



# Houston Chapter of Hadassah

## NEWS & VIEWS

Adar I/Adar II 5776

March, 2016

### WOMEN OF COURAGE LUNCHEON HONORS LINDA FREEDMAN BLOCK

AUTHOR JILL CONNER BROWNE FEATURED AS KEYNOTE SPEAKER

The 11th Annual Women of Courage Awards is celebrating the Power of Women Who Do by honoring multi-level Hadassah leader Linda Freedman Block at a luncheon on April 10th at the Westin Galleria Hotel. Renowned *Sweet Potato Queens* author Jill Conner Browne will be featured as the keynote speaker. A natural tie with Hadassah's position of connecting and empowering women, Browne's books' concepts involve a belief in a sisterhood that promotes self-esteem and positive thinking.



Linda Freedman  
Block

Block has played numerous roles in the Jewish community, including past president of Hadassah's Emma Lazarus Group and Houston Chapter, and many positions on the Greater Southwest Region of Hadassah board. On the national level, Block served as chair of the "Ivrit la Hadassah" Hebrew language program and is a National Certified Trainer. In addition, she was the co-editor and publisher of the international *Noah's Ark - A Newspaper for Jewish Children* and has put in countless hours with Houston Hillel, the Jewish Community Center, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, Aishel House, Jewish Family Service, Israel Bonds, and the Jewish Federation of Greater Houston.



Jill Conner  
Browne

Browne embodies Women Who Do and has inspired thousands of women worldwide with her nine best-selling *Sweet Potato Queens* books. In fact, TUTS' new spring musical by the same name is loosely based on her life. Browne has fan clubs in over 37 countries that support her quirky humor about the bonds of sisterhood. She espouses her philosophy via riotously funny essays with down-to-earth humor in her greater message – self-reliance and empowerment – inspiring her followers to do what makes their hearts sing.

The silent auction kicks off at 10:30am, and the luncheon begins at 11:45am. Individual tickets to the luncheon are available for \$118 at <http://hadassah.org/events/2016woc> and sponsorships range from \$500 to \$15,000.

New features at this year's Women of Courage Awards luncheon include:

- **Create your own themed table:** Whether your passion is tennis, mahjong, or anything in between, don a tiara, grab some friends and put your own themed "queens" table together. We'll have a sign identifying your group as the "Mahjong Queens," "Tennis Queens," or whatever type of queen fits your passion.
- **Market Bazaar:** At the auction, there will be a special non-bidding section called Market Bazaar. If you see something in this section calling your name, it's yours with no bidding -- you love it, you buy it!

Event Queens Sharon Brier and Randee Kaplan are co-chairing the luncheon, Debbie Gersh is chairing the auction, and Karen Buckwold is chairing solicitations. If you would like to help make this year's luncheon a royal success, please contact them at: [cosmicsher@gmail.com](mailto:cosmicsher@gmail.com), [randee@traditiontitlecompany.com](mailto:randee@traditiontitlecompany.com), [debbiegersh@aol.com](mailto:debbiegersh@aol.com), and [kbuckwold@gmail.com](mailto:kbuckwold@gmail.com).

## GROUP MEETINGS

**Avital** - Wed. March 9 at 1:00 pm at Oxford Condominium Party Room. Gladys Gerzson will talk about growing up Jewish in Syria. RSVP to Gladys 713-771-2114 [howglad13@aol.com](mailto:howglad13@aol.com).

**Aviv** - For group info contact [Avivhadassah@gmail.com](mailto:Avivhadassah@gmail.com).

**Chagall** - Thurs., March 10 at the ERJCC for The Houston Premiere of "Fire Birds."

**Chai** - For info call Judi Payne, 281-353-1303.

**Anne Frank** - Thurs. March 17 at 10:30 am at Gloria Tobor's, 6 Winner Circle. Rabbi Marcy Greene, Rabbi at the L' Chaim Center will discuss the "Mysteries of the Chagall Windows". Please bring a dairy or veggie dish to share. RSVP to Paulette, 713-827-7227 or [plevine300@aol.com](mailto:plevine300@aol.com).

**Kinneret Book Club** - Wed., March 9 at 7:30 pm at Cari Greene's, 2014 Cutter Dr. (League City.) *The Truth According to Us* by Annie Barrows. RSVP to Cari, 281-538-3373.

**Lazarus** - Mon., March 28, at 7:00 pm at Susan Baum's, 4907 Braeburn. Ann Friedman, Ph.D., will speak about Jewish Mindfulness Meditation. RSVP to [pportnoy5106@comcast.net](mailto:pportnoy5106@comcast.net) or 713-529-2272.

**Leff** - For info call Hope Malowitz, 713-663-6688.

**Ma-Arav** - Thurs., March 17 at 7:00 pm at Debbie Daily's, 934 Enclave Parkway. Author Toby Haberkorn will speak about her book, "When-Grammy-Forgets-Remember." RSVP to Ora Farchy [ofarchy@hotmail.com](mailto:ofarchy@hotmail.com).

**Machar** - For info email Sandye Fertman, [sanditaf@gmail.com](mailto:sanditaf@gmail.com).

**Mazal** - For info call Martha Raskind, 281-341-8381.

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Sandra Smith

This month we celebrate the 104th birthday of Hadassah. Founded in 1912 by Henrietta Szold, Hadassah was named after the legendary Queen Esther who rescued the Jewish people at a critical moment in our history. From a tiny group of women dreaming of providing nurses to pre-state Israel to the largest women's volunteer organization in the United States, Hadassah has grown and evolved. Our mission statement is, "Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, is a volunteer organization that inspires a passion for and commitment to its partnership with the land and people of Israel. It enhances the health of people worldwide through its support of medical care and research at the Hadassah Medical Organization in Jerusalem. Hadassah empowers its members and supporters, as well as youth in Israel and America, through opportunities for personal growth, education, advocacy and Jewish continuity."

Recently at a wonderful donor luncheon meeting held by the Kinneret Group, someone asked a question about staff at the Houston office. While in truth we are very lucky to have our office administrator, Robin Dorfman, we rely heavily on our volunteers to staff the office, work on our projects, fundraise, and send out mail. When you walk into the office and see several women working hard, you know that most of them are unpaid volunteers. Hadassah volunteers form the core of our organization. And we need each and every one of you to share your time and your talents with your group and our chapter.

There are many opportunities to volunteer with Houston Hadassah. Do you have a small pocket of time weekly you could devote to answering phones or sending letters at the office? Are you good with technology or social media? Are you an effective communicator on the phone? Do you like to work on committees with others to achieve a common goal? Have you ever organized a big event like a wedding or bar mitzvah and could you use those skills to help with our Women of Courage Event? Are you interested in personal growth? If so, have we got a job for you! Just call the office at 713-661-1022 and tell us you want to volunteer.

So as we light the candles to celebrate the 104<sup>th</sup> birthday of Hadassah, our volunteer organization, thank you for all you have done and will do to keep us going strong. And remember, "The broadest, and maybe the most meaningful definition of volunteering: Doing more than you have to because you want to, in a cause you consider good." – Ivan Scheier



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME  
BEGINS SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH

April News and Views Deadline: March 15, 2016

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Send all information to :  
Glenda Danburg Waldman  
E-mail: [irglenda@aol.com](mailto:irglenda@aol.com)

## Group meetings continued...

**Pearl** - For info call Bonnie Winograd, 713-668-5789.

**Szold** - Wed., March 9 at 11:00 am at Myrna Fisch's, 8206 Greenbush. The Annual Linen Shower. A special luncheon will be served. Please bring a monetary donation to Hadassah for hospital linens and supplies. Songstress Donna B will entertain. RSVP by March 4 to Mariam, 713-660-4921 or Sonia, 713-668-6121.

**Wise** - For info call Roz Saron, 713-961-5322.

**Weizmann** - For info call Joann Greenbaum, 713-721-9717.



## BE A VOLUNTEER!

Hadassah office manager, Robin Dorfman needs volunteers to cover the office when she is out. This is an "as needed" job. If you can help with this occasional job, let Robin know.

**CALL THE HADASSAH OFFICE, 713-661-1022.**

## CHARITABLE SOLICITATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, Inc. 40 Wall Street, NY, NY 10005. Telephone number 212-355-7900. A copy of Hadassah's latest Financial Report is available by writing to the Hadassah Finance Dept., 40 Wall Street, NY, NY 10005. Registration does not constitute or imply endorsement, recommendation, approval or sanction by any state/county.

## GIVE THE GIFT OF HADASSAH MEMBERSHIP

**Hadassah Membership** – Hadassah Members are mothers and daughters, nurses and doctors, housewives and teachers, activists. We share a commitment to women and believe in women's strength – and their own. 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 bit 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 a second century.

Put your Jewish values into action. Build a stronger Jewish community. Support advanced medical care and research in Israel. Hadassah, **The Power of Women Who Do**. Join Hadassah's network of 330,000 members, Associates and supporters.

"Make an Impact" and continue the work Hadassah has been doing for over 100 years. To become a Life Member, send a check made out to Hadassah for \$212 to Houston Hadassah, 4654 Beechnut, Houston, 77096. You can also join online at [www.hadassah.org](http://www.hadassah.org).

**Welcome** - Houston Hadassah is very proud to welcome these recent new members and transfers:

**Anne Frank** – Ana Eigler, Lea Steinberg

**Annie Leff** – Debora Levine, Orit Malev

**Emma Lazarus** – Beverly Gilbert

**Marc Chagall** – Eugenia Brickman, Ady Burgida, Jenelle Garner, Elayne Gordon, Helene Kessel, Rachel Lazaroff, Louise Miller, Suzanne Pritzer, Rachel Schiff

**Machar** - Aisha Klaphoiz, Elisheva Levitt, Tina Myers, Eischeva Stanton, Annie Scheckter, Jordan Steinfeld, Michal Wachsman

**Pearl** – Daniella Hampel

**Henrietta Szold** – Barbara Gelman, Rebecca Golub

**Chaim Weizmann** – Marilyn Lecker

**Project Connect Locally** – If you are a member of Hadassah living in Houston but affiliated with a chapter or group elsewhere, Hadassah would like to encourage you to transfer your membership to one of the 15 Houston groups. You can connect locally and enjoy interesting programs, exciting activities or just meet other smart, savvy individuals who share similar values and interests.

For information about Houston's groups, contact membership VPs Harriet Eisenstein [harriete1@aol.com](mailto:harriete1@aol.com), Hilary Kamin [hilaryk@hcjr.org](mailto:hilaryk@hcjr.org), or Rose Marie Wagman [rosemariewagman@gmail.com](mailto:rosemariewagman@gmail.com).

## DID YOU MOVE AFTER THE MEMORIAL DAY FLOOD?

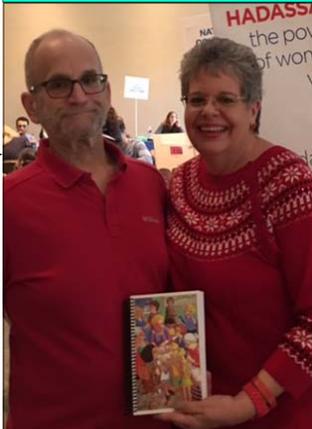
If you did move, please call the Hadassah office at 713-661-1022, with your new information. If you know anyone else who flooded, please ask them to notify Hadassah as well.



SCENE AT ...



CHAPTER BOARD ( ABOVE LEFT) — CHAI BOARD (ABOVE RIGHT)



CHAGALL BOARD (ABOVE)  
NEW DIRECTORY WITH THE MALACOFFS (LEFT)

(Above) Hadassah's Executive Director/CEO, Janice Weinman, with Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg



EMMA LAZARUS GROUP  
(ABOVE, LEFT & RIGHT)



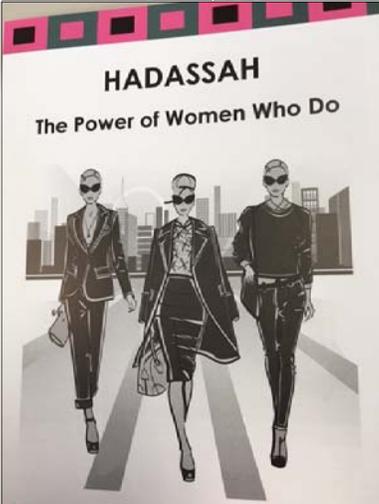
AVIV GROUP INSTALLATION (ABOVE)

(Above) Adam Block, Marcie Natan, past National Hadassah President & Jocelyn Block

## WOMEN OF COURAGE CHAIRS FOR THE APRIL 10 LUNCHEON



Women of Courage chairs, Randee Kaplan and Sharon Brier pictured on the left and auction chair, Debbie Gersh pictured above are planning a fun event. Shown on the left is the invitation and below are members helping to stuff and prepare the envelopes for mailing. A true group effort for a truly deserving Woman of Courage!



**CELEBRATE  
PURIM  
THURSDAY,  
MARCH 24**



**DRESS FOR SUCCESS®**  
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## EVERY STEP COUNTS, HADASSAH'S WALKING PROGRAM



We made it over the finish line! From April to September 2015, over 1,000 women and men walked over 350,000 miles for their heart health. Hundreds made it all the way to Hadassah Medical Organization (HMO) in Jerusalem from our New York headquarters, crisscrossing the world on our virtual route.

The best news is—we're doing it again! Save the date: April–July 2016. Walk from Hadassah Medical Organization all the way to the Hadassah National Convention in Atlanta.

The fun isn't ending. And you better believe that we're still walking all the way to April 2016.

## MAZEL TOV, BUBBIE! AND MAZEL TOV, MOMMY! MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN

Have you made all the new (and not so new) babies in your life Hadassah Life Members or Associates yet? Take advantage of the very special price of \$212 while you can! Regular price for life membership is \$360 and \$300 for associate membership.

**Mazel Tov, Bubbie and Mommy Chair** Linda Freedman Block is thrilled to report that people are signing up their babies and grandbabies as fast as she can ask them!

Pick up life membership and associate forms at the office at 4654 Beechnut or call our office, 713-661-1022. Email your picture with your new member or associate to [Lindafreedmanblock@gmail.com](mailto:Lindafreedmanblock@gmail.com). Identify everyone in the photo and let us know who the generations of Hadassah members are in your family. For more information, please contact Linda at 713-729-6221.



## SAVE THE DATE!

All Aboard the Marrakesh Express!

We know you've been dreaming of far  
away lands,  
But nothing compares to the Moroccan  
sands.

London and Paris may seem the best,  
But they all are tame to a night in Marra-  
kesh!

A night in the casbah with mysteries in  
store!  
Belly dancers, turbans, kaftans and more.  
Hummus, vodka, snapper and wine,  
The sumptuous feast on which we will  
dine.

But wait! There's even more!  
Like auction and raffle goodies galore!  
Vacation homes, jewelry, purses, restau-  
rants sublime and,  
Broadway! Yes! The Big Apple for a  
rocking good time.

So when is the fun? May 22nd is the  
date!  
Step on board the Marrakesh Express as  
your Fadi's casbah awaits!