



Chai Lines

International Northeast Region Women's League for Conservative Judaism

Networking to Engage, Enrich and Empower
Conservative Jewish Women

May 12, 2017

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HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

To every mother, grandmother, adoptive mother, foster, mother, aunt, cousin, and caring friend who has loved a child

ARE YOU AN INTERESTED WOMAN?



ARE YOU A WOMAN WHO...
is interested in seeing her sisterhood be the best it can be?

Come to Women's League Convention 2017 for the best place to find new skills and develop realistic expectations with:

- In-depth workshops
- Communications one-on-one
- Social media workshop
- Sisterhood presidents track
- Jewels in the Crown Luncheon honoring sisterhoods across North America



ARE YOU A WOMAN WHO...
is interested in catching up with friends, new and old??

Come to Women's League Convention 2017 to connect with friends from prior conventions and the new friends for life you're going to meet:

- Reunions
- Region parties
- Delicious meals
- History Hop in costume from your favorite decade of the past 10



ARE YOU A WOMAN WHO...
is interested in the arts?

Come to Women's League Convention 2017 for:

- Sunday Judaica and Crafts Fair
- Creative Judaic Arts Open Studio
- Workshops
- Books and authors



**Come to the Women's League Convention 2017
and let us share our world with you!
EARLY BIRD DEADLINE MAY 15**

FRIENDS, FRIENDS, FRIENDS

Catch up with old friends and make new friends for life! What better place than a Women's League convention for finding other women who share your passions and commitment to Jewish life?

- There will be reunions for anyone who has participated in a Leadership Institute, been a region/branch president, is a member of Women's League Reads, is on WLCJNet, and more
- Region parties
- History Hop: a fun romp through 100 years, looking at what has made women tick. **Come dressed in the style of your favorite decade!**
- Delicious meals, inspiring tefillot

IS SISTERHOOD YOUR PASSION?

Women's League conventions are *the* place to acquire the tools to help your sisterhood be the best it can be!

- Jewels in the Crown luncheon honoring sisterhoods across North America
- In-depth workshops
- Social Media
- Communications One-on-One
- Sisterhood Presidents Track

DON'T FORGET THE ARTS

Convention is full of beauty and creativity!

- Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro will be performing at installation and leading services
- Sunday features a fantastic Judaica/Crafts fair
- There will be workshops with authors and a special, first-time Book Fair
- The Creative Judaic Arts studio will be open throughout convention. Bring your work and share it with other crafters
- At workshops you can create a mosaic hamsa and a wired ribbon kippah

PLUS: Installation of new officers, Torah Fund Luncheon, study opportunities, A Century of Change, North American Jewry & Israel, and so much more!

EARLY BIRD DEADLINE MAY 15
Convention 2017

July 23 - 26

Marriott Crystal Gateway Hotel
Arlington, Virginia

For information, click [here](#). To register, log onto www.wlcj.org

A BOLD NEW OUTLOOK



WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR
CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

CONVENTION 2017

If you can't join us at Convention (and we *will* miss you), consider sending greetings in our virtual journal. Click [here](#) for information and to place an ad.

Author of Last Year's Women's League Orpah Selection to Speak at TAY, Syracuse, NY

Author
PATRICIA FRIEDBERG

SUNDAY, JUNE 4

1:00 p.m.

at Temple Adath Yeshurun

No cost for this event

Open to the Community

Refreshments will be served

Reservations are appreciated

Author of *21 Aldgate*, Patricia will discuss her book and her memoirs with us. A limited quantity of both will be available for purchase. Get an autographed copy!

Patricia Friedberg grew up in London during World War II, and attended the London School of Journalism. Soon after her marriage, she and her husband went to Africa, where she was a journalist and writer of documentaries for Rhodesian newspapers and television. Beginning with her novel, *21 Aldgate* and memoir *Letters from Wankie: A Place in*

Colonial Africa, she is completing *Journey From the Jacarandas*, a novel based on the Friedberg family's return to Africa and the following years.

Her novel *21 Adgate* is a story of love and war, set in England during the buildup to WWII. It witnesses prejudice, bias, aggression and propaganda, which influenced a privileged society.

For additional information, visit www.patriciafriedberg.com

**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 DIAMOND

My husband and I recently returned from spending a few weeks in Eastern Europe. One of the most poignant experiences of the trip was a visit to my late mother's hometown in Lithuania, a place once known as Naishtot, now called Kudirkos Naumiestis. The name change is indicative of a town that once had a thriving Jewish community—complete with synagogues, shoichet, cheder, *etc.*—to one in which only a couple of faint traces of that Jewish life remain.



I had grown up hearing so many stories of my mother's youth and the town in which she grew up—the bridge that she crossed to take piano lessons in Germany, the bakery that her grandparents owned, the small and large shuls where every Jewish resident *davened*, and the *cheder* where the children learned *yiddishkeit*—that I knew that a visit to this town, a small dot on the map, was inevitable if we ever found ourselves in this part of the world.

We journeyed with a detailed map of the town that had been drawn from memory by a former resident. He had laid out the small grid with information of who lived where, which shop was located on which street, even the location of the two areas of the forest where the Jews who had remained during the war were herded and shot. Arriving from the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius in late morning, we spent the better part of the day wandering the streets of the town.

Kudirkos Naumiestis is a pretty town, with small houses on well-kept lots. Almost nothing of Naishtot remains—no market place, shuls or cheders. The homes of pre-war residents no longer exist. An abandoned, dilapidated building with graffiti on the walls was recognizable as the *mikvah* only because of the broken tiles within.

On the edge of town, we found the Jewish cemetery. I had hoped to find the grave of my great-grandfather who was buried there in 1932. I had hoped to leave a stone on his headstone and say Kaddish in his memory. It was not to be. Most of the gravestones had fallen, were broken, moss-ridden, and overgrown with grass. Nevertheless, after looking at each remaining grave, and leaving stones at unidentifiable grave sites, my husband and I recited a tearful Kaddish for all who lay there, knowing that there probably weren't eight other Jews within 100 kilometres of where we stood.

Our trip also took us to Saint Petersburg, Moscow, Vilnius, Kaunas, Warsaw, Krakow. and finally to Auschwitz. As with hundreds of other cities, towns and *shtetls* over Eastern Europe, all had large, vibrant, thriving Jewish communities which no longer exist. We know the history, we've seen the pictures, visited the concentration camps and spoken to the survivors. As Jews, we pledge to remember. As committed women of Women's League, we help to perpetuate and preserve the values and tenets of Judaism, and honour and learn from all that was lost.

Shabbat Shalom,

Eleanor
diamondeleanor@gmail.com
514-458-6204

FROM THE EDUCATION VP LOIS SILVERMAN

Mother's Day is this Sunday. My children and grand children are far away, but with FaceTime and Skype we are always close. Everyday seems like Mother's Day when we speak long distance with real time video.

Most of us don't define our identities by how many children we have or if we have children; we are our own person whether we are married or not.

Below is a reposting of a version of *Eshet Chayil* written a number of years ago by Cantor Linda Shepard, then of Temple Beth El, Charlotte, NC.

Happy Mother's Day to all women who have loved a child whether the child was theirs through biology or choice.

Shabbat Shalom

LOIS

A NEW ESHET CHAYIL

The Proverbs ask: who can find a woman of valor? Her price is far above rubies.

This Shabbat let us pledge to let no one else determine our worth.

The Proverbs tells us: Her husband trusts in her, and lacks no good thing. She is good to him, never bad, all the days of her life.

This Shabbat let us realize that trust is not based on our skills as caretakers, but on honesty and respect.

She looks for wool and flax, and sets her hand to them with a will. She is like a merchant fleet, bringing food from afar.

This Shabbat let us value ourselves for our energies and our abilities.

She reaches out to those in need and extends her hands to the poor.

This Shabbat let us remember that giving of ourselves enlarges our souls.

She makes covers for herself; her clothing is linen and purple.

This Shabbat let us delight in the variety of garments that let us express ourselves. She is clothed with strength and splendor; she looks to the future cheerfully.

This Shabbat let us accept our weaknesses as well as our strengths for only then can our dreams become reality.

Her mouth is full of wisdom, her tongue with kindly teaching.

This Shabbat may we learn from one another.

She oversees the activities of her household and never eats of the bread of idleness.

This Shabbat may we know the rewards of activity and of renewal, of ease and renewal.

Her children rise up and bless her, her husband praises her.

This Shabbat may we realize that our real value comes, not from the words of others, but from knowing inside ourselves that we have done well.

Many daughters have done valiantly, but you surpass them all.

This Shabbat let us realize that comparisons do not make us more valuable. Grace is deceptive, and beauty is illusory; it is for fear of Adonai that a woman is to be praised.

This Shabbat, let us be filled with that purpose, that presence, that love.

This Shabbat may our works praise us in the gates of our homes and our lives.

This Shabbat may we all see ourselves as women of valor.

—Cantor Linda Shepard, Temple Beth El, Charlotte, NC



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

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

May 15: *Early Bird deadline for Convention 2017*

May 23: *Eikhah Class 3 with artist Debra Band*

June 7: *Women's League Board Meeting and
Torah Fund Cabinet Meeting at Women's League office*

Resolution vote

The first resolution presented in our new resolution acceptance system was accepted by 100% of those who voted. It will now be added to the body of all Women's League resolutions that you can read on our website.

As a leader in Women's League, please support our Ad Journal

It's important that you demonstrate your support of Women's League while you show your appreciation for new and outgoing board members, your sisterhood leadership, your region officers, and other valued volunteers. This journal is one of our most important fundraisers. Please place an ad today by clicking [here](#).



New Women's League Reads selection

You're the Only One I Can Tell: Inside the Language of Women's Friendships, by bestselling author Deborah Tannen.

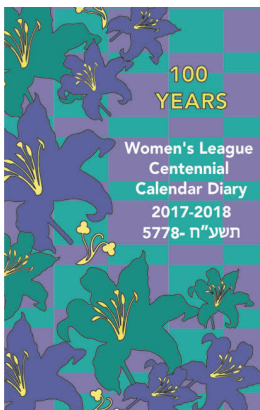
From kaffeeklatch to texting - how do women talk to each other?

This is the final selection and live interview of the year (and Ellen and Janet's last selection as moderators).

We will post discussion questions on-line starting June 4

It's not too early to start thinking about Purim!

.... and the Women's League megillah. If your sisterhood would like to be considered as the host of the beautiful megillah for next year's Purim reading, please contact [Lisa Kogen](#) soon. The chosen sisterhood will be announced at Convention.



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.



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 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 Class Three The next class in our series

is being taught by artist and author Debra Band who will discuss biblical psalms and related poetry about Jerusalem based on the illuminated paintings in her work, *I Will Wake the Dawn: Illuminated Psalms*, and other paintings. Register [here](#).

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](#)

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.

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

The 2016-2017 campaign will be ending soon. Please remember to forward your donations.

If you have any questions, please contact me at:

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/s/h/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](#)

