

Pillars

A PUBLICATION OF THE LONG BEACH SECTION OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF JEWISH WOMEN[®]

► From the President's Desk - Standing on the Shoulders of the Ones Who Came Before Me

By Linda Calderón, President, NCJW Long Beach



***"I am standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before me**

I am stronger for their courage, I am wiser for their words

I am lifted by their longing for a fair and brighter future

I am grateful for their vision, for their toiling on this Earth."

<https://youtu.be/GqgC3P6cA0o>

When I hear this song, I think about all of the women who came before me: my grandmother who came to this country in 1907 facing the unknown with eight children and few resources; my mother who, among all of her sisters, was the most progressive and involved person in the development of the unions and the social issues that demanded inclusion of all people; and in my own experiences that spanned the years where women taught each other about the importance of our women's contributions and showed us how to fight for those rights and freedoms.

This model of "standing on the shoulders" is one in which we, each of us, learn from women around us. And in their modeling behaviors, they are, in essence, teaching us how to respond to the stimuli in our society.

These role models inspire us to be better persons and help us to understand how to do that by their bravery and involvement. "We are standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before us. They are saints and they are humans, they are angels, they are friends. We can see beyond the struggles and the troubles and the challenge. When we know that by our efforts things will be better in the end."

Not only do I have a visceral response to this song and what it represents, but I also have been able to compare my response to actual life experiences: marching against the Vietnam War (remember "War is not healthy for children and other living things?"); reaching for job opportunities when women would otherwise not be considered; making my beliefs and values known to those around me and trying to

learn from the giants who surrounded us in our everyday lives.

Whenever I attended the NCJW Leadership Retreats over the years, my lifelong learning continued, and my values were strengthened by the women—young and old—who attended these retreats and participated in the discussions, plenary sessions, workshops and celebrations. Each time. Every time.

I learned and grew wiser and became more involved. To a person, every woman I know has had this same experience. The NCJW Leadership Retreat is a high powered two-day leadership training that provides NCJW leaders with the knowledge, skills, resources and connections they need to deliver on NCJW's mission, locally and nationally.

Wherever you are along the continuum of leaderships—current and incoming board presidents, board members, committee chairs and emerging leaders in our section—all are welcome. The retreat offers the knowledge and tools you will need to build strong sections, as well as to feel empowered as Jewish leaders of complex social justice work.

When? June 1-3, 2018

Where? St. Louis

Why?

TO BUILD leadership skills to support your role as section president, board member, section leader, committee chair, or NCJW member.

TO GAIN the knowledge and skills you need to build and maintain a strong section.

TO LEARN from and build connections with other NCJW leaders from around the country.

TO FEEL empowered as leaders of complex social justice work.

TO CELEBRATE the Jewish values that guide your work.

TO BUILD relationships and have fun!

Registration includes your program fee, hotel room and all meals and snacks. Cost is \$575 for a double and \$725 for a single. Day rates are available. Our section will be able to subsidize some of the members who would like to attend. We ask that you commit to working as a leader in our Section

► *Continued on page 2*

◀ *President's Desk, continued from page 1*

for two years, if you are selected to attend. Contact Ann Millman at anmillman@verizon.net, if you are interested.

**"They lift me higher than I could ever fly
Carrying my burdens away
I imagine our world, if they hadn't tried
We wouldn't be so very blessed today."*

*"I am standing on the shoulders of the ones who came before me
I am honored by their passion for our liberty
I will stand a little taller, I will work a little longer
And my shoulders will be there to hold the ones who follow me."*

**These quotes are from the writings and songs of
Joyce Johnson Rouse.*

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▶ **It's Almost Time for Kindergarten Festivals and Fun**

By Barbara Wolfe and Judy Leff, Co-chairs

This will be our fourteenth year to celebrate NCJW'S providing parents and children with School Readiness for those children entering Kindergarten 2018. It was the year 2004 when we at NCJW were asked by the Long Beach Unified School District to join in the Pre-Kindergarten School Festivals that would be held at various schools in the Long Beach area on Saturday mornings from 8:30 a.m. until noon.

If you have never participated, now we are asking you to come join the volunteers who have made it happen over these years. In this past decade, over 5,000 pre-kindergarteners have attended the Festivals. The total attendance today with parents and siblings is well beyond 8,000.

NCJW volunteers may register families, offer help in support services or give out backpacks that NCJW provides each year. You are given the opportunity to get to know the different communities, have fun and be proud of the role we play in these important times for parents and children.

Below are the dates and designated schools for 2018. Come and enjoy a morning and help make a difference with our LBUSD kids and their parents.

Please call Barbara Wolfe or Judy Leff for more information and/or to say you can attend.

- **January 13, Dooley Elementary School**, 5075 Long Beach Blvd., L.B., 90805
- **February 3, Roosevelt Elementary School**, 1575 Linden Ave., L.B., 90813
- **February 24, Oropeza School**, (formerly International School) 700 Locust Ave., LB 90813
- **March 10, Burcham Elementary School** 5610 Monlaco Road, L.B., 90808

Each festival is held on Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until noon (doors open at 8:45 a.m.)

▶ **NCJW CA Lobby Day 2018 is Coming to Sacramento!**

By Lisa Raufman and Sherri Sobel, Co-VPs of Legislation and Advocacy

Members of the five sections of NCJW in California have been invited to participate in the annual Lobby Day in the State Capitol on Wednesday, April 25 and Thursday, April 26. Full details are not available yet, but we normally gather on the first day (April 25) around noon to 1 p.m., hold training and presentations during the afternoon of the first day, followed by a dinner and keynote speaker.

On the morning of the second day, April 26, we set out for visits to our specific legislators and return with a report in the late afternoon. This allows us in the Long Beach Section to fly into Sacramento on the morning of April 25 and fly back in the early evening of the 26th.

In years past we had great turnouts, so we anticipate another terrific attendance this year, given the outstanding program. Our lobbying efforts certainly paid off in 2017, since our priority legislations were signed by the Governor. Our prior venues -- Sutter House for accommodations and free breakfast and (across the parking lot) the Blue Prynt Restaurant for our meeting and dinner -- have been reserved. Both facilities are only four blocks from the Capitol.

As the 2018 legislative session unfolds, issues and specific bills of importance to NCJW will be identified by our State Policy Advocates (SPAs) with input from section and advocacy leaders. Information regarding hotel cost of a shared double room and the registration fee, which includes materials, snacks, and dinner for the meeting day will be forthcoming.

For those new to NCJW CA Lobby Day, materials about the speakers and the priority bills are sent out prior to meeting day - you don't need to be an expert to participate! Meeting your legislators or their aides up close and personal is so exciting, and using our voices to speak out for the issues that drive our mission embodied in specific proposed legislation is empowering. Consider making the 36-hour commitment and join us in April, where you will meet like-minded NCJW members from around the state who stand together as a force to be reckoned with in Sacramento.

In 2017 Long Beach sent nine members to Sacramento. The Long Beach Section is able to defray some of the expense of individual members via reimbursement so that you are encouraged to become part of our delegation in 2018!

For more information or to express interest, contact Sherri Sobel or e-mail info@ncjwlongbeach.org.



National Council of Jewish Women

National Council of Jewish Women Long Beach Section

NCJW Long Beach's annual Mini Conference is named to honor the memory of our long-time advocate and mentor Adie Holzman. Adie held many positions in our Section and at the National level of NCJW.

ADIE HOLZMAN MINI CONFERENCE

THE FIGHT FOR JUSTICE AND SAFETY:

Anti-Semitism & Racism in a Context of Community & Civic Values

Sunday, March 4, 2018

9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Hosted by the Alpert Jewish Community Center • 3801 E. Willow St. • Long Beach, CA 90815

Speaker/Educator

ILANA KAUFMAN

Public Affairs & Civic Engagement Director, East Bay,
for the San Francisco-based Jewish Community Relations Council

This workshop will be an interpersonal and thought-provoking event followed by an interactive breakout session as we explore and dialogue with each other in order to lead toward authentic community action. Come join NCJW Long Beach and Ilana Kaufman as we become educated about the interconnected nature of racism and anti-Semitism and learn how to best respond to challenges we face.

- How can we as Jews connect the dots between our communal core values, our civic values and the rising visibility of racism and anti-Semitism?
- What do we need to practice to be strong in our identities as Jews--both as allies and those vulnerable--in the fight for justice and safety in all communities?
- This workshop will explore the dynamic conditions around us, and provide information and practices to strengthen our community's resistance to racism and anti-Semitism.



Ilana Kaufman, BA in Sociology (Humboldt State University), MA in Educational Pedagogy (Mills College), is one of 30 distinguished international leaders holding a Schusterman Fellowship. Educator, intellectual architect, community builder, and leadership developer for more than two decades, Ilana Kaufman is a thought leader and national consultant on the importance of strategic grappling with race and racism in the Jewish community with a focus on the connection between Jewish community, identity, values and social justice.

Please RSVP by February 26

Cost \$18 (scholarships are available; students free) Includes continental breakfast and luncheon

FOR INFORMATION AND COMPLIMENTARY RESERVATIONS (students/scholarships): email info@ncjwlongbeach.org

FOR PAID RESERVATIONS: send a check made out to NCJW and mail to Judy Leff, 3011 Hillrose Dr., Rossmoor, CA 90720.

This program is made possible, in part, by a grant from the Barbara Alpert National Council of Jewish Women Endowment of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Long Beach & West Orange County

— THANK YOU TO OUR CO-SPONSORS —



► “At Home Advocacy” for Our Members, Are You Interested in Joining Up?

We want all of our members to feel connected and empowered. We know that some of our members may not have the ability or mobility to attend rallies, long meetings, or otherwise feel as participatory as they would like. For those women, we have our “Armchair Advocates” program.

If you have a computer or smart phone, we can help you get started in person, on the phone, or by sending you a mail packet. Please feel free to contact **Sherri Sobel**.

1. LOG ON to the following: www.ncjw.org and click on the button “Take Action” and go to **Programs and Projects**. Click on button **5 Actions Today**.
2. GOOGLE “Find my Representative CA”.
3. DETERMINE THE ACTION you would like to join. Respond

by letter, e-mail, or phone call.

4. USE THIS SUGGESTED MESSAGE: “Hello, my name is _____ from _____ and as a constituent (or, if you are not a constituent as a member of National Council of Jewish Women California, which represents a very large number of members across California). I am asking _____ to support _____, for these reasons.
5. JOIN THE NCJW CA RAPID RESPONSE TEAM. You can do this **on line**, or **we will send you the packet**. Either way, your response goes Claire Lipschultz or info@ncjwlongbeach.org.

We need and respect all our members. Please let us know what you are doing, especially if you get responses so that we can continue with actions.

► Did You Remember to Make Someone Happy Today?

By Audrey Zahler

We at NCJW happily support many projects through special funds, such as our Scholarship Fund, College Student Nutrition Fund, Senior Outreach, etc. What you may not know is that these are not budgeted items but rely solely on your generosity via Tributes.

What a lovely way to remember or honor someone. Everyone benefits! You don’t have to shop for a card or buy postage, but you will make someone feel terrific on a birthday, anniversary or some unique occasion. You’ll be supporting our Tribute funds**and** I keep my job!

There are two ways to make a contribution:

1. Send a check to my address with the name of the person you want to honor or thank or memorialize with all the information necessary, and I will send a card from NCJW to the donor and one to the recipient of the Tribute.
2. Send a check to my address for an amount **in advance** that I can “bank” for you. Then, you can call or email me with the information whenever you wish to send a last minute Tribute. I’ll take it from there!

Just call, E-mail or write me – my address is in the NCJW directory. Don’t forget to tell me where (the fund) you want your donation to be placed. Members who have money already banked are:

Harriette Ellis, Barbara Wolfe, Louise Sperr, Nancy Speizer, Sylvia Manheim, Flora Loeb, Ted Van Boemel, Dale Strok, Nancy Frank, Barbara Cohen, Elaine Warren, Ilsebill Wolfe, Jean Feldman.

They can tell you how easy it is to keep funds in their accounts and send their tributes whenever last minute special occasions arise!



Tribute Funds

We thank all these donors who have acknowledged other members, family and friends on special circumstances in their lives with contributions to our organization.



Please send your tributes to Audrey Zahler.

| To | Reason / From | Fund |
|-----------------------------|--|------|
| NCJW | because I care Dale Blessing | CSNF |
| NCJW | In loving Memory of my Mother, Marilyn Gale, on her Birthday Liz Sharzer | CSNF |
| The Family of Esther Albert | In loving memory of your dear Mother Elaine Warren | SO |
| Jay Leff | In Loving Memory of your dear friend, Esther Elaine Warren | SO |
| Dorothy Levin | Best Wishes for a speedy Recovery Helen Barrad | CSNF |
| Barbara Wolfe | Best Wishes for a speedy recovery Helen Barrad | CSNF |
| Nancy Speizer | Best Wishes for a speedy recovery Helen Barrad | CSNF |
| Audrey Zahler | Best Wishes on your special Birthday Helen Barrad | CSNF |
| Judy Leff | Wishing you a speedy and complete recovery Roz and Ned Bassin | GF |
| Barbara Wolfe | Mazel tov on being NJCW’s Woman of Vision Audrey Zahler | CSNF |

- GF-General Fund • HPF-Hug Pack Fund
- DVF-Domestic Violence Fund • SOF-Senior Outreach Fund
- SF-Scholarship Fund • KFF-Kindergarten Festival Fund
- CSNF-College Student Nutrition Fund

► Mission Accomplished: We Now Have a New Social Media/Outreach Coordinator

By Michelle Gordon, Co-VP Membership

The search committee is delighted to announce that we have successfully recruited and hired our first Social Media/Outreach Coordinator. The six members of the search committee created a job description and began advertising for the position as soon as we received board approval.

We reviewed five resumes and conducted panel interviews with three qualified candidates. After careful deliberation, we are pleased to introduce Sue Reveche as our new Social Media/Outreach Coordinator. Sue has a solid work history in the City of Long Beach working with government and non-profit organizations. Sue is the founder-owner and operator of Sue Reveche Design, and she will be working for NCJW Long Beach as an independent contractor.

Sue has extensive experience with marketing through social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram) and through publications (newsletters, brochures, PowerPoint). Sue will be updating our current website and Facebook pages and creating a much-needed presence for NCJW Long Beach on social media. Her Bachelor of Arts degree in Art with a graphic design emphasis from CSULB gives Sue the education and training required to take a marketing idea from inception to creation.

In addition to her technological savvy, Sue has a passion for the Long Beach community and for volunteerism. She shares the principles and values of NCJW, and we know Sue will be an amazing asset to our organization.



Sue Reveche
NCJW-LB Social Media/
Outreach Coordinator

► Here are Your Involvement Opportunities for NCJW, Are You Taking Advantage of What Is Offered to You?

By Stephany Rosenthal, Co-VP Membership

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Fill hug packs with school and personal care supplies for Foster youth of various ages from Kindergarten through high school.
- Register children and parents at LBUSD Kindergarten Festivals.
- Volunteer for Project Shabbat at the Senior assisted living facility.
- Help plan and prepare a Thanksgiving tea to support "For The Child," an agency that helps heal low-income victims of child abuse and violence.
- Attendees bring canned and packaged food for Thanksgiving meal baskets for their clients.
- Help prepare and serve lunch at the annual Intergenerational Purim Lunch at the AJCC.

ADVOCACY

- Contact legislators regarding local, state and national issues and by attending NCJW's State Lobby Day. (See story on Page 2 for more information.)
- Advocate for children and families in collaboration with our expanding local partnerships.
- Conduct voter registration drives.
- Participate with NCJW in education and activism on a variety of topics, including: Immigrant Rights, Reproductive Choice, Human Trafficking, and Homelessness.

PROGRAMMING

- Join NCJW's Program Committee to help plan and implement new programs and existing programs, including mini-conferences and our annual book review.
- Attend brainstorming meetings to identify next year's programs in collaboration with our Advocacy Committee.
- Contact any of our vice-presidents to leave your name, email address and your interests from the above list so that they can be in touch with you. Thank you!



Caring CORNER

NCJW sends deepest condolences to:

The family of Anita Bard, long time member of NCJW, who died on December 6, 2017. Anita had a glorious voice and was the cantorial soloist at Temple Israel. Our sympathy goes out to her children Cantor Deborah Bard (Rabbi Michael Sternfeld) and Adrienne Bard (Roberto Palazuelos) and their respective families..

If you know of any of our members who are ill, or who have passed away, please contact Jean Feldman at info@ncjwlongbeach.org. NCJW wants to know!



Long Beach Section

3801 E. Willow Street
Long Beach, CA 90815

► Charter Day is Only a Few Weeks Away! Have You Mailed In Your Check?

Sunday, February 18 will be here before you know it, and NCJW's Charter Day is awaiting your check and reservation form! If you haven't already done so, please do it today and be sure you have invited your friends and family to this popular 72nd NCJW Anniversary event.

We'll be starting at 11 a.m. at The Grand on Willow Street with lunch served promptly at noon. Our own terrific past president **Ann Millman** and Cal State Long Beach's first female president and distinguished educator and author **Dr. Jane Conoley** will be honored with our much-coveted Hannah G. Solomon Award.

Before you write your check for an individual at \$75, please consider becoming a Jewel! What do you think about becoming a Diamond at \$275? Or an Emerald at \$225, or a Ruby at \$175 or a lovely Pearl at \$125? Please remember that your "Jewel" designation includes the cost of your luncheon.

Did the stock market help you this year? Why not help your favorite Jewish organization enjoy some of your good luck and make that check for a bit more. Think of all the wonderful things we do for our community and how your generosity will help further our good work.

In any case, pick up your pen, read your beautiful invitation to Charter Day, fill out your reservation form and mail it today! We'll be waiting to greet you, looking gorgeous all dressed up, at The Grand on February 18! Have a question? Call Bobbi Horowitz or E-mail Tila Carrol, chair of event, or info@ncjwlongbeach.org.



NCJW Executive Committee

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
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Pillars is a publication of the Long Beach, California Section of the National Council of Jewish Women and is published five times a year.

**Postcard Deadline is the 10th of the previous month: Please send postcard information to Barbara Millman.
Newsletter Deadline is the 1st of the previous month. Send copy to Editor Harriette Ellis.**