

Hadassah

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HADASSAH

St. Petersburg Chapter

St. Petersburg Hadassah Celebrates Jewish Arts Month



March 27, 2019 at 2:00-4:00 pm
Lecture by Cantor Pamela Siskin

Part of an annual educational initiative
by the American Guild of Judaic Art

Bring an object or photograph of Jewish significance
that is precious or pertinent, and be prepared
to tell the story surrounding the memorabilia

Refreshments will be served

Philip Benjamin Tower
250 - 58th Street N.
St. Petersburg

R.S.V.P. Before March 20 to Renee Lipman
727-698-0171 or renee@lipman.net

HADASSAH The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.

St. Petersburg Chapter of Hadassah www.hadassah.org/regions/florida-central/chapters/st-petersburg

March - May 2019 Adar I / Adar II - Nissan / Iyar 5779

President's Ponderings



Shalom Hadassah Sisters,

As we continue in 2019, we can look forward to another year of great activities to help Hadassah Hospital and all the other programs that Hadassah sponsors such as Youth Aliyah and Camp Judaea. We also participate in events as community partners with other organizations. We will be volunteering at the Community Women's Seder. The event will be held on April 4 at Congregation Beth Shalom in Clearwater. Volunteers are always welcome.

Check out and like our Facebook page. Search for St. Petersburg Chapter of Hadassah in Facebook. Invite others to see it. Also, check out our website at www.hadassah.org/regions/florida-central/chapters/st-petersburg.

Join us at our activities. Encourage your friends and relatives of any age to attend and participate in our activities. Men are also welcome and can join Hadassah as Associates. Get involved and help our chapter grow and improve. We are always open to new ideas. Remember, it's a mitzvah.

Thank you for all you do for Hadassah.

*On behalf of the board, I wish
you and yours a Happy Passover.*

Harriet Stein
harnaomi@gmail.com
727-465-4641

PRAZE REPORT

(Programming, Advocacy, Zionism, and Education)

Dr. Eleanor Nche, an ophthalmologist educated in her home country of Cameroon in South Africa, finished her 4th year in Israel at Hadassah Medical Organization, She will be the only ophthalmologist for 700,000 people in her home country where one percent of the people are blind. While in Israel she gained a strong sense of self and was inspired by the women of Hadassah and said, "if I had to choose to have a second country, I would choose Israel."

St. Petersburg Chapter Hadassah Slate of Officers 2019

President Harriet Stein
harnaomi@gmail.com

OVP Adele Morris
adelewmorris003@gmail.com

Membership Barbara Goldberg
bgjg95@gmail.com

Membership Rhoda Ross
rhodagr63@yahoo.com

PRAZE V.P. Leslie Kirsner
lkirsner@tampabay.rr.com

Programming V.P. Michele Kidwell Gilbert
mickid73@aol.com

Fundraising V.P. Rachel Dorison

Recording Sec. Carol Isakson
cwisp@hotmail.com

Corresponding Sec. Laurie Reiskind
lauriesr@tampabay.rr.com

Treasurer Sheryl Feinman
sherlan@tampabay.rr.com

Certificates Laurie Reiskind
lauriesr@tampabay.rr.com

IT Sec. Diane Litt
Diana.litt@gmail.com

Past President Advisor Elaine Miller
imiller@tampabay.rr.com

COMMITTEES:

Strategic Planning Ettie Goldberg
ettie940@aol.com

Strategic Planning Marilyn LeVine
babamfl@aol.com

Strategic Planning Carol Marger
cmarger1@tampabay.rr.com

Strategic Planning Sheryl Sutton
ssutton3@me.com

Strategic Planning Claire Weinstein
cweinst1@tampabay.rr.com

Publicity Helene Debowsky
helenedebowsky@aol.com

Cards Joyce Seder
bayou725@tampabay.rr.com

Trees Robin Post
rpost@tampabay.rr.com

Flowers Linda Weiss
lindaweissfl@gmail.com

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization, is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. You may obtain a copy of Hadassah's Financial Report by writing to the Hadassah Finance Dept., 40 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005

St. Petersburg Chapter of Hadassah
Hadassah Happenings
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Remember Hadassah When Celebrating Simchas and Special Occasions

Donate & Save

Would you like to get rewarded for donating to help Hadassah's important medical research? Who wouldn't?! Hadassah has introduced a way to do that. Hadassah Online Savings & Travel Club (HOST) is a program that enables you to donate and save hundreds or thousands of dollars a year. Make a NEW donation of \$99 or more, to receive a minimum of \$500 in hotels savings at hotels and resorts that are unavailable to the general public. Keepers will receive \$1,000 and major donors will receive \$2,500. Savings are also available on dining, theatre, movies, shows, attractions, shopping, retail merchandise, services and sporting events, to name a few. Download the HOST platform to your mobile phone and start saving now for 365 days from the day you activate. You can make several \$99 donations and give HOST memberships to friends and family as gifts.

Greeting Cards

Need to send a greeting card? Don't worry, Joyce Seder can help you.

Call her at 727-393-9977 or email her at bayou725@tampabay.rr.com and she will tell you about the lovely cards Hadassah has to sell.

Plant A Tree in Israel

Want a special gift for a special someone or in honor of a special occasion? We have just the item. Purchase a tree in Israel in honor of or in memory of that special someone or special occasion. Call Robin Post at 727-546-8004 or email her at rpost@tampabay.rr.com and she will be glad to help you.



Send Flowers

Use Hamiltons, our Hadassah florist, when you want to send flowers for any occasion except Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. Contact Linda Weiss at 561-346-8000 or lindaweissfl@gmail.com.

If you have glass vases and plastic arrangement holders that you are not using return them to Hamiltons Florist. They can be reused. Their location is 4857 Park Street North, St. Petersburg.

Certificates

Please remember that Hadassah has certificates ranging in donation amounts beginning with just \$5. It is a thoughtful way to recognize a special event, celebration, and birthday or acknowledge a death. Our chapter also sells beautiful certificates which can be sent in honor of a new pet or in memory of a pet that has passed away. These can be purchased for a minimum donation of \$5.

In order to ensure Hadassah receives the full amount of your donation we ask that each member pay for the postage to mail the certificate.

Please contact Laurie Reiskind for details.
Lauriesr@tampabay.rr.com • 727-521-0918



IT'S TIME TO ORDER YOUR PASSOVER FLOWERS

Our annual Passover flowers sale is

April 1 to April 12

Small arrangement \$36.00

Large arrangement \$54.00

Orchid or 1 dozen roses \$54.00

(Free delivery to all Pinellas County included)

Contact: Linda Weiss at her email lindaweissfl@gmail.com or phone 561-346-8000

Checks must be made out to St. Petersburg Hadassah and mailed to Linda Weiss, 145 2nd Avenue S, #618, St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Beautify your holiday table and those of your friends!

Note: Throughout the year, you can always order flowers thru Linda - Hadassah will get credit

— Medical Marvels —

A DOUBLE STROKE AT THE DEAD SEA

Imagine having a double stroke in two different arteries while on a day trip at the Dead Sea! What could be the chances of survival?

Last week, Avi, age 57, was on a day trip at the Dead Sea. He turned to his wife, and suddenly he couldn't speak. His face twitched and he collapsed.

Alert medics of the Magen David Adom (MDA) ambulance team called for a helicopter, and Avi was rushed to Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem. MDA also contacted Hadassah's **Endo-vascular Neurosurgery Unit**, headed by **Prof. Jose Cohen**.

The moment the helicopter landed, Hadassah's stroke protocol was activated. Prof. Cohen, together with **Dr. Zvika Skagio**, performed a cerebral catheterization. "In this patient, we found ourselves facing severe blockages in both the left cerebral artery and left carotid artery," report the doctors. "At the least," they explain, "these blockages were liable to lead to severe disability and serious damage to his quality of life. He could also die. Happily, our patient recovered quickly and the next day, he was walking and talking clearly. After a few days of hospitalization, he was able to be sent home in good condition."

Prof. Ronen Leker, director of Hadassah's **Stroke Service and Cerebrovascular Disease Research Laboratory**, received the patient after his catheterization. "Had the teams not worked quickly—less than an hour from the stroke to the angiography room—the patient was likely to die. The patient's rapid recovery from a life-threatening situation is due not least to the high skill level of Prof. Cohen and his staff. The speed allowed them to provide optimal treatment."

And the patient himself? "I remember trying to talk to my wife in a souvenir shop. First, the Zaka volunteer rescue team came and then Magen David Adom. Then I woke up at Hadassah after my life was saved." Avi's wife, Inge, who drove to Jerusalem, said, "I arrived when he was already in the operating room and waited frantically. I'm really surprised that he's already home and okay, because I know what would have happened if he hadn't received such excellent care. It was traumatic, but we are slowly recovering and want to thank everyone who saved his life. It was a miracle."

Patients with aortic aneurysms face a devastating choice. But now, there's hope in an experimental new treatment. And Hadassah is helping lead the way.

Come Join Us!!



The Hadassah/CBI Book Club meets on the **third Wednesday of each month except for holidays**. The meetings take place in the **library at Congregation B'nai Israel at 10:30 am**. Come join us for a lively discussion even if you haven't read the book!

The schedule is as follows:

- 3/20/19 *All I Know and Love* by Judith Frank
- 4/17/19 Passover 4/19 - 4/27
No meeting
- 5/15/19 *Eternal Life* by Dara Horn

Chana Olmstead – Perpetual Yahrzeit Donors

Thank You for all your support!

Orchestra

Cantor Riselle Bain
Pauline Lunin
Lee Shenofsky
Stephanie and Bernardo Stein

Maestro

Sheryl Sutton

Composer

Alice and Larry Ettinger
Susan and Brian Kagan
Leslie Kirsner
Morris and Marilyn LeVine
Patricia and Lionel Levinson
Elaine and Butch Miller
Adele Morris
Laurie and Marc Reiskind
Sandi Rodman
Debbie Sembler

Songwriter

Janet Augenbraun
Sharon Feen Wallace
Sheryl and Larry Feinman
Linda and Jack Goldfarb
Carol Gray Marger
Myra E. Gross
Jackie Kanner
Susan and Dr. Steven LeVine
Vivian and Dr. Edward Lurie
Rhoda and Michael Ross

Singer

Esta Blaxburg
Nan Bugatch
Kathleen Buns
Mali Feld
Yolette Frey
Ethel (Ettie) Goldberg
Charlotte Goldberg
Vera Anne Green
Vicki K. Greenfield
Ann R. Haendel
Anita Helfand
Valerie Hyman
Carolyn Isakson
Karen Kauffman
Ruth Lebowitz
Wendy R. Levine
Renee Lipman
Harriet N. Stein

*Thank
You*

— Medical Marvels continued —

A MIRACLE IN THE MEDICAL INTENSIVE CARE UNIT AT HADASSAH — AS RECALLED BY DR. SIGAL SVIRI, DIRECTOR

On a cold December morning, a 26-year-old mother of two started developing flu symptoms, with fever, headache, and shortness of breath. As her breathing got worse, she came to the emergency room at Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem and was admitted to the **Medical Intensive Care Unit (MICU)**.

When the MICU team saw her initially, she was extremely short of breath and exhibited tachypneic breathing (very rapid respiration), with about 50 breaths a minute. She had low oxygen saturation on full oxygen treatment. Her chest x-ray showed pneumonia secondary to her viral infection. She very rapidly deteriorated and required mechanical ventilation, but before I connected her to the respirator, she took my hand and asked me to save her for the sake of her husband and her children. Unfortunately, her heart was also failing, and her blood pressure was very low. An echocardiogram of her heart showed that it, too, was affected by the virus and was functioning poorly. Viral swabs came back positive for **H1N1 Influenza, otherwise known as Swine Flu**.

As her situation was deteriorating rapidly and both her lungs and her heart were failing despite maximal medical support, we called an urgent meeting of physicians from different fields, including intensivists, cardiologists, infectious diseases specialists, cardiac surgeons, and pulmonologists. We agreed that unless we connected her to an ECMO (heart and lung machine), she would probably die within the next few hours.

With full cooperation of all the teams, she was connected to the ECMO machine, which functioned as her heart and her lungs. We brought in special anti-viral drugs and allowed her body to recover slowly from her infection. The course was not without setbacks. She had severe bleeding, a secondary infection, and muscle weakness, which required a slow and gradual weaning process.

But our patient eventually improved to the point where she could go to the **Rehabilitation Unit at Hadassah Hospital Mount Scopus**. One of the most memorable moments was when her two small children came to visit her for the first time after about a month. They jumped on her and would not let go!

Another was when she came back to visit us in the MICU, walking on her own two feet, talking and smiling. She remembered that I promised her she would come back to her family.

“A few months ago, I was called to the post-delivery recovery room at Hadassah to see her. She had just delivered healthy twins! This was, from my point of view, a real miracle of life!” – **Dr. Sigal Sviri, director, Medical Intensive Care Unit, Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem and director, Center for the Treatment of the Ventilated Patient.**

NEW SUCCESSFUL AORTIC ANEURYSM TREATMENT BREAKTHROUGH

Why are the doctors at Hadassah’s hospitals seen as global leaders in Israeli medicine? Innovation, compassion, and global collaboration.

Take Dr. David Planer. A senior interventional cardiologist at Hadassah Medical Organization, **Dr. Planer has played a key role in developing a new exploratory method of treating aortic arch aneurysms**, a life-threatening condition with limited therapeutic options.

Through a collaboration between Israeli engineers and physicians, the NEXUS® aortic stent graft system is implanted in the aortic arch through a minimally invasive procedure, making it possible to replace the diseased segment of the aorta and close off the aneurysm or the dissection. The stent graft system is being developed by Endospan, a Herzliya-based startup. Dr. Planer has been involved in the device’s development since the beginning, including pre-clinical animal studies.

In June, Vera Nagovski became the first NEXUS patient of Dr. Planer’s team at Hadassah Hospital. For Nagovski, an x-ray tech who swam three times a week, it started with a headache that wouldn’t go away, achy muscles and fatigue. Over time, it became clear that she had an inflammatory disease affecting her aorta, eventually causing a life-threatening aneurysm more than two and a half inches wide. She had already undergone open-heart surgery to replace the ascending part of the aorta a few years ago by Prof. Shapira at Hadassah, but her aorta disease progressed, now involving the arch.

Nagovski faced a devastating choice: another dangerous open-heart surgery or waiting for a sudden, deadly rupture. Luckily, Nagovski had a third choice, the new stent graft. “I admit I was scared, but I had faith in my Hadassah doctors.”

I feel like a new person,” said Nagovski. “Thank you!”

**Each of us has the power to heal the world,
to save lives, to give hope.**

**Your support for Hadassah helps bring more
breakthroughs to more patients.**

**Please donate to Hadassah today by going to
www.hadassah.org or by sending a check to
Laurie Reiskind, 1216 Darlington Oak Cir NE
St Petersburg, FL 33703.**

Tzedakah that saves lives: Join a Giving Circle for the 360 Degree Campaign

Why are we raising the money to renovate and expand Hadassah's iconic Round Building that was originally built in the early 1960s?

Jerusalem is growing and expanding rapidly, and the need for the services that Hadassah provides grows dramatically every year.

Between our two hospitals, Hadassah currently has over 1000 beds, but we have already outgrown the available space to treat those who turn to us to help them heal. We need 200 new beds and 17 renovated operating rooms in a modern facility that will also house numerous clinics. The building also needs its infrastructure strengthened to protect it from earthquakes and conventional, biological or chemical attacks. It will also feature a much-needed state-of-the-art Simulation Lab to provide medical, nursing and IDF students with the opportunity for intensive hands-on clinical training.

You can make a contribution to Hadassah that is meaning for you when you join a Giving Circle for the 360 Degree campaign to renovate and expand the original Hadassah Ein Kerem Round Building.

By coming together, we can form Circles of Donors, and by pooling our gifts, we can place the blessing of a Mezuzah on the doors of the renovated building. Each Mezuzah represents a total donation of \$1,200. If the St Petersburg Chapter has enough Giving Circles, hopefully we can bless the Round Building with several Mezuzzot.

You can make a difference and help to save lives by becoming a donor to this campaign. Individual Donors of \$36 or more will receive a beautiful certificate. For a donation of \$1,200, you can have your own Mezuzah with your name on the plaque.

You can make a gift at any level and know that it will make a difference. Please contact Patricia Levinson (plevinson@hadassah.org) and let her know that you want to join a Giving Circle, or are even willing to form a Giving Circle of your friends.

Working together WE ARE HADASSAH. We are THE WOMEN WHO DO. WE HELP TO SAVE LIVES!
CAMPAIGN GOAL: \$91.2 MILLION OVER THREE YEARS.



PLACE A BLESSING IN THE ROUND BUILDING

Your donation ensures that a lovely Mezuzah is placed on doorways on each of the floors of the Round Building.

Donations of \$1,200 or more can be payable over 12 months. Mail checks to Hadassah, PO Box 1100, New York, NY 10268-1100 or donate online at hadassah.org/healing.

**360° of
HEALING**

HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION
The Full Circle Campaign

360DEGREES@HADASSAH.ORG

800.928.0685

HADASSAH



PURIM

As we get closer to March, my mind thinks about the story of Purim and I think of it as an example of Women's Lib. (My formative years were the 60's when the feminist movement started). I saw Vashti as a strong woman who wouldn't take garbage from anyone around her. I said to myself, "Good going; you're courageous, strong, and assertive. You're the first liberated woman."

In those days it was the law of the land that every man shall be the master of his home. I'm glad things changed over the years!

As I did some research into Vashti, my opinion of her changed some. I read that she had danced before her husband and his drunken friends many times before and it was only because she had a bad rash, that she refused this time – talk about vanity! No, Vashti was no feminist; she viewed herself as men of her times did – as a beauty-object. She used make-up to cover her flaws and worked to make herself picture perfect. Her level of confidence was weighed daily by a scale and a mirror. She was a woman of low self-esteem.



vs.



And where does Esther fit in this picture? Did she have a healthy, self-esteem? Did she value her looks?

We are told that Esther is passive and submissive. All her life she has obeyed the men in her life. As a child she was taken in by Mordechai as a foster daughter, taken in to the King's harem and taken by the King. She does not reveal her identity at the palace because Mordechai has commanded her not to tell. She is a model of docility.

When Mordechai tells Esther she must plead to the King to save the Jews, she does not know what to do. She knows that those who appear before the King unbidden are condemned to die but also has loyalty to Mordechai and her people.

In this moment of fate, Esther discovers she is not so different from Vashti. Esther takes control of the plan; changing and amending it as she sees fit. Like Vashti she will appear before the King only when she decides that the time is right – in this case after three days of fasting and praying. As she marshals her strength to save her nation, she must revisit the experiences of her shunned predecessor and learn from them.

Esther is the true feminist, because she took control of the situation and did it "her way."

On a personal level, I hope you all can find the time to help Hadassah grow, to show the importance of women of all ages in our modern society!

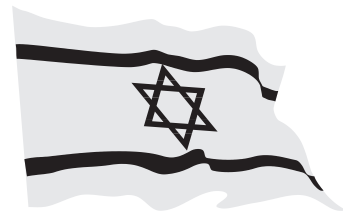
Helene Debowsky
St Petersburg Chapter Board Member

Change of Address

Please send change of name, address, email address and phone number to Harriet Stein at 727-465-4641 or harnaomi@gmail.com. Thank you for helping to keep our records current and saving on postage for returned mail.

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In May, we will be celebrating
Yom Ha' Atzmaut,
Israel Independence Day,
with a special program.
More details will follow.