



HADASSAH
the power of women who **DO™**

May 26, 2016



Dear Chaverim,

Lag BaOmer is a festive holiday that falls during the seven weeks between Passover and Shavuot (the giving of the Torah). Lag B'Omer literally means, "the 33rd day of the Omer".

This period of time is considered a time of mourning as we remember a plague that killed thousands of Rabbi Akiva's students.

Jews traditionally avoid celebratory events from day 1 to 33 of the counting of the Omer.

Lag B'Omer, the day the plague ended, provides a one-day respite from mourning. On this day grief is replaced with joy. Weddings can be held, and traditionally, 3 year olds get their first haircut. Large bonfires are lit, which some equate with the light of Torah and is a focal point of Lag B'Omer celebrations. It is believed that Lag BaOmer is also a time for soul-searching, and for aspiring to incorporate greater meaning in our lives.

Hadassah provides us the means to accomplish this goal.

ATTENTION CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

It's time for Chapters to elect Delegates to attend the National Convention in Atlanta this coming July!

Please send me the names of your members that will be attending ASAP.

Women to Watch, Women Who DO This Month, Hadassah honors the amazingly interesting, diverse and accomplished new members of Hadassah. Each member brings a unique and powerful voice and perspective to our organizational tapestry.

We live in every Congressional district in the nation. We are mothers and daughters, nurses and doctors, housewives and teachers, activists. An invisible connection binds us to each other, into a community. We share a profound love for the Jewish people, and Israel. We share a commitment to women and believe in women's strength—and our own. We strive to act on our Jewish values, and make the world just a little better, every day. Above all, we know that each of us can make a difference and that, together, we can transform the world, and change history. We know it because we've been doing it for a century, and we won't stop now. Come along with us, into our second century.

Greening the Negev Planting trees in the Hadassah Forest in the Be'er Sheva River Park helps green seven new communities and an army base in the Negev. Get the new Hadassah-JNF "Greening the Negev" certificate by [purchasing trees online](#) or calling the Certificate Hotline at 212.685.9550 to place your order.



BrainStorm currently conducts Second Phase ALS Studies at Hadassah – Test Results expected by July 2016. Read entire story at: myhadassah.org



Hadassah Neuroscientists Capture Brain Pattern of Epileptic Patient's Religious Revelation

Following a complex partial seizure, an epileptic patient experienced a messianic revelation, "compatible with postictal psychosis (PIP)" according to Hadassah Medical Center Neuroscientist Dr. Shahar Arzy, who was able to record the patient's brain activity in real time via EEG. Read entire story at: myhadassah.org

Everyone Loses in Israel's Cycle of Violence



Dr. Esti Galili-Weisstub is the Head of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at Hadassah Hospital in Jerusalem and one of Israel's foremost experts on child trauma. Dr Galili and her team have introduced a level of mental health care into Israel that is unprecedented in its history; its support of Israel's most vulnerable has been praised internationally. Dr Galili runs the Jerusalem Crisis Intervention Center (JCIC), a unique facility that owes a debt to the people of Australia who helped to fund the organization and who remain its largest non-government donor base.



American support and strategic partnerships are instrumental to securing Israel's safety. The President's proposed Fiscal Year 2017 Budget includes \$3.1 billion in foreign aid and security assistance to Israel. This funding is part of the 10-year funding pledge that the United States made with Israel in 2007. Israeli and American leaders are already in the process of discussing a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to be implemented when the current pledge expires in 2018. On May 13, Reps. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL), Ted Deutch (D-FL), Kay Granger (R-TX) and Nita Lowey (D-NY) introduced a bipartisan resolution (H. Res. 729), expressing support for the expeditious consideration and finalization of a new, robust, and long-term Memorandum of Understanding."

[Urge your Representatives to cosponsor H.Res. 729 today!](#)

The resolution also reaffirms that Israel is a major strategic partner of the United States and that it is U.S. policy to ensure Israel maintains its qualitative military edge to defend itself from all threats. Last month, 83 senators also sent a bipartisan letter to the President expressing the similar support of the new MOU and strong U.S. Israel relationship.

American foreign aid supports U.S.-Israel cooperation in the areas of security, intelligence, technology, and commerce. Visit the [Hadassah National Action Center](#) to support \$3.1 billion in foreign aid to Israel for 2017 and a swift conclusion and implementation of a new, robust funding pledge.

Hadassah's New Coalition: Congressional Briefing

Last month, Hadassah launched the [Coalition for Women's Health Equity](#) with 15 of our nation's most influential women's and health organizations. On May 12 — as part of National Women's Health Week — the Coalition will host a congressional briefing to discuss the need for gender equity in all aspects of health. This briefing will feature expert speakers discussing the stakes, outlining the research, and making key legislative recommendations. Show your support and join the conversation via social media. Help us raise the profile of women's health equity.



THERE IS A DOCTOR IN THE HOUSE!!!!

Dr. Ido Mizrahi, a Hadassah General Surgeon is currently on sabbatical in Weston, FL, and will be in the U.S. until July 1, 2017. He is available, and has expressed his interest in speaking engagements for Hadassah as his work schedule permits. Contact Dulanjalee of the speaker's bureau and let her know if you are interested in having Dr. Ido Mizrahi as a speaker for your chapters. She will be happy to check his availability for you.

PLEASE TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY...DO NOT WAIT, START PLANNING NOW OR HIS AVAILABILITY WILL QUICKLY DISAPPEAR. Please copy the Region on all requests.

Lylah Pinellas Chapter

Maj Jong and Salad Buffet Luncheons

Wednesday, June 1, 2016 and Wednesday, July 13, 2016

10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Countryside Country Club 3001 Countryside Blvd., Clearwater, Florida

RSVP with check (\$25.00 per person per game) payable to Hadassah to:
(for June 1st game) Lynne Brubaker · 2313 Pinnacle Circle N · Palm Harbor, FL 34684, [727-781-3086](tel:727-781-3086) or lynnebru@aol.com
(July 13) Terri Tankel · 1731 Hickory Gate Dr. S. · Dunedin, FL 34698 [727-781-9642](tel:727-781-9642) or emababayit@aol.com

Jacksonville Chapter



Wednesdays 10:30 -11:30 AM at Congregation Ahavath Chesed, [8727 San Jose Boulevard](https://www.google.com/maps/place/8727+San+Jose+Boulevard,+Jacksonville,+FL+32217) Jacksonville Hadassah and the Temple have teamed up to bring Yoga Shalom to the community. For more information, contact Jodi Seitlin at lawlady1990@att.net or 904-254-2322



Promote this accessible level of Annual Giving when you talk with prospective Chai Society donors about how they can support Hadassah's mission at \$15 or \$30/month. Exciting update: the new Research Campaign is included as a gift designation option in the enrollment form. Call the Hadassah Fulfillment Center at 1.800.880.9455 to obtain these beautiful new brochures at no cost to your unit. (Ask for R#2503; packs of 25)





THE POWER OF CONNECTION
Hadassah Professional Business Directory

Exclusive **new** benefit for Hadassah Life Members & eMembers—moving and looking for a real estate agent? Need an attorney? Want to advertise your event planning business? Expanding your online marketing firm? The Hadassah online Professional Directory is your answer.

Register today and connect your business to Hadassah members throughout the country and in your community. First year free if you sign up by December 31, 2016.

Go to hadassah.org/businessdirectory to log in. Start searching today and access needed services.



HADASSAH
the power of women who DO™

HADASSAH THE WOMEN'S HONEST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA, INC.
1200 Madison, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc., Hadassah is a registered trademark of Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc.

The Directory is a new exclusive benefit of Life and eMembership that enables members to promote their professions and expand their business reach to our hundreds of thousands of members. In turn, the Directory gives Hadassah women access to needed services provided by members throughout the country and in their communities. The Directory is a great incentive to recruit new and get gifted members to step up to Life. Promote the Directory in your bulletins using the ads on: myhadassah.org



Plan a Day in the District: If you who cannot leave town, you can meet with your US Representatives or Senators in their regional offices. Contact Luise Burman for assistance: mrsrab1@verizon.net



UPDATED **Guide to Permissible Political Activities:** Hadassah is a 501(c) (3) organization that is non-partisan in nature. We pride ourselves in addressing issues through our advocacy efforts but not representing or supporting any political point of view. Read the updated 2016 Guide to Permissible Political Activities, especially the references to the 2016 election year. Myhadassah.org

A MOTHER'S DAY TRIBUTE

Sandee Bearison President of Tri – County Chapter



Sandee Bearison

Bearison said her mother, Ruth Amsterdam, was her best friend.

"We were very close and she was my cheerleader," Bearison said. "Her life was spent loving her family and giving to others. She was my inspiration for being part of the community and making a difference."

Amsterdam was president of a charity council that raised money for a cerebral palsy rehabilitation center in Irvington, New Jersey.

"She was great at fundraising and getting people involved," Bearison said. "All during my youth, she had me and my aunts and friends involved with this organization and so many more."

Her mother's dedication to raise money for cerebral palsy and cancer research left a lasting impression on Bearison.

For the past five years, Bearison has been involved with Tri-County Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America Inc. She now serves as president of the local organization.

Hadassah connects Jewish



Ruth Amsterdam

women and empowers them to effect change through advocacy for health and well-being and the support of Israel.

Bearison continues her mother's legacy of supporting medical research through Hadassah. The local group raises money for a cancer research at an Israeli hospital.

"Hadassah is a way to get involved with something larger than ourselves," Bearison said. "I can celebrate my Jewish heritage and help people here and in Israel."

On the local level, they collect pet supplies for local agencies. They also celebrate the Jewish heritage and holidays together.

Giving to others gives Bearison purpose in life, and it's something she learned from her mother.

"My mother always saw the best in everyone, and believed in getting involved and making a difference," Bearison said. "I think Mother and Father would be so proud of me."

Patricia Steele is a staff writer with The Villages Daily Sun. She can be reached at 753-1119, ext. 9029, or patricia.steele@thevillagesmedia.com.

MAZEL TOV TO OUR VERY OWN LIN POMERANTZ NAMED A SHE-RO by The WOMEN'S CENTER OF JACKSONVILLE.

Surrounded by her Hadassah family



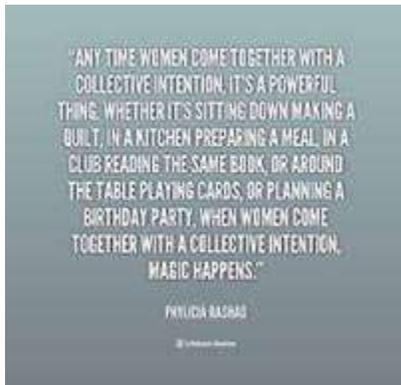
**Pictured front: Susan Lafer, Michele McCormack (Lin's daughter), Lin Pomerantz, Susan Seidel, Terry Schare
Back: Helen Hill, Liat Walker, Tiffany Davis, Judi Robert**

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Tuesday May 31, 2016

MyHadassah Training

A MUST webinar to learn how to use myHadassah (replacement for the old intranet). If you do not know how to get into myHadassah yet, or do not have a password, please contact George Kastanos at gkastanos@hadassah.org or call him at 212-303-8021. In order to participate in this webinar, *you must be able to log in to myHadassah.*



Thank you for making magic happen !



**HADASSAH 98TH
NATIONAL CONVENTION**
JULY 25-28, 2016 • ATLANTA, GA

At Hadassah, when we come together, we know **our dreams are powerful**. These dreams — for a strong community and an enduring Israel — are the inspiration for what we do every day around the country as we connect and empower Jewish women to effect change.

Join us in Atlanta, Georgia, for the **Hadassah 98th National Convention**, where you'll connect and network with like-minded women, learn new leadership skills, and celebrate Hadassah Women Who DO.

Meet Oscar®-winning actress, Gwyneth Paltrow, Hadassah's Power of Our Dreams Honoree, and be inspired by our special guests:

- Dalia Itzik, the first woman Speaker of the Knesset
- Authors Letty Cottin Pogrebin and Abigail Pogrebin
- Hadassah Medical Organization's new Director General Zeev Rotstein
- Natan Barak, CEO mPrest (developer of Iron Dome technology)
- Jerusalem Post Journalist Caroline Glick
- Musicians Julie Silver and Joshua Nelson, aka the Prince of Kosher Gospel





www.floridacentral@hadassah.org



Shabbat Shalom,

Susan

Florida Central
3118 Gulf to Bay Blvd.
Clearwater, FL 33759
727-799-0618