

**APRIL 2020** 

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# Co-Presidents' Message

Dear Fellow Brandeis Members.

We are honored to be your new Co-Presidents! Thank you for the opportunity to serve in this role for such a wonderful Brandeis National Committee chapter where our members are our jewels. Like diamonds, which are known for the 4 C's, our



chapter members/volunteers are also known for 4 C's: Collaboration, Communication, Commitment and Cooperation! These are the tenets of our chapter. We are great people doing great things and we do them better together!! Without the passion and commitment of so many, none of our chapter's accomplishments could take place. There is no effort too small to get involved, at whatever level a member feels comfortable. Whether it is baking for a meeting, helping with an event, joining a committee or becoming a Board member, all are welcome here and all efforts are needed and appreciated! As your new Co-Presidents we are committed to you, our members! We want everyone in this chapter to feel welcome and to know they can come to us at any time to discuss ideas and share their individual experiences. We value open communication as a core principle of the organization. We are a team and all ideas and opinions matter!

We want to thank our two talented and impressive outgoing Co-Presidents, Marcia Langer and Judy Levine, for their continued passion and commitment. They have contributed and accomplished so much in the past two years! We have big shoes to fill as we continue the footsteps on a path to success!

We are all disappointed that several very special events needed to be canceled in March due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. We will always think of our members' health and safety above all else. In that regard, we encourage everyone to follow the necessary guidelines of the CDC and federal, state and local governments. We want to ensure to every extent possible that this united effort will keep us healthy and put an end to the spread of this virus sooner rather than later.

The Annual Board meeting would have discussed "Unity in Diversity," exploring the theme of collaboration. We are unified through our diverse thoughts, skills and backgrounds and therefore, we **are better together!** 

Our organization puts philanthropy first. We raise funds and provide support for Brandeis University's library, critical neuroscience research and campaigns like the current one, "Honoring our History." See donation options on page 18. Our chapter's fundraising efforts make us all proud!



Presidents' Message continues on page 2

Presidents' Message continued...

We know how much time and effort went into planning our March events: Game Day, the Annual Board meeting, the Springtime in Paris luncheon and installation, the Facilitators' thank you event and the New Member social.

Though these events needed to be canceled, we appreciate all of the following volunteers who worked so hard in advance:



Truda Chick	Sue Karp
Bonnie Clewans	Terriann Kleiner
Michelle Fischler	Judy Krockey
Bruce Galin	Marcia Langer
Gale Gradus	Sue Lawler
Norma Green	Vicky Leavitt
Linda Jacobs	Ruth Lerner
Carol Kadet	Judy Levine

Freddie Lieberman Andie Morrison Sandi Oppenheim Joellyn Pollock Lori Roth Cheryl Senkfor Kathleen Witkin

Thank you for your commitment to excellence! We know these events would have been awesome! We will have many opportunities down the road to hold these or similar events. We all need patience, understanding and collaboration to get through this uncharted territory, which we will! **We are Better Together!** 

We wish a happy and meaningful upcoming Passover and Easter to those who celebrate, even though this year may not include extended family and friends, as in years past. Thank you again for all you do to keep our chapter moving forward, raising funds and having FUN! May you and your families stay safe and healthy. We hope to share good times together again soon!



Best Regards, Jan Lebovitz & Linda Ullman, Co-Presidents, BNC Phoenix

BNCPhxPresidents@gmail.com

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# FAITH IN THE FUTURE... Our Tree Continues to Grow!

The vote is in. The new Board is official.

Now it's time to say Goodbye to the 2019-20 Board and say Hello to the 2020-21 Board. **Marcia Langer and Judy Levine**, with mixed emotions as our outgoing Presidents, **pass the gavel to our new BNC Phoenix Presidents**, **Jan Lebovitz and Linda Ullman**.

Jan and Linda are amazing women who bring great ideas, caring hearts and a love of our Brandeis Phoenix Chapter to our 2020-21 Board. They and their incoming Board are the perfect team to lead us through the trying days ahead for our chapter, our families and our country. Our new Presidents and their Board are already at work developing new and exciting ideas for when we all get back to our normal social interacting.

**Thank you, outgoing board members!** Board service is the toughest volunteer role, and all of you took on your Board duties with dedication, grace and seriousness. You all contributed mightily to BNC Phoenix and kept us moving forward. Your work on the Board will never be forgotten.

We say goodbye - but not farewell - to 2019-20 board members:

Stephanie Altman, Bonnie Clewans, Julia Libling, Brina Pepper, Lori Roth, Arline Salbe, Susie Sacks, Harriet Schwartz, Nancy Siefer

**Thank you to our board members who will continue to serve**, many of you in new roles. Your commitment, enthusiasm and insight into our BNC Phoenix community will be of great help to our new Presidents and their/your Board.

Carol Abrams, Leith Baletin, Nurit Burrow, Wendy Cohen, Paula Eckstein, Arlene Feldman, Michelle Fischler, Bonnie Furst, Bruce Galin, Gale Gradus, Nyles Gradus, Joyce Grant, Carol Isacson, Carol Kadet, Sue Karp, Carol Kern, Ellen Kirschenbaum, Terriann Kleiner, Stephanie Klopper, Judy Krockey, Marcia Langer, Sue Lawler, Vicky Leavitt, Jan Lebovitz, Cheryl Lennon, Sara Leopold, Ruth Lerner, Judy Levine, Irene Lubin, Beth Messer, Andie Morrison, Joellyn Pollock, Nancy Sacks, Alisa Schwartzer, Joyce Steinberg, Barbara Stern, Gail Tenn, Linda Ullman, Nan Waldman, Ellen Widoff, Iris Wigal, Kathleen Witkin

**Welcome to all our incoming new board members**. We look forward to you sharing your diverse views and expertise, which will further our collective work in fundraising for Brandeis University while building and supporting our Brandeis Phoenix Chapter family.

Helen Abrams, Laurie Burns, Joan Davis, Patti Grossman, Toni Leonard, Hannah Meyerson, Martha Patrick, Ronee Siegel, Gail Vinik, Lyn Walter

For the 2020-21 Board positions and contact information, Click HERE.

# 2020 Book & Author







Welcome to the Bookmark Party

























Photos by: Chuck Abrams





































Book & Author VPs Barbara Stern & Michelle Fischler













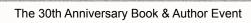
Bookmark Chairs Susie Sacks & Merri Rubin





























Boutiques Chair Brina Pepper



























Co-Presidents Marcia Langer & Judy Levine







Roses for past Book & Author chairs



































# Appreciation from our Authors



# **Brad Taylor**

It was certainly my pleasure. You guys have a great event! I've already emailed (my publicist) and sang your praises, recommending you to her for other authors, so don't be surprised if she contacts you.

# Crissy Van Meter

I had such a great time at the event. Thanks so much for including me!

# Gabriel Bump

I had such a fun time in Phoenix! It was nice being surrounded by a large loving crowd—and so many people from my neighborhood! I hope I'm able to make it out again in the future. Please keep up the amazing work.

### Tim Mason

I can't thank you enough for your generous and caring treatment of me during this spectacular event. From picking me up at midnight, through the Valley of the 900, and right up to the end, you were there for me the whole time - with a warm smile and encouraging words.

To get to know the other authors was a gift, and meeting and chatting with so many interesting members among your colleagues on the Brandeis team and among the attendees was a wonder. I had a fantastic time.

## Jamie Bernstein

What an amazing, multifarious event. I was so delighted to be a part of it all. I loved meeting and hearing from the other authors, as well as meeting all your wonderful colleagues: Carol, and Beth, and all the rest. And thank you --from Jefferson and myself -- for treating us so beautifully, and for that crucial extra night at the hotel.

It looks like you pulled off a VERY successful event. Congratulations!! And now, I hope you'll get a little time off; you've earned it!

# Study Group News



Looking Ahead in these Uncertain Times!

The 2019 - 2020 has been the most successful Study Group season in our Chapter's history. The chapter continues to attract new members and a major part of that attraction is the availability of many and varied study groups in which all members can participate.

To continue this success, we need the help of both men and women. As we begin to think of next season (yes, your Study Group Team is already looking ahead to next year), we are looking for facilitators with ideas for new groups. These might be in-person groups - when things return to normal - and/or virtual groups, using new technology.

If you enjoy meeting new people, enjoy sharing your experiences with others, have special talents or interests that others would enjoy.....You Can Facilitate a Study Group!

#### Ask yourself the following questions:

- Are you interested in getting involved and meeting new people?
- Are you interested in starting a group (hiking? film? lunch?) that meets on weekends or evenings?
- ♦ Would you enjoy leading a limited group discussion (4 sessions) on a favorite topic or activity?
- Do you have a special interest, talent or skill that you want to share with others (i.e. cooking, knitting, crafts, etc.)?
- Are you a winter resident who wants to create a group (i.e. weekly Mah Jongg or Canasta) that begins in January?
- ♦ Do you enjoy researching and visiting interesting sites in Phoenix and the surrounding areas?

If you answered 'yes' to any of the questions above, you already have all you need to be a wonderful Study Group Facilitator. You can also ask a friend to co-facilitate the group with you.

Training will be provided by the Study Group Team. All you need to do is identify an activity, decide the day, dates and times you'd like to meet (we can help you with scheduling) and start a study group in the 2020-2021 season!

The rewards are many: interact with like-minded people in an activity that you already enjoy, see your efforts appreciated by your group participants and the entire Chapter, make new friends and most of all - HAVE FUN!

The time commitment is modest and in return, the approval, acclaim and admiration you receive is beyond measure.

For more information about Study Groups, please contact the Study Group Vice Presidents: Stephanie Klopper, Joyce Steinberg, Barbara Stern phxstudygroups@gmail.com

Also see: <a href="http://www.brandeisphoenix.com/StudyGroups.html">http://www.brandeisphoenix.com/StudyGroups.html</a>



# Alternatives to Study Groups

If/when it turns out that study groups will be able to meet, your facilitators will contact you.

In the meantime here are some other options.

Note: If you click on a link to a website that you want to return to, you can bookmark it in your browser.

**AARP** will host a weekly live Coronavirus Information Tele-Town Hall on Thursdays at 1:00 pm (ET). Government officials will answer your questions about avoiding coronavirus scams and providing resources for family caregivers. Call toll-free **855-274-9507** to join the live event. You can also listen to the live stream using the link below during the event. Please join us each week for the latest information on the coronavirus. **Click <u>HERE</u>** to learn more.

**MIM:** Stay engaged with MIM on social media (@MIMphx) for uplifting performances, behind-the-scenes looks at the collection, and much more. **Click HERE** to see the museum collections and listen to some music.

**PHOENIX ART MUSEUM:** See the newly relaunched website, <a href="phxart.org">phxart.org</a>, the first bilingual site in the 60-year history of the Museum, to discover the many online and alternate resources now available. Along with new content in both English and Spanish, <a href="phxart.org">phxart.org</a> now features a dynamic, user-friendly design and a number of ways to access and explore our exhibitions and collections of fashion design, photography, and American and Western American, Latin American, Asian, European, and modern and contemporary art.

#PhxArtEducatorGuides #PhxArtYouTube

**MET OPERA:** The Metropolitan Opera is streaming productions free of charge. The schedule is **HERE**.

**CREATING WITH MINDFULNESS:** When was the last time you broke out a sketchpad and doodled for the sake of doodling? **Click <u>HERE</u>** for an approachable creative exercise that focuses on meditative, mindful drawing for relaxation and self-care.

**PONDER WITH PODCASTS**: Now's the time to begin a podcast journey! "A podcast is a series of spoken word, audio episodes, all focused on a particular topic or theme, like cycling or startups." **Click HERE** to read more.

Did you know that Google has a platform for podcasts? If you have an Android device, no problem! It is already installed on your phone. Click HERE to view all of the podcast offerings available.

iPhone users can **Click HERE** to access podcasts on iTunes (note: some podcasts are available for purchase only).

**TED TALKS**: If podcasts aren't your thing, no problem. There are thousands of Ted Talks available to satisfy your many curiosities. Head over to **Ted.com** for more inspiring speakers and "ideas worth spreading."

# Programming Committee Update A Very Special Thank You!

For the past 2 years, the Programming Committee was busy meeting, planning, working and supporting Brandeis University. It's a lot of work but when it is shared by so many capable Committee members, it's an enjoyable experience. Without your hard work and dedication, our events could not have been possible!



Most Sincerely, Bonnie Clewans and Judy Krockey 2018-2020 Programming Committee Co-VP's

## **Programming Committee Members**

Steffy Alman Truda Chick Michelle Fischler Susan Gans Helen Greenberg BJ Hernandez Terriann Kleiner Hana Lange

Marcia Langer Sue Lawler Vicky Leavitt Jan Lebovitz Toni Leonard Ruth Lerner Judy Levine Andie Morrison Brina Pepper Lori Roth Arline Salbe Harriet Schwartz Jo Ellen Susman Linda Ullman Marti Zelikoff



# BNC Phoenix Chapter Programs Galore! Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 am



On behalf of the 2018 – 2020 Vice-Presidents, Bonnie Clewans and Judy Krockey, we want to thank the members of the Programming Committee for planning and implementing our wonderful Chapter events. Bonnie and Judy, our heartfelt thanks to both of you for your leadership! We look forward to continuing to attract both new and long-time members to exciting programs, building on all your successful efforts to benefit Brandeis University.

To all Chapter members - would you like to help create and implement fabulous programs and events this year for our BNC Phoenix Chapter? Fall Event, University on Wheels, Annual Meeting, Spring Event . . . and more? Please join us for the very first meeting of the newly named 2020-2021 Fundraising Programs Committee (formerly known as Programming!) on Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10 am. We will meet VIRTUALLY via the Zoom online platform, easily accessed on your computer, tablet or smartphone.

For all who have faithfully served on this committee and wish to continue, please know that we look forward to your active participation! Also know that we plan to hold our regular monthly committee meetings – **VIRTUALLY AS LONG AS NECESSARY**, then at Natural Grocers just as they have been in the past, on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 10 am, starting **April 22**<sup>nd</sup> **VIA ZOOM**. We are just so excited to get started that we want to meet to brainstorm so we are ready to roll as soon as it is safe to do so!

We hope that you will share your great ideas on April 3<sup>rd</sup> along with your commitment to chair or serve on a sub-committee – all are welcome to join us! Please let us know that you plan to attend by emailing us at our brand-new committee email address: <a href="mailto:bncphxfrprograms@gmail.com">bncphxfrprograms@gmail.com</a>. We will then send you the Zoom link for this important and fun meeting, along with some tips we hope will be helpful if this is your very first Zoom meeting. Looking forward to hearing from you!



#### MEMBERSHIP CONTACTS

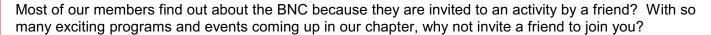
To report life-cycle events, please contact
Susan Sacks at 480-860-5256 or <a href="mailto:susan.sacks@gmail.com">susan.sacks@gmail.com</a>
To learn about becoming a member, please contact
Carol Kadet at <a href="mailto:carolkadet@gmail.com">carolkadet@gmail.com</a>

# Membership News

- To our members who have contracted the Coronavirus, we wish them well.
- Congratulations to Linda & Robert Ullman on the marriage of their son and daughter-in-law, Michael & Adrianne Ullman.
- We are thinking of Sue Karp and wish her well.
- Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Carol Kern.
- Page 2 Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Gladys Simon.
- Best wishes for a speedy recovery to Iris Wigal.
- Our sincere condolences to Adelle Abrahams on the passing of her sister, Jeanne Riva Fisher.
- Our sincere condolences to Tricia Beran on the passing of her mother, Janet Nast.
- Our sincere condolences to Georgia Heller & Denis Duran on the passing of his mother, Rosemary Duran
- Our sincere condolences to Julia Libling on the passing of her father, Melvin Bartman.
- Our sincere condolences to Roni Nassberg and family on the passing of her husband, David Nassberg.

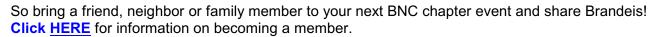
# Welcome New Members!

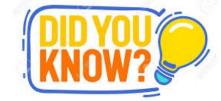
Jesse Berlin, Alice Hausman, Laurie Herman, Deborah Shapiro



Share Brandeis, invite your friend to:

- Attend a Study Group
- ♦ Meet and listen to a Brandeis professor at University on Wheels
- Experience a cultural outing
- Participate in a community service activity





#### MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENTS

 Gale Gradus ggradus13@gmail.com
 201-906-3014

 Carol Kadet carolkadet@gmail.com
 415-828-1299

# Outgoing Board Event, March 8<sup>th</sup> Thank you!









# Community Outreach

# Just 3 Things

We are still collecting non-perishable food items for the Just 3 Things initiative. They can be brought to a board meeting or give Wendy 602-316-2993 or Ellen 602-214-5212 a call or text to receive them.

We're still collecting bras for recycling. They can be brought to a board meeting or call or text Wendy to set up a time to receive them.

Mitzvah Mavens are collecting toiletry bags for female personal hygiene items. Contact Ellen for details.

#### NEW

We are collecting gently used plush animals (like Beanie Babies - 6") for K-3 students in Scottsdale Title 1 Schools. The children choose their animal and complete the required hours (or number of books) read to them at home. Then they get to adopt their animal, complete with adoption papers. They can be brought to a board meeting or call or text Wendy to set up a time to receive them.

Thanks for your continued support for our chapter's community endeavors!

Wendy and Ellen



# Knit A Mitzvah

Do you Knit? Do you Crochet? Help us make Scarves, **Newborn Baby Caps and** Lap Blankets

This season, we continue to make and donate scarves to Jewish Family and Children's Services, Newborn Baby Caps and Lap Blankets to Honor Health Scottsdale Medical Center and Chemo Caps to the Virginia Piper Cancer Center.

If you are experienced or just a novice and want to participate in this effort, please contact:

> For more information, please contact: Ronee Siegel ronees@aol.com 917-273-0393 Joan Davis davis6j@gmail.com 602-499-8357

For more information, contact the Community Outreach Vice Presidents: Wendy Cohen wencohen@cox.net Ellen Kirschenbaum ellenk102@gmail.com

# **Chapter Board Meetings**

IMPORTANT Board meetings will be conducted virtually, using Zoom. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 10 am -12 pm. Board members will receive a Zoom invitation. If you are not a current Board member and would like to attend, please email Corresponding Secretary Joyce Grant at <a href="mailto:jhgrant35@gmail.com">jhgrant35@gmail.com</a> in order to receive the Zoom meeting details.

Jan Lebovitz and Linda Ullman, Presidents

For a full list of the Phoenix Chapter Board members, click HERE. Executive VP's Leith Baletin | Daletin | Ogmail.com 480-874-9434 and Ellen Widoff ebwidoff@gmail.com 703-946-8869

# Study Groups Out and about!



Mitzvah Mavens Photo by Gale Gradus



# We Value Your Privacy

All members' contact information shared for the use of Brandeis business shall remain confidential and not be shared with other organizations.

## Friendly Reminder - Chapter Policy:

Please remember that any information discussed at a Brandeis National Committee event, planning meeting and/or board meeting is to be used for Brandeis purposes alone and is not to be shared with friends, relatives or members of other local organizations. Funds raised at or by Brandeis National Committee Phoenix Chapter events are for the sole purpose of supporting BNC. Therefore, monetary collections and solicitations for the benefit of other organizations at Brandeis events, including study groups, is inappropriate. All directories, phone numbers, addresses and emails shared for the use of Brandeis business shall remain for Brandeis business use only and not shared with other organizations.



#### RECENT MOVE? NEW PHONE NUMBER OR EMAIL ADDRESS?

Please contact our Membership Database Manager Ms. Bruce Galin with your changes to make sure we don't lose touch.

bruce.phxbnc@gmail.com

## Mission Statement

Brandeis National Committee is dedicated to providing philanthropic support to Brandeis University, a distinguished liberal arts and research university founded by the American Jewish community. Its membership is connected to the University through fundraising and through activities that reflect the values on which the University was founded: academic excellence, social justice, nonsectarianism and service to the community.

# **Donations**

For all your donation needs, go to the Brandeis website *Making a Gift* page at <u>giving.brandeis.edu/bnc</u>. If online donation is not available to you, contact: Sue Lawler 602-525-0231 <u>suelawler9@gmail.com</u>

We accept credit card donations. Tributes start at \$10. A card will be sent to your honoree.

we accept credit card donations. Tributes start at \$10. A card will be sent to your honoree.					
Donor	Recipient	Occasion			
GENERAL BOOK FUND					
Jan & Mike Lebovitz Nancy Sacks Jo Ellen Susman & Marty Goodman Iris Wigal Bonnie Clewans Ellen & Bob Kirschenbaum " " Terriann & Rich Kleiner Judy & Warren Levine " " " Lori Roth Nancy Sacks " " Sunshine Fund Iris Wigal Iris Wigal Cindy & Mark Brauner Joyce Grant Sheila & Larry Landau " Judy & Warren Levine Brina Pepper Nancy Sacks " " Sunshine Fund Iris Wigal	Linda & Robert Ullman  " Iris Wigal Carol Kern Gladys Simon Iris Wigal Carol Kern Sue Karp Carol Kern Roni Nassberg Lynda Weckstein Iris Wigal Gladys Simon Iris Wigal Carol Kern " Gladys Simon Dan Hasley Julia Libling Adelle Abrahams Risa Mallin Roni Nassberg Adelle Abrahams " Tricia Beran Julia Libling "	In honor of son Michael's marriage to Adri " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " " "			
	LOUIS PRANDEIS EUR	JD.			
LOUIS BRANDEIS FUND					
Charlotte & Bert Rubin	Ellen Gross	Speedy recovery			

Charlotte & Bert Rubin Ellen Gross Speedy recovery
Charlotte Rubin Judy Fried In memory of beloved husband
Nan & Larry Waldman Dan Hasley In memory of Henriette

#### SPECIAL BOOK COLLECTION

Abby Tucker & John Poremba Dan Hasley In memory of Henriette

#### LEARNED RESEARCH JOURNAL

Renee & David Wolf Marilyn & Howard Jacks In honor of 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary

#### **Donations Continued**

#### HONORING OUR HISTORY CAMPAIGN

Marci & Mark Klein Jetta & Joe Krashin Sunshine Fund Joyce Grant Terriann & Rich Kleiner

In honor of both birthdays

All Past Book & Author Chairs Tricia Beran & Family Roni Nassberg & Family

In honor of Book & Author 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary In memory of mother, Janet Nast In memory of David Nassberg

#### SUSTAINING THE MIND FUND

Peggy Trachtenberg Dan Hasley In memory of Henriette

# Make a Donation

# Celebrating a birthday, milestone or looking for the best way to honor the memory of a loved one? Gifts to the Brandeis National Committee support:

**HONORING OUR HISTORY** - Transforming Unique Collections Highlighting Social Justice.

Join us in supporting BNC's Honoring our History campaign to highlight unique collections of Jewish, immigrant, and feminist narratives housed in the Brandeis Library. This campaign will provide global electronic access to these materials, ensuring that researchers and students will continue learning from these significant historical perspectives.

**LIBRARY FUND** - Libraries are the heart of a great university, the lifeline of teaching, learning and research. Make an impact on one of America's leading research universities.

**SCHOLARSHIP** - Financial assistance plays a pivotal role in upholding Brandeis' founding principle of equal access to higher education, regardless of a student's financial circumstance.

**SUSTAINING THE MIND** - Brandeis National Committee's Sustaining the Mind: Scientific Research and Scholarships Fund fosters research in neuroscience and neurodegenerative diseases.

**PLANNED GIVING** - Planned gifts provide donors the opportunity to meet both their philanthropic and financial goals. Examples of planned gifts include charitable-gift annuities, bequests, deferred annuities, charitable-remainder trusts and donor-advised funds.

You can establish a Book Fund Savings Account!
The Account allows you to send Book Fund Tributes with ease.
For more information, contact Sue Lawler.



### **BNC PHOENIX BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020 - 2021**

President	Jan Lebovitz	janice.lebovitz@gmail.com	847-772-2922
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Community Outreach Chair	Ellen Kirschenbaum	ellenk102@gmail.com	602-214-5212
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Corresponding Secretary	Judy Krockey	bobjudyaz@aol.com	480-816-1221
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Summer Camp Chair	Alisa Schwartzer	gamersalisa@gmail.com	847-217-4498
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Electronic Communications Officer	Paula Eckstein	paula.eckstein@gmail.com	480-544-7570
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Membership Data Manager	Bruce Galin	bruce.phxbnc@gmail.com	480-661-0842
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Member at Large	Joan Davis	davis6j@gmail.com	602-499-8357
Member at Large	Nyles Gradus	negradus@gmail.com	201-906-3014
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