

**MURRAY L. ROSEN POST
#64
JEWISH WAR VETERANS
OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA**



MAY 2023 ISSUE

CALL IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS:

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COMMANDER'S LETTER FOR MAY

Hello fellow JWV members. I hope everyone had a great Passover celebration this past month. I now have enough Matzo to last until next Passover. Welcome back to the USA Janet. While I know your trip was not all that you had hoped, please get well soon. Your presence was missed. Also, congratulations to Greg Abbott on his Honor Flight to Washington D.C. I am sure it was an emotional experience.

This month is Poppy Drive so please take a shift by letting Mort know when you are available. It is extremely important that we cover all shifts as we are limited to one location this time and all our support for veterans' organizations depends on funds raised at this event.

Remember, we will not be meeting at the Humana Center this month as we will be having a potluck at Sheila's house on May 21. Please read this newsletter for details.

A special thanks also to Maria Camposano for all that she has done for the post. She opens the Humana Center for us each month and helps us set up for the meetings. In addition, she goes above and beyond in participating in our post's activities outside of the center.

I also want to thank everyone for attending the monthly meetings and participating in discussions. It is important that we continue gathering to carry on the mission of the Jewish War Veterans, supporting veterans in need.

Thanks

Marvin Botwinik, Commander

Jewish War Veterans Post 64



Greg Abbott went to Washington, D.C. with Southern Nevada Honor Flight in April and was honored for his service to our country.

**SUNDAY, MAY 21, 2023
JWV POST 64 POTLUCK
11:00 a.m. at Sheila's home**

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT:

My name is Bobbi Ohlsson. I am a wife, a mom of 2 girls, grandma of 3 grandchildren: 2 boys and a girl. I'm from Cleveland, Ohio, and lived in Vegas since 1970.

If you have any suggestions or ideas about events for the social committee, please let me know.

On Tuesday, March 28, we had lunch at Bonito Michoacan at 1 p.m. It was nice to get together, socialize and have good food and conversation. On Thursday, April 5, 12 of us got together for the second night Seder at Sheila's house. It was really enjoyable and fun. Hope this is the beginning of a new tradition.

The Potluck will be on May 21 at 11:00 a.m. at Sheila's house. It will be on the 3rd Sunday, instead of the 4th, because the Poppy Drive will start on the 4th Sunday.

Call Sheila: (702) 360-4554

to tell her what you will be bringing to the Potluck Lunch, and ask her if you need a ride or you need directions to her home.

"I am not old...she said
I am rare.
I am the standing ovation
At the end of the play.
I am the retrospective
Of my life as art
I am the hours
Connected like dots
Into good sense
I am the fullness
Of existing.
You think I am waiting to die...
But I am waiting to be found
I am a treasure.
I am a map.
And these wrinkles are
Imprints of my journey
Ask me anything."
-Samantha Reynolds



To **Robin Berliner** on May 3
To **Marvin Botwinik** on May 2
To **Marilyn Bulmash** on May 12
To **Ricki Greenspon** on May 2
To **Jack Weingarten** on May 29
To **Tatyana Weingarten** May 19



To **Loren Rothstein** on May 6

JWV Post 64 sends Best Wishes for Good Health and Happiness to all our Members and Patrons!!

Please contact Ricki Greenspon, our Quartermaster, to give her your birth date and information for our roster.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

ROLLING CALENDAR

- **Monday, May 8**
(2nd Monday)
Board Meeting at Mickey
Durkin's home
12 noon
- **Sunday, May 21**
(3rd Sunday)
Potluck at Sheila Epstein's
home at 11:00 a.m.
in lieu of Regular Meeting
- **May Poppy Drive; May 24 -**
Memorial Day May 29th
~ We are having a Poppy Drive
from May 24-29 at Smiths on the
East Side of Town
(Saturday will be skipped due
to Shabbat.) Three hour shifts.
Call Jerry Bootzin 303-589-6314
or Mort Friedlander 702-645-
1288. Get your slot now so it will
fit into your schedule.
- **May 27 - Flag placement**
at Bunker Cemetery (Las
Vegas Blvd and Washington)
- **Monday, June 12**
(2nd Monday)

Board Meeting at Ricki
Greenspon's home
12 noon

- **Sunday, June 25**
(4th Sunday)
Post Meeting at Humana
10:00 a.m.

How will you observe Memorial Day this year?

What is the true meaning of **Memorial Day** and the **Memorial Day** weekend that leads up to the actual day? Is it about celebrations? No, it's about service! Is it about sales? No, it's about sacrifice! It is about remembering the ultimate sacrifice of our soldiers!

We must change our mindset to what **Memorial Day** is truly about and I hope the following poem does this. The Poem by Joanna Fuchs is called "Freedom in America."

The poem states;

"Remember those we loved, / Who fought for us, and died; / And those we never knew / For whom others mourned and cried."

May the memories of all those who served and never came home, be for a blessing now and forever more. ~ Rabbi Andrew Bloom

"For those of us who have worn the military uniform, **Memorial Day** reminds us of the things we've fought for, those we've lost, and the impact our efforts may have had on the people we meant to serve, and the missions we meant to complete.

I don't fault those who don't pay the day's significance the attention it deserves. This is because **Memorial Day** is only truly felt by the military community; our emotions are

authentic and personal, and are difficult to explain to someone outside the military space. It's just not possible for them to relive experiences they've never had or reflect on things their eyes have never seen.
~ Maria Guadalupe Sullivan



Over 80 years ago, in Greece, sixty thousand Jews lived peacefully in Thessaloniki. It was a valued and vibrant community. Most of these Jews worked in the port. So much so that the port of Thessaloniki was even closed on Saturday, Shabbat. Great emeritus rabbis also lived and studied there. Everyone rubbed shoulders and appreciated each other. On April 6, 1941, Hitler invaded Greece in order to secure its southern front before launching the famous Operation Barbarossa and its great offensive against Russia. Of the 60,000 Jews in Thessaloniki, around 50,000 will be exterminated at the Birkenau concentration camp, in record time! The massacre of the Jews of Greece was brief but intense. Very few will have the chance to make it. But among the survivors there was a family known as Bourla. And after the war, in 1961, a son was born into this miraculous family in the camps. His parents called him Israel – Abraham. He grew up and studied veterinary medicine in Greece. A brilliant student, Abraham will get his doctorate in reproductive biotechnology at the veterinary school of Aristotle University in Salonika.

At the age of 34, he decided to move to the United States. He changes his first name Abraham, to Albert.

Albert was integrated into the medical industry. He progressed quickly and joined a pharmaceutical company where he became “Head manager.” Abraham (Albert) rose through the ranks and got his appointment as CEO of this company in 1919.

Throughout the year Albert decides to direct the efforts of the company to try to find a vaccine against a new virus (Covid) which has just struck the world. He expends great financial and technological efforts to achieve his goal.

A year later the WHO (World Health Organization) validates his company to produce the long-awaited vaccine His vaccine will be distributed in several countries including Germany, which counts thousands of dead from the pandemic.

Ironically, this vaccine which will save the lives of millions of people around the world including many Germans, was led and pushed by a little Jew from Thessaloniki, son of Holocaust survivors from whom most of his people were exterminated by Nazi Germany. And that is why Israel became the first country to receive the vaccine. In memory of his grandparents and his parents, who gave birth to Israel-Abraham Bourla, known today as Albert Bourla: CEO of Pfizer...

Albert Bourla is a Greek veterinarian and the chairman and chief executive officer of Pfizer, an American pharmaceutical company. He joined the company in 1993 and has held several executive roles across Pfizer's divisions. Prior to becoming chief executive officer, Bourla served as chief operating officer.



April 17, 2023

A Proclamation on Days Of Remembrance Of Victims Of The Holocaust, 2023

During *Yom HaShoah* and throughout these days of remembrance, we mourn the six million Jews who were murdered during the horror of the Holocaust — as well as the millions of Roma and Sinti, Slavs, disabled persons, LGBTQI+ individuals, and political dissidents who were murdered at the hands of the Nazis and their collaborators. Together with courageous survivors, descendants of victims, and people around the world, we renew our solemn vow: “never again.”

Last year, I returned to Yad Vashem, the World Holocaust Remembrance Center, to pay tribute to the lives that were stolen during this dark chapter of our history and to honor their memory. I will never forget meeting with two survivors on that sacred ground and hearing their stories. The horrors of the Holocaust are painful to recount — the savage murder of innocent families and the systemic dehumanization of entire

populations. We remember the cries for help that went unanswered and the bright futures cut short. We must never look away from the truth of what happened. The rite of remembrance becomes more urgent with each passing year, as fewer survivors remain to share their stories and open our eyes to the harms of unchecked hatred.

Unfortunately, hatred never truly goes away. It only hides — lurking until it is given the oxygen to emerge again. We have seen this hard truth across our country, from swastikas on cars and antisemitic banners on bridges to attacks against Jewish people at schools and synagogues and outright Holocaust denialism. The venom and violence of antisemitism goes against all the values we stand for as Americans. And it is a stark reminder — as my dear friend Elie Wiesel once said — that “Indifference is always the friend of the enemy.” And as my father taught me, “silence is complicity.”

My Administration has not and will not be indifferent. That is why I appointed Deborah Lipstadt, a historian of the Holocaust, as the first Ambassador-level Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Antisemitism. We are developing a national strategy to counter antisemitism — mobilizing the full weight of the Federal Government to fight this scourge of hate in America — and we have co-sponsored a United Nations resolution to combat Holocaust

denial through education. We secured the largest increase in funding ever for the physical security of nonprofits, including synagogues, Jewish Community Centers, Jewish day schools, and other houses of worship. And I convened the first-ever White House summit on combating hate-fueled violence because nobody should fear going to a religious service, wearing a symbol of their faith, or simply being who they are.

Hate must have no safe harbor in America or anywhere else. Today and always, we make our message clear: Evil will not win. Hate will not prevail. And the violence of antisemitism will not be the story of our time. Together, we can ensure that “never again” is a promise we keep.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim April 16 through April 23, 2023, as a week of observance of the Days of Remembrance of Victims of the Holocaust, and I call upon the people of the United States to observe this week and pause to remember victims and survivors of the Holocaust.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this fourteenth day of April, in the year of our Lord

two thousand twenty-three, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-seventh.

JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR.

TRAVEL TO TAIWAN

Su Phelps and I were in Taiwan for two weeks from March 26 until April 11.

Most memorable was the visit to the WWII and POW memorial at Jilong Mountain. Every year there is a memorial ceremony in November to honor the veterans. At first we wanted to make this trip in November, to see this annual memorial ceremony, but Su was anxious to visit her family so we traveled in March and April.



First photo is at the WWII and POW memorial at Jilong Mountain.



Second photo is the view from our hotel in Guifong in northeast Taiwan.



Third photo is Su's youngest sister, Su and I at a vegetarian restaurant in Taipei.



Fourth photo is the view from our second hotel window – of Keelung Harbor.



Fifth photo is Su's sisters and niece at a Buddhist shrine in Keelung.



Sixth photo is at the Keelung hotel's Breakfast Buffet.

We went to Taipei 101, the tallest building; spent the day at a refreshing Hot Springs; visited Dharma Drum Mountain; had many delicious meals with Su's family members; it was a trip with memories to last a lifetime.

~ Janet Snyder