



National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Philadelphia Section

A FAITH IN THE FUTURE.
A BELIEF IN ACTION®

February, 2016

Bulletin

Please respond promptly to flyers.



*O'er the land of the free, and the
home of the ...FEARFUL?*

HAVE WE CHANGED OUR "TUNE"?

We see fear in recent acts of hatred throughout this country like the desecration of the Al Aqsa Mosque in Philadelphia, our own city of brotherly love and sisterly affection, founded on the principles of religious freedom and tolerance. We see it in the Confederate-flag bearing individual who showed up at a coat drive for Syrian refugees in a small town outside Washington, D.C. We see it in attacks on Muslim women wearing head scarves and in every mean spirited, exclusionary act of prejudice. The great Mahatma Gandhi called it correctly when he said, "The enemy is fear. We think it is hate, but is really fear." No doubt, we have genuine security concerns, but when we hear political candidates spouting: Close the borders. Register all Muslims. Screen refugees based on religion. Christians, only, please. We can see that fear is having its way with us, making us long for a simpler, seemingly safer time.

REVEREND JUDY SULLIVAN

Plan to hear Judy Sullivan addressing Interfaith Cooperation at our May 3 program.

(see page 8)

If We Don't RAISE OUR VOICES, Nothing Positive Will Happen!

NCJW advocacy follow-up: Many of you attended the December 15 panel discussion on Sex trafficking and heard about PA Senate Bill 851 "Safe Harbor" for girls under 18 years of age who are being trafficked. This bill is now sitting in the Senate Appropriations committee where it will stay until The PA House of Representatives decides to pass the state budget. The lack of a state budget has yet a worse consequence: that of having no funds for education, be it pre-K, public schools and state affiliated universities and colleges. This means Philadelphia public schools may have to close, there will be no pre-K in Philadelphia as Mayor Kenney has proposed and tuition at state colleges and universities will increase significantly. SO...ALL OF US need to call our state representative to urge him/her to pass the state budget. It is crucial that the more conservative representatives get this message: these are the reps who are in districts outside of Cheltenham, Abington, and Philadelphia. To find out the name and contact information of your state representative use this website: www.legis.state.pa.us

As a follow-up to the successful December panel discussion, our section's Advocacy Team will be offering a 2-part training program for those seeking to increase their knowledge of this serious issue. The sessions will be held on weekday mornings in a convenient suburban location--one in mid-February and one in mid-March. Exact dates and location were not finalized by press time. Stay tuned for a section-wide email or send a message to info.ncjwphila@gmail.com to let us know of your interest.

Lynne Jacobs and Linda Lempert

President's Message

Today, along with several other NCJW members, some with children and grandchildren, my granddaughter Elie and I volunteered at the Mitzvah Circle Foundation for Martin Luther King Day. What a wonderful experience! Kudos to Sherry Kohn for arranging this important mitzvah. If you were unable to come this MLK Day, don't miss it next year. An added joy was the expression of enthusiasm of members' grandchildren. My granddaughter, Elie, who came with reservations last year, was excited to return again and now wants to bring her friends and Sunday school class to volunteer. Sherry Kohn's grandchildren expressed similar feelings. Pearl Tragash's daughter, Dale, and her two children, happily returned to volunteer this year.



NCJW members, their friends children and grandchildren take a moment to pose for a picture at the Mitzvah Circle Foundation where they participated in the Martin Luther King Day of Service.

The foundation has a beautiful new warehouse where they place their many donations. We sorted clothes and shoes, donations of food from a local chain (most of course were nearly outdated) and finally packed a box for a family with two children who needed clothing. When Elie and I went to the bin, there was not much left in their sizes. We were able to choose only two pair of pants and long sleeve shirts for each. Also, some short sleeve tee-shirts and a few pairs of socks. We added three sleeves of disposable diapers for the two year old boy but who knows how long they will last? Did you know that most babies who live in poverty have only enough diapers for one change a day? We added a bottle of baby wash, a package of wipes, found a book for each child and added a handbag for mom.

I felt sad that we could not give the family more. The shelves and plastic containers seem to be well stocked but there is never enough. I then took Elie shopping at the Children's Place to buy the family warm clothing from the clearance rack.

I hope you will share my feeling that there is "never enough" and respond to the Chinese Banquet (non event-event). flyer in this Bulletin. Please open your hearts and make a donation. Anything you are able to give will help us to bring light into the lives of those who are less fortunate.

With appreciation for all you do,

Tribute cards for special occasions and memorials

Call Gladys Greenfield 215 635 4244 or Sue Leon 215 653 0773. Our new section card is selling 6 for \$25 or \$5 each. You may purchase the cards at a meeting or call Gladys or Sue and they will send a card for you.

We need ads for the Bulletin.

If you know of someone who would like to advertise with us...Contact: Pearl Tragash (215) 542 0595.

Business size cards are \$50 for 10 issues of our Bulletin.

Volunteer dates

Sundays at 9 a.m.:

March 6 and April 3

Please call Zelda

Stern at 215-947-2348

to help continue this vital program.



Help Wanted

Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center

Once again, NCJW is asking anyone with a few hours to spare to sign up to support Holocaust survivors and rescuers as they continue to educate school children throughout the Delaware Valley.

The Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center will be happy to train anyone who is willing to help whether it means driving and/or facilitating. Please contact one of us and we will be willing to explain more to you.

Roz Fudell s.fudell@comcast.net and Cindi Pasceri vpasce@gmail.com

Thank you,

Goodies for the Good Guys

Many thanks to all the people who helped continue the wonderful NCJW tradition of **Goodies for the Good Guys**. This was my first year chairing the project of collecting treats, organizing the trays and arranging for the delivery to the police, fire stations, hospitals and nursing homes. I had an amazing crew of helpers!!!! It was a banner year of goodies and people who came to help!!! We made 35 trays, and delivered to 26 locations. (Some women from Beth Sholom Sisterhood contributed goodies and some also helped)

Kudos to: Zelda Stern, Gladys Greenfield, Joyce Eveloff, Cindi Pasceri, Rhonda Laikin, Judy Heath, Susan Horwitz, Carol Lebowitz, Susan Teich, Susan Handis, Hedda Chairnoff, Sandy Fryer, Charlotte Schwartz, Lynn Album, Marsha Levin, Robin Eisenberg, Evelyn Block, Elaine Klein, Audrey Eveloff, Donna Spector, Maxine Dalsemer Evelyn Bieber, Rhena Kelsen, Shelly Perchick, Harriet Goman, Joan Sax, Millie Stein, Ellen Slepion, Gayle Vogel and Adele Gottfried.

Patti First

Places Goodies Were Delivered - December 2015

(some locations received more than 1 tray)

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Einstein E P Hospital | Lower Moreland Police |
| Abington Hospital | Cheltenham Police |
| Jeanes Hospital | Abington Police |
| Fox Chase Hospital | Elkins Park Fire |
| Holy Redeemer Hospital | McKinley Fire |
| St Joseph's Manor Nursing Home | Abington Fire |
| Chestnut Hill Hospital | Horsham Fire |
| Frankford Torresdale ICU Hospital | Ft. Washington Fire |
| Lankenau Hospital | Chestnut Hill Fire |
| Hahnemann Hospital | Wayne/ Radnor Fire |
| Ambler Police & Fire | Second Alarms Rescue |
| Upper Dublin Police | Ogontz Fire |
| Upper Moreland Police | Mt. Airy Fire |



NCJW Volunteers for Kids

Sherry Kohn, our PACS Vice-President, has created the role of school ambassador for our NCJW section. She keeps our membership informed of the dire circumstances of the Philadelphia School District and coordinates our donations of school supplies, articles of warm clothing, etc. Regardless of need, some schools are cautious about engaging with "outsiders." However, because of Sherry's sincerity and determination, she was able to forge a relationship with a caring, community minded school, Benjamin Franklin Elementary School, located on Rising Sun Avenue in the Crescentville Philadelphia neighborhood. The Franklin School's Principal, Ms. Roslyn Greene and her staff welcomed us warmly, thanking our volunteers for our interest in helping their children practice and improve their reading skills.

The Franklin School, which is K-8, with over 1100 students would welcome more of our members to volunteer. If you are interested and would like more details, please contact Sherry Kohn at (215) 322-0441 or kohnsherry@gmail.com



NCJW school volunteers, left to right, Lee Tonik, Sherry Kohn, Harriet Gran and Susan Horwitz are all smiles at the end of their first session working with first graders at Benjamin Franklin Elementary School, in Philadelphia.

NCJW GREATER PHILADELPHIA SECTION'S COMING ATTRACTIONS



Appearing before our NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section, on **Tuesday, February 15**, is Rabbi Lance Sussman, who will present a historical (and probably hysterical) account of Jewish pirates, entitled, "Oy, Oy Oy, and a Bottle of Rum, Jewish Pirates of the Caribbean."



Lance J. Sussman, Ph.D., senior rabbi of Keneseth Israel (KI), Elkins Park, PA is affable, scholarly, creative, and visionary. He revolutionized worship in his 167 year old Reform synagogue, introducing *Visual Tefillot* and *Illustrated Sermons*. KI's book free experience attracts hundreds of worshippers to different services from Family Shabbat to large chorus worship followed by illustrated lectures on topics ranging from Art to Zionism. His recent presentation, "How Lox Became Jewish" drew crowds in Pennsylvania and Florida. For KI children, Sussman created the *KI Puppets*, Ave Q sized Jewish themed creatures. Sussman is Torah Turtle while other staff play Shema Sheep, Bracha Bear and Shira Salamander. As Chair of the CCAR Press, Sussman helped launch the Reform movement's latest prayer books.

Sussman has taught at Princeton and Temple Universities and Hunter College among others. His research on the Trefa Banquet was featured in the PBS series, "God in America." Sussman's tours of "Jewish Gettysburg" and "Colonial Jewish Philadelphia" are always filled. He founded the Cheltenham Area Multifaith Council and is involved in Jewish-Muslim Dialogue. For several years, Sussman ran an exchange program for KI teenagers and their counterparts in High Schools in Frankfurt, Germany.

. A renowned author and dynamic lecturer, Rabbi Sussman has published numerous books and articles, including Isaac Lesser and the Making of American Judaism, and Sharing Sacred Moments (a collection of his sermons), and served as an editor of Reform Judaism in America: A Biographical Dictionary and Sourcebook.



On Tuesday, March 15, a dramatic presentation by Diane Steinbrink

Our own NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section's Diane Steinbrink will discuss the background and work of Amy Herzog, a new and prolific playwright. Diane will do monologues of some of the significant characters from her plays: *After the Revolution*, *The Great God Pan*, *Belleville*, and *4000 Miles*, which was nominated for a 2013 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. Audience participation will follow.

Diane is a graduate of Adelphi University with a BA in Speech and Drama. She served as the Coordinator of Philadelphia Plays for Living for 17 years. She was the Producer of the Anne Frank Theater Project for Jewish Family and Children's Service of Philadelphia. She also served as a Facilitator for the program. Ms. Steinbrink has acted and directed in local theater, in Plays for Living, and has appeared as an extra in movies and industrial films. She has presented her one-person programs to many groups in the Philadelphia area, Southern New Jersey, Florida, Harrisburg and the Berkshires.



On Tuesday, April 5: Judith Bernstein-Baker, Executive Director of HIAS (which used to stand for Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society) will be our featured speaker on the Syrian Refugee Crisis.

Judith Bernstein-Baker joined HIAS Pennsylvania as the Executive Director in 1998. Prior to that she ran the Public Service Program at the University of Pennsylvania Law School and was named Honorary Fellow of Penn Law School in 1998. She received her B.A. from Binghamton University, her MSW from the University of Pennsylvania School of Social Work and her JD, cum laude, from Temple University's Beasley School of Law.

In 2004, Ms. Bernstein-Baker received the Mary Philbrook Award from Rutgers/Camden Law School for Public Interest, and has received Certificates of Honor and

Appreciation from the African Cultural Alliance/Liberian Association of Philadelphia and the Equal Justice Award from Community Legal Services. Ms. Bernstein-Baker has published several articles on immigration issues and public interest law, including "The World of Refugee Resettlement," which was featured in The Philadelphia Lawyer Magazine in the Spring of 2010. She teaches Immigration Law at Philadelphia Community College and is an active member of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Immigration Lawyers' Association, serving as pro bono liaison.



BRIGHT IDEAS

Dear Members,

We have formed a fundraising committee to generate new ideas for trips, Taste of Culture, other trips and other traditional fundraising initiatives.

Charlotte Schwartz our Fund Raising VP Chairwoman can be contacted at 215-643-7542 or by e-mail at charlotters6@comcast.net

Please let Bobbie Berman and/or Sandy Fryer know of any simcha, illness, or passing of members. We would like to mention it in the Bulletin and be in touch with the families.

Bobbie Berman

handbberman@aol.com

Sandy Fryer sahofr1@verizon.net

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philadelphia@vfi-usa.org

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Regional Director
610.584.0468

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215.646.6381

Celebrating a simcha or have one you would like the NCJW to recognize? Think of us. What a great way to share by making a donation to our Section Send your donation to:

Charlotte Schwartz
1315 Cinnamon Drive, Ft. Washington, Pa 19034

We will make a note of it. Sending an acknowledgement to you and the recipient is our pleasure.

If you have changed your address, phone number and/or email or if you hear of a member's passing, please contact Diane Morgan via email at dianebmorgan@yahoo.com

National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Philadelphia Section



MEETING AND LUNCHEON
Tuesday, February 16 11:30 a.m.

Speaker, Rabbi Lance Sussman

Rabbi Sussman makes compelling use of his gifts as a rabbi, scholar, and visionary. He creatively engages Jewish people, of all ages, with Jewish history and culture in a variety of venues in addition to his revolutionary innovations regarding worship with his congregation at Kenneth Israel, Elkins Park, PA.

REFORM CONGREGATION KENESETH ISRAEL
8339 OLD YORK ROAD, ELKINS PARK, PA 19027
MAIN AUDITORIUM

LUNCHEON - MEMBERS \$20.00 GUESTS - \$25.00
(Want to skip lunch? Join us at 1:00 p.m. for the meeting and program.)

Please mail your check made out to NCJW to
Susan Horwitz
1324 Robinhood Road
Jenkintown, PA 19046

Checks received after Friday, February 12 will be returned and the member will be most welcome at the program and dessert.

Please note: If a guest becomes a member of NCJW, \$5.00 will be deducted from membership dues.

Questions? Call Barbara Nussbaum, 215-280-0046 or Susan Horwitz, 215-938-8569

PLEASE! BRING HOUSEHOLD SUPPLIES SUCH AS: CLEANING LIQUIDS, LAUNDRY SOAP, PAPER NAPKINS, TOWELS, TOILET PAPER, GENTLY USED OR NEW SINGLE BED SHEETS, BLANKETS, POWDERED COFFEE CREAMER, COFFEE, SUGAR, COOKING OIL, CEREAL, CANNED TUNA FISH.

Dawn's Place has just obtained another house, so even more supplies are needed! Thank you

REMINDER: PLEASE BRING SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO BE DONATED TO OUR ADOPTED PHILADELPHIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS TO ALL MEETINGS.

Reams of copy paper are a priority! Also, pencils, colored pencils, crayons, mini pencil sharpeners, large erasers, composition books (black marble cover), washable markers, rulers, tissues, hand sanitizers....

NAME _____

PHONE: _____

E-MAIL _____

OF GUESTS _____



National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Philadelphia Section

Invites you to partake in a

**“No Flight” Beijing Adventure
Chinese Banquet**

Passports, suitcases and cameras are not required.
Avoid the long flight and jet lag!

I/We would love to partake in the
“Beijing Adventure Chinese Banquet”
with a contribution of :

\$100 Christmas Eve Chinese banquet for 10

\$75 Peking duck with extra pancakes

\$50 Wonton soup and Egg Roll

\$25 Fortune Cookies

Name

Phone Number

Make check payable to NCJW and mail to:

Sandy Fryer
504 Jennifer Drive
Dresher, PA 19025
215-640-7290
Sahofr1@verizon.net



Your donations make possible the purchase of winter coats for kids,
grants for food pantries, camp scholarships
and helps to fund other NCJW Philadelphia Section projects.

谢谢 (Thank you)

On Tuesday, May 3, **INTERFAITH COOPERATION**, one of the most compelling domestic and global, issue in our current times, will be the focus of a discussion of two distinguished panelists,
Rabbi David Straus and Dean Judith Sullivan.



David Straus is Senior Rabbi at Main Line Reform Temple. Under his leadership, the congregation has begun many new and innovative programs and services, including a child-parent religious school program where parents learn and attend school weekly with their children. Rabbi Straus is active in the Jewish and non-Jewish community. He is a past president of the VAAD: The Philadelphia Board of Rabbis, and served as chair of the Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Community Relations Council from 2010-2014. He is a co-convenor of the Religious Leaders Council of Greater Philadelphia, and serves on the board and executive committee of the Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia. He is the chair of the National Council of Synagogues which meets regularly with members of the US Catholic Conference of Bishops, National Council of Churches, and the Evangelical Community. He has served on the board of Philabundance and the advisory committee of Eldernet of Lower Merion, and the Jewish Community Federation of Philadelphia.

Prior to coming to Main Line Reform Temple, Rabbi Straus served congregations in Trenton, NJ (Har Sinai Temple), Cleveland, OH (Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple) and Washington, DC (Washington Hebrew Congregation). He was ordained in 1983 at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, OH, and earned his BA from Northwestern University. He is married to Lynne Breslau, and they are the proud parents of Julia and Max, who are both in graduate school.



The Very Reverend Judith Sullivan returned to the Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral in July, 2010, following her election as the fourth dean. She had served previously at this Cathedral, first as Missioner and then as Canon Residentiary, from 2004 to 2007. Prior to her return, she was the Associate Rector of the Church of the Redeemer in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

Judy is a graduate of Wellesley College and was awarded the M.Div. from the General Theological Seminary. She completed two years of her theological studies at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia where she received the Winters Scholarship Award and the Maul Award for academic merit and promise for ministry.

Prior to ordination, she left a successful career in corporate marketing to direct non-profit organizations which promoted access to higher education for youth with limited opportunities. The Sponsor-A-Scholar Program, replicated in 16 cities throughout the U.S., was recognized by President Clinton with a Point of Light Award. Her experiences working with these youth and their families were instrumental in discerning her call to ordained ministry.

In the Diocese of Pennsylvania, she is a member of the Council of Deans and the Diocesan Transition Team, as well as the former Chair of the Diocesan Liturgical Commission. She has also been an Adjunct Faculty member at the Lutheran Seminary, leading groups of Episcopal and Lutheran seminarians in pastoral formation. She has served on the faculty of the Episcopal Preaching Foundation's Preaching Excellence Program for students in seminaries throughout the U.S.

Judy is the Chair of the board of directors for the Interfaith Center of Greater Philadelphia. She is also a member of the board of directors for Episcopal Community Services and the Health Care Improvement Foundation.

Judy is the parent of two adult daughters. She lives in Philadelphia with her two bichons frisees.



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Book Clubs

Evening Book Club

Tuesday, February 16 at 7:30 pm. *Station 11* by Emily St. John Mandel
RSVP to Eileen Davis at 215-901-2754 or puppyme2@aol.com

Thank You to Etta Nissman for hosting the January meeting of the Evening Book Club, and Faith Edelman for facilitating

Center City Book Club

Feb. 10, 7 p.m. *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves* by Karen Joy Fowler
Host: Joyce Krasnoff
Leader: Rosalie Kurz

Thanks to Sheila Chacker for hosting our January meeting and to Eileen Dwell for leading a lively discussion of *Dead Wake, the Last Crossing of the Lusitania*

For info. please contact Audrey Jaffe Block 267-519-9255



Daytime Book Group

February 25 *The Interestings* by Meg Wolitzer
All meetings are held at the Dublin Terrace club house. 1:00 to socialize and 1:30 meeting start.
For info. please contact Joyce Avrach @ 215-402-0287 or Barryjoy@aol.com.

Condolences:

To the family of our member, Ellice Lansman who has passed away.

Speedy Healing:

to Joan Rosenblatt and Harriet Rudolph

Mazel tov to:

Adrienne and Peter Feuer on the birth of their great granddaughter, Riley Mae Ciccone.

Welcome to New Members

Hedimay Berger Meryl Kern Elaine Coren Evelyn Block
Ruth Katz Sandra Goldberg Mal Gran

As your membership vice-presidents we welcome our new members to call us regarding any questions you may have.

Judy Fried 215-245-1309 judyfried38@gmail.com
Wendy Rader 215-657-9347 wrbarbiegirl50@gmail.com

Please LIKE us on our Facebook page

Search our full name "National Council Of Jewish Women Greater Philadelphia Section"

GIANT CASH CARDS

GIANT cards are now available to purchase, in increments of \$20 & \$50. Please contact Joyce Eveloff---215-283-9277
jeveloff369@aol.com

Send information, articles or photos that you would like printed in the Bulletin to the editor:

Harriet Gran hgranncjw@gmail.com
215-836-5993



National Council of Jewish Women

Diane Morgan
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Ambler, PA
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National Council of Jewish Women is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children and families and by safeguarding individual rights.

We are a 501 (c)3 nonprofit organization. Our web site is www.NCJW.org