

BRANDEIS NATIONAL COMMITTEE Phoenix Chapter Presidents: Jan Lebovitz, Linda Ullman Editor: Kathleen Witkin Copy Editor: Sara Leopold Layout/Graphics: Carolyn Sherris <u>www.brandeisphoenix.org</u> 480-359-7262 <u>www.facebook.com/brandeisphoenix</u>

JANUARY 2021



Form your team NOW and choose your team name!

Everyone can join the fun - Maximum of six people on a team. Cost to join the hunt will be \$39 per person.

Due to the logistics for this event, Registration will begin on January 5 and end on February 5.

Please see page 3 for more information.

Questions: WinterEvent2021@gmail.com

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BNC PHOENIX CHAPTER

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Presidents' Message

Dear Fellow Brandeis Members,

WELCOME 2021!!!!! Happy New Year to all! 2020 sped by while seeming to last forever. It was a year that left us all exhausted and stressed out from the pandemic and a deeply divided country. The last thing we may have felt was optimism. Although 2020 became

synonymous with much tragedy and suffering, as dawn brings a new day after darkness, there is much to anticipate.

Many of us had special blessings added to our lives such as family weddings, graduations, Bar or Bat Mitzvahs and births. On a personal note, the Ullman family celebrated the weddings of two sons - Michael to Adri and Phillip to Allie. The Lebovitz family ended 2020 with the birth of Joseph Henry. These weddings and this birth, like most, are a metaphor for hope and good things to come.

COVID-19 vaccine inoculations are around the corner and sometime later this year we all hope to be able to once again meet in person. Even with a vaccine, life most likely won't ever go back to quite the way we knew it. Some of the changes we experienced - like Zoom, virtual workplaces, the increased ability for online shopping, along with new and improved cleanliness procedures, are here to stay, at least to some degree. Many changes have improved our life situation. As exciting as it is to anticipate widespread inoculations, we all still need to be patient and stay vigilant well into this new year.

One of the most positive things that came out of the last year was an increased sense of community. Our Phoenix chapter banded together, made quick adjustments so we could stay connected and reached out to many as the months went by. We are extended family to one another. We care about each other and we support one another. It's the best of what any family can hope to be. We thank all of you for being part of the meaningful experience we all share. The love and care we put into giving and supporting one another, our communities and our world is what really counts.

We didn't let the moments of 2020 define us - we defined the moments! Let's all commit ourselves, as we do every January, to some important resolutions: Keep learning. Continue to give joy to others. Reach out to check on neighbors, family and friends who may be isolated. Don't focus on the past - look forward towards the future. Make each day count. Make memories - even if virtually. Be generous; be kind. Be good to your mind and bodies.

Here's to a brighter year - even as we continue to stay apart, we are together. Soon, that will change!

All the best, Jan & Linda Presidents, BNC Phoenix Chapter BNCPhxPresidents@gmail.com 480-359-7262

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Be a Detective in Your





AVENGER Join us for "Sherlock in our Homes: HUNT! A Virtual Scavenger Hunt"

We are delighted to offer this fundraising activity on February 20 – 5:00 to 7:30 pm

Form your teams and choose a team name and Lead Detective (Team Captain) – there is a maximum of six people on a team.* If you are looking to join a team, please let us know.

Registration will begin on January 5 and end on February 5

In a nutshell, our scavenger hunt via Zoom will start off with everyone joining a single Zoom meeting along with our person from *FrogQuest*, the company running the event. With everyone together, he will explain the rules, answer questions, and generally get everyone excited and set up for success. Then everyone will be sent to team-based breakout rooms for the actual hunt. Each team will work together through Zoom to complete as many of the tasks as they can.

Once the time is up (60-90 minutes), everyone will rejoin the main room where *FrogQuest* will present a slideshow, based on many of the photos of completed tasks from all the teams, and the winning team will be announced!

Cost to join the hunt will be \$39 per person. *Questions?* WinterEvent2021@gmail.com



* Non-members may participate on a BRANDEIS MEMBER'S TEAM.

Fundraising Programs Vice-Presidents Carol Abrams 310-210-6751 (phone or text) and Terriann Kleiner 314-761-3132 (phone or text) bncphxfrprograms@gmail.com





We can't get *Out & About*, but we can visit places around the country and world through these books, films and shows recently discussed in some of our study groups.

As we go forward, selections can be submitted to us at **<u>BNCPhxBulletin@gmail.com</u>** by either facilitators or group participants.

Many thanks - happy reading and viewing!

THE DISCUSSIONS IN DECEMBER INCLUDED:

Books	Anxious People by Fredrik Backman Chutzpah by Inbal Arieli The Dutch House by Ann Patchett The Guest List by Lucy Foley Lady Clementine by Marie Benedict Last Kings of Shanghai by Jonathan Kaufmann Little Fires Everywhere by Celeste Ng Louis D. Brandeis/American Prophet by Jeffrey Rosen The Lying Game by Ruth Ware The Nine/Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court by Jeffrey Toobin One Hundred Years of Solitude by Gabriel Garcia Marquez Out of Order by Sandra Day O'Connor The Song of the Jade Lily by Kirsty Manning The Storyteller's Secret by Sejal Badani
Film	<i>The Farewell</i> (2019 - Amazon Prime) <i>Hillbilly Elegy</i> (Netflix) <i>The Life Ahead</i> (Netflix) <i>Rebecca</i> (2020 - Netflix) <i>Same Kind of Different as Me</i> (Netflix)
Theater	The Iceman Cometh by Eugene O'Neill - Play of the Week (1960 - YouTube)

Please note: Viewing platforms for Films and Theater performances are subject to change.

New Study Groups Starting In January and February 2021

We are excited to announce three new groups, which will be accepting registrations for 2021. Please watch for an email announcing when registration will be opened for these groups. Your Study Group VPs are busy getting them into our online registration system, so please have patience.



There are lots of groups out there that explore, read and discuss all types of literature for adults, but what about books that we want to read with our children or grandchildren, or even just to amuse ourselves? Each month we will share some of our favorite children's books and authors, and be introduced to new literature that is out there. We will focus on picture books, but we can also explore the world of young adult literature. Come join us on this journey. **The first meeting will be January 18, 2021 via Zoom. Maximum 25.**

Third Mondays, 1:00 - 2:00 pm (January – May) Facilitator: Patti Grossman psgro

psgrossman717@gmail.com

602-885-0158

53. CASUAL COOKING

Eating healthy should still be delicious and displayed beautifully. Eat to live or live to eat? Is your salad wilted? Join us as we examine vegetables and their true offerings.

Session one: Spinach, the versatile vegetable!
Session two: Lentils. Lentils can add flavorful excitement to dishes with vibrant colors. Find the one suited best for your palate.
Session three: Eggplant, also known as aubergine, has a unique range of health benefits! The preparation of eggplant is varied, with each one creating its own unique flavor.

Bring your appetite and either cook or observe how these wonderful vegetables can be transformed. The list of Ingredients needed will be emailed prior to each session. **The first meeting will be January 21, 2021 via Zoom. Maximum 25.**

Third Thursdays 1:00 - 2:30 pm (January, February and March)						
Facilitators: Lori Roth	lori.rothaz@gmail.com	480-440-4429				
Joan Davis	davis6j@gmail.com	602-499-8357				



54. LADIES, ASK AWAY!

Each session we will invite a speaker to present on a topic of interest to women. These talks will cover a variety of areas and are sure to be of interest to our BNC members. Join us as we learn from the experts and don't be shy - ask away! The first session will be via Zoom on February 8. Maximum 25. Second Mondays, 10:00 - 12:00 pm (February – May)

Facilitators: Roni Nassberg Lorrie Cohen ronika1@aol.com lorriecohen@aol.com 602-790-7603 973-632-4477

IMPORTANT CHANGE TO THE SCHEDULE

The French foreign film group, **Le Cinema Français**, will now be offered on Zoom on the 3rd Monday from 10:00 - noon, instead of the 2nd Tuesday. We also have a new facilitator for this group. Andrew Tievsky (<u>atievsky@yahoo.com</u>) has agreed to facilitate, to help out our original facilitator. This study group is already in the online registration system, so you can register for it at any time. Check it out in the Study Guide.







How To Register

Wait for the email announcement indicating the groups are ready and available in the online registration system.

If you previously registered for study groups earlier this year, you will use the **"Click here**" to edit your registration information link that was on the registration confirmation email you received after registration.

If you misplaced your confirmation email, there are detailed instructions about how to get a duplicate copy on the BNC STUDY GROUPS webpage by clicking on the link that says **"How to Register."**

If you not yet registered online for any groups, you will use the Registration Link on the BNC STUDY GROUPS webpage to begin the process and create a new record for registration.

Remember, you must be a current member of BNC to register for Study Groups, so you must join or renew your membership either before or at the time you register. The system will offer you this opportunity.

Any questions or concerns, please email us at <u>2021phxstudygroups@gmail.com</u> or call and leave a message at 480-256-9515.



Please RSVP to the Study Group mailbox <u>2021phxstudygroups@gmail.com</u> and we will provide you with a Zoom invite.

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There are still many study groups that have space available for more participants. For details and to sign up for available study groups, see the Guide on our website at: <u>http://www.brandeisphoenix.org/study-groups.html</u>. If you have an idea for a virtual Study Group you wish to facilitate, please contact the Study Group VPs.

MEN FOR BRANDEIS ACTIVITIES Wednesday, January 13 at 12:45 pm



On January 13, 2021, Dr. William (Bill) Hery will be discussing the historic work done at Bletchley Park in England during WWII. Dr. Hery is a retired computer scientist/engineer from Bell Labs, as well as a retired professor of electrical engineering from NYU's Tandon School of Engineering (formerly the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn).

Along the way, Bill developed a strong interest in the history of computing, cryptanalysis and Signals Intelligence (SIGINT). He has been to Bletchley Park twice to learn more of the history and explore the actual WWII artifacts. He wishes it was closer and not "across the pond," so he could visit more often.

Bletchley Park is famous for the vital work of Alan Turing and others in shortening WWII by decrypting German Enigma messages, which was only declassified starting in the late 1970s. This talk will give an overview of the history of this and other significant achievements, plus a few of the brilliant people behind those achievements. This includes the critically important decryption of the German High Command's Lorenz Network (used by Hitler and the top generals, only partially declassified starting 50 years after the fact), the "industrialization" of traffic analysis (now called metadata analysis) and intelligence processing, and the legacy of Bletchley Park's work on Cold War and later SIGINT organization and methodologies.

All meetings in 2020 will be conducted on Zoom. Members of the group who have RSVP'd to the facilitator will receive a Zoom link to attend. Please make sure in advance that the name on your computer or other device reads out accurately as your name, so that you can be recognized and admitted from Zoom's waiting room. Leith Baletin, MBA's facilitator, will be in touch with members via email with more detailed instructions.

For additional information, contact facilitator: Leith Baletin lbaletin@gmail.com 480-874-9434

MBA Looking Forward...

FEBRUARY 10 - DAMIAN PRECIADO - Damian is a graduate of Brandeis University, class of '07. The first of his family to attend college, he is originally from Southern CA and now runs a "think tank" in the Valley. He will speak to us about his experiences at Brandeis and what he currently does.

MARCH 10 - RUTH LERNER - Ruth is a member of our Chapter and chairs the Volunteer Outreach Committee. She was born in Shanghai and immigrated to the US as very young child. She will talk about her experiences in the Jewish quarter in Shanghai and other historical references to that Jewish community.

APRIL 17 - **BILL WEISS** - Bill is retired from AT&T's corporate offices. He also spent time at Bell Labs. His topic will be *The Jewish Mafia in the US*.

Looking for this month's STUDY GROUP CALENDAR? See our website: https://www.brandeisphoenix.org/study-groups.html From the calendar, you can return to the Bulletin.

Study Group Vice-Presidents: Stephanie Klopper, Joyce Steinberg and Barbara Stern 2021phxstudygoups@gmail.com

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MEMBERSHIP CONTACTS

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

Membership News

- Congratulations to Vicky & Mark Leavitt on the birth of their granddaughter, Ava Rose, daughter of Chanelle & Alexander Leavitt.
- Congratulations to Jan & Mike Lebovitz on the birth of their grandson Joseph Henry, son of Rachel & Brandon Lebovitz.
- Our sincere condolences to Jeri Benoit on the passing of her sister, Sandi Harte.
- Our sincere condolences to the family of Gaye Jolosky on her passing.
- Our sincere condolences to Anne & Marvin Mondlick on the passing of her mother, Sarah Koocher Feldman.
- Our sincere condolences to Evelyn Simon on the passing of her mother, Irma Gottlieb.

Welcome to our New and Returning Members Robyn Perlow, Jordan Sennett



New & Prospective Member Social - Friday, January 15 at 10:00 am!

If you are a new member or know someone who wants to attend, please let us know at <u>brandeismembershipphx@gmail.com</u>.

Membership Vice-Presidents Carol Kadet and Gale Gradus brandeismembershipphx@gmail.com

Did you know??

Most of our members find out about the BNC because they are invited to an activity by a friend?

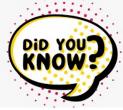
With so many exciting programs and events coming up in our chapter, why not invite a friend to join you?

Share Brandeis, invite your friend to:

- Attend a Study Group
- Listen to a Brandeis professor at University on Wheels (UOW)
- Participate in a community service activity

So tell a friend, neighbor, or family member about your next BNC chapter event and share Brandeis!

Click HERE for information on becoming a member.



Community Outreach

Charitable Organizations Need Our Help!

JFCS is once again accepting donations! Here's an abbreviated list of needed items: canned goods, pasta, mac and cheese, rice, microwaveable foods, juice, powdered milk, PB and J, individual food cups, deodorant soap and toiletries, feminine hygiene products, disposable razors and laundry detergent.

Ellen has graciously offered to help with your donations to *Sojourner Center* for abused women and children. However, *Sojourner's* only accepts NEW items such as socks, clothing (women and children), bedding, full-size unscented lotion and full-size hair products.

Please call Ellen or Wendy when you have items to drop off or if you have any questions.

Ellen: 602-214-5212 or Wendy: 602-316-2993.

VOLUNTEER FROM HOME

Do you have time on your hands? One of the pillars of the BNC Mission Statement is Community Outreach. Members who are interested in doing volunteer work for various charities from home, can contact Ellen Kirschenbaum at ellenk102@gmail.com.

Stay safe and stay well! Ellen Kirschenbaum and Wendy Cohen



Knit A Mitzvah

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

We donate newborn baby caps and lap blankets to Honor Health Medical Center, scarves and adult lap blankets to JFCS and chemo caps to Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center.

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 chairs: Wendy Cohen <u>wencohen@cox.net</u> Ellen Kirschenbaum <u>ellenk102@gmail.com</u>





Chapter Board Meetings

Board meetings will be conducted virtually, using Zoom. The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 20 from 10:00 am -12:00 pm. Board members will receive a Zoom invitation.

All Chapter Board meetings are open to our members. You are welcome to join us on the third Wednesday of every month (except July) at 10:00 am.

If you are not a current Board member and would like to attend, please email Corresponding Secretary Joyce Grant at <u>jhgrant35@gmail.com</u> in order to receive the Zoom meeting details.

Chapter Presidents

Jan Lebovitz and Linda Ullman <u>bncphxpresidents@gmail.com</u>

A full list of the <u>Phoenix Chapter Board members</u> is available.



WINTER EVENT

Sherlock in our Homes: a Virtual Scavenger Hunt Saturday, February 20, 2021 5:00 – 7:30 pm

ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, March 17

VIRTUAL UNIVERSITY ON WHEELS - Webinar Thursday, April 8



Chapter Roster

If you have recently moved, or changed your phone number or email address, please let Bruce Galin, our Chapter's Data Manager, know of those changes. <u>bruce.phxbnc@gmail.com</u>.

She will ensure you don't miss out on any Chapter mailings and information.

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.

Brandeis Happenings



Photo Credit: US Chess

Grandmaster Sam Shankland '14 on *The Queen's Gambit* and Chess Today

Grandmaster Sam Shankland '14, winner of the U.S. Chess Championship in 2018, is one of America's top chess competitors, currently ranked sixth among active players in the United States and number 44 in the world, and working on his third book on chess strategy. He reported on the recent online chess Olympiad in the November issue of *Chess Life*.

The complete article can be found at *Brandeis Alumni Stories*.



Volunteer Opportunities

A wonderful way to get involved with our local BNC Chapter is to share your expertise with us. It's a Win-Win! You get to meet some of the other members, maintain your skills and learn new ones, and the Chapter benefits from your experience. The current skill sets needed are:

Website, Marketing, Publicity, Technology, Study Group Facilitator

If you would like to volunteer in these or any other areas, please contact: Ruth Lerner <u>ruth.bncphx@gmail.com</u> **BNC PHOENIX CHAPTER**

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Honoring Our History

The University Photography Collection

Regardless of your political affiliation, it is documented that Americans have made a historical choice in the election of the next President and Vice President. In light of our first woman - and a woman of color - to be Vice President, we will be highlighting the <u>Marcia Freedman Papers</u> that are part of the <u>American Jewish and Israeli Feminism Archives</u> <u>Collaborative</u> at the Brandeis Library.

The Marcia Freedman Papers consist of journals, lecture notes, correspondence, manuscripts, typescripts and research files created by Marcia Freedman, an American-Israeli activist and feminist. The collection also contains many articles about Freedman, including newspaper clippings, as well as book reviews for her memoir *Exile in the Promised Land*.

Of particular note are materials documenting her feminist roots, files relating to her election to the Knesset in Israel in 1973 and her founding of the Women's Party in Israel in 1977, as well as autobiographical writings throughout the collection. Material dates from the late 1960's to the 2010's. Audiovisual and born-digital mixed media files are also included. The Collection is predominantly in English although some clippings are in Hebrew and some European languages are also represented.

The <u>Honoring Our History</u> campaign goal is \$500,000 and at the time of this writing, we have added \$234,463 toward that goal.

The costs of digitizing and preserving each collection that we have highlighted throughout the past few months are: Leo Frank, \$20,000; Helmut Hirsch, \$40,000; Aviva Cantor, \$120,000; Photography Collection, \$10,000; Marcia Freedman, \$25,000.

It will require significant expenditures to make these and other collections permanent for future generations and scholars to use. Now that we are approaching a new year... please help us reach our goal and see your name and our chapter's name on the HOH virtual wall. You will also receive your own *Honoring Our History* pin for an individual donation starting at \$500.

For donations and more information, please visit the updated BNC website.

Happy Holidays, Happy New Year and thank you always for your support.

Please support Honoring Our History!

For more information please contact Campaign Chairs Carol Kern, <u>cak8219@gmail.com</u> and/or Judy Levine, judithlevine43@yahoo.com.

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Donations

To make a donation, you can go to the Brandeis website Making a Gift page at giving.brandeis.edu/bnc or, contact Sue Lawler: 602-525-0231 suelawler9@gmail.com Tributes start at \$10. We accept credit card donations and a note will be sent to your honoree.

Donor

Recipient

Occasion

Bonnie Clewans & Sam Summer
Arlene Feldman
Michelle Fischler
Michelle Fischler
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Judy & Warren Levine
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Best wishes in your new home In honor of granddaughter's Bat Mitzvah In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry In honor of birth of granddaughter Fay Daphne In honor of birth of granddaughter Ava Rose In honor of birth of granddaughter Ava Rose In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry In honor of birth of granddaughter Fay Daphne In honor of "huge birthday" In honor of birth of granddaughter Ava Rose In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry In honor of birth of granddaughter Fay Daphne In honor of birth of granddaughter Ava Rose In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry Sending hopeful and positive energy In memory of Sarah Koocher Feldman In memory of Sarah Koocher Feldman In memory of Sandi Harte In memory of Sarah Koocher Feldman

LOUIS BRANDEIS FUND

GENERAL BOOK FUND

Iris Wigal

Nancy & Larry Moffitt

In honor of 50th wedding anniversary

HONORING OUR HISTORY CAMPAIGN

BNC Phoenix Chapter Board BNC Phoenix Chapter Board Joyce Grant Carol & Allan Kern Carol & Allan Kern **Terriann & Rich Kleiner** Sue Lawler & Jeff Fagin Beth Messer Marilyn Reinfeld Jo Ellen Susman & Marty Goodman Linda & Robert Ullman Nan & Larry Waldman Nan & Larry Waldman Jan & Mike Lebovitz Terriann & Rich Kleiner Jan & Mike Lebovitz Jan & Mike Lebovitz Beth Messer Nan & Larry Waldman

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In honor of birth of granddaughter Ava Rose In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry In honor of birth of granddaughter Ava Rose In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry In honor of the beautiful Installation In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry In honor of birth of granddaughter Fay Daphne In honor of her continued recovery In memory of Sarah Koocher Feldman In memory of Sandi Harte In memory of Sarah Koocher Feldman In memory of Sarah Koocher Feldman In memory of Sarah Koocher Feldman

SUSTAINING THE MIND FUND

Abby Tucker & John Poremba

Jan & Mike Lebovitz

In honor of birth of grandson Joseph Henry

We regret any errors or omissions.

For future corrections or inclusions, please notify the editors at bncphxbulletin@gmail.com.



Light of Reason

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.

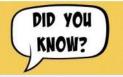
LIBRARY FUND* - Libraries are the heart of a great university, the lifeline of teaching, learning and research. Make an impact on one of America's leading research universities.

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 - BNC'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.

*Did you know that you can establish a Library Fund Savings Account?



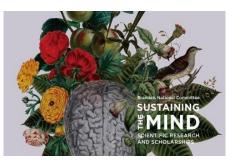
This account includes the Book Fund and the Louis Brandeis Fund, enabling you to send Library Fund Tributes with ease. For more information, contact Sue Lawler (see below).

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

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







BNC PHOENIX BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2020 - 2021

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