Middle School), Brad Weinberg (Carver Middle School), Kyle Schlett (Palm Beach Day Academy), Barbara Ptac (Gulf Stream School), Bridget Langford (Gulf Stream School), Sanford Lopater (John I. Leonard High School), Mary Cooney (St. Ann's Catholic School), Melanie Lee Park Vista High School), Chrissie Ferguson (The Benjamin School), Nathan Ginnetty (The Benjamin School), Tawny Anderson (Wellington High School), Bob Bayless (The Benjamin School), Steve Gordon (Western Pines Middle School), and Chuck Hagy (The Benjamin School).



# Welcome Back Reception

November 5, 2019 The Society of The Four Arts

Photos: Capehart

A quick shower at the start of the evening didn't dampen the spirits of more than 120 members and guests at the annual Welcome Back Reception in the beautiful gardens of The Society of the Four Arts Gardens in Palm Beach. Guests enjoyed catching up with each other after the summer break and meeting new friends while nibbling on delicious hors d'oeuvre.

Chairman John C. Randolph welcomed everyone to the kick-off of the 27<sup>th</sup> season with the announcement that best-selling author James Patterson would be the speaker at the Annual Dinner on March 18. He highlighted other upcoming programs and activities and stressed the importance of the work that the Fellowship does in these troubled times around the world.

Vice-Chair Maggie Zeidman spoke about the Facing History and Ourselves (FHAO) summer seminars that the fellowship has been sending local educators to for more than 20 years, providing more than 100 full scholarships to date. Zeidman introduced Chrissie Ferguson, a teacher at The Benjamin School who has attended three different FHAO seminars. Ferguson shared how the seminars improve her teaching and help make her students feel a part of history and the lessons to be learned from it. (See more information about FHAO on page 2 of this newsletter.)

Special thanks to The Society of the Four Arts and to Lauren Fifarek and staff for helping to make the event a success.



























#### **РНОТО КЕҮ**

1 John Rothberg, Tami Lesser; 2 Cathy Holt, Mina Hyman; 3 Arlette Gordon, Suzanne Turner; 4 Fruema Klorfein, Larry & Roberta Mambrino, Bobbi Horwich; 5 Beverly Taylor, Susan Goodnick, Susan Cox, Anne Nadler; 6 Carole Gigliotti, René Silvin; 7 Brooks & Sally Ricca; 8 John Randolph; 9 Robert Holt; 10 Ann & Michael Small; 11 Warren Belmar; 12 Debora Weinstein, Kirk Blouin, Maggie Zeidman; 13 Alesia Hoy; 14 Danielle Moore; 15 Deanna Stepanian, Eileen Engel



## **Record Number of Participants Give Back to the Community** on the Morning after Thanksgiving in 9th Annual Event

More than 125 Fellowship members and friends came together the morning after Thanksgiving to volunteer for Fellowship Friday. Each received a t-shirt and refillable water bottle as they were greeted by Rabbi Michael Resnick, spiritual leader of Temple Emanu-El Palm Beach and founder of the event nine years ago. After a light breakfast hosted by Temple Emanu-El, participants headed out to their choice of five volunteer venues to tackle the varied projects.

Fellowship Friday Chair Eric Christu thanked the volunteers for coming and acknowledged the four Junior Committee members: Aiden Conde, Parker Pressly, Caroline Christu, and Olivia Buhler-Lieberman, before thanking Temple Emanu-El and introducing

"It is a profound thing that we're doing in a world that is becoming more and more polarized," Rabbi Resnick told the group, "This is a remarkable collection of people who are Christians and Jews, of different denominations...people of different political affiliations. We come together for a common purpose and we come together in fellowship in spite of the many differences in our lives. We're reminded what it is that unifies us - human beings who care about others."

Fellowship Chair John C. Randolph said the fellowship is celebrating its 27th year, adding, "We count this fellowship as one of our blessings. I'm very thankful for everything all of you have done for the fellowship.'

Volunteer sites included Big Dog Ranch Rescue, Adopt-A-Family Program Reach, the Levine Jewish Residential & Family Service, a beach cleanup along South Ocean Boulevard, and, new this season, The Lord's Place's Halle Place campus, where volunteers worked on gardening projects at this supportive housing facility for women.

The Lord's Place is so grateful that members of the Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews helped make Halle Place more beautiful by planting dozens of flowering plants at the front of the campus and in the back butterfly garden, and adding colorful flower pots at all the doorways," said David Rogers, The Lord's Place Volunteer Coordinator. The facility hosts a dozen residents.

For the fourth year, artist Sandra Thompson coordinated an art project with Fellowship Friday volunteers at the Levine location, a loving home for developmentally challenged adults.

Volunteers painted an apartment and worked in the food pantry at Program Reach, a shelter for homeless families with children in West Palm Beach, while others worked with the dogs at Big Dog Ranch Rescue in Loxahatchee. The beach cleanup, coordinated by Diane Buhler and the Friends of Palm Beach, netted more than 80 pounds of trash collected by 32 volunteers.

Toys that were collected before and during the event were donated to the Town of Palm Beach Toy Drive and nonperishable food items were donated to Adopt-a-Family.

























**Photos:** Davidoff Studios

















Fellowship Friday



#### **РНОТО КЕУ**

1 Abbe Groffman, Caroline Groffman; 2 Eric Christu, Maggie Zeidman, Jim Murphy; 3 Lisa Small, Kristy Pressly; 4 Chuck Hagy, Hudson Hale, Debora Hale; 5 Abby Alcock, Ellen Salth, Katie Alcock, Sharon Alcock; 6 Flossie Miller, Anna Miller, Bud Miller; 7 Sonia Alexandra, Linda Jones; 8 Julian Angle, Grier Pressly, Vivienne Angle, Sophia Angle, Parker Pressly; **9** Bradley Groffman; **10** Parker Pressly, Aiden Conde, Olivia Buhler-Lieberman, Caroline Christu; **11** Leslie & Skip Randolph; **12** Jordan Haft, Emily Matusik, Emma Troast; **13** llene Goldstein, Jay Berman; **14** Jake Smallcomb, Max Friedman, Sam Friedman, Rob Friedman, Ruth Friedman, Sarah Warner, Rose Friedman; **15** young volunteers planting flowers at Halle Place; **16** Rabbi Michael Resnick; **17** Kristen Lambert and kids; 18 Joan Thompson, Jennifer Nagel, Stacey Lampert; 19 Logan Kanai, Cynthia Kanai, Nancy Yanofsky, Ed Brown

### Special thanks to

Royal Poinciana Chapel and Wells Fargo Private Bank for use of their facilites!



This popular series brings community members together to share common interests on a wide variety of topics presented by outstanding speakers.

All sessions start at 4:00 pm at the Wells Fargo Private Bank Community Room (NE corner of Royal Palm Way and S. County Road, Palm Beach).

**RSVPs requested**: (561) 833-6150 or info@palmbeachfellowship.net Free admission for Fellowship members; \$15 for non-members.

## **December 8, 2019**

All That Glitters Is Not Gold -The Perils of Being Too Rich Richard René Silvin

## January 5, 2020

When Palm Beach Collided With the North Pole

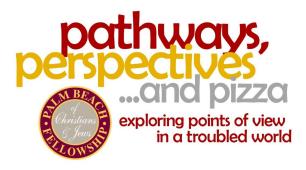
**Harvey Oyer III** 

Popular speaker René Silvin debuted his latest lecture, "All That Glitters Is Not Gold," at the Dec. 8 Sunday Conversations.



### February 9, 2020

Views of the Afterlife in the Ancient and Modern World Msgr. Thomas Klinzing | St. Edward Catholic Church Rabbi Moshe Scheiner | Palm Beach Synagogue Pandit Satyanand Sharma | Palm Beach Sanatan Vaidic Society



This series returns with lively discussions on provocative topics facilitated by Rabbi Howard Shapiro and Thomas G. O'Brien III.

Participants are encouraged to sit with people they don't know, to get to know each other better while enjoying pizza, salad, and beverages and sharing their thoughts in respectful dialogue.

All sessions start at 5:30 pm at the Royal Poinciana Chapel Fellowship Hall (60 Cocoanut Row, Palm Beach).

RSVPs requested: (561) 833-6150 or info@palmbeachfellowship.net Free admission for Fellowship members; \$15 for non-members.

Pathways Facilitators: Rabbi Howard Shapiro Thomas G. O'Brien III







## Thursday, January 23, 2020

Topic: If suffering is inherent in the human condition, what is the point of God?

#### Thursday, February 13, 2020

Topic: Christianity is a religion of love, Judaism is a religion of law—isn't being good enough?

#### March 26, 2019

Topic: Are the "Chosen People" still chosen, and how did they get that way anyhow?



## Palm Beach County Middle and High School Students Are Invited to Enter the 2020 Competition for Cash Prizes!

The Palm Beach Fellowship's Education Committee co-Chair Rosalie Franks has announced that the theme for the 2020 Essay and Creative Arts Student Competition is inspired by the Edgar Guest poem, "It Couldn't Be Done."

All public, private, charter, and home-schooled middle and high school students in Palm Beach County are eligible to submit entries in one of the following categories: essay, poem, video, music, and visual art (including painting, drawing, collage, sculpture, and photography). Cash prizes will be awarded to the top entries, and supervising teachers of the winning students will also receive support for school supplies.

The deadline for submissions is Friday, March 6, 2020, at the Fellowship office in Palm Beach. Visit www.palmbeachfellowship.net, call (561) 833-6150, or write info@palmbeachfellowship.net for a copy of the guidelines and entry form.



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Fiscal Year **2019-2020** as of Dec. 20, 2019

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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 issues rooted in intolerance, anti-Semitism, and unjust discrimination.

In Memoriam

We remember Fellowship friends we have recently lost...

Richard Keats Barbara and Morton Mandel Allen Mason



Fiscal Year **2019-2020** 

#### **BECOME A MEMBER!**

Join others in the community who are committed to the mission of the Fellowship through their support of its programs and activities. Visit palmbeachfellowship.net or call (561) 833-6150 for more information, and add your name to our distinguished list of generous supporters!

Complete this form and mail with your payment to: PO Box 507, Palm Beach, Florida 33480, or call (561) 833-6150.

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**\$5,000** □ Chairman's Council **\$10,000** □ Founder's Society

Visit palmbeachfellowship.net or call (561) 833-6150 for more information about member benefits of these levels.

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