



Why you should join JWV

- 1. We support American military service and the contribution of Jews in the US Armed Forces.**
- 2. We directly help, provide assistance to, and advocate for, ALL American veterans (all ages, races and creeds).**
- 3. We strengthen the network of American Jewish servicemembers and build community.**

JWV Membership provides:



- **Comradery** – connecting members and patrons through local Posts across the USA, in Israel and online
- **Network** to share and record the story of American Jewish military service; explore the greatest accomplishment of JWV, **The National Museum of American Jewish Military History**, in Washington, DC, to view the story!
- **Advocacy** for veteran rights and benefits, civil rights, and Jewish issues at all levels of government, including local veteran coalitions, state legislatures, and US Congress. JWV's National Executive Director is President of The Military Coalition, a collaborative lobbying group of 32 VSOs
- **Access to National Service Officers** that help you navigate the Department of Veterans Affairs, access your veteran benefits and assist in benefit disputes
- **The Jewish Veteran**, our national publication reporting on Jewish and veterans' issues
- **Financial services** through our long-standing partner USAA

JWV Services and Programs include:

- **A network of volunteers** – JWV volunteered 33,000 hours in over 80 VA facilities in 2016!
- Annual **Mission to Israel**
- Special **attention to active duty Jewish service persons** including donations of Jewish Bibles, ritual needs and foodstuffs to members of the Armed Forces
- **Education grants** for active duty and veterans, as well as qualifying descendants of JWV members
- **Fight for earned recognition**, awards, and medals for deserving service persons, including posthumous recognition
- Sponsorship of **Boy Scout Troops and Girl Scout Troops**; recognition of Eagle Scouts and Gold Award winners
- Graduation gifts and **recognition for military cadets**



To join, email membership@jwv.org or call (202) 265-6280!



Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America

www.jwv.org | membership@jwv.org

Membership Matters

With 120 years of collaboration within both the Jewish and veterans communities, JWV serves the needs of veterans, active duty, and their families, as well as promotes patriotism and supports education across the nation. A few of our proud moments are detailed below.

1896

- Seeking **recognition for service** in the US Civil War, 63 Jewish Civil War veterans gathered and formed the Hebrew Union Veterans (now JWV)

1912

- Secured passage of **legislation removing restrictions** against Jews serving in the New York State National Guard. (Prior to the legislation, Jews were denied opportunity to become commissioned officers in the National Guard.)

1917

- Joined with several civic and religious Jewish agencies in the **formation of the Jewish Welfare Board**

1927

- Successfully lobbied for legislation requiring the American Battlefield Monument Commission to place **Star of David Markers on the graves** of Jewish soldiers buried in war cemeteries in France. A decade later, appointed to the commission

1941

- Meeting ten days after Pearl Harbor, JWV leadership crafted the civilian program to **support the war effort**, "Emergency Program for Victory." Results included the purchase of seven fighter planes and over \$250 million in war bonds sold

1948

- Proudly accepted the transfer of JWB's responsibility to **process claims for veterans** and assist them in securing benefits. The Service Officer program in LA notably expanded services to disabled veterans that the VA would go on to replicate across the country

1955

- Signed an accord with Association of Jewish Chaplains that provided for **consultation and cooperation** by both organizations on matters relating to religious activities in the military and veteran affairs

1977

- Contributed \$275,000 to **build a Jewish chapel** at West Point

1991

- At the suggestion of the Commission on Jewish Chaplaincy, JWV rushed a special **printing of pocket-sized Jewish bibles**, which was airlifted to Jewish personnel in the Gulf War

2006

- Established **The Fallen Heroes Memorial**, an ongoing record of all Jewish American servicemembers lost since 9/11. Hundreds of synagogues read the list annually on Memorial Day. In 2008, Historic Sixth and I Congregation in Washington, DC began hosting an annual Memorial Day Shabbat during which the fallen are honored

2016

- Filling the gaps between services and programs and the Jewish active duty and transitioning vets they target, the Jewish American Warrior Committee founded to **tighten the network**