

# 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, June 8, 2006, 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 - 6:00 PM, at the "Y"**



## **MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, *Merrill Kelem***

### **Greetings:**

Can you believe that this is the last **Herald** for the 2005-2006 season? Yet another year has passed, but we still have a lot of activities. I am hoping to see everyone at the **banquet on June 7 at the Har Zion** at 6:30 PM. This banquet is a very special one in which we will be awarding our own Chaplain, **Cantor Alan Edwards** the **Humanitarian of the Year** award. Who better than **Alan** should get this. **DEA Director Karen Tandy** will be our **Person of the Year** based on the great job she has done. Also, don't forget that our Jewish bagpiper, **Dave Barnett**, will be playing for us. By the way, **Dave** is with the DEA and a member of the **Southern California Shomrim** where our good friend (and native Philadelphian) **Marv Goldsmith** is the President. Dave is now assigned to Quantico. And many thanks to **Bob & Shelby Ford** for their generous donation in funding the scholarships again.

On July 12 at 11 AM, in the 500 block of N. 19th Street (just north of Spring Garden Street) a plaque will be dedicated in the memory of **Officer Albert Savich #3908**, a Jewish Philadelphia Police Officer and member of **Shomrim** who was shot and killed on Sunday, December 13, 1953 while attempting to make an arrest at a local eatery. Another officer was also wounded on this job. **Savich** had only been on the force for two years. We are asking that all our members and the Jewish community, attend this event. Our friend **Kal Rudman** is sponsoring this event.

As you all know, summer tends to bring a lot of people and a lot of activities outdoors. Take all precautions when doing activities in the sunlight. Don't forget to 'schmear' yourself with sunscreen and drink plenty of fluids. Allow yourself extra travelling time, anticipating traffic and travel delays. Always swim where there's a lifeguard present whether at the beach, public or private swimming pool or recreational facilities. If you follow the rules, you should do well.

On another note, please make sure you and everyone in your car buckles up for safety. There is a federally funded program in effect - "**Click it or Ticket!**" Also remember that New Jersey has a "**Hands Free**" cell phone law. Another is the "**keep right, pass left**" law. If you are on the AC expressway or the Garden State Parkway, the easiest way to get cited is to be in the left lane driving slowly and being on a hand held cell phone. Also, obey all the parking regulations while at the shore areas. If you do get a ticket, **DO NOT CALL ME!** Also, if you have children under 21, keep them out of the saloons. If they get caught with bad ID's, it's a very stiff sentence. Again - **DON'T CALL ME!**

We are working on speakers for next season. **Howard Rabinovitch** has a nice list to work with. If you have any ideas, let us know.

Hope to see everyone on June 8, the night after the banquet, at our last meeting for the summer. Have a **Happy Father's Day**, a **Happy Flag Day**, a **Happy 4th of July** and again, have a safe and healthy **summer 2006** and I am looking forward to seeing everyone in the fall at the September 14 meeting.

**Shalom,**  
**Merrill**

## SHOMRIM OFFICERS 2005-2006

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### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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### DELEGATES TO NATIONAL SHOMRIM

Michael Gilbert, *President*

Bob Clearfield - *Mid-Atlantic*

Merrill Kelem - *Chairman for 2006 Convention*

## **JUNE....HAPPY BIRTHDAYS**

2. Joseph Feldman  
Stanford Shore  
Donald Miller
3. Josephine Gilbert
4. Alyssa Feldman  
Bernard Jenkins  
Bernard Litten
5. Courtney Kravitz
6. Amy Schiffman
9. Dolly Freeman
11. Lisa Kaplan
13. Harry Kamenir
14. Mark Rutizer
16. Louis Abramson
17. Sara Beth Whitman  
Irene Rosenberg

18. Ann Cohen  
Arthur Gravitz  
Irwin Mednick
19. Heidi Katz
21. Stuart Davidson
22. Rose Binder
23. Lesley Solomon
24. Heath Ludwig
25. Beverly Levin
26. Michael Gilbert
27. Isabel Kurtz  
Michael Shannen
28. Michelle Fleisher
29. Molly Wolfson  
Emily Wolfson  
Aaron Solomon
30. Gregory Kravitz

## **JUNE....HAPPY**

2. Harry & Eileen Kamenir (43 years)
5. David & Paula Warren (40 years)
6. Charles & Irene Micewski (36 years)  
Steven & Sara Beth Whitman (24 years)
8. Steven & Diane Arch (21 years)
10. Paul & Marian Naftulin (45 years)  
George & Rita Slotnick (50 years)
11. Alan & Andrea Kurtz (17 years)
13. David & Barbera Berman (42 years)
21. Brian & Deborah Wolfson (19 years)
22. Stephen & Maria Richman (31 years)
26. Rabbi & Mrs. Feldman (33 years)
28. Lewis & Phyllis Schifreen (14 years)  
Jodi & Karl Schwarzl (25 years)
29. Gerald & Tybelah Blumberg (48 years)
30. Kenneth & Carole Brown (16 years)

### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Kieth Gidelson, Phila. Police Dept.

Proposer - Larry Nodiff

Lee Allen Newman, Phila. Police Dept.

Proposer - Rick Gusdorff

SUNSHINE COMMITTEE: Please call Marty Borowsky, 215-342-7045 about any members who are ill or hospitalized.

**HAVE YOU PAID  
YOUR DUES YET?**

## *JULY - BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES*

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Abby <b>Feiner</b>                             | 7. Arthur <b>Marion</b>                        |
| 4. Judith <b>Kolmetzky</b><br>Robert <b>Levin</b> | Irene <b>Micewski</b><br>Ryan <b>Spritzler</b> |
| Molly Page <b>Levy</b>                            | 9. Jennifer <b>Frank</b>                       |
| Maxwell T. <b>Levy</b>                            | 10. Robert <b>Cohen</b>                        |
| 5. Forrest <b>Gorodetzer</b>                      | Alexandria <b>Essen</b>                        |
| 6. Mindy <b>Gratman</b>                           | 11. Iris <b>Loev</b>                           |

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 12. Melanie <b>Paul</b>    | 22. Sandra <b>Malkin</b>                                   |
| Dora <b>Ziskind</b>        | Stanley <b>Steiner</b>                                     |
| Richard <b>Sacks</b>       | 23. Maria <b>Waldman</b>                                   |
| 14. Thomas J. <b>Ellis</b> | 26. Leonard <b>Lebowitz</b>                                |
| 16. Temeh <b>Ardelean</b>  | 27. Tybela <b>Blumberg</b><br>Mitchell J. <b>Spritzler</b> |
| 18. Jon <b>Cohen</b>       | 28. Rachael <b>Feldman</b>                                 |
| 20. Barbera <b>Feiner</b>  | 29. Harrison <b>Katz</b>                                   |
| Stuart <b>Ford</b>         |  |

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 5. Eric & Frances <b>Goldstein</b> , (14 years)   | 15. Bradford & Lisa <b>Richman</b> , (22 years) |
| 7. Reuben & Selma <b>Rochvarg</b> ,               | 23. Irwin & Maxine <b>Mednick</b> , (40 years)  |
| 11. David & Suzanne <b>Schectman</b> , (13 years) | 31. Stanford & Marcia <b>Shore</b> , (45 years) |

## *AUGUST - BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES*

- |   |                              |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. Sylvia <b>Genoy</b>                          | 8. Rebecca <b>DeSoi</b>      |
| 4. Marcia <b>Shore</b>                          | 9. Steven <b>Whitman</b>     |
| 5. Ronald <b>Joseph</b><br>Kelsey <b>Malone</b> | 10. Diann <b>Rabinovitch</b> |
| 6. David <b>Berman</b><br>Evan <b>Kesselman</b> | 11. Debra <b>Swarzl</b>      |
| 7. Stanley <b>Kolmetsky</b>                     | 12. Lorraine <b>Eiven</b>    |
|   | 13. Joel <b>Labman</b>       |

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 14. Stanton <b>Fruman</b>   | 24. Jessica <b>Williams</b>   |
| 16. Curt <b>Alloy</b>   | 25. Martin <b>Borowsky</b>  |
| 20. Kenneth <b>Freeman</b><br>Michael <b>Roeshman</b>                     | 27. Rebecca <b>Neal</b><br>Payton <b>Burak</b>                          |
| 23. Chana <b>Feldman</b><br>Phyllis <b>Rosen</b><br>Della <b>Pressman</b> | 29. Judi <b>Duboff</b><br>Neal <b>Rose</b><br>Virginia A. <b>Rosner</b> |

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 4. Norman & Sylvia <b>Genoy</b> , (32 years)      | 17. Evan & Lori <b>Kessleman</b> (10 years)                                    |
| 5. Michael & Colleen <b>Smith</b> , (6 years)     | 18. Linda & Ronald <b>Joseph</b> (32 years)                                    |
| 7. Warren & Phyllis <b>Rosen</b> , (29 years)     | 21. Howard & Lori <b>Rubin</b> (23 years)                                      |
| 8. Ellis & Barbara <b>Hershowitz</b> , (35 years) | 25. Robert & Virginia Anne <b>Rosner</b> (22 years)                            |
| 13. Stephen & Beverly <b>Levin</b> , (34 years)   | 26. Phyllis & Norman <b>Goldberg</b> (50 years)                                |
| 15. Leonard & Amy <b>Feldman</b> , (14 years)     | 27. Bruce & Arlene <b>Brown</b> (17 years)<br>Louis & Gloria <b>Abramson</b> , |
| Robert & Margot <b>Sweed</b> , (13 years)         | 28. Jeffrey & Maria <b>Waldman</b> (18 years)                                  |
| Steve & Susan <b>Blitzstein</b> , (35 years)      | 29. Mike & Marian <b>Zalkin</b> (70 years)                                     |
| Jeff & Heidi <b>Katz</b> (7 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 - Thank you.

**MYSTERY GUEST SPEAKER:** As of this printing, we have been unable to get a firm commitment for this meeting from any of our scheduled guest speakers. However, we are almost certain to have a guest speaker who will talk to us about a current and important topic. So bring your significant other and friends and lets have a great turnout for our mystery guest speaker at this, our last meeting before the summer break.

# on the town

**Condolences to: Family and friends of Life Member Meyer Weiss and his wife, Dorothy.** Dorothy passed on March 16, and Meyer passed suddenly five weeks later on April 22. They would have been married **63 years** this July. Trees will be planted in **Israel** in their memory. Their daughter, **Patrice Arnold**, can be contacted at 4925 E. Desert Cove Avenue, #164, Scottsdale, AZ 85254, 480-314-2454.

**Board of Directors:** Meeting on 5/11/06, approved the purchase of trees to be planted in **Israel** in memory of recently slain Philadelphia Police Officer **Gary Skerski**.

**Scholarship awards 2006:** Many thanks to **Robert and Shelby Ford** for their generous donation in underwriting the scholarship fund this year. The awards will be made at the banquet.

## Upcoming events:

**Shomrim of Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley Presents the 69th Annual Dinner / Dance**, Wednesday, June 7, 2006, At the Har Zion Temple, 1500 Hagys Ford Road, Penn Valley, PA 19072, **Honoring "Person of the Year" Karen Tandy, Director, DEA, and "Humanitarian Award", to our own Cantor Alan Edwards.** Tickets are \$60.00 per person. Call **Mike Gilbert** for tickets. 610-649-4615

**Plaque Dedication:** Wednesday, July 12, 11AM, 500 block N. 19th Street, in memory of Officer **Albert Savich, Shomrim** member, who was shot and killed attempting to make an arrest on December 13, 1953. Sponsored by **Kal Rudman**.

**Saturday, September 23, 2006, Executive Fellowship Board, 25th Annual Police & Fire Picnic**, Police Academy, 8501 State Road, 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM - **FREE!!!!**

**National Shomrim Convention** - The 2006 National Convention will be held at The Four Points Sheraton, Miami Beach, Florida, November 30 to December 3. Details to follow.

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## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER:

### Reflections - May 15, 2006, by Alan Edwards, National Chaplain of Shomrim

National President **Michael Gilbert**, along with **Glen Hill**, a retired Pennsylvania State Trooper, picked me up at my home at about 5:00 AM. As we have done in past years, we were on our way to Washington, D.C. to participate in the **National Shomrim Memorial Service**.

As I walked down my driveway, the heavens opened up and torrents of rain fell. The rain stayed with us as we drove south on Interstate 95 until we arrived at the train station outside of Washington. We then took the train to Judiciary Square, in the heart of the city. As we walked up the stairs into the open air, the sky cleared and the sun was shining.

The memorial in Washington honors all local, state and federal law enforcement officers. Inscribed on the blue-gray memorial wall that stands approximately four and a half feet tall and circles the entire park are the names of more than 17,000 officers who were killed in the line of duty since 1792. Several photographs of fallen police officers were depicted with inscriptions from family members, together with bouquets of flowers in front of the officers photographs. Patches, attached to posters, encased by a plastic cover to protect them from the rain, described where the officers served. Each of the pathway entrances to the memorial are adorned with powerful adult lions protecting its cubs, depicting the role that police officers play in protecting the public.

An inscription that is on the east wall reads - - **“In valor there is hope”**

The week before was extremely traumatic for all law enforcement in Philadelphia. A member of the Philadelphia Police Department, **Officer Gary Skerski**, 46 years old, was shot to death while answering a 911 call at a bar. He left a wife and two children, 10 and 13 years of age. The perpetrator was apprehended.

We were met by members of the Washington chapter of Shomrim. One of our members, a Police Detective with the Fairfax County Police Department in Virginia, told us that one of their officers was shot and killed as she was going to investigate a carjacking. **Officer Vicky Arnel**, was a 40 year old mother of two, ages 4 and 7. She was killed outside of the Sulley District police station in Chantilly. She was the victim of a senseless, random act of violence by a disgruntled teen who was then killed in a shootout with police. Officer Arnel's husband is also a detective.

As human beings we can never make any sense out of the suffering that one can bring upon another.

I wish to share with you an anonymous poem:

*Not- “How did they die? But- “How did they live?”  
Not- “What did they gain?” But- “What did they give?”  
These are the units to measure the worth of officers, regardless of birth.*

*Not- “What was their station?” But- Had they a heart?”  
And - “How did they play their part?”  
Were they ever ready with a word of good cheer,  
to bring back a smile, to banish a tear?*

*Not- “What was their shrine?” Nor “What was their creed?”  
But- “Had they befriended those really in need?”*

*Not- “What did the sketch in the newspaper say?”  
But- “How many were sorry when they passed away?”*

**May the memory of all who gave their lives, to make our communities a safer place to live, ever be for a blessing.**

## **Darrell Scott's Speech:**

Recently, Darrell Scott, the father of Rachael Scott, a victim of the Columbine High School shootings in Littleton, Colorado, was invited to address the House Judiciary Committee's subcommittee. What he said painfully truthful. They were not prepared for what he was to say, nor was it received well. It needs to be heard by every parent, every teacher, every politician, every sociologist, every psychologist and every so-called expert! These courageous words spoken by Darrell Scott are powerful, penetrating and deeply personal. There is no doubt the God sent this man as a voice crying in the wilderness.

The following is a portion of the transcript:

"Since the dawn of creation there has been both good and evil in the hearts of men and women. We all contain the seeds of kindness or the seeds of violence. The death of my wonderful daughter, Rachael Joy Scott, and the deaths of that heroic teacher and the other eleven children who died must not be in vain. Their blood cries out for answers.

"The first recorded act of violence was when Cain slew brother Abel out in the field. The villain was not the club that he used. Neither was it the NCA, The National Club Association. The true killer was Cain, and the reason for the murder could only be found in Cain's heart.

"In the days that followed the Columbine tragedy, I was amazed at how quickly fingers began to be pointed at groups such as the NRA. I am not a member of the NRA. I am not a hunter. I do not even own a gun. I am not here to represent or to defend the NRA - because I don't believe they are responsible for my daughters death. Therefore I do not believe they have to be defended. If I believed they had anything to do with my Rachael's murder I would be their strongest opponent.

"I am here today to declare that Columbine was not just a tragedy - it was a spiritual event that should be forcing us to look at where the real blame lies! Much of the blame lies here in this room. Much of the blame lies behind the pointed fingers of the accusers themselves.

"I wrote a poem just four nights ago that expresses my feelings best. This was written before I knew I would be speaking here today:

*Your laws ignore our deepest needs, your words are empty air.*

*You've stripped away our heritage, you've outlawed simple prayer.*

*Now gunshots fill our classrooms, and precious children die.*

*You seek for answers everywhere, and ask the question "WHY."*

*You regulate restrictive laws, through legislative creed,  
and yet you fail to understand that God is what we need!"*

"Men and women are three part beings. We all consist of mind, body and spirit. When we refuse to acknowledge a third part of our make-up, we create a void that allows evil, prejudice and hatred to rush in and wreak havoc. Spiritual presences were within our educational systems for most of our country's history. Many of our major colleges began as theological seminaries. This is a historical fact.

"What has happened to us as a nation? We have refused to honor God, and in so doing, we open the doors to hatred and violence. And when something as terrible as Columbine's tragedy occurs - politicians immediately look for a scapegoat such as the NRA. They immediately seek to pass more restrictive laws that contribute to erode away our personal and private liberties. We do not need more restrictive laws.

"Eric & Dylan would not have been stopped by metal detectors. No amount of gun laws can stop someone who spends months planning this type of massacre. The real villain lies within our own hearts.

"As my son Craig lay under that table in the school library and saw his two friends murdered before his very eyes, he did not hesitate to pray in school. I defy any law or politician to deny him that right! I challenge every young person in America, and around the world, to realize that on April 20, 1999, at Columbine High School, prayer was brought back to our schools. Do not let the many prayers offered by these students be in vain. Dare to move into the new millennium with a sacred disregard for legislation that violates your God-given right to communicate with Him. To those of you who would point your finger at the NRA - I give you a sincere challenge. Dare to examine your own heart before casting the first stone!

**"My daughter's death will not be in vain! The young people of this country will not allow that to happen!"**

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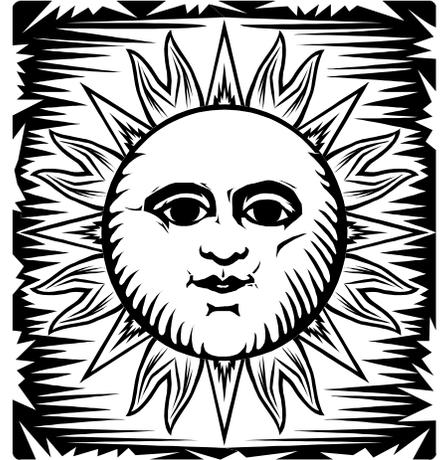
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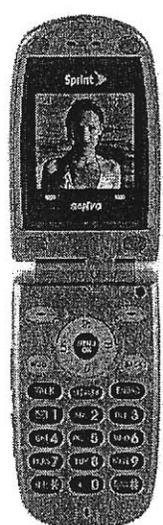
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