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Bulletin



Vol. 17, No. 3
January-February 2012

National Council of Jewish Women
Greater Rochester Section

COMING EVENTS

JANUARY

WED / 11
General Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.,
JCC

MON / 16
Martin Luther King Day

TBA
Reel Women

FEBRUARY

WED / 8
Tu B'Shevat

WED / 8
General Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m.,
JCC

WED / 15
Women in Hollywood

MON / 20
Presidents' Day

MARCH

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

THU / 8
Purim

TBA
Reel Women

TBA
Sojourner House Program

Women in Hollywood

Lecture and Discussion

led by Professor Greta Niu

Wednesday, February 15, 2012

7 p.m.

at the home of Donna Cohen

28 Chatham Woods, Pittsford

Prof. Greta Niu will speak about women and Hollywood films. Prof. Niu's expertise is wide-ranging; she has taught classes on women and Hollywood; film noir; and Asian American film & literature, among other topics. She has worked at several colleges, including Sweet Briar College, SUNY College at Brockport, and the University of Rochester. Currently in the English department at St. John Fisher College, she also teaches middle school and high school students how to make digital films.

Come join us for what will be a lively and interesting event along with delicious desserts.

RSVP by Wednesday, February 8th to **Jennifer Loviglio** at jaloviglio@gmail.com or call **Donna Cohen** at 385-3081



REEL WOMEN

Movie lovers: join us at "Reel Women" -- several informal gatherings during the year to see the latest films and chat about them afterwards. Our suggested format this year will be afternoon movies at Pittsford Plaza and lunch or coffee depending on the movie times. Watch for email "blasts" from NCJW with the day and time of the "Reel Women" events. ☹

Carol Fybush
cfybush@gmail.com and **Soralee Cook**
jaysoralee@frontiernet.net

NCJW, GRS would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest members!

Ruth Kramer

Beth Rabinowitz

Harriet Renzi,
VP Membership
hrenzi4nyps@aol.com

MISSION STATEMENT

National Council of Jewish Women, Inc., is a volunteer organization that has been at the forefront of social change for over a century. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW works to improve the quality of life for women, children and families, and to ensure individual rights and freedoms through programs and projects initiated by its network of 90,000 members and supporters nationwide.

NCJW, GRS
Executive Officers
2011 - 2012

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Alison Cresov

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Gina Horowitz

VP Membership
Harriet Renzi

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Elyse Boress

Marilyn Fenster

Gloria Kaplan

Dolores Kleinberg

Sue Korpeck

Arlene Schenker

Cathy Schneider

Mollie Traub

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A sincere thank you to **Nina Kalen** for her fun and informative book review. Nina reviewed "America's Women – 400 Years of Dolls, Drudges, Helpmates and Heroines," by Gail Collins, at the home of **Marilyn Berman** on October 26. There were about 25 of us gathered to learn about the different roles of women throughout the years. Nina's review was a pleasure to be a part of. Nina highlighted important milestones for women in history describing the

challenges faced through the centuries and encouraged feedback from her audience. There were many laughs shared because of Nina's entertaining manner in which she presents the sometimes sad truths of our history. It's always important to reflect back on how far we've come while continuing to forge ahead for women's rights and equality. ≧

Alison Cresov, President
acresov@hotmail.com

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 what NCJW is all about, what our projects are, who makes up our board of directors and allows local businesses to advertise.

We wish to thank these special people for all their support over the years: A1 Video Awareness, A Different Point of View, ADT Security Services, Access Lifts and Ramps, Assemblyman Joseph Morelle, Blue Lotus, Brickstone, Brighton Memorial Chapel, Brownstein's Deli and Bakery, Chateau Wine & Spirit, Cooley Brand, Cornell's Jewelers, Davey Tree and Landscape, Don Allesson Factory Outlet, East Avenue Dentistry, Economy Paper, Ethan Allen Home Interiors, Excellus, Eye Openers, Feldman Heating & Cooling, Fox's Restaurant, The Friendly Home, The Gables, Get Noticed Rochester, Glen Moscoe Jewelers, Gordon and Chodak, CPAs, Highlands at Pittsford, Hoffman Appliance, Hollywood Service Center, **Julie Holzbach**, Jewish Ledger, John H. McGee & Son, Key Bank, Lee B. Bradley Flooring, M&T Bank, Mann's Jewelers, MAPCO Auto Parks, Maynard's Electric Supply, McPEARL, Mr. Grab Bar, Pace Window and Door,

Pontillo's Pizzeria, Ray Case Floors, Richard's Fine Jewelers, Rochester Ophthalmological Group, PC, Rochester Picture Framing, Salon LuSandra, Sammy's Appliance Service, Senator Joseph Robach, Seniorsfirst, St. John's Meadow, The Summit at Brighton, Tops Friendly Markets, Urban Steel, Van Bortel, Vision Automotive Group, Wegmans, Christopher Williams Agency, Window Cleaning Specialists, **Lorraine Wolch**, CPA's PC, Woodside Manor, Scott E. Zakalik CPA, PC, Robert J. Zeman, State Farm Insurance, Zweigle's. Always a special thank you to our printer, Remy Fenster. Without your patience, this would never get done!

As members PLEASE consider supporting 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. If not let us know and we will contact them.

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

Donna Cohen Raquet19@aol.com
and **Gloria Kaplan**

2011 MISSION TO ISRAEL

I recently had the good fortune to participate in the NCJW Mission to Israel. This is an event that takes place every two years and is intended to educate NCJW members about our work in Israel. It was a thrilling experience to see first-hand the life-changing impact our program support dollars and Yad B'Yad contributions have on women and at-risk populations in Israel. Experiencing this in the company of other NCJW women, all with shared dreams of improving the opportunities, the economics, the health and education of all women in Israel-Jewish, Arab, Druse and Bedouin-was also deeply satisfying.

Although this was my fourth trip to Israel, I came away with some new perspectives. I was surprised to learn that, despite the fact that Israeli women serve in the army and are given much responsibility during their service, they have a long way to go to attain gender equality. They are engaged in an uphill battle for equality in the workplace, in the boardroom, in government and civic life. Some of our work in Israel addresses this problem head-on. One of NCJW's most impressive achievements is the Women and Gender Studies program at Tel Aviv University, founded by NCJW in 2001. At the time of its establishment, it was the only degree-granting program

of its kind in Israel, and it now offers a master's program as well. We met with the director and several students and learned of the aspirations and accomplishments of students and alumnae, some of whom will no doubt be leaders and pioneers of the future Israeli society. (Indeed, some of them have already demonstrated leadership by participating in the tent city social protests this past summer.) We learned of the work done by WePower, one of our Israel Granting Projects (IGP), which works to prepare and train women for public office, with the ultimate goal of putting more women in the Knesset. We also met with Tzipi Livni, leader of the Kadima party and one of 24 women members of the Knesset at this time.

We met with a remarkable woman of the Vital Voices project who, along with her Palestinian partner in peace, has worked tirelessly to build bridges between Jewish and Palestinian women in Israel through dialogue and friendship and by working on joint projects to empower all Israeli women. While they realize that their work can be derailed at any time by flare-ups such as the 2010 flotilla incident, or worse, they persevere and never lose hope—because, as they say, "there is no choice but to work for peace." In



this same vein, during our visit to the Haifa Feminist Center, we heard from women of Isha L'Isha (Women to Women), another IGP. These women work

toward, among other things, implementing UN Resolution 1325, ensuring women's full participation in all aspects of the peace-making process.

It's impossible to relate in this short space all the amazing work that Israeli women do in Israel. Suffice it to say that Israeli women are pioneering, courageous and indomitable—true counterparts and partners of NCJW women. Thanks to the outstanding work of Shari Eshet, director of the NCJW Israel Office, NCJW is able to support this work and effect change in Israel that directly mirrors the progressive social change we work toward at home.

One last note: Don't think all was serious on this mission. The group prayed and sang at the Wall, attended a Rami Kleinstein jazz concert, had a cooking lesson with a renowned Israeli chef at the tantalizing Machaneh Yehuda market, and enjoyed home hospitality in small groups. My group was treated to a delicious home-made dinner, during which we engaged in wonderful conversation ranging from Israeli and American politics to our own pregnancy and birthing stories! By the time the evening was over, we felt like sisters and no one wanted to leave.

If you are considering a trip to Israel, I encourage you to consider joining an NCJW Israel mission. You will not be disappointed. In the meantime, you can check out www.ncjw.org and click on "our work in Israel." ≧

Arlene Schenker
NCJW, GRS Director
arleneschenker@gmail.com

BOOKS, MOMMY AND ME

"I had a delicious turkey club. I held three delicious babies. It doesn't get any better than that!!"

This is an email quote I received from one of the volunteers who spent her afternoon at the Books, Mommy and Me event at the YWCA on Friday, November 11.

Books, Mommy and Me has been a successful collaboration with the YWCA for five years. NCJW coordinates with YWCA case workers and administrators to host high school teen moms, or moms to be, for lunch and a get-together to encourage the importance of reading to their babies. NCJW provides books for the moms, which are donated by Volunteers of America through a program with Scholastic Books.

This year, we provided a craft for the moms to make, including decorating mugs and picture frames as



well as making bows out of decorative duct tape. The bows were a big hit this year! The volunteers read to the babies and toddlers and enjoyed mingling with the moms and case



workers. The YWCA truly appreciates our efforts to help in the endeavor of encouraging the moms to read to their children and bringing them all together for an afternoon of socializing.

The day would not be possible without

the help of our NCJW volunteers who helped to set up, serve lunch, help with crafts and especially to connect with the moms and their babies. Thank you to **Ronny Frishman, Marian Kobrin, Lois Kuh, Robin Levitt, Cathy Schneider and Mollie Traub.** It was an enjoyable and invaluable day for all. ≡

Harriet Renzi, Chairperson
hrenzi4nyps@aol.com

GRS BYLAWS READY FOR REVIEW

The proposed new bylaws are on the website (www.ncjwgrs.org) under "News." They have been approved by the GRS Board of Directors as well as the national bylaws review committee. In order for them to be officially adopted, the GRS membership must vote to approve them.

At the next GRS event at which we have a quorum, we will ask members to vote to approve the bylaws. Please take a minute (actually 5 minutes) to read them and send questions or comments to **Mollie Traub** at mtraub@rochester.rr.com

If you cannot read them on line please let us know if you would like a written copy prior to the voting meeting. ≡

IN THE FAMILY

Condolences to:

The family of **Esther Solomon** on her passing

The family of **Marian Gottfried** on her passing

Soralee Cook on the loss of her sister

Mazel tov to:

Judy Abelman and Barry Goldfarb on the marriage of their son Joel to Megan White

To list your simchas and sorrows in the bulletin, please contact **Cathy Schneider** at cathy@rochester.rr.com. ≡

JOB SHADOW DAY

How many kids in high school would go to work on their day off from school? Nineteen students from the Rochester City School District did just that on Tuesday, November 8 for the 4th Annual Job Shadow Day through NCJW's Consider College Mentor Program. The students went to 15 different places of business to observe and shadow someone in the workplace.

The students experienced many different types of businesses:

- One student went to an animal hospital where she witnessed two different surgeries performed on a dog and a bird
- Two students went to visit a bakery where they helped to fulfill an order for 200 cupcakes
- One student observed a nursery school class and helped with picture day for 3- and 4-year-olds
- Three students observed the daily routine inside a police department and had a tour of the department
- One student observed a personal training session at a local health club and met with the fitness director for a one-on-one question and answer session
- Two students went to see how an interior design department at a local supermarket develops plans for their stores
- One student went to a company that recycles computers and saw the recycle process
- Two students observed an art therapy class at a nursing home and met with the residents as well as the teacher
- One student went to visit the service department of an automobile dealership and saw how cars were being serviced
- Two students went for a visit to a nurse's office and shadowed

a nurse who had put herself through nursing school as a single mom

- One student spent the afternoon with a jeweler who taught him how to make a bracelet, which he finished and brought home with him
- One student visited an attorney and observed a typical morning at the law office
- Two students were given a tour of a hospital's radiology department and met with radiology technicians to learn what is required for entry into this field
- One student went to a local animal shelter and observed what it takes to care for the animals

The students spent a few hours at their given locations and then their NCJW mentors or volunteers picked them up to take them to Mollie Traub's house where they all talked about their experiences and wrote thank you notes to the people they had visited that day. They enjoyed pizza and other refreshments and then were driven back home.

Most of the students who participated are either in their junior or senior year in high school and have been with the Consider College program for five or six years. It is wonderful to see how they have grown and progressed through the years. Some of the students requested specific places to visit as it may be the area of expertise that they would like to pursue for a career and others were interested in observing a general work environment. In both cases, all the students had positive experiences and have a little more "work" experience under their belt.

Some employers have an interest in seeing the students again for a work study or part-time position.

It would not be possible to make all of these visits happen without the help of the many volunteers who drove the students. I would like to say thank you to **Henra Briskin, Soralee Cook, Ronny Frishman, Doreen Goldstein, Julie Holzbach, Gina Horowitz, Larry Kobrin, Marian Kobrin, Sharon Kovalsky, Jennifer Loviglio, Arline Seideman, Diane Shrager, Alice Silver, Irwin Solomon, Ken Traub and Mollie Traub** for taking the time out of their busy day to volunteer. The person with all the answers is **Mollie Traub**. Mollie's knowledge of the students and the mentors and work places is invaluable to the success of coordinating this day. **Jennifer Loviglio** was a lifesaver during the planning and preparation as well as the smooth implementation of the coordination of students, mentors and work places. It was a pleasure working with both Mollie and Jennifer.

If you have any suggestions for additional work places for our students to visit next year, please do not hesitate to contact **Harriet Renzi** at hrenzi4nyps@aol.com. If you would like to be on the planning committee or would like to be a driver or a mentor, please send an e-mail.

We look forward to another successful Job Shadow Day next year. ≡

Harriet Renzi, Chairperson
hrenzi4nyps@aol.com

COUNCIL INVESTORS

Want to get an education in the stock market? Join NCJW's Council Investors. We meet the first Wednesday of every month at noon at Canandaigua National Bank at 12 Corners. Contact **Linda Lowenstein** at 442-2089 for more information. ≡