

# The *Herald* published by

## Shomrim of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley



Founded 1937

#### 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 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



### Meeting Notice

*Thursday, November 10, 2005, 7:30 PM* Jewish "Y" Center, Red Lion Road and Jamison Avenue "Support Shomrim, Get Involved, Attend Meetings" *Refreshments will be served* BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING at 6:30 PM, at the "Y"



#### **GUEST SPEAKERS:** For this and next month's meetings, our own **Cantor Alan Edwards and Howard Rabinovitch** and others will be sharing with us their experiences while serving in the Gulf area after the recent death and devastation caused by the killer hurricanes. We will also entertain nominations from the floor for **Board of Trustees** (One to be elected for a 3 year term). The election will be held during next month's meeting (December 8, 2005). So come and bring your family and friends as you will not want to miss these meetings.

#### MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, Merrill Kelem

**Shalom:** I hope everyone had a **Happy & Healthy New Year and a sweet fast on Yom Kippur.** I can't believe that it is November, and that means that winter is just around the corner.

I want to take this time to thank **Mike Roeshman** and **Howard Rabinovitch** in getting **Frank Squillice** from the Philadelphia Fire Department for a wonderful program on fire prevention. I too learned a few pointers from the demonstration. I was a little disappointed in the attendance though. It could have been better.

As you all know, Wednesday, June 7, 2006 is our next banquet date. It will be back at **Har Zion**. Our Chaplain, **Cantor Alan Edwards** will be our **"Man of the Year"**. Our **Humanitarian awardee** is going to be **Karen Tandy** who is the Director of the DEA. (Drug Enforcement Agency"). Karen is also Jewish. We are proud that she has accepted and will part of the event. Our thanks again to **Cantor Alan Edwards** in his dedicated work in getting **Karen Tandy** to be part of our banquet. So start putting your 'Sheckles' away for this event. This is one banquet you will not want to miss.

I'm sure everyone knows that this year we had killer hurricanes Katrina and Rita hit the Southwest coast of the U.S. causing much devastation to the area. **Cantor Edwards** was called to duty with his CISM unit and was there for almost two weeks. Board member **Howard Rabinovitch** of the FDA and other members were also called to the Gulf Coast to serve. We are going to dedicate the November and December meetings to these people to show and tell the experiences they encountered there. These will be meetings you will not want to miss.

In December I will be attending the National Convention with other members from our chapter. We are hoping that when we return, our own **Mike Gilbert** will be the new **National President**. Also in December, before the meeting, we will light the Menorah. Even though **Hanukkah** does not begin until December 26, we shall start the celebration early. We will also be taking nominations for a trustee for a three year term, to be elected in December.

Remember, this is your **Shomrim.** If you haven't already, please send in your dues and don't forget June 7, 2006 is our next annual banquet. Also get well wishes to **Steve Blitzstein**, (ACPD, Retired) who is recuperating from surgery.

Happy Veterans' Day and Thanksgiving Day, and see you at the meeting. Merrill

#### SHOMRIM OFFICERS 2005-2006

#### CANTOR ALAN EDWARDS, CHAPLAIN **RABBI JACOB HERBER, CHAPLAIN EMERITUS RABBI ABRAHAM NOVITSKY, CHAPLAIN EMERITUS RABBI PINCHOS J. CHAZIN, CHAPLAIN, EMERITUS** MERRILL KELEM, PRESIDENT 7214 Ventnor Avenue Ventnor, NJ 08406-1955 609-823-4410 LAURENCE NODIFF, VICE PRESIDENT JEROME MARKS, SECRETARY RICK GUSDORFF, TREASURER BERNARD MARGULIS, HERALD EDITOR 14685 Tanja King Boulevard Orlando, FL 32828-7348 407-281-6793 FAX - 407-277-2434

#### SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

**Robert Clearfield** 

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Merrill Kelem, (*President*) Laurence Nodiff (*Vice-President*) Jerome Marks, (*Secretary*) Rick Gusdorff, (*Treasurer*) Michael Gilbert, (*Immediate Past-President*) Joel Belsky Robert Clearfield Alan Fried Alan Kurtz Howard Rabinovitch Mike Roeshman

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Harry Kamenir (3 years) Irv Venturino (2 years) Len Lebowitz (1 year)

#### **DELEGATES TO NATIONAL SHOMRIM**

Michael Gilbert, 2nd Vice President Bob Clearfield - Mid-Atlantic Merrill Kelem - Sergeant-at-Arms

#### **Application for Membership**

Brian D. **Shapiro**, Police Officer, ACPD Proposers: Merrill **Kelem** & Jerrold **Savoy** 

#### **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 OR if the listed info is incorrect, please call for a correction- Thank you.

### NOVEMBER .... HAPPY BIRTHDAYS

- 1. Vickie **Rementer**
- 3. Darren **Essen** Linda **Marion**
- Marian Naftulin Florence Novitsky
- 5. Anita **Pressman**
- Eric **Goldstein** 7. Nadeline **Feldman**
- Beth Wolfson 8. Alexander Blair
- 8. Alexander Blair Paul Naftulin Dawn Rutizer
- 11. Lawrence Lager

#### 14. Jodi Schwarzl

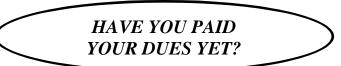
- 15. Richard Shapiro
- 16. Sean Moskowitz
- 20. Mary Lou Nodiff
- 21. Bob **Clearfield** Louis **Lappen**
- 22. Evelyn Rosenberg
- 23. Robert Williams Mildred Krauss
- 25. Margot **Sweed** Sydney **Rosenberg**
- 26. David Brill
- 30. Jodi Feiner

#### NOVEMBER....HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 1. Leonard & Tracy **Cohen** (19 years)
- 4. Marc & Dawn Rutizer (10 years)
- 6. Bernard & Leslie Solomon (39 years)
- 7. Joseph & Rose Binder (35 years)
- 15. Sydney & Irene Rosenberg (35 years)
- 18. Howard & Molly Goldsmith (35 years)
- 19. Joseph & Elizabeth Lomazoff (54 years) Harry & Jaynee Polis (42 years)
- 22. Martin & Susan Moskowitz
- 24. Edward & Vivian Rementer 42 years)
- 25. Jerry & Bonnie Steiner, (30 years)
- 26. Robert & Helen Cohen (38 years)
- 29. Arthur & Iris Loev (41 years) Jeffrey & Renee Lerman (13 years)

#### SUNSHINE COMMITTEE:

Please call Marty **Borowsky**, **215-342-7045** with any information about any members who have taken ill, hospitalized, etc.



# on the town;

**Condolences to:** Family of **Shomrim** member **Councilman David Cohen** who passed on October 3, 2005. Trees will be planted in Israel in his memory.

Get well wishes: to Steve Blitzstein, home recovering from recent surgery.

Mazel Tov: to Harry & Eileen Kamenir - new grandparents of Miranda Jordan.

#### Upcoming events:

**December, 2005, National Shomrim Convention -** The 2005 National Convention will be held on a 3 night cruise leaving Miami from December 2 through December 5. This is going to be a great event. The price is also right - about \$369.00 per person, double occupancy. For more info, go to the National website at www.nationalshomrim.org.

**Phila. Shomrim 69th Annual Dinner Dance,** Wednesday, June 7, 2006, Har Zion Temple, 1500 Hagys Ford Road, Penn Valley, PA. 6:30 PM to - ?. Cost \$60.00 per ticket. Call **Mike Gilbert,** 610-649-4615 for tix and/or ads for the yearbook.

#### e-mail addresses - (Our Web site: shomrimPADV.org - National - www.nationalshomrim.com)

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#### Reflections of a Chaplain in the Aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita by <u>Chaplain Alan Edwards</u>

I was deployed to New Orleans under the auspices of **Shomrim** and the **International Conference of Police Chaplains**. When I found out that I was going to New Orleans the words that I have chanted as a Cantor over the years came alive in the U'nesaneh Tokef poem. This depicts **Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur** as the days of heavenly judgment, when it is decreed how many shall pass away and how many shall be brought into existence. Who shall perish by fire and who by water.

I have experienced both. From October, 2001 until June, 2002, I was the lead Chaplain for the **Chapel of Four Chaplains** and was deployed to Ground Zero. And now I was being sent to New Orleans to be part of a six man unit to help the three other Chaplains of the New Orleans Police Department.

I arrived in New Orleans on September 29th for an eleven day deployment which meant that I would be there through **Rosh Hashanah**. The day after I arrived I made contact with the military chaplain, **Rabbi Yaacov Bindell** of the New Jersey Air National Guard, who was stationed at Bell Chase Station outside of New Orleans, to have Rosh Hashanah services for all safety personnel, their families and civilians. I co-officiated Rosh Hashanah eve services with **Rabbi Bindell**. At approximately 4:00pm on the eve of Rosh Hashanah, the Rabbi called me and said that the **Touro** synagogue, which is Reform, would be holding a service the next morning. I notified the New Orleans Police Chaplain and she saw that flyers were posted on the decks of ships Ecstasy and Sensation. The Ecstasy is the ship that all the Police Officers who had lost their homes and personal belongings stayed on. The Sensation was the ship that the Firemen stayed on together with the medical members of the National Guard and health care professionals.

The service at the **Touro** synagogue was extremely emotional, spiritual and awe inspiring. There were approximately 250 people in attendance and chairs had to be put up in the foyer to accommodate late comers. The rabbi of the **Touro** Synagogue invited all who came to help the people of New Orleans to come up to the bimah for an aliyah. I was invited to chant the Haftorah blessings. This was extremely emotional for the entire congregation. There were Jews from all denominations - Orthodox, Conservative, Reconstructionist and Reform. There was a National Guardsman from Kentucky wearing a woolen tallit, navy personnel from California and health care professionals from Boston.

**Rabbi Harold Kushner**, in his book "When Bad Things Happen To Good People" stated "I believe calamities are all acts of nature and that there is no moral reason for those particular victims to be singled out for punishment. Perhaps, as human beings apply their G-d given intelligence to the area of natural disasters, we will one day be able to understand the physical processes behind earthquakes, hurricanes and mental fatigue and learn how to anticipate them or even prevent them."

Having the z'chut gadol, the great privilege of serving as chaplain for the **Shomrim of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley** and having witnessed the aftermath of these two hurricanes, I am reminded of the words of **Rabbi Hillel** in Pirkeh Avot, Ethics of the Fathers 1:14. "If I am not for myself who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?"

I pray through our ancient liturgy that was composed centuries ago, that we as a nation may not experience such devastation anymore.

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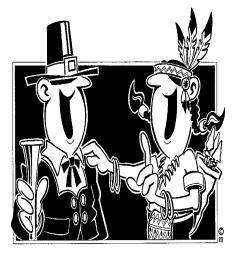
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## SHOMRIM OF PHILADELPHIA AND THE DELAWARE VALLEY

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Founded 1937

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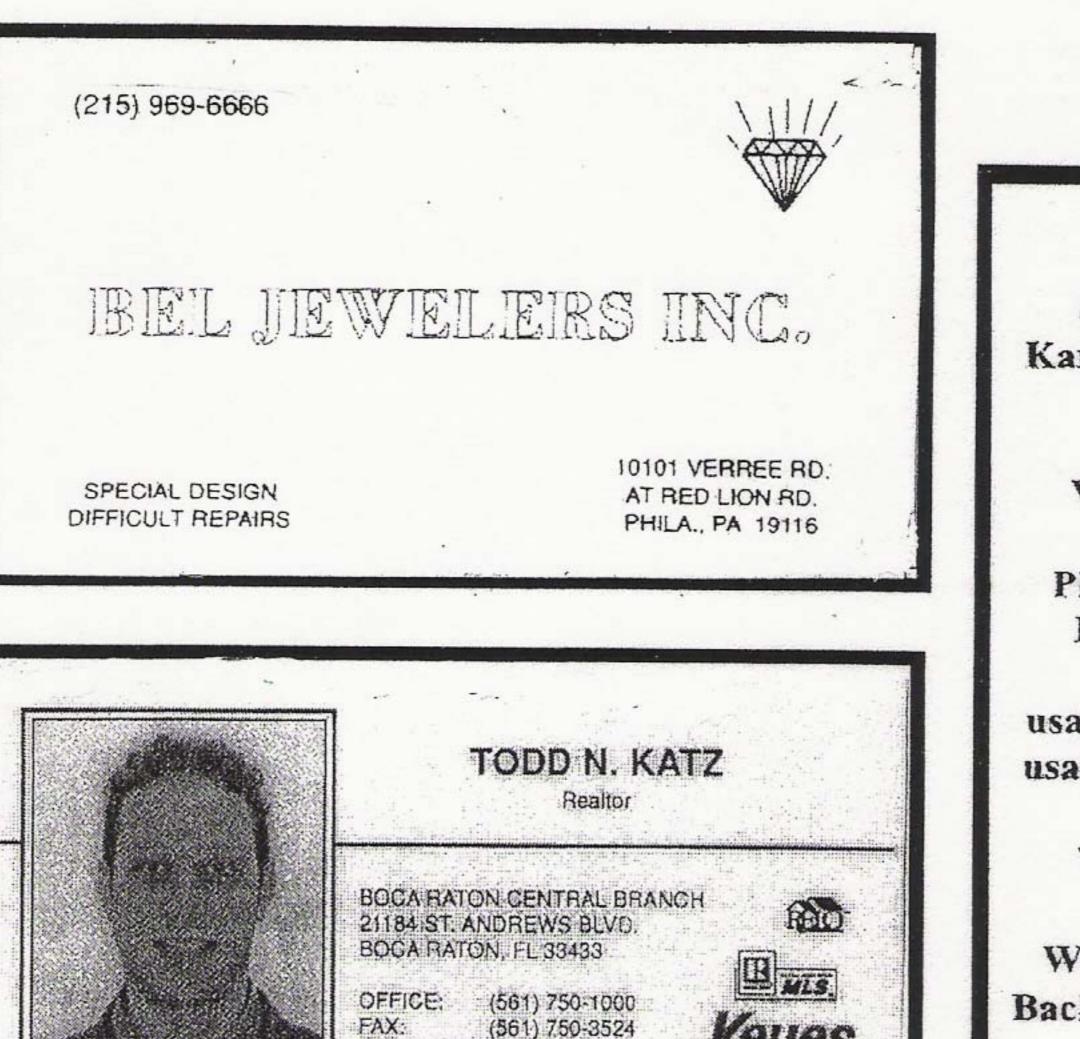
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