



Jewish War Veterans of the USA

Membership Committee

Where to Find Jewish Veterans ***across all generations....***

***“To increase our JWV Membership base,
we have to introduce ourselves to a lot of Jewish Veterans.
The good news is, there are a lot of new Jewish Veterans we can meet.***

***Teaming with multiple organizations will increase the awareness
of our Organization, coupled with the focus of Jews serving in the military.
The good news is, there are a lot of organizations we can team with.”***

JWV Membership Chairman Barry Lischinsky



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ALEPH INSTITUTE/CHABAD

Why Aleph Institute? The Aleph Institute is a recognized U.S. Department of Defense Ecclesiastical Endorsing Agency. Two major components of the Aleph Military Jewish Chaplain and Lay Leader Training Program are worship and experiential learning. Aleph Institute's focus is on spiritual growth and renewal amid an atmosphere of trust and peer sharing between selected faculty, military and VA rabbis and Jewish lay leaders.(1)

Update



Special thanks to the efforts of JWV FL Department Commander Larry Jasper, who attended a Department of Defense Symposium conducted by the Aleph Institute for Military Chaplains and Lay Leaders. This is a great opportunity for a partnership for Jewish with War Veterans of the USA, The Jewish Welfare Board and Aleph Institute. Look for Commander Jasper's article in a past edition of *"The Jewish Veteran."*(2)

(1) Reference: The 2020/5780 Jewish Chaplains and Lay Leader Training Course and Symposium, letter of introduction/memorandum of introduction, 19-23 February 2020.

(2) <https://www.jwv.org/the-aleph-institute-and-the-jwv/>



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ALLIED VETERAN ORGANIZATIONS ⁽¹⁾

Why Allied Veteran Organizations? Allied Veteran Organizations is the best place to find a Veteran that has the same values of serving veterans as JWV. For the most part all their members are Veterans. We now need to find which Veterans are a member of our faith. Our recent JWV Survey conducted by the JWV National Marketing Committee shows that Veterans are likely to join multiple Allied Veteran Organizations.

To be effective in your local community your Post must be a player in your local city/town Veterans Council. JWV MUST have a seat at the table, in order to have a voice.

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See
footnote for
additional
listings

(1) <https://www.va.gov/vso/VSO-Directory.pdf>



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COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES and COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Why Colleges and Universities? Not only can we find the current generation of Jewish Veterans there, since 2016, we are seeing a trend of Veterans Organizations opening Posts on campuses.

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With new Northeastern post, VFW hopes to recruit new generation of vets

By Brian MacQuarrie Globe Staff, March 5, 2017, 1:03 p.m.



October 2016, the **Veterans of Foreign War** chartered the Robert R. Pirelli Post 12158 Northeastern University, Boston, MA, The first to be established at a private university in the United States. (1)



November 2020. the **American Legion Department of Wyoming** chartered its first post on a college campus Staff Sgt. Brian Bland Post 307 is located on the campus of Gillette Community College. (2)

(1) https://www.legion.org/education/251565/college-campus-post-helping-build-foundation-future?utm_source=Adestra&utm_medium=email&utm_term=&utm_content=COLLEGE&utm_campaign=011421_ALOU/

(2) https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2017/03/01/with-new-northeastern-post-vfw-hopes-recruit-new-generation-vets/LLMyGG6oEUruYCfpAxJeDO/story.html?s_campaign=bostonglobe%3Asocialflow%3Afacebook



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FEDERATION of JEWISH MEN'S CLUB (FJMC)

Why FJMC? It is the inter(national) umbrella organization for a confederation of more than 250 men's auxiliaries serving 25,000 men around the globe. Our chapters are concentrated in North America throughout the United States and Canada. The influence of FJMC's programs and contributions is felt worldwide.



*"FJMC's mission is to involve Jewish men in Jewish life. The FJMC is an "arm" of the **Conservative/Masorti Movement** but our affect goes far beyond men in the Conservative/Masorti Movement. Our programs have a profound impact on our congregations, our youth, world Jewry, and, when you consider the indirect impact of our Shomrei Ha'aretz environmental programs, all of humanity."*(1)

(1) <https://www.fjmc.org/content/about-fjmc/>



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FRIENDS of the ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCE (FIDF)

Why Friends of the IDF? Established in 1981 by a group of Holocaust survivors under the leadership of John Klein z'l, FIDF is a 501c3 not-for-profit corporation that operates 20 regional offices in the United States and Panama, with headquarters in New York City. FIDF relies on the commitment and dedication of our volunteer board members and staff to ensure that we are delivering on our mission each-and-every day.(1)



Mission: To offer educational, cultural, recreational, and social services programs and facilities that provide hope, purpose, and life-changing support for the soldiers who protect Israel and Jews worldwide.(2)

(1) <https://www.fidf.org>

(2) <https://www.fidf.org/about-fidf>



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HADASSAH

Why Hadassah? Hadassah has the largest Jewish women's membership in America. Hadassah is 300,000 members strong. Hadassah has members from every congressional district in the nation.(1)

Women Veterans



In the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) article "*Women Veterans Make History*" the following statistical data is provided: World War II - 140,000 women served in the U.S Army and Women's Army Corps. (Note: article did not include data for the Korean War.) During Vietnam War 7,000 women served in Southeast Asia. During the 1991 Persian Gulf War 41,000 women were deployed to the combat zone. Today, over 700,000 women have served post 9/11 including Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.(2) Here are two facts about Women Veterans: Fact - You may know that one in every ten veterans is a woman. Fact - But did you know that one in every 63 women is a veteran?(3) Women are now the fastest growing cohort within the Veteran community.(4)

(1) <https://www.hadassah.org>

(2) https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/outreachmaterials/womenveteransmakehistory/campaigns_makehistory.asp

(3) U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2016 Current Population Survey, Annual Average

(4) https://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/specialreports/women_veterans_2015_final.pdf



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HILLEL

Why Hillel? When Jewish Veterans leave the military and want to cash-in on the G.I. Bill, many normally attend an Institution of Higher Education. Some may join their local Hillel.



“A student’s involvement with Hillel is one of the strongest predictors of future Jewish leadership – stronger than Jewish day school enrollment, Jewish camp experiences, or membership in a Jewish youth group. As the leading authority on Jewish campus life, Hillel reaches, engages, and equips tomorrow’s leaders today. -Avi Chai Foundation Study, 2010” (1)

Former Hillel President creates Military Web Site, **“Jews In Green”** provides innumerable resources for Jewish soldiers in the US military.(2)

(1) <https://hillel.org/about/what-is-a-hillel>

(2) <https://hillel.org/about/news-views/news-views---blog/news-and-views/2004/06/15/former-hillel-president-creates-military-web-site>



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ISRAEL DEFENSE FORCE (IDF)

Why the IDF? Reference: Jewish War Veterans Constitution and Bylaws, Section 3, Associate Membership. Dated: August 2019. Page 5. "Any person who is a citizen of the United States of America, and of the Jewish faith, not otherwise eligible to Active Membership, shall be eligible for Associate Membership and be entitled to all the rights and privileges of active members, except the right to act as a delegate of any echelon, provided he or she qualify as follows:

- a) Who, during the time of any war, campaign or conflict in which the United States of America was an active participant, was a member of the armed forces of any country allied to the United States of America in that war, campaign or conflict, provided however, that no person, discharged or released under conditions other than honorable from any such service shall be eligible to membership; (Amended 8/97)."



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JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER (JCC)

Why JCC? When a Jewish Veteran leaves the military, they want to maintain their good physical shape. One of the best places to do this is your local JCC.

“Our focus is on the people who make your JCC shine: your staff. Whether face-to-face in learning cohorts or online communities, we meet the needs of your staff through intensive professional development opportunities. JCC professionals shape Jewish lives. JCC Association builds strong Jewish communal professionals.” (1)

(1) <https://jcca.org/about-us/leading-the-movement/>



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MILITARY BASE/FORT/CAMP

Why a Military Base? For the continued growth of our organization, we need to focus on its future. Our future will be determined by how effective we are at recruiting new members. One of the most crucial places to find new members are active military base. There are many affiliated groups on any Military base to choose from. Active Component, Military Families/Dependents, National Guard, U.S. Reserve, Military Retirees, Federal Employees, State Employees, Government Contractors, Civilian Contract Employees, etc..... **Point of Contact: Jewish Spiritual Leader/Lay Leader.**

Not located Near a Military Base.....

Consider a Reserve Component Center: Joint Forces Headquarters, National Guard Armories, U. S. Reserve Training Centers etc..... A Reserve Component can be found in most congressional districts in the nation. Reserve Component Centers are also, a local community-based partner just like most of our JWV Posts.



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RECENTLY ADDED

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NORTH AMERICAN FEDERATION of TEMPLE BROTHERHOODS

Why The North American Federation of Temple Brotherhoods (NAFTB)? NAFTB has embarked on new directions as it combines its 75-year tradition of service to the **Reform Movement** with meaningful programs to help Jewish men find identity, involvement, and inspiration in their lives through fuller participation in the Temple community.

THEREFORE, the Union of American Hebrew Congregations resolves to commend these new initiatives of the North American Federation of Temple Brotherhoods in bringing greater spiritual involvement and active participation within the men's movement, and pledges to cooperate with and support this effort.(1)

(1) <https://urj.org/what-we-believe/resolutions/north-american-federation-temple-brotherhoods>



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SHOMRIM SOCIETIES

Why Shomrim Societies? The Shomrim Societies are fraternal organizations of Jewish members of police departments, like the New York City Police Department and the Chicago Police Department....⁽¹⁾ Although not a requirement many of your law enforcement officers in any Police Department are Military Veterans.

Shomrim is a Hebrew word meaning "watchers" or "guards"⁽²⁾ From our humble beginnings, which date back to Asser Levy's appointment as the first Jewish Burgher Guard in New Amsterdam in 1657, to the first Shomrim founded in New York City in 1924 by Capt. Jacob Kaminsky, we have grown and prospered. We are proud of our Jewish heritage and our public safety careers.⁽³⁾

(1) [https://www.fidf.orghttps://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shomrim_\(fraternal_police_organization\)](https://www.fidf.orghttps://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shomrim_(fraternal_police_organization))

(2) <http://findwords.info/term/shomrim>

(3) <https://www.nationalshomrim.org/what-is-shomrim>



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TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)

Why TAP? Every year, approximately 200,000 men and women leave U.S. military service and return to life as civilians, a process known as the military to civilian transition.

TAP provides information, tools, and training to ensure service members, and their spouses, are prepared for the next step in civilian life.

TAP is a one-day employment preparation workshop that is **mandatory** for all transitioning service members, and two optional two-day workshops for career exploration and technical career preparation, or general employment preparation.(1)

Upcoming TAP classes are scheduled for all service components and locations. To find a find a TAP class in your location, please visit footnote (2) below.

(1) <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/programs/tap>

(2) <https://tapevents.org>





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UNITED SYNAGOGUE OF CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM (USCJ)

Why USCJ? The USCJ network of nearly 600 congregations extends across North America and includes synagogues in the United States, Canada, and Mexico. Congregations are divided into seven geographic districts, each led by a dedicated Kehilla Relationship Manager (KRM) who provides grassroots support and acts as your liaison with USCJ.



Per USCJ's Strategic Plan, "it focuses on the *raison d'être* of a congregation or synagogue, i.e., that it is a sacred community. Second, it signals a welcome to those who resonate with the ideas of **Conservative Judaism** as expressed in the vision statement, but who do not necessarily belong to official Conservative congregations or feel comfortable with the Conservative movement label."(1)

(1) <https://uscj.org/about#what-we-do>



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YELLOW RIBBON REINTERGATION PROGRAM (YRRP)

Why YRRP? The National Defense Authorization Act of 2008 established the Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP). It is a Department of Defense-wide effort to promote the well-being of National Guard and Reserve members, their families and communities, by connecting them with resources before, during, and after deployments. YRRP addresses the unique challenges facing the Guard and Reserve community, including geographic dispersion away from military support networks and fewer deployment resources than the Active Component.



While the Service Member is deployed, invite their family over for Shabbat.



Invite the family to your place of worship for Jewish Holidays.



Send the Service Member a care package during their deployment.



Welcome the Service Member Home with a “*Welcome Home Shabbat Meal.*”

For a list of YRRP in your area: <https://www.yellowribbon.mil> (click on events)