

News & Views Conejo Valley Chapter

Volume 4 Issue 3

Winter 2009

BOOKS 'N BRUNCH



A C A D E M Y
AWARD winning
movie producer
Walter Mortimer Mirisch
will be our very
special guest
speaker at our
spring authors'
event which will
be held on
Monday, April
20, 2009, at

9:30 am in the Westlake Hyatt Hotel. Among his noted accomplishments are the movies "Fiddler on the Roof", "West Side Story", "Some Like it Hot" and the original Pink Panther movies. The Mirisch Corporation's impressive list of pictures include: Best Picture Oscar winners: Billy Wilder's "The Apartment" in 1960, "The Russians Are Coming, The Russians Are Coming" and "The Thomas Crown Affair". In 1968, Mr. Mirisch received the Best Picture Academy Award for "In The Heat Of The Night". He will be discussing his book "I Thought We Were Making Movies, Not History". A very entertaining speaker, we will hear how the movies were made, along with many stories about the stars.

Our day will begin with guest speaker **Jacqueline Berger**, known as 'The First Ladies Lady' and author of "Love, Lies, and Tears, An Intimate Look at America's First Ladies". She brings these Dynamic Women from History to Life, while revealing the scandals and false rumors surrounding them. Ms. Berger has



been invited to share her knowledge to standing room only audiences at Presidential Libraries, Universities, Conferences, Professional Groups, Political clubs, and National Organizations.

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**Invitations to BOOKS N' BRUNCH will be mailed the first week of March. As with all our events, your friends and family are always welcome.**

**Don't forget to visit us on the web -- For all the latest news and updates!!!**

[www.brandeisconejo.org](http://www.brandeisconejo.org)



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### BNC Mission Statement:

**Brandeis National Committee is dedicated 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, nonsectarianism, and service to the community.**

## ...a message from your Presidium



In this first issue of 2009, we wish all of our members a healthy and joyful New Year. Our chapter is truly blessed. We have continued to attract dedicated, enthusiastic and

supportive new members. Welcome to all of our new members. To those of you who have renewed your membership and to our new members, we owe all of you a huge debt of gratitude for making the Conejo Valley Chapter the first chapter in the nation to achieve our membership goal assigned to us by the National Board.

With the New Year comes the task of planning for future leadership. Under the expert guidance of Helen Rosenfeldt, Chairwoman of our Nominating Committee, Helen and her committee have provided your Presidium and our chapter members with an outstanding slate of officers to serve on the Board for the year 2009-10. This committee is truly a group of extremely dedicated, hard working women who put in tireless hours to provide us with leadership that will ensure the future success of our chapter. They have performed an awesome job.

To all those officers and directors who have agreed to serve for another year, we extend our sincere gratitude. And to the new officers and directors we welcome you and offer our heartfelt appreciation.

The worldwide economic crisis has impacted all of us and of course, adversely affected the outstanding Uni-

### Brandeis University Site Bytes

Brandeis University's motto, "truth, even unto its innermost parts," aptly describes the research done there. Brandeis research is at the heart of many societal, artistic, intellectual and scientific advances. The University's research is interdisciplinary, bold and collaborative. It's an approach that enables the faculty to leverage the relatively small size of the university to achieve an impact well beyond the sum of its parts. Brandeis is wholly committed to the proposition that basic research is the engine of innovation in human health and well-being. This ongoing research is fueling many societal improvements, among them food products that lower blood cholesterol, DNA tests that detect human and animal disease (including cancer and avian flu) and advances in treating neurodegenerative diseases.

For news, multimedia presentations and constant updates about Brandeis University go to [www.brandeis.edu/now](http://www.brandeis.edu/now)

versity we so proudly support and its students. Sadly, at a time when students need the most help in the form of increased financial aid, the University is less able to provide it because of the decline in the value of its endowment. Now, more than ever, we need your continued financial assistance to maintain and carry on the vital research on neurodegenerative diseases as well as help finance the Brandeis University Scholarship Fund. Your attendance at our various fundraising events will go a long way in helping us reach those goals.

Finally...we once again appeal to you, our membership to take an active role in our chapter's growth and planning by serving on various committees that meet during the year to plan our activities. You'll find that serving this way is very rewarding and lots of fun, too. We know there is a lot of talent out there with creative ideas. So please get involved

Your Presidium:

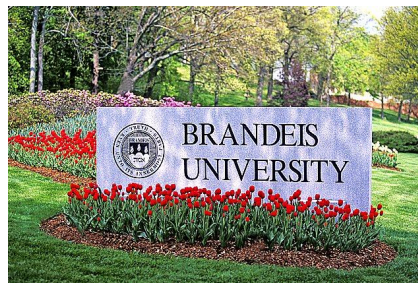
*Beverly Sklar (805)449-0039 [stephensklar@aol.com](mailto:stephensklar@aol.com)*

*Honey Bencomo (818) 991-1391 [danhoney@aol.com](mailto:danhoney@aol.com)*

*Sharon Cohen (818) 879-0744 [forshar1@yahoo.com](mailto:forshar1@yahoo.com)*

### NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO VISIT CONEJO VALLEY CHAPTER

On February 12, 2009, The Conejo Valley Chapter Board was honored to meet with Janice Fineman, the newly appointed Executive Director of BNC. Janice brings to the position a wealth of experience, both as a volunteer to the organization and as a professional staff member. She joined the National Center staff in 1987 as Director of Development and twice served as Interim Executive Director. Janice was appointed Associate Executive Director in 2006. She is committed to furthering our mission to support Brandeis University. We were delighted to have the opportunity to meet with her and discuss various issues pertaining to our chapter and our members. Janice brought news from the Brandeis campus. Our Board felt that a most valuable part of this meeting was having the chance for us to voice our concerns to the on the National level. We benefited greatly from her Fundraising expertise and her suggestions and ideas.



**MEMBERSHIP AND FUNDRAISING****OUR TRIP TO THE FOLLIES**

On January 28, 2009 a group of us boarded a bus and went back to the Palm Springs Follies for another fun filled day. After a picnic lunch in a park it was on to the show. And what a show it was! We laughed a lot and couldn't believe how good the show girls and guys looked. And they are all seniors! They are truly amazing. Susan Anton was the guest star and we all enjoyed her performance. After the show we boarded the bus again and stopped at Mimi's Café in San Bernardino for dinner. The day ran very smoothly and we all agreed we had a fabulous time.

Barbara Polisky — Fundraising VP — (818)991-2667



Brandeis with Susan Anton at the Follies

**MEMBERSHIP THRIVES IN CONEJO**

THANK YOU ALL! Membership has reached a real goal and it is thanks to you all. We are the **FIRST** chapter in the **NATION** to reach our membership goals. That is fantastic and to make it even better, I did almost nothing to get to that goal. **YOU** all did it and Brandeis and I thank you so much.

Now comes the big, **HOWEVER!** We cannot stop now. Tell all your friends about us because not only does the medical research at Brandeis need them but why should they miss out on the great times that we are having? For many of us Brandeis has added just that little touch that was needed to fill out our lives. Share the fun!

Ellie Puls -- Membership V.P -- Email: norm0020@yahoo.com (818-889-5555.)



The Follies show was called "Route 66".

**Community Service**

A special thanks to all the ladies in our chapter who have helped to make the lovely afghans that our community service group has been able to donate. The 5 x 5 squares were knitted or crocheted by Carol Roseman, Renee Spero, Debbie Norden, and Bobbi Vinet. Ellie Puls put them together to form the finished product. Any squares that you make or left over yarn will be greatly appreciated.

Call Ellie Puls at 818-889-5555 Email: norm0020@yahoo.com or call Edith Dellorco at 805-777-1704.

**Theater Group:** Our theater group, Broadway Bound, is ALIVE and WELL and ACTIVE. During the past few months, some of our members have attended performances of "Smoky Joe's Café", "The Girl's Room", "Spin Cycle", "9 to 5" and "The Housewives". Upcoming shows will include "Minsky's". We attend small and large venues. Due to today's economy, we may begin to focus on small theaters. Joining the Center Theater Group also provides cost-saving options for some theaters. Membership in our group is always open to singles and couples and unlimited in number. Please send any questions about our group or to find out how to join, by email, to Nina Fenster-Smylie at nfenster@verizon.net.

## Conejo Valley BNC Study Groups – Winter,2008/Spring, 2009

| WK              | Monday                                                                                                                                                                             | Tuesday                                                                                                                             | Wednesday                                                                                                   | Thursday                                                                                                                                                     | Friday                            | Saturday | Sunday                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> | Hot Mama Mahjers<br>1:00 p.m. weekly<br><br>Mah Jong Group 2<br>1:00 p.m. weekly<br><br>Book Club 12 Noon<br><br>Bridge (singles)<br>1:00 p.m. 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Literary Potpourri<br>10 a.m.<br><br>We the Jury (singles)<br>1:00 p.m.                                                             | Women of a Certain Age<br>12:30 Noon<br>(1st & 3rd)<br><br>Art & Antiques<br>11:45 a.m.                     | BOARD MEETING<br>9:30 a.m.<br><br>Mah Jong Group 3<br>1:00 p.m. weekly<br><br>Flick Chicks (singles)<br>1:30 p.m.<br><br>Men 's Open Forum<br>9:30 a.m.      | Mah Jong Mavens<br>10 a.m. weekly |          | Going to the Theater<br>A new group that attends large and small productions, usually Sunday matinees, often with group discounted tickets.<br>Contact Nina Fenster:<br>805-987-7662 |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> | Hiking<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> in the a.m.<br><br>Women in Transition<br>9:45 a.m.<br>(2nd & 4th)                                                                     | The Book Thieves<br>10:30 a.m.<br><br>Tuesday Afternoon<br>Readers 1 p.m.<br><br>The Wild Bunch on the Go<br>(On the Town, singles) | Cinema Gals<br>1:00 p.m.<br><br>Bridge (singles)<br>1:00 p.m.                                               | Legal Eagles (singles)<br>1:00 p.m.<br><br>Legal Puzzlers<br>(couples) 7:15 p.m.<br><br>Cinema Addicts<br>7:30 p.m.                                          |                                   |          |                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> | Current Events (women)<br>9:30 a.m.<br><br>Current Events<br>10:00 a.m.<br><br>Bridge (singles) 1:00<br>p.m. 1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup>                                   | Bridge(couples) 7:00p.m.<br>Life and Times<br>10 a.m.<br><br>On the Town (singles)<br><br>Legal Puzzlers (couples)<br>7:15 p.m.     | Happy Bookers<br>12 Noon<br><br>Men 's Current Events 9:45<br>a.m.<br><br>Life's Issues: Women<br>9:45 a.m. | On the Town,<br>Daytime Divas (singles)<br><br>On the Town Daytime<br>Trotters (singles)<br><br>Men 's Open Forum 9:30<br>a.m.<br><br>MahJong (singles)1p.m. | Yiddish<br>10:30 a.m.             |          | 1. On the Town<br>(couples)<br><br>2. On the Town<br>(couples)<br><br>3. On the Town<br>(couples)                                                                                    |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> | Women's Life Issues<br>9:30 a.m.                                                                                                                                                   | Legal Puzzlers (singles)<br>10:00 a.m.                                                                                              | Bridge (singles)<br>1:00 p.m.<br><br>Bridge (couples) 7 p.m.                                                | Women's Life Issues #3<br>9:30 a.m.                                                                                                                          |                                   |          | Movie Critics<br>(couples)<br>7:30 p.m.                                                                                                                                              |



STUDY GROUPS NEWS and UPDATES:

On January 16<sup>th</sup>, twenty-six enthusiastic Study Group Leaders and Liaisons had a very productive meeting.

At this time, we have several openings in the following groups:

- Life's' Issues 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday
- Life's' Issues 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday
- Life & Times 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday
- Women in Transition 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday
- Legal Puzzlers 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday
- Legal Puzzlers 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday
- Book Thieves 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday
- Cinemaddicts 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, p.m.
- Daytime Trotters 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday
- Wild Bunch 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday
- Go-Getters, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, couples
- On the Town, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday, couples
- Art/Antiques 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday

The Daytime Trotters, an Out & About Group, has openings for several younger members. If any daughters, friends, or relatives are interested in joining please let us know.

**Study group leaders:**  
 Have any news, pictures or updates to share?  
 Please email to: Alvira  
 alvira@woman-only.com

Please contact the following Vice Presidents if you wish to join a group.

**Laraine Karelitz**  
 Study Group V.P.  
 818-222-8461  
 laraine1@sbcglobal.net

**Judy Grossmann**  
 Study Group V.P.  
 805-241-9216  
 lahodie@roadrunner.com

**Nancy Minkow**  
 Study Group V.P.  
 805-496-6113  
 nvmlcsw@aol.com

We would also like your input regarding new groups for the fall. If you have suggestions for new groups please contact us.



The "Day Time Trotters" ladies group meets on the 3rd Thursday of each month . They travel to see interesting places like museums, gardens, and art galleries . Their last outing was arranged by one of the groups leaders, Yfat Hillel, to visit Mr.Hyfarber's house and his wonderful wood sculptures . It was a pleasure to meet with him and listen to his stories . If you are interested in joining the group you can e-mail Hanna Soffa at HannaS514@aol.com and/or Yfat Hillel at yhillel@socal.rr.com.

**On The Town Divas Group:** The "Diva's" group recently visited a 911 center and would like to share some very important information that we believe will benefit every one.

911 can be dialed from any phone, even disconnected, absolutely free. It should only be used for an emergency: a crime in progress and/or a life threatening situation requiring the Police, Paramedics or Fire Department.

For non-emergency police assistance dial 311 or 211 for the city of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County or 1-877-275-5273 (1-877-ASK-LAPD). It would be helpful to have these numbers programmed into your phones.

Everyone should have a land line phone in their home connected directly to the phone socket. In case of an emergency, when the electricity is cut off, this phone will still work. If you are calling from your home to the 911 center they will automatically have your address and phone number. Cell phones can only be traced to the tower closest to your location at that time.

Program I.C.E. (In Case of Emergency) with the person's name and phone number who you want to be contacted in case you have been in an accident and you are unconscious. The police or paramedics can contact this person using the I.C.E. programmed number.

If you have a medical emergency it is recommended that you call 911 immediately rather than drive the person to the hospital. **You can't drive and administer CPR.**



## BRANDEIS CONEJO VALLEY CHAPTER NOMINATING COMMITTEE PRESENTS PROPOSED SLATE 2009 – 2010

TO BE VOTED UPON AT OUR ANNUAL MEETING ON APRIL 20, 2009

(All current members of Conejo Valley Chapter are eligible to vote)

**President/Presidium:**

|                  |                 |                  |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 1. Honey Bencomo | 2. Sharon Cohen | 3. Beverly Sklar |
|------------------|-----------------|------------------|

**Vice Presidents:**

|                                     |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Financial:</b> Renee Spero       | <b>Study Group:</b> Lyn Camhi      |
| <b>Fundraising:</b> Barbara Polisky | <b>Study Group:</b> Judy Grossmann |
| <b>Membership:</b> Ellie Puls       | <b>Study Group:</b> Nancy Minkow   |

|                                                  |                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Corresponding Secretary:</b> Laraine Karelitz | <b>Treasurer:</b> Artheen Block        |
| <b>Recording Secretary:</b> Nina Fenster-Smylie  | <b>Parliamentarian:</b> Michelle Stern |

**Directors:**

| Term Ending: 6/30/10 | Term Ending: 6/30/11 | Term Ending: 6/30/12 |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Sheila Gero       | 1. Edith Dellorco    | 1. Joy Krieger       |
| 2. Helene Lustig     | 2. Alvira Klain      | 2. Deborah Norden    |
| 3. Bobbi Vinet       | 3. Marsha Rosenblum  | 3. Carol Smith       |
| 4. Lila Segal        | 4. Helen Rosenfeldt  | 4. Shelly Wasserman  |

**Nominating Committee: 2009-2010**

| (4) Board members:                  | (3) Non Board members: | (1) Alternate:    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Chair</b><br>1. Ellie Puls       | 1. Maxine Frankel      | 1. Judy Grossmann |
| <b>Holdover</b><br>2. Helene Lustig | 2. Arlene Leibowitz    |                   |
| 3. Artheen Block                    | 3. Carole Ruby         |                   |
| 4. Marsha Rosenblum                 |                        |                   |

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE 2008-2009

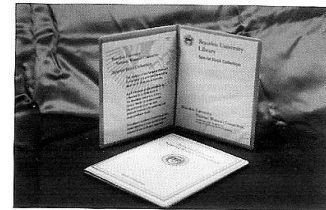
CHAIRMAN: Helen Rosenfeldt VICE CHAIRMAN: Laraine Karelitz, Helene Lustig, Millie Hecht,  
Renee Spero, Joy Krieger, Eva Tuchband, Alternate: Shelly Wasserman

Recommendations for nominations other than those presented may be made by any member of the Chapter in good standing. They must be filed with the Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, Helen Rosenfeldt, no later than 7 days before the Author's Brunch /Annual Meeting on April 20, 2009. The person who is nominated must submit a written consent.

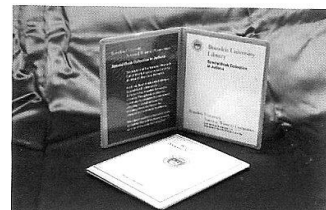


# BOOK FUND HAS TRIBUTES FOR EVERY OCCASION

Brandeis Tributes are the perfect way to mark a special occasion or to simply remember someone. Your donations support a worthy cause since Book Fund money goes directly to the Brandeis Libraries to purchase books and scholarly research journals in all academic areas. Note: Your purchase of Book Fund Tributes is 100% tax deductible.



Send a Brandeis Tribute and spread warmth, kindness, caring, love, understanding and friendship. We promise same day service.



**Muriel Rosenkranz**  
 (805) 445-9004  
 murcal29@msn.com

**Judy Solish**  
 (818) 995-1350  
 nanajs@sbc.global.net

## CHAPTER TRIBUTES

| TO             | FROM                    | Message                |
|----------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Judi Lieberman | Marsha & Bob Rosenblum  | Get Well               |
| Arnold Plotkin | Lila & Al Segal         | Condolence             |
| Barbara Krupin | Lila & Al Segal         | Condolence             |
| Edith Dellorco | Brandeis Board          | Get Well               |
| Edith Dellorco | Lila Segal              | Get Well               |
| Edith Dellorco | Cinema Gals             | Get Well               |
| Jerry Vinet    | Brandeis Board          | Get well               |
| Stuart & Julie | Tuesday Around the Town | Thank You for the tour |

**BOOKS 'N BRUNCH**  
**APRIL 20, 2009**  
 Friends and family  
 are always  
 welcome.

[News And Views Staff](#)  
**Editor In Chief: Alvira K.**  
 (alvira@woman-only.com)

**Copy Editor: Helene L.**  
 (helene-wlv@roadrunner.com)

### *Save the Date!*

The Conejo Valley Chapter will hold this year's Installation of Officers on Thursday, June 11, 2009, at Eric's Restaurant in the Palm Garden Hotel in Thousand Oaks. The 11:30 a.m. event will include a three course lunch and outstanding entertainment.

To volunteer to help or for more information contact:

**Marsha Rosenblum, 805-496-1463**

or by email at: [marsha29ros@earthlink.net](mailto:marsha29ros@earthlink.net).

**Inside — Updated Study Group Calendar 2008-09**  
 Photos, Study Group News, Membership, Tributes, Calendar  
 Brandeis Nominating Committee 2009-2010 Completed Slate

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Brandeis University National  
 Women's Committee  
 Conejo Valley Chapter  
 2173 Hillsbury Rd.  
 Westlake Village, CA 91361



Check our web site for all  
 the updates on  
 a regular basis!

[www.BrandeisConejo.org](http://www.BrandeisConejo.org)

**CONEJO VALLEY CALENDAR**

BOARD MEETINGS ARE THE 1ST THURS. OF  
 THE MONTH - 9:30 AM  
 KINECTA FEDERAL CREDIT UNION  
 973 S. WESTLAKE BLVD.  
 WESTLAKE VILLAGE, CA 91361  
 MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO ALL OUR MEMBERS



- |          |                           |
|----------|---------------------------|
| MARCH 5  | BOARD MEETING - 9:30      |
| MARCH 8  | PURIM                     |
| APRIL 2  | BOARD MEETING 9:30        |
| APRIL 8  | FIRST DAY OF PASSOVER     |
| APRIL 10 | EASTER SUNDAY             |
| APRIL 20 | BOOKS 'N BRUNCH           |
|          | ELECTIONS-CHAPTER INVITED |
| MAY 7    | BOARD MEETING - 9:30      |
| MAY 8    | MEMBERSHIP COFFEE         |
| MAY 10   | MOTHER'S DAY              |
| MAY 25   | MEMORIAL DAY              |
| MAY 29   | SHAVUOT                   |
| JUNE 4   | BOARD MEETING - 9:30      |
| JUNE 11  | INSTALLATION              |
| JUNE 21  | FATHER'S DAY              |

**I . C . E . (IN CASE OF EMERGENCY)**

Paramedics will turn to a non-responsive victim's cell phone for clues to that person's identity. You can make their job much easier by performing a simple task that they are asking everyone to do: ICE. ICE stands for In Case of Emergency. Add an entry in the contacts list in your cell phone under ICE containing the name and phone number of the person you want emergency services to call on your behalf. This will save them a lot of time and have your loved one contacted quickly. It only takes a few moments of your time to do. Paramedics know what ICE means and they look for it immediately. ICE your cell phone NOW!  
 Please pass this along!

