# KH's Chai - 18th Year Celebration

Speech by Alan Sprintz (February 2, 2025)

While KH has been in Sarasota for 18 years, Dale and I have been members of KH for the better part of 10 years. KH and the Sprintzes are both enigmas: we're familiar, we've been heard of, but only some know us well.

KH and the Sprintzes are both asked: who we are? What do we stand for?

Dale and I met at Penn State 65 years ago and have been married 60 years, raising the ideal Jewish family – a doctor and a lawyer! ☺ For 30 years my professional career was as a hospital administrator, most of the time in Chicago, and Dale, beginning a professional life as a school teacher, grew a catering business into a large meal commissary serving schools, universities, and businesses.

In Chicago we belonged to a Conservative synagogue and, at one point, was the president. When we moved to Sarasota 18 years ago, our congregational needs and requisite role for ritual had changed. By chance, at a time of personal crisis, 10 years ago, KH and Rabbi Singer found us.

My interpretation of Judaism is that it is a guidebook for humanity to live within a society that is just and stable. Have I ever doubted my "faith"? There have been periods of insecurity, but never have I doubted in the rightness of Judaism's prescripts for a just and stable society. ….perhaps that is the messianic age we long for.

KH is a small light in the Jewish world of Sarasota – kind of like running for office as a Democrat in Republican Sarasota County! Who are you, what do you stand for, and easy to be marginalized!

Now, KH has been around Sarasota for a long time, witness this celebration – but we have relied on chance discovery for people in the community to find us, to interact with us.

Therein is the challenge for each of us going forward:

Rabbi Sigal has shown us a way, not by preaching a particular sect of our religion, but by showing how to live an expansive life as a positive, good, complete human being – a living expression of Judaism – the spiritual Jewish life.

You are the key for us to take our place in the community as **the** center of **spiritual** Jewish life, not as just another denomination. You are Congregation KH.

Each of YOU is

The COMMITMENT,
The ENERGY,
The HEART and SOUL of the Congregation.

You are the **messengers**, the **explainers**, the **advocates** for who we are and what we stand for.
**You are the 30 second elevator speech of how we differ from the established denominations.**

It is your **community involvement**, **contacts**, and **support** that will plant our flag in Sarasota.

Thank you for nominating me to serve on the Board as the next President of the Board of CKH.