THE WORD FROM NCJW NATIONAL

The election is over and the American people have spoken. Now we must pick up the pieces of one of the most divisive presidential campaigns in the history of the United States of America. As the oldest Jewish women’s organization in the country, National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) has a unique responsibility to provide inspiration and leadership to the thousands of progressive Jewish women and men who support our work in advancing social and economic justice for women, children, and families.

We have reiterated our pledge to work with the President-elect and the Congress of the United States on the many issues we care so deeply about including: ensuring accessible and affordable healthcare for all, advancing reproductive justice, promoting and protecting voting rights, working toward comprehensive immigration reform, preventing gun violence, and so many others that have been core to our mission for close to 125 years.

As a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates, NCJW is an effective force for change at the local, state, and federal levels. We will continue to build bridges of understanding that transcend narrow partisan interests as we have done throughout our history. We will continue to speak out based on our most particular Jewish values like B’tzelem Elohim, which recognizes the dignity and sanctity of every human being — and Tzedek, Tzedeck, Tirdof, which calls us to pursue justice for all.

We need your passion and your strength now more than ever. We need each and every one of you and all of your friends, colleagues, and loved ones to join NCJW in our ongoing pursuit of economic and social justice for all. Please advocate for NCJW today to help strengthen our grassroots movement and essential policy advocacy. We can and will be “stronger together” and we will continue to build the kind of nation we want our children and grandchildren to inherit.

If not now, when?

“If I am not for myself, then who will be for me?
And if I am only for myself, then what am I?
And if not now, when?”
— Rabbi Hillel
Board meetings are open to all NCJW members. Monthly meetings are held the second Tuesday, 6:45pm, at Albert Einstein Residence Center. Please confirm time and place with any Board member. Minutes can be downloaded from our website. Go to: ncjwsac.org/membership.

The BULLETIN is the official publication of the National Council of Jewish Women

**OFFICERS**

Anne Eisenberg  
PRESIDENT  
anne@ncjwsac.org

Wendy Phoenix  
TREASURER  
wendy@ncjwsac.org

Pat Sturdevant  
RECORDING SECRETARY  
pat@ncjwsac.org

Beryl Michaels  
IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT  
beryl@ncjwsac.org

**DIRECTORS**

Barbara Baran  
FAMILY SHALOM  
barbara@ncjwsac.org

Taliah Berger  
PROGRAMS  
taliah@ncjwsac.org

Elena Friedman-Weiss  
PROGRAMS  
elena@ncjwsac.org

Joan Gorfain  
ISRAEL AFFAIRS/JCRC  
joan@ncjwsac.org

Lindie Henderson  
FUND DEVELOPMENT  
lindie@ncjwsac.org

**NEW MEMBERS**

Sandra Fields  
2110 Rocky Springs Road  
El Dorado Hills, CA  95762  
(916) 425-7741

Wendy Hubbs  
5351 Battlewood Way  
Carmichael, CA  95608  
(916) 952-0453  
whubbs@surewest.net

Sharon Rogoff  
123 Carmody Circle  
Folsom, CA  95630  
michaelandsharon@comcast.net

Emily Hagerman  
1400 P Street, Apt. 321  
Sacramento, CA  95814  
(415) 606-9724  
emily.hagerman@gmail.com

**NEW LIFE MEMBER**

Cori Traub  
(916) 541-6532  
coritraub@icloud.net

**MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Ilana Clay Rub

**DIRECTORS**

Eileen Jacobowitz  
AT LARGE  
eileen@ncjwsac.org

Claire Lipschultz  
FAMILY SHALOM  
claire@ncjwsac.org

Vicki Rand  
COMMUNICATIONS  
vicki@ncjwsac.org

Ilana Clay Rub  
MEMBERSHIP  
ilana@ncjwsac.org

Nicole Valentine Mullikin  
AT LARGE  
nicole@ncjwsac.org
FROM THE PRESIDENT
Anne Eisenberg

Dear Friends,

I am having a hard time writing an optimistic, cheery message this month. I find myself concerned about the future of our country and wanting to avoid the news, which each day brings another assault on values we hold dear.

However, Chanukah reminds us each year that a small group of people fighting for what they believe can overcome great odds. And as the eloquent statement from our national leadership says, “We will continue to build bridges of understanding that transcend narrow partisan interests as we have done throughout our history. We will continue to speak out based on our most particular Jewish values like B’tzelem Elohim, which recognizes the dignity and sanctity of every human being — and Tzedek, Tzedek, Tirdof, which calls us to pursue justice for all.”

Family Shalom and our Board will be discussing how we should move forward in the changed national context. We will be addressing the following questions, among others:

• What kinds of issue areas might we want to prioritize?
• Are there coalitions we may want to join or help create?
• What do we know about what other local progressive organizations (Jewish and otherwise) are thinking/planning? Who should we reach out to in order to learn more?
• How can we more fully activate our membership?

If you would like to be part of the conversation, and I hope you do, please contact me at anne@ncjwsac.org with any ideas you might have.

Let us count our blessings. We are fortunate to be living in California and to have Darrell Steinberg, a recipient of our Hannah G. Solomon Award, as the new mayor of Sacramento. He is a member of our community who shares our values and concerns.

I hope you are finding joy in your family and friends and have a wonderful holiday season.

EVENTS CALENDAR

DECEMBER

21 CHANUKAH MIM
1:00-3:00pm
Einstein Senior Center

JANUARY 2017

29 MAH JONGG MADNESS
11:00am-3:00pm
$36 donation
Silverado Design Center

MARCH

31 MIM AT WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT

APRIL

2 SPRING FASHION SHOW

Weekly eNEWS email messages keep you up to date about events and important issues.

Contact us: info@ncjwsac.org
FOCUS ON NATIONAL

47TH NATIONAL CONVENTION: SHAPING THE FUTURE, LEADING THE WAY
MARCH 23-25, 2017
ATLANTA

You’re a big part of NCJW. Now, be a part of our 47th National Convention.

Convention 2017 is focused on the future — and we need YOU to help shape it. This March 23-25 we’ll come together in Atlanta at the gorgeous JW Marriott Atlanta Buckhead and use our collective strength and leadership to navigate our advocacy work under the new presidential administration.

Get ready for a stellar lineup of influential speakers, inspiring workshops, and networking opportunities with an intergenerational mix of fellow NCJW leaders. Please encourage section members, friends, and family to join in on the action.

And we’ll not only work hard, we’ll play hard too! Did we mention the upscale hotel amenities and nearby attractions like museums, malls, spas, and nightlife?

Check out our Convention Website for the latest info regarding schedule and hotel rooms. Through our online system, reservations will be accepted at a discounted room rate until February 24, 2017.

Make travel plans soon — see you in Atlanta!

For more information, go to the convention website: www.convention.ncjw.org
FOCUS ON SACRAMENTO SECTION

EAT, PLAY, WIN. CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR AT OUR ANNUAL

Mah Jongg Madness

Enjoy a delicious lunch with old and new friends. Fabulous raffle prizes complete the day. Proceeds support NCJW Sacramento Section helping women, children and families.

Sunday, January 29, 2017
11am-3pm
Silverado Design Center, 5250 South Watt Avenue, Sacramento
Donation $36

proceeds support NCJW Sacramento Section helping women, children and families

Please bring your own Mah Jongg set and let us know who will be sitting at your table. If you don’t have a table, we will try to arrange one. Contact Elena Friedman at elena@ncjwsac.org.

Register online: www.ncjwsac.org or fill out the form below and mail it with your check by January 15th for $36 to Elena Friedman, 1479 University Ave, Sacramento, CA 95825

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YOUR NAME</th>
<th>PLAYER AT YOUR TABLE:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EMAIL</th>
<th>PLAYER AT YOUR TABLE:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PHONE</th>
<th>PLAYER AT YOUR TABLE:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LUNCH CHOICES (choose one):</th>
<th>PLAYER AT YOUR TABLE:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WHOLE SANDWICH</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMOKED TURKEY BREAST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUNA SALAD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDITERRANEAN VEGGIE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/2 SANDWICH AND 1/2 SALAD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMOKED TURKEY BREAST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TUNA SALAD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEDITERRANEAN VEGGIE</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What inspires a person to do something?
The journey which led me to Women’s Empowerment, a nonprofit that helps homeless women get back on their feet, started at NCJW’s Founder’s Day last spring. I listened to Lisa Culp, the Director of Women’s Empowerment, and one of their graduates speak. They were there to thank our NCJW Section for the grants we give quarterly to their applicants through our Bridge To Success project.

I was so impressed by what I heard that day I inquired as to how I could get involved not only with the Bridge To Success project but also at Women’s Empowerment. I was told to call Andrea Segal (chair of BTS). She directed me to the Women’s Empowerment Program Coordinator and also set up an opportunity for interested NCJW members to take a tour of their facility. After the tour I was sure that I wanted to be involved there in some way. I found out from their program coordinator that they needed a teacher for a Parenting Class.

What a fit — given my professional background as a former teacher, principal and Director of the Parent-Schools-Community Partnership Center in the Sacramento City Unified School District.

I made a commitment to Women’s Empowerment to develop, teach and facilitate two six-week sessions knowing that my ultimate goal was to have Sacramento City Unified School District eventually partner with Women’s Empowerment to permanently teach the Parent Classes. They have extensive resources and staff that I knew would build on the framework that was in place and take the classes to another level.

My experience these past six months has been one of the most gratifying experiences that I have ever had. The women in the classes were absolutely remarkable given their circumstances! Women’s Empowerment is an amazing nonprofit organization that has helped so many women and their children.
Women's Empowerment Parenting Class

Elaine and Cindy co-facilitate

become more stable in their everyday life. I am truly fortunate to have had the opportunity to make this journey.

And, the icing on the cake — in January the Sacramento City Unified School District will become partners with Women’s Empowerment and continue to develop and teach the Parenting Classes at Women’s Empowerment.

So, what inspires a person to do something? The catalyst was NCJW’s wonderful Bridge To Success project. It provides quarterly grants to a few Women’s Empowerment graduates that apply. The grant assists them in some small way to make a new life for not only themselves but also their children.
NCJW IN ISRAEL CHARTING A NEW COURSE

Joan Gorfain

With the recent retirement of longtime NCJW Israel Director Shari Eshet, NCJW has announced that Senior Advisor, Dina Charnin, will be working on growing Israel programing.

Through a generous grant from the Mazer Family Fund of UJA-Federation, in partnership with the Dafna Fund of Israel, the following crucial questions will be explored: What are the key achievements, trends, and challenges in the feminist and women’s organizational arena in Israel? What are the priorities and hopes of women leaders and change-makers for the coming decade? And how can we here in North America best empower and support our colleagues and sisters in Israel?

Our Sacramento NCJW Israel Committee will be exploring how our voices and dollars can advance the work of gender equality and improve the lives of women, children and families to create a stronger, ever more vibrant Israel.

The Sacramento NCJW Section Israel Affairs Committee promotes the work of NCJW in Israel through local programs, discussions, coalition building, actions and advocacy.

Stay tuned for more updates on this incredible project.

Interested in joining our Sacramento section Israel Affairs committee?

Contact Joan Gorfain at: joan@ncjwsac.org.
MIM MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Carole Jacoby

December 2015: two dozen people gathered at the Albert Einstein Residence Center for NCJW’s first Mitzvah in a Minute (MIM), enjoying donuts and coffee as we wrapped Hanukkah gifts purchased for a family chosen by the Jewish Federation.

March 2016: a MIM team turned chaos into a clothing store by sorting and organizing donated gowns, purses, shoes, and accessories for Women’s Empowerment (WE) graduates to select and wear to the annual WE gala. The event ended with a tour of WE and a light lunch.

October 2016: We made 200 PB&J sandwiches for the River City Food Bank’s food insecure patrons, an effort coordinated by Abbie Blackman and Cori Traub and aided by volunteers’ children and grandchildren. As Cori remarked, this event provided an opportunity for her middle schooler to work beside her, instilling the value of caring for our community in her daughter.

What do MIMs have in common? They are one-shot projects that take only a few hours of a volunteer’s time, provide direct service to individuals or organizations, and let members meet and socialize. They are so much fun that the time flies by. We’ll usually feed you. And nonmembers are often invited to join in, such as AERC residents for the Hanukkah MIM, Federation staff for the WE clothes project, and the children or grandchildren of members at the Food Bank event.

What’s up next? We hope to do a larger event for several families at Hanukkah and a second morning at WE in March, organizing donations for the 2017 Gala. We may develop projects with one of Sacramento County’s smallest and poorest school districts, Robla, which needs help with their farmer’s market days for children and would love to provide care packages (clothes, blankets, backpacks, supplies) for the children of the homeless families that arrive at their schools throughout the year.

At our next Community Services meeting, the team will choose more MIM projects and select next year’s long-term Community Service projects. Please contact Carole Jacoby at carole.jacoby@comcast.net for more information. Our best ideas come from YOU, so if you have a project in mind, please tell us about it!
You can support NCJW and our Section. Honor loved ones, mark life cycle events, share sentiments for recovery, successes and milestones, express thanks and in so many more ways. Tribute funds support our programs and projects locally and in Israel.

A handwritten notecard will be mailed to your honoree(s) in your name. Make your donation of any amount ($10 minimum). You may designate the fund you would like your donation to benefit. You may also purchase a package of blank notecards for your own personal use for $45/per pack of five notecards.

Email Holly Ilfeld: holly@ncjwsac.org
Or go to our website: ncjwsac.org/tribute
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>To: Janet Ulmer</th>
<th>For the passing of her husband, Ron</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To: Carry Cohn</td>
<td>For a speedy and complete recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Phyllis and Norm Jacobs</td>
<td>For the passing of her brother-in-law, Howard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Liz IGRA</td>
<td>For the opening of the CVHEN Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Michelle Stern</td>
<td>For a speedy and complete recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Theodora Wilner</td>
<td>For the birth of her first grandchild,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Elizabeth Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Doris Gray</td>
<td>For her very special Birthday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Liz IGRA</td>
<td>For a speedy and complete recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Sandy Kaufman</td>
<td>For a speedy and complete recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>for her husband, Art Baum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Karen Polansky</td>
<td>For a speedy and complete recovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To: Anne Eisenberg</td>
<td>Congratulations on the marriage of her</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>son, Joshua and new daughter-in-law,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Andrea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Happy Hanukkah!