

Bulletin

Please Respond Quickly to Flyers

A PERSONAL ACCOUNT

Touring and Learning in Israel with NCJW

by Lynne Jacobs

In November I had the good fortune to participate in my second NCJW Israel Study Tour. These trips are organized every two years to give NCJW leaders a chance to meet progressive/feminist advocates and visit the organizations that receive our grants. Through days packed with provocative conversations and out-of-the-ordinary encounters, we observed our grantees' impact on the issues we care about. We were filled with NCJW pride as we met with Israeli thought leaders who, from grassroots activists to national policy-makers, are driving the Israeli social and cultural agenda.

All NCJW members can feel pleased and proud to support our NCJW Israel Granting Program (IGP), initiatives that help to connect Israel's women and girls to a future of expanded opportunity.

Lynne Jacobs, is a member of our NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section and Pennsylvania State Advocate.

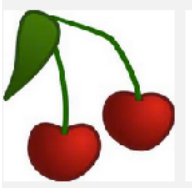


(Look on the center page or page 4, to read Lynne's compelling details of her time in Israel.)

SAVE THE DATES

- Sunday, March 8, 9 a.m. Ronald McDonald House Guest Chef Breakfast Program
- Tuesday, March 15 .Diane G. Steinbrink. Keneseth Israel
A dramatic presentation about Amy Herzog - a new talent of the American Theatre
- Sunday, April 3 9 a.m. Ronald McDonald House Guest Chef Breakfast Program
- Tuesday, April, 5, 2016, 7:30 p.m, Judith Bernstein Baker, Executive Director of HIAS
Syrian & Refugee Crisis , Greater Philadelphia
NOTE: This evening event will be at Melrose Bnai Israel Emanu-El which is at the parking lot end of Keneseth Israel. Entry is the door with the mosaics.
- Tuesday, April 12 **Taste Of Culture:** Mural Arts TROLLEY TOUR
- Tuesday, May 3 Interfaith Center of Philadelphia Keneseth Israel
Topic: "Interfaith Cooperation"
Reverend Judy Sullivan, Dean, Philadelphia Episcopal Cathedral and Rabbi David Straus, Beth Elohim, Main Line Reform Temple
- Tuesday, June 7 Closing Luncheon Meadowlands CC.
Shmooze with The Word Mavens!!
A Hilarious program featuring Ellen Scolnic and Joyce Eisenberg, authors of the *DICTIONARY OF JEWISH WORDS*

Public Affairs Community Service



PACS Bears Fruit

So many of our members have gotten involved with PACS projects! MLK Day at Mitzvah Circle was even more successful than last year. It was especially good to hear enthusiasm from the various grandchildren who attended. Together, we are passing on the concept of hands on mitzvahs. You do not need to wait until next MLK Day to volunteer at Mitzvah Circle. Just call me and I will arrange it. Breakfasts at the Ronald MacDonald House is another example of a valued and very successful hands on PACs project.

We are now working with first graders at Ben Franklin Elementary School. The staff at the school is delighted that we are there. We need more volunteers so that we can make an impact on more children. You can go any day of the week that works for you. I hope some of our "snowbirds" will get involved when they fly home. Our contributions of school supplies is making a positive impact.

Please bring donations to the meetings or you can drop them off at my house.

Call me if you have any questions or ideas for new projects

Sherry Kohn 215-322-0441

Holocaust Essay Contest

We now have about seven schools for our contest!

If you have a contact with a middle school, i.e., a child who teaches or a grandchild who attends, please tell them about our contest and ask if they might be interested.

The schools usually ask the students to read books about the Holocaust and are then given a written assignment to reflect on their readings, sometimes in a format of their choosing. Some students write essays or poetry. Others write a letter to a survivor. In the past we have read screen plays written by students. This creative process is an effective tool to teach children about the horrors of the Holocaust.

Our members serve as judges. We individually read about 10 essays and then come together as a group to discuss them. We usually choose three prize winners per school. My co-chair Liz Hirsch and I attend the awards assembly and present certificates to every student who participated and award prizes to the winners. If you would like to be a judge, contact me at egoldhammer@comcast.net. or 215-884-8076

Evelyn Goldhammer

Board Meetings

March 10 April 7 May 10 June 14

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(Public Affairs Community Service)

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,

Help

The HIPPY Story - With NCJW Footprints in the Making!



Our NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section members, Eleanor Levie and Elaine Kline's advocacy for the Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters, (HIPPY) is never-ending. Our Section which plays a significant role is allotting funds and donations of books for a HIPPY event. At this March event, HIPPY families: parents, pre-schoolers and their siblings can choose up to 6 new books, enjoy dinner and the chance to win valuable gift cards and certificates.

To help raise awareness throughout the Jewish community and funds for :HIPPY, Eleanor and Elaine have shared excerpts from an article by Naomi Zeveloff, published in the February 9, 2016 issue of FORWARD. Following is a summary of those excerpts, tracing the journey of HIPPY from Israel to Philadelphia and points between.

In 1969, to help the children of North African parents get a head start in the Israeli School System, an educator, Avima Lombard, conceived and developed HIPPY at the NCJW Research Institute, housed at the Hebrew University of Israel. The pilot program with 100 families participating impressed the Minister of Education who made it into a national program.

Less than two decades later, the Ford Foundation provided a grant to bring HIPPY to the United States, with the first site in Miami, Florida. It was a former president of NCJW, Nan Rich who helped facilitate HIPPY's coming to Miami. While in Miami accompanying her husband who was there to attend a governor's conference, an article about the program in the Miami Herald, caught the attention of Hillary Clinton, Soon HIPPY was on its way to Arkansas, where Bill Clinton signed legislation to fund HIPPY as a state program. Today, HIPPY is in 140 communities serving 15,000 families in our country.

We can continue to ADD OUR FOOTPRINTS to the shared history of NCJW and HIPPY. Read the following letter to our membership from Eleanor Levie and Elaine Kline, Co-Chairs Advisory Committee for HIPPY@DSC.

We look to you the members and supporters of NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section to continue and increase your support to help us strengthen, scale up, and sustain the achievement and speedy progress made with HIPPY.

Please join us as HIPPY ambassadors spreading the word of this important work and letting us know of anyone who may be networked with a foundation or other source that may be a potential source of funding. As well, please consider a charitable donation. You can reach Eleanor Levie at 267-519-8157 or email elevie@comcast.net to share questions or concerns.



Warm Regards,
Your Section Sisters
Eleanor Levie and Elaine Kline



**NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section Members are invited to a TEA!
Come and meet Linda Frank, NCJW member and immediate past president of the HIPPY USA Board of Trustees, visiting from San**

Francisco.

Date and Time: Thursday, April 7 at 4 PM

Place: 247 S. Hutchinson St., Phila, PA

Given by: Eleanor Levie

Please RSVP to Eleanor by telephone: 267-519-8157 or email: elevie@comcast.net

For an added treat on the same date, at 7:30 PM you can hear a reading by Linda of her latest mystery novel, THE LAST TORAH OF SHANGHAI, which will occur at the Gershman Y, 401 S. Broad st, (about 4 blocks from Eleanor's house). With nearby places for a quick dinner, this

Touring and Learning in Israel with NCJW (continued from first page)

Our tour started out in Jerusalem, where I had lived for a year after college. A walk through the Machane Yehuda outdoor market, tasting many delicacies along the way, brought back pleasant memories. During our chef-led cooking class and lunch, we heard from Rachel Azaria, newly elected Knesset member of the Kulanu party. A founder of the Yerushalmiot (Women of Jerusalem) Movement and a women's rights activist, Rachel joined us for a typical Israeli meal: intensely flavored good food mixed with equally intense conversation. She highlighted three major issues facing Israeli women: the economic wage gap; personal status issues; and prostitution/trafficking.

Thanks to one of our grants, Yerushalmiot organized a women's co-existence project for Haredi (ultra-orthodox) and secular women. They have worked to collaborate on community projects and cut through the "theology of politics/gender/religious differences in order to find common ground."

Our Shabbat started early as we joined IGP partners Women of the Wall—who work tirelessly for ALL women to pray at the Kotel—for their monthly Rosh Chodesh service. As one of the original group of feminists who prayed there in 1988, I was honored to receive an aliyah. Our NCJW contingent was thrilled to pray together (including some, like me, wearing a tallit) without incident!

We then traveled to Tel-Aviv for a joyous Kabbalat Shabbat at Beit Tefilah—a creative Israeli congregation whose prayers are enlivened with spirited singing and instrumental music.

Sunday brought us to Haifa to visit more IGP grantees. Turning the Tables, originally launched in Tel Aviv, has opened a second fashion-training studio in this northern city with NCJW support. Its program is housed in the same building as Ofek Nashi (Women's Horizon), a shelter for trafficked women who have left one life and are working hard to create a new one.

NCJW also funds Isha L'isha (Woman to Woman) a collaborative of several feminist groups working on anti-trafficking legislation and advocacy, as well as generally advancing social change.

That evening we met with the directors of Vital Voices who lead groups of Jewish and Arab women in dialogue, sharing their respective narratives to deepen connections and understanding.

As if all the above were not enough to fill our heads with ideas, politics, and policies, the following days were all about possibility.

It is always a thrill to meet the brilliant NCJW scholarship students – who offer hope for the future of gender equality--and the dedicated professors of the NCJW Women and Gender Studies Program at Tel Aviv University. This very popular program boasts hundreds of alumni, men and women, Arabs and Jews, religious and secular; and offers amazing learning opportunities for people wanting to promote social justice through a gender lens.

Our brief visit to The Peres Center for Peace and Justice allowed us to learn about the legacy and life of Shimon Peres who, at 92, continues to advance dialogue and peace between people who have fought each other for thousands of years, but find themselves sharing the same holy land together.

Only 3 miles from the Gaza border, and within easy reach of Hamas launched rockets, mortars and missiles, we arrived at NCJW grantee Eden Village, a boarding school for at-risk girls from disadvantaged families who have suffered violence, abuse and neglect.

For many years NCJW's IGP has funded Eden programs and projects, including a new bomb shelter. Most recently, in Summer 2014, during Operation Protective Edge, an emergency grant supported the 6-week evacuation of 65 students and their teachers away from Eden into the Negev.

All of us on the trip felt great pride in NCJW's involvement in so many parts of Israeli life. One regret is that more of our members have not yet enjoyed the NCJW/Israel experience. For now though, you can view more photos and videos that are posted on the NCJW website. www.ncjw.org

Lynne Jacobs



High-level meeting. Lynne with Shimon Peres

Dear Friends and Supporters of NCJW's Israel Programs,

This week, the Israeli government proclaimed an official, fully-egalitarian space at the Kotel where men and women may pray together without gender barriers, where women may read from the Torah and wear prayer shawls, and where families may celebrate Bar and Bat Mitzvah ceremonies and other events together.

We want to thank all of you who have helped make this possible. Success is sweet, but it does not always come quickly. It has been 27 years since this fight began! Enjoy it, thank yourself for being part of it through NCJW, but remember that the battle for gender equality is far from over. [We need your support now more than ever to achieve a civil society in Israel where women have equal status.](#)

Having prayed with the Women of the Wall, ridden the gender-segregated buses with the Freedom riders, spoken out as American Jews deeply disturbed at the lack of understanding of our desire to pray as we see fit, posted blogs, written articles, given financial support, we at NCJW feel a sense of deep satisfaction in sharing the success of the day.

I hope you will join me for a conversation at Washington Institute about Israel — our progress, our struggles, and our hopes for the future. To register for Washington Institute, NCJW's premier public policy conference, log on at <http://washingtoninstitute.ncjw.org/register/>.

Mazel Tov to us all!

Shari Eshet
Director, NCJW Israel Office



Read more about this victory on [my blog on the Times of Israel](#), and please also see the [JTA account](#) of this victory, in which Nancy Kaufman is quoted.



Aliyah with Women of the Wall, Lynne Jacobs pictured at center.)



Sex

Sex Trafficking Training Awareness set for Monday , March 21

Please join us, even if you missed an earlier training session, to learn more about sex trafficking in the USA and in Pennsylvania.

On Monday, March 21, 10 AM to NOON in Elkins Park, participants will

—View and discuss a PBS film narrated by the New York Times columnist Nicholas Kristof

—Learn about NCJW's awareness/education and advocacy efforts.

—Gain an overview of other local agencies and their work.

—Have opportunities to use this knowledge as

You must contact us by March 14 if you plan to attend.

We'll let you know the location at that time.

Lynne Jacobs

NCJW Policy Advocate for PA

ljacobs816@gmail.com

Linda Lempert

Greater Phila Section Advocacy Chair

lindalempert@verizon.net

Celebrating a simcha or have one you would like the NCJW to recognize?
What a great way to share by making a donation to our Section. This month
send your donation to: Pearl Tragash 4331 Meredian Blvd., Warrington, PA 18976

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 dianeorgm@yahoo.com

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Book Clubs

Evening Book Club

Tuesday, March 15 at 7:30 pm. *Flowers in the Blood* by Gay Courter.

RSVP to Judy Miller at 267-460-8660 or j_fmiller18@comcast.net.

Thank You to Eileen Davis for hosting February Meeting of the Evening Book Club and to Etta Nissman for facilitating and surprising us with an enchanting video of an interview with the author.

Center City Book Club

March 9, 7 P.M. *A Hole in the Earth* by Robert Bausch

Host: Laurie Lisa
Leader: Eleanor Levie

Thanks to Joyce Krasnoff for hosting our February meeting and to Rosalie Kurz for facilitating a lively discussion of We



Volunteer dates

Sundays at 9 a.m.:
March 6 and April 3
Please call Zeld Stern at 215-947-2348 to help continue this vital program.



Daytime Book Group

March 24 *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah

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.

Welcome to New Members

Gertrude Berkowitz Miriam Grossman Lila Slovak

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"

Mazel tov to:

Barbara Leiland on the B'nai Mitzvah of her twin grandsons, Alexander and Jacob .

Thank You to:

Char Kurland and Ellen Toplin for making permanent name tags for those members who attend our programs. What a great idea!

Joyce Eveloff for graciously hosting the February board meeting in her charming home and for surprising us with hot soup and goodies that served as lunch for many of us.

Best wishes to:

Pearl and Hal Tragash and family on the upcoming Bat Mitzvah of their granddaughter Rebecca and Bar Mitzvah of their grandson Michael.

WANTED: New jackets, socks, other articles of clothing for needy elementary aged children, ages 5 thru 10 years attending the Philadelphia School District. Please bring items or a monetary contribution to programs and/or board meetings or send your donation along with someone planning to attend a board meeting or other NCJW event.

National Council of Jewish Women

Greater Philadelphia Section

MEETING AND LUNCHEON
TUESDAY, MARCH 15 12:00 NOON

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.)

PROGRAM



**Diane G. Steinbrink presents a dramatic
presentation about Amy Herzog,
A new talent of the American Theatre**

The distinction of Herzog's work is her belief that private,
individual and family experiences have significant effects on our
lives

Please mail your check made out to NCJW by **March 10:**

Susan Horwitz
1324 Robinhood Road
Jenkintown, PA 19046

NAME _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL _____ # OF GUESTS _____

NAMES OF GUESTS _____ AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$_____

AS ALWAYS: Household supplies for Dawn's House and supplies for Philadelphia school students are urgently needed. Also a reminder that financial contributions make possible the purchase of winter coats for kids, grants for food pantries, camp scholarships, and other NCJW Philadelphia Section projects. Checks can be sent to Pearl Tragash, 4331 Meridian Blvd. Warrington, PA 18976

National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Philadelphia Section

TASTE OF CULTURE
April 12, 2016

Mural Arts Trolley Tour
"Philadelphia's Re-Imagined Landscape"

We will view modern day murals as we travel through the old industrial commercial corridors of Philadelphia's Frankford and Kensington neighborhoods. Our guide will enable us to view these neighborhoods as today's residential and creative arts enclaves.

We will meet to board the trolley at
Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts
Hamilton Building
128 North Broad St, Philadelphia
at 10:15 a.m.

Lunch at Sabrina's Cafe and Spencer's Too
1804 Callowhill Street

Nearby Parking:
Parkway Garage. Broad and Race Sts.
Self Parking at Parkway Lot, 15th and Race Sts. (with a small discount)

(Taking the train? Suburban Station is a short walk to PAFA)



Please mail your check made out to NCJW by **April 8 to:**

Joyce Krasnoff
139 S 19th Street, #911
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215-640-0280)

Cost: Members \$64

Non-Members \$69

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

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.

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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