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# BNC BULLETIN

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Brandeis National Committee, Baltimore Chapter

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**President** Suzanne Strutt  
**Vice President** Leslie Sandler  
**Corresponding Secretary** Susan Berman  
**Recording Secretary** TBD  
**Treasurer** Annette Polonsky  
**National Committee Liaison** TBD  
**Archivist** Merle Ann Siegelman  
**Federation of Jewish Women's Organizations Coordinators** Ellen Schwartz, Judy Stein  
**Committee Chairs:**  
**Fundraising** Rena Shenk + 2  
TBD  
**Hospitality** Hulane Zolet  
**Live & Learn** Norma Axel, Brenda Cohen, Rona Greene, Leslie Sandler  
**Live & Learn Registrar** Irene Palter  
**Mailing Coordinator** Judi Cataldo  
**Media and Publicity Coordinators** Carol Oppenheim, Suzanne Strutt  
**Meeting Coordinators** Rona Greene, Deane Sevel, Michelle Weisbrodt  
**Membership** Fran Block, Brenda Cohen, Hara Eckstein  
**Mitzvah Cards** Gail Potashnick  
**Nominating Committee** Diane Burkom  
**Parliamentarian** Pat Hartley  
**Program** Norma Axel, Teri Markowitz  
**Webmaster** Diane Burkom  
**Immediate Past President** Diane Burkom  
**At Large Members** Ruth Casper, Carol Cummins, Kay Feldmann, Judith Fishman, Jan Helper, Barry Hond, Benita Lozinsky, Ellen Pazornik, Roz Pearlman, Linda Reines, Merle Ann Siegelman, Eva Silversmith

## BNC Baltimore Opening Luncheon Meeting!

**Guest Speaker: Barbara Blumberg: *Unknown Women Who Changed the World***

Thursday, September 23, 2021 11:30 am

### Virtual Meeting

After earning a B.S. from Towson University, Barbara served the Baltimore City School System for three years. For the next 25 years, she taught in the Secular Division of Beth Tfiloh Community Day School. She has been an adjunct faculty member at the Community College of Baltimore County, has taught at the Myerberg Center, and in the Renaissance Academy of Florida at Gulf State University. She has presented in the Osher program at Towson University and lectured in many programs including the Brandeis Chapter in Rockville, the Har Sinai Oheb Shalom "Spice" series, and The Lecture Group, along with many other charitable organizations.

## Thank You to Diane Burkom

In June, BNC members took Diane Burkom to lunch at Mt. Washington Tavern to thank her for her 3 years of service as our chapter president. Suzanne Strutt made a presentation to Diane.



## ***President's Message***

Happy New Year! —BNC new year, that is. Thank you for joining us, those who have, and we hope you who haven't yet will do so shortly.\* A brave new year it is, as we continue to navigate around Covid 19 variants and the need to keep all our members safe and healthy. Nevertheless, we are going to try to meet in person as much as we can. To that end, we are requiring everyone attending a course meeting in person to be fully vaccinated and masked, members and guests alike.

You have received the invitation to our Zoom opening meeting and box luncheon. Our decision to forego the customary sumptuous repast at the Suburban Club was the subject of much debate but ultimately we felt that safety ruled out such a gathering. Similarly, rather than hold Board meetings at the Chestnut Ridge Fire Station as we had planned, we will have them online. (The Hadassah office is closed.) We will assess risk further as we approach 2022. Let us all hope that we can resume actually getting together!

The Fire Station itself has a very well-lighted large room with ample parking, a rear handicap-safe entrance, good projection facilities, a restroom right outside the front entry door, and air conditioning, all a short ride out Greenspring Avenue—in fact, less than half a mile past the Caves Road turnoff. Not least, the fee for using the room is the same as it was for the Hadassah office meeting room.

Also, by now you no doubt have the new course list with an engaging array of new and familiar offerings. We urge you to sign up as soon as you can; the official deadline, listed as September 17, actually means having the best chance to join the courses you want. Some have maximum limits. Because we anticipate that most of the courses will meet in person, we are returning to the practice of charging \$5 per course meeting. If that poses hardship for anyone, please let me know and I shall try to arrange some accommodation. And again, we will reassess fees as we near 2022. Please remember that hosts and facilitators attend their courses free.

And on we go! I look forward to seeing you at the opening meeting—we will send out a link as soon as Deane receives your check. Registrar Irene Palter is standing by, eager to sign you up for the year's courses so that the fun can begin. As everyone with whom I have talked for the last several months has wished me, I hope you will stay safe and in the best of health.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Strutt

"Back in the Saddle Again!"

\*Annual membership dues must be paid before you may register for courses. Send your check payable to BNC directly to Brandeis University-BNC, not to the Registrar: Brandeis National Committee, 415 South Street, MS 122, Waltham, MA 02453-2728; Call, 781-736-7588 with a credit card number; Go online at <http://www.brandeis.edu/bnc/>, click the JOIN/RENEW button, enter your information. Be sure to select Baltimore as your Chapter!

## **BNC Activity Calendar, September – December 2021**

### **Meeting Schedule**

All phone numbers are in Area Code 410 unless stated otherwise. Full course descriptions can be found in the Live & Learn Booklet. If there are any updates to course information, you will be notified by the facilitator of the course(s) for which you are enrolled.

**Members and guests attending in-person events must be fully vaccinated and masked.**

**Opening Meeting: September 23, 11:30 am, ZOOM Meeting**

### **Board Meetings: 1 pm**

#### **Virtual**

Thursdays October 21, November 18, December 21, 2021

### **Tuesday October 5, 1:30 pm – Scrabble® and Babble**

Home of Carol Oppenheim, 326 Belltown Road, Owings Mills 21117

Facilitators: Ruth Casper 443-394-1449, Carol Oppenheim 363-2482

### **Wednesday October 6, 1:30 pm – Amazing Jewish Writers**

Home of Devorah Brooks, 509 Old Crossing Drive, 21208

Book selections with a focus on Israel. **Please call if unable to attend session.**

Facilitator: Devorah Brooks 484-4332

### **Thursday October 7, 10:00 am – Dig Up Your Family Roots**

Home of Susan Ansel, 13 Indian Pony Court, Owings Mills, 21117

Learn to use genealogy tools to uncover your family history. Facilitator: Susan Ansel 356-3833

### **Thursday October 7, 12:30 pm – Lunchtime Dine-Around**

**Il Basilico Trattoria (Italian)**, 49 Aylesbury Road, Lutherville 21093

Facilitators: Loretta Engel 358-0534, Rena Shenk 443-352-3901

### **Thursday October 14, 1:00 pm – Dining 'Round the World**

**Wing Wah (Chinese)**, 509 Reisterstown Road, \$5 + lunch. Facilitators: Irene Palter 252-0246, Rosalind Perlman 602-3454

### **Friday October 15, 1:30 pm – Rummikub®**

First location: Home of Annette Polonsky, 11 Slade, #112, 21208

Facilitators: Brenda Cohen 581-2229, Annette Polonsky 484-6682

### **Monday October 18, 1:30 pm – Baltimore History – What You May or May Not Know**

**ZOOM ONLY.** Watch a few short films narrated by Johns Hopkins, Executive Director of Baltimore Heritage. Today's topics: Beth Am, Stieff Silver, Ma and Pa Road House, Hansa House, Hackerman House. Facilitators: Norma Axel 308-0827, Brenda Cohen 581-2229

(Host: Diane Burkom 303-2967)

**Tuesday November 2, 1:30 pm – Scrabble® and Babble**

Home of Carol Oppenheim, 326 Belltown Road, Owings Mills 21117

Facilitators: Ruth Casper 443-394-1449, Carol Oppenheim 363-2482

**Wednesday November 3, 1:30 pm – Amazing Jewish Writers**

Home of Devorah Brooks, 509 Old Crossing Drive, 21208

Book selections with a focus on Israel. **Please call if unable to attend session.**

Facilitator: Devorah Brooks 484-4332

**Thursday November 4, 1:00 pm – Non-Fiction Discussion Group**

First location: Home of Deane Sevel, 3305 Janelen Drive, 21208

*The Splendid and the Vile* by Eric Larsen. Facilitator: Deane Sevel 484-0643

**Friday November 5, 1:30 pm – Jewish Masters of Design: Ben Shahn & Saul Bass**

**ZOOM ONLY.** Facilitators: Norma Axel 308-0827, Suzanne Strutt 561-5516

**Mondayday November 8, 1:30 pm – Scarves: How to Tie One On**

Home of Merle Ann Siegelman, 6205 Sarevo Drive, 21209

Hands-on scarf tying lesson and fun. Facilitator: Merle Ann Siegelman 664-8855

**Tuesday November 9, 1:30 pm – Let's Knit and Stitch**

First location: home of Merle Ann Siegelman, 6205 Sarevo Drive, 21209

A chance to do needlework of your choice and share your knowledge (or gain new knowledge!). Facilitators: Norma Axel 308-0827, Merle Ann Siegelman 664-8855

**Wednesday November 10, 12:30 pm – Lunchtime Dine-Around**

**Orchard Market & Cafe**, 8815 Orchard Tree Lane, Towson 21204

Facilitators: Loretta Engel 358-0534, Rena Shenk 443-352-3901

**Thursday November 11, 1:00 pm – Dining 'Round the World**

**Yesh Hummus & Grill (Mediterranean)**, 607 Reisterstown Road, \$5 + lunch. Facilitators:

Irene Palter 252-0246, Rosalind Perlman 602-3454

**Friday November 12, 1:30 pm – Triumphs of Animation**

Home of Suzanne Strutt, 12 Valleywood Court, Timonium 21093

Facilitators: Norma Axel 308-0827, Suzanne Strutt 561-5516

**Monday November 15, 1:30 pm – Baltimore History – What You May or May Not Know**

**ZOOM ONLY.** Watch a few short films narrated by Johns Hopkins, Executive Director of Baltimore Heritage. Today's topics: Little Tavern Burger Shops, Ambassador Theatre, One Charles Center, Marble Bar at the Congress Hotel. Facilitators: Norma Axel 308-0827, Brenda Cohen 581-2229, (Host: Diane Burkom 303-2967)

**Tuesday November 16, 1:30 pm – Writing From Z to A: Our Pandemic Memoirs**

Home of Suzanne Strutt, 12 Valleywood Court, Timonium 21093 or on **ZOOM**

Record your individual pandemic experience. Facilitator: Suzanne Strutt 561-5516

**Friday November 19, 1:30 pm – Rummikub®**

Location TBA

Facilitators: Brenda Cohen 581-2229, Annette Polonsky 484-6682

**Wednesday December 1, 1:30 pm – Amazing Jewish Writers**

Home of Devorah Brooks, 509 Old Crossing Drive, 21208

Book selections with a focus on Israel. **Please call if unable to attend session.** Facilitator:

Devorah Brooks 484-4332

**Thursday December 2, 1:00 pm – Non-Fiction Discussion Group**

Location TBA

*The Bagman* by Rachel Maddow. Facilitator: Deane Sevel 484-0643

**Tuesday December 7, 1:30 pm – Scrabble® and Babble**

Home of Carol Oppenheim, 326 Belltown Road, Owings Mills 21117

Facilitators: Ruth Casper 443-394-1449, Carol Oppenheim 363-2482

**Wednesday December 8, 1:30 pm – Writing From Z to A: Our Pandemic Memoirs**

Home of Suzanne Strutt, 12 Valleywood Court, Timonium 21093 or on **ZOOM**

Record your individual pandemic experience. Facilitator: Suzanne Strutt 561-5516

**Friday December 10, 1:30 pm – Triumphs of Animation**

Home of Suzanne Strutt, 12 Valleywood Court, Timonium 21093

Facilitators: Norma Axel 308-0827, Suzanne Strutt 561-5516

**Tuesday December 14, 1:30 pm – Let's Knit and Stitch**

Location TBA

A chance to do needlework of your choice and share your knowledge (or gain new knowledge!). Facilitators: Norma Axel 308-0827, Merle Ann Siegelman 664-8855

**Friday December 17, 1:30 pm – Rummikub®**

Location TBA

Facilitators: Brenda Cohen 581-2229, Annette Polonsky 484-6682

Two special events coming later in the year: **Gramercy Tea** and **Tuesdays with Ann!**  
Details to be announced.

## **BNC Membership**

Brandeis National Committee welcomes new members, men as well as women. Annual membership is \$60. Membership for spouses of annual members is \$40; of life members, \$60. To join, call **Brenda Cohen, 410-581-2229**, or **Hara Eckstein, 410-453-6608**.

## **Coming January 13: Brandeis Community Book Discussion**

**1:00 pm**

***Other Minds: The Octopus, the Sea, and the Deep Origins of Consciousness* by Peter Godfrey-Smith**

Come hear a book talk about this year's new student reading assignment. The talk will include a video recording of the author interacting with students.

### **Mitzvah Cards**

#### **In memory of**

Barbara Barr, long time BNC member, by her neighbors at The Towers and Merle Ann Siegelman, Vera Kestenberg, and Suzanne Strutt

Norma Surosky, by Merle Ann Siegelman  
Ernie Silversmith, by Merle Ann Siegelman  
Sheldon Pazornik, by Merle Ann Siegelman  
Toba Myers, by Benita and Seymour Lozinsky and Phyllis Isaacson

#### **In honor of**

Howie Candiotti's recovery from surgery, by Benita Lozinsky

#### **Mazel tov to**

Norma Axel on winning award from the Federation, by Benita Lozinsky  
Carly Block in honor of her engagement, by Vera Kestenberg

### **Good and Welfare**

#### **Condolences**

To the family of Barbara Barr, longtime BNC member

To Judy Torner on the loss of her husband, Jack Torner

To the family of Gilda Kahn, past BNC member

#### **Speedy recovery**

To Hulane Zolet who was in the hospital

To Hara Eckstein who injured her finger

#### **Mazel tov**

To Carol Cummins on the birth of a new great grandchild

Merle Ann Siegelman on the birth of her great granddaughter, Anna Marie Siegelman

#### **Best wishes**

To Sue Steinman who has moved to assisted living in The Atrium

## **IMPORTANT! PLEASE READ!!**

### **Corrections to the Live and Learn Book**

Kudos to the Live and Learn committee members who put together a diverse and interesting selection of courses for the coming year, while working under difficult conditions.

Unfortunately, some errors did slip through. Here are the corrections that are needed:

1. Please disregard the statement “will be awarded a free Live & Learn course” found on the page opposite the registration form. The two paragraphs following this statement are correct as shown.
2. The registration page has the dates 2020-2021. It should say 2021-2022.
3. The fee for course #13, **Make Up: Aging in Style**, is shown as \$5 in the booklet and \$10 on the registration page. The correct fee for this course is \$5.
4. The fee for course #15, **Non-Fiction Discussion Group**, is shown as \$15 in the booklet and \$10 on the registration page. The correct fee for this course is \$15.

### **Note from the Editor**

The next issue of the Bulletin should be coming out in December. Please submit any material for inclusion in that issue by November 15. Thank you.

## **A Happy and Healthy New Year to All!**

**Brandeis National  
Committee**

Baltimore Chapter  
2800 Stone Cliff Drive #108  
Baltimore, MD 21209

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**Brandeis National Committee  
Mission Statement**

*The Brandeis National Committee is an organization committed to providing philanthropic support to Brandeis University, a distinguished liberal arts and research university founded by the American Jewish community. Its membership is connected to the University through fundraising and through activities that reflect the values on which the University was founded: academic excellence, social justice, non-sectarianism, and service to the community.*

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