



HASHOMER

(Affiliated with the National Conference of Shomrim Societies
and the International Association of Jewish Public Service Employees)

P.O. BOX 35688, LOS ANGELES, CA 90035

January-February-March 2007 Issue

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President's Message

Our schedule for this year is fairly well established and I ask that you please enter the dates and events into your calendars. Hopefully the dates will not change. One event that is going to be particularly meaningful is our annual banquet this year honoring one of Southern California's great law enforcement officers, Dave Snowden, Chief of Police of the City of Beverly Hills. Please make every effort to attend this year-we hope to have this banquet one of our finest.

The National Shomrim 2006 Conference was an outstanding success and I look forward to working with the National Board. National President Mike Gilbert was re-elected and I'm confident he will be able to do great works for National Shomrim this year. Please go to our National Shomrim website to view the new national officers:

www.nationalshomrim.org.

I will also be attending the International Association of Jewish Public Service Employee's national training seminar in Miami this coming May 1st through the 3rd. They always have an outstanding educational program this year focusing on Technology for Public Safety: Today and Tomorrow. The educational program will be held in Miami Beach in association with the South Florida Shomrim Society. Details are set forth in the 2007 Schedule of events. See also www.IAJPSE.org.

I would also like to thank Shomrimsocal's 2006 officers for all of their good work. I look forward to another successful year for Shomrimsocal with our new board of directors.

Marvin Goldsmith, President

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2007 SHOMRIMSOCAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

February Meeting

Tuesday, February 6th at 6:30 PM
Elat Burger
9340 West Pico Blvd at Rexford, L.A.

Annual Banquet

Wednesday, March 14th at 6:00 PM
Sinai Temple
10400 Wilshire Blvd., L.A.

April Meeting

Tuesday, April 17th at 6:30 P.M.
Metro Glatt
8975 West Pico Blvd. at Crest Dr., L.A.

International Association of Jewish Public Service Employees Education and Training Conference.

May 1st through May 3rd
The Atlantic Oceanfront
4101 Collins Ave.
Miami Beach, FL 33139
Details at www.iajps.org

STEAK "FRY"

Sunday, June 10th at 5:00 P.M.
(Goldsmith's BBQ)
229 South Clark Drive, B.H.

July/August Meeting

Tuesday, August 7th at 6:30 P.M.
King David Grill
6118 West Pico Blvd., L.A.
(Just East of La Cienega)

September/October Meeting

October 2nd at 6:30 P.M.
In the Succah
229 South Clark Drive, B.H.

Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors and the Membership

Wednesday, November 7th at 6:30 PM
King David Grill
6118 West Pico Blvd., L.A.
(Just East of La Cienega)

Hannukah Get Together

Tuesday, December 11th at 6:30 PM
Pizza World
365 South Fairfax Avenue, L.A.
(Just South of Third St.)

WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Mark Schwartz, Police Officer, Beverly Hills P.D.

Frank Tavelman, Deputy District Attorney, L.A.
County

Laurence Meyerowitz, Police Officer, L.A.P.D.

Avi M. Wizenfeld, Deputy Sheriff, L.A.S.D

MAZEL TOV TO:

To the following graduates of L.A.S.D. Class 107
West who have become Reserve Deputy
Sheriffs/Police Officers, and if not previously
members, members of Shomrimsocal:

Mark Mintz, Deputy Sheriff, L.A.S.D

Barry Poltorak, Deputy Sheriff, L.A.S.D

Richard Kastin, Deputy Sheriff, L.A.S.D

Steve Kahan, Deputy Sheriff, L.A.S.D

Eddy Asmerian, Deputy Sheriff, L.A.S.D

Steve Lagin, Police Officer, Montebello P.D.

Marvin Goldsmith, Deputy Sheriff, L.A.S.D

CONDOLENCES

Rabbi Stephen Passamaneck on the death of his
beloved wife Connie.

REFUAH SHELEMAH

We wish a speedy and continuing recovery to:

Matthew, the Grandson of Glenn and Jayne Levant.

"It is with a heavy heart that I tell you that the
cancer that our grandson Matthew has been
fighting for the past 16 months has recurred. He

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has already underwent a lower leg amputation and 12 months of chemo. concluded in Sept. This week, scans discovered that the Ewings sarcoma cancer has spread to his lungs, lower back, and possibly his partially amputated right leg. He will undergo another four months of chemo, followed by a bone marrow transplant. Although this is a very serious development it is not without hope. Jayne and I have again moved to San Diego temporarily to provide whatever help and emotional support we can. Our e-mail and cell phones remain the same, although we are currently in a hotel waiting to lease something near our daughter.

Please pray for Matthew.”

Glenn and Jayne Levant

A WONDERFUL MESSAGE

By George Carlin

(His wife recently died...Isn't it amazing that George Carlin - gross and mouthy comedian of the 70's and 80's - could write something so very eloquent...and so very appropriate.)

The paradox of our time in history is that we have taller buildings but shorter tempers, wider Freeways, but narrower viewpoints. We spend more, but have less, we buy more, but enjoy less. We have bigger houses and smaller families, more conveniences, but less time. We have more degrees but less sense, more knowledge, but less judgment, more experts, yet more problems, more medicine, but less wellness.

We drink too much, smoke too much, spend too recklessly, laugh too little, drive too fast, get too angry, stay up too late, get up too tired, read too little, watch TV too much, and pray too seldom.

We have multiplied our possessions, but reduced our values. We talk too much, love too seldom, and hate too often.

We've learned how to make a living, but not a life. We've added years to life not life to years We've been all the way to the moon and back, but have

trouble crossing the street to meet a new neighbor. We conquered outer space but not inner space. We've done larger things, but not better things.

We've cleaned up the air, but polluted the soul. We've conquered the atom, but not our prejudice. We write more, but learn less. We plan more, but accomplish less. We've learned to rush, but not to wait. We build more computers to hold more information, to produce more copies than ever, but we communicate less and less.

These are the times of fast foods and slow digestion, big men and small character, steep profits and shallow relationships. These are the days of two incomes but more divorce, fancier houses, but broken homes. These are days of quick trips, disposable diapers, throwaway morality, one night stands, overweight bodies, and pills that do everything from cheer, to quiet, to kill. It is a time when there is much in the showroom window and nothing in the stockroom. A time when technology can bring this letter to you, and a time when you can choose either to share this insight, or to just hit delete...

Remember; spend some time with your loved ones, because they are not going to be around forever.

Remember, say a kind word to someone who looks up to you in awe, because that little person soon will grow up and leave your side.

Remember, to give a warm hug to the one next to you, because that is the only treasure you can give with your heart and it doesn't cost a cent.

Remember, to say, "I love you" to your partner and your loved ones, but most of all mean it. A kiss and an embrace will mend hurt when it comes from deep inside of you.

Remember to hold hands and cherish the moment for someday that person will not be there again.

Give time to love, give time to speak! And give time to share the precious thoughts in your mind.

AND ALWAYS REMEMBER: Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take, but by the moments that take our breath away.

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THE MAYONNAISE JAR AND 2 CUPS OF COFFEE

When things in your life seem almost too much to handle, when 24 hours in a day are not enough, remember the mayonnaise jar and the 2 cups of coffee.

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him when the class began; he wordlessly picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was. The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous "yes."

The professor then produced two cups of coffee from under the table and poured the entire contents into the jar effectively filling the empty space between the sand. The students laughed.

"Now," said the professor as the laughter subsided, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things---God, your family, your children, your health, your friends and your favorite passions---and if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full.

The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house and your car.

The sand is everything else---the small stuff. "If you put the sand into the jar first," he continued, "there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls. The same goes for life. If you spend all your time and energy on the small stuff you will never have room for the things that are important to you.

"Pay attention to the things that are critical to your happiness. Play with your children. Spend time with your parents. Visit with grandparents. Take time to

get medical checkups. Take your spouse out to dinner. Play another 18. There will always be time to clean the house and fix the disposal. Take care of the golf balls first---the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand."

One of the students raised her hand and inquired what the coffee represented. The professor smiled and said, "I'm glad you asked."

The coffee just shows you that no matter how full your life may seem, there's always room for a couple of cups of coffee with a friend."

PESACH, 14 NISAN 5767

By Rabbi Dr. Henry E. Kraus

At sundown, Monday, April 2nd, 2007, the Jewish people begin the observance of Pesach with the first Seder. Pesach is undoubtedly the most influential of the Jewish Festivals. The other name of the holiday of Pesach: The celebration of our freedom and Festival of Unleavened Bread.

Pesach commemorates the liberation of our ancestors from Egyptian slavery; we observe this holiday for eight days, eating only unleavened food. A unique observance takes place on the first two nights of Pesach--these are the Seder nights. The main purpose of the Seder is to arouse the curiosity of the child.

The symbolic foods, the religious pageantry, the aesthetic rituals are all designed to provide questions. A special book called the Haggadah (Narrative) is used. Blessings are recited, songs are sung, and history is recalled from the past and even about what is happening today in Israel and all over the world with the Jewish people.

The Haggadah is one of the most widely printed books of all of the Jewish books ever produced. Ceremonial foods are raised up and their symbolic meaning is explained. According to a great scholar, Israel Zangwill, on Seder night we eat our own past with these symbolic foods. Pesach is the occasion for a family gathering. The Haggadah provides complete involvement for the children. They have their opportunity to "Shine" in asking questions about the holiday as well as to play a hide and seek

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game looking for the Afikomen (without which we cannot continue the service) for a "reward."

A special cup with wine is prepared for the prophet Elijah; we open the door for him. Maybe he will come and herald the coming of the Messiah. This prophet becomes the Jewish hope.

The last day of Pesach, this year, the 10th day of April is Yizkor. We recall the memory of our beloved departed ones, who made this holiday more meaningful for us. It is not an accident that Pesach is so close to us. Among our eight holidays no one bears the name of Sukkot or Shavout, but many Jewish persons are named Pesach. Among the twelve Hebrew months no child bears the name of Tishri or Kislev, but many children are named Nisan, the month in which Pesach occurs.

I am very fortunate that for seven semesters I was able to be a student of one of the greatest Egyptologists, Professor Edward Mahler, at the University of Budapest, who was able to bring together the description of the Bible with scientific, historical, and archeological discoveries of the slavery of our ancestors in Egypt and the holiday of Pesach. This helped me to love Pesach so much. May this holiday observance become not only a symbol of the past, but a time or realization of Judaism's most valued ideals, which echo from this holiday-Freedom, Justice and Peace.

COME OUT, COME OUT, WHEREVER YOU ARE...

(The Use Of A Ruse to Facilitate A Felony Arrest Without A Warrant)

By Scott S. Widitor

A well known rule of law enforcement states that, absent exigent circumstances, a warrant is necessary to make an arrest in the "home" of the person to be arrested. *People v. Ramey*, (1976) 16 Cal.3d 263. A corollary to the rule is that no warrant is necessary when the arrest is made in a public place. *Ramey*, *supra*, at p. 273. *Payton v. New York*, 445 U.S. 573, 587 (1980).

An interesting and compelling question arises as to when a police officer can use "deceptive" tactics to make felony arrests without a warrant. Many

criminal defense attorneys and plaintiffs' lawyers in civil rights cases will argue that luring a felony suspect into a public area through the use of deception is just not fair because the suspects presence in public is not "voluntary."

Courts outside of California have approved the use of subterfuge to trick a defendant into leaving his home. *See United States v. Vasiliavitchious*, 919 F. Supp. 1113 (N.D. Ill. 1996) (upholding validity of arrest where officers, in order to lure the suspect outside, falsely told suspect that someone had broken into his car and directed him to come down to the parking lot to see if anything was missing); *People v. Witherspoon*, 576 N.E.2d 1030, 1036 (Ill. App. 1 Dist. 1991) (holding that the use of deception by activating appellant's car alarm to lure defendant from his home did not violate fundamental fairness). *United States v. Rengifo*, 858 F.2d 800, 804 (1st Cir. 1988) (upholding the use of a ruse by government agents to get suspects to leave a motel room so that the agents could arrest them). Unfortunately the issue is not so clear in California.

People v. Porras

More than twenty years ago the issue seemed resolved in California. For more than two decades Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) manuals used the case *People v. Porras* (1979) 99 Cal.App.3d 874, 160 Cal.Rptr. 627, to instruct officers on the proper use of deception when seeking to make a warrantless arrest a public area.

In *Porras*, police officers, on a tip from a reliable informant, proceeded to a residence and set up a perimeter to observe and control the exit of persons from an apartment in San Jose. After the officers were in position, one officer telephoned the apartment and, without identifying himself, told the occupants that he had been arrested after purchasing narcotics in the apartment. The officer then told them that he had informed on them and that they should "get rid of the dope" because the police were coming with a search warrant and would be at the apartment in 20 minutes. The purpose of the police operation was to trick the occupants into leaving the apartment in possession of narcotics so they could be caught in possession outside and be arrested. After the telephone call two men ran down a flight of stairs to the lawn in front of the apartment. After briefly looking around, they turned to the defendant

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who was standing on the stairs, and said "the coast is clear." Porras then left the stairwell at a run carrying a tool box full of drugs. While fleeing appellant tripped and dropped the tool box. Porras left the area leaving the tool box behind. Subsequently, the tool box was opened by the police and quantities of LSD, methylenedioxy amphetamines, marijuana and money were found inside the tool box. The defendant was apprehended shortly thereafter. All seemed settled in California until *People v. Reyes* (2000) 83 Cal.App.4th 7, 98 Cal.Rptr.2d 898 was published.

People v. Reyes

In *Reyes*, five narcotics officers from the Anaheim Police Department went to a local apartment. Their mission was to conduct a narcotics investigation at a residence occupied by a parolee. The plan was to employ a ruse to get the door open and ask to search anyone who came outside. Evidently this was not a good idea.

A registration check revealed a white truck parked in the alley behind the apartment building belonged to one Manuel Reyes. An officer dressed in jeans and a T-shirt, walked up to the front door. Peering through a closed screen door, the officer saw Reyes inside the living room and asked whether he owned the white truck parked in the alley. Reyes responded, "Yes, why?" The officer then falsely stated he had struck the truck.

Reyes swallowed the bait and walked outside to the alley with the officer. Three or four officers, two attired in full "ninja-style" raid gear, including black masks and bulletproof vests emblazoned with "Police" markings, approached defendant. Reyes' thumbs were pinned behind his back and he was searched. Illegal drugs were found in his pocket and he was arrested.

The *Reyes* court held that, because the police lure was one that almost no person crooked or not, would refuse, the police went too far and that defendant's cooperation was involuntary from the outset. The court did note that the result would have been different had the undercover officer invited Reyes to step outside to engage in some sort of criminal activity.

Unfortunately the *Reyes* case has added a layer of confusion to normal everyday police work. Clearly *Reyes* seems out of sync" with the law of other jurisdictions. As of today no clear and satisfactory rules have been developed for California.

People v. Colt

The latest published case on the subject has done little to resolve the confusion. In *People v. Colt* (2004), 118 Cal.App.4th 1404. narcotics task force agents advised an Atascadero police sergeant that the defendant was suspected of selling methamphetamine out of a room at the San Palo Inn. The sergeant and three fellow officers began surveillance. A woman drove up to the room and attempted to go inside. The police told her to leave. The sergeant became concerned that the woman would warn the occupants by telephone. To preserve the investigation, the sergeant walked up to the room and knocked on the door. For purposes of officer safety, he moved to the left of the door. Two other officers stood to the right of the door so they could not be seen.

Colt opened the door and quickly walked outside about 20 feet, looking left to right. The sergeant approached the defendant and talked with him for about two minutes. Colt appeared nervous, had dilated pupils, spoke rapidly, and constantly jerked his head from side to side. The sergeant determined that appellant was exhibiting symptoms consistent with being under the influence of a central nervous system stimulant. Colt was arrested and drugs were found in his pocket.

Colt argued that the act of knocking on a door and stepping out of view to lure a suspect outside of his dwelling violated the Fourth Amendment. He argued that under *Reyes, supra*, the act of "deception" which prompted him to leave his apartment was improper.

The *Colt* court held that, unlike *Reyes*, there was no misrepresentation or false statement by an officer posing as a civilian. There was no statement at all. There was no ruse at all. The sergeant simply knocked on the door and stepped out of sight for officer safety. The sergeant did not engage in active deception by simply knocking on a door.

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The court then appeared to ignore *Reyes* and noted that even a “ruse” or “active deception,” would not implicate Fourth Amendment protections. It noted that in *People v. Rand* (1972) 23 Cal. App. 3d 579, 100 Cal. Rptr. 473, (a case very similar to *Porras, supra*) officers telephoned a drug dealer and said “the police are coming; get rid of the stuff.” (*Id.*, at p. 582.) *Rand* was detained leaving the premises with narcotics. The *Rand* court stated “Where the ruse does no more than to cause a defendant, activated by his own decision, to do an incriminating act--whether that act be a sale to an undercover agent or a jettisoning of incriminating material--no illegality exists.” (*Id.*, at p. 583; *see also, People v. Martino* (1985) 166 Cal. App. 3d 777, 789 [212 Cal. Rptr. 45] [phone call to cocaine dealer].)

And The Answer Is?

The answer is that of this date there is no practical answer. That said, some important distinctions can be drawn between *Reyes* and the other cases involving the use of deceptive tactics.

The police in *Reyes* had no reason to suspect he was in possession of or had used narcotics. No informant had given any indication that he was involved in criminal activity. He had no relevant criminal history and he had not been observed committing a crime. There was no reason to arrest or detain him other than the fact that he was in the home of a known parolee.

Despite this “[Reyes] was ordered to put his hands behind his back. One officer pinned his thumbs and searched his pockets. Another asked Reyes for his consent to a search of his person for weapons. Reyes’ consent was ambiguous. He responded, ‘What difference does it make, you’ve already done it.’” (*Reyes, supra*, at p. 9.)

Clearly, the problem was the search of Reyes’ person- not the way he was lured outside the apartment. The actions of the police officers were akin to stopping a passerby who had merely visited a locale known for drug dealing. There was simply no reasonable suspicion to detain or probable cause to arrest Reyes. The court incorrectly and needlessly focused attention on the ruse that lured him into a public area.

While this distinction may become apparent to careful readers of judicial opinions with lots of legal training and ample time for reflection, there is at the moment some confusion which still needs to be resolved in the courts. Until then peace officers will need to beware and be aware.

JEWISH HISTORY TALES

... tales of Jewish piracy, which stretch back thousands of years, aren't in the public's consciousness, and Hollywood even has been known to remove a pirate's Jewish background. As a result, we're stuck with portrayals of pirates as wayward English seamen on a murderous rampage. But now a forthcoming book hopes to change that image by focusing on Ladino-speaking Jews whose piracy grew out of the Inquisition. "The Jewish pirates were Sephardic. Once they were kicked out of Spain [in 1492], the more adventurous Jews went to the New World," said Ed Kritzler, whose yet-untitled book on Jewish pirates will be published by Doubleday in spring 2007. Jewish piracy has been around since well before the Barbary pirates first preyed on ships during the Crusades. In the time of the Second Temple, Jewish historian Flavius Josephus records that Hyrcanus accused Aristobulus of "acts of piracy at sea." ... determining the exact number of Jewish pirates is difficult, Kritzler said, because many of them traveled as Conversos, or converts to Christianity, and practiced their Judaism in secret. While some Jews, like Samuel Pallache, took up piracy in part to help make a better life for expelled Spanish Jews, Kritzler said others were motivated by revenge for the Inquisition. One such pirate was Moses Cohen Henriques, who helped plan one of history's largest heists against Spain. In 1628, Henriques set sail with Dutch West India Co. Admiral Piet Hein, whose own hatred of Spain was fueled by four years spent as a galley slave aboard a Spanish ship. Henriques and Hein boarded Spanish ships off Cuba and seized shipments of New World gold and silver worth in today's dollars about the same as Disney's total box office for "Dead Man's Chest." Henriques set up his own pirate island off the coast of Brazil afterward, and even though his role in the raid was disclosed during the Spanish Inquisition, he was never caught, Kritzler told The Journal. Another Sephardic pirate played a pivotal role in American history. In the book "Jews on the Frontier" (Rachelle Simon, 1991), Rabbi I. Harold Sharfman recounts the tale of Sephardic Jewish

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pirate Jean Lafitte, whose Conversos grandmother and mother fled Spain for France in 1765, after his maternal grandfather was put to death by the Inquisition for "Judaizing." Referred to as The Corsair, Lafitte went on to establish a pirate kingdom in the swamps of New Orleans, and led more than 1,000 men during the War of 1812. After being run out of New Orleans in 1817, Lafitte re-established his kingdom on the island of Galveston, Texas, which was known as Campeche. During Mexico's fight for independence, revolutionaries encouraged Lafitte to attack Spanish ships and keep the booty.

JEAN LAFITTE. THE JEWISH PIRATE

This is a recent article about the most famous Jewish Pirate, Jean Lafitte. It was written by a former professor from TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, PROF. BERNARD GLICK. Many of the pirates of the Caribbean were Sephardic Jews who turned to piracy to get revenge on the Spanish Catholics who expelled them from Spain in 1492, murdered their families & stole their property. Six of Barbarossa's chief officers were Jewish!! This article sheds light on one of the most famous Jewish Pirates- JEAN LAFITTE. THE JEWISH PIRATE by Prof. Edward Bernard Glick .

One of the things I do since I retired from Philadelphia's Temple University in 1991 is lecture on cruise ships. My signature talk is the 50-century-old history of piracy, whose practitioners I call the Seafaring Gangsters of the World. A few weeks before my first gig, I sent a draft of the talk to my history-buff sister, Phyllis. She liked it, but she was very unhappy that I had not mentioned Jean Lafitte. I told her I didn't include him! because, except for two famous bisexual female pirates, Mary Read and Anne Bonny, I intended to deal with the economics, the sociology and the politics of piracy. She said I simply had to talk about Lafitte because he was unique. He was a Sephardic Jew, as was his first wife, who was born in the Danish Virgin Islands. In his prime, Lafitte ran not just one pirate sloop but a whole fleet of them simultaneously. He even bought a blacksmith shop in New Orleans, which he used as a front for fencing pirate loot. And he was one of the few buccaneers who didn't die in battle, in prison or on the gallows. Though I didn't lecture about Lafitte at first, a circumstance of serendipity has made me do so ever since.

----- I was flying to Norfolk, Virginia. The man in the seat next to me wore a skullcap, and he began chatting with me in Gallic-accented English. Though born in France, the friendly passenger now lives in Switzerland. We quickly established that we were both Jewish and that both of us had taught in Israel. Then we had the following conversation: "What are you doing on this plane?" I asked. "I'm a mathematician. I work for an American company and I'm flying to Norfolk today because it has the US Navy's largest naval base and my company is trying to get a Navy contract. Now, what are you doing on this plane?"

"My wife and I are picking up a cruise ship in Norfolk." "Taking a vacation?" "Not entirely. I'll be giving lectures on the ship, as many in fact as there are full days at sea." "What do you lecture about?" "Cruise lines frown on controversial topics. I have talked about Israel once or twice. But I usually talk about Latin America, which is my second specialty, or the Panama Canal, or Mexico's Isthmus of Tehuantepec, or Prince Henry the Navigator, or Portuguese explorations after Prince Henry, or Alfred Thayer Mahan's belief in the supremacy of sea power, or the political economy of the 21st century, or the voyages of Captain Cook to the South Pacific. But I always begin a cruise with a lecture on pirates. The kids love it, and the old folks like it, too."

"Are you are going talk about Jean Lafitte?" "No," and I repeated what my sister had told me. He pulled out his wallet and handed me a business card. It had "Melvyn J. Lafitte" written on it. Then he said, "I could tell you that as we were chatting I printed this card on a nano-sized printing press hidden in my pocket. And of course, you wouldn't believe me. But the truth is that I am a direct descendant of Jean Lafitte. Your sister, Phyllis, is absolutely right. "Our family, originally named Lefitto, lived in the Iberian Peninsula for centuries. When Ferdinand and Isabella reconquered Spain and expelled the Muslims and the Jews in 1492, most of the Jews fled to North Africa. Others went to the Balkans or to Greece and Turkey. But some Sephardi Jews, my ancestors among them, crossed the Pyrenees and settled in France, where Jean was born in about 1780. He moved to French Santo Domingo during the Napoleonic period. However, a slave rebellion forced him to flee to New Orleans. Eventually, he became a pirate, but he always called himself a

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privateer because that label has a more legal ring to it.

"In 1814, the British sought his aid in their pending attack on New Orleans," he continued. "However, he passed their plans to the Americans and helped General Andrew Jackson beat them in 1815. A grateful Jackson, not yet president, saw to it that Lafitte and his family became American citizens. And by the way, did you know that there is a town of Jean Lafitte, as well as a Jean Lafitte National Historical Park in Southwestern Louisiana?"

I was flabbergasted, not so much by the saga of Jean Lafitte as retold by a proud descendant, but by the fact that the two of us had met so coincidentally in the skies over Georgia. Melvyn Lafitte lives in Geneva and I live in Portland, Oregon. These cities are 5,377 miles apart. Unlike him, I am mathematically challenged, so I don't know what the statistical probability is that a descendant of the Franco-Jewish-American pirate Jean Lafitte would board an airplane and sit next to me, as I was agonizing over whether to mention his famous ancestor in a forthcoming talk.

2006-09-15 Ahoy, mateys ! Thar be Jewish pirates! September 19 is Talk Like A Pirate Day by Adam Wills, Associate Editor Sephardic Jewish pirate Jean Lafitte There's no arrr-guing that pirates are in. As of last weekend, Disney had plundered \$1 billion worldwide with "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest," and International Talk Like a Pirate Day -- that's Sept. 19, for you landlubbers -- has gone from an inside joke between two friends to a mock holiday celebrated in more than 40 countries. Yet tales of Jewish piracy, which stretch back thousands of years, aren't in the public's consciousness, and Hollywood even has been known to remove a pirate's Jewish background. As a result, we're stuck with portrayals of pirates as wayward English seamen on a murderous rampage. But now a forthcoming book hopes to change that image by focusing on Ladino-speaking Jews whose piracy grew out of the Inquisition.

"The Jewish pirates were Sephardic. Once they were kicked out of Spain [in 1492], the more adventurous Jews went to the New World," said Ed Kritzler, whose yet-untitled book on Jewish pirates will be published by Doubleday in spring 2007. Jewish piracy has been around since well before the Barbary

pirates first preyed on ships during the Crusades. In the time of the Second Temple, Jewish historian Flavius Josephus records that Hyrcanus accused Aristobulus of "acts of piracy at sea."

Kritzler has studied pirates for 40 years, and said that the public is fascinated with them because they're "rugged individuals in a world of conformity. They carved their own identity, independent of the rules and strictures of society." But determining the exact number of Jewish pirates is difficult, Kritzler said, because many of them traveled as Conversos, or converts to Christianity, and practiced their Judaism in secret. While some Jews, like Samuel Pallache, took up piracy in part to help make a better life for expelled Spanish Jews, Kritzler said others were motivated by revenge for the Inquisition. One such pirate was Moses Cohen Henriques, who helped plan one of history's largest heists against Spain. In 1628, Henriques set sail with Dutch West India Co. Admiral Piet Hein, whose own hatred of Spain was fueled by four years spent as a galley slave aboard a Spanish ship. Henriques and Hein boarded Spanish ships off Cuba and seized shipments of New World gold and silver worth in today's dollars about the same as Disney's total box office for "Dead Man's Chest." Henriques set up his own pirate island off the coast of Brazil afterward, and even though his role in the raid was disclosed during the Spanish Inquisition, he was never caught, Kritzler told The Journal.

Another Sephardic pirate played a pivotal role in American history. In the book "Jews on the Frontier" (Rachelle Simon, 1991), Rabbi I. Harold Sharfman recounts the tale of Sephardic Jewish pirate Jean Lafitte, whose Conversos grandmother and mother fled Spain for France in 1765, after his maternal grandfather was put to death by the Inquisition for "Judaizing." Referred to as The Corsair, Lafitte went on to establish a pirate kingdom in the swamps of New Orleans, and led more than 1,000 men during the War of 1812. After being run out of New Orleans in 1817, Lafitte re-established his kingdom on the island of Galveston, Texas, which was known as Campeche. During Mexico's fight for independence, revolutionaries encouraged Lafitte to attack Spanish ships and keep the booty. But in the 1958 film "The Buccaneer," starring Yul Brynner as Lafitte, any mention of the pirate's Jewish heritage was stripped away. Arrrgh!

HASHOMER

GIGGLES

Higher Learning

THINGS I DIDN'T LEARN IN HEBREW SCHOOL

1. The High Holidays have absolutely nothing to do with marijuana.
2. Where there's smoke, there may be salmon.
3. No meal is complete without leftovers.
4. According to Jewish dietary law, pork and shellfish may be eaten only in Chinese restaurants.
5. A shmata is a dress that your husband's ex is wearing.
6. You need ten men for a minion, but only four in polyester pants and white shoes for pinochle.
7. One mitzvah can change the world; two will just make you tired.
8. After the destruction of the Second temple, God created Loehmann's.
9. Anything worth saying is worth repeating a thousand times.
10. Never take a front row seat at a Bris.
11. Next year in Jerusalem: The year after that, how about a nice cruise?
12. Never leave a restaurant empty handed.
13. Spring ahead, fall back, winter in Boca.
14. WASP's leave and never say good bye; Jews say good bye and never leave.
15. Always whisper the names of diseases.
16. If it tastes good, it's probably not kosher.
17. The important Jewish holidays are the ones on which alternate side of the street parking is suspended.
18. Without Jewish mothers, who would need therapy?
19. If you have to ask the price, you can't afford it. But if you can afford it, make sure to tell everybody what you paid.
20. Laugh now, but one day you'll be driving a Lexus and eating dinner at 4:00 PM in Florida.

SIGNS ON SYNAGOGUE BULLETIN BOARDS:

1. Under same management for over 5763 years.
2. Don't give up. Moses was once a basket case.
3. What part of "Thou shalt not" don't you understand?
4. Shull committees should be made up of three members, two of whom should be absent at every meeting.

5. Sign over the urinal in a bathroom at Hebrew University: "The future of the Jewish people is in your hands."
6. My mother is a typical Jewish mother. Once she was on jury duty. They sent her home. She insisted SHE was guilty.
7. Any time a person goes into a delicatessen and orders a pastrami on white bread, somewhere a Jew dies.
8. It was mealtime during a flight on El Al. "Would you like dinner?," the flight attendant asked Moshe, seated in front. "What are my choices?" Moshe asked. "Yes, or no," she replied.
9. An elderly Jewish man is knocked down by a car and is brought to the local hospital. A pretty nurse tucks him into bed and says, "Mr. Gevarter, are you comfortable?" Gevarter replies, "I make a nice living...."
10. A rabbi was opening his mail one morning. Taking a single sheet of paper from an envelope he found written on it only one word: "shmuck." At the next Friday night service, the Rabbi announced, "I have known many people who have written letters and forgot to sign their names, but this week I received a letter from someone who signed his name.... and forgot to write a letter."
11. Three Jewish women get together for lunch. As they are being seated in the restaurant, one takes a deep breath and gives a long, slow "oy." The second takes a deep breath as well and lets out a long, slow "oy." The third takes a deep breath and says impatiently, "Girls, I thought we agreed that we weren't going to talk about our children."
12. And finally my personal favorite: A waiter comes over to a table full of Jewish women and asks, "Is anything all right?"

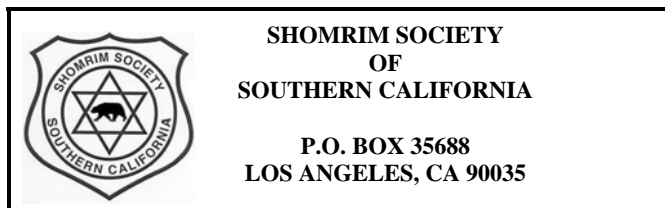
Shorties

"My mother's menu consisted of two choices: take it--or leave it." --Buddy Hackett

Fans have noticed that Britney Spears' new Kabbalah-inspired Hebrew tattoo actually has the letters reversed, making it meaningless, proof once again of how hard it is to find a tattoo artist who graduated from a decent Hebrew School. --Jacob Novak

If you enjoy "Giggles," feel free to contribute more. We will include as many as space allows!

HASHOMER



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What can the Shomrim Society do for you?

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Please return this application and your check to the above address. Thank you.

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MEMBERSHIP

Use the form on the left to recruit new members for our organization or to have old members renew. Please have the application completed with all the information requested, including the e-mail address as much of our communication with members is done by e-mail.

Members of any Southern California law enforcement, public safety or administration of justice agency, law enforcement or public safety reserve officers, retired members of those agencies, or persons eligible to become a member of the National Conference may apply for membership as Regular Members. Thus, in addition to peace officers, fire fighters, men and women of the Jewish faith who are employed or retired from the various fields of law enforcement, public safety, and the administration of justice such as prosecutors, judges, parole and probation officers, correctional officers, and paramedics, to name a few, are also eligible for Regular Membership.

The initial membership fee is \$18.00, which includes membership for the first year. Annual membership dues thereafter are \$25.00. Associate Membership (non-voting) may be granted by the Board of Directors, to persons who are interested in furthering and advancing the purposes of the Shomrim Society of Southern California who do not qualify for Regular membership. Such members may be proposed by any Regular Member; however, such members must be approved by the Board of Directors and are subject to annual review by the Board for continued membership. The annual membership fee for Associate Members is \$36.00.

Additional Information

Further information about the Society may be obtained by writing to the above address, e-mail to shomrimsocal@msn.com, or by contacting the message number: (310) 967-2018.

HASHOMER

NEW CAPS

Shomrim of Southern California Caps are now available with the new Logo. They are \$8.00 each, or 2 for \$15.00.

NATIONAL SHOMRIM AND SHOMRIMSOCAL ON THE WEB

Visit our website. We're at www.shomrimsocal.org just a click away. Get the latest updates on meetings and announcements, read about your organization, look at photos of recent events, etc. Our webmaster Marc Cohen would like to hear from all of you with your comments. Active links to other Shomrim sites, including the National Conference of Shomrim Societies.

The National Conference of Shomrim Societies has a new website due to the efforts of our national webmaster Scott Bresalier:

www.nationalshomrim.org. Visit the new website and sign the guestbook and leave your comments.

If you have something you would like added to our website send an e-mail to story@shomrimsocal.org or drop us a letter to our P.O. Box.

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES ON THE WEB

Visit the web site at: www.IAJPSE.org .

September 4, 2006

Israel Rescue and Hatzalah

Dear Shomrim Society of Southern California,

In the past few weeks Israel has endured terrible attacks in its northern parts. Rockets were aiming to destroy everything in its path. Over 3,970(!) Katyusha rockets fell in the northern part of Israel killing and injuring innocent people. 901 of them fell in inhabited zones, 2312 citizens ended up in the hospital, and another 2773 suffer from anxiety.

Israel Rescue and Hatzalah has been on the go in these terrible times. Aside from dealing with the day to day incidents such as heart attacks, car accidents, pediatric events. etc., an additional burden fell on the volunteers who left their families for over a month. These volunteers personally endangered themselves, staying the front line to give medical service to these who were hurt during these attacks.

It is thanks to your donation of \$500 that we are able to make a purchase towards Emergency Medical Equipment for the war effort in Israel.

It is at this opportunity we wish to thank you for your amazing support, your kind words of encouragement, and your donation. With your help we were able to purchase: 235 Bullet Proof Jackets and Helmets. 24 Ambucycles, and 127 Fully Equipped Emergency Bags.

You've help treat over 3,000 injuries due to the attacks, as well as an additional 250 calls a day which was not affiliated with the war. You enabled us to board the families of the volunteers in the north to more safe locations in the center of Israel. Most importantly, you proved that Israel has true friends! Together from all over the Diaspora we will keep our land strong and safe!

In the name of all our volunteers. Thank you!

Sincerely, Eli Beer

Chief Coordinator

HASHOMER

With Thanks

MAGEN
DAVID
ADOM
IN ISRAEL

18/09/2006

MR. MARVIN GOLDSMITH
PRESIDENT SHOMRIM SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
P.O. BOX 35688
LOS ANGELES, CA 90035
USA

Dear Sir,

We wish to acknowledge with sincere thanks your contribution of USD 500.00 for the acquisition of E.M.S.

Enclosed is our official receipt No. 1901346.

We value your support of Magen David Adom which performs its regular ambulance, first aid and blood services throughout Israel. M.D.A. is ready at all times with its essential services for national emergencies, which it now more than ever may necessitate.

We wish to express our appreciation for your donation and we take this opportunity to wish you many more years of health and happiness.

Wishing you a happy and peaceful New Year !

Sincerely,

Shosh Sverdlov

Director
Treasury Department

HASHOMER

It's tax time

By Bernard Melamed, CPA

Tax time has arrived and the information below lists Law Enforcement deductions that are available to you, less reimbursement; and indicates where they should be deducted on your tax return.

	Amount		Amount
AMMUNITION		EQUIPMENT	
ASSOCIATION DUES		Wrist Watch	
WEAPONS		Watch Band & Repairs	
On Duty		Hand Cuffs & Cuff Case	
Off Duty		Brief Case	
Grips		Flash Lights & Batteries	
Gun Bluing		Tape Recorder & Tapes	
Gun Repairs		Binoculars	
Gun cleaning supplies		Camera & Film	
EDUCATION EXPENSE		Baton	
Tuition		Ammunition Holder	
Books and Supplies		Ammunition Magazines & Clips	
TELEPHONE		Keepers	
Message Units		Key Holder	
Coin Telephone		Badge Tabs	
PUBLICATIONS		Belts	
Thomas Guide		Holsters	
Davis Books		Badge Holder	
Penal Code		Citation Book	
Manuals & Journals		Patrol Box	
UNIFORMS		Whistle	
Pants, Shirts & Jackets		Mace Case	
Shoes & Repairs		Bullet Proof Vest	
Rain Gear		Duffle Bag	
Hats, gloves, Belts & Ties		False Arrest Insurance	
Name Tags & Emblems		Brass & Copper Cleaners	
Shoe Shine Kit		Pens, Pencils & Clip Board	
UNIFORM MAINTENANCE		TOTALS TO SCHEDULE A	
Cleaning & Laundry		MILEAGE AND TRAVEL EXPENSE	
Tailoring		Station to court Mileage	
Uniform Repairs		Miles	
		Education Mileage	
		Miles	
		Special Detail Travel Expense	
		TOTALS TO FORM 2106	

HASHOMER

HOLD THE DATE! MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

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January-February-March 2007 Issue

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IT'S TAX TIME by Bernard Melamed, CPA

Giggles

