Ending Hunger in America

BUNWC JOINS THE FIGHT TO END HUNGER THROUGH THE kNOw HUNGER PROJECT

The statistics are shocking—31 million Americans hungry or undernourished, 12 million of them in families with children. How can a nation as prosperous as the United States let so many of its citizens go hungry? Hunger in America could be ended quickly, according to Dr. J. Larry Brown, executive director of the Center on Hunger and Poverty, The Heller School, Brandeis, if our leaders were motivated to do so.

In an effort to achieve this goal, the National Women’s Committee (NWC) is partnering with the Center on Hunger and Poverty in a national community service project to end hunger in America. Through the BUNWC National kNOw Hunger Project, the National Women’s Committee will challenge today’s youth to be leaders in the fight against hunger and work with adult mentors in community service projects to help end hunger in their communities.

The Gerda and Kurt Klein Foundation and the Center on Hunger and Poverty have created a ready-to-use classroom hunger curriculum that is designed to inform and motivate today’s youth to be hunger fighters. “Just as we have successfully trained a generation of young people to be protectors of the environment through science-based education, we now must arm our children with the knowledge and skills to help our nation end hunger once and for all,” Dr. Brown explained.

The free and downloadable curriculum meets the standards of the National Council on Social Studies and is available for both high school and middle school levels. Along with the curriculum is a parallel community service learning program that shows youth what they can do to end hunger in their own communities and states. Materials on these two programs, along with detailed suggestions on how NWC chapters can get involved in the campaign, have been distributed to all chapters.

“We believe that this new BUNWC program combines the best of our purposes,” said NWC President Gayle Wise. “It promotes social justice, which is such an integral part of Brandeis. It is our belief that through the ‘kNOw HUNGER’ project we will make a difference in the lives of dis-enfranchised people in our nation and the world. By working through our youth, we believe we can have a nation devoted to seeing that all families have enough to eat.”

For more information on the “kNOw HUNGER” project, contact Beth Bernstein (781-736-4190 or bernstein@brandeis.edu) or visit www.kleinfoundation.org.

THE FACTS

- 31 million Americans do not get enough to eat to meet their nutritional needs.
- More than 1/3 of them children—0.8 million—are hungry.
- Nearly 40 percent of all households served by food banks include someone who is working.
- Even a mild lack of nutrition can interfere with physical growth and brain development in young children.
- Nearly half of those seeking emergency food assistance are families with children.

For more information on the “kNOw HUNGER” project, contact Beth Bernstein (781-736-4190 or bernstein@brandeis.edu) or visit www.kleinfoundation.org.
Although I love traveling around the country to meet National Women’s Committee members, I make sure I am home in January to attend our University Outreach event. This year Brandeis professors Robert Sekuler and Thomas Doherty came to share with us their prodigious knowledge on two very different topics—brain research and the gangster in American culture. Their participation reminded me once again why I am so proud to be associated with this fine University. They also made it clear how important our support of Brandeis is to their research and academic lives.

Two other speakers share their thoughts on terrorism elsewhere in this issue of *Imprint*. These are just a few of the 25 faculty members who are fanning out across the country this year as part of a program that has bonded the National Women’s Committee to the University for three decades.

Faculty-authored study groups have provided another critical link between Brandeis and the Women’s Committee for longer than most of us can remember. They set us apart from other organizations and provide not just outstanding continuing education courses, but a way for members to take on leadership and peer learning. This has been a highlight of my membership for 26 years.

Now, we are forging an even stronger connection to Brandeis in the University’s fight against hunger in America. The National Women’s Committee has agreed to bring the outstanding talents and commitment of its members and chapters to bear on this persistent problem, in partnership with The Heller School’s Center on Hunger and Poverty. The National Women’s Committee’s “kNOw Hunger” program (see page 1) will give us the opportunity to work in our communities in an all-out war on hunger.

Through our new **BRANDEIS VACATION GROUPS**

Groups are forming in the Berkshires, Massachusetts and the Hamptons, Long Island, NY.

Yes, I would like to stay connected to Brandeis this summer!

NAME ____________________________________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS ____________________________________________________________________________________________

SUMMER ADDRESS ________________________________________________________________________________________

APPROXIMATE DATES ____________________________________________________________

Mail to: BUNWC
P.O. Box 549110
Mailstop 132
Waltham, MA 02454-9110

Stay connected TO BRANDEIS this summer!
Come Back to Brandeis
Conference 2002: The Value of Volunteers

Whether it would be your first trip or twenty-first trip to the Brandeis campus, this year's national conference is not to be missed. All National Women's Committee members and their spouses are welcome to attend the four-day "Value of Volunteers" conference, Wednesday, May 29—Sunday, June 2, 2002.

Conference participants will stay at the Westin Hotel in Waltham and visit Brandeis daily for tours of the campus and libraries, faculty seminars, and stimulating workshops. Steve Kay, the new chairman of the Brandeis Board of Trustees and former chairman of Goldman Sachs, and the University's new provost, Mel Bernstein, will share with participants the University's most recent accomplishments and plans for the future.

Other conference speakers will include Brandeis alumna Margaret A. Salinger, ’82, author of Dream Catcher, A Memoir, about her life with her famous and famously reclusive father, J.D. Salinger, and Sachar Award winner Judy Feld Carr, a music teacher who rescued 3,218 terrorized Jews from Syria over a 27-year period, running a secret underground from her home in Canada.

For more information on the conference, call 800-862-8692 or bunwc@brandeis.edu.

Why I Give

"I'm a died-in-the-wool Brandeis supporter. Back in the 1950s a woman I knew asked if I would be president of a new National Women's Committee chapter they were forming in the Bronx. I was president for four years. I went to the national conference where we slept in the dorms and saw the first Library that was in a converted stable.

When I started to spend winters in Miami, I looked up Brandeis in the phone book and ended up chapter president down here. Education is very important to me. I really appreciate the educational aspects of National Women's Committee, the way the organization is bound up with the University through study groups and faculty speakers.

I contribute my time and talent, but I also believe it is important to support Brandeis financially. I give something every year—to Library Technology, the Librarian's Chair, whatever my chapter is supporting. I recently gave to the Journal Guarantor Endowed Fund in honor of my nephew and his wife's 80th birthdays. They were thrilled. This year I'm supporting the Miami Chapter's Sweetheart Gala for Library Work Scholar at which I'll be honored. Several years ago my name was added to the new Tribute Wall in the Library as a major donor when my lifetime giving reached $25,000. The University needs and deserves our support, whatever we can afford to give.

Fannie Avrin
MIAMI CHAPTER

Gifts to Library Work Scholar cover the salaries of students working in the Brandeis Libraries. The program helps students offset tuition expenses and provides invaluable support for the professional library staff. For more information, contact Judy Diamond (781-736-4167 or jdiamond@brandeis.edu).
To Robert J. Art, the Christian A. Herter Professor of International Relations at Brandeis and a long-time expert on arms control, U.S. defense policy, and military preparedness, everything and nothing changed on September 11. “The attacks on September 11 did not change the role of the United States in the world, but they did make it imperative that we explain why we should be out in the world,” he told audiences of several hundred National Women’s Committee (NWC) members and friends in January. Art, and Brandeis politics professor Seyom Brown, addressed the subject of terrorism at University Outreach events in the Phoenix, Tucson, Las Vegas, Desert, and Ventura Chapters.

“The big change after September 11 is that the cost of the U.S. being a world power is no longer zero,” Art pointed out. “We experienced 10 years of a free ride, in terms of casualties and risk to our homeland,” he added. “Our level of unpreparedness for attacks on this country is astonishing. But nothing clarifies the mind more than your physical safety.”

Calling nuclear, biological, and chemical weapons one of the biggest threats to our security, Art pointed out that only 30-40 percent of Russia’s nuclear arsenal has been secured, despite an ambitious program to help that country lock it down. When this program started, Russia had 160 tons of plutonium and more than 1100 tons of highly enriched uranium. It takes only eight kilograms of plutonium and only 22 kilograms of highly enriched uranium to make a bomb that would blow up a major city.

“Al Queda would not have hesitated to use a weapon of mass destruction, if they had one,” he warned. “Al Queda
represents the globalization of terrorism, with estimates of anywhere from 5,000 to 25,000 young men trained to commit terrorist acts. Hopefully, this has put to rest the unilateral instincts of the current administration. You need coalitions in a situation like this.”

These coalitions are precisely what worry Professor Brown. “The largest issue is whether or not the United States will actively oppose terrorism, wherever it occurs. Terrorism is being committed daily all around the world by countries we are allied with, including those in our current alliance for the war in Afghanistan,” he pointed out. “Right now we are avoiding this issue. Americans see this only as a war against the Taliban in Afghanistan. The national consensus we are seeing now is likely to fragment when we start to debate these issues.”

“We’ve gone soft on Russia continuing to supply Iran with equipment for the building of nuclear reactors, equipment that could be used for a dual purpose,” Brown stated. “We’re also reaching out to China, which does the same thing. I’m not saying we shouldn’t enlist the cooperation of Russia and China, but we have to be careful not to subject ourselves to a double standard. A great power like the United States sets precedents. By practicing a double standard, we set a bad example for other countries.

“We are going to have to decide if we want the war on terrorism to be as much an organizing principle of American foreign policy as anti-Communism was during the Cold War. How much will we let it sacrifice other interests such as arms control or spreading human rights and democracy around the world?”

Art and Brown agreed on one important point—the need to understand and address the roots of terrorism with more than the military. “We’ll have terrorists as long as Muslim men live under repressive regimes and governments allow religious schools that breed them,” Art said. “Rooting terrorists out of approximately 60 countries will take time,” he warned, “but America never forgets and we have a long reach. We just took a guy off a golf course recently who was involved in a terrorist incident in the 1980’s. Eventually, we will get them. We’ll just have to be patient.”

Robert Art was among the 25 Brandeis professors who spread out across the country this year to share their expertise on everything from the brain to violence in adolescents with members in 80 NWC chapters. University Outreach, formerly University on Wheels, has forged a tangible link between the Brandeis campus and thousands of NWC members for almost three decades.

Artist Jonathan Borofsky To Design Benefactor Pin

Jonathan Borofsky, considered by many to be one of the most inventive and thoughtful artists working today, is designing a new Library Benefactor pin for the National Women’s Committee. The limited-edition pin will be available to those who make gifts of $1,500 or more to the Library Benefactor Fund. The Benefactor program has provided more than $1.5 million for rare and choice library acquisitions since its inception in 1971.

Borofsky has earned an international reputation with his large-scale art installations in galleries and museums in the United States, Europe and Asia. These exhibitions have included a series of one-person shows at the Whitney Museum, the Walker Art Center, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum in Japan.

During the last decade he has been creating monumental outdoor public sculptures in more than 30 cities around the world. His "Walking Man," "Molecular Man," "Ballerina Clown," and "Hammering Man" tower dramatically 25-100 feet over prominent public spaces in Boston, Los Angeles, Seattle, Kassel, Germany, Basel, Switzerland, and other cities.

Borofsky states that all of his work is a self-portrait. "My ideas and images come from a very personal place," he explains. "Ultimately I am searching for archetypal images that we can all connect to...a moment of truth."

The new Library Benefactor pin will be introduced at the National Women’s Committee National Conference in May.
We need your support now more than ever.

YES! I would like to make a contribution to the Brandeis University National Women's Committee.

Enclosed is my gift of $_______ for:

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Thank you for your generous support of Brandeis University and its Libraries.

THE NWC CLASSROOM

Thousands of Study Groups Coast to Coast

Every fall thousands of National Women’s Committee (NWC) members join Brandeis students in going back to school, thanks to an idea American Studies Professor Larry Fuchs had 45 years ago. Why not share the intellectual wealth of Brandeis with these intelligent, energetic Brandeis volunteers through faculty-authored study groups that could be conducted in homes all across the country?

Fuchs’s proposal grew into today’s study group program, which offers approximately 80 syllabi and brieflets (brief courses) on everything from American Jewish humor to constitutional issues. As one member observed, “Study groups have become the adhesive that bonds everything together for the Women’s Committee.”

Two-thirds of the Concordia, New Jersey, Chapter attend study groups each year, joining an estimated 20,000-30,000 National Women’s Committee members nationwide.

Dorothy Gatiano, retired from teaching elementary school in the Bronx, is a typical study group participant. She led her first group, “The Contemporary Latin American Short Story” by Spanish Professors Teresa Mendez-Faith and Maria Elena Carballo (Syllabus #71) in 1987. She repeated it twice before moving on to other anthologies of Yiddish, women, Southern, and European writers. This year the group is doing John Updike’s The Best American Short Stories of the Century. Gatiano’s is one of five “snowbird” groups offered by the chapter, reconvening in Florida each winter.

The San Fernando Valley Chapter’s 100+ study groups include several based on Philosophy Professor Andreas Teuber’s “Twenty-one Legal Puzzlers” (Syllabus #106). “Puzzlers” explores the many ambiguities of the law and moral responsibility. Retired public defender Alan Simon is leading a “Puzzler” follow-up group this year called “Contemporary Legal Issues.”

All 20 participants in Barbara Fein’s “Couples Legal Puzzlers” group have returned to take a crack at more puzzlers this year. “It’s been very interesting,” she says. The case in which the group decided if John caused Alice’s death—he shot her in the arm, putting her in the hospital, where she contracted scarlet fever and died—generated a three-hour discussion.

In San Diego, many of the 21 study group offerings are spin-offs from faculty syllabi. “Who Done It?” follows Professor James Mandrell’s explorations of the detective genre of fiction. His syllabi include “Private Dick, Female Detective: The Life and Times of the Female Sleuth” (#75) and “More Different Dicks: Offbeat Contemporary Detective Fiction”(

The Washington, D.C. Chapter’s Detective Novels study group, lead by former NWC President Ellen Atlas, is in its tenth year. They followed up the syllabi of Professor Mandrell and “A Novel Murder: The Life and Times of the Detective Story” (#55) by Susan Soloman Forbes with more books on Jewish, ethnic, women and black detectives.

Judy Himmelstein’s group of ten years has selected American Studies Professor Joyce Antler’s “Jewish Women Shape Modern America” (Brieflet #51), a guide to her book, The Journey Home: Jewish Women and the American Century. After spending three years on Jewish geography that explored Turkey, Africa, and Peru, members decided to follow Antler’s brieflet for this year’s topic, “Spice for the Melting Pot.”

“Our study group committee goes through the Brandeis offerings very carefully every year,” said Esther Feier, co-vice president of study groups for the San Diego Chapter. “I believe faculty-authored study groups are the reason so many people join the National Women’s Committee. The variety and quality are just amazing.”

Estelle Simon and Cindy Berliner at the Concordia, N.J., Chapter’s Study Group Open House. More than 400 members are enrolled in Concordia’s 47 courses.
I don’t suppose there are rare English books published before the 18th century in the Brandeis Library.” No and yes! No, we don’t have these rare books physically; but yes, we do have a photographic reproduction of all of these books – 94,745 volumes, to be exact – on microfilm. The original volumes are scattered all over the world’s major libraries as well as in private collections.

“It’s a shame that I will have to travel to the libraries and archives in the South and spend many days doing research on the plantation life during the Civil War.” No, you don’t have to. The Brandeis Library has over 1.5 million pages of records from the ante-bellum Southern plantations, covering the Revolution and the Civil War eras. We also have photographic reproductions of 700 newspapers published in the United States between 1690 and 1820.

These major thematic collections are part of our microfilm collection. The Brandeis Library has close to one million pieces in that collection, comparable in size to our combined book and journal collections. But “magnifying glass” type of optical equipment is necessary to read the microprint. Unfortunately, these machines are cumbersome to use, and often produce pages that are difficult to read. As a result, our faculty and students have been reluctant to tap into the rich resources in this collection.

But help is on its way. Through the generosity of a member of the National Women’s Committee, the Brandeis Library will soon be equipped with a state-of-the-art digital microfilm scanner system that can read the microtext and convert it into digital format. This will allow researchers to capture the wealth of information we have on microfilm and transfer it to their own computers. Like other documents produced electronically, the converted text can then be reformatted, stored, emailed to others, or incorporated into other documents.

This is another important way in which the National Women’s Committee and its members are helping the Libraries move confidently into the 21st century.

BY BESSIE HAHN
BRANDEIS NATIONAL WOMEN’S COMMITTEE
UNIVERSITY LIBRARIAN AND ASSISTANT PROVOST

Digitizing Daumier

Libraries Pioneer Digital Technology to Bring Rare Collection to the World

The Brandeis Libraries are taking a bold leap into the digital world with the help of the National Women’s Committee’s Library Technology Fund and a $205,000 federal grant. The Libraries were among only 18 institutions to receive National Leadership Grants from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to digitize library resources and make them available on the World Wide Web.

Brandeis will use the funds, matched by NWC and other library funds, to bring to the world their outstanding collection of 3872 original lithographs by caricaturist Honore Daumier (1808-1879). Daumier, witness to three revolutions which transformed France over half a century from a monarchy to a republic, portrayed French society during the turbulent waning years of the French monarchy.

His stinging caricatures of Louis-Philippe, who reigned from 1830 to 1848, prompted the monarch to reintroduce censorship. Daumier, an ardent republican, was eventually sentenced to six months in prison for one particularly pointed cartoon. Daumier’s funeral on February 14, 1879, coincided with the consolidation of power by the Republican party.

A new integrated library computer system and special digitizing software, purchased with Library Technology Funds, provide the state-of-the-art infrastructure needed for the Daumier project. In addition to integrating the Daumier images into the Libraries’s catalog, the staff will create a comprehensive website on the artist which will present the images in their historical context, linking to other websites and resources pertinent to scholars and students of Daumier and the history of France.

“This project is pushing the limits of the automated library system and digital image software to create a seamless research tool for scholars and students across the world,” explained Project Manager Susan Wawrzaszek. “It should serve as a model of how a small institution such as Brandeis can, with limited staff and equipment, offer digital access to rare and special collections.”

During the past five years the Brandeis Libraries have been moving increasingly towards the concept of a “digital” library, with the concurrent need to provide services to offsite users. Electronic resources now account for 20 percent of the budget, and are available to offsite users via a proxy server. In 1999 the Libraries created a “virtual” intercultural library (www.library.brandeis.edu/icl/). A virtual “primary text center” will offer web access to and information on the Libraries’s primary text materials, most of which are in microform format.
You’ve been in the academic world your whole career, most recently at Tufts. How strong is the academic reputation of Brandeis right now?

BERNSTEIN It’s strong, but there are opportunities to make it stronger. Brandeis is similar to Tufts when I started there in 1991. The two schools are similar in size and appeal to students looking for a residential liberal arts experience that prepares them well for a variety of professional careers by giving them a breadth of knowledge, critical thinking, and the ability to express themselves.

Tufts has become a school of choice over the last decade. Brandeis is in its next stage of development. We want to ensure its position as one of the preeminent small research institutions in the country. There are a relatively small number of students nationwide who look seriously at these schools—Brandeis, Tufts, Wesleyan, Brown—so we want to be sure Brandeis is competitive with this group.

So, how do you see us moving forward?

BERNSTEIN Brandeis needs to build on the values that come out of Jewish traditions—social justice and lifelong learning—and to continue the intellectual and financial support of the community. I believe we need to find a better balance among our undergraduate programs between the sciences, which account for the largest percentage of majors, and the humanities, arts, and social sciences. We need to reexamine what we are doing in the creative arts, media studies, and democracy. Brandeis will increasingly play an important policy role in Middle Eastern studies. We will also broaden our appeal to more students by establishing an international relations program.

What do you want to see in a Brandeis graduate ten years from now?

BERNSTEIN I would want our students to leave Brandeis with a personal tool kit of outstanding academics, good behavioral attitudes, and a vision for their role in society. These should be our aims.
Social justice has long been woven into the academic fabric of Brandeis, but sociology professor David Cunningham decided to help his students do more than “talk the talk.” They would “walk the walk” or, more accurately, ride through 17 states to see for themselves the many faces of social activism as it is practiced in the real world.

Cunningham’s Sociology 156a course (“Possibilities for Change in American Communities”) took to the road last summer for a 30-day odyssey in a small sleeper bus. By the time they returned to campus, fired up from encounters with some of the country’s legendary social movers and shakers, they understood that activism is more than chaining yourself to a fence or screaming protests.

The 11 students fought the death penalty in New Orleans, built houses in Baton Rouge, and were inspired by Freedom Summer organizers in Alabama and Mississippi. They met people dying of cancer without health insurance, viewed houses built of cardboard and cans, and delivered food door to door. They visited cities, suburbs, and rural areas where they explored homelessness, immigration issues, and segregation.

The goal for the course is that students learn their own brand of activism, David Cunningham explained. He feels that many young people today are overwhelmed at the prospect of finding a way to make a difference. He wanted them to see that there are many different ways to trigger social change.

“It’s almost not revolutionary,” said one surprised participant during a stop in Mississippi to learn about an educational project started by Bob Moses, key organizer of Freedom Summer in 1964. “They’re not trying to create a big social movement,” he said of The Algebra Project, “but just [effecting change] through a little program to teach kids math.”

As the bus rolled into Princeville, North Carolina, a small town founded by freed slaves after the Civil War, they were met by the haunting sight of building after building marked with big orange Xs for “condemned.” Built on poor ground, Princeville was virtually leveled during Hurricane Floyd in 1998, but the residents are determined to rebuild and are being helped by many organizations. Cunningham and his group were hosted by town planner and resident Sam Knight at his grocery store/bar/pool hall/truck stop. He had just reopened, so the police chief, mayor and many others stopped by and talked for hours to the students about how they were rebuilding their hardscrabble little town.

Jasmine Vallejo ’03, a triple major in politics, sociology, and Latin American studies, who plans to combine a law degree with a master’s in public policy, wanted to research Hispanics in the South for her class project, but she did not encounter enough on the route. Instead she was so impressed with the poetry cafes and social justice book stores she found that she ended up writing a “book of spoken word and poetry” as a way of quietly educating people and sharing the experiences of poverty. She has done a number of readings from her book, My Injustice, since returning to campus.

George Okrah ’03 from Brooklyn, says the trip restored his faith in humanity. “You have no idea how nice people were to us,” he relates. An American studies and sociology major who is also completing the legal studies and journalism programs, Okrah interviewed immigrants from Australia, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and the Dominican Republic for a documentary film, as well as officials in Washington, D.C. from anti-immigration and pro-immigration organizations. His conclusion: the American dream is not all it’s cracked up to be.

Other projects included narratives of homeless people set to music, a play about youth and youth culture, and a study of fast food in America.

Most nights during this great adventure the students could be heard talking about the experiences of the day, conspiracies and coalition-building, strategies and hopes for the future, as their vintage 1983 bus, once home to the bands The Who and Three Dog Night, rolled on toward its next destination. They would finally fall quiet and go to sleep, probably dreaming of the shower they might get to take at their next stop.
North Shore, IL, raised $50,000 for a named endowed scholarship at its Book and Author Luncheon, featuring Anita Hill, professor of social policy, law, and women’s studies at The Heller School at Brandeis. The entire chapter and community came together to make this event, which kicked off the National Women’s Committee’s new Scholarship/Fellowship program, a resounding success. With this one event, the chapter completed its two-year commitment in only one year. The Phoenix and Los Angeles Chapters are also holding events this year as part of this new National Women’s Committee fundraising effort. Pictured (L to R): Anita Hill and Claire Smith, event chair.

The Boston Chapter cinema study group enjoyed a visit to the Brandeis campus and the National Women’s Committee office.

San Diego art study group members Reisha Martin Graham and Arlene Gilbert listen intently as Mexican artist Victor Ochoa interprets the murals in Chicano Park. Artists from many countries have addressed the study group, which is led by Lynn Warner.

Boca Raton celebrated its silver anniversary at their annual showcase meeting. Almost 400 people attended. Pictured (L-R) are: Florida Region President Dr. Dorothy Pierce; Myra Reider, vice president, study groups; Barbara Rosenberg, vice president, public image; Chapter President Judy Yohay Glaser ’59; Carole Krug, vice president, public image; and Maxine Greenfield, vice president, study groups.

“Meadowbrook Madness” featured this and several other groups of members who sang, danced, and played musical instruments for an audience of more than 300.

These Riverdale, New York, Call Again Thrift Shop volunteers were honored at a luncheon at the home of Trudy Gildin (3rd L). Seated (L-R) are: Gloria Robinson, thrift shop chairperson; Eleanor Press, thrift shop president; Jeanne Snyder, Gladys Katz, Judy Golden, Sarah Lerner, Marilyn Heinrich, and Eva Nelson. Standing (L-R) are: Ruth Tashman, Klara Friedman, Trudy Gildin, and Shirley Stangel. Jessie Wallerich is not in the photo.

Middlesex County honored its past presidents at a recent meeting. Pictured left to right with current Co-presidents Barbara Burman (4th L) and Leslie Landever (2nd R) are past presidents: Dottie Cooper, Joy Keiles, Marlene Glickman, Florence Ehrenman, and Andie Berke.
Events

CONCORDIA

Wisdom on Wheels: Playing and Learning at Adult Camp

Editor’s Note. National Women’s Committee chapters sponsor hundreds of stimulating and creative fundraising events each year. We welcome detailed reports on these for use in this space.

No labels to sew onto clothes. No trunks to pack and ship. No last minute instructions. No post cards to write home. What a wonderful way to travel to camp!

That is exactly what 97 Concordia Chapter members thought as they traveled by bus to Kislak Adult “Y” Camp in Lake Como, Pennsylvania for four days last summer.

Tennis courts, heated pool, hiking paths, paddle boats, fishing, and golf (with a few friendly cows) all awaited the campers, but the real highlight of this camp was the intellectual stimulation. Each day the group participated in three lectures and every evening they were royally entertained.


Rotating assigned meal seating guaranteed that participants made new friends and led to provocative discussions about the day’s lectures and other topics. Part of the chapter’s study group program, the trip was co-chaired by Faith F. Radler and Bette Katz and their committee members Arlene Berney, Mimi Friedland, Leona Goldberg and Elaine Pepperman.

“We’ve already scheduled a return visit next year,” reports Faith Radler. “For any chapter in the area, it’s a wonderful intellectual experience and a wonderful money maker for Brandeis. The four memorable days we spent together gave us an opportunity to know each other better, to strengthen existing friendships, to make new friends and to reestablish old relationships.”

For more information about planning a “camp” experience for your chapter, contact Beth Bernstein at 781-736-4190 (bernstein@brandeis.edu).

BROCKTON-SOUTH SHORE, MA, celebrated the 50th anniversary of the chapter with a gala luncheon. The chapter honored its 28 past presidents and acknowledged those who have been members of the National Women’s Committee for 50 years.

CENTRAL QUEENS’S fall program included a museum trip and an open meeting with a slide presentation on Brandeis University and a talk on “China—Friend or Foe?”

FAIRFIELD COUNTY, which won the Outstanding Community Service Award for NY-NJ-Southern CT Region last year, has expanded its community service program to serve both the young and the elderly. Eighteen members continue to help local elementary school children through the Reading Partners Program, while a new group visits a nursing home on Friday evenings.

LAGUNA HILLS welcomed more than 350 members and friends to their 12th annual “Book and Author” luncheon. Special guests were National Women’s Committee President Gayle Wise and Treasurer Dorothy Katz who honored chapter member Blanche Ginsburg and her husband Norman for establishing a scholarship fund at Brandeis.

NASSAU NORTH members enjoyed a lively presentation on “The English Portrait from Elizabethan Times to the 20th Century” by artist historian Donald Dwyer. Dwyer lectures at C.W. Post College and leads museum and gallery tours focusing on everything from early classics to tramp art.

PALM BEACH EAST’s fall-winter schedule included its Annual Gala Luncheon, a fun-filled “Boutique and Bridge Bash,” and an all-day forum on the issue of juvenile justice. “Kids and the Courts: Justice in Jeopardy” featured a distinguished panel of a judge, a state attorney, a guardian ad litem, and a representative of the Legal Aid Society Juvenile Advocacy Project.

SAN DIEGUTO, honored the “kings and queens” of its study group program at a recent luncheon. Calling itself “the little chapter that could,” it reports that more than half of its members participate in the chapter’s study groups.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY held its 7th annual “Children’s Book Sale and Elegant Catered Tea,” featuring authors and illustrators Ruth Lercher Bornstein, Susan Goldman Rubin, Anne Ingram, and Joan Bronsfeld Graham. The chapter also chose board member Adele Weiner as “Woman of the Year” for a Federation luncheon featuring outstanding women leaders.

SANTA BARBARA members were regaled with stories of the publishing industry by Fred Klein, who retired recently as executive director of Bantam Books after 30 years with the company. He worked with authors Robert Ludlum, Frederick Forsyth, and Jacqueline Susann and is currently book reviewer for the Santa Barbara News-Press.

TRAILS, FL, members made their annual pilgrimage to the Miami Book Fair for the 18th time. The largest book fair in the United States, it featured authors Susan Isaacs, Stephen Ambrose, Rick Bragg, Rabbi Harold Kushner, Anne Morrow Lindbergh, Vernon Jordan and Anita Diamant.
“Words, language, books—all have been an integral part of my life and the library has always been ‘my home away from home.’ Therefore, I am particularly glad to be able to perpetuate the existence of the Brandeis Libraries.”

ESTHER HERSH, NORTH DADE FLORIDA CHAPTER
A retired school teacher, Esther Hersh has been a member of the National Women’s Committee for more than 20 years.

Her Planned Gift:
A Charitable Gift Annuity that provides a guaranteed income for life and support for the Journal Guarantor Program.

DID YOU KNOW THAT BRANDEIS CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY RATES ARE EXCELLENT? Currently, you can earn from 6.7 percent (age 65) to 12 percent (age 90) annually from a Brandeis Charitable Gift Annuity. For a financial proposal tailored to your individual circumstances or for the exact wording to use to ensure that a bequest is directed to Brandeis or its Libraries, contact Judy Diamond, Brandeis University National Women’s Committee, P. O. Box 549110, MS 132 Waltham, MA 02454-9110, 781-736-4167 or jdiamond@brandeis.edu.