

## The *Herald* published by

## Shomrim of Philadelphia



SHOMRIM - Means Guardian

- Is formed to promote the religious spirit of members of the police, fire, and other law enforcement agencies of the Jewish faith and their families.
- \* To promote social well-being, strengthen friendships and promote welfare of all our members and their loved ones.
  - To develop generol welfare in our community and cooperate with all those who would have us make progress.

    Affiliated with the National Conference of Shomrim Societies and Jewish Community Relations Council



#### Meeting Notice

Thursday, May, 10, 2012, 7:30 PM, Jewish "Y"

Red Lion Road and Jamison Avenue

"Support Shomrim, Get Involved, Attend Meetings"
"Refreshments will be served"

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - 6:30 PM, at the "Y"



ARMED FORCES DAY

#### MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT: Judi Buch

We ROCKED THE VOTE! We have a new Vice President - Howard Lebofsky - and the by-laws were changed regarding a quorum. We only need a minyan now (10, instead of 15 full members) in order to conduct Shomrim's business. Congratulations to Howard and to those in attendance on April 19th for getting the work done!

There's a lot of news to share this month. First of all, we had a sensational speaker. Don Kessler, a chemical engineer who teaches graduate level students at Drexel University. He presented theories about Global Warming. It elicited many questions and comments. Once again, THANK YOU to Howard Rabinovitch in finding such interesting speakers!

We have a date for the 75th anniversary banquet - October 24, 2012 at Har Zion. Merrill Kelem and Mike Gilbert have made the preliminary arrangements. They can use a lot of assistance in putting the banquet and the ad book together. In general, we are <u>asking for volunteers</u> to help with this super-special event. Our honoree is Sid Mark, an icon on American and Philadelphia radio. He has hosted "The Sounds of Sinatra" for 55 years. This may be the biggest banquet yet! Please contact any one of us on the Board if you are willing to help.

l am committed to bringing awareness to this milestone for Shomrim of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley. Soon we will send a letter to the Jewish Exponent and to the Jewish Federation, in order to bring it to their attention. The 75th year is significant and deserves the attention of the whole Jewish community. Perhaps there are other ways to publicize our banquet that you are aware of.... just let me know what they are and I'll follow through.

There are some upcoming events that you may be interested in attending. One is the "Salute to Israel" parade, (walking) up 5th Avenue in New York City on Sunday, June 3rd. I will be attending and would like to encourage others to join me. Uniforms or dress clothes are expected, if you would like to be in front with other Shomrim groups. You can drive to my house and we can go together. Those who have attended in the past have said it is an incredible experience.

Although this Herald will not reach you in time, the Living Flame Memorial Service, honoring fallen Police and Firefighters in Philadelphia, will take place on May 2nd, at noon in Franklin Square. Our own Chaplain, Cantor Alan Edwards, will be an officiant at the service. There is also an opportunity to attend the Kaddish Service for National Police Week on May 14th in Washington, DC.

From time to time, our organization supports other organizations by purchasing tickets to events. The affairs are usually banquets or breakfasts. If you have an interest in being on a list to go to events and represent our organization, please let me know.

Our next meeting is Thursday, May 10th. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

Judi

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buch196@aol.com

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e-mail - bmcapret@bellsouth.net

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#### DELEGATES TO NATIONAL SHOMRIM

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As we have had a number of our recent mailings returned, please notify the editor of any change of address, change of e-mail address or change of phone number.

Thank you.

### HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES YET?

#### MAY...HAPPY DIRTHDAYS DIRTH STONES: EMERALD, AGATE

- 1. Robert Duboff Ryan Share
- 2. Margot Similes
  Bruce Kanis
  Barry Moskowitz
- 3. Maria Richman
- 4. Brian Wolfson
- 5. Eileen Kaminer
- 6. Bruce Brown
  Paula Warren
  Barba Steiner
  Shannon Howard
- 7. Mitchell Sklar
- 8. Joanne Margolis
- Elaine Coggan Lori Kesselman
- 12. Sam Leshansky Gabriel L. Nathan
- 13. Matthew Waldman

- 15. Matthew Nodiff Judith F. Rubino
- 16. Helen Cohen
- 17. Seana Frank
- 20. Jake Cohn
- 21. Cordell Castenova
- 22. Bernard M. Gross
- 23. Michael J. Mednick Charles Rachelson
- 24. Suzanne Williams
- 25. Susan Moskowitz Isaac Sklar Ascuncion Maria
- 26. Bonnie Malone Sima Horwitz
- 29. Dave Warren
- 31. Michael Brister Brian Finkelstein

## MAY...HAPPY ANNIVERSARIES PLOWERS: HAWTHORN, LILLY OF THE VALLEY

- 3. Paul and Shannon Paris (14 Years)
- 9. Michael & Josephine Gilbert (30 years)
- 11. Howard & Denise Kravitz (27 years)
- 12. Walter & Ethel Hofman (49 years)
- 15. Aaron & Mildred Kraus (52 years)
- 16. Brian & Diane Shapiro (8 years)
- 17. Marvin & Evelyn Rosenberg (39 years)
- Stanley & Barba Steiner (14 years)
   Barry & Linda Moskovitz (42 years)
- 26. David & Sheryl Zellis (21 years)
- 29. Renee & Morris Lederhandler (63 years)
- Michael & Linda Freedman (20 years)
   Gary & Ginny Wolf (36 years)
- Harold & Nancy Shalon (32 years)
   Mitchell & Shari Sklar

#### MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR:

If you have not been included on Birthday and/or Anniversary listings, please forward the information to the editor for future listings. Thank you



In memorium: Trees are being planted in Israel in memory of recently fallen firefighters Robert Neary and Daniel Sweeney.

Condolences to: Wendy Demchick-Alloy on the recent passing of her father.

A wreath will be placed by Shomrim at the 'Living Flame Memorial Service' on Wednesday, May 2, during the Police & Fire Memorial Service, 12 noon, Franklin Square.

**GUEST SPEAKER:** As of the deadline for this newsletter, **Howard Rabinovitch** is trying to get a conformation that our next scheduled guest speaker will be available on our meeting night. We are fairly certain that he will be able to speak to us, so come to the meeting, interact with our guest speaker and put out your ideas on how to improve **Shomrim.** Get involved, take an active part in **YOUR** organization.

#### Upcoming events:

Wednesday, May 2, Police & Fire Memorial Service, 12 noon, Franklin Square.

Monday, May 7, Pennsylvania State FOP Memorial Service, Harrisburg.

Tuesday, May 8, National Teacher Day.

Wednesday, May 9, 2012, National School Nurse Day.

Sunday, May 13, Mother's Day.

Tuesday, May 15, National Police Officer's Memorial Day.

Saturday, May 19, Armed Forces Day.

Saturday, May 19, Annual Survivors Benefit at Finnegans.

Monday, May 28, Memorial Day observed.

Thursday, June 14, Flag Day.

Sunday, June 17, Father's Day.

Wednesday, June 20, Summer Solstice.

Wednesday, July 4, Independence Day.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES - Our Web site: www.shomrimPADV.org - National Web site - www.nationalshomrim.org



2012 SHOMRIM ANNUAL BANQUET
75th Anniversary
Wednesday,October 24, 2012
at the Har Zion





#### Arthur Gravitz reports:

As a result of a letter I sent to Amy Gutmann, President of the University of Pennsylvania, asking her to apologize to all State of Israel supporters and alumni like me for allowing the BDS conference at the University, I received the following from John Zeller, Vice President, University of Pennsylvania:

Dear Mr. Gravitz:

Thank you for sharing your concerns with Dr. Gutmann about the conference hosted by the Penn BDS student group at the beginning of February. Please allow me to respond on her behalf. The University has repeatedly and forcefully stated that we adamantly oppose sanctions or boycotts against Israel. Indeed, we fundamentally disagree with the position that these few students are taking. At the same time, we recognize and respect their right to open expression.

To briefly address your thoughts about open expression and discriminatory groups, I can assure you that the University follows strict policies regarding discrimination and equal opportunity. The Student Activities Council (SAC) unanimously approved the group's recognition, based upon stringent guidelines that all student groups must adhere to. One of the reasons Penn BDS was permitted to be an active group is because - under SAC guidelines, they are non-discriminatory in their membership, unlike KKK organizations you mention. Moreover, Penn BDS does have Israeli students among its members, which speaks to its adherence to regulations in being an inclusive organization.

The February conferences were not, in any capacity, University sponsored or promoted. The student group must follow University and SAC guidelines when they want to host meetings and or events on campus, just like other student groups who wish to do so.

Free, open, and meaningful discussions will continue to occur and create opportunities for even more dialogues at the University. This exchange of ideas and philosophies in an orderly fashion, despite how much we disagree with the content, is one of the key elements of a great university. I know that you will agree that freedom of speech is what enables our institution to thrive and grow.

Sincerely,
John H. Zeller, Vice President
Development and Administrative Relations, University of Pennsylvania

#### NOTICE - NOTICE - NOTICE - NOTICE

#### BYLAWS CHANGE - VOTE ON AND PASSED AT THE APRIL 19, 2012 MEETING.

Per Article XIV, Section 4 (a) 1, Article VI, Section 1, subsection (a), "All business shall be transacted only if a quorum is present. A quorum shall be no less than fifteen (15) active members."

The following new language has been approved to be changed to:

"A quorum shall be no less than ten (10) active members."

#### ALSO:

Vote results -

Howard Lebofsky was elected to be Vice President for the remainder of the 2012 term.

#### "WHO WAS HAYM SOLOMON?" (A fascinating history of the \$1 bill.)

On the rear of the One Dollar Bill, you will see two circles. Together, they comprise the Great Seal of the United States. The First Continental Congress requested that Benjamin Franklin and a group of men come up with a Seal. It took them four years to accomplish this task and another two years to get it approved.

If you look at the left-hand circle, you will see a Pyramid. Notice the face is lighted and the western side is dark. This country was just beginning. We had not begun to explore the west or decided what we could do for Western Civilization. The Pyramid is uncapped, again signifying that we were not even close to being finished. Inside the Capstone you have the all-seeing eye, an ancient symbol for divinity. It was Franklin's belief that on man couldn't do it alone, but a group of men, with the help of God, could do anything. 'IN GOD WE TRUST' is on this currency.

The Latin above the pyramid, ANNUIT COEPTIS, means 'a new order has begun'.

At the base of the pyramid is the Roman Numeral for 1776. (MDCCLXXVI)

If you look at the right-hand circle, and check it carefully, you will learn that it is on every National Cemetery in the United States.

It is also on the Parade of Flags Walkway at the Bushnell, Florida National Cemetery, and is the centerpiece of most heroes' monuments.

Slightly modified, it is the Seal of the President of The United States. and it is always visible whenever he speaks, yet very few people know what the symbols mean.

The Bald Eagle was selected as a symbol for victory for two reasons: First, he is not afraid of a storm; he is strong, and he is smart enough to soar above it. Secondly, he wears no material crown. We had just broken from the King of England. Also, notice the shield is unsupported. This country can now stand on its own.

At the top of that shield there is a white bar signifying congress, a unifying factor. We are coming together as one nation.

In the Eagle's beak you will read, 'E PLURIBUS UNUM' meaning' from many - one.'

Above the Eagle, we have the thirteen stars, representing the thirteen original colonies, and any clouds of misunderstanding rolling away. Again, we are coming together as one.

Notice what the Eagle holds in his talons. He holds an olive branch and arrows. This country wants peace, but we will never be afraid to fight to preserve peace. The Eagle always wants to face the olive branch, but in time of war, his gaze turns toward the arrows.

An (untrue) old fashioned belief says that the number 13 is an unlucky number. This is almost a worldwide belief. You will almost never see a room numbered 13, or any hotels or motels with a 13th floor.

But think about this:

America, which relies on God (not a number) to direct and lead, boldly chose:

13 original colonies - 13 signers of the Declaration of Independence - 13 stripes on our flag - 13 steps on the Pyramid - 13 letters in 'Annuit Coeptis' - 13 letters in 'E Pluribus Unum - 13 stars above the Eagle - 13 bars on that shield - 13 leaves on the olive branch - 13 fruits and if you look closely, 13 arrows.

And finally, notice the arrangement of the 13 stars in the right-hand circle. You will see that they are arranged as a Star of David.

This was ordered by George Washington who, when he asked Haym Solomon, a wealthy Philadelphia Jew, what he would like as a personal reward for his services to the Continental Army. Solomon said he wanted nothing for himself, but he would like something for his people. The Star of David was the result.

Few people know it was Haym Solomon who saved the army through his financial contributions..... then died a pauper. Haym Solomon gave \$25 million to save the Continental Army, money that was sorely needed to help realize America's - our - freedom and independence from England.

Therein lies America's Judeo - Christian beginning.

Most American children do not know any of this. They are not taught because their history teachers do not know of any of this, as they were not taught!

Let's do whatever we can to save America, while never, ever forgetting:

#### IT IS GOD IN WHOM WE PUT OUR TRUST!

# E-MAIL ADDRESSES - Our Web site: www.shomrimPADV.org National Web site - www.nationalshomrim.org If you want your address added, changed or deleted from this list, contact your editor, Bernie Margulis - bmcapret@bellsouth.net

Dara B. Aberman - dara.b.aberman@dhs.gov Louis Abramson - gloandlou1@verizon.net Steve Arch - LT97@aol.com Joel Belsky - SgtBelsky@aol.com Dave Berman - mrmbacpa@comcast.net Steve Blitzstein - truthfinder@comcast.net Mike Brister - wxrbuff2@cs.com Judi Buch -buch196@aol.com Bob Clearfield - bclearfield@comcast.net Alan Coggan - envestr@comcast.net Robert Cohen - bobhelen@comcast.net Jed Dolnick - jeddolnick@att.net Cantor Alan Edwards -goldchap@verizon.net Chris Feder - fadecom01@aol.com George Feinstein - gigsfeins@verizon.net Wm Fleisher- truthfinder@netcarrier.com Justin Frank - jfrank7250@hotmail.com Alan Fried - nut50@comcast.net Norman Genoy - ngenoy1@verizon.net Mike Gilbert - det069@verizon.net Frank Goldberg - FrankG3130@comcast.net Forrest Gorodetzer - SPO572@aol.com Art Gravitz - agravitz@yahoo.com Ben Greberman - bgrebs@aol.com Ron Grossman - MAN144R@aol.com Noah Gusdorff - noah@gusdorff.com Rick Gusdorff - rick@gusdorff.com Mark Itzko - HPX25@aol.com Harry Kamenir - harryk802@msn.com Jeff Katz - radiokatz @aol.com Merrill Kelem - sfcmkret@gmail.com Stan Kolmetzky - stan0807@verizon.net J.J. Klaver, Ph.D - j.klaver@ic.fbi.gov Alan Kurtz - BlueRed1@comcast.net Joel M. Labman - jklab3@comcast.net Lawrence Lager - bds284@embargmail.com Gregory Malone - jban2610@aol.com Mike Margolis - greenlaneestates@aol.com

Bernie Margulis - bmcapret@bellsouth.net Jerry Marks - synonym2@usadatanet.net Barry Moskovitz - bmoskov@comcast.net Paul Naftulin - Pnaftulin@comcast.net Lee Newman - leenewman@shomrimpadv.org Larry Nodiff - Redrum8509@aol.com Eric Norris - eric@publicsafetywebsolutions.com Andrew J. Perlman - aperlman911@gmail.com Larry Pollack - Hunter2103@comcast.net Scott Pollack - Scotty369@comcast.net Howard Rabinovitch - howanddi@comcast.net Martin Rahinsky - erahinsky@windstream.net Brad Richman - rich3man@aol.com Steve Richman - sgrichman@stny.rr.com David W. Rinek - daver@libertynet.org Michael Roeshman - MFR777@msn.com Neil Rose -roselock@aol.com Bob Rosenberg - PWDBob@aol.com Marla Rosenberg - MRosEsq@aol.com Robert D. Rosner - rdr1@comcast.net rrosner@attorneygeneral.gov Steve Rudolph - cpl8047@aol.com Jodi Schwarzl - jschwarzl@gmail.com Jonathan Sherman - jms43048@comcast.net Kurt Similies - mksi@comcast.net Harris J. Sklar - hjsesq@hotmail.net Web site - harris@harrissklarphotography.com Mitchell C. Sklar - mcsklar@njsacop.org www.nisacop.org George Slotnick - airelibre@juno.com Mitchell Spritzler - pa369copper@yahoo.com Bob Sweed - ComputerTutor@comcast.net Dave Warren - dpidew@aol.com Rhonda White - lighthousewife06@hotmail.com Brian Wolfson - Lieuten@aol.com Floyd Zonenstein - fhz201@bellsouth.net Stanley D. Zucker - stanz2173@comcast.net

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## the **Herald** published by Shomrim of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley

May, 2012 issue

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