PRESIDENTS’ MESSAGE

What makes up a thriving organization? If you said people, of course you would be correct. How do we get those people to become members? Well, we could let our friends know about what we do and why. We could talk about our organization to whoever will listen. We could, and have, hold coffees to introduce ourselves to those who want to know more about what we do. Gatherings such as these are helmed by the chairs of our Membership Committee, Judy G, Marlene G, Gail R, Joy S and Vicki W.
Making phone calls and connecting through emails to encourage new membership is not an easy task right now. So, we thank you all for your efforts and hope that in the near future in-person coffees will once again be instituted.

How do we operate as an organization? I guess we need rules and a chart of who does what, when and how. That would be our set of by-laws. Our very able and informed member Marjorie F headed up this committee. With patience and fortitude and in collaboration with the committee members a new set of by-laws were born. They were presented and passed at our last Zoom membership meeting. Kudos to you, Marjorie! You Done Good!

We appreciate you all!
Livia and Linda

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

UPCOMING EVENTS
2/1 Book & Author on Zoom - The Book of Lost Friends, 1pm
2/21 Zoom Party with Bruce Thomas, 7:30pm,
3/1 Book & Author on Zoom - Citizen 865, 1pm
3/3 Board Meeting, 11am,
    Nominating Committee will present Slate of Officers for 2021-22
4/7 Chapter Meeting-ELECTIONS, 11am,
4/8 BRUNCH AND LEARN, 10:30am – Flyer p. 9 &10
5/12 Installation and Spring “Lunch”, 1pm

UPCOMING MEETINGS
Spring Luncheon committee meeting, Thursday, Mar 11th, 1pm
Let’s get together for Another Fun Evening

Featuring

Bruce Thomas

Sunday, February 21, 2021
7:30 pm        $20.00

Bruce Thomas, a Mid-Atlantic vocalist, has performed more than 1600 shows for a wide range of audiences. His vocal quality and energetic, charismatic performances bring joy into people’s lives through Jazz, Blues, Pop, Broadway tunes and a variety of Contemporary music!

Send this form (if unable to print this form, send the information on a piece of paper) and your $20 check made out to BNC to:

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Shelley M
Silver Spring, MD 20906
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Checks must be received by February 16th!

Name
Email
Phone #

Any amount over $3.00 is a charitable contribution to Brandeis National Committee’s Honoring Our History Campaign
Meet the Author on Zoom

Meet the Author has now become a monthly event on BNC National Webinar. Our chapter continues to plan and sponsor the talks. We are honored to have Leslie Milk continue as our moderator for these events. Our chapter will receive credit from all BNC members throughout the US who participate in our Book and Author programs.

Cost per person: $18 per author (100% tax deductible)

Registration will be by charge card to Brandeis National Committee.

Debbie Cenziper
Citizen 865
The Hunt for Hitler’s Soldiers in America
Monday, March 1, 2021

Julia Sweig
Lady Bird Johnson: Hiding in Plain Sight
Monday, April 5, 2021

Coming May 3, 2021 Abi Dare- The Girl With The Louding Voice
**STUDY GUIDE**

**Registration Information:**
Only paid-up current members may register for study groups. Dues may be paid online at [giving.brandeis.edu/BNCmembership](http://giving.brandeis.edu/BNCmembership)

*Registrations must be received at least 3 days before the study group.*

Please make a list of the study groups in which you want to register and send the list with your name, phone number, email address, and **check payable to BNC** to the Registrar:

You will be sent an email confirmation when your registration is processed. If you don’t receive a confirmation, please contact Roz before the date of the program.  **An email with the Zoom link will be sent before each Study Group.** If you do not receive the link by the end of the day before your program, please contact Sue R.

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**A note from the registrar**

Roz

> ➢ **Very important … please read**
We have been experiencing a problem where registration forms and payment are not reaching me in time for the member to participate in the desired program. If you mail me your choice and check for a program that will run within the next 7 days please call me and tell me what you want and that your check is on the way.

**Also…. If you have sent in a registration request and have not received the email confirmation please contact me to check on the status**

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**Directions for using Zoom to connect to site.**
As we will be checking names for registration, please have your name shown on your Zoom account. **Admission will be delayed for “iPad 1234” or “mom” as your identity is unknown.** Here are directions if you need them:

1. Go to [zoom.us](https://zoom.us) You will need your email address and zoom password, as it will be requested.
2. Go to **My Account**
3. Find **Personal** and highlight **Profile**
4. Find Name: **Edit** will be on the right side of the screen
5. Enter your first and last name; if desired and appropriate, you can enter your partner’s name also
**STUDY GROUPS FEBRUARY - APRIL**

**FEBRUARY**

**Joining the Community of Jewish Children’s Literature  Rescheduled Study Group**
Allison O will share her experiences as an author of children's books. She will talk about many ways people can get involved, writing/illustrating books and other ways to support children's literature. She will also tell us about her involvement with the international community of people creating Jewish-themed literature. Allison, the daughter of our chapter treasurer, Cecily S, will Zoom with us from her home in Israel.

*Thursday, February 4, 11:00 a.m.*, $15

**Bead Weaving Basics: Peyote Stitch**
A piece of bead-woven jewelry can be totally gorgeous, and it is easier to make than you may think. People have been using the Peyote stitch to create decorative and functional art for as long as there have been beads and threading materials. Beth S will teach you the Peyote stitch. You will need 2 colors of Miyuki round seed beads size 6/0, size 10 beading needles, and Fireline beading thread (4, 6, or 8 lb.). I buy my supplies from BeadsDirectusa.com, but there are other suppliers that you can find online. You will be amazed by what you can create, so plan to work along with Beth.

*Tuesday, February 9, 1:30 p.m.*, $10

**Lincoln’s Toughest Decisions**
Happy 212th birthday, President Lincoln! Commemorate his birthday by participating in a multi-faceted and interactive virtual program led by the Lincoln Cottage staff. Learn how Lincoln's experiences at the Cottage influenced his thinking on slavery. Work in small groups to explore historical documents that showcase the perspectives of his adversaries and allies. Gain insight into Lincoln's leadership as participants recreate their heated discussions and grapple with the tough issues Lincoln faced as he developed his landmark idea: The Emancipation Proclamation.

*Friday, February 12, 10:30 a.m.*, $18

**TAI CHI WITH KIM BROOKS**
Embracing the mind, body and spirit, tai chi is one of the most effective exercises for health of mind and body. It is easy to learn the graceful, fluid movements that are coupled with an emphasis on deep breathing and mental focus. It can restore balance, decrease stress and increase calmness and flexibility, integrating mind and body.

*Fridays, February 12, 19, 26, and March 5, 2:00 p.m.*, $25

**Contemporary Issues In Jewish Medical Ethics  NOTE CORRECT Date and Time**
The Corona virus pandemic, as well as recent advancements in genetic medicine and bioengineering, have prompted conversations regarding Jewish legal and moral responses to these new developments. What are proper communal, personal medical responses to a pandemic? Does gene therapy or the use of artificial and mechanical replacement devices to enhance our human abilities compromise the definition of "human." These and other questions will be identified and explored.

*Tuesday, February 16, 1:30 p.m.*, $15
THE NEW POLITICAL LANDSCAPE: WHERE DO WE FIT IN
The election is over, but many questions remain unanswered. Join Ron Halber, Executive Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Washington, to learn about and discuss issues of interest and concern to the Jewish Community. The JCRC is the intergroup relations and legislative agency representing the Jewish Community in Annapolis, Richmond, D.C., to the Federal Government and to the religious and ethnic communities who are our neighbors. Ron will share his experiences and insights about representing the Jewish community in government and community settings and discuss the issues which will most affect us. Take a look behind the headlines and join the lively discussion that is sure to follow.
Tuesday, February 23, 10:30 a.m., $15

MARCH

Edith Halpert Collection
We are going to New York! Join us virtually for a docent-led tour at Manhattan’s Jewish Museum as we discover Edith Halpert, a Russian Jewish immigrant of modest means who transformed the landscape of American art and died a multimillionaire. Her personal collection included the work of Stuart Davis, Yasuo Kuniyoshi, Jacob Lawrence, Georgia O’Keeffe as well as American folk art and precursors to American modernism.
Friday, March 12, 11:00 a.m., $20

The Presidents vs. The Press: The Endless Battle between the White House and the Media
Author Harold Holzer, a former reporter and press secretary, will discuss the tension between presidents and the press. Drawing on examples from his recently published book, Mr. Holzer will explain how we have come full circle—from a time when newspapers supported particular parties, to the cable era, when networks broadcast one-sided views. He will put today’s partisan divide into historical perspective and enlighten us about presidents whose actions were far more detrimental to democracy than those of more recent ones.
Tuesday, March 16, 11:00 a.m., $15

Passion For Passover
Tired of boring, dry sponge cake? Join Beth Smith as she shares her recipe and guides you through the steps to making this moist and marvelous dessert. She will show you how to make a luscious fudge nut torte. With Passover just a few days away, you will want to make these delightful cakes along with Beth. You will need 8 eggs, 1 ½ cups sifted sugar, 1 ½ teaspoons grated lemon rind, 3 tablespoons lemon juice, ¾ cup potato starch, a dash of salt and a tube pan. For the fudge nut torte, you will need 10 ounces semi-sweet chocolate, 1 ½ cups pecans or walnuts, 2 tablespoons plus ¼ cup sugar, ¼ pound (1 stick) plus 6 tablespoons parve margarine or butter, 3 large eggs, 1 tablespoon orange juice. This is a great opportunity to make fabulous cakes and eat them, too.
Tuesday, March 23, 1:00 p.m., $10
American Visionary Art Museum
The American Visionary Arts Museum is America’s official national museum and education center for intuitive, self-taught artistry. Come with us to Baltimore's Inner Harbor for a virtual docent-led tour of the exhibit *Esther and The Dream of One Loving Human Family*, Esther Krinitz’s "survival story," told through her 36 hand-embroidered squares. The Museum’s juxtaposes the power of Esther’s work and story with the experience and voice of other innocent victims of cultural genocides, past and present, and echoing from every corner of our earth, all to underscore the great danger of demonizing any human being as an undesirable and disposable, ‘other.’

*Wednesday, March 31, 2:30 p.m., $15*

APRIL

Wicked Georgetown
The tragedy of Georgetown's darker side encompasses the oldest neighborhood in DC with local legends and true crime events from its past. Come with us on a virtual tour of the historic streets to learn about long ago tales of tragedy, romance, and lore.

*Tuesday, April 13, 11:00 a.m., $20*

I'm Not As Young As I Was: What's the Scoop for My Diet?  NOTE correct date
How do your diet and nutrient needs change as you age? How can you address these needs in ways that are tasty and healthy? Patsy M. Brannon, PhD, RD, Division of Nutritional Sciences, Cornell University, will answer those questions while sharing information about protein, vitamin B-12 and energy.

*Thursday, April 15, 1:00 p.m., $15*

Fun With Words – Memory Booster
Would you like to build your vocabulary and expand your memory at the same time? Mentally stimulating activities such as learning new words and their meanings, help boost your brain power. In this course you will practice various techniques through fun and interactive games, that will enhance your reading and writing and improve overall memory skills.

*Tuesday, April 20, 11:00 a.m., $15*

Keeping the United States, a Nation for Religious Freedom
You will not believe how often people have tried to add religious components into the US Constitution. Did you know that the Constitution does not mention God, other than in the date? That does not mean that everyone has been content with that idea. In this talk, you will learn about the attempts to add Jesus to the Constitution in the 1940s and 1950s by Katharine B, PhD in Religion. In this era, Jewish organizations led the opposition to this potential constitutional change and prevailed. Though these amendment attempts have ended for now, the debate about the US as a Christian nation or not still continues.

*Thursday April 22, 11:00 a.m., $15*
Welcome to our Zoom Room
Join Ellen K as she facilitates discussion among our members.
Our next Zoom Room which will be held on **February 9th at 11:00am.**
The topic will be "What makes you happy?" How can you achieve happiness? As you become older, do the same things that made you happy when you were younger make you happy today? Do you believe that money buys happiness?"

**Feb 25th at 2pm. Topic: What are the most rewarding things about getting older?**
What are the most important lessons you’ve learned in your life? What life advice would you pass along?

On Jan 19th we discussed how the Pandemic changed our lives. By keeping busy with Mah Jongg on-line, walking and exercising, knitting, reading, zooming and watching TV most members were doing okay. What was missed most was not being able to hug grandchildren, travel and cruising, celebrating happy occasions with others, eating inside restaurants and going to the theater.

As a result of our Jan 7th zoom meeting a list of recommended doctors from our members is being compiled. If any other members have a doctor they would like to recommend, please email Ellen

**BOOK FUND**
Contact Linda H for levels of donation. Please include $1 with your donation to cover the cost of postage and the envelope. **Cards will be mailed when the donation is received.**

**SUSTAINING THE MIND**
Gail L is accepting donations from $10-$25.
Heather G is handling donations starting at $25.
NOTE: Please add $1 to your donation to cover postage.

**SUNSHINE COMMITTEE**
If you know of any member of our Brandeis community who has had a death or illness in the family BNC will send a complimentary card to that person from the chapter. If you would like to share a simcha in your family, we will be happy to include your good news in our **Simcha Gram** published biweekly in the Brandeis Blast.

Lois F
Presents

**A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE THEATER**

Thursday – April 8, 2021
10:30 – 12:00

Cost of $20 is a charitable contribution to Brandeis National Committee’s Honoring Our History Campaign

**Speakers**

Jason Loewith
Artistic Director
Olney Theatre Center

Alan Paul
Associate Artistic Director
Shakespeare Theatre Company

**Moderator – Stan Levin**

Co-Presidents: Livia W and Linda R
Co-Chairs: Margie L, Tina L, and Barbara L
Brandeis National Committee Greater Washington Chapter

The Bette Aschkenasy Brunch and Learn

Presents

A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE THEATER

Thursday – April 8, 2021
10:30 – 12:00

Please mail the completed form below with a $20 check to:

Sue R
Silver Spring, MD 20906
by March 26, 2021.

Checks should be payable to BNC.

______________________________________________________________________________

Please print

Name: ____________________________________________

Phone: ____________________________________________

Email: ____________________________________________

Enclosed is $ _________

* A zoom link will be sent to you prior to the program