

THE NEXT MEETING IS SUNDAY,
APRIL 25, 2004 AT 11:00 AM AT THE CB
SMITH PARK, FLAMINGO ROAD AND
PINES BOULEVARD, PEMBROKE
PINES, FLORIDA

MAZEL TOV:

To Randy and Janna Heller on the birth of their son,
Joshua

WELCOME:

To new member and Sister Michelle Sabag. Michelle is
A firefighter with Miami Dade Fire-Rescue.

To new member and Brother Brad Elow, a Detective
with San Diego, CA PD. (Sponsored by Brother Carl
Lord)

To new associate member and Brother Arthur Barr.

GET WELL:

To Sister Candy Wisotsky who is recovering from sur-
gery done on March 24, 2004

To Barbara Heller, wife of Chairman of the Board of Di-
rectors, Irv Heller, for her continued recovery

2004 DUES NOTICES INSIDE. PLEASE
MAIL YOUR ANNUAL DUES BACK AS
SOON AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
THANKS



Rabbi Pinchas Weberman is the spiritual leader of Ohev Shalom Congregation on Miami Beach, Florida. He is the Chaplain for the Miami Beach Police Department.

RABBI'S MESSAGE:

If The Holy One Blessed Be He Would Not Have Taken Our Fathers Out Of Egypt, We And Our Children And Our Children's Children Would Have Still Been Enslaved To Pharaoh In Egypt. (Haggadah)

The above quote is part of the father's answer to the four questions. He responds with those words in anticipation to the child's wondering about the relevance of an event that occurred more than three thousand years ago. "So what if our ancestors were redeemed from slavery? What does it mean to me?"

Is our answer literally so? A study of political history will show that empires, no matter how powerful and all-encompassing they might have been, rise and fall. A people will not allow themselves to be enslaved forever. With the passing of time, the oppressors become complacent and the oppressed become restless. This results in a rebellion during which the enslaved break their yoke and their masters are crushed under their feet. Why do we say that if our ancestors were not freed then, we would still be slaves now more than three thousand years later (didn't we just say slaves tend to break free over time)?

The Torah concept of freedom is not just that of the physical, political and financial status. The slavery of Egypt meant being subject to the culture of the Egyptians. "There was no nation among all the nations whose conduct was more abominable than the Egyptians" (Sifra Leviticus 18:3). The most serious danger of enslavement in Egypt was the acculturation of our people to idolatry, adultery, corruption, violence and all other forms of immorality.

If matters were let to take their course and the Israelites were freed hundreds of years later, the abominable culture would have been incurably imbedded in our people and we and our children and our children's children would have been spiritually if not politically enslaved to Egypt.

In every generation a threat looms before us (Haggadah). We need to be on guard. We are surrounded by an abominable, corrupt culture. With the passing of years society around us sinks deeper and deeper into a quagmire of immorality. We must protect ourselves and our children from being influenced by such evil. We celebrate the Festival of Freedom by anticipating the reaffirmation of the Torah. On the second night of Pesach we start counting the days leading to Shavuos, the Festival of the Giving of the Torah. We will ensure our spiritual freedom protected by our knowledge and

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Shalom:

The Picnic is rapidly approaching and this year we will expand the "entertainment" to a Bounce House, Climbing Wall, and slide for the kids (thanks Ben-David family and Bryant Security). We will have between 225 and 300 people there this year including contingents from the 1st Shomrim of Florida, the POC, and the HPOA.

In this issue are the current guidelines for the South Florida Shomrim Society Scholarship that will be awarded later on this summer.

We have signed up 11 new members in the past two months and we are growing. We have plans to expand greater into Broward County's Law Enforcement and Fire Fighting community.

Since the acceptance of the new Constitution and By-laws by our membership, I have been able to reorganize our Board of Directors. There have been a couple changes there and I have discussed each of these with the Officers and Chairman of the Board of Directors. I am pleased to announce the latest addition to our Board is Miami-Dade Police Department Uniform Services Division Chief Randy Heller. Many of us will recognize Randy as the "organizer" of the soccer games at the picnic. He has also represented us at awards ceremonies, such as at the Hillel School when presentations were made to students, and more. We now have 12 full voting members on the Board of Directors.

There is no May meeting because of the Memorial Day holiday. At the June meeting we will review the scholarships, charities, Dinner Dance, and prepare for the elections. The July meeting will be used to present the Scholarship winners with their checks and continue Dinner Dance and election planning. August will begin the election process (no September meeting because of Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur). October will be the meeting to finalize the election results and complete plans for the Dinner Dance on November 10, 2004, which will include the installation of the new Offices for the next two years. I am hoping to move the October meeting to Sunday, October 17, 2004, probably in the north end of Miami-Dade County. This will enable to newly elected Officers to prepare for the Dinner Dance and help with the plans for the National Shomrim Convention and Seminar set for the first week of December on Miami Beach, Florida.

See you at the Picnic

Steve

2004 SOUTH FLORIDA SHOMRIM SOCIETY
SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

It is the time of the year for the South Florida Shomrim Society to award its' scholarship to a deserving college bound students. Awards totals will be increased over last years amount

The qualifications are this simple:

- 1) Be a family member of a South Florida Shomrim Society member in good standing (meaning that the 2004 dues must be paid up)
- 2) Be in his/her senior year in High School
- 3) Complete a 500 word essay titled "Why I want to Further My Education and Where I See Myself in Five Years".

E-mail the essay to leibotrio@aol.com or mail the essay (before June 20th, 2004) to the Committee Chairman, Steve Leibowitz at 13845 SW 75 Avenue, Miami, Florida 33158. All applications will be accepted if above requirements are met. Decisions on the scholarship selections will be based on academic performance and the submitted essay. Decisions of the Committee are final.

Please include the name of the South Florida Shomrim Society member, the relationship to that, member, any university or college that you are already accepted to, and any information you think would be relevant about you (volunteering somewhere, etc.)

GOOD LUCK!!!!!!



SOUTH FLORIDA SHOMRIM SOCIETY COLLARED
SHIRTS \$15, BLUE OR WHITE. BADGES \$8 HATS \$6.

GOOD LUCK TO OUR BROTHERS
AND RETIRING POLICE CHIEFS:
RON GOTLIN
IRV HELLER
**YOU HAVE SERVED WELL AND
MADE US PROUD YOU ARE MEM-
BERS OF OUR CHAPTER**

MITZVAH CARDS AVAILABLE!!!

Let South Florida Shomrim help you send **New Years greetings, congratulations to family and friends, or any special message you want to send.** We have begun sending Mitzvah Cards out. Your message will be printed on a folding 6X9 card that bears the badge and name of the South Florida Shomrim Society and mailed in an envelope whose back flap has the same logos. Any donation you wish to make is placed into our Scholarship Fund and there is no set (or required) donation. Call Steve 305-238-4004 (leave a message) or 305-219-4235 for more information.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Chairman: Greg Glasel

Members: Helen Baimel, Beverly Morshenson,
David Waksman, Nancy Wolff

The Committee continued in their preparations for
the 2004 Picnic.

Cars are also for sale with a variety of police logos.

Embroidered shirts, and hats are on sale. New South
Florida Shomrim badge/pins are available, too. All
proceeds go into the South Florida Shomrim Society
Scholarship Fund



CHARITY AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

Chairman: Irv Heller

Members: David Waksman , Bob Singer

The Committee is going to reviewed all the dona-
tions made in 2003 and made suggestions for con-
tinuing those, changing the amounts, or adding or
deleting recipients.

If you have any thoughts regarding charities, please
make them know to us.



COMMITTEES (continued)

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairman: Jeff Wander

Members: Steve Kaufman, Ken Goodman, Frank Piloto, Steve Leibowitz

The Committee continues to put together the monthly Newsletter. The monthly article for the Police Benevolent Association's HEAT Newsletter, read by over 5000, was comprised and submitted for publication. The Web site was updated thanks to Steve Kaufman.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mike Bentolila

Members: Irv Heller, Ben Alter, Gary Unger
Three new members this month.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman: Steve Leibowitz

Members: ***Barry Mankes***

Instructions for Application are being sent out and screening procedures are being discussed. If you have any ideas, now's the time to bring them up.

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“MACHN A PIKNIK”

South Florida Shomrim

Society 2004 Picnic

Sunday, April 25, 2004

CB Smith Park

**Flamingo Road and Pines Boulevard
Pembroke Pines, Florida (Broward Co.)**

11:00 am—4:00 pm

Kosher BBQ (Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Chicken)
Catered by Weberman's Traditional Foods

No Charge for Members and Friends

Your cost: \$1 per person to get into the Park

Featuring: Children's Playground; Volleyball, Baseball; Bounce House; Fishing; Boat Rental; Bike Rental (or bring your own to ride); Socializing

PLEASE LET US KNOW THAT YOU ARE GOING TO ATTEND. WE NEED AN ACCURATE COUNT TO

ORDER ENOUGH FOOD. CALL US AT 305-238-

4004 OR 305-219-4235; E-MAIL US: LEI-

BOTRIO@AOL.COM, jml1@aol.com OR

DGS44@AOL.COM

OR WRITE US AT THE SOUTH FLORIDA SHOM-

RIM SOCIETY, 4200 BISCAYNE BOULEVARD,

MIAMI, FL

THERE WILL BE MORE INFORMATION IN
THE SOUTH FLORIDA SHOMRIM SOCIETY
WEB SITE:

WWW.SOUTHFLORIDASHOMRIM.COM

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WHAT WE DID WITH YOUR DUES IN 2003

CHARITY

Temple Ohev Shalom Senior Fund - Rosh Hashana
Temple Ohev Shalom Senior Fund - Chanukah
Temple Ohev Shalom Senior Fund - Passover
Simon Wiesenthal Center
Greater Miami Jewish Federation
US Holocaust Museum
National Conf of Shomrim Societies - Dues
Zeiff Jewish Museum
Jewish War Veterans - Passover Food
Museum of Tolerance
National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial
Dade PBA Love Fund
Hebrew Academy
Police Officer's Assistance Trust
Miami Beach Guild for the Blind
Shomrim Scholarship Fund
Parents of Murdered Children
Temple Hatikva
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation



DUES ARE DUE FOR 2004

**THIS YEAR'S DUES ARE STILL
ONLY \$36 OR DOUBLE CHAI.**

PLEASE FILL OUT THE INFORMATION BE-
LOW AND MAIL THIS PAGE WITH YOUR TAX
DEDUCTIBLE \$36 DUES TO:

BEVERLY MORSHENSON
600 NE 36 STREET #405
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33137

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE ____ ZIP _____

E-MAIL _____

OTHER CONTACT _____

COMMENTS _____

THE ROOT OF THE CONFLICT

When the United Nations proposed the establishment of two states in the region—one Jewish, one Arab—the Jews accepted the proposal and declared their independence in 1948. The Jewish state constituted only 1/6 of one percent of what was known as "the Arab world." The Arab states, however, rejected the UN plan and since then have waged war against Israel repeatedly, both all-out wars and wars of terrorism and attrition. In 1948, five Arab armies invaded Israel in an effort to eradicate it. Jamal Husseini of the Arab Higher Committee spoke for many in vowing to soak "the soil of our beloved country with the last drop of our blood."

The Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) was founded in 1964—*three years before Israel controlled the West Bank and Gaza*. The PLO's declared purpose was to eliminate the State of Israel by means of armed struggle. To this day, the Web site of Yasir Arafat's Palestinian Authority (PA) claims that the *entirety* of Israel is "occupied" territory.* It is impossible to square this with the PLO and PA assertions to Western audiences that the root of the conflict is Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

The West Bank and Gaza (controlled by Jordan and Egypt from 1948 to 1967) came under Israeli control during the Six Day War of 1967 that started when Egypt closed the Straits of Tiran and Arab armies amassed on Israel's borders to invade and liquidate the state. It is important to note that during their 19-year rule, neither Jordan nor Egypt had made any effort to establish a Palestinian state on those lands. Just before the Arab nations launched their war of aggression against the State of Israel in 1967, Syrian Defense Minister (later President) Hafez Assad stated, "Our forces are now entirely ready . . . to initiate the act of liberation itself, and to explode the Zionist presence in the Arab homeland . . . the time has come to enter into a battle of annihilation." On the brink of the 1967 war, Egyptian President Gamal Nassar declared, "Our basic objective will be the destruction of Israel."

Because of their animus against Jews, many leaders of the Palestinian cause have long supported our enemies. The Grand Mufti of Jerusalem allied himself with Adolf Hitler during WWII. Yasir Arafat, chairman of the PLO and president of the PA, has repeatedly targeted and killed Americans. In 1973, Arafat ordered the execution of Cleo Noel, the American ambassador to the Sudan. Arafat was very closely aligned with the Soviet Union and other enemies of the United States throughout the Cold War. In 1991, during the Gulf War, Arafat aligned himself with Saddam Hussein, whom he praised as "the defender of the Arab nation, of Muslims, and of free men everywhere."

Israel has, in fact, returned most of the land that it captured during the 1967 war and right after that war offered to return all of it in exchange for peace and normal relations; the offer was rejected. As a result of the 1978 Camp David accords—in which Egypt recognized the right of Israel to exist and normal relations were established between the two countries—Israel returned the Sinai desert, a territory three times the size of Israel and 91 percent of the territory Israel took control of in the 1967 war.

In 2000, as part of negotiations for a comprehensive and durable peace, Israel offered to turn over all but the smallest portion of the remaining territories to Yasir Arafat. But Israel was rebuffed when Arafat walked out of Camp David and launched the current *intifada*.

Yasir Arafat has never been less than clear about his goals—at least not in Arabic. On the very day that he signed the Oslo accords in 1993—in which he promised to renounce terrorism and recognize Israel—he addressed the Palestinian people on Jordanian television and declared that he had taken the first step "in the 1974 plan." This was a thinly-veiled reference to the "phased plan," according to which any territorial gain was acceptable as a means toward the ultimate goal of Israel's destruction.

The recently deceased Faisal al-Husseini, a leading Palestinian spokesman, made the same point in 2001 when he declared that the West Bank and Gaza represented only "22 percent of Palestine" and that the Oslo process was a "Trojan horse." He explained, "When we are asking all the Palestinian forces and factions to look at the Oslo Agreement and at other agreements as 'temporary' procedures, or phased goals, this means that we are ambushing the Israelis and cheating them." The goal, he continued, was "the liberation of Palestine from the river to the sea," i.e., the Jordan River to the Mediterranean Sea—all of Israel.

To this day, the Fatah wing of the PLO (the "moderate" wing that was founded and is controlled by Arafat himself) has as its official emblem the entire state of Israel covered by two rifles and a hand grenade—another fact that belies the claim that Arafat desires nothing more than the West Bank and Gaza.

While criticism of Israel is not necessarily the same as "anti-Semitism," it must be remembered that the Middle East press is, in fact, rife with anti-Semitism. More than fifteen years ago the eminent scholar Bernard Lewis could point out that "The demonization of Jews [in Arabic literature] goes further than it had ever done in Western literature, with the exception of Germany during the period of Nazi rule." Since then, and through all the years of the "peace process," things have become much worse. Depictions of Jews in Arab and Muslim media are akin to those of Nazi Germany, and medieval blood libels—including claims that Jews use Christian and Muslim blood in preparing their holiday foods—have become prominent and routine. One example is a sermon broadcast on PA television where Sheik Ahmad Halabaya stated, "They [the Jews]

must be butchered and killed, as Allah the Almighty said: 'Fight them: Allah will torture them at your hands.' Have no mercy on the Jews, no matter where they are, in any country. Fight them, wherever you are. Wherever you meet them, kill them."

Over three-quarters of Palestinians approve of suicide bombings—an appalling statistic but, in light of the above facts, an unsurprising one.

ISRAEL

There are 21 Arab countries in the Middle East and only one Jewish state: Israel, which is also the only democracy in the region.

Israel is the only country in the region that permits citizens of all faiths to worship freely and openly. Twenty percent of Israeli citizens are not Jewish.

While Jews are not permitted to live in many Arab countries, Arabs are granted full citizenship and have the right to vote in Israel. Arabs are also free to become members of the Israeli parliament (the Knesset). In fact, several Arabs have been democratically elected to the Knesset and have been serving there for years. Arabs living in Israel have more rights and are freer than most Arabs living in Arab countries.

Israel is smaller than the state of New Hampshire and is surrounded by nations hostile to her existence. Some peace proposals—including the recent Saudi proposal—demand withdrawal from the entire West Bank, which would leave Israel 9 miles wide at its most vulnerable point.

The oft-cited UN Resolution 242 (passed in the wake of the 1967 war) does not, in fact, require a complete withdrawal from the West Bank. As legal scholar Eugene Rostow put it, "Resolution 242, which as undersecretary of state for political affairs between 1966 and 1969 I helped produce, calls on the parties to make peace and allows Israel to administer the territories it occupied in 1967 until 'a just and lasting peace in the Middle East' is achieved. When such a peace is made, Israel is required to withdraw its armed forces 'from territories' it occupied during the Six-Day War—not from 'the' territories nor from 'all' the territories, but from some of the territories."

Israel has, of course, conceded that the Palestinians have legitimate claims to the disputed territories and is willing to engage in negotiations on the matter. As noted above, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak offered almost all of the territories to Arafat at Camp David in 2000.

Despite claims that the Israeli settlements in the West Bank are the obstacle to peace, Jews lived there for centuries before being massacred or driven out by invading Arab armies in 1948-49. And contrary to common misperceptions, Israeli settlements—which constitute less than two percent of the territories—almost never displace Palestinians.

The area of the West Bank includes some of the most important sites in



Jewish history, among them Hebron, Bethlehem, and Jericho. East Jerusalem, often cited as an "Arab city" or "occupied territory," is the site of Judaism's holiest monument. While under Arab rule (1948-67), this area was entirely closed to Jews. Since Israel took control, it has been open to people of all faiths.

Finally, let us consider the demand that certain territories in the Muslim world must be off-limits to Jews. This demand is of a piece with Hitler's proclamation that German land had to be "Judenrein" (empty of Jews). Arabs can live freely throughout Israel, and as full citizens. Why should Jews be forbidden to live or to own land in an area like the West Bank simply because the majority of people is Arab?



YOM HaSHOAH CEREMONY
APRIL 19, 2004
6:00 PM

AVENTURA
TURNBERRY
JEWISH CENTER
AVENTURA, FLORIDA

Once again this year the South Florida Shomrim Society has been honored to be asked to supply the Honor Guard for this ceremony. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU CAN PARTICIPATE IN YOUR CLASS "A" UNIFORM. If you cannot wear your uniform (or are retired) and want to participate, we are going to make arrangements for you to walk ion the Flag ceremony presentation.

This is the major event of the year for honoring the memory of the Holocaust. It is our chance to make an impact on our community. Leading members of Aventura Jewish community will be there.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW. WE DO NOT GET MANY OPPORTUNITIES LIKE THIS ONE. MAKE IT A SUCCESS. BE THERE REPRESENTING

YOM HaSHOAH CEREMONY
APRIL 18, 2004
6:00 PM
MIAMI BEACH
1933–1945 MERIDIAN AVE
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

It took many years to get the SOUTH FLORIDA SHOMRIM SOCIETY recognized by the organizing committee.

This is the major event of the year for honoring the memory of the Holocaust. It is our chance to make an impact on our community. Leading members of non-Jewish clergy, the media, politicians, and ordinary citizens will be there.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW. WE DO NOT GET MANY OPPORTUNITIES LIKE THIS ONE. MAKE IT A SUCCESS. BE THERE REPRESENTING SHOMRIM!!

We received a lovely acknowledgement of our contribution to Temple Hatikva, located in Homestead, Florida. We would like to thank Brother Frank Piloto for introducing us to the Homestead Jewish Center.