



March/April 2016
Hadassah Danville

We all know how hard Hadassah, the Women's Zionist Organization of America, works to support medical research and health care in Israel. But Hadassah also works to promote women's health in the United States in a variety of ways.

Did you know that the vast majority of medical research is done on only male subjects? This is one of the reasons that certain health conditions are under-diagnosed and under-treated in women, resulting in the following statistic: 42% of women who have a heart attack die within one year, versus 24% of men. Hadassah has been a leader in advocating for gender equity in medical research to address these kinds of issues.

Did you know that half a million women die of heart disease in the United States each year, more than double the number of deaths from all types of cancer? Hadassah's "Every Beat Counts" program works to promote awareness about the prevalence of cardiac issues in women and how to incorporate heart-healthy choices into our daily lives.

Hadassah has always been in the forefront of women's issues and health care concerns, both in Israel and here at home. With 330,000 members in every Congressional district in the U.S., we are a force to be reckoned with! I hope that during this "Month of the Heart," you'll give your heart to Hadassah. Your financial support is of course always needed, but look beyond that to the important issues and concerns that Hadassah is working to address, and find how you can exemplify **"The Power of Women Who Do."**

Martha Woody, President

News from Melanie



You all should have received your beautiful invitation to **Hadassah Danville's** exciting **The Tower of Love No Show Ball**. This is the premier non-event fundraiser of 2016. Pour your love into the tower! The event is virtual, the need is real. Send your tax deductible donation, with the completed card in the return envelope included for your convenience, prior to April 1. Hadassah Danville and the Sarah Wetsman Davidson Hospital Tower need your participation. It's about healing. It's about compassion. It's about life. This is one Non-Event you do NOT want to miss!!



Our opening meeting for 2016 is **Wednesday, March 23**. We will be meeting for dinner at Moon River Thai Restaurant for our annual **Break Esther's Fast**. The program will be on Human Trafficking and how Esther's story relates to Hadassah today. Human Trafficking is a worldwide epidemic and Jo Ann's presentation will be riveting and relevant.



This year, **Donor** will be on **Thursday, May 12**, celebrating Israel Independence Day. It will be an informal gathering at a member's home. The program will be about Israel and the food will be traditional Israeli fare. Delicious!
Sunday, September 18 will focus on Health and Wellness. Learn how to prepare yourself for the stressful upcoming Holiday season. You need to take care of YOU!
Our **December** meeting date has not yet been determined. Please mark your calendar today so you won't miss these exciting programs. Of course, flyers will be sent out with the specifics closer to each meeting date.

Hadassah is so important and an integral component to keeping Israel thriving.
Make Hadassah an important part of your life as well!

Melanie Vaughan, Vice President

Meet our New Southern Seaboard President Gail Moskowitz

Dear Danville Hadassah Members,

As the new president of Hadassah Southern Seaboard Region, I want to take this opportunity to greet you and sincerely thank you for your dedication to the life affirming work of Hadassah. I have been in the role of President since January of 2016 and have established several priorities as goals for my first year. My initial goal is to visit each chapter and meet with the leadership. I am happy to report that I have already visited the Greensboro Chapter and spoke at a New and Life Membership tea that was attended by over 40 women. I was warmly greeted and the discussion about the future of their chapter was rigorous and hopeful. In March I will be going to a board meeting in Greater Wake County and a Purim Shabbat in Charlottesville. I will make sure to let members in Danville know when I will be coming to your area so that I will have an opportunity to be a part of your activities.

The second priority I have identified is to improve overall communication in the Region. We are currently working on updating the websites for the Region and for all of the chapters. As part of improving communication you will be receiving a *Region Newsletter* electronically and in the US mail. **My request to all of you is that you update any information about your telephone numbers, mailing addresses or email addresses that might have changed in the last 12 months.** You may do this by contacting Angie King, the Administrative Assistant at Hadassah Hub: Super South @ 678.443.2961/ aking@hadassah.org.

The Danville Chapter continues to be a shining example of Hadassah's logo "the Power of Women Who Do." Your group continues to have dedicated leadership, meaningful programs and a tried, true and continuously successful fundraiser through your Angels of Mercy Campaign. My favorite part of the AOM Campaign is that it keeps your larger non-Jewish community connected to and informed about the work of Hadassah.

I urge each of you to take a few minutes to visit the Hadassah website. I think you will be delighted and amazed at what YOUR organization is accomplishing. <http://www.hadassah.org/>.

I again want to thank you for the work you do for Hadassah. I look forward to meeting with you in the coming months. I want to be available to address any of your concerns or listen to your ideas for the future. Please do not hesitate to contact me.

Gail

Hadassah Southern Seaboard Region
gdmoskowitz@hadassah.org

♥ **Every Step Counts: Hadassah's Walking Program**

Do you wish you had a better way to stay on track with an exercise plan, but you don't want to invest a lot of time/money? With Every Step Counts: Hadassah's Walking Program you can. Just wear a pedometer and enter your steps on our fun website. You'll be amazed how far you really walk every day!

We get to watch our progress as we advance along a virtual route from Hadassah's hospitals in Jerusalem to Hadassah's National Convention in Atlanta, stopping at two dozen landmarks about the Power of Women Who Heal. It's the cheapest vacation we'll ever take together! Meet your goals and you'll (virtually) arrive in time for Convention. Get credit for dozens of other exercises too.

Registration is only \$18. Use any pedometer. You don't need to be a Hadassah member to participate. All funds raised go to support heart health programming in the US. Registration is open now at www.hadassah.org/everystepcounts.



Life Membership – What a wonderful way to share Hadassah! Make a family member or friend a member for life! The cost is still only \$212. Contact Jo Ann Howard today via this email or call her at 434-799-3505.

Good News from Hadassah!

Hadassah Genetic Discovery Article Singled Out for Recognition

The January 2015 article which describes the Hadassah Medical Center's discovery and cure of a rare genetic blood disease which appeared in *Blood*, the journal of the American Society of Hematology, has been chosen by the journal as one of ten outstanding publications for 2015.

Dr. Tamar Peretz Explains Groundbreaking Research with BRCA1 Gene Mutation

Dr. Tamar Peretz was interviewed by Lifescript TV at the Women's Health Summit for Cancer Schmancer, on the groundbreaking research regarding the BRCA1 gene mutation in the Ashkenazi Jewish Community. Dr. Peretz is an internationally recognized expert on breast cancer. Watch the full interview here:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xOXd-Oea1_o

Hadassah and Hebrew U Collaborate on Socks and Smartphones to Help Diabetics

A Hadassah Medical Center physician and Hebrew University graduate students have jointly developed SenseGO™, a pressure-sensing intelligent sock which is paired with a Smartphone application to warn patients of developing wounds and help prevent serious foot ulcers and diabetic amputations.



Hadassah-Developed Imaging Agent to Begin Clinical Trials with Multi-million Euro Grant

The Hadassah Medical Organization has been awarded a €3.69 million (\$4 million) grant from the European Union (EU) to begin clinical trials with its Hadassah-developed innovative radioactive imaging substance that may reduce the need for exploratory cardiac catheterizations.



Hadassah's Domestic Advocacy: Human Trafficking

Human trafficking – the forceful recruitment for commercial sex acts (sex trafficking) or involuntary servitude and work (labor trafficking) – is a problem around the world and at home in the U.S. Here, 83% of domestic victims are U.S. citizens, and women and minors are among the most vulnerable.

Human trafficking not only robs victims of their freedom, but impacts entire communities.

It could happen in any city or neighborhood around the United States. Sex trafficking can occur through escort and marriage services, at brothels, and even at bars and clubs. Labor trafficking is found in domestic housekeeping arrangements, small business operations (from nail salons to restaurants), or sales rings (with victims forced to peddle such things as magazines or flowers).

Women were referenced as victims in 85% of sex trafficking cases.

Though the number of trafficking victims in the U.S. is not known, it is estimated that **hundreds of thousands of American minors are threatened by commercial sexual exploitation.**

According to the Department of Justice, 300,000 children are at risk for becoming victims of trafficking in the U.S. each year.

(More information will be shared in our next newsletter)