



Chai Lines

International Northeast Region Women's League for Conservative Judaism

Networking to Engage, Enrich and Empower
Conservative Jewish Women

April 28, 2017

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Refuah Sheleimah to:

Nancy Bloom, Past NY State Region President
Jessica Many, Region Archives Chair

May they quickly return to full health.

International Northeast Region Honored by WLCJ

Kicking off our centennial celebrations, the 5778 calendar honors 26 women selected by our regions who have been inspirational role models in their regions and branches. Order your new calendar online or by calling our order department at 212.870.1260.

We congratulate these women honored by our regions:

International Northeast Region: Toby Masur, Lois Silverman,
Rusty Zackheim

Margie Miller, Incoming President of WLCJ, Coming to Montreal



In support of the Torah Fund of WLCJ
The Sisterhoods of Shaare Zion, Shaare Zedek and Beth-El
are pleased to invite you to



An evening with **Margie Miller**

Incoming President,
Women's League for Conservative Judaism

**discussing her experience
and the strategies she used
to cope with loss**

Wednesday, May 17, 2017

7:15 pm at Shaare Zion Congregation

5575 Côte St-Luc Road, Montreal, Quebec H3X 2C9

Refreshments will be served

Please reserve by Friday, May 12

Lishai 514-481-7727 ext. 226

Lishai@shaarezion.org

Minimum contribution of \$18.00.
Canadian tax receipts will be issued.

Margie's husband, Joel Miller z"l, was killed in the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center on Sept. 11, 2001. She became the Family Outreach and Program Coordinator at the WTC Family Center and worked as a bereavement specialist helping more than one thousand impacted family members, responders and survivors. She was also involved in the development of the National 9/11 Memorial and Museum.



FROM OUR REGION PRESIDENT

Eleanor is away. Look for her message soon.

FROM THE EDUCATION VP LOIS SILVERMAN

We look to avoid pain, sorrow, and tears. We seek comfort, joy, and laughter. As so many before me, I ask why? Doesn't Kohelet (Ecclesiastes Chapter 3) tell us:

Everything has an appointed season, and there is a time for every matter under the heaven.

A time to give birth and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to uproot that which is planted....

A time to weep and a time to laugh; a time of wailing and a time of dancing...

Rabbi David Wolpe posted a poem by Dana Gioia which gives an interpretation of Kohelet that speaks to us today.

Blessed is the pain that humbles us.
Blessed is the distance that bars our joy.
Blessed is this shortest day that makes us long for light.
Blessed is the love that in losing we discover.

Let's all make lemonade!

Shabbat Shalom
LOIS

FROM WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM



*Networking to engage,
enrich and empower
Conservative Jewish women*

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 8: *Personal Conversation: Celebrating the Shabbat Bride*

May 10: *Personal Conversation: Preserving Your Bloom*

May 15: *Early Bird deadline for Convention 2017*

Resolution vote

After a meaningful open conversation on Monday evening, the first resolution being presented in our new resolution acceptance system is available for voting by our entire membership. Click [here](#) to read and vote on the resolution dealing with religious pluralism at the Wall. Please share this information with your sisterhood and region members. Voting will end on May 8.

There are several more resolutions being worked on by the committee.

Virtual Ad Journal

There are **valued volunteers** throughout our sisterhoods and regions who deserve to be honored. You can show your appreciation by placing an ad in the convention's eco-friendly Virtual Journal. Imagine how special they will feel to see their name along with your message flashed on the screen throughout convention and on our website for the rest of the year.

Get together with your sisterhood, family or friends to send a message to show how much you appreciate your valued volunteer's contribution. We pay our dedicated members with praise worth more than a paycheck!

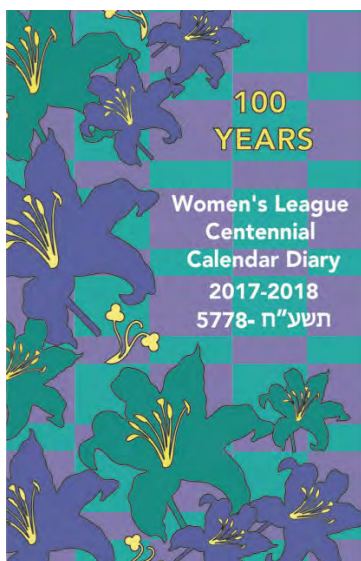
Click [here](#).

A special invitation from the Frankel College

As leaders in Women's League, you are invited to the first Conservative ordination in Germany since the Shoah by the Zacharias Frankel College, to be held in Berlin under the auspices of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies of American Jewish University and the Rabbinical Assembly.

Date: June 18, 2017

For more information or to RSVP for the ordination ceremony and/or for a Shabbat Program, click [here](#).



2017-2018 Calendar Diaries are in!

Kicking off our centennial celebrations, the 5778 calendar honors 26 women selected by our regions who have been inspirational role models in their regions and branches. Order your new calendar online or by calling our order department at 212.870.1260.

We congratulate these women honored by their regions:

BQLI Region: Molly Chernofsky

Central Great Lakes Region: Ann Gould,

Karen Kaufman, Joyce Weingarten

Florida Region: Sherry Sukel

Garden State Region: Evelyn Auerbach, Pauline Kessler, Yvette Rosenberg

International Northeast Region: Toby Masur, Lois Silverman, Rusty Zackheim

IntraContinental Region: Bobbie Berger, Phyllis Harris, Karen Lukin, Randy Schwartz

MetroNorth Region: Bernice Balter, Mary Sanders

Mid-Atlantic Region: Sandy Berenbaum, Billie Rubinoff

North Atlantic Region: Sally Abbey, Nina Mintzer

North by Northwest Region: Sandy Eliaser

Pacific Southwest Region: Bea Reynolds, Eve Wechsberg

Seaboard Region: Shelly Goldin

Southern Region: Phyllis Grusin Weinstein



As a benefit of our partnership with Sharsheret, Women's League members are invited to participate in its two-part training:

- BRCA & Jewish Genetics: Tuesday, May 16, 12 noon EST
- Nutrition, Prevention & Survivorship: Tuesday, May 23, 12 noon EST

The trainings are presented via webinar, and in collaboration with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. To register, click [here](#).

A Meaningful Mother's Day Gift



Once again, Women's League has joined **JWI** in honoring women and children in domestic violence shelters. Through the annual Flower Project, JWI sends bouquets of flowers to shelters across the United States.

Here is how it works:

- Make a \$25 donation to JWI in honor of a special person.
- After 40 cards have been purchased by our members, Women's League receives a percentage of the donation.
- JWI sends a card, which will arrive by Mother's Day or Father's Day, stating that a contribution has been made in his or her honor.
- JWI uses proceeds to send flowers to more than 200 domestic violence shelters on Mother's Day.

Click [here](#) for more information.

Personal Conversations

May 8, 2017

Lekha Dodi: Celebrating the Shabbat Bride

Speaker: Author/Artist Debra Band

In preparation for Mother's Day, Debra Band reveals Kabbalistic puzzles in this ode to the Shabbat Bride.

The talk will be via webinar so you can enjoy Debra's beautiful art work. Register [here](#)

May 10, 2017

Preserving Your Bloom: Reveling in our joys. Overcoming our challenges. Attaining our dreams.

Presented by Iris Ruth Pastor, a popular writer, speaker and blogger from Tampa, Florida. Register [here](#).

A BOLD NEW OUTLOOK



WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR
CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

CONVENTION 2017

CONVENTION UPDATES

Early bird deadline is May 15 Log onto www.wlcj.org and choose **Convention 2017 Registration**. We are looking forward to welcoming you personally.

Eikhah Classes Watch the classes, listed on the convention information page of the website.

Bid and Buy is back! Jewelry, artwork and more. Look for the table all day Sunday! Sisterhoods: if you would like to submit items, contact [Fran Radel](#).

Check out [Convention Day-by-Day](#) for the latest information.

Special Convention project

Mathilde's Mentionables will be an ongoing chesed project of Women's League. For Convention, we are collecting new and gently used undergarments for women in need in the Washington, DC area.



יום לימוד נשים ארצי ה-18

של ליגת נשים, מכון שכטר והתנועה המסורתית

18th National Masorti Women's Study Day

18 avo. Día Nacional Masortí de Estudio Femenino

18-й Женский учебный день состоится в пятницу

June 23, 2017 8:30 am - 3:00 pm Schechter Institute, Jerusalem

for information and to register: www.masorti.org.il/limudnashim

Support Women's League the easy way!



We have joined Amazon Prime. Initiate your shopping session through our website. Amazon will rebate a percentage of the sale back to Women's League. **The only requirement is that you initiate your online shopping session through our website.** Click on the Amazon logo on the top of our [webpage](#) (near the Facebook icon) than click on the Amazon shopping cart on the next page. Do that for every purchase.



Women's League Reads

To listen to Lisa Kogen's interview with Betsy Lerner, author of *The Bridge Ladies*, click [here](#).



Distance Workshops

For the complete 2016-2017 schedule of Distance Workshops, [click here](#).

You can read the scripts from the last workshops in the member document section of the website.

**FROM THE TORAH FUND VICE PRESIDENT
MARILYN COHEN**

TORAH FUND CAMPAIGN 2016-2017

TORAH FUND CAMPAIGN

Women's League for Conservative Judaism



Seeds Newsletter, Issue 4



SHE PLANTS A SEED FOR THE FUTURE

Join this Special Project to raise
\$600,000 in two years to support

• Ziegler's Year of Study in Israel
• Refurbishing and Re-sanctifying
the JTS Women's League
Seminary Synagogue

Gifts of \$1800 and higher will be
recognized in a permanent installation
at both campuses.

All gifts will be recognized at Women's
League Convention in July, 2017.

Let us know how this project works
for you at: torahfund@jtsa.edu

Do you have a great idea to share?
Send it in to: torahfund@jtsa.edu

A Successful Fundraising Idea! Try This!

We thank Lori Snow, Torah Fund Vice President from Mid-Atlantic Region, for sharing these successful ideas.

Seeds Project Fundraiser: Mid-Atlantic Region



• For Mid-Atlantic Region's Torah Fund Founder's Day, Gift Baskets were created with items donated from Sisterhood Gift Shops. The Region Gift Shop Chair coordinated collecting items and assembling great baskets. Raffle tickets were sold at the event and all profits went towards their Seeds Pledge.

• For other Region Events, Baskets were made from items donated by the event's committee members and again raffle tickets were sold and all profits went towards their Seeds Pledge.

• 50/50 Tickets were sold at all Region events. One half of the monies collected was awarded to the individual winner. The other half of the monies collected went towards the Region's Seeds Pledge.

• After two MAR events with featured speakers, the Executive Committee reviewed final figures and decided on donation amounts to honor each speaker. The Torah Fund Office graciously sent notes to each speaker to confirm the donation in their honor.

The Mid-Atlantic Region pledged \$1,800 to the two-year Seeds Campaign. Over \$1400 was sent to the Seeds campaign in 2015-16. Mid-Atlantic Region will continue these efforts in 2016-2017.

Inspired by the success of the Seeds Campaign in the Mid-Atlantic Region, the MAR Past President's Council has also pledged \$1,800 to the Seeds Campaign. Thank you!



The Sisterhood of Beth Tikvah B'nai Jeshurun (BTBJ- Erdenheim, PA)

has a long history of supporting Torah Fund and Women's League for Conservative Judaism. In early 2016, Sisterhood Board Members decided to raise money for the Torah Fund Special Campaign "She Plants a Seed for the Future" in honor of their beloved Rebbetzin Linda Grife, who was struggling with a recurrence of cancer. Contributions were collected in secret to surprise Linda with this honor. Donations were collected from the extended BTBJ community and local

friends. Debbi Goldich, Sisterhood member and International Torah Fund Chair, spearheaded the collection efforts.

The money raised through this Campaign supports the student year in Israel for Ziegler rabbinical students and supports the refurbishing and re sanctification of the Women's League Seminary Synagogue at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Linda Grife was a graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary with a Master's Degree in Social Work, which gave the donation an even more special connection.

Linda was an active member of BTBJ Sisterhood during her 18 years as Rebbetzin. She attended Board Meetings, gave informative and entertaining *divrei Torah*, participated in programs and events, and was a Torah Fund Honoree. Linda and Rabbi Saul Grife led more than ten congregational family missions to Israel. Each trip was sold out and was more successful than the next.

Professionally, Linda held many jobs in the Philadelphia Jewish community. Most recently, she served as Director of Admissions for the Perelman Jewish Day School and Co-General Manager of Max and David's, a kosher restaurant. Linda touched us all with her love and knowledge of Judaism and Israel, her kind and inspiring stories, and her overflowing optimism.

Everyone knew Linda and Linda knew everyone. Thousands described Linda as their "best friend" and she was a special friend to all! She has been described by congregants as:

...a special soul who touched every person she met. She radiated warmth and goodness and her beautiful smile lit up our shul.

Rabbi Robert Lieb, a family friend, wrote,

We have lost one of the great shining stars in our Jewish universe. Linda was an extraordinary human being. She was and always will be an inspiration to countless numbers for her boundless joy and optimism, her courage and tenacity. May Linda's righteous memory be for an everlasting blessing.

In July 2016, Linda was presented with a framed "She Plants a Seed for the Future" Certificate in her honor. In September 2016, Linda lost her hard-fought battle with cancer. Linda Grife was a remarkable person who will be missed dearly by the entire synagogue and the Philadelphia Jewish community. At her funeral, her three brothers asked us to honor Linda's life and legacy by carrying out extra acts of lovingkindness each day to make the world a better place. The BTBJ Sisterhood and the BTBJ community is committed to carrying out this mission.

Special thanks to Deena Friedland and Debbi Goldich for their input into this article.

Marilyn Cohen, INR Torah Fund VP

h) 416 223 2955

c) 416 518 1860

marilyncohen@bell.net

[Check out the New Torah Fund Guide and all the other materials to run a great campaign!](#)

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/4fcgm1vx528ze9x/AADNqaT_GXwnbZaISMo_m6Ona?dl=0

NEED HELP?

HELP IS AVAILABLE ON THE WLCJ WEBSITE.

Programs, membership ideas, education material, and more available at wlcj.org

[Click here to visit the WL and explore all the resources](#)



INR OF WLCJ | Itsilverman@gmail.com | [Website Click here](#)