

I Can Speak Up!
I Can Speak Out!
I Can Shape Our Future!



Phone calls, emails, town meetings and visits to legislators are changing the direction of this administration. Our own Senator John McCain is requesting a special investigation into the relationship between the Russians and the Trump campaign as a result of our relentless verbal and written messages to him. The repeal of the Affordable Care Act was stopped in its tracks as active citizens around the country began speaking up and speaking out.

Our voices have been heard but our job is not over. At this special meeting we will help you develop the skills you need to make your messages count.

We hope you will join us as two experienced professionals show us how to use these skills to transform us into effective change makers and deliver the messages our representatives need to hear.

Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 6:30pm

Pueblo Norte Retirement Community

7090 E. Mescal Street, Scottsdale

RSVP: membership@ncjwaz.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last month I had the honor and privilege of traveling to Atlanta with Carol Consalvo, Lin Katzenstein, and Ellen Widoff to attend the 47th National Council of Jewish Women Convention in Atlanta.

Along with more than 300 other NCJW members from all over the country we learned how we can shape the future and lead the way to social justice, community organizing, and leadership. The commitment to our Mission Statement -- "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" -- was evident at every workshop, meeting, event, meal and casual encounter.

It was also highlighted during the March 24th luncheon where Secretary Hillary Clinton accepted the "Woman Who Dared" award via a video address. Her commitment to improving the lives of women, children and families, as well as advocating for women and human rights, is a perfect fit with NCJW.

At the March 25th dinner we once again were moved and motivated when Representative John Lewis was given the Faith and Humanity Award. His tireless fight for social justice and human rights also mirrors our Mission Statement and commitment. I hope some of you will be able to join me next year for the 48th Convention! Wishing you and those you hold dear a *Zissin Pesach* (Sweet Passover),

Susan Schesnol, President president@ncjgaz.org

FROM THE DESK OF OUR STATE POLICY ADVOCATE (S.P.A.) CHAIR

"We must add our voices to those who cry out that there is a standard below which we will not allow human beings to live and that standard is not at the freezing nor starving point. In a democracy all are responsible."

Hannah G Solomon

In March I attended the 2017 Convention in Atlanta, GA where we attended panel discussions, workshops, and voting meetings to determine the direction and plans for NCJW over the next few years. The mood was unlike previous NCJW national meetings, possibly because of the current political climate in the country. To me, Hannah G. Solomon's words suggest that we should move on with extra determination to effect change.

In March we saw the dropping of the repeal and replacement of Obamacare. While the media continues to mull over the reasons for this, I believe that "our" voices were heard, forcing lawmakers to rethink the idea of getting rid of a program that gave health care insurance and better health care to 20,000 more individuals, especially women.

For now, at least, Planned Parenthood will not be defunded and women can continue to have access to contraceptives have brought abortion rates to an all-time low. Being a woman will not be considered a "pre-existing condition" and seniors will continue to see a reduction in cost for drugs through Medicare. Our calls and demonstrations directed to our Congressman have stopped them in their tracks.

Our job is not over. Now we must to continue to contact our legislators and protest the confirmation of Judge Neil Gorsuch to the Supreme Court. His record on the legality of a women's right to privacy is dismal. We must call our Senators Flake and McCain on a regular basis from now until the vote on the floor of the Senate.

We must "Stop Neil Gorsuch".

Carol Consalvo,SPA/AZ

[480-860-8887](tel:480-860-8887)/consalvo@cox.net



NCJW AZ delegates at the March National Convention.

*Top: Ellen Widoff, Susan Schesol, NCJW CEO Nancy Kaufman, Carol Consalvo and Lin Katzenstein.
Below, Ellen, Lin, Carol and Susan at a plenary workshop.*

SAVE THE DATE:

I Can Speak Up!

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Tuesday, April 18th at 6:30 pm

Pueblo Norte Retirement Community

Activism gives us strength. It also gives us hope that we can protect the programs we believe in and support the institutions that have kept our democracy strong. We cannot let our voices be drowned out by well-funded special interests groups. In order to do that, we need to learn how to become more effective at delivering these important messages.

- *You will learn to speak concisely, clearly and effectively in a variety of forums.*
- *You will learn to craft talking points so people will listen and understand you.*
- *You will learn to develop confidence in your ability to be a change maker.*

Please join us at our April 18th meeting as two seasoned professionals with impressive track records will show us how we can become more effective activists. See the cover of this Bulletin for directions.

Michelle Steinberg has had a successful career that included general management and lobbying experience, most recently as the public policy director and lobbyist for Planned Parenthood Arizona.

Eleanor Eisenberg practiced public interest law in California and Arizona and was Executive Director of the ACLU of Arizona and NARAL Pro Choice Arizona. She has lobbied the Arizona Legislature on a variety of issues.

THE REFUGEE EXPERIENCE LUNCHEON

Our March 21st Refugee Experience luncheon was a huge success. Every detail of the event evoked the refugees' journeys. The invitations, flyers and programs had a graphic with battered luggage as the theme, table numbers were stamped on passport covers, and centerpieces included maps and lanterns. There were vintage suitcases and world globes at the raffle tables, which showcased dozens of varied prizes.

Our panelists, four women refugees – who had never before described their experiences in a public setting -- presented stories that were emotional and deeply personal. The moderator had the daunting task of weaving their stories into brief summaries, then asked each of them questions that brought out the details of their journeys. Although English is not their first language, they told their stories clearly and effectively. At the end of the program, everyone in the audience stood and applauded, clearly affected by the stories they heard and the women who shared them.

All in all, this event was successful on so many levels. We had more than 100 guests, and many of them stopped as they were leaving to tell us how much they appreciated the program. Everyone learned more about refugees, the process to become refugees, and the lengthy and difficult journeys refugees may go through to obtain passage from their countries of origin.

A sincere thank you to everyone on our wonderful NCJW team who worked so hard to put together this stellar Refugee Experience luncheon.

Debby Finkel, Luncheon Chair

FUNDRAISING

Our fund raising year is almost over and it was a very successful one. Thanks to everyone who lent a hand. The garage is finally emptied out of children's clothing for StandDown and raffle prizes for the March luncheon. Special thanks must go to our "Queen of Gathering Raffle Prizes," Connie Wolf. She is a treat, easy to work with, and keeps great records! What more can I ask for. Thank you, Connie.

Jude and I would like to invite anyone with creative juices to join us in a planning session to discuss our fundraising for the coming year. It will just be a meeting to brainstorm ideas – no commitments unless you are willing. We have been doing this for many years and need some new brain power. Can you help us and join in on this planning session? Give me a call or an email if you'd like to participate in any way, shape or form. We really hope you can join us to help make a difference. NCJW is inspired by Jewish values. It is the most satisfying place where women like us can come together to build a better community through programs that educate, motivate, encourage, and empower. Our members volunteer their talents, skills and know-how to make a difference. If you are a thinker and a doer ... if you believe in your head and heart that things can and should be better...then National Council of Jewish Women is for you.

In closing this year, I want to thank our wonderful board, which has been there whenever we needed help. It is truly a pleasure to work with these women and men who are committed to NCJW. This is why we continue doing what we do for this organization. Thank you to all!

Judi Gross

judigross@gmail.com 480.206.1261

Jude Chaskes

Judithnowat@yahoo.com

508.817.2081

HELP WANTED: MITZVAH MAVEN

With the section year coming to an end, we are starting to plan for the upcoming year. We are looking for someone to coordinate our short-term volunteer projects. This would involve contacting the organizing group, finding out how many volunteers they need and what tasks are required, and letting NCJW members know about it. In past years we have participated in the annual AZ MOM Dental Clinic. This year's event is December 8 and 9, 2017 at the State Fairgrounds. NCJW volunteers sign up through the AZ MOM website and let the Mitzvah Maven know they are volunteering and which shift. Please let Susan Schesmol know if you are interested in coordinating this activity at ncjwpresident@ncjwaz.org

L'CHAIM BOWLING LEAGUE

Dementia is a disease that isn't often addressed publicly and those suffering from the disease and their spouses become isolated. Bowling seems to be a wonderful activity for both partners, allowing for a "little" exercise and an opportunity to socialize.

Join us every Monday afternoon at 2 PM as we play easy bumper bowling for those suffering from MCI/early stage dementia. We play at Let It Roll on 12th Street and Dunlap. The all-inclusive cost is less than \$8 per person per week. If you want to socialize and have a *little* exercise, this is for you and your spouse. Feel free to share this information with anyone who might be interested. The more the merrier! Contact us by email at lchaimbowling@sosaz.org or call 602-793-9628. You never know what friendships and other activities might develop from this.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We are *kvelling*. Our membership has been growing and growing. Finally, NCJW is not the best kept secret in the Valley. We are thrilled to welcome so many like-minded women who will learn how really special our group is in the months ahead.

A giant thank-you goes out to Debby Finkel and Ellen Widoff and the committee that was responsible for our wonderful luncheon on March 19th. Learning about the Refugee Experience from actual refugees brought the issue home in a very powerful way. A special thank-you goes out to the brave women who told their stories. Now it is time to advocate for this cause. How to do that will be the subject of our next meeting on April 18th. Hope to see you all there.

Hannah Kaplan and Lin Katzenstein, Co-VP Membership membership@ncjwwaz.org

JOIN OUR NCJW INTEREST GROUPS

Here's a great way to get to know your NCJW Arizona sisters. Join one or more of the following groups that meet weekly. And if you don't see a group and would be interested in helping to start one, contact membership@ncjwaz.org

These groups meet weekly

- **Afternoon Canasta Group:** Wednesdays from 1-3:30 PM. Want to learn a fun game? This is not your grandmother's canasta. Contact bzmayl@icloud.com
- **Evening Canasta Group** – Thursdays from 6:45 -9:30 PM New players are welcome cheri829@cox.net
- **Mah Jongg** – Thursdays from 11am to 3pm Contact Paula Schulman studio7611@gmail.com (602-616-4848)
- **Mah Jongg** – Wednesdays from 6:30pm at Panera Bakery, Tatum & Shea. Contact Netta: mahipaj001@gmail.com
- **Knitwits & Happy Hookers:** Fridays from 1-2:30 in the craft room at Pueblo Norte (7090 E. Mescal) We create blankets for Project Linus, a national organization that tries to provide love, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill or traumatized. Contact fredapine@gmail.com

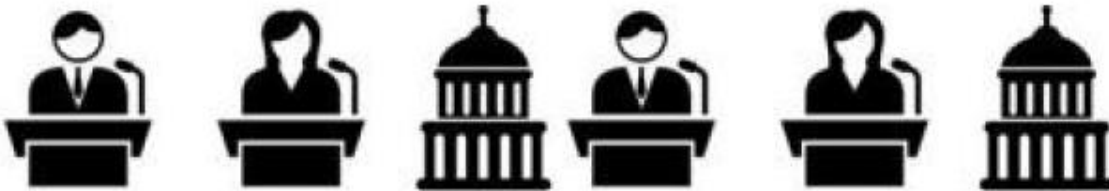
These groups meet bi-weekly or monthly

- **Writing Group** – Stretch your creativity. We meet every other Friday at Pueblo Norte from 2:30 to 4pm. Contact hankaplan@gmail.com
- **Book Group** – 1st Monday of each month at 1:30PM in the library at the BJE Library at the JCC. New members are welcome! For information or to be put on the mailing list, contact ebwidoff@gmail.com
- **Dine Around** – 1st Wednesday of the month
- We meet for dinner and conversation at a new or unique restaurant. Contact fundraising@ncjw.org to be added to the list.
- **Movie Mavens** – Meets the second Wednesday of the month, around 4pm, October through May. All members are welcome. We attend a movie as a group, then go out for a bite to discuss the film. Email goes out to membership announcing the movie. RSVP for more information or contact Carol cjkl@cox.net
- **Visit a Shut-In Volunteers:** Contact fbunnyb@cox.net.com for information or to become a volunteer.
- **Done in a Day:** These are volunteer and visit opportunities that occur throughout the year. Watch for details.
- **Out and About:** Visits and tours of museums, cultural sites and interesting destinations around the Valley. Watch for e-blasts or bulletin announcement of upcoming events.

Out & About with NCJW AZ

Tuesday, April 25th

“Capitol Connections”



10:00 AM: Guided Tour of the Historic Capitol Museum

11:00 AM: Guided Tour of the State Legislature

11:50 AM: Register to Follow and Comment on AZ Legislation

12:00 PM: Lunch

Led by Carol Consalvo, NCJW State Policy Advisor

We will carpool at 9:00am from Chompies, PV Mall. If you are going directly to the Old Capitol, it is located at 1700 W. Washington Street. We will meet inside the building. A docent will be our tour guide. Tour is free.

RSVP: consalvo@cox.net

BUNNY'S CORNER

PUEBLO NORTE VOLUNTEERS: Ladies, please discuss with your hubbies if they would be interested in reading and discussing the news for the blind residents. Readers are needed in both Assisted Living and Healthcare. Of course, they and you are welcome and needed to facilitate other activities. Members are still needed as volunteer facilitators for Poker, Black Jack, Concentration, Trivia, and their form of Scrabble in the Assisted Living section -- days and times will be determined by the volunteer and Pam, the events director. Can you donate one half-hour a month? Visitors for the residents in Healthcare are always needed, any day or time. Contact Bunny Berkowitz at fbunnyb@cox.net or 480-621-8422 for details, questions and hopefully with the date(s) you are available.

DONATIONS NEEDED: KINDLES 4 KIDZ will recycle empty computer ink cartridges at office superstores for store credit which will enable them to buy KINDLES for underprivileged children. HOPE PHONES will responsibly recycle or refurbish all mobiles, from old and broken to the latest smart phones, and create communication networks for health workers serving millions in fifteen countries. Hope Phones receives the value of each recycled phone to purchase new mobile technology for the field.

EYEGLASSES: Any and all to be given to the Lions Club for recycling.

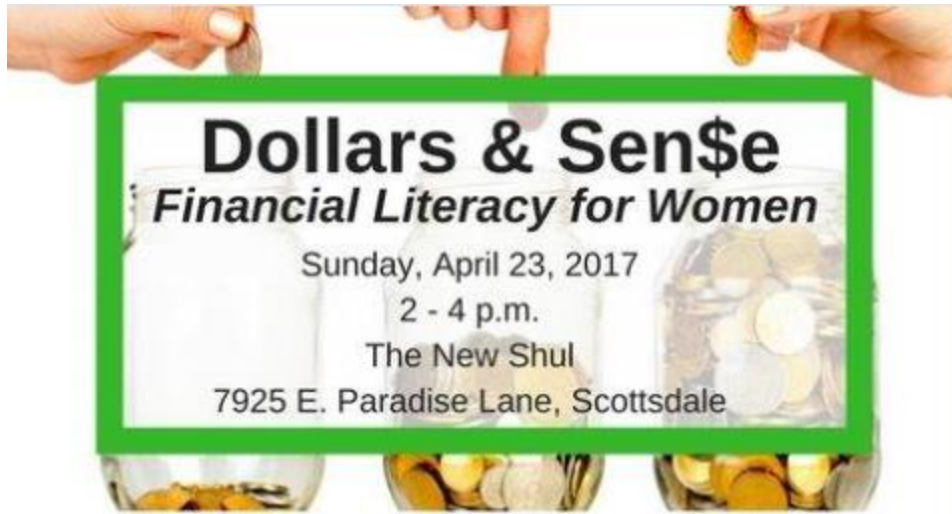
GET RID OF UNWANTED PAPERS AS YOU DO YOUR INCOME TAXES:

CIVITAN is a non-profit organization focusing on employment opportunities, education, day training (DTA programming), and promoting community for individuals with challenges and disabilities by offering safe and secure Paper Shredding. Cost is \$5 per standard Bankers Box and you receive a certificate of completion after 100% document destruction. Call 602-953-2944 and ask for shredding to set up an appointment and drop off boxes at: 12635 N 42 St. Phoenix, AZ 85032.

NCJW ARIZONA SECTION SLATE OF OFFICERS 2017-2018

President	Susan Schesnol
Vice President Fundraising	Judi Chaskes
Vice President Membership	Lin Katzenstein
Vice President Programming	Ellen Widoff
Vice President Social Justice	Vacant
Database Manager	Rita Walton
E Blasts	Claire Bickel
Recording Secretary	Vicki Wallach
Treasurer	Francine Ebersman
Director-at-Large	Bunny Berkowitz
Director-at-Large	Paula Eckstein
Director-at-Large	Jo-ann Mullen
State Policy Advisor (SPA) *	Carol Consalvo
Immediate Past President	Debby Finkel
Chairpersons:	
Advertising	Irene Magerman
Bulletin	Sondra Mesnik
Mitzvah Maven	Vacant
Hospitality	Janice Aver
Publicity	Sondra Mesnik
Tributes	Lynn Greenberg
Wise Aging Coordinator	Hannah Kaplan
Web Master	Sanford Blumenfeld

* Appointment made by National President



Join us for a fun and interactive program designed to empower women to take control of their financial well-being at any age. This interactive workshop will help women master their money and have it serve them in the best way possible.



RSVP by April 19 to JFL at
(602) 230-7983 or
info@jewishfreeloan.org



Jewish Free Loan, The Women's Jewish Learning Center and National Council of Jewish Women are co-sponsoring **Dollars & Sen\$e**, a free financial literacy program for women. This program is designed to empower women to take control of their financial well-being at any age.

As P.T. Barnum once said, "Money is a good servant, but a bad master."

We invite the community to join us Sunday, April 23, 2017 from 2-4 p.m. at The New Shul, located at 7825 E Paradise Lane in Scottsdale for this informative, interactive, fun and FREE workshop to learn how to master your money and have it serve you in the best way possible.

Open to women of all ages. Seating is limited. Please contact the JFL office to reserve your spot.

602-230-7983 or info@jewishfreeloan.org.

TRIBUTES AND CELEBRATIONS

Honor a family member, colleague, friend, or loved one by sending a handwritten NCJW tribute card with a message of support, celebration or sympathy. Now you can choose either the traditional NCJW card or the colorful new “simcha” design. A tribute card is a thoughtful way to express your good wishes or condolences and, at the same time, support NCJW. All Tribute contributions of \$5.00 or more will be listed in future issues of the Bulletin unless you request otherwise. We can mail individual tributes for you or you can purchase packets of cards. For more information contact: fundraising@ncjw.org

TRIBUTES		
FROM	TO	REASON
Lynn Greenberg	Roberta Scharf	Wishing you a complete and speedy recovery
Barbara London	Henny Weiss	Wishing you the fastest recovery
Ethel Covitch, Paula Schulman and Barbara Atkin	Vicki and Elissa Shenkman	In loving memory of Mark, wonderful husband and father
Susan and Mark Jacobs	Mr. and Mrs. Reid Wasserstrom	On your Golden Wedding Anniversary
Claire Bickel	Gloria Sappol	In memory of your husband Hartley
Lee and Debby Finkel	Claire Bickel	In honor of your new home
Lee and Debby Finkel	Rabbi Elana Kanter	In honor of your honorary Doctor of Divinity degree
NCJW Board	Claire Bickel	In honor of your new home
NCJW Board	Rabbi Elana Kanter	In honor of your honorary Doctor of Divinity degree
NCJW Board	Freda Pine	Best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery
Susan and Jeffrey Schesnol	Freda Pine	Best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery
Judi Gross	Freda Pine	Best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery
Debby and Lee Finkel	Freda Pine	Best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery
Sondra Mesnik	Freda Pine	Best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery
Francine Ebersman	Freda Pine	Best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery
Carol and Joe Consalvo	Freda Pine	Best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery
Paula and Elliot Schulman	Freda Pine	Best wishes for a complete and speedy recovery
Debby Finkel	Cindy Berger	On the loss of your beloved father
Sondra Mesnik	Francine Ebersman	Best wishes for a speedy recovery

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Board Mtg 9:30am	3 Book Group 1:30pm	4	5 Canasta 1-3pm Dine Around Mah Jong 6:30pm	6 Mah Jong 11-3 Canasta 6:45-9:30pm	7 Knit Wits 1-3pm Writing Grp 2-4pm -3pm	8
9	10 Passover begins	11	12 Canasta 1-3pm Mah Jong 6:30pm Movie Mavens	13 Mah Jong 11-3 Canasta 6:45-9:30pm	14 Knit Wits	15
16	17	18 General Mtg 6:30pm	19 Canasta 1- 3pm Mah Jong 6:30pm	20 Mah Jong 11-3 Canasta 6:45-9:30pm	21 Knit Wits 1-3pm Writing Grp 2-4pm -3pm	22
23/30	24 Yam Hashoah	25	26 Canasta 1- Mah Jong 6:30pm 3pm	27 Mah Jong 11-3 Canasta 6:45-9:30pm	28 Knit Wits 1-3pm	29

May

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Yom Hazikaron Book Group 1:30pm	2 Yom Ha'atzmut	3 Canasta 1-3pm Dine Around Mah Jong 6:30pm	4 Mah Jong 11-3 Canasta 6:45-9:30pm	5 28 Knit Wits 1-3pm Writing Grp 2-4pm	6
7 Board Mtg. 9:30am	8	9	10 Canasta 1-3pm Movie Mavens	11 Mah Jong 11-3 Canasta 6:45-9:30pm	12 Knit Wits 1-3pm	13
14 Lag B'Omer Mother's Day	15	16	17 Canasta 1-3pm Mah Jong 6:30pm	18 Mah Jong 11-3 Canasta 6:45-9:30pm	19 Knit Wits 1-3pm Writing Grp 2-4pm	20
21	22	23	24 Canasta 1-3pm Mah Jong 6:30pm	25 Mah Jong 11-3 Canasta 6:45-9:30pm	26 Knit Wits 1-3pm	27
28	29 Memorial Day	30	31 Shavuot			

NCJW Az Claire Bickel
 3935 E Rough Rider Rd
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 Phoenix, Az 85050

www.ncjwaz.org
www.ncjw.org

NCJW is the oldest progressive Jewish women's organization in the United States. Founded in 1893, it was designed to "shape the destinies" of American

NCJW 2016-2017 OFFICERS

President	Susan Schesnol	president@ncjwaz.org
Vice Presidents	Judi Gross, Judi Chaskes	fundraising@ncjwaz.org
Vice Presidents	Hannah Kaplan, Lin Katenstein	membership@ncjwaz.org
Vice President Programming	Vacant	
Vice President Social Justice	Vacant	
E Blasts	Claire Bickel	
Recording Secretary	Vicki Wallach	minutes@ncjwaz.org
Treasurer	Francine Ebersman	treasurer@ncjwaz.org
SPA (State Policy Advisor)	Carol Consalvo	
Advertising	Irene Magerman	advertising@ncjwaz.org
Bulletin	Sondra Mesnik	bulletin@ncjwaz.org
Done in a Day	Jo-Ann Mullen	
Hospitality	Janice Aver	
Publicity	Sondra Mesnik	
Web Master	Sanford Blumenfeld	webmaster@ncjwaz.org
Tributes	Lynn Greenberg	tributecards@ncjwaz.org
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