



JEWISH WAR VETERANS  
of the United States of America  
Scottsdale, AZ Post 210  
February 2020 Newsletter



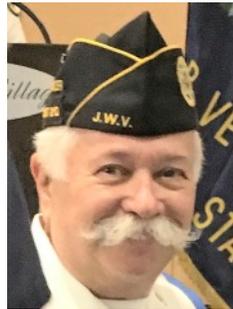
The March meeting will be **Sunday, the 15th** 10 AM, at the State Veterans Home, 4141 N. S. Herrera Way, just North of Indian School Road, Phoenix. PH: 602-248-1550. Refreshments at 9:30 AM, free to all members and guests.

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**Our Speaker will be our old friend CARLOS RAUSCH. Hope you can attend.**

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COMMANDERS  
MESSAGE



SECURITY, SECURITY,

SECURITY . We were honored by a Phoenix Police Detective, a retired NYC Policeman and a security guard from the JCC at our February meeting. We must be aware of our surroundings at all times. No surprise, there are people out there who do not like us. We missed seeing several of you at our last meeting. We still had 10 members and 2 patrons attend. Did you enjoy the donuts? Thank you Rochel for arranging the guest speakers. Next month we are looking forward to a musical program from our friend and honorable member, Carlos Rausch.

A few reminders. We need volunteers for two upcoming events. In April we will be presenting the Colors for the Holocaust Memorial service. In May we will have our Memorial Day Poppy drive. I think this year we will have poppy's to sell.

A happy Purim to all.

**שלום** Michael Chambers, Commander JWV,  
Scottsdale Post 210

Michael began the meeting with the opening of the altar and the opening prayer and then everyone said the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag. Michael welcomed our three guest speakers who will be discussing organizational security.

My name is Michael Hillman. I'm a detective with the Phoenix Police Department and have been a detective for the last 18 years. I had been working part time (over 17 years) at Temple Chai in security. and they tell me I'm a member of the tribe. Most of my career I spent in narcotics, it was a rough 14 years. I found out that there was a full time opening in security I tested for it, and got the position. The last three and

a half years I have been the Jewish Community liaison with the Phoenix Police Department. I go to work with a smile on my face now I love my job.

I spent 14 years in narcotics and it was a very unsettling experience. I can tell you a lot about drugs and when it comes to security that's a different story. Increasing the actual security for building that kind of stuff that's more of Jimmy Wasson's expertise. Jimmy is the director of security at the Valley of the Sun JCC. and will speak later.



He is a great resource for us. I am the political liaison so I deal with everything political. I was just dealing with the State Representative from Tucson, so people are reaching out to me. Phoenix being the largest city in the state we have a lot of resources and can do many things that the smaller agencies can not accomplish. An example would be the New Jersey shooting that just recently happened at the Jewish Deli Bakery. I keep a pretty good list of all the different Jewish organizations and when something like that happens I get on the phone to my commander and I say this is what we know. We don't have a lot of information and what we do is we increase the patrols that are in our areas. When that happened, Rabbi Levertov, from the Chabad called to thank me. He said he was watching his security cameras and there was a patrol car sitting in his parking lot. Fantastic, I'm doing my job. I may also help with elder abuse or computer tampering or something that is not my expertise but Phoenix Police Department will and I will have them speak about those different topics. We can contact you to get a report and get it taken care of. I had a call from a retired major crimes prosecutor with Maricopa County and another a retired neurosurgeon. They tell me that they have a variety of concerns. They're concerned about the security at their Temple and what they can do to increase it, but also want to go further and find out how they can help the community. One of the things that they were pursuing is Holocaust teaching in all the public schools The retired attorney was sending out a public records request to find out what the

schools are required to teach. I was rather impressed by the two schools that I visited, what they were teaching and what they're requiring teachers to teach. By working with the politicians I learned that there's a State Representative, Alma Hernandez, from Tucson that was presenting bills in the State House of Representatives, one of the bills had to do with Holocaust Education making it mandatory. (What they teach in school currently is not mandatory) and a bill about anti-Semitism. I arranged a meeting with the people involved, first I read the bill about mandatory teaching of the Holocaust in school. It's like 2 seconds long and requires that Holocaust Education must be taught between 7th grade and 12th grade. I discovered that the way it's written if somebody wants to teach Holocaust denial to the class they could. In my position I really can't say much, I've got to keep my politics to myself. This is just the first step. Congresswoman Hernandez is working with the Board of Education and they're going to establish exactly what needs to be taught in the schools. She says you don't want the government mandating what schools need to be teaching. After listening to her I tend to agree with her. I was very happy that I was able to get into one of the meetings. It was an advantage of dealing with all the politicians.

I'm Jimmy Wasson, I was a New York State Policeman in 1986. I came to Scottsdale on vacation in 1989, applied to and was accepted to the Scottsdale Police Department. My training was as a SWAT team member.

When I retired, about three years ago, I was sitting at home and I got a call from a guy that used to work for me. He said that the JCC and they was looking for a director of security and asked if I would be interested. I interviewed for the position and got the job. The position allows me to do many things in the training of my staff and the staff of the JCC. The other thing was we put in a lot of retired law enforcement and military to work and we also train with the local Police Departments.

I think everybody has the right to carry a gun, but everybody needs training, If you are going to carry a firearm you need practice, a lot of practice and if you carry a firearm you need to be prepared to use it. We do at least 150 hours a year practicing with our firearms and training in different scenarios.

We want to prevent the type of a shooting in Texas at a church. Security at the JCC as far as social media is a huge issue. Our policy now at the J is to talk more about things that we have done, not so much about things in the future.. In the future we leave out specific locations and we will put the day on a on the event, but not the time. If somebody calls in and something doesn't seem right they give it to me. I will run a background check to make sure the call is legitimate. Not that one thing is going to fix security for work security is the background checks and it's the people that are watching.



Everybody who works at the J is part of our security team. If something doesn't look right they report it. We work with the Phoenix Police Department and the FBI. Everybody is part of our security team. We just learn from each other and really communicate it's how we use our organization. We also use an organization called Secure Community Network, which is a central address for law enforcement, homeland security and community organizations focusing on the safety and security of Jewish institutions and communities across the United States. If we have something that doesn't look right we can enter it in the system and all the communities will know about it. Jimmy offered his help with anything that his organization can provide..

I am Howard Bolensky. I am a Veteran and part of the security at the JCC. My father was a Veteran and served in the North Africa Campaign. He never really liked to talk about what he did during WWII. I'm from Pittsburgh and I relocated here four years ago. Jimmy brought up the shooting at the Tree of Life Congregation, that's the same area where I grew up. My two cousins and a friend of mine and other friends were also killed there. It's so very close to home. My son works for CNN in New York and he called me and told me to put the news on. My background, I was in the military. I was in the Army and I was in the intelligence field. After I left the Army I got a college degree, have had a business since 2004. When I was younger I went to Israel and lived on a Kibbutz. I volunteered there during the 1973 Yom Kippur War and lived there for 6 months. I retired from Pittsburgh four years ago and my good friend, who I grew up with in Pittsburgh, became the CEO of the JCC. He said to me, I think I found a good spot for you if you want to do some type of security work. I said let me see, got on the scale which showed I put on 12 pounds and I said I think I'm ready to go back to work. I met with Jimmy and he said I would be a good fit. We train a lot, I enjoy what I do and I take my job very seriously. Our days are not spent sitting behind a desk, we roam the grounds. I'm always walking around talking to people and being outside and also I am part of a security team that guards synagogues. I like the time spent guarding synagogues. I spend a lot of time guarding Congregation Or Tzion. We carry concealed so we just wear a sport coat. I enjoy that kind of work.



Detective Hillman says that one of his jobs at the Phoenix Police Department is to run the Jewish Advisory Board which is made up of 18 different individuals who have the ability to disseminate a lot of information to a lot of different people. Jimmy is on my board. Several Rabbis, executive directors of the different synagogues are also on my board. We also have other advisory boards, LGBTQ, African American, Asian, 13 different groups. Something we just started doing,

Some Words of Wisdom

By  
David Woodland

RIGHT OR WRONG

in the last two years, have different groups meet, different cultures get together and share information, it is amazing. Last Thursday, February 13, we had our annual summit where all the advisory boards got together to break bread, and we had a speaker. One person from each board gave a 2 minute summary about how and what they are trying to accomplish. Phoenix is actively trying to bridge the gap between all the different communities. The advisory board that works at Jewish National Fund has encouraged different members from different groups to attend services on different holidays at different Houses of Worship. I think that's a fantastic idea.

Commander Chambers thanked Detective Hillman, Jimmy Wasson and Howard Bolensky for coming to our meeting and giving us this insightful talk.

Commander Chambers then began asking if there was any more new business and mentioned that he and Ahuva will be attending the 75th Anniversary Parade, on February 22nd, marking the battle of IWO Jima in Sacaton Arizona, the capital of the Gila River Indian Reservation. This is sponsored by the Ira H. Hays American Legion Post #84.

Luke days will be on March twenty-first and twenty-second. Luke Air Force Base will be open to the public and if you ever have a chance to go there, they may let you climb up into a look inside the airplanes. There will be a lot of demonstrations on the base.

On Sunday April 19th there will be a concert honoring Arizona's military women. It is open to both men and women. The concert will take place at 2505 East German Road San Tan Valley .

Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 15th and our friend Carlos Rausch will be our speaker. There was no other business. The Chaplain gave the closing prayer and the Officer of the Day closed the altar. We then Saluted the Flag. Meeting adjourned.

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Michael Chambers, Steven Troy and Juli Altman attended the 20th Anniversary Jewish National Fund Breakfast for Israel on Thursday, February 27 at the JW Marriott Desert Ridge.

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In February Rochel Hayman attended the NEC (the National Executive Committee) meeting in Washington D.C. She will reoprnt on the meeting during our March meeting. The meeting included leadership meetings, policy meetings and discussions on JWV's positions on important issues.

If what I do is the right thing, does that make what you do wrong? Is there an absolute resolve that is applicable in every situation? Of course not. Right and wrong are not equals and opposites; Newton's Third Law does not apply. How can this be?

First of all, for every right, there is not a wrong. These factions share gradients. To try to assign any kind of judgement involves which side predominates, and who is the decider. A court of law is a formal setting given more serious grievances, with a formal deciding judge or jury. In the informal situation, the final verdict could be anything from a black eye, or a handshake.

In the long run, who is right and who is wrong is seldom a fact, but in truth only pride, imagination, or some manner or retaliation. Somebody is to blame, usually the other one.

THE UNSEEN

We try to understand things that are observed, touched, felt, solid and proven. What about that which is not seen and solid? Can these intangibles possibly be taken for granted, maybe such as sounds, beauty, speech, music, and all that vision and sound provide?

With that, what may be with us as the unseen? Think of that which an effect on us; hope, faith, truth, loyalty, and the many others which form character, and the manner we maintain our existence. It defines who we are, or should become. If the unseen is gone, it is lost gold which must be rediscovered. If there are difficulties, extra courage may be needed to strive toward remembering, recognizing, and recovering those lost visions of the unseen.

Much of what has been written is a natural human process, invoking from may have occured recently, or over a long period of time. Look at, and listen to the unseen, and learn from the unknown.

MUSIC

Everybody can tell you what music is; Really? One person says it is good sounding noise. To another, it is a song, and yet to still another it is what comes from the piano. Further out comes the descriptive and comparative, as noting the sound of a waterfall, the sounds of a new baby, even the sounds of the city. Then there are the mostly unnoticed of things captured by the eye or camera, and by the hand of the artist. Then there is music, capable of the preservation of sight and sound.

Music has been said to be the formation of architecture, showing a fluid presence, something heard, and transformed as visual, mostly changing and memorable. It has been described as able to wash away life's dust and despair. Also

noted is music's fluid character changing history of mind and design, indeed framing time's personality.

Music has the right to be lauded, and showered with praise. Citing Plato as he describes music as music as "moral law, giving soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and charm to life, and all else".

**A LITTLE HUMOR**

**NEW HOUSE**

A man who owned a large mansion decided he was tired of it and contacted a real estate broker to sell it for him,

In the next Sunday's newspaper, he read the ad the broker had put together. It sounded so good that he re-read it to himself. Then he called the broker and said, "I've decided not to sell."

The broker asked, "What changed your mind?"

"Your ad. It convinced me that this was house I've been looking for all my life."

**NEW DRIVER**

A teenage boy was nervous as he took the wheel for his first driving lesson. As he was pulling out of the parking lot, the instructor said, "Turn left here, and don't forget to let the people behind you know what you are doing."

The boy turned to the students sitting in the back seat and announced, "I'm turning left."

**WELFARE**

Please don't forget **Ahuva Chamber 623-256-1573** our *Sunshine Lady*. If someone knows anyone who is ill or in the hospital **PLEASE** notify her so that the Post can respond.

Member Jeanine Korner, puts together gift bags for the residents at the Veterans Home. These are composed of small items that are free from hotel stays or anything you want to donate. They cannot contain mouthwash or razors. Contact Jeanine at 480-948-2171 or cell 602-376-2359

Don't forget to take advantage of big savings. Register at VETTIX. It is a great inexpensive way to see sporting events, concerts and other venues that come to town. All you have to do is send in proof of military service ie: DD 214 and follow their registration process, Go to [www.vettix.org](http://www.vettix.org)

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**DEATHS**

*Millie Lichter,  
Longtime Valued Member  
2.11.2020*

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**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- 3 - Shirley Hertzof
- 6 - Jeannie Korner
- 12 - Jay Simmons
- 14 - Ron Burkbaum
- 16 - Annette Andrews

**MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

- 11 - Terry Lipovitch
- 21 - Edward Balaban
- 28 - Tyler Trier

**POST OFFICERS**

- Michael Chambers, Commander  
623-256-0658
- Fred Lipovitch,  
Senior Vice Commander  
(602) 293-3550.
- Junior Vice Commander  
Bill Lamb  
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- Judge Advocate  
Mel Brody  
480-473-9076
- Stan Rosen, Sergeant at Arms  
480-451-2139

- Steven Troy, Adjutant  
623-594-5022
- Juli Altman, Quartermaster  
480-262-3191
- Officer of the Day  
David Woodland  
480-922-0165
- Jonathan Sorrell, Chaplain  
602-402-8884

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- Michael Chambers 623-256-0658
- Bernie Kaplan, 602-765-3520
- David Woodland, 480-922-0165
- Juli Altman, 480-262-3191
- Robert Sutz, 602-596-2911
- Mel Brody, 480-473-9076

- Ernest Michael
- Harold Epstein
- Sinclair (Cookie) Albert
- Carl Spigel
- Arnold Gross
- Robert Sutz
- Ed Grodsky

**Honorary Past Commander**

- Jonathan Sorrell
- Don Simmons,
- Philip Epstein

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***The Jewish War Veterans  
invites any qualified veteran of  
the Armed Forces of the United  
States of America  
to become a Member in the  
oldest veterans  
organization in the Nation!!!***

***If you are not a qualified  
Veteran, you can join as a  
Patron Donor and support the  
organization.***