

THE NEXT MEETING IS SUNDAY,
MARCH 28, 2004 AT 10:00 AM AT THE
JEWISH FEDERATION BUILDING
4200 BISCAYNE BOULEVARD
MIAMI, FLORIDA

WELCOME:

To new member and Brother Keith Ellis. Keith is a sergeant with the Miami-Dade Police Department

To new member and Brother Alon Nadler. Alon is with Bryant Security.

To new member and Brother Don Fortgang. Don is with Bryant Security.

To new member and Sister Jennifer H. Siller-Lasry

To new member and Brother Michael Ohayon. Michael is a Senior Inspector with U. S. Customs & Border Protection.

To new member and Brother Peter Estis. Pete is a lieutenant with the Miami-Dade Police Department.

To new member and Brother Scott Hahn. Scott is a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

To new member and Brother Glenn Stolzenberg. Glenn is a lieutenant with the Miami-Dade Police Department.

To new member and Brother Robert Diamond, a retired Commissioner of Police in New Jersey.

2004 DUES NOTICES INSIDE. PLEASE MAIL YOUR ANNUAL DUES BACK 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:

Turn away from evil and do good, and you will dwell forever (Psalm 37:27)

When the reader reaches the sixth chapter of the Scroll of Esther, he raises his voice. This is to emphasize the turning point in events of that time. At the critical moment, when Haman approached the King to hang Mordecai, the King's wrath turned against Haman.

Ahasuerus was troubled and was unable to sleep. He suspected a plot against him as his Queen requested that Haman be repeatedly invited to drinking sessions. He asked his attendants to read the records for him. Perhaps someone who had done good to the King and was not compensated and was not seeking to harm him. Those attendants were Haman's sons. They came to page in which Mordecai's saving the King's life was recorded. In response to the King's inquiry whether Mordecai was rewarded for his deed, they responded, "Nothing was done for him".

If the intention of Haman's sons was to prevent Mordecai from being rewarded, why did they not say that he was already paid for his good deed? The mentality of those people was that failing to harm Mordecai was enough of a reward. This follows the thinking of a well known fable about the lion's request to have a bone pulled out of his throat. He promised to reward any creature that would do so. The stork stuck her bill and neck down the lion's throat, pulled out the bone and demanded a reward. The lion responded: "I had your neck between my fangs and did not clamp down – that is sufficient reward. So did Haman's sons think. By saying nothing was done to Mordecai, they thought the King would consider that ample reward and Mordecai would get nothing further.

It would do us well to consider the Haman family's standard of values in contrast to those of the Torah. To them you nothing more than not do harm to others. Our standards do not rest at that point. A person who does not come up with positive action to share the concerns of others, falls into the category of an evil person. We are responsible to be free of sins of omission just as well as to be free of sins of commission.

On Purim the Jews reaffirmed their acceptance of the Torah (Talmud Shabbas 88A). Our joy over the victory of the Jews over Haman is enhanced when we allow ourselves to realize and appreciate the enlightenment and quality of the Torah's values.

The Jews had light and gladness, and joy and honor (Esther 8:16)

**WHAT YOU MISSED BY NOT BEING AT THE MEETING ON
FEBRUARY 29, 2004 & THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

The meeting was primarily concerned with reviewing and voting on the proposed new Constitution and By-laws. The vote ended up with 91% in favor of accepting them and 9% against. Afterward, I reflected on the accomplishments of the past four years that I have been President:

We have increased our membership by 42%
We became the first Chapter to have a Web Page (most others have followed)
We increased the size of our Newsletter
We regained our 501c status
We are a non-profit organization recognized by the Post Office which saves us more than \$1000 in postage on the Newsletter
We increased our active law enforcement members to more than 50% of our membership, rekindling interest among the young Jewish Public Safety officials
We started the Picnic to repay our members for their support (it grows every year)
We began to have Dinner Dances again
We increased our Scholarship money given out to other than institutions
To our members we will more than quadruple the amount given in college scholarship this year compared to four years ago
We have made the Convention an event that has drawn people from all over the country and gotten Statewide recognition
We are recognized as a viable organization by politicians – one that gives us standing in the community
We take in more money than ever and we give out more money than ever. We have increased the number of agencies getting our contributions to more than 20
We sell shirts, badges, and caps with the South Florida Shomrim logo
We plant trees in Israel
We are the Honor Guard at the biggest community events - Yom Ha'Shoah ceremonies in Aventura and Miami Beach
We joined the Aventura Marketing Council to grow in that community
We have articles in the Miami Herald and several Community Newspapers that covered our events
There are 18 holes on a golf course. Shomrim was invited to sponsor a hole at the Aventura Golf Tournament (another sign of recognition)
We became part of the "Fraternal Summit" – a meeting of all the large fraternal organizations that meet every few months to support each others goals of bettering the community
Lastly, we re-wrote the Constitution and By-laws to reflect the NEW South Florida Shomrim Society – the inclusive one, the tolerant one, the adaptive one

(Continued on next page)

Alone, I could not have done a lot of these. I depended upon support, guidance, and the time of those that have been a big part of the rebirth of this organization. I constantly called on the Officers and Executives of South Florida Shomrim Society to help me make decisions. I bounced ideas off representatives and Officers of the National. I had a vision of this organization combining the ideologies of Judaism and law enforcement, neither of which seeks to exclude anyone from enlightenment or brotherhood.

There were very few issues that have divided us in the past twenty years. Only the decision to vote out a member who represented the murderer who killed one of our Brothers' caused a separation amongst members. I did not intend the changes in our Constitution and By-laws to create any division. Let me explain why I was so adamant about the changes that were included in our Constitution and By-laws. There are Chapters that exclude people for a variety of reasons: one chapter wanted to exclude reserve officers because they were not full time law enforcement officers (we would lose people); some do not allow support personnel to be full members (we would lose people); some do not allow attorneys to belong (we would lose people); and these lost members would all be Jewish. There are members married to non-Jews and others that are converts to Judaism. What changed for the converts to Judaism was their mindset, not their genetic make-up or physical being. Our spiritual advisor contributes an article each month (to the Newsletter) and gives us guidance to live a productive life. We relate stories of our members and their charitable works. I don't want to exclude others from participating in our *mitzvot*. I want these Associate Members to learn what it is to be a Jew and to learn what the South Florida Shomrim Society means when we say that we are an organization existing "So That Law Enforcement Officers of the Jewish Faith May Join Together for the Welfare of All". The key word being ALL .

Peace,

Steve Leibowitz, President, South Florida Shomrim Society

FOOTNOTE:

I believe that our presence and acts of kindness are being recognized. Our new member, Sister Jennifer H. Siller-Lasry made a contribution in loving memory of her father, Dr. Mark I. Siller, who was an avid supporter of law enforcement officers throughout his years of practice. We thank her for her generosity and will use those funds to help further Jewish education in our community. Our family from Bryant Security made a donation to support the Picnic and we thank them as we will use it to provide amusement and entertainment for the children that attend. We also received another donation at the meeting from a member that wishes to remain anonymous. All these acts of generosity take place because of what we return to the South Florida communities.



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

MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

In the HEAT Newsletter last month Brother Alan Dorne was named best Mayor for 2003 and Brother Irving Heller was named best Police Chief for 2003 (tied along with our 2003 Officer of the Year, MDPD Director Carlos Alvarez). Congratulations to all of them

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 final preparations
for the 2004 Picnic.

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.

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman: Steve Leibowitz

Members: *Barry Mankes*

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman: Mike Bentolila

Members: Irv Heller, Ben Alter, Gary Unger

We have nine new members this month

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.

SPECIAL THANKS

TO SISTER JENNIFER H. SILLER-LASRY FOR HER DONATION IN HONOR OF HER LATE FATHER, DR, MARK I. SILLER

TO BROTHER RAY T. WEEKS FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION AND HIS CONTINUED SUPPORT

TO OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS BEN-DAVID AND THE ENTIRE BRYANT SECURITY ORGANIZATION FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE 2004 SHOMRIM PICNIC

TO ALL OUR ANONYMOUS DONORS (YOU KNOW WHO YOU ARE)

— | | —

— | | —

“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

— | | —

— | | —

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

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 _____



MAYOR PAUL NOVACK CONCLUDING RECORD TENURE OF SERVICE TO SURFSIDE

February 11, 2004: Surfside, Florida:

Mayor Paul Novack, after serving as an elected official for 14 years, the last 12 as Mayor of the Town of Surfside, has decided not to seek re-election for another term. Mayor Novack has been overwhelmingly elected 7 times (once as Commissioner, 6 times as Mayor), and in the last election received over 80% of the vote in the largest municipal election turnout in many years. The record of his achievements as mayor is lengthy and enormously positive.

“It has been a great honor to serve as Mayor for such a wonderful community, and I am extremely grateful to the people of Surfside for the opportunity I have had to represent them,” said Novack. “Through hard work and cooperative efforts, we have achieved many significant and positive results”. “I am looking forward to seeing Surfside continue its tremendous success as a great home town that always prioritizes the public interest in all of its policies, decisions and actions.”

Paul Novack also serves as a member of the State of Florida Advisory and Oversight Board for the Miami-Dade County Public School District; he will continue in that capacity. He is also active in numerous community and public service roles and organizations and will continue his participation in them.

Novack, 45, is by far the longest serving mayor in Surfside’s history. First elected mayor at the age of 33, he has been one of Florida’s youngest, more energetic, and most widely respected and productive municipal leaders in the State.

Novack is an attorney in private practice in the Miami area, and is a member of a family that has been devoted to public service in South Florida for decades.

(Story continued on next page)





Mr. and Mrs. Bob Novack, our Mayor's parents, moved to Surfside when Paul was just a few months old. The Novack family have been active, positive, and contributing members of our community ever since. Bob Novack served on Surfside's Volunteer Fire Department back in the early 60s, and Mickey Novack served the community as a public official and as an officer of numerous civic organizations.

Paul is now raising a family here, and with his wife, Denise, and children, Jason and Allison, they have continued in the tradition of dedicated public service. Paul is a graduate of the University of Miami, having earned a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration, where he served as President of the student body. He then earned a Juris Doctor degree from Nova Southeastern University College of Law, where he served as an editor of the Law Review and as Chief Justice of the Honor Court. Recently, Paul completed the Executive Program in "Crisis Management: Exercising Leadership in Extraordinary Times," at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.

Paul Novack presently has served six terms as Mayor, a position that pays only \$1.00 per year. No other person in the history of the town had ever served more than three terms previously. In March of 2002, Mr. Novack was re-elected for an unprecedented sixth term with over 80% of the vote in an election that saw the highest voter turnout in the Town's history. Surfside's officials have demonstrated their devotion to public service and they work under strict ethics standards and conflict of interest prohibitions that they established as one of their first actions in office. Under their leadership, Surfside has earned a reputation for outstanding public service and public interest operations, programs, and projects. Mayor Novack has been a vigilant protector of the Town's quality of life and an effective advocate for its principles and ideals.

During Paul's tenure, Surfside has operated under balanced budgets in each and every year of his leadership. The Town's property tax rate has not been increased, not even once, and yet town service levels have advanced and improved in every year. Town property values have increased as public park projects, playground projects, beach maintenance projects, public safety efforts, roadway and drainage projects, commuter traffic control projects, public facility renovation projects, business and shopping district renovation and rejuvenation projects, recreation projects, special events, and landscaping projects have all been successfully accomplished. Town services have been substantially upgraded and have been recognized as a model for other communities.





Paul has served on the Board of Directors of Temple Beth Moshe in North Miami and on the he Board of Directors of Temple Ner Tamid Miami Beach. He is a member of the South Florida Shomrim Jewish Law Enforcement Officers Society, and he helped to sponsor the development of Shomrim's superb website and participates in Shomrim's charitable projects.

Paul is a volunteer member of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, and has served as a Flotilla Staff Officer. He is also an associate member of the Naval War College Foundation and of the U.S. Air Force Association. He also serves as pro bono legal counsel for several synagogues, churches and community organizations. Paul has also personally sponsored free computer and Internet training programs for children who would not have otherwise had access to modern information technology.

Active in issues facing public education today, Paul has participated in many programs designed to improve quality at the elementary, middle school, and high school level. Paul has served as a volunteer speech and debate teacher, has founded the Surf-Bal-Bay Afterschool Sports and Recreation Program, (a partnership between a public elementary school and three municipalities), and has provided leadership on school safety and financial accountability issues. Paul was named "School Volunteer of the Year" in 2000 by Nautilus Middle School, is a long term "partner" and supporter of excellence at Ruth K. Broad Elementary, and was the recipient of the 2002 Booster Award from the Miami Beach Senior High Rock Ensemble. Paul is also a member of the Advisory Board of the Law and Public Service Magnet Program at Miami High School, and is an active participant in public service training and community service projects a Miami High. Paul also serves on the State of Florida Oversight Board for the Miami-Dade County Public School District, an entity created by the Governor of Florida and the State Legislature to review, oversee, and improve the operations of the nation's fourth largest public school system.

Paul has personally led emergency relief delivery teams into Haiti, and has organized disaster relief projects for Honduras and the Dominican Republic. He has also participated in efforts to support the building of democratic systems, and he has chaired a series of conferences with democratically elected mayors from throughout the hemisphere. All of these roles were on a strictly volunteer basis.



Paul has served on the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee of the Florida League of Cities, and as a speaker at a conference of elected officials on Ethics and the Public Trust. Paul's presentation, given at the recent annual convention of the Florida League of Cities, was "The Big Perspective For A Small Municipality: The Parallel Paths of Ethics, Efficiency, and Effectiveness." Paul also recently served as a seminar leader for the City of Cocoa Beach on "Meeting High Standards of Ethics in Local Government" and in "Effective Policies For Public Interest Municipal Zoning."

His public service efforts for people in need, close to home and throughout the Western Hemisphere, have earned Mr. Novack numerous awards and honors for volunteerism and leadership, including recognitions as *Humanitarian of the Year* from the Florida Gold Coast Chamber of Commerce (1995) and the Haitian Society of Engineers and Scientists (1998), and Outstanding Public Service Awards from the Haitian American Law Enforcement Officers Association (2002), Shalom Center (2001), and Cub Scouts of America Pack 320 (1999). Mr. Novack also earned a Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do and was inducted into Sang's South Florida Tae Kwon Do Hall of Fame in recognition of achievement as a "Black Belt in both martial arts and community service." In 2003, Mayor Novack was honored with a *Spotlight on Achievers Award* for his successes in public service and law by the Latin Auxiliary of the Miami Jewish Home and Hospital for the Aged. Most recently, the statewide organization of 1000 Friends of Florida named Mayor Novack as the recipient of the 2003 Community Steward/Public Servant Award as Florida's most outstanding public official providing exemplary leadership on growth management, zoning and environmental issues.

Editor's Note:

Throughout the past few years we have counted on Paul Novack for his support of our organization. He has been a part of the Passover Food distribution that was done out of the City of Surfside; subsidized our Web site; shared the fortunes of his City with others less fortunate; and come to meetings and events. The Officers and Board of Directors of the South Florida Shomrim Society wish our Brother, Paul, and his family all the "nachas" that they deserve. He has assured us that he will continue to be on the Board of Directors of the South Florida Shomrim Society and support us in our future endeavors.

**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.