



WRJ Midwest District



The Messenger

WINTER 5773

MARCY FROST, PRESIDENT
JANET OLSON, EDITOR

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Marcy Frost

Dear Midwest District Sisters,

The Midwest District Board of Directors for 2012-2014 took office just three months ago and we already have implemented many changes and innovations. The Executive Committee has been hard at work, and they, along with committee chairs, have made a great start on the goals that were established at the Board Orientation, held at District Convention.

I hope you have all enjoyed the M'Kasher newsletter that has been sent out for *Rosh Chodesh*. In each addition, I have shared with you a little insight into the significance of the new month, provided information about upcoming events, announced *simchas* and sorrows, and reported on district correspondence. If there is something that you would like to see added to this monthly communication, please feel free to share your ideas with me.

We have changed our approach to Shabbat messages. We decided to stop forwarding the WRJ Shabbat Message to our Midwest District Board, since many of our sisters receive it directly from WRJ. I suspect our decision was the right one, since only three people have requested to be on our distribution list to receive the WRJ Shabbat Message. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please let me know.

A Midwest District Shabbat Message is being sent on a monthly basis now rather than a weekly basis. We have timed these messages for the middle of the Hebrew month, so that you are receiving communications from the district approximately every two weeks. The Midwest District Shabbat Message is an opportunity for Executive Committee members to express themselves on the Torah portion, hot topics in WRJ or the world around us, or whatever else they think would be of value to our members. Thanks to Sally Frank and Carol Berger for their beautiful words in December and January. Your feedback on whether these district communications are too much, too little, or just right would be greatly appreciated.

WRJ's Centennial celebration is well under way and Midwest District is developing plans to ensure that our sisterhoods get the most out of this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Michelle Scheinkopf, Vice President of Development and WRJ Projects, and Helen Gold, WRJ Projects Chair, have convened conference calls with the Centennial Ambassadors in Midwest District sisterhoods and plan to have more such calls. It is not too late to appoint an ambassador who can share information from WRJ about the Centennial projects with your sisterhood and help coordinate your participation. If you can't find the right person for the job, the Centennial Ambassadors already at work in the district will partner with unrepresented sisterhoods to make sure the Centennial does not pass you by.

One Midwest District Centennial project will be to encourage sisterhoods to collect 100 items for a local charitable organization. If you are concerned about being able to meet that goal within your sisterhood, Midwest District will help you coordinate with other sisterhoods on a joint collection project. When information on this project is distributed, make sure to contact us to be connected to other sisterhoods.

Finally, I want to remind you to reach out to the District Board. We are here for you, whether you want to get program ideas, bring in a speaker, or learn more about WRJ or the district. Feel free to call me to vent about that difficult member or your synagogue's bureaucracy or just to chat – hearing from you is the best part of being president of the Midwest District.

B'shalom,

Marcy R. Frost.
Midwest District President

WRJ MIDWEST DISTRICT RETURNS TO CINCINNATI FOR THE FRIED LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

In 2006, Midwest District sponsored a trip to Cincinnati to experience the birthplace of American Reform Judaism. We returned January 25-27, 2013 for the Fried Leadership Conference. The biennial leadership conference, now called the Fried Leadership Conference (FLC for short), which is usually targeted at rising leaders of sisterhoods, was expanded in 2013 to include Centennial Ambassadors, WRJ Board members, and the WRJ Chai Society, the alumnae association of the WRJ Board. This year, there were more than 230 women in attendance from all over North America, including 23 women from WRJ Midwest District.

Midwest District members were front and center at the Fried Leadership Conference. **Rozan Anderson** of Temple Beth El in Madison, WI co-chaired the FLC. **Diane Kaplan** from Temple Israel in Minneapolis, MN is the Centennial co-Chair and helped lead the kick-off of the Centennial Celebration. The FLC was also the scene for the launch of the *Covenant of the Generations*, the newest in the Covenant series of writings from sisterhood women and others within the Reform movement, which was chaired by WRJ Midwest District Past President **Sherri Feuer** of Temple Israel, Minneapolis, MN.

WRJ took full advantage of the locale for the 2013 FLC. The weekend started with an optional tour of the National Underground Railroad Museum. "Not only was it fascinating to learn about the journeys of some of the newly freed slaves who made their way to and through Cincinnati, but there is a whole exhibit depicting current events that are begging for new WRJ Resolutions," explained **Denise Fogel**, president of Temple Israel Sisterhood in Minneapolis, MN. In addition to national history, we were privileged to learn about the history of Judaism in America from Rabbi Dr. Gary Zola, Executive Director of the American Jewish Archives. **Leslie Kemp** of Temple Beth El, Madison, WI said that learning "how far we have come as American Jewish women empowers me." Part of our history lesson included a visit to the Plum Street Temple, built in 1866.

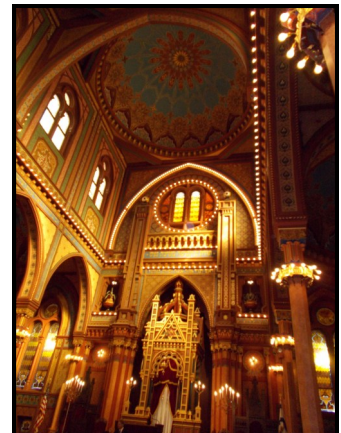
One of the highlights of the FLC was the recording of "*Limdu Heiteiv*," a new WRJ anthem written by Beth Schafer in honor of the Centennial. **Jennifer Cramer**, president of BJBE Sisterhood in Deerfield, IL, said, "What a beautiful anthem, message, and experience to share with all of the WRJ women in attendance. I can hardly wait to hear the CD in December." **Diane Kaplan** of Temple Israel in Minneapolis commented that she "got teary-eyed when we started the 'sisters stanza!'" "What fun to join in together to create a WRJ legacy," added **Janet Buckstein** of Lakeside Congregation for Reform Judaism in Highland Park, IL.

The speakers and workshops inspired attendees. **Gail Gendler**, president of Mt. Zion Temple Sisterhood in St. Paul, MN said, "I feel like there is a path out there – I'm not certain where it will lead or exactly how it will be navigated, but [keynote speaker Rabbi B. Elka Abrahamson] helped provide the direction." The opportunity to get real answers from the "experts at the WRJ Town Hall" was particularly helpful to **Cheryl Stern**, president of Temple Chai Sisterhood in Long Grove, IL. **Sheri Yarosh** of Temple Israel in Minneapolis appreciated the opportunity "to take a social advocacy workshop from Associate Director of the RAC, Barbara Weinstein." Another participant from Temple Israel in Minneapolis, **Beth Birke**, said, "I feel equipped and empowered to assist in leading the changes that our Sisterhood is yearning for. I gleaned indispensable knowledge of where we started, what we as women of Reform Judaism have achieved, and where the future of our women must go."

Sherri Feuer summarized the experience for all of us: "We all had moments of clarity over the weekend. The discussions that ensued will lead to thoughtful evaluation that will serve our sisterhoods well as we move forward in visionary and planned ways to meet the needs of our women, now and in the future."



What a great group!



Plum Street Temple

BEING 100 NEVER LOOKED (OR FELT) SO GOOD!

WRJ, Women of Reform Judaism, is the “parent” organization of all sisterhoods in North America and around the world. Do you know that WRJ is 100 years old, composed of 500 different groups, and 65,000 women strong? Founded in 1913 as The National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods (NFTS), it was born during the struggle for Women’s Rights. The organization’s name was changed in 1993 to Women of Reform Judaism to more accurately reflect the broader scope its work encompasses today.

So, 2013 is WRJ’s Centennial Year. In commemoration of it, WRJ and sisterhoods all over the world are taking part in various activities, customized by individual sisterhoods and by districts. For example, our WRJ Midwest District has decided to have each participating sisterhood do a social action project, of their choosing, where the key theme is “100” — of whatever they decide. For example, a sisterhood could decide to make 100 meals for a local food pantry or visit 100 sick children in the hospital. It is totally up to each sisterhood.

To promote participation, each WRJ sisterhood has been asked to appoint a Centennial Ambassador. This woman is charged with sharing information on WRJ’s various Centennial events, as well as motivating her sisterhood to take part in the various activities around it. The celebration year was officially kicked off January 25th-27th at the Fried Leadership Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio.

A host of activities will take place throughout the year and will include opportunities, such as the following. For more information on these and the many other Centennial events, visit WRJ’s website — <http://www.wrj.org/Centennial/WRJsFirst100Years.aspx>.

The Centennial Shabbat — While officially held March 1st-2nd, sisterhoods are encouraged to have a Centennial Shabbat Celebration any time during this year. While WRJ has supplied a variety of resources for this, each sisterhood is encouraged to add their own “heart” to it.

The WRJ-AJA (American Jewish Archives) Centennial Archival Project — Sisterhoods have been asked to submit artifacts that really capture their sisterhood’s unique qualities or activities. These artifacts will become part of a WRJ collection and will help to bring the story of WRJ for the past 100 years to life. There are guidelines for submission which can also be found on the WRJ website.

The Unsung Heroines Program — This recognition program has been created to honor WRJ members who have helped advance the goals of the organization, but have never been recognized for doing so.

These are just some of the many ways we can all be a part of this blue ribbon year in our collective WRJ sisterhood story.





wrj midwest district
presents

"women's friendships"

what they mean to our lives!

from erev shabbat until late shabbat afternoon

give yourself the gift of Kallah!

we will play & pray...learn & teach...walk & talk
and share the stories of special friendships!



weekend activities led by diane kaplan & rosanne selfon



registration begins at OSRVI at 3:00pm Friday, April 12th

activities begin at 5:00pm

and stay with us until 4:00pm on Saturday, April 13th

BONUS...stay over Saturday night at no extra charge!

for just \$100 per person (2 per room) you will get

shabbat dinner...3 meals on Saturday...breakfast on Sunday!

if you are not a sisterhood member it will be an additional \$25.00 and

if you want your own room it will cost an additional \$50.00

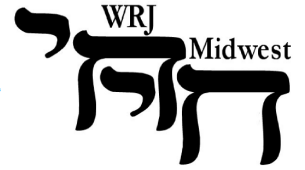
your check, due by March 29th is your reservation
see the included registration form

district executive committee meeting April 12th 10am

Kallah is open to all women belonging to a WRJ affiliated congregation



women's friendships
wrj midwest 2013 Kallah
april 12 - 14 at OSRUI



weekend activities led by diane kaplan & rosanne selfon

Reservations are due by Friday, March 29, 2013 and no refunds will be possible after that date. Make your check payable to WRJ Midwest District and send with this form to:

Marcia Bannon
3908 Parkdale Drive
Bettendorf, Iowa 52722

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Sisterhood _____ City _____ Congregation _____

Email (please print clearly) _____

Phone Number _____

Roommate _____ I need a roommate _____

Preferred Location...Lodge _____ Soref _____

When these facilities are full we will have rooms in Nerenberg

Special Accommodations _____ (i.e., handicap bathroom)

Dietary Restrictions _____ (i.e. allergies and food sensitivities)

You will receive a confirmation letter and additional information when we receive your registration form.

***I agree that my contact information, listed above, can be included on the Kallah roster and pictures of me may be used in THE MESSENGER (Midwest District Newsletter) or by WRJ. _____

We hope everything is crystal clear but...if you have any questions please feel free to contact Kallah Co-chairs:

Kallah Chair Diane Kaplan.....dlkap@aol.com or 239.592.7246 OR

Kallah Co-Chair Marcia Bannon.....mzbannon@aol.com or 563.359.1587

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WRJ MIDWEST DISTRICT CONVENTION IN NOVEMBER 2012

THE LEGACY OF OUR STORIES...THROUGH LAUGHTER & TEARS

by Lynne Turry and Laura Cooper, Convention Co-Chairs

Walking into the Westin Hotel in Itasca, IL on Thursday, November 1, 2012, the women of WRJ Midwest District entered a unique world instilled with spirituality, friendship and education. With outstanding speakers and guest presenters, a great wealth of information was disseminated to our members.

Our weekend started Thursday evening with a wonderful welcoming program. In keeping with the theme *"Legacy of Our Stories...Through Laughter and Tears"*, Lynn Hazen, storyteller extraordinaire, brought to life amazing characters from around the world.

As you can imagine, the weekend was jam-packed with outstanding programming. Friday brought us a beautiful and tasty YES Fund breakfast, which raised \$5600 for a cause near and dear to all of us, Circle of Service. We attended workshops that focused on WRJ and the different departments that make up our organization — Membership, Social Action, and Fundraising, to name a few. We kept our WRJ special guest, Sharon Benoff, (WRJ Vice President and Executive Committee) very busy that afternoon, presenting and answering questions. Shabbat dinner focused on youth, with special presentations by NFTY and Jerry Kaye. Shabbat Services were held at BJBE in Deerfield, where we were so very fortunate to participate in services conducted by Josh Nelson. Spirituality and songs filled our heads as we headed back to the Westin that evening. Many thanks to BJBE for including us in this wonderful opportunity. Saturday morning, we were lead in prayer by Tracy Friend and Julie Webb, both of whom continued to infuse us with the spirit of Shabbat. Immediately following services, Sharon Benoff led us in a Shabbat Smackdown where the delegates wore their *tallitot* and sang the *Shema* in support of the Women of the Wall. Torah study and more followed as we focused on self-growth through learning. Saturday afternoon, our Kavod Luncheon honored all of the award winners — Rhoda Hauptman, Woman of Valor, and Membership. We had an amazing turnout of 200 people that afternoon. As Shabbat drew to a close, Marcy Frost became our new WRJ Midwest District President, being installed by Rabbi Sym Glaser from Temple Israel, Minneapolis, MN. Marcy's attention to detail, spirituality, creativity, and sense of humor are a recipe for good leadership that will serve our district well for the next two years. We all looked forward to the entertainment that night and we were not disappointed. Caryn Bark, a local comedienne from Skokie, IL, had us all laughing at her all too relatable stories of family and friends. We dispersed for the evening, some to the hospitality room and some to the Mah Jongg game room. How much fun, how late and how loud...only they know.

We concluded the business of the district Sunday morning. Following the plenary, the new board met for a board orientation, lead by Marcy Frost. Those not on the board were fortunate to have Roz Varan from Channel 7 Chicago News and Frank Alkyer, publisher of *DownBeat Magazine* to present informative and interesting workshops. At the group closing program, we viewed a montage presented by Barbara Heinrich, said a few final words, hugged, and bade our new and constant friends adieu.

The success of this beautiful convention could not have happened without the dedication of the numerous chairs and volunteers, who participated tirelessly to insure it was a District Convention not soon forgotten. We would also like to say thank you to Marla Goldberg and the outgoing board for their two years of hard work and service. Your dedication is very much appreciated!

And in keeping with our closing program – our six words:

We came, we saw, we did!!

— or —

We worked, we played, we sang!!



Convention fun!



Comedienne Caryn Bark tickled our funny bones



Marla Goldberg congratulates Convention co-Chairs Lynne Turry & Laura Cooper on a job well done.



Michelle Morris and Sue Stein celebrate!



Our fabulous WRJ Singers!



Marcy Frost, Laura Cooper, Lynne Turry
A winning combination!



Sandi Firsell models the Centennial nightshirts —
a must-have!

...and more!



WRJ Vice President Sharon Benoff (c) holds the Torah after Saturday morning Shabbat



Outgoing Pres. Marla Goldberg receives gift from incoming Pres. Marcy Frost on behalf of our district



Members of Sisterhood Temple Beth Israel, Skokie, IL



Singing the Sh'ma during Shabbat Smackdown,
in support of the Women of the Wall



2012 Woman of Valor Honorees



Marcy Frost and family—a handsome group!

...and more!



Check us out at www.wrjmidwest.org.
Find up-to-date information, calendar, ideas for your sisterhood, useful links, photos,
messages from our president and WRJ, and much more.

NEVER ATTENDED A WRJ MIDWEST DISTRICT CONVENTION?

Here are reasons why you should - from this year's first-timers and more!
(Apologies to those who submitted - couldn't get all the name and location information!!)

I am a member of Sisterhood Temple Beth Israel in Skokie, IL and this past November attended my first WRJ Midwest convention. I decided to go mainly because it was being held in Illinois, not far from home. I really had no expectations other than a nice weekend away at a hotel, (i.e. - no laundry or grocery shopping). From the moment we arrived until the time we departed on Sunday afternoon, I was enthralled, educated, motivated and inspired. I found the weekend to be completely well-organized, with options available throughout each day. I met new Sisterhood friends, but perhaps more special to me was getting to know my TBI Sisters on a more personal basis. I had a wonderful experience and look forward to attending more events through WRJ.

~~Joanne Merritt, Sisterhood Temple Beth Israel in Skokie, IL

I enjoyed every minute — the people, the discussions, the singing, the praying, and the entertainment. Like I said when asked to sum up my feelings in six words, "First time but not the last."

~~Linda Golden, Temple Emanuel Sisterhood in Davenport, IA

I found the convention to be informative. Held in a lovely location. Everyone seemed to have a good time.

~~Laura Sapoznik

I attended the WRJ Midwest District Convention in Itasca. It was my first time attending a convention. I was so impressed with the content, the time management, and the people I met from congregations around our district. The speakers were uniformly excellent, as were the breakout sessions. I couldn't stop talking about it with my friends and hope to bring more people to MN next time around!

~~Sue Hanover,

The convention was very organized and I could tell that so much thought and care went into the planning. I really enjoyed the breakout sessions. I took away guidelines for writing a d'var Torah. That was a topic that I personally found rewarding and inspiring. Attending the Friday night Shabbat services at BJBE was a great event, and our own Sisterhood/WRJ services on Saturday Shabbat morning was full of warmth and created a special sense of purpose in a Women's Reform community.

~~Susan Hirschberg

I was impressed by the generational commitment I witnessed among several mother-daughter duos who attended and who presented sessions. Others spoke of grandmothers, of blessed memory, who had built Sisterhoods in their home communities and elsewhere. As this convention occurred on the eve of our Centennial celebration, these generations made the reality of the Centennial and its importance more immediate for me.

~~Ann

What I enjoyed most was being able to network with other Sisterhood leaders and finally put some faces to all the letters and messages we receive. I actually think the best way we learn new ways to engage with the women in our home congregations is by trading ideas with each other at these conferences. The women I met at the Midwest Conference were so friendly and willing to share. It will be fun to reconnect with them at future WRJ events.

~~Diane Moore, Women of North Shore Congregation Israel in Glencoe, IL

I had a wonderful time at the Midwest District convention. Not only did I meet new women, but I had a chance to really get to know the women in my own sisterhood. I was very impressed with the seminars, the food, the entertainment, and how smoothly everything ran. It was a great weekend and a lot of fun!

~~Sheila Rosenfeld, TBI Sisterhood in Skokie, IL

MORE THOUGHTS ON CONVENTION

Belonging to Sisterhood for many years, I was deeply impressed by the dedication of the officers and committee members who planned this convention. Their ability to acquire speakers who presented workshops on a variety of subject matter was incredible. I found myself having difficulty in choosing which one to go to. The choices could be on social, intellectual, and some of them were games on the lighter side. There were different agencies represented so we could pass this information on to those we knew who might take advantage of them. I hope this helpful. I truly felt awed by the magnitude of the work these women did.

~~Ina Hill, Temple Beth Israel in Skokie, IL

This was actually my second Midwest convention. Even as a second-timer, I found the women inspirational and the speakers motivating. I was glad I attended. I would always encourage others to participate.

~~Sharon Green and Terri Benson , co-Presidents, Temple B'rith Sholom in Springfield, IL

WRJ DISTRICT CONVENTION REVIEW

One can't explain the "magic" of attending a WRJ District Convention... You have to be there!!

Since joining Temple Chai Sisterhood 26 years ago and hearing how wonderful WRJ conventions are, I finally went and had the opportunity to experience the "magic" first hand.

I was one of 23 Temple Chai Sisters who went to the District Convention, held this year in Itasca, IL from November 1-4, 2012. The convention co-Chairs were Laura Cooper and our own Lynne Turry. They did an outstanding job in orchestrating such a remarkable event.

The convention was attended by over 200 women from an eight state region. The seminars and workshops I attended were interesting and informative. The highlights for me were attending Friday night services at BJBE in Deerfield with Jewish singer, Josh Nelson, participating in the WRJ Shema Smackdown, honoring our own Leah Miska as a *Woman of Valor* at the Saturday luncheon, laughing with Saturday night entertainer comedienne Caryn Bark, and meeting ABC Chicago Channel 7 news and traffic reporter Roz Varon (who is Sephardic like me).

I am so proud to be a part of such a vibrant and energetic Temple Chai Sisterhood! Four of our Sisterhood Sisters were honored for their personal contributions to the YES Fund and our Sisterhood was recognized with the following honors:

- YES Fund Roll of Honor
- JBI International Reward
- Friends Plus World Union Progressive Judaism Award
- Rhoda Hauptman Memorial Award – Honorable Mention
- Leah Miska – Woman of Valor

I am so looking forward to attending the next WRJ District Convention in Minneapolis, MN on October 23-27, 2014, when our own past Sisterhood President, Lynne Turry, will be installed as WRJ President. I am excited to experience the "magic" once again and encourage others to experience it themselves!

B'Shalom, Elaine Ross, Temple Chai in Long Grove, IL



WOMEN OF REFORM JUDAISM
ensuring the future

WRJ Midwest District
Good and Welfare

***WRJ Midwest District wants to share your joys and sorrows,
so please send the information to Marcy Frost at
frostm@moss-barnett.com. Thank you!***



WRJ Midwest District Women at Ben-Gurion grave
(left-to-right: Rozan Anderson, Sandi Firsell, Marcy Frost, and Marlen Frost)

A BIT OF OUR HISTORY

This article was written before the Convention in November, but this is the first chance to share it with you.

My name is Linn Ullenbrauck and I am the Data Management/Directory Chair for the District. Right now, I am knee-deep in updating the directory so it will be ready by the Convention. This summer I emailed all the sisterhood presidents of the district and also the women who are on the 2012-2014 slate, requesting their contact information for the directory. Emails and paper informational forms were also sent to all the past presidents of the district. This job that I have has been very rewarding. Many of you know how hard it is to put together this document and I want to thank you for all your positive feedback and support.

One of the most rewarding feelings is knowing that I'm making a difference in someone's life. I recently received a note back from Jane Brooks, past president of the former District 20 that merged with District 18 years ago. Jane said "So good to know #20 is still a happy vibrant group!!" and "Thank you! I was a happy Sisterhood (& Midwest) member!" Jane was with Temple Israel Sisterhood in Omaha, NE. She also mentioned her husband was the rabbi there. When I shared this note with Marcy Frost, it made her smile because Sidney Brooks was her rabbi growing up. Jane lives in Braintree, MA.

Jane was able to confirm that Past President Jan Permeter passed away a few years ago. Jan served as past president of the former District 20 from 1974-1976. May her memory be a blessing.

I recently received an email from the daughter of Miriam Goodman, past president of the former District 18. Her daughter confirmed her contact information and provided Miriam's birthday. Miriam just turned 101 on August 27th and may be the Midwest District's oldest living past president! Happy birthday, Miriam!

While updating the directory, I also noticed that we had a few past presidents listed on the past presidents pages of the directory, but we did not have any contact information for them. Who better to ask for help than another past president? Thanks to Susan Pittelman, who was able to connect with District 20 Past President Lois Margolin, who lives in Denver, CO and was so happy that we reached out to her. Adrienne Daskal is helping with the research as well. It's important to know the status of our past presidents.

Researching the past presidents of the district has been very rewarding because we made these wonderful ladies' day just by reaching out to them to let them know we were thinking about them and wanted to know how they were doing. A little kindness goes a long way. We made each other smile and it is so rewarding. I have found it rewarding to update the directory this year mostly because of the recent connections with past presidents as well as other members of the district. Thank you all for making this task worthwhile!



WRJ Midwest District extends its sincere condolences to the family and friends of Janet Goldberg, z"l, who died January 1st. She was a member of the OSRUI Board and a beloved member of BJBE.

May her memory always be for a blessing.

OR AMI

"Light of My People" Award

It is time to apply for an Or Ami "Light of My People" Award, given for Excellence in Programming. Don't wait to send in your application — do it now! The 2013 awards will be recognized at the WRJ 49th Assembly, which will be held in San Diego, CA from December 11 to 15, 2013.

The guidelines and application for the Or Ami Award are available to download on the WRJ website at www.wrj.org/orami.

The Or Ami application and selection procedures have been "green" since 2009. Your application must be submitted electronically. If you do not have e-mail or a computer, ask one of your leaders to fill out the application and submit it to Amanda Feldman, WRJ Meetings & Programs Manager, at afeldman@wrj.org.

Please be sure to submit your applications as soon as you can. It is best to complete and send it in right after your program; there is no need to wait! Applications will be accepted through March 29th, 2013.

All award-winning programs and projects will be available on the Women of Reform Judaism website and in other WRJ resources. The program ideas will be available for all WRJ-affiliated women's groups and WRJ Districts to use, and reflect our work together to fulfill the traditional Jewish mandate of *Tikkun Olam*, working toward healing our fractured world.

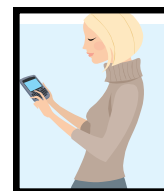
We urge you to submit your successful programs and projects for consideration for an Or Ami Award. Bring recognition to your women's group or WRJ District and share your special achievements with all Women of Reform Judaism! If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Feldman by phone (866-WRJ-5924 or 212-650-4054) or by email (afeldman@wrj.org).

We look forward to receiving your submissions!



**This is your newsletter. What do you want to see on these pages?
Send me your ideas, photos, contributions.**

Janet Olson, Editor
jlolson2011@gmail.com



DATES TO REMEMBER

April 12-14, 2013
WRJ Midwest District Kallah at OSRUI
April 12 at 10:00 a.m.
Executive Committee Meeting

May 3-5, 2013
Midwest District/OSRUI Mahj/Canasta/Bridge Weekend at OSRUI
Instructions, prizes, Shabbat services, and lots of time
to enjoy OSRUI, the game tables, and each other.

May 13, 2013
WRJ Sisterhood Presidents Orientation Webinar
WRJ will be holding a webinar for sisterhood presidents., upcoming and seasoned!
Watch the WRJ Listserv for registration information.

May 29-31, 2013
District Presidents Council
District presidents and first vice presidents will be meeting at Camp Kutz in New York.

June 1-3, 2013
WRJ Board Meeting
New York, NY

June 15, 2013
Greater Illinois/Northwest Indiana Area Day
Temple Anshe Sholom in Olympia Fields, IL
Planning for this event is underway.
Contact Area Directors Penny Shnay or Gayle Weil if you have questions.

June 22, 2013
Minnesota/North Dakota/South Dakota Area Day
Moved from April to June 22, Mt. Zion Temple in St. Paul, MN will host this Area Day.
More information coming soon!

June 22, 2013
Metropolitan Chicago Area Day
The Chicagoland sisterhoods will gather at Temple Chai in Long Grove, IL.
This is a highlight of the year for many, so please plan to attend.
Questions? Contact your Area Director, Janet Buckstein, Alese Goers, or Gloria Kaiz.

September 20-22, 2013
WRJ Midwest District Leadership Retreat and Interim Board Meeting at OSRUI
Executive Committee Meeting, September 20

December 11-15, 2013
Centennial Assembly in San Diego, CA