

Ezra-Habonim, the Niles Township Jewish Congregation  
**SISTERHOOD CORNER—May, 2023**

Diane Rosenfeld, President (raynesd@aol.com) Judy Arkin, Editor (kjarkin99@comcast.net)

***From the President's Desk...***

Although many of us were very young or not yet born, some of us have seen the newsreel of the historic signing of the Declaration of Independence at 4 p.m. on Friday afternoon, May 14, 1948 (5th of Iyar, 5708). I can still picture in my mind David Ben-Gurion standing at the Tel Aviv Museum reading this document which proclaimed Israel as a Jewish state.

We are thinking of Israel now as we are getting ready to celebrate Yom Ha'atzmaut. I would like to recognize our Sisterhood members who accompanied Rabbi Weill on our congregational trip to Israel last month. Susan Boldrey, Carol Friedlander, Fran Givertz, Carol Gottlieb, Mickey Gordon, Marlene Singer (our travel agent and coordinator), and myself composed one-third of our participants.

We enjoyed the camaraderie and friendship of each other whether on the boat ride in the Sea of Galilee, enjoying a traditional lunch in a Druze home, maneuvering through the narrow alleyways of picturesque Safed, enjoying the best falafel at Machane Yehuda or seeing the graffiti art in Tel Aviv. Our group of 22 enjoyed conversing with and learning from new Olim (immigrants), meeting an Ethiopian Jew and hearing the trials and tribulations of his people adjusting to a new culture, or listening to a young doctor praying for peace at Ben Gurion's tomb and sharing her hopes for Israel.

Please join us for our May and June programs. Our Yom Ha' atzmaut event will take place on Tuesday, May 2nd with a speaker from the Israeli Consulate in Chicago and Israeli dancing with Rena Rozen. We will review the book, *The Matchmaker's Gift* on Zoom Wednesday morning, May 3rd. Our Torah Fund event will take place on May 10th and Sisterhood Shabbat will be May 13th.

I look forward to seeing each and every Sisterhood member and your guests at our installation of officers and culminating event on Wednesday, June 7th.

*L'Shalom, Diane Rosenfeld*

***News and Notes...***

Be a media mogul! A \$5 contribution makes you a sponsor of our Sisterhood Bulletin.

Please mail your contributions to:  
Judy Arkin c/o EHNTJC Sisterhood  
4500 Dempster Street • Skokie, IL 60076

**Our Media Moguls this month are:**

**Esther Berman**

*(in honor of my grandchildren),*

**Joan Cook**

*(in honor of birthdays of son-in-law*

*Bob Dressler and cousin Susie Kacsh Gabel),*

**Carol Friedlander**

*(in honor of my grandchildren*

*and great-granddaughter)*

**Fran Givertz**

*(in honor of my family and friends),*

**Mickey Gordon**

*(in honor of my grandchildren),*

**Miriam Goldberger, Bobbie Levin,**

**Esther Manewith**

*(in honor of our grandchildren),*

**Dori Marks, Ada Rabinowitz and Judi Stein**

***Good and Welfare...***

- **Mazel Tov** to Debby Rheinstrom on the birth of her granddaughter, Miriam Jeannette Moss.
- **Condolences** to Phyllis Dickstein on the passing of her sister, Luellen Gilmore.

If you have any "Good & Welfare" to share, please contact Judy Arkin at [kjarkin99@comcast.net](mailto:kjarkin99@comcast.net).

***DATES TO REMEMBER...***

by Judy Arkin - Programming V.P.

**Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 p.m.**

**Israeli Consulate Speaker and Israeli Dancing**

**Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 a.m. (on Zoom)**

**Sisterhood Book Club**

**"The Matchmaker's Gift**

**by Lynda Cohen Loigman**

**Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.**

**Torah Fund Luncheon and Program**

**Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.**

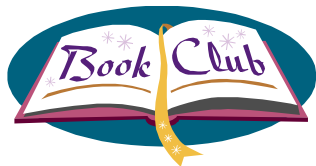
**Sisterhood Shabbat**

**Wednesday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m.**

**Culminating Luncheon and  
2023-2024 Board Installation**

***Our Sisterhood is an affiliate of***





Our next *Sisterhood* Book Club  
will discuss

**"THE MATCHMAKER'S GIFT"  
by Lynda Cohen Loigman**

*Please join us on Zoom for the Book Club on  
Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:30 a.m.  
Stay tuned for the date of our  
September Book Club....*

**Thank You Sisterhood Readers!**

The results are in! In February, and again in March, we sent an online survey to learn about our readers and their reading preferences. Thirty-six Sisterhood members responded to the two-minute survey. This gave us a 21% response rate for all of Sisterhood. As online surveys go, this is considered a good survey response rate. Sixty-nine percent of the survey responses came from people who have previously participated in Book Club. The most preferred reading genres were novels and historical fiction, followed by mystery and biographies/ memoirs. Non-fiction books were the least preferred, and most strongly disliked. Using these results, we will take a break from selecting non-fiction books and will try to add a mystery by a Jewish author and/or with a Jewish theme for the next cycle of Book Club. Respondents also were willing to read more historical fiction set in WWII and the Holocaust, as well as sequels to books we have previously discussed. We will use the information from the survey to guide our selections for next year. We appreciate the kind comments and encouragement we received from the survey. Thank you for your feedback on the Sisterhood Book Club!

Carol Gottlieb and Dolly Zavell  
Book Club Chairs



*Take people for what they are,  
not for what they ought to be.*



I S R A E L 2023

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## EDUCATION CORNER

by Dr. Esther Javetz- Education V.P.

### YOM HaSHOAH

Every year we commemorate Yom HaShoah. Historical events, like the Holocaust, are in danger of being forgotten or misinterpreted.

The survivors dispersed to other countries, but the majority came to Israel hoping for at least physical security. The country did just that: provided housing and jobs (even temporary) to newcomers, and inched forward economically.

But this Passover was terrible for the people in Israel. The security situation in Israel deteriorated: clashes on the Temple Mount, rockets sent from Lebanon (north), followed by rockets from Syria (north-east), and additional ones from Gaza (south-west). In addition, two terror attacks occurred: one in Tel Aviv where one tourist from Italy was murdered and seven more injured. Another attack was on the road of the Jordan Valley where two Israeli sisters were murdered and their mother was seriously injured and later died.

What can we do in the diaspora? Preach for unity! Only unity can deter enemies! This should be a lesson from the Holocaust. Jews in Israel are divided into different communities: secular, traditional, traditional-religious, religious and ultra-orthodox. Only tolerance can remind them that they are one nation, so they can work together for their survival! Their survival is also ensuring a homeland to all Jews! Let's remember the lessons from the Holocaust.

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