L'SHANAH TOVA!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT Bennett Miller

In recent months, friends have asked me what I am doing in my retirement. They start with, "Of course, you are involved with Israel, as that is so important to you." They are correct, and I share a few thoughts about our beloved Israel with them. Then I mention my involvement with NAORRR, and almost each one says, "What's NAORRR?" It's a fair question. After all, NAORRR doesn't actively promote our work to a larger public.

Issue Highlights



President's Message Bennett Miller



Yesterday, Today...

Norm Roman



Forty Years of NAORRR



Convention Registration

So, what is NAORRR? Of course, NAORRR is an organization of Retired Reform Rabbis (and spouses, partners, and surviving spouses). But it is so much more. NAORRR represents the collective of nearly 1000 Reform Rabbis (that's almost half of all of us in North America). NAORRR promotes, through its programs and convention, the interests of our members (love and concern for Israel, for the Reform Movement in Israel and throughout the world, facing issues such as antisemitism, and discovering the depth of our faith and culture as the Iewish People). NAORRR also promotes through our new LABRIUT program the care and welfare, physically and spiritually, of our members and their families.

You should also know that NAORRR does something else, through its members. We model to each other how to age with grace, with significance, and with love. Here is what I mean. I was sixteen years old, attending the NFTY leadership conference in Cleveland,

Georgia in the summer of 1964. At that conference I met a rabbinic student named Merle Singer, and a prerabbinic student named Roberto Graetz. Today, when I go to the NAORRR convention I spend time talking to Merle and Roberto. Each of them has shown me how to live in retirement with grace, with vigor, and with meaning. And in the summer of 1971, I met Laura Geller in Israel. She was a first-year rabbinic student. Today, I speak with Laura often as she helps lead us in NAORRR while also doing so many other things. So many in NAORRR serve as models to the rest of us, not by telling us what to do but by showing us how they continue to live full and meaningful lives throughout their "retirement"

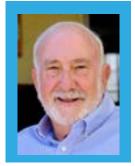
If you are new to NAORRR, or a member of NAORRR, but have never attended our convention or participated in one of our many programs, consider joining us this year in Atlanta for our annual convention. Yes, you will spend

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

PLEASE SEE PAGES 8-9 TO REGISTER FOR THE CONVENTION!

years.





YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND TOMORROW

Norm Roman, First Vice President

JOIN US IN ATLANTA

Though our next annual gettogether is still more than four months away as I write this, your

NAORRR Board and our Convention Planning Committee have been busy planning for our 2026 convention, January 2-6 in Atlanta, GA. Registration materials are included in this Newsletter. Our invitation is for all of you to participate as we look to the future while confronting our present.

Probably more than any other time in recent memory, we (Rabbis, Spouses/Partners, and Surviving Spouses) need to come together so that we can care for each other in light of so much personal and communal pain, confusion, sorrow and anguish; so that we can share our concerns and hopes, and validate so many strong feelings; so that we can continue to learn and to celebrate!

Our Committee and Board are excited that we will welcome TWO distinguished Scholars to our Convention:

Dr. Rachel Korazim from Jerusalem (Shalom Hartman Institute) will guide us through some of the most recent Israeli poetry and a discussion of contemporary Israeli culture. And Dr. Michael Meyer (HUC-JIR), whose recently published biography of Alex Schindler and ongoing research into the history of Reform

Judaism will guide us into clearer understanding of our Movement in North America and around the world.

We will honor the Class of 1976, as they mark 50 years in the Rabbinate. We will, once again, host several colleagues from MARAM in Israel, hearing their stories, worshipping with their liturgies, and encouraging them in their work. And we will initiate our new LABRIUT program, to benefit and support all of us.

Leaders and representatives of our national organizations and institutions will be with us, speaking about the WZO election and the upcoming new Reform Torah Commentary, among other projects. All of them will be available for private meetings as well as providing updates to the group.

Of course, there will be *chevruta*, workshops (most led by our own members), music, get-to-know-you opportunities, and an underlying foundation of *Refuat HaNefesh*.

Please, please - make plans to begin 2026 with your NAORRR friends in Atlanta! Meanwhile, Lynne and I wish you and yours a *Shanah Tovah u'metukah*, filled with *Simchah*, *Torah* and *Shalom*.

Norm

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT (CONT'D)

time with old friends and engage in rich discussions and learning sessions with colleagues and scholars in residence. But even more significantly, you will be inspired by the strength and resilience of so many who show us how they live their lives with meaning and grace as they and we age. They will "mentor" each of us, who will then "mentor" others who

will be joining us in the coming years. Truth be told, the NAORRR convention is a very powerful experience, different than other conventions, and perhaps even more significant for the care and welfare of each of us.

What's NAORRR? NAORRR is the collective wisdom of the rabbis of our generation who continue to

learn, teach, share and inspire each of us as we live our lives. And NAORRR is also the heart of our rabbinate through which members care for each other, for their families and loved ones. Come and be a part of us. We will welcome you with open and embracing arms.



FORTY YEARS OF NAORRR

Laura Geller, Second Vice President

I, a nice Jewish girl from a suburb near Boston, ended up a rabbi in Beverly Hills, near Hollywood. And because I was the only woman rabbi in Los Angeles at the

time, Barbra Streisand invited me to be her teacher as she was making the movie *Yentl*. The movie was actually a love letter to her father, who died when she was a toddler. He had been a Hebrew teacher and a Jewish educator and she wanted to learn more about Jewish tradition and his world. I described to her the moment I first put on a tallit – it was a moment I have remembered all of my life. And that conversation was the seed that sparked my favorite song from the movie: "This is One of Those Moments," containing the line "There are moments you remember all your life."

This year marks the 50th Anniversary of my ordination. My friend and co-classmate Joel Oseran and I have been working hard to encourage as many of our colleagues as possible to gather at the NAORRR conference in Atlanta (from January 2-6, 2026) for us to remember some of those moments that we shared together in our first year in Jerusalem or over the years at our respective HUC campuses. I'll never forget the first time that I lifted a Torah in the ad hoc women's group that I and the wives of several of the other students created to help us navigate our feminism and our Judaism. Joel remembers something a bit different. He writes: "I remember looking forward to our short lunch break during our long day of Ulpan classes in Jerusalem when some of us would walk down to our favorite Mamilla hole in the wall restaurant – Gali – for an order of schnitzel with all the trimmings (rice with beans, hummus, tahina, matbucha, olives, pickles and hot pita). On the way we would pass a sign which always brought a smile to my face: 'This is a Holy place, no urinating allowed.' My first year in HUC in Jerusalem set me on a trajectory which absolutely changed my life forever. It led me to the rabbinate, and it led me to settle in Jerusalem. When I think about it, all the rest is commentary."

We both remember Michael and Margie Meyer who were on sabbatical during our year in Jerusalem and were like a dad and mom to many of us. How

extraordinary that Michael will be one of the scholars in residence at the convention.

We also both remember those Founders' Day commemorations over the years at HUC when the 50-year veterans were honored. They all looked so old. Hard to believe we are now them. As Mel Brooks famously said in the 2000 Year Old Man: "We mock the things we are to be." Now that we are them, we want to celebrate.

Who would have believed all those years ago, when L'Dor V'dor meant our ancestors passing Judaism on to us, that now we can look back and see how many of our children have continued to shape their own different understanding of their Jewish lives? Some of our kids grew up in Israel, with life experiences so different from ours growing up. Others have grown up to be influential in the larger Jewish world, including Merri and Ramie's daughter Elana Arian, Alan Katz's son Noam Katz, both important creators of Jewish music; and Scott and Laura Sperling's son Eli Sperling, who served as the Senior Academic Research Coordinator at Emory University's Institute for the Study of Modern Israel and wrote a book titled Singing the Land: Hebrew Music and Early Zionism in America. We're hoping that each of them might be a part of our celebration. And maybe there are others—we'll find out because we have asked all the members of our class to fill out a profile which asks, among other questions: anything you want to share about your personal life; the highlights and perhaps regrets in your professional lives; how the Reform Movement has changed over the years you have been a rabbi; and finally, how optimistic you are about the future of Reform Judaism. Those questions will give us a chance to catch up, and reflect on the moments we remember, and the new moments we look forward to in this stage of our life.

Coming to the NAORRR conference will give all of us the chance to think about those questions. See you there.

Laura





VIEWS אלו ואלו

Gary Glickstein and Joanie Glickstein Co-Executive Vice Presidents of NAORRR

The *mikveh*, filled with 40 *seahs* of naturally-sourced water (often rainwater), becomes a

womb-like space, a place where one can symbolically dissolve the old and emerge renewed. As Dr. Naomi Marmon Grumet writes, "Mikveh shares a linguistic root with tikvah—hope"(The Spiritual Depth of Mikveh: A Journey of Renewal and Connection, published on The Eden Center's website). Immersion is not just purification; it's a spiritual reset, a moment to reconnect with the Divine, with oneself, and with the sacred rhythm of life. Water nurtures and sustains, yet it can carve through stone. It reflects our spiritual journey, sometimes soft and healing, sometimes forceful and transformative. The mikveh embraces every body, every soul, offering strength, flexibility, and clarity. The metaphor of the 40 seahs and the mikveh, reflects the journey upon which NAORRR is embarking.

NAORRR was founded in 5745. This year we complete our 40th year as an affiliate of the CCAR. We stand at a sacred juncture, honoring our legacy of *avodah* (service), *chevruta* (companionship), and *tikvah* (hope), while boldly reimagining our future.

The number 40 appears repeatedly in Torah and rabbinic literature, marking a threshold moment of change. From Noah emerging from the ark to Moshe on Mount Sinai through our peoples' years in the wilderness, our history is replete with the number 40 symbolizing new hope-filled directions. In our calendar, we are just completing the 40 days from Rosh Hodesh Elul through Yom Kippur, guiding us on a journey of introspection, *teshuva*, and renewal.

This year, 5786, marks a transformative chapter, as we deepen our mission to serve retired Reform rabbis, their spouses/partners, and surviving spouses/partners with renewed purpose and

expanded reach. Among our most meaningful initiatives is LABRIUT,



a pioneering pastoral care program rooted in *refuat hanefesh*—healing of the soul—and guided by Jewish values that honor the dignity and wholeness of every individual. We've unveiled a refreshed visual identity, including a new logo and website, reflecting our evolving spirit and commitment to *hiddur mitzvah*—beautifying our sacred work while making our programs and materials more easily available to our members.

Our outreach now extends to MARAM colleagues in Israel, strengthening bonds of *achdut* (unity) and affirming our shared covenant of sacred service across generations and borders. Internally, we are in the process of restructuring our organization to reflect the shifting demographics of our membership, welcoming younger retirees, embracing diverse life journeys, and creating space for new leadership and innovation. Our partnership with the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) deepens our collective voice and affirms our place within the broader tapestry of Reform Judaism.

These efforts are expressions of *chiddush* (renewal), *kavod* (honor), and *brit* (covenant). With gratitude for the past and excitement for what lies ahead, NAORRR recommits to being a dynamic, compassionate home for those who continue to shape Jewish life in retirement with wisdom, creativity, and heart. May we go from strength to strength—*mchayil el chayil*.

We wish you all a Shanah Tovah u'metukah.

Gary and Joanie



Shalom.

Welcome to what I hope will be a series of thought pieces on

issues related to the new initiative for NAORRR: LABRIUT. I am honored to have been asked by Bennett and Gary and Joanie to try and bring substance to Bennett's vision for a program that focuses on issues related to our health and wellness. The challenges that we encounter as we all age are numerous and span the myriads of life experiences that we all encounter. My work as founder and director of Jewish Sacred Aging and with the Department of Jewish Family Concerns of the URJ has brought home the need for connection and relationship--- physical, spiritual, and intellectual. This is my vision for this new initiative.

NAORRR is now a multi-generational community, and it is reflective in the demographics of our wider Jewish world. If you take the 2020 Pew study and move it to 2025, you see that over half of the current American Jewish community are over 50 years of age. Many of us are experiencing life stages and changes that need support and connection. For many of us these are times of interesting transitions. It is my hope that over the course of time, we can create and maintain a viable program of "inreach" that supports, nourishes and connects the wider NAORRR community.

To that end, let me sketch out a few ideas that I hope to see evolve and that I look forward discussing with you either on-line or in person at our Atlanta gathering.

1. For years one of my tasks at the URJ was to develop and manage the Synagogue as a Caring Community project. The goal of much of that was to ensure that no one in a community felt alone or isolated. This is goal number one now. We hope to develop a cadre of NAORRR members who will be willing to be in contact with members who may be ill, recovering, feeling isolated etc. We will

LABRIUT Richie Address

need to create a viable infrastructure to do this. We have already begun to develop this cadre and the structure that would support this and if you are interested in this, I invite you to connect with me.

- 2. Part of this project will be developing a culture that will see as acceptable for a member to reach out to connect with LABRIUT so that we know there is a need. This has been an issue in congregational programs as well. But we will need to let NAORRR members know that confidentiality will be respected and that we will respond.
- 3. We hope to create a series of webinars that focus on the issues that so many of us are living through; for example the life stage of caregiver, the challenge of new relationships, changes in body, mental health issues, transitions into CCRC or assisted living, relationships with adult children/grandchildren. All of these are aspects of health and wellness.
- 4. There is a wealth of life experience within the membership of NAORRR. How can we reach into this reservoir? Can we create educational opportunities such as Torah study or text study *chevrutah*, a NAORRR sponsored "minyan" for members who wish to say Kaddish but have no congregation to attend daily?

Yes, this is an ambitious vision. However, we can, one step at a time, bring this to reality for the benefit of all. Please feel free to connect with me for ideas, suggestions, to volunteer. Reach me at rfaddress@gmail.com or RabbiAddress@JewishSacredAging.com Check out the website jewishsacredaging.com and, if you wish to write for it to bring your insights and experience to others, please let me know.

Thank you for this opportunity and I look forward to working with you and seeing many of you in Atlanta. Have a sweet and healthy New Year.

Richie



Come Join Us on the NAORRR Civil Rights Journey Led by ETGAR 36 January 6-7, 2026

(Immediately following our annual convention in Atlanta, GA, January 2-6)

Because our NAORRR National Convention will be held from January 2-6, 2026, we have an extraordinary opportunity to be led by ETGAR 36 on a remarkable journey to learn about the history of Civil Rights in America. Come with us as we visit historic sites, meet some courageous heroes, and learn about current issues. The journey is a mix of sightseeing, education, and meetings with organizations and people who have been and are still involved in creating America.

This special NAORRR CIVIL RIGHTS journey is open to all NAORRR members (rabbis, spouses, partners and surviving spouses). Registration is now open (see information below), and space is limited.

The cost of the trip is \$485 a person, and covers:

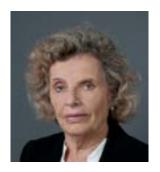
- deluxe coach bus with bathroom
- all site locations
- breakfasts and lunches included
- hotel for Tuesday night based on double occupancy
- single occupancy in hotel is additional \$75

The journey will begin at 8:00 a.m. on January 6 (at the Buckhead Westin Hotel) and conclude (at the Atlanta Airport) at 5:00 pm on January 7.

NAORRR CIVIL RIGHTS JOURNEY JANUARY 6-7, 2026 REGISTRATION FORM

Name:	
Spouse/Partner Name:	
Address:	
Email:	Mobile Phone
Enclosed is my/our check for full payment: \$	(check payable to NAORRR)
Special rooming instructions (sharing room with son	neone other than spouse/partner, allergies, etc.)
Please send registration form and payment to: NAOI	RRR c/o Glickstein, 1803 1 Grove Isle, Miami, FL, 33133

SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT NAORRR CONVENTION



Dr. Rachel Korazim

Rachel Korazim is a Jewish education consultant in curriculum development for Israel and Holocaust education. Rachel opens for her audiences a window to Israeli society through literature. Through stories, poems and songs of the best of Israel's writers, she invites listeners to engage with Israel in an innovative way. Since the beginning of the COVID 19 pandemic, Rachel created a global community of hundreds of learners who regularly meet to study Israeli poetry online. Recently, Rachel collected, edited and published a bilingual anthology of Israeli poetry written in the wake of October 7th titled *Shiva*. Rachel teaches at Israel's well known learning centers such as Pardes and the

Shalom Hartman Institutes as well as numerous world Jewish communities. In her free time, Rachel enjoys scuba diving in the cenotes of Playa del Carmen in Mexico and the amazing coral sites of the Red Sea. Rachel is also a very active grandmother of eight grandchildren who all live in Israel.



Dr. Michael A. Meyer

Michael A. Meyer was born in Berlin, Germany and grew up in Los Angeles, where he graduated from UCLA with highest honors. His doctorate in Jewish history is from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, where he served as Professor of Jewish History for fifty years and is currently emeritus. He has also been a guest professor at three Israeli universities and served as president of the Association for Jewish Studies and international president of the Leo Baeck Institute. He is the recipient of three Jewish Book Awards and has published more than 200 scholarly articles and longer reviews. His books include *The Origins of the Modern Jew, Response to Modernity:*

A History of the Reform Movement in Judaism, Rabbi Leo Baeck: Living a Religious Imperative in Troubled Times, and Above All We Are Jews: A Biography of Rabbi Alexander Schindler. He is a Distinguished Fellow of the Hebrew University, the recipient of an honorary degree from the Jewish Theological seminary and has been honored with a Cross of Merit by the German Federal Republic.



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2026 NAORRR CONVENTION:

- Lectures by Dr. Michael Meyer Poetry presentations by Dr. Rachel Korazim
- Participation of MARAM colleagues Celebrations, Ruach, Camaraderie, Prayer, Torah, and plenty of eating, drinking, and laughing Days of uplifting and energizing friendship Joyous musical Kabbalat Shabbat and Shabbat Shacharit led by the HUC-JIR class of 1976 The Inauguration of the LABRIUT initiative with Richie Address
 - Workshops on Biblical theology, Qumran Psalm, Leo Frank, Israel, liturgy, Matza, and Political Lapel Buttons

NAORRR 2026 CONVENTION REGISTRATION & MEAL CHOICES

NAORRR 2026 CONVENTION REGISTRATION Westin Buckhead Atlanta, Georgia | January 2-6, 2026

Registration deadline – December 15, 2025

Please complete ALL information below to ensure that our records will be up-to-date

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Member Names			
Mailing Address			
City		State	Zip
Home phone	Member 1 Cell	Member 2 Cell	
Member 1 Email	Member 2 Email	Emergency contact name & phone #	

HOTEL RESERVATION INFORMATION

The 2026 NAORRR convention is being held at the Westin Buckhead Atlanta, Georgia.

The room rate is \$189.00 plus taxes. This special room rate is also available three days before and three days after the convention. To get this special NAORRR convention rate, you MUST book reservations by December 8, 2025. Book your room online at: https://book.passkey.com/event/50837037/owner/8650452/home. If you have any questions or problems concerning your reservations or getting NAORRR's special rates, or you have mobility requests, contact Joanie and Gary Glickstein at naorrrglickstein@gmail.com. Once you register and pay the applicable fees, you will receive details about volunteer opportunities, workshops, and other pertinent information.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION FEES: Please print clearly		By 11/15	After 11/15
Member 1	Preferred name on name tag	\$ 175	\$ 225
Member 2	Preferred name on name tag	\$ 175	\$ 225
	TOTAL REGISTRATION	N FEE DUE	\$ A

NAORRR DUES You must be current in 2025-26 dues to attend!

2025-26 Dues: Member -\$75. Surviving Spouse -\$0.		
If you are unsure if you have paid dues for 2025-26, please contact Joanie or Gary Glickstein at naorrrglickstein@gmail.com.		
Dues enclosed: Member 1 \$ Member 2 \$ □ Check if this is your first time attending a NAORRR convention TOTAL DUES	\$	В

Available assistance includes an airfare subsidy of \$200 per member and underwriting from the Wallach Fund. To inquire, please send a confidential email to naorrrglickstein@gmail.com

NAORRR 2026 CONVENTION REGISTRATION & MEAL CHOICES

NAORRR 2026 CONVENTION REGISTRATION Westin Buckhead Atlanta, Georgia | January 2-6, 2026

MEAL FEES

EREV SHABBAT DINNER	1 or 2	\$70 each	\$
Select one entrée and one dessert per person			
□ □ Pan seared Chicken Breast			
☐ ☐ Honey BBQ Glazed Seared Salmon			
□ □ Portobello Short Stack			
Dessert			
□ □ Fresh Fruit Plate			
□□ Flourless Chocolate Cake (Gluten Free)			
SHABBAT KIDDUSH BUFFET LUNCHEON	1 or 2	\$35	\$
SATURDAY NIGHT ICE CREAM SOCIAL □ attending □ not attending	1 or 2	No Charge	\$
SATURDAY EVENING BUFFET DINNER	1 or 2	\$70 each	\$
MONDAY EVENING BUFFET BANQUET	1 or 2	\$70 each	\$
TOT	AL COST O	F ALL MEALS	\$
ADD TOTAL REGISTRATION FEES - from line A			\$
ADD TOTAL DUES - from line B			\$
CONTRIBUTION TO MITZVAH/HESED FUND			\$
CONTRIBUTION TO CONVENTION ASSISTANCE FUND			\$
CONTRIBUTION TO LABRIUT WELLNESS FUND			\$
GRAND TO ENCLOSE CHECK PAYABLE TO NAORRR Or check ***Please double cl	here 🗆 if		\$

NOTE: We cannot process any form without the correct payment.

If you have food allergies or special dietary needs, please enclose a note describing your needs.

Complete BOTH pages and mail with your check (Payable to NAORRR) to
Joanie and Gary Glickstein at 1 Grove Isle Dr. #1803 Miami, FL 33133

***(Before mailing this form, please make a copy of both sides for your future reference.)

NAORRR 2026 CONVENTION REGISTRATION Westin Buckhead Atlanta, Georgia | January 2-6, 2026 Registration deadline – December 15, 2025

2025-2026 Membership Form and Dues Payment on Page 10

Date:







2025-2026 MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAORRR welcomes all CCAR members who are retired or 60 years or older, their spouses, and surviving spouses or partners.

Please complete and PRINT clearly.

	•		
Rabbi's name	Ordination: Year C NY LA J		\$75
	Nickname, if preferred		
Spouse or Partner's name	Ordination: (if rabbi) Year		\$75
	Nickname, if preferred		
Surviving Spouse's name	Ordination year & campus of deceased spouse:		
	Year □C □NY □LA □J	* No due	S
	Name of deceased spouse	required	
Additional contribution to support Hesed/Mitzvah Fund		\$	
Additional contribution to support Convention Assistance Fund		\$	
Additional contribution to support LABRIUT Wellness Fund		\$	
TOTAL AMOUNT REMITTED (make checks navable in US funds to NAORRR) Check if using PayPal		¢	

☐ Check here if you would like the Ohr L'Naorrr newsletter ONLY via an email link.

WE NEED YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION:

Street Address		
City	State	Zip
Member or surviving spouse email	Member or surviving spouse home phone	Member or surviving spouse cell phone
Spouse or Partner email	Spouse or Partner home phone	Spouse or partner cell phone

Send dues and this form to:

NAORRR – Joanie and Gary Glickstein 1 Grove Isle Drive, #1803, Miami, FL 33133 Email: naorrrglickstein@gmail.com

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Everywhere you look...
we've got a new look!
NAORRR is rebranded, from
our logo to our website with
added functionality and ease
of use. Check us out!







NAORRR 1 Grove Isle Drive #1803 Miami, FL 33133

