

Save the Dates

Sun., June 23, 2024 @ 10 am
Region Executive Committee and Board Training
Oheb Shalom Congregation, South Orange

July 28–30, 2024
WL Leadership Institute
Congregation Beth David, Saratoga, CA

Sun., Nov. 17, 2024
GSR Torah Fund Event
(Place to be announced)

May 28/29 or June 4/5, 2025
GSR Woman of Achievement
(Place and Date to be announced)

Sisterhoods are requested not to plan conflicting meetings with Region programs.

Thank you ~ Yasher Koach

B'nai Shalom and their Sisterhood, our sincere appreciation and many thanks for opening their doors to us with warmth and hospitality for today's Conference.

Debbi Kaner-Goldich and Meryl Balaban, our WLCJ Conference Consultants, for their time and direction in their commitment to the Garden State Region and Women's League.

Garden State Region Donation Opportunities

Evelyn Auerbach z"l Education Fund
To perpetuate outstanding programming for our Region.

Ella Berman Memorial Fund
To provide scholarships for leadership development opportunities.

Garden State Region Sunshine Fund
To support members of the Board in their time of need.

Checks should be made payable to:
Garden State Region-WLCJ
Mail to: Arlene Stein, 19 Adelphi Drive, Jackson, NJ 08527



Spring Conference & Installation of Region Officers



Sunday, May 19, 2024 ♦ 11 Iyar 5784

B'nai Shalom
300 Pleasant Valley Way ♦ West Orange, NJ

Lynette Seader, GSR President
Sheila Kaufman, Conference Chair
Susan Sferas, Conference Vice Chair
Debbi Kaner Goldich, WLCJ Co-Conference Consultant
Meryl Balaban, WLCJ Co-Conference Consultant





Garden State Region President's Message

Welcome to the Garden State Region Spring Conference, Jewish Women in Action. We are featuring our dynamic guest speaker, Meryl Frank, politician, non-profit executive, diplomat, author, who will speaking about "The Journey of a Woman in Action".

Today we offer installation of the 2024-26 region board, a plethora of speeches, presentations, workshops, tefillah, table discussion, award ceremony, tzedakah, a craft project and so much more. It is so wonderful to be in person!

We welcome our new Region President, Sheila Kaufman and celebrate her executive committee for 2024-2026. There are seven talented new members joining the Garden State Region Executive Committee to continue our journey.

I was honored and enjoyed serving as GSR Region President. During Covid (and beyond), our Region was a model for exemplary programming in our Coffee and Conversation series. We extended our programming to zoom with our Masorti sisters kehillot in Jerusalem and Herzlia.

I extend a hearty Yasher Koach to Sheila and the new incoming GSR-WLCJ administration for 2024-2026!

L'Shalom,

Lynette

Lynette Seader
GSR President 2021-24

Conference Committee

Sheila Kaufman and Susan Sferas, Chair & Vice Chair
Debbi Kaner Goldich & Meryl Balaban, WLCJ Consultants

Bonnie Isaacson	Sindy Manas	Anne Spring
Helene Knee	Ilene Rothman	Lymor Wasserman
Paula Lipkin	Teresa Samtur	Susan Winter
	Lynette Seader	



Donations / Tributes

In honor of Lynette Seader, our GSR President. ~ *Helene Knee*

Mazel Tov to Lynette for her accomplishments as Region President.
~ *Leonard Seader*

Kol HaKavod Lynette Seader and the outgoing Region Board on a great term.
~ *Sheila Kaufman*

In honor of my B'nai Shalom & new GSR friends. ~ *Elise Norwitz*

Mazal Tov Sheila on becoming Region President.
~ *Love you, Stu, Gabriel, & Kayla*

In honor of the leaders of Garden State, WLCJ. ~ *Cong. Beth Shalom, Teaneck*

In honor of incoming president Sheila Kaufman and outgoing president Lynette Seader. ~ *Teresa Samtur*

Yoshe Koach to Sheila Kaufman and 2024-26 Administration. ~ *Lynette Seader*

In memory of Ethel Sachs. ~ *Traci Sachs*

Kol HaKavod to Lynette Seader for a job well done. ~ *Susan Kheel*

In honor of Sheila Kaufman and her new board. ~ *Fran Katz*

In honor of incoming president Sheila Kaufman and outgoing president Lynette Seader. ~ *Susan Winter*

In honor of Sheila Kaufman, Mazal Tov on becoming GSR President.
~ *Michelle Bobrow*

In memory of Martha Oleinick. ~ *Susan Shapiro*

Lynette, Yasher Koach for a job well done. Sheila, Mazel Tov! Bee awesome.
~ *Ilene Rothman*

SOCIAL ACTION / TZEDAKAH PROJECTS

Thank you for participating!

Social Action Project 1: Feminine Hygiene products, Baby Diapers and Wipes

Tzedakah Project 2: Masorti Movement Bar/Bat Mitzvah Program for Children with Special Needs in Israel

Tzedakah Project 3: Torah Fund Creating New Spaces

A "Women's League Study Space" in the new undergraduate residence hall at the Jewish Theological Seminary, and a special course of training for rabbinical students at the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, entitled "Women's League Institute on Gender Bias and Harassment."



Donations

Sisterhood Affiliates

Thank you for supporting the Region.

Aberdeen, Temple Beth Ahm
Caldwell, Congregation Agudath Israel
Clark, Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah
Cranford, Temple Beth El Mekor Chayim
East Brunswick, East Brunswick Jewish Center
Fort Lee, The Jewish Community Center of Fort Lee/Gesher Shalom
Highland Park, Highland Park Conservative Temple-Congregation Anshe Emeth
Howell, Congregation Ahavat Olam
Livingston, Temple Beth Shalom
Metuchen, Congregation Neve Shalom
Morristown, Morristown Jewish Center Beit Yisrael
Oakhurst, Congregation Torat El
Ridgewood, Temple Israel and Jewish Community Center
Somerset, Temple Beth El
South Orange, Miriam Sisterhood, Oheb Shalom Congregation
Teaneck, Congregation Beth Shalom
West Orange, B'nai Shalom
Woodcliff Lake, Temple Emanuel of Pascack Valley

Tricky Tray Baskets

Prepared by Lynette Seader and Nancy Mayrowetz.

A special thank you to our generous contributors:
Sebley Hausler and Andrea Seader.

Donations from:
Gloria Jasnow, Sheila Kaufman, Helene Knee, Anne Kroll,
Nancy Mayrowetz, Ilene Rothman, Susan Sferas, and Susan Winter



WLCJ Co-Conference Consultant Debbi Kaner Goldich

To the women of Garden State Region, Welcome to the GSR Spring Conference. Today you will have the opportunity to join together with your Women's League Sisters to celebrate and learn. Your conference team has organized and prepared a day for just you. Today brings you the opportunity for personal growth as well as learning about Women's League and Your Sisterhood.

Kol Hakavod to Lynette Seader and her Executive Committee for an outstanding administration and Mazal Tov to Sheila Kaufman and the incoming Executive Committee. Wishing my friend Sheila lots of love and luck and I am sorry I am not able to join you on this special day.

B'vracha,

Debbi

Garden State Region Co-Conference Consultant
Immediate Past WLCJ President



WLCJ Co-Conference Consultant Meryl Balaban

Meryl served as Women's League representative to the Ramah Commission in 2006-2007. She was the Biennial Convention Madricha for the Garden State Region for two Conventions and was the Vice President of Torah Fund for the Northern NJ Branch in 2006-2008. Meryl completed her third year as the President for the Garden State Region in 2011. She has taken Women's League's three-day Leadership Institute as well as their second initiative called:

Organization and Management Institute. Meryl served as the GSR's Sisterhood Support Chair and the chairperson for their Past Presidents' Council. She was the Recording Secretary for Women's League International as well as a Vice President and chair of Per Capita. Since 2017, she is a Training Consultant and was the Consulting Services Personnel Chair. She served as the co-chair of Jewels in the Crown for the 2020 Virtual Convention. Meryl was the Co-Chair of WL Membership for three years and is now a member of the Communication Team.





**Guest Speaker
Meryl Frank**

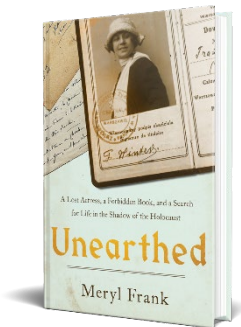
Meryl Frank is an Author, Diplomat and International Champion of Human’s Rights and Member of the US Holocaust Memorial Council.

Meryl Frank is an author, diplomat and international champion of women’s leadership, human rights, and political participation. She is the former mayor of Highland Park, N.J. President Obama appointed her as the US Ambassador to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). She was selected as one of “The Fifty Most Influential

Jews in the World” by the Jerusalem Post for her work on behalf of women around the world. President Biden appointed her to the US Holocaust Memorial Council. She also sits on the Board of YIVO, The Institute for Jewish Research. Frank has served on numerous boards of trustees, including the Jewish Women International, the American Jewish Congress, and the Sisterhood of Salaam Shalom. She has held leadership roles in the DNC’s Women’s Leadership Forum and the National Finance Committees for several presidential campaigns.

Frank is currently the President of Makeda Global Network, an international consulting firm specializing in leadership and media training, messaging, and strategic planning. At MGN she works with thousands of women worldwide, as diverse as Maasai women in Kenya, women members of Parliament in Afghanistan, and managers at the Microsoft Corporation.

She is the co-editor of The Parental Leave Crisis-Toward a National Policy; and was Director of the Infant Care Leave Project at the Yale Bush Center in Child Development and Social Policy. She was instrumental in the development and passage of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA).



“Unearthed: A Lost Actress, a Forbidden Book, and a Search for Life in the Shadow of the Holocaust,” by author Meryl Frank



**Garden State Region
Incoming Executive Committee Officers**

2024 – 2026

- PresidentSheila Kaufman
- Vice Presidents
 - Program/Education Susan Winter
 - Sisterhood Support Cheryl Sessler
 - Torah Fund Sindy Manas
- Secretaries
 - Communication Traci Sachs
 - Corresponding Susan Sferas
 - Financial Lisa Katz
 - Recording Carol Kotch
- Treasurer (to be named)
- Parliamentarian Dorothy Cohen
- Immediate Past President Lynette Seader
- Board Advisors Meryl Balaban & Heddy Belman

Incoming Board of Directors

2024 – 2026

- Financial Team Arlene Stein
- Programming Team
 - Suzie Hammer, Helene Knee, Teri Manes, Marlene Oslick
- Sisterhood Support Team
 -Sebley Hausler, Fran Katz, Nancy Mayrowetz, Jacalyn Walzer
- Torah Fund Team
 -Arlene Bernhardt, Sharon Hammerman, Gloria Jaslow, Elise Norwitz
- Archives Janice Saferstein
- Directory Leslie Foladare
- Madricha Teresa Samtur
- Webmaster & Zoom Support Ilene Rothman

May you go from Strength to Strength in your positions.



**Garden State Region
Outgoing Executive Committee Officers**

2021 – 2024

- President Lynette Seader
- Vice Presidents
 - Program/Education Susan Winter
 - Sisterhood Support Donna Burkat
 - Torah Fund Susan Romanoff
- Secretaries
 - Communication Ilene Rothman
 - Corresponding Sebley Hausler
 - Financial Cheryl Sessler
 - Recording Lymor Wasserman
- Treasurer Cindy Manas
- Parliamentarian Nancy Mayrowetz
- Immediate Past President Teresa Samtur
- Advisors to the Exec. Committee Meryl Balaban & Heddy Belman

Outgoing Board of Directors

2021 – 2024

- Financial Team Arlene Stein
- Programming Team Helene Knee
- Sisterhood Support Team
 - Susie Hammer, Sharon Hammerman, Janice Saferstein
- Torah Fund Team
 - Arlene Bernhardt, Sharon Hammerman, Gloria Jaslow, Nancy Mayrowetz
- Community Affairs Michelle Bobrow
- Directory Susan Sferas
- Israel Affairs Fran Katz
- Public Policy Marlene Oslick
- Webmaster & Zoom Support Sheila Kaufman

Thank you for all the work that you have done in your term of office.



**Garden State Region
Incoming President's Message**



Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you as your next President of the Garden State Region. I have the utmost respect for Women's League and the women of this organization and know that without our members we cannot do this alone. I look forward in serving you, to help you and your sisterhood succeed and prosper. I can't wait to travel around the Region to share your programs with you and to listen. Please reach out to me to visit your sisterhood or just to talk. I am here for you.

It has been a joy working with the Conference Committee. We worked hard to bring you, in my opinion, a wonderful Conference. I hope you feel the same and walk away with something that you can bring back to your sisterhood.

B'Shalom,

Sheila

Sheila Kaufman
GSR President 2024-26
GSRPresident24@wlcj.org, (973) 610-2524 (c)

Torah Fund

Announcing our 5785 Torah Fund Campaign

Am Yisrael Chai

עם ישראל חי

The People of Israel Live

Am Yisrael Chai is an expression of Jewish solidarity for the Jewish nation and the continuity of the Jewish people. We help ensure the future of worldwide Jewish communities through our support of the five Conservative/Masorti institutions of higher education.





WLCJ International President Julia Loeb

Shalom, as the International President of WLCJ, it is my honor to bring greetings and am so excited that you have this opportunity to celebrate your shared commitment to Judaism and the Women's League community in person.

The GSR Conference serves as a valuable opportunity for us to share knowledge, ideas, stories and experiences, and foster camaraderie and mutual support that is essential to our success. This

conference is a unique opportunity to connect with your Region Leadership, International Consultant, and with your peers.

Enjoy this time of learning, celebration, and transition. We come together to learn more about Women's League and Torah Fund. Today we honor those who have served your region for the past three years and welcome the Region's new 2024-2026 administration. We welcome those stepping into their new roles.

I urge you to stay engaged, from reading WL Week to checking our website for resources and registering for programs.

And a special thanks to the conference chairs, and conference consultants who worked so hard to make this event possible.

B'Shalom,

Julia

Julia Loeb
WLCJ International President

Jewels in the Crown Awards

These sisterhoods were recognized at Convention.

Cranford, Temple Beth El/Mekor Chayim

East Brunswick, East Brunswick Jewish Center

Highland Park, Highland Park Conservative Temple-Cong. Anshe Emeth

Morristown, Morristown Jewish Center Beit Yisrael

Oakhurst, Congregation Torat El

South Orange, Miriam Sisterhood, Oheb Shalom Congregation

West Orange, B'nai Shalom



Past Branch/Region Presidents

Northern New Jersey Branch

Faye Abraham z"l
Antoinette Goldberg z"l
Hannah Horowitz z"l
Ida Krohn z"l
Helen Sussman z"l
Leah Triger z"l
Harriet Weisberg z"l
1952-1954 Sara Skwirska z"l
1954-1960 Barbara Merkin z"l
1960-1962 Ella Berman z"l
1962-1966 Rosalie Leon z"l
1966-1968 Pauline Kessler z"l
1968-1970 Helen Berger z"l
1970-1972 Evelyn Auerbach z"l
1972-1974 Dolly (Delores) Moser z"l
1974-1976 Clara Levinson z"l
1976-1978 Marilyn Wiesneck Levinberg z"l
1978-1980 Blanche Meisel z"l
1980-1982 Jeanne Eber z"l
1982-1984 Barbara S. Goldfarb z"l
1984-1986 Penny Leifer
1986-1988 Marion Mohl
1988-1990 Janet Arnowitz
1990-1992 Marcella Kaplan z"l
1992-1994 Betty Crane
1994-1996 Gail Weis
1996-1998 Anne Moiseev
1998-2000 Miriam Bergwerk
2000-2002 Rosalie Kesselman
2002-2004 Marilyn Berger Horn z"l
2004-2006 Heddy Belman
2006-2008 Esther D. Schwarz z"l

Central New Jersey Branch

1956-1958 Rhoda Nochumson-Frazier z"l
1958-1960 Dorothy Conisa z"l
1960-1962 Sylvia Siegel z"l
1962-1964 Sylvia Lehman z"l
1964-1966 Lillian Gutman z"l
1966-1968 Florence Silverman z"l
1968-1970 Carol Gallanter
1970-1972 Mildred Pollack z"l
1972-1974 Yetta Soloff z"l
1974-1976 Yvette Rosenberg z"l
1976-1978 Miriam Kaplan z"l
1978-1980 Ethel Klein z"l
1980-1982 Elaine Ravich
1982-1984 Muriel Werksman z"l
1984-1986 Rosalie Penn z"l
1986-1988 Lila Nass
1988-1990 Barbara Hollander
1990-1992 Suse Rosenstock z"l
1992-1994 Sharon Cohen
1994-1998 Lillian Hemmendinger z"l
1998-2000 Lenore Matin z"l
2000-2002 Lynne WeissMarshall
2002-2004 Marlene Oslick
2004-2008 Jewell S. Hirschorn

Garden State Region

2008-2011 Meryl Balaban
2011-2013 Janet Geldzahler
2013-2018 Ilene Rothman
2018-2021 Teresa Samtur
2021-2024 Lynette Seader

Region Members on the WLCJ International Board 2024-26

Meryl Balaban
Heddy Belman
Donna Burkat
Barbara Ezring
Sheila Kaufman

Sindy Manas
Marlene Oslick
Ilene Rothman
Janice Saferstein
Teresa Samtur

Cory Schneider
Lynette Seader
Lymor Wasserman
Susan Winter



Garden State Affiliated Sisterhoods

Aberdeen, Temple Beth Ahm
Caldwell, Congregation Agudath Israel
Clark, Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah
Closter, Temple Emanu-El
Cranford, Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim
East Brunswick, East Brunswick Jewish Center
Fair Lawn, Fair Lawn Jewish Center/Congregation B'nai Israel
Fort Lee, The Jewish Community Center of Fort Lee/Gesher Shalom
Highland Park, Highland Park Conservative Temple-Congregation Anshe Emeth
Howell, Congregation Ahavat Olam
Livingston, Temple Beth Shalom
Marlboro, Marlboro Jewish Center/Congregation Ohev Shalom
Metuchen, Congregation Neve Shalom
Millburn, Congregation B'nai Israel
Montville, Pine Brook Jewish Center
Morristown, Morristown Jewish Center Beit Yisrael
North Brunswick, Congregation B'nai Tikvah
Oakhurst, Congregation Torat El
Old Bridge, Congregation Beth Ohr
Ridgewood, Temple Israel and Jewish Community Center
Scotch Plains, Congregation Beth Israel
Somerset, Temple Beth El
South Orange, Miriam Sisterhood, Oheb Shalom Congregation
Teaneck, Congregation Beth Sholom
Toms River, Congregation B'nai Israel
Wayne, Shomrei Torah Congregation
West Orange, B'nai Shalom
Woodcliff Lake, Temple Emanuel of Pascack Valley

Milestone Awards

In recognition of those Sisterhoods achieving milestone anniversaries with Women's League for Conservative Judaism over the past three years.

2022

Montville, Pine Brook Jewish Center 50 years
Marlboro, Marlboro Jewish Center-Congregation Ohev Shalom..... 50 years
Ridgewood, Temple Israel and Jewish Community Center 65 years
Metuchen, Congregation Neve Shalom 70 years
Millburn, Congregation B'nai Israel 80 years

2023

Clark, Temple Beth O'r/Beth Torah 60 years
East Brunswick, East Brunswick Jewish Center 60 years
Oakhurst, Congregation Torat El 65 years
Scotch Plains, Congregation Beth Israel..... 65 years
Teaneck, Congregation Beth Sholom 65 years
Fort Lee, Congregation Gesher Shalom-Fort Lee Jewish Center 70 years
Livingston, Temple Beth Shalom 70 years
Morristown, Morristown Jewish Center Beit Yisrael..... 85 years
South Orange, Miriam Sisterhood, Oheb Shalom Congregation 105 years

2024

Wayne, Shomrei Torah Congregation..... 50 years
North Brunswick, Congregation B'nai Tikvah 55 years
Aberdeen, Temple Beth Ahm 60 years
Howell, Congregation Ahavat Olam 65 years
West Orange, B'nai Shalom..... 75 years
Cranford, Temple Beth El/Mekor Chayim..... 90 years
Woodcliff Lake, Temple Emanuel of Pascack Valley 90 years





Jewish Women in Action

Garden State Region Spring Conference

Sunday, May 19, 2024 ♦ 11 Iyar 5784
Hosted by the Sisterhood of B'nai Shalom, West Orange, NJ



Agenda

8:30 Registration & Continental Breakfast

9:00 Morning Minyan with B'nai Shalom

9:45 Morning Plenary (Sanctuary)

GSR President Greetings – *Lynette Seader*

National Anthems – *Lainie Rosen*

D'var Torah – *Rabbi Robert Tobin*

Host Sisterhood President Greetings – *Bonnie Isaacson & Anne Spring*

Region Business Meeting – *Lynette Seader, President*

Treasurer – *Sindy Manas*

Torah Fund Team Member – *Arlene Bernhardt*

Presentation of Slate of Officers and Trustees for 2024-2026

Teresa Samtur, Nominations Chair

Vote on Slate – *Lynette Seader*

Jewels in the Crown Awards – *Susan Winter*

Milestone Awards – *Lynette Seader*

10:30 Conference Program Introduction (Sanctuary)

Sheila Kaufman, Conference Chair

WLCJ International President video - *Julia Loeb*

Speaker Introduction, *Helene Knee & Susan Winter*

Guest Speaker, **Meryl Frank**

“The Journey of a Woman in Action:

Learning from Our Family Histories”

Book Signing (outside of Sanctuary)

12:15 Luncheon (Social Hall)

Netilat Yadaim & Motzi – *Bonnie Isaacson & Anne Spring*

Table Talk, Social Action – *Helene Knee*

Birkhat HaMazon – *Rabbi Ellen S. Wolintz-Fields*

1:00 Healing Service – *Lymor Wasserman* (Sanctuary)

Tzedakah is collected for B'nai Mitzvah Project

1:20 Keynote Address (Sanctuary)

Meryl Balaban, WLCJ Conference Consultant

Times are approximate.

2:00 Workshops

1 - Sisterhood Presidents (SP) (Loggia #1, Rotunda)

Meryl Balaban, Sheila Kaufman

Our WL Consultant will be meeting with the On-going and Incoming Sisterhood Presidents.

2 - Torah Fund (TF) (Loggia #5)

Sindy Manas, Teresa Samtur

Get the low down on the new campaign and gain insights for the upcoming year.

3 - Membership/Programming/Fundraising (MPF) (Loggia #3)

Donna Burkat, Helene Knee, Lynette Seader

Gain/retain members, plus share ideas on programs & fundraising.

4 - WL Resolutions/Public Policy (RPP) (Loggia #4)

Ilene Rothman, Susan Winter

Learn about Women's League public policy resolutions.

5 - Get to know Women's League (WL) (Back of Social Hall)

Susan Sferas, Lymor Wasserman

Fun and games to learn about Women's League.

6 - Craft* (CRAFT) *Pre-registered only* (Loggia #2)

Kathie Abrams

Hamsa Mosaic.

3:00 Installation of Garden State Region Officers & Board

Susan Sferas, Conference Vice Chair (Sanctuary)

Discharge Officers

Ilene Rothman, Past GSR President

Teresa Samtur, WLCJ Secretary, Immediate Past GSR President

Lynette Seader, GSR President 2021-24

Install Officers

Meryl Balaban, WLCJ Consultant, GSR Board Advisor, Past Pres.

Barbara Ezring, WLCJ Consultant

Rabbi Abigail Treu, Oheb Shalom Congregation, South Orange

Sheila Kaufman, GSR President 2024-26

L'Hitraot – *Lynette Seader*

4:00 Installation Reception (Courtyard)

