



- In This Issue**
- [WRJ Central](#)
 - [LIKE our Facebook page](#)
 - [Central District Convention](#)
 - [Centennial coming up](#)
 - [2012-2014 Slate of Officers](#)
 - [Your Ambassadors](#)
 - [Check out WRJCentral.org](#)
 - [Leadership Conference](#)
 - [100 for 100](#)
 - [Connect with WRJ](#)
 - [Isha L'Isha](#)

What Central District is up to

Fall 2012

This was an amazingly hot summer and most things are moving slowly. Not so with Central District. We are very busy working on the Convention and planning for the future. We had an executive Committee Meeting in August. Our committees are working, too, especially the Awards Committee. We also have many new presidents taking over our Sisterhoods and the Area Directors are contacting all of them. We are here to help as they transition to their new roles in their sisterhoods.



WRJ Central District
 Is your liaison between the Women of Reform Judaism and the local sisterhoods we serve.

Currently we are 36 sisterhoods in Indiana, Ohio, Kentucky, Michigan, Tennessee, and West Virginia.

The president, five vice presidents, area directors and committee chairs are available to help you.

We can be consultants and we have an active speaker's bureau. If you want a speaker for a Sisterhood Shabbat or any sisterhood program just contact the [chair for Speaker's Bureau](#) and she will work with you to make this happen.

For more on WRJ Central, visit our website at www.wrjcentral.org and contribute to our blog, [Sharing](#)



Seekers of Meaning is a new book by Rabbi Richard Address (NY: URJ Press). In it Rabbi Address speaks to the nature of Judaism and the aspects of the various relationships we have in our lives. "Judaism itself is a community based Religious civilization" (Address, 2012, p xiv). In being community based, we do not do Judaism alone; we need people, community and relationships within the community. And the community is an open and welcoming one. It becomes our obligation to keep the community open, inclusive, welcoming and healthy. In Rabbi Address's book, he looked at how people find meaning. We embrace doing mitzvot, the sacred obligations that define us as people "for in reaching out to the world we find meaning in our own lives" (Address, 2012, page xiv). This idea of meaning and the idea of community are part of who we are as sisters and sisterhoods. We have a wonderful way of connecting and forming a community of women through our interactions with each other and the mitzvot and projects we do within and for the community of sisters and the greater community of our congregations. It is truly that **we are stronger together.**

As we prepare to enter 5773 and take an accounting of our souls, cheshbon hanefesh, may we also take an accounting of our deeds and our connections to this wonderful community of WRJ.

Yours in Sisterhood


Hilda R. Glazer, EdD
 President, WRJ Central District

- Follow-up Links**
- [WRJ Central](#)
 - [WRJ Central Blog- Sharing the Best](#)
 - [Facebook](#)
 - [WRJ](#)

Check out our Facebook Page

Visit the WRJ Central District Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/WRJ-Central/189678231045904>

Want a Central District Pin?



Order yours today for only \$10.00 from our own artist, Beth Goldstein at beth@bethgoldstein.com

Check it out and LIKE it!
 If you have information to add- things going on with your sisterhood, please do.

Central District Convention The Art of Sisterhood Coming November 2-4, 2012

Troy, Michigan will be humming with the WRJ Central Area Convention planned for the first weekend in November. Guests will stay and attend events at the Somerset Inn. Please check out their website at www.somersetinn.com.

Susan Bass, WRJ Vice President will be with us for the weekend training, educating, encouraging, and energizing the delegates. Susan will also give the Centennial Kickoff allowing the delegates to take back exciting information to their sisterhoods.

Temple Beth El, Shir Tikvah, Temple Israel, Temple Kol Ami, and Temple Emanu-El are thrilled to welcome the central delegates to the Detroit area.

On Saturday evening, during dinner an auction has been planned with every central district sisterhood having the chance to participate. Because the theme of our weekend is "The Art of

**WRJ Central Board
 2010-2011**

President
 Hilda R. Glazer

**Past President
 Chair of Nominating**
 Royalyn R. Vert

Past President
Vice Chair of Nominating
 Bette Jo Stempel

1st Vice President
 Marilyn Goldfein

VP Service to Sisterhoods
 Michelle Simpson

VP Dev & Special Projects
 Susie Strom

VP Marketing & Comm
 Beth Lande

VP Prog & Advocacy
 Karen Smith

Recording Secretary
 Mimi Dell

Corresponding Secretary
 Lisa Elyn Semen

Membership Secretary
 Lucy Gersten

Treasurer
 Lisa Singer

Bulletin Editor
 Hillary Handwerker

Parliamentarian
 Nancy Apfel

Historian
 Beth Goldstein

Area Directors
 Peggy Behrens
 Laurie Blinder
 Barbara Goldberg
 Mimi Kaufman
 Rachel Lambermont
 Charlene Pfenniger
 Tori Wucher

WRJ Board Members
 Sandy Adland
 Nancy Apfel
 Hilda R. Glazer
 Karen Sim
 Bette Jo Stempel
 Royalyn R. Vert

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Sisterhood" we would like each sisterhood to think of what their Sisterhood does to stand out in the community. When you have decided on the art of your sisterhood we ask that you put together a package with a minimum cost of \$25.00 to donate for the auction. During dinner the items will be SOLD to the highest bidder.

Here is a [flyer](#), please distribute for your sisterhood members,

Talk to your sisterhood members and encourage them to attend the convention in November. It is the perfect weekend to share your ideas and learn new ideas to keep your sisterhood vibrant, enthusiastic, philanthropic and renewed for the challenges of the coming year.

Some events included in the convention are:

- Susan Bass WRJ Vice President will join us for the entire weekend
- Mikvah and Temple Israel Tour (you must sign up at registration)
- Services at Shir Tikvah and Temple Beth El
- Musical Concert from local Cantors
- Sharing and schmoozing with other sisterhood delegates
- Installation of new Central District delegates

Please contact Cindy Bolokofsky at bolokofskyc@yahoo.com for more information. Please put WRJ convention in the subject line.

You can [download a registration form](#) here, or on the [WRJ Central District](#) site, and check out the events planned in our [agenda](#).

Over 60 women from the Women of Looking Forward to our Centennial Year



Marilyn Goldfein

The Women of Reform Judaism will be celebrating our Centennial in 2013. We, in Central District are privileged to belong to an organization that is steeped in such tradition. The history of our group is amazing! The National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods, the original name, accomplished a great deal when they first met and continued to do so much

until the present and I'm sure into the future.

Our President, Lynn Magid Lazar in her opening speech at the 2011 Biennial stated that "we will engage in the process of looking forward. Just as the women who came before us planned and programmed and built for all of us - we must continue to plan and program and build for the generations to come."

The National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods mission in the early days was to embrace relief efforts during the first World War. Then the women worked to aid those in need during the Great Depression and then they advocated for refugees and immigrants fleeing tyranny, they marched the right to vote and worked for a fair wage and and equal education for all. Our district Interim meeting was recently in Cincinnati and we toured the American Jewish Archives. We received a packet of photos and documents from our illustrious past. It is so interesting to see the women at the pre-convention meeting of the NFTS Executive Board in 1913. There are other documents from the first board meeting and the call for all Union of American Hebrew Congregations to appoint or elect delegates to the first meeting. I loved the pictures and especially the song "Sisterhood Song of Welcome." When you are in Cincinnati for the WRJ Fried Leadership Conference, Jan 25-27, 2013, I hope you will be able to tour the Archives.

Right near the Archives is the Sisterhood Dorm built on Hebrew Union College campus with funding from NFTS way back in 1920. When the dorm was built, future rabbis could live on campus.

The WRJ Centennial is the opportunity for WRJ to really shine and let women in North America, Israel and South Africa know more about WRJ. The Centennial Committee put together a WRJ road map to the centennial celebration. Starting with choosing centennial ambassadors from each sisterhood and asking women to submit special prayers and poetry for the new covenant book, there are more opportunities for all sisterhood members to be a part of the celebration.

I am especially looking forward to March 1-2, 2013, when we will participate in a unique and groundbreaking international Centennial Shabbat Service. Won't it be truly breathtaking to realize that women all over the globe are participating in a special Centennial Service on the same date?

Our Centennial Year will be so special, because of the time the Centennial committee has put forth to plan for the year. Thank you

to them and thank you to the women back in 1913 who set us on our path. They collaborated, clearly understanding that they were strengthened by working together! And we know now in 2012 The Women of Reform Judaism are Stronger Together! We are 100 Years Strong!

As it says on our Centennial pins: We are Inspired by the Past.
Committed to the Future

We will be voting on our new slate of officers

The Nominating committee has been working overtime and we have come up with a fantastic slate of officers to be officially presented and voted upon at the District Convention.

The Slate for Central District Board 2012-2014 is:

Elaine Frayman is slated to be the Parliamentarian -Appointed by the President

President	Marilyn Goldfein Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple
Immed. Past Pres./Nom. Ch.	Hilda Glazer Beth Shalom
Vice Chair Nominating	Royalyn Vert Congregation Shaarey Zedek
1st Vice President	Sandy Adland Temple Beth Shalom
VP Dev. /Spec.Projects	Sheilah Abramson-Miles Temple Shalom
VP Marketing/Communic.	Michele Simpson Shir Tikvah
Recording Secretary	Joyce Alpiner Isaac M. Wise Temple
Corresponding Sec.	Jan Goldstein Valley Temple
Membership Sec.	Karen Smith Beth El
Treasurer	Lisa Singer Temple Beth Shalom
Bulletin Editor	Patti Rehfus Shir Tikvah
Area Director-E. Mich.	Laurie Blinder Temple Israel
Area Director-W. Mich.	Lucy Gersten Beth El
Area Director-Southwest	Mimi Kauffman Temple Adath Israel
Area Director-South	Liz McOsker Isaac M. Wise Temple
Area Director-Central Ohio	Rachel Lambermont Beth Tikvah
Area Director-West	Carol Anderson Temple B'nai Israel
Area Director--N. Ohio	Trina Miller Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple
Historian- appointed by president	Lisa Semen Congregation Shaarey Zedek

Parliamentarian -appointed by the President	Elaine Frayman Tiffereth Israel/Cleveland, OH
Affiliate Development	Beth Goldstein Rockdale Temple
Speakers Bureau	Bernice Goldman Anshe Chesed Fairmount Temple
Awards	Cindy Bolokofsky Beth El
Website Dev/Manager	Hillary Handwerger TempleBeth Emeth
Jewish Family Concerns	Alida Forshaw Shomer Emunim
YES Fund/Circle of Serv.	Marci Delson Temple Israel
Convention Facilitator- appointed by incoming 1st VP	Beth Lande Indpls. Heb. Cong

Checking the list for Ambassadors

We have attached a [list of the current centennial ambassadors](#) for each sisterhood that has selected someone; some may have two ambassadors. The list is in district, state and city order.

If you have any questions don't hesitate to ask. If your centennial ambassador's name is not on the list, please contact WRJ.

Patricia Cwiekalo
Secretary, Service to Sisterhoods and Districts
212-650-4062
866-975-5924 Toll Free
pcwiekal@wrj.org

WRJCentral.org

If you haven't already, check out our website; there is lots of information and guidance to find on the site.

- WRJ Central -- who we are, our history, mission statement and more
- The Central District Board
- The Central District Sisterhoods
- Member Sisterhoods and their presidents
- Isha l'Isha archives
- Events-- both upcoming and those in the recent past-- with lots of pictures
- Registration forms for conferences
- Resources-- both national and local that can be of use to you and your Sisterhood
- Awards information and applications
- WRJ, its history, projections and district information
- Our blog-- Sharing the Best



Check it out at www.wrjcentral.org

WRJ Fried Leadership Conference



WRJ's Fried Leadership Conference will be held in Cincinnati, Ohio, January 25-27 2013.

The event will kick off WRJ's Centennial celebration and will bring WRJ leaders together, in the place where WRJ was founded, for a weekend of training, study, and sisterhood.

Save the date and be there!

How does WRJ raise a million dollars?

We do it one person at a time.

For our Centennial Celebration, WRJ is inviting 10,000 supporters to **contribute \$100 each**.

In essence, "100 for 100."

Ten decades of success have given us a unique perspective into the idea of strength in numbers. Collectively, we know we can reach our million dollar goal.

And for your generosity, you'll receive a unique limited edition pin to commemorate your participation. So if you see someone wearing the pin, you'll know why.



Connect with WRJ on:

Facebook,

www.facebook.com/womenofreformjudaism

the **WRJ Website**, www.wrj.org

the **WRJ Blog** at <http://blogs.rj.org/wrj/>

and **YouTube**,

www.youtube.com/womenofreformjudaism

Download this flyer and you'll have it all



The new Isha L'Isha

Isha L'Isha is our attempt to communicate with you and your membership. Take the opportunity to talk to us and your area director; tell us your success stories and words of wisdom about communicating with your membership, temple and community.

Our website is at www.WRJCentral.org.

Our Facebook page is

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/WRJ-Central/189678231045904>

Also, please take the time to visit our Blog, named "[Sharing the Best](#)" and let us know what you and your sisterhood have been doing. Register and then write your brief story. The blog is mediated, which means whatever you enter, the items have to be approved before they show up on the blog, but this is a wonderful opportunity to share and boast and get great ideas.

Deadline for the next issue, which is

Convention Highlights

Nov 25, 2012.

Send articles and images to
ishawrjcentral@gmail.com

Looking forward to hearing from you

Hillary Handwerker
WRJ Central District, Bulletin Editor