



Mid-Atlantic Region

Women's League for Conservative Judaism

# Mid-Atlantic Happenings

Region President, Mimi Pollack

Bulletin Editor, Amy Perrone

Spring 2009/5769

## Mid-Atlantic Region Conference May 3rd and 4th, 2009



Congregation Beth Judah  
700 North Swarthmore Avenue  
Ventnor, NJ 08406



### Margie Miller, International Consultant

Margie Miller is a native Long Islander growing up in Valley Stream. She received her Bachelors of Arts from Hofstra University in 1971 with a double major in Sociology and Psychology. Beginning her "Jewish journey" as a teen, Margie was on the regional board of BBG and later was a chapter advisor and a Field Supervisor of Nassau Suffolk Region BBYO. Margie continued with her Judaic studies and became an adult Bat Mitzvah 15 years ago. She recently retired from a 16 year career as a Hebrew school teacher for three local Synagogues.

After moving to Baldwin in the late 70's, Margie and her first husband Charlie Sivin z"l became active at the Baldwin Jewish Center. She served as president of the Mr. and Mrs. Club, then Sisterhood president and ultimately became the first woman Congregation President. This was a huge achievement considering the synagogue was and continues to be "traditional" and non-egalitarian.

Margie went on to the Women's League Region Board, serving as Judaic Chair, Recording Secretary, Vice President and President of South Shore Long Island/Brooklyn Region. She currently serves on the International Board of Directors, is a trainer, a consultant, and is the Lead Trainer for the WLCJ Leadership Institutes.

Margie's second husband Joel Miller z"l was killed at the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001. Although Margie still holds her Real Estate Broker's license, she works full time as a family bereavement specialist for South Nassau Communities Hospital's WTC Family Center. Margie coordinates family outreach and programming for 9/11 bereaved and first responder's families. She is now in the process of creating a peer mentoring program as well as preparing a national curriculum for community responses to local traumatic events.

Margie has two adult sons, Justin Sivin and Maxwell Sivin. Justin has a wife, Lindsay. Maxwell and his wife Christina have two beautiful children, Isabelle and Charlie. Stepson Adam Miller and his wife Christy live in Kansas City, Missouri.

## FOUR QUESTIONS TO MAKE SPRING MEMBERSHIP DIFFERENT

### 1 Why join sisterhood in the spring?

*Women join the synagogue throughout the year. Be prepared to welcome them into your sisterhood, every season.*

### 2 How?

*Offer free membership in April, May and June to those who join for the first time, dues to be applied to next year. See [www.wlcj.org/MyWLCJ/Sisterhood Membership Matters](http://www.wlcj.org/MyWLCJ/Sisterhood%20Membership%20Matters).*

### 3 What is a membership event?

*Every event is a membership event. Reaching new members is a year round focus that requires the involvement of everyone.*

### 4 Where can we get resources?

*Download, free of charge, these materials from [www.wlcj.org/MyWLCJ](http://www.wlcj.org/MyWLCJ) or call Women's League at 212.870.1260.*

*Blueprint for Membership*

*Magnets 1, 2, 3*

*The Sisterhood Planner*

*The Z'havah Planner*

*Or call the region membership vice president.*

## KOL DICHFIN

### RECONNECT PASSOVER PROGRAM

*Kol Dichfin (All who are hungry enter and eat) says our Passover hagaddah.*

Every year, Jews around the world gather around seder tables to tell the story, to eat and drink, and to celebrate freedom, family, community, and the boundless opportunities life and God offer us.

Every year, though, there are some Conservative Jews who do not have a seder to go to. Many are young, just establishing themselves away from the place where they grew up; some find that work or other commitments do not allow them to be home for Pesach.

Kol Dichfin, a Passover program of Project Reconnect, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism's alumni organization--working in partnership with the North American Association of Synagogue Executives, Koach, the United Synagogue College Outreach Program, and Women's League for Conservative Judaism--is matching seats at seder tables with Jews who need them in homes and community seders.

Project Reconnect's alumni families in Israel and members of Masorti synagogues around the world have offered their homes and shuls to visiting North Americans, as well. Listings of synagogues may be found on the Project Reconnect web site, [www.projectreconnect.org](http://www.projectreconnect.org) matches.

We hope that your congregation will join in welcoming alumni and finding a seat at your seder table. If you would like to learn more or if you are looking for a Passover seder, e-mail [reconnect@uscj.org](mailto:reconnect@uscj.org).

## TORAH FUND

As the end of this fiscal year is fast approaching, now is the time for Torah Fund chairs to collect outstanding pledges and send the money to the Torah Fund office (3080 Broadway, New York, NY 10027). Be sure that all checks are made out to Torah Fund and are accompanied by a transmittal form with the information about the donor. We want to be certain that each sisterhood receives the credit it deserves for any donations made, so please include all required information. To be counted for the 2009 Torah Fund campaign, donations must be received no later than June 15.

We are very grateful to all sisterhood Torah Fund chairs for their dedication and commitment to making the campaign a success. We could not achieve our goals without their loyalty and cooperation. It is our hope that we will be able to report back that we have reached our goal of \$2.5 million for 2009! Help us make this wish a reality! Todah rabah!

## NEWLY REVISED:

### THE HEBREW WORD GUIDE

This spring, Women's League will reissue an updated guide to Hebrew word usage, pronunciation and transliteration. It is a fabulous tool to find just the right word or phrase to use in flyers, speeches and programs.

The **Hebrew Word Guide** includes lists of phrases by subject, biblical books, days of the week and months of the year, numbers, and more.

Order yours at 212.870.1260, ext. 7150 or on line at [orderdept@wlcj.org](mailto:orderdept@wlcj.org)

## HELP IS JUST A CALL AWAY!

Are you having difficulty finding new leaders?

Do you have a committee that's not functioning or a mid-term vacancy?

Do you have trouble accessing sisterhood funds?

Do you have other ticklish questions, unsolvable problems, difficult situations?

Women's League Training Services are here to answer your questions, hold your hand, train your leaders, educate your members, mentor your president, consult with your officers!

Contact the **Women's League Help Line** at 800.628.5083 or [help@wlcj.org](mailto:help@wlcj.org), Monday through Thursday, 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM (Eastern Standard Time). An experienced trainer will respond within 48 hours.



Shalom everyone,

Since our last bulletin two months ago we had a very successful Founder's Day on March 1<sup>st</sup> attended by 170 women from all over the Mid-Atlantic Region. Our guest lecturer was Chancellor Arnold Eisen from The Jewish Theological Seminary. Debie Napoleon, our Founder's Day Chair, along with Gayle Wilton, Lisa Ganzman, Claire Stup, Lynn Alexander, Gert Golub, Suzi Gross, Jill Katz, Amanda Goldberg and Linda Goldberg did a phenomenal job and we thank all of you most sincerely. Included in this bulletin are photos from this event taken by Amy Perrone and an article written by Lisa Ganzman from Adath Israel (Lawrenceville) giving us her impressions of the day which you will find enlightening.

Our first year as the Mid-Atlantic Region of Women's League has been a year of coming together – learning, living, linking, and sharing in Sisterhood. Our next opportunity to meet and greet each other will happen on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at our Mid-Atlantic Region Conference to be held at Congregation Beth Judah in Ventnor, NJ. A phenomenal two days are being planned for you by our Conference Co-Chairs Joan Vogin, Illene Rubin, Barbara Braunstein, Thelma Fox, Charlotte Stein and their extensive committee.

The Conference schedule and all pertinent information are included in this bulletin. Our International Consultant, Margie Miller, is one of the best in Women's League. Our Mid-Atlantic Region Sisterhood Presidents (continuing and incoming) will be meeting in a special session with Margie. During Conference our Sisterhoods will have the opportunity to honor Ba'alot Mitzvah representing women who have given honorably of themselves. We will honor our Torah Fund Special Gift donors. There will be workshops, a Judaic Arts project, Installation of Officers, speakers, entertainment, milestone awards, good food and we will party. You will not want to miss this momentous two day happening.

It is hard to believe that my term as President of our brand new Mid-Atlantic Region is almost over. This has been an exciting and fulfilling experience and I thank each and every one of you for having given me the opportunity of serving in this capacity. I have always said that Women's League women are the best. I see that more and more each day. I have spent this year traveling to most parts of our Mid-Atlantic Region and in meeting all of you I am gratified that we are all part of this exceptional organization. I wish to thank the members of our Executive Committee, our Board of Directors, and all our Sisterhood Presidents for the work you have done for our Region and for Women's League. This has been a year of coming together and working together and the beginning of a strong and continuing relationship. Let us go from strength to strength.

As we prepare ourselves for our great festival of freedom, our children, Bernie and I wish you and your family a sweet and kosher Pesach.

B'Shalom,  
Mimi Pollack, President  
Mid-Atlantic Region

## NEXT LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

July 26-28

Chicago

### Grow with us.

You are cordially invited to attend an inspiring two day Leadership Institute that will expand your knowledge as a Jewish woman and as a leader in your community.



The Leadership Institute's unique format allows you to build a personal program to expand your Jewish knowledge and leadership skills. Choose workshops and seminars most relevant to your interests, and meet and network with other Conservative Jewish women who share your passion for pursuing learning and personal growth.

The Leadership Institute brings together prominent speakers, seminar facilitators, and promising Jewish leaders (including you).

Register for an experience that will enhance your personal and spiritual growth by calling 212.870.1263 or emailing [rkessler@wlcj.org](mailto:rkessler@wlcj.org), or visiting our website at [www.wlcj.org](http://www.wlcj.org). Click on About Women's League/Programs/Leadership Institute.

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Mimi,

Congratulations on the wonderfully informing Happenings. I loved every line and was so impressed with what has been happening in the Region. I really wish we could get the information to our Sisterhood members so they can get a better appreciation of what is happening in the Region.

Since so many Sisterhoods follow what I would call "an events modality" as opposed to Sisterhood meetings that have more of a business mode, I don't think the information is reaching the masses. Try to encourage the Sisterhood Presidents to pass on this information.

Keep doing the great job you are doing!!  
Luv,

Rita C. Altman

# Education

My name is Linda Goldberg and I am the new Vice President of Education for the Mid-Atlantic Region WLCJ. I would like to make you aware of all of the wonderful materials, programs and ideas that Women's League has to offer your Sisterhoods. Did you know that the website, [WLCJ.org](http://WLCJ.org) has book recommendations and study guides for book clubs, scripts for installation, ideas for Judaic Arts, and much more? One of my favorites is the Divrei Hokhmah guide. Take advantage of these ideas to stimulate discussion at the beginning of your meetings. Text is provided for the leader and the participants in your meeting. I will be conducting a workshop at our Region Conference on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at Congregation Beth Judah (Ventnor). Join us to learn more about what Women's League can do for you. And don't forget to take part in the International Day of Study on May 17 (or when it is convenient for your Sisterhood to do so). The theme this year will be Psalms. Study guides are available. You can contact me at [patt2mom@comcast.net](mailto:patt2mom@comcast.net) or 215-659-1225. I look forward to hearing from you.

# Public Policy

By Nancy Schwartz

Our non-governmental observer at the United Nations, Gloria Fischel posted on the WL website a wonderful invitation for sisterhood groups to visit the United Nations. She will set up a briefing at the UN and will provide an excellent learning experience.

Upcoming meetings are:  
6/4 and 6/19...Understanding Islam

Specifics may be seen at [www.wlcj.org](http://www.wlcj.org), Invitation to UN, or by calling Lorraine Braun 212/870-1262 x 7166

Why not consider making a UN visit a program opportunity for your sisterhood in the future.

Dear Sisterhood President,

We are writing with some information about the Ba'alot Mitzvah awards that will be presented at The Mid-Atlantic Region Spring Conference. We invite you to nominate **one extraordinary woman** from your sisterhood as a *Ba'alot* Mitzvah. All nominees will receive an award at lunch on Monday, May 4, 2009.

The Ba'alot Mitzvah award will recognize women who have distinguished themselves in at least one of these general areas of mitzvot:

- *hinukh* (education)
- *tefillot* (prayer)
- *tzedakah* (fundraising)
- advocacy
- *hesed* (communal acts of kindness)
- *Israel*
- *hiddur mitzvah* (creative handcrafts)

The *Ba'alot Mitzvah* Award was created to encourage members to think about how the performance of mitzvot enriches us individually and communally. The award also offers our Region the opportunity to recognize remarkable women who are not necessarily known to everyone.

Together with your Sisterhood Board, create a mechanism for selecting a nominee whom you would like to submit to Women's League – Mid-Atlantic Region, along with an explanation of why you chose her. Nominations are due no later than April 10, 2009.

We hope that you will embrace this occasion to nominate a woman who gives so much of herself to your Sisterhood, synagogue or community.

We look forward to hearing about your nominee. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

Faye Shapiro, Chair  
Ba'alot Mitzvah Awards Program  
faye.shapiro@comcast.net 856-795-8427

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### MISSION TO ISRAEL 2009

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November 1-15, 2009

Call 212.870.1260 for information

## LEAGRAM

The Mid-Atlantic Region of Women's League wants to share with each of its "Sisters" their Simchas, sorrows, celebrations and accomplishments. Please let us know by calling Violet Zeitlin (215)635-1587, so that we can acknowledge the event by sending a LEAGRAM. CALL TODAY with details and keep us informed.

### Get Well: Refuah Shelema:

Rabbi Andrea Merow, recovering from back surgery

Janie Perlstein, wife of Rabbi Elliott Perlstein of Ohev Shalom of Bucks County

Phyllis Haas, recovering from back surgery

### Mazel Tov:

Nancy Schwartz, Public Policy Chair, on birth of granddaughter, Madison Kate Schwartz

Suzi and Jeff Gross, Suzi is Co-President, Adath Israel Sisterhood (Merion Station), on the Bat Mitzvah of their daughter, Jami

Rabbi Steven Wernick, on his selection as Executive Vice President of United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism

Susan Lodish, Mid-Atlantic Region Board Member and National Board Member, on being honored by Theatre Ariel

Mimi and Bernie Pollack, President of Mid-Atlantic Region, on birth of grandson, Eli Daniel Pollack

Maxine and Alan Endy, marriage of their son Eric Friedman to Bonnie Findelman

Ethel and Arnie Levinson, Past President SNJ Region, Bar Mitzvah of grandson, Andrew Jonathan Shapiro

Susan Handis on daughter's graduation from University of Rochester and her scholarship and acceptance into the Warner Graduate School at the University of Rochester

*continued...*

## REGION SERVICES

Area programming: the possibilities are endless!

So exactly what are areas? For the most part, areas were created geographically by regions to make direct contact easier for the region officers, particularly area directors, who basically are sisterhood liaisons. When neighboring sisterhoods form areas, joint programming and mutual support are so much more likely!

Ideally, the sisterhood presidents within an area should meet together (either in person or via conference call) at the beginning of their term. The area director or vice president can coordinate this gathering. At that meeting, presidents can share ideas, ask questions, and discuss what future activities or services they would like to see within the area.

So...what are the possibilities for sisterhoods within an area?

Perhaps.....

The presidents just would like to meet together and network several times over the course of the year.

The sisterhoods would like a day of mini workshops to address common concerns. The region board would coordinate and facilitate these sessions.

The sisterhoods would like a trip to a museum together.

The sisterhoods want to share a speaker or plan a program on a specific topic.

The sisterhoods would like to hold a joint Vashti's Banquet, Study Day, Torah Fund event, Education Day, Chanukah party, Women's Seder, Sukkah gathering, Health Fair...

As you can see, the possibilities are endless. Area directors will assist the sisterhoods in organizing what they would like, or ask the region officers to coordinate these efforts.

For additional information or suggestions please contact Margie Miller, Women's League Region Services chair, at [mmiller@wlcj.org](mailto:mmiller@wlcj.org)

## AREA DIRECTORS AND SISTERHOODS: Communication and Teamwork

The new position of Area Director has been added to the Mid-Atlantic Region Board of Directors. Many members of Sisterhoods have been asking questions about who she is and what she does.

The Area Director's most important responsibilities are to communicate regularly with each Sisterhood. She gives information about upcoming Region events, upcoming WLCJ events and highlights and explains recent mailings.

The Area Director provides reminders of deadlines for registration for programs and events. She assists with collections by notifying about deadlines for various programs and Tzedakah projects and articles for the Region bulletin.

The Area Director assesses the needs of individual Sisterhoods. She organizes opportunities to share ideas and publicizes other Sisterhood or community programs. She creates networking opportunities between the Sisterhoods within the Areas and identifies materials and services available from Women's League.

The Area Director insures the connections between the Mid-Atlantic Region and the Sisterhoods and shows that she cares by bonding on a regular basis. She provides answers to questions from previous interactions and plans future contact.

The Area Director identifies and cultivates future leadership. She communicates regularly with the Area Vice President.

Let's thank our Area Directors: Marian Goldstein-Beckhorn, Joy Novick, Nancy Goldberg, Barbara Bess Pashak, Susan Handis, Rochelle Hirt and Roz Bulk. We appreciate their dedication and devotion to assisting the Sisterhoods of the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Donna Finkelstein  
Area Vice President  
Mid-Atlantic Region

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## WWW.CONSERVATIVEJUDAISM.ORG

It is finally here: a website that can put the entire Conservative/Masorti movement in perspective, from a to z. There is a calendar of all events by the many organizations that make up the movement (see if anything is scheduled in your area). There are overviews of our congregations and their subsidiary organizations.

A TRIBUTE TO BERNICE OSWALD as  
MID-ATLANTIC REGION WOMEN'S  
LEAGUE INSTITUTE is RENAMED in  
HER MEMORY

Who was Bernice Oswald? Those of us who were attendees at Philadelphia Branch Women's League Institute before this year, remember Bernice as the moving force who made the Institute happen by seeking out prospective teachers and making arrangements with them, as well as negotiating with our host synagogue, branch and national offices. She was publicity chair, and corresponding secretary, as well as financial secretary for the Institute. Then, at the end of every semester, when we chose to celebrate a siyyum, Bernice became hostess extraordinaire. All this over a period of many years, but in reality, this chairmanship was only the capstone to years of service and leadership.

I met Bernice during the 1970's when I first became active in Branch. She was an active member of her Adath Jeshurun Women's Association. But this wasn't all she did outside her family responsibilities. She worked up to President of the Hebrew Sunday School Society of Philadelphia which provided Jewish education to children of non-Synagogue affiliated families. She also participated in social action programs of JCRC—the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Philadelphia. By 1980, when I became Branch President, Bernice was leading in branch activity also.

In 1986, Bernice was elected Philadelphia Branch President, and thus began years of national service as well. Her national activity chairmanships were mostly related to social action, an area in which she excelled, and they led to International Vice President of Women's League from 2002 thru 2006.

During the 1980's, Bernice and I became friends as we compared and sometimes commiserated the adventures of our young adult children as they traveled far and wide. Her seemingly calm acceptance of her offspring's choices was helpful to me as I was frequently torn and worried about these matters.

When we started the Philadelphia Women's League Institute in 1981, Bernice was one of the 14 students in the class. She remained a loyal student throughout the years no matter how busy her schedule. It is indeed fitting that we now give her name to the Institute as a memorial tribute.

Mildred Brooks-----March 9, 2009

# Women's League Institute

Women's League for Conservative Judaism, Mid-Atlantic Region has two Institutes. The Women's League Institute meeting at Har Zion (Penn Valley), will be renamed the Bernice Oswald Women's League Institute. The second Women's League Institute meets in South Jersey. These two institutes are self sustaining and receive no financial help from New York.

In the fall, the Women's League Institute at Har Zion presented Discovery Through Study. Rabbi Robert L. Alpert from Har Zion Temple presented Mishnah: The Soul of Judaism. There were ten sessions from October until December 22nd meeting Monday morning from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. Twenty-one sisterhood women and two men attended.

The spring session for the Bernice Oswald Women's League Institute will have its new name at a dedication ceremony when class begins again on March 9th. Rabbi Robert L. Alpert will teach Mishnah: Part 2 The Holidays. Ten classes are scheduled.

The Women's League Institute in South Jersey started October 23rd for six sessions with classes being held on Thursday evenings from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm at Temple Beth Sholom (Cherry Hill). Rabbi Micah Peltz selected "Snapshots of our Sages"—stories about Rabbis of the Talmud to gain insight into their lives and culture.

Rabbi Jeffrey Arnowitz, Rabbi of Congregation Beth El (Voorhees) will conduct the classes for the spring semester. His topic is "Jew Law" a history, the process of creating and maintaining it, where it came from, how it got to where it is today in traditional and non-traditional circles. Classes will meet Wednesday nights 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm for six sessions beginning Wednesday, February 4, 2009. For this class. please contact: Sharon Katz 856-784-7147 or [morah5@yahoo.com](mailto:morah5@yahoo.com) or Ellen Podell 856-482-0752 or [podellfamily@comcast.net](mailto:podellfamily@comcast.net)

Edis Schwartz, Women's League Institute Chair  
Mid-Atlantic Region  
[hs8100@aol.com](mailto:hs8100@aol.com)

# Founder's Day

Submitted by Lisa Ganzman, Adath Israel (Lawrenceville)

March 1, 2009 was the first Founder's Day celebrated by the Mid-Atlantic Region. As a former member of the Central New Jersey Branch, I had never heard of Founder's Day. The event was a joyful, uplifting, bonding experience for 170 members of our Region. It was an opportunity to reconnect with women we had met at the Biennial Convention held last November, as well as meet new people attending Founder's Day for the first time.

Rita Wertlieb, International Torah Fund Chair, gave a motivating overview to the integral part Torah Fund plays in the present and future of the Jewish Theological Seminary, Zeigler School of Rabbinic Studies, Schechter Institute of Jewish Studies in Jerusalem and the Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano in Buenos Aires.

Torah Fund contributions have been used to create scholarships for students of the Jewish Theological Seminary and its member schools. This year Torah Fund Campaign contributions will also help build a new addition to the Jewish Theological Seminary, the Women's League Total Fitness Center. Rita said, "You may be thinking, What? A fitness center is the best thing Torah Fund can do with its money?" But truly, in today's stressful world, it is.

Maimonides, revered rabbi, philosopher and physician elaborated a philosophy that placed explicit emphasis on not only the biological but also the psychological and social factors in health and ill health. Among other things, he also advised eating lean, non fatty meats, whole rough cut grains and smaller portions. We can learn two things from his advice: 1) not much has changed in the past 900 years, and 2) Jews make the best doctors. Maimonides wrote, "Look to your health; and if you have it praise God and value it next to conscience". We must make certain this and future generations of Conservative Jewish leaders are physically, psychologically, ethically and morally fit and strong for the challenges of today and tomorrow.

Dr. Arnold Eisen, Chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, was the keynote speaker. He told us Conservative Judaism is alive and well in America. But he said there was good news and bad news about this assessment.

The bad news is young men and women are meeting in minyanim, and continuing Jewish learning and rituals on their own, instead of joining synagogues. The good news is that young men and women are meeting in minyanim, and continuing Jewish learning and rituals. The good news is JTS has recognized the need to provide more education related to pastoral care, interfaith marriages and same sex relationships to better attend to the needs of today's Conservative Jews.

Chancellor Eisen said Conservative Judaism has to change with the times in order to survive, as we have successfully done over past generations. He told us plans have been made to extend outreach that includes going where the people are: talking to people through internet access, blogs, and twitter sites. If small groups meet in Starbucks, a JTS rabbinical or cantorial student will man an outpost there.

The good news is we are changing the face of Conservative Judaism to address the needs and dictates of the current times, as we have done over the history of the Jews. We are, and have always been, people of the book. We can and will go wherever people congregate to engage their imaginations, their spirituality, their hearts and souls.

*Photos from Founder's Day  
March 1, 2009*



*Photos taken by Amy Perrone*



**NEW BOOK AVAILABLE**

**Written by Women’s League  
Director of Education Lisa Kogen**

The women in this galaxy of remarkable Jewish women each demonstrated determination, courage, and imagination that enabled them to challenge the boundaries of gender and social conventions and to forge new paths to enrich our world.

*With Strength and Splendor* reflects how Jewish women disassembled old gender roles, shattered boundaries and expanded the options for future generations of women. It will make a wonderful gift for adult or teen bat mitzvahs, graduates, teachers, counselors, friends, and family. It is a fabulous title for a sisterhood book discussion or program focus.

**Cover Price**.....\$39.95  
**Kol Ishah Mem-**  
**bers**.....\$31.95

Limit of 3 books, plus \$6.50 per book for shipping & handling.

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 Call 212.870.1260 to order.

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 The Women’s League Story

**Download from:**  
[www.wlcj.org/MyWLCJ](http://www.wlcj.org/MyWLCJ)

**A RITUAL MITZVAH**

As part of the Women’s League mitzvah initiative, we are offering the following prayer for you to recite as you light the Shabbat and holiday candles.

May it be Your will, my God and God of my ancestors, to be gracious to me and to all my family and to give us, and all Israel, a good and long life. Remember us with goodness and blessing, and grant us salvation and mercy. Grant us abundant blessing, and fortify the places we call home. May Your Presence dwell among us as we gather here tonight. May we be blessed with wise and learned disciples and children, lovers of God who stand in awe of You, people who speak truth and spread holiness. May those we nurture light the world with Torah and good deeds. Hear the prayers I utter now in the name of our mothers Sarah, Rebekah, Rachel, Leah, Bilhah and Zilpah. May Your light, reflected in these candles, surround us always. And let us say, Amen.

*Adapted by Nurit Shein and Sue Levi Elwell from a traditional Sephardic techine found in Cohen, Jonathon, ed. The Sephardi Haggadah. Jerusalem: Feldheim Publishers, 1988.*

***Continuation of Leagrams...***

**Condolences: Baruch Dayan HaEmet**

Sue Bergman, Former President Connecticut Valley and Member of Past President’s Council

Lois Goldberg, Former SNJ Region President, on the loss of her husband, Bennett Goldberg

Barbara Spack, National Board Member, on the loss of her sister, Caryn Abrams

Barbara Hollander Rothman, National Board Member, on the loss of her husband, Sandor Rothman

Nona Abrams, Former Philadelphia Region President, on the loss of her husband, Dr. Henry Abrams

Dr. Marilyn Wind, National Board Member, on the loss of her father, Seymour Lishnoff

Marilyn Rosenthal, Past President’s Council, on the loss of her husband, Harold Rosenthal

Family of Claire Jacobson Quittman, National Board Member

Gloria Adelson, National Board Member and Former Southern Region President, on the loss of her mother, Edith Schraibmen

Be a part of the



of the  
Mid-Atlantic Region  
of Women's League for Conservative Judaism

Join the members of your Sisterhood  
at our Region Conference

Sunday, May 3rd and Monday, May 4th, 2009

At Congregation Beth Judah

700 North Swarthmore Avenue, Ventnor, NJ 08406

For Directions, log onto <http://www.bethjudah.org/directions.asp>

Overnight Accommodations at The Chelsea

For Directions, log onto <http://thechelsea-ac.com>. See back for Group Rate information.

Cory Schneider — International President

Mimi Pollack — Region President

Margie Miller — International Consultant

Conference Co-Chairs — Joan Vogin, Ilene Rubin, Barbara Braunstein,  
Thelma Fox and Charlotte Stein

## *Sunday*

- 10:30 am Registration
- 11:00—12:00 pm Area Directors' Meeting—Donna Finkelstein
- 11:00—2:00 pm Sisterhood Presidents' Session (Area Directors to join at 1pm)
- 11:00—12:00 pm Workshops \* Please remember to indicate your preference on your Registration Form.
- ~ Recruit, Reclaim and Retain Sisterhood Members and Z'havah
    - ~ Sandy Berenbaum, Anna Tractenberg and Jan Berger
  - ~ Programming: What Women's League Can Do for You ~ Linda Goldberg and Faye Laveson
  - ~ Creative Judaic Arts: Heirloom Memory Plate ~ Idelle Wood
- 12:00—1:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00—2:00 pm Workshops \* Please remember to indicate your preference on your Registration Form.
- ~ Community Services ~ Anna Tractenberg, Charlotte Stein and Sue Press
  - ~ Torah Fund ~ Maxine Endy and Torah Fund Directors
  - ~ Creative Judaic Arts: Heirloom Memory Plate ~ Idelle Wood
- 2:15—3:00 pm Plenary Session including Keynote Address by Margie Miller
- 3:00—4:00 pm Study Session with Edna Nahshon, JTS Professor and Author of "Jews and Shoes"
- 4:00—5:00 pm Mix and Mingle / Mincha with Congregation Beth Judah Members
- 5:30—6:00 pm Torah Fund Special Gifts Cocktail Reception
- 6:15—7:30 pm Dinner
- 7:30—8:00 pm Installation
- 8:00—10:00 pm Entertainment
- Rabbi Saul Grife and his Rock Opera, "Tales from the First Book" based on Bereshit  
Followed by a Reception in honor of the Incoming Mid-Atlantic Region Board
- 10:00—?? pm Party at the Hotel

## *Monday*

- 7:00 am Walk with the President
- 9:00 am Shacharit ~ Faye Laveson
- 10:00—11:00 am Networking Breakfast / Leadership in a Nutshell
- 11:00—12:30 pm Mitzvah Yomit Project
- 12:30—2:00 pm Lunch
- Ba'alot Mitzvah Honorees' Presentation, Milestone Awards  
Entertainment by Cantor Ralph Goren, Beth El Synagogue (Margate) and  
Hazan Alan M. Smolen, Congregation Beth Judah (Ventnor)
- 2:00—3:30 pm Mini Board Orientation

## Mid-Atlantic Region Conference Registration Form

Please return this form by April 17, 2009  
with Delegate Fee of \$75 (\$50 Sunday only, \$30 Monday only)  
to Deborah Napoleon, Conference Treasurer  
583 Dutch Neck Road, East Windsor, NJ 08520

For questions, please contact Joan Vogin at 215-741-3787 or [jovogin@verizon.net](mailto:jovogin@verizon.net)  
or Illene Rubin at 856-795-6802 or [Illenerubin@aol.com](mailto:Illenerubin@aol.com).

Name:

Address:

City / State / Zip:

Phone:

Email:

Sisterhood:

Position:

Attending:  Sunday  Monday  Both

Meals:  Sun Lunch  Sun Dinner  Mon Breakfast  Mon Lunch  All

Please check all that apply.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Require Vegetarian Meals | <input type="checkbox"/> Interested in carpooling       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Looking for a Roommate   | <input type="checkbox"/> Interested in home hospitality |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Have other Special Needs |   |

Workshops: Please indicate 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice for each session

*11:00 am*

*1:00 pm*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recruit, Reclaim and Retain Sisterhood Members | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Services                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> What Women's League Can Do for You             | <input type="checkbox"/> Torah Fund                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Judaic Arts: Heirloom Memory Plate    | <input type="checkbox"/> Creative Judaic Arts: Heirloom Memory Plate |

Please bring scissors and at least 20 photos for the Creative Judaic Arts Project.



# Mid-Atlantic Region

## Women's League for Conservative Judaism

Shalom to all of our Sisterhood friends:

On Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> and Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, we will be holding our Region Conference at Congregation Beth Judah in Ventnor, NJ. We hope you will join us and be part of the Heart & Soul of the Mid-Atlantic Region!

In addition to a variety of stimulating and exciting workshops, we will be conducting a very meaningful and beautiful installation ceremony. At that time, we will be discharging Mid-Atlantic Region's first Executive Committee and Board of Directors who have served us very diligently during our inaugural year as well as installing our new slate of Officers and Board of Directors.

As our new Region continues to evolve, we would like to recognize and honor our leaders – past, present and future – who have given of themselves to make us the strong, vibrant group of Jewish women that is Women's League. We will be formally acknowledging their work and thanking them for their time and energy by publishing a Tribute Journal.

Please join us in paying tribute to those family and friends who are being installed onto the Mid-Atlantic Region Board. Express your thanks, gratitude and best wishes to these women, Sisterhoods and our Region with a tribute using the form below. A list of those holding positions on the incoming as well as outgoing boards is attached.

Return bottom portion with Tribute and Payment to Gayle Wilton, Financial Secretary, 588 Dutch Neck Road, East Windsor, NJ 08520. Electronic copy should be sent as jpg, gif, tif, pub, or pdf files. Questions regarding the ads should be directed to [gayle@awilt.com](mailto:gayle@awilt.com) or 609-371-7117. **Tributes and payments must be postmarked by April 7<sup>th</sup>.** Late submissions will be included subject to space availability.



Name:

Sisterhood:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Honor Level:

Chai \$18 – line (60 characters including spaces)

Double Chai \$36 – Business Card (3½”w x 2”h)

Koach \$54 – ¼ page vertical (3¾”w x 5”h)

Koach \$54 – ¼ page horizontal (8”w x 2½”h)

Chesed \$72 – ½ page vertical (3¾”w x 10”h)

Chesed \$72 – ½ page horizontal (8”w x 5”h)

Nachat \$118 – Full page (8”w x 10½”h)

Makom \$180 – Inside Cover Front or Back (8”w x 10½”h)

Total Amount Enclosed: \$

(Make Checks payable to WLCJ – Mid-Atlantic Region)

Copy: Please write your Tribute here or attach camera-ready artwork. If including multiple honors, please clearly separate them.

Mid-Atlantic Region of Women's League for Conservative Judaism  
Incoming and Outgoing Officers and Boards of Directors

**Officers 2008 – 2009**

*Executive Committee*

President – Mimi Pollack  
Community VP – Anna Tractenberg  
Membership VP – Debra Goldich  
Treasurer – Deborah Napoleon  
Financial Secretary – Gayle Wilton  
Immediate Past Presidents – Sandy Blumenthal, Janet Kirschner, Mary Starkman  
Advisor\* – Faye Laveson

Area VP – Donna Finkelstein  
Education VP – Linda Goldberg  
Torah Fund VP – Maxine Endy  
Administrative Secretary – Charlotte Stein  
Communications Secretary – Meryl Stern

*Board of Directors*

Affiliation and Retention – Gert Solkov  
Bulletin – Amy Perrone  
Conference\* – Joan Vogin  
Creative Judaic Arts – Idelle Wood  
Judaica Shop – Arlene Barnett  
Nominating Committee – Janet Kirschner  
Public Policy – Nancy Schwartz  
Torah Fund Special Gifts\* – Phyllis Haas  
Ways and Means – Cecelia Cable  
WL Institute – Edis Schwartz

Books – Joyce Eveloff  
Catering Coordinator\* – Gert Golub  
Convention\* – Barbara Braunstein  
Israel – Tamar Arnowitz  
Leagram\* – Violet Zeitlin  
Parliamentarian – Sandy Blumenthal  
Publicity\* – Eileen Silver  
Training Services – Mary Starkman  
Webmaster – Karen Lewin  
Z'havah – Janice Berger

Area Directors –

Roz Bulk	Nancy Goldberg
Marian Goldstein-Beckhorn	Susan Handis
Rochelle Hirt	Joy Novick
Barbara Bess Pashak	

Torah Fund Directors –

Roz Goldstein	Roe Miller
Rebecca Peikes	Judy Simkin
Mary Starkman	Lyn Stein
Judith Young	

**Officers 2009 – 2011**

*Executive Committee*

President – Debra Goldich  
Community VP – Charlotte Stein  
Membership VP – Anna Tractenberg  
Treasurer – Gayle Wilton  
Financial Secretary – Lisa Ganzman  
Immediate Past President – Mimi Pollack

Area VP – Donna Finkelstein  
Education VP – Linda Goldberg  
Torah Fund VP – Deborah Napoleon  
Administrative Secretary – Amy Perrone  
Communications Secretary – Idelle Wood

*Board of Directors*

Affiliation and Retention – Gert Solkov  
Bulletin – Leslie Blau-Berlin and Idelle Wood  
Israel – Karen Prince  
Nominating Committee – Barbara Braunstein  
Public Policy – Nancy Schwartz  
Ways and Means – Cecelia Cable  
WL Institute – Edis Schwartz

Books – Joyce Eveloff  
Creative Judaic Arts – Gloria Spitz  
Judaica Shop – Arlene Barnett  
Parliamentarian – Elaine Emmer  
Training Services – Mimi Pollack  
Webmaster – Karen Lewin

Area Directors –

Roz Bulk	Nancy Goldberg
Marian Goldstein-Beckhorn	Rochelle Hirt
Nadine Lubarsky	Joy Novick
Barbara Bess Pashak	

Torah Fund Directors –

Lorna Cohen	Roz Goldstein
Dorene Karasick	Lyn Stein
Judith Young	Violet Zeitlin

Mid-Atlantic Region joins with Jewish Family Service to fulfill the mitzvah of feeding the hungry. JFS will create beautiful centerpieces (for our Region Conference) of food products to be donated to the JFS food pantry

Each basket will have a card acknowledging the donor. We hope each Sisterhood can collect money for this worthwhile cause!!! Please send your donation with your blanket registration



The cost is just \$20 a basket.  
For More Information call:  
Sharon Katz—856-784-7147  
Illene Rubin —856-795-6802



**WLCJ – Mid-Atlantic Region Conference**  
**MITZVAH FOOD BASKET ORDER FORM**

Baskets can be donated by more than one person – all names will be acknowledged on the centerpieces to be used at our Region Conference.

SISTERHOOD DONATING--- \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER(S) DONATING \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE # (HOME) \_\_\_\_\_ (WORK) \_\_\_\_\_

Thank you for your generosity!



*You are Invited  
To a Special Gifts Cocktail Reception  
Honoring this year's  
Torah Fund Benefactors and Above.*



*Sunday, May 3, 2009 at 5:30 pm  
During Region Conference  
Congregation Beth Judah  
700 North Swarthmore Avenue, Ventnor, NJ*

Minimum 2008–2009 Contribution \$180  
RSVP by April 17th to Thelma Fox at 856-779-0019



# Mid-Atlantic Region Conference May 3rd and 4th, 2009



Contact The Chelsea directly at 800-548-3030 for reservations.  
Mention "Women's League" to get the special Conference rate of \$99 double occupancy.

Ohev Shalom of Bucks County  
944 Second Street Pike  
Richboro, PA 18954

UNITED STATES  
POSTAGE PAID  
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Non-Profit  
Southampton, PA  
18966

**Don't forget to  
submit an ad  
in our Tribute Journal!**