

About and Between

National Council of Jewish Women, Kansas City Section October 2006

President's Message

Having just returned from the NCJW Leaders' Retreat in New Jersey, I feel renewed in my strong feelings for the goals and mission of our section. Although I have felt a little overwhelmed at times while taking over the responsibilities of president, I was happy to discover that our section is holding its own in comparison to others.

The major point of interest for me was the many opportunities NCJW sponsors in Israel, including a gender studies program at Tel Aviv University, as well as other programs throughout the country. It made me feel much more comfortable knowing that the Program Support we send on to NCJW is being used in a manner that reflects what our section holds important. I was also happy to hear that NCJW Inc. opened its two residential camps in Israel to families needing a respite from the bombings in the north.

One of the most valuable aspects of the weekend was meeting with other NCJW presidents and leaders and the exchange of ideas and support. I believe that we all are striving for the same goals and ideals. NCJW introduced its new "branding" tools. They gave us a heavy notebook that outlines how style and appearance of publications throughout the country should be tied together by a similar look. I understood the need for all sections to be unified.

It was a busy and exhausting weekend, but I believe it was worthwhile. For the three of us who attended - Janet Mark, Roni Beshears, and myself - I know we all left the conference with a better understanding as to all that NCJW, Inc. does on our behalf and a better appreciation for all that we do locally together. For me there will always be positive feelings for all that NCJW does for the community.

L'shanah Tovah,
Ellen Portnoy



Welcome New Members!

Sharon Altman
Pati Chasnoff
Lisa Clarke
Dolly Fehr
Annette Fish
Joan Fogel
Marilyn Hoffman
Cheryl Kantor
Bonnie Koonsvitsky

Hanie Langner
Virginia Lewin
Lori Siegel
Linda Silver
Rabbi Debbie Stiel
(transfer from Omaha)
Linda Sweenie
Andi Wildman
Rosemary Yarmo Silverman

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERIES RESUMES OCTOBER 24TH

For the past 5 seasons, NCJW has ventured forth where many have feared to go. In putting the spotlight on the scourge of domestic violence, we have unlocked the doors of secrecy to vividly expose the tragic consequences of its destructive force. On October 24th, in a luncheon setting at the Milburn Country Club, 7501 W. 69th Street in Overland Park, former KS Attorney General Robert T. Stephan steps up to our NCJW microphone to speak – both as a 16-year constitutional officer and lawyer for Kansas – and as one who as a child was witness to recurring incidents of violence in his own home.

In addition to Mr. Stephan's highly charged remarks, chairperson, Merna Siegler is pleased to announce that our good friend Larry Moore will once again serve as host. A special highlight of the program will be the introduction of Erin Lehn whose original invitation logo design won top honors in a recently held contest at Shawnee Mission South High School. Siegler also advises, "Be prepared for several additional moments during the afternoon event that will leave you wishing for more."

Please RSVP by check to the NCJW office in the amount of \$25.00 by Tuesday, October 17th. For more information or to serve as table host, please call the office (913-648-0747).

Greater Kansas City Interfaith Council Luncheon (GKCIC)

NCJW is sponsoring a table at the GKCIC luncheon on Tuesday, November 14 at the Westin Crown Center from 11:30am-1:30pm. Seating for one is \$45 (\$21 is the meal portion, the rest is a donation). If you are interested in sitting at the NCJW table, please contact Sheila Sonnenschein for an invitation or for more information: ksonshine@earthlink.net or 913-402-8588.

Mazel Tov



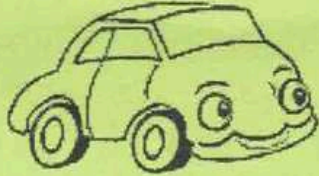
Congratulations to Janet Mark, immediate past president, for her appointment as an NCJW commissioner! Here is an excerpt from a letter sent to our section president Ellen Portnoy, from NCJW president, Phyllis Snyder:

"I know you will join me in congratulating Janet Mark on her appointment as an NCJW commissioner for the remainder of the 2005-2008 triennium. Janet is a true reflection of the Greater Kansas City section's ability to attract and cultivate the best thinkers and doers in your community."

Ways to help NCJW

Ink cartridges

Just a reminder that NCJW Greater Kansas City Section collects used ink cartridges and old cellular phones. Please bring them to the NCJW office, 5750 W. 95th St. Suite 118. We receive money when we turn them in. If you have questions, please call the office at 913-648-0747.



Donate Cars in Kansas City

The primary reason why people tend to not donate their vehicles, beyond the personal financial gratification, is the lack of opportunities and great causes to which a donation can be allocated. We have resolved this particular problem! Cars4charities is a truly unique, not-for-profit, car donation center.

Donate your Kansas City car, truck, van or SUV and receive these fantastic benefits:

- . **Tax deduction** on your itemized federal return.
- . **No problems selling your vehicle** - cars4charities takes care of that problem for you.
- . **Personal pride** in knowing you helped NCJW.
- . **Free pick up** - cars4charities covers the cost of towing and delivery.
- . May **complete the entire car donation** process over the Internet (except for mailing the title).
- . **Entire net proceeds will go directly to NCJW Greater Kansas City Section.**

To find out if a car qualifies for a donation, go to cars4charities.org, then to the Donate Car page.

Cars4charities is a tax-exempt organization under Section 501© 3 of the Internal Revenue Service, thus ensuring your eligibility for a tax deduction on your itemized federal tax return for your donation.

If you have further questions, please call Berenice Haberman at 913-894-6657 or email at rhaberman@everestkc.net.

PARK WEST ART AUCTION

Mark your January, 2007 calendar for the Park West Gallery Auction. When you register with NCJW at the auction, a percentage of the sales will go to NCJW. The dates are Saturday evening Jan. 6th and Sunday afternoon Jan. 7, 2007 at the Overland Park Sheraton. Save the date. Watch for your invitation.

KIDS AND TEACHERS=SCHOOL (KATS)



Birthday parties, in their 6th year, will again be a collaboration with Shawnee Mission East SHARE (Students Helping In Areas Related To Education). Five schools in Kansas City, KS and one school in Kansas City, MO will have over 2000 students in the project. We extend a big thank you to Krispy Kreme Donuts for supplying the treats and Heart to Heart for furnishing the bags and favors. Each student gets a book – a birthday gift from NCJW. This may be the only party or present some of these children receive. Anyone wanting to volunteer or donate can call the NCJW office at 913-648-0747.

NCJW began an **eye program** last January as a result of a Bat Mitzvah project and funds from the Beth Lyons Fund. Students at M.E. Pearson who do not have eye-care insurance and who are recommended can receive an eye exam and glasses. We have helped nine students thus far.

As part of the citywide **Dictionary Day**, third graders at Pearson will be given dictionaries. This project is in its 4th year.



Thank you to all of our members who sent in donations for **school supplies** or who brought school supplies to the NCJW office. The students at Pearson thank you.

There is an ongoing need for new underwear, socks, gently loved children's clothes and children's coats. Donations may be dropped off at the NCJW office.



With funds from the Thelma Fox Children's Fund, 4th graders at M. E. Pearson spent a **day at the Capitol** in Topeka. The Thelma Fox Children's Fund will underwrite the cost of **Body Wise** (a student learning activity) at Pearson in January 2007. Volunteers are needed to set up and staff the day. To volunteer please call the NCJW office at 913-648-0747.

Scholarship Awards 2006-2007

The scholarship committee met last spring and summer and interviewed students for NCJW college scholarships. The committee awarded \$14,000 to 10 students for the academic year. NCJW acknowledges the scholarship committee: Bonnie Buchbinder, Bernard Krasne, Edith Penzner, Ellen Portnoy, Sally Reicher, Sunni Singer and co-chairs, Ro Jacobson and Janery Duggan.

The scholarship welcomes new volunteers for the committee and will also be accepting applications in January 2007 for scholarships from graduating high school seniors. For more information please call NCJW office at 913-648-0747.



Flarsheim Fellowship

Sarah Janine Bassin, the daughter of Lenny and Lean Bassin is the 2006 recipient of the Flarsheim Fellowship. Sarah is attending Hebrew Union College at the Jerusalem campus. She will be working towards a rabbinical degree. A graduate of Shawnee Mission South High School and Layette College, Sarah graduated Summa Cum Laude with a bachelor's degree in religion/history.

Sarah plans to pilot a program to seek out young adults and channel them towards a Jewish identity. "As a future rabbi who will have an ingrained memory of marginalization and a history of effective bridge-building in the non-profit sector, I will be able to help grass roots organizations build upon 'what's Jewish' about them in a way that will not compromise their identities," Sarah said.

The Flarsheim Fellowship is awarded to a young Jewish woman entering her first year of graduate school. It is an honorarium based on academic excellence, community service, and strength of character. It is not need-based. The Fellowship was established by a bequest from Louis Flarsheim in honor of his grandmother, Bertha Lieberman, the section's founder.

SONGS OF CELEBRATION

Awards Evening – May 31, 2006

In honor of Joan Jacobson

Receiving Service to Section Award

Meg & Randy Adler
Dierdre & Ronnie Baker
Roni Beshears
Cathy Boyer-Shesol
Sharon Cohen
Barbara & Jerry Cosner
Carol Goldstein
Berenice & Roger Haberman
Jill Jacob
Florence Jacobson
Sharon & Milton Katz
Janet Mark & Frank Lipsman
Alayne & J. D. Mooney
Lynn Murray & Richard Gilman
Ellen & Jay Portnoy
Laurel Rogovein
Debra Rubin
Eileen & Neal Sherman
Merna & Sylvan Siegler
Sheila Sonnenschein
Ann & Dan Stern
Evy Tilzer



Honey for Rosh Hashanah

Our "sweet" fall fundraising project, "Honey for Rosh Hashanah" was a great success again this year with a total of 943 bottles sold. As of September 13, both in town and out of town orders, along with New Year's greetings, were on their way in the mail to the recipients of your gift.

We have had great volunteers this year who assembled the mailing boxes, labeled bottles, wrapped the jars in festive tissue, signed gift cards, taped mailing labels on the boxes, and sealed the boxes for mailing.

We could not have done it without you!

Thank you for your orders, and with your help, we hope to double our orders next year. We wish everyone and very happy, healthy, and "sweet" New Year.

Co-chairs,
Barbara Cosner
Berenice Haberman
Lynn Murray
Bev Newman

In Memoriam - Joyce Halper

The Kansas City Section of NCJW mourns the passing of past president Joyce Halper. Joyce was president from 1965 to 1967. She was a dedicated volunteer who believed in the mission and goals of NCJW. Joyce's work for our section led to her being awarded the most prestigious national award - the Hannah G. Solomon Award in 1981. May her memory and name be a blessing.



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NCJW
A FAITH IN THE FUTURE.
A BELIEF IN ACTION.™

Greater Kansas City Section
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Shawnee Mission, KS 66207