



# WOMEN'S LEAGUE FOR CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM

*Women's League Shabbat 2013/5773*

## We Never Know How High...

The installation of Women's League officers for 2012-2014 focused on **Uri! Uri! Arise! Greet the New Dawn**, the convention and Torah Fund theme for this year.

During the installation, we heard this poem by Emily Dickinson, one of America's premier female poets.

We Never Know How High

*We never know how high we are  
Til we are called to rise  
And then if we are true to plan  
Our statures touch the skies.*

The heroism we recite  
Would be a daily thing,  
Did not ourselves the cubits warp  
For fear to be a king.

Its message is a good one for all of our members. Dickinson writes that idealism is a worthy pursuit because it encourages us to meet our potential – to “rise” to the occasion – to be remarkable. We can carve our own fate, and can be what we want to be.

But, she continues, what prevents us from realizing our God-given potentials is the fear – and responsibility – that comes with success. Not all battles go to the strongest and the wisest. While even the most accomplished among us is sometimes afraid of failure, in the final analysis, it is worse never to have tried.

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