

# Connections

Fall 2023 | 5784

Traveling Henrietta *Connecting* with Super South and the World!





## Super South Leadership

**Hadassah Southeastern President**  
**Michele Weiner-Merbaum**,  
mweiner-merbaum@hadassah.org

**Hadassah Southern President**  
**Susan Smolinsky**, ssmolinsky@hadassah.org

**Hadassah Southern Seaboard President**  
**Sharon Goretsky**, sgoretsky@hadassah.org

**Hadassah Super South Resource Chair**  
**Lynn Gold-Benjamin**, lgbenjamin@hadassah.org

**Hadassah Super South Annual Planning Chair**  
**Marsha Werner**, mwerner@hadassah.org

## Super South Staff & Contacts

**Margo Gold**, Managing Director,  
mgold@hadassah.org | 470-482-6777

**Robin Hyman**, Sr. Manager, Grassroots  
Engagement, rhyman@hadassah.org |  
470-482-6779

**Brettney Douglas-Al Hindi**, Marketing Specialist,  
bdouglasal hindi@hadassah.org | 678-210-7552

**Carla Lopez**, Administrative Assistant,  
clopez@hadassah.org | 470-482-6778

**Begoña Aldeanueva**, Finance Operations  
Manager, baldeanueva@hadassah.org | 561-526-4571

**Megan Cajuste**, Finance Administrator,  
mcajuste@hadassah.org | 561-526-4568

**Betsy Silverfine**, Annual Giving Officer,  
Philanthropy Division, bsilverfine@hadassah.org |  
561-526-4570

**Yael Smookler**, Director of Development North  
and Central Florida, Southeast  
ysmookler@hadassah.org

**Diana Warth**, Director of Development,  
South dwarth@hadassah.org

## Hadassah Super South Office

1050 Crown Pointe Parkway, Suite 500  
Atlanta, GA 30338

T: 678-443-2961 | F: 877-238-7813

## Hadassah Super South Finance Office

1325 S. Congress Avenue #209  
Boynton Beach, FL 33426

Email: [supersouth@hadassah.org](mailto:supersouth@hadassah.org)  
Web: [www.hadassah.org/supersouth](http://www.hadassah.org/supersouth)

## Important Links for Event Planning

### Service Request Portal

<https://hadassahsupersouth.org/Portal>  
Flyers, Online Registration, Zooms

### Online Event Budget Form

<https://hadassahsupersouth.org/BudgetForm>

### Event Calendar (read-only)

<https://hadassahsupersouth.org/EventCalendar>

At-a-glance planning calendar of region,  
chapter, National events



## Connect with Hadassah Super South

## Connecting with You, the Heart of Hadassah!

We hope that your holiday season was filled with joy and that you are refreshed and ready to start the New Year anew. Our ties to Hadassah provide us with a strong foundation of passion, support, and purpose as we strengthen our connection to the Jewish community and to Israel.



(L-R) Sharon, Traveling Henrietta,  
Michele and Susan, National  
Assembly, Chicago July, 2023

Hadassah Medical Organization continues to be on the cutting edge of medical science. Medical researchers at HMO are able to study cancers and other diseases through the use of organoids. Organoids are a miniaturized and simplified version of an organ, grown from a tiny biopsy of a patient's cells. These closely mimic human organs and can help doctors provide personalized treatment to the patient. The Organoid Center at Hadassah Hospital is the first of its kind in Israel. How exciting is that!

Also, be sure to check out Hadassah's compelling Zionism programming offered nationally and locally throughout the year, including the two-day *Inspire Zionism: Tech, Trailblazers and Taboos* via Zoom in October. Not able to attend? Catch the encore presentations on Hadassah.org.

We hope you had as much fun traveling with Henrietta Szold as we did. It was so much fun to see all of your photos with Henrietta as she traveled with you to exotic places, or just down to the local library. You and Henrietta helped to raise vital funds that allow Hadassah to fulfill its mission to heal the world.

**Michele Weiner-Merbaum**  
President,  
Hadassah Southeastern

**Susan Smolinsky**  
President,  
Hadassah Southern

**Sharon Goretsky**  
President, Hadassah  
Southern Seaboard

## Coming in 2024!

## Fall Tri-Region Conference in NASHVILLE



Mazel tov to **Carol Ann Schwartz**, elected as Hadassah's 28th National President! Carol will begin her four-year term on January 1, 2024.



Carol Ann and Sharon Goretsky  
celebrating Israel's birthday  
in style in April

## One Book, One Hadassah & Book Clubs

**One Book, One Hadassah**, Hadassah's national book program, is designed for book lovers like you! Join in for virtual, easy-access engaging discussions about the monthly book pick and live author interviews hosted by **Lisa Hostein**, Executive Editor of *Hadassah Magazine*.

Locally, there are hundreds of Hadassah chapter book groups & clubs that are thriving and always welcome new participants. These clubs have the flexibility to choose when and how they meet (in-person, online or both!) and which books they want to discuss.

This year, a new 'Book Club Chair' portfolio was added to chapter boards and a National chair position created to support the clubs' activities, with training and info sharing for book club leaders.

Meet **Briann Shear**, former Hadassah New Orleans President and first National Book Club Chair! Briann brings her enthusiasm and immense resourcefulness to create the new "BOOK IT! The Newsletter for Hadassah Book Club Leaders." Each issue offers valuable ideas, insights, and strategies to help book clubs thrive, plus exciting ways to connect local groups with One Book, One Hadassah.

*Come along with us on this adventure where the love and joy of reading connect us all!*

**Want a sneak peek? Check out Book It!, the book club newsletter.**

[http://wzoa.convio.net/site/MessageViewer?dlv\\_id=42018&em\\_id=57431.0](http://wzoa.convio.net/site/MessageViewer?dlv_id=42018&em_id=57431.0)

"One Book, One Hadassah" is your ticket to a world of literary wonder!

**Sign up today at:**

<https://www.hadassah.org/virtual-programming/one-book-one-hadassah>



**Briann Shear**, National Hadassah Book Club Chair



## ACT NOW: [Hadassah.org/actioncenter](https://www.hadassah.org/actioncenter)

### Combating Antisemitism

**H**adassah is deeply committed to combating antisemitism in all forms. But it cannot be eliminated without first defining what it is - that's why adopting the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Working Definition of Antisemitism is so important. This definition is recognized as an essential tool in naming and fighting Jew hatred and has been adopted by 30 U.S. states, including Alabama, Arkansas, Tennessee, Virginia & West Virginia.



(L-R) Hadassah member & Georgia State Representative **Esther Panitch** (D-51), Co-sponsor of Georgia House Bill 30 to adopt IHRA in Georgia, with Hadassah Greater Atlanta Zionist Affairs Chair, **Simone Wilker**, hailing the bill's passage in the GA House.



### Breast Cancer Awareness Month

**H**adassah is committed to empowering patients and caregivers, from prevention and early detection to treatment and long-term wellness. Join Hadassah in supporting the bipartisan **Comprehensive Cancer Survivorship Act** to help survivors navigate care and access support resources through, and beyond, a cancer diagnosis.



**SCAN HERE TO TAKE ACTION!**



*Did you know?*

**1 in 8 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime.**





## Hadassah Greater Atlanta Game Day

Where winning hearts, creating connections, and fun knows no bounds!

On May 16th, Hadassah Greater Atlanta, Etz Aviv, Ketura, Metulla, Mt. Scopus & Health Professionals hosted a fun Game Day at Temple Emanu-El. 89 players enjoyed



Mahjong, Canasta, Scrabble and a basket drawing, raising \$2,880 in support of Youth Aliyah. Thanks to Game Day Chair, **Anita Otero** and all who helped make it a winning day!

## Exploring the World of CHOCOLATE with Hadassah Ketura

The visit to Chamberlain's Chocolate Factory in Roswell with Hadassah Ketura in May was a delicious and memorable experience. The photo cannot do justice to the unforgettable chocolatey adventure they had during the chocolate-tasting event. From exploring the diverse flavors and textures of chocolate to actively participating in the creation of barks and bars, it was a delectable time!



*Chocolates and a sweet smile, a recipe for pure delight!*

## Hadassah Greater Atlanta Chesed Award '23

The 32nd annual Hadassah Greater Atlanta Chesed (loving kindness) Student Awards took place on May 7, 2023 at Congregation Or Hadash in Sandy Springs.

HGA and their partner JumpSpark honored twenty-three of the best and brightest young leaders representing synagogues, Jewish day schools, and organizations in the greater Atlanta community.



*2023 Chesed Student Award Winners*



(R-L) "Team Chesed" **Linda Weinroth**, Chesed Co-Chair, **Jessie Schwartzman**, JumpSpark Manager, **Phyllis M. Cohen**, Chesed Co-Chair, **Robin Hyman**

## Hadassah Hilton Head Annual Day of Giving Celebration

Hadassah Hilton Head Annual Giving event on May 7th featured a delightful garden brunch at **Susan Kowitz's** home, followed by a presentation on research developments at Hadassah Medical Organization from **Karen Rosenson Ulm**, National Portfolio Council Member. The day concluded with the celebration of 2 new Chai Society



*Celebrating Annual Givers!*

members and a step-up to Silver Chai! Special thanks to **Susie Rosenzweig**, Keepers of the Gate and Chai Society Chair.

## Southeastern Region Springtime in Savannah!

Southeastern Region members gathered in historic Savannah in late April for a weekend of learning, leadership development, sisterhood and fun. The program included expert panels, Board installation and a lovely celebration of Annual Giving and Israel's 75th birthday.



(L-R) Renowned Hadassah leaders **Karen Ulm**, **Paula Zucker** & **Linda Hakerem** headlined the interactive session 'Dealing with Change.'



## Hadassah New Orleans

In honor of Heart Month, New Orleans Hadassah presented "Women and Heart Disease: What You Absolutely Must Know" on Monday, March 20, 2023. Fifty women gathered virtually for an enlightening presentation by Dr. Mario A. Boskis, renowned cardiologist from Buenos Aires, Argentina. Attendees gained a heightened awareness of heart disease risks for women and important prevention strategies.

## Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge Cruisin' on a Sunday Afternoon

On August 20th, the SS Hadassah MemberSHIP set sail with thirty-six passengers on its inaugural voyage, the Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge "Cruising on a Sunday Afternoon" event.

Accompanied by tour guides, attendees embarked on nine exciting excursions to explore Hadassah's diverse offerings, including HMO, Youth Aliyah villages, Membership, Book Club, Evolve: The Next Generation, and more. At each port of call, guests delved into the life of Henrietta Szold, Hadassah's visionary founder, all while savoring tropical refreshments and capturing memories with our Traveling Henrietta.

As they prepared to dock, two new members are welcomed into the chapter. Heartfelt gratitude was extended to the ship-shape volunteer crew!



Onboard and ready to explore the world of Hadassah one port at a time!



Sailing away to new horizons and endless possibilities

## Hadassah Chattanooga

On Sunday, February 5th, Hadassah Chattanooga presented an exclusive opportunity to view **Americans and The Holocaust**, a special traveling exhibit of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum that examines Americans' responses to Nazism, World War II, and the persecution of Europe's Jews.



Alison Lebovitz

This event drew together 70 attendees, including members from Hadassah Chattanooga, Hadassah Knoxville-Oak Ridge, and beyond, for a truly enlightening experience. The Main Chattanooga Public Library, typically closed on Sundays, opened its doors exclusively for the Hadassah gathering. A docent-led tour of the exhibit elicited many questions and was followed by a program featuring speaker extraordinaire, **Alison Lebovitz**, a member of Hadassah Chattanooga and the Tennessee Holocaust Committee.



## Hadassah Baton Rouge Membership Shabbat



(L-R) Member Impact & Giving Chair **Marla Kameny**, Southern Region President **Susan Smolinsky**, Rabbi **Sarah Smiley**, Eileen Shieber and Ellen Bander

On May 19th, Hadassah Baton Rouge held a membership Shabbat and oneg at the Unified Jewish Congregation of Baton Rouge. Over 60 synagogue members attended and were treated to a wonderful sit-down dinner and an opportunity to learn about Henrietta Szold and Hadassah.

## Hadassah Birmingham



"Dreamgirls" of Hadassah Birmingham enjoying the performance together on February 18th





## Hadassah Raleigh-Cary Celebrates Israel at 75

Hadassah Raleigh-Cary hosted a festive event on May 5th to mark Israel's 75th birthday. The celebration featured a spread of Israeli snacks, wine, and a delightful cake. Attendees brought meaningful items that represented their connection to Israel, such as candlesticks, woven textiles, and cherished photographs and shared personal anecdotes. To add to the fun, the evening wrapped up with a rousing game of Israeli Jeopardy, with Traveling Henrietta joining in the excitement.



*On this special milestone, we celebrate the enduring spirit of Israel and its people! Happy 75th birthday, Israel!*



## Hadassah Greensboro-Winston Salem

Hadassah Greensboro-Winston Salem's Annual Big Gifts event honored the memories of Ann Falk, Laurie Katz and Zmira Sabbah, and included a special tribute by **Risa Hanau**, Chapter Past President.

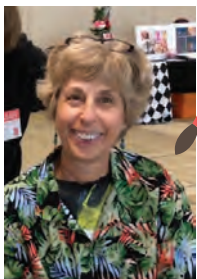
Highlighting the evening was keynote speaker **Marcie Natan**, Past National President, who offered a timely and inspirational talk on "Ukraine to Israel: A Purposeful Journey." More than \$20,000 was raised.

## Hadassah Charlotte Celebrate the Tatas 2023

**C**elebrate the TaTas 2023 is double the fun: Painting Days and The Reveal. Painting Days are a fun-filled experience for participants and volunteers alike. Volunteer artists body paint models from neck to navel. Photographer volunteers take pictures of the completed artwork, to be displayed at *The Reveal*.

*The Reveal* is a festive fundraising event on October 26th, celebrating the artwork, survivors and Hadassah's cutting-edge research and lifesaving treatments at HMO. Guest speaker will be Rabbi Judith Schindler, Sklut Professor of Jewish Studies at Queens University of Charlotte.

Over the years, Celebrate the Tatas has raised over \$350,000 for HMO.



*A peek at painted model, Aliza Bricklin*



*In the Pink! Cindy Bolokofsky, 'Celebrate the Tatas' Chairperson*

## Hadassah Richmond Advocating at the Capitol

**S**outhern Seaboard President, **Sharon Goretsky**, and Richmond Advocacy Team member, **Gail Moskowitz**, stand for repro rights at a rally in Richmond, VA. Hadassah Richmond's annual fall advocacy program features "Reproductive Freedom from a Jewish Perspective."

**“Women's health doesn't advance itself. It often takes many voices to ensure women's inclusion in the process.”**

*~ Rebecca Young, Attorney & Hadassah Richmond OVP*



## Evolving Zionism: A Safe Space for Candid Conversations

Evolving Zionism, a new initiative from Hadassah, is an opportunity for candid conversations in a safe environment where all views are respected and hatred has no place. How we at Hadassah talk about Israel today is in some ways different from the way we've talked about Israel in the past. Evolving Zionism shares multiple perspectives and helps us strengthen our identity as American Zionists. It's a chance to ask difficult questions like: *What does it mean to be a Zionist today? Does being a Zionist require unwavering, unquestioning support of Israel? Have "Zionist" and "Zionism" become problematic words? What do you think about how Zionism is presented in the media? How do we talk to our children about Zionism?"*

We hope this effort will help you clarify and defend your views and give you the tools to move the conversation forward. Listening, learning, and leading exemplify what Hadassah is about. We are a group of passionate, committed women who DO and who are working to gain the tools and confidence to heal our world together.

Hadassah's Educational Programs provide informative resources that cover the history and culture of Judaism, Zionism and Israel. Our comprehensive programmatic tools are updated regularly and available to all members.

Learn more at [www.hadassah.org/how-we-help/israel-zionism](http://www.hadassah.org/how-we-help/israel-zionism)



## Hadassah Connects with Momentum



Hadassah Nashville's "Nash 10" are getting ready for their amazing Hadassah/Momentum trip to Israel!

In late October, ten dynamic women from Hadassah Nashville (along with three other Hadassah chapters) are traveling to Israel with partner organization Momentum, for a journey in self-discovery, inspired by a passion for Jewish connection and commitment to Hadassah and its future. This is the first Hadassah/Momentum trip for Super South.

Momentum alumna **Pam Abramowitz** is the Hadassah Nashville Momentum Community Leader.



The "Nash 10" meet Hadassah's next president, **Carol Ann Schwartz**, who energized and empowered the group with the amazing work of Hadassah.



EVERY DAY, OUR DOCTORS IN ISRAEL  
SAVE LIVES AND GIVE HOPE.

### You have the power to support their lifesaving work.

The world-renowned Hadassah Medical Organization treats one million people each year – regardless of race, religion, or nationality – and advances groundbreaking medical research that saves countless lives.

Help our doctors bring healing to the people of Israel – and the world. Become a **Keeper of the Gate**.

Your minimum annual gift of \$1,000 ensures Hadassah's impact every day, in Israel, the US and around the world. Other levels are available, including the new \$3,600 Szold level.



### HADASSAH ANNUAL GIVING

Where Compassion Meets Commitment  
[hadassah.org/keepers](http://hadassah.org/keepers)

Contact **Betsy Silverfine**, Annual Giving Officer  
[bsilverfine@hadassah.org](mailto:bsilverfine@hadassah.org) • 561.526.4570



## Who We Are

Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America, is a volunteer organization that inspires a passion for and commitment to the land, the people and the future of Israel. Through education, advocacy, and youth development, and its support of medical care and research at Hadassah Medical Organization, Hadassah enhances the health and lives of people in Israel, the United States and worldwide.



## Connections

Published by Hadassah Super South  
1050 Crown Pointe Parkway, Suite 500  
Atlanta, GA 30338

Office 678.443.2961  
supersouth@hadassah.org

*You can help!*

**AT WAR: HEAL ISRAEL NOW**

Support Hadassah  
efforts to save lives!

**PLEASE DONATE NOW:**

- ✓ Hadassah.org
- ✓ Scan the QR code



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It's about delivering hope to Israel's mothers  
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[go.hadassah.org/pediatrics-myh](https://go.hadassah.org/pediatrics-myh)



**Delivering Hope**  
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HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION

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**who is  
elevating  
Zionist  
voices?**

Hadassah is. Don't miss this  
virtual event spotlighting  
Zionism in all its complexities.



Hosted by  
**Stephanie Butnick**  
(Unorthodox podcast)

**October 25, 12-3:30 pm ET  
& October 26, 4-8 pm ET**

**INSPIRE**  
TECH, TRAILBLAZERS AND TATTOOS  
**ZIONISM**



**REGISTER NOW, virtual event**  
[go.hadassah.org/inspire-bulletin](https://go.hadassah.org/inspire-bulletin)