

Bulletin



Vol. 21, No. 3
February-March 2016
www.ncjwgrs.org
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National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Rochester Section

COMING EVENTS

FEB

WED / 10
General Board Mtg.
7:30 p.m., JCC

MAR

WED / 9
General Board Mtg.
7:30 p.m., JCC

THU / 24
Purim

TBA
Spring Sojourner
House Program

APR

WED / 6
Climate Change
Program
7:00 p.m.
B'rith Kodesh

WED / 13
General Board Mtg.
7:30 p.m., JCC

FRI-SAT / 22-29
Passover

WHEN:
April 6, 2016, 7 p.m.

WHERE:
Temple B'rith Kodesh
2131 Elmwood Ave.
Rochester, NY 14618

WHAT:
Panel followed by Q & A
session. Light
refreshments.

ADMISSION:
Free and open to the
public. Registration is
requested:
www.ncjwgrs.org
or email
barbara@grosh.net

Temple B'rith Kodesh is
handicapped-accessible.
Sign language
interpretation is
available if requested
when registering by
March 28.



National Council of Jewish Women,
Greater Rochester Section

"Repairing the Planet-- Starting in the Flower City"

Panelists:

**Dr. Susan Spencer, President and
Founder, ROCSPOT (Rochester Solar
Power Organizational Team)**

**Vanessa Rule, Co-Founder and Organizing
Director, Mothers Out Front**

**Mark Dunlea, President and Founder,
Green Education and Legal Fund**

Moderator: Scott Fybush, WXXI

Please join us for a panel discussion on
how we can transition from fossil fuels to
clean energy to lower energy costs,
increase employment and halt and reverse
the effects of climate change.

**NCJW,GRS
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2015 - 2016**

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Helene Newman

Arlene Schenker

Cathy Schneider

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Judy Slade

Amy Stein

PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE

This month's column is written by **Arlene Schenker**, co-chair of Public Affairs Committee.

Both nationally and locally, we are trying to do our part as it relates to climate change. As stated by our CEO, Nancy K. Kaufmann, "NCJW is proud to join our colleagues and recommit to the protection and preservation of the environment. Research shows that climate change and its economic impact disproportionately affects women. But we also know that it's an issue that cuts across all racial, economic, and ethnic lines. NCJW is committed to ensuring that future generations grow up in a healthy, more sustainable, energy efficient world."

"Each of us – as Jews, people of faith and Americans – has a personal responsibility to work toward lowering greenhouse gas emissions and decreasing our dependence on fossil fuels," said Rabbi Steve Gutow, Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life co-chair, and president and CEO of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs. "This responsibility starts in our hearts and from there we must care for our homes, places of worship and institutional buildings."

**Vancy Boyar and Soralee Cook,
Co-presidents**

CLIMATE CHANGE: HAVE WE REACHED A TIPPING POINT FOR ACTION?

*...climate change is a problem which can no longer be left to future generations. When it comes to the care of our common home, we are living at a critical moment of history. We still have time to make the changes needed to bring about a sustainable and integral development, for we know that things can change.
--Pope Francis, White House Remarks, Sept. 23, 2015*

As Pope Francis stated in his remarks at the White House this fall, there is still hope in the fight to save our planet. Along with the pope, other strong and influential voices are speaking out. Climate change deniers are being drowned out by science and reason. We may now be moving quickly enough to avert the most devastating effects of climate change.

On August 3, 2015, after the failure of Congress to adopt comprehensive climate legislation, President Obama issued the Clean Power Plan which will reduce carbon emissions from power plants for the first time. Until now, U.S. power plants were allowed to dump unlimited amounts of carbon dioxide pollution—the primary driver of global warming—into the air. The Clean Power Plan will reduce, by 2030, emissions by an estimated 32% below 2005 levels. (*Union of Concerned Scientists, "What is the Green Power Plan?"*).

An even bigger accomplishment was achieved recently at the Paris climate conference. There, 195 nations, developed and developing, committed to reduce their carbon emissions to a point that will keep the global average temperature from rising above 1.5° Centigrade over the long term. Additionally, all nations agreed to reassess their commitments every five years, putting in place an automatic timetable for future reductions.

Of course, despite the successes in Paris, temperatures and sea levels will continue to rise in coming years, and many people will suffer from flooding, drought, and loss of agricultural land leading to food insecurity and loss of homes and livelihood. To address this issue, the Paris agreement affirms existing financial obligations of developed countries, and provides that they set a collective goal, by 2025, of \$100 billion per year for assistance to developing countries, which are especially vulnerable to the effects of climate change. (*Brian Palmer,*

On Earth magazine (NRDC) "We have an Agreement" and Center for American Progress "The Paris Climate Agreement")

Not all the action is at the national and global levels. In fact, the Paris conference was built on a solid foundation laid by many cities, regions, businesses, and climate activists around the world. In Rochester, there is a flurry of activity. The Rochester Regional Group of the Sierra Club has been actively addressing climate change for a long time. In 2014, it held a forum to encourage more communities to sign onto the state's Climate Smart Community program and to begin planning for meeting the challenges of a changing climate. So far, the City of Rochester along with Victor, Brighton, and Irondequoit have become Climate Smart Communities. In addition, there is an active chapter of the Citizen's Climate Lobby in Rochester, as well as other groups such as Mothers Out Front and ROCSPOT, which are working to transition away from fossil fuels and toward sustainable energy. Many groups, businesses, and local faith and anti-poverty organizations have joined the Rochester People's Climate Coalition, which has 57 members to date, including NCJW,GRS. While many issues vie for attention, we realize that climate change impacts and exacerbates many other problems facing families today and deserves urgent action.

Thus to capitalize on the current momentum and spread the word further, we will be hosting a panel discussion on April 6, 2016,

on the issue of global warming and its ramifications for our community and the world. Please see the front cover of this bulletin and the article on the next page to learn more about this upcoming program and our distinguished panelists, and please plan on joining us on April 6. ≧

Arlene Schenker,
arleneschenker@gmail.com
Board member and Public Affairs Co-chair

Share news in the Bulletin

Send your articles, pictures or announcements to:

Donna Cohen at
raquet19@aol.com

Bulletin Editor:
Marilyn Fenster

Bulletin Committee:
Donna Cohen
Ronny Frishman



PROGRESS REPORT FOR P.A.D. PROJECT

2015 in Review: As a result of Erica Bryant's wonderful article in the *Democrat and Chronicle* (December 7) about the P.A.D. Project and its origin, the inspiration of **Ann Germanow**, CEO of The Scensible Source Company, we received phone calls and emails that brought in pad and tampon donations from a nice mix of individuals and organizations, as well as a generous check.

Young ladies from the Canandaigua Middle School Girls' Modified Basketball team and members of the Church of Latter Day Saints both held kit-making parties in November. They donated kits to the Victor-Farmington Food Pantry and to Hope Ministry in Webster. In 2015, Sojourner House, Charles Settlement House,

IN THE FAMILY

Condolences to:

Sharon Rose on the passing of her mother, **Bernice Cornell**, a former life member

Rachel Wicks on the passing of her mother-in-law, **Sonia Wicks**. Sonia was a past section president.

Susan Rosenbloom on the passing of her father, Alfred Mustardo

Healing Wishes to:

Michael Slade
Marv Cook

Please contact Cathy Schneider at 586-7575 to inform your fellow section members of family life cycle events that you would like printed in the bulletin and to order tribute cards. Tribute cards are a meaningful way to honor life cycle events and support NCJW projects. ≧

Athleta and NCJW,GRS also held successful parties. A few parties are already lined up for 2016.

We showed our support for NY State House Bill A7555, which would eliminate taxes on pads and tampons for millions of women in New York state.

Our section had the honor of distributing the 19 large sacks of pads and tampons that were donated at the Jewish Federation's Main Event dinner in November. The donations were distributed to:

- School 28 and School 35, where the school nurses always need emergency supplies for their teens
- The YWCA Residency, which offers 650 women and

continued on next page

REPAIRING THE PLANET

Starting in the Flower City

Every month seems to set new records for heat, and devastating odd weather events have become commonplace. There can be no doubt that climate change is here, just as scientists warned it would be. There is much work to be done.

The good news is that many are ready to get to work. The world came together in Paris and agreed to reduce greenhouse gases, and every country made ambitious pledges to do so. However, we may still fall short and time is of the essence.

There is more good news: technology that is already in use commercially makes it feasible to eliminate fossil fuels as a power source around the world, while lowering costs and creating jobs. The regulatory environment has begun to shift to support this change, though more needs to be done there as well.

Our guest speakers will share information about what we can do right now, right here to work for a sustainable world. Rochester and the state of New York can be fueled by carbon free clean energy, and people are hard at work to make it happen. Join us April 6 for an evening of information and hope, and learn how you can get involved. To help us plan refreshments, please register on the NCJWGRS.org website.

PANEL:

Dr. Susan Spencer, President and Co-Founder, ROCSPOT (Rochester Solar Power Organizational Team)

A solar scientist/engineer, Spencer received her Ph.D.

from RIT and is passionate about solar energy and quantum chemistry. She realized that her work would be meaningless if people couldn't have access to it, afford it, and be able to use it. Through ROCSPOT, she is working for a solar empowered Rochester.

Vanessa Rule, Co-Founder and Organizing Director, Mothers Out Front

Rule has been working to address the climate crisis since the fall of 2006, first as lead organizer for Somerville Climate Action and board member of the Massachusetts Climate Action Network, then as co-founder of Better Future Project and 350 Massachusetts and now with Mothers Out Front.

Mark Dunlea, President and Founder, Green Education Legal Fund

Dunlea recently stepped down as executive director of Hunger Action Network of NYS. A community organizer and long-time anti-poverty, food justice and peace advocate, Dunlea is a graduate of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and Albany Law School. He is a member of the steering committee of 350 NYC. He was co-founder of the New York and the national Public Interest Research Group; the Green Party of New York; and the Capital District Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild.

Moderator:

Scott Fybush, Guest Host, WXXI radio ☞

Barbara Grosh, Program Co-chair

P.A.D. PROJECT

continued

children a year help in getting their lives back on track

- Out of the Darkness, which provides transitional housing for women leaving jail
- Woman's Place, a division of Catholic Family Service that shelters single women and women with children until they can find more permanent housing
- Pittsford Food Pantry, which always welcomes pads and tampons
- Cameron Community Center, an urban outreach community center in the Lyell-Otis neighborhood
- Dmitri House, which feeds the hungry and shelters the homeless
- The Center for Youth's Chrysalis House, a transitional living home for pregnant and parenting young women

Thank you, P.A.D. Committee members **Donna Cohen, Ann Germanow, Cathy Schneider, Wendy Moss, Robin Levitt, Hyla Mink, Vancy Boyar, Soralee Cook, Jennifer Loviglio** and **Helene Newman** for coming to meetings, going to the Ad Council Coffee and Consult, attending kit parties, distributing pads, shopping, writing, and thinking together.

What's ahead in 2016? We hope it's PAD-demonium! As we move forward strengthening our work toward providing access and dignity to all women during their menstrual cycle, we will keep our readers up to date and always invited to participate. ☞

Gina Horowitz, Chairperson
ginarose@rochester.rr.com

A RECRUITMENT LETTER TO MOTHERS AND GRANDMOTHERS

I just spent a wonderful two weeks with my college-age daughter over her winter break. Although we had thoughtful conversations, never once did we discuss the issues that we as members of NCJW work tirelessly to promote. Like our economy that is humming along with low unemployment and record low gas prices, it is easy to ignore the many issues arising from the growing inequality that plagues our nation.

When was the last time you looked at our National Resolutions? Your New Year's resolution should be to sit down with your daughters and granddaughters and

spend some time reading through the resolutions and reflecting on what you can do to get involved and protect our freedoms. Here is a summary of the resolutions 2014-2017:

- I. Advance the Well-being and Status of Women*
- II. Advance the Well-being of Children and Families*
- III. Enhance the Quality of Jewish Life*
- IV. Ensure and Advance Individual and Civil Rights*
- V. Support a Secure Israel and the Well-being of All its People*

To read the resolutions in their entirety, please go to www.ncjw.org/media/PDFs/NCJWResolutions20142017.pdf

As VP of Membership, I urge you to recruit your daughters and granddaughters to join with the courageous and compassionate individuals in our community who improve the lives of women, children, and families every day. For more information or to take action, please contact me at nmchodak@aol.com.

Nancy Chodak,
VP Membership

THANK YOU TO ADVERTISERS

The National Council of Jewish Women Membership Book has become one of our major fund raisers over the years. It provides information about NCJW, our projects, and our board of directors, and it allows local businesses to advertise.

We wish to thank these special people for all their support over the years: Assemblyman Joseph Morelle, Balsam Bagels, Brighton Collision, Boxman, Brighton Memorial Chapel, Brookdale, Brownstein's Deli and Bakery, Canandaigua National Bank, Donna Clare Custom Design, Congresswoman Louise Slaughter, Cooley Brand, Cornell's Jewelers, Davey Tree and Landscape, Eastview Mall, ESL Credit Union, Economy Paper, Ethan Allen Home Interiors, Eye Openers, Feldman Heating & Cooling, Fox's Restaurant,

Friendly Senior Living, Get Noticed with RJF Marketing, Glen Moscoe Jewelers, Gordon, Chodak, & Chapin, CPAs, Gro-Moore Farms, The Highlands at Pittsford, Hoffman Appliance, Hollywood Service Center, JCC, *The Jewish Ledger*, Jines Restaurant, John H. McGee & Son Monuments, K-D Movers, Key Bank, Kittelberger Florist, M&T Bank, MAPCO Auto Parks, Maynard's Electric Supply, Nan Miller Gallery, Monroe's Restaurant, Northfield Goldsmiths, Pontillo's Pizzeria, Ray Case Floors, Richard's Fine Jewelers, Rochester Financial Services, Rochester Ophthalmological Group, PC, Sammy's Appliance Service, Senator Joseph Robach, St. John's Meadow, The Summit at Brighton, Tops Friendly Markets, Valley Manor, Vision Automotive Group, Wegmans, Christopher Williams Agency, Lorraine

Wolch, CPA's PC, Robert J. Zeman, State Farm Insurance, and Zweigle's. Always a special thank you to our printer, Remy Fenster and Amy LaGambino of Amy's Always Write. Without their patience, this would never get done!

As members PLEASE support these fine businesses in our community. Let them know you saw their ad in our NCJW membership book. If you have additional businesses that you think might like to advertise with us, PLEASE ask them or let us know and we will contact them.

Again, thanks to everyone for allowing NCJW to make a difference! ☹

Donna Cohen and Gloria Kaplan
Raquet19@aol.com, 271-7458



National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Rochester Section

**P.O. Box 92444
Rochester, NY 14692**

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Save the Date!

Hannah G. Solomon/NCJW
Woman of the Year Luncheon

May 1, 2016

Irondequoit Country Club
honoring

Hannah G. Solomon Award
recipient, Larry Marx,
Executive Director of The
Children's Agenda and
NCJW Woman of the Year,
Gina Horowitz

HELP WANTED

We are looking for volunteers
to join several committees:

Do you like to write or are
social media savvy? The
Communications Committee
would like to hear from you.
Contact **Jennifer Loviglio** at
ncjwgrs@gmail.com. Write
"communications" in the
subject line.

Our Hannah G. Solomon/
Woman of the Year award
event is looking for volunteers.
Contact **Vancy Boyar** at
ncjwgrs@gmail.com. Write
HG/WOTY in the subject line.

Change of address?

If you have a change
or correction of
address, please
contact

Barbara Grosh at
Barbara@grosh.net



MISSION STATEMENT

The **National Council of Jewish Women** (NCJW) 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 and freedoms.