Commander’s Corner

Joe Fridling JWV Post 692

My Memories of a Child Holocaust Survivor

On May 14, 1948, Israel declared its Independence. Exactly one year later, my family and I entered New York Harbor.

As a small child between the ages of 7, I became cognizant of events that took place.

After the war the entire family, my Dad, Mom, my younger sister, and I went to the displaced persons camp – Schlachtensee – located in Berlin.

I remember my Mom sent me to get a loaf of bread. It was a hard bread, probably a pumpernickel. As I was walking home, I started to eat the inside of the bread. By the time I got home, the bread was hollow. My Mom just looked at me and smiled.

I went to a movie by myself. I bought a ticket and entered the theatre. I didn’t immediately take a seat cause I wanted to see the entire movie from the beginning. When the movie ended, and the people walked out I joined them by mistake. So, I didn’t see the movie.

I remember seeing a man walking in the middle of the street in Berlin crying. The skin on his forehead was hanging from his hairline to his eyebrows. The blood was dripping down his face.

No one came to his aid. My dad was with me. The bloody man was a CAPO – a Jewish person chosen by the Nazi’s to enforce Nazi rules and discipline. That’s why no one came to his aid.

During the “Berlin Airlift”, the plane that my family and I were flying in, became loud and as I found out later, the plane developed engine trouble and went back to Berlin. By the way, not a single plane carrying survivors crashed during the airlift.

We boarded another plane and landed in Landsberg, Germany in August 1948.
THIRD ANNUAL JWV POST 692
MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM

MAY 26, 2019
2:30PM

AMERICAN JEWISH VETERANS
MEMORIAL

BENDER JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER
6125 MONTROSE RD.
ROCKVILLE MD 20852

VETERANS, FAMILIES AND FRIENDS INVITED
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS

“TRUE HONOR“
A Video about Jewish Medal of Honor Recipients
Will be Shown in the Gallery Following the Ceremony

A minimum donation of $5.00 is requested
Maryland Department Convention

Maryland Department Convention will take place June 23, 2019 at the VFW Post 521 Social Hall at 214 S Tollgate Rd, Owings Mills. Start Time 9:30.

This convention brings the JWV Posts throughout Maryland for the only inclusive meeting of the JWV.

A Kosher Brunch catered in and an impressive flag ceremony honoring our members who have died since the last convention. The post covers the entire brunch cost.

There is a factual Veterans’ Affairs Update as to how the VA is meeting the challenges of growing needs and tightening fiscal budgets.

Post 692 will be interested in the VA’s approach on suicide rate among the ranks of the younger vets.

Marshall Sneiderman onelowbid@aol.com or (301) 469 5860 will be coordinate transportation from the Ring House. Call for registration during the period June 15 through June 21. We need to advise the Department how many of us are coming.
Tentative Memorial Day Program

Welcome - LTCOL Sheldon Goldberg, USAF Retired

Invocation – Rabbi Kavka

National Anthem – Kassie Sandacz

Pledge of Allegiance – Joe Fridling, Post 692 Commander

Introduction of Guests VIP’s – LTCOL Sheldon Goldberg, USAF Retired

Special Guests
Mr. Joe Fridling, Commander, JWW Post 692 (speak)
(Mr. Fred Shapiro, Commander Post 567)
(Mr. Scott Schlessinger, Commander, Post 360)
Mr. Marc Elrich, Montgomery County Executive (speak)
Ms. Bridget Newton, Mayor of Rockville (speak)
Ms. Beryl Feinstein, Rockville City Council (speak ?)
Rabbi Irving Elson, Chairman, JWB Chaplain’s Council (speak)
Mr. Michael Feinstein, CEO, Bender JCC (speak)

Introduction of Keynote Speaker – LTCOL Sheldon Goldberg, USAF Retired

COL Erwin Burtnick, Commander, Department of Maryland, JWW

Presentation of Governor’s Proclamation – LTCOL Sheldon Goldberg, USAF Retired

COL Erwin Burtnick and Joe Fridling

Introduction of Voices of Vets., Inc
Musical Medley

Benediction – Rabbi Irving Elson

Blowing of the Shofar - Rabbi Paul Levenson
Introducing Stella Barra's new chef-inspired brunch buffet every Saturday & Sunday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Visit WWW.torchinsky.com

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