



JRLW

MEGILLAH

PLEASE VISIT THE JRLW WEB SITE - www.jrlwmd.org

PRESIDENT: Joel Kristal
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MEGILLAH EDITOR: Bernice Cohen
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JOEL L. KRISTAL

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT

Looking forward to celebrating the joys of Purim? A time to recall a young Jewish woman saving the Jews in the Persian Empire. Not to rain on your parade, but we should not forget the times our people were not so fortunate. Purim was marked by tragedy in Minsk, Belarus in 1942, when Nazi forces murdered thousands of Jews in the Minsk Ghetto. The massacre took place on Purim, a Jewish holiday that celebrates the defeat of Haman the Amalekit.

What happened? The following was copied from Google: "On the eve of Purim, the Nazis demanded that the Jewish Council hand over 5,000 Jews for deportation. The Jewish Council refused, and many Jews went into hiding. The Nazis marched thousands of Jews to a ravine and shot them. Children from the ghetto's nursery were buried alive in sand pits. The Gestapo hanged the Jewish Council members in the street." I know it is a downer to recall these events but we should never forget them either. To many of the younger generation, the holocaust is just another event in history that

MARCH DATES

- 04 Tue – Hadassah Study Group
- 04 Tue – JRLW Board 7:30 pm
- 05 Wed – Hadassah Board
- 07 Fri – JRLW Shabbat Service CH II 7:30 pm
- 08 Sat – JRLW Shabbat Service CH II 9:15 am
- 11 Tue – Sunflower Bakery Pick-up 11 am- 12 pm
- 13 Thu – Fast of Esther
- 14 Fri – PURIM Service CH II 10:00 am
- 16 Sun – JRLW Brunch CH I 10:00 am
- 18 Tue – Jewish Views of Afterlife CH I 1:30 pm
- 19 Wed – Hadassah Program 2:00 pm
- 23 Sun – Jewish Trivia CH I 1:30 pm

GOOD AND WELFARE

Aren't great-grandchildren wonderful:

Al and Ruth Temin are delighted to announce of their newest great-granddaughter, Ori Temin. Ori was born on December 10, in Tel Aviv to Yaniv and Noa Temin.

Mazel tov to Hinda Exler who is expecting her fourth great-grandchild.

Sharon Freedman just welcomed her second great-grandchild, a girl!

Oliver Friedman, great-grandson of Bernice Cohen, was the star of his elementary school play.



President's Message

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

happened a long time ago, like the Civil War or the Korean War, just something written in a history book. I feel it is our duty as Jews, to remind the younger generation that the evils of antisemitism are still around us. The demonstrators who shout, "From the River to the Sea" are calling once again for the extermination of Jews. As we celebrate Purim with festive traditions, costumes, groggers, and hamantaschen, let's take a few minutes to recall the many times in our Jewish history that we were not so fortunate.

This 2008 Purim message from Rabbi Sacks was aimed at the community of Sderot, following an intensified wave of terror from Gaza. (Joel's comment: does this sound familiar?)

"Why, in a world in which there are 82 Christian nations and 56 Muslim ones, is it so hard for people to accept the right of the Jewish people to just one nation of its own?"

Why, when the connection between Jews and the land of Israel goes back more than 3,000 years, far longer than any other nation in the West, do Jews still have to fight for the right to be, a right denied by Hezbollah and Hamas? Heaven alone knows....

We learn two lessons from the story of Purim. The first is that Mordechai would neither kneel nor bow down. The Jewish people do not bow down to any pressure. Especially the Jewish people in Israel. ... and He will lead us upright to our land. Because of Israel, because of your strength, because of your

refusal to be intimidated, every Jew walks a little taller today.

The fate of Haman has been throughout history the fate of individuals and nations: that those who try to destroy the Jewish people end by destroying themselves. Great empires sought to harm the Jewish people: from Egypt, Babylon, Greece and Rome in ancient times, to the Third Reich Yet every one of them has disappeared, while our tiny, vulnerable people can still say "Am Yisrael Chai", (The people of Israel live.)".

I even depressed myself writing this column and for depressing you, for that I apologize. I know it is dark and we should be in a good frame of mind for Purim. So, when we attend the reading of the Megillah (the actual and not our newsletter) or any other time, make a lot of noise. Let's drown out Haman's name and the names of all the others who seek to destroy the Jewish people.

Joel Kristal

Note from the President of JRLW

On rare occasions, JRLW has to reschedule or cancel an event. The Megillah, prepared sometimes two months in advance, is a wonderful planning tool, but it is not for real time communication. For that, we rely on our emails. So please, check your email to see if there are changes. You can also dial the LW L&R at 301-598-1313 for a 3-day schedule of events. We will notify them of any last-minute changes.

JRLW OFFICERS

PRESIDENT – Joel Kristal
ADMIN VP – Fred Springer
SECRETARY – Adele Ewing
TREASURER – Marsha Bernstein

**NOTICE: THE DEADLINE FOR THE
APRIL MEGILLAH IS MARCH 10.
ARTICLES SUBMITTED AFTER THAT
DATE WILL APPEAR IN THE MAY
MEGILLAH.**

MEGILLAH STAFF

Bernice Cohen – Editor
Barbara Cronin
Sharon Freedman
Marcia Sirulnik
Marcia Crystal – Food Editor
Sandy Marks- Business Mgr.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Suzy Klein

We hope that you are continuing to stay warm and cozy on these cold Winter days. We are thankful that JRLW was able to provide Reform and Conservative Shabbat Services for our members and their guests during February and will continue to do so throughout the year.

What an exciting time to be a member of JRLW and be able to enjoy the countless activities that JRLW offers including our brunches, JRLW Book Club, Special Events and movies.

Our next JRLW brunch will be held on March 16, 2025 at 10:00 am in the Clubhouse I Crystal Ballroom. Our speaker will be Weldon Brown, Olney Theatre Director of Sales & Audience Experience. Come hear live musical numbers from past performances at the Olney Theatre, as well as, a discussion about the future of the Theatre. Tickets for the March brunch will be on sale from February 28 - March 10 and can be purchased in the Clubhouse I Lifestyle Office. Tickets for our brunches are \$25.00 each with checks payable to JRLW. All attendees must have a ticket to gain entry to the event. As a gentle reminder our JRLW brunches are members-only events.

The Jewish Residents of Leisure World welcomes and encourages suggestions and new ideas. We will continue to sponsor interesting activities throughout the year.

Our membership continues to grow month by month. Remember our new membership registration is from January 1 - December 31, 2025. Annual Membership dues is \$30.00 for individuals and \$ 50.00 for couples. Life Membership is a way of showing support and commitment to JRLW. It also means you do not have to pay your annual dues in the future. If you have changes to your address and/or phone number please contact anyone on the Membership Committee to update our records. Membership forms can be found online at www.jrlwmd.org.

A full list of our events and activities is published on our private Facebook page. Our closed group is used to provide a calendar of events, discussion

groups, announcements, information about cultural events and Judaic content, as well as, messages between members. If you would like to join our private Facebook page please contact anyone Alan Nelson at apnelson8@yahoo.com or Carol Wendkos at carolwendkos@gmail.com.

Remember to introduce yourself to those who you do not know when you are attending our Services and Events. Also please encourage those who are not members to join our organization. Thank you for being a member of the Jewish Residents of Leisure World.

•Linda Nelson - lpnelson3@comcast.net
301-922-1793

•Suzy Klein - smklein.advocate@gmail.com
301-789-9667

•Nancy Grossman - nhgrossman@gmail.com
301-455-5243

JRLW BOOK CLUB

Steve Cohen

On Monday, April 7, from 10 am to 12 noon, in the Clubhouse I Maryland Room, our book club will feature a discussion of the book, *Once We Were Home*, by Jennifer Rosner. The moderators will be Becky Siman and Naomi Kline.

Once We Were Home reveals a little-known history. Based on the true stories of misplaced WW II children stolen during wartime and return to their roots. This heart-wrenching novel raises questions of complicity and responsibility, belonging and identity, good intentions and unforeseen consequences, as it confronts what it really means to find home.

For further information, contact Steve Cohen at 301-667-3099 or STEEVECOHENJD@GMAIL.COM. We are still looking for moderators.



CANTOR'S CORNER

Michael Kravitz



If you check your Jewish calendar, you will see that the 13th of Adar falls on March 13, 2025. That is the day on which the Fast of Esther is observed, meaning that the festivities of Purim will soon be upon us.

We will listen to the reading of the Megillah (the scroll of the book of Esther), eat hamantaschen and are given permission to drink wine freely (but, hopefully responsibly). There are, of course, wonderful songs for Purim, and I'd like to use this column to introduce you to one you may not know – "Purim Song" by the Maccabeats.

The Maccabeats is a 14-member a cappella group that was formed at Yeshiva University in 2007. If you have been to any of the Chanukah presentations that I have led for JRLW, the Maccabeats are always on the program. The group specializes in parodies of songs, and one of the songs they parody is a song by Pink called "Raise Your Glass." Pink's official video came out in 2010 and is definitely worth watching. It can easily be found on the Internet by typing into your browser "Pink Raise Your Glass YouTube." The video should pop right up.

The Maccabeats' parody came out in 2011, and, it too, can easily be found on the Internet. Just type into your browser "Purim Song" the Maccabeats YouTube" and you'll get it. "Purim Song" tells the story of Purim in a very unique way. Here are the words to the chorus.

"So, raise your glass if you can see the hidden meaning. It's right in front of you. We will never be anything but proud to tell the story. 'V'nahafoch hu (it was turned upside down).' So won't you come on and come on and raise your glass. Just come on and come on and raise your glass."

The "Purim Song" video is quite spirited and includes some absolutely adorable kids. It is a video that I highly recommend that you watch.

Chag Purim sameach. May you have a joyous Purim celebration. Be well and stay safe.

MARCH BRUNCH

Stan Feinstein

Our next JRLW brunch will be held on Sunday, March 16, beginning at 10 am in the Clubhouse I Crystal Ballroom. Our speaker will be Weldon Brown, Director of Sales and Audience Experience at Olney Theatre Center. Mr. Brown's presentation will include a slide presentation, highlights of past performances, and information about the theatre's site growth over the years and looking to the future, as well as a few live musical numbers.

Tickets will be available at the Clubhouse I Lifestyle Office from February 20th through March 10th. The cost of the brunch, **which is open to JRLW members only**, is \$25.00 per person. Tables may be reserved for up to 11 people. Payment is by check only, made out to JRLW. Tickets are available at the Clubhouse Lifestyle Office Window. **DO NOT** place checks in the JRLW mail slot. A maximum of 200 tickets will be sold for this event.



RELIGIOUS SERVICES FOR MARCH 2025

On Friday, March 7, we will have evening Shabbat Service in Clubhouse II at 7:30 pm. These services will be conducted by Rabbi Gary Fink and Cantor Wendy Gonzales.

There will be a Conservative Shabbat Service on Saturday, March 8, in Clubhouse II at 9:15 am. Cantor Mike Kravitz will conduct these services. The Torah portion will be Tetzaveh. There will be a Kiddush following services.

We will have a Purim Service on Friday, March 14, at 10:0 am. This Service will be held in Clubhouse II. Come in costume, if you like. There will be refreshments after the Service.



CANTOR WENDY GONZALES



The Whole Megillah!

Cantor Wendy Gonzales
cantorwendyg@gmail.com

Rabbi Fink, Shir Delight, and I are getting ready for our rousing Purim Shpiel to be held on Purim, Friday, March 14, 2025, at 10:00 am in the Activities Room in Clubhouse II. This year's Purim Shpiel will be integrating the Beatles' music as we bring the Megillah to life with song, fun, and laughter! The celebration will include hamentashen and groggers for us to blot out the mention of the evil Hamen. Please feel free to invite your neighbors, friends and family to celebrate and we hope you will come in costume!!

I always love the term "megillah!" While it is literally a scroll or volume, we have taken it in its Yiddish form for a variety of uses! Some people will say it means:

- The entire story
- A "big" megillah – a big deal
- The name of our JRLW newsletter!
- Significant "drama!"
- A lot of details and minutiae
- etc.

I always chuckle when I hear people from other non-Jewish cultures use Yiddish words with such conviction. This includes the words, "shpiel, shnook, chutzpah, shmooze, shtick, plotz, mensch, klutz, schlep, tsuris, etc." These words bridge a cultural gap in a positive and familiar way and bring us closer together.

So, as we prepare to read the Megillah for the purpose in which it was intended, I hope that you will attend our special Purim service and continue in the joy of camaraderie as we allow our inner child to come out again as we celebrate our survival from Haman and his devotees.

We are survivors and we should admire that we continue to take the lessons we learn from history and celebrate our strength and passion! Chag Purim Sameach!



DONATIONS

Donation to Jewish Residents of Leisure World can be made to several different funds. They are listed below.

TORAH and PRAYER BOOK FUNDS

Individuals can be honored and loved ones memorialized with a contribution to the JRLW Torah or Prayer Book Fund for a minimum donation of \$25.00.

PRAYER BOOK FUND

If you would like to make a donation in honor of or in memory of someone in a Reform Prayerbook, Conservative Prayerbook or a Chumash (Bible), please stipulate which one in your request. Please send your requests to donate prayer books to Florence Kasden, 3100 Leisure World Boulevard, #610, Silver Spring MD 20906. Her phone number is 410-251-9382.

TORAH FUND

For contributions to the Torah Maintenance Fund, send your check, made out to JRLW, to Carol Wendkos, 14805 Pennfield Circle, #212, Silver Spring, MD 20906.

TZEDAKAH, KIDDUSH, TORAH MAINTENANCE AND ONEG DONATIONS

For information about Tzedakah, Oneg or Kiddush donations, please call Sheila Harnik at 240-888-4433. Checks should be made out to JRLW and mailed to Sheila at 15101 Interlachen Drive, Apt. 909, Silver Spring MD 20906.

Note from the President of JRLW

Please **do not** leave Brunch requests in the JRLW box in Clubhouse I; it makes extra work for everyone involved with the logistics of the Brunch. Requests will be returned to you. Lastly, please be respectful to the LW personnel who are handling the ticket sales.

RITUAL COMMITTEE

Ellyn Becker Kaufman

Celebrating Purim: A Joyous Festival for the Jewish Community of Leisure World

Shalom Dear Friends,

As we gather to observe the vibrant and joyful holiday of Purim, let's take a moment to reflect on its rich history and significance. Purim is one of the most festive and joyous holidays in the Jewish calendar. Purim commemorates the salvation of the Jewish people in ancient Persia from the wicked Haman, as recounted in the Book of Esther.

Historical Significance: Purim marks the miraculous events that unfolded in the Persian Empire over 2,000 years ago. Haman, the royal vizier to King Ahasuerus, plotted to annihilate the Jewish people. However, through the bravery and wisdom of Queen Esther and her cousin Mordechai, the plot was foiled, and the Jewish people were saved from destruction.

Traditions and Celebrations: Purim is a time for laughter, joy, and community. Here are some traditions that we observe:

- **Reading the Megillah:** The central observance of Purim is the public reading of the Megillah (Book of Esther), which recounts the story of the Purim miracle. Listen for Haman's name and join in the custom of making noise to blot out his evil name!
- **Costumes and Masquerades:** Dressing up in costumes is a hallmark of Purim celebrations, symbolizing the hidden nature of the miracles that took place. Whether you choose to be Queen Esther, Mordechai, or any whimsical character, let your creativity shine.
- **Mishloach Manot:** We exchange gifts of food and drink with friends and neighbors, spreading joy and fostering a sense of community. Prepare small packages with treats such as hamantaschen and other goodies. – What is your favorite hamantaschen filling?
- **Matanot La'evyonim:** Giving to the needy is an essential aspect of Purim. We remember those less fortunate by giving charity, ensuring

that everyone can partake in the celebration.

Please join us as we celebrate Purim in our community, including the Megillah reading, on Friday, March 14 at 10:00 am in the Activity Room of Clubhouse II. We will supply groggers!

Let's come together to celebrate Purim with joy and unity. May this Purim bring happiness, laughter, and blessings to you and your loved ones.

Chag Purim Sameach!

Ellyn Becker Kaufman
Ritual Chair
ellynsu@verizon.net

WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Joanne Bassan
15320 Pine Orchard Drive, Apt 2-K
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Carol Herman
10632 Hickory Crest Lane
Columbia, MD 21044

Leslie Brodsky
14607 Kelmscot Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20906

Patricia Williams
15100 Glade Drive, 1-D
Silver Spring MD 20906

Michele Kotler
3212 Gleneagles Drive.
Silver Spring MD 20906

NEW LIFE MEMBERS

Judith Platt
3310 N Leisure World Blvd., Apt. 1031
Silver Spring, MD 20906-5687

Suzanne Boden
3210 N. Leisure World Blvd., Apt 120
Silver Spring, MD 20906

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY EVERYTHING JRLW HAS TO OFFER.

PROGRAM AND EDUCATION

Becky Siman

**Monday, April 24, 2 pm, Clubhouse II Auditorium,
The Catskills Documentary**

“The Catskills” is a feature-length documentary film on the rise and fall of the Borscht Belt.

The film features archival footage and a cast of characters. “The Catskills” journeys into the storied mountain getaway north of New York City that served as refuge for Jewish immigrants fleeing hot NY summers as well as a lavish playground for affluent Jewish families.

Many comedians got their start in the Catskills and movies like Dirty Dancing and TV shows like the Marvelous Mrs. Maisel portrayed life there. The film is free, reservations not necessary.

**Tuesday March 18, 1:30 pm, Clubhouse I,
Maryland Room**

Rabbi Daniel Plotkin, Rabbi Educator at Temple Isaiah, Fulton, MD, returns to Leisure World to discuss the *Jewish Views of the Afterlife*.

While Judaism focuses on being about what we do in the here and now, many scholars and philosophers over the ages have speculated on what lies beyond this life. From the early Biblical conceptions of Sheol to Rabbinic ideas about Gehinnom, Olam HaBa, and resurrection in the time of the messiah, and the modern idea of immortality of the soul, there is no one set answer. Rabbi Plotkin will explore all this and more. Members and non-members are welcome.

Coming in April

Monday, April 7 – Book Group – 10 am Clubhouse I, Baltimore Room, New date of discussion on *Once We Were Home*.

Thursday, April 10 - JRLW, JCC Movie – Bad Shabbos, Clubhouse II Auditorium, 1:30 pm.

Tuesday, April 22 - Clubhouse I, Maryland Room.

Presentation from the Capital Jewish Museum on the upcoming exhibit – *LGBT Jews in the Federal City*.

CELEBRATE PURIM WITH DELICIOUS SUNFLOWER BAKERY!



Hamantaschen and More delivered to Leisure World.

Place your orders on-line or call Sunflower from Friday, February 7 through Thursday, March 6 at NOON to pick-up at Leisure World on Tuesday, March 11, in front of Clubhouse II.

Sunflower Bakery is featuring traditional hamantaschen favorites and creative, fun flavors that are sure to please. This year, Sunflower has a gluten-free, nut-free, and vegan option for those with dietary restrictions. Questions or to order Contact Sunflower at info@sunflowerbakery.org, 240.361.3698.

Whether you order by phone or on-line, you must indicate the pick-up is at Leisure World on March 11. Between 11 am and 12 noon. Sunflower Bakery and Café Sunflower provide skilled job training and employment for adults 18+ with learning differences in pastry arts, production baking, barista service and front of house operations. Sunflower believes in an inclusive society where all persons, regardless of their differences, have opportunities to lead productive lives. Sunflower Bakery is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Check the JRLW emails for direct links to ordering or order here:

<https://www.sunflowerbakery.org/shop/purim/>.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE



A duck, a skunk and a deer went out to dinner one night.

When it came time to pay, the skunk didn't have a scent and the deer didn't have a buck.

So, they put the meal on the duck's bill.

RUACH HADASSAH NEWS

Sandy Stein

The Life and Music of Naomi Shemer

On Wednesday, March 19, at 2:00 pm in Clubhouse I, the Ruach Chapter of Hadassah will present a program on the life and music of Naomi Shemer (1939-2004). Our presenter will be Cantor Margery Auerbach. Naomi Shemer is most famous for writing the words and music to Yerushalayim shel Zahav (Jerusalem of Gold) which has become the second national anthem of Israel. Cantor Auerbach will speak about her long and varied career as the most celebrated woman Israeli composer of the 20th century and will sing some of her most famous songs. Shemer's compositions reflect the history of Israel, its beauty and culture, and its yearning for peace.

Marge Auerbach is Cantor Emerita of Bet Aviv, a Reform Congregation in Columbia, MD, which she served for 14 years. Her career as a cantor followed 31 years as an educator in Montgomery County as a teacher and elementary school principal. She studied education and music at Smith College and received her M.Ed. and PhD in Education at the University of Maryland.

Please join us for an enjoyable program of listening, learning and singing along to the music of Naomi Shemer, may her memory be a blessing. There will be a \$5.00 fee paid at the door either by cash or payable to Hadassah. Refreshments will be served. For membership information contact Linda Epstein at 301-847-9650.

Mark your calendars and plan to attend our spring "Afternoon Tea and Fashion Show" on Wednesday, April 30. The fashion show will be sponsored by Chicos. Anyone who volunteers to be a model will be our guest for the afternoon.

The Judaic Studies Group will meet on Tuesday, March 4, at 1:30 pm in person in the Annapolis

Room in Clubhouse I. The topic will be The Commandments. The 10? All 613? Are they all still valid today? Can they be grouped? Are some (possibly) more important than others? The session will be moderated by Peri Schuyler. All are welcome to attend. Please join us.

RECIPE CORNER

HAMENTASCHEN FOR PURIM

- 3 large eggs
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- ¾ cup vegetable oil
- ½ cup orange juice
- 2 ½ teaspoons vanilla extract
- 5 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 1 tablespoon baking powder
- 1 cup fruit preserves, any flavor

Directions

1. Gather the ingredients. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Lightly grease cookie sheets.
2. Combine eggs and sugar in a large bowl; beat with an electric mixer until smooth and creamy. Stir in oil, orange juice, and vanilla. Combine flour and baking powder; stir into batter to form a stiff dough, adding more flour if needed.
3. Turn dough out onto a lightly floured surface and roll out into a 1/2-inch thickness. Cut into circles using a cookie cutter or the rim of a drinking glass; place 2 inches apart onto the prepared cookie sheets.
4. Spoon about 1 to 2 teaspoons of preserves into center of each cookie. Pinch edges to form three corners.
5. Bake in the preheated oven until lightly browned, 12 to 15 minutes. Cool on the cookie sheets for 1 minute; transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.

HELP WANTED

After many years of dedicated and hard-working service as our Chairperson of the Program and Education Committee, Becky Simon is ready to pass the baton. She has offered to help with the transition and plans to step down in June. We are looking for two people to co-chair her position. This will give you all time to shadow her and have her help train you. This position is also on the JRLW Board of Directors. Here is a summary of her duties.

- * Create/develop programs of a Jewish theme or nature for the membership
- * The programs can be social or educational
- * Review with Treasurer the cost and whether there is a fee is necessary
- * Reserve a room with the Life Style office
- * If tickets are required, fill out the form with LifeStyle
- * Get information no later than the 10th of the month into the Megillah at least two months in advance via the Program and Education column or an article or flyer of deemed necessary.
- * Create an article, for the LW News and get it in at least two issues before the event.
- * Let the email coordinator know the date and details to be included in the emails.
- * A few days before the event, check that all is good with the reservation with LifeStyle.
- * The day of the event, arrive and hour early to ensure the set-up is correct. Some people start arriving an hour early.
- * The program coordinator works the JCC on movies, programs, the Health Expo, Ice Cream Social, etc.
- * For more information, please contact Joel Kristal at Photospbj@gmail.com.

Bring a friend to services. Someone is waiting for an invitation

PURIM SONG

By Marion Lipshultz

Esther and Mordechai, can't deny her beauty
Catching the king's eye high up in the palace

Looking for a way,
Mordechai is outside praying every day.

Enter evil Haman, what was he to do,
Plotting out the murder of every single Jew.

Wiping out their presence all across the land.
Esther in his chamber, influencing the King.

Ahasuerus loved Esther and listen to her say,
Please help all my people. Haman's on his way.

When the battle started Haman with a frown,
How could all my planning turn so upside down!

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Adele Ewing

Coming in March! The next exciting program set up by our social activities committee is a Jewish trivia on Sunday, March 23, at 1:30 pm in the Maryland Room of Clubhouse I. Categories covered will include holidays, food, entertainment, famous Jews and Israel. All are invited to attend singly or in teams of 3 or 4 maximum and need not be Jewish, so start getting your friends together Checks should be made out to JRLW for \$7 per person and should include the names and phone numbers of all teammates. Cost includes prizes and snacks! Checks should be mailed to Beverly Masters, 3378 Chiswick Court, 2E, Silver Spring, MD 20906. Checks can also be dropped in the JRLW mailbox located in Clubhouse I. Checks must be received by March 7.



PURIM IN A NUTSHELL



The Persian empire of the 4th century BCE extended over 127 lands, and all the Jews were its subjects. When King Ahasuerus had his wife, Queen Vashti, executed for failing to follow his orders, he orchestrated a beauty pageant to find a new queen. A Jewish girl, Esther, found favor in his eyes and became the new queen—though she refused to divulge the identity of her nationality.

Meanwhile, the anti-Semitic Haman was appointed prime minister of the empire. Mordechai, the leader of the Jews (and Esther's cousin), defied the king's orders and refused to bow to Haman. Haman was incensed and convinced the king to issue a decree ordering the extermination of all the Jews on the 13th of Adar—a date chosen by a lottery Haman made (hence the name Purim, "lots").

Mordechai galvanized all the Jews, convincing them to repent, fast and pray to G-d. Meanwhile, Esther asked the king and Haman to join her for a feast. At the feast, Esther revealed to the king her Jewish identity. Haman was hanged, Mordechai was appointed prime minister in his stead, and a new decree was issued granting the Jews the right to defend themselves against their enemies.

How We Celebrate

On Purim, there are four mitzvahs we observe:

1. Hear the Megillah

Head to your synagogue to hear the whole *megillah*. The *megillah*, a.k.a. "The Book of Esther," is the scroll that tells the Purim story. When Haman's name is mentioned you can twirl *graggers* (noisemakers) or stamp your feet to eradicate his evil name. Purim is the only time when it's a mitzvah to make noise!



2. Give to the Needy

One of Purim's primary themes is Jewish unity. Haman tried to kill us all, we were all in danger together, so we celebrate together, too. Hence, on Purim day, we place special emphasis on caring for the less fortunate. Give money or food to needy people. On Purim, we give a to whoever asks; we don't verify his or her bank balance first.



3. Send Food Gifts to Friends

On Purim, we emphasize the importance of friendship and community by sending gifts of food to friends.



4. Feast!

During the course of Purim day, gather your family, maybe invite a guest or two, and celebrate with a festive Purim meal.

Masquerade! On Purim, children—and some adventurous adults, too—traditionally dress in costumes, an allusion to G-d's hand in the Purim miracle, which was disguised by natural events.



Note from the JRLW Board of Directors

Update on LW Security to JRLW functions The Board of Directors have reviewed our security arrangements with Leisure World. We have requested the following changes: We believe this integrated approach offers sufficient protection for these events. We are still requesting security coverage for our February 16th brunch.

High Holiday services remain a priority and will have enhanced security for those observances.

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CALLING ALL COOKS!!!

Passover is coming in April! Do you have a Passover recipe to share with us?

We could love to hear from you. Please send your recipe to bernicecohen1@gmail.com.

.....

WE REMEMBER



Manny Ginsburg.

Hava Weinbaum.

Lance S. Berger.

Arlene Hoenig.

George Bernard Kessler.


MAY THEIR MEMORY BE AS A BLESSING.

JRLW Sunday Brunch

March 16th at 10:00am

Crystal Ballroom, Clubhouse I

Weldon Brown, Olney Theatre Director of
Sales & Audience Experience

♪♪ *Come hear live musical numbers,* 
*highlights of past performances and the
future of Olney Theatre.*

Includes Full Sunday Brunch Buffet

Price is \$25.00 per person (MEMBERS ONLY!!)

✓ Make checks payable to JRLW

Pay by check at the Clubhouse I Lifestyle Office Window

DO NOT place checks in the JRLW mail slot

Tickets are available for purchase

February 20 – March 10 at Clubhouse I

- ✓ We will place you at a reserved table. If there are other JRLW members with whom you would like to sit (tables of up to 11), please list them.
- ✓ All seats must be paid for at the time of purchase to reserve a table or partial table. Only checks accepted for payment. No refunds on tickets. No tickets will be sold after the cutoff date.

Name(s): _____

Phone Number: _____

- ✓ Please bring this form with you to purchase your tickets.
- ✓ Seat assignments will be given out at the reception/check-in tables outside of the Ballroom beginning at 9:30am on Sunday.

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MARCH

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	•Hadassah Study CH I Group 2 pm •JRLW Board Meeting 7:30 pm	Hadassah Board			Shabbat Service CH II Activities Room 7:30 pm	Shabbat Service CH II 9:15 am
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Sunflower Bakery Pick Up			Fast of Esther	Light Candles 5:47 PURIM Purim Services CH II 10 am	Tetzaveh
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
JRLW BRUNCH CH I 10 am		Jewish Views of the Afterlife CH I 1:30 pm	Hadassah Program CH I 2:00 PM		Light Candles 6:54	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Trivia CH I Maryland Room 1:30 pm					Light Candles 7:01	
30	31				Light Candles 7:08	

2025



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