



# THE FLAMIE

*The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland  
Lighting the Way for Jewish Women Leaders • Established 1916*

*Spring 2024*

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CeCe Rund

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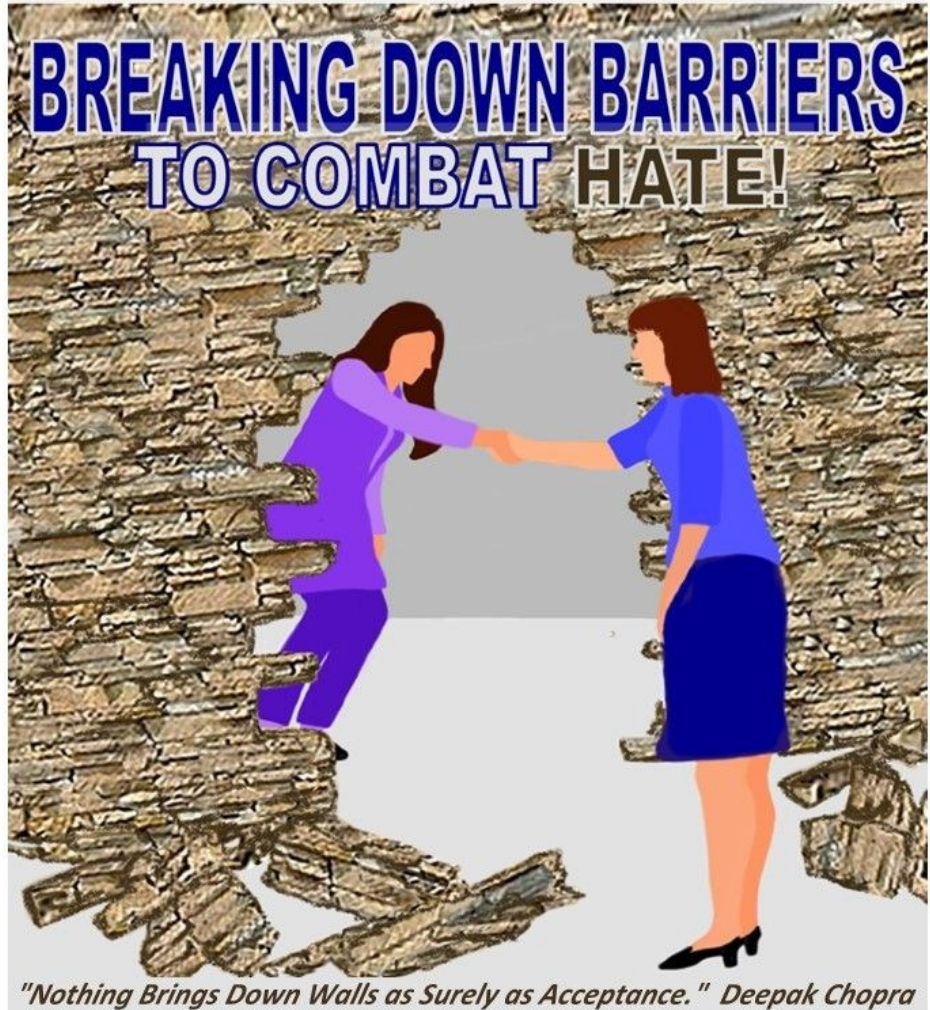
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## **The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland 108th Annual Convention Thursday, May 16, 2024**



**PRESENTATION OF THE E. B. HIRSH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD  
RECIPIENT RABBI NINA BETH CARDIN**

**PRESENTATION OF  
"A WOMAN WHO BUILDS BRIDGES FOR A BETTER COMMUNITY AWARD"  
TO A MEMBER FROM EACH OF OUR CONSTITUENT ORGANIZATIONS**

## Message from Our President CeCe Rund



The past two years of my Presidency have moved along quickly. During these two years, we have seen the easing of COVID restrictions, more mass shootings in the US, world governmental protests and civil wars, acceleration of climate change resulting in devastating weather events, another space race, Russia's unprovoked and cruel invasion of Ukraine and the premeditated terrorist Hamas attack, slaughter and kidnapping of Israeli citizens on October 7. Through all this unrest, our Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland has survived! And we will continue to survive to keep our mission alive, to provide leadership training, support of the Jewish Community and to advocate for issues of major concern. We exist because of YOU, our valued members and as an umbrella organization, we want to continue to unify Jewish women and to serve our constituent organizations and our community.

The Federation has been listening to you as to what you needed and wanted in programming. Therefore, through our programming, we have addressed everything from Israeli issues, antisemitism in our lives and on campus, overcoming leadership challenges, envisioning a truly inclusive Jewish community, understanding the younger generations and making your Jewish woman's voice heard. The Federation teamed up with The Associated to bring author, Laura Black, in to discuss her most recent book which brought together many organizations and resulted in a fun day. We held the first Representative - President Forum where Annette Saxon and her panel gave us tips on marketing your organizations. I started to highlight our constituent organizations in our Flame and will continue to do so. This brief but important information will help us to become better acquainted with each other. Also, we now have Julie Bernstein serving as our Representative Liaison and she will be in constant contact with the appointed representatives from your organizations and sisterhoods to The Federation. Helene Waranch (Past President) chairs the newer ad hoc committee, The Think Tank. This committee is hard-working and has completed revising our bylaws and policies. These revised bylaws will be voted upon by YOU at our 108th convention. This summer, the committee will review all standing and ad hoc committee responsibilities and revise as needed to keep up with our changing times.

We continue to listen to YOU, our members, as we are working through an online payment system. We are also scrutinizing our database to update all member information so that our emails and mailings will reach you. As you have

changes in your phone numbers, emails and addresses, please notify Ann Fishkin as soon as possible at [annfishkin5@gmail.com](mailto:annfishkin5@gmail.com).

In these two years, our Resolutions Committee has produced the following resolutions: Equity for Women, Mental Health Today, Antisemitism 2023, New Issues in Women's Health, We Stand with Israel, Antisemitism and Hate Activities. Sheila Derman (Past President), Jo-Ann Orlinsky and Helene Waranch have been the backbone for this committee. I love working on this committee. Resolutions are researched for accurate background information, carefully reviewed and finally released following scrutinization. These statements are part of what we Jewish women stand for and can be used by YOU as you are navigating through such issues. Last year, Attorney General Brown referred to one of our resolutions during his welcoming speech. Other legislators read them with interest as well.

Sheila Mentz continues to act as our Legislative Liaison and takes on the responsibility of securing a legislator to present at our convention as well as organizing these government officials to attend and participate in our convention. The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland stays active in governmental issues by keeping an eye on bills that are being presented within Annapolis and by attending MLAW meetings. When appropriate, The Federation also represents YOU by signing relevant petitions. (Example: The Hadassah End the Silence campaign). Power is in numbers and our Federation represents over 5,000 Jewish women!

There is no other organization in the US like The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland! We are unique and I encourage YOU to become involved. Being President is like being a conductor of an orchestra. Each member is a professional and a talented player and needs to know when to come in to play their part to make the music flow. As I end my term as President, I hand my baton over to Shula Finkelstein who will make beautiful music in 2024-2026. I thank every Federation past President, each officer, and every committee chair and member for playing their roles, providing guidance and for participating in our Federation endeavors in 2022-2024. As I said in my acceptance speech, "I cannot and will not perform this role without YOU". And YOU include all of us; internal members and our important constituent organizations. YOU make this Federation. I thank YOU and look forward to your involvement within The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland...108 years strong!

**All my very BEST!**



**CeCe Rund**

**President of The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland (2022-2024)**

## Federation Legislative Update—2023

Speaker, Andrienne Jones presents her Decency Agenda for Maryland.

The first bill of Speaker Andrienne Jones’s Decency Agenda, HB 602 Employment Discrimination-Sexual Orientation passed last week by a vote of 137-2.



**Legislative Update  
by  
Karan Engerman**

In response to a Maryland Supreme Court decision from last year, this bill prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. All Maryland workers deserve to feel respected and valued regardless of who they love.

## 108TH ANNUAL CONVENTION HONOREES

### A Woman Who Builds Bridges for a Better Community Award CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THESE WONDERFUL WOMEN

Adat Chaim Sisterhood – Adrienne Frager	Hadassah of Greater Baltimore – Carol Wynne	Support for Families of Nursing Home Residents – Chava Abrams
Associated Women – Shelley Malis	Israel Bonds Maryland, Women's Division – Stephanie Kronthal	Temple Isaiah Sisterhood – Janis Wasser
Beth El Congregation Sisterhood – Roz Kurman	Jewish Caring Network – Kathy Pollack	Women’s Club of Har Sinai –Oheb Shalom Congregation – Dr. Sheryl Jacobs
Beth Israel Congregation Sisterhood – Sondra Sobkov	Kappa Guild, Inc. – Roslyn Caplan	Women of Baltimore Hebrew Congregation – Lisa Jablon
Beth Tfiloh Congregation Sisterhood – Marcia Leavey	Levindale Auxiliary, Inc. – Jennifer Erez	E. B. Hirsh Lifetime Achievement Award—Rabbi Nina Beth Cardin
CHANA – Melissa Cohen	Moses Montefiore Anshe Emunah Sisterhood – Gail Lebowitz	Incoming President – Shulamit Finkelstein
Chizuk Amuno Congregation Sisterhood – Donna Friedman	Ner Tamid Sisterhood– Ayala Pensak	Outgoing President – Cece Rund
Covenant Guild, Inc. – Rona Blumenthal	Rodger C. Snyder Memorial, Ladies Auxiliary JWV – Susan Summers	

## MEET OUR ORGANIZATIONS

**Kappa Guild, Inc.** The mission of Kappa Guild is “helping children in need” and is a Baltimore based organization. This tireless group of dedicated women have raised approximately over \$10,000 annually for the purchase of needed equipment for the pediatric and NICU units of hospitals, camps for children with special needs or illnesses such as Horizon Day Camp for children with cancer, Rose of Sharon Equestrian School for children with autism and MS, Kennedy Krieger Institute and Center for Hope to support children who are abused or going through trauma. Kappa Guild was named after a high school sorority Kappa Sigma Tau and started as a social group. They started focusing on nonprofit work after Sally Rifkin, the first president, visited her son in the hospital and noticed that he had no toys to play with while there. Through fund raising events such as fashion shows, Game Days, holiday gift wrapping, sale of mah jongg cards and mitzvah cards, just to name a few, they are able to raise the funds to purchase such items as baby scales, transilluminators, wheel chairs, stethoscopes and camp equipment among other needed items.



# 108TH ANNUAL CONVENTION



On May 16, 2024, The Federation of Jewish Women’s Organizations of Maryland will hold our Annual 108th Convention at Har Sinai-Oheb Shalom Congregation. The Chairs for this event are **Janet Livingston and Julie Bernsetein**. Our keynote speaker will be **Meredith Weisel**, Regional Director for the Antidefamation League (ADL). We are excited to present the E. B. Hirsh Lifetime Achievement Award to **Rabbi Nina Beth Cardin**, currently the President of the Baltimore Board of Rabbis and co-chair of the Jewish community's Baltimore Sustainability Network. This years convention theme is "Breaking Down Barriers To Combat Hate " We are very excited to present the **A Woman Who Builds Bridges for a Better Community Award** to a member from each of our constituent organizations. Our Federation is thrilled to be able to celebrate with all of these very special women. Due to security restraints, you must be registered to attend. The cost of the convention including lunch is \$60. Please register online at <https://tinyurl.com/Convention-Payment> or contact Ann Fishkin at 410-484-9604. Visit our website [jewishwomensfed.org](http://jewishwomensfed.org). for additional information. This promises to be a most important, timely and interesting presentation!

## MID-WINTER CONFERENCE REVIEW

Our January meeting was held via Zoom. **Rekha Gibbons**, the “generational guru” and advisor to Fortune 500 companies, spoke about “Cracking the Code: Demystifying the Younger Generations.” We learned that throughout history, each generation has distinguished itself from the previous generation. While this has usually led to conflict and tension, it has also been good for energizing growth, innovation and progress. Ms. Gibbons emphasized that understanding how each generation is wired promotes harmony and good communication.

Ms. Gibbons identified six current distinct generational age groups, each with its own unique values, styles and stereotypes. She named the six generational groups as follows: the Silent Generation, the Boomers, Gen X, the Millennials, Gen Z and Alpha. Each group has been shaped by the technology of its day in terms of actual brain changes and different modes of communication. We were encouraged be open minded, ask questions and be fearless in communicating with each group.



## WOULD YOUR ORGANIZATION LIKE TO HOST A FEDERATION PROGRAM?

Most recently, Temple Isaiah in Fulton, Maryland hosted our March 2024 program. Rabbi Axler provided the invocation and joined Sisterhood President, Janis Wasser in welcoming over 70 ladies who enjoyed a full breakfast and a wonderful program. Thank you, Temple Isaiah for hosting our Federation and for getting to know more about The Federation! It was a pleasure being in your beautiful synagogue and shopping in your Judaica Shop.

If your organization or Sisterhood would like to host one of our programs and showcase your facility, we would be most grateful! It's a nice way to get to know each other better as well.

We also welcome any individual member who would like to donate towards a speaker or program. You would be recognized as a co-sponsor for the program and gratefully acknowledged. If you are interested, please contact CeCe Rund at 410-429-5411 or [crrund@yahoo.com](mailto:crrund@yahoo.com).

## MARCH MEETING WITH BARBARA WEINSTEIN



Our March breakfast was something of a milestone. The Women's Federation held its first meeting in Howard County, partnering with the Sisterhood of Temple Isaiah Congregation. Janis Wasser, Sisterhood President, was most efficacious in arranging a warm welcome for our guests and Federation members from both Baltimore and Howard Counties. Temple Isaiah's Rabbi, Craig H. Axler, gave the opening blessing.



We were honored to have Barbara Weinstein, Associate Director of the Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism as our speaker. Her timely and important topic was "Raising Our Voices as Jewish Women." Ms. Weinstein began by noting the importance of women regaining agency over their bodies in light of the overturning of Roe v. Wade. A further issue of importance is the growth of antisemitism. Ms. Weinstein informed us that protections and civil rights of LGBT persons are in jeopardy in 23 states. Further issues of importance include unequal pay for women, family leave and efforts to protect the vote. Ms. Weinstein emphasized that all of these issues are important to Jewish women. She encouraged us to educate ourselves on the issues and to keep in touch with our elected officials through multiple means of communication, to "embrace a vibrant and engaged Jewish life, to be generous and gentle with each other and to be like Esther to support each other."



Following her presentation, she generously remained to answer the many questions that the attendees had regarding advocacy for these most important challenges that we are facing.



## A CALL TO ISRAEL: RESOURCES FOR YOU TO SHARE!

### WE STAND



### WITH ISRAEL

- From AIPAC, "Call Congress and urge your members to stand with Israel". [Learn more here.](https://www.callforisrael.org/aipac) <https://www.callforisrael.org/aipac>
- The 10/7 Project: A communications hub advocating for accurate and unbiased coverage of the Israel-Hamas War. ([click here](https://www.the10-7project.com/)) <https://www.the10-7project.com/>
- ADL's "We Stand with Israel" Hub ([click here](https://www.adl.org/)) <https://www.adl.org/>
- HSOSC Israel Resource Page ([click here](https://www.hsosc-baltimore.org/israel-at-war.html#)) <https://www.hsosc-baltimore.org/israel-at-war.html#>
- Video Series: Guidance & Support For Processing Our Emotions About The Israeli Conflict- JCS of Baltimore ([click here](https://jcsbalt.org/processing-emotions-israeli-conflict/)) <https://jcsbalt.org/processing-emotions-israeli-conflict/>
- A Prayer for the Redemption of Captive Israelis and A Prayer for the State of Israel- Rabbi Ofer Sabath Beit-Halachmi ([click here](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SGx8rj7FZiYu9vMRxUHpxuW3SwOT7M8H/view)) <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1SGx8rj7FZiYu9vMRxUHpxuW3SwOT7M8H/view>



## Under Our Umbrella

### Upcoming Events by our Organizations

The Flame is happy to highlight your organization's events.

Submit your information to Elissa Ness, [esaelthew@aol.com](mailto:esaelthew@aol.com).

#### BETH TFILOH SISTERHOOD

**Thursday May 23, 2024- Noon -4 PM.** Day of Games. Afternoon of Fun and Games. Enjoy soup, rolls, salad bar, dessert, snacks and beverages. Reserve your table for games of your choice: Mah Jongg, Bridge, Canasta, Scrabble. We provide the tables, you bring your games. \$28 per person. For questions and reservations, contact Ellen Karp 443-660-7690 or Brenda Pariser 410-363-8903.

#### CHANA

**Sunday, May 12, 2024 – 8:00 AM** CHANA's Race Against Abuse. Lace up your sneakers, gather your family and friends and join us on May 12th for CHANA's 7th Annual Race Against Abuse 5K & Fun Run! Let's raise awareness about domestic violence, sexual abuse, and elder abuse, and raise critical funds to support CHANA. Cost - \$35 - \$45. Location: Rosenbloom Owings Mills JCC. For more info, please contact Dayna Leder, [info@chanabaltimore.org](mailto:info@chanabaltimore.org), 410-234-0030, website: <https://chanabaltimore.org/events/race-2>

#### CONVENANT GUILD

**Wednesday, May 22, 2024 11:00 AM** Covenant Guild's 69th Annual Donor - We're Going to the Movies! Woodholme Country Club - 300 Woodholme Avenue, Pikesville, MD 21208. \$65.00 per person. "It will be an affair to remember." We will be rolling out the Red Carpet for you! We will be presenting checks to those organizations we raised money for this past year. For more information, please contact Beth Schlein, President [bethschlein.covenantguild@gmail.com](mailto:bethschlein.covenantguild@gmail.com) or call 410-530-2055.

#### HADASSAH GREATER BALTIMORE

**Sunday, May 19th 5:30 - 8:30 PM** Cell-A-Brate the Magic of Hadassah. Address to be given upon registration. Join us for a fun evening of cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, silent auction and the magic of Eric Wilzig as we continue to support stem cell research at Hadassah Hospitals in Israel. To register: <https://events.hadassah.org/Cellabrate2024>. For more information contact Carly Schwartz at [carlymschwartz@gmail.com](mailto:carlymschwartz@gmail.com).

#### ISRAEL BONDS MARYLAND WOMEN'S DIVISION

**Thursday, June 6, 2024 5:45 PM 2024** Israel Bonds Maryland Women's Division Golda Meir Award Dinner honoring Wendy Miller. Join us for this special evening with Wendy Miller as our 2024 Golda Meir Honoree. Please contact Hillary Lewis, [Hillary.lewis@israelbonds.com](mailto:Hillary.lewis@israelbonds.com), 443-471-2783 or 410-484-6670, ext. 1.

#### KAPPA GUILD, INC.

**JUNE 26, 2024 11:30 AM - 3:00 PM** 51st Donor Luncheon celebrating 71 years of "helping children in need." Ateres Elka Hall 2905 Walnut Avenue, Owings Mills. Catering by Shula. Cost \$65. Distribution of checks to hospitals, camps and agencies. Entertainment by Bruce Thomas. For information and reservations contact Sheila Mentz 410-484-8215 or [morahsheila@aol.com](mailto:morahsheila@aol.com) or Miriam Stern 410-299-0498 or [bubbysternmail@aol.com](mailto:bubbysternmail@aol.com).



## Under Our Umbrella

### Upcoming Events by our Organizations Continued...

The Flame is happy to highlight your organization's events.

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#### **KAPPA GUILD, INC. continued...**

**July 10, 2024** - Amazing Glaze Fundraiser. 1340 Smith Avenue. Cost \$5 plus cost of item purchased for painting and glazing. Time 1:00-3:00 pm. Snacks provided. For information, contact Marcy Wesalo at 410-356-2605 or [mwesalo@aol.com](mailto:mwesalo@aol.com) or Sheila Mentz 410-484-8215 or [morahsheila@aol.com](mailto:morahsheila@aol.com).

**July 17, 2024**- Dining out fundraiser at Jilly's Restaurant. 1012 Reisterstown Road Pikesville. Eat in or carry out. All day. Just mention Kappa Guild when ordering. For more information, contact Sheila Mentz 410-484-8215 or [morahsheila@aol.com](mailto:morahsheila@aol.com) or Miriam Stern 410-299-0498 or [bubbysternmail@aol.com](mailto:bubbysternmail@aol.com) or Ressa Raskin 410-580-2050 or [greatestbubbe@gmail.com](mailto:greatestbubbe@gmail.com).

**August 14, 2024- 12:00-4:00 PM** Day of Games.. Pappas Restaurant Cranbrook Shopping Center, 550 Cranbrook Road Cockeysville. Full lunch. Cost \$45. For information contact Michale Misler 410-654-0857 or [angiosm@aol.com](mailto:angiosm@aol.com).

**September 22, 2024**- Fall Fashion Show. Zamoiski Auditorium at Sinai Hospital. Buffet lunch with dietary laws observed. Fashions by Taylor Marie. For information contact Sheila Mentz 410-484-8215 or [morahsheila@aol.com](mailto:morahsheila@aol.com) or Miriam Stern 410-299-0498 or [bubbysternmail@aol.com](mailto:bubbysternmail@aol.com).

#### **MOSES MONTEFIORE ANSHE EMUNAH SISTERHOOD**

**Tuesday, April 16, 2024 11:30 PM** Paula Gallagher from Baltimore County Library will review new books we will find enjoyable. No charge. Guests welcome to meeting at MMAE. For more information, call Marilyn Sherr at 410-484-5729.

**Tuesday, May 14, 2024 11:30 PM** Vicki Becker will speak about her personal experiences "From Egypt to America" at MMAE. More information tbd. Call Marilyn Sherr at 410-484-5729.

#### **TEMPLE ISAIAH SISTERHOOD**

**Friday Mornings throughout the Spring 10 AM-1 PM.** Mah Jongg - Players of ALL levels are welcome to drop in for an opportunity to make new friends, play Mah Jongg and have a fun time. We will be offering lessons to anyone interested in learning. Please contact Susie Golkow [susiereads@aol.com](mailto:susiereads@aol.com) for any questions. New signup genius for Spring dates to come. Event will be held at Temple Isaiah 12200 Scaggsville Rd, Fulton, MD.

**Wednesday, June 5, 2024 8:45 AM - 4:30 PM** Temple Isaiah's Mah Jongg Tournament. Come join us for a continental

breakfast and a great lunch while enjoying Mah Jongg. We will have great cash prizes. The cost for the event is \$60. To register and more information, contact Doris Geisler at [timahjongtournament@gmail.com](mailto:timahjongtournament@gmail.com). Click here for the flyer.

#### **THE WOMEN'S CLUB OF HAR SINAI-OHEB SHALOM CONGREGATION**

**May 9, 2024**- Trip to Ladew Topiary Gardens with picnic lunch for members of The Women's Club. Please contact [sboxerbell@gmail.com](mailto:sboxerbell@gmail.com) for more info.

**May 18, 2024**- Intergenerational High Tea at Sweet Simplici-Tea in Sykesville for members of The Women's Club and their guests. Please contact [sboxerbell@gmail.com](mailto:sboxerbell@gmail.com) for more info.

**June 9, 2024** - Picnic in the Park at Meadowood Park for HSOSC families. Please contact [sboxerbell@gmail.com](mailto:sboxerbell@gmail.com) for more info.

#### **WOMEN OF BALTIMORE HEBREW**

WBHC Wednesdays:

**May 1, 2024 at 7:30 pm on Zoom** Barbara Blumberg presents "The Story of Ida Rosenthal" who created the Maidenform bra.

**May 8, 15, 22 & 29 from 7:30 - 8:30 PM** Bev Rosen will present "Historic Jonestown", one of Baltimore's oldest immigrant communities.

**May 5, 2024 from 1:00 - 4:00 PM** Community Shred Event in the Baltimore Hebrew Parking lot.

**May 14, 2024 from 5 to 8 PM** Games Galore all are welcome! Bring friends and games.

**Thursday May 16, 2024 at 7:30 PM on Zoom.** Grandparents Schmooze and Share. The group will be continuing with the themes and ideas on the book "Unconditional Love". Not necessary to have read the book. Contact Gail Dezube for more info [gail.dezube@gmail.com](mailto:gail.dezube@gmail.com).

**Tuesday May 28, 2024 at 7:30 PM on Zoom.** Book Circle - The May reading challenge will be to read a book written by an author from the state you were born in. The group will discuss those books as well as our current favorites. Contact Marla Lipman for more info [cloudshl@aol.com](mailto:cloudshl@aol.com).

**June 4th at 5:45 PM** Closing Meeting and Installation at BHC. More information to follow.

Federation Calendar  
(meetings are held on Thursdays)



BECOME A FRIEND OF FEDERATION

Meetings Held Either Virtually or in Person



2024

- May 16— 108th Annual Convention
- September 19—Opening Meeting
- November 14—Dinner Meeting

2025

- January 23—Mid-Winter Conference
- March 20—General Meeting
- May 15—109th Annual Convention

Visit our website for more information at  
[jewishwomensfed.org](http://jewishwomensfed.org)

FRIEND OF FEDERATION FORM

Your contribution of \$18 a year allows you to receive all Flames, the annual directory and all mailings. You also help to underwrite Federation's meetings. Thank you for becoming a Friend of Federation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Make your check payable to:  
 The Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations of Maryland  
 Please mail check to:  
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 Baltimore, Maryland 21209  
 Info: Cece Rund [Crrund@yahoo.com](mailto:Crrund@yahoo.com) or 410-429-5411

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