

National Council of Jewish Women

Greater New Orleans Section

Bulletin

www.NCJWneworleans.org

May/June 2022

Magical Night Marks NCJW GNO's 125th Year of Service

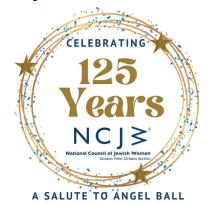


Gala Co-Chairs Loel Samuel and Jody Braunig kick off 'Looking Back and Leading Forward,' the 125th anniversary of the New Orleans section of NCJW with a Salute to Angel Ball

Members and friends of NCJW gathered to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the New Orleans section of NCJW on Saturday April 9th with a Salute to Angel Ball.

After a year of planning despite Covidrelated roadblocks, a committee of over 30 diverse NCJW members organized an unforgettable celebration at the beautiful Higgins Hotel. Over 100 elegantly dressed patrons attended the Patron Party and listened to the sultry voice of singer Meryl Zimmerman while enjoying a special Cosmopolitan signature drink provided by William Goldring from Sazerac. Guests were treated to a variety of delicious passed hors d'oeuvres including grilled lamb lollipops, smoked salmon, artichoke beignets, tomato bruschetta and an abundant cheese board. The patron party was a wonderful time to catch up with friends before dinner.

The Mistress of Ceremonies, WVUE TV anchor and long-time supporter Shelley Brown, welcomed the 180 attendees.



After opening remarks from Angel Ball Co-Chairs Loel Samuel and Jody Braunig, the party really got started with live music by The Wiseguys. As guests danced and mingled, everyone enjoyed a background multi-media presentation featuring Angel Ball pictures and memorabilia through the years. This presentation is available at www.ncjwneworleans.org.

NCJW's legendary Angel Balls, which ran consistently from 1961 through 1995 and, then again in 2000 and 2002, were a major source of financial support for the Section. The first Angel Ball was chaired by NCJW President Phyllis Dennery (who

New Leaders to be elected to NCJW Board at Closing event

Watch you email box and our website, ncjwneworleans.org, for information about our Closing Event and Installation to be held in June. The event will feature remarks from President Gail Fenton Pesses, the Installation of NCJW Officers and a special presentation by Suzanne Stone, author of "New Orleans Coffee: A Rich History." Suzanne will give unique insights into the history of coffee in New Orleans.

served from 1952-54), and Honorary Chairperson Mrs. Edgar Stern.

During the seated dinner, Shelley Brown spotlighted two of our longest-running community services: the Scholarship Program and Fox 8 Defenders. Co-Chair Jody Braunig was a Scholarship Program recipient and Co-Chair Loel Samuel is a long-time volunteer with the Fox 8 Defenders. *(continued on page 4)*



Past Presidents of NCJW, Past Presidents of Moonlighters and Past and current Angel Ball Chairs in attendance (I to r) Susan Kierr, Jody Portnoff Braunig, Gale Pick, Jan Yellin, Joyce Pulitzer, Cathy Bart, Shellye Farber, Gail Pesses, Barbara Greenberg, Barbara Kaplinsky, Loel Samuel, Kathy Shepard, Dana Shepard and June Leopold

Presidential MESSAGE



Busy, busy, busy. That's how many of us respond to the question "How are you?" With the relaxing of Covid restrictions, at least until the next variant, we are now able to be with

friends and family and enjoy festivities and events in person. Our calendars are full, offering myriad opportunities to connect with others. After 2 years of isolation and way too many Zoom meetings, we appreciate having more things on our plates.

There are other reasons so many people, despite some of their complaints, seek out staying busy. So much of what we read in respected newspapers as well as learn from other legitimate news sources is distressing and overwhelming. Putin's unprovoked attack on Ukraine, rising prices and inflation, the politicization of our Supreme (and other) Courts and the lack of integrity, as well as the destructive pettiness of our Senators and Congressman are just a few of the things that keep many of us up at night. We feel helpless and often hopeless.

Yes, as individuals, we are limited in finding solutions to many of these world

problems. However, each of us has a very powerful tool that we can and should utilize – our vote. Now more than ever, we need to speak up, not just with rallies and letter writing, but by registering new voters, insisting on voting districts that accurately reflect the diversity of our population and by voting in every election. We need to insist, with our vote, that Senators and Congressman look past party lines and work together to address real problems in this country.

Want to know how to get started? Contact Miriam Waltzer, Sylvia Finger and Liz Yager co-chairs of our Voter Rights/Mobilization Committee, as well as voting rights leaders Barbara Kaplinsky and Ruth Bilbe. These resolute women have been working tirelessly to organize block captains and super block captains in a massive voter mobilization effort, to register high school and college students, congregants in houses of worship, and so many others who can and should have a vote. They will be thrilled to tell you about their work and how you can help.

Volunteering is a well-researched antidote to those feelings of hopelessness and frustration. By reaching out, we can and will change the world as well as ourselves. As Margaret Mead observed, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever does."

Gail Pesses

COMING TO AN INBOX FOR YOU

YOU are what makes NCJW one of the most successful volunteer organizations in Greater New Orleans. We want to know you better in order to tailor our programs towards your interests and let you know about volunteer opportunities that suit you. To that end, we have devised a 2 minute (or less) easy to complete Google survey.

What piques your interest? What would you like to do with your extra time that brings you value? What skills do you possess and what are you most interested in learning?

So, please keep your eyes open for our NCJW survey and complete it at your earliest convenience to help us in our efforts to serve you better. Thank you!



National Council of Jewish Women Greater New Orleans Section

President Gail Pesses

Editor Barbara Kaplinsky

VP of Administration Judge Robin Giarrusso

'Leading Together' the rallying cry for NCJW's 2022 Washington Institute

President Gail Pesses and Vice President of Public Affairs/Advocacy Al Page represented our NCJW, GNO section at the 2022 Washington Institute which took place live May 15-17.

The focus of the three-day event of interactive learning, meaningful collaboration, and inspiring action was on building NCJW's collective power as a force for change.

Kristin Rowe-Finkbeiner, the Executive Director/CEO and Co-Founder of MomsRising, and Melanie Campbell, President/CEO of the National Coalition on Black Civic Participation kicked off the Institute in a panel entitled "Conversations for a Just World."

According to Page, "These powerful movement builders discussed their social justice work journeys and shared valuable lessons learned." Another session 'Identity and Oppression: Navigating Antisemitism in Social Justice Work' served as a conversation about working with diverse faith and secular partners.

Strategies on leading empathetic conversations to build meaningful interfaith relationships were discussed by top notch speakers. They were Kristen Clarke, Assistant Attorney General for Civil Rights at the U.S. Department of Justice; Tema Smith, Director of Jewish Outreach and Partnerships for Anti-Defamation League (ADL); and Yolanda Savage-Narva, Director of Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion for the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ).

The Institute culminated with a Jewish Rally for Abortion Justice on Capitol Hill where members sent a powerful message of their commitment to the fight to ensure a just future. "With Roe v. Wade threatened in our nation's highest court," Page said, "this could not have been a more meaningful moment for us to be present in Washington D.C. advocating for women's reproductive rights."

> Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever does. - Margaret Mead



The Importance of Legacy Giving



Now that we have celebrated the 125 Years of Service Angel Ball Gala, it is time to turn our attention to how we can continue the outstanding legacy we have created over the last century, on into the future.

NCJW has taught us exceptional leadership skills. It has provided us with camaraderie and joined us in common purpose. It has reflected our deepest

values and applied them to projects for the benefit of our community.

What is especially meaningful is the way NCJW has identified the most pressing concerns of the needs of our community at any given time. As we go forward into our future, the needs of our community will evolve, but NCJW will always be in a position to recognize the urgencies of the moment and will be able to act upon them.

Planning ahead for a legacy gift in your will, or a beneficiary designation of your retirement account will allow you, our members, to continue even after you are gone. Your advance instructions will give NCJW the ability to support those pressing needs, while at the same time fulfilling the values that have meant so much to you, long into the future.



"To me part of being a leader is accepting responsibility for insuring the financial success and stability of the Section for not only today but for future generations. I want to know our programs and services will continue for years to come. Hopefully, my participation in Legacy can be both an example and motivation for others to join with me."

Barbara Greenberg

2022/23 Nominating Committee Report

Loel Samuel, Nominating Committee Chair, will present the Nominating Committee Report at the Closing event and Installation.

Following are the 2022/23 Nominations:

Vice Presidents: Karen Sher, Robin Giarrusso and Jody Portnoff Braunig as well as Robin Goldblum for Recoding Secretary.

Board Members nominated for a I-year term are Benay Bernstein and Carole Neff. Board Members nominated for a 2-year term are Susan Constant, Sara Lewis, Diana Mann and Tana Velen.

The Nominating Committee recommends the following leaders to serve as the 2022-2023 Nominating Committee – Chair Ina Weber Davis, Ex Officio Chair Loel Samuel and Ex Officio Past President Susan Hess. Proposed members are Jessica Bach, Leslie Fischman, Tricia Kirschman, Diana Mann, Sara Mayeaux, Sherri Tarr, Sheryl Title and Tana Velen.

Continuing in Elected leadership positions are President Gail Fenton Pesses and Vice Presidents Gail Chalew, Carol Newman, and Al Page. Other Board Officers continuing in elected position are Alanna Rosenberg, Financial Secretary; Patty Barnett, Corresponding Secretary; Kathy Shepard, Treasurer; Tricia Kirschman, Assistant Treasurer and Ex-Officio Past Presidents Susan Hess and Barbara Kaplinsky. Continuing as Honorary Vice Presidents are Julanne Isaacson, Celia Katz and Florence Schornstein

Continuing on the Board are Vivian Cahn, Fran Dinehart, Lisa Heller, Tiffany Cotler, Lilli Geltman and Ronda Kottle.

Vice Presidents Barbara Greenberg and Dana Keren and Elected Board Member Susie Jernigan have completed their terms and will be thanked for their outstanding service.

The 2021-2022 Chair of the Nominating Committee was Chair Loel Weil Samuel and Ex Officio Chairs Susan Kierr and Past President Susan Hess.

Committee Members were Jody Braunig, Laurie Diamond, Susan Fielkow, Julie Finger, Maddie Fireman, Dana Keren, Rollie Rabin and Kathy Shepard.



New Board Member Profile – Ginger Brooks

Hi friends! I'm so pleased to be serving on the NCJW board. Through the magic of Zoom, meeting with everyone no matter where I am, has been really terrific, and is especially helpful since I spend most of the school year in Birmingham, and most of the summer in New Orleans. You may know my husband, Larry, from Southern Jewish Life Magazine, and you may have met my boys, James Henry and Eli, at Metairie J camp.

I have my own freelance graphic design business and stay busy as a volunteer. I'm the Birmingham Hadassah chapter president, president of the PA for the N.E. Miles Jewish Day School, and am in the Junior League of Birmingham 2022 -2023 Centennial Provisional/New Member Class. On social media, you can find me @ deepfriedkudzu, and feel free to email me any time at <u>iheartmagnolias@gmail.com</u>. Ginger





Be in the know – Send your email address to ncjwgno@gmail.com today!

125TH GALA – CONTINUED FROM PAGE I

Past NCJW New Orleans President and Past President of NCJW Inc, Joan Bronk, shared heartfelt memories from the past via a recorded address. After a candlelighting ceremony honoring all the Past Section and Past Moonlighter Presidents and Past Angel Ball Chairs in attendance, members, their guests, patrons, sponsors and friends danced the night away.

According to Braunig, this night was truly magical.

"The venue was lovely, the food delicious and the music was wonderful", she said. "The night's theme of 'Looking Back and Leading Forward' was very appropriate because many NCJW leaders were able to celebrate decades of success, while a new generation of leaders were inspired to plan the future of NCJW New Orleans section."

Committee members included NCJW President Gail Pesses and Development Vice-President Barbara Greenberg as well as Bonnie Aronson, Jessica Bach, Ellen Balkin, Barri Bronston, Elissa Bluth, Joan Bronk, Shellye Farber, Ashley Gold, Samantha Guichet, Amelia Halstead, Lisa Heller, Susan Hess, Carole Jacobson, Barbara Kaplinsky, Beverly Katz, Tricia Kirschman, Ronda Kottle, June Leopold, Diana Mann, Sara Mayeux, Betty Moore, Carol Osborne, Nancy Pesses, Gale Pick, Joyce Pulitzer, Hillary Rossman, Dana Shepard, Kathy Shepard, Karen Sher, Sue Singer, Sherri Tarr, Tana Velen and Miriam Waltzer.



Jessica Bach and Lisa Heller



Susan Hess, Loel Samuel and Jody Braunig



Gail Pesses, Barbara Greenberg and Shelley Brown



Joyce Pulitzer, Barbara Bresler and Celia Katz



Karen Sher, Diana Mann, Dana Shepard and Sara Mayeux



Tricia Kirschman, Barbara Kaplinsky and Kathy Shepard



Robin Giarrusso, Miriam Waltzer and Karen Herman

Thank you to our Generous Patrons *

Le Bal Elegant 1988

Dr Marc N Behar & Jeff Sbisa & Caroline & Bob Brickman & Joan Bronk Capital One & Ina & Rick Davis & Entergy & Ana & Juan Gershanik Cathy and Charles Glaser & Jane Goldring & Susan & Howard Green Susan Gundlach & Amy Gainsburgh-Haspel & John Haspel Amanda & Fred Herman & Walter Isaacson in honor of Irma Isaacson Susan J Kierr & Diana & Chip Mann & Dori & Jack Schulman Dana & Louis Shepard & Kathy & Hal Shepard & Sue & Harold R Singer St Charles Ave Magazine & Sherri & Dr Matthew Tarr Sue & Chuck Tilis & Nancy & Stephen Timm & Ginny Wise & Kevin Wilkins

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Crystal Ball 1990

Patty Barnett 🔶 Harry Blumenthal 🔶 Kathy Buckman 🔶 Nancy Kaplan Katie Lasky Law 🔶 Miriam & Bruce Waltzer

Let the Good Times Roll 1995

Diane K Africk + Bonnie & Jay Aronson + Carol & Harold Asher Sue L Barton • Barbara Bresler • Vivian Cahn • Cindy & Avrom Denn Shellye Farber

Sheila Fenton

Sylvia & Israel Finger Laurie & Jason Frank + R Justin "Bobby" Garon June Leopold & Martin Goldstein

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*As of April 5, 2022

Thank you to our Generous 'Angel Ball' Sponsors *

Viennese Ball 1961

Goldring Family Foundation

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Sophisticated Ladies 1984

The Franco Family ♦ Louis A & Lillian L Glazer Family Foundation WVUE-TV Fox 8

Take a Walk on the Wild Side 1993

Cathy & Morris Bart & Walda Besthoff & Jody & Gilbert Braunig Susan Constant and Michael Greenberg & Barbara Greenberg Herman, Herman & Katz, LLC & Beverly Katz, Landscape Designer Tricia & Rick Kirschman & Betty & Ira Kohn Foundation Lake Lawn Metairie Funeral Home & Cemeteries (Billy Henry/Stephen Sontheimer) & Latter & Blum, Inc Mr & Mrs Robert E Smith Lupo & MPRESS & Orpheum Theater Joyce & Sidney Pulitzer & Loel & Larry Samuel & Lori & Bobby Savoie Sessions, Fishman & Nathan, LLC & Karen & Leopold Sher Southern Jewish Life & Pamela & Rob Steeg & Paulette & Frank Stewart Oscar | Tolmas Charitable Trust



As of March 30, 2022

Photos courtesy of Jeff Strout, Jeff Strout Photography



Bonnie Aronson, Susan Kierr, Shellye Farber and Beverly Katz



Betty Moore and Carole Glazer Jacobson



Lis and Hugo Kahn and Daughter Karna

Be in the know – Send your email address to ncjwgno@gmail.com today!

First Program Successfully Held in Knowledge is Power Series

'Getting to Know Your Jewish Genetics & Cancer Risks', a community wide, multidisciplinary question and answer panel followed by a social hour was held live and on Zoom on Sunday, May 15 at Tulane Hillel. More than 37 attended either virtually or in person.

"The event was informative, fun and well attended", according to Co-Chairs Nancy Pesses & Lilli Geltman,"We would like to thank the stimulating professionals who volunteered their valuable time to be on the panel and partners and sponsors who helped make this event a wonderful success."

Amy Rivere, MD, Katrina Wade, MD, Irman Forghani, MD, and Elana Silber, CEO of Sharsheret ably served on a panel to discuss Jewish genetics and cancer risks. Sharsheret served as an NCJW Partner. Community sponsors were Hadassah, Jewish Federation, Jewish Family Service, Tulane Hillel, and the New Orleans Jewish Community Center.



AMY RIVERE

Breast Surgical

Oncologist



KATRINA WADE Gynecologic Oncologist

IRMAN FORGHANI

Genetic



ELANA SILBER Moderator, CEO Counselor of Sharsheret

New Members and Changes February 10 - April 25, 2022 for May 2022 Bulletin

Welcome to our newest members!

Amy Barad Sandra (Sandy) Carp Brenda Goldman Lori Hurvitz Sarah Lustig Annie Mizrahi Jennifer Nierman Jenny Pollack Arlene Smason Wieder

Member Changes and Additions February 10 - April 25, 2022

Amy Barad (Jeff Schwartz) 714 | st St New Orleans, LA 70130 C: (504) 430-0807 amy.barad@gmail.com

Sandra Carp 7340 Jade St New Orleans LA 70124 C:(504) 710-6024 carps3167@gmail.com

Brenda Goldman (M/M Michael) 5 Muirfield Pl New Orleans LA 70131 C: 337-794-1094 bgold46841@gmail.com

Lori Hurvitz 1821 Milan St Apt C New Orleans LA 70115 C: 773-919-4024 W: 504-862-8071 lori.hurvitz@gmail.com

Sarah Lustig 414 French Street New Orleans LA 70124 C: (847) 641-1092 slustig@tulane.edu

Annie Mizrahi (D/M Jon) 6155 General Diaz Street New Orleans LA 70124 C: (334) 235-2041 annie.fischman@gmail.com

Jennifer Nierman (M/M Jonathan) 1600 Crete St New Orleans, LA 70119 C:504-239-0058 jennifer.cohn.nierman@gmail.com

Jennifer ("Jenny") Pollack (D/M Scott) 1455 Arabella Street New Orleans, LA 70115 C: 337-794-8879 jennylgoldman@hotmail.com

Goldie B Singer 40 Cypress Rd Covington LA 70433

Arlene Smason Wieder 3915 St. Charles Ave Apt 313 New Orleans LA 70115 C: 216-973-6035 asw1111@aol.com

SOLO COOKING: A Tasty Success

NCIW launched its cooking series with the program, "Solo Cooking on March 31st." Chair Benay Bernstein brought together Chef Abry Crosby and Registered Dietitian Katherine Ruyle, who developed the concept into a Zoom cooking show.

Chef Abry entered the Zoom tickling our senses with descriptions of the three dishes he created for the show. In true Iron Chef Style, Chef chose one main ingredient to use in preparing the three unique dishes. All were made with minimal effort from the not-so-secret star of the show—a roast chicken! Chef Abry simply and swiftly demonstrated the steps, and voilá, three feasts, one easily frozen, appeared before our eyes. On display for the evening were Chicken with Zoodles, BBQ Chicken and Pineapple Pizza, and Tossed salad with Chicken. Chef described the basic pantry items and equipment needed to prepare the meals. Dietician Kat was on hand to add the protein counts, health benefits, and general how to's for eating well. She discussed and listed food groups, what to eat, and what to avoid with sample menus.

Even though it was a virtual event, it felt like you were in the room. One camera caught both Chef & Kat on one screen, and the second one gave a bird's-eye view of Chef's hands at work. Extra benefits from the show abound.

Stay tuned for the next edition in the cooking series in the fall.

Special NOMA Tour of Queen Nefertari's Egypt

NC|W members will be treated to a special guided tour of the fascinating show at NOMA - Queen Nefertari's Egypt, on Sunday, July 10th at 12:30 pm. Prior to the tour, members will meet at Café NOMA at 11:30 am for lunch to enjoy the café's tasty menu as well as specially prepared Egyptian dishes. This event is limited to 15 participants, so save your spot now by responding to Vivian Cahn - vcahn@cox. net or 504-722-1014.

Music to Our Ears



NCJW Members attending 'A Night at the Opera,' pictured (I to r) Dave Davis and Vassililiki Ellwood, Peter and Sheryl Title, Leopold and Karen Sher, Mindy Goodman Levitt, Stuart and Gail Chalew, Sylvia Finger and Sandy Raisen, Lilli Geltman and Andrew Vohs.

NCJW had its first *Day at the Opera* on Sunday, April 3rd. Three dozen NCJW members together with their friends, spouses, and significant others, attended the matinee performance of Puccini's *La Boheme* at the Mahalia Jackson Theater for the Performing Arts.

According to NCJW's Vice President of Membership and the night's organizer Karen Sher "those attending unanimously agreed they were treated to some of the most beautiful music ever written.



Justine Aguiar Elizabeth Ahlquist Bradley Bain Craig Ball Patricia Barnett Mara Baumgarten and Joshua Force **Benay Bernstein** lody Braunig Gail Chalew Myrna Collado Lara Crigger **Brook Davis** Rick and Ina Davis **Alexis Erdheim** Shellye Farber Susan Frank Ana and Juan Gershanik Robin M Giarrusso Caitrin and David Gladow

"This particular version of *La Boheme* brought many in the audience to tears with its romantic love story and the stellar performances of the many talented opera singers," she said. "The overhead surtitles helped the attendees follow the plot, enjoy the witty repartee of the actors/singers, and marvel at the beauty of the lyrics."

Sher expressed appreciation to NCJW member Joanna Sternberg, Development Director of the New Orleans Opera, who secured excellent seats at discounted prices for attending members.



Opera goers pictured at the Mahalia Jackson Theatre for the Performing Arts are Jane Kahn, Benay Bernstein, Karen Sher, Deena Gerber, Beth Hershberg, Carolyn Lenz and Sandy Raisen.

THANK YOU TO 2022 GIVENOLA DAY DONORS!

NCJW was proud to once again participate in the 2022 GiveNOLA Day held on Tuesday, May 3.

Thank you to all our donors who supported NCJW on this year's GiveNOLA Day sponsored by the Greater New Orleans Foundation.

Ilyse Goldberg Linda Green Edward Halpern Seth and Julie Schwam Harris Amy Haspel Susan Hess Barbara Kaplinsky Betsy Threefoot Kaston Lisa and Brian Katz Sharon Katz Susan Kierr Emily Kupperman Danielle Levine Leah Levkowicz Keith and Luanne Liederman **Betty Moore** Leann Moses Elizabeth Murov Carole Cukell Neff Harriet Netto

Carol Newman loel Nitzkin Carrie Pailet and Nathan Kanter Gail Pesses Loel Samuel Arielle Schwartz Dana Shepard **Rose Sher** Fran Simon Jenny and Rob Simoneaux Lynn Skelding Joanna Sternberg **Eileen Wallen** Marjorie Weiner Arlene Wieder loy Willig David and Lisa Wurtzel Gary Zoller

Birthday Dollars

- Brigette Cohn
- + Shellye Farber
- Robin Giarrusso
- Carole Gottsegen
- + Barbara Greenberg
- + Barbara Herman, in memory of Patsy Kanter
- Susan Kierr, in honor of her granddaughter, Rachel Garrit, future social worker
- Maline Levy Berenger, in memory of Ann Kientz
- Andree Moss
- Cindy Rittenberg
- Elsa Schneider
- Sue Singer

Irma M. Memorial Scholarship Fund Julanne Isaacson:

+ In memory of Sarah Rabin

The Timm Family:

 In honor of the birth of Devin Shaw Thompson, Granddaughter of Ann and the late Shaw Thompson

NCJW Cares

Sheryl Title, Chairwoman

In memory of Shaw Thompson

- Julie Wise Oreck
- + Gail Pesses

In memory of Alan Diamond

- Tricia and Rick Kirschman
- Gail Pesses

In memory of Rita Moses, Dana Shepard's mother

- Gail Chalew
- Barbara Greenberg
- Beth Hershberg
- ♦ JoAnn and Larry Katz
- Tricia and Rick Kirschman
- + Jan and Henry Miller
- Loel Samuel
- Betty Smith
- Sherri and Matt Tarr
- Sheryl and Peter Title

In honor of Joan Bronk's 80th birthday

Loel Samuel

In honor of Cynthia Farber's 90th birthday

 Children Shellye, Scott, Stacey, Kathy and Roy

In honor of Cynthia (Gumma) Farber's 90th birthday

 Farber grandchildren Jessica, Brandon, Alyssa, Jon and Allie

NOTE: These donations were received as of April 27, 2022

Be in the know – Send your email address to ncjwgno@gmail.com today!

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National Council of Jewish Women Greater New Orleans Section

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Engaging New Voices and Voters Back in Action!

The weekly Naturalization Ceremony on Fridays has resumed at USCIS on a modified basis. Instead of one large ceremony which friends and family could attend, there are 3 smaller ceremonies limited to only the new citizens, with 2 of our volunteers permitted. We reached out to both NCJW and LWV members to find volunteers to coordinate these voter registration events and many heeded the call. The new volunteers attended a training session on Zoom and are ready to register these new citizens.

The Geaux Vote t-shirts will be available for \$10 in the NCJW office. The bag of materials for registration events will also be stored there for convenient access.

There are 6 months until the midterm



NCJW Volunteer Susan Constant registers new citizens to vote following their Immigration and Naturalization Ceremony at Homeland Security.

election on November 8th, 2022, so check our announcements for how you can participate in our efforts leading up to this date.

If you would like to join us, please contact Sylvia Finger at <u>isfinger@gmail.com</u> or 504-231-1398 for more information.



Born in Honduras and living in the US for the past 23 years, Marta Blandon finally became a newly naturalized citizen. Her husband, who died a year ago, encouraged her to obtain her citizenship throughout their marriage. Marta vowed to respect his memory by becoming a US citizen on May 6, 2022. Pictured are NCJW's ENVV volunteers Barbara Kaplinsky and Susan Constant congratulating New US Citizen Marta.

OFFICERS

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Vice Presidents:

Gail Chalew, Robin Giarrusso, Barbara Greenberg, Carol Newman, Al Page, Karen Sher

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Corresponding Secretary: Patty Barnett

Recording Secretary: Jody Braunig

Treasurer: Kathy Shepard

Asst. Treasurer: Tricia Kirschman

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Elected Board Members: Benay Bernstein, Vivian Cahn, Tiffany Cotlar, Fran Dinehart, Lilli Geltman, Susie Jernigan, Lisa Heller, Ronda Kottle, Sara Lewis, Carole Neff, Tana Velen