



The Jewish Veteran

A Jewish Voice for Veterans and a Veteran's Voice for Jews

33rd Allied Mission Trip to Israel

By Selina Kanowitz and Gary Ginsburg



Members of the 33rd Allied Mission Trip to Israel.

Israel was magical, mystical, and enchanting! From April 20-30, we were honored to participate in the Jewish War Veterans 33rd Allied Mission to Israel with 41 other people.

We had beautiful weather for our trip to the Dead Sea on Saturday, April 22. Many of us got to walk, talk, float, and splash around in the water at the lowest point on earth. This is probably the closest point on earth to hell. The bottom of the Dead Sea is very muddy in places, and we needed to be careful not to slip and fall.

Later that same day, we stopped at Masada where we were transported to the top by cable car. We were told that it would take several hours to climb to the top of Masada on the pathway. The view of the various camps in the ground and surrounding sights were incredible. Our guide Ronit told us about the various archeological structures

and events which took place at Masada.

On Sunday we saw the Dead Sea Scrolls at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem.

"One of the many great points about the JWV Allied Mission to Israel is that we have access to sights and to Israelis that the average tourist does not," said Past National Commander Harvey Weiner. In Latrun, we visited the Jewish WWII Museum of Heroes, which was not yet open to the public. We had a special tour led by the museum's CEO, Retired Brigadier General Tzvika Kantor. The museum was still under construction when we had our tour, but it opened to the public in May.



Ginsburg and Kanowitz in the Dead Sea.

On Monday, at our hotel, we received an outstanding unclassified briefing from U.S. Army Colonel Phil Messer, our military official assigned to the embassy. This presentation laser focused on the military relationship between the United States and Israel.

We also visited the National Memorial Museum for Israeli Fallen, which honors both military members and civilians.

Our next stop was Yad Vashem. We saw the children's memorial which has been added to this memorial in Jerusalem. It is a room filled with stars symbolizing the 1.5 million Jewish children murdered in the 1930s and 1940s.

In the evening, we attended the Jewish National Fund (JNF) Yom Hazikaron Ceremony at Ammunition Hill, where we learned about the tactical battle there which led to the unification of Jerusalem in June of 1967. We met Tina Lamm, originally from Long Island, New York, whose husband works with Project Benjamin. Michael Levine, who runs the Lone Soldier Program, also spoke at the ceremony. His program supports about 1,800 IDF personnel who have enlisted from places around the world, but whose family has not officially relocated to Israel.

On Tuesday, we attended a memorial ceremony at the National Memorial Museum in Latrun. As part of the ceremony, National Commander Nelson Mellitz and JWV Massachusetts trip guest, retired

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JWV Member Carries Piece of Unit's History during Overseas Deployment

By Richard Goldenberg

One of JWV Post 105's deployed members is carrying a unique item for a Jewish veteran serving overseas – a Christian crucifix.

The Kilmer crucifix, belonging to the famous poet Alfred Joyce Kilmer, is a historical artifact now in Africa with the 1st Battalion, 69th Infantry Regiment, of the New York National Guard. The battalion is on a nine-month overseas deployment to Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa.

New York Army National Guard Lt. Col. Shawn Tabankin, the 1st Battalion, 69th

Infantry Regiment Commander carries the Kilmer crucifix.

"The Kilmer cross is one of the legends of the 69th," Tabankin, a Clifton Park, New York resident said. "It is part of our history and part of our lineage."

Kilmer rose to prominence as a writer and poet in the early 1900s. Kilmer enlisted in 1917 and served in the 69th during World War I.

On March 7, 1918, the 69th trench line

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New York Army National Guard Lt. Col. Shawn Tabankin.

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D'verei HaShomrim
The Blessing of the Curse

By Chaplain Captain Yitzchok Landa, USAF.
In the last edition of The Jewish Veteran, you read the D'verei Hashomrim by Rabbi Doniel Kramer in which he provided thoughtful insights and observations about Pesach and the broken middle matzah.
Kramer pointed out that Pesach is an excellent opportunity to reconnect lost, disillusioned, or uneducated Jews with their heritage. What about Tisha b'Av?

Is there a way to connect those same individuals with the period of mourning, observed by Jews worldwide for centuries, which builds in intensity during the summer, beginning on the 17 of Tammuz (July 6, 2023) peaking on the Ninth of Av (Tisha b'Av, July 27, 2023)?

For too long, teachers and outreach directors have given up on programming for the Ninth of Av. It's not fun, there is no intuitive attraction, and it appears to be unappealing. For many estranged Jews, the Tisha b'Av experience is precisely the kind of thing that repelled them from their heritage in the first place.

This is exactly why it is so important to see and understand the power and mission of this vital part of the Jewish calendar.

The traditional narrative of negativity surrounding the Ninth goes something like this: "Why does Judaism insist on romanticizing its own historical suffering? Why do we dwell and simmer in the pain of the past, broken-hearted over a building?" Invariably, such contemplation leads to: "Well, why did the Jewish people suffer so much, anyway? Where was G-d in the Holocaust?"

In truth, the message of this period of mourning is quite the opposite.

Certainly, we all feel the need to commemorate and memorialize that which is important to us. Recent losses are felt more acutely. The Department of Defense, the State of Israel, and many Jewish communities recognize the significance of Holocaust Remembrance Day, and mark it solemnly.

In truth, all our losses deserve equal recognition. The value of one life lost is infinite and can never be appropriately honored. The distance of time may dull our sensitivity, but it does not diminish the value. Were we to fittingly commemorate all of the litany of suffering inflicted upon us in our history, our calendar would be one large smudge of black ink.

Instead, we cram it all into one day. One day for all the suffering and pain to be mourned and marked. Traditional Judaism does not mark Holocaust Remembrance Day (for which the day of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising was chosen) but instead, marks it on the Ninth of Av.

We were never a people to stew in suffering, nor will we fail to honor the past. We mark it, but limit it to this day, leaving the rest of the calendar forward-looking and joyous. Why this day? The Ninth of Av was the cause of all the suffering that followed. It encapsulates the peak of our personal and communal spiritual illness, and the terrifying treatment of divine surgery that followed.

But there's so much more. There is an underlying joy in the Ninth of Av.

The historical oppression of the Jewish



Chaplain Captain Yitzchok Landa

People, our ancestors and siblings, all encapsulated in the Ninth of Av, has purpose and meaning. That purpose and meaning is a privilege not to be missed, and this is the real Jewish interpretation of suffering.

The parable is told of a young lamb, wandering with his mother and the rest of the flock through pastures. A shepherd and his sheepdog lead, providing peace and security.

The flock enters a forest, and the little lamb is separated from his mother and the others. He looks up, realizing he is lost and alone. Dark clouds gather and powerful thunderstorm kicks up, adding to his fear. Night falls, and animals of prey begin to prowl. Our little lamb listens to the howling wolves and snarling mountain lions and is paralyzed with terror.

Suddenly, in the darkness, he feels a blow. A familiar one that he has felt before! It is the staff of the shepherd, driving him back home! The sheepdog is barking at his feet as well. Can you relate to the warm flooding feeling of relief that fills the lamb at these sharp sensations?

This is the meaning of the wondrous words of the Psalm 23, recited at most military funerals, "Even as I walk in the valley of the shadow of death... your rod and your staff console me."

This is Jewish suffering. It is what keeps us together, keeps us true, and keeps us whole. If we could reach those ideals without it, the little lamb would never get lost. But our history is long and treacherous. What will ensure our survival? What will keep us dedicated to our national goals of spirituality, spreading blessings, and perfecting the universe for the benefit of all mankind? It is the sharp, directive rap visited upon us, orchestrated from above, through the blow of our enemies.

Israelis often say that the best way to destroy their country would be to leave it alone. They are only half-joking. We have endured for thousands of years not despite oppression but because of it. Like a grape, when we are squeezed, we improve. We recommit to our ideals.

Jews do not romanticize suffering. We mourn it. Every individual loss is indescribably tragic. We honor it appropriately and move on. But we know that as a people, the standard to which we are held keeps us sharp. Perhaps, if our enemies would cease and desist, they would indeed succeed in getting us to destroy ourselves.

But they never will, and neither will we.

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Interested in writing an article about veterans' issues? Want to let everyone know what your post or department is doing? Send your articles and photographs to editor@jwv.org.
You can find more information about guidelines for article and photo submissions on www.jwv.org. The deadline for the next issue of The Jewish Veteran is September 8th at noon eastern.

Veterans Crisis Line
DIAL 988 then PRESS 1

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

National Commander Nelson L. Mellitz

As we enter the last quarter of my administration, I think back on the four pillars (goals) my JWV leadership team developed just prior to the start of my administration: fighting antisemitism, improving JWV internal and external communications, obtaining improved benefits for all U.S. military members and veterans, and giving more visibility to JWV to increase membership. As an organization, we are making progress on all four pillars, but generally at a slow pace.

One of the purposes of our founding members in March of 1896 was to fight the antisemitic trope that Jewish people do not serve and fight for our country. This trope still exists and has expanded to include the incorrect idea that Jewish men and women in uniform are more loyal to Israel than the United States. In fact, this is only one aspect of the ever-increasing antisemitism. According to a recently released Anti-Defamation League (ADL) report, antisemitism was at its highest level in 2022, since ADL began keeping records in 1979. In addition, the ADL report repeated several times, "let me clarify for you as clearly as I can - antizionism is antisemitism." In response to increasing antisemitism, JWV National has established the Department Action Officers Network. We have determined that additional training is needed by these officers to address local incidents. This training started in mid-June and will continue at least through our National Convention in August. JWV will not stand by and let antisemitism raise its ugly head without acting against it.

As far as improving internal and external communications, our national staff and volunteers have worked hard to communicate with members and those who will be members. If you do not receive the weekly e-newsletter, sign up for it today by sending an email to national and asking to be on the distribution list. Almost every day there

are new posts on the JWV Facebook, YouTube, or Instagram pages.

Several months ago, I signed a contract with a vendor that modernizes our JWV website and another contract to completely revise our membership database and make it accessible to Department and Post commanders. I must also mention The Jewish Veteran, which is full of information about what is happening both within and outside of JWV.

In addition, JWV leadership are continuously invited to speak at Jewish and non-Jewish organizations to discuss Jews serving in the U.S. military, what JWV does to support all troops, and how they can support those that are serving and have served. Most recently, we made presentations at The Aleph Institute, Jewish Warrior Weekends at both the Air Force Academy and Hillel in Boston, numerous synagogues, Our Community Salutes events across the country, a Medal of Honor Recognition event in Los Angeles, and we will attend the Jewish Welfare Board Chaplains Symposium in August. What are you doing to promote JWV?

If you think that you qualify for the PACT Act, register on the VA website today. JWV and other VSOs worked for years to get this through Congress, so please register now, even if you are not sure you qualify. There is other information about the PACT Act in this publication. Additionally, if you have not already done so, listen to the testimony I delivered before a joint hearing of the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees in March. There is a link on the JWV website. I stressed in my testimony the bills that are a priority for our organization, and what we want the current Congress to pass.

A primary objective or duty of any JWV Commander is to increase the number of members, and that responsibility falls heavily on the National Commander. I have been very lucky because everywhere I have travelled, my travelling partners,



National Vice Commander Barry Lischinsky and Chief of Staff Larry Rosenthal, have recruited many new young members. We concentrated on the military academies, ROTC, joint military training schools like the Uniformed Services University, and Jewish Chaplains. We are succeeding beyond our original goals, especially with the recruitment of Jewish Chaplains. I believe that we now have more Jewish Chaplains as members than at any other time in the past 40 years.

Something has been bothering me for months. An area where we need to concentrate our efforts through the last few months of my administration and in the future is Family Readiness Support (FRS). What I envision is an FRS Committee of active duty, retired military, and other veterans, to act in an advisory capacity on all matters of policies related to family matters. The committee would examine the support JWV should be providing to family members of active duty, reserve component members (National Guard and Reservists), and veterans. I do not think we are doing enough to support the families of Jewish service members and veterans. What can we do to assist those who are serving and have served?

Please feel free to send me your comments at nationalcmdr@jwv.org.

On June 4, 2023, JWV issued the following press release:

JWV Condemns CUNY Law School Speaker's Comments and Calls on CUNY Leadership to Denounce Antisemitic Remarks

Jewish War Veterans National Commander Colonel Nelson L. Mellitz, USAF, Retired, expressed outrage at the hate filled graduation speech delivered at the City University of New York (CUNY) Law School graduation by Fatima Mohammed.

Jewish men and women have served in the U.S. military in greater numbers than their percentage of the total population, since the founding of our great republic to preserve the right of free speech. The Fatima Mohammed anti-Jewish hateful gradu-

ation speech is a direct attack against what we have fought so hard to preserve for almost 250 years. "Her comments are extreme, inflammatory, filled with anger and have no place in any setting in the United States," said Mellitz.

JWV calls on CUNY and the law school leadership to take immediate action to denounce her antisemitic remarks and assure that students are not provided a forum to promote hatred and antisemitism in the future.

Stay in touch with JWV!
Facebook icon
Twitter icon

National Executive Director Ken Greenberg

Greetings from National Headquarters. I am pleased to provide the following updates on congressional and executive branch activities related to veterans, service members, their families, survivors, and caregivers. Please email me with questions or if you would like to see other topics included in future columns.

Annual Cost-of-Living Increase for Veterans Approved for 2023

JWV strongly supported and is pleased to report that President Biden has signed bipartisan legislation to increase rates of disability compensation for veterans and survivors. The Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) Act of 2023 will increase certain VA benefits including disability compensation, clothing allowances, and dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC) for surviving spouses and children to reflect increases in the cost of living.

The cost-of-living adjustment will be determined by the annual COLA adjustment to social security benefits, as determined by the Social Security Administration, and will go into effect on December 1, 2023.

PACT Act Deadline

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is urging everyone to either file their claim or their intent to file a claim on or before August 9, 2023. Doing that ensures the effective date of your claim will be August 10, 2022. Claims filed after August 9, 2023 will be effective on the date they are filed.

Concurrent Receipt Legislation Reaches Consensus Calendar

At the time of publishing, the Major Richard Star Act (HR 1282/S 344) had 315 House and 66 Senate cosponsors. The lead sponsor, Rep. Gus Bilirakis of Florida, plans to enter the bill onto the consensus calendar shortly and has discussed timing with Speaker Kevin McCarthy. This is the second year in a row that the Star Act has reached this level of support. Entry on the consensus calendar is a milestone that can further influence negotiations on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) during difficult budgetary control measure discussions in Congress.

Eligibility and Honors at Arlington National Cemetery

The Expanding America's National Cemetery Act (HR 1413) is up to 46 cosponsors. The Military Coalition's Retired Affairs Committee has formed a working group for targeted advocacy. The goal is to grow support in order to add this as an amendment to the 2024 NDAA. While the proposed eligibility reduction still looms, HR 1413 offers a long-term solution that will authorize the Department of Defense (DoD) and VA to transform an existing VA-run national cemetery into the next location for internment with military honors.

JWV Supports the Love Lives On Act of 2023

The Love Lives on Act of 2023 will ensure surviving military spouses retain eligibility for survivor benefits from the DoD and VA if they remarry before age 55. It also removes archaic and punitive language regarding "holding oneself out to be married."

Current law terminates certain benefits for surviving military spouses if they remarry before the age of 55. Given that many military surviving spouses today have lost their loved ones due to illness or suicide related to their military member's service, they are younger than 55. Many have children and teens they must now raise alone. Many of these survivors don't remarry because they are worried about financial stability when it comes to their children. This restriction is imposed on military surviving families, but not on the surviving families of first responders. The living legacies of our nation's fallen military heroes deserve no less.

Confirmation Hearing on VA Deputy Secretary Nominee

The Senate Veterans Affairs Committee (SVAC) held a hearing on Tanya Bradsher, President Biden's nominee for Deputy Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs. Bradsher is a combat veteran who served in the U.S. Army for 20 years. She enlisted in 1993 and was commissioned in 1994 from the Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia. She currently serves as the VA Chief of Staff.

Senate Confirms VA's New Under Secretary for Benefits

JWV applauds the Senate action on April 26, 2023, to confirm Joshua Jacobs as VA Under Secretary for Benefits. JWV already has a strong working relationship with Jacobs and looks forward to continuing to work with him.

JWV Leadership Participates in Memorial Day Ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery



Rosenthal and Mellitz at Memorial Day Ceremony at Arlington Cemetery.
Photo Credit Gene Russell.

National Commander Nelson Mellitz, Chief of Staff Larry Rosenthal, and Executive Director Ken Greenberg attended the Memorial Day



Ceremony at Arlington Cemetery on Memorial Day. Mellitz also attended a White House breakfast and represented JWV at the official ceremony. He and Rosenthal placed a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns. JWV members Joel Poznansky and Allan Barall served as flag bearers during the parade of colors.

PNC Michael Berman and PNP Elaine Bernstein joined Rosenthal and JWV staff members at a booth on the National Mall on May 28 as part of the Rolling to Remember event.

JWV Celebrated Jewish American Heritage Month on Capitol Hill



Capitol Hill Jewish American Heritage Month Event.

The Combatting Antisemitism Movement (CAM) sponsored a Congressional Breakfast on April 28, featuring remarks from 14 Senators and Representatives. They united to celebrate Jewish contributions to society and rebuke the rise in antisemitism.

Maryland Post 692 member Joel Poznansky represented JWV on a panel at the event.

JWV Completes Audit

I am pleased to report that Clifton, Larsen, and Allen, LLP completed the audit for JWV, the Foundation, and the National Museum of American Jewish Military History for the period ending June 30, 2022. National also filed all 990 forms due to the IRS before the May 15, 2023 deadline.

As NED, it is important for you to communicate with me on issues you care about. If you are having difficulty with VA or DoD when it comes to your benefits or health care concerns, let me know. Let JWV help by using our contacts to work for you. You can contact me at kgreenberg@jwv.org.

MARKETING COMMITTEE

By Chairman Steve Krant

Members of the Marketing Committee have been working behind-the-scenes with our Information Technology (IT) Committee counterparts on a substantial refresh of the JWV website. As with all things technology, it's likely to take longer than expected, but will yield greater functionality and a better user experience.

We are working with National and Department leadership to develop locally customizable graphic designs for JWV signage used at public events. For example, portable and relatively inexpensive retractable (vertical) banners, outdoor sails, and similar high-visibility signs that generate interest and attract potential members.

A gentle reminder for all members: we have a Resource Center, which you can find at <https://resourcecenter.jwv.org>, to make best practices and ideas that worked for you, available to your fellow JWV members. So don't be a hoarder, share your concepts and sample materials. For example, successful fundraising and recruiting brochures, handouts, community engagement activities, how to guides, and more.

Our Marketing Committee meets monthly via Zoom. Fresh faces and ideas are welcome and encouraged. Contact marketingcmte@jwv.org if you would like to participate or share constructive comments and ideas.

POST-9/11 VETERANS COMMITTEE

By Chairman Jeffrey Blonder

The Post-9/11 Veterans Committee continues to be the most active committee in JWV. This past quarter, the Post-9/11 Veterans Committee held two meetings. In April we heard from Jennifer Ballou, who is the Gold Star Fellow from the Global War on Terrorism Memorial Foundation. At last year's JWV National Convention we joined them as a partner. The memorial has recently been approved to be built on the Mall in Washington, D.C. In June

the committee heard from Pamela Elbe, Director of Collections, Archives, and Exhibitions at our National Museum of American Jewish Military History. Both events were well attended and sparked lively discussions.

The committee will be taking July and August off but will return to regular meetings in September. The Post-9/11 Veterans Committee is the future of JWV. Any member interested in joining the committee should contact Jeffrey Blonder at jwvofmassachusetts@gmail.com.

VAVS COMMITTEE

By Chairman Howard Goldstein

If you want to help fellow veterans, if you like getting out, if you like meeting people, if you don't want to get out but still want to help people, we have a job for you. Become a Veterans Administration Voluntary Services (VAVS) representative or deputy. A VAVS representative or deputy volunteers to help veterans at a VA hospital or Community-Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC).

If you can get to a VA Medical Center (VAMC) you can volunteer at a food pantry, become a red vest volunteer ambassador showing people how to get around the building, or deliver coffee. If you like to drive, you can participate in programs to help get people to their appointments or work with patients in hospice care.

If you can't make it to a VAMC, you can become part of the Compassionate Contact Program, which connects you with a housebound veteran who wants to talk to someone on the phone occasionally.

There are so many opportunities to show that Jews can and want to help veterans and that we exist as an organization.

Last year 22,321 VAVS volunteers put in more than 3,325,000 hours. Their organizations have donated over \$65,000,000 worth of items to support veterans.

The Jewish War Veterans is part of this.

However, we could and should play a bigger role. We need our members to step up and take on more roles at their local VAMC. JWV has dedicated VAVS volunteers at 40 of the 171 VA facilities around the country, but we should have more to both help veterans and get JWV's name out there.

After spending three days at the 77th annual CDCE/VAVS National Advisory Council meeting in Denver, Colorado with VA staff and members of over 50 organizations that support veterans, it is clear the VA is doing some amazing things, but cannot continue to do them without volunteers.

We, as an organization, and you, as an individual, can make a difference in someone's life.

Please contact me at howard@jwvpost54.org or a CDCE/VAVS staff member at your local VA to learn more.

VIETNAM VETERANS COMMITTEE

By Chairman Bob Jacobs

As I'm sure you all know by now, a commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the end of U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War was held on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., May 11-13. Jerry Alperstein and I planned to be there, but both of our wives had medical issues, forcing us to cancel the trip. I want to thank National Commander Nelson Mellitz and the members of JWV's national staff for taking over and making JWV's presence known.

At the National Convention in Jacksonville, we will have a committee meeting on Tuesday at noon. As far as our Veterans Night Out, we don't have any seats left. In the event any reservations are cancelled, Alperstein will accept new reservations along with cash payments in person at the convention.

A Day of Honor

By Greg Lee

The Jewish War Veterans Department of California partnered with the American Legion and the Los Angeles County Department of Mil-Vet Affairs to host an event honoring Medal of Honor recipients at Bob Hope Patriotic Hall on April 11.

The featured guest was Medal of Honor recipient, Colonel Jack Jacobs, a JWV life member.

The event began with a roundtable featuring Jacobs, JWV National Commander Nelson Mellitz, and others from the military and veteran communities. They discussed the needs of minority and female veterans and the challenge of homeless veterans.

Dr. Shad Meshad, founder of the National Veterans Foundation and the VA Vet Centers said, "Despite other factors including substance abuse and mental health, the one common denominator among homeless veterans is the lack of affordable housing."

Dr. Steve Braverman, the Director of the VA's

Greater Los Angeles Veterans Medical Center said that when it comes to female veterans, "We have created dedicated women's clinics, separate waiting areas, and even separate entrances to our facilities. We do not tolerate harassment of any of our patients, especially our women veterans."

Mellitz spoke about the Jewish War Veterans and its fight against both bigotry and antisemitism.

After the roundtable, there was a ceremony honoring both Jacobs and another Medal of Honor recipient, Captain Ben Salomon. Jacobs unveiled a painting by artist David Schwartz which featured Salomon. The painting is the latest addition to a collection called "True Honor," which features Jewish Medal of Honor recipients.

Congressman Brad Sherman presented Mellitz and Jacobs with American flags that were flown over the Capitol in Washington, D.C.

One highlight of the day was Jacobs administering the Oath of Enlistment to a new Army Recruit.

The positive response generated from this event has provided inspiration for similar events in selected cities across America.



Mellitz and Jacobs

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

The Allied Mission Trip to Israel is behind us, and what a trip! I would strongly urge everyone to go on the next one. That said, this trip is a great recruiting tool and benefit to mention to potential new members.

Speaking of benefits, how many of you know that the Department of Veterans Affairs has an Overseas Travel Clinic? If you are in the VA medical system, all you need is a referral from your primary care physician to the clinic. Once this happens, you will be contacted by the clinic. They will review your medical records and recommend vaccinations you will need for your destinations. Additionally, they will provide you with a travel medical kit that has “Go no Go” pills, first aid cream, Band-Aids, and first aid instructions. In addition, you will receive an information packet about the areas you will be traveling. My packet for Israel was 24 pages. It included safety information, sights to see, cautions, and where to seek medical help.

Melody Harrison, our Membership Director, continues to receive membership applications that are not legible. Please check the applications before you submit them to National Headquarters. The most common problem areas are mailing address-

es, emails, and what post they are joining. How many of our members participate in their local Federation Chapters, Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) Chapters, and Men’s or Sisterhood organizations? These groups are full of potential new members and patrons. Also, participating as a JWV member makes more people aware of our existence. I recently attended a JCRC meeting and was approached by a fellow member who told me he was a veteran but had not fought in any wars and thought he was not eligible to join. I informed him he was, and he is now a member who has recruited another new member. It doesn’t take much effort most of the time. Finally, the news everyone is waiting for. The tabulations are done for the Spring 2023 Membership Contest. First place goes to Barry Schneider from the Department of TALO, second place to Kim Queen from the Department of Wisconsin, and third place to Gary Glick from the Department of New York. Congratulations to these members for their hard work. I would also like to mention the recruiting effort put forth by the following people: Bill Goldberg, David Lavine, David Levin, Earl Roth, Jerry Schnur, Perry Levine, Ralf Schwartz, Robert Pokost, Susan Hoffman, William



Kim Queen
Membership Chairman

Greenberg, and Bill Glogower. Thank you for your commitment to grow JWV! I am looking forward to seeing everyone in Jacksonville, and hopefully some of our new members will be in attendance as well!

JWV MEMBER CARRIES PIECE OF UNIT’S HISTORY DURING OVERSEAS DEPLOYMENT

Continued from page 1

positions in France were hit by German artillery, resulting in the collapse of a bunker. The attack buried 21 men and killed 19. Kilmer memorialized the event with his now famous “Rouge Bouquet.” To this day the poem is read at every 69th Regiment memorial service. On July 30, 1918, Kilmer was killed in action near the village of Seringes-et-Nesles, France during the Second Battle of the Marne. “Rouge Bouquet” was read aloud at his graveside service. According to legend, Maj. William Donovan, then commander of the regiment, removed the crucifix from Kilmer after his death and carried it for the remainder of the war. It is revered as one of the army unit’s most important relics.

Though the Kilmer crucifix is usually tucked safely inside a display case, the crucifix accompanies the unit on deployments overseas and is worn by the commander during the St. Patrick’s Day Parade and other key ceremonies. While deployed to the Horn of Africa, Tabankin said he makes sure wherever a 69th Soldier was stationed, the Kilmer crucifix went there as well. “It is important for us to maintain our traditions to the greatest extent possible, even while deployed,” Tabankin said. “Whenever I travel to any of the outstations, it comes with me. I’ll wear it again when we have our St. Patrick’s Day parade here in Djibouti.” While Tabankin and his battalion were absent for their traditional leading spot in this year’s

St. Patrick’s Day Parade in New York City, his unit mirrored the celebration overseas at Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti, where the unit is currently headquartered. Tabankin, an in-service member of the Jewish War Veterans Albany Post 105, realizes that while the demographics of the unit have changed over the years, its commitment to tradition hasn’t wavered. “The 69th Infantry was formed by Irish immigrants who were predominantly Roman Catholic,” Tabankin said. “That was probably the dominant religion in the regiment for decades.” “Today, we are obviously much more diverse and reflect the population of New York City,” he said.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:
Steve Falkowitz

Do you know what a patron is? Article V of our Constitution says “Any supporter of JWV that upholds, reflects, and pursues the values of JWV may become a Patron.” It is further stated that “Patrons are not members of JWV...”

So what is the motivation for a person to become a Patron? That question was answered by Steve Falkowitz of Post 373.

Falkowitz stated that his family has a history of service to our nation. He had three great-uncles who all served in World War II, he has cousins who served, and his father served for six years during the early years of the Vietnam War. He, however, did not serve.

Falkowitz became a patron because he was asked, just as his dad became a Life Member of JWV because he was asked. His dad was originally a member of Post 212 in Wilkes Barre, PA where he was also active in the Jewish Community and served as President of the local JCC.

Falkowitz’s motivation for being a part of JWV was to give back to his community and nation for all it has given him. He believes in supporting his community and Jewish organizations and caus-

By Larry Jasper, National Editor

es. His post actively supports the veterans at the local VA Hospital and other veterans’ organizations in the area. He said, “giving is a Jewish thing, it is Jewish to support your community and perform mitzvot.”

When first asked to become a patron he was re-



luctant as he did not serve. He wondered what he had to contribute. “I have no knowledge of the military,” he said. He felt being a part of the post was like “skipping the line.” That all quickly changed. Upon becoming a patron he became involved in many post activities, including learning drill and ceremonies to participate in the post Color Guard.

He has carried flags and performed rifle drills. He felt it was a true honor to carry the nation’s flag. He brought with him his skills as a graphic designer and almost immediately began helping with the monthly newsletter and other print matter. He currently serves as the Post Adjutant and has also become the Department Adjutant.

His wife Tracy also became a patron. Tracy is an attorney and serves as the Post Judge Advocate. Falkowitz feels the JWV does so much good in giving back to other veterans and the community, a value his dad instilled in him at a young age. He has a great deal of love for his dad and brought him on board as a member of Post 373. For Falkowitz it has become a family affair.

His aspirations are to see the country stick to its core principals. He feels it is time to bring the country back together and end the divisiveness. A patron is someone who has not served in uniform, but wishes to serve those who served. Falkowitz is a fine example of what a patron should be.

Rosie The Riveter – The Jewish Connection

By NC Nelson Mellitz

At the start of World War II, U.S. labor leaders recognized there would be a great shortage of labor needed to meet the demand for production of war materials. While American men served overseas, women’s support of the war effort was essential, and the most striking image advocating for women to join the war effort was Rosie the Riveter. The Rosie of Norman Rockwell’s 1943 painting “Rosie the Riveter” has become a well-known symbol of women strength. That painting later became a poster, often accompanied by the statement,

“We Can Do It!” Rockwell’s Rosie is a statuesque and powerful woman. Rosie is wearing denim coveralls and safety equipment used in her dangerous work. In real life, “Rosies” worked day and night shifts to meet the war needs and goals established by the generally male industrial plant supervisors and managers. Almost every civilian at the time knew a real-life Rosie and could identify with her commitment in manning the production lines. Rockwell considered the Rosie in his portrait an idealized female war worker, painting her

Continued on page 10



NEW MEMBERS

DEPARTMENT AT LARGE Barry Austreicher - 100 Benjamin I. Craig - 100 Luis A. Cruz - 100 Laivi Y. Grossman - 100 Scott M. Hannan - 100 Miriam Lefkowitz - 100 Joseph S. Mabry - 100 Susahn S. March - 100 Barry A. Rothschild - 100 Daniel I. Sacks - 100 Hannan M. Scott - 100 Menachem Telsner - 100 Michael S. Urist - 100 Saul Rapoport - 343 Phil W. Sacks - 686	DEPT OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA Albert Kaykov - 589	DEPT OF MASSACHUSETTS David I. Noe - 211	DEPARTMENT OF OHIO Sanford J. Potiker - 44 Alan Echt - 122
DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA Larry M. Steiner - 202 Steven Z. Merl - 352 Gary S. Supnick - 373 Larri E. Gerson - 409 Joel L. Rosenthal - 440 Gregory S. Weiss - 502	DEPT OF MARYLAND Akiva Stone - 360 Jules Szanton - 360 Jayson L. Spiegel - 692	DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY Adam Cooper - 126 Dean L. Drizin - 126 Robert B. Kahan - 126 Stephen Meller - 126 Paul I. Krakower - 651 Fabian Marshall - 695	DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA Lonnie H. Rossman - 215
DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS Richard S. Ferdman - 29 Brian J. Miller - 407 Grant Jacobson - 710	DEPT OF MIDWEST Brian P. Babka - 605 David L. Kershner - 605 Andrew Reiz - 605 Richard B. Kramer - 644	DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK JWV Heather A. Borshof - 1 Catherine H. Brodsky - 1 Claudia O. Brodsky - 1 Sophie R. Cohen - 1 Michael D. Greenberg - 1 Jacob Hill - 1 Sonya E. Zell - 1 James S. Glinsky - 41 Everton E. Mendoza-Holmes - 50 Andrew S. Dickerson - 652 Henry Mendelsohn - 652 Irving R. Miller - 652 Rick S. Herman - 717	DEPT OF SOUTHEAST-GA,AL,SC,TN Kathy Stora - 111
DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA Jack Aronowitz - 65	DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA Stephen F. Silvers - 118 Barry A. Chapman - 603 William Frankenstein - 603 Barack Mandela - 760	DEPARTMENT OF SOUTHWEST Dennis Orcutt - 375 Jack I. Lichtman - 619	DEPARTMENT OF TALO Seth W. Gerstenfeld - 256 Samuel J. Siegel - 574 Jerry O. Williams - 755 Robert R. Phillipson - 795

Reporting for Duty is an original AARP YouTube series that garners over ten million views annually. It showcases how, through grit and perseverance, vets and service members overcome personal challenges and go on to teach, lead, and inspire other veterans and civilians. We want to find these individuals and tell their stories for our series.

If you have a story to tell or know someone who does, please contact Rachel Feldman at rachelfeldman@aarp.org.

Display your JWV Membership Proudly!

The JWV supply store isn't just for pins and poppies! You can also purchase JWV branded badges, caps and jackets!

Shirts, baseball caps and jackets!

Pins!

Poppies!

Post Banners and Flags!

Visit the JWV Online Store at www.jwv.org or contact Pat Ennis at 703-753-3733 or by email: pat@asb-va.com

Memorial Day 2023



On Memorial Day, members of **Post 344** in **Denver, Colorado** met outside the local JCC to read the names of nearly 2,500 Jewish veterans from Colorado who passed away since the state's founding.



Members of the **Uriah P. Levy Post 380** in **Annapolis, Maryland** marched in the city's Memorial Day parade. From left: Art Mensch, J. D. (Jody) Goldsmith, Gilbert Gonzalez, Arnold Abraham, Paul Becker, Chuck Sandler, and Michael Glick.



Howard Goldstein of **Post 54**, served as the keynote speaker for a Memorial Day Ceremony in the city of **Wheaton, Illinois**.



NC Nelson Mellitz and Larry Rosenthal attended the National Memorial Day Concert in Washington, D.C.



Members of the **Department of Massachusetts** gathered for a Memorial Day ceremony at the Pride of Lynn Cemetery in Lynn, Massachusetts. Members of **Post 220** and its auxiliary also placed flags on the graves of more than 275 veterans interred at that cemetery.



Members of **Post 36** in **Saratoga Springs, New York** placed flags on the graves of veterans at the cemetery of Congregation Shaara T'Fille, including one belonging to JWV member Howard Hirsch. From left: Al Kasin and Bill Leakakos.



On May 21, members of **Post 256** and local Boy Scouts joined together to place flags on the graves of Jewish veterans at five cemeteries in **Dallas, Texas**.



The Honor Guard for **Post 757** in **Austin, Texas** joined a Memorial Day ceremony at the new main building on the campus of Shalom Austin. From left: Post Commander Alana Pompa and Shalom Austin CEO Rabbi Daniel Septimus. Photo Credit: Steve Krant



Four members of **Post 41**, including Mort Stein, Stuart Blume, Gary Ginsburg, and Saul Rasnick, were recognized by students at the French Road Elementary School in Brighton, New York as part of a Memorial Day ceremony.



On May 8, members of **Post 510** and **Post 474** placed flags on the graves of Jewish Veterans at Machpelah Cemetery in **Ferndale, Michigan**.



JWV member Ed Freeberg of **Post 652** received a citation from the New York State Assembly by Nassau County Legislator Tom McKeivitt for his selection as Grand Marshal of the Memorial Day parade in **East Meadow, New York**.



On May 29, the **Department of Michigan** and its Ladies Auxiliary, Department of Michigan, marched in the Annual Royal Oak, Michigan Memorial Day Parade, led by parade Grand Marshal Art Fishman.

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Some Say There's No Such Thing as an Antisemitic Person

In Psalms 68:2 we read, "May G-d rise; His enemies scatter, and those who hate Him flee from before Him."

And in Numbers 10:35, the Torah relates how when the Children of Israel would break up to embark on their travels through the desert, Moses proclaimed, "Advance, O Eternal One, May Your enemies be scattered, and may Your foes flee from before You!"

Moses does not call upon G-d to defend us against those who are hostile to us, but to "scatter your enemies... your foes." Meaning G-d's enemies, G-d's foes.

Were we just a tool that G-d used to remove His enemies? Were the nations that we were to oppose those who are antisemitic?

There is an age-old struggle between Jews and those who hate Jews.

There is also an issue with the definition of antisemitism.

The first known use of the word was in 1879 by the German anti-Jewish writer Wilhelm Marr to refer specifically to scientific rather than religious opposition to Jews, but it is generally applied to all manifestations of hatred of the Jewish people.

Everyone knows that antisemitism means prejudice against Jews, and no one else, right?

To understand antisemitism, we first must understand who a Semite is.

A Semite is a member of any group of peoples from ancient southwestern Asia including the Akkadians, Phoenicians, Hebrews, Canaanites, Arabs, some Ethiopians (including the Amhara and the Tigrayans), and Aramaean tribes.

Is a Semite simply one who speaks a Semitic language? If, as was once the case in Europe, speaking a Semitic language made one a Semite, Arab Semites (along with others who speak Semitic languages) are also vulnerable to antisemitism.

The Semitic language known as Arabic is the very signature of Islamic thought and practice. Today, nearly two billion Muslims inhabit the globe. Each of them must have a rudimentary command of the Arabic language. Muslims recite the Quran in its original Arabic as part of the daily ritual prayers.

Hebrew is also a Semitic language, but can you imagine a reformed Jew in Idaho praying in Hebrew five times a day?

Simply put: Not all Semites are Jews, and not all Jews are Semites.

Accordingly, prejudice against non-Semitic Jews is not antisemitism. Considerable genetic evidence suggests that Ashkenazi Jews are of European origin, so it doesn't seem farfetched to suggest that prejudice against Ashkenazi Jews is not antisemitism, while prejudice against Semitic Arabs is.

Miriam Webster defines antisemitism as "hostility toward or discrimination against Jews as a religious, ethnic, or racial group."

The Oxford dictionary defines it as "hatred of and hostility toward the Jews, at times including the belief that they pose a threat to society and should be eliminated."

The Oxford English Dictionary once defined Jew as "a grasping or extortionate moneylender or usurer."

In 1973, Marcus Shloimovitz, an English Jewish textile merchant, took the Oxford English Dictionary to court to force it to stop defining a Jew in that way. He argued, "the Jewish race includes sages, scholars, judges, scientists, and people from the arts and stage. They have done great service for their countries. They are not cheats or unscrupulous usurers."

Shloimovitz lost because he failed to prove the dictionary entry caused him personal suffering.

But lexicographers toned down the disputed definitions. The disputed entry now defines Jew as "1. person of Hebrew descent; person whose religion is Judaism... 2. (derog., colloq.; R) person who drives hard bargains, usurer..." And as

a verb: "(derog., colloq.; R) cheat, bargain with (person) to lower his price." "Derog., colloq.; R" stands for "derogatory, colloquial, racially offensive."

Until December of 2022 a Google search for Jew yielded "Bargain with someone in a miserly or petty way." The definition, which cited Oxford Languages as a source and characterized the term as a verb, included a small, bolded banner marked offensive, in capital letters. The search engine also presented the word in various tenses, including jewed and jewing.

Over its long history, it has taken different forms in different cultural contexts. This has led to a debate about what precisely constitutes antisemitism and whether it is unique or merely the specific expression of the kind of inter-group hostility that is found in most societies.

The Jewish experience of antisemitism over the centuries, especially under the Nazis, plays a significant role in contemporary Jewish self-understanding and communal life.

At Auschwitz there is a dedication "to those who died in the fight against Nazism."

Were those who were sent to the death camps fighting against Nazism? No. They were unwitting victims of a cruel antisemitic regime.

To term it a struggle between innocent victim and executioner is as inappropriate as describing modern day society's effort to protect itself from suicide bombers a cycle of violence.

From a religious perspective, perhaps the struggle is not between our enemies and ourselves, but rather G-d's antagonists attacking us as the pawns in their battle against righteousness and Godliness.

Can it possibly be the wicked man's eternal struggle against divinity? Is it predicated on our special relationship to G-d?

If so, is it not then G-d's responsibility to defend Himself against His enemies?

If they're not fighting us but fighting G-d, our only viable response is to live and act like Jews no matter the provocation.

In the meantime, while we wait for G-d to intervene, antisemitism is alive and strong and getting stronger every day, and it is incumbent on each of us to do our part to fight it.



Larry Jasper, National Editor

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I used to think there would be problems being a member of the American Legion and the Jewish War Veterans. Nothing could be further than that. They complement each other. For instance, I have Cataracts and need rides. I don't always get rides to the American Legion. I can walk to the Jewish War Veterans.

The Jewish War Veterans Heritage Post 644 in St. Louis meets on the campus of the Jewish Community Center. The American Legion Post I joined is specifically for Women in the Military. It is Post 404. They don't Zoom, as equipment hasn't been donated. The Jewish War Veterans zoom.

I help with Media Consulting for the Jewish War Veterans. I was an Army Journalist. I have volunteered to help with that for the American Legion. Did you know the first Commander of the American Legion was Jewish?

*Marjorie Soffer Wood
Heritage Post 644
St. Louis, Missouri*

Project Maggid Storyteller Program



Interested in sharing the story of your military service with students and other groups? Join the JWV Project Maggid Storyteller program today and help fight the myth that Jews don't serve in the uniformed services.

For information on how to be part of the program, please contact JWV National Headquarters at jvv@jvv.org.

Barry Lischinsky for National Commander

Retired Colonel Barry Lischinsky began his military career in December 1969 as an enlisted combat field medic. Upon graduation from Massachusetts Military Academy in June 1974, he was appointed Second Lieutenant in the Massachusetts Army National Guard, holding both federal and state commissions. In September 1999, Lischinsky was appointed to the position of Director of Personnel, responsible for coordinating, administering and advising on all personnel policies, plans and programs affecting the more than 8,000 soldiers assigned to the Massachusetts Army National Guard. In May 2002, he assumed the responsibilities of Commander of the 79th Troop Command in the Massachusetts Army National Guard. In November 2004, Lischinsky retired from the military having completed 14 years as a traditional Guardsmen and an additional 20 years of active federal service. In September 2007, Lischinsky served as



a Senior Army Instructor for Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) in Boston, Massachusetts. In February 2015, he became Deputy Superintendent at the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea, Massachusetts. On February 1, 2016, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker appointed him Acting Superintendent of the Home. He retired from state service in March of 2017. Lischinsky has held numerous positions at all levels within the Jewish War Veterans, including Post Commander, Department Commander, National Membership Chairman, National Chief of Staff, and National Vice Commander. He has also served on the Board of Directors for the Museum of American Jewish Military History. Lischinsky is a life member of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, the National Museum of American Jewish Military History, and the Disabled American Veterans.

Gary Ginsburg for National Vice Commander

Gary Ginsburg is the third generation of his family to serve in the Jewish War Veterans of the USA. This is a legacy and tradition that covers nearly 80 years in upstate New York. His grandfather and father were longtime JWV members of Post 131 in Syracuse, NY. Gary Ginsburg is a life member of JWV Post 41 in Rochester, NY. Ginsburg became the Commander of the Department of New York on June 7, 2023. His primary objectives include increasing membership of younger veterans, enhance legislative advocacy, sustain efforts to be a strong voice against antisemitism, continue support for Israel, and represent the Department at local, state and national events. He is a strong supporter of both the JWV Auxiliary and the National Museum of American Jewish Military History (NMAJMH). Ginsburg previously served as both senior and junior vice commander for the Department of New York, following 2 years as the commander of Post 41. He is a life member of NMAJMH. He has also been active in support of national headquarters, including volunteer service on the National



Executive Committee and he is currently on the board of the NMAJMH. He has been actively representing JWV at community events and veteran-related programs

locally and across New York state, including support for the Jewish Cadets at the U.S. Military Academy. He serves on the Veterans Advisory Board at Syracuse University and is a member of the West Point Retired Soldier Council. He spent more than 1,000 hours volunteering at the Veterans Outreach Center in Rochester, assisting military personnel transitioning into civilian life. He has spoken to school children about his military experience and pointed out that America's freedom has been attained at a high cost. He served in the U.S. Army on active duty for four years, both in the United States and overseas, and served an additional 29 years in the U.S. Army Reserve. His military experience culminated with 3 assignments as a battalion and brigade command sergeant major. He has earned numerous military and civilian awards and as well as local, state, and national volunteer recognition. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Syracuse University and a graduate degree (using GI Bill benefits) from the University of Southern California.

ROSIE THE RIVETER – THE JEWISH CONNECTION

Continued from page 7 with bright red hair, carrying a heavy lunch pail while flexing her muscles. In 1943, the "Saturday Evening Post" magazine used the Rockwell painting on its cover. That solidified Rosie as a domestic icon in many American homes. Production effectiveness studies performed in 1943 and 1944 are often compared to after the war studies in 1946 and 1947 and they show that "Rosie/women were more productive than male counterparts in spite of her smaller stature." "That little frail can do/More than a male can do." However, after World War II, "Rosies" were told to return home, and men returning from the war replaced them on the production line. Thousands of women resisted, and by doing, may have led to the start of the second wave of the feminist movement. Americans were reluctant to take sides in World War II until after the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Jewish Americans were less likely to be isolationist, especially as news of

Nazi atrocities became public. After Pearl Harbor, popular culture focused on winning the war and women were encouraged to abandon the domestic roles and get to work in factories, mostly in manufacturing munitions and other supplies crucial to sustaining the war. Jacob Moritz Loeb was a prominent Jewish businessman and philanthropist in Chicago. Loeb was a founder of the Chicago Hebrew Institute and served as vice-president of the Jewish Welfare Board (JWB), an organization that has met the needs of Jewish service members and veterans since the start of World War I and continuing today. His son, John Jacob Loeb, was an up-and-coming song writer and wrote "Rosie the Riveter's" with his partner Redd Evans in 1942, which has an upbeat melody and lyrics. The Rosie the Riveter's song would have been an unquestionable top 10 hit, if they had such a best seller listing at the time. The Rosie the Riveter melody and lyrics does

not reflect the fear American Jews and others had felt of Naziism, especially compared to the dire wartime works of Jewish artists like Ben Shahn and Arthur Szyk. Loeb made his depiction of Rosie in song lighthearted, but she is still out to crush the Axis. After the war, John Jacob Loeb continued to write songs, often co-authored with Carmen Lombardo, including "Seems Like Old Times" in 1945, which was revived by Diane Keaton in Woody Allen's "Annie Hall." Rosie never retired in the minds of many Americans old and young. Today, when Rosie the Riveter is mentioned and her iconic picture is shown, it evokes an emotional recall to an era when Americans were fighting to preserve freedom and women were carving out a new role in the U.S. industrial factories. When Norman Rockwell decided to name his painting after Loeb and Evans song "Rosie the Riveter," it was a tribute to the tough working girl.

National Convention Schedule

Schedule subject to change (All times are Eastern) Sunday, August 27 Constitution and Bylaws Committee 3:00pm Museum Event 8:00pm-10:00pm Monday, August 28 NEC Meeting 9:00am JWV/JWVA Joint Convention Opening 11:30am – 12:30pm Resolutions Committee 4:00pm JWVA Pound Auction 8:30pm Tuesday, August 29 1st Business Session 8:00am – 10:00am Legislative Advocacy Training Session 11:00am – 12:00pm Free Time Starts at 12:30pm JWVA National President's Reception and Banquet 6:00pm Wednesday, August 30 2nd Business Session 9:00am – 12:00pm Double Chai Luncheon 12:00pm Free Time Starts at 1:00pm Thursday, August 31 Ideas Roundtable 9:30am -10:30am Closing Nominations and Elections 10:30am - 12:00pm National Museum of American Jewish Military History Board Meeting 1:30pm – 3:30pm National Commander's Banquet 6:00pm

Vietnam Veterans Night Out

SOLD OUT

The Vietnam Veterans Night Out during the Jewish War Veterans National Convention in Jacksonville, Florida, on Wednesday, August 30, is sold out. Do not send in reservation forms or checks to Jerry Alperstein as they will be returned. In the event any reservations are cancelled, Jerry will accept new reservations with cash payments of \$65 per person at the convention hotel. Jerry is scheduled to arrive at the hotel on Saturday, August 26.

JWV 128th

JWV members will be also able to attend the convention online. To register for the online version of the 2023 convention, you must log onto our website, www.jwv.org and fill out the online form. This form will NOT be accepted as registration for the virtual convention.

Convention will be held at the Marriott Jacksonville Downtown 245 Water Street Jacksonville, FL 32202

Hotel registration deadline is Wednesday, July 26

A one night (\$165/single or double) deposit is required for all hotel registrations.

A 3-night minimum stay is required. Hotel reservations must be made through JWV.

There is a \$175 Convention surcharge for members not staying at the hotel.

Local members living within a 50 mile radius are exempt.

Hotel reservations can be canceled without penalty

Sign and mail this completed form, along with your payment to: Jewish War Veterans 1811 R Street, NW Washington, DC 20009

Annual National Convention JWVA 95th

August 27- September 1, 2023 • Jacksonville, FL

JWV Member Name: Post #: JWVA Member Name: Aux. #: Address: Dept.: City: State: Zipcode: Phone: Email: Room will be shared with: Arriving on: Departing on: Total nights:

Registration for both JWV + JWVA	Cost	QTY.	Amount
Rooms Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> King <input type="checkbox"/> 2 beds ADA rooms are first come, first served <input type="checkbox"/> ADA Compliant <input type="checkbox"/> Third Person in Room.	\$165.00 per night Breakfast included \$85/per night		
JWV Member Convention Registration Fee	\$50.00		
Convention Surcharge for those not staying at the Hotel	\$175.00 per member		
National Commander's Banquet • Thursday, Aug. 31 _____ Chicken _____ Fish _____ Kosher _____ Sugar-free Dessert	\$55.00 per person		
National Ladies Auxiliary Registration Fee	\$50.00 per member		
Partners Club (\$50 new members /\$25 renewal) • Monday, Aug. 28	\$50.00 \$25.00		
National President's Reception and Banquet • Tuesday, Aug. 29 _____ Beef _____ Fish _____ Kosher _____ Sugar-free Dessert	\$55.00 per person		
Double Chai Club Luncheon • Wednesday, Aug 30 _____ Turkey Wrap _____ Vegetable Wrap _____ This is my first Double Chai Luncheon _____ I am happy with the Double Chai Pin I have now I have _____ on my pin and will need one more (15 stones max)	\$36.00 per person You don't need to belong to the Ladies Auxiliary to attend our Double Chai Luncheon.		
Raffle Tickets \$5.00 Each or 3 for \$10.00	JWVA JWV		
Total \$			
All events and raffle tickets must be pre-paid in full. Amount paying now: \$			
I am paying by: <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> American Express <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover			
Card No. Exp. /			
Signature			

Procedure for Submitting a Proposed Resolution for Consideration at National Convention

- All proposed resolutions must be submitted at the Department level for approval before being sent to National Headquarters.
 - Once approved by the Departments, all proposed resolutions should be sent via email to resolutions@jwv.org or to headquarters in D.C. to the attention of Ken Greenberg.
 - All proposed resolutions must contain the name and post number of the requestor and the dated approval signature of the Department Commander.
 - All proposed resolutions must be submitted by July 28, 2023.
 - Proposed resolutions of an emergent nature may be accepted at the start of the Resolutions Committee meeting with the approval of the Chairman.
- If you have any questions about how to submit a resolution or how to format a resolution properly, please contact Resolutions Committee Chairman Larry Jasper at resolutions@jwv.org or Ken Greenberg at kgreenberg@jwv.org.

Voting Eligibility at the 2023 National Convention

- To be in good standing and eligible to vote at the National Convention, all Posts must have done the following:
- Completed IRS Form 990-N (or 990 or 990 EX) and submitted a copy to National Headquarters.
- Submitted a completed Installation Form (Warrant) to National Headquarters.
- Submitted a completed Financial Report, which must then be approved by the Finance Board Chairman.
- Provided proof of Fidelity Bond and Post Liability Insurance to National Headquarters.

JWV IN THE COMMUNITY



Members of **Post 644** in **St. Louis, Missouri** received a guided tour of the Vietnam exhibit at the St. Louis Soldiers Memorial Museum on April 16. A U.S. Army Chaplain's kit, which is on loan from the post, is included in the exhibit. From left: Cindy Ginsburg, Alan Raymond, Exhibit Curator Mikall Venso, Marjorie Sofer-Wood, Monroe Ginsburg, Ellis Frohman, Arlene Fox, Jack Lite, Ed Cohen, Sheilah Cohen, and Josh Faibisof.



Members of **North County Post 385** collected more than 4,100 knitted hats, 336 knitted baby blankets, 249 knitted crutch pads, and 19 knitted toys for the Naval Medical Center in San Diego, California. PNC Maxwell Colón and his grandson Cooper Reese packed up the items for donation.



National Commander Nelson Mellitz and National Vice Commander Barry Lischinsky spoke at Jewish Warrior Weekend at Boston University's Hillel on April 15. More than 70 cadets and midshipmen from the military academies and university ROTCs attended the event.

On April 2, the Combined Veterans Association of Illinois recognized Past Commander of the **Department of Illinois**, Stan Nathanson, as its 2022 Person of the Year. From left: (seated) Nathanson, Merle Halan, Nicholas Halan, and Steve Halan. (standing) PNC Jef Sacks, Bruce Mayor, and Howard Goldstein.



Members of **Post 121** in **Memphis, Tennessee** celebrated the 97th birthday of WWII veteran and fellow post member Nathan Blockman. He served in the U.S. Army and was a POW in a Nazi camp. Blockman says he only survived because the British officer in charge of the camp told him to hide his dog tags that showed his religion. All other Jewish POWs at the camp were murdered. Pictured with Blockman is Post Commander Brett Oxman.



Six members of the **Department of Illinois** attend the annual Humanitarian Awards dinner of the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center (IHMEC). From left: (standing) Leslie Turner, Howard Goldstein, Steve Fixler, (seated) Jerry Field, Edward Potash, and Bruce Mayor.



On March 18, National Commander Nelson Mellitz received a Key to the City of Revere, Massachusetts in recognition of his "distinguished meritorious service and achievement for his ongoing efforts to honor and support all of our nation's veterans." Mellitz received the key from Revere City Councilor PNC Ira Novoselsky.

JWV IN THE COMMUNITY



Members of **Mo-Kan Post 605** in **Lenexa, Kansas** celebrated their post's 75th anniversary in March. From left: Robert Bellefy, Larry Gordon, Howard Noah, Howard Eichenwald, Robert Brockman, Mike Abrams, Scott Bronston, Greg Quinn, Roger Cooper, Bill Greenberg, Rod Minkin, Simon Wajeman, and Herb Spiegel.

Department of New York members Sidney Goldberg and Gary Ginsburg sign up West Point Cadet Sophie Cohen for membership in the Jewish War Veterans.



On April 19, **San Fernando Valley Post 603** took 50 members and friends to tour a special exhibit on Auschwitz at the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California.



On April 23, the Zekelman Holocaust Center in Farmington Hills, Michigan held its annual Yom HaShoah program. The **Department of Michigan** attended, and its Color Guard posted and retired the colors for the program. The Department presented a donation to the Holocaust Center before the program. From left: Mark Weiss, Major Gifts Officer Becca Goodman, and Marc Manson.



Members of **Atlanta Bicentennial Post 112** joined 300 people from the Atlanta Jewish Community on April 16 for a Holocaust Remembrance ceremony. Featured speakers included U.S. Senator Jon Ossof and Holocaust survivor Ilse Reiner. From left: Ossof, Charles Lutin, and Henry Levine.



In April, Commander Mat Millen of **Post 118** in **Santa Monica, California**, presented a JROTC medal to Cade Kheith Ho of Lincoln High School.



PNC Barry Schneider handed out JROTC awards from Martin Hochster Memorial **Post 755** to 12 cadets from Fort Worth and Mansfield, Texas.



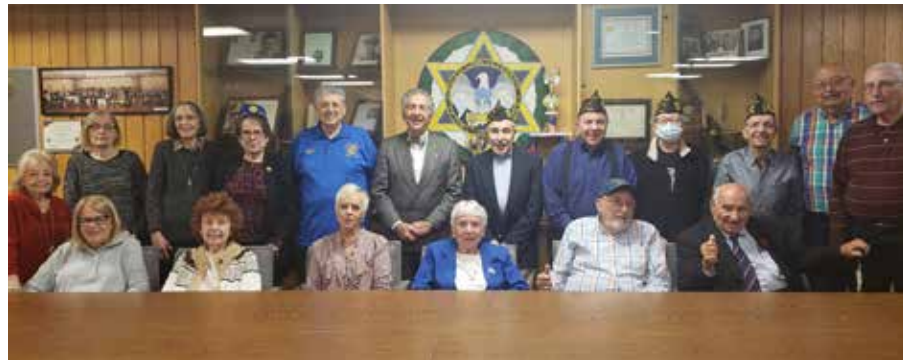
In March, **Post 941** of **Venice, Florida** presented a \$500 check to the Fisher House in Bay Pines, Florida. From left: (back row) Maxine Arkin, Tova Phillips, Peter Phillips, Susan Aaron, Steven Kleinglass, (front row) Lawrence Isenberg, Robert Aaron, David Goldstein, and Shentrela Diggins.

JWV IN THE COMMUNITY



The **Department of New Jersey** honored Rep. Mikie Sherrill as its Legislator of the Year during its Legislative Breakfast on May 7 in Toms River, New Jersey. From left: Selina Kanowitz, Sherrill, and Sandra Fritts.

On March 31 members of JWV **Manhattan Post 1** gathered at the site of the Lexington Avenue Opera House, now a hotel, where the Hebrew Union Veterans Association met for the first time 127 years earlier, on March 15, 1886. From left: Peter Shay, Jerry Alperstein, NC Nelson Mellitz, Gary Glick, NVC Barry Lischinsky, Gary Ginsburg, Joshua Lubarsky, and David Goldstein.



Jersey Shore Post 125 held its installations on April 26 at the JCC in Deal, New Jersey. Standing, from left: Eva Weiner, Ann Ginsburg, Judy Rubenstein, Marsha Meistrich, Mike Steinhorn, Lewis Wetstein, Norman Ginsburg, Marc Rubenstein, Lewis Fisher, Myron Samuels, Burt Resnic, and Monty Fisher. Seated, from left: Judy Sherman, Carol Shapiro, Nancy Wetstein, Jeanie Guberman, Marty Guberman, and Jerry Levine.



Leadership from the **Department of New Jersey** participated in the 2023 Our Community Salutes event in South Jersey on May 9. They honored more than 90 enlistees and their families. From left: Steven Sunshine, NC Nelson Mellitz, Selina Kanowitz, Jack Jacobs, and William Bowers.

On March 19, the **Department of Massachusetts** held its 68th Annual Brotherhood Breakfast. This year's event honored 32 high school students.



Post 100 member Hal Glassman handed out a JROTC award on March 29 to Cadet Sergeant Major Ryan Fonseca at Fort Pierce Central High School in Fort Pierce, Florida.



PNC Barry Schneider represented JWV at an event for Jewish American Heritage Month alongside Oklahoma Governor Kevin Stitt on May 8. Schneider spoke about Jews who served in the military, including Medal of Honor recipient Tibor Rubin. From right: Schneider, Combat Antisemitism Movement Founder Adam Beren, Stitt, Ovadia Goldman, Jewish Federation of Greater Oklahoma City Executive Director Rachel Johnson, and Oklahoma State Treasurer Todd Russ.



JWV IN THE COMMUNITY



PNC Jerry Blum stood watch over the traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall when it stopped in Melbourne, Florida in May.



Ephy Carmel, a member of **Post 106** and IDF veteran, discusses the June 1967 liberation of Jerusalem. In 1973, Carmel led an armor company in combat across the Suez, cutting of the Egyptian 3rd Army. He spoke as part of the Congregation Beth Israel and Jewish War Veterans commemoration of Israel's 75th anniversary. Photo by Rich Goldenberg.



Members of **Post 603** raised money for veterans in need outside Brent's Deli in **Westlake Village, California**. Other post members were fundraising outside the Deli's second location in **Northridge, California**. From left: Army Krane, Earl Roth, and Harry Landsman.



A new Jewish Chaplain starts her tenure at West Point in July. Rabbi and U.S. Army Major Heather Borschof met with Gary Ginsburg during her visit to the U.S. Military Academy in May. She replaces Chaplain David Frommer, who will be relocating to Fort Bliss, Texas.



On April 12, members of **Post 344** in **Denver** and **Post 343** in **Colorado Springs** attended a baccalaureate service at the U.S. Air Force Academy honoring the graduating Jewish Cadets. Chaplain Saul Rappaport led the service, and the Cadets were presented with gifts from JWV National and the two posts.



Members of **West Suburban Post 54** in **Illinois** held a successful poppy sale on May 28. From left: Bruce Mayor, Howard Goldstein, John Wilkerson, and Mike Sawyer (standing).

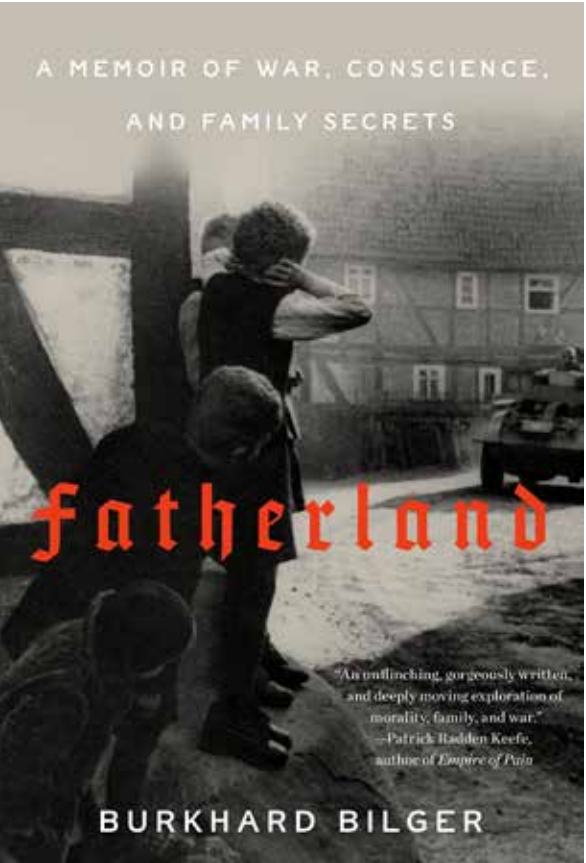


Post 1 in **Manhattan** held its annual Colonel Larry Epstein Award Luncheon on April 30 in New York City. West Point Chaplain David Frommer received this year's award. From left: Joshua Lubarsky, Edward Hochman, Chaplain Frommer, West Point Associate Dean for Faculty Development Colonel Benjamin Wallen, and PNC Ed Goldwasser.

‘WHEN DID YOU LEARN YOUR GRANDFATHER WAS A NAZI?’ — BURKHARD BILGER’S RE-DEMPITIVE JOURNEY THROUGH A COMPLEX FAMILY HISTORY

BY LAURIE GWEN SHAPIRO, THE FORWARD

This story originally appeared in the Forward (forward.com). To get the Forward’s free email newsletters delivered to your inbox, go to forward.com/newsletter-signup.



Ten years ago, when I became a Docent and In his new memoir, “Fatherland,” Burkhard Bilger poses a provocative question: What do we owe the past? This question is especially poignant when the past brings to light uncomfortable revelations about our family history.

“Fatherland” delves into the complicated legacy of Bilger’s maternal grandfather, Karl Gönner, an elementary schoolteacher from the Black Forest who held a leadership role in the local branch of the Nazi Party during the occupation of France where he organized events and promoted Nazi ideology. In the memoir, Bilger reflects on this family history and grapples with personal legacy, guilt and forgiveness.

Bilger and I have been friendly since just after the millennium when I read his essay collection “Noodling for Flatheads,” a fun, breezy book in which the Oklahoma-born author took readers on a tour through lesser-known Southern subcultures, relating stories about coon hunting, catching catfish with your hands, frog farming and moonshining, all told with a sharp wit and an eye for the absurd.

In late 2000, I was raving about the book at the offices of Discover magazine where my friend, who worked as an editor there, stopped me mid-sentence to tell me that Bilger was just down the hall, working on a koala story. “Hey, Burk!” he called out. “My friend was just saying she digs your book.”

Not long afterwards, I bumped into Bilger on the F train; he told me he had been hired as a staff writer at The New Yorker, where he still works. Bilger’s widely acclaimed writing style, which he has perfected there, involves delving into the sto-

ries of unusual individuals such as the short-order cooks of Las Vegas and a cheesemaking nun, and is characterized by his ability to connect with his subjects.

He worried: How would readers react?

Bilger and I met at the Condé Nast cafeteria on the 35th floor of One World Trade Center to discuss “Fatherland.” Looking out the window at the Hudson River, the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, I couldn’t help but think about my Jewish grandparents, who fled antisemitism and arrived in America before the clerks at Ellis Island started processing paperwork. It felt a little surreal to be sitting across from the enlightened grandson of a Nazi leader.

Bilger is 59 years old. This was the first time I’d seen him since the pandemic and his thick brown hair had become a shock of white. I asked him to describe himself the way he might write in a New Yorker profile.

He grinned. “His downturned eyes and gap in his teeth are two of his most distinctive features. His flexible face can make animated expressions, but his resting face is stern,” he said.

We both laughed hard.

“Fatherland,” I told him, was unlike anything I had read of his before (and I read everything he writes). He agreed that the book was a significant departure. In his previous work, he said, he had always played the role of Sancho Panza in the Don Quixotes he covered. “If I pop up at all, it’s for occasional comic relief,” he said. Turning his attention to his family history for the first time forced him to write in a different and more introspective style, which was a hard slog.

I asked him why the book took so long to write, then apologized. “Is that too insensitive?” I asked.

“Not at all!” he said. “As a magazine writer, I’m used to working with tight deadlines, so initially, I thought it would take me three or four years to complete. Oh, this embarrasses me now, even saying that! But I quickly realized I wanted to approach it with a level of detail that took me nine years to fully achieve.”

I asked if he worried about how people would react learning about his family’s history or if he put that out of his mind while he was writing.

“Man, I worried terribly!” he said. “When I started working on “Fatherland,” I was concerned about how readers might perceive me and my intentions. I was concerned about being seen as an apologist for my grandfather’s actions. I knew that for readers to trust me as a narrator, they needed to believe that my heart was in the right place and that it was imperative to show that I was not trying to whitewash my family history or downplay the horrors of the Nazi regime.

“Finding that balance was a challenge. I wanted to acknowledge the complexities of my grandfather’s character and actions and condemn his involvement in the Nazi party. It was a delicate line to

walk. I worried about offending readers. In the end, I believe I conveyed my honest feelings about the situation while also acknowledging and respecting the suffering of the victims of Nazi rule.”

Before he learned about his grandfather’s history, Bilger said he knew Karl Gönner mostly as an old man with a glass eye in a German nursing home and whom he visited on childhood visits abroad.

“When did you learn that your grandfather was a Nazi?” I asked.

He sighed.

“Yeah, a biggie, right?” he said. “I found out about his war crimes trial when I was 28, that back in 1946 he was being tried for the murder of a farmer named Georges Baumann. But I first learned about his membership in the Nazi party back in high school.”

High school was in Oklahoma, where Bilger’s father, Hans Bilger, was a physics professor at Oklahoma State. I asked if his fellow students in the American heartland ever made fun of him for his name.

He smiled. “What do you think? Brickhead Belcher!” he said. “We went to Germany for a year when I was 4 and 5, so I came back, and I started first grade in Oklahoma, and my first week, my mother dressed me in lederhosen.” He effortlessly shifted to an Oklahoma accent, “What the hell is that boy wearing?”

“In the beginning, we absolutely stood out,” he said. “I remember my mother would come to PTA fundraisers and make some strange German dessert; she had this extreme German accent. But when my mom went back to grad school in 1974, we started eating like Americans. She got that Pillsbury Bake-Off crescent roll kick.”

From a young age, Bilger was immersed in multiple languages, learning English and German simultaneously, and French during a family sabbatical in Montpellier, France, during sixth grade when he was enrolled at a local school, which helped with the reporting and writing of “Fatherland.” Speaking local dialects allowed him to put his subjects at ease when he was conducting interviews with elderly men and women in German and French villages.

Although Bilger’s mother earned her Ph.D. in history with expertise in Germany, she rarely talked about her father’s connections to the Nazi party or his role in World War II. Bilger first learned of a more tangled history when, in 2005, his mother received a yellowed packet of letters from a relative in Germany, written in a strange cursive, from villagers in Alsace who had testified on behalf of Bilger’s grandfather just after the war. They had been found in his grandfather’s desk.

The letters offered conflicting testimonies about Karl Gönner, painting him as both a savior and a tyrant. One letter accused him of ordering police to beat a local farmer to death. Was he a war criminal, Bilger wondered, or a man doing his best in the face of an unfathomable regime? The more he learned about his grandfather’s story, the more


Continued on next page

33RD ALLIED MISSION TRIP TO ISRAEL

Continued from page 1


Col. Cheryl Poppe laid a wreath at the wall which lists the names of fallen Israeli armor soldiers.

At the start of Israel’s 75th Anniversary celebration on Tuesday night, we saw, felt, and heard the all-night party on the beachfront in Tel Aviv. There were quiet fireworks and children spraying silly string throughout the parks to celebrate Yom HaAtzmaut.



NC Mellitz and Gary Glick planting trees in the Lavi Forest.

The Yom HaAtzmaut celebrations continued Wednesday. “Watching the Independence Day flyover by the Israeli Defense Forces on the beach in Tel Aviv was a thrill for me, being a U.S. Air Force veteran,” said trip participant Robert Newell of the American Legion. Newell went on the trip as a guest of the Department of New Jersey.



JWV Members who participated in previous Sar-El Missions held a reunion overlooking the Seaport of Haifa, Israel. From left: NC Mellitz, Kathy Brill, PNC Harvey Weiner, and NVC Barry Lischinsky.

We arrived in Netanya on Saturday and visited Kibbutz Misgav Am, which is the northernmost

ticular community, but rather taking responsibility for addressing broader issues. He rejects black-and-white thinking and instead presents a nuanced exploration of the humanity of everyone involved. This challenges readers to recognize the potential for violence and prejudice in all societies, not just in well-known examples like Germany, Russia, China and Rwanda, but in the United States as well.

Although he considers himself agnostic, Bilger says he has found solace and community within the Old First Reformed Church, which he joined on his wife’s suggestion. The Park Slope church’s sermons and parables provide Bilger with opportunities to reflect on moral issues, mysticism and life’s biggest questions.

Through his introspective approach, Bilger encourages readers to confront uncomfortable truths about their family histories and the importance of historical memory. His words remind us that vigilance and self-reflection are key to building a more compassionate and just world. The legacy of the past can continue to shape the present if left unexamined, and Bilger’s work encourages us to engage in the vital work of self-examination.

“History can be redemptive,” he notes. “It doesn’t have to be a burden; it can be a gift.”

‘History can be redemptive’

For Bilger, “Fatherland” isn’t about blaming a par-

We took a bus tour to Jaffa to see many biblical sites, as well as a magnificent view of Tel Aviv.

Thursday started with a visit to Tzevet, which is an Israeli veterans organization. The organization has approximately 40,000 members but is really for former career IDF personnel. We received a briefing from IDF General Ephraim Lapid (Israeli Intelligence) and his staff.

In Galilee, we planted trees in the Lavi Forest and were blessed that there was no rain at that special moment or 43 people would have been in the mud. This was a modest but positive contribution to the future of the modern state of Israel.

Friday saw our group in the Golan Heights. We learned about and saw evidence of the serious combat operations and armored warfare of the October 1973 conflict.



JWV Members who participated in previous Sar-El Missions held a reunion overlooking the Seaport of Haifa, Israel. From left: NC Mellitz, Kathy Brill, PNC Harvey Weiner, and NVC Barry Lischinsky.

We arrived in Netanya on Saturday and visited Kibbutz Misgav Am, which is the northernmost

Kibbutz in Israel. It was almost close enough to spit or urinate into Lebanon, but you need to check the wind direction first.

We visited the Bahai Gardens in Haifa and stopped in the ancient city of Akko, which is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

“COVID-19 delayed the 33rd JWV Mission to Israel for several years, but... it was worth the wait,” said Past National Commander Jeff Sacks. “I didn’t think that we could cover so much ground and experience as many things as we in fact did.”



NC Mellitz and Poppe placing memorial wreath.

JWV’s Allied Mission Trip to Israel is an unforgettable 10-day journey through the Jewish homeland that none of the participants will ever forget. We encourage all members, and members of our veteran community who are not Jewish to join us next time.

Why Mahloket Matters

By Miranda Bass, Post 1



One of the aspects of my time in the Army that I value most was my exposure to different types of people. Even though my hometown of New York is one of the most diverse cities in the world, the Army enabled me to forge deep, meaningful relationships and lifelong friendships with people I otherwise had little in common with and would never have met. Many veterans reflect on this feeling of brother and sisterhood as a unique aspect of their time in the service, and I feel lucky to have had this opportunity from the age of 17.

It was not until I left the Army years later that I realized how unusual this experience was of living, training, and becoming friends with people so different from me. In civilian life, most of us are

Continued on page 22

NATIONAL LADIES AUXILIARY of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT NATALIE BLANK

As I sit here and write this, I cannot believe that this is my last message for The Jewish Veteran. What a year! We had a wonderful NEC, and I could not believe how many sisters attended. It was good to see some new sisters. I wish to thank PNP Joanne Blum and PNP Sandra Cantor for filling in and for a wonderful and informative NEC.

After the NEC was over, I had the pleasure of making some official visits in person. I made my official visit to Florida, New Jersey, New York, and Texas. I learned a lot from these official visits and was treated with the upmost respect.

I attended several meetings via zoom including several museum meetings and I also called several sisters via phone to check in and see how they were doing.

I had the pleasure of visiting the Coast Guard Academy and the Naval Academy, where I presented each cadet with a gift.

I am sorry to say we have lost several sisters this year including two National Presidents, Evelyn

Memormstein and Linda Colon. May their souls rest in peace.

Now that my presidency is coming to an end, I am hoping to see all our wonderful and hard-working sisters at the National Convention and looking forward to greeting everyone in Jacksonville, Florida in August.

I wish to thank all the sisters and comrades who have made this year for me a memorable one. I would also like to thank National Commander Nelson Mellitz for sharing this year with me.

G-d bless the ladies of our Auxiliary. G-d bless JWVA. G-d bless our troops. And G-d bless America!



EDITOR'S COLUMN

by PNP Sandra Cantor

Fisher House is a home away from home for visiting families and caregivers of hospitalized veterans and active-duty service members. Families affiliated with a veteran or active-duty member that lives 50 miles or two hours away from a VA hospital can stay for no charge. The history is as follows...

Zachary Fisher was a builder, philanthropist, and patriot. He began working in construction at the age of 16 to help support his Jewish immigrant parents. He and his two brothers formed Fisher Brothers and eventually became one of the real estate industry's premier residential and commercial developers.

Zachary was already committed to supporting the U.S. Armed Forces, but one phone call changed the trajectory of his incredible legacy. Pauline Trost, the wife of the Chief of Naval Operations in 1986, watched a family exit a helicopter with their luggage at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda and wondered where they would stay. Knowing the hotels in the area were costly, she knew this would be a huge burden on families facing medical crisis. She mentioned it to her husband, who in turn told Zachary. "I'm a builder. That's what I do for a living. I can do this."

Zachary and Elizabeth Fisher dedicated more than \$20 million to the construction of comfort homes for families of hospitalized military personnel to stay free of charge. One person may seem like a small number and maybe even insignificant, but Zachary Fisher is the example of how important one can be. One dollar, one supporter, one fundraiser – all part of the legacy that has changed the lives of our military, veterans, and their families.



JWVA #256 donated cookware and an air fryer to the Dallas Fisher House in honor of NP Natalie Blank's visit.



Dept of NY Grant-A-Wish
L-R: DP Rosalie Loewy, Recipient, PNP Sandra Cantor, NP Natalie Blank



Aux #256 Grant-A-Wish, Bonham, TX
Sitting: Marilyn Paillet, Recipient
Standing: PNP Sandra Cantor, Sid Sokol, NP Natalie Blank, Sharon Sokol, Allan Cantor, AP Jo Reingold, Jeanie Tolmas



Aux #256 Grant-A-Wish Dallas, TX
L-R: AP Jo Reingold, Recipient's Granddaughter, Recipient, NP Natalie Blank, PNP Sandra Cantor



Dept of NJ, Aux #178 Grant-A-Wish AP Tracey Adler, NP Natalie Blank, Recipient, DP Sandra Fritts, PNP Carol Adler, Maxine Berger, Susan Karsh

VETERANS SERVICE

By Louise Baraw

At the end of World War II, the U.S. Government launched a global initiative called, The Return of World War II Dead Program. This program ended in 1951, but the U.S. Army Mortuary System continued to recover and identify service members remains found in various countries around the world until 2003. That's when the Joint Prisoner of War/Missing in Action (POW/MIA) Accounting Command (JPAC) was formed. In 2015, for various reasons, JPAC was merged with associated agencies to form what is now the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. To date there have been 3,049 service members identified and returned home. We must never forget those still missing by honoring them on the third Friday of September. We hope that the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency will continue its efforts to return our service members to their loved ones.

National President's Banquet

honoring

National President Natalie Blank

Tuesday, August 29

Reception 6:00 p.m.

Dinner 7:00 p.m.

Everyone is welcome to join us
for a delicious meal and
delightful celebration!

You will have a FESTIVE evening!

\$55 per person



Rita Panitz Memorial Teddy Bear Program

Bears here, Bears there,
big bears, small bears!

Bears bring big smiles and happy faces!

The children of our country are our most important asset and we need to provide for them. We live in a world that is constantly changing and it is sometimes difficult for them to cope. Each day children may be subjected to violent or emotional situations through no fault of their own. The Rita Panitz Teddy Bear Program was established to help children deal with these unfortunate events.

Our donations of Teddy Bears or Stuffed Animals during our National Convention to the local Fire Department, Police Department, Children's Hospital, and Ronald McDonald House has made a difference in these communities. Providing a new friend for a child to hug can put a smile on their face and is a true mitzvah.

Each item that is donated to the first responders and other organizations has a tag attached to it recognizing JWVA as a donor. We need the support of all our members to continue putting smiles on children's faces.

If you would like to make a donation for the Bear Program, please send a check payable to: PNP Elaine Bernstein, 9 Dogwood Court, Sayreville, NJ 08872.



Let's make this the BEST
Bear Convention ever!



DOUBLE CHAI CLUB

Join Us For Lunch!

Wednesday, August 30 at Noon

The Double Chai Club has a special meaning for all of us. We rededicate ourselves annually to our purpose -- service to the veteran and his/her family.



Become a member of
our "Double Chai."



This luncheon is open to everyone.
We look forward to seeing you there!
\$36 per person

Partners Club

Please join us at the Convention
for a get-together.

The purpose of this program is to help our administration function. The funds collected help keep our Washington office operating. Remember, anyone can be a partner member. If you know people who would like to support our cause, please ask them to join.

The cost to join is \$50.00, and \$25.00 to renew every year after the first year. I hope all the members who originally joined will renew and continue to help our National Ladies Auxiliary.



Rhea Sahl Memorial Baby Shower For Pregnant Military Women Monday, August 28

We're holding a baby shower for pregnant military women during our National Convention in Jacksonville on Monday, August 28. It is one way that we can say "Thank You" to these women for serving our country.

We would like to fill baskets for each pregnant mom-to-be with items needed for a newborn, such as: diapers, bath towels, wash cloths, bibs, onesies, bottles, baby lotion, pacifiers, burp cloths, crib sheets, receiving blankets, night clothes, etc. Each basket averages at least \$125.00 and we plan on presenting 12. If you would like to purchase these items yourself, you may do so.

If you would like to make a donation for the baby shower to purchase any items for the Rhea Sahl Memorial Baby Shower Program, send a check payable to: PNP Elaine Bernstein, 9 Dogwood Court, Sayreville, NJ 08872.

Please send your items and donations for the Baby Shower and/or the Teddy Bear Program directly to the hotel, between August 23 and August 25.

Address packages to: Marriott Jacksonville Downtown, 245 Water Street, Jacksonville, NJ 32202
Attention: PNP Elaine Bernstein, Convention Chairman JWVA.

Let's do it again!

Our Pound Auction is always a popular event at the convention. Everyone has such a great time and so we are going to do it again.

Please bring a pound of anything, and put it in a brown lunch bag. If you don't have a brown bag, we'll have extras.

Start looking now!
Examples are candy, erasers, popcorn, etc.
Use your imagination. As long as it weighs a pound.

You won't know what you are bidding on. Follow the clues of the auctioneer.

See Joanne Blum at the convention or call her at 860-869-2982, and give her your item for the auction.

Admission is \$2.00

It will be an evening of fun and laughter!

Convention Boosters 2023 • Listings Are \$2.00 For Each Name

I/we wish to have the following boosters listed in the Convention Book.

Please indicate if booster name is a booster (B), child (C) or grandchild (G).

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Please make checks payable to: National Ladies Auxiliary, JWVA

Mail this form and payment to: National Ladies Auxiliary, JWVA
1811 R Street NW, Washington, DC 20009

In Memoriam • Our Remembrance Book • \$3.00 Per Name

• Kindly list the names of the loved ones you would like printed in our Remembrance Book •

In Memory of _____ Relationship _____

In Memory of _____ Relationship _____

In Memory of _____ Relationship _____



Please make checks payable to: National Ladies Auxiliary, JWVA

Mail this form and payment to: National Ladies Auxiliary, JWVA
1811 R Street NW, Washington, DC 20009

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is the end of May and my three, one-year terms are coming to a close. It has been a wonderful time to serve as President of our museum. We have opened one new exhibit, "The Jewish Experience During Vietnam," and plan to move forward with a second exhibit, "Jewish Women in the Military."

We have engaged the services of a well-known and well-respected professional fundraiser to raise the necessary funding for a makeover of our building. The Board of Directors has approved a preliminary rendering of a major renovation of the entire building that will bring it into the 21st century and will present us with a museum that can stand the test of time for many years into the future.

We have conducted a series of online presentations by noted authors who speak about their books and are available for question and answer sessions. We have had close to 200 registrants for some of these events.

We have partnered with the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History to co-produce online exhibits for both museums' websites. We participated in the Dupont-Kalorama Museums Consortium Walk Weekend on June 3 and 4.

We have moved forward with our Memorial

Garden project where there is now an Eternal Light, plantings, pavers, and benches for visitors to sit and reflect. Clearly, these are exciting times at the National Museum of American Jewish Military History.

There are so many individuals who have contributed time, energy, and money over the course of the past three years. If I start to mention them all, I am certain I will miss at least a half-dozen or more. Rather than walk the plank, I will mention only a very few who worked so diligently to make these three years so meaningful to me.

Let's start with Pam Elbe and Mike Rugel, our entire professional staff. They are simply outstanding professionals and wonderful individuals. Iris and Ed Goldwasser are indispensable advisors, mentors, and friends. May they both live to 120 with good health and much happiness. Then there is Elaine Bernstein, my confidant and best friend. Without her encouragement and friendship, these three years would not have had the same meaning. She will be a wonderful asset to the museum when she serves as its president.

A president is only as good as the people around him. If I were a good president, then I was

lucky enough to have good people around me. Our members need to step up and become more active and more involved. We need your leadership and skills to keep this museum open and active. We need you to volunteer and we need you to recruit new members. We need you to spread the word that we exist. I have often said there is no other institution that will tell our story of our dedication to this nation. We are all American-Jews who answered the call when our country was in need. We were, or are, soldiers, sailors, Marines, Airmen, and Coast Guardsmen. We raised our hands and pledged to support our country with all we had, including our lives if required. Our museum tells our story loudly, and for all to be heard very clearly.



PNC Michael B. Berman

Updates By Michael Rugel • Director of Programs and Content

We've had an opportunity to screen two very interesting documentary films here at the museum in recent months. The first was "Stabbed in the Back." It tells the story of hundreds of thousands of Jews who served in the German or Austro-Hungarian militaries during the World War I. The film was directed by Hungarian filmmakers Peter K. Rosenbluth and Peter Banyavarim, who also made the Civil War documentary, "Jewish 48ers in the American Civil War."

"Stabbed in the Back" examines how Jewish veterans went from heroes to victims of the Holocaust in a few decades. The title refers to the post-WWI German theory that the war was lost not because of defeats on the battlefields, but because Germany was betrayed by communists and Jews. The filmmakers invert the idea, showing that those truly stabbed in the back were the German-Jewish veterans who served their country loyally before the ultimate betrayal in the Holocaust.

It was a real pleasure to have the German Embassy in Washington, D.C. as a partner for the program. Michael Hasper, the Minister of Communication and Culture, spoke eloquently on the need for Holocaust education and the importance of Germany dealing with its past. The film is now available for streaming on Amazon Prime video.

The second film was "And Now, Love." This documentary tells the story of Dr. Bernard Bail. Bail received the Distinguished Service Cross, three Distinguished Flying Crosses, five Air Medals, five Battle Stars in the European Theater of Operations, a Purple Heart, a Prisoner of War Medal, and the 44th Bomb Group Presidential Unit Citation for his service in World War II.

As a prisoner of war, Bail began a secret affair with a German nurse. Inspired by his World

War II experiences, Bail went on to found an alternative branch of psychoanalysis. Cynthia Marks, Bail's widow was in attendance and participated in a question and answer session following the film.

It was great to partner with our friends from the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History for an online program on William



Minister Michael Hasper, Head of Communication and Culture for the German Embassy in Washington, speaks at the museum.

Shemin and the Medal of Honor. Shemin's actions in World War I earned him the Medal of Honor. It's always amazing to hear his daughter Elsie Shemin Roth discuss her extraordinary efforts that led to the posthumous upgrade of his Distinguished Service Cross to the Medal of Honor in 2015. There is also an online exhibit about Shemin that our museum helped to produce for the Weitzman website at <https://theweitzman.org>

We held two online webinars in April and May. Ira Kitmacher spoke about his book "Monsters and Miracles." It tells the World War II story of his parents, his father a Holocaust Survivor and his mother a Navy WAVE. Kitmacher framed the whole

story in the context of traditional Jewish folklore in a fascinating way.

Steven Collis spoke about his book "The Immortals: The World War II Story of Five Fearless Heroes, the Sinking of the Dorchester, and an Awe-inspiring Rescue." The book is about the Four Chaplains who sacrificed their own lives for other servicemen when the USS Dorchester sunk in 1943. The book also includes the story of Charles Walter David, Jr., a petty officer aboard a Coast Guard cutter traveling with the Dorchester, who saved many from the freezing waters. It was great to hear Collis' insights into interfaith cooperation and provide details about the life of Rabbi Alexander Goode and the other chaplains.

We've also hosted some interesting groups here at the museum, including an Army unit from the National Geospatial Agency at Fort Belvoir. We received a visit from the recently graduated 8th grade class of Chabad Hebrew Academy in San Diego. They were filled with good questions. Many of them were excited to spot writing in the museum completing their scavenger hunt activity to "find Hebrew letters in a museum in D.C." Help spread the word, so we can get more schools and other groups in the museum!

Are you a member of the National Museum of American Jewish Military?

Membership starts at just \$25.

By Pam Elbe • Director of Collections, Archives, and Exhibitions

NMI to NMAJMH: The Museum's Last 30 Years

In the last issue of The Jewish Veteran, I gave a brief history of the origins of the museum and its first few iterations – first the National Shrine to the Jewish War Dead and then the Jewish War Veterans National Memorial, Inc. In 1992, the National Memorial became known by the name that we use today, the National Museum of American Jewish Military History (NMAJMH). While it is certainly a mouthful, the new name better encompassed the mission of the museum and its place as both a memorial to those who have served and a living monument to active service members.

The rebranding ushered in a new era for the museum. There was an increased focus on exhibitions, both in-house and traveling. In the spring of 1993, the NMAJMH opened an exhibit on American Jewish liberators called "GIs Remember: Liberating the Concentration Camps." The exhibit coincided with the opening of U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM), and the two museums worked together with other local Jewish organizations to create a Jewish Washington tourism program. The anniversary of the end of World War II helped to bolster interest in the exhibit, which received an unprecedented amount of publicity in both local and national press and was viewed by dozens of tour groups in the first few months after it opened. One of the focal points of the exhibit was oral histories recorded by liberators describing what they saw at the camps. These firsthand accounts are very impactful and are included in the museum's core exhibit today.



The centennial celebration for JWV in 1996 included festivities across the nation and in Washington, and the museum participated by opening an exhibition on the history and accomplishments of the organization. "Making a Difference! A History of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America" told of the creation of a Jewish veterans organization in response to antisemitic allegations by Mark Twain, et al., that Jews "were disinclined to stand by the flag as soldier" and JWV's efforts through the years to continue to fight antisemitism and to support the veteran community. The centennial exhibition was on view for a year before being reconfigured and relocated to a different gallery to make room for a new exhibition.

"An American, A Sailor, and a Jew: The Life and Career of Commodore Uriah Phillips Levy" opened on July 4, 1997, to a crowd of nearly 250 people. As the museum does not have any original material relating to Levy in our collection,

the exhibit was put together using resources from the Naval Historical Foundation, the U.S. Naval Academy Museum, and the Library of Congress. The exhibit told the story of Levy's life, his military service and the antisemitism he faced, his role in abolishing flogging as a punishment in the U.S. Navy, and his purchase and restoration of Thomas Jefferson's Monticello.



Around this time there was also discussion of a possible exhibit focusing on the military service of Supreme Court Justice Arthur Goldberg. Goldberg's sons visited the museum and liked what they saw, feeling that the NMAJMH would be the right venue to tell that part of their father's story. Unfortunately, as sometimes happens with even the best laid plans, the exhibit did not come to fruition.

Though there was not a Goldberg exhibition, the museum kept busy opening three new exhibits from 1999 to 2001. The first was the very popular "Women in the Military: A Jewish Perspective," which opened in March of 1999. Captain Kimberly Elenberg described the things that she considers important in her life, including her service in the armed forces, her role as mother to her three children, her career as Head Nurse of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology at Walter Reed Army Hospital, and her spiritual identity as a Jewish woman. She described how each of these aspects of her life influence each other and contribute to the pride she feels in each of her roles. Elenberg also commented on the importance of passing heritage, traditions, and history down through the generations, especially for our Jewish culture. Many Jewish servicewomen (predominantly World War II veterans) shared their stories, photographs, and memorabilia for the exhibit. We hope to create an updated version of this exhibit featuring female vets from the post-WWII era and active-duty service women soon.

The museum worked with USHMM to create "Rescue and Renewal: GIs and Displaced Persons," which opened in the Fall of 1999. Guest curator Morton Horvitz said, "because the history of the displaced persons camps has been largely ignored, the [USHMM] is undertaking a major effort to educate the public about it." The NMAJMH agreed to create an exhibit on the role of Jewish GIs in help-

ing survivors to restart their lives, while others, like the USHMM, the National Archives, and the Library of Congress, created their own companion exhibits. The NMAJMH's exhibit built on the stories told in "GIs Remember" and described the role of Jewish servicemembers in camp liberation and assisting survivors in displaced persons camps in the postwar period.

"The Hall of Heroes: American Jewish Recipients of the Medal of Honor" opened in August 2001 with a ceremony featuring Colonel Jack Jacobs, the only living Jewish Medal of Honor (MOH) recipient, and Colonel Barney Barnum, Medal of Honor recipient and then-President of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society. This exhibit is a testimonial to the bravest among us - those Jewish veterans who are recipients of America's most prestigious medals for heroism in combat, the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Service Cross, Navy Cross, and Air Force Cross. The "Hall of Heroes" is a permanent exhibit, and it has been updated to include those Jewish servicemembers who have received the MOH since 2001.

While the exhibits mentioned here were all large (at least by NMAJMH standards), the museum also opened several smaller exhibitions such as "Gold Star Mothers" and "A Mother's Grief." The NMAJMH also worked with the Museum of Jewish Heritage in New York, loaning over one hundred artifacts for use in their "Ours to Fight For" exhibit. In 2004 the museum hosted a traveling exhibition of WWII aerial photographs – "Reconnaissance and Recollection: The Photographs of Sy Weinstein." In 2008, JWV Past National Commander David Magidson sponsored "Jewish War Veterans' 1933 Protest March Against Nazi Germany," an exhibition highlighting JWV's response to the rise of Nazism in Germany. This exhibit is still on view, right next to our newest exhibit, "Jewish Americans in Military Service During Vietnam," which opened last spring.



The 350th anniversary of Jews in the United States in 2004 highlighted the need for a comprehensive exhibit on Jewish participation in the American military from the founding of our nation to the present. Efforts to make this exhibit a reality took nearly a decade, but in 2014 our core exhibit opened. The exhibit was designed to take advantage of technology and be infinitely updatable, and in the years since it opened, we have added stories and photos to the "Service Around the World" interactive and the "Fallen Heroes" touchscreen

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Honoring a Forgotten Veteran

By PNC Carl Singer

Like many other JWV posts, Essex-Preiskel-Miller-Glassberg Post 47 in Northern New Jersey helps maintain veterans' graves at several cemeteries. Each year, with the help of volunteers from nearby synagogues, we refresh weather beaten fags and JWV markers prior to Memorial Day and Veterans Day.



The largest cemetery in our area is King Solomon Cemetery with over 55,000 graves. We replace as many as 500 fags there each year. Additionally, throughout the year when a family contacts the cemetery to request a new or replacement fag we do so.

On Friday, August 20, I drove out to King Solomon Cemetery to place a single fag after receiving a family's request. While walking back to my car I noticed a headstone with neither a fag nor marker.

Private Ralph Silverstein, barely 20 years old, was killed in action on September 22, 1944. I cleaned up the headstone and placed a JWV marker and fag there.



I then noticed that his yearzeit date was on the 5th of Tishrei – less than two weeks away. I contacted my friend and fellow Post 47 member Chaplain Ira Kronenberg to ensure Private Silverstein's yearzeit would be properly observed with kaddish.

Why Mahloket Matters

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naturally surrounded by people we choose based on shared values or common interests, and this is a good thing. It allows us to foster community and feel grounded and safe. But in recent years, the pandemic and political climate have created a vicious cycle of polarization and isolation, keeping us away not only from our chosen communities, but creating even more distance from those with whom we disagree or don't have much in common.

Recently, I was privileged to be a Mahloket Matters Fellow at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies based in Jerusalem. Mahloket is a Hebrew word meaning disagreement, specifically, disagreement that is generative and deepens our understanding of ourselves and others, as opposed to disagreement that is reductive, destructive, and isolating. The program used sources from the Tanakh up through the present day to illustrate how our Jewish tradition values Mahloket, how we can foster it in our lives, and the potential it has to help heal some of our culture's deep wounds.

The Mahloket Matters curriculum is incredibly rich, too much so to do it justice in a brief article, but perhaps the most powerful idea I learned from Mahloket Matters is the 49-49 conversation. In Jewish texts, the number 50 often represents an idea of wholeness and completion, that everything is encompassed and contained. The Talmud teaches us in a story that even our great sages, the early rabbis, could only achieve 49 in their learning and knowledge. It is impossible for a human being to know and contain all the wisdom and perspectives on a given matter, and so we need to live and disagree with a profound humility. This humility does not mean that we cannot advocate for and defend our beliefs. On the contrary, the premise of a 49-49 conversation is that we are already doing just that! What it means is that we need a level of openness in the conversation to truly hear and understand not just the differing opinions or beliefs someone else holds, but why they feel that way, the context in which they came to hold their beliefs, and our common humanity. The goal is not to win an argument, but to deepen our understanding of others and ourselves.

A 49-49 conversation is also predicated on

mutual respect and safety in order to be vulnerable enough to share our beliefs and receive others that may be directly opposed. If all parties can muster that basic respect and feel safe enough, Mahloket has the potential to transcend disagreement and turn into real learning and even healing.

Nowhere have I seen Mahloket in action in my life more than in the Army. Units, barracks living, duty assignments, training, deployments, and more, all put us on intimate terms with every other type of American out there. For much of my career, I spent every waking moment around people with whom I strongly differed and disagreed. This resulted in funny, frustrating, and even painful misunderstandings and disagreements, but through them I learned that relationships can survive and become stronger through disagreement, and that there can actually be fun, joy, and incredible learning in seeing Mahloket through, and becoming true friends with someone with whom you disagree. Military life has much to teach us about the value and practice of Mahloket and how we can not just coexist, but live well with people with whom we disagree.

MUSEUM NEWS

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kiosk.

On top of all these exhibitions, the museum has also hosted many public programs over the years. Lectures, book talks, and webinars are just some of the programs that the museum has put together. Mike Rugel has worked to expand our event and program offerings, utilizing Zoom and YouTube to reach a wider audience.

While this little museum has accomplished much with limited resources, we are now looking very closely at what the future of the museum could look like. We recently completed a feasibility study for a capital campaign, which you can learn more about at JWV's convention in August. We welcome input on what our members would like to see at the museum – not just in terms of exhibitions but also in areas like programs and community outreach.

TAPS

DEPARTMENT AT LARGE

Eugene Kristel - 100
William Kulhamer - 100

DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA

Michael H. Lampert - 30
Robert Weingarten - 65

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

Kurt Bittmann - 118
Julian Cohen - 603
Harvey Krasner - 603

DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT

Daniel Schaefer - 45
David Vogel - 45

DEPT OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Harold Novick - 589

DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

Armand Pepper - 202
Elliot Levy - 631

Irving Lyon - 941
Morris L. Weinstein - 941

DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS

Lilli Greenebaum - 29
Morris Rosman - 29

DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND

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Daniel M. Fink - 167
Falk Y. Friedlander - 167
Sanford D. Minkin - 167
Nathan Harold Rosenberg - 167
Benjamin H. Saltzman - 167
Nathan Schaeffer - 167
William Benjamin - 888

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Donald Glusgol - 161
Jackson Paul - 161

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Sidney J. Rubenstein - 474

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Herbert T. Steinberg - 63
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Melvin Saltz - 126
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Marvin L. Joachim - 425
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Jason Kaatz - 648

Herman E. Soblick - 652
Aharon Golub - 655
Arthur M. Feltheimer - 717
Allan Eisenkraft - 720
Alan R. Moskin - 756

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Lislie I. Rose - 305
Morris Steinberg - 305
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Happy 4th of July!

Good Health and Happiness to All

Al Abramson

In Memory of Eugene Baraw

PDC Edward & PDP Louise Baraw

US Forces Austria ('44-'55) –

USASETAF Italy ('55-'94)

Howard A. and Dorothy G. Berger

Remember PNC Paul Bernstein & PAP

Shelly Berman

PNC Mike Berman & PNP Elaine Bernstein

In Loving Memory of My Wife, PDP Adele

PDC Stanton Bilker, 697

Good Health and Happiness to All

PNC Jerry & PNP Joanne Blum

In Loving Memory of son

Frank Pincus Collins,

NYC Detective & SSGT. Army Reserve

Preserve Democracy

PNC Jerome D. Cohen – Abe Cohen –

Major Philip Lehman Memorial Post 50

In Memory of my Beloved Gigi

Brig Gen Gordon A. Ginsburg, USAF (Ret)

In Memory of Sam Gould, Post CMDR

Alan J. Gould Post 105

In Loving Memory of My Husband Walter

Dorothy D. Greenwald, PDP 204

In Memory of PNC Ron Ziegler

PA PDC Larry Holman

Health and Happiness to All

PDC Steve and PNP Arlene Lodgen

Good Health to All!

Petra C. Kaatz

In Memory of Marty Kessler

Leon Kutcher

We Wish all Good Health, Strength

& Happy Life

Ret. Maj. Gen. Pierre David & Jhoanna Lax

In Memory of My Brother, Ben

PDC Stanley R. Light, Post 26

To All Good Health & Happiness

In Memory of my Wife of 52 Years,

Shelley Novoselsky

In Loving Memory of Jayne Wasserman

The Paley Family

In Loving Memory of my wife, Virginia

Queens County PCC Ron Peters

In Honor of my wife Helen

Stephen Sax

Love Harley Gabrielle Shelbee

Maxine Dad Irv USMC USNR USA

Best Wishes to all JWV and

JWVA Members

PNC Barry and PAP Charwynne Schneider

Our Very Best Wishes to All

PNC Lawrence & Judith Schulman

John Robbins, Commander Post 717

Speedy Recovery + Best Wishes R+R

In Memory of Norman Smith, Post 129

In Loving Memory of Jeannette Marie Maul

Fred Sona

In Loving Memory of Claire Stadtmauer

CH Murray Stadtmauer, Post 648

Health and Happiness to All

PNC Paul Warner, Ph.D.

Shalom to Our Landsmen-In-Arms

Linda & PNC Harvey Weiner

In Memory of Philip & Julia Weinstein

Leon Weinstein

In Loving Memory of Jon Zak DC

Shirley Zak NSVP

In Memory of my Beloved Miriam

David S. Zwerin

A Salute to Our Fallen Comrades

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Best Wishes to All & Good Health

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