

91st Annual Celebration Installation of Officers and Trustees 2014 ~ 2015

PROGRAM

<i>Welcome</i>	Mary Sue Ehrenberg
<i>Invocation</i>	Abbot M. Reff
<i>Ha Motzi</i>	Mike Adler
<i>Awards Chairwoman</i>	Karen Kurland
<i>Hannah G. Solomon Award</i>	Elaine Adler
<i>Woman of the Section Award</i>	Roxanne Reff
<i>State Resolution & Proclamation</i>	Hon. Loretta Weinberg
<i>Raffle Drawing</i>	Lucy Dorée

LUNCHEON

<i>Emerging Leaders Award</i>	Phyllis Betancourt and Ilene Wechter
<i>Installation of Officers and Trustees</i>	Ellen Jacobs
<i>Acceptance</i>	Gladys Laden and Ann Levenstein
<i>Raffle Drawing</i>	Karen Kurland
<i>Closing Remarks</i>	Peggy Fine

Installation Committees

Philanthropy Coordinator

Lucy Dorée

Installation Co-Chairs

Mary Sue Ehrenberg, Peggy Fine

Journal

Lucy Dorée, Bea Podoresky – *Editors*

Carole Benson – *Photo Editor*

Elaine Pollack – *Layout Coordinator*

Carla Silver – *Ad Coordinator*

Joan Snider – *Ad Treasurer*

Ann Levenstein – *Proofreader*

Raffles

Lucy Dorée, Karen Kurland – *Co-Chairs*

Emily Wilkins – *Treasurer*

Section Awards

Karen Kurland, *Chair*

Committee: Carole Benson, Norma Goldsmith,

Peggy Kabakow, Marcia Levy, Elaine Manberg,

Marilyn Sirulnick, Shelly Winner

Officers 2014 ~ 2015

Honorary President	Ellie Lubin
Honorary Vice Presidents	Carole Benson & Elaine Pollack
Co-Presidents	Gladys Laden & Ann Levenstein
Vice Presidents	
Administration	Phyllis Betancourt
Advocacy/Education	Roz Altman & Shelly Winner
Community Services	Nan Matlick & Roxanne Reff
Membership	Tama Cuperman & Norma Goldsmith
Philanthropy	Peggy Fine
Thrift Shop	Fran Migdal & Ilene Wechter
Treasurer	Doris Sarokin
Corresponding Secretary	Zita Foster
Recording Secretary	Barbara Simon

Trustees

2014 ~ 2016

(2-year term)

Celia Argintar
Roz Bloom
Fran Butensky*
Alice Carlin
Lucy Dorée
Grace Fuld
Marlene Furer
Estelle Greene
Joyce Kalman
Karen Kurland
Marcia Levy
Elaine Manberg
Ellen Ptalis
Ginny Wasserman
Emily Wilkins

*Chair of Nominating Committee

2014 ~ 2015

(completing 2nd year)

Mary Sue Ehrenberg
Edie Kaplan
Roberta Lew
Roz Lynn
Evelyn Masheb
Aida Melamed
Sandra Schomer
Phyllis Schriger
Sabina Sicklick
Inez Swartz
Barbara Tilliss
Corinne Weiner
Tobey Weiss

2014 ~ 2015

(1 year term)

Linda Horowitz
Ruth Seitelman

2013-2014 Nominating Committee

Chair: Mary Sue Ehrenberg Past Chair; Evalyn Brownstein

Advisor: Past President Carole Benson

Board: Celia Argintar, Leah Fetner, Tobey Weiss – Alternate: Nan Matlick

General Membership: Tama Cuperman and Suzanne Keusch

State of the Section 2013-2014



When we were installed just a year ago, we both knew the section well, having been members since 1965. Being co-presidents, however, has given us a whole different perspective. The daily details of an NCJW section often left us both exhilarated and breathless as we learned new skills, hopefully helped others to grow, and spread the wings of Bergen County Section.

It's been an interesting year. Innovations included using modern technology such as the board voting by email; at several committee meetings we used Skype so that Ann could "attend" from California; visitors to our website will soon be able to donate



online; and we are exploring Facebook. Our fabulous website and bulletins/newsletters continue to inform our members and others about section activities.

We had more meetings cancelled due to snow than in any previous year in memory! In fact, our January general meeting, The Blanket Party, will be held in August!

Highlights included the Bergen County Bar Foundation presenting the section with its Citizen Community Achievement Award for the creation of the Waiting Room at the Bergen County Courthouse. Our fabulous community service also earned our section the prestigious Community Impact Award at the NCJW 46th National Convention in St. Louis in March. How proud we were as we ran up to the podium to accept the impressive plaque!

Four of us were privileged to represent you at this triennial convention. For three days, we attended plenary sessions where we voted on bylaws and resolutions, gathered information by attending workshops, and met NCJW members from around the country who do what we do and believe in the same progressive ideas that are the NCJW mantra. We heard women tell their personal stories – about late-term abortions and being a young victim of human trafficking. We shared Shabbat with our NCJW sisters and took part in the installation of National officers and directors for the new triennium. It was a wonderful and rewarding experience.

Human Trafficking was the hot topic in 2013, as the lead-up to the Super Bowl in the Meadowlands. With 23 organizations joining our coalition, what an exciting program our advocacy team put together in November with over 300 in attendance! Trafficking is clearly an enormous worldwide problem, and NCJW, Inc. will continue to address this on the national level.

Bergen County Section was the proud recipient of a \$50,000 gift from the Dr. David Goldberg Child Care Center which closed a few years ago. This money is earmarked by the donors for HIPPY, our Home

Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters under the Bergen Family Center umbrella. HIPPPY serves the same age group as the Goldberg Center did and is dedicated to the identical goals of improving and enriching young children's lives.

For the first time, National introduced a program to encourage section members to "gift" their friends and relatives – to introduce NCJW to those who had not previously been members. We are pleased to tell you that our members "gifted" 59 women this year and 20 women joined on their own – a total of 79 new members. It is our hope that each and every one will respond when they receive their dues bills in July. The member "gifting" program will continue throughout 2014-2015.

In January, our section was chosen by Barnert Temple in Franklin Lakes to be one of ten service organizations to participate in its Mitzvah Mall. We displayed a number of our programs and as a result, Barnert Temple sent us a check for over \$2,000 in donations from its members who clearly were impressed by our activities.

The vice presidents have written year-end reports of their departments in these pages. We urge you to read them. As you will see, the year has been filled with exciting programs, trips, study groups and special events such as Council Sabbath and Solos get-togethers. Our community services continue to help the women, children and families whom we support with money and volunteers. This year's advocacy issues – Reproductive Justice, Human Trafficking, Affordable Health Care and Gun Safety – continue to need our voices to speak out to our state and federal legislators. For next year our advocacy team has chosen to continue addressing human trafficking and gun safety while merging reproductive justice and the Affordable Care Act into the heading of Women's Health/Reproductive Justice. And we are adding Immigration Reform and Voting Rights (which will include a voter registration drive and study of voter suppression) to our growing list of critical issues for which we'll advocate.

Philanthropy is a critical component of our operation. We need to raise funds in order to accomplish our goals of supporting 16 community services, as well as providing stimulating programs for our members. Thanks to you, our members, we are able to do so through our annual personal giving campaign known as Stay-at-Home, our Thrift Shop in Bergenfield and a myriad of special events throughout the year. We hope you will continue to add your generous financial support to these programs.

The Executive Committee, composed of all of our officers, worked tirelessly to make this a banner year for Bergen County Section. Along with our Board of Trustees, the section continued to make a difference in Bergen County. Our hats are off to the women who said "yes" when asked to take a job, whether it was to be an officer, chair a committee or volunteer on a regular or stand-by basis. We hope we can count on all of you to join us as we step into our second year as co-presidents. After all, "it takes a village..."

Gladys Laden and Ann Levenstein

Co-Presidents

Section Presidents

BERGEN COUNTY

1923-26 Bertha Lowitz
1926-29 Pauline Rappaport
1929-30 Dorothy Lebson
1930-32 Kathryn Kohlman
1932-34 Bertha Corn
1934-36 Alice Gordon
1936-38 Pearl Siegel
1938-40 Sadie Leight
1940-42 Beatrice Treinis
1942-43 Lillian Sosnow
1943-45 Julia Goodman
1945-47 Marion Benjamin
1947-49 Ruth Sandler
1949-51 Ruth Shub
1951-53 Lillian Smith
1953-55 Rose Zimmerman
1955-57 Marian Cerf
1957-58 Judy Kosloff

TEANECK

1958-60 Rita Gottlieb
1960-62 Gloria Jerome
1962-64 Paula Rosenblum
1964-66 Ada Mae Stein
1966-68 Evelyn Sosower
1968-70 Helen Linsey
1970-71 Ruth Cowan
1971-73 Ruth Zalaznick
1973-75 Rosetta Standig
1975-77 Margie Smith
1977-79 Susan Katz
1979-80 Beverly Gelber
1980-81 Mary Sue Ehrenberg

GREATER TEANECK

1981-82 Mary Sue Ehrenberg
1982-84 Joan Snider
1984-86 Rochelle Luks
1986-88 Naomi Singer
Judy Weinstein
Tobey Weiss
1988-89 Presidium
Ronnie Ettinger
Pearl Graime
Gladys Kaplan
Suzanne Keusch
Muriel Lesser
Naomi Singer
Rosalyn Suchow
1989-91 Suzanne Keusch
1991-93 Madeleine Brecher
1993-95 Fran Butensky
1995-97 Nita Gottesman
1997-99 Lee Laddy
1999-01 Lucy Dorée
2001-03 Leah Fetner

BERGEN COUNTY

2003-05 Ellen Jacobs
2005-07 Fran Einiger
2007-09 Nancy Landis
2009-10 Barbara Kaufman
2010-11 Presidium
Lucy Dorée, Marilyn Sirulnick
Ann Levenstein, Fran Einiger
Ina Miller-Silverstein
2011-13 Carole Benson, Elaine Pollack
2013-14 Gladys Laden, Ann Levenstein

Section Presidents

NORTHERN VALLEY

1948-92 Judith Abrams
Irene Schreiber
Ruthe Goldberg
Leonore Harris
Mildred Lubetkin
Rita Hillman
Esther Etish
Alice Levithan
Judith Fichtenholtz
Shirley Fein
Harriet Ozer
Zita Danoff
Esther Strauss
Rose David
Phyllis Schriger
Sonia Weiss
Ellie Lubin &
Eleanor Katz
Barbara Wohl

MID-BERGEN

1964-65 Lenore Silberman
1965-66 Naomi Antonoff
1966-68 Roslyn Herman
1968-70 Sondra Boas
1970-72 Anita Fabricant
1972-74 Paula Cantor
1974-76 Edie Kronenberg
1976-78 Laney Morpurgo
1978-80 Elaine Abrams
1980-81 Judy Zasloff
1981-82 Robyn Ebner
Laura Weissberg
1982-84 Lynn Kolodny
1984-85 Louisa Hellegers
1985-87 Nancy Landis
Susan Schulman
1987-88 Helen Astmann
1988-89 Helen Astmann
Joan Herman
1989-90 Joan Herman
1990-92 Dana Egert
1992-94 Janet Garfinkel
1994-96 Nancy Weiss
1996-98 Ava Silverstein
1998-99 Ava Silverstein
Roberta Abrams Paer
1999-01 Roberta Abrams Paer

Hannah G. Solomon Award

This award is named after NCJW's founder who, in 1893, brought together ninety Jewish women from all over the United States to the Parliament of Religions at the Chicago World's Fair. In that year, the first major Jewish women's organization was born. National Council of Jewish Women remains faithful to its founding principals – dedication to faith and humanity and serving unmet human needs.

This prestigious award is based on the following criteria:

- An individual who is known for her/his interest, activity and stand on vital issues important to NCJW and has helped translate them into community programs.
- An individual who has made known and stimulated interaction in unmet needs at the grass roots level and brought about important community services.
- Someone who is a catalyst for social change.

Past Recipients

1966	Pauline Rappaport	1997	Sister Patricia Lynch
1970	Police Chief Robert Fitzpatrick	1999	Jacqueline Kates
1971	Paula Rosenblum	2001	Madeleine Brecher
1974	Ann Robison	2003	Ruth Zalaznick
1976	Doris Quarles	2005	Barbara and Alfie Liebmann
1977	Joan Liseman	2006	State Senator Richard J. Codey Mary Jo Codey
1980	Ruth Cowan Shirley Hart	2007	Ellen Jacobs
1982	Rabbi Judah Washer	2009	Harry Belafonte
1984	Hilde Goldberg	2010	Marcia Levy
1986	Florence Nass	2011	Bea Podorefsky and Connie Hochberg
1988	Norman Tell	2012	Ina Miller-Silverstein
1990	Marilyn Taffet	2013	Valerie Vainieri Huttle
1993	Susan Katz		
1995	Hon. Loretta Weinberg		

Hannah G. Solomon Award: Elaine Adler



Elaine Adler is the co-founder and force behind the Adler Aphasia Center, a community-based organization that provides low-cost, long-term therapeutic care for people with aphasia, a communication disorder that affects one-third of all stroke survivors. A tireless, respected activist and philanthropist, Elaine launched the Center in 2003 with her husband, Mike, when no appropriate long-term therapeutic option could be found for him when he suffered a stroke and aphasia.

The Center welcomes people with aphasia and their caregivers and offers them quality programs and services led by licensed speech-language pathologists who help people re-engage in their community and gain a better quality of life. The Center has won numerous awards and has become a world leader in aphasia therapy and research, with two satellite Centers, in Maywood and West Orange, and an aphasia support group in Bridgewater.

Two wonderful happenings occurred in 1949: Mike and Elaine were married and they co-founded The Myron Corporation, a mail order firm specializing in marketing products exclusively to other businesses. Today, it is one of the largest businesses in Bergen County. In 1982, Elaine launched her own catalog, "Comfortably Yours."

Elaine is a hands-on volunteer, with daily visits to the Center, supporting caregiver programs. She is involved in strengthening community organizations and is a valued leader, serving on the board of numerous local colleges, Jewish institutions and healthcare and human services organizations, including Ramapo College, Gilda's Club and the Center for Religious Understanding, among many others.

Elaine received an honorary doctorate from Ramapo College and recently endowed the new home of Ramapo College's nursing program, called the Adler Center for Nursing Excellence. Together, Elaine and Mike have been honored by numerous prestigious community organizations including UJA Federation, Bergen County Department of Human Services and the Children's Aid and Family Services.

Woman of the Section Award

This award was established in 1983 by the Board of Trustees of the then Greater Teaneck Section in honor of its 60th anniversary. The recipient of the award exemplifies the spirit of NCJW – a woman who by deed and action has indicated her commitment to and support and love for this organization, and who has performed outstanding service in one or more of the many facets of the Section.

Woman of the Section

Past Recipients

1983	Rita Gottlieb	2002	Fran Butensky
1985	Rose Zimmerman	2004	Nita Gottesman
1987	Ada Mae Stein	2006	Mary Sue Ehrenberg
1989	Naomi Singer		Linda Horowitz
1991	Ruth Zalaznick		Joyce Kalman
1992	Pearl Graime		Karen Kurland
1994	Ann Levenstein		Ina Miller-Silverstein
1996	Clare Mowitz		Pearl Sorkow
1998	Marjorie Aerenson		Inez Swartz
	Karen Farber	2008	Leah Fetner
	Louise Gampert		Marilyn Sirulnick
	Beverly Gelber	2010	Lucy Dorée
	Rita Gruber	2011	Peggy Kabakow
	Helen Linsey		Doris Sarokin
	Ellie Lubin	2012	Fran Einiger
	Elayne Rosen	2013	Roz Bloom
2000	Joan Snider		Natalie Landau

Woman of the Section: Roxanne Reff



My husband Abby and I moved from New York City to New Jersey in 1985 as I continued my career at a major international bank for 28 years. My last position was VP of Employee Loans. Through the company I met Debbie Ziegler, an NCJW member. After she described the organization to me, I called the NCJW office and joined immediately in the spring of 1997.

When I learned of the many opportunities available, I quickly became involved in the Walk-In Center. (The first time I cooked for the hungry, I got lost going to the facility but I did arrive in time to help serve.) When I attended the Installation Luncheon that June, knowing no one, member Norma Dodes welcomed me and invited me to sit with her. From that day forward, I met and worked with many remarkable women.

In the fall of 1997, I volunteered at our MS Swim-In, established by member Ruth Cowan, and enjoyed the clients and the program. Many of the volunteers are NCJW members. Although I am not a swimmer (in fact I go in the pool only under duress), there are other aspects of the program that require volunteer help.

As I continued my volunteer efforts, I became involved in the new membership program, hosting many breakfasts and teas to spread the work of NCJW.

In the last 17 years, I have volunteered at Children's Aid and Family Services, the Children's Court Care Center, HIPPY, Center for Food Action and our Thrift Shop. I currently hold the position of Co-Vice President of Community Services and in the past was the section's Treasurer as well as VP of Administration. As a board member of both the Section and the Swim-In program, I have also served on Budget, Investments and Nominating Committees, among others.

Because of my extensive involvement in NCJW, when my husband retired in 2006, he became a member and also an active volunteer. We have been married for 48 years, and I am lucky to have a wonderful life partner.

Emerging Leaders Award Criteria

The recipient has potential for assuming future Section leadership, understands and supports the NCJW purpose and programs, demonstrates commitment and currently serves on the Section Board, has served less than five years or is currently chairing a committee or serving as an officer.

Emerging Leader: Ilene Wechter



I was born in NYC and raised in Great Neck, Long Island. I attended the University of Michigan and then taught junior high school-level history in Detroit for three years,

Returning to New York City, I worked briefly in television production before joining Revlon Cosmetics as a product researcher. I subsequently advanced to Product Manager, responsible for supervising the development of facial treatment, lipsticks and fragrances for many Revlon brands, serving that company for over 16 years. I also worked as consultant to numerous private label fragrance and treatment companies in New York and New Jersey. Though a fairly recent NCJW member, I am a committed participant in our activities. I am co-Vice President of our Thrift Shop, participate weekly in the Swim-In program for people with MS, and am one of the section's official photographers.

Other outside activities include reading weekly to pre-kindergarten children and the elderly at Bergen Family Center and weekly visits with my support dog, Ginger, to people in assisted living facilities.

An active congregant at Temple Sinai of Bergen County, I am co-president of Renaissance group; a member of the Temple Board; and a ready volunteer at virtually every Temple social event. I also work two days a week at a local company.

I am married to Arnold Wechter, a retired advertising and marketing executive, and have two sons, Andrew and Lawrence, a stepdaughter, Jodi, and three grandchildren.

Emerging Leader: Phyllis Betancourt



I was born a Brooklyn girl, living with my parents and brother. We moved only once, to a special development for the handicapped because my mother had MS. I attended Hunter College, majoring in Art History, and then moved to the “Big Apple” where I lived with three roommates in a large furnished apartment. A year after I was married, we moved to Hackensack with our 18-month-old son, Brian.

Since being an artist did not pay the bills, I worked for law firms, first as a secretary and then as Assistant to the Human Resources Director. After the company went out of business, I worked for a girl’s yeshiva, a job I loved. When the school closed due to low enrollment, I considered

myself “forcibly retired.”

I found myself without many daily challenges. A friend invited me to an NCJW general meeting where within an instant, I met amazing women and discussed their committees’ activities. I still consider myself the “baby” of our organization since I’ve been an NCJW member for only three years. In that time, I have been the Section’s Corresponding Secretary and now Administration Vice President. I attended the Leaders’ Retreat in 2012, which helped me learn the workings of NCJW and honed my leadership skills.

In 2013 I attended Washington Institute, learning about successful programs around the country. As I became educated about the issue of human trafficking, I recognized the importance of the advocacy component of NCJW.

I volunteer at the Waiting Room at the Bergen County Courthouse where domestic violence plaintiffs await their call to court and at the Children’s Court Care Center, where children play while their parents are in court. It’s rare for the children to be upset when their parents leave them there, since the atmosphere is that of a lovely nursery/kindergarten. I also lead a Shabbat service for residents at Brightside Manor, an assisted living facility in Teaneck, along with my two longtime friends.

I believe I have “grown” a great deal at NCJW, thanks to the many enthusiastic and knowledgeable members who have gently guided me through the organization.

Volunteer of the Month

The Volunteer of the Month recognition is given to a volunteer who is a paid-up member in good standing who has demonstrated passion, long-standing service and commitment to our Section's goals and values.

*Phyllis Becker
September 2013*



*Harriet Breuer
October 2013*



*Sabina Sicklick
November 2013*



*Erika Reis
January 2014*



*Roslyn Lynn
March 2014*



*Ruth Dinkes
April 2014*



*Ellen Pell
May 2014*



In Memoriam

Carol Lucy Aerenson remembers

**Marjorie Aerenson
Robert A. Aerenson**

Fran Altschuler remembers

Roz Suchow

Phyllis Betancourt remembers

**Sam Schuchman
Betty Schuchman
Bonnie Minkoff
Pearl Black
Jeane Paulvin**

Elaine Bieger remembers

Joseph Bieger

Fran Butensky remembers

Irwin Butensky

Marilyn Cohen remembers

Roz Suchow

Lucy Dorée remembers

**Edwin Lee Dorée
Miriam and Jack
Freidenreich**

Zita Foster remembers

**Jack Foster
Anita Foster**

Marlene Furer remembers

**Howard B. Furer
June Marks**

Micki Grunstein remembers

**Rita Eisner Wolfberg
Sue Grunstein Liberman**

Rita Halpern remembers

**Peter Halpern
Paul Halpern
Adele Wiland
Adele Rebell
Dora Harris
Janet Sofer
Marilyn Robbins**

Peggy Kabakow remembers

Ed Kabakow

Jaqueline Kates remembers

**Helen Harrison
Daisey Kates**

Gloria Lieberstein remembers

Mel Lieberstein

Elaine Manberg remembers

**Sybil Sands
June Marks**

Monday Book Club remembers

**Rita Gruber
Jackie Maltin**

Bea Podorefsky remembers

**Arther Podorefsky
Sarah Vera Gross
Frank I. Gross
Clara Podorefsky
Benjamin Podorefsky
Jerry Gross
Pearl Danzig
Connie Hochberg**

Elaine Pollack remembers

Neil David Pollack

Roxanne Reff remembers

**Millie and Max Kroog
Ina and William Reff**

Addie Rudin remembers

Barbara Kaufman

Florence Sarfin remembers

**Philip Sarfin
Mannie Sarfin
Sonia Sarfin
Herman Cohen
Pauline Cohen**

Phyllis Schriger remembers

Paul Schriger

Maybelle Schneider remembers

Jacob Schneider

Lucille Shapiro remembers

**Clarence Shapiro
Dr. Henry Katz
Minnie Katz
Dr. Martin Katz
Louis Shapiro
Ida Shapiro**

Bernice Slotnick remembers

**Eda and Sol Landsman
Michael Neufeld**

Myra Starer remembers

Harold Starer

Ilene Wechter remembers

**Ed Kabakow
Neil Levy
Martin Fink
Ruth Kutzman**

Life Member Tributes

Carol Lucy Aerenson

Irma Ball

Phyllis Becker

Evalyn Brownstein

Fran Butensky

Harriet Cohen

Lucy Dorée

Barbara Ecker

Fran Einiger

Kate Faxon

Susan Faxon

Barbara Fishman

Marilyn Frankel

Arlene Friedman

Norma Goldsmith

Anita Greenberg

Estelle Greene

Micki Grunstein

Roz Hantman

Jennifer Grunstein Hexter

Linda Horowitz

Ellen Jacobs

Peggy Kabakow

Alice Kanrich

Jacqueline Kates

Geri Kaufman

Suzanne Keusch

Marian Kugelmass

Karen Kurland

Gladys Laden

Ann Levenstein

Robert Levenstein

Marcia Levy

Gloria Lieberstein

Judith Liebman

Ellie Lubin

Lisl Malkin

Elaine Manberg

Evelyn Masheb

Nanette Matlick

Aida Melamed

Ina Miller-Silverstein

Ellen Pell

Bea Podorefsky

Elaine Pollack

Roxanne Reff

Addie Rudin

Maybelle Schneider

Sandra Schomer

Carla Silver

Bernice Slotnick

Joan Snider

Pearl Sorkow

Inez Swartz

Blanche Weinberg

Shelly Winner

Henrietta Wolfeiler

Sydell Yegelwel

NINE DECADES REVISITED

Nine decades is a very long life that few of us are able to claim as our own. So it's a mitzvah that we're able to celebrate the 91 years since the birth of the Bergen County Section of the National Council of Jewish Women.

On March 20, 1923 a group of 14 local Jewish women met at the Hebrew Institute in Hackensack and were awarded a charter as the Bergen County Section of National Council of Jewish Women, which had been founded 30 years earlier by Hannah G. Solomon. As a part of this national organization, these local women became a force for service, education and action in the Jewish and general communities. Membership grew rapidly. Our current membership stands at more than 1,000.

In the early years, the section helped found the first Hebrew School in the county and supported the start of the Bergen County YM-YWHA. Members endowed a room at the new Hackensack Hospital and began an annual Thanksgiving food donation to local non-sectarian institutions. Most of the section's community service efforts during that time were devoted to helping needy individuals and families.

During the 1930s, we established a scholarship fund for area Jewish children. Funds were collected to assist a Children's Aid Committee to help Jewish children in pre-war Germany and formal classes were organized for naturalization and citizenship

to help newly arriving foreigners. NCJW volunteers met immigrants at the docks, arranged housing, provided clothing, jobs and more. A Fresh Air Fund was created to send needy children to summer camp.

In the early 1940s, the section turned its efforts to raising funds for the war effort, selling war stamps at supermarkets and donating a library for soldiers. They also volunteered as nurses at Bergen Pines Hospital and participated in NCJW's Ship-a-Box program for children in Jewish communities around the world.

With the creation of the State of Israel in 1948, BCS was one of the first to contribute to the national organization's program supporting the Hebrew University High School of Education in Jerusalem. That same year also saw the creation of the section's Evening Branch so that younger women who weren't able to attend afternoon meetings could be part of the then Teaneck Section. Many former Evening Branch members are still very active in our section. In fact, two of them are our Co-Presidents.

In 1950 we opened the Resale Shop, later renamed the Council Thrift Shop. The store moved from Hackensack to Teaneck and now is located in Bergenfield. NCJW organized the first club for senior citizens in Bergen County in 1950. This Golden Age Club provided social and service activities for older members and continued for

NINE DECADES ...

many years under the auspices of the YMHA.

During the 1950's, volunteers assisted in the Recording for the Blind project while others delivered books for the Teaneck Library to the homebound and the elderly. They also worked with the Bergen County Volunteer Bureau to assist at local hospitals and various health organizations.

In the 1960's, volunteers brought birthday cakes to the children's center at the Edna B. Conklin Home. We also created Friendship House, a psychiatric rehabilitation center dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with mental illness. "Art 67" began a trend of annual art shows as a fundraising and social event for members and guests.

In the 1970's, BCS began its collaboration with the statewide Youth Consultation Services at the Holley Day Care Center. Holley has grown and has become a live-in facility for children at risk. We started "Swim-In" in conjunction with the Multiple Sclerosis Society, offering professional therapy and BCS volunteers to assist clients with water therapy programs. We also began ABCs (After Breast Cancer Surgery), a swim therapy program for post-mastectomy surgery patients. In addition, we became actively involved in the Alternatives to Domestic Violence program.

During the 1980's, NCJW supported Spectrum for Living, an assisted living facility for the handicapped and developmentally impaired, and we worked with Holy Name Hospital to create

the first adult medical day care center in Bergen County. We also spoke out in favor of the Equal Rights Amendment and Medicaid funding for abortions.

The 1990's saw an increase in our advocacy efforts as we expressed our support for the Freedom of Choice Act, Title X, Megan's Law, Women Against Violence Act, and against bills that would restrict abortion and family planning. We joined the Clothesline Project, and in 1999 we opened the Children's Court Care Center at the Bergen County Courthouse.

In 2000, we supported the Promote the Vote campaign to encourage people to vote and legislation to support reproductive choice and gun control. NCJW, Inc. introduced Benchmark, a judicial nomination campaign to educate and mobilize members and the community at large to promote a federal bench with judges who support fundamental constitutional freedoms, including a woman's right to reproductive choice. We received a grant to continue the HIPPY program to assure learning opportunities for our community's most vulnerable children and parents.

In 2003, we changed our name back to the Bergen County Section, when the Mid-Bergen section merged with the Teaneck section. In 2004, we joined the March for Reproductive Choice in Washington DC, participated in the NJ Governor's Conference on Women and started our website. We were so proud when YCS honored us with

NINE DECADES ...

their Outstanding Community Service Organization Award.

After a year of planning, the Waiting Room at the Bergen County Courthouse for Victims of Domestic Violence was officially dedicated in 2012. In 2013 the Section began to focus on four major advocacy issues: gun violence prevention, human trafficking, ACA (Affordable Care Act)

and reproductive choice.

We take pride in our history. For the past ninety-one years, the NCJW, a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates, has turned progressive ideals into action. Inspired by our Jewish values, NCJW Bergen County Section continues to strive for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children and families and safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

Looking back at NCJW Bergen County Section



ADMINISTRATION

Phyllis Betancourt, Vice President

Administration is the foundation of our section — the machinery that keeps the Bergen County Section running smoothly. The department oversees everything from hospitality to publicity, and on a more fundamental level, bylaws, policies and procedures, budget and finance, nominations, and evaluation. Section awards, personnel practices, insurance and our parliamentarian and historian round out this busy department. Kudos to all chairs and committee members who helped make this a most successful year.

MEMBERSHIP

Marlene Furer and Elaine Manberg, Co-Vice Presidents

As part of our goal to increase awareness, visibility and membership, the committee reached out to the community with the new “gifted membership” campaign which resulted in 59 new members. We welcomed a total of 79 new members to our roster of over 1,000. Successful efforts at recruitment, retention and involvement included the annual Membership Luncheon with an accompanying fashion show, the Solos “Getting to Know You” event, the snowbirds’ get-together in Delray, Florida, and a welcome lunch for new members in May. Hats off to everyone who helped to make these events a success.

PHILANTHROPY

Lucy Dorée, Coordinator

This year has been an exciting and rewarding one for philanthropy for the Bergen County Section. In an effort to provide adequate funding, a series of events were held.

It began with the beautiful “**Stay-at-Home**” invitation – one might even say “fantastic” – that enticed members to be generous and resulted in exceeding our annual goal!

October brought the first of four **New Jersey Symphony Orchestra** concerts at PAC in Newark, with buses conveniently providing round trips to and from Teaneck. Charity Day at Lord and Taylor in Ridgewood gave our members the opportunity to use discounts while shopping and provided the section with a share of the day's profits.

November saw the most successful **Game Day** ever – more than 90 participants enjoyed good food and camaraderie at The River Palm Terrace.

Raffle books offering splendid prizes – luxurious vacations and fine dining around Bergen County – were sent to the membership in February. In the spring, donors and local businesses were contacted to support the annual Installation and Awards Luncheon and Journal.

Sincere and grateful thanks to the Stay-at-Home committee and to the chairs of Game Day, the Symphony, the Raffle, and the Installation and Award Luncheon, and to all the Journal personnel, for their commitment to NCJW and for the hard work that accompanied it. Together with our generous members, these women have guaranteed the financial success of the section for yet another year.

THRIFT SHOP

Estelle Greene and Ilene Wechter, Co-Vice Presidents

NCJW BCS Thrift Shop sells gently used, attractive, seasonable clothing, jewelry (new and vintage), unique household goods, a wide variety of books and many other items. The merchandise is generously donated by our members and other concerned citizens. Our Thrift Shop provides income to the Section and also helps the clients of our community services. Volunteers and staff enjoy interacting with the customers and helping find them the perfect item, such as a suit for a job interview, a dress for the prom, or dishes for a new apartment. Additions to the Volunteer Team are always welcome and schedules are flexible.

ADVOCACY AND EDUCATION

Elaine Bieger and Shelly Winner, Co-Vice Presidents

Advocacy and Education has had a very exciting, rewarding year. We have played a relevant role in helping achieve the goals of NCJW BCS. The following four new advocacy committees were established:

Human Trafficking: The project was started with a brainstorming meeting led by New Jersey Assembly member Valerie Vainieri Huttle. We subsequently attended a presentation by the Polaris Project and Project Stay Gold, a student movement to abolish modern day slavery. The section became a member of the New Jersey Coalition Against Human Trafficking, comprised of seventy diverse organizations. A successful panel discussion on Human Trafficking/Modern Day Slavery was held at our general meeting in November. Action alert cards urging legislative action were distributed and collected at this meeting attended by more than 300 section members and the community at large. As a result of members contacting local mayors in Bergen County, those in Bergenfield, Englewood, Hackensack, Teaneck and Tenafly issued proclamations designating January as Human Trafficking Awareness Month.

Gun Violence Prevention: Several committee members visited the office of Congressman Scott Garrett to introduce our organization to him and to lobby for gun safety. We joined with the Bergen County Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence and participated with them in vigils and lobbying of our local officials. In addition, we signed a petition to our state senators asking that the magazine clip capacity of guns be reduced from fifteen to ten rounds.

Affordable Health Care and Reproductive Choice: We now have a web link to the Affordable Care Act on our website. Please click on to www.ncjwbcs.org for further information. Several members attended the Englewood City Council meeting where Council members voted unanimously to enforce eight-foot buffer zones around the entrances to healthcare facilities, some of which include abortion clinics. In addition, study groups were held for both Affordable Health Care and Reproductive Choice to educate our members.

A **Politics and Pastries** meeting was held in the spring to evaluate the accomplishments of the four advocacy committees. It was decided that the committees be reorganized and new ones added for next year so that current issues would be reflected. Affordable Health Care and Reproductive Choice will be combined so that they encompass both reproductive decision-making and accessing health care in a meaningful way, including support of contraceptive access. This committee will be called Women's Health/Reproductive Justice. Human Trafficking and Gun Violence Prevention will remain unchanged, and Immigration Reform and Voting Rights groups will be added.

Our **Study Group** Chairs also planned three informative programs, including Tom Meyers, telling about the film industry in Fort Lee; Oscar White and stories about the White House; and Alain Sanders and the difficult issues facing Israel today.

Our **Programming Committee** planned many informative programs: Erica Jong, noted author, poet and essayist; Dr. Bernd Wollschlager, author of "A German Life: My Father Was a Nazi;" Sammie Moshenberg, NCJW Director of Washington operations; and Jane Brody, health columnist for The New York Times. We commemorated Holocaust Remembrance Day at our general meeting with a moving poetic reading.

The **Trip Committee** planned interesting excursions to the Jewish Museum and the Hispanic Museum, with lunch at Xavier's on the Hudson. Members of our numerous **book groups** read a great variety of books with interesting discussions as part of each and every meeting.

The **Public Education Scholarship Committee** will be granting several scholarships after carefully reviewing applications and interviewing applicants.

A very well attended **Council Shabbat** dinner and service were held at Temple Sinai. The section's **website**, an excellent source of information about all of the section activities, was updated and includes many resources our members may find useful, while the **bulletins** and **newsletters** continued to inform our members of past and upcoming events.

We have just begun! We are on a roll!

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Co-Vice Presidents – Marcia Levy and Roxanne Reff

ADLER APHASIA CENTER

Adler Aphasia Center is a facility that helps people who are touched by aphasia, the loss of power to use words. The volunteers from NCJW BCS come to the center each week to play computer and word games, assist in jewelry-making and cooking and participate in informal conversations with the clients.

BERGEN FAMILY CENTER HOME INSTRUCTION FOR PARENTS OF PRE-SCHOOL YOUNGSTERS (HIPPY)

Bergen Family Center Home Instruction for Parents of Pre-School Youngsters (HIPPY) trains parents to be their children's first teachers. Our volunteers organize and run monthly early evening workshops for the HIPPY children while their parents attend parent workshops. We also coordinate and contribute to an annual toy drive, with our generous members providing a mountain of wonderful holiday gifts for the happy children.

BERGEN FAMILY CENTER SHINING LIGHTS

Bergen Family Center Shining Lights is a unique social day care program for visually impaired adults and other seniors. Our volunteers bring smiles, laughter and joy during our twice-monthly visits – once to provide entertainment and games, and once to hold a party for all who are celebrating a birthday that month.



Bergen County Section is awarded \$50,000 for Hippy Program

Sharon Kozinn, former President of the Board of the Dr. David Goldberg Child Care Center, presents a \$50,000 check to Co-Presidents Gladys Laden and Ann Levenstein and Lucy Dorée, Philanthropy Coordinator, to support the HIPPY program (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters).

BERGEN VOLUNTEER MEDICAL INITIATIVE (BVMI)

Bergen Volunteer Medical Initiative (BVMI) provides free primary medical care for working, low-income county residents who have no health insurance. More than 50 physicians, nurse practitioners, registered nurses and others volunteer their services at the Healthcare Center while more than 200 specialists in private practice see a limited number of patients at no charge.

CENTER FOR FOOD ACTION

Center for Food Action has been an important project for NCJW BCS since they were one pantry in the basement of a local church; there are now nine sites in Bergen County. We provide on-site volunteers as well as financial assistance. By passing a basket at each general meeting, we are able to supply CFA clients with fresh fruits and vegetables. CFA is a leading provider of food as well as help with utility bills, counseling and advocacy in 100 towns in northern New Jersey.

CHILDREN'S COURT CARE CENTER

Children's Court Care Center is the most advanced court care center facility in New Jersey. It provides a warm and safe environment for children who need care while their parents or caregivers attend to legal matters. It is staffed by two full time employees who are supported by our section's dedicated volunteers. We provide snacks, drinks, toys, books, clothing, videos and anything else to make the children happy and comfortable. The room was completely destroyed by Hurricane Sandy. Courthouse staff put in new floors, painted and repaired electricity. NCJW BCS helped finance the refurbishing of the room in partnership with the Bergen County Bar Association and other private donations.

CLUB NCJW

Club NCJW meets one afternoon a month at Holley Center to do fun activities with the children. Our volunteers plan craft projects, sing songs and read to the group of 6-10 year olds. The older children look forward to our visits and everyone has a wonderful time.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE WAITING ROOM

Domestic Violence Waiting Room is our newest community service project. Completely furnished and staffed by NCJW BCS volunteers four mornings a week, it is a haven for litigants awaiting court hearings. It allows victims to be isolated from their abusers in a safe environment. This project received the “Community Impact Award” award at the NCJW National Convention in 2014.

FAMILY PROMISE WALK-IN CENTER

Family Promise Walk-In Center serves meals 365 days a year to those in need. Ten to fifteen of our members devote a late afternoon four times each year purchasing and preparing the food, setting up the dining room and serving a full dinner to between 100-150 people each time. We are also responsible for the cleanup.

ISRAEL GRANTING PROGRAM

Israel Granting Program helps organizations and programs designed to address Israeli women's rights and well being in the areas of economics, politics, education, domestic violence and social justice. Components of the program include Women to Women: NCJW's Empowerment Initiative and Yad B'Yad: NCJW's Initiative to Nurture Knowledge. The Bergen County Section contributes to the program annually.

JEWISH HOME AT ROCKLEIGH

Jewish Home at Rockleigh is a comprehensive skilled rehabilitation, nursing and geriatric facility which offers an array of amenities and services in a caring environment. Our members volunteer in the gift shop and support parties for the residents throughout the year. We also help finance a staff specialist who works with residents to improve mobility.

KNIT WITS PLUS

Knit Wits Plus volunteers knit hats, scarves and afghan blankets for seniors, children, hospital patients and the homeless. They also collect toiletries for the clients at the Walk-In Center and Shelter Our Sisters.

PROJECT S.A.R.A.H.

Project S.A.R.A.H. (Stop Abusive Relationships at Home) is a statewide domestic violence prevention agency established to meet the unique needs of orthodox Jewish women, i.e. keeping Kosher, observing the Sabbath or relating to their community when there is violence in the home. They have expanded to include child abuse and prevention through awareness and have also established the Aleinu project, which presents safety awareness programs for students attending Jewish day schools. NCJW BCS is proud to be part of this consortium.

STRATEGIES TO PREVENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Strategies to Prevent Domestic Violence (StoP) is an umbrella program in coalition with county agencies that assists victims of domestic violence through community action, education and advocacy. Our members provide holiday gifts for children who are clients of Alternatives to Domestic Violence and Shelter Our Sisters. NCJW's national program, "Higher Ground," is devoted to helping victims reach firmer ("higher") ground. The Domestic Violence Waiting Room is part of this initiative.

SUMMER CAMBERSHIP

Summer Campership is a public/private collaboration that grants summer day camp scholarships for children of low income, working parents in Bergen County. These children have fun in a safe environment while school is not in session.

SWIM-IN

Swim-In is a community-based program for people with multiple sclerosis. Since 1976, in coalition with the National MS Society's New Jersey Metro Chapter, we have provided a free, once-a-week, therapeutic swimming program from September through May at the JCC in Tenafly. The 2-hour program is supervised by a licensed physical therapist. Volunteers assist the clients in the locker rooms and with the wheelchairs in the pool area. Each client is fitted with a buoyancy belt and helped into the pool where they swim, walk or exercise with a trained volunteer.

WOMEN'S RIGHTS INFORMATION CENTER/SHARED HOUSING

Women's Rights Information Center/Shared Housing (WRIC) offers job training and placement services as well as housing alternatives for single-parent families. WRIC volunteers also help single mothers, displaced homemakers and low-income women receive an education, find a job and rent or share a home. In addition, consultative services and referrals are made for legal issues, domestic violence prevention, healthcare and basic needs.

YCS – HOLLEY CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

YCS – Holley Child Care and Development Center is a residential treatment facility for emotionally and/or physically abused children in crisis. The almost 70 boys and girls who reside there celebrate their birthdays thanks to members of NCJW BCS who provide a birthday cake for each child. During the holidays we host a special Christmas Party for the children who are unable to be with their families.

YCS – KILBARCHAN

YCS – Kilbarchan is a residential care facility for adolescents offering a safe environment to meet each teen's developmental needs. We assist with funding that provides the young men the opportunity to be counselors in training at the YCS summer camp.

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF IN PICTURES

COMMUNITY SERVICES TOUR TO SWIM-IN



TENAFLY PROCLAMATION
FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING



CO-PRESIDENTS THANK EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



HISPANIC MUSEUM, SOROLLA MURALS



ENTERTAINMENT AT ROCKLEIGH PARTY



PHYLLIS HIZA, OUR OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR



ERICA JONG SPEAKS



CLOTHESLINE PROJECT



CHEERS! SAMMIE MOSHENBERG



WE LOVE HIPPIY KIDS



**DR. BERND WOLLSCHLAEGER SPEAKS
"MY FATHER WAS A NAZI"**



**OUR DELEGATES
NCJW ST. LOUIS CONVENTION**



HIPPY GRADUATION



**MEMBERS' LUNCHEON
FASHION SHOW**



GAME DAY AT RIVER PALM



MITZVAH MALL



HUMAN TRAFFICKING FORUM



**BERGEN COUNTY
WOMEN'S LAWYERS AWARD**



**SERVING HOLLEY KIDS
HOLIDAY CHEER ON XMAS DAY**



**HISTORICAL FILM SOCIETY
STUDY GROUP**



THRIFT SHOP RESPONDS TO PHILIPPINES TYPHOON HAIYAN



VOTING AT CONVENTION



STUDY GROUP: OSCAR WHITE CELEBRITY PHOTOGRAPHER



ISRAEL AFFAIRS STUDY GROUP



BEST "SHOW ME SHOWCASE" AWARD AT CONVENTION



THRIFT SHOP PEOPLE



YCS SUMMER CAMP DAY



WAITING ROOM ART



YCS AWARDS DINNER



CONEY ISLAND DAY @ ROCKLEIGH



**VISIT WITH
CONGRESSMAN SCOTT GARRETT**



CLOTHESLINE PROJECT T-SHIRTS



HIPPY WORKSHOP



**PETE, JOE & CHASTITY RECEIVE
HOLLEY KID'S BIRTHDAY CAKE**



JANE BRODY SPEAKS



**FIGHT HUMAN TRAFFICKING
PROCLAMATION—
ENGLEWOOD**



NJ SYMPHONY SERIES GROUP



**WRIC WINE & CHOCOLATE EVENT
WITH ABC NEWS REPORTER NINA PINEDA**

