

**PRESIDENTS MESSAGE
APRIL 2006**

I just can't believe how this year is flying by. It is April and we have so many events that are on the horizon. I just got home after our Annual Picnic. This was the best picnic that we have held with 300+ members, their families and friends in attendance. Many special thanks go to Rabbi Pinchas Weberman and his sons Shlomo, Shaya, David and Ben for their outstanding commitment to the South Florida Shomrim Society. I would like to also thank Shay Ben David and his entire Bryant Security family for the entertainment. The Ben David Family and Bryant Security supplied a Bounce House, Rock Wall, Slide and a Face Painting Clown. The children had a great time playing and having funny faces painted on. I even saw the adults having designs painted on their faces and arms, then attempting to get up the Rock Wall. Also, the cooks, set-up, clean-up crews and salesmen: Steve Leibowitz, Barry Mankes, Lou Bornstein, Bill Kramer, Mark Jeter and Harvey Meshel. We could have not done it without their help. A GREAT time was had by all! We had many special guests present as well, including federal, state, and local dignitaries.

We were also very happy to see National Shomrim President Mike Gilbert and wife Josephine, and South Florida Shomrim Past President Bobby Singer and his wife Lucy. We even had a special visit by the King David Motorcycle Club, mostly comprised of Jewish Law Enforcement Officers.

April is a very special month. The South Florida Shomrim Society will be participating in the Yom HaShoah ceremonies at the Aventura-Turnberry Jewish Center in Aventura and The Holocaust Memorial on Miami Beach, providing the Honor Guard and presentation of the colors.

Members of our organization will also be participating in the annual Police Memorial Services that will be held at Tropical Park in the beginning of May. This is the 25th anniversary the memorial, "25 years of honoring our fallen." Please come out and show your support for the officers, and your Brothers and Sisters that have given the ultimate sacrifice for our communities.

The Scholarship awards are coming up soon, so have your children start thinking about their essays.

'Be well, be safe,
Gregg Glasel, President

WHO'S WHO AT THE PICNIC

The Annual MACHIN A PICKNIK was a booming success again this year. In attendance in addition to our loyal members and supporters were members of our Judiciary; Hon. Linda Singer-Stein, Hon. Maxine Cohen Landau and Hon. Maria Korvic. Billy Joel, Vice Mayor, City of Aventura, and Jeff Wander, Retired Miami-Dade Police/South Florida Shomrim Society Board of Director, Candidate for the Florida House of Representatives District 120 joined us as well. The Law Enforcement Community was well represented by, Chief James Skinner, Golden Beach P.D., Chief Shawn Orielly, Surfside P.D., Chief David Ward, Miccosukee P.D. (South Florida Shomrim Society Board of Directors), Major Mark Jeter, Miami-Dade P.D. (South Florida Shomrim Society Board of Directors) and Major Ron Friedman, North Miami Beach P.D. Of course, there were about 100 Shomrim Society members that brought family and friends to enjoy the 84 degrees and sunshine. Thanks to all who attended. We hope that next year is bigger and better.

South Florida Shomrim Society Membership Application

APRIL 2006
VOLUME 22
ISSUE 4

NAME: _____

HOME ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

HOME PHONE: _____ CELL PHONE: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____

POSITION/TITLE: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

(CHECK ONE BOX)

REGULAR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

PLEASE FILL OUT THE INFORMATION BELOW AND MAIL THIS PAGE WITH YOUR TAX DEDUCTIBLE \$36 DUES TO:
BEVERLY MORSHENSON, 600 NE 36 STREET #405, MIAMI, FLORIDA 33137

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

APRIL 24, 2006 - YOM HASHOAH CEREMONY - AVENTURA TURNBERRY JEWISH CENTER, AVENTURA

APRIL 25, 2006 - YOM HASHOAH CEREMONY - HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL, MIAMI BEACH

APRIL 30, 2006 10:00 AM - MONTHLY MEETING - FEDERATION BUILDING

MAY NEWSLETTER WILL ANNOUNCE SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

MAY 2, 2006- YOMHA'ZIKARON - DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

MAY 3, 2006 - YOM HA'ATZMA'UT - ISRAELI INDEPENDENCE DAY

JUNE 25, 2006, MONTHLY MEETING - AVENTURA POLICE STATION

AUGUST 27, 2006, MONTHLY MEETING - FEDERATION BUILDING - SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED THIS DAY

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Barry:

It was our honor to have you present and say a blessing at the Bris for Bernie. Having you there was like having a family member celebrate such a joyous occasion. (Okay, Bernie was not too happy for a little while, but he seemed to appreciate the wine.) Thank you for being there in bringing our son into the Covenant of the Jewish People.

When John and I joined Shomrim, I did not expect to find friends to be involved in my life events. I also did not expect to go through the past few years as they unfolded. When my mother passed away the December before last, Shomrim members offered their condolences and comfort to me. A tree was planted in Israel by Shomrim, which was a beautiful gesture in memory of my mother who was so proud of her Jewish heritage. When I delivered Bernie two months prematurely, Shomrim members kept in contact with John to check up on the baby and I, again offering support. I can't tell you how drained I was in going back and forth to the hospital (Bernie was in Intensive Care for a month), when I came home one day to find an amazing basket of flowers at my door. Finding this was sent by my Brothers and Sisters at Shomrim, as well as the beauty of the arrangement, uplifted me. It gave me a smile, something I had not done in what seemed like too long.

Please accept our sincere thanks for everything to all the Members, and especially to Steve Leibowitz, Harvey and Randi Meshel, Mitch and Nurise Tapper, and especially you Barry, for always pulling everything together.

Rhonda and John Walenda

SOUTH FLORIDA SHOMRIM SOCIETY APRIL 2006 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

OFFICERS

GREGG GLASEL, President
BARRY MANKES, Exec VP
MICHAEL BENTOLILA, 1st VP
LOUIS BORNSTEIN, 2nd VP
MICHELLE SABAG, 3rd VP
BEVERLY MORSHENSON, Treas
HELEN BAIMEL, Rec Sec
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ELLIOTT LIPSON, Sgt at Arms
SHAYA WEBERMAN, Chaplain
DAVID WEBERMAN, Chaplain
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Asst Director (ret), MDPD
Rabbi Pinchas Weberman,
Spiritual Advisor
Steven Leibowitz,
Immediate Past President
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Deputy Directory (ret) MDPD
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Miccosukee Police Department
Mark Jeter, Major, MDPD
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Donald Rifkin, Major, MDPD
Paul Novack, Surfside Mayor (ret)
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Chief (ret) Sanibel Island PD
Kenneth Stowe
President, Aetna Painting Co
Jeffrey Wander, MDPD (ret)
Herb Schoenfeld,
Former President, National Shomrim

POSTHUMOUS MEMBERS

Cheryl Weiner Seiden, Metro-Dade PD
Donald Kramer, Miami Beach PD
Scott Rakow, Miami Beach PD
Rabbi Jeremiah Burstyn, Spiritual Adv

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MAZEL TOV:

To Bennie and Talli Furer on the birth of their son, Nathan Werner, on March 29, 2006.
To Rhonda and John Walenda who celebrated the Bris of their son Bernie, March 21, 2006.

SPECIAL PROJECTS COMMITTEE:

CHAIRMAN: BARRY MANKES

MEMBERS: Helen Baimel, Beverly Morshenson, Nancy Wolff

The beginning stages for the Annual Dinner Dance, scheduled for November 9, 2006, are underway. (November 10 is the celebrated holiday)

SCHOLARSHIP

CHAIRPERSON: MICHELLE SABAG

MEMBERS: Rhonda Walenda, Jennifer Siller Lasry

The 2006 Scholarship announcement is posted in this Newsletter

WELCOME

To new member and Brother Howard Karsh. Howard is a retired S/ A with the IRS./
To new member and Brother Mark Gelber. Mark is an International Examiner with the US Treasury Department

SOUTH FLORIDA SHOMRIM SOCIETY 2006 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

It is that time of year for the scholarship application process to begin.

The qualifications are simple:

Be a family member of a South Florida Shomrim Society member is good standing (meaning that their 2006 dues are up-to-date)

Be in his or her senior year of high school

Be attending a university, college or community college starting in the summer or fall of 2006

Submit a 500 word essay entitled "Why I want to further my education and where I see myself in five years".

Submission is easy as well.

E-mail the essay to **Chairperson Michelle Sabag (suit11@aol.com)**. Please also send an e-mail copy to **President Gregg Glasel (dsg44@aol.com)** and **Executive Vice-President Barry Mankes (barry.shomrim@gmail.com)** Or Mail the paperwork to the South Florida Shomrim Society, 4200 Biscayne Boulevard, Miami Florida 33137. All letters and entries must be postmarked by June 30, 2006. Or Bring the essay to a meeting and give it to a Committee Member.

Please include the name of the South Florida Shomrim Society member and their relationship to you. Also, mention any school that you have been accepted to (even if you are unsure which one you'll attend)

MAZEL TOV - GOOD LUCK!

Mr. Goldfarb walks into his synagogue with a dog. *The shammas* immediately comes up to him and says, "This is a House of Worship, Hymie, you know you can't bring a dog in here." "What do you mean I can't", says Hymie, "Look at him, he's a Jewish Dog." The *shammas* then notices that the dog has a *tallis bag* around its neck. Hymie then says to the dog, "Benny *daven* for me." The dog stands on his back legs and says, "Woof, woof woof," then opens the *tallis* bag, takes out a *kippa* and puts it on his head, exactly in between his ears. "Woof, woof," says the dog who then takes out a *siddur* and starts to pray, rocking from side to side. "That's brilliant," says the *shammas*, "totally incredible. You must get him on TV and the movies and you could make millions." "You speak to him then," says Hymie, "he wants to be a doctor."



The following was presented by Ben Stein on the CBS Sunday Morning Commentary, Sunday, 12/18/05

Herewith at this happy time of year, a few confessions from my beating heart: I have no clue who Nick and Jessica are. I see them on the cover of People and Us constantly when I am buying my dog biscuits and kitty litter. I often ask the checkers at the grocery stores. They never know who Nick and Jessica are either. Who are they? Will it change my life if I know who they are and why they have broken up? Why are they so important? I don't know who Lindsay Lohan is either, and I do not care at all about Tom Cruise's wife. Am I going to be called before a Senate committee and asked if I am a subversive? Maybe, but I just have no clue who Nick and Jessica are. If this is what it means to be no longer young. It's not so bad.

Next confession: I am a Jew, and every single one of my ancestors was Jewish. And it does not bother me even a little bit when people call those beautiful lit up, bejeweled trees Christmas Trees. I don't feel threatened. I don't feel discriminated against. That's what they are: Christmas Trees.

It doesn't bother me a bit when people say, "Merry Christmas" to me. I don't think they are slighting me or getting ready to put me in a ghetto. In fact, I kind of like it. It shows that we are all brothers and sisters celebrating this happy time of year.

RABBI'S MESSAGE

Rabbi Pinchas Weberman is the spiritual leader of Temple Ohev Shalom and the South Florida Shomrim Society. He is also a Chaplain for Miami Beach PD, ATF and MDPD. *For Mordecai the Jew found fever among most of his brethren*

After reading the entire Megillah we will come to the obvious conclusion that although Mordecai's original strategies might have been questioned, his ultimate success should have earned him unanimous approval. Why do we read that only a majority of his brethren came to a positive response regarding Mordecai?

At the end of the Megillah reading we sing: *The Lily of Jacob was joyous and glad when they beheld the techeles of Mordecai.* Mordecai was called - Mrodecai the Jew. At all times, the fringes of Mordecai's Tallis were visible to all whether in the Synagogue and House of Learning, in the streets of the Capital, or in the Royal Court. He never hid his Jewishness. His Tzitzis were

It doesn't bother me at all that there is a manger scene on display at a key intersection near my beach house in Malibu. If people want a creche, it's just as fine with me as is the Menorah a few hundred yards away.

I don't like getting pushed around for being a Jew, and I don't think Christians like getting pushed around for being Christians. I think people who believe in G-d are sick and tired of getting pushed around, period. I have no idea where the concept came from that America is an explicitly atheist country. I can't find it in the Constitution, and I don't like it being shoved down my throat. Or maybe I can put it another way: where did the idea come from that we should worship Nick and Jessica and we aren't allowed to worship G-d as we understand Him? I guess that's a sign that I'm getting old, too. Billy Graham's daughter was interviewed on the Early Show and Jane Clayson asked her "How could G-d let something like this Happen?" (regarding Katrina) Anne Graham gave an extremely profound and insightful response. She said, "I believe G-d is deeply saddened by this, just as we are, but for years we've been telling G-d to get out of our schools, to get out of our government and to get out of our lives. And being the gentleman He is, I believe He has calmly backed out.

How can we expect G-d to give us His blessing and His protection if we demand

always visible, reminding him and all around him of *all the Commandments of the L-rd.*

The extreme fringes of the Jewish community from both the right and from the left would not tolerate Moredecai's conduct. Mordecai, a member of Sanhedrin, a great Torah Scholar, the right wingers declared, should seclude himself in the synagogues and Houses of Learning. They felt his connection with and functioning in secular circles is incomplete with the holiness of a man of his stature. Those of the extreme left who felt uncomfortable with their own Jewishness criticized him from their perspective. They were worried that Mordecai's appearance as a Jew would earn him scorn and derision with the Gentiles.

The majority were right and both extremes were wrong. One who is weak in faith and meager in Torah learning would be vulnerable to the contrary culture. The Torah wisdom and the profound piety of Mordecai

He leave us alone?" Probably, if we think about it long and hard enough, we can figure it out. I think it has a great deal to do with "WE REAP WHATWE SOW." Funny how simple it is for people to trash G-d and then wonder why the world's going to hell. Funny how we believe what the newspapers say, but question what the Bible says.

Funny how you can send 'jokes' through e-mail and they spread like wildfire but when you start sending messages regarding the Lord, people think twice about sharing. Funny how lewd, crude, vulgar and obscene articles pass freely through cyberspace, but public discussion of G-d is suppressed in the school and workplace.

Are you laughing? Funny how when you forward this message, you will not send it to many on your address list because you're not sure what they believe, or what they will think of you for sending it. Funny how we can be more worried about what other people think of us than what G-d thinks of us.

**NEXT MEETING
APRIL 30, 2006
10:00AM
JEWISH FEDERATION
4200 BISCAYNE BLVD.**

were powerful forces of insulation and prevented the polluted atmosphere of the royal court from corrupting his holy soul.

Those who are self-hating and do not respect themselves become targets of scorn and derision from others. Mordecai's fierce pride and deep sense of fulfillment in his Judaism penetrated the feelings of those who observed him. He earned their respect.

Modesty and humbleness are laudable traits in our personal lives. Gains in the areas of wealth and success should be kept private. Our pride in Torah should be openly displayed.

His heart was uplifted in the ways of the L-ord (1 Chronicles 17)

A scholar, while modest in his personal ways, should display his good deeds (Yalkut Shimoni)