

May – June Spring Bulletin

Arizona's state flower Saguaro Cactus Blossom

(*Carnegiea gigantea*).

Adopted on March 13, 1931, symbolizing the Sonoran Desert's resilience and beauty. The pure white, waxy flowers bloom atop saguaro cacti from late May through early June, attracting pollinators like bats and bees at night.



Israel's national flower

Crown Anemone - Kalanit

Officially chosen in 2013 through a public poll by the Society for the Protection of Nature in Israel and Ynet, replacing the earlier cyclamen.

Anemone's vivid red blooms symbolize resilience in Israel's arid landscapes, growing even in harsh conditions like ashy soil near the borders.

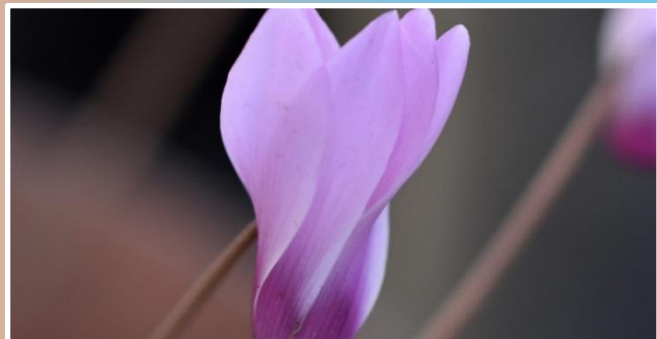
The flower blooms in winter and spring across Israel, especially in the Negev, drawing tourists to festivals like Darom Adom (Red South).



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Cyclamen, or
rakefet, was the
National Flower of
Israel until 2013.



Presidents' Message

Dear Members,

What an extraordinary year this has been. Our membership has grown, we have held wonderful events and our Study Groups have flourished. This all happened because of the hard work and dedication of our BNC Board members and all of you. Our chapter has thrived in so many ways: we learned together, made new friends and contributed to the well-being of the greater Tucson community. What a joy it has been to share in this with you.

Our incoming Board is a wonderful mix of new and seasoned members. Our goal is always to involve our membership, both new and current ones. Think of ways you can bring your talents to our chapter: join a committee, head a Study Group, help plan an event, become a Member At Large on our Board. Volunteer! New people bring new ideas. We would love to hear from you.

Some Study Groups will continue over the summer. Please look for our newest Study Group Guide to arrive in your mailboxes during the summer. It is important that every member carefully follows the instructions for Study Group enrollment so everyone has the best chance of participating in the Study Group(s) of their choice.

We look forward to working with our enthusiastic Board as well as *all of you* to insure another successful year for Tucson BNC.

Wishing you all a safe and healthy summer and looking forward to reconnecting in the Fall.

Warmly,

Erica Friedman and Marianne Taussig

Co-presidents



New Members

*Temima
Gradman*

*Nancy
Grayson*

*Suzanne
Levin*

*Grace &
Richard
Hartman*

Natures first green is gold

Robert Frost



Book & Author Events



Debbie Jacobs and Wendy Yanow
Tireless VPs



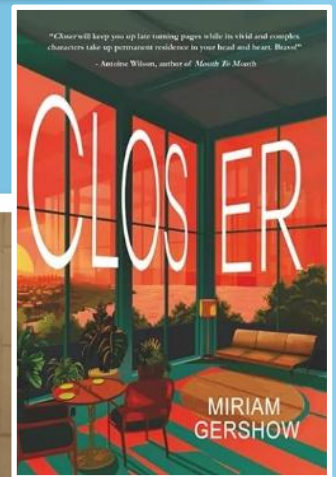
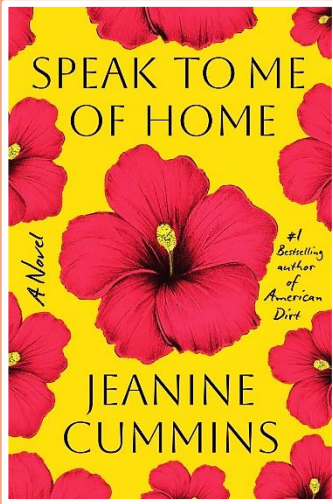
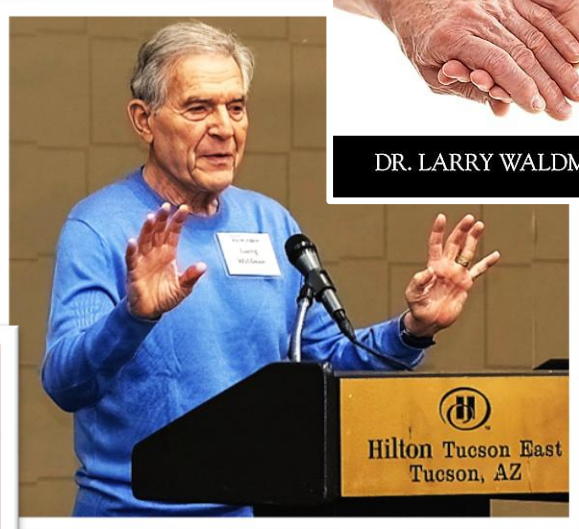
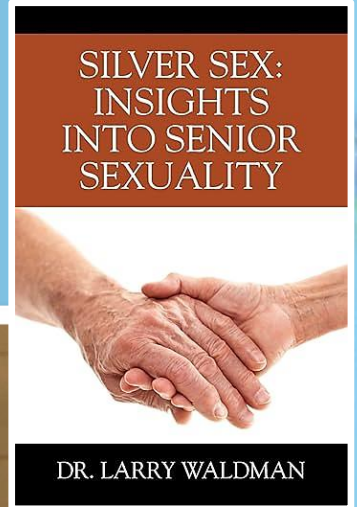
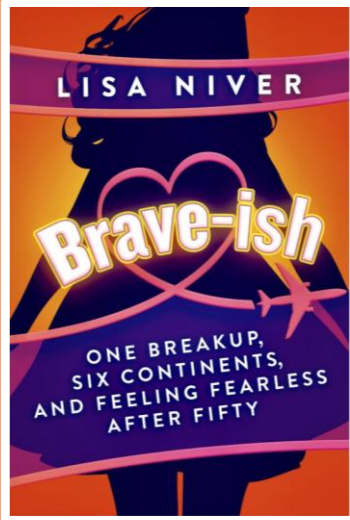
Silent Auction



Luncheon



Book & Author Events



Book & Author Events



Closing & Installation Event



**Maestro
Laszlo
Veres**



**Maestro
and Fran, his Wife**





Study Groups

BEHIND THE SCENES



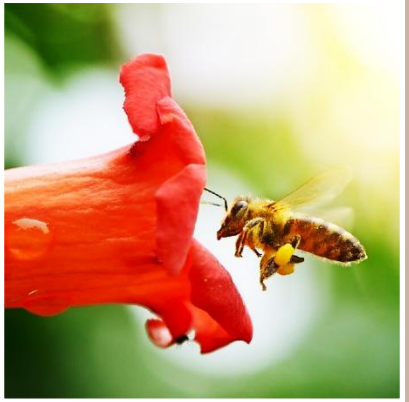
Study Groups

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS

OPA'S BEST
GREEK AMERICAN CUISINE



Isreal's
Trumpet
Vine



TUC

ISRA

Study Groups JUST DESSERTS

PERSIAN ROOM
Fine Dining



11

TUC



Study Groups

BEHIND THE SCENES



ISR



SAN XAVIER
Del Bac Mission

Study Groups

LINDA RONSTADT'S FAVORITES



Be Not
Forgetful
to Entertain
Strangers
for Thereby Some
Have Entertained
ANGELS
Unawares.
HEBREWS 1-3: 2



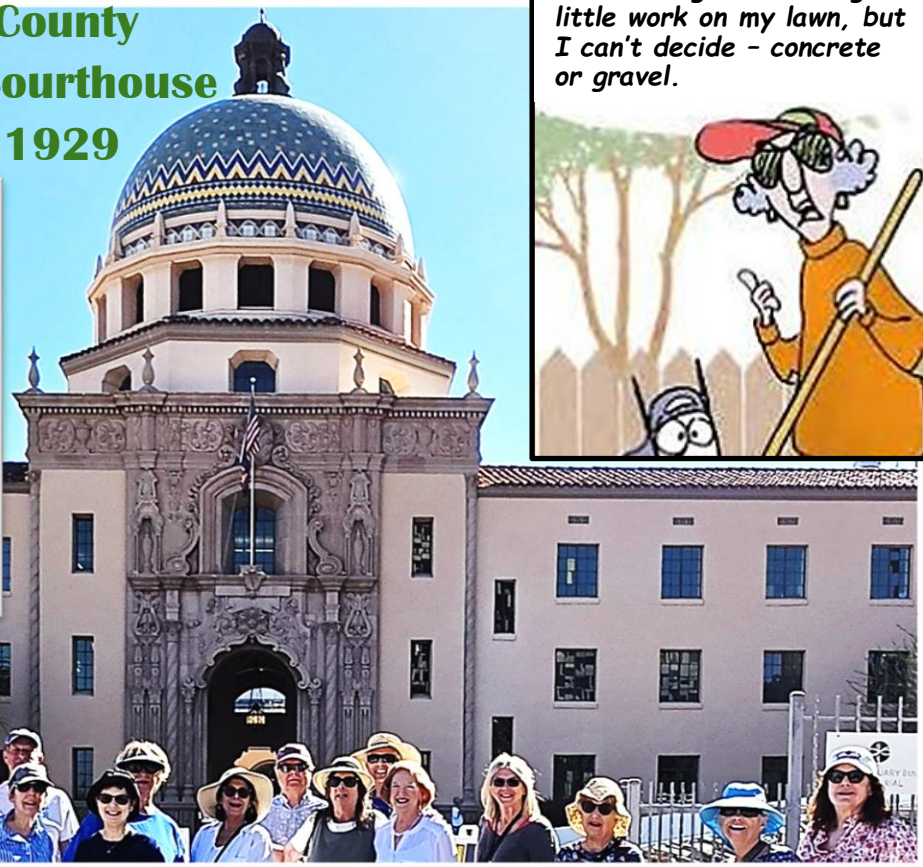
Study Groups

WALK, TALK, AND COFFEE



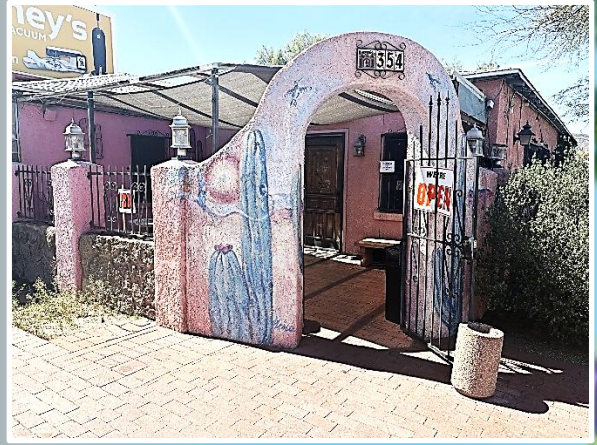
**Pima County
Historic Courthouse
Built 1929**

I'm thinking about doing a little work on my lawn, but I can't decide - concrete or gravel.



Study Groups

LINDA RONSTADT'S FAVORITES



Study Groups BEHIND THE SCENES



Study Groups JUST DESSERTS



PASSOVER DESSERTS!

It's almost time for spring cleaning. Think I'll start with my liquor cabinet.





Study Groups

LUNCH WITH FRIENDS





Israel's national flower
Crown Anemone -
Kalanit

*Hmmm.... What a
great idea for a
Study Group.*

Wildflower Rescue Project

In the name of Nechama Rivlin

“For 40 years, the Jerusalem University Botanical Garden has been cultivating and growing wildflower seeds for gardens. Hundreds of thousands of seeds are collected, cleaned and packaged each year. In preparation for the holidays, we are launching a campaign to distribute the seeds. We would love for you to join us in this effort and purchase seeds of wildflowers from the Land of Israel.”

For details, contact them by phone at 0523047878 or by email at wildflowers@botanic.co.il



Seed package – a set of 100 assorted envelopes from all the project's flowers or single envelopes.



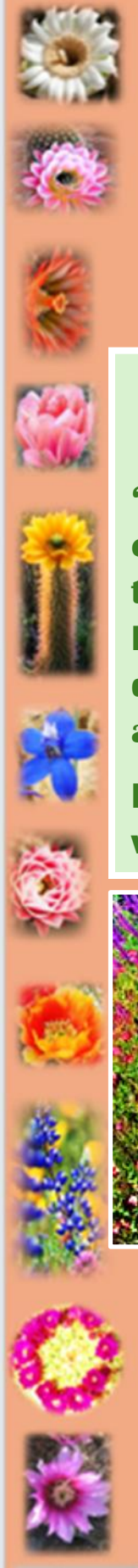
The Common Cyclamen



Cup of Gold



Desert Iris



Social Action & Tikkun Olam



Our Social Action efforts and the Tikkun Olam Study Group have joined together under one big umbrella to serve our needy neighbors throughout Pima County.



Join us!



We will be gathering supplies to distribute before the blistering Tucson summer begins.

Please contact

Suzy Jacobs 818.679.8231

To donate dog cages.

Addicts seeking rehab need them to bring their pets along.



If there's a nonprofit you'd like to help, Let us know what they need most!

Co-Chairs: Marilyn Lobell and Suzy Jacobs

Always have a willing hand to help someone. You might be the only one who does.

Roy T. Bennett

Membership Information

For 2026 - 2027

Tucson Brandeis Chapter

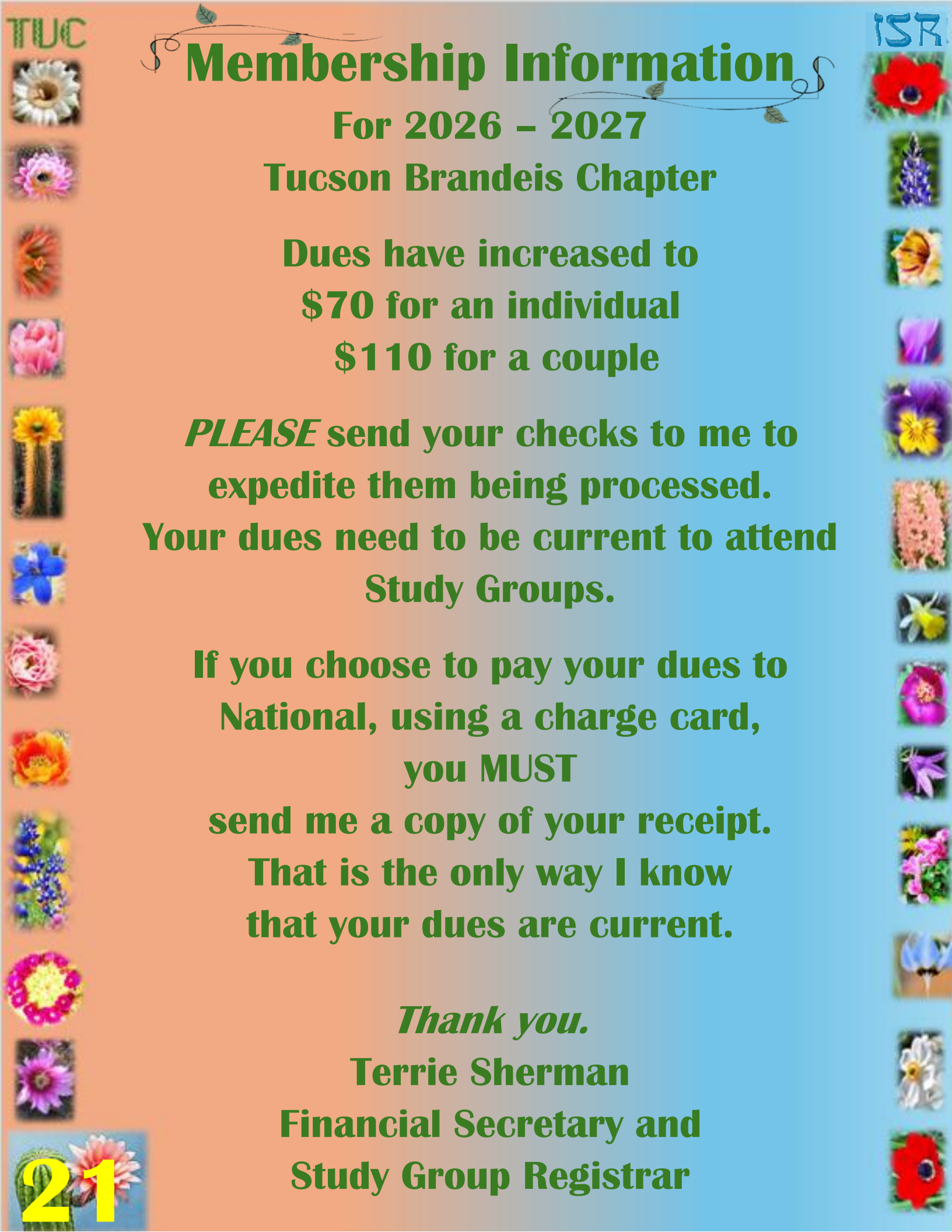
Dues have increased to
\$70 for an individual
\$110 for a couple

PLEASE send your checks to me to expedite them being processed. Your dues need to be current to attend Study Groups.

If you choose to pay your dues to National, using a charge card, you **MUST** send me a copy of your receipt. That is the only way I know that your dues are current.

Thank you.

Terrie Sherman
Financial Secretary and
Study Group Registrar



Tributes

Brandeis National Committee Tucson Chapter

Learning Research Philanthropy

With great sadness BNC announces the passing of member Charlotte Toppel. She is survived by her children Lori Orlov, Gayle Shemesh, and Steven Toppel, as well as 13 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. May the memory of Charlotte Toppel be a blessing and comfort for her family.

- Elaine Lisberg Endowed Scholarship Fund (for a local young person)
- Engineering the Future (integrating engineering across the disciplines)
- LRJ (Learned Research Journal)
- Brandeis Libraries

If you would like to make a donation in Charolett's memory to one of these fundraisers, make your check out to BNC and send it to me:

Rachel Barker 813 E Placita Leslie Tucson AZ 85718

Passing of BNC member Charlotte Toppel to family in care of daughter Gayle Shemesh: May the memory of Charlotte Toppel be a blessing and comfort.

Engineering the Future

- Rachel Barker
- Lois Bodin
- Barbara Esmond
- Marsha Rosenblum'
- Terrie Sherman

LRJ presentations from Tucson BNC to Book & Author authors & presenter:

Authors:

Jeanine Cummins Miriam Gershow Lisa Niver Dr. Larry Lucas

Presenter:

Victoria Lucas

Tributes

Passing of Evelyn Toff to family in care of BNC members Howard & Cheryl Toff. May the memory of Evelyn Toff be a blessing and comfort to her family.

Library Fund

- **Morleen Novitt**
- **Wendy Yanow**

Engineering the Future

- **Rachel Barker**
- **Lois Bodin**

Elaine Lisberg Endowed Scholarship Fund

- **Zelda Aaronson & Vic Martin**
- **Erica & Art Friedman**
- **Yvonne & Stuart Lorch**
- **Iris Posin**
- **Marsha Rosenblum**
- **Marcia Sabesin**
- **Terrie Sherman**
- **Marianne & Stuart Taussig**
- **Lisa Ungar & Bob Fridrich**

Elaine Lisberg Endowed Scholarship Fund (separate donation)

- **Herschel Rosenzweig**

Personal donation to Brandeis University's book collection

- **Sylvie Stevenson**



Sunshine Report

**Condolences on the death of dear Mother,
Grandmother and Great Grandmother,
Charlotte**

The Charlotte Topple Family

**Condolences on the death of dear Mother,
Evelyn**

Howard Toff & Family



Mission Statement

The Brandeis National Committee

provides 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 activities that reflect the values on which the University was founded:
Social Justice, Non-Sectarianism, and Service to the Community.



Board Officers

2026-2027

Co-Presidents

Erica Friedman and Marianne Taussig

VP Book and Author

Wendy Yanow

VP Book Fund

Rachel Barker

VP Bulletin

Denise and Chuck Frenz

VP Website

Wendy Yanow

VP Membership

Sybil Lampert and Ray Kaufman

VP Study Groups

Dianne Selco and Art Friedman

VP Virtual Communications

Davya Cohen and Janet Miller

Corresponding Secretary

Krista Stoker

Study Group Registrar and Financial Secretary

Terrie Sherman and Edie Warkentine

Recording Secretary

Ann Meisner

Chapter Information
Brandeistucson.org

Treasurer
Janet Miller

Chapter's Contact
e-mail address:
kristabnctucson@gmail.com

Advisors

Maxine Goldstein
Terrie Sherman

Board Members

Chapter information Officer

Marianne Taussig

Renewals

Tammy Strobel and Leslee Drogowitz

Social Justice

Marilyn Lobell and Suzy Jacobs

Sunshine Report

Janet Arffa

Members At Large

Annette Cremisi

Edie Warkentine

Linda Behr

Fran Pakenham

Amy Schwartz

Nominating Committee

Patrice Brown

Janet Arffa

Denise Frenz

Amy Schwartz

Dianne Selco

Phyllis and Steve Ollove



Parting Thought on Spring

Nothing Gold Can Stay

Nature's first green is gold,
Her hardest hue to hold.
Her early leaf's a flower;
But only so an hour.
Then leaf subsides to leaf.
So Eden sank to grief,
So dawn goes down to day.
Nothing gold can stay.

Robert Frost

Amidst all the turmoil, let's not forget:
beauty abounds. CLF

Funny Stuff

