

**Hadassah – Byte-Size  
August 2016**

***From Gail Snow & Ilene Turbow – Co-Presidents***

Hadassah's 98<sup>th</sup> National Convention was held last week in Atlanta. More than 950 delegates attended, 194 speakers, and 64 guest speakers. The Business Meeting took up important by-law changes and resolutions. One by-law change will REDUCE the life membership dues from \$360 to \$250 as of January 1, 2017. There will be no change to the \$36 annual dues.

Did you know that Hadassah is a non-governmental organization (NGO) in special consultative status with the U.N. Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). Hadassah's policy statement on United Nations Reform was one of the more interesting items put to the members, and was passed unanimously. Read the article below for the text.

Two Charleston Chapter members were among the guest speakers – Judge Ellen Steinberg moderated a plenary session Women Achieving the Dream—Honoring Women Who Do. Her panelists were Dr. Anne Schuchat, Deputy Director of the CDC; Esther Pantich, civil and criminal trial attorney and a leader in family law, specializing in family violence; and Anita Zucker, CEO of Intertech and well respected Charleston businesswoman and philanthropist. *Way to go Charleston!*

For those who are interested, next year's National Business Meeting will be held in St. Louis, and in 2018 – for the 100<sup>th</sup> Convention – in addition to meetings in the US there will be a special program in Israel. Start planning now. Those of us fortunate enough to have gone to the Centennial Convention in Jerusalem in 2012 can attest – this is a once in a lifetime thrill.

*Gail Snow & Ilene Turbow*

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***Skin Cancer Bewareness Program – Tuesday, August 30 at 7:00pm at The Charleston Visitor Center – 375 Meeting Street, Charleston***



According to the American Cancer Society, 76,360 new cases of melanoma will be diagnosed in the U.S. in 2016. Of those, 10,130 will result in death (13%). In Charleston County there are 25.8 cases per 100,000 people per year. It may be surprising to learn that males are diagnosed more often than females.

On August 30, 2016, learn skin care “bewareness” from two local experts in the field — oncologist Dr. Paul Baron and dermatologist Dr. Marguerite Germain.



**Dr. Paul Baron, MD,  
FACS**

Dr. Baron is board certified in general surgery and completed a surgical oncology fellowship at Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in New York City.

In addition to his clinical practice, Dr. Baron is actively engaged in advancing the oncology field. He has published more than 50 papers in peer-reviewed journals and regularly gives presentations to national and regional groups on cancer topics. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Lowcountry Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen for the Cure and was selected by his peers to serve on the Commission on Cancer for the American College of Surgeons. He is past president of the Charleston Unit of the American Cancer Society, and was South Carolina State Chairman for the Physician Liaison Program of the Commission on Cancer for the American College of Surgeons.



**Dr. Marguerite Germain,  
MD**

Dr. Marguerite Germain is known for her passion and desire to help others. In addition to her medical training she has long since developed an eye for beauty. Inspired by years spent traveling, particularly in Italy, her artistic talent evolved into inspiring confidence in others through her practice.

A board certified dermatologist, Dr. Germain, provides exceptional service in clinical and cosmetic dermatology for patients from all over South Carolina. While her warm and caring demeanor wins over the heart of everyone she meets, it's her independent thinking, skilled precision and technologically savvy ways that make her the best at what she does.

Germain Dermatology has been named the Best Dermatologist in Charleston for over a decade.

**This is such an important program with such highly qualified speakers that we have rented the Charleston Visitor Center. Please bring your family and friends to hear what they have to say.**

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***Hadassah United Nations Policy Statement, July 2016***

Hadassah remains deeply concerned that the U.N.'s integrity and effectiveness have been compromised. While recognizing some recent strides toward Israel's acceptance at the U.N.—such as the recent election of Israel's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Danny

Danon to chair the Sixth Committee, and the recognition of Yom Kippur as an official United Nations holiday—Hadassah is outraged by the bias against Israel that continues to pervade the institution.

In 2006, Hadassah welcomed an initiative for U.N. reform and in 2014 reaffirmed calls for significant reforms that will lead to a more productive U.N., where bias against any state, and against Israel in particular, does not occur.

In 2012, 138 member nations of the United Nations General Assembly approved Palestinian non-member observer state status— using the opportunity to demean and delegitimize Israel while enabling Palestinians to circumvent international pressure for direct bilateral negotiations.

The United Nations Human Rights Council has become a mockery of its intended goals. The council includes, and frequently appoints to leadership roles, the very nations who have the worst human rights records, such as Saudi Arabia, Iran, China, Cuba, and Sudan. Since its founding eleven years ago, the Council has passed 73 resolutions against Israel—over one-third of all country-specific resolutions—and Israel is the only country singled out, with a dedicated Special Session on the Council's permanent agenda.

As a member organization of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, Hadassah supports its recent campaign to unite the Jewish community and friends of Israel in response to the intensifying anti-Israel activity at the U.N. with the obsessive bashing of Israel. Hadassah reaffirms and expands its U.N. Reform Policy Statement to support the Conference of Presidents' Declaration Opposing Discrimination Against Israel at the United Nations.

Hadassah urges the U.N. to implement broad and substantive changes to its institutions and bodies, specifically:

- to eliminate redundant and anachronistic resolutions and committees, specifically the four committees on Palestinian affairs that have only served to exacerbate the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and waste the time and resources of the General Assembly;
- to implement clear conditions for membership and leadership positions within the Human Rights Commission that require countries to abide by the highest standards of human rights, and cooperate fully with the Commission and its mechanisms;
- to evaluate and increase transparency in the nomination, selection, and appointment process of United Nations Special Rapporteurs and other mandate holders;
- to establish a permanent mechanism within the Secretariat to develop objective criteria for assessing the fairness of the resolution processes throughout the various UN bodies and to monitor, evaluate and report annually on the results of the application of those criteria;
- to adopt a clear and comprehensive definition of terrorism that condemns it in absolute terms.

Additionally, Hadassah calls upon the United Nations Secretary General, President of the General Assembly, and High Commissioner for Human Rights to condemn any remarks by international leaders, U.N. officials or independent consultants that include false statements, promote anti-Semitism or delegitimize Israel.

Finally, Hadassah urges the U.S. to continue its strong and vocal support for Israel at the United Nations and lobbying for broad and significant U.N. reforms. As a signatory of the Declaration Against U.N. Anti-Israel Bias, we look forward to working with the Jewish Community and the United States government, as it leads an intensive effort within the United Nations to achieve the goals of this campaign and finally end the injustices, indignities, and discrimination towards Israel.

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***Hadassah News – Hadassah Hospital Ein Kerem has been rated as the leading medical center in Israel for quality assurance by Israel's Ministry of Health***

This is the second year that the Ministry has publicized its statistics, believing that this transparency encourages hospitals to improve their service. Rather than showcasing dramatic surgical results or breakthroughs, these measurements evaluate practices that mark good medicine. They provide a means to define what hospitals actually do, as compared with their original targets, allowing them to identify opportunities for improvement.

One measure, for example, is how long a person who was suffering from an ischemic stroke had to wait before getting a CT scan or MRI. At Hadassah, the answer is 24 minutes. This is in comparison to 55 minutes at Shaare Zedek in Jerusalem, 44 minutes at Tel Hashomer Hospital in Tel Aviv, and over an hour and a half at Beilinson Hospital in Petach Tikva.

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***French Orchestra Makes Debut at Hadassah Hospital***

In addition to its other wonderful features, the Hadassah Medical Center's Sarah Wetsman Davidson Hospital Tower turned out to be a magnificent concert hall, as the 80-person strong Paris Sciences and Letters Symphony Orchestra and Choir gave its debut Israel concert, made possible by Hadassah France.

Leaving the clinics and operating rooms behind for a musical respite, doctors, nurses, and other hospital staff joined patients in pain and mothers celebrating the birth of their newborns in the Atrium of the Tower to hear Gershwin, Ravel, and Mozart. The loudest cheers came for the orchestra's rendition of Rhapsody in Blue and selections from Porgy and Bess, including Summertime.

This heralded orchestra, under the direction of Conductor Yohan Farjot, was drawn from 21 member institutions of the Parisian University. One of the violinists, who was in Israel for the first time, commented: "We loved playing in the hospital, with the audience a mix of Jews and Arabs, of doctors and sick persons. Isn't that what you call a mitzvah?"



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***Upcoming Events***

***Skin Cancer Bewareness – Tuesday, August 30, 7:00pm at The Charleston Visitor Center, Meeting Street, Charleston***

***Fun Family Walk-in-the Park – Sunday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, West Ashley Park***

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***Important Contact Details – Hadassah Charleston Web Page:***

We have a web page on Hadassah Southeastern Region's site. Go to <http://hadassah.org/southeastern> and click "chapters" to find Charleston. There are also links to other Hadassah news and information, opportunities for giving, and more! Check it out.

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