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*Shomrim of Philadelphia*  
*and the Delaware Valley*



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- \* *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 general 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*

*Rosh*  
*Hashanah*  
GREETINGS

**Meeting Notice**

**Thursday, September 10, 2009, 7:30 PM, Room 218**  
**Jewish "Y" Center, 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", ROOM 218**

**Observe**  
**Yom**  
**Kippur**

**MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, Larry Nodiff**

**Shalom: Happy Labor day, Grandparents Day, Patriot Day, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur and welcome to autumn.**

I hope everyone had a good summer, got lots of sunshine, and are now ready to start **Shomrim's 73rd season**. We will have a full schedule this season. **Howard Rabinovitch** is working hard to provide us with a lot of great programs, starting with this meeting's guest speaker who will talk to us about the 'swine' flu. We will also get started on planning for the 73rd Annual Banquet scheduled for Wednesday, June 2, 2010.

We will also be sponsoring a conference on **AGRO-TERRORISM** November 9-11, in Miami, Fl. This is a DOJ certified course, and we can thank **Howard Rabinovitch** for his hard work in putting the academics together for this event. For additional information, contact **Merrill Kelem**, 609-442-6922, or [sgtmk@yahoo.com](mailto:sgtmk@yahoo.com).

The banquet in June was a fine affair, Hats off to **Mitch Spritzler** who, with very little time, put this banquet together with the assistance of **Lee Newman**. Also, a thank you to **Bob and Shelby Ford** for their continued donations to our scholarship fund.

The upcoming Sergeant's test is now scheduled for September 19. Any **Shomrim** members who are scheduled to take the exam who would like a test review, contact me at [redrum8509@aol.com](mailto:redrum8509@aol.com).

Information received about the Police contract is that the earliest we can expect an arbitrated contract will be the middle of October. Also, with the city experiencing serious financial problems, we may be looking at layoffs in all city departments, including the Police and Fire departments.

I hope to see everyone at the meeting and at the meetings in the years to come.

Be safe, **Larry**

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**GUEST SPEAKER:** The Phila. Dept. of Public Health, Communicable Disease Control Division, has confirmed that they will send a speaker to address us on the 'swine' flu. The speaker will address concerns, prevention and will try to alleviate any fears relative to the 'swine' flu and will entertain questions from the floor. So come to the meeting, bring a guest and lets get educated on this timely subject.

**HAVE YOU PAID  
YOUR DUES YET?**

## *SEPTEMBER...HAPPY BIRTHDAY*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>2. Gregory Malone</li><li>3. Phyllis Schifreen</li><li>4. Deborah Wolfson<br/>Beatrice Chazin</li><li>5. Erin Moskowitz</li><li>7. Robert Grossman</li><li>9. Richard Kirshbaum<br/>Jeff Katz</li><li>10. Rebecca Arch</li><li>11. Samantha Belsky</li><li>12. Mark Gilbert<br/>Daniel Gilbert</li><li>14. William Arch</li><li>15. Steven Arch</li><li>16. Howard Farkas<br/>Matthew Freedman</li><li>17. Sandra McCreesh<br/>Robert Sweed</li><li>19. Linda Levine<br/>Howard Rabinovitch<br/>Jerry H. Steiner</li></ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>20. Judy Brister<br/>Amy Feldman<br/>Ray Weinstein</li><li>21. Susan R. Blitzstein</li><li>23. Walter I. Hofman</li><li>24. Nechama Feldman<br/>Robert Schwartz</li><li>25. John Kubiak<br/>Linda Castenova</li><li>26. Ireland Smith</li><li>27. Karl Schwarzl<br/>David Wolfson</li><li>28. Leonard Cohen<br/>Jean Gravitz<br/>Robert Rovner<br/>Caren Schiffman</li><li>29. Paul A. Paris</li><li>30. Ginger Sayegh</li></ol> |
|--|--|

## *SEPTEMBER...HAPPY ANNIVERSARY*

1. Michelle Seidner & I. Steven Levy - 24 years
3. Leonard & Carol Lebowitz - 42 years
6. Robert & Rebecca Desoi - 12 years
12. Robert & Sandy Grossman - 22 years
13. Joseph & Lorraine Eiven - 45 years
17. Louis Lappen & Jennifer Heller - 9 years
18. Arthur & Jean Gravitz - Still dancing like teen-agers!
30. Justin & Jennifer Frank - 9 years

## **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 - Also, please know that due to space limitations, we try not to list children of members past their 18th birthday. Thank you.

*from the 'net:*

Laugh now, but one day you'll be driving a Lexus and eating dinner at 4:00 PM in Florida!

# on the town

**Get well soon: Jean Gravitz** fell on Tuesday, 8/18/09 and fractured her ankle in three places. She underwent a three hour operation at Jeanes Hospital to repair the damage. She is now in rehab and looking at about a two month period to heal. Lets hope that she gets back on her feet quickly, so she and Art can get back to their fabulous dancing.

## **Banquet report:**

A big **'thank you'** to the banquet committee and to all those who helped for another great affair. The entertainment was great, the Hor D'Oeuvres were non-stop, the food and drinks were plentiful and the chocolates furnished by **Bernie & Gail Litten** were the usual "Elegant Endings". If you left hungry, it was your own fault. The Banquet book was given a new look and was very well done.

**Art and Jean Gravitz** sent their regrets that they could not attend as **Art** was ill. We missed their dancing.

The annual scholarship was awarded to **Brian Cohen**, son of **Shomrim** member **Irving Cohen**, a Philadelphia Firefighter, and his wife **Ivette**. Brian was an Honor student throughout high school with a perfect attendance record. Brian will be attending the Hussian School of Art in Philadelphia and will be majoring in Illustration. As an entrant in an art fair in his junior year in high school, he received an award from U.S. Representative **Allyson Schwartz**.

## **Upcoming Events:**

**Shomrim** has received a Reception Invitation. The Israel Consul General **Daniel Kutner and Patrick Eiding**, President, Philadelphia Council AFL-CIO, extended an invitation to a Reception at the Consulate General of Israel, Thursday, September 24, 2009, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm, 1880 JFK Boulevard, 18th floor. RSVP by Thursday, September 17 required for security purposes. For further information, contact **Merrill Kelem**.

## **Training conference: AGRO-TERRORISM,**

Hosted by Shomrim of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley, now rescheduled for Monday, November 9, 2009, through Wednesday, November 11, 2009. This is a certified DOJ EEOC course, so you will get credit for it and its a write off on your taxes. It will be held at the Mariott Courtyard at Dolphin Mall in sunny Miami, Fl. Arrangements have also been made for car rentals and as an added attraction but separate from the seminar, the South Florida Shomrim Society will be having their annual Dinner Dance on Tuesday, November 10th. Any questions or for information, contact **Merrill Kelem or Howard Rabinovitch**.

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SHOMRIM SOCIETIES, INC., 51st ANNIVERSARY 2009 CONVENTION AT SEA**, Sails: January 7, 2010 from Miami. 4 nights aboard the Royal Carribean cruise line, "NAVIGATOR OF THE SEAS". \$50.00 per cabin onboard credit. **Subject to availability \$200.00 DEPOSIT PER CABIN DUE AT TIME OF BOOKING REFUNDABLE UNTIL OCTOBER 10, 2009** For information and reservations please contact **Murray Ellman, 718-543-4825 or Marty Turetzky, 212-777-7809**.

*\* If rates decrease lower rate will prevail.*

*\*\* All prices include all taxes and fees.*

*From the 'net:*

Why do banks charge a fee for 'insufficient funds' when they already know there is not enough money to pay the fee?

## **Chaplain's Corner:**

### **High Holyday Message**

On Friday, September 18, we will be celebrating **Rosh Hashana**, the Jewish New Year. And six days later, **Yom Kippur**, the Day of atonement. Both of these festivals are a time of stock taking and a time of resolve.

It is a time when we are judged by G-d for what we have done in the year gone by and a time when we resolve that the year ahead shall be a better one.

The emphasis is not only on “t’suvah”, “repentance” but also returning to our faith and history, whether we were upright in our dealings with all of our colleagues during the past year.

Rosh Hashana is not only a time to celebrate creation, but it is also a day of beginning the final preparation towards Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement. In the spirit of “awakening” us for this transition, the sound of the Shofar, the rams horn, is heard one hundred times during each of the morning services of Rosh Hashana. The theme that runs through the fabric of Rosh Hashana continues and intensifies as we arrive at Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

Yom Kippur gives us an opportunity to acknowledge where we have “missed the mark” during the previous year and to offer prayers of repentance. Yom Kippur also gives us an opportunity to start fresh by recommitting to whom we really are.

The most famous restriction on Yom Kippur is fasting. The intention of fasting is not to torture or to punish ourselves for sins we have done, but rather to help us transcend our physical nature. It is the most widespread manifestation of this devotion.

Yom Kippur is ushered in while it is yet light and is the only time we wear the Tallit, prayer shawl, at the evening service.

A powerful statement is chanted by the Cantor, called Kol Nidre, “All Vows”. The Kol Nidre liturgy tells us to take a searing look inside ourselves. We ask ourselves, who can count on my word? Can my children, or my spouse, my friends? Can G-d? Can I? Can I count on my word; do I trust myself? Without credibility we have nothing. With it, we have everything. This is the Kol Nidre.

May this coming year help us to appreciate the people we cherish for all that they offer to us. Let us also work on that which demands adjustment, to advance the nature of the world around us. Let us begin by monitoring and bettering ourselves, working to reach a healthy balance.

On behalf of my dear wife Norma, our children and grandchildren, we wish all our members and your dear families a Healthy, Happy and Sweet New Year.

**Cantor Alan Edwards  
National Chaplain**

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