

THE BULLETIN

National Council of Jewish Women, Portland Oregon Section



You are Cordially Invited to the
NCJW Membership Tea

Rose Schnitzer Manor
January 29, 2012 ~ 2pm to 4pm

Featuring
"Acting Our Age"

Seven One-Act Plays
Inspired by Eddy Shuldman

Written by residents of Rose Schnitzer Manor

Martha Pomeranz
Francine Stone
Michael Mogel (z"l)
Barbara Dubin
Ruth Henning
Charlotte Wiener
Evelyn Hirsch

~Dessert will be served~

Please see article inside for more details.
Watch your mail for your invitation.

Happy Holidays!

Hope you are staying warm. We are pleased to report that our section continues to thrive. Members are volunteering at our ongoing projects—Northwest Portland Ministries Emergency Food Program, Goose Hollow Family Shelter and the Summer Reading Program at Kelly School. Our newest project, the Classroom Law Project, already has members volunteering and we hope more will join them. This is a perfect opportunity for those interested in advocacy, an integral part of our mission statement.

We are very excited that Cedar Sinai Park got approval for HUD funding. As you all know, NCJW, Portland Section, donated a significant amount of money from the proceeds of the sale of Neighborhood House, to help launch this project. Groundbreaking for Kehilla House should be soon.

We hope you will join us at our January Membership Event, “Acting Our Age”, 7 one act plays, inspired by Eddy Shuldman and written by residents of Rose Schnitzer Manor. We look forward to seeing you on January 29. Once again we will be co-sponsoring a community Havdallah service in January.

Thank you all for making Portland such a vibrant section.

....Nikki, Wendy and Louise

RSM Writing Group recipient of Dorothy Asher Funds

....Play Reading to be presented at NCJW Membership Tea

“Acting Our Age”, being presented to our membership on January 29, are readings that are the product of the *Older but Wiser Writing Group* held at Rose Schnitzer Manor. This is a group of one act plays written by the residents of Rose Schnitzer Manor and read by professional actors. Eddy Shuldman received funds from the Oregon Arts Commission, as well as NCJW Portland Section to help fund this project.



Eddy Shuldman, (right) with RSM resident, Martha Pomeranz.

Since 2009, Eddy Shuldman has been the volunteer guiding force for this writing group. Aiming to create a writing community at the Manor, Shuldman said she focuses on the writing process and creating a space for RSM writers to exchange critique openly and freely. Her goal is to “generate exposure to the notion that golden years can be creative and thoughtful”. A Portland native, Shuldman spent most of her career in education. After retiring from teaching, she started doing more work in the community. Because she has also volunteered with Cedar Sinai Park since her childhood, she proposed a few potential projects to the Activities Department; the writing group won.

“I just love this place”, Shuldman said.

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NCJW Welcomes Renewal of Violence Against Women Act

November 30, 2011, Washington, DC – The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) today applauded the introduction of a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). NCJW President Linda Slucker and NCJW CEO Nancy K. Kaufman released the following statement:

“NCJW welcomes the introduction of a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act. VAWA programs have assisted state and local authorities to keep communities safe while supporting victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The continuation and improvement of these programs is critical to maintaining the significant progress made in increased reporting and decreased deaths during the time VAWA has been in effect.

“NCJW has worked since its inception to protect women against violence and abuse, most recently through our domestic violence campaign, Higher Ground, which seeks to help women escape domestic violence in part by achieving economic autonomy. We commend Senators Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Mike Crapo (R-ID) for their leadership on this issue. NCJW worked hard to pass VAWA in 1994, and we have spent the last two years working with our partners on the National Taskforce to End Sexual and Domestic Violence and our allies in Congress to ensure a strong reauthorization for the future.”

NCJW Says No Deal Is Better than a Bad Deal, Calls on Congress to Focus on Jobs

November 22, 2011, Washington, DC – In the wake of the latest breakdown in deficit negotiations, the National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) today expressed gratitude that the Super Committee did not place the burden of deficit reduction on the backs of the poor and called on Congress to redirect its attention to policies that will help end unemployment. NCJW President Linda Slucker and NCJW CEO Nancy K. Kaufman released the following statement:

“NCJW is gratified that at least some members of the Super Committee were committed to an equitable tax package that asks the most of those who can best afford to pay. Without such a commitment, true long-term deficit reduction is impossible. Middle and lower-income Americans cannot be asked to shoulder cuts to safety net programs like Medicare, Medicaid, Social Security, and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and needed spending on education and infrastructure.

“NCJW continues to believe that recovery from the nation’s alarmingly high unemployment rate will come only from policies that promote economic growth, which means government spending in the shorter term in order to create sustained job growth in the future. It’s time for Congress to get to back to work now on extending unemployment benefits and enacting other measures that will strengthen the economy and relieve the plight of those who are still unemployed, underemployed, or in danger of losing their homes to foreclosure.”

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

Goose Hollow Family Shelter

.....Susan Korey

Auction 2011

The 4th annual Goose Hollow auction at the Governor Hotel on October 2nd was very successful, raising \$55,500 compared with \$42,000 in 2010.

The first 365-Day Shelter Year

September completed the first-ever full year of service to homeless families at the Goose Hollow Family Shelter. It was only three years ago that **Rose Rustin** suggested that NCJW contribute money to add one month of service to keep the shelter doors open longer in the 2009-10 season.

During the 2010-11 season 85% of the shelter's guests were placed in housing. Recently, a new mental health counseling service was added for shelter guests.

Shelter Director Brandi Tuck's Wish List

A need the shelter would like to satisfy in the new season is the provision of day care for children when parents are away from the shelter for job interviews. Because insurance coverage is costly, Brandi is hoping to partner with a faith-based organization that could provide this service.

Join with these volunteers to help homeless families with children:

Juliann Barker	Gail Maron
Marla Beeson	Louise Marsh
Donna Brownstein	Dedra Mulkey
Nancy Chesler	Gloria Borg Olds
Carol Chestler	Linda Ostomel
Sy Chestler	Gary Pearlman
Janet Guggenheim	Sylvia Pearlman
Wendy Gutmann	Alvin Rackner
Joyce Hoffman	Shirley Rackner
Fanny Horowitz	Ginger Shank
Susan Korey	Sam Shank
Barbara Lang	Sharon Tarlow
Stuart Lang	Linda Veltman
Merritt Linn	Carolyn Weinstein

To volunteer call 503-221-0063 or email:
Korey.susan@gmail.com

Summer Reading Program

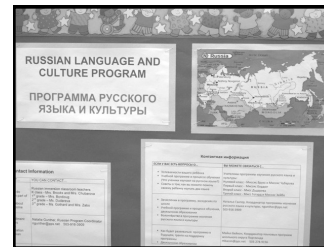
....Friderika Heuer

This spring NCJW, Portland section, supported the Summer Reading Program at the Kelly School with a substantial grant. In addition to financial support, some of our members are also now volunteering at the Kelly School to help with the program.

A recent visit allowed me to observe the efforts the school makes – guided by the intrepid librarian Laura Jones who initiated this program - to encourage reading throughout the year. As you can see in the picture, someone will have to kiss a pig if 100,000 minutes are read by the end of the term – that's what I call true dedication.



Jokes aside, the school struggles with funding, and, more importantly, with the fact that the socio-economic situation of many of the students means not much can be done at home to help with learning how to read or improving



slowly acquired skills. A huge majority of the kids are on free or reduced-fee lunches, and, as the photograph shows, many of the students have a different language as their first and are struggling to learn English as a second one.

I was struck during my day at Kelly last week how dire the need for books is, indeed. We were handed as our first and foremost toolkit a carton with scotch tape and cleaning supplies before we tackled the stash of donated books that had seen better days. They were sorted according to skill level, topic, language of origin, and particularly hot authors, and then repaired. Five of us worked for 3+ hours through mountains of books, and in the end I saw only 2 or 3 being discarded for being too demolished to be rescued. Spots, scribbles, tears, glue, or other mystery substances – nothing could keep a book out of the Kelly library program – the need is so large.

I will continue to report about developments. In the meantime, do hunt for good books, particularly in the languages on the sign. They will be treated like treasures!



Q and A with Judi Brodtkin, NCJW Member and Volunteer with Classroom Law Project

Q: Since you already volunteer with the Oregon Jewish Museum and Northwest Portland Ministries, what sparked your interest in the Classroom Law Project?

A: I'm always on the look-out for interesting opportunities!

Q: How did you actually get involved in this particular project?

A: I saw the NCJW Bulletin notice on potential partnering with the Classroom Law Project, and **Caryn May** convinced me that I would enjoy volunteering. Now I join her in guiding courthouse tours for 5th through 12th graders!

Q: What qualifications do you need to be a court tour guide?

A: Like all NCJW members, I'm a civic-minded adult ! And I can walk and talk at the same time.

Q: Is that really all you need?

A: I was willing to attend a training session, work with students, teachers and chaperones once or twice a month from 8:30 to noon, hang out in the courthouse, observe judges and attorneys and learn.

Q: Do you provide information to the students about our justice system?

A: Not all by myself. So far, Caryn does most of that. Sometimes the judges take time to answer questions from students !

Q: Have you found it challenging to guide the tours?

A: There is ample support from my partner guide and the Classroom Law Project staff. I like interacting with the students and teachers.

Q: What's one of the most fun aspects of being a tour guide?

A: I get the courthouse news before it's in the paper !

Q: Anything else to add that would be of interest to our Bulletin readers?

A: The tour starts with an orientation session in the historic 1930's Federal Courthouse, so I get to tell the students that it's named after Gus J. Solomon. He served the US District Court for 37 years and was a strong advocate of civil rights and freedom of speech. Talk about effective participation in our democracy!

NWPM Emergency Food Program

....Nikki Director

ALERT: the Federal Government and the traditional corporate and foundation donors have reduced the food subsidies and grants to the Oregon Food Bank.

This fact translates to a huge cost increase for Northwest Portland Ministries to purchase food at the OFB. As a result NWPM needs more donations of food and money to continue to feed those in the NWPM service area.

Northwest Portland Ministries wants you to join with **Stuart Barthold, Linda Blum, Judith Brodtkin, Nancy Chesler, Carol Chestler, Nikki and Stuart Director, Wendy Gutmann, Cissy and Phil Levine, Joyce Loeb, Louise Marsh, Caryn May, Jeanne Newmark, Phyliss Newmark, Eve Rosenfeld, Sue Schwartz, and Irene Winters.**

All of the above continue to be valuable volunteers in the Emergency Food Program, as hunger in the community grows.

Please consider participating at the emergency food pantry, serving at Loaves and Fishes, organizing at the warehouse, "shopping" at the Oregon Food Bank, preparing cartons of boxed groceries for shut-ins, helping to fill backpacks for the kids back program, or provide transportation for food deliveries.

For those more interested in "desk" jobs, NWPM would love to have your assistance in help with outreach to congregations and community partners, fund raise for food donations, help with food drives, or assist with the community garden project.

Donations of both time and money are always welcome!

Please call NWPM volunteer coordinator, Kelly Caldwell, at (503) 221-1224 or **Nikki Director** at (503) 703-5913

Calendar

December, 2011

- 13 Board Meeting
- 20 Chanukah begins



January, 2012

- 1 Happy New Year
- 28 Havdallah at R.S.M. 6:30 pm
- 29 Membership Tea

February, 2012

- 22 Board Meeting

Havdallah Service

Portland Section will be co-sponsoring the Havdallah Service at Rose Schnitzer Manor on January 28, 2012. It will be held at 6:30 p.m.

This will be the 12th annual Havdallah with NCJW helping. Please put this on your calendar and attend this lovely service.

GOOD NEWS!!

The HUD Funding grant has been approved and ground breaking for the Kehillah Housing at Cedar Sinai Park should be occurring this coming summer. Our Section made a substantial donation for this project. More information will be available in our next Bulletin.

*Welcome
New Member*

Dania Caron

MISSION STATEMENT

"National Council of Jewish Women is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms."

Valentine Project----2012

.....Shirley Rackner, Project Chair

As the New Year approaches we look forward to continuing our Valentine's Day project that we supported in the past.

Our valued Valentine project generated \$2,400.00 last year which provided 1250 bus tickets for mothers and children living in shelters in Portland.

It has been pointed out by those who care for those in shelters that transportation is the third need after shelter and food have been provided. Transportation gives individuals access to health care, education, and employment.

Please once again open up your hearts and support our transportation project on Valentine's Day.

Look for the Valentine Project notice in your mail in mid January.



MINNIE F. EHRMAN FUND

For Medical-Dental care

BIRTHDAYS: Jacqueline Barthold, Gillian Casson, Gerry Jackson, Susan Korey, Rosemarie Rosenfeld, Naomi Strauss, Frieda Tobin, Barbara Longaker

IN HONOR OF: Susan Korey's birthday from Linda Ostomel

GET WELL: To Dick Maizels from Linda Ostomel

JEAN RUSTIN FUND

For Children and Youth

BIRTHDAYS: Renee Holzman, Caryn May, Linda Nelson, Bunny Sadis, Lana Miller

IN HONOR OF: Rose Rustin's birthday from Carol Chestler

IN MEMORY OF: Shirley Malkman from Reyna and Michael Eisenberg

DOROTHY ASHER MEMORIAL FUND

For Senior Cultural Programs

BIRTHDAYS: Edythe Steinbock

MARION QUINT ROSE FUND

For Senior Counseling

BIRTHDAYS: Gloria Bacharach, Faye Gordon Samuels

GENERAL FUND

BIRTHDAYS: Carol Chestler, Beverly Contorer, Susan Korey, Gayle Marger, Dale Oller, Margaret Gotesman, Dorothy Packouz, Eileen Hines

IN MEMORY OF: Peter Herman from Carol and Sy Chestler

What better way to remember your special day or maybe celebrate a friend than to give to an NCJW Tribute Fund...Your donation will be put to good use helping others who are in need. If you aren't sure which fund to choose, a gift to the General Fund will find its way to one of Portland Section's projects.



Your gift to one of our special Tribute Funds ensures the continuation of Portland Section's vital programs. Please mail your contribution to:

NCJW, Portland Section
P.O. Box 69333
Portland, OR 97239

(\$18.00 minimum, please)

Here is my contribution for the:

- Dorothy Asher Memorial Fund
- Minnie F. Ehrman Fund
- Jean Rustin Fund
- Marion Quint Rose Fund

For:

Birthday: Name _____

In Memory of: _____

Address _____

General Contribution

Other _____

Donor's Information

Name _____

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