



Houston Chapter of Hadassah NEWS & VIEWS

Av/Elul 5776

September, 2016

SONIA RAIZES HONORED AT HADASSAH NATIONAL CONVENTION



Sonia Raizes

Sonia Raizes, a member of Houston's Henrietta Szold Group, was one of three recipients of Hadassah's National "Szold" on Fundraising Leadership Award for 2016. Sonia was presented her award at the final plenary of Hadassah's National Convention in Atlanta this past July.

A member of Hadassah since 1960, Sonia has worked tirelessly for Hadassah at the group, chapter, region, and national level. She hosts a linen shower and luncheon for her group yearly to raise funds for Hadassah projects. As a member of Houston's Big and Major Gifts team, Sonia helps plan a yearly event and mentors other members on how to be an effective fundraiser. In addition to being a master spokesperson for Hadassah, Sonia is past president of the Henrietta Szold Group, the Houston Chapter of Hadassah, the Greater Southwest Region of Hadassah, and serves as a life member of Hadassah's National Development team. She also serves as a permanent member of Houston's Executive Board and as Chapter Advisor to the Marc Chagall Group.

Because of all she has done to support Hadassah's hospitals and projects, Sonia has been honored with her group's annual leadership award, with Houston Hadassah's Centennial Leadership Award, and was honored by Houston Hadassah in 2011 as our "Women of Courage" at the annual citywide fundraiser.

Congratulations to Sonia and the other recipients of the "Szold" Award pictured at the right: Joan Chernoff Epstein, Tikvah Group, Greater Detroit Region and Yvonne Friedman, Camden County Chapter, Southern New Jersey Region.



NATIONAL CONVENTION HOUSTON ATTENDEES IN ATLANTA

AVIV • AVITAL • MARC CHAGALL • CHAI • ANNE FRANK • KINNERET • EMMA LAZARUS • ANNIE LEFF • MA-ARAV
MACHAR • MAZAL • PEARL • HENRIETTA SZOLD • CHAIM WEIZMANN • STEPHEN S. WISE

GROUP MEETINGS

Avital - Avital- Wed., Sept.14 at 1:30 pm at the ERJCC, 5601 S. Braeswood. Meteorologist Travis Herzog of KTRK-TV will speak on "The What, Where, How & Why of Houston Weather." Guests are welcome. RSVP to Gladys, 713-771-2114 or howglad13@aol.com.

Aviv - For info email Avivhadassah@gmail.com.

Chagall - Sun., Sept.18 at 11:00 am at Joyce Haufrect's, 1512 South Blvd. A program honoring new members, "Preparing for the Yom Tovim" with Hazan David Krohn of Brith Shalom and Houston Grand Opera. RSVP to marcchagallhadassah@gmail.com.

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

Anne Frank - Thurs., Sept. 15 at 10:30 am at Laya Bloom's, 9 Smithdale Estates Dr. Opening Meeting/New Member Event featuring "Jewish Folk Songs and the Stories Behind Them" with Cantor Vadim Tunitsky. RSVP by Sept.12 so we have the correct number of lunches. Please invite a friend! It is \$18 per person for a delicious boxed lunch. Guests and prospective Hadassah members are FREE! Your check mailed to Betty Babendure, 1559 W. Sam Houston Pkwy. S., 77042 is your reservation.

Kinneret - Sun., Sept. 18 at 3:00 to 5:00 pm at Sharon Rosenthal's, 2914 Ocean Mist Ct. (Seabrook.) *The History of the Galveston Jewish Population* with Jan Johnson. RSVP to Nancy at njcc456@yahoo.com to let her know what nosh you will to bring.

Kinneret Book Club - Wed., Sept. 14 at 7:00 pm at Barbara Savrick's, 15818 Manor Square (Bay Forest.) *The Time In Between* by Maria Duenas.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Sandra Smith

Can it possibly be September already? Although we haven't had an executive board meeting since May, the Board and members of Houston Hadassah have been working hard and represented Houston at the Greater Southwest Regional Conference in San Antonio in June and the National Convention in July. Our Membership and Donor VPs planned informative training sessions for our Group Presidents and VPs, our Big/Major gift team met to organize donor calling, and Robin Dorfman and I, with the invaluable help of Daniel Levy, got our webpage up and running. And many of our groups have been busy planning and hosting successful fundraisers for Hadassah.

For those of you who couldn't make the regional conference in San Antonio, here are some highlights. Past regional presidents, including Carolyn Plessner, Barbara Shurberg, Marlene Rosenthal, and Barbara Horwitz from Houston chapter were honored for their leadership, we heard from speakers about human trafficking, about the BDS movement, and we heard from Sarri Singer who spoke about her love of Israel and her experience surviving a bus attack there in 2004. She spoke movingly about her life-saving treatment at our Hadassah Hospital. Jacob Kamaras and Jonathan Gurwitz gave an informative and humorous presentation on politics and the upcoming election. Training sessions were held on membership, "Every Step Counts," media training and so much more. And Rabbi/Cantor Robbi Sherwin provided spiritual leadership as well as entertainment.

In July, it was my honor to represent Houston Chapter as part of the Greater Southwest Region delegation to Hadassah's 98th National Convention in Atlanta. In the program guide National President Ellen Hershkin wrote, "Dreams propel humanity forward. Successful people are motivated by personal dreams, but it is through collective dreams that nations progress. Hadassah's founders had a shared dream of women uniting to build a Jewish nation and to build themselves in the process." That set the tone of the entire convention entitled "The Power of Our Dreams." It was an inspiring and informative (and exhausting) few days. We will be sharing what we learned with you throughout the fall, but I have to tell you a few highlights. Yes, Gwyneth Paltrow, recipient of Hadassah's Power of Our Dreams Award, is every bit as charming, beautiful, and inspiring in person as you have heard. And yes, authors Letty Cottin Pogrebin and Abigail Pogrebin were absolutely riveting as they told the story about their mother – daughter relationship and about their individual journeys to find the best way to live Jewish life and to pass it on to future generations. One of my best memories was seeing our own Sonia Raizes receive the "Szold" on Fundraising National

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October News and Views Deadline: September 15, 2016

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Group meetings continued...

Lazarus - Thurs., Sept. 22 at 7:00 pm at Diane Furst's, 5211 Dumfries. Featuring "The Art of Barbara Hines" whose paintings focus on the beauty of Israel and the Holy Land. RSVP to Pportnoy5106@comcast.net

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

Ma-Arav - For info call Sue Zerlin, 713-784-5573.

Machar - For info email Sandye Fertman, sanditaf@gmail.com.

Mazal - Sun., Sept. 25 at 11:00 am at Judy Ostrow's, 2907 West Autumn Run Circle. Annual Membership Brunch. RSVP to Martha, mkraskin@comcast.net.

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

Szold - Wed., Sept. 14 at 11:00 am at Linda Levine's, 8519 Braesmeadow. Janet Pinner, RN and Nurse Advocate, will speak on "Women's Health Issues As We Age." A dairy lunch will follow. RSVP to Sonia Raizes, 713-668-6121 or Carol, 713-726-8745.

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

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

BE A VOLUNTEER FOR HADASSAH

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 believes in building a world where our Jewish values in action create strong community and an enduring Israel. That's why our entire focus is on connecting and empowering Jewish women to effect change. We've done this for over 100 years and we will do it for the next 100 - advancing health and well-being, advocating for women, and building community in the US and Israel. We invite all Jewish women to join in to put their values into action with us and through our programs.

Any annual member in good standing, whether gifted or paid can become a life member for \$180. Please send a check made out to Hadassah to 4654 Beechnut, 77096. If you are not currently a member and wish to become a life member the cost is \$212. You can also join online at www.hadassah.org.

Houston Hadassah is very proud to welcome these new members and transfers:

Avital - Abigail Rose Joachim, Kayli Joachim, Jennifer Finkelman

Aviv - Patricia Blair, Rene Derewetzky, Betsy Hoberman, Carolyn Hoberman, Carolyn Kohmhorst, Linda Mallet, Nancy Mayer, Dorothy Rosenfeld, Marilyn Schlossberg, Castine Theriot, Alyse Vernon

Chagall - Ann Reva Jacobson, Eliana Levinson, Mariya Lily Saiger

Anne Frank - Anna Eigler, Vicki Friedman, Colette Gabbay, Ursula Muenzel, Sasha Plessner, Sydney Plessner, Rene Pearlman, Leora Raphaeli, Lea Steinberg, Helana Zach

Houston-at-Large - Rachel Albee, Susan Baird, Patrice Barron, Susan Biondi, Siobhan Bloom, Kelly Davis, Michelle Eber, Molly England, Sheila Feld, Shayna Finn, Aliya Glatt, Gina Goldberg, Karen Grushko, Jone Hughes, Debra Kerner, Patricia Klernz, Annette Lamoreaux, Lorraine Lusky, Jennifer Newfeld, Beth Nock, Angela Odensky, Beth Olitzki, Melissa Pappert, Marcia Peters, Meredith Reue, Carol Anne Schulman, Nina Shuster, P'nina Topham, Stephanie Turner, Judith Wojciak, Lauren Wolfe, Pat Ziotnik

Jerusalem - Shoshana Temina Block, Aharon Block

Lazarus - Tate Abrams, Genevieve Bovillet, Yaffa Cohen, Michael Furst, Helene Kessel, Eileen Krieger, Orit Malev, Tina Myers, Sofia Ross Stein

Leff - Lynn Chorn, Porsha Hart, Linda Kates, Deborah Levine

Ma'Arav - Judy Davis, Kristin Malejan

Machar - Karen Kowenski, Esti Lazarus

Mazal - Jacqueline Ackerman Santa Cruz, Aliya Mayana Glatt

Szold - Helen Levine

Project Connect Locally - If you are a member of Hadassah living in Houston but affiliated with a chapter or group elsewhere, Hadassah encourages 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.

JOIN TODAY!

SCENE AT ...



HOUSTON CHAPTER AT GSW REGION MEETING



ANNE FRANK ART GROUP



HADASSAH WOMEN AT THE WESTERN WALL



At the Agas v'Tapuach (Pear and Apple Restaurant) in Jerusalem, Linda Block (pictured above) found this plaque by the door.

"Built in the 1880's as the home of banker M.P. Bergheim. In the 1920's, as the Hotel de France, it housed the offices of Hadassah Founder Henrietta Szold. Later, it became the Darouti Hotel ...and for about thirty years beginning in the 1950's, it housed laboratories of The Hebrew University - Hadassah Medical School."

DID YOU KNOW?....

- ◆ That Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem has been ranked as the leading medical center in the country for quality assurance by Israel's' ministry of health?
- ◆ That Hadassah has been given the "go ahead" to start a unique stem cell clinical trial to treat a major cause of blindness and macular degeneration? The new clinical trial has been endorsed and given approval to begin treating the next cohort of patients. This very good news indeed!



CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH

"Nothing is IMPOSSIBLE, the word itself says, I'M POSSIBLE!"

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 now! 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 or call our office, 713-661-1022. Email your picture with your new member or associate to 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.

COALITION FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH EQUITY



Hadassah announces the launch of the Coalition for Women's Health Equity, which will work to address inequities in quality of care, funding and support, and gaps in women's health awareness, according to Hadassah National President Ellen Hershkin.

Hadassah has convened this coalition in response to pervasive gender disparities throughout the healthcare system, with the mission to create a well-coordinated and unified force to advocate for women's health equity—from prevention and diagnosis, to treatment and cure.

Ellen Hershkin says, "This new collaborative effort amplifies our collective impact, combining the strength of Hadassah's 330,000 members and supporters with the power of women's voices from around the country. By engaging in direct advocacy, grassroots mobilization with the sharing of resources, the Coalition will make a lasting and powerful difference for women's health equity."

Women and men often present different symptoms for the same diseases and react differently to certain drugs, medical devices, and treatments. Gender disparities in medicine—among research subjects, and in health care access and delivery—put women at risk for misdiagnoses, ineffective treatments and compromised care.

Heart disease, for example, is the number one killer of women, and yet only one third of cardiac research subjects are women. Studies show that medical providers are more likely to ascribe women's symptoms to stress or psychological causes and men's symptoms to physical or neurological conditions.

A lack of women's health equity not only impacts the well-being of the American woman now, but for generations to come. The Coalition for Women's Health Equity will publicly promote policies in support of gender equity in medical prevention, research and treatment, and raise awareness about how that lack of equity adversely affects women and families throughout the United States.



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Leadership Award. Congratulations to her and the other award winners.

Henrietta Szold said, "Dare to dream...and when you dream, dream big." This summer your officers continued to work hard on our "collective dream" of building and equipping a world class hospital, advancing medical research, advocating for causes we believe in, and educating ourselves so our dream of a better world will become a reality. Thank you all for everything you do and have been doing to keep Hadassah strong and growing.

President Column continued from page 2

Good



Emma Lazarus Hadassah

23rd Annual Mah Jongg Tournament

Sunday, September 11, 2016

BraeBurn Country Club 8101 Bissonnet 9:30 am - 3:30 pm

FEATURING 2 MINI TOURNAMENTS

with winners for morning and afternoon sessions

ALL CASH PRIZES plus a Silent Auction!

If you have or can get an auction item worth at least \$25, contact Marsha at MGAbramson@aol.com or call her at 713-839-8824.

Questions? Contact Linda Freedman Block at 713-729-6221 or lindafreedmanblock@gmail.com, Marsha Abramson (see above) or Judy Yambra at 713-723-2636 or jfyambra@gmail.com.

Lunch included. Don't forget your 2016 National Mah Jongg card. Please forward this invitation to your mahj friends!

To enter, return this form & your check for \$45.00, payable to Lazarus Hadassah, to: Judy Yambra,

9015 Cliffwood, Houston, TX 77096 by Sept. 1st. (\$19.00 of your check is tax deductible.)

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ E-mail: _____

I have a set I will bring: _____ I have a silent auction item to donate: _____

I want to be a Hadassah Life Member and/or make my daughters, daughters-in-law and granddaughters Life Members for only "\$212"(regular \$360) till 12-31-16. Please send me _____ membership form(s). Associate membership for the boys and men in your life is also only \$212 (regular \$300)