

National Council of Jewish Women  
Greater Philadelphia Section

# Bulletin

A FAITH IN THE FUTURE

A BELIEF IN ACTION<sup>®</sup>

August, 2020

## 126 YEARS OF POWERFUL JEWISH WOMEN

NCJW confronts today's most urgent social and economic challenges facing women, children and families. Powered by the Jewish imperative to ensure dignity for all, we impact policy, advocate for justice, and support the community. Your voice has never been more essential and our voices together make a meaningful difference in the world.

Become A Member

Call us at  
215-302-3586

Visit us at  
[ncjwphiladelphia.org](http://ncjwphiladelphia.org)

## Do facemasks make sense?



### Let's explain it for dummies:

If we all run around naked and someone pees on you, you get wet right away.

If you are wearing pants, some pee will get through, but not as much.

So you are better protected.

But if the guy who pees also is wearing pants, the pee stays with him and you do not get wet.

### Is that clear enough?

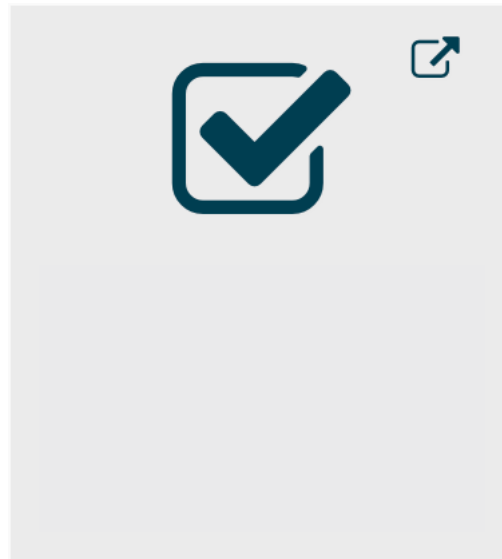
#### A note from the editor:

Perilous times. The pandemic, lethal acts of bigotry and economic devastation impact us all. Unlike past summers, Mal and I are publishing summer issues of our NCJW Bulletin. This is in response to members' voices who see the Bulletin as providing a meaningful conduit to stay connected with our NCJW COMMUNITY. Sharing experiences has the power to validate our feelings. Having updates on the work of our Section can provide awareness and reassurance to our members of our determination and capacity to carry out our mission of addressing today's most urgent social and economic challenges facing women, children and families.

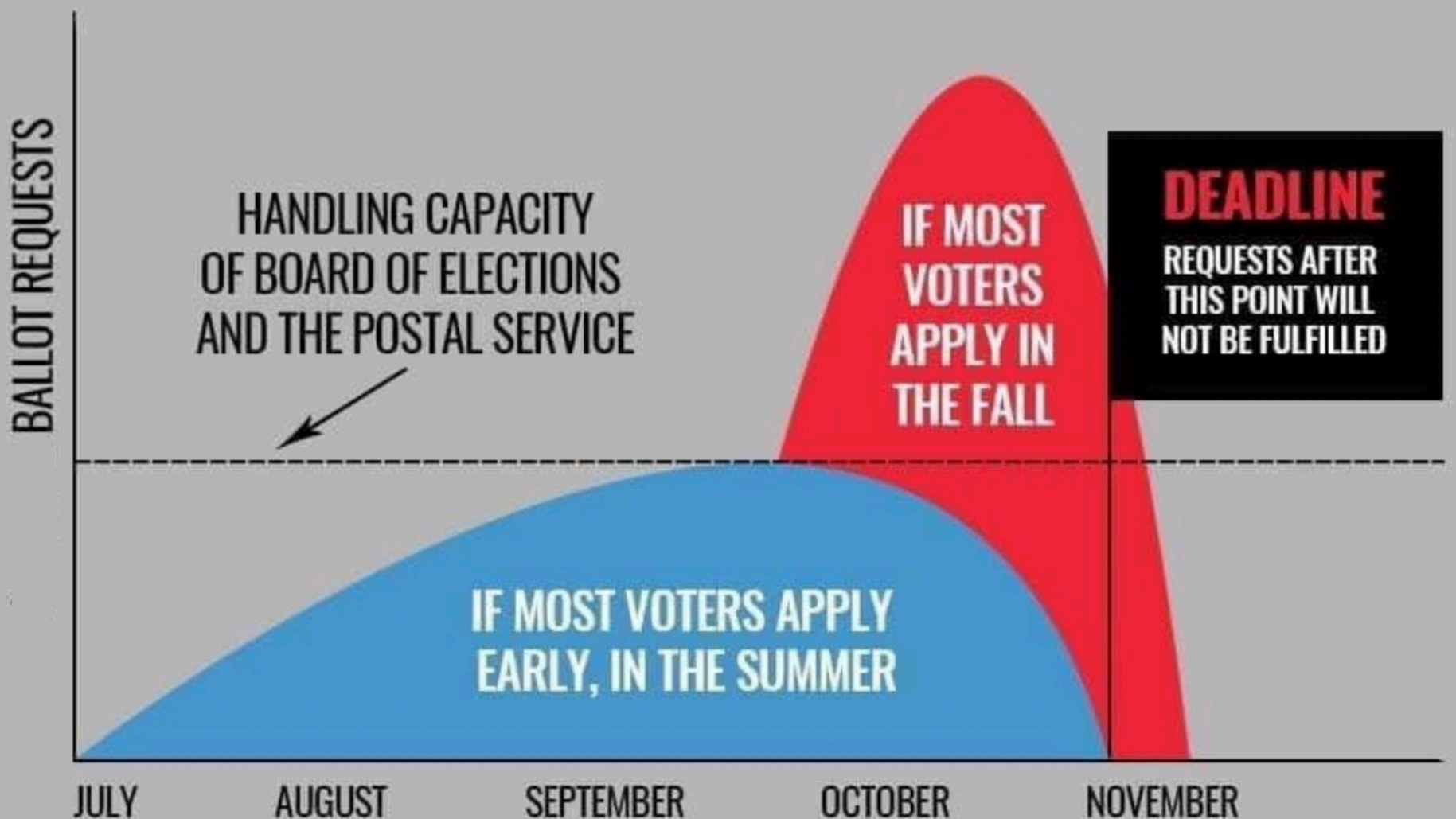
Harriet Gran

# Here are Important Links to Voting in Pennsylvania

Register Online  
adfto Vote in the  
adfdadNext Election  
dfafladjf;lafdafja;fj;a



## Flatten the ballot request curve!



**Apply for your  
absentee or mail-in  
ballot**

**TODAY**

## Membership

Your membership renewal letter and return envelope were sent out in July. If you have already returned it, thank you.

We are facing the most important challenges of our generation. Our strength is in our numbers. During this unprecedented time, we need your support more than ever. Please respond by sending in your dues, \$45, or consider becoming an Angel for \$55, as quickly as possible so the NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section can be heard.

Ellen Mirbach  
Donna Spector

[semirbach@gmail.com](mailto:semirbach@gmail.com)  
[queenaheartds@hotmail.com](mailto:queenaheartds@hotmail.com)  
Membership Vice Presidents

215-771-5311  
215-886-0640

## SAVE THE DATES

As more information about public meetings becomes available, we will update members on locations and/or Zoom access.

**Tuesday, September 22, 2020 2:00 p.m.**      **Dr. Ira Spector**  
**Development of Drugs and Vaccines**

Dr. Ira Spector is CEO of SFA Therapeutics, Inc., a development-stage bio-pharmaceutical startup company focused on a new advancement in the treatment of chronic inflammatory disease.

Dr. Spector has over 25 years of experience in drug and medical device development. Dr. Spector managed one of the world's largest adult vaccine trials and helped develop over 34 approved drugs.

**Tuesday, October 13, 2020 2:00 p.m.**

**Dr. Melissa R. Klapper**  
**Jewish Women and Suffrage**



Dr. Klapper is the author of *Jewish Girls Coming of Age in America, 1860-1920* and *Small Strangers: The Experiences of Immigrant Children in the United States, 1880-1925*, as well as numerous articles and essays. She lectures widely in a variety of academic and community settings. She is currently the book review editor of the journal *American Jewish History* and the co-chair of the Association for Jewish Studies's Modern Jewish History--The Americas division.

**Thursday, November 12, 2020 2:00 p.m.**

**An Armchair Conversation With Sarah Hurwitz**



Sarah Hurwitz, author of *Here All Along: Finding meaning, Spirituality and a Deeper Connection to Life-in Judaism* was senior speechwriter for President Barack Obama and head speechwriter for Michelle Obama. After leaving the White House, she was appointed to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council by Barack Obama. Hurwitz will share how she reconnected with her Judaism after leaving the White House.

"Sarah Hurwitz was Michelle Obama's head speechwriter, and with this book she becomes Judaism's speechwriter. In a time when many people have lost faith, her timeless wisdom and graceful writing will delight even the most steadfast skeptics of organized religion."

—Adam Grant



**National Council of Jewish Women  
Greater Philadelphia Section**

**Tuesday, September 22, 2020 – 2:00 PM –ZOOM EVENT**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR OPENING PROGRAM  
FEATURING KEYNOTE SPEAKER - DR. IRA SPECTOR**

*In these trying times, when many pharmaceutical companies are desperately working to develop a Corona virus vaccine, we welcome Dr. Ira Spector, CEO of SPA Therapeutics Inc., a development-stage biopharmaceutical startup company focused on a new advancement in the treatment of chronic inflammatory disease. Dr. Spector has over 25 years of experience in drug and medical device development. He managed one of the world's largest adult vaccine trials and helped develop over 34 approved drugs.*

**IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PROGRAM, WE WILL:**

BE HONORING OUR BOARD'S OUTGOING CO-PRESIDENTS --  
BARBARA NUSSBAUM AND CINDI PACERI,  
THANKING OUR OUTGOING OFFICERS  
AND INSTALLING OUR NEW BOARD

**THANK YOU TO CAROL ARONOFF FOR SPONSORING THIS PROGRAM,  
IN HONOR OF OUR NEW OFFICERS**

**RSVP REQUIRED BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2020**

TO JOIN US

**[RSVP TO PROGRAM BY CLICKING HERE](#)**

If the above link does not work for you,

copy and paste the following into the URL section of your browser:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe-MqiXtBhjoz6D-Cr6uRVpAs78avolG6RM-6BqD6OJuvCTAQ/viewform>

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Questions? Call Char Kurland (215) 805-3006, Patti First (215)-470-1560, Donna Bader (856) 303-9616

Three more things that you  
can do by yourself!

**Clicking on these links will take you to the  
NCJW WEBSITE**

**1 Urge your senators to take up the  
HEROES Act today!**



**2 Tell Congress:  
Support the Justice in Policing Act**



**3 Condemn Police Brutality**



**NOT SISTERS BY BLOOD,  
BUT SISTERS BY HEART.**



Thanks, Judy Fried.

**I need to  
social distance  
myself from the  
refrigerator  
so I can flatten  
my curve.**

Kelly's Treehouse



## Book Clubs



**Note: Book titles are active links to Amazon. Purchase your books on Amazon Smile and a contribution will be made to our Section.**

### Afternoon Book Club

During the pandemic, our group has continued to meet via Zoom. Thank you to Anita Shomer for moderating our June book discussion on *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult and Judy Fried for moderating our July book discussion on *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins.

Our next Zoom meeting is Thursday, August 27 at 1:30pm.

[Next Year in Havana](#) by Chanel Cleeton

Moderator: Sandy Fryer

For more information, contact Susan Brooks at 215-542-0712 or seamcrazy@verizon.net

### Evening Book Club

Thank you to Nancy Fagan for setting up our Zoom meetings and thank you to Susan Horwitz for leading our discussion for our June Meeting.

#### Book Club Schedule

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| July 28      | <a href="#">The Magic Strings of Frankie Presto</a> by Mitch Album (Moderator: Barb Auerbach)   |
| August 18    | <a href="#">A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win World War II</a> by Sonia Purnell (Moderator: Tammy Hertzbach?) |
| September 22 | <a href="#">The Giver of Stars</a> by Jojo Moyes (Faith Edelman)  |
| October 20   | <a href="#">A Tree Grows in Brooklyn</a> by Betty Smith (Moderator: Joan Sax)   |
| November 17  | <a href="#">The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill, Family and Defiance During the Blitz</a> by Erik Larson (Moderator: Rebecca Landau)           |
| December 15  | <a href="#">Commonwealth</a> by Ann Patchett (Moderator: Lee Tonik)   |
| January 19   | <a href="#">Nora Webster</a> by Colm Toibin (Moderator: Harriet Gran)   |
| February 23  | <a href="#">The Huntress</a> by Kate Quinn (Moderator: Nancy Fagan)   |
| March 23     | <a href="#">American Dirt</a> by Jeanine Cummins (Moderator: TBA)   |

All Meetings are on Tuesdays at 7:30 pm

### Center City Book Group

Our next Zoom meeting is Wednesday, Sept. 9th at 7:30 P.M.  
[Nickel Boys](#) by Colson Whitehead (Leader Gwen Freedman)

#### Fall/Winter Book Group Schedule

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| Oct. 14. | <a href="#">The Alice Network</a> by Kate Quinn (Leader Etta Nissman)                 |
| Nov. 11  | <a href="#">The Killers of the Flower Moon</a> by David Grann. (Leader Michelle Rose) |
| Dec. 9.  | <a href="#">The Silent Patient</a> by Alex Michaelides (Leader Helene Sternberg)      |
| Jan. 13. | <a href="#">Such a Fun Age</a> by Kiley Reid (Leader Audrey Block)                    |
| Feb. 10  | <a href="#">The Giver of Stars</a> by Jojo Moyes (Leader Eleanor Levie)               |

Center City residents interested in a Book Group  
Contact Audrey Block - ablock1919@comcast.net or 215-688-0094

## MEMBERSHIP

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

Please contact: Ellen Mirbach Donna Spector  
[semirbach@gmail.com](mailto:semirbach@gmail.com) or [queenahartsds@hotmail.com](mailto:queenahartsds@hotmail.com)  
215-771-5311 215-886-0640

We will be delighted to send out membership packets.

Membership Dues: Annual \$45 (Be an Angel \$55 🙇)\*

Please LIKE us on our Facebook page

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

\*For an additional \$10, you can achieve "angel" 🙇 status which increases the number of people we can assist.

## REMEMBER.... THERE WILL BE MANY WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE.



NCJW volunteers at Ronald McDonald House at Front St. & Erie Ave. provide breakfast and more to families staying there from out-of-town while their critically ill children receive treatment at St. Christopher's Hospital. To all participants in this "nourishing" program, know that you make a meaningful difference. Unforgettable are the words of one parent who looked at our volunteer group and said, wistfully, "this is what my mother would do for me if she could be here." Interested in becoming a volunteer? We arrive at 8:15 so we can set up and have food ready by 9:00.

Call Zelda Stern at 215-394-8335



### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Join our wonderful NCJW group of volunteers at our adopted Benjamin Franklin Elementary School now in our fifth year. Work with our first and second graders to help them accomplish pre-reading and higher reading skills with our one to one concentrated time and encouragement.

Please call Harriet Gran at 215-206-1026 or email [hgranncjw@gmail.com](mailto:hgranncjw@gmail.com).



### Support Holocaust survivors and liberators as they continue to educate school children throughout the Delaware Valley.

NCJW is asking anyone with a few hours to spare to sign up for The Holocaust Awareness Museum and Education Center. The center will be happy to train anyone who is willing to help whether it means driving and/or facilitating. Please contact me. I will be happy to share details with you. Thank you,

Judy Fried (215) 245-1309 [judyfried38@gmail.com](mailto:judyfried38@gmail.com)

**Sponsoring an event** for a minimum of \$100.00 in honor of a special event or person in your life, or in memory of an important person is a great way to do a double mitzvah! You are honoring the person or event and helping NCJW. You can share this sponsorship between friends. Your name ( or names) will be on the invitation flyer. This is a lovely and meaningful way to support our NCJW section!

Please consider sponsoring an upcoming event.

Just contact Ann Pollock at 215 773-0594 or [apollock1229@yahoo.com](mailto:apollock1229@yahoo.com) and tell us what event you'd like to sponsor.

### Tribute cards for special occasions and memorials

Our new section card is selling 6 for \$25 or \$5 each. Purchase the cards at a meeting or contact Fran Radel and she will send a card for you.

Contact Fran at 610-584-9234 (home) 610-304-3908 (cell) or Email: [fran@markradel.com](mailto:fran@markradel.com)

### INCLUDE NCJW Greater Philadelphia Section in your estate planning,

You can help its important work continue for years to come.

### Celebrating a simcha or have one you would like NCJW to recognize?

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

What a great way to share by making a donation to our Greater Philadelphia Section.

For information, call 215-302-3586 and leave a message for Pearl Tragash, Treasurer.



### Supplies needed for Dawn's Place - Shelter for Survivors of Sex Trafficking

Household cleaners, laundry soap, dish liquid, paper napkins, paper towels, toilet paper (single-ply only!), personal grooming products.... also NEW single bed sheets and non-perishable food.



We look forward to the time when we resume all of our volunteer activities.



Paul Kaplan  
Steve Rosen



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## OFFICERS 2020-2021

There will be a presidium in place. The Vice Presidents will collectively administer the section in place of a president and vice-president.

|  |   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
|--|---|--|--|---|-------------------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|--|
| <b>Fundraising VP</b>  | Ann Pollock   | <a href="mailto:apollock1229@yahoo.com">apollock1229@yahoo.com</a>   |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <b>Membership Vice Presidents</b>  | Donna Spector<br>Ellen Mirbach  | <a href="mailto:queenahearteds@hotmail.com">queenahearteds@hotmail.com</a><br><a href="mailto:semirbach@gmail.com">semirbach@gmail.com</a>                                       |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <b>Program Vice Presidents</b>   | Donna Bader<br>Patti First<br>Charlene Kurland  | <a href="mailto:DRBader@comcast.net">DRBader@comcast.net</a><br><a href="mailto:patal16@verizon.net">patal16@verizon.net</a><br><a href="mailto:chaky@aol.com">chaky@aol.com</a> |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <b>Community Services Vice Presidents</b>  | Aileen Salus<br>Linda Brosgol   | <a href="mailto:asalus1945@gmail.com">asalus1945@gmail.com</a><br><a href="mailto:lgbrosgol@gmail.com">lgbrosgol@gmail.com</a>   |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <b>Advocacy Vice President</b>   | Liz Downing   | <a href="mailto:elizabeth.downing@msn.com">elizabeth.downing@msn.com</a>   |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <b>Treasurer</b>   | Pearl Tragash   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <b>Assistant Treasurer</b>   | Margie Zukerman   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <b>Recording Secretary</b>   | Susan Chace   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <b>Corresponding Secretary</b>   | Bobbie Berman   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <b>Financial Secretary</b>   | Harriet Winokur   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <b>Immediate Past Presidents</b>   | Barbara Nussbaum<br>Cindi Pasceri   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <b>Directors-at-large</b>  |   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tbody> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Janet Ecksel</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Judy Fried</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Paula Bursztyn Goldberg</td> <td>Evelyn Goldhammer</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diane Piotnick</td> <td>Wendy Rader</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Linda Lempert</td> <td>Celia Rothkopf</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Kay Skioff</td> <td>Diane Steinbrink</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sherry Kohn Eisman</td> <td>Gerri Green</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Anita Shomer</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> |   |  | Janet Ecksel                                 | Judy Fried  | Paula Bursztyn Goldberg | Evelyn Goldhammer | Diane Piotnick | Wendy Rader | Linda Lempert | Celia Rothkopf | Kay Skioff | Diane Steinbrink | Sherry Kohn Eisman | Gerri Green | Anita Shomer |  |
| Janet Ecksel   | Judy Fried  |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| Paula Bursztyn Goldberg  | Evelyn Goldhammer   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| Diane Piotnick   | Wendy Rader   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| Linda Lempert  | Celia Rothkopf  |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| Kay Skioff   | Diane Steinbrink  |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| Sherry Kohn Eisman   | Gerri Green   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
| Anita Shomer   |   |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |
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| Lynne Jacobs<br><i>State Policy Advocate</i>   | Harriet Gran, Editor. <a href="mailto:hgranncjw@gmail.com">hgranncjw@gmail.com</a><br>Mal Gran, Website Manager |  |  |   |                         |                   |                |             |               |                |            |                  |                    |             |              |  |

If you have changed your address, phone number and/or email or if you hear of a member's passing, please contact Harriet Winokur [harrietwinokur@gmail.com](mailto:harrietwinokur@gmail.com)

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