



HADASSAH
Florida Central

2/27/17

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Dear Chaverim,

Purim, celebrated on the 14th day of Adar in the month of March, is a holiday very much like the transition of winter to spring. It is a toast to laughter, liberty, life, love and loyalty. We celebrate this holiday because Haman, who had planned the destruction of the Jews of Persia, was himself crushed.

The story of Purim teaches us that, although Haman's exist, in every generation, to destroy the Jewish people Good can, through faith, law, hope, technology, and might, will prevail. It also teaches us that we cannot be bystanders or silent on-lookers.

Purim teaches us that through each person's action, by resolve to do the right thing, and by being active

Participants in society, we will prevail.

The story of Esther, which is read and celebrated on Purim, tells us of a young girl who, with the guidance of a cousin, found the strength and courage to challenge the King of Persia. She pointed out the error he made in judging the Jews and the error he made in trusting some of his advisors. Many find this to be trite, filled with clichés and almost like a fairy tale, but that's the way it is . . . **Good over evil will triumph through action, law, and standing up for one's ideals.**



We give voice to the voiceless, comfort those in pain, and promote health and well-being.

Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) stands as a beacon throughout the world, a beacon of coexistence and healing and hope. Put your Jewish values into action and help us build a healthier, safer and more equitable world.

Advocacy at your Fingertips. Log on and act—you can make a difference in an instant. Visit Hadassah's National Action Center; find a policy that matters to you; and send a letter to your Representative or Senator right on our site. Sign up for **Hadassah's Advocacy Alerts**

and stay informed on the latest legislation before Congress and Hadassah's policy priorities and initiatives.

Build relationships with elected officials. Hadassah members train in the basics of lobbying, and then get up and go. Spend a day getting to know your US Representatives or Senators in their regional offices, with our Day in the District program. **May 8 - 15** Congressional recess



Tampa chapter

"Every Bite Counts"

Feb. 28 is our annual luncheon hosted by Memorial Hospital. A dietitian on their staff has been chosen as our speaker.

RSVP to Jane Strom: jstrom@hadassah.org

Jacksonville Chapter

Gender Equity in Medicine (GEM) and Heart Disease in Women

Sunday, February 26th - 2:00-4:00 PM

Join panelists Nancy Davis, who survived a heart attack at age 46, Gayle Martin, M.D., Cardiologist, and Sharon Smith RN, of the Jacksonville Center for Clinical Research on Sun., February 26 at 2:00 PM.

At **Temple Ahavath Chesed, 8727 San Jose Blvd.** everyone is invited to bring a guest - male or female! ***Heart healthy refreshments will be served***

Brevard Chapter

Yasher Koach on the "Ya Gotta Have Heart" Gala. Barbara Goldstein and Rabbi Grae were guest speakers. It was a lovely evening of food, fun, comradery, live and silent auction, and dancing.

The Brevard Chapter has been in existence for 50 years and still going strong.



Barbara Rubenstein and
Joanne Bishins



The 2 Barbara's



Rabbi Grae and Barbara

Tri-County Chapter



Hadassah Tri-County President Sandy Bearison and Temple Shalom Israel Solidarity Committee chairperson Marcia Riefs.

Israel Solidarity Committee of Temple Shalom hears program on Hadassah Medical Organization

BY [ANGELA LOVE](#) FEBRUARY 4, 2017 The Israel Solidarity Committee of Temple Shalom presented Dr. Rachel Schonberger, National Chair of the Hadassah Medical Organization, as part of an on-going series of programs on Israel. February's program was presented in partnership with the Tri-County Chapter of Hadassah. Started in 1912, Hadassah is the women's Zionist organization of America. The organization built and owns two hospitals in Israel. In addition to patient care these hospitals are world renowned as research hospitals.

Dr. Schonberger shared the findings from her most recent trip to Israel.

"The doctors at these hospitals work at the threshold of impossible; miracles happen at Hadassah every day. These hospitals are on the leading edge in genetic, immunotherapy and stem cell research, all critical areas in 21st Century medicine," said Schonberger. "The doctors are making great strides in treating Parkinson's disease and macular degeneration; also in the area of genetics allowing for personalized medicine which is the way of 21st Century medical treatment."

The hospitals are also a bridge to peace. The staff is multi-ethnic and multi-lingual. "The hospitals are known as islands of peace," said Schonberger. "When parents have a sick child in the hospital, they understand the same thing, the pain of a child. Politics are left at the door." Schonberger went on to describe instances she had witnessed of people whose lives outside the hospital would be in opposition of each other, support each other and help each other out while dealing with their sick children.

Hadassah built the first hospital in 1939, raising the money during the depression. The second hospital was built in 1961. A new tower was added recently. "Since the start of Hadassah in 1912, more than two billion dollars have been raised and sent to Israel, most of that money has been within the last ten to twelve years." If you would like to read more about the medical research and breakthroughs being made at the Israeli hospitals go to www.hadassah.org.

The Israel Solidarity Committee programming continues monthly through June. "The purpose of our programming," said Marcia Riefs, Committee Chairperson, "is to educate and make people aware of Israel, the land and its people." Next up in March is Robin Dermer with the Jewish National Fund to discuss *Israel, the Land and Water Conservation*. For more information on this program and the other upcoming programs including the Israel Independence Celebration in May go to www.templeshalomcentralfl.org.

St. Petersburg Chapter

Passover Flower Sale

March 1 to April 3, 2017

Small arrangement - \$36.00

Large arrangement, orchid or roses - \$54.00

Free delivery in Pinellas County

Contact: LindaWeissFL@gmail.com or 561-346-8000

Lylah Chapter

Spring Fashion Show

Thursday, March 9

Social Hour 6:00pm

Dinner 7:00pm

followed by

Fashion Show

East Lake Woodlands Country Club

1055 East Lake Woodlands Parkway

Proceeds to Benefit Multiple Sclerosis Research at Hadassah Hospital, Jerusalem



NEWS FROM NATIONAL

As of January 2017 all UNITS will receive full fundraising goal credit for special gifts. Special gifts are restricted gifts that provide expendable funds for purposes over and above current operations, such as programming of unbudgeted initiatives, etc. The donor recommends the use of the gift for a specific purpose within the scope of approved Hadassah programs. Special gifts must be approved by the Gift Committee before a donor is presented with an opportunity to make a special gift. Cumulative giving will be given to the donor and the unit the donor is associated with will receive goal credit when the donation is made.

Hadassah Online Savings and Travel Club

JOIN ME IN ISRAEL

HADASSAH FLORIDA MISSION:
ISRAEL
SEEING IS BELIEVING
 October 18 - 31, 2017
 Led by Marion Aronheim, Linda Goldstein,
 Dorrie Kahn & Susan Lafer

This amazing mission includes...

- ▶ Meeting with Israel's communal leaders & speakers throughout
- ▶ Visiting the Yad Vashem complex & the newly found materials relating to the people & events connected to the Holocaust
- ▶ Enjoying an in-depth visit to Hadassah Ein Karem Hospital
- ▶ Uncovering the glorious past of the Temple Mount on a "hands-on" archeological dig at Ein Tzurim
- ▶ Exploring the mystical city of Safed & participating in a calligraphy workshop
- ▶ Interacting with the kids & staff at Hadassah's Meir Shfeya youth village
- ▶ Taking an amazing tour of the Eshkol region, including a visit to the Regional Center & Bnei Netzarim
- ▶ 6 nights at the Dan Panorama, Jerusalem
- ▶ 2 nights at Eilat/Petra, Queen of Sheba, Eilat
- ▶ 4 nights plus late check-out at the Crown Plaza, Tel Aviv
- ▶ Meals per itinerary
- ▶ Arrival/Departure transfers with main group
- ▶ Entrance fees & portage per itinerary

Eilat/Petra Extension: Oct 30 - Nov 2, 2017

- ▶ 2 nights at the Hilton, Queen of Sheba, Eilat
- ▶ Day tour to Petra
- ▶ Meals per itinerary
- ▶ Transfer in Eilat

Full itinerary & online registration:
secure.ayelet.com/HDFlorida2017.aspx

Ayelet Tours Ltd.
 www.ayelet.com
 P 800-237-8107 • F 516-763-4803
 19 Avodan Rd., Albany, NY 12205

HADASSAH Missions

PRICING CHART	COST (Doll. Card/Check)
LAND TOUR (Per person)	\$3,775
Additional Cost for Single Occupancy	\$1,250
Eilat/Petra EXTENSION (Per person)	\$888
Additional Cost for Eilat Single Occupancy	\$385

Based upon an extension of 20 paying participants. Rates do not include airport equipment fees apply. Contact Ayelet Travel for connecting flights from any city at 800.237.8107. Money spent on other items.

Suggested Giving Opportunities

Lighting the Way in Tower - \$5000

Patient Bed in Tower - \$5000

Additional variety of equipment in Tower - \$1000 +

Furnish a one bed patient room in Tower - \$18,000

Furnish a 2-bed patient room in Tower - \$36,000

Seat in Synagogue in the Tower - \$36,000



Yahrzeit - \$5000 Yahrzeit - \$1000, Enhanced



*Keeper of the Gate-\$1000-\$5000 annual commitment
 Chai Society-\$180-360 annual commitment*



Road Tile - \$1500



MARCH IS MS MONTH, PLAN YOUR PROGRAMS NOW!

Multiple Sclerosis

Gender Disparities for MS

- Women are twice as likely to get MS and become sick younger – age 18-40— and the disease incidence disparity between men and women is growing.
- Relapsing-remitting MS has largest gender gap, which is also increasing.
- Some research indicates that sex hormone levels (e.g., estrogen, progesterone, and testosterone) may be related to MS. Women's hormonal changes, especially the decrease in estrogen during menopause, leave women more susceptible to the range of autoimmune disorders.
- Pregnancy and breastfeeding may temporarily reduce MS relapses. However, pregnant and lactating women cannot take many medications, including those for MS. This leaves patients to cope with untreated symptoms during this period.
- Although hormones might explain much of the gender gap in MS, other influences likely contribute as well. Environmental and genetic factors shape risk for the illness in general and might play a large role in the gender gap for disease incidence.
- Over 2.3 million people worldwide suffer from Multiple Sclerosis, a chronic, unpredictable and potentially disabling autoimmune disease of the central nervous system that affects the nerve covering of the brain, disrupting the flow of information from the brain to other parts of the body.
- Multiple Sclerosis is increasingly considered a young person's disease, with most people diagnosed between ages 20-50.
- Hadassah is a trailblazer in stem cell research – the first in the world to devise an effective stem cell treatment that improves the mobility and energy level of people with MS.
- World-renowned stem cell research specialist and head of HMO's Department of Neurology, Professor Tamir Ben-Hur, and his team discovered that stem cells actually spur the brain to help itself by circulating to damaged areas of the brain.
- HMO researchers led by Professor Dimitrios Karussis, Sr. Neurologist and head of the Multiple Sclerosis Center, conducted the first clinical trial injecting bone marrow-derived stem cells into the patient's spinal fluid and discovered that they inhibit damaging inflammation; prevent brain cell death; and facilitate repair of damaged nerve cells.
- Preliminary results of HMO's cutting-edge protocol have seen wheelchair-bound patients such as former Dallas top trial attorney Malia Litman get back on their own two feet. Malia reports that in addition to increased mobility, the treatment has restored her energy, enabling her to function in her daily life.



www.hadassah.org/regions/florida-central

Shavuah Tov and Shabbat Shalom,

Susan

