

Fellowship News

Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews

1993-2023

30

bringing the community
together for 30 years

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BUILDING BRIDGES
BY BREAKING BREAD
Together

Dinner Co-Chairs

Debora Weinstein | Sylvia James



Annual Fellowship Dinner

Thursday, March 16 | 6:30 pm
The Breakers Palm Beach

Special Guest Speaker

Brad Meltzer

Host, History Channel's *Lost History*
and *Brad Meltzer's Decoded*,
and *New York Times* Best-Selling Author



2023 John C. Randolph Award Recipient

Charles Hagy, Jr.

Head of Middle School at
The Benjamin School
and Community Volunteer



**For more
information
and tickets,
call 561-833-6150.**

Chairman's Message

30 Years of Making a Difference, Together



John C. "Skip" Randolph

Greetings all,

Happy 2023, everyone. It's hard to believe that thirty years have passed since a small group of concerned and dedicated friends of different faiths came together in the late Herbert Lee's living room to discuss what could be done about the religious discrimination, particularly antisemitism, so prevalent on the Island at the time. That grassroots meeting led to the formation of the Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians and Jews, which is dedicated to promoting mutual understanding and respect among all religions and cultures through education, dialogue, and interaction.

Has it worked? Yes, I believe so. Have we made progress? Yes, I believe so. Do we still have a long way to go? Yes, I know we do. And, it is through you, our members, that we will continue to make strides toward achieving our goal.

These strides are achieved one step at a time. These steps within the Fellowship include involvement of our members in Pathways and Perspectives, a program where we break bread together and listen to timely and relevant presentations by Rabbi Howard Shapiro and Canon Thomas O'Brien on topics of interest to all in an interfaith atmosphere. We also step into Sunday Conversation where we enjoy listening to various speakers who address topics of interest to us all. We enjoy the steps we take with our school age children who engage with us in our annual essay and creative arts competition, challenging students to write on subjects of interest to Jews and Christians alike. Then there are the steps we take as we offer support for local teachers to attend Holocaust education training seminars in order that the unforgettable and unforgivable events of that period of history can be passed on to their students lest they and future generations ever forget. We also take steps, particularly on Fellowship Friday, to organize community service projects to bring neighbors together to improve our community and the world around us.

And, friends, the world is indeed in need of improvement. The dramatic rise in verbal and physical attacks against other minorities, women, and other marginalized communities, spurred on by angry, hateful rhetoric by extremists, has underscored the need for the Fellowship to continue to address issues rooted in intolerance, incivility, lies, hate, and discrimination of all kinds. You, friends, are instrumental in addressing those issues by coming together in fellowship with one another.

We thank you for your involvement and continued support. Please join us as we walk together in Fellowship; step by step, that our strides may result in positive changes, not only in the Town of Palm Beach, but in the world at large, a world so in need of change. In today's divisive and often toxic atmosphere, it is imperative for the community to come together with open minds and hearts and to get involved as we step up our efforts this year to identify the problems, find common ground, and discuss solutions, just as our founders did 30 years ago.

Board of Directors

2022-2023

John C. Randolph, *Chair*
Margaret Zeidman, *Vice Chair*
David J. Thomas III, *Treasurer*
J. Grier Pressly III, *Secretary*

Michael Ainslie
Elinor Belfer
Eric Christu
Lew Crampton
Malka Fingold
Jeffrey Fisher
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Zelda Mason
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Donald Perrin
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Lesly S. Smith
Bob Wright
Susan Keenan Wright

Staff

Sherri Gilbert, *Executive Director*

In Memoriam

We mourn the loss of these friends of the Fellowship:

Diane Belfer
Harreen Bertisch
Susan Bloom
Ted Deckert
Hermé DeWyman Miro
Sheila Engelstein
Sherry Jacobs
Fruema Klorfein

We gratefully acknowledge...

The **Mary Alice Fortin Foundation**, the **Palm Beach Country Club Foundation**, the **Stacy & Keith Palagye Foundation**, **West Palm 100**, and the **Leo Rosner Foundation** for generous grants in support of Fellowship activities and the scholarships we provide to local Palm Beach County educators for Holocaust education, and in-kind donations from Buff City Soap and Palm Beach Creamed Honey. (*Listings as of February 5.*)

...and the following Palm Beach Fellowship members and donors for their vital support this past season:

FOUNDER'S SOCIETY

\$10,000

Suzanne & Michael Ainslie
Malka Fingold
Anne & Christopher Flowers
Barrie & Nicholas Somers

PATRON

\$1,000

Linda & Skip Aldridge
Barbara Brizel
Kathleen & Lew Crampton
Allison & Stuart Haft
Sir Geoffrey Leigh
Zelda Mason
Anne & Bill Metzger
William A. Meyer
Anita & Sam Michaels

FAMILY

\$250

Traci & Keith Braun
Diane Buhler &
Eric Lieberman
Elizabeth & Chris Callahan
Marcia & Bill Cini
Margaret Donnelley

FRIEND

\$150

Lori Ackerman
Ellen J. Bernstein
Robert Bertisch
Mary Cooney
Jenny Cyker
Marie Bloom Deckert
Carole Gigliotti
Heather & Patrick Henry
Alesia & John Hoy
Stephen Jacobs
Fruema Klorfein z"l
Paulette Koch & James Zisson
Susan Oberg Lane
Gail & Alan Levine
Annette & Rabbi Joel Levinson
Bonnie Osher & Peter Sherman
Bebe Pesenti
Preservation Foundation of
Palm Beach/Amanda Skier
Rosalyn Regal
Ronald D. Risner
Carolyn Rose & Irv Geffen
John Rothberg
Gary Russell & Michele Cecchin
Aileen & David Sarda
Rhona Shugarman
Sylvia & Donald Singer
Sandra Thompson
Rebecca & Gregg Weiss
Belle Winston

CHAIRMAN'S COUNCIL

\$5,000

Ellen & Irwin Levy
Carol McCracken
David Minkin Foundation
Debora Weinstein

PATRON

continued

Priscilla & Donald Miller
Beverly J. Myers
Kristy & Grier Pressly
Leslie & Ronald Y. Schram
Elizabeth & Alan Shulman
Fran & Ron Terwilliger
Connie & David J. Thomas
Tamara & Bruce Watkins
Susan & Bob Wright

FAMILY

continued

Mary Ann Ehrlich &
Lisa Pearlman
Leslie & Stan Godoff
Jacqueline Goldman
Joanie & Murray Goodman
Marion & Henry Gorelick
Carla & David Herwitz

BENEFACTOR

\$2,500

Tori Dauphinot & Ken Hubbard
Edith Friedheim/
Eric Friedheim Foundation
Patsy & Donald Mintmire
Sandra & Donald Perrin

SUPPORTER

\$500

Susan & Harvey Bazaar
Warren Belmar
Susan & George Cohon
Carla Cove
Melinda & Steven Duncker
Arlette Gordon
Sylvia James
Richard M. Kleid

FAMILY

continued

Catherine & Robert Holt
Barbara James
Lynn & Russell Kelley
Claire Levine
Elaine & John Lynch
Carole & Cynthia Martin
Harriet Miller

BENEFACTOR

continued

Leslie & John C. Randolph
Lesly S. Smith
Maggie & Mark Zeidman
Maura Ziska & Eric Christu

SUPPORTER

continued

Pamela & Brian McIver
Daisy & John Mery
Marilyn Meyerhoff &
Sam Feldman
Giselle Anna Parry
Baylie & Marvin Rosenberg
Caroline B. Sory

FAMILY

continued

Catherine & Robert
Ostellino
Deborah & Michael Pucillo
Karly & Heath Randolph
Karen Restaino
Fredericka & Stuart
Shpetner

Special thanks to volunteers (l-r) Parker Pressly, John and Elaine Lynch, Lori Ackerman, Karen List, Suzanne Turner, and to everyone who participates on Fellowship Friday!



INDIVIDUAL

\$100

Lexye Aversa
Anthony John Bailey
Laurel T. Baker
Sister Colleen Brady
Maureen Carter
Vera Chapman
Carol Collins
Maureen Conte
Ralph Del Deo
Robert G. Donnelley
Edith B. Eglin
Alvin Fertel

INDIVIDUAL

continued

M. Lynn Fisher
Cynthia Friedman
Sharon Gregory
Charles Hagy, Jr.
Maureen Hicks
Lesley Hogan
Bobbi Horwich
Mina Hyman
Jeanne Kanders
Tami Lesser
Dorothy Levy
Terry Liddell

INDIVIDUAL

continued

Stephen H. Lindsay
Nancy Marshall
Elaine Meier
Thomas Meier
James B. Murphy III
Denise-Marie Neman
Sally O'Connor
Harvey Oyer
Carole Pichney
Deborah Pollack
Enid Pollak
Judi Regal

INDIVIDUAL

continued

Stephanie Ribakoff
Bernis Gold Rosenbloom
Roberta Frost Rosenthal
Pamela Saba
Magda S. Saltzman
Mary Schmitz
Christie Schwab
Robert W. Slater
Rita Taca
Suzanne Turner
Susan Van Pelt
Phyllis Verducci
Leonard Zack

Welcome Back Reception

We came together to kick off the season at the annual Welcome Back Reception on October 20, 2022, at the beautiful gardens at The Society of The Four Arts. A light drizzle didn't dampen attendees' spirits, which included many of the 2022 Student Essay and Creative Arts Contest winners and their families and teachers.

A highlight was a group sing of "Let There Be Peace on Earth" led by Nicole "Nikki" Rattinger, and a moving performance of "L'dor Vador" by Temple Emanu-El's Cantor Meir Finkelstein, accompanied by Claudio Waisgluss. The crowd also serenaded Palm Beach Mayor Danielle Moore with a chorus of Happy Birthday!

See more photos from the event online at www.palmbeachfdelloship.net.

photos by Capehart





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Pathways & Perspectives

Participants were happy to meet in person again as facilitators **Thomas O'Brien** and **Rabbi Howard Shapiro** continued their tradition of leading thoughtful, respectful, and lively discussions in this interactive series.

December 8 | Reflections on Interfaith Trip to Israel
 February 16 | What's Wrong With Religion These Days?



Shapiro (left), O'Brien (right)



Special thanks to Wells Fargo Palm Beach for the use of their Community Room for these programs.

Sunday Conversation

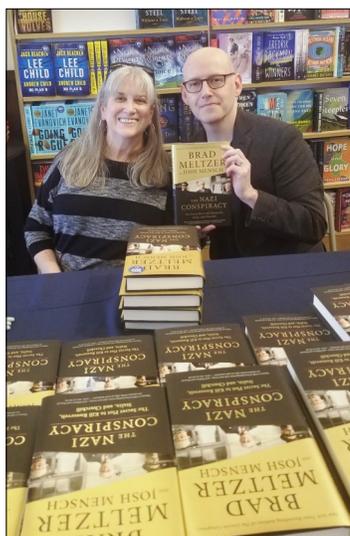
On January 16, three members of the Community Remembrance Project Coalition's Education and Community Engagement committee – **Barbara Cheives, Josephine Gon, Charles Hagy** – led an informative discussion about the county-wide project.



Photo Album

A "Dispel Darkness with Light" rally and Havdalah ceremony was held on January 21 at the AT&T building in West Palm Beach, the site of an antisemitic incident the week before. Pictured (l-r): State Attorney David Aronberg; Rev. Dr. Robert Norris of Royal Poinciana Chapel (one of the speakers) and Fellowship Board member Debora Weinstein; West Palm Beach Police Captain Brian Kapper. The event was organized by Rabbi Shneur Minsky, Downtown Jewish WPB. ▼

▼ Executive Director Sherri Gilbert had the opportunity to meet Annual Dinner speaker Brad Meltzer at a book signing in Boca Raton in January.



► See next page for photos from Fellowship Friday! More project photos are available for viewing online at www.palmbeachfellowship.net.



Fellowship Friday

November 25, 2022

The morning after Thanksgiving, our enthusiastic volunteers enjoyed a light breakfast at Temple Emanu-El Palm Beach before heading out to community service projects throughout the area including a beach cleanup (coordinated by the Friends of Palm Beach), Peggy Adams Animal Rescue League, The Lord's Place, and Adopt-a-Family's Program Reach.

Mark your calendar and join us for Fellowship Friday 2023 on November 24!



photos by Coastal Click Photography and event participants



Facing History and Ourselves Holocaust Education

Facing History Participants

July 2022

Allison Duchene
Farah Francois-Upperman
Krista Gage
Alison George
Nicollee Inguagiato
Tzionah Kirschner
Towanda Little
Helene Marshall
Joseph Mayerchak
Michael Palmgren
Widnie Sainvil
Sen Scherb
Eugenia Smith

Workshop Participants

January 2023

Alma Atkins-Robinson
Bob Bayless
Sheryl Beach
Kimberly Coombs
Charles Cummings
Kathleen Devine
Rudy DeVries
Christine Ferguson
Anne Franzen
Julie Gates
Alison George
Austen Gordon
Micah Herbert
James M. Johnson
Barbara Jones
Ingrid Kehlofer
Allison Larsson
Kimberly Longobardi
Raquel Lockhart
Sanford Lopater
Micaela McNiff
Denise Ponchock
Susan Prieto
Gail Pubols
Mark Risisky
Steve Robertson
Ronit Rosenberg
Sen Scherb
Darrell Schwartz
Veronica Shaw
Selina Sporer
Kaila Taylor

For more than 20 years, the Palm Beach Fellowship of Christians & Jews has been providing full scholarships to outstanding educators in Palm Beach County public and private schools to attend the *Facing History and Ourselves* (FHAO) summer seminar, "Holocaust and Human Behavior."

Due to the pandemic, FHAO suspended in-person seminars in 2020, 2021, and 2022, but put together an interactive four-day virtual program. The Fellowship was able to offer this online training opportunity and all accompanying materials to almost 100 educators during those three years.

With assistance from Benjamin School teachers Chrissie Ferguson and Anne Franzen, Fellowship Education Chair Charles Hagy continued the series of local implementation workshops to offer support and follow up with all the local FHAO alums, past and present. The three facilitators are also past attendees of FHAO programs.

The Fellowship partnered with the School District of Palm Beach County, Centropa, and inSIGHT Through Education on January 21, 2023 to present "Teaching With Testimony," a one-day Holocaust education workshop which included an inspirational session with Dutch Holocaust survivor John Koenigsberg (*below left*), who was a young boy at the time.

