



The Flame

The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland
Established 1916

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Lighting the Way for Jewish Women Leaders

Issue 3—Spring 2015

Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland



"Know your voice, speak it and stand by it."
-Sue Monk Kidd

Message from our President



I write this message as we are celebrating Pesach, a holiday of hope and joy and always very special to my family, with much sadness as my beloved husband Paul passed away just a week before. Our seders were filled with fond memories and even laughter as family and friends remembered how special Pesach was to Paul. I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who visited and contributed and just supported me and my family with love and comfort. It was truly overwhelming and meaningful and we are so grateful. During this time I reflected about Federation and the role it plays in my life. Next year we will be 100 years old. The celebration of this milestone will only be meaningful if we continue to be a dynamic force for Jewish women for the next 100 years through education, leadership and advocacy. The issues that face us are more challenging than ever from "women's rights," including economic freedom and pay equity



and decisions about our reproductive health, to concerns about increasing violence in our society, mostly based on discrimination and anti-semitism. The situation in the Middle East, especially as Iran threatens to be a nuclear power, is a great danger not only to Israel, but also to us here in the United

States and probably the whole world. So as we begin to celebrate with fun, festivities and exciting programs (stay tuned for details), it will only be meaningful if we educate, train and advocate to make it happen. We must truly "Lift Our Voices" to make a difference. Then together we will honor the memories of those who laid the groundwork for excellence. Join me over the next year as we meet, educate and act so that 2016 will not only be a successful anniversary but also truly a symbol of the meaning of Pesach, reaching great goals and dreams together. B'Shalom,

Sheila K Derman



FEDERATION'S 99TH ANNUAL CONVENTION MAY 7, 2015 **"WOMEN WHO LIFT THEIR VOICES"**

Rochelle Bohrer and Linda Boteach
99th Convention Co-chairs

Please join us for the Federation's 99th Annual Convention on Thursday, May 7th, at Temple Oheb Shalom. 7310 Park Heights Avenue. The theme this year is "Lift Our Voices." The Morning Session, beginning at 9:30 a.m. will feature Keynote Speaker Jeanne Allert, M.Ed founder and Executive Director of The Samaritan Women, who will educate us on the issues surrounding domestic human trafficking. Our afternoon session will start a little earlier this year at 11:30 a.m. so that we will have time to present a special Lag B'Omer treat; a concert performed by some local talented cantors.



Beth Goldsmith

The E.B. Hirsh Lifetime Achievement Award, that each year honors an outstanding Jewish woman in the community, will be presented to Beth Goldsmith, who is an exemplary community leader.

Lastly, most of our constituent organizations have selected an honoree to receive the "Woman Who Lifts Her Voice" award. Federation is honored to recognize these women for their contribution to their organization and to the community. All the names of our honorees can be found on our website <http://jewishwomensfed.org>. If you wish to send a mazel tov card to an honoree, there is a downloadable form as well on the website. We look forward to greeting all of you on May 7.

WOMEN WHO LIFT THEIR VOICE AWARD HONOREES

Adat Chaim Sisterhood - Adrienne Frager
AMIT –Selma Kolodkin
Baltimore Hebrew Cong. Sisterhood - Ann Fishkin
Beth El Sisterhood –Ilene Merenbloom
Beth Israel Sisterhood -Leslie Wasserman
Beth Tfiloh Sisterhood–Sonia Maltinsky
Bnai Jacob/Shaarei Zion Sisterhood -
 Margaret Guggenheim
Brandeis University National Women's Committee -
 Ramona Berman
Chizuk Amuno Sisterhood –Marcia Scherr
Covenant Guild, Inc. –Norma Wolod
Hadassah of Greater Baltimore –Harriet Rubinson
Har Sinai Sisterhood -Micki Sibel
Israel Bonds Maryland Women's Division - Dr. Loryn Lesser

Jewish Women International –Faye Klempner
Kappa Guild, Inc.–Wilma Samuelson
Levindale Auxiliary –Marcia Bornfriend
Miriam Lodge, K.S.B., Inc. –Phyllis Avis
Moses Montefiore Anshe Emunah Sisterhood
 –Judith Raphaeli
National Council of Jewish Women Baltimore Section –
 Jo-Ann Orlinsky
Ner Tamid Sisterhood –Gabrielle Burger
Rodger C. Snyder Memorial, Ladies Auxiliary JWV -
 Peggy Singer
Sinai Hospital Auxiliary –Judy Rosenberg
Temple Emanuel Sisterhood–Lisa Simon Jablon
Temple Oheb Shalom Sisterhood –Dorothy Poiley
The Associated Women -Alyson Friedman
True Sisters, Inc. Baltimore #35 - Leslie Sandler

Recognize an Honoree With a Mazel Tov Card

Send a Special Message

Recognize an honoree by adding your name to her *Mazel Tov* card for \$5.00. Please send your check and indicate the name(s) of the Honoree you are recognizing to Rae Shalowitz (410-484-7437), 4 Picasso Court, Baltimore, MD 21208. Forms are available on our web site or you may call Rae. The honoree(s) will be notified of your contribution with a beautiful and personal message. A listing of all our honorees is above.

Nominating Committee Harriet H. Meier, MD. P.P., Chair

In accordance with Article VII of the Bylaws of The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland, the following slate of officers for 2015-2016, submitted by the Nominating Committee, will be presented for consideration at the 99th Annual Convention on May 7th.

The slate of nominees for office for 2015-2016 is as follows:

Sheila Derman, President
 Helene H. Waranch, First Vice President
 Rochelle Bohrer, Vice President
 Sheila Mentz, Vice President
 Debbie Shpritz, Recording Secretary
 Linda Roedel, Corresponding Secretary
 Rae Shalowitz, Corresponding Secretary
 Arlene Mazer, P.P. Treasurer
 Ann Fishkin, Auditor

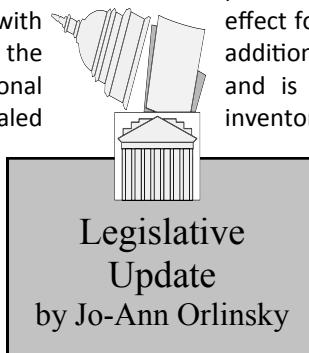
Many thanks to the committee for preparing this slate: Carol J. Caplan, P.P., Baltimore Hebrew Congregation Sisterhood; Betsy Narrow, Beth El Sisterhood; Jo-Ann Orlinsky, NCJW; Sheila Stern, Beth Israel Sisterhood; Eve Vogelstein, P.P., Levindale Auxiliary

Mazel tov to these wonderful women who have accepted this responsibility. We anticipate with joy the creative energy and their commitment of service they shall bring to Federation.

Blessed is the leader who seeks the best for those she serves. (unknown)

As I write this, there are 7 days left in the 2015 General Assembly session. Many bills are still sitting in committees in one house or the other.

The Budget bill has passed both houses with differences which are not considered major and the bill is expected to be passed without additional controversy. The "rain tax" was not repealed although it appears to be heading for passage with amendments for its funding mechanisms and the gas tax law has not been repealed. For the Baltimore Jewish community, all of our requested funding in the operating budget was funded at the same level as last year. A great deal of effort went into working with the various department secretaries to keep our programs in the budget. Although the Governor wanted to end the structural deficit in one year, a compromise was reached which eliminates 73% of the deficit in the 2016 budget.



The Education Tax Credit, Death with Dignity (assisted suicide) and most of the Domestic Violence and human trafficking bills remain in committee. A bill permitting a protective order in a domestic violence case to remain in effect for two years has passed both houses. A bill to add additional relief to protective orders has passed the House and is in committee in the Senate. Bills requiring an inventory of sexual assault evidence kits (rape kits) by January 1, 2016 have also passed both houses. Bills establishing a workgroup to study the establishment of a safe harbor for victims of human trafficking also passed both houses. A bill to establish a Maryland Equal Pay for Equal Work Act was voted unfavorably in the House Economic Matters Committee.

Breaking News: The Governor has just issued an Executive Order extending the Legislative Session for 10 days for the sole purpose of passing the Budget bill. Stay tuned!!

GREAT START 2015 FEDERATION PROGRAMS

We started the year off with two outstanding programs. In January, on a very cold bitter morning, we were greeted very warmly by the Beth El Sisterhood with a delicious breakfast. Helene Waranch and Jackie Cohen facilitated "Mentoring Future Leader's," a very informative program about the "hows" and "whys" of mentoring and how the future cannot be implemented without trained and mentored leaders. In March, hosted by Beth Israel and Adat Chaim, Barbara Weinstein of The Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism (RAC), told us how important the advocacy of Jewish women is to Social Justice. Following in the footsteps of Queen Esther, our Federation members must "lift their voices" to make a difference. This is just a taste of what's to come in our 100th year. Continue to join us as we train, learn and advocate to MAKE IT HAPPEN.



IN MEMORIAM Joyce Ottenheimer, Past Federation President

As President of the Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland, Joyce had the opportunity to inspire and empower many of us who are the leaders of today. She accomplished this by her love of life and its rules in a straightforward manner. She was a true mentor and friend and how fortunate we are to be the beneficiary of her values, skills and commitment. We will truly miss her.

IN MEMORIAM Paul Derman, husband of President Sheila Derman. May his memory be a blessing to us all.



CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

May 19, 2016

Get ready for an exciting year of activities, learning and history as we celebrate our milestone event. Our Centennial will look back on the amazing accomplishments Federation has made throughout the last 100 years. Educational trips are being planned and we are looking forward to a wonderful year ahead. We are requesting input from all of our organizations. If you are interested in working on this great event, contact Co-chairs - Eve Vogelstein (443) 708-3228 and Lynda Weinstein (410) 979-9610.



Under Our Umbrella

The Flame is happy to highlight your organization's events. Submit your information for the winter issue to: info@jewishwomensfed.org or call Eve at 443-708-3228.

Brandeis National Committee - On Thursday, April 16, 1:30 pm at the Hadassah Meeting Room, Denny Lynch, photographer will present "Europe and Beyond." Guests are welcome, no charge. We are hosting our Book and Author luncheon on Thursday, May 21, 11 am at the Suburban Country Club - featuring Jessica Anya Blau. Charge for this event to be determined. For more info check our website at: blogs.brandeis.edu/bncbaltimore or call Rochelle at 410-922-9672.

Kappa Guild, Inc. will be holding their 45 annual donor celebrating 62 years of "helping children in need" on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at the Myerberg Center. At this time, the Guild will be presenting checks to doctors from various hospitals to purchase equipment for their pediatric and NICU units.

Levindale Auxiliary - Sunday, April 26, 2015, 6:00 p.m. Join us for a wonderful night of fun at our Spring Fundraiser held at the Woodholme Country Club as we honor Jason Blavatt, Chairman of the Board of Directors at LifeBridge Health, Inc . It will be a night of fun and games and delicious food. For information, contact Faye Brand at (410) 601-2378.

The Federation of Jewish Women's
Organizations of Maryland
Invites the
2015 to 2016 Presidents and First Vice Presidents
of our Constituent Organizations
and Federation Officers and Past Presidents
to the Annual
President's Reception

Date: Thursday, June 11, 2015
Time: 9:45am-1pm
Place: Baltimore Hebrew Congregation 7401 Park Heights Avenue
21208
Title: 100 Years: You and Federation's Future
Presenter: Beth Gansky, Executive Director, Acharai, The Shoshana Cardin Leadership Development Institute.

Program and Kosher lunch sponsored by "Keepers of the Flame,"
Past Presidents of Federation
Invitees: Presidents and Vice Presidents of member organizations;
Federation Officers and Past Presidents.
RSVP: Helene H. Waranch 410-602-1210, leave a message
or hhwaranch@gmail.com

Social Action Committee -Donations to Bring to Convention-

Jeanne Allert, Executive Director of Samaritan Women will be presenting a compelling talk at the convention on the topic **Domestic Human Trafficking**

The followings items are needed for her women:

- Prepaid phone minutes
- Target gift cards
- Pizza gift cards
- Movie or bowling gift cards
- Hair dye – mostly dark colors
- Packages of underwear
- Deodorant
- Toothpaste (full size)
- Body and face lotion
- Sports bras – all sizes

If you have ideas for our social action projects,
contact Karan Engerman, karansander@comcast.net

Officers 2014-2015

Sheila K. Derman, President
Helene Waranch, First Vice President
Rochelle Bohrer, Vice President
Sheila Mentz, Vice President
Debbie Shpritz, Recording Secretary
Linda Roedel, Corresponding Secretary
Rae Shalowitz, Corresponding Secretary
Arlene Mazer, P.P., Treasurer
Lynne Lichtig, Auditor
Harriet Meier, MD., P.P., Community Rep.



Federation Calendar 2015-2016

May 7, 2015, 99th Annual Convention,
9:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.

June 11, 2015, President's Reception

September 10, 2015—Opening Meeting

November 12, 2015—Dinner Meeting

January 14, 2016—Mid-Winter Conference

March 10, 2016—100th Anniversary Program

May 19th, 2016
FEDERATION CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

NOTE: All Federation meetings are held on Thursdays.
The above dates are subject to change and will be
announced in *The Flame* and on the website.



**The Federation of Jewish Women's
Organizations of Maryland
P.O. Box 29, Stevenson, MD 21153-0059
<http://jewishwomensfed.org>**

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Save the Date

99th Annual Convention, Thursday, May 7, 2015