



THE JEWISH VETERAN

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PNC Jerome Cohen Remembered

Page 3

Jewish Warrior Weekend

Page 5

123rd Annual National Convention Registration

Page 13

NEC Meeting and Leadership Shabbaton Highlights

Page 17

National Commander visits the Department of Florida

Page 22

CONTENTS

D'veri HaShomrim.....	2
Message From the Commander	3
On The Hill	4
Membership Corner.....	6
JWV in the Community.....	8
Relationship of US and Israeli Jewry	15
Reviews	16
National Ladies Auxiliary	18
Museum News.....	20
TAPS.....	22

JWV Confronts the "Big Lie" Once Again: This Time it's From an Unusual Source

By PNC David Magidson, Post 243 FL

In 1896, the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. (JWV) was founded to refute the lie that Jews did not serve in the military during our Civil War. We did in significant numbers – for both sides.

Now, 122 years later, the “Big Lie” came from the lips of an unusual source – The Deputy Foreign Minister of Israel, Tzipi Hotovely. In an interview with i24 News in Israel, Ms. Hotovely stated that American Jews “never send their children to fight for their country.”

Once JWV and its leadership got

2018, Minister Hotovely sent a letter to JWV in which she apologized to Jewish American service members and veterans of all wars. “My words were shortsighted and not reflective of my beliefs, and I deeply apologize,” she wrote.

You can read her letter to JWV on page 14.

Silence and shirking duty are not characteristics of JWV. In March 1933, two months after Hitler came to power, the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A. organized and carried out a protest

Yes, American Jews do send their children to fight for their country, and sometimes their children pay the ultimate price.

over the initial disbelief, shock, and hurt of this statement, we surged into action. Our National Commander issued a press release denouncing the comment. He met with personnel of the Israeli Embassy. Moreover, Embassy staff were invited to come for a tour of our museum – The National Museum of American Jewish Military History in Washington, D.C. When they came they saw proof of the honorable and sometimes heroic service of American Jews to this country.

But all American Jews, especially those who have served and their families, deserve more. On their behalf, we fought for a retraction and apology, and we received it! On January 28,

march in New York City – despite the admonitions of various Jewish groups not to anger the new German Chancellor (a video of the march is on display at our National Museum).

Today, as we have done for over a century, JWV has responded to “The Big Lie.” Over that period, we have earned respect and prestige in our Capitol and others. The resultant apology is being communicated to all of you in memory of the 57 Jewish-American brothers and sisters killed in action in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Yes, American Jews do send their children to fight for their country, and sometimes their children pay the ultimate price.



SSG Mark Broydo in Kandahar, Afghanistan, during 2004.



MAJ Brian Adelson (r) commands Iraqi security forces during the 2005 elections.



SGT Hillary LaFever, serving as a gunner on a Bradley tank in 2006.



Lt Josh Sherwin leads troops on the USS Stennis fantail in 2015. Photo Credit: JWV Jewish Chaplains Council.

D'verei HaShomrim



Rabbi Samuel B. Press, Post 587

Choosing to Love

As I began to think about what to write, I thought back on my beginning of a military career. I am a third generation American. Each generation has family who served in the military. In my family, one person was disappointed. My grandfather was a Marine. He served with Teddy Roosevelt, was on the White Ships mission and had service wounds. He was disappointed that I did not choose to be a Marine!

As did all in JWV, we entered the military coming from different backgrounds. I had just finished receiving rabbinical ordination and entered a new "world" about which I knew nothing except what I read. My first assignment was a Strategic Air Command base in Loring, Maine. Upon arrival I was told I would also be the Stockade Chaplain. I quickly learned a stockade was not like I knew (a pen for animals), but in the military, it was the word for a prison. My first day I got a call from the Stockade that they needed me. I went to the building and was told an airman was contemplating suicide and I had to see him. I said a psychiatrist would be better. I was told that the psychiatrist would come in the morning. I saw the airman, and I asked him why? As he told me his story, I was about in tears. When he finished, I was ready to commit suicide. I knew nothing what to say. Finally, I told the person that this was my first day. I really do not know what to tell you. I said if you die now, everyone will know I failed. Please wait until the psychiatrist sees you. The next morning I got a call from the stockade. The airman attempted suicide and left a note for you. It read, "Tell Chaplain Press I waited until after the psychiatrist saw me!"

My USAF career was one of or the most meaningful, worthwhile experiences of my life. The military deserves accolades and praise for the quality of service people and their values. I lived and saw the values of our country in its finest expression. I saw heroism, often unrecognized, and also, the meaning of dedication, loyalty and a commitment of self, not for tangible gain, but for the ideals and love for our country.

In thinking of this column, I began to reflect on Torah readings. We began with Genesis - not only with the creation of the world, but the story of the first families; not always happy stories. As Tolstoy writes, every unhappy family is unhappy in its own

way. In our stories, each story has rivalry, discontent, hurt and ill will. Rabbi Soloveitchek taught that when we get to the story of Joseph making amends and forgiving his brothers, we now can enter the building of a nation. Families and a people can work together with harmony, forgiveness and that abstract word "love" when we act in a loving way. Winston Churchill in his solutions of how to respond in war, found his first lesson, we all can choose. Our challenge is what to choose: With the disharmony in our moment in time, with a divided country on the right and left, a constant is to use the pen to denigrate and "destroy" them with whom we disagree. Most often we see parroted words to insure the writer is defined as part of the good. Too often the hate filled opinions are not truthful, and their certainty never will convince others.

As I write now these thoughts, we are in the scripture readings of Exodus - the beginnings of our people. We read of slavery and freedom, the lode-stone of our religion, in the giving of the Torah at Sinai. We read portions detailing commandments - laws, thoughts, ideas and visions from which we can read study and understand with our own perceptions.

We end this cycle with the celebratory moment of our freedom with the holiday of Passover. The holiday said to be the most celebrated holiday on the Jewish calendar. Families, friends, guests join in festive meals with matzoh and special foods prepared with different ingredients, wine, and rituals, and it culminates with the reading of the Haggadah - a book with not only the story of our people, but the time when generations meet and find memories. Rabbi Soloveitchek once said when we study Talmud in our class, so do all the Talmudic scholars, Rabbi Akiba, Rabbi Gamliel, and myriads of others. So too in our homes, there is a living presence of grandparents, ancestors, and the children engaged in the Seder, who are our future.

In the autumn of 1914 the German army stood at the gates of Paris and the Kaiser believed that his victory was at hand and that his troops "would return home before the leaves fall." The Kaiser believed the war was won. His arrogance betrayed him. The war lasted 4 more years, with unimagined proportions of bloodletting and destruction. At the battle of the Marne the German army was stopped. We know the German Army was no longer strong, and the results were horrendous for all.

The Talmud records when Rabbi Akiba visited the site of the destruction of the Temple, all with him cried. He laughed. He said this was predicted, but G-d also predicted we have a wonderful blessed future. We make this future. It is in our hands.

The service ends, with the positive words, "Next Year in Jerusalem." Not a prayer, but the reality that wherever we are, we can choose to create a city of peace, an ambiance of love in our homes and all living in peace with in our hearts - with all others and all God's creations.

And may we, expressing our indebtedness to JWV, (and like in Dayton, our grand chapters) live the words from Les Mis:

"Remember the truth that once was spoken, to love another person is to see the face of God."



THE JEWISH VETERAN

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MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

National Commander Paul D. Warner, Ph.D.

Dear Friends and Comrades of JWV,

It has been a busy year to say the least. As you read on the front page, our “friend” from Israel had a few choice words to say about Jewish American Military Service, and needless to say, when the Embassy came to speak to us about it, I had a few choice words back for them. We worked hard to make sure that our service members get the credit and respect they deserve.

However, they are not getting the respect they deserve at home. There are many veteran benefits that should have and will be approved with the work of JWV. We have been fighting too long to make sure our brother and sister Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans get the benefits they deserve. We also have been fighting to make sure our family caregivers get the resources they need to take care of our service members and veterans. Here is a brief overview of what we here at National are fighting for:

Providing Benefits to Blue Water Navy Veterans

In the last issue of *The Jewish Veteran*, NED Herb Rosenbleeth provided you with an extensive background on the Blue Water Navy situation. Although there is some repetition of the facts, I want to update you on how badly Congress has acted in regard to this problem.

During the Vietnam War, approximately twenty million gallons of Agent Orange were sprayed over the Republic of Vietnam, contaminating the lands, rivers, harbors, and territorial seas. Under the Agent Orange Act of 1991, Blue Water Navy Veterans were initially entitled to presumptive service-connected disability status, relieving them of the burdensome process of producing evidence that directly established service connection for a specific health condition. However, in 2002, the VA reinterpreted the language of the Agent Orange Act of 1991 to apply only to veterans who served in the inland waterways or set foot in the Republic of Vietnam.

A study conducted by the Institute of Medicine

shows a plausible pathway for Agent Orange to have entered the South China Sea via dirt and debris from rivers and streams. Additionally, a study conducted by the University of Queensland found that Australian ships’ distillation systems, which were identical to the systems used on U.S. Navy ships during the Vietnam War era, in fact, enriched the toxic dioxin in Agent Orange. This contaminated water was used for cooking, cleaning, showering, laundry, and drinking, exposing U.S. Navy personnel to high levels of the toxic chemical.

We support the passage of the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act (H.R. 299), to provide the same presumptive VA benefits to those personnel who served off the coast of Vietnam as are provided to those who had “boots on the ground” in Vietnam. It is quite clear that those who served in the waters off Vietnam are deserving of VA benefits. Thousands of veterans who served in the territorial waters of Vietnam are now suffering from higher rates of disease and other chronic health conditions, which can be attributed to exposure to Agent Orange.

When HR 299 was to come up for a vote, Congress decided that it should be paid for by reducing the veteran’s cost of living adjustments. They wanted to have veterans pay for those veterans who were injured by our government. Fortunately, this outrageous proposal was never voted on.

Benefits to Care-Givers

Disabled veterans depend on the quality care that family caregivers provide. Whether the veteran was disabled recently or pre-9/11, the need for quality care is the same. Caregivers provide the best quality of life outcomes our veterans deserve. Additionally, caregiver support for all veterans would provide better care outcomes at a lower cost than if those being cared for at home had to be housed and cared for in VA or private care facilities.

The Senate Veterans Affairs Committee has embraced a plan from Sen. Patty Murray (D-Wash.) to

expand eligibility for Post-9/11 caregiver benefits to older generations of veterans and caregivers, attaching her bill to a legislative package whose centerpiece – reform of the Choice program – is seen as critical for Congress to pass The Caring for Our Veterans Act (S. 2193).

Even if this strategy succeeds, caregivers of severely injured veterans from earlier wars face at least a year’s wait and possibly longer before the first group of them gains eligibility for a monthly stipend that first became available to the Post-9/11 generation of caregivers six years ago.

Under these bills, caregiver benefits couldn’t be expanded to older generations until the VA certifies it has modernized its information technology sufficiently to support a bigger program. This could take at least a year.

Benefits then would be extended first to caregivers of veterans severely injured in the line of duty on or before May 7, 1975, which would include the Vietnam War and earlier conflicts. If that expansion runs well, two years later eligibility for the program would be opened to veterans with severe injuries incurred in the line of duty from May 8, 1975 through September 10, 2001.

CBO estimated the average cost to VA per participant at \$30,000 a year.

The House committee didn’t hold a hearing last year on a companion caregiver bill, although it has 82 co-sponsors.

It is my opinion that this proposal is designed to reduce the number of veterans who will be eligible, since the current budget short-changes the VA and limits its ability to fund the modernization of its information technology systems.



PNC JERRY COHEN REMEMBERED

By Dan Cohen

On January 5, 2018, at the age of 92, retired New York State Supreme Court Judge, Past National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans Jerry Cohen passed away. He was the beloved father of Barry, Carl and Daniel as well as a proud grandfather and great-grandfather. He passed away after a trip to see his sons and families.

This extraordinary man lived a wonderful life and contributed so much to society and his family. He lived a real American dream, born on 19th Street in Coney Island, Brooklyn, New York, served in WWII and was awarded the Purple Heart, in addition to many other forms of recognition for his service.

Jerry and his wife, Nancy, were married quite young and after the war he had to finish high-school, university and law school already with the responsibilities of a growing family.

He was a successful trial attorney who moved to the pinnacle of his profession, the Supreme



Court of the State of New York. He was active with the Jewish War Veterans from age 18 through to his death and attained the post of National Commander in 1972. He dedicated himself to tons of pro-bono work and placed many war criminals behind bars.

After leaving the court, he remained in private practice for the rest of his life. An avid sailor and golfer, he remained active by going to the gym and working every day until the end.

Nancy and Jerry managed to raise three children and gave them everything they could possibly want and never forgot their roots, with feet firmly planted on the ground. His sense of humor and ability to connect were unsurpassed, especially given that his father spent his time as a comedian in the Catskills. How cool!

Nancy, Jerry’s beloved wife, pre-deceased him, and he missed her for the rest of his life. He was a great father who gave all of his children something to aspire to.

JWV will miss Jerry’s presence both in our annual get-togethers, but also, his voice guiding our organization. Donations can be made to the National Museum of American Jewish Military History in Jerry’s name.

Veterans Day 2021

By COL Herb Rosenbleeth, National Executive Director
JWV will be the host organization at the Veterans Day ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery in 2021. It seems far off, however, the time will go quickly!

Each year one of the organizations which serves on the Veterans Day National Committee becomes the host organization on Veterans Day at Arlington National Cemetery. In 1996, the year of JWV's 100th anniversary, JWV was the host organization. It was a day we will always remember!

On the morning of the Arlington Cemetery program, Past National Commander Bob Zweiman was seated on the dais with President Bill Clinton, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown, and the leaders of the other Veterans Service Organizations. PNC Zweiman gave an eloquent, rousing speech to a standing room only packed house at the Arlington Cemetery amphitheater. He said it is a tragedy that no one really cares about our veterans, noting that "our government has a moral and a real obligation to provide for our veterans." The crowd cheered and applauded throughout PNC Zweiman's speech and several times during the speech, President Clinton nodded approvingly. PNC Zweiman closed with the

words "For your tomorrow, we gave our today." The entire crowd in the amphitheater rose to their feet, applauded, and cheered. What a great day for JWV!

Next came the Veterans Day Reception hosted by JWV at the Ft. Myers Officers Club. It was a perfect setting and was extremely well attended, including the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Honorable Jesse Brown. The spirited program went off smoothly.

Fast forward to Thursday, November 11, 2021: JWV will again be the host organization. Our National Commander will be on the dais and will address the crowd. Our reception will follow. JWV is in the process of raising the money necessary to fund the reception. Tax deductible donations may be sent to JWV, Attention: 2021 Reception.



COL Herb Rosenbleeth

#MeToo - How Should The Military and JWV Respond?

By Jennifer Brande, Post 126 NJ

The #MeToo movement is the latest word in the American vernacular. With Hollywood, politics and everything in between being touched by the accusations and proven acts of sexual assault and harassment, the one completely glaring missing area is the United States Armed Forces. Occasionally it comes to light, such as the Marines United Facebook group, which went to great lengths to not make the pervasive sexual military culture invisible to the public so that their pristine image of duty, honor and country would not be tarnished. Another example, would be the Army Major General, who was brought back on to Active Duty to be prosecuted for alleged rape multiple times with a minor, decades after the offenses occurred, although that example is not standard and the litmus to see if this will happen in the future is unknown at this time.

The statistics from a 2017 report found that 4.3% of female service members and 0.6% of men have experienced some form of sexual assault. The movement takes on different names in other countries around the world such as "ניחוח" which translated into English is #UsToo and was popularized by the Yedioth Ahronoth newspaper. No matter what the hashtag attached to it is, this issue is not being addressed with any sense of definitive certainty.

The armed forces is supposed to be a sacred trust where the words "esprit de corps, brotherhood and battle buddies" are constantly preached, yet even with service members who are specifically trained to work on the prevention of these atrocities, the reporting is slowly coming into a more clear picture. In the last reporting period, military report rates actually rose 9%, which experts agree that number will continue to rise as people find their voice to speak out becomes stronger due to the high visibility of people in the higher

ranks or positions of authority being disciplined.

The most important part of this report does show that military assaults dropped from 20,300 in 2014 to 14,900, but is this because of actual disciplinary action or people leaving the service (sometimes by way of retirement where they keep their benefits, despite allegations), or by reassignment elsewhere?

The mission of the Jewish War Veterans is defined as: Seeking to prove that Jews do proudly serve and fight in the US Armed Forces. As we fight to keep our 122 year old organization strong and thriving, we need to be doing more to ensure that, with our long history of honorable service, we are at the forefront of making sure that we are a part of that solution, as well as ensuring that if something does happen, we are the people who can be there to support our troops.

What are we, as a service organization planning to do about this epidemic? Have we considered having our own military sexual trauma teams available at every post, meeting or event? Is there a way to recruit more Jewish medical professionals into the armed forces to join our ranks and provide a lifeline for those who will need help, or come forth with a claim in the future? What can we do that no one else is doing to help keep our battle buddy, friends and brothers/

Continued on page 5



Jennifer Brande, Post 126 NJ

Tax Time: Veterans Edition

By PNC Sheldon Ohren

Tax time is here. While most attention has been paid to the federal tax overhaul, most provisions will not affect tax returns filed for 2017.

There is one change you may wish to consider as you fill out your forms. The tax law expanded the availability of the deduction for medical expenses not just for 2018, but also for 2017. The deduction previously applied to medical expenses over 10 percent of adjusted gross income, but the law lowered the bar to 7.5 percent for those two years. So if your adjusted gross income is \$40,000, you can write off medical expenses over \$3,000 rather than \$4,000. But there is a catch, you must itemize to take the deduction. After 2018, the bar is scheduled to move back up to 10 percent.

I will now focus on veterans, especially those recently returning to civilian life.

The first thing to know is that pension payments received after retirement from the military are taxable and should be reported. If you also receive disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs you do not need to report these disability benefits on your personal income tax returns. They may include the following items: (1) Disability compensation and pension payments paid either to veterans or their families; (2) Grants for homes designed for wheelchair living; (3) Grants for motor vehicles for Veterans who lost their sight or use of their limbs, or (4) Benefits under a dependent care assistance program.

The Federal Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a Federal tax credit available to employers who hire veterans and individuals from other eligible target groups with employment barriers. Veterans who have service connected disabilities, are unemployed for at least four weeks or are receiving SNAP food stamp benefits are also eligible to help their employers through the WOTC.

Employers may also consider taking advantage of these generous tax credits once you are hired. The credit can vary from \$2400 to \$9000 (dollar for dollar tax reductions) depending upon your circumstances.

In addition, there are federal tax credits available to the general public as well, (e.g. child tax credit and the earned income tax credit). Various state credits may also help, consult your tax advisor for more information.

Lastly, general tax planning strategies for individuals this year include postponing and accelerating deductions as well as careful consideration of timing related investments, charitable gifts, and retirement planning. For example, you may consider one or more of the following: (1) Selling any investments on which you may have a gain or loss or (2) Prepaying deductible expenses such as charitable contributions this year (2017) using a credit card. This strategy works because deductions may be taken on when the expense was charged on the credit account and not when the bill was paid.

This is far from a comprehensive review. These are some of the highlights, and I recommend you have a thorough review of your tax situation with your tax professional.

We Need a Universal Draft

By COL Carl A. Singer, PNC

America needs a "Universal Service" where every young woman and man contributes to society via mandatory service. As witnessed within Israeli society, such service is a vital resource, a badge of honor, and the price of admission so to speak as a full-fledged member of society. This calls for a draft!

Why? Our military is overused, understaffed, and not representative of our population. Today's military is deployed worldwide and we are relying too heavily on the Guard and Reserve which are being grossly overused with multiple deployments – all to avoid having a draft. Today there are approximately 1.3 million brave women and men in the U.S. military. Only about 0.4% of the population is serving. That's only 1 in 250!

But for crisis events, our 16 year long war is not in America's consciousness. For the men and women who are serving and for their families – we are at war. For the rest of us it is pretty much business as usual.

The Vietnam era draft, which ended in 1973, was grossly unfair. Despite a draft lottery which gave an illusion of fairness, local draft boards were gerrymandered and subject to political influence. For example, Shaker Heights, Ohio, a wealthy Cleveland suburb. Its local board was carved out to include a portion of inner city Cleveland. The latter supplied sufficient draftees so the former was a source of easy deferments. Unfortunately, this is just the tip of the iceberg. There are many tales of questionable deferments – easy to come by in certain draft boards, impossible in others. A doctor's letter asserting "severe allergies" was sufficient for a friend of mine.

Additionally, the demographics of today's U.S. military do not reflect this great nation's people. The poor and immigrants are disproportionately represented. They see the military as a way to serve, a pay check, a source of training, and an opportunity to later go to college or receive occupational training via the GI Bill. Thankfully, there are additional patriot young women and men who choose to serve – but most do not consider the military within their plans. They are takers, not givers.

It is no secret that our military is being stressed. Reinstating a draft is considered political suicide.

#MeToo - How Should The Military and JWV Respond?

Continued from page 4

sisters safe, while also providing for those who need help and may not be Jewish? We have our national and local conventions, and fight on Capitol Hill for so many important missions and we need to extend this to include military sexual trauma.

Thus in a misguided attempt to avoid having a draft, administration after administration has in essence "drafted" the Guard and Reserve instead. In short, the military makes do by grossly overusing its existing assets. This cannot go on forever. One can logically speculate that the disproportionate rate of PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) and the high rate of military suicides are symptoms of the current situation.



Marine Corps Recruiting Depot at Parris Island, S.C.

I cannot pretend to design a new draft in a paragraph or two – but here are a few points: (1) To assure fairness local draft boards should be eliminated. The draft pool should be on a state wide basis. This helps level the playing field so to speak; (2) National health and fitness standards will be established. All physicals will be done at the Department of Veterans Affairs – personal physicians will be out of the equation; and (3) there should be a four-year college deferment. School deferments beyond these initial four years (say for Medical School) shall be tied to a commitment for extended service upon graduation.

The measure of success for a new draft program will be the quality of those drafted. The measure of fairness will come in a decade or two. When looking back, no one will be able to complain about this new draft as having been unfair or biased.

The benefits would be enormous. I steadily heap praise on our World War II veterans – not only for their service in uniform, but also for what they did upon coming home. Some historians say that World War II ended the Great Depression. To me this is an understatement. Bolstered by the GI Bill, they went to school, learned trades, became professionals and thus ushered in a booming age of prosperity. They truly rebuilt this great nation! Today, universal service can similarly provide a generation of trained, motivated and disciplined young men and women to reinvigorate our nation.

I am not a sociologist, but I believe that in addition to providing our military with young men and women from across American society, a universal draft would benefit all of our maturing youth. The opportunity to serve, be it in the military or in another significant capacity, will have a positive influence and provide lifelong benefits.

There is so much that can be done and the narrative for the #MeToo Movement should read that we lead the way in actions and deeds, just as we have for over 122 years and will do in the future. Be the voice for the silent and fight for those in the shadows.

Spring 2018

Jewish Warrior Weekend

By CDT Jacob Widman

On February 2-4, 53 cadets and midshipmen participated in the 2018 Jewish Warrior Weekend. The event was hosted this semester by Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas. Highlights of the program included learning the essentials of lay leadership, listening to speeches by high ranking officers about being Jewish in the U.S. Armed Forces in this day and age, meeting other future officers in the military, and speaking to Chaplains on the ins and outs of being Jewish in the military.

The Jewish Warrior Weekend Program is a retreat which is held once every college semester for cadets and midshipmen from colleges across the country to come together and meet other Jewish future service members and learn about various things specific to being Jewish leaders in the United States Armed Forces. The program was originally formed as a way for Jewish cadets and midshipmen from the military academies to meet each other. It later grew to include Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets, culminating this year to include most of the service academies, many of the senior military colleges, and some ROTC programs.

This event allows Jewish future service members to meet each other and provides ample networking opportunities. Many cadets who have graduated from this program return to share their experience and gained knowledge with current participants. The Jewish Warrior Weekend has grown and developed over the past several years and continues its mission to educate and inform future Jewish leaders. Some prominent guest speakers that the cadets learned from included RDML Harold Robinson, CAPT Dan Goldenberg, and Past TALO Commander Dr. Barry Schneider.

Jewish Warrior Weekend Spring 2018 was generously sponsored by Jewish War Veterans, Texas A&M University Corps of Cadets, Texas A&M University Hillel, Texas A&M Chabad, Jewish Welfare Board, United States Military Academy Jewish Chapel, United States Naval Academy Jewish Chapel, and the United States Air Force Academy Jewish Chapel.

Next semester, Jewish Warrior Weekend will be hosted at the United States Naval Academy on Veterans Day weekend.



Cadets at Lay Leader training during Spring 2018 Jewish Warrior Weekend.

MEMBERSHIP CORNER

On behalf of the Jewish War Veterans (JWV) Membership Committee, I would like to take this opportunity and thank the JWV staff at National Headquarters for their commitment and dedication during our recent JWV National Executive Committee (NEC) Meeting. The Membership Committee would especially like to thank everyone involved with the development, planning and coordination of our first Leadership Shabbaton Workshop.

While waiting for our Shabbaton Workshop to start, I had the opportunity to personally welcome several of the attendees in our audience; civilian, military and JWV members. It was a pleasure to meet many members of our faith from the Washington, DC, and Virginia area that attended the Shabbaton Workshop, each wanting to listen and learn about our organization.

Our panel members were exceptional, each bringing their own views to the topic, ranging from their role in the military to their life experience as a Jewish military service member. Their message to the audience also included several items of interest, especially “things that matter” to today’s generation of military

members and their families.

On a personal note, I would like to thank Colonel Richard Goldenberg (currently serving as a National Guardsman in New York) and Lieutenant Colonel (Ret.) Lance Allen Wang - both JWV members of Post 105 in Albany, NY. Colonel Goldenberg facilitated a workshop titled “Crafting JWV’s Story,” a powerful presentation reminding the audience of who we are: an organization made up of proud Americans who are of the Jewish faith who have served and continue to serve in today’s U.S. armed forces. The Colonel’s topic made me stop and think, we can be the best veterans organization in town and be the best advocate for our veterans, but if we can’t get the word out about who we are and what our JWV has achieved, we might as well be invisible to our audience. The single most effective way to recruit new prospects into our organization is through personal contact; here is where telling our story begins.

At every echelon of JWV, we must inspire our members to tell the story not only of their own military experience, but the story of JWV’s achievements. I am always amazed when I look back into the lineage of

our organization. Our individual JWV posts spread throughout numerous communities of our nation, some small in number, have achieved so much that we are all extremely proud of their accomplishments.

This March 15th marks another anniversary of accomplishments since the Hebrew Union Veterans, later known as the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, first met in New York City’s Lexington Opera House. Through that lineage, we are the longest continuously running veterans’ organization in the United States. We have come a long way since that first meeting in 1896, and this is only one example of the many stories that we must tell our audience about who we are and what we have achieved.



COL Barry Lischinsky
Membership Chairman

7 Questions with a JWV Member

Member: Samuel Yudin

Post: Tibor Rubin Capitol Post 786 CA

Current Residence: Long Beach, CA

Military Service: Iraq and Afghanistan

Member Since Year: 2018

1) When and why did you serve in the military?

My decision to join the military is a long, complicated story centered on many chance encounters and a confluence of events and ideas. While in college, I was curious about learning anything I could and reexamining all that I had come to know especially when it came to my Judaism. I was reading, among other things, anything by Phillip Roth and Leon Uris. The stark contrast of Jewish masculinity depicted did not sit well with me and I wanted to be a nice but tough Jew.

While studying in Germany I worked as a bartender on a US Army base and learned about the military language school which made me think that I could pursue one of my intellectual passions while serving so I could become that nice tough Jew.

2) What was a special moment for you serving in the military?

In my almost 19 years serving so far there have been many special moments. Each graduation of a special military school, competition, or each promotion are always memorable. Every training exercise, mission, or deployment suffering in the inclement weather in some godawful place with your buddies is a special moment we all share which bonds us together like no civilian will ever know.

Out of all those special moments the most memorable was being promoted in a ceremony in front of friends and family by my friend and hero, Holocaust



survivor, and Medal of Honor recipient, Corporal Tibor Rubin.

3) How did you get introduced to JWV?

When I first got back home from Active Duty I was curious to find other Jews like me who could understand where I was coming from. I was told about JWV but was told it was just a bunch of old guys sitting around who did not want youngsters around. I joined the Reserves and then the Guard but kept moving around so did not get involved. Then a few years ago Corporal Tibor Rubin’s daughter, Rosie, told me I needed to meet Greg Lee, the commander of the JWV Department of California. Greg got me energized to be part of JWV which has in turn gotten a group of several of us currently still serving to join JWV.

4) What national issues are you interested in seeing JWV fight for?

I am uneasy about organizations, especially Jewish ones, creeping outside their mission statements because that alienates some people they are supposed to represent. I am interested in the JWV advocating for Jewish veterans, veterans in general, and getting the

positive message of Jewish service out there.

5) What displays of patriotism makes you the proudest?

My definition of patriotism differs from most. I believe the best display of patriotism is living your life with the values and ideals that this country was founded on. It is the same way I look at Judaism. If I wave the flag and chant USA but am a miserable human being not living a life of American values than I am not patriotic. I am proud of my Judaism and my country but I could have just as easily been born to different parents in a different country. What I can choose is how I live my life. Some of the most patriotic Americans I know are my Vietnamese and Cambodian friends. They love this country because it saved their lives and they embody American values in how they live with love of liberty, freedom, and responsibility.

6) What is the best military Jewish holiday story you have?

Chanukah in Korea is a reoccurring theme. I spent the one in 2003 on a hill top surrounded by North Korea on three sides. It happened to be Christmas so they flew the Dallas Cowboy cheerleaders up in a Blackhawk so got a nice picture with my menorah, my officers and all of them. Arranging a Passover Seder in Kosovo two years ago was another great success.

7) What is your favorite Adam Sandler movie?

I would have to go early Adam Sandler, so anything in the 90s; Airheads, Billy Madison, Happy Gilmore, or Waterboy.

Want to know what your everyday JWV member is like? Then let’s play 7 questions! Contact the Membership Department (membership@jwv.org) if you wish to be featured.

Outline of the Department of Florida's Jewish Fallen Heroes' Service



By Alan Paley, Commander, Department of Florida

The list of those Jewish servicemen/women who have been killed in action since 9/11 is provided each year by our National office. It is also available to download from our National Museum of American Jewish Military History at <https://nmajmh.org/fallen-heroes/>.

Upon receipt of this list, a copy should be sent to each Department Officer and Post Commander. Those that do not have e-mail addresses should be sent the list via US Mail.

Each member should be asked to contact their local synagogue and ask if the Rabbi would include reading the names of the fallen at the Shabbat service that comes just before Memorial Day. As part of a membership and/or fund raising campaign, the Post or Department may look to sponsor either the Friday evening Oneg, or the Saturday morning Kiddush. If a Rabbi is reluctant to read the names (I have found that some are), then they should be asked if a member of JWV can read them.

Prior to reading the names, a few remarks should be made such as:

"People believe that Jews do not serve in the military. This list I am about to read will help you to understand that Jews do serve, and, in these particular cases, paid the supreme sacrifice while serving in the military.

The list of names is then read – stating the Rank, Name, City and State. If you are only reading the names of those from your particular state, then simply eliminate the state name.

At the Florida Department Convention, we partner with the Ladies Auxiliary and hold a joint memorial service. During this service, the names of those departed comrades and sisters (who passed away since the last convention) are read out loud – in Post order.

As each Post name and number is called, a JWV Post and Auxiliary member marches down the center aisle and approaches the altar. In addition to the altar cloth and bible, the table also has a few Styrofoam blocks sitting on it. As each Post member approaches, he places a small American flag (attached to a small wooden stick the size of a toothpick) into the Styrofoam, for each departed member that is named. A hand salute is then rendered. The Auxiliary member then places a carnation on the table. Regardless of the number of Auxiliary names that are called out, only one carnation per Auxiliary is placed on the table.

After all of the departed comrades and sisters are named, we then read the listing of fallen Jewish soldiers. Mourners Kaddish is then recited and the program is closed.

NEW MEMBERS

DEPARTMENT AT LARGE

Apperson, David - Post 100
Arons, Alan J. - Post 100
Browning, Matthew W - Post 99
D'Giff, Martin V. - Post 100
Franz, Aaron - Post 100
Gewirtzman, Ira - Post 100
Grossman, Timothy - Post 100
Podnos, Steven - Post 100
Schwartz, Harvey S. - Post 100

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

Blum, John R. - Post 786
Roe, Marshall H. - Post 118
Yudin, Samuel P. - Post 786

DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT

Cyr, Warren J. - Post 51
Fisher, Richard S. - Post 142

DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

Blum, Fred M. - Post 819
Brauzer, David - Post 631
Caplan, Michael - Post 631
Engel, Stephen R. - Post 172
Feigelman, Irwin - Post 631
Gold, Bertram - Post 172
Levine, Scott - Post 549
Ravitz, Robert A. - Post 202
Schwartzman, Allen - Post 172
Zahler, Lionel - Post 172

DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS

Weiner, Ben W. - Post 710

DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND

Buring, Benjamin T. - Post 380
Secunda, Ronald R. - Post 380
Hyman, Gary N. - Post 167

Kaufman, Allan - Post 167
Rubin, Jerome - Post 167
Selss, Ira F. - Post 692
Temes, Clifford L. - Post 692

DEPARTMENT OF MASS.

Yonis, Joseph - Post 220
Zaret, Adam - Post 735

DEPARTMENT OF MIDWEST

Hochman, David B. - Post 605
Weber, Wallace N. - Post 605

DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA

Eisenberg, Larry S. - Post 21
Glasman, Bernard A. - Post 21
James, Merker - Post 65
Shreiar, Andrew C. - Post 64
Sternberg, Gerd - Post 65

DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

Magnus, Herbert A. - Post 126
Mittelman, Michael H. - Post 126
Rosenberg, Michael L. - Post 311
Schmidt, Phil - Post 133
Segal, Barry F. - Post 178
Simons, Stuart - Post 609
Smyth, Robert E. - Post 126

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

Cudyker, Lewis - Post 336
Emers, Stephen R. - Post 652
Hyman, Steven M. - Post 652
Isaacson, Norman - Post 425
Klausner, Walter - Post 652
Lynn, Sidney L. - Post 336
Marcus, Leonard - Post 652
Ruderman, David N. - Post 191
Shallat, Barton A. - Post 488

Tanzman, Glenn A. - Post 625

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

Gross, Edward J. - Post 222

DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Machles, Martin - Post 706
Rubin, Sidney - Post 305
Schulman, Stanley R. - Post 305
Triestman, Mitch - Post 697

DEPARTMENT OF SOUTHEAST

Weiss, Mason S. - Post 320

DEPARTMENT OF SOUTHWEST

Baron, Abraham - Post 210
Bennett, Moshe - Post 210
Labo, Joseph E. - Post 201
Lyons, Ronald M. - Post 619
Sabin, Rubin - Post 210

DEPARTMENT OF TALO

Barde, Jacob - Post 749
Berger, Aaron G. - Post 256
Biscardi, Alexander - Post 755
Epstein, Judah - Post 256
Fernquist, Joshua M. - Post 755
Glazer, Gabriel - Post 755
Handler, Harold - Post 753
Hyde, Marvion R. - Post 753
Johnson, Jessica A. - Post 755
Laser, Samuel M. - Post 755
Lewis, Ely - Post 256
Rosenberg, Steve - Post 749
Sadovsky, Stew - Post 580
Sobelman, Michael - Post 755
Weingast, Jeffrey B. - Post 755
Weston, Les - Post 618
Yisrael, Elon R. - Post 753

Post 256 TALO at the Dallas Kosher BBQ Championship

By Steve Krant, Post Commander 256 TALO

The Dr. Harvey J. Bloom Post 256 Color Guard was invited to perform opening ceremonies at the Third Annual Dallas Kosher BBQ Championship on a sunny late October morning in the parking lot of presenting sponsor Sunnyland Furniture in far North Dallas. The rapidly growing event merged the national cuisine of Texas with strict Jewish dietary laws under the watchful supervision of Dallas Kosher and the world-renowned Kansas City Barbecue



Jerome Benjamin, Post 256 TALO, greets a visitor to the JWV table the post set up at the Third Annual Dallas Kosher BBQ Championship.

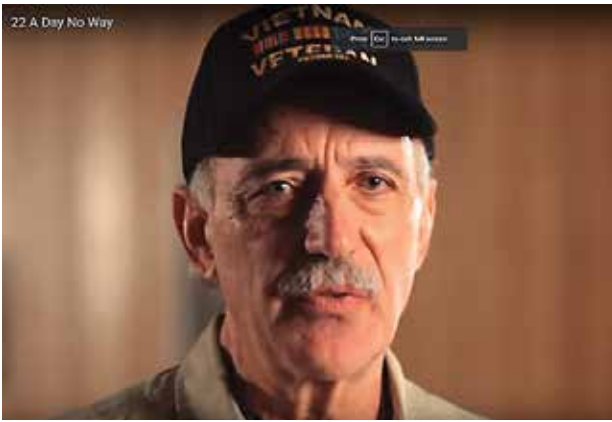
Society. Teams from around Texas and beyond fired-up their grills in the pre-dawn hours to compete in the only KCBS-sanctioned Kosher cook-off in Texas. The event featured local celebrity judges, a live band, and numerous sponsors, Post 256 included, staffing booths at the family-friendly and free event. Tickets to sample delicious barbecue beef, turkey and sausage that were prepared with varying degrees of heat were available for purchase, with proceeds going to support several area charities. Judges announced the winners and awarded team plaques before the sun set on a perfect autumn afternoon.

The Post 256 Color Guard, under the direction of Color Sergeant David Foland, consisted of Allan Cantor (National Officer-of-the Day and past Post Commander), Steve Solka (Jr. Vice Commander), Art Kaplan (Dept. of TALO Commander), Bob Epstein, and Harry Kabler. Their Trooping of the Colors, both American and Israeli flags, marked the event's official opening to the public as the crowd came to attention to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and sing "The Star-Spangled Banner" and "Hatikvah."

We staffed an information table near the bandstand and were able to recruit a new member, U.S. Navy veteran David Meier, to JWV and our Post. The event was a great opportunity to showcase JWV to our community, and we are excited to include David in our ranks. We will definitely be back next year for some of that delicious Texas barbeque.

JWV IN THE COMMUNITY

22 A Day, No Way!



By Howard Kuker, Post 125 NJ

Late one night I read an article about a female Air Force Captain who had committed suicide. She had also been a combat veteran. Everyone who knew her had thought she was fine. But the sad fact was she suffered from PTSD—a disorder that far too often proves to be fatal.

I soon learned the shocking statistic: approximately 20 combat veterans commit suicide EVERY DAY in the U.S.! Up until 2017, the number of veteran suicides was 22 a day, but a new VA study was released with a change in the right direction. However, this statistic does not include military spouses and contractors, who also are at high risk for suicide.

To illustrate the enormity of this number: if you take the number of all the casualties of U.S. wars fought since 2001, that number does NOT equal one year of U.S. veteran suicides.

This is a shameful national tragedy! As far as

I'm concerned, stopping veteran suicide is our most pressing issue.

After I read about the Air Force Captain and the 22 doomed veterans, I decided to do something about it — immediately! I reasoned that the best way to get the word out was with a YouTube video. That night I started composing a script.

The next day, I telephoned many people to help with this project. I'd need someone to film the video, someone to edit it and also a place where to film, which, believe it or not, turned out to be a major challenge. A number of colleges turned me down. Plus I had to locate 21 combat veterans. For the purpose of this video, I was number 22.

After countless calls for donated help, I found Phil Falcone, producer of "Joe's War" (please go see). Finally, after three stressful months, we were ready to film at the Deal, N.J. JCC, home of Post 125. I was honored to have five WWII vets, Vietnam, Iraq, and Afghanistan vets to be in the video. It was a fantastic day.

Since then I have been on TV twice, met with N.J. Congressman Frank Pallone, and made the Garden State Film Festival. I hand out cards daily for the video and average about 600 a month—if you're within hands reach of me, you're getting a card.

The video is a call to action, not awareness. Please call, write and/or e-mail your Congressman and the President and tell them to stop this (please also send them my video).

To watch my video go to www.youtube.com or any search engine, for example Google, and type in "22 a day no way."

Arizona Lights Up Veterans Home

By Rochel Hayman, Commander, Post 210 AZ
Scottsdale Post 210 "enlightened" the Arizona State Veterans Home on Sunday, December 17th, by combining their monthly meeting together with the annual Chanukah Party, attracting literally an overflow crowd to Liberty Hall. The Jewish residents of the Veteran's Home - Mickey Dingott, Larry Chesin, and Jay Lowenthal, wholeheartedly welcomed the extra simcha and attention.

While the Post did conduct 'business as usual,' there were quite a few special additions as well. The regular breakfast enjoyed together with every meeting was accentuated by latkes (accompanied by applesauce, of course) and both store bought and home-made sufganiot (yummy donuts).

The Arizona contingent of the Quilts of Valor Foundation were one of the featured guest speakers. Their stated mission is to cover service members and veterans touched by war with a comforting Quilt of Valor. Since 2005 they have gifted over 181,000 custom made quilts nationwide. QOV member Cheryl Vorin beautifully explained the history of the organization as well as how every quilt is handmade for each veteran and gifted with a medal, certificate and beautiful ceremony. She told several stories of some emotional and/or providential happenings when some of the quilts have been given in the past. Mrs. Vorin, together with fellow quilting members Bob



Rochel Hayman being presented with a Quilt of Valor & Rebecca Bernal, presented Post 210 Commander Rochel Hayman with a quilt for her service during Desert Storm. Tina Sheinbein, Executive Director from the Jewish Free Loan of Phoenix, gave a presentation on the plethora of assistance our local JFL provides for our community. Much of the information was a surprise, as most members were not aware of the plethora of possible options available to them. In addition, Mrs. Sheinbein alerted the group to a new fund which a local family had recently started within JFL specifically available for Veterans and their families;

Continued on page 12

Atlanta Post Members Speak After G.I. Jews Screening

By Robert Max, Commander, Department of Southeast
The 2018 Atlanta Jewish Film Festival was an exciting year for JWV Post 112. The festival included the Atlanta Premiere of *GI Jews – Jewish Americans in World War II*. There were five screenings of this fabulous documentary during the Film Festival and each screening was packed. The film honors the over half a million Jews who defended this country during World War II.

The special screening was followed by a panel discussion with two of our very own Post members



Bob Maran, center, and Mort Waitzman, right, spoke after a special screening of *GI Jews—Jewish Americans in WWII*.

who are WW II Veterans. Jewish War Veterans Atlanta Post 112 provided WWII Veterans to speak on a panel, and I was honored to introduce the Sunday evening screening. The Sunday evening screening was at the same time as the Super Bowl and the theater was full, which either says a lot about the commitment of our Jewish community to Jewish American Military History or their apathy for our Super Bowl choices. Either way, it was very exciting to see such an engaged crowd.

Two of Post 112's members spoke at the panel after the event. "I saw myself in the film in about six places where I was physically present," said JWV member Mort Waitzman.

Mort Waitzman was in the first wave of American soldiers who invaded France at Normandy. He participated in the liberation of concentration camps, including the capture of the headquarters of the notorious Nazi Propaganda Minister, Josef Goebbels. He was awarded the Bronze Star for Valor. He went on to a distinguished career as a professor at Emory. Mort's story can be found in full at an exhibit in the Breman Jewish Museum in Atlanta.

Bob Maran served in Europe in the First Army and after the Battle of the Bulge with Patton's Third Army. Instead of returning home after victory in Europe, he was loaded onto one of several troopships that set sail to invade Japan. His ship did not turn back and he spent an additional two years in the Army of the Occupation of Japan. Bob turns 94 this month and continues to be one of our most active members with our Post.

The full video of their Q&A can be found on the Atlantic Jewish Film Festival YouTube Page. If you have some time to look at it, I highly recommend it. Until then, we will be working hard down here in the South.

JWV IN THE COMMUNITY

Reflections of a Jewish Naval Officer

By Rear Admiral Paul Becker, USN, Retired, Post 100
I recently retired from the Navy after 33 years of service in peace, crisis and combat, serving afloat and ashore around the world. Before sharing my reflections as a Jewish Naval Officer at Tampa's Temple Schaarai Zedek last month it was important to set the context by informing others of the proud history of Jews who honorably served in uniform and were decorated for valor from our colonial era through conflicts of today. Of particular note were several four-stars, including an Air Force Chief of Staff, a Chief of Naval Operations and the Father of the Nuclear Navy. As a Board Member at the U.S. Naval Academy's Jewish Chapel, I also placed special attention on its namesake, Commodore Uriah Levy, our nation's first Jewish Flag Officer.

Commodore Levy's most famous citation is, "I am an American, a Sailor, a Jew." I read of his exploits as a teenager growing up in New York and I drew inspiration from his example that someone could be all three. So why do Jews join the military in the first place? There's a myriad of answers for the approximate 1% of the military that is Jewish, but I joined because I felt I had 'skin in the game.' As Jews we expect our nation to contribute generously to those less fortunate. However, when it's time for our own family to contribute to national security and go into harm's way, my observations growing up in the Bronx and a middle class suburb of Long Island was that many Jewish families discouraged military participation. In my mind this created a perception to some that Jewish citizens were not the generous givers to society upon which we rightfully pride ourselves. My sensitivity to this played a large part in my decision to join the Navy in 1979, frankly, against some of my family's wishes. But when it comes to the defense of



Rear Admiral Paul Becker, USN, Retired.

America and of American-ensured freedom around the world, I believe we Jews, especially descendants like me of Eastern European immigrants who found shelter in this land and had family murdered in the Holocaust, owe this country something.

My Jewish education came in handy as an officer. I often reflected upon Maimonides' eight degrees of tzedakah or charity and equated them to good officership. We most often read of Maimonides at Passover, but the lesson is eternal. The levels of charity from lowest to highest are 8) giving unwillingly, to 1) giving something that strengthens someone's hand so they don't have to receive again. I thought about that in everyday situations from helping a subordinate unwillingly and #1, helping them gladly so that they may help themselves in the long run. The best officers and leaders I served with applied

Maimonides' first degree of charity, and I strove to do so as well. Also prominent in my officership's outlook was the guidance of Hillel: "What is hateful to yourself, do not do unto your neighbor ... That is the whole of the Torah, the rest is commentary." I thought about that every day: treating shipmates as you would want yourself treated. Often serving as Jewish Lay Leader, I frequently used a Talmud citation as a star to steer by, "A Jew, no matter how far he strays from the path, is still a Jew." It was never for me to tell more junior Jewish personnel what should be their Jewish path or how far they should stray ... their Jewish path was their choice. But I made it a point to never stray during the big holidays when junior Jewish personnel turn to a senior Jewish officer for ritual leadership. It was in this way that I sought to educate the next generation of American military personnel who are Jewish to remember where the path is if they need it

Finally, in matters more practical I found in the military it's important to get along, to be one of the guys. Many of the guys I met in the Navy had never met a Jew. Some weren't inclined to like me. On those occasions I tried twice as hard to be a regular guy in an attempt to disavow any erroneous stereotypes others had about Jews ... joining sports teams, taking on collateral duties, missing a little sleep if it means some extra social events. As a lone Jew in some commands I chose to play a broader role than I might have chosen otherwise, becoming a representative of a religion to which I'm a part, representing Jews even when I thought I wasn't worthy of representing an entire people. But thanks to lessons learned from Rabbi Chaplains along the way it dawned on me I was worthy, and that realization, allowed me to be better as an American, a Sailor, a Jew.

Capital District Council Jingle Bells

By COL Rich Goldenberg, Post 105 NY

More than a dozen members of the JWV Capital District Council came together on Christmas Eve this year for the annual JWV "Operation Jingle Bells," visiting with dozens of patients at the Stratton VA Medical Center here December 24, 2017.

The event dates back for decades when JWV would visit with patients and staff at the VA and distribute phone cards for veterans to make long-distance calls to family over the Christmas holiday, explained Past Post Commander Dr. Howard Pressman, DDS, the coordinator of the event.

The spread of cell phones made the holiday distribution of phone cards unnecessary more than 15 years ago, Pressman said. Today, JWV distributes coupons for patient use at the hospital canteen or exchange, where veterans can purchase snacks or sundries.

"As times changed, so did JWV," Pressman said.

Pressman worked full-time at the VA for more than three dozen years, and annually leads the effort to identify patients unable to be discharged, meeting with each ward's nursing staff the day before Christmas Eve to identify how many patients will still be under the hospital's care for the holiday.

"No veteran should be alone for the Christmas

holiday," noted Albany Post 105 Commander Fred Altman. "This is a terrific mitzvah to share our best wishes with the VA staff and patients of all faiths who are unable to be home for the holiday."

Operation Jingle Bells is the high point of JWV efforts during the holiday season. Support in the vet-



Back row from left, Post 105 Commander Fred Altman, Joe Weitzman, Howard Pressman, Bert Isen, Victor Reiner, Linda Woodward Stein, Post 106 Quartermaster Gary Hoffman, Post 106 Commander Paul Zonderman. Front row from left, Kelly Goldenberg, Alexa Goldenberg, Post 105 Adjutant Rich Goldenberg, Hatti Wang and Post 105 Quartermaster Lance Wang.

erans' community ranged from volunteers helping load Christmas Trees bound for military installations for the annual Trees for Troops program and the financial donation to place holiday wreaths at the local national cemetery at veteran headstones for Wreaths Across America.

Operation Jingle Bells is one of the most satisfying JWV outreach events, Pressman said, because of the one on one interactions with fellow veterans in need.

"One year, we were at the hospital and when a patient asked who we were during the visit, I explained that we were the Jewish War Veterans and offering our support," Pressman said. "The veteran took one look at our JWV caps and said he couldn't accept our phone cards because he wasn't Jewish."

After a brief laugh and explanation about JWV's commitment to all veterans of all faiths during the Christmas season, the patient was happy to receive the gift from JWV, Pressman explained.

The holiday season is all about sharing joy, Altman said, and there's no better way to do that than with our fellow veterans who can't be home for Christmas.

JWV IN THE COMMUNITY

Wanted: WWI Memorials and Monuments, Reward: Saving History

By CDT Jacob Widman

The Great War was a war that was supposed to be the end of all wars. In the minds of people around the world, the deaths of so many soldiers and civilians had guaranteed that no one would ever wage war again. To this effect, after November 11, 1918, or Armistice Day, many memorials to the fallen and monuments to the survivors were erected across the nation and the world. Today, a century and countless wars later, too many of these monuments and memorials have been neglected, destroyed, removed or abandoned.

In 2013, an Act of Congress created the World War 1 Centennial Commission (hereafter referred to as the Commission). The Commission's mission is to commemorate the centennial of the occurrence of WWI, to include but not limited to preserving WWI monuments and memorials, and educate others on



WWI memorial in Seattle park refurbished by Bob Shay.

WWI. This mission is not unique to the Commission, but is its main focus.

In order to involve the nation in preserving, refurbishing, and even rebuilding monuments and me-

morials dedicated to those that fought in WWI, the Commission created the "100 memorials, 100 cities" program and the Volunteer Monument Hunter program. With the creation and continued activity of these programs, many monuments and memorials that would otherwise be obscured to history forever are uncovered, documented, and registered for all to enjoy. Some are found simply hiding in plain sight, like six small brass plates at the base of the trees at the entrance of the courthouse in Orofino, ID commemorating six men who had died in WWI from the area, or an unfinished memorial in the Old Agudas Achim cemetery in Columbus Ohio that has not been used since 1952 (shown top right). Others are more noticeable, like the large plaque in The First Presbyterian Church in Seattle, Washington.

The Volunteer Monument/Memorial Hunter program, as described above, is one of the latest and largest programs created by the Commission to encourage and spread the interest in finding and documenting WWI memorials and monuments. These entries are uploaded to a national database with the specific location, names of those honored, pictures of the memorial, and the names of those that rediscovered the memorial. So far, hundreds of monuments have been documented with this initiative. The memorials have been found across the country, in abandoned cemeteries, active cemeteries, courtyards and memorial walls in churches, synagogues, colleges, universities and other religious and educational institutions as well as parks and county court house lawns. Featured at the bottom left is one such a me-



An unfinished memorial in the Old Agudas Achim cemetery in Columbus, Ohio.

morial found slowly sinking in a park and restored by Robert Shay. The people who look for these monuments are as varied as the memorials they are trying to preserve. What they all have in common is the drive to preserve, protect, and, in a sense, defend those who did the same for us a hundred years ago. All the volunteers had to do was spend a few hours walking around town looking for these historical markers.

The other principal program supported by the Commission is the "100 memorials, 100 cities" program. As mentioned previously, almost every city and town has a memorial to those that made the ultimate sacrifice during WWI. Because of this, the

Continued on page 12

Profile of Alan Goldberg: A Winner in and out of the Ring

By Amy Lefkof

During World War II, a bathtub saved Alan Goldberg's life. Goldberg served in the infantry — an eighteen-year-old private first class in the 13th Armored Division, 46th Tank Battalion. A bathtub was welded onto the back of his tank when General Patton visited Goldberg's battalion as they were preparing to cross a bridge somewhere near Simbach, Germany. Patton refused to let Goldberg's tub-tank go first. When the soldiers were unable to remove the welded bathtub from the tank, the tub-tank moved to third in line. The bridge collapsed under the weight of the first two armored tanks.

While in Germany, Goldberg went to a USO show held for the 13th Armored Division. A woman in a two-piece swimsuit danced on a makeshift stage — a raised wooden platform in the back of an army truck. Goldberg shouted to the men in his Company, "That's my cousin Josephine from Brookline, Massachusetts!" After the show, Goldberg, trailed by the hundred or so men in his Company, went "back-stage," took off his helmet and asked his cousin, "Jo, do you remember Alan Goldberg from Brookline?" According to Goldberg, his cousin broke down crying and told the rest of the Company, who had lined up to meet her, to go on home and leave her alone with her cousin Alan. In a letter to her mom dated May 12, 1945, Josephine Axelrod described her encounter with



Alan Goldberg and Amy Lefkof boxing at Levine JCC in Charlotte.

Goldberg: "I threw my arms around him and kissed him and he was so cute and excited and pleased that he got all choked up." After commenting on how "this poor kid" was too young to endure army life, she added, "I kissed him goodbye and got lots of lipstick on

his cheek and told him to be sure and leave it on till all his buddies saw it." These and other Goldberg WWII antics are featured in Jewish American Soldiers: Stories from WWII, a documentary that tells the stories of Charlotte-area Jewish American World War II veterans.

After the war, Goldberg returned to the Boston area. Brandeis University was in its infancy and a birthday party was given for Alan's uncle who was a University founder. The student selected to give a speech in honor of Alan's uncle was a young woman named Ruth Abrams. Goldberg's mother was in the audience and was so impressed with Ruth that she asked Ruth for her phone number. Goldberg's mother gave him Ruth's phone number and said, "This is the girl you should marry." With what Goldberg concedes was the worst pick-up line of all times, he dutifully called the number and said to Ruth, "My mother said that I should call you." Asked whether it was love at first sight, Goldberg says yes. Ruth says by the third date. They both say that sixty-four years later they're still in love.

For seven years, Goldberg has served as photographer for Shalom Park Freedom School, a six-week summer literacy-based program for economically disadvantaged children, mostly Hispanic and African American. Each summer Goldberg braves sweltering

Continued on page 12

JWV IN THE COMMUNITY

Benjamin Cooper Inducted into CT Veterans Hall of Fame

By Barbara Fischler, Sr. Vice Commander, Post 45 CT
Our own Ben Cooper, member of Sgt. John L. Levitow, Jewish War Veterans Post 45, was recently inducted into the 2017 Class of the CT Veterans Hall of Fame.

Ben was born in Avon, CT, December 24, 1921. Drafted at age 20, he enlisted in the U.S. Army. Serving as a combat medic with the 45th Infantry Division (AKA the "Thunderbird Division"). The Division originated in Oklahoma, and contained a high percentage of Native Americans. He was in the European Theatre in two battles: The Rhineland Campaign, and the Central Europe Campaign. Ben took part in the liberation of Dachau Concentration Camp with the 45th Division.

For 45 years after he came home from the war in November of 1945, Ben was so traumatized by the tragedies witnessed as a combat medic with a front-line Infantry Platoon, he did not tell his wife, his parents, or his children about his experiences. In 1990, while being interviewed by a history teacher from Torrington High School, Ben was first able to talk about his experiences.

Every year since then, he has been speaking at schools throughout Connecticut. He has dedicated his life to sharing his stories with the hope that by advocating kindness, he can help children and adults put an end to bullying and hatred at any level. Ben has shared his stories with countless people and veterans throughout Connecticut and beyond, and many schools too numerous to mention. He is a captivating and inspirational speaker and brings history to life with his personal stories and memorabilia. He



Ben Cooper during the ceremony.

wants people of all ages to realize war is a terrible thing, to understand the realities of war, and to remember the Holocaust. It is an eye opener for them and still a healing process for Ben. He also speaks to civic groups and libraries.

He had a small camera during the war. The photos and artifacts he brought back from the war enhance his presentations. He deeply touches all who he meets and has received countless letters and emails from students and teachers. Ben enjoys meeting and thanking all veterans who have served our country. He has been interviewed on several radio and television programs. He was an Honorary Grand Marshall in the CT Veterans Parade in 2004. He has marched in many Veteran's Day and Memorial Day parades wearing his Eisenhower jacket.

Ben is an active member of the Sgt. John L. Levitow Post 45, Jewish War Veterans in West Hartford, CT. He was honored among other Liberators at the National Executive Committee of the Jewish

War Veterans in Washington, DC in 2015.

He expresses his mottos in all of his talks: "No act of kindness, no matter how small is ever wasted," "Save humanity," "Stop hatred and bullying," "You can do it," "Never give up," and, remember, "We all belong to the same race, the human race."

Ben Cooper's enduring dedication to sharing his message makes him a very special veteran, humanitarian, father, husband, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend to so many.

Life has its mysteries. In 1996, at an annual event to remember the Holocaust at the State Capitol in Hartford, Ben was wearing his Eisenhower jacket with the Thunderbird emblem on his sleeve. It was noticed by Leo Scheinerman, a survivor of Dachau attending the event. He told Ben he remembered that he and his wife Anna had been liberated by the 45th Infantry Division. They became friends. In 2006, Ben had open-heart surgery and his surgeon's name was Dr. Jacob Scheinerman, the son of that couple.

After 65 years of marriage, in 2009, Ben lost his beloved wife, Dorothy. In 2010, he met a Holocaust survivor, Henny Simon from Colchester, CT, who wrote an autobiography about how she survived the Holocaust. Henny had been speaking at schools since 1985. Since then, they had been presenting their talks together and made an unforgettable impact. Sadly, Henny was killed in a car accident in 2017.

His philosophy of life, positive attitude, quick wit, sense of humor, and his many acts of kindness are a wonderful role model and guide for his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, as well as everyone he meets.

Post 125 NJ Honors WWII Veterans

By Gerry Levine, Post 125 NJ

JWV Jersey Shore Post 125 celebrated twenty WWII veterans November 12 in a special ceremony at the Ocean, NJ JCC. These former service members were regaled as members of the "Greatest Generation," the name applied by journalist Tom Brokaw to describe the men and women of America's WWII armed forces. Now in their nineties, these veterans recalled in brief comments, some of their still vivid recollections



Front L to R: Bernard Tillis, Robert Ruderman, Seymour Greenspan, Charles Katz, Milton Ziment, Morton Burke, Bernard Weinstein, Samuel Kay; Middle: Selmán Klang, Dr. Herbert Holzberg, Joseph Forman, Bernard Karasic, Harold Greenspan, Henry Lapidus, Raymond Cohen, Jules Resnick; Rear: Buddy Rassas, Arthur Tauber, Leonard Rokaw.

of wartime service during mobilization in England amidst Nazi bombings, in ground campaigns like the Battle of the Bulge in Europe, in the battle for Leyte and the Philippines in the Pacific, and elsewhere around the world during the 1940s. There were stories of admitted relief knowing that the atomic bomb saved untold numbers of American lives as the war with Japan came to an end.

Accompanied by friends and family members, the honorees rose, some with difficulty, but all proudly, as their individual service anthems were played and then again to salute fallen comrades and friends as Taps sounded in memory of those no longer here. As noted by event Chairman and Honorary Dept. of NJ Commander, Gerald Levine of Long Branch, honoring WWII vets has been a tradition in Jersey Shore posts, but the

ranks of World War II service members are rapidly thinning. Seven potential honorees had passed during the planning for the 2017 event.

WWII is now 72 years behind us yet memories of the war years were still clear to many of the veterans as they recalled their experiences. Among those recollections were those of Bernard Tillis, senior surviving commander of Post 125 who served in the Battle of the Bulge. Milton Ziment, another former Post 125 commander saw the war conclude in Europe and was about to embark with his unit for the Pacific when VJ day arrived. Bernard Weinstein, Commander of Oglensky-Jackson Post 359 in Freehold, NJ was a young radar technician when the war ended. His collection of WWII memorabilia is scheduled for display at Brookdale Community College in Freehold, NJ. David Scheinhart's unit was scheduled for a dangerous Japanese mission about which he recalls having really ominous feelings. "I owe my life to Harry Truman's decision to drop the atomic bombs," he said, and then went on to reflect on the miracle that enabled 16 of his acquaintances from the Bronx who fought in the war to return home safely. Harold Greenspan of Long Branch, NJ was wounded in the Philippines and then again, near mortally, in the battle for Okinawa. He credited his ultimate survival to a change in or-

Continued on page 12

JWV IN THE COMMUNITY

JWV Michigan Visits Veterans at Battle Creek on Christmas Day

By Art Fishman, Department Commander of Michigan
It was a chilly, winter morning when 18 comrades of JWV Michigan assembled at 7:30 AM for our rented bus trip to the Battle Creek Veterans hospital. The purpose of this trip is to bring a care package with fruit, candy and warm white socks during the holiday. We distribute them to all who are there. This trip was the 72nd annual trip for the JWV Department of Michigan to the Battle Creek VA.

The Battle Creek VAMC is the hub of mental health care for VA Medical Centers in the lower peninsula of Michigan, and it offers a wide variety of health care services, which includes both inpatient and outpatient care.

After we had lunch and time to visit with veterans at the hospital who do not go home for the holiday or have no home to go to, we played BINGO with them. This year, there were about 170 veterans at Battle

Creek Hospital. The prizes we gave out were either donated to JWV or purchased to be given as prizes for winning Bingo games. It was our JWVs job to make sure that no veteran left without prizes that included sweat shirts, athletic printed t-shirts, shorts and athletic pants. As the game progressed, the choice of prizes went from one gift to two, with the winner of the last game given the the choice of three items as a prize. The rest were donated to the hospital for them to use as needed.

Senior Vice Commander Art Fishman with Post 135 Commander Ted Gittleman handled the arrangements for the day long trip, and Jodi Barnes, VA Hospital Staff Director at Battle Creek, coordinated our visit to the hospital. Snoozing was allowed on our trip back because we went through the worst snow storm of the year, so far. We all arrived home without incident though.



Members from Posts 135, 474, and 510 as well as the Ladies Auxiliary volunteer at Battle Creek VA.

Profile of Alan Goldberg

Continued from page 10

southern heat to document between 50 and 80 children at barbecues, chess boards, swimming pools, and manure-laden horse pastures.

These days Goldberg looks a bit frail as he enters the Levine Jewish Community Center in Charlotte, North Carolina. As he makes his way through the door carrying a large gym bag his hands shake. "Parkinson's," he says to anyone who asks, and then adds with characteristic gusto: "I just came from a photography class and now I'm on my way to a boxing class — not bad for a 92-year-old." Goldberg's boxing class is run by JCC staff trained in the Rock Steady Boxing method that gives people with Parkinson's disease hope by improving their quality of life through a non-contact boxing-based fitness curriculum. In this boxing ring, Parkinson's disease is the opponent. Alan's wife, Ruth, who parks their car after dropping him off at the curb in front of the JCC, says that boxing keeps Alan moving. She is on her way to join him.

Arizona Lights Up Veterans Home

Continued from page 8

the family is a new blue-star family, with their son now in the Marine Corps. Mrs. Sheinbein made sure to provide all the participants with a small Chanukah present accompanying the Jewish Free Loan contact information.

The Post's lit menorah was a beautiful backdrop to the morning's entertainment, an 18 member boys choir from one of the local Yeshivas, Torah Day School of Phoenix led by Rabbi Gedaliah Goldstein. While it was the group's debut, they were very polished and they not only sang several Chanukah melodies, but an additional popular song accompanied by a dance routine.

All in all, combining the two events, together with extra publicity, bore fruit with a very well attended and joyful experience for all.

[For more information on how your post members, or any veteran, can be gifted with a Quilt of Valor, go to www.qovf.org.]

Wanted: WWI Memorials

Continued from page 10

Commission is awarding up to \$2,000 to 100 municipal governments, individuals, or organizations who are refurbishing their WWI monuments. So far 50 cities have applied for and won a grant, and the second batch of 50 will be announced from the second round of applications. The money is provided by many generous sponsors.

Now that you are aware of our hunt for WWI memorials, I issue a challenge. Find all WWI memorials within your cities, big and small. All represent one or more lives that have been lost to keep us free. While this may seem difficult, it is the least we can do as a nation to honor those that fought and especially those that gave the last full measure of devotion on this, the centenary of their sacrifice.

For help and questions with the Volunteer Monument Hunter program, the "100 memorials, 100 cities" program or the Commission in general, please refer to the Commission's website <http://www.world-war1centennial.org/>.

For questions not answered by the website, feel free to contact the Jewish War Veterans at jwv@jwv.org.

Post 125 NJ Honors WWII Veterans

Continued from page 11

ders instigated by an Army physician who by remarkable coincidence was a medical school colleague of Greenspan's brother. Sam Kaye, a board member of Post 125 and the first elected Jewish Freeholder in Hudson County, NJ, was in charge of the Army Pictorial Service repair shop in London and later in Germany. Kaye had two brothers in the Army and a sister in the Navy during the war years. No surprise Kaye pointed out. His father served in WWI and his grandfather was in the Army in the Spanish American War. Henry Lapidus was accepted as an aviation cadet after basic training but found himself transferred back to ground forces as the European campaign heated up. He ended up as a rifleman in the 276th Infantry Regiment that fought its way up through France and then across the Rhine into Germany. Bernard Karasic, a Navy enlistee following high school in Asbury Park, was aboard ship off the coast of Japan when the Pacific war ended. He returned safely and ultimately practiced law in the Shore area for six decades. These were but a few of the experiences shared as the veterans and their guests enjoyed the warm spirit of the event.

Post Commander Dr. Allan Solden delivered welcoming remarks to the assembled crowd of more than 100 and, following the actual recognition ceremonies, Post 125, led by PPC and County Commander Stanley Shapiro, hosted a catered luncheon that was very well received as the good food and warm environment gave guests the opportunity to chat informally and reflect on the service of these veterans to America during a time of great need. Certificates recognizing their service were also given by the State of New Jersey to the veterans being honored and photographic mementos of the event are being arranged by Post 125 JVC Sid Marshall.



Veterans Crisis Line
1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1

Here is a sneak peak
at the 123rd Annual
Convention Schedule:

Thursday, August 9

GI Jews Screening

Friday, August 10

Joint Opening Ceremony

Cigar City Brewery Tour

National Service Officer
Open House

Saturday, August 11

Jewish Warrior Weekend
Experiences

Gold Star Families
Experiences

Creating Connections
Between Yom HaZikaron
and Memorial Day

Military Spouse
Employment Panel

JWVA's
National President's
Banquet

Sunday, August 12

Working with JROTC Units

Creating Connections
With Youth Groups

Iraq & Afghanistan
Committee Meeting

Gulf War Committee
Meeting

JWVA's Double Chai
Luncheon

Veterans Night Out:
*Dinner at
Cooper Hawk's Winery*

Monday, August 13

How Do We Preserve Iraqi
Jewish Artifacts?

Creating Post Events
for Iraq & Afghanistan
Veterans

Tour of the USS Victory

Vietnam Veterans
Committee Meeting

Women in the Military
Committee Meeting

National Commander's
Banquet

**Times and speakers are
subject to change. Please
check the JWV website for
more information.*

JWV 123rd Annual National Convention ➤ **2018 • Tampa, Florida** ◀ **JWVA 90th Annual National Convention**

Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore • 2225 N. Lois Ave, Tampa, FL 33607
Phone 813-877-6688 • Fax 813-879-3264 • www.tampaairport.hilton.com

Hotel Registration
deadline is

Monday, July 9.

A one night
(\$155/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
JWV members
not staying at
the hotel.**

A surcharge will
be assessed and
attendance at
meetings will not
be allowed.

Local members
living within a 50
mile radius are
exempt.

**JWVA events are
open to everyone!**

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

JWV Name: _____ **Post #:** _____

Ladies Auxiliary Name: _____ **Aux. #:** _____

Address: _____ **Dept.:** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zipcode:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Room will be shared with: _____

Arriving on: _____ / _____ **Departing on:** _____ / _____ **Total nights:** _____

NEW! JWV and JWVA Registration	Cost	QTY.	Amount
Rooms Check one: <input type="checkbox"/> King <input type="checkbox"/> 2 beds	\$155.00 per night		
<i>Please note that handicap rooms are first come-first served and cannot be guaranteed.</i> <input type="checkbox"/> I need a Handicap room.			
3 rd Person in a room	\$77.50 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 • Monday, Aug. 13 _____ Beef _____ Salmon _____ Kosher _____ Sugar-Free Dessert	\$45.00 per person		
Partners Club (\$50 new members / \$25 renewal) • August 10	\$50.00 \$25.00		
National Ladies Auxiliary Registration Fee (\$50.00 at Convention)	\$45.00 per member		
National President's Reception and Banquet • August 11 _____ Grouper _____ N.Y. Strip Steak _____ Dietetic Dessert	\$45.00 per person		
Double Chai Club Luncheon • August 12 _____ Beef Burger _____ Salmon Burger _____ Turkey Burger _____ Turkey Sandwich _____ Dietetic Dessert _____ This is my first Double Chai Luncheon _____ I already have 15 stones on my pin _____ 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 <i>You don't need to belong to the Ladies Auxiliary to attend our Double Chai Luncheon. Everyone is welcome! All will have a good time!</i>		
Raffle Tickets _____ JWV _____ JWVA	\$5.00 Each or 3 for \$10.00		
Total			
All events 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 _____			

Veterans Night Out at Cooper's Hawk

Sunday, August 12 • 6:00 -8:00 PM
\$45.00 Per Person (includes tax and tip)

Food • Fun • Friends • Everyone is welcome!

Contact Jerry Alperstein at 212-477-3131 for details.

Make a Difference! We challenge you to make a difference in JWV's future by identifying key issues affecting our Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, and female veterans. Writing a resolution is a great way to become involved in JWV on a national scale. Resolutions approved at convention become part of the National agenda when JWV's National Commander testifies before Congress every year.

Need help writing a resolution? Go to:
www.jwv.org/communications/national_resolutions

JWV Confronts the “Big Lie”

American Jews “never send their children to fight for their country.”

My name is David L. Magidson, and I am a Past National Commander of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America (JWV) and a member of its Coordinating Committee.

The JWV was founded in 1896 because American anti-Semites were saying that Jews did not fight in the Civil War. In fact, we fought in significant numbers. JWV is the oldest active veterans' organization in the U.S.A., (Chartered by Congress), and is recognized as such with honors by all the other veterans' organizations and our government.

I have tried all my adult life to teach both Jews and non-Jews about the honorable, and often heroic, service of our brethren in the Armed Forces of the United States. Thus, hopefully, you can understand the depth of my hurt when the Deputy Foreign Minister of Israel - our own State of Israel - said that American Jews “never send their children to fight for their country.” What slander! What ignorance.

How do I assuage the hurt of my son, Captain Ben D. Magidson who served in combat in Afghanistan for 15 months and for his service to his country received a Bronze Star - re: The Deputy Foreign Minister's comments?

How do I assuage the hurt caused to the fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, children and other family members of the almost sixty known Jewish K.I.A.'s of Iraq and Afghanistan? (Please see the attached documents; “Fallen Heroes” and “Evening Honoring Gold Star Families,” and most especially Jewish Gold Star Families).

How do I assuage the stain to the memories and families of the numerous Jewish-American recipients of the Medal of Honor and to JWV member, and Medal of Honor recipient, Jack Jacobs, who prior to commencing his heroic actions, recited a refrain from Hillel, which he learned in Hebrew School?

What do I say to the many thousands of Jews now serving in the U.S. military- men and women, generals, admirals, privates and sergeants? In the past twenty years Jews have served as Chief of Staff of the Air Force (General Norton Schwartz and currently General David Lee Goldfein); Head of our National Guard (Yeshiva Bochar General Steven Blum); Commander of our Special Forces (General Sidney Shachnow); and Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps (General Robert Magnus). They all had fathers! They all fought in combat for the United States.

(I believe that today we represent a greater percentage of the U.S. Military than our portion of the American population).

The hurt, the stain, the slander, the lies can be assuaged in part with a written apology from Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely and the Government of Israel - to be communicated to all through the Jewish War Veterans Publication - “The Jewish Veteran.” This is our request.

Please provide us with the written apologies by Tuesday, February 6, 2018. On Wednesday, February 7, and Thursday, February 8, JWV goes to Capitol Hill to lobby our Congress people about veteran's issues, military affairs, and of course Israel - we are the Jewish War Veterans! (Over the years we have assisted in garnering billions of dollars in aid for Israel).

Absent the apologies my group will bring up the matter with the JWV Florida Delegation. A trickle will have started and you will have to respond. Absent a written response we will try to enlist all of the JWV Organizations to protest to all of their Congressional Delegations. A flow of upset will now have occurred.

Further silence and we will go to our press and the internet and then to the U.S. Government. (We Jews are now studying and have learned this tactic from the Book of Exodus 12:28 and it has served us well).

Please provide us with the apologies. The last thing we want to do is hurt our beloved Israel; but we need to assuage this “Shanda.”

David L. Magidson, Past National Commander
Norman Rosenshein, Chairman
Dr. Robert Pickard, Past National Commander



Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

M.K. Tzipi Hotovely

12 Shvat 5778
January 28, 2018

To the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America,

I would like to take the opportunity to right a wrong that was made during an interview I gave to channel I24 last November, where I misspoke by insinuating American Jews do not serve in the military.

My words were shortsighted and not reflective of my beliefs, and I deeply apologize. I in no way meant to imply that Jewish Americans do not serve their country, especially when I am aware of the thousands who do so proudly. There is no room to question the loyalty of American Jews towards their country, nor the bravery they display in defending America's values. I regret that my words were unsettling and caused any upset.

I hold Jewish members of the US Armed Forces in the highest regard. They have continuously put their country first when making the noble decision to enlist, and have served proudly as Jews alongside other Americans in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, The Gulf War, Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as other Wars and Operations dating back to the very founding of America itself. These brave Americans know what it is to make the ultimate sacrifice for their country.

I would like to issue an additional word of apology to injured Veterans, and to those Jewish Gold Star Families who have regrettably learned the pain of losing a fallen hero. To those Jewish American Veterans who have fought bravely for our shared democratic values of peace, freedom, and justice, and to the families of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice- I express my deepest regret if my words caused you further pain.

I appreciate the work and significance of the Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America, and the organizations role throughout America's history. The impact the organization has made, alongside the irreplaceable contributions of Jewish American Veterans and active Service members is profound and dignified. As both the organization and its members have been an intrinsic part of America's history, they will continue to be a vital part of America's future.

Sincerely,

Tzipi Hotovely
Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs

If you wish to assist the Jewish War Veterans in carrying out our mission of combating anti-Semitism, whatever its source, please consider the following:

- Join our Posts as a member (if qualified) or as a Patron by visiting our website at www.jwv.org/membership/types or call the JWV Membership Department at 202-265-6280.
- Make a generous donation to support JWV. Please contact us at 202-265-6280. You may also make a donation online by visiting www.jwv.org/donations/donation.php.
- Leave a legacy gift to JWV in your will, trust or life insurance policy. To arrange this, or for more information, please speak with our Director of Operations, Greg Byrne, at 202-265-6282 or by email at gbyrne@jwv.org.

Thank you for your support. New veterans are created everyday, and your support continues to be vital to our ongoing mission - to be the voice of the veteran in the Jewish Community and to be the Jewish voice in the veteran community. Please remember that while we care for all Veterans, only JWV specifically speaks to the service and memory of the Jewish-American Veteran, his/her family and friends. If we don't, who will?

RELATIONSHIP OF US AND ISRAELI JEWRY

Creating Connections Between Yom HaZikaron and Memorial Day

By Liat Lisha, Shlichah of Northern Virginia

In July 2017, I began my training in Jerusalem in preparation for my role as the Shlichah (Hebrew meaning “Emissary”) at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. As part of my training, I was told that my goal was to engage the Northern Virginia community in learning about Israel and to share my personal story. It was equally as important that upon returning to Israel, that I take the knowledge gained about American Jewry and share it with my community back home.

For the past few months, I have been producing a documentary that connects bereaved military families from Israel and bereaved military families from the United States (Virginia, Maryland, and Florida). These families lost sons and daughters in the IDF and in the U.S. Military. Filming took place in both countries so I could use the project as a way of bridging the two countries through their shared experiences. While this has been a powerful experience for the families, it has had a tremendous impact on me. I was fortunate to meet these amazing people who showed me the true meaning of bravery.

What led me to make this documentary? At the beginning of my shlichut, I developed a list of programs, celebrations, and remembrance days that I wanted to share with my new community. One that I was very interested in sharing was the Israeli Memorial Day that takes place this year on April 17th called Yom Hazikaron (Hebrew meaning “Memorial Day”). A National Remembrance Day observed in Israel for all Israeli military personnel who lost their lives in

the struggle that led to the establishment of the State of Israel, and for those who have been killed subsequently while on active duty in Israel’s armed forces. As of Yom Hazikaron in 2017, that number was 23,544 and it includes the fallen soldiers of Israel and victims of terrorism.

Yom Hazikaron is a national day of mourning with flags flying at half-mast, restaurants and stores closed for the day, and most Israelis spending the evening at home listening to somber music played on the radio or watching TV broadcasts. A blaring siren can be heard all over Israel at 8 pm and again at 11 am the next morning. Every Israeli knows this sound all too well, having learned about and heard it since they were a child in school – a siren that all of us wished we didn’t need.

To provide a better understanding of Yom Hazikaron and relay the importance of this remembrance day in Israel, I wanted to create personal connections between the families by sharing their stories with our community. Since bringing the families together for filming was challenging and the idea of doing a live chat not being a viable option due to time differences, I decided to make a movie. Having no experience in filmmaking, I reached out to a group



Schliach Itsik Sayag filming Beth Agami at the NMAJMH.

of young people in Israel who agreed to volunteer and help me make the movie. Elad Gitelmakher, Shay Nechamia, and Hodaya Shtofblat are three young Israelis who chose to give their time while going to high-school or serving in the IDF.

When I was looking for Jewish military families to be a part of the movie, I didn’t know what to expect. I knew there were Jews who served in the military but I didn’t know how to get to them. When I was introduced to the National Museum of American Jewish Military History, I was surprised to learn that not only is there an organization focused on Jewish Americans who served in the armed forces, but they are also in touch with bereaved families, creating a sense of community, reminding me of similar types of communities in Israel. After meeting these families and listening to their stories, I was left speechless and even more convinced that these connections between Israeli and American military families needed to be made.

I invite you to join us for Yom Hazikaron on Tuesday, April 17th at the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia for the screening of this documentary. The movie will also be screened in Israel, showing that while 5,000 miles separate these families, their stories, shared experiences of grief and bravery are not that far apart. Someone once said – “life is 10% of what happens to you and 90% of how you react to it.” These courageous families showed me that life is 100% how you react and the way you deal with adversity is everything.

Bridging the Divide: American and Israeli Veterans

By LTC Lance Allen Wang, Editor

I have always felt comfortable in the company of fellow Jews, and likewise, I have felt equally comfortable in the company of fellow veterans. Each time, it is much like a family reunion where I don’t necessarily know anyone, but feel the kinship and know I am among my own. However, to be in the company of Jewish veterans is a place that is particularly special to me – a minority subgroup of a minority subgroup. Indeed, it is why I find myself an active, participating member of Jewish War Veterans of the United States. The ties that bind veterans together are close – sometimes even with veterans from opposing sides. In Yehuda Avner’s book “The Prime Ministers,” the author describes a meeting between wounded veterans from opposing sides of the Yom Kippur War, and how the reconciliation was deeply affecting for all parties involved.

In Ken Burns’ recent “Vietnam” PBS mini-series, he showed interaction between former American and North Vietnamese adversaries, and again, the reconciliation seemed almost therapeutic. The fact is, as the war veteran feels out of place in what might be called “polite society” due to his unique experiences, it is often with those who shared the battlefield with him, friend or foe, that he finds understanding.

Finally, in CBS reporter John Laurence’s book “The Cat from Hue,” a recollection of his many years reporting from the field in Vietnam, he describes

an unusually close relationship that a Marine First Sergeant, a World War II Pacific veteran, develops with Laurence’s Japanese cameraman, who turns out to have been a former adversary of the Marine’s. Close combat can be indescribable to anyone but the participants – however, that also can forge bonds between those that endure it, even sworn enemies.

So where does that leave Jewish American veterans? Jewish veterans have dealt with the intensity of combat since the dawn of recorded history. However, is there anything distinct about the experience of Jewish combatants? Of course there is. For instance, many Jews I met in the military had concerns about how they would be treated as a Jew if captured – whether by Nazis during World War II or Islamic extremists today. Sometimes the experience of maintaining their religious obligations in the field was a point of discussion. And of course – any Jew who has served in Southwest Asia must have sensed the presence of being near somewhere significant to their roots.

So how can relating to Israel’s veterans benefit America’s Jewish veterans? To start with – there is the sense of kinship – we can consider Israeli vets “family which we’ve not yet met.” Secondly, there is a sense of being able to share that which cannot be shared with the uninitiated civilian. Most importantly, there is a sense of purpose. We both serve democracies, yet we both serve democracies who find themselves en-



Heroes to Heroes program participants.

meshed in controversy, politically and diplomatically. These are turbulent times, both within and without our countries. It is so often the fighting man who pays for these controversies – be it in their relationship with civil society, constraints such as excessively tight rules of engagement based upon political considerations, and because the services in the United States and Israel are often made up of a high percentage of non-careerists and citizen-soldiers, social rifts that take place in the society at large find their way into the uniformed services.

Continued on page 17

COMMITTEE REPORTS

JWV Scouting Committee

By COL Barry Schneider, Ph.D.

The Scouting committee continues to strive to have more Posts become involved in various aspects of the scouting movement. As you may be aware, at their June National Meeting, the Boy Scouts of America voted to include girls in the program. Starting in January 2018 girls will be allowed to enroll as Cub Scouts and earn the same awards as the boys. Keep in mind that Boy Scout Units are owned by the sponsoring organization and each organization can choose to admit girls or not.

This presents an unprecedented opportunity for JWV. We now have more choices to become involved in the Scouting program within our various Synagogues, Temples, Federations, Chabad's, as well as our own JWV Posts and Departments.

Some of the continuing needs JWV could assist with or facilitate are Merit Badge Counselors, Unit Committee members and as liaison between the Sponsoring Organization and the Scouting Unit. There is often a need to interact with the Local Boy Scout Council as Chairman of a local Jewish committee on Scouting or just to be a member of that committee.

PLEASE do not forget our JWV Eagle Scout

Achievement Award Program. This award should be presented to any scout, Jewish or not, male or female (when the time comes) who achieves this prestigious honor. As you present this award wearing your JWV cap at the youth's Court of Honor, you will be showing the best side of JWV to the public. Remember Scouting serves the Jewish Community and we as JWV members can benefit by increasing public awareness of our good works. Who knows, you might even recruit a new member for your post. What could be bad?

The personalized award can be obtained by calling JWV National.

Vietnam Veterans Committee

By PDC Bob Jacobs, Vice-Chairman

Looking for Vietnam Veterans....Are You? Several years ago, as Vice Chairman of our Vietnam Veterans Committee, I took on the task of gathering the military stories of Jewish veterans who served during the Vietnam Era (defined by Congress as 1959-1975). It didn't matter if you were "boots on the ground" or wherever you were sent by Uncle Sam to serve our great nation.

By last summer, the project seemed to have lost steam. All previously submitted stories were reviewed

by me, edited by Jerry Alperstein and then submitted to the National Museum of American Jewish Military History for inclusion in a computer program that can be accessed by visitors to the museum. At the suggestion of PNC Mike Berman (a fellow member of the Vietnam Veterans of America), I contacted that organization to see if we could bring in more stories through advertising in their publication. My request was enthusiastically received and I received the first contribution from a Jewish member of their staff just three days later!

When the ad appeared in their September-October issue, the response was fantastic. While I was on a cruise in early October, I received about 20 more responses, either stories or inquiries, most of which eventually became submissions. As it turns out (and we know this), Jews served! The responses are still coming in and we look forward to publishing our effort sometime in 2019. Any profits made will go directly to the NMAJMH. Along the way, I received stories from Jewish Vietnam Veterans who were not members of JWV. I gave them information on how to join and, hopefully, they did.

So, if you served in our military anywhere in the world during the years 1959-1975, please contact me on how to have your legacy preserved. I can be reached at jwv@jwv.org.

Review Call of Duty: WWII



By Ben Kane, JWV Programs Assistant

Like its competitor Battlefield 1, the immersive video game Call of Duty: WWII takes a step back from the exoskeletons and drones of future warfare, and marks the first game since 2008's World at War to take place during World War II. The game is not without its flaws, but where it makes a misstep in one area, it makes up for it in others.

As American GI "PFC Daniels" of the 1st Infantry Division, you trek through the well-known battlefields of Europe, fighting alongside soldiers who, while occasionally interesting, are ruined somewhat by being generic, stereotypical depictions of American soldiers. The game begins just before the Normandy landings, and the naïve feelings of the soldiers who announce that everything is going to be just fine and everyone will be ok quickly dissipate once the horrors of war become apparent.

Call of Duty: WWII tries to act like Battlefield 1 in another way, and shares a poignant brutality in the early portions of the game. These moments are well done and necessary, but are frustratingly few and far between, as you then promptly continue fighting through Europe largely as a one man army. I say

largely because, in a departure from previous games, health is only restored through "health packs" obtained on the battlefield and from teammates, which makes them slightly above completely useless. Of course there are many moments where it feels like you can take on Nazi Germany on your own, but the game does feature the occasionally difficult moment that forces you to rely on your squad to an extent. However, I couldn't help but think of how strange it was that often the last act of a German soldier who has been shot is to throw a health pack onto the ground for his enemies to use.

Infrequently, one is put in the driver's seats of a fighter plane and a tank. The tank section was far more interesting to play than the dogfight, as the destructible environments and need to fire at the weaker sections of the tank provided more interesting game play than the fairly bland aerial combat section.

The graphics are as decent as other installments, and the artificial intelligence (AI) is definitely nothing to write home about, as computer-controlled enemies often just stood over the bodies of their comrades in one of the several forced stealth sections, not alerting their fellow soldiers that one of their own has been killed. It would have been the mark of an evolving studio to have taken steps to improve the graphics and the AI, and make the player feel like an actual part of the world and not an outsider solely in existence to kill. As I'm sprint-hopping from tent to tent at the command points between missions, a soldier making a passing quip about my strange behavior would have been a nice touch.

Call of Duty: WWII is, not unexpectedly, not very historically accurate. However, there are several in-

stances of historical accuracy that makes me think at least one writer did some homework. The members of the French Forces of the Interior, the French resistance group led by General and future president of France Charles De Gaulle, had armbands featuring the actual insignia of the FFI. There is also a cut scene and a segment that takes place in the largely and sadly unknown Berga concentration camp, where several hundred G.I.s were imprisoned and many were worked to death or shot. The cut scene portrayed camp commandant Erwin Metz, as well as a brief dialogue exchange that is known to have occurred at the camp. There certainly could and should have been more poignant and historically accurate moments, but the few they have are much appreciated.

Multiplayer gaming is business as usual for the series, with maps that favor players who run around with machine guns blindly and without strategy. It's not great multiplayer, especially when compared with the terrific multiplayer of Battlefield 1, but it's not overly unpleasant to play. However, the dropping of loot boxes onto Omaha Beach so other players can see you opening them is in immensely poor taste, the idea definitely should have been shot down during development.

Despite the clichés and issues that have been prevalent in the series since the beginning, Call of Duty: WWII is a solid installment in the series. The game isn't revolutionary, and it largely fails to live up to the potential that the time period provides, but it's worth checking out, especially if you can get it at a good price.

On a scale of 1 to 10, with 10 being best, I rate this game at a 7.75.

National Executive Committee Meeting Highlights

By Allan Cantor, Post 256 TALO

My wife Sandra and I attended the National Executive Committee (NEC) Meeting in February at the Crystal City Marriot in Washington, D.C. I was especially proud to be the Officer of the Day. I can say that I performed by duties to the best of my abilities, and I think it went pretty well considering that the NEC meeting went on pretty smoothly.

However, the NEC did start out on a sad note when Past National President and JWVA National Convention Co-Chairperson, Rita Panitz, passed away. I cannot express how much Rita has done for the JWVA and JWV. Her presence will be sincerely missed. Nevertheless, the Ladies Auxiliary went on with their meetings as Rita would have wanted them too.

As far as the JWV meetings, it was business as usual. Both Sandra and I attended Friday night and Saturday morning services which were very inspirational and enjoyable for those who attended. Rabbi Harold Robinson, Rabbi Irv Elson and Cantor Jerry Farris did a wonderful job keeping everyone spirits high.

MAJ Charles Halverson came to the Policy Committee to tell us what changes we could expect from the military today. Elizabeth Goldstein from

of the Greater Washington Jewish Federation came to speak about talking to our members and donors about giving to the organization. One of the most important takeaways was that asking was the most crucial step.

The highlight of the convention for us was on the last day when we attended the museum meeting, when we saw the short film that wasn't quite finished but will be soon. The film was a guided museum tour that was produced by the JWV Department of New York and the museum.

The other highlight from that day was two panel discussions by our Iraq and Afghanistan committee. The first panel discussion concerned young Jewish people in the military and the issues they face. One of the panelists was a newly commissioned Officer who happens to be from the Dallas area and a member of our Post #256, 2LT Dan Rosenfield. Everyone from Post 256 at the convention made sure that we got a picture with 2LT Rosenfield before he had to go back to the field for training.

Also on the panel was a female Chaplain, CPT Heather Borshof, the wife

of an active duty serviceman, Shari Berger, and a JAG Officer transitioning out of the military, CPT Matt Bernstein. The next panel discussion was facilitated by Lance Wang, which included more seasoned military officers that discussed their promotions and rise in their departments as well as their experiences with antisemitism. It was a wonderful and informative ending to a successful NEC.



From left: Allan Cantor, Sandra Cantor, 2LT Daniel Rosenfield, Dr. Barry Schneider, and Roslyn Kaplan.

Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans lead the way on the NEC Leadership Shabbaton

By LTC Lance Wang, Editor

In a first event of its kind, Jewish War Veterans of the USA (JWV) hosted a Shabbaton in Crystal City, VA, spending the Saturday afternoon hosting a presentation and panel discussions. The idea was crafted by the Iraq and Afghanistan committee on one way to engage new members – especially during NEC and Convention.

"I really have to give credit to our Iraq and Afghanistan service members and veterans that were the main driving force behind this change. They wanted something different from what we had done before, and by allowing them to take the lead and finding the right people, it really made the event a success," said Anna Selman, the Programs and Public Relations Coordinator for JWV.

The first presentation by Colonel Richard Goldenberg, Public Affairs Officer for the New York Army National Guard, was about the importance of storytelling to share the proud history and ongoing accomplishments of our Jewish service members. He pointed out that as Jews, we have a proud history of storytelling and cited a number of examples where stories can be shared as programming opportunities for JWV posts.

"This generation's mission is to remind America that Jews do serve and to remind the Jewish community that service is valued," said COL Rich Goldenberg. COL Goldenberg also came up with the slogan "A Jewish Voice for Veterans, A Veterans Voice for Jews" to be used by JWV from now on.

The next presentation was a panel hosted by Marc Wolf, and it focused on the current generation of Jewish military members, and also included a current active duty spouse. 2LT Dan Rosenfield, Matt Bernstein, Chaplain Heather Borshof and Shari Berger represented these groups.

"The panel discussion provided a valuable insight of 'items that matter' to Junior Service Member. It



LTC Naomi Mercer speaking to Lance Wang.

proved to be educational for our JWV Members in attendance. Collectively, we were able to successfully recruit and sign-up new Members to join our Organization. A real win/win for our team," said Membership Chairman Barry Lischinsky.

The final event was a panel hosted by Jewish Veteran editor and retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Lance Allen Wang, and was focused on issues currently facing the United States military. The panel, which consisted of LTC Naomi Mercer from the Pentagon, COL Richard Goldenberg, and COL Herb Rosenbleeth of JWV and the president of the Military Coalition. The panel covered a number of different areas – the impact of millennials, diversity, cyber warfare, and the need to focus on emerging threats in addition to counterinsurgency.

"That was the most outstanding class in membership we ever had," said Past National Commander Maxwell Colon.

In each Shabbaton event, there was a great deal of interest and participation from the audience, consisting of members of JWV National, state leadership, and the auxiliary. One thing was very clear – the pro-

gram was a success and we should look for ongoing opportunities for attendees to engage directly on topics that are core concerns to our proud organization. If you did not get a chance to attend the event, you can go onto the JWV Facebook page where all the panels are uploaded. I highly suggest you take the time to look at them if you can. If not, I hope to see you at Convention where we will have some great and intriguing panels brought to you by the Iraq and Afghanistan committee.

Bridging the Divide

Continued from page 15

Some initial projects to explore the therapeutic value of having Israeli and American veterans meet have been successful. In 2015, the American Heroes to Heroes Foundation and the Israeli Zahal Disabled Veterans Organization sponsored a 10-day meeting in Israel between American and Israeli veterans suffering both psychological and physical wounds from their battlefield experiences ranging from Vietnam to the West Bank, from Iraq to Lebanon, from Afghanistan to Gaza. The Jerusalem Post reported one comment from a participant: "Seeing them gives me strength... These are people who have gotten married, have jobs and children. We have the same thoughts. We only need to look into each other's eyes to know that we already know everything. I am sure I will keep in touch with them. When I hear them talk about what happened to them, I feel like they are telling my story." The comments were from a battle scarred Israeli veteran, but could just as easily come from an American participant.

In a time where many in the diaspora find themselves at odds with political decisions made in Israel, increasing a rift between parts of our small American Jewish community and our equally small homeland, perhaps veterans reaching out as a means of salving their own souls can help bridge the divide.

NATIONAL LADIES AUXILIARY JEWISH WAR VETERANS OF THE U.S.A.

National President Iris Goldwasser

Dear Sisters,

This NEC (National Executive Committee) meeting in February was planned with much positive anticipation but, unfortunately, was confronted with great sorrow – the untimely death at our meeting of our dear Sister, PNP Rita A. Panitz. Words fail to express our shock and deep sorrow at Rita's passing. She was such an integral part of JWVA and took on so much responsibility – we are proud to have been called her Sisters. She loved JWVA so much and believed we were very distinguished as a Jewish veteran service organization. However, it was with a heavy heart that we needed to continue our NEC program.

Much has been written in this issue of The Veteran regarding JWV's position in response to Israeli Deputy Foreign Minister Tzipi Hotovely and her criticism of American Jewry regarding our military service. JWV's response is stated within the pages of this newspaper and I urge you to read them. This insult was discussed at length by JWVA at our NEC meeting. It was our opinion that JWV's position was valid as was their strong condemnation and the Sisters of JWVA voted to agree with and to stand side by side with JWV.

As I reflect upon these recent events, some thoughts come to mind that I want to share with you all. Firstly, I am of the belief that it's what you do, not when you do it that counts as the following facts confirm.

- ♦ Ted Williams, at age 42, hit a home run in his last official time at bat.
- ♦ Mickey Mantle, at age 20, hit 23 home runs in his first year in the major leagues.

- ♦ Golda Meir was 41 when she became Prime Minister of Israel.
- ♦ William Pitt II was only 24 when he became Prime Minister of Great Britain.
- ♦ George Bernard Shaw was 94 when one of his plays was first produced.
- ♦ Mozart was only 7 when his first composition was published.
- ♦ Benjamin Franklin was a newspaper columnist at 16 and a framer of the U.S. Constitution at 81.

I want you to remember that you are never too young or too old if you have talent or a desire to contribute. Let's recognize that age has little to do with ability.

Finally, if you are a person who lacks compassion or initiative, waits for others to act for you, speak for you, think for you, your time on this earth will not be remembered. But, if you are an individual who has compassion for others, is committed to your fellow Americans and Jews the world over, entertains hope for a better tomorrow and is willing to actively strive toward that end, your work is not done. Join your Sisters in JWVA who believe as you do: **OUR WORK IS NOT DONE.**



IN MEMORIAM

JWVA regrets to inform you that PNP Rita A. Panitz has passed away.

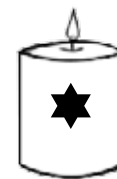
Rita was born in St. Louis, Mo. into a JWV family. One of her earliest memories was marching with her father, himself an active member, in a local parade.

As an adult, Rita was a member of Auxiliary 346 in St. Louis and eventually became its President. She led this Auxiliary for many years until she relocated to the east coast of the U.S. in 2013, when she transferred her membership to Auxiliary 742, Department of NY.

Rita was National President from 1997-1998 and was instrumental in bringing the Teddy Bear program to the attention of JWVA, which subsequently became a very rewarding segment of every National Convention. In honor and in memory of Rita, JWVA has named this program the "PNP Rita A. Panitz Memorial Teddy Bear Program."

JWVA will always remember Rita, our Sister who never said "No" to any responsibility and who always "stepped up to the plate" when the need arose. Rita was the leader whom we all wanted to emulate.

The passing of PNP Rita A. Panitz at our NEC meeting in February was a terrible shock to all of JWVA. Our sorrow is deep but she left us with some wonderful memories; we will always miss her. But, as Rita would say, "there's always tomorrow and things will look brighter."



INNOVATIVE THINKERS

By Iris Goldwasser, National President

If you believe that your Auxiliary has:

- a unique idea
- a new approach to an existing program
- a novel new program

SHARE

Your inspiration can INSPIRE others!



MEMBERSHIP

By Charlene Ehrlich, PNP/Membership Chairman

Just ask a friend to join you at an auxiliary meeting. Asking is the key to building membership.

We joined the organization and we love what we do. Spread the word. It's contagious.

Visiting the V.A. hospitals, children's facilities, senior centers, there is something for everyone. Talk us up to your friends and relatives. Describe our Museum in Washington....a great selling point!

Activities, remember we are also a social group....card parties, luncheons, bus trips to interesting places. We are a well rounded organization, but to remain healthy and live a long time, we must all make a concerted effort to bring in new members.

Thank you.

THANK YOU

PNP Charlotte Steinberg would like to express her appreciation and say thank you to all the Sisters of JWVA who sent her good wishes and donations during her recent illness. She is happy to report she is doing much better.

National Museum of American Jewish Military History (NMAJMH)

By Louise Baraw, PDP, NMAJMH Chairman

The Museum is our legacy. We must support it by making donations so that it can continue to promote programs and exhibits that show that Jews fight honorably for the freedoms we enjoy. Buying pavers or certificates is a great way to remember or honor loved ones.

For information about how to purchase pavers, certificates, or other items, please contact Mike Rugel at mrugel@nmajmh.org.

HELPING HANDS BRING SMILES

**Register now for our
90th Annual National Convention!**

Registration form and other convention information can be found on page 13.

We looking forward to seeing you there!

Rhea Sahl Memorial Baby Shower For Pregnant Military Women

We're holding a baby shower for our pregnant military women during our National Convention in Tampa, Florida on Friday, August 10, 2018. 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 new born, 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 \$100.00 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, send your check to PNP Elaine Bernstein to purchase any items for the Rhea Sahl Memorial Baby Shower Program. Make your checks payable to: Elaine Bernstein, PNP, 9 Dogwood Court, Sayreville, NJ 08872.



You can send your items and donations for the Baby Shower and/or the Teddy Bear Program directly to the hotel, between August 4 and August 7, 2018. Address packages to: Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore Hotel, 2225 N Lois Ave., Tampa, Florida 33607-2355. Attention: Elaine Bernstein, PNP, Convention Chairman JWVA.

Partners Club

By Esther Rosenshein, PAP, Partners Chairman

Please join us at the Convention on Friday, August 10th at 5:30 pm for a wine & cheese 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 is \$50.00 to join, 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.

Please make your checks payable to JWVA and send to the office and earmark Partners.

Sisters, if you have any questions, email me at estherruth519@gmail.com or call me at 971-404-6264.

Come Join Us in Tampa, Florida! 90th Annual National Convention • August 9 – 14, 2018

Take an adventure back in time and unlock some of Tampa's rich history and hidden gems. As the nation's 54th largest city, Tampa offers a unique and exciting experience for everyone.

Tampa has an enormous variety of attractions and activities for visitors. Waterside cafes, Busch Gardens, the Florida Aquarium, Channelside shopping, and the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, Devil Rays, and Lightning are just a few of the biggest attractions. Then there's Ybor City, where visitors can find hand-rolled cigars and Cuban sandwiches. Don't forget the ocean and the white sand beaches which offers people the chance to participate in jet skiing, parasailing, sport fishing, boating, sunning and relaxation.

The Hilton Tampa Airport Westshore Hotel is a perfect place to stay while you experience Tampa. Easy access to area attractions makes this hotel a popular choice for visitors. The hotel offers shuttle service within a three mile radius, which includes two lovely



malls with a multitude of restaurants.

We look forward to getting together once again to find ways of increasing our membership, exchanging ideas on how to best service the veteran, his family, the serviceman, the child in need, the community at large and keeping the National Ladies Auxiliary functioning in a most successful manner.

Let's do it again! Our Pounds Auction at the last convention was surely something to talk about! Everyone had such a great time, 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 or call her at 860-869-2982, and give her your item for the Auction.

Admission is \$2 • Snacks will be served • Come down for an evening of fun and laughter!



JWVA National President's Banquet *honoring* National President Iris Goldwasser

Saturday, August 11
6:00pm Reception • 7:00pm Dinner

There will be great food and wonderful entertainment! Everyone is welcome!

You will have a SUPER evening!

\$45 / \$50 at the door

DOUBLE CHAI CLUB JOIN US FOR LUNCH! August 12 • \$36

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 Circle". Join us at an outstanding luncheon.

**This luncheon is open to everyone.
We look forward to seeing you there!**

Rita Panitz Memorial Teddy Bear Program

**Bears here, bears there,
big ones, small ones!
Bears bring big smiles and
happy faces!**



Think of all the smiles on the faces of the children as they cuddle one of the bears you have donated. Now is the time to start collecting bears. Every bear can be a friend to a child in need. Let's make it our number one priority to bring happiness to the children who are our future.

On Friday, August 10th, we have made arrangements to donate the bears to the Fire Department, Police Department, Children's Hospital, and the Ronald McDonald House. Think of the thanks we will receive when the residents in the Tampa area notice the label attached to each bear that reads, "National Ladies Auxiliary, Jewish War Veterans."

Let's aim high! Bring or mail your bears to convention. We hope that each Auxiliary will send one, that every sister will bring one. Please ask your Posts to help with this wonderful program.

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

**Let's make this the
BEST Bear Convention ever!**

HELPING HANDS BRING SMILES

By Mike Rugel • Program and Content Coordinator

What the Museum has been up to this Winter

It was a pleasure to have two visits from the Embassy of Israel in January at the National Museum of American Jewish Military History. The first was a small group, Minister for Public Diplomacy Yaron Gamburg and National Outreach Director Molly Tobin. Gamburg and Tobin toured the museum and asked many questions about Jewish participation in the American military, both historical and today.

When discussing Abraham Krotoshinsky, the World War One hero of The Lost Battalion, Gamburg expressed particular interest. Krotoshinsky, like many other Jewish immigrants, had left the Russian Empire specifically to escape military service, but served proudly in the U.S. Army. Years later, he would write “As I look back at it now, it all seems strange. I ran away from Russia and came to America to escape military service. I hated Russia, its people, its government, in particular its cruel and inhuman treatment of Jews. Such a Government I refused to serve.” Gamburg’s

own personal story mirrored Krotoshinsky’s. Gamburg was born and raised in Soviet Ukraine, his family also left to avoid military service. Gamburg immigrated to Israel where he served in the IDF. Krotoshinsky had also spent time in Eretz Yisrael after World War I. 1921, he moved to Palestine as part of the National Farm School program. He worked there on a farm, married and had children. In 1926, he and his family returned to the U.S.

Gamburg and Tobin came back with their staff several weeks later. The staff proved inquisitive and interested visitors with questions about each phase of American history and the historic connection between the two countries. We shared some of these stories connecting the two lands. As far back as the Civil War, Isaac N. Cohen served from 1862 – 1865 with the 14th New Hampshire Infantry. Cohen was an immigrant born in Jerusalem. His discharge paper issued at the end of the war in Savannah on July 8, 1865 lists his birthplace as Jerusalem, Syria.

When discussing American Jewish prisoners of war in World War II that are included in the museum’s exhibits, Embassy Spokesman Itai Bardov discussed the embassy’s efforts to honor Master Sergeant Roddie Edmonds. Edmonds was recognized as one of The Righteous Among the Nations by Yad Vashem. He was the Christian who refused to identify Jews at Stalag IXA when ordered to do so by the Germans. Edmonds ordered all POWs—Jews and non-Jews alike—to stand together. When the German officer in charge saw that all the camp’s inmates had reported in front of their barracks, he said: “they cannot all be Jews”. Edmonds retorted: “We are all Jews.” Included in the embassy’s ceremony honoring Edmonds was Jewish WWII veteran Paul Stern who was imprisoned in Stalag IXA and celebrated his 92nd birthday the night of the ceremony.

Other recent programs at the museum included our annual Hanukkah party on December 14th. It was another fun crowd who came to enjoy latkes and hear about the way American Jews in the military have



Ambassador Ron Dermer, left, greets WWII veteran and birthday boy, Paul Stern at an evening honoring Master Sergeant Roddie Edmonds.

continued the traditions of the Maccabees. It’s become one of our busiest days of the year and it’s great to see both returning and new faces at the party each year.

On February 7th, we had author Ronit Stahl speak at the museum with a panel of Jewish chaplains. Stahl’s new book *Enlisting Faith* focuses on how the military chaplaincy influenced American religion as a whole. She discussed the World War I creation of the modern military chaplaincy and the role of the first

Jewish chaplains in uniform. She was joined by U.S. Army Chaplain Heather Borshof and Reserve Air Force Chaplain Steven Rein. Chaplain Borshof is the current Jewish chaplain at Fort Belvoir. Chaplain Rein is the Jewish chaplain at Arlington National Cemetery.



From left: Author Ronit Stahl with Army Chaplain Heather Borshof and Reserve Air Force Chaplain Steven Rein at the *Enlisting Faith* book talk at the museum.



From left: National Outreach Director for the Embassy of Israel, Molly Tobin, NMAJMH Programs and Content Coordinator, Mike Rugel, Minister for Public Diplomacy, Yaron Gamburg, JWV National Commander Paul Warner, JWV National Executive Director Herb Rosenbleeth, and JWV Programs and Public Relations Coordinator Anna Selman, after a recent visit by Embassy of Israel staff’s visit to the museum.

Coming Up

April 15, 2018 • 1:00 pm

SHIN-DC Annual Mimouna Brunch



In partnership with Sephardic Heritage in D.C., we’ll be hosting a Mimouna celebration on the afternoon of

April 15th. Mimouna is a traditional Moroccan celebration held the day after Passover when a restriction on leavened products for Jews is lifted: Jewish and Muslim neighbors gather together to welcome spring at that time, in hopes of a season of health and good fortune.

May 6, 2018 • 8:30 pm

GI Jews Post Screening Meet and Greet

GI Jews post-screening meet and greet at NMAJMH.

Join us after the documentary film screens at the Washington Jewish Film Festival to tour the National Museum of American Jewish Military History and meet GI Jews director Lisa Ades, interview subjects from the film, and World War II veterans.



Coming Up

May 25, 2018

Annual Memorial Day Shabbat Service at Sixth and I Historic Synagogue

600 I Street, NW, Washington, DC

The Annual National Shabbat Service honoring the Jewish Fallen Heroes of Iraq and Afghanistan.

Check Sixthandi.org for tickets and more information.



By Pamela Elbe • Collections, Archives & Exhibitions Coordinator

William Lichtman: Flying for Israel

William Lichtman was born in New York City. He grew up poor on Delancey Street on the Lower East Side, always conscious that he was a Jew. When the Second World War began in 1939, he went to Canada so that he could train to fly with the British. He did it “because [he] was Jewish and [the British] were the only ones fighting Hitler.” He flew Spitfires from Biggin Hill in London during the Battle of Britain. After two years of deadly combat from the cockpit of a British fighter plane, the United States entered the war and he was transferred to the U.S. Army Air Corps and assigned to fly B-25 bombers.

While serving in World War II, he flew missions over Europe and China. After the war, he went to college on the GI Bill. With the end of the war, he thought that the plight of the Jews was over. Liberation of the concentration camps, however, meant that hundreds of thousands of Jews were living in limbo in displaced persons camps. Very few countries wanted to provide them with a home. To Lichtman, it seemed the only solution was for the Jews to have a land of their own.

In November of 1947 the United Nations voted on the Partition Plan for Palestine – a plan to give Jews a homeland. The resolution recommended the creation of independent Arab and Jewish states, which was greeted with overwhelming support in Jewish communities and widespread outrage in the Arab world. In Palestine, violence erupted almost immediately, feeding into a spiral of reprisals and counter-reprisals. The British refrained from intervening as tensions boiled over and quickly escalated into civil war. On 14 May 1948, David Ben-Gurion declared the establishment of the State of Israel and the civil war became a



William Lichtman: Flying for Israel

war between nations with the intervention of the Arab state armies.

For Lichtman, this war was an extension of World War II. Not until Israel was settled, not until the Holocaust survivors and refugees had a place to go,

would the war be over. And so, when he was contacted and asked whether he would be willing to help the cause in Palestine and fly for the fledgling Israeli Air Force, he said yes. He volunteered and soon arrived in Israel in a war-surplus B-17 bomber that began its flight in Miami, refueled along the way in the Azores and was loaded in Czechoslovakia with bombs that were dropped on Cairo. He landed near Tel Aviv. It was, as he calculated, the longest bombing mission in history: 6000 miles and 36 hours flying time.

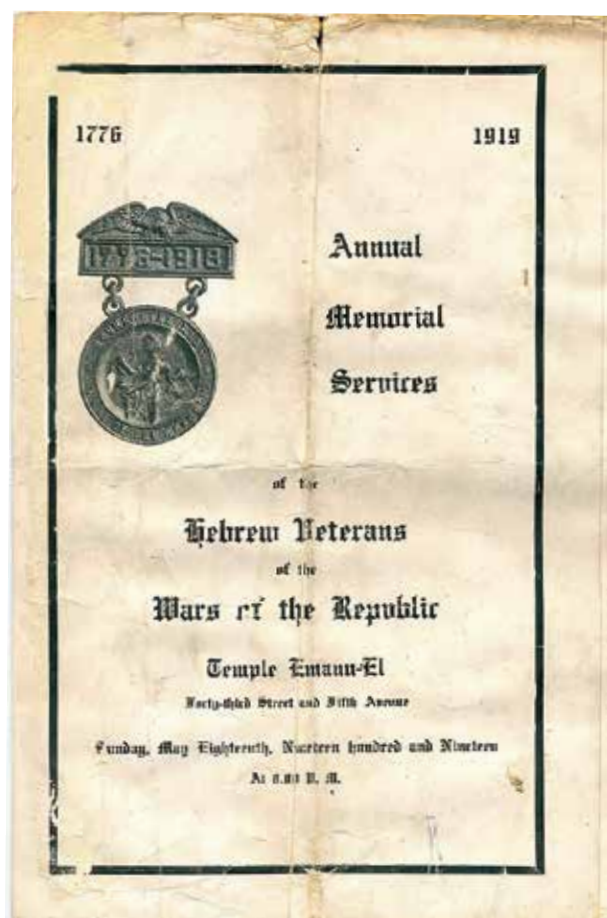
He found himself smuggling guns, trying to get refugees into Israel, flying in supplies, and traveling all over the world to pick up surplus arms. As a pilot in Israel's air force, he bombed Cairo and Damascus, which stopped the enemy bombing of Tel Aviv and Haifa. Most of the Israeli Air Force –as much as 90% –was made up of foreign volunteers, veterans of World War II. Of the 32 members of his squad, 11 died despite having survived similar battles in World War II. Obsolete and sometime faulty equipment and inadequate medical care were often behind these deaths. Following the war in Israel, Lichtman returned to the United States and embarked on a speaking tour organized by the United Jewish Appeal. He pointed out that tragedies such as those previously mentioned could be remedied by better funding.

In 2000, Lichtman, along with several other residents of Chicago, was honored by the State of Illinois House of Representatives with a resolution recognizing their contributions and sacrifices “on behalf of the Jewish People for Israel's War of Independence in 1948-49.”

We Remember and Honor

Program from the Annual Memorial Services of the Hebrew Veterans of the Wars of the Republic on May 18, 1919 at Temple Emanu-El in New York.

We're proud to continue this tradition at our Annual Memorial Day Shabbat Service at Sixth & I. Historic Synagogue.



Donate \$180 to add a photo of your hero to "Our Hero's Kiosk"



The “**Our Heroes Kiosk**” is a hexagon-shaped unit, on display in our museum, that holds photos of our American veterans and others.

Each 4"x6" picture of your hero, preferably in uniform if at all possible, will have a plaque underneath it with name and rank, the conflict in which they served, branch of service, years in service, and JWV Post and Department if applicable.

Contact Mike Rugel at mrugel@nmajmh.org to learn more.

National Commander Visits the Department of Florida

By Michael Corbett, Post 440 FL

It started out slowly but ended with a flourish – the visit of National Commander Paul Warner to the Department of Florida Winter Quarterly meeting in Delray Beach.

Commander Warner and his wife, Norma, departed home in time to board their flight from New York to West Palm Beach, FL, scheduled to arrive about 2:30 in the afternoon. That would have given them sufficient time to relax at their hotel in Boca Raton before his scheduled appearance at Temple Beth Kodesh, home of Boynton Beach Post 440. “PNC Irv Steinberg” Post 440 had arranged for an elaborate Oneg to honor the National Commander and post members planned to join with congregants to welcome Commander and Mrs. Warner.

But, as they say, “the best plans of mice and men...” First, the plane scheduled to depart NY at about 12:00 noon was delayed until about 2:00 PM; then again to about 3:30 PM, at which time Post 440 Junior Vice Commander Michael Corbett, PDC, was prepared to cancel the event for that evening. Sure enough, the plane departed and arrived in Florida in time for the shul to close for the evening at 9:00 PM; PDC Corbett drove NC Warner to the hotel where he would continue his visit the following morning with Department Commander Alan Paley and a visit to Temple Beth David in Miami.

The visit to Miami completed, the next event was dinner at the famous “Ben’s Kosher Deli” in Boca Raton, where a contingent of 20 Department officers, Florida Auxiliary members and Auxiliary National President, Iris Goldwasser gathered to en-



From left: PNC Jerry Blum, PNC Warren Dolny, PNC Ainslee Ferdie, NC Paul Warner, DC Alan Paley, PNC Ed Goldwasser, PNC David Magidson, and PNC Dr. Robert Pickard.

joy a somewhat hamishe repast.

Sunday morning both the JWV and JWVA gathered at the beautiful Delray Beach Golf and Country Club for the Department Quarterly meeting. Following the ritual opening and reports of the officers, National Commander Warner addressed the attendees representing the forty JWV Posts from around the state.

Department Commander Alan Paley, Post 606, then recognized six Past National Commanders in attendance: PNC Jerome Blum, PNC Warren Dolny, PNC Ainslee Ferdie, PNC Edwin Goldwasser, PNC David Magidson, and PNC Robert Pickard. He then introduced Commander Warner who spoke of

the extraordinary efforts of the Florida members in volunteering at VA facilities around the State of Florida and encouraged participation in the NEC and Legislative conferences scheduled for February in our nation’s capital.

Following the business meeting, the members and guests present then attended the Auxiliary luncheon honoring President Iris Goldwasser and National Commander Warner. Both were presented with tokens of appreciation by Department of Florida JWVA President Verna Rosenzweig and Department Commander Alan Paley.

TAPS

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

Kaplan, Ruth - Post 385
Kay, Irving - Post 603
Richter, Morris - Post 750

DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT

Edberg, Stephen C. - Post 45
Glassman, Herman - Post 45
Kahn, Walter - Post 45
Novarr, Leo J. - Post 45
Solomon, Herman - Post 45
Volain, Bernard - Post 45

DEPARTMENT OF DELAWARE

Keyser, Alan - Post 747

DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

Fertik, Leon - Post 265
Gerstenfeld, Elliot - Post 684
Ifshin, Isidore - Post 459
Segall, Ralph - Post 202
Shear, Ralph - Post 631
Sokoloff, Nathan - Post 172
Tober, Benjamin - Post 440

DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS

Greenburg, Mark - Post 407
Handler, David - Post 328
Levine, David - Post 328

DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Baron, Sidney - Post 26
Grishaver, Albert - Post 302
Hirshberg, Yale - Post 32

Weiner, Frank - Post 302

DEPARTMENT OF MINNESOTA

Arenson, Harold - Post 354
Winthrop, Harvey - Post 354

DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA

Freedman, Barry - Post 65
Goldberg, R. H. (Bob) - Post 65
Okun, Gilbert - Post 65
Roth, Robert G. - Post 65
Schreiman, Paul - Post 65
Sinderman, Michael - Post 65

DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

Adleman, Edward C. - Post 126
Basch Jr., Harold - Post 126
Cohen, Harold L. - Post 125
Gottesman, Martin - Post 498
Hoffman, Julian - Post 125
Huppert, Curtis R. - Post 609
Konkin, Harvey - Post 126
Kushner, Herbert M. - Post 126
Ness, Albert - Post 498
Reingold, Irving - Post 125
Runin, Murray - Post 651
Seritzeanu, Martin - Post 498

DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

Cohen, Jerome D. - Post 50
Graubart, Hershel M. - Post 105
Hariton, Sol - Post - Post 50
Jacobson, Joseph - Post 36
Orans, Albert - Post 389

Schoenfeld, George - Post 717
Slonim, Barry J. - Post 652
Tucker, - Post Lenny T. - Post 652
Zelikofsky, Mortimer W. - Post 36

DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

Feldman, Robert M. - Post 44
Silber, Irving - Post 44

DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Bellman, Albert - Post 98
Fickler, Max - Post 98
Kane, Alex M. - Post 98
Kleinman, Elliott - Post 499
Merwitz, Sylvan - Post 212
Pomerantz, David - Post 499
Wolper, Esther - Post 98

DEPARTMENT OF SOUTHWEST

Weinstein, Gerald E. - Post 375
Winner, Alan - Post 201

DEPARTMENT OF TALO

Friedlander, Yael - Post 753

We Regret the Error

We regret that Mr. Jack Tare of Post 502 FL was incorrectly listed in Taps in the last issue of *The Jewish Veteran*. We are delighted that he can be counted as an active member of his Post. We apologize for the error.

Our Newest
National Service Officer,
Gerald Rennert

Gerald Rennert, also fondly known as Jerry, is JWV’s newest National Service Officer. Our National Service Officers provide assistance and advice to veterans in need. From filling out forms to aiding in securing benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs, or just being available to answer questions, our National Service Officers are there to offer support to any veteran in need.

Some benefits that JWV National Service Officers can help you attain (if you meet the criteria) are:

Burial and Death Pension • Civilian Health and Medical Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (CHAMPA) • Dependency Indemnity Compensation • Disability Compensation and Pension • Education • Home Loan Guaranty • Life Insurance • Medical Care • Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment.

Jerry is available to any veteran across the country, but he is the main point of contact for any veteran in Florida. He is available during normal business hours, and he is available by phone for emergencies as well.

He can be reached
by phone at 954-415-4050
or by email at
geraldrennert2@aol.com.



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CALL 800-292-8JWV (8598) OR VISIT [USAA.COM/JWV](https://usaa.com/jwv)



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Allan & Sheila Abramson
Good Health & Happiness to All

PNC Lou & PDP Gloria Abramson
Good Health & Happiness to All

SFC Lillian Aronson, USA (Ret)
In honor of my 100th Birthday

**Any Jewish WWII person captured, sent
to Aushchwitz, etc., and survived**

Chag Sameach
Howard M. Barmad • Post 76 NJ

PDC Ed & PDP Louise Baraw
Eugene Baraw • Post 336
In Memory of Bert Stolier
Allan & Nikki Berger

Howard A. & Dorothy G. Berger
Naples/Denver • USF/Austria

Warm Greetings to All JWV Members
Post 202 • Naples, FL

In memory of PDP Adele Bilker

PNC Jerry & PNP Joanne Blum
Good Health & Happiness to All

PDC Jack & Ruja Cohen • Post 749

PDC Elliott Donn & PAP Elissa Donn • CT
Best Wishes & Good Health to All

Diane & Marshall Duberstein

Greetings • Gerald Elkan

Greetings! Jerry Farris, PDC-PA

In Memory of Lorraine Engelmann
Loving wife, mother, grandmother

PA PDC 98 Donald Feldman
In Memory of my wife, Edith

In Memory of Carol C. Frank
In Memory of Fred Hiendrick

David Goldberg, K.C.C.
In memory of Sam Goldberg

Sidney B. Goldberg, PDC • Post 510
Abe Cohen - Lehman Memorial

In Honor of PNC Nate & Selma Goldberg
In Memory of Leo & Anita Gilbert

PNC Edwin & NP Iris Goldwasser
Honoring Veterans

Alan J. Gould Post 105
In Memory of Sam Gould, Post Cmdr.

PNC Sam & PNP Barbara Greenberg
Happy Holidays to All

Arthur H. Greenwald • Post 321/69
National Adjutant • 2017-2018

In Honor of all who have served!

PNP Petra C. & Jason A. Kaatz

Beth Kane Wishes You Good Health
Happy Holiday!

CMDR Laurence & Marilyn Kaufman
Saluting the Men & Women of Post 46

In Memory of Marty Kessler
Bell-Oak Post 648, Queens-NY

Dr. Arlene Mars Kushner
In Memory of Herb O. Zemle • Post 176

Eva Mangeim, WWII
Walkie Talkie Quality Control Inspector

Best Commander - George Marshal
Post 211, Newton-MA



PNC Sheldon & Judith Ohren
L'Chaim - To Life

PNC Ira & Shelley Novoselsky
Happy Holidays

Dr. Jack N. Porter • Post 211-MA
In memory of my dad, Irving Porter

Herb & Francie Rosenbleeth
Happy Holiday to You and Yours!

PNP Freda & PNC Norman Rosenshein
Good Health & Happy Holidays

Stephen & Helen Sax
In Memory of Ralph Leon Shear
Lubert/Shear Families - All 22 of us!

Irv Schildkraut • JWV Post 440
Proud Vet of USMC, USN, USA

PNC Lawrence & Judith Schulman
Our Very Best Wishes to All

PDP Linda & Stuart Singer
In memory of PDC Bill Singer

PPC Norman & Toby Smith • Post 129 NY

CH Murray Stadtmauer • Post 648
In loving memory of Clare Stadtmauer

Shalom & Mazel Tov to all Veterans
Greta & Jerry Stoliar • Post 346

NC Paul and Norma Warner

NJA Harvey & Linda Weiner
Be Well!

In Memory of Joan & Louise Weinstein

Major Stuart Adam Wolfer Institute
www.msawi.org

Jeri Zweiman
In loving memory of PNC Robert Zweiman

David S. Zwerin, PDC
Post 652 • Merrick, NY

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