

WOMEN'S NEWS

The Challenge is Yours

By Heidi Rotberg, President,
Charlotte Chapter of Hadassah

New Year's resolutions are always exciting to anticipate and to plan. They provide us with a chance to look at our world and to make improvements. New Year's resolutions offer us the prospect of a renewed resolve and a revitalized approach. This is mid-year for our Hadassah season and it's an opportunity to recharge our batteries and reinvigorate our actions; it's a perfect time to revive our spirits and bring added commitment to our work.

If you are actively involved in Hadassah and our chapter, then kudos to you for all your efforts. If you not involved, then I challenge

you to let us find something that will engage you.

At Hadassah, we all understand the spiritual longing to make a difference—to do what we can in word and deed to contribute to our Jewish homeland—to help heal, educate and improve the lives of our people. In Israel, through acts of caring and tzedakah, Hadassah members support the excellent education provided at our college, the dedicated efforts to sustain youth at risk with programs and education, the amazing work of healing at our hospitals, and the brilliant scientific and cutting edge research. Our actions are



guided by our mission of educating people, saving living, and protecting the health and well-being of future generations.

In the United States, we promote Jewish and Zionist education to advocate and grow leaders among Jewish women and girls; we reach out with programs that help communities and individuals in need; we involve and engage women in social action and advocacy to support legislation to protect families and, we foster youth and Zionist programs to engage a whole new generation of Jewish youth.

The challenge is yours. Become involved and enhance this work

through your efforts. Make a difference by involving a friend or colleague in these exciting and diverse programs. As informed members, we make our voices heard and 300,000 women's voices and actions have impact. Your participation will help improve the

lives of those less fortunate than you; it will strengthen and enhance your own life; and it will bring you into the inspiring world of dedicated Hadassah women who truly make a profound difference in our world. ☆

Kinneret Circle at the Lake

The Hadassah Kinneret Circle at the Lake Book Club will meet at 7 PM, January 3 at Barnes and Noble in Birkdale Village. The book club will meet 7 PM the first Wednesday each month. The January book for discussion will be "The Book Thief," by Maakus Zusak.

Kinneret Circle next regular meeting will be on January 8. If you are attending, please RSVP Billie Green by e-mail: bgreen2417@aol.com.

The February book club meeting will be at 7 PM on the 7th at Barnes and Noble in Birkdale Village. The February book for discussion will be "The History of Love," by Nicole Krass.

Kinneret Circle next regular meeting will be on February 12. If you are attending, please RSVP Billie Green by e-mail: bgreen2417@aol.com.

Kinneret Circle is having in February a cooking program. Details will come soon. ☆

Hadassah Health Program

"For the Health of It ... Optimizing Wellness" February 22. The program features Terrie Reeves, Founder and Director of Wellness Coalition America. Stay tuned for more information.

Women of Reform Judaism's January Book Club Meeting

If you enjoy intellectual stimulation, come join us for a discussion of Philip Roth's *The Plot Against America* Sunday, January 21, from 11:15 AM-12:45 PM at Temple Beth El.

Our discussion that day will be led by Mary Sinatra Rutman who describes the book as "one that challenges us to look at who we are, to feel the corrosive impact of fear in our lives, and to explore the choices we make - all within the context of an imagined alternative history of an isolationist and anti-Semitic US president in 1940."

Mary has read additional books

both on the subject and by the author in preparation for our discussion of this interesting and compelling work. Even if you participated in its recent discussion at the JCC, further conversation about *The Plot Against America* promises to yield still further understanding and insight.

All guests - male and female - are welcome, as always, and no RSVP is necessary.

[Due to our meeting time, you may bring your lunch if you wish.]

Of special note: Women of Reform Judaism's Book

Selections for the year 5767 were chosen last July. Our selections for 5768 will include an October pick on the subject of Domestic Abuse, an important issue highlighted during the month of October throughout the US and more specifically by the Reform movement's Social Action Committees.

Please contact Susan Proctor [sproctor2000@yahoo.com] or Marsha Stickler [RStickler@mindspring.com] for book suggestions on the subject of Domestic Abuse. ☆

Domestic Abuse Call to Action Meeting

"Every woman and girl should be safe in her relationships and in her home. There is no place for domestic abuse in the Jewish community."

The above statement is "Call to Action," a declaration which Charlotte/Mecklenburg Jews are signing to show their support for victims and survivors of domestic abuse.

Jews Against Domestic Violence (JADV), a local group of volunteers, was formed last year to make that statement a reality. If you agree with it, there is much you can do. One is to concretely and visibly join the fight by sign-

ing onto "Call to Action." Simply send your name and e-mail address to stickler.marsha@yahoo.com. Jews Against Domestic Violence will send alerts and general information. (This will not be used for solicitation of funds.) If you think you may want to do more, plan on attending JADV's first meeting on January 28 at 10 AM in the David Silverman Social Hall at Temple Beth El. All are invited to attend to discuss and prioritize 2007 projects. Babysitting will be provided. For more information contact Marsha Stickler at 704-365-2293. ☆

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