



# THE JEWISH VETERAN

Spring • 2013

## JEWISH WAR VETERANS CALLS FOR COORDINATED CONTROL OVER SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE MILITARY

### **No More Committees, Speeches, and Studies – It is Time to Take Meaningful Action**

The Jewish War Veterans of the USA (JWV) condemns the continued prevalence of reported and unreported male and female sexual misconduct in the military and calls for an independent process to review and prosecute these cases.

Because the military is a contained unit, it is possible for service members to be victimized and abused if there are not proper controls in place. Decision making, treatment, and prosecution should be under one umbrella for all types of unwanted sexual contact, from sexual harassment to rape.

It is clear that the current system in place to prevent unwanted sexual contact is failing. There must be an intervention in the military justice system by a single third-party entity. On this issue, the more is not the merrier!

The Pentagon's own numbers on unwanted sexual contact in the military are extremely alarming; although, we feel they are seriously understated. Through anonymous surveying, the Pentagon estimates that there were 26,000 victims of unwanted sexual contact in 2012. This is a 35 percent rise from 2010 when there were an estimated 19,300 victims. The vast majority of these cases were unreported, and of the 3,374 reported cases in 2012 only 3,000 resulted in charges. Fewer than 1 in 10 sexual assault courts-martial produced convictions.

According to the Pentagon's survey, unwanted sexual contact affected 6.1 percent of female and 1.2 percent of male active duty service members in 2012. In the Military Reserve, 2.8 percent of women and 0.5 percent of men

experienced unwanted sexual contact.

Broken down by service branch, unwanted sexual contact was experienced by:

	% of Women	% of Men
Army	7.1	0.8
Navy	7.2	2.7
Marine Corps	10.1	1.1
Air Force	3.1	0.5

Rank was a factor in whether or not a woman experienced unwanted sexual contact in 2012:

	% of Women
E1-E4	9.1
E5-E9	3.9
O1-O3	3.9
O4-O6	0.9

*Continued on page 7*

## JWV's 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Mission to Israel

By Falk Kantor, Post 100

I was privileged to participate in JWV's 27th Annual Mission to Israel February 24-March 6, 2013. Our group consisted of six JWV members including National Commander Shelly Ohren, four non-Jewish representatives of other military veteran organizations, and five spouses. Two members of our group were WWII veterans and one was a Korean War veteran.

Our group assembled in Tel Aviv where we met our tour guide, Ronit Mandel Shaked. At our first meeting in Israel, we were briefed on the current situation in the country by COL Todd Cyril, US Army and Deputy Defense Attaché, who emphasized the close ties between the US military and the Israeli Defense Forces (IDF).

We next traveled to Tzevet, the IDF veterans' organization, where we met with Major General (Ret) Dr. Baruch Levy, Tzevet chairman. Gen Levy noted that in Israel a veteran is someone who has served 20 years or more and has retired from the IDF. Serving the basic required mili-

tary enlistment does not confer "veteran" status. We also received an intelligence briefing by a former member of IDF intelligence who discussed the military threats facing Israel. Later, we had the opportunity for informal discussions with Gen Levy and other Tzevet members.

The next day, we headed to the Ayalon Institute, the site of a former facility for training new members in kibbutz life. We were given a guided tour of the ammunition factory that was hidden beneath the kibbutz laundry and bakery, which operated in the years 1945-48



Participants in the 27th Annual Mission to Israel join members of the IDF 460th Armor Brigade at the Shizafon Armor Base in the Negev.

producing ammunition for the Jewish resistance. Extraordinary secrecy was maintained at a time

*Continued on page 12*

## Upcoming JWV Teleconferences

Your opinions and ideas count! All JWV members are encouraged to join in and participate by calling this toll-free number:

Dial 1-866-266-3378 and enter the JWV Code Number: 202 265 6280#. Enter the full number, including the # sign. All calls start at 8:00 PM EST

### 2013 Schedule

- Tues. July 2 Preparing for the National Convention  
 Wed. Aug. 28 Reviewing the National Convention  
 Wed. Oct. 23 Preparing for Veterans Week  
 Wed. Nov. 20 Growing JWV Membership



## THE JEWISH VETERAN

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The Jewish Veteran receives lots of photos from JWV members around the country. While we can't include every photo in this publication, there are things you can do to make your photo more likely to be selected:

1. Make sure the photo is in focus. Blurry photos will not be published.

2. The photo should focus on people – either Post members or event participants.
3. The photo should be from a JWV sponsored event. Be sure to include event information when submitting.

If we cannot use your photo in the magazine, we may use it on our Facebook page. This is a great place to share photos of your Post's events and activities.

## Get Social with JWV Online!



[facebook.com/JewishWarVeterans](https://facebook.com/JewishWarVeterans)  
[twitter.com/JewishWarVets](https://twitter.com/JewishWarVets)

JWV Online Forum:  
[jwvusa.ning.com](http://jwvusa.ning.com)

Want your Post featured in the next issue of *The Jewish Veteran*? Send your story or photos to Nikki Salzman at [nsalzman@jwv.org](mailto:nsalzman@jwv.org).

On page 17 of the Winter 2013 edition of *The Jewish Veteran*, Post 42 was erroneously listed as being in New Jersey. The Post is a proud member of the Department of New York.

## Our Online Store is your one-stop shop!

### JWV Supplies including:

- pins
- poppies
- decals

### JWV wearables including:

- baseball caps
- shirts
- jackets
- **and more!**

Look for this link on the JWV homepage



or call Pat Ennis at: (703) 753-3733  
 or email: [patrick.ennis@comcast.net](mailto:patrick.ennis@comcast.net).

For JWV caps, call Keystone Uniform Cap Corporation  
 Phone: (215) 821-3434 • Fax: (215) 821-3438  
[www.keystoneuniformcap.com/Jewish-War-Veteran-Caps](http://www.keystoneuniformcap.com/Jewish-War-Veteran-Caps)

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## Thank You

In 1630, John Winthrop, the first Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, said: "For we must consider that we shall be as a city upon a hill. The eyes of all people are upon us." We stand together in the aftermath of a tragedy, inspired by courage and determination.

On the morning of April 15, 2013, the City of Boston, MA was celebrating a holiday called Patriot's Day commemorating the Battle of Lexington and Concord and the brave men and women who stood up to oppression and tyranny, beginning the American Revolution. In Boston on Patriot's Day businesses are closed, schools are on vacation, and thousands of athletes from all around the world congregate to run 26.2 miles in the Boston Marathon. Men, women, and children line the streets of Boston to await the runners at the finish line. Families, friends, and total strangers cheer these athletes on. They are people of all nationalities, shapes, sizes, colors, and religions. It is a great day to celebrate in Boston.

By 4:00 PM on Patriot's Day, three people were dead and over two hundred were injured by two bombs that exploded at the finish line of our Marathon. Many innocent victims, lucky enough to survive, lost limbs. Many are deaf from the sound of the explosions. Many still have shrapnel in their bodies. Their lives have been dramatically changed forever, both physically and emotionally.

By 8:00 PM on Friday, April 19, 2013, one terrorist was killed in a shootout with police and one terrorist was taken into custody in serious condition. He was brought to the same hospital where many of their victims were in critical condition. One young 7-year-old girl, an Irish step dancer, lost not only a leg, but her 8-year-old brother was killed in the blast, and her mother has a severe brain injury. How can humans cope with this? How can they possibly carry on with their lives?

I know the answer to those questions because I am from Boston. The victims WILL go on. They will COPE. Why? Because they are from BOSTON, and they are BOSTON STRONG! They are courageous. They will persevere. They know their government supports them because the President of these United States came to Boston to tell them so. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts supports them and promises to take care of them. Our Governor, Deval Patrick, promised them. Our Mayor, Thomas Menino, who came out of a hospital bed himself while recuperating from his own unrelated surgery, supports them and promises them assistance. Every first responder

from the police to the firefighters, to the transit authorities, to the FBI, the Secret Service, the doctors, the nurses, the EMT's, the Red Cross and the common people of Boston have promised to support them. Boston has come together and we will never abandon these innocent victims. We have promised them.

We shut down our beloved City of Boston. No one went to work. No trains were running. No airplanes were flying. People were not allowed out of their homes so we could find the terrorists who brought this horror onto our city. Bostonians keep their promises. We found the evil people who did this. We hunted them down, we will prosecute them, and they will be dealt with. We promise. Let this be a lesson to any future terrorists. You have messed with the wrong city. We are BOSTON STRONG. We will keep running.

I received telephone calls and emails from JWV'ers from all over the country to check on me and my family. On behalf of my hometown, thank you to JWV, the nation, and the world for your prayers and outpouring of love to me, my family, and my beloved city upon a hill.

*PNC Ira Novoselsky  
Massachusetts*

## Recognition for Liberators

Friends,

Reading the winter *Jewish Veteran*, I found the story of the Vets Day program honoring death camp liberators very interesting. In December, I sent out [a] newsletter on a very similar subject. Now, at the suggestion of an Israeli friend, I plan to write to Israeli President Peres to urge him to implement this element in the Yom Ha'atzmaut celebrations there. I believe it is truly important. While I personally did not get to liberate any camps – I was serving in the Pacific in '45 – some liberators are still with us and should be recognized. I would certainly welcome JWV support for this project.

*Sincerely,  
Baruch J. Cohon*

## Thank You for the Care Packages

Commander Wallace,

Thank you so much for the care packages that you and the members of North Shore Post 29 Jewish War Veterans sent to us here in Djibouti, Africa.

As you well know, mail is extremely crucial to morale and welfare while serving away from home.

The gifts of socks, stationary items, and sweet snacks were a very welcome sight to us all. Myself, as well as several other soldiers, were given these items from our Commanding Officer,

US Army Major Greg Baugh.

I personally was able to share these items with my entire office which is made up of members of each of the four branches of service (Army, Navy, Marines, and Air Force).

I would also like to thank the children and their parents for the wonderful hand written notes and pictures.

I myself have young children and it is such a blessing to be reminded of the youthful exuberance and graciousness of children back home.

I hope that you all are able to continue to support servicemen and women everywhere and give them a little taste of home.

Thank you again for the packages and for your service to our Nation. God bless you all.

*Ssg Cameron Miller  
US Army Djibouti, Africa*

## Strengthening our Alliance

Dear Colonel Rosenbleeth,

Thank you for joining me on Tuesday morning to participate in our roundtable discussion, I hope that you found the discussion to be as valuable as I did. The input of the Jewish War Veterans and the other Veterans Service Organizations is vital to the work being done by the Committee.

I look forward to further strengthening our relationship over the course of this Congress. As such, please do not hesitate to contact me, or my staff at the Committee, at any time with questions, comments, or concerns. There is a lot of work to be done, but with your help and with the help of the other great leaders from the VSO community, we will get our veterans the benefits and care they deserve.

Again, thank you for joining me on April 16, and thank you, as always, for your service to our nation.

*With warm personal regards, I am  
Sincerely,  
Jeff Miller, Chairman  
House Committee on Veterans' Affairs*

## Ft. Hood Shooting

Dear Sir,

I urge you to Google "Ft. Hood Shooting" and watch the story done by KXAS channel 5 in Dallas on the 2009 Ft. Hood Shooting. I am disgusted that the Army is refusing to consider the troops shot on base not to be a terrorist attack carried out by MAJ Nidal Husan. To add insult to injury MAJ Husan and his family have collected \$287,000 pay while our wounded soldiers struggle to survive. I think the JWV should take an active stand to help change the Army's position.

*Sincerely,  
Neal C. Feibel*

# MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

National Commander Sheldon Ohren



Approximately three months ago, I returned from leading our Allied Mission to Israel. It was an exciting and exhilarating experience. It was my second trip as part of an Allied Mission. What has stayed with me the longest is the situation in Sderot, a small town near the Gaza Strip where over the last decade approximately 7,000 missiles have landed. It is the resilience of its citizens that was so impressive. The people of Sderot have about 15 seconds to reach shelter once an alarm is sounded.

The trauma of these missiles is felt by all ages – even by young children in their elementary school where the shelter is in the form of a long worm, which is decorated as gaily as you might find in any playground in this country. There were many moments of the trip that I will cherish, but this was the most poignant.

In America, our wounded warriors are seeking help in record numbers. Approximately, 2.5 million members of the armed forces have served in Iraq and Afghanistan. Of these service members, 670,000 have received disability

status connected to their time in the military and another 100,000 have pending claims.

Disability claims submitted to the VA have risen among all service eras for a number of reasons: improvements in battlefield medicine allow more wounded to survive, mental health problems like PTSD are now treated seriously, and it is easier to file claims for exposure to Agent Orange and Gulf War Syndrome.

JWV is working diligently with other veterans' service organizations as well as with The Military Coalition to attempt to alleviate these problems. In my testimony before the joint session of the Senate and House Committees on Veterans Affairs, I emphasized the need to reduce the VA claims backlog, address veteran homelessness, and recognize claims of Agent Orange exposure, in addition to other issues.

Memorial Day has recently passed. This is a day of remembrance for all Americans, not just those serving in uniform, but every man, woman, and child. This imperative is a fading priority in this fast changing world where the mean-

ing of Memorial Day is drowned out by mattress sales and barbecues.

Our elected leaders must set an example by ensuring our military is able to give proper honors to the nation's fallen. Instead, they allowed sequestration to encroach on this sacred duty. At our Memorial Day observances this year there were no flyovers, limited troop formations, and fewer bands proudly playing the national anthem.

What message do we send when giving full honor to the sacrifices of our war dead is subject to budget battles? These men and women have given everything, up to and including their lives, in service to our nation. As Americans, it is our duty to remember the service and sacrifice of our nation's fallen.

God bless our servicemen and women.

## NEWS

## FROM CAPITOL HILL



By Herb Rosenbleeth  
Colonel, U.S. Army(Ret)  
National Executive Director



### Chained CPI

The Chained CPI (consumer price index), which is a time series measure of price levels of consumer goods and services, is sometimes presented as a possible reform to reduce the federal deficit. Chained CPI is a proposal to reduce the nation's deficit primarily on the backs of senior citizens and disabled veterans. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) claims that the current COLA's (cost of living adjustments received by retirees and disabled veterans) grow faster than the actual cost of living. By reducing the official cost of living, payments to those receiving COLA's would be lowered. Proponents of the Chained CPI calculation argue that it is only a "tweak" to the system, only "chump change" to the recipients.

In actuality, Chained CPI would result in greater and greater benefit losses over time. These seemingly "small" reductions would eventually have a significant adverse impact on indi-

viduals who have earned, need, and fully deserve these benefits.

One of the leading opponents of Chained CPI is Senator Bernie Sanders (I-VT), Chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Senator Sanders recently offered an amendment which opposes changing how cost-of-living increases are calculated if it would result in cuts to seniors, disabled veterans, and their survivors.

According to Sanders, a typical 65-year-old retiree would lose more than \$650 a year by their 75th birthday and more than \$1,000 a year by their 85th under Chained CPI. It would also cut the benefits of more than 3.2 million disabled veterans receiving disability benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and more than 350,000 surviving spouses and their children.

Since 2000, Chained CPI has on average measured inflation between 0.25 and 0.3 per-

centage points lower than the Consumer Price Index. Opponents of the change note that while the difference is small, it compounds over time, making the reduction in outlays for COLA's for Social Security larger when looked at over a long time horizon.

The Congressional Budget Office estimates that switching to the Chained CPI would save \$340 billion in the first decade alone. JWV is, of course, strongly opposed to Chained CPI. JWV Chairman PNC Bob Zweiman sees this as an outrageous assault on the elderly and disabled veterans.

As an organization whose membership is largely at or near the Social Security age, and as an organization whose membership consists entirely of veterans, JWV opposes any adverse recalculation of COLA's.

# DISPATCHES FROM THE EDITOR

By PNC Paul Bernstein, National Editor



## IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING

On April 15, 2013, another Boston Massacre occurred. This time it wasn't the British, but two young terrorists, Tamerlan and Dzhokar Tsarnaev, who lashed out at the community where they were raised.

According to investigators, the explosive devices used were homemade pressure cooker bombs, placed in backpacks and left on the ground near the finish line. The bombs were similar to IEDs used against us in our current war. These explosive devices are small and can be concealed in cars, trucks, and backpacks.

All major cities have been placed on high alert as a precaution.

In these days of uncertainty, you may be asking yourself, "What can I do?" The number one thing that you can do to protect your community is, **"IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING."**

Watch for suspicious behavior. Check why a

package was left unattended. Observe nervous behavior: someone looking around constantly, avoiding eye contact, constantly checking their watch, and/or wearing clothing inappropriate for weather conditions.

### If you see something, follow the five "W"s:

1. What is happening?
2. Who is doing it?
3. Where is it taking place?
4. Where did you observe it?
5. Why are you suspicious?

As JWV members, we encourage you to take a leadership role to protect your own communities by joining neighborhood watches and first responder/EMT groups.

Contact local law enforcement to find out in advance how your Post can assist if there is a tragic event, and consult with local Jewish com-

munity leaders on an action plan.

It is of extreme importance that you contact all of your local synagogues and offer your Post's services to assist them with ensuring the security of the building and congregants.

Remember, the Times Square bomber was caught because someone said something.

### Learn more about staying safe and protecting your community

- National Counterterrorism Center  
<http://www.nctc.gov>
- American Red Cross: Terrorism Preparedness  
<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster/terrorism>

## Have You Stolen Any Words Lately?

By Nikki Salzman, National Programs and Public Relations Coordinator

It is extremely easy to uncover plagiarism. For the careful editor, discovering plagiarism can be as simple as running a contributor's sentence through search engines like Google or Bing. Websites like writecheck.com offer online services that can easily find plagiarized sentences and paragraphs. It only takes a minute to discover that you've stolen from someone else's work.

According to Merriam-Webster, to plagiarize is "to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own: use (another's production) without crediting the source."

There are many types of plagiarism, from failing to quote text that has come from another source to taking another's ideas without giving the proper credit. Often the individual plagiarizing has no ill intent, but the end result, stealing another's intellectual property, is still the same.

Why does plagiarism matter?

Plagiarism is stealing. Taking someone else's words and ideas may not feel like theft, but an individual's intellectual property is protected under the Copyright Act. When you steal someone's words, you aren't just being dishonest, you are committing a crime. Plagiarism.org, an online resource for understanding and uncovering plagiarism, states that plagiarism can be a mis-

demeanor offense, "punishable by fines of anywhere between \$100 and \$50,000 – and up to one year in jail." In rare cases, it can be a felony and subject to even higher fines and jail time.

There are, of course, exceptions to the rule. Information from the US Government, for example, is considered public domain and is not protected under the Copyright Act. For that reason, you can use content directly from the government without fear of repercussions. Again, this example is an exception, and I urge you to visit plagiarism.org to learn more.

*The Jewish Veteran* will not publish plagiarized material, and it is not the role of the editors of this publication to transform plagiarized content into articles suitable for publication. Furthermore, the prohibition on publishing plagiarized materials applies to all publications and newsletters produced by JWV Posts, Departments, and Echelons. There will be zero tolerance for plagiarism.

As the organization publishing your material, reproducing plagiarized content makes us vulnerable to legal action. Moreover, inadvertently reproducing plagiarized material is an embarrassment for the organization whether it happens at the local, Department, or National levels.

If you're concerned that something you're writing or that you've received for publication crosses the line into plagiarism, please contact me in the National office at 202-265-6280 or [nsalzman@jwv.org](mailto:nsalzman@jwv.org). I'm happy to discuss possible solutions.



## New Student Loan Resource Available to US Service Members

America's servicemen and servicewomen will now have more information about their federal education loans, special benefits available to them, and their repayment options with the release of a new brochure.

The brochure, entitled *For Members of the US Armed Services: What You Need to Know About Your Federal Student Loan Benefits*, was developed by the Department and the four Title IV Student Loan Servicers: FedLoan Servicing, Great Lakes Educational Loan Services, Nelnet Education Loan Servicing and Sallie Mae Department of Education Loan Services.

Consumers can access the brochure at:  
<http://StudentAid.gov/resources#military-loan-benefits>

# COMMENTARY

By PNC Robert M. Zweiman, Chairman, Coordinating Committee



**“Truth is beautiful. Without doubt; but so are lies.”**

– *Ralph Waldo Emerson*

The Democrats and Republicans (aisle jumping) passed a sequestration bill which, in all its full glory, enshrines their most fervent hopes and desires. The bipartisan bill for sequester demands mandatory and automatic budget spending cuts of \$85 billion in 2013 and \$1.2 trillion over the next nine years. America’s citizens were snow jobbed that the bill was so draconian as to prevent it from ever being implemented and thus would force the two sides to cooperate with each other on reasonable budget decisions. We all had hopes that since it was called “bipartisan” that they meant what they said. That appearance of being reasonable and bipartisan was actually stillborn at the birth of their rip-off game of bait and switch.

The spending cuts were indiscriminate and across the board to preclude anyone from escaping the effects of cuts. But look at some of the discretionary spending cuts:

- Across the board spending reductions of agencies and departments and/or defense projects with a loss of 750,000 jobs;
- 600,000 women and children would lose nutritional aid, and this aid would be unavailable to veterans without jobs;
- Impose furlough days without pay for up to 30 days;
- Restrict unemployment benefits;
- 70,000 children would lose Head Start;
- 125,000 families would lose rental assistance, leading to homelessness;
- The \$3 billion shortfall in the military’s health insurance programs would hurt returnees and dependents of active duty personnel.

And on and on, the figures changing as politicians try to adjust spending to satisfy the political needs of their constituents, donors, and warped “principles.”

## REPEAL SEQUESTER

The mockery worked more effectively than “our bipartisan saviors” could have anticipated. The Congress grabbed a window of opportunity and filled it with unacceptable budgetary “principles” (politics). Our citizens have been taken advantage of without really understanding the full consequences of the decimation of democratic (small “d”) values. We accepted the proposed sequester harshness hook, line, and sinker as though we were deaf, dumb, and blind living in solitary

## The Sequester Conspiracy

confinement – we believed that campaign to be straightforward and truthful.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

The designed indifference to the needs and wants of our citizens turns out to be just another of the unrevealed governmental acts. We have also learned of the technique of mining everyone’s phone records, emails, and digital data allowing for highly automated analysis of volumes of digital citizen information without their knowledge. Done cavalierly and without notice to the nation’s citizen is a distressing reoccurrence.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

Well, I think that it’s worth taking a short look at what’s been going on in the real world while those politicians were enhancing their egos in the budget world of sequester, control and power, and, of course, reelection.

There were tornados in Oklahoma and the Midwest, but budgeters say no Federal funds should be used to help without social welfare spending cuts. After all, those citizens had been through it before.

After the murders in Newtown, CT there was no support for a revenue change without a spending cut. They didn’t want to financially hurt the gun manufacturers, distributors, and NRA. To them it was no big deal – it was only 20 children and 6 adults who were murdered versus the requirements of millions of Americans. But, it setup a picture that other copy cats followed, without motive, with shootings at schools, movies, etc.

As was shown in Boston, which already had police protection at the Marathon, people died and were injured. So do we continue to sequester funds and reduce law enforcement, intelligence and personnel at schools and in our streets?

States have already been cutting infrastructure funds by using them to balance their state budgets. Denying construction funding has led to bridges collapsing, killing and maiming drivers, impeding the flow of traffic, drastically affecting the economic health of the local areas.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

To call the budgeters hypocrites is not only an understatement; their actions in the minds of many are immoral and lacking in compassion. More likely, someone might even call them lying scumbags who have no respect for America’s citizens.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

The Administration, House, and Senate have all

now submitted their proposed austerity budgets to Congress for consideration.

All of the budgets establish sequester as being an immutable fact of life without any real consideration for meaningful corrections.

All of the submitted budgets were, as usual, unyielding in their content as in prior years’ budgets, making challenges, negotiations, and compromise politically unreal.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

In the pending bankruptcy of Stockton, CA, Judge Klein, facing a take-it-or-leave-it proposition in settlement negotiations wrote “I’m sorry, I’m not persuaded. Negotiation is a two-way street. You can’t negotiate with a stone wall. It cannot be done. It is a contradiction in terms.”

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

The Affordable Care Act (a primary Republican political target) as law of the land has been totally repealed by the Republican dominated House of Representatives on 37 separate occasions. The Democratic dominated Senate did not go along with the House, so the Act still remains on the books as a law and continues for use as a Republican campaign issue. Had the Senate acquiesced, the Affordable Care Act would have been repealed out of existence.

Repeal is a simple procedural action generally used to eliminate outdated laws, agencies, or commissions which ran out of their need, so it is not considered to be an unusual procedure to the Congress.

The bill which created sequester still exists in full because neither the House nor the Senate have the moral fiber to confirm their expressed rationale in initially passing it by moving to repeal it. Such a repeal would bring to an end one of the greatest deceptions perpetrated upon the citizens of the United States. Repeal would have proved their true intention on the sequester was honest and not the fraud it turned out to be.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

For the last number of years, we’ve played a budget game with vigorous disagreements and with everything coming to an end with the Democrats and Republicans coming up with some budget resolution (good or bad), no one really cared.

No one really got excited with all of the nonsense and indifference as to the end result, thus, apathy became the norm. Acquiescence of the budgetary decimation also became the norm

with no one paying much mind. Everyone was happy that all of the parties (not the citizens) came to the end of negotiations with all saying that it was better than having the government stand still or not be able to pay the bills it owes (all of which had been authorized or approved by Congress).

Keep in mind that the “logic” of sequester was an irrational theory of an attack on debt by creating a budget bill which could not pass on its own because of its onerous provisions, so it would force Congress into entering into real hard bargaining – failure would result in cutting our own throats. As it turned out, it was politics as usual, the throat cutting was severe and people suffer and will continue to suffer.

We finished off at the end of 2012 without going off the “fiscal cliff.” So everyone assumed that such resolution was the way it was going to be because that’s the way such resolutions had always been. We were waiting to see what the game plan would be by the time the concept of sequester came into being on March 1st; while, at the same time, knowing there would be a new budgetary resolution by that date or, as usual, there would be a vote to delay decision.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

The President started going around the country like a drummer selling snake oil as he spoke about the horrible disaster if we allowed sequester to take effect and disable the country. The Republicans put out their own brand of snake oil (aka the Paul Ryan Budget) in speeches and literature condemning anything less than the devastation of any social agenda.

The President warned, “The pain will be real.” Nevertheless, citizens stayed uninvolved, indifferent, and apathetic with very limited concern, so the President and Republicans just simply continued making limited speeches, and we all held our breath and waited to see the determination of the “reasonable” budget compromises.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

So, March 1st came. The long awaited negotiations for a reasonable budget were upon us. The President was golfing with Tiger Woods. The Congress, both Democrats and Republicans, was doing what it does best – nothing. The Congress in an unbelievable act, voted to take the March 1st weekend off and go home and barbeque with family and friends and to raise monies for their reelection campaigns.

They all then came back to Washington, DC to blame each other for non-action. No one stood up to tell America that they were only fooling when they passed sequester – it was for real and they stood ready to fully implement it. They had attained their objective – there were no protests or revolutions – except for Newtown, CT and Boston, MA – and the funding necessary to help correct such conditions had been sequestered and were unavailable.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

To show their concern for its impact on the public, they cut out White House tours for school children while they sequestered education costs. They followed it up with showing that both the Administration and Congress were also willing to share the burden – the President took a 5 percent cut in salary (that’s \$1,700 a month) as did other officials, as though they were making a real impact on the \$85 billion spending cut for 2013. They expected those gracious salary cuts would undoubtedly make a meaningful impact on those who saw their income cut by 20 percent and their way of life seriously changed – our politicians live in a bubble and believe their own lies – all to their own benefit.

Well, not all bad things happened as a result – the stock market took off with the highest Dow in many months – proving again that money is more important than people. Now we should rest assured that no one will do anything other than make further budget cuts and entitlement reductions, imposing more restrictions on our people.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

History shows that nationwide conspiracies can exist, deluding and lying to a nation’s citizens in a totalitarian abyss. This supposedly totally unacceptable law to all sides called sequester passed with the liberals decimating the defense budget and the conservatives decimating federal social and welfare programs and reducing the size of government by furloughing employees for a month without pay.

They got everything each side wanted but could never be attained if presented by the parties in separate budget bills. Just be aware that the proposed Administration budget includes a devious accounting ploy called “chained” Consumer Price Index (CPI), which not only reduces the CPI computation but will continue to cut monies to those in need.

Now with the upcoming debt limit battle, our leaders will further decimate the entitlement programs such as veteran benefits, social security, Medicare, etc. as part of the debt limit budget fight with further elimination of portions of protections of the middle class.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

The fixing of America’s sound fiscal footing has degenerated into a vile political football resulting in the assassination of America’s democratic values. Ego has replaced common sense and compromise, waging a confrontation on America’s economic health.

The deception of sequester imposes an untenable austerity upon our citizens and must be recognized for what it, in truth, is as a subtle threat to the American way of life.

The threat is not because of the money involved, but because of the moral imperative that “good” government deserves a large amount of honesty and openness for the process of a full acceptance. The preservation of America’s democracy and way of life is paramount and essential.

### REPEAL SEQUESTER

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## SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE MILITARY

*Continued from page 1*

Of the total number of active duty service members affected by unwanted sexual contact:

- 38 percent of women and 17 percent of men indicated the offender was someone of higher rank/grade who was not in their chain of command.
- 25 percent of women and 27 percent of men indicated the offender was within their chain of command.
- 5 percent of women and 13 percent of men indicated the offender was a Department of Defense (DoD) civilian employee.
- 4 percent of women and 12 percent of men indicated the offender was a DoD civilian

contractor.

Women currently make up 15 percent of the US military, they are integral to its continued operations; and yet, many of them may be asked to work in an environment where they have to fear becoming a victim of sexual abuse. The shields protecting abusers must be removed.

For service members who experience unwanted sexual contact, the long-term effects can be devastating, and it can be a risk factor for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and homelessness.

Over the past 25 years, the government has set up commissions, task forces, and studies to review the issue of unwanted sexual contact. The problem has continued because of a lack of real oversight, accountability, and legitimate

fears of reprisal. Until the response to this issue is taken outside the chain of command, and there is an independent process to review these cases, unwanted sexual contact will continue unrestrained to plague the military.

The current failure and incompetence of the military justice system in handling these crimes is evident in the case of Lt Col James Wilkerson who was found guilty of aggravated sexual assault by a panel of five military officers in November 2012. In February, US Air Force Lt Gen Craig Franklin tossed out Wilkerson’s sexual assault conviction without explanation.

Senior commanders must never have the final authority in the courts-martial process for

*Continued on page 22*

# MEMBERSHIP CORNER

By Bob Richter, National Membership Chairman & Greg Byrne, National Membership Coordinator

## Membership Recruitment Strategies

A topic that is frequently discussed at meetings of the Membership Committee is how to recruit new and younger veterans to join the Jewish War Veterans. While this has proven to be a challenge for many Posts, there are some that have had success getting younger generations involved. I'd like to share with you some strategies I've used with my own Post.

One way of reaching younger veterans is realizing that they often go back to school when they come home. As an example, Rutgers University is pretty close to the area where I live, and there are an awful lot of young veterans there. In fact, they are forming their own organizations. They even have a veterans' advocate, an employee paid by the college to help veterans adjust to the school environment and get all the benefits they are supposed to have while they are going to school. I'm sure that many other schools have similar positions and programs. I suggest that JWV Post officers go see these veterans' advocates and try to meet with these young veterans and find out who is Jewish, and even if they're not, you can still sign them up as patrons.

Another important place to recruit is at your local military base. If your Post has a military installation nearby, contact the chaplain and work with him or her to sponsor and participate in services and events for Jewish troops. This is a very effective way to increase your membership, as dues for in-service members are free. All it takes is a little effort to contact them. Too often we hear from Jewish veterans recently discharged from the military who are surprised to learn that there is such a thing as the Jewish War Veterans. They had never encountered JWV during their military careers. This is something we must change,

and establishing relationships with Jewish chaplains in your area is a great way to do this.

My last topic to mention is a method of getting members in general, as we just did in my Post. We formed a group of two or three people and they prepared themselves to talk about the history of the Jewish War Veterans. We contacted a number of synagogues, and during a regular Shabbat service, we gave our presentation on the history of JWV. The rabbis embraced our program and really went out of their way to give us prime speaking time. We were able to sign new members up at every synagogue we spoke at. I would suggest that every Post give this a try. Even if you don't get members, you may get patrons or supporters of the Museum, and you'll be helping to fulfill JWV's mission of educating the public on the service of Jews in the military.

I hope you'll take the time to try one of these suggestions in your own Post. If we want our organization to continue to fulfill its important mission, membership recruitment must be the responsibility of us all. If your Post has successful recruiting strategies to share, please write me at National Headquarters or [membership@jwv.org](mailto:membership@jwv.org).

Did you know that cadets of the Military, Naval, Air Force, and Coast Guard Academies are eligible for full membership in the JWV? They are considered "on active duty," and eligible for free, in-service membership in JWV during their schooling.

If you know a Jewish cadet or other active duty personnel, call or e-mail the Membership Department at 202-265-6280 or [membership@jwv.org](mailto:membership@jwv.org). We will sign them up for a free JWV membership.

## Awards Committee

PNC Ira Novoselsky, Awards Chairman

Everyone enjoys being recognized for his or her hard work. One way that the Jewish War Veterans of the USA does this is through the Awards Committee. There are 22 different awards for Department, Council, Post, and individuals. The Committee makes determinations on 18 of these awards. The only awards that are not given by the Committee are the Murray L. Rosen Award, two Membership Awards for a Post and an individual, and the new IT Award category.

The Award guidelines and instructions are online at [www.jwv.org](http://www.jwv.org). Everyone is reminded that the Committee cannot give awards to those who do not submit the appropriate paperwork and documentation. Follow the instructions, guidelines, and timeframes

and your submission will be reviewed. This is VERY important.

Use photographs, newspaper articles, flyers for events, or anything that puts JWV in the forefront – hospital visits, ceremonies, etc. Put these items in chronological order from the beginning of the year. Be sure to label events, and identify members and dignitaries.

Selections will be announced at the National Convention, but you do not need to attend to be eligible for an award. Winners will be presented with a certificate by National Commander Ohren and receive special recognition in a future issue of *The Jewish Veteran*.

**Good luck to all!**

## Post 105 NY Program Brings Together Generations of Service Members



Photo by Richard Goldenberg, Post Adjutant.

Lance Allen Wang, right, Commander of Post 105 NY, joins New York Army National Guard 1st Lt. Doug Berinstein, center, and Al Cohen at the Albany Jewish Community center April 23.

Berinstein, a Post member, discussed his 2012 deployment to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba as part of Joint Task Force Gitmo, providing security for the detainees captured on battlefields in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Berinstein spoke about the life of a soldier at the facility and the harsh realities of facing the nation's enemies on a routine basis.

"My father was drafted during Vietnam and wound up in Germany," Berinstein explained to the Post members, "And my grandfather joined during WWII and served his entire time in Florida. So I guess I'm the third generation in my family to serve in wartime and not deploy to a combat zone."

Berinstein talked about his role as a military police platoon leader and company executive officer, serving as part of the quick reaction force at the facility.

Joining Berinstein after the program was Al Cohen, a WWII veteran of the Battle of the Bulge and former guard during the Nuremburg Trials after the war.

Cohen and Berinstein compared their duties and experiences in dealing with some of the nation's most notorious enemies.

The Post regularly invites its own members to speak about their wartime experiences, from WWII, Korea, Vietnam and through today's combat operations overseas.

# A Bagel, Cream Cheese, and a Toast to a Miracle

By Lisa Rosenfeld and Sheri Rosenfeld-Grunseid M.D., daughters of Joseph Rosenfeld

The date May 4th, 1945 will forever be etched in their memories, and now it will be forever etched in ours. That fateful day toward the end of World War II was the day that American soldiers liberated Guns kirchen Lager, a sub-camp of the Mauthausen concentration camp in Austria.

On Sunday, March 10th, my sisters and I were privileged to attend a “reunion of sorts” between our father Joseph Rosenfeld, an 82-year-old Guns kirchen survivor, and Alan Moskin, an 87-year-old Jewish World War II Veteran who took part in the liberation of Guns kirchen.

Joseph Rosenfeld, 15 years old at the time of his liberation, met up with Alan Moskin, 68 years after the event, in a little bagel store in Rockland County, NY. It was an emotional meeting for all who attended, as we listened in awe to the events they recounted as teenagers from different sides of a world that had been turned upside down.

Joseph Rosenfeld, the former inmate of Guns kirchen, came to the US after WWII and was promptly inducted into the US Army during the Korean War. After recently sending a donation to the Jewish War Veterans, the Rosenfelds received a copy of their annual calendar. Attached to the November listing was a



Joseph Rosenfeld (left), and Alan Moskin reunited 68 years after the liberation of Guns kirchen.

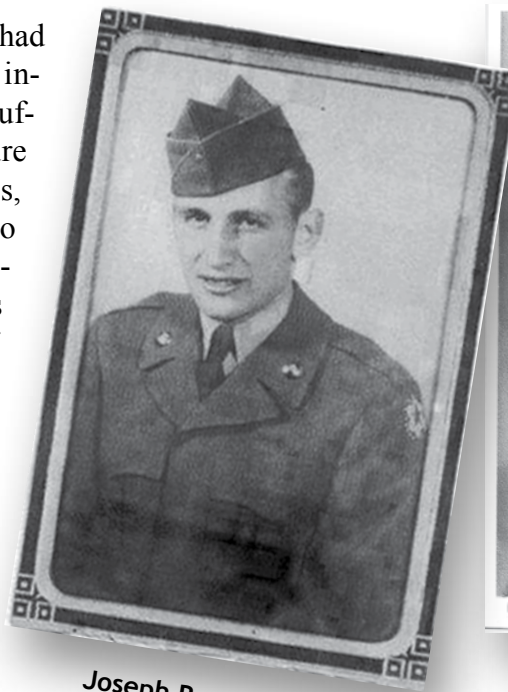
profile on Mr. Alan Moskin, veteran of WWII, born and raised in Englewood, NJ. The article related the story of Mr. Moskin’s participation in the liberation of Guns kirchen as a soldier in the 71st Division of the US Army.

Mr. Rosenfeld, like most of the inmates of Guns kirchen, was at death’s door on that fateful day. Typhus, lice, skin ulcers, and devas-

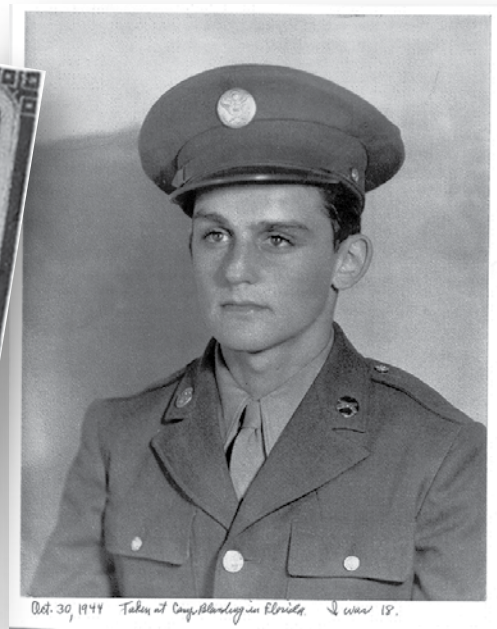
tating starvation had affected all of the inmates. They had suffered through torture and death marches, as the Nazis tried to cover their tracks before the Americans moved in. Most of the events of that day remained a blur to him. When Mr. Rosenfeld saw the profile of Mr. Moskin, he strongly desired to meet his liberator and express gratitude.

After contacting the Jewish War Veterans, a chain of events was set into motion that led to their ultimate reunion. The two hit it off immediately and spoke of being at two different ends of the same event. Mr. Moskin, then age 18, relayed the horror of what he had experienced. He said that American soldiers were completely taken by surprise, not having a hint of the existence of these camps, nor the conditions of their inmates. To this day, he stated, he was haunted by the overwhelming stench and misery of the barely recognizable people he saw in the camps. He spoke of being approached and kissed by living skeletons covered with lice and sores. He recalled that despite the fact that he didn’t know a word of German or Yiddish, the words “Ich bin a Yid” spontaneously escaped his lips in solidarity with his suffering brethren. For 50 years, Mr. Moskin said that he could not speak of his experiences and suffered with symptoms that he now recognizes were most likely due to post-traumatic stress disorder.

Mr. Rosenfeld, in turn related to Mr. Moskin the miraculous series of events through which he and his entire immediate family had survived the war. A mere teenager of 13, when war came to his native Hungary, Joseph, his four brothers, and parents were en route to the infamous Auschwitz death camp for extermination when a bridge leading to the camps was bombed by Allied troops. Unable to send their prisoners to Auschwitz, the Germans rerouted the Rosenfeld family to labor camps. Two older brothers Zelig and Marty were sent to the front to dig ditches for the German defensive line. Joseph, Moshe, and Abraham, along with their parents were sent to Vienna to clear the rubble of bombings and body parts strewn on the streets. Later he and part of his family were forced to march



Joseph Rosenfeld



Alan Moskin

200 kilometers in the dead of winter from Vienna to Mauthausen without food, water, or proper clothes and footwear. Mr. Rosenfeld told Mr. Moskin how he had left the line in desperation to pick up a snail on the side of the road to eat. A German guard observing the scene shot the 15-year-old boy in the wrist. Due to the ingenuity of his mother who found some rags and wrapped the hand in garlic for lack of a better antiseptic, Joseph was able to live to see the Liberation and receive proper medical attention. As the Germans prepared for their final extermination, the two older brothers were ultimately sent to Mauthausen as well. Through word of mouth, Joseph and his mother located the brothers who were shells of their former selves and on the verge of death. Mother and son nursed the older brothers back to life with smuggled sugar cubes that Joseph’s mother had sewn into hidden pockets in the hems of Joseph’s tattered pants.

Later, over bagels and cream cheese, Mr. Rosenfeld shared stories of happier times, of his experiences in the US, and of his pride in his children’s and grandchildren’s accomplishments. Betty and Joseph Rosenfeld now reside in Brooklyn, NY, and have 5 daughters, 19 grandchildren and 4 great-grandchildren. Mr. Rosenfeld thanked Mr. Moskin for playing a part in salvaging a whole new generation of successful and productive Jewish people. They agreed that there was indeed truth to the Jewish saying that “he who saves a single soul, is as if he saved the whole world.”

After they talked and traded stories of the war and their families, Mr. Moskin kept reiterating, “If someone had told me 68 years ago that I’d be sitting in a restaurant in New York across from one of those survivors, I would have said they were crazy.”

# Chaplain Serves as First Female Air Force Rabbi



Capt. Sarah Schechter of the 11th Wing at Joint Base Andrews. DOD photo by EJ Hersom.

By Airman 1st Class Alexander W. Riedel

FT. GEORGE G. MEADE, MD – Minutes before sunset on Friday, she lowers her head and covers her face in prayer. Her hands are illuminated by the faint glow of the Shabbat candles, each flame representing and honoring a family member.

As the week comes to a close, Capt. Sarah Schechter, the Jewish chaplain of the 11th Wing at Joint Base Andrews, MD, regularly invites the base community to join her family for a traditional Jewish Shabbat dinner, as a way to share not only her culture, but also to offer an opportunity for communal meeting.

Her purpose is to break barriers, open doors and help people understand her faith. And that's her job.

After 40 years of women serving as military chaplains, Schechter is the first, and to this day the only woman to serve as a rabbi in the Air Force.

"Frankly, I could be the hundredth in my job," she said. "It doesn't matter to me because I'm just doing my best like anyone else. I don't know if I would see myself as a trailblazer – I'm an officer, I'm a rabbi, and I want to do my best to represent the military and Judaism in the best light possible. I'm grateful to the women in the chaplaincy who preceded me because I truly stand on the shoulder of giants."

Growing up in Greenwich Village, NY, Schechter's family was deeply rooted in the Jewish faith and culture. Yet, even though her father was a rabbi, she never dreamt of becom-

ing a "teacher of the Torah," until her mother suggested the possibility in 1999.

Today, women are accepted as rabbis in all denominations, except Orthodox Judaism, and their numbers are growing. But few ever join the military. Schechter's decision to join, however, was easy to make, she said, when during the fourth year of rabbinical school, her world changed dramatically.

"I joined the military because of September 11th," she said. "Within seconds of the attack on our country, the military suddenly stopped being an undefined culture I was vaguely familiar with and their mission became absolutely clear – protection of our country, protection of our loved ones, protection of our very lives."

Schechter could not remain on the sidelines. A sense of duty as a New Yorker, and more importantly as an American, would not let her rest.

"I felt a great sense of compassion toward our service members – though I knew not a single one," she said. "I knew they carried a huge burden on their shoulders, and I wanted, as a Jew and as a future rabbi, to stand shoulder to shoulder with them. The next day, Sept. 12, I called the recruiter and the rest is history."

Choosing between branches was equally easy, said the captain. After attending the same rabbinic school, she again decided to follow in her father's footsteps into the blue.

"I ultimately joined the Air Force because my father was an Air Force chaplain in 1960," she said. "He always spoke well of his experience and that had a huge influence on my decision."

Even though the civilian Jewish population in the US is small, currently hovering at about 2 percent, according to a report by the North American Jewish Data Bank at the University of Connecticut – with an even smaller number in the military, less than 40 Jewish chaplain rabbis are spread thin across the services, keeping Schechter and her colleagues in demand especially during Jewish holidays.

"I'm a Jew and I'm from New York, but I also raised my hand to care for a specific community, the military, where Jews make up a tiny percentage of the whole population," Schechter said. "During the Jewish holidays, when the culture around me is 'business as usual,' I am more aware of my minority status. On the other hand, while no one thinks of the military in this way, the military itself is a minority culture and there are times when I feel

most comfortable being among those who live and understand it."

Part of her mission is representing Judaism and serving as a link between faiths, Schechter said.

"When people first learn I am a female rabbi, some are fascinated, others are excited," Schechter said. "Sometimes I am the first Jewish person they have ever met or they did not know a woman can be a rabbi. But as a citizen, I want people to see that I'm somebody who loves their country and the people who I'm working with."

Schechter's service, however, is essential because chaplains act, not only as religious leaders, but also as counselors, teachers and most of all confidants, who can assist military members of all faiths and offer privileged communication to all Airmen. Her door is always open, Schechter said, whether Airmen and their families deal with stress and anguish at home or on the job.

"Strong relationships and active participation in a caring community are absolutely vital to spiritual as well as physical wellness," Schechter said. "To contribute to this, my husband and I host a weekly dinner in our home for all military and their families. We spend time observing the special rituals and prayers, but the evening is also to provide a home-cooked meal and a caring community for all; a home away from home, regardless of faith or no faith."

Her military duty frequently requires sacrifice from the wife and mother.

"Unfortunately, world events sometimes ne-



Capt. Sarah Schechter attends a Torah dedication ceremony at Gilbert Memorial Chapel. Photo by Senior Airman Elizabeth Rissmiller.

cessitate being away from home for a lengthy time," Schechter said. "As a result, the family does take a hit. But that's why helping military members and families with their relationships is my number-one priority."

The hardest time leaving was the first, Schechter said. The morning of her departure for Iraq in 2007 is still etched in her mind.

*Continued on page 11*

# The 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Yom Kippur War

By Itzhak Brook, MD

The 40th anniversary of the Yom Kippur War occurs this year. The war was launched in 1973 in a surprise attack by Syria and Egypt on the holiest day of the Jewish calendar. Even though the signs of an imminent attack were noted by Israeli intelligence, the Israeli government decided to ignore them for political and strategic reasons. Consequently, the country's borders were very sparsely defended, creating a dangerous void on the front. The invading armies outnumbered the Israelis at a ratio of more than 100-to-1 in manpower and 10-to-1 in armor and artillery.

Because the bulk of the Israeli army is comprised of reservists, it took two days to mobilize and deploy the forces. During these critical days it was up to the vastly outnumbered soldiers on the front and Israeli pilots in the sky to hold the line and stall the attackers. It was the heroism and determination of these men and women that saved the country. Their devotion and sacrifice compensated for the woeful lack of sufficient equipment and supplies. The strategic depth of the Sinai Desert and Golan Heights also provided the country the time needed to mobilize the reservists.

This war posed the most serious threat to the existence of Israel in modern history. Even though Israel was eventually able to achieve a military victory, the country paid a steep price, both in lives lost and in the citizenry's confidence in their leaders and themselves. Almost 3,000 soldiers gave their lives – a ratio of 1 death per 1,000 Israelis, a painful price for a nation of 3 million. Over 10,000 individuals were wounded in the 17 days of fighting. Almost every household and neighborhood was affected. The pain and sorrow felt at the time continues to

this day among affected families and the broader Israeli society.

Deep within the psyche of the nation, this conflict shattered the conventional wisdom of Israel's invincibility. It also illustrated the importance of having secure and defensible borders, while highlighting the urgent need for a



Dr. Itzhak Brook during the Yom Kippur War.

lasting peace between Israel and its neighbors. An important outcome of the Yom Kippur War was the creation of the 1979 peace agreement between Israel and Egypt, ending more than 30 years of conflict between the nations.

Assistance from the United States was instrumental in Israel's victory. Ammunition, spare parts, armor, and fighter jets reached the

country at a critical moment, replenishing heavy losses and enabling Israel not only to repel the attackers but to go on the offensive, ending the war 65 miles from Cairo and 25 miles from Damascus. Moreover, the political and military commitments from the United States countered the Soviet Union which had threatened to intervene in the crisis on behalf of their Arab allies.

I was a battalion physician during the Yom Kippur War. Like thousands of Israelis, I joined my battalion which had been assigned to supply the armored corps with ammunition, fuel, water, and food. These soldiers risked their lives, replenishing tanks with fuel and ammunition under enemy fire. I watched them overcome countless difficulties and perform their mission, despite constant danger, many of them paying the ultimate price. It was a daily struggle for survival, requiring resourcefulness and performance despite the constant presence of fear and anxiety. This war articulated my personal definition of courage: the performance of one's duty despite one's fear.

For Jews who lived through the Yom Kippur War, the holiest of the High Holy days will never be the same. For us, it stands not only as a day of atonement, but as day of gratitude to God for the miracle of survival. It is also a time for remembering those who paid the ultimate price for preserving and protecting Israel, and will always commemorate a renewed commitment to preventing Israel from ever experiencing such a peril in the future.

*Dr. Itzhak Brook retired from the US Navy in 2006 after 27 years of service. He is a Professor of Pediatrics in Georgetown University and the author of the book: In the Sands of Sinai: A Physician's Account of the Yom Kippur War.*

## First Female Air Force Rabbi

Continued from page 10

"It was still dawn and I handed my 1-year-old, still-nursing daughter to my husband," she said. "I grabbed my rucksack, duffel bag and went downstairs to the waiting taxi."

As she looked up from the street just before entering the cab, she could see her husband standing in the window, holding her daughter in his arms. Trying to catch a glimpse of her loved ones in the muted morning light, she paused.

"With our eyes we said 'goodbye,'" Schechter said. "It was a powerful moment for me and my family, but it was also one of the most common experiences of humanity – thousands before us had to leave their family to go off to war. I just knew I had to stay focused on my job."

From the very beginning, her husband, Joe

Charnes, was supportive of her decision and stood behind her service, Schechter said.

"My family is proud of my service and in their own way, they are proud of their service, as dependents, as well," Schechter said. "Work and family balance is something everyone struggles with nowadays. We're living in very dangerous times and it requires special sacrifice on everyone's part, and this is my part."

Trying to translate pain into strength, Schechter said she directs her focus on her mission as a military chaplain – to help other people's sons and daughters in harm's way.

"We go where they go, we live where they live, we are suffering where they are suffering and we are celebrating where they are celebrat-

ing," she said.

Schechter again began her travels – leaving on her sixth deployment to celebrate Passover with troops, leaving her family, once again, to be there for her Airmen.

"We are all different, but I'm here to help," she said. "I'm motivated to be here. I joined because I deeply care about service members and what they do for our country. I serve out of loyalty to this country and out of devotion to my fellow service members. I think my units know this and appreciate that despite our differences.

Schechter said she plans on continuing her service and on staying with the Air Force for years to come. After all – she is one of a kind.

*Reprinted with permission from Military.com.*

## Voting Eligibility at the 2013 National Convention

To be in good standing and eligible to vote at the National Convention, all Posts must have complied with the following items:

- Complete IRS Form 990-N (or 990 or 990-EZ) and submit a copy to National Headquarters.
- Submit a completed Installation Form to National Headquarters.
- Submit a completed Financial Report, which must then be approved by the Finance Board Chairman.
- Purchase Fidelity Bond insurance.

If you have any questions about your Post's voting eligibility status, or need additional information, please contact

Greg Byrne at: [gbyrne@jwv.org](mailto:gbyrne@jwv.org)  
or (202) 265-6285



## Place Your Ad or Message in the 2013 Convention Journal!

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Inside Back Cover.....	\$500.00
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Half Page.....	7.5 x 5 inches....\$200.00
1/3 Page .....	7.5 x 3 inches....\$150.00
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1/6 Page .....	3.25 x 3 inches....\$75.00
1/10 Page .....	2 x 3.5 inches.....\$50.00

- Deadline for submission is July 15<sup>th</sup>.
- B+W ads only.
- All ads must be accompanied with payment at time of submission.
- Ads submitted without payment will not be included.

Contact Christy Turner for more information:  
P: 202-265-6280 • E-mail: [cturner@jwv.org](mailto:cturner@jwv.org)

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City

State

Zipcode

Post/Auxiliary Name and Number

Department

Authorized by: (Signature)

## 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Mission to Israel

Continued from page 1

when discovery by the British meant death for the 45 workers who toiled in the factory.

We later drove to Jerusalem, and the following morning we visited the Israel Museum where we toured the Shrine of the Book and its display of the Dead Sea Scrolls. After, we entered the Old City and visited the Jewish Quarter where some of us took advantage of the opportunity to visit the many shops in the Quarter. We also had falafel for lunch, a first for many in our group. We next toured the Chain of Generations, which tells the 3,500 year history of the Jewish people, and the Western Wall, the last remnant of the Second Temple.

The next day we visited Ammunition Hill, the site of a former Jordanian military post taken in 1967 in a bloody battle for the liberation of Jerusalem. While there, we visited the Wall in Honor of Jewish Combatants, honoring Jews who have served in armies around the world.

The following day was devoted to visiting the Christian holy sites. We crossed the Israeli check point at Bethlehem where we were met by Christian Arab tour guides. After a stop for some shopping near Manger Square, we entered the Church of the Nativity where we, along with crowds of visitors from around the world, observed the birthplace of Jesus.

After departing Bethlehem, we returned to Jerusalem and reentered the Old City to tour the

ancient Arab Quarter. We visited the Church of the Holy Sepulcher and walked the Via Delorosa, the route Jesus took between his condemnation by Pilate and his crucifixion, pausing at several of the Stations of the Cross along the way. It was a moving experience for our Christian friends.

We left Jerusalem for Sderot, a town less than a mile from the Gaza strip that has been attacked by thousands of rockets over the last 10 years. From the bus, the town looked surprisingly normal until you noticed the bomb shelters, most notably those in the playgrounds. We stopped at the Sderot Media Center where we learned about life in the city. While the number of casualties has been relatively low, the true impact of the rocket attacks on residents has been psychological. With our Media Center guides, we visited the Sderot Police Station where hundreds of rocket fragments are stored. One couldn't help but wonder what life in Sderot must be like.

We next traveled to Be'er Sheva in the northern Negev, where we were briefed by the Deputy Mayor and the Manager of Emergency Preparedness. In the latest flare up, Be'er Sheva was attacked by numerous rockets most of which were intercepted by the Iron Dome antimissile system.

Then, we drove south to Shizafon, an IDF armor corps base, where we were welcomed by officers of the 460th Armor Brigade. We were

given a briefing on the structure and organization of the IDF armor corps, and shown the simulator training for the tank crews. The instructors stressed that what was seen on the screens in the simulator was identical to what was observed by the tank crew. As one officer noted, in case of an emergency, the simulator connections are unhooked from the tanks and are then ready to go. In recognition of our visit we were all given 460th Armor Brigade tanker caps.

We left the armor base and traveled to Eilat, Israel's southernmost city on the Red Sea. Some of us purchased Eilat stones, a unique local stone, which are often fashioned into beautiful jewelry by local artisans. The next day in Eilat was a free day to walk around the bustling resort city. Following our last group dinner at a local Mediterranean restaurant, we boarded our El Al flight to Tel Aviv where we connected with our return flights to America.

The JWV 27th Annual Mission to Israel was truly a memorable experience. Credit for its success goes to our tour guide, Ronit, a retired IDF officer and passionate historian of the State of Israel, and to our bus driver, Remi, who shared with us the confidence and spirit of a true Israeli.

For information about the 2014 JWV Mission to Israel, contact Christy Turner at (202) 265-6280 or at [cturner@jwv.org](mailto:cturner@jwv.org).



# JEWISH WAR VETERANS of the USA

## 118<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION

### AUGUST 18-25, 2013 • RICHMOND, VA

**Omni Richmond Hotel** 100 South 12th Street • Richmond, Virginia 23219  
 Phone: (804) 344-7000 • Fax: (804) 648-6704

Hotel Registration deadline is Monday, July 15. A one night (\$140/single or double) deposit is required for all hotel registrations. A 3-night minimum stay is required.

*Hotel reservations must be made through JWV or the surcharge will be assessed and attendance at meetings will not be allowed. There is a \$150 Convention surcharge for those not staying at the Omni Richmond Hotel. Local Members living within a 50 mile radius are exempt.*

#### Partial Schedule of Events

(Subject to Change)

**Daily • Aug 20-23**  
Morning Minyan

**Monday • Aug 19**  
Tour of Richmond  
& Wreath Laying Ceremony  
NMAJMH Event

**Tuesday • Aug 20**  
NEC Meeting  
Committee Meetings

**Wednesday • Aug 21**  
Joint Opening Session  
Resolutions  
1st JWV Business Session  
Century Club Event  
& Kosher Dinner at the  
Virginia Holocaust Museum

**Thursday • Aug 22**  
2nd Business Session  
Committee Meetings  
Resolutions  
National President's  
Banquet

**Friday • Aug 23**  
3rd Business Session  
Committee Meetings  
National Commander  
Elections  
Shabbat Evening  
Services

**Saturday • Aug 24**  
Shabbat Services  
NMAJMH  
Board Meeting  
Commander's Banquet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Post No: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Room will be shared with: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Arriving at: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Departing at: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Total nights: \_\_\_\_\_

JWV 118 <sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention	Cost	How Many?	Amount
Convention Registration Fee	\$50.00 per member		
I prefer: <input type="checkbox"/> King (Single Room) <input type="checkbox"/> 2 beds (Double Room)	\$140.00 per night		
3rd Person in a room	\$76.00		
Minimum Deposit Only	\$140.00		
Convention Surcharge for those not staying at the Hotel	\$150.00		
Tour of Richmond and Memorial Wreath Laying, Monday, Aug. 19	\$45.00 per person		
<b>Open to All Convention Attendees!</b> Century Club Event & Kosher Dinner at the Virginia Holocaust Museum, Wednesday, Aug. 21	\$50 per person		
Commander's Banquet, Saturday, Aug. 24 No. of: London Broil _____ Grilled Salmon _____ Kosher _____ Sugar Free Dessert _____	\$42.50 per person		
Raffle Tickets	\$5.00 Each or 3 for \$10.00		
You must include full payment for all event(s) that you plan on attending. Reservations for trips or activities will only be made if paid in full.	<b>Total:</b>		
I am paying by <input type="checkbox"/> Check <input type="checkbox"/> Credit card:			
<input type="checkbox"/> American Express <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/> Discover			
Card No.	Exp. /		
Signature			
Sign and mail this completed form, along with your payment to: <b>Jewish War Veterans • 1811 R Street, NW • Washington, DC 20009 • Attn: Convention Dept.</b>			

Transportation from the airport: Cabs are available at the airport. If you would like to schedule a ride in advance, contact James River Transportation at 804-342-7300.

Visit them online at <http://jamesrivertrans.com/>

Parking: Valet parking is available for JWV members at a special \$17 per day rate with unlimited in/out privileges.

# JWV AROUND THE COUNTRY



On March 5, 2013, Post 112 SE was recognized and commended by the Georgia House of Representatives for the work they do to support veterans. Left to right (Row 1): DC Joe Kraut; (Row 2): Rabbi Avrohom Horovitz, Sam Benator, Barry Benator, Robert Max, Representative Tom Rice; (Row 3): George Jordan, Bob Maran; (Row 4): Celia Gilner, Sid Glassman; (Row 5): David Ralston, Speaker of the House, GA House of Representatives.



Post 126 NJ honored its members who will be 90 years-old or older in 2013 at a brunch on April 7th. There are 56 such 'special veterans' in the Post, including Irving Porten and Max Rosenberg who will be 99 years old in 2013. State Senator James Beach was the guest speaker and honored each 'special veteran' with a Senate Proclamation in recognition of their service to their country. The 25 'special veterans' who attended the brunch at Temple Beth Sholom were: Harold Bauch, Jr., David Block, Joseph Diamond, Morris Dworkin, Nathan Getzenberg, Martin Glassman, Seymour Kaplan, Herbert Kaster, Major Robert Korach, USA (Ret.), Benjamin Lichtman, Martin Lorber, Dr. Jack Lutz, Jack Moldoff, Bernard Morgenstern, Captain Solomon Pflag, USN (Ret.), Manuel Reisman, Dr. Alfred Ritter, Harry Rosenberg, Maurice Sady, Abner Salon, Milton Sandler, Arthur Seltzer, Thelma Slutsky, Bernard Vernick, and Jack Weinstein.



Department Commander of MD Erwin Burtnick and National Commander Sheldon Ohren stand in front of a monument dedicated to Jewish service members in Owings Mills, MD, following the community's annual Memorial Day program.



Passover care packages from Post 425 NY made it possible for 36 individuals with DoD, the Department of State, the US Army Corps of Engineers, the US Agency for International Development, and the British Embassy in Baghdad to enjoy a Seder in Iraq. For more information about Post 425's program, visit [www.jewishwarveteransny.org](http://www.jewishwarveteransny.org).



Post 380 MD participated in Annapolis's annual Memorial Day parade. Left to right: Jody Goldsmith, Howard Pinskey (USNA '62), Eric Kahn, Earl Diamond (USNA '61), Art Torf, and Gill Gonzales, this year's Parade Grand Marshal.



Post 98 PA honored LTC Kathy Brill, USA (Ret.), with the Four Chaplains Bronze Award for her service in Iraq and Afghanistan, including her efforts to send a young Iraqi boy to Israel for a lifesaving heart operation. Left to right: Junior-Vice Commander Gilbert Benedict, Senior-Vice Commander Bernie Lertzman, PNC Jack Litz, Sylvester Freedman, Post Commander Don Feldman, Jack, LTC Brill, PDP Gloria Abramson, DP Barbara Steiner, Post Chaplain Emanuel Triebwasser.

# JWV AROUND THE COUNTRY



Dr. Robert Pickard, Post 243 FL, served as doctor for the day at the annual Florida National Guard Day on March 19 in Tallahassee, FL. Left to right: Dr. Pickard and Brigadier General Michael Calhoun.



Lt Col Walter and Anita Stern attend the West Point Jewish Baccalaureate on May 23, 2013. Lt Col Stern has participated in this program for over 30 years and currently serves as the liaison to West Point's Chapel. Every year, the National Office provides Kiddush cups to graduating cadets at the US Military, Naval, Air Force, and Coast Guard Academies.



MAJ Marc A. Krauss, USA (Ret), was chosen by Post 273 NJ to be the Grand Marshall of the annual Springfield, NJ, Memorial Day Parade on May 27th. Krauss is the youngest member of Post 273 and the only Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran. Richard Shipman, Post Commander, said, "For his 21 years of service to his country, with two tours in Iraq, for his complete commitment to the Springfield community, serving as a member of the Township Committee, among other duties, I am proud and honored to present this year's Grand Marshall, Major, Retired, Marc A. Krauss."



Post 609 NJ presents a check for \$5,000 to the National Guard State Family Readiness Council (NGSFRC), which aids needy families of New Jersey Guardsmen called to active duty. Left to right: Millie Safar, Adjutant; Woody Schlackman, Quartermaster; Sgt/Major Len Meyersohn, Chairman, NGSFRC; Bernie Passer, Commander; Shelley Bloom, Sr. Vice Commander; Frank Slavin, Past Commander. Photo by Ed Hornichter.

Post 749 TALO commemorated Memorial Day by placing flags on the gravesites of local Jewish veterans with support from Boy Scout Troop #613 and members of Temple Mount Sinai and Congregation B'nai Zion. This event was the first of its kind in the El Paso Jewish community. Left to right: Post Commander Scott Stevens, David Cohen, Ricky Lozoya, and Julian Cohen.



FL Senator Maria Sachs presented a \$10,000 donation to Post 266 FL on behalf of the FL Democratic Party. Upon presenting the check, Senator Sachs told members, "When my dad, Russell F. Lorts (deceased), a combat wounded World War II veteran, was at the VA hospital it was the Jewish War Veterans that always came to visit. I will never forget how wonderful they were in reaching out to each and every veteran, especially those who needed it the most." Left to right: Commander Morris Goldfarb, Senator Sachs, Roberta White, and Ray White. Photo by Joshua Freeman, Office of Senator Sachs.



Post 755 TALO hosted an exhibit at Congregation Beth El's Jewish American History Day. Front: Peter Levy, Junior-Vice Commander. Back (left to right): George Sepp, Past Post Commander; Ken Sherwin, Past Post Commander; Julian Haber, Past Post Commander; and two students from Congregation Beth El Sunday School.

# NEW MEMBERS

## DEPARTMENT AT LARGE

Joseph Rosenfeld-100 • Robert D. Ross-100 • Joshua Taylor-100 • Dean Smernoff-344 • Morton Stein-344

## DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

Meghan Bodnar-385 • Stan Schaeffer-385 • Marsha A. Schjolberg-385 • Steven G. Schjolberg-385 • Harold Axelrod-512 • Leon P. Gilbert-603 • Alvin I. Gordon-603 • Rubin Kadin-603 • Joel P. Markowitz-603 • Robert Ostroff-603 • Bernard Rubenstein-603 • Stan H. Rubin-603 • Michael Cohen-617

## DEPARTMENT OF CONNECTICUT

Morley J. Gann-45 • Paul A. Herman-45 • Joel Lefkowitz-45 • Aaron Rozovsky-45 • Lawrence H. Cassyd-51 • Philip E. Schechter-142

## DEPARTMENT OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Alexander Levy-676

## DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

Ammos Chorny-202 • Martin J. Goldstein-202 • Robert J. Grossman-202 • Joel I. Treewater-202 • Les R. Winn-265 • David Abrams-352 • Alvin Corenblum-352 • Babara Fieldman-352 • Mark Kirschner-352 • Ira Pozen-352 • Robert Silver-352 • Donald C. Wiedis-459 • Fred Sirota-475 • Harvey B. Brodsky-501 • Walter Weil-502 • Sewall P. Bronstein-549 • Irving H. Kershen-631 • Edward Reisher-631 • Robert Turner-631 • Donald A. Wexler-631 • Joseph Yashpeh-631 • Paul I. Dervin-639 • Howard D. Gans-639 • Herbert H. Zeichick-639 • Alfred J. Fait-684 • Bernard Owen-819 • Burt Richards-819

## DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS

Nehemiah Hasak-29 • Julia Muys-29 • Arnold W.

Sandler-29 • Herbert Schneiderman-29 • Sheldon W. Witcoff-29 • George Blinick-89 • Jerome Gerchikov-089 • Kalmon Yudkowsky-328 • Heath Levey-710

## DEPARTMENT OF MIDWEST-

Richard S. Brockman-605 • Larry Chervitz-644 • Edward J. Karfeld-644 • Jeffrey M. Silver-644

## DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND

Harry M. Goldstein-167 • Matthew Lipsky-167

## DEPARTMENT OF MASSACHUSETTS

Corey Burchman-22 • Marshall Levy-74 • Mark L. Selkowitz-140 • Carlton Glatry-211 • Samuel A. Oxman-211 • Robert S. Winer-211 • Ira S. Ockene-638

## DEPARTMENT OF MICHIGAN

Norman R. Robiner-135 • Carl B. Lauter-333 • Leonard G. Wayne-333 • Ronald Wonboy-333 • Albert I. Katzman-474 • Graham H. Landau-474 • Sheldon Plotnik-474 • Reed M. Benet-510 • Benjamin Netzky-510

## DEPARTMENT OF NEVADA

Richard Besmanoff-21 • Philip J. Fiol-21 • Rob W. Schweighardt-21 • Gary Howard Bordman-64 • Stanley Tolpen-64 • David Miller-65 • David Wolfson-65

## DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

Leo Groen-39 • Walter Lido-39 • Lee M. Roseman-39 • Stephen Altman-126 • Jack Lutz-126 • Jack Usdin-273 • Murray Richman-651

## DEPARTMENT OF NEW YORK

Paul Denenberg-41 • David L. Blumenfeld-42 • David Cohen-191 • Bernard Mayrsohn-191 • Arthur Dubow-250 • David Edgeworth-425 • Alvin Kravitz-488 • Robert J. Lerner-625 • Michael Hellman-648 • George Birnbaum-717

• Judith Schnall-717 • Irving Smyle-724 • David Mendell-731 • Charles Lewis-758 • Steven Baher-764 • Loretta Weiss-764 • Gerald Wienberg-764

## DEPARTMENT OF OHIO

Stuart J. Pollak-122 • Mike J. Bass-222 • Herbert L. Jacobs-222 • Robert K. Feist-587 • Martin Nizny-587

## DEPARTMENT OF PENNSYLVANIA

Bernard Cohen-98 • Norman Dynner-98 • Stanley Silverman-98 • Andy Dlinn, USNR (Ret) 499 • Harris Popolow-575 • Leonard Abelson-791 • Lawrence R. Snyder-791

## DEPARTMENT OF SOUTHWEST

Steven Parker-194 • Edwin Hirsch-201 • Sandor Shuch-210

## DEPARTMENT OF TX, AR, LA, OK

Bruce Cohen-256 • Marvin Greenberg-256 • Braeden Hulme-256 • Howard Kessner-256 • James Anselmo-580 • Benard Hirsch-749 • Ronald Weingarden-749 • Morris J. Kirschberg-753 • Sanford Fitlin-757 • Marshall Sack-757

## DEPARTMENT OF VA-NC

Leonard Cohen-95 • Benjay Kempner-158 • Benjamin Simon-158 • David Zivnuska-158

## DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

Albert Simon-701

## PEOPLE & PLACES

► **Seymour Bloom, Post 603 CA**, received the Male Volunteer of the Year Award from the VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System. He has gone above and beyond the work of most volunteers. His service includes leading a photography class for 40 veteran students, serving as the official photographer for Voluntary Service Events at VA Sepulveda, and joining with his Post to conduct bingo and trivia games at the VA.

► In memory of author and **Post 76 NJ** member, **Dan Kurzman**, Post Commander and Chaplain, David Kronick and Howard Barmad presented a copy of Kurzman's book, *No Greater Glory* to Father Joseph Mancini at St. Stephen in Kearny, NJ. The book, which recounts the story of the Four Chaplains, has special meaning for congregants at St. Stephen

Church where one of the chaplains, Father John P. Washington, worked.

► **Harvey Segal, Post 302 MA**, was awarded the Legion of Honor on April 8, 2013 from the French government for his service in WWII.

► On May 5, 2013, **Al Perdeck, Post 657 NJ**, received the Seven Seals Award from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve.

► **Post 21 NV** presented a special program on Americanism to the students at Lummis Elementary School in Las Vegas, NV. They also hosted a special essay contest on "What Does Being an American Mean to Me?" Lorryn Ashley, the winner of the contest, was recognized in front of the school by representatives of Auxiliary 21 NV.



Jim Eilberg, Zev-Adi and Zipporah Goldberg place flags at the graves of Jewish veterans at the Forest Lawn Cemetery as part of Post 158 VA's efforts to honor the Jewish veterans of the Hampton Roads area. According to Post Commander Adam Goldberg, "It is a wonderful thing that Americans get together every Memorial Day for BBQs and good company. But of course, it is always important to remember why we have this day. To celebrate the blessed memory of those who have gone before us and have had to make the ultimate sacrifice."

# REUNIONS

► The Society of the First Infantry Division, veterans of the Army's "Big Red One," will hold its 95th Annual Reunion from July 31-August 4 in Jacksonville, FL at the Sawgrass Marriott. Details are available at [www.1stID.org](http://www.1stID.org). For more information, contact [soc1ID@aol.com](mailto:soc1ID@aol.com), 215-654-1969.

► The 23rd Reunion of the USS John R. Craig (DD-885) will be held September 4-8, 2013 in South Portland, ME. For more information, contact Jerry Chwalek at [jermail@ameritech.net](mailto:jermail@ameritech.net), 734-525-1469 or visit [www.ussjohncraig.com](http://www.ussjohncraig.com).

► Kilo Company, 3rd Bn., 7th Marine Rgt., and attached units will be having a reunion in Jacksonville, FL, September 18-23. For more information, contact William Rolke at [k37usmc@att.net](mailto:k37usmc@att.net), 262-780-0993 or Don Tackett at [tdontack@netscape.net](mailto:tdontack@netscape.net), 678-725-0329.

► The 11th Airborne Division Association, and those former members of the 11th Air Assault Division, the 187th Airborne RCT, and the 503rd Airborne RCT, will meet in Fayetteville, NC on September 22-26, 2013 for their reunion and to celebrate their 70th Anniversary! Contact National Secretary, Randy Kuhn, at 877-922-3936, or at [rkcoal188@gmail.com](mailto:rkcoal188@gmail.com).

► September 24-29, 2013: US Navy/Marines, USS Hornet (CV-8, CV-12, CVA-12, CVS-12) will have a reunion in Providence, RI at the Crowne Plaza, 801 Greenwich Ave., Warwick, RI, 02886, 401-732-6000, 800-227-6963. Contact Carl and Sandy Burket, PO Box 108, Roaring Spring, PA 16673, 814-224-5063, [hornetcva@aol.com](mailto:hornetcva@aol.com) for more information or visit <http://www.usshornetassn.com>.

► The USS Warrington (DD843) will be holding a reunion at the Embassy Suites in Valley Forge, PA, September 25-29, 2013. For more information, contact Stan Prager at [stashuman843@msn.com](mailto:stashuman843@msn.com), 916-791-6700.

► Marine Air Groups (WWII to the present) will be holding their reunion in Branson, MO, October 2-5, 2013. To learn more, contact Bob Miller at [mbobsue13@gmail.com](mailto:mbobsue13@gmail.com), 636-327-5854.

► There will be a reunion for the USS Iwo Jima (LPH2/LHD7) shipmates for all ship company and embarked Navy and Marine Corps personnel at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in San Diego, CA, October 2-6, 2013. For more information, contact Robert G. McAnally at [yujack@megalink.net](mailto:yujack@megalink.net), 757-723-0317 or visit [ussiwojimashipmates.cfns.net](http://ussiwojimashipmates.cfns.net).

► The 69th Infantry Division Association will be holding its 66th annual reunion October 14-20, 2013 at the Holiday Inn, Opryland/ Airport in Nashville, TN. Contact George C. West at [gwest2526@aol.com](mailto:gwest2526@aol.com), 610-432-3598 or

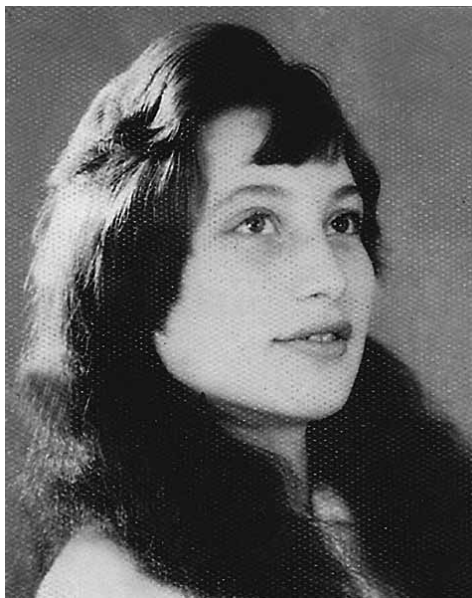
visit [www.69th-infantry-division.com](http://www.69th-infantry-division.com) for more information.

► The USS Waldron (DD699) Alumni are having their 14th Reunion October 23-27, 2013 in New Orleans, LA. Contact Bill Turner at 985-264-3294 or [dtessti@cs.com](mailto:dtessti@cs.com) for more information.

► The veterans of the USS Philippine Sea, "the most decorated" aircraft carrier of the Korean War, will meet at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Jacksonville, FL from October 24-29, 2013. Eligibility: anyone, including US Marine Corps, Air Groups and Squadrons, who served in any capacity onboard from 1946 until she was decommissioned in 1958. For more information, contact USS Philippine Sea Association, PO Box 496412, Port Charlotte, FL 33949-6412; [philsea@embarqmail.com](mailto:philsea@embarqmail.com); [www.philsea.org](http://www.philsea.org).

## IN SEARCH OF

► My name is Lee Benso. and I am trying to help my sister, Helene El Maleme, find Charlie Brooks. She knew Charlie in 1959, when he was stationed in Port Lyautey/Kenitra near Rabat in Morocco. When he left to fight in the Vietnam War, the plan was for them to stay in contact. Helene never heard from Charlie again, and she tried unsuccessfully to find out information about him, so she could get back in touch. She was carrying his child. She gave birth to a boy, who has grown up to be a learned and highly respected rabbi in Jerusalem, who has also served courageously as an Officer in the IDF. He wants to meet or know about his father. And Charlie, if you are reading this, any father would be proud to have such a son. Anyone who knows anything about Charlie Brooks is invited to contact me at 416-722-3243 or [leebenson@rogers.com](mailto:leebenson@rogers.com). Attached is a picture of what Helene looked like in 1959. Anyone who recognizes the picture and knows information is invited to contact me.



► In January/early February 1953, I was serving with the 7th regiment, 3rd infantry in Korea. I was assigned to a clearing company, which is where they bring the wounded. We got a call that we were getting a wounded soldier. Unfortunately, he was the medic, and with him hit there was no one there to help. There were two skilled doctors working on him, but he was hit in the femoral artery and ended up bleeding to death. For 60 years, I've tried to get in touch with his family, his name was Low and he was from the Chicago area. I was standing there when he passed away. When I found out he was Jewish, I said a Kaddish for him. I just want to let his family know that he didn't die alone. If you're related to this individual, I would appreciate you contacting me. My name is Paul Raudt and I can be reached at 954-668-7903.

► Holocaust survivor, Menachem Bodner, was just four years old when he was liberated in 1945 from Auschwitz concentration camp. Now 72, retired, and living in Israel, Menachem is on a quest to locate his identical twin brother, last seen at Auschwitz, when the two were separated just before liberation. Red Cross records show Menachem's brother was alive two weeks after Auschwitz was liberated. Also, from the Red Cross list, Menachem learned his real name was Elias Gottesman. His brother's name is Jenö, and he has the number A7734 tattooed on his arm. His name may have been changed after the war. If you have any information, contact Ayana Kimron at [Familyroots2000@gmail.com](mailto:Familyroots2000@gmail.com)

► If anyone knows of a Jewish GI doctor from Philadelphia or the East Coast who was in DP Camp Bindermichel, near Linz, Austria in 1945 or 1946, and took a photo of my parents Irving and Faye Porter and gave it to the Yiddish Forvartz paper, please contact me. This photo made it possible for my Uncle Morris, Aunt Betty, and Cousin Allen Porter of Chicago to get in touch with the HIAS and send us money to Europe to get us over here on the second boat of refugees, the Marine Perch, which came to Ellis Island in 1946. Please contact their son, Dr. Jack Porter, 79 Walnut Street, Unit 4, Newton, MA 02460; 617-965-8388; [jack.porter1@verizon.net](mailto:jack.porter1@verizon.net); [www.drjackporter.com](http://www.drjackporter.com).

► My father, Major General Petr Semenovich Vashurin, was involved in a meeting with the Allied Forces at the Elbe River on April 25, 1945. I would like to connect with veterans who met on the Elbe in 1945 or their descendants. Please contact me at Zarina Vashurina; [zarvash@yandex.ru](mailto:zarvash@yandex.ru); +7 499 147 7280; Mosfilmovskaya Street, Bldg. 13, apt. 15, Moscow 119330, Russia.

## Civil Rights Committee

By Chairman Jerry Berns

I've been the National Chairman of the Civil Rights Committee for the past eleven years. I have written about Jews and their struggles in different parts of the world. This time we'll look at the Jews in China.

As far back as the 7th or 8th Century, Jews have lived in different parts of China. The first settlers were business people who stayed and made their home in the country. As their small population grew, there were a number of intermarriages that stayed Jewish. There were also a number of conversions among Chinese people to Judaism. Today, there are no official places of worship left, but small groups still gather to pray in someone's home. Most notably, these gatherings take place for the Passover Seder and the Kol Nidre Service on Yom Kippur.

Kaifeng City has the most Jews in China, approximately 500-700. Small numbers of Jews are in Shanghai, Canton, Hong Kong, and Beijing. There is a Jewish Cemetery located in Harbin in Northeast China. The cemetery was founded by Russia in 1898 and is the best-preserved cemetery in the Far East.

Kaifeng first prospered with the coming of the Trans-Manchurian Railway, known today as the Chinese Eastern Railway. This region was inhabited by an overwhelming majority of Jewish immigrants.

Before 1949 there wasn't much anti-Semitism in the country. After 1949 the Chinese communists took over and a number of Jews made a mass exodus for fear of anti-Semitism.

Some Jews seem to be returning at a slow rate. It is estimated that the Jewish population at this point is at 1,500-1,600 for all of China. It is believed that some are not declaring themselves as Jewish for fear of repercussions.

In Kaifeng there was an es-

established synagogue but an earthquake destroyed it in the 1840's. It was never rebuilt. Today, the elder Jews are considering establishing a Museum of Chinese-Jewish History. The Kaifeng municipal government believes it would become a tourist attraction. They support the idea of this project.

Chinese Jews are also seeking recognition as China's 97th recognized nationality, which would bring them many benefits.

Let us not forget, civil rights are freedom of speech, religion, the press, assembly, the right to vote, and the right to equality in public places.

## Development Committee

By Chairman Monte Mayer, PNC

A leading English language Israeli newspaper tells us that there was a 30 percent increase in 2012 in acts of anti-Semitism and vandalism. This news makes our mission at JWV that much more important. We must tell the story of Jewish men and women who served our nation, heroically, in every conflict this nation was involved in. We must not only tell ourselves this story, but must do it publicly, in print, direct participation, and every possible social situation. We must disseminate that knowledge to our fellow citizens, and people the globe over, in order for them to reflect on our contributions to this country, the world, and hope to forestall any violent actions against us.

We must also participate in public memorials and parades at every instance, so that we are recognized, and our presence will be felt. JWV, sadly, is a well-kept secret. Our lack of public participation in many instances has caused this shroud to cover us. The best way to build interest and membership in our organization is for us to be seen. The oncoming holidays will provide us the reason to show our organization off. You must participate in your community's patriotic commemorations and

celebrations. Have photos taken and provide these to us too. More important, however, is to get these items into local newspapers, radio, TV, and Jewish publications. We have served our nation, we must serve our people...and that doesn't mean someone else, it means YOU.

We are thankful that many of you have sent in pictures and stories that we have published in our calendar and *The Jewish Veteran*. However, we do need more of these items, and we look to you, the reader, to forward your story to us. Please reflect that if we don't tell our story...who will?

## Homeless/Stand Down Committee

By Chairman Maxwell S. Colón, PDC

Major David Coté, a Marine officer, has created a statistical model on how to help homeless veterans. The model focuses on what outside factors influence whether or not a homeless veteran will fail or succeed in treatment for drugs and/or alcohol dependence.

According to his model, if a veteran has been in jail or has a prior history of mental health problems, he or she will be more likely to drop out of a treatment program in the first few months. In addition, his findings show that long-term physical illnesses, like diabetes, increase the likelihood that the veteran will commit to the treatment program to completion. Homeless veterans were also more likely to complete treatment. Coming to rehab from living on the streets also means a higher rate of success.

This data has the ability to change how we approach homeless veterans and veterans at risk for homelessness while they are in treatment programs. It allows the organizations responsible for this rehabilitation to better serve veterans who are at a higher risk for failure in treatment.

What is important to realize is that if an organization knows which veterans have a higher risk, or if their needs are different, they

can properly allocate resources to best serve those veterans. If we can make decisions that are supported by data, we can move in the right direction towards helping homeless veterans.

Looking at the various factors between who dropped out or who stayed with the programs, including education, health, living conditions, past trauma history from domestic violence, etc., Coté was able to find the biggest predictors of success or failure: mental health problems, chronic illness, and living situation before entering the program.

Solving the issue of homeless veterans can also lessen the burden on our taxpayers. Studies have found that if you can identify the most frequent users of countywide services, for example, emergency rooms or jails, and provide them with housing and primary medical care, you can immediately reduce emergency hospital expenses.

By dramatically reducing the number of trips to the emergency rooms, stays in hospital rooms and days in jail, we can save millions of taxpayers' dollars, which can be put to better use. Homeless veterans that were given housing and primary medical services have shown a reduction in emergency room visits, ambulance rides, inpatient medical stays, arrests, and the number of days they spent in jail. Many of these homeless veterans have gone on to get and hold jobs, further reducing the taxpayers' burden.

In the next edition of *The Jewish Veteran*, I will further enlighten you on our homeless veterans.

## NMI Certificate Committee

By Chairman Hannah Deutch

For the past few years I have been trying to get JWV members to use our NMI Certificates for all occasions. We have reduced the price from \$50 for 5 certificates to \$40 for 5 certificates. Remember, when



## Attention JWV members with MEDICARE & TRICARE

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you buy a card today it costs an average of \$4. Our certificates can be used for any occasion, as you write your own message. The income from this project helps the Museum in a small way, but if we all pitched in it would grow in quantity. So please, write your check and send it to Mary Westley at the Museum. For more information, contact Mary at 202-265-6280 or [mwestley@nmajmh.org](mailto:mwestley@nmajmh.org). Our Museum is Quality, and now we need your help to save it in Quantity. Thank you in anticipation.

### Women in the Military Committee

By Vice-Chairman E.G. “Jerry” Farris, PDC

If I understand correctly the manner in which some of our Congress people want to recalculate veteran disability compensation, it scares the heck out of me! Oh wait! It’s not just those on VA disability, but anyone receiving Social Security, too!

For years we have held our breath in anticipation for an announcement of an increase to our Social Security and/or VA disability payments called a COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment). Most years we get a small raise, which is barely enough to cover the cost of increases in Medicare.

If some people in Washington have their way, all that will stop. They want to introduce a CPI

rate adjustment called a “Chained Consumer Price Index.” It works something like this: say a product, like those shoes you bought at the local shoe store, became more expensive than the most people can afford. Those people would then shop at a less expensive shoe store. That means the index for that product (the expensive shoe) has dropped; and that drop affects the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

This “newer” method of calculating inflation is felt to be a “truer” indication of the actual rate of inflation and would result in less of an increase over the years. So what does this mean for you and me? Instead of the 1.7 percent increase we saw in our checks this year (and most of us thought that was small), we might have seen only a 1.4 percent increase. That may not sound like much less, but over 25 years, a veteran rated at 100 percent disability would lose over \$2,300 using the chained CPI measure.

Many seniors and disabled veterans already purchase food from generic vendors, or double-up with another person for a membership in a bulk grocery store just to be able to afford groceries. Some are buying clothing from second-hand shops or from places like Goodwill. If their (or our) checks begin to decrease, and do so significantly, where will the food and clothing come from? The garbage can? Yard sales?

In the past, many women worked in smaller

companies, making little over minimum wage. They didn’t mind at the time. When their children came along, many left the work force until the children graduated school and then those women went back to work. Few skills, or little experience, led to low wages, resulting in smaller Social Security checks. Imagine their lot if they’re in the group affected by the new CPI.

Chained CPI will affect our veterans and our elderly, but it will also hurt our children and our grandchildren. It will mean anyone working will need to have more money put away for retirement; and not just a few dollars a month. They will be forced to squeeze their budgets, live as cheaply as possible...and that’s all before they are old enough to retire! They will need to start saving the moment they begin working.

Perhaps it is time we all contact our Congressmen and women and let them know we are opposed to their cutting our monetary benefits in order to balance their budget. Therefore, I implore you to get on the phone, the computer, the typewriter (if you still have one), or pen a letter by hand. Let your friends and neighbors know what’s happening and encourage them to speak out too.

If we remain silent and the discussion of a Chained CPI becomes the new way our raises are constructed, we will have no one to blame but ourselves. Now get crackin’!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This June, NMAJMH participated in the Dupont-Kalorama Museums Consortium's (DKMC) 30th Annual Walk Weekend. This wonderful event encourages tourists and DC locals to visit and explore the museum offerings in the historic Dupont Circle neighborhood of Washington, DC where NMAJMH is located.

I am proud to announce that this year we received 175 visitors throughout the day. This was our largest number of Walk Weekend visitors to date. Credit for the success of this event goes to Mary Westley, Museum Coordinator, for her efforts putting together a seamless program; Mike Rugel, Assistant Collections Manager, for coordinating the films shown during the event; Greg Byrne, JWV Membership Coordinator, for managing the technology needs

throughout the day; and Marcia Waldstreicher, Museum Docent, for leading informative tours of our collection. This day would not have been a success without the tireless work of each of these individuals.

For Memorial Day weekend, NMAJMH was privileged to Partner with JWV and 6th and I Historic Synagogue for the Third Annual National Shabbat Service Honoring the Jewish Fallen Heroes of Iraq and Afghanistan. We were honored to be joined by the families of SFC Daniel J. Agami and 1LT Daniel Farkas for this moving tribute to the lives and service of the American Jewish casualties of Operations Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, and New Dawn.

It is my hope that many of you recognized the sacrifices of these individuals by reading their

names at Shabbat services and at Memorial Day events in your own communities. May their names and their memories be a blessing to us all.

Those of you visiting the Museum will soon notice a new addition to the front of our building. Thanks to a generous donation from MSgt Sidney H. Lichter, USAF, Post 146 NJ, and his family the Museum will soon have a brand new sign to attract visitors. It is our hope that this new, eye-catching sign will encourage spontaneous, unplanned visits from tourists and local residents who pass by our Museum.

I am also happy to report that the work on our building's roof is nearly complete. This building maintenance will ensure the continued stability and security of our Museum in the years ahead. The



**PNC Norman Rosenshein  
President, NMAJMH**

final stage of repair work will be completed in the next few weeks.

Finally, I look forward to seeing many of you in Richmond, VA at the 118th Annual National Convention in August. NMAJMH's Board of Directors meeting will take place from 1:30-3:30pm on Saturday, August 24. I encourage you to join me for what will be an informative meeting on the future of NMAJMH.

## FROM OUR ARCHIVES **By Pamela Elbe**

Collections Manager/Archivist NMAJMH

### SEEKING VIETNAM WAR PHOTOGRAPHS AND ARCHIVAL MATERIALS

In the last issue of *The Jewish Veteran*, we requested memorabilia donations from Iraq and Afghanistan veterans. Many veterans responded and we have been able to better represent Jewish service in these most recent American conflicts. We still, however, have areas of our collection that are lacking.

While the Museum has a number of interesting artifacts and collections from the Vietnam War, this period in American history is underrepresented within the Museum's collections. The National Museum of American Jewish Military History needs your help to fully document Jewish service in the American military during the Vietnam War. Please consider donating items that document your personal experiences—things like photographs, correspondence, records, and unique objects that you encountered during your deployment—so that we can share your stories with future generations. We are particularly interested in growing our collection of Vietnam War photographs. If you have captioned

photos (dated with people or places identified), we would love to add them to our archives.

If you have material that you are willing to donate to NMAJMH, please contact Pamela Elbe, Collections Manager, at [pelbe@nmajmh.org](mailto:pelbe@nmajmh.org). You can learn more about donating to the Museum and how our collection is used by visiting NMAJMH's website at <http://www.nmajmh.org/collectionsAndResearch/collectionAndArchives.php>.

The mission of NMAJMH is to collect and preserve, for future generations, memorabilia, and written and oral records of the patriotic contributions of Jewish Americans who served in the armed forces of the United States from the time of the founding of this country to the present. The Museum has acquired nearly all of the objects in our collection through the generosity of individuals such as you, making our collection one that truly reflects the diverse experiences of Jewish Americans in the US Armed Forces.



**497th Tactical Fighter Squadron cap with handwritten tally on bill. Orange tallies represent legitimate missions into North Vietnam, others are missions into Laos. Donated by Sheldon Goldberg.**

## Memories

Iris Goldwasser, Development Chairman

Not long ago, I saw a movie that was emotionally touching as it reminded me that every day is a gift. It was a documentary that focused on World War II veterans and stressed the fact that we are losing them at an alarming rate every day.

All of these veterans have stories to tell, but most of these memories are never passed on because they are too painful to remember. They never discuss them, even with their families. All their experiences, good or bad, must be remembered, not locked away in some basement or attic.

In order not to repeat history, we must learn from it. Every new generation must learn from the past. It is incumbent on our JWV and JWVA members who have experienced military service to unlock those memories and share their remembrances. NMAJMH has stored some veterans' stories – what about yours?

If you have military experiences that belong in our Museum's archives tell us, call us. Remember, your service to our country is also a legacy to future generations.

Storing your memories is only one service available at NMAJMH. We need your support to continue to survive. Your contributions to our Paver Program, Tree of Honor, Memorial Candle Program, Yahrzeit Program, and Certificates enable us to continue.

Our Paver Program is available to anyone, member or not, who wants to become a permanent part of our Museum. These pavers are designed to cover the steps and front entrance of our building and can be ordered in a 4x8 size, with two to three lines of inscription, or an 8x8 size, with up to eight lines of inscription.

A bronze leaf on our Tree of Honor can be inscribed for any occasion and can memorialize a special event or be a tribute to someone special.

More information regarding our programs

is available through our Washington office; just ask for Mary Westley at 202-265-6280 or email [mwestley@nmajmh.org](mailto:mwestley@nmajmh.org).

In closing, I remind you that NMAJMH needs not only the gift of your memory and experiences, but the gift of your financial support as well. You are our Museum – won't you partner with us?

### Comments from our Visitors

**"As a Jew (Canadian) I am so happy to have had the privilege of seeing the American Jews who served honored!!! A tremendously important museum." –Anonymous**

**"I am so proud (as a Jew) to come and visit this most important museum. My husband served our Army after volunteering. I am a Life Member of Post 44's Auxiliary in Cleveland, OH and will certainly get more involved in its support." –Annette Szabo**

## From Our Collection By Mike Rugel

Assistant Collections Manager/NMAJMH

### Abraham Baum - His Remarkable WWII Experience

Abraham Baum died on March 3rd. Just a glance at the collection of his medals at NMAJMH shows how remarkable his WWII experience was. He's best known for his command of the controversial Task Force Baum, a mission to free officers imprisoned at Oflag XIIIIB near Hammelburg, Germany. The mission was ordered by Gen. George S. Patton, and it is widely considered to be one of Patton's few blunders – an ill-conceived effort motivated, at least in part, to save his son-in-law, Lt. Col. John K. Waters. Though they couldn't free many of the POWs, the mission was redeemed to a certain extent by Baum's leadership. He received the Distinguished Service Cross for this action.

Even before Patton ordered the raid on the camp, Baum was highly decorated. A kid from the Bronx, Baum had dropped out of high school to help his Russian-immigrant parents in the garment industry. He enlisted in the Army after Pearl Harbor and was sent to Officer's Candidate School in 1943. In 1944, he received two Bronze Stars and two Silver Stars in fighting in France and Belgium with the 10th Armored Infantry Battalion. A Purple Heart came with wounds received in February 1945.

Patton's orders were questioned by nearly every officer down the line to Capt. Baum. Hammelburg had no strategic importance. The

task force was undermanned, underequipped, and given little chance to succeed. Intelligence couldn't even provide the precise location of the camp, other than near Hammelburg. Captain Hal Cohen was intended to command. When Cohen was unable to lead for medical reasons, he selected Baum for the job.

On 26 March 1945, Baum led his 294 men toward Hammelburg while the rest of the 4th Armored Division traveled in the opposite direction. Multiple times en route, the task force encountered German forces. At the town of Gemünden, Baum was wounded by enemy rocket fire. Baum was able to find a way around each obstacle to continue toward Hammelburg. Attempting to bypass a town, the force came upon and was able to destroy a German train depot.

When they finally arrived at the camp, six hours later than planned, dozens of Baum's men were already wounded or killed. The task force didn't even have enough vehicles to remove the 1500 POWs at the camp. More importantly, with delays from the encounters on the way, the



Major Abraham Baum

Germans had been able to prepare and soon support arrived at Hammelburg. They tried to fight, but Baum and his men were surrounded. Only a small group of POWs managed to escape. Baum was captured, and then shot in the leg attempting to escape. Lt. Col. Waters was also injured during the fighting. Though the mission was a failure, the Task Force had the unintended result of diverting a large number of German resources away from the advance of the rest of the

4th Armored Division.

Oflag XIIIIB was liberated just ten days later by the 14th Armored Division as the war's end approached. Patton personally awarded Baum the Distinguished Service Cross as he recovered at the hospital. The citation recognizes "Captain Baum's fearless determination and his inspiring leadership and loyal, [and] courageous devotion to duty." Along with author Richard Goldhurst and Richard Baron, who was a POW at the camp, Baum wrote the book *Raid! The Untold Story of Patton's Secret Mission* which was published in 1981.

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On Sunday, May 19, the West Broward, FL VA Outpatient Clinic was renamed the William "Bill" Kling VA Outpatient Clinic in a ceremony attended by many JWV representatives. Principal speakers were Congresspersons Debbie Wasserman Schultz and Ted Deutch, Bill's son Steven, and the Assistant Director of the Miami Region VA.

**SEXUAL ABUSE IN THE MILITARY**

*Continued from page 7*

these cases. The system is broken if, for no explanation, the commander is able to grant clemency, pardon, or acquittal to sexual offenders. Actions like those taken by Lt Gen Franklin reduce the likelihood of victims coming forward to seek justice and send a message that this behavior will be tolerated.

Under current military law, the victim has no recourse to appeal this decision for clemency – no alternate way to ensure that his or her attacker pays for their crime. Victims should have the opportunity to receive the same due process as civilians.

There must be oversight for the individuals entrusted with the military's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response units. These service members are responsible for creating a safe environment for the victims of sexual assault after the crime.

The recent allegations of sexual battery against the Air Force's chief sexual assault prevention officer, Lt Col Jeffrey Krusinski, raise concerns over whether these programs are ef-

fectively educating service members about sexual trauma and are properly responding to victims.

Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel has ordered initiatives, including holding commanders accountable for creating an environment where unwanted sexual contact is not permitted, reducing barriers and stigma for reporting sexual assault, and enhancing prevention and training programs.

Ordering initiatives is not enough. It must be clear that leadership will be held accountable and that the punishments for this crime will be severe and career ending as required.

In order to properly carry out their missions, the men and women who serve in America's Armed Forces need to be able to do their duty without worrying about unwanted sexual contact.

For those who are victims of these crimes, they need to be able to report these incidents without fear of reprisal. We will be unable to bring an end to this problem until all levels of military leadership understand that this behavior will not be tolerated and must be criminalized for both the military and civilians.



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# Happy Independence Day!

**"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."**

**—The Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776**



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*Good Health & Happiness to All*

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*Fair Winds and Calm Seas to All*

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*Chag Sameach*

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