



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 2008 Issue

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President's Message

Our Hanukkah party was very well attended and everybody present enjoyed the Mini Latkes, Pizza, etc. put together by Darren Melamed at L.A.'s Best Pizza Restaurant: Pizza World.

The National Shomrim convention was an outstanding success with over one hundred people in attendance. It was great to visit and do "Shomrim" business with old friends. The convention was put together by that dynamic duo from New York Marty Turetsky and Murray Ellman. The educational programs put together by Art Krinsky were exceptional and very informative. Our new National Officers, led by NYPD Detective 1st Class Sam Miller as President, are an exceptional and dedicated group of individuals

I also had the pleasure of attending the educational conference put on by the International Association Jewish Public Service Employees, which immediately followed the National Shomrim Convention. Shomrim Society of South Florida President Barry Mankes put together an outstanding educational program entitled "Public Safety Technology: Today and Into the Future."

I wish you all a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Marvin Goldsmith, President

Notice of Dues Increase

By an almost unanimous vote (there was one dissent) of the Board of Directors (your officers) dues have been increase from \$25.00 per year to \$36.00 per year.

So for the calendar year 2008, please remit your dues to: SHOMRIMSOCAL, P.O. Box 35688, Los Angeles, CA 90035.

Dues for new members remain the same at \$18.00 for the first year.

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2008 SHOMRIMSOCAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- January Board Meeting
Monday, January 14, 2007 at 6:30 P.M.
King David Grill
6118 West Pico Blvd., L.A.
(Just East of La Cienega)
- February Meeting
Wednesday, February 13, 2008 at 6:30 P.M.
Metro Glatt
8975 West Pico Blvd. at Crest Dr., L.A.
- March Meeting
Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 6:30 P.M.
Pizza World
365 South Fairfax Ave., L.A.
(Just South of Third St.)
- Annual Banquet 2008
Tuesday, April 15th at 6:00 P.M.
Sinai Temple 10400 Wilshire Blvd.
(at Beverly Glen Blvd.)
Los Angeles
- May/June Meeting (Sunday Brunch)
Sunday Brunch at 10:00 A.M. at a place
and on a date to be determined.
- STEAK "FRY"
Sunday, August 17th at 5:00 P.M.
(Goldsmith's BBQ)
229 South Clark Drive, B.H.
- September/October Meeting
October 16th at 6:30 P.M.
In a Succah.
- Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors
and the Membership
Wednesday, November 5th at 6:30 PM
- Hannukah Get Together
Tuesday, December 23rd at 6:30 PM
Pizza World
365 South Fairfax Avenue, L.A.
(Just South of Third St.)

MAZEL TOV

- To Donald R. Beck who was promoted to Reserve Captain at L.A.S.D. West Hollywood Station.
- To Shomrim of South Florida President, and Founder of the International Association of Jewish Public Servants, Barry Mankes on his being honored by the Bnei Zion Foundation in Florida.
- To Dave Gorlick on his becoming a proud Grandfather to Batya Yasmin Marer, daughter of Melissa Gorlick Marer and Alon Marer, on November 4, 2007.
- To Gary Hall upon his completion of the L.A. County Sheriff's Academy and his appointment as a Deputy Sheriff. Gary is assigned to custody at the Van Nuys Courts.
- To my good friend Sam Miller, Detective 1st Class, N.Y.P.D., on his being elected National President.

WE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Scott Flacks, (Res. Sergeant, L.A.S.D.)

REFUAH SHELEMAH

- To Marc Cohen who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.
- To Rabbi Henry E. Kraus.

THE BEGINNING OF BAGELING

From an anonymous e-mail

It all started when my friend Doodie Miller-- who wears a kippah -- was back in college and suffering through a tedious lecture. As the professor droned on, a previously-unknown young woman leaned over and whispered in his ear:

"This class is as boring as my Zayde's seder."

You see, the woman knew that she did not "look" Jewish, nor did she wear any identifying signs like a Star of David. So foregoing the awkward declaration, "I'm Jewish," the girl devised a more nuanced -- and frankly, cuter -- way of heralding her heritage.

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This incident launched a hypothesis which would henceforth be known as the Bagel Theory.

The Bagel Theory stands for the principle that we Jews, regardless of how observant or affiliated we are, have a powerful need to connect with one another. To that end, we find ways to "bagel" each other -- basically, to "out" ourselves to fellow Jews.

There are two ways to bagel. The brave or simply unimaginative will tell you straight out that they are Jewish (a plain bagel). But the more creative will concoct subtler and even sublime ways to let you know that they, too, are in the know. (These bagels are often the best; like their doughy counterparts, cultural bagels are more flavorful when there is more to chew on.)

Bageled at Boggle

I suspect that Jews have been bageling even before real bagels were invented. And while my husband and I may not have invented bageling, we do seem to have a steady diet of bagel encounters.

An early bagel favorite occurred when my kippah-wearing husband and I were dating, and we spent a Saturday evening at a funky coffee house with friends. We engaged in a few boisterous rounds of Boggle, the game where you must quickly make words out of jumbled lettered cubes. Observing our fun, a couple of college students at a nearby table asked if they could play too. After we rattled the tray and furiously scribbled our words, it was time to read our lists aloud. One of the students, who sported a rasta hat and goatee, proudly listed the word "yad." Unsuspecting, we inquired, "What's a yad?" He said with a smirk, "You know, that pointer you read the Torah with." Yes, we were bageled at Boggle.

On our honeymoon in Rome, we were standing at the top of the Spanish steps next to a middle-aged couple holding a map. The husband piped up in an obvious voice, "I wonder where the synagogue is." My husband and I exchanged a knowing look at this classic Roman bagel and proceeded to strike up a conversation with this lovely couple from Chicago. After we took them to the synagogue, they asked to join us at the kosher pizza shop. As we savored the cheeseless arugula and shaved beef pizza -- to this day the best pizza I have ever had -- this non-

religious couple marveled at traveling kosher and declared they would do so in the future. A satisfying bagel to be sure.

Holy Bagel

In the years since, our bagel encounters have become precious souvenirs, yiddishe knick-knacks from our family adventures in smaller Jewish communities. Like the time the little boy at the Coffee Bean in Pasadena, California, walked up to my husband, pulled out a mezuzah from around his neck, smiled and ran away. (A non-verbal bagel!) Or our day trip to the pier in San Clemente, California when an impish girl in cornrows and bikini scampered over to say "Good Shabbos."

We have been bageled waiting at airline ticket counters, in elevators, at the supermarket checkout. And I myself have been known to bagel when the situation calls for it, like the time I asked the chassid seated a few rows up on an airplane if I could borrow a siddur.

On a recent trip abroad, however, we did not get bageled even once. That was in Israel where, thankfully, there is just no need.

We bagel in a quest to feel whole.

Ultimately, why do we feel this need to bagel? Does it stem from our shared patriarchs, our pedigree of discrimination and isolation, a common love of latkes or just the human predisposition to be cliquey? I maintain it is something more. Our sages say that all Jews were originally one interconnected soul which stood in unison at Mount Sinai to receive the Torah. Now scattered across the Earth, as we encounter each other's Jewish souls, we recognize and reconnect with a piece of our divine selves. The bagel may have a hole, but we bagel in a quest to feel whole.

So the next time a sweaty stranger at the gym says to you, "I haven't been this thirsty since Yom Kippur," smile. You've just been bageled -- adding another link in the Jewish circle of connection.

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SCOTCH WHISKEY - PART 2

By Scott Widitor

SCOTCH PRODUCTION

Mashing

The dried malt (and in the case of grain whisky, other grains) is ground into a coarse flour called "grist." This is mixed with hot water in a large vessel called a mash tun. The grist is then steeped. This process is referred to as "mashing," and the mixture as "mash". In mashing, enzymes that were developed during the malting process are allowed to convert the barley starch into sugar, producing a sugary liquid known as "wort".

Fermentation

The wort is then transferred to another large vessel called a "wash back" where it is cooled. The yeast is added, and the wort is allowed to ferment. The resulting liquid, now at about 5–7% alcohol by volume, is called "*wash*" and is very similar to beer.

Distillation

The next step is to use a still to distill the mash. Distillation is used to increase the alcohol content and to remove undesired impurities such as methanol.

There are two types of stills in use for the distillation: the pot still (for single malts) and the Coffey still (for grain whisky). All Scotch malt whisky distilleries distill their product twice except for the Auchentoshan distillery, which retains the Lowlands tradition of triple distillation.

For malt whisky the wash is transferred into a wash still. The liquid is heated to the boiling point of alcohol, which is lower than the boiling point of water. The alcohol evaporates and travels to the top of the still, through the "lyne arm" and into a condenser—where it is cooled and reverts to liquid. This liquid has an alcohol content of about 20% and is called "low wine".

The low wine is distilled a second time, in a spirit still, and the distillation is divided into three "cuts". The first liquid or cut of the distillation is called "foreshots" and is generally quite toxic due to the presence of the low boiling point alcohol methanol. These are generally saved for further distillation.

The second portion of the liquid is called the "middle cut". It is the middle cut which will be placed in casks for maturation. At this stage it is called "new make". Its alcohol content can be anywhere from 60%–75%. The third cut is called the "feints" and is generally quite weak. These are also saved for further distillation.

Grain whiskies are distilled in a column still which utilizes a single continuous fractional distillation process to achieve the desired alcohol content. Unlike the simple distillation based batch process used for malt whisky, the column or Coffey still is more efficient to operate. This efficiency is one of the factors that generally makes grain whisky is less expensive than malt.

Aging

Once distilled the "new make spirit" is placed into oak casks for the maturation process. Historically, casks previously used for sherry were used (as barrels are expensive, and there was a ready market for used sherry butts). Nowadays the casks used are typically sherry or bourbon casks. Bourbon production is a nearly inexhaustible generator of used barrels, due to a regulation requiring the use of new, North American white oak barrels. Sometimes other varieties such as port, Cognac, Madeira, calvados, beer, and Bordeaux wine are used.

Since casks are not air tight, the aging process results in some loss of liquid through evaporation. Since alcohol evaporates more easily than water there is some loss in strength as well. Each year in the cask causes a loss of volume of between one half and two percent (½ to 2%) of volume. This is rather poetically referred to as the "angel's share."

Many whiskies along the west coast and on the Hebrides are stored in open storehouses on the coast, allowing the salty sea air to pass on its flavor to the spirit. It is a little-known fact, however, that most so-called "coastal" whiskies are matured in large central warehouses in the Scottish interior far from any influence of the sea.

The distillate must age for at least three years in Scotland to be called Scotch whisky, although most single malts are offered at a minimum of eight years of age. Some believe that older whiskies are inherently better, but others find that the age for optimum flavor development changes drastically

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from distillery to distillery, or even from cask to cask. Older whiskies are inherently scarcer, however, so they usually command significantly higher prices.

Color can give a clue to the type of cask (sherry or bourbon) used to age the whisky, although the addition of legal "spirit caramel" is sometimes used to darken an otherwise lightly colored whisky. Sherry aged whisky is usually darker or more amber in color, while whisky aged in ex-bourbon casks is usually a golden-yellow/honey color.

The late 1990s saw a trend towards "wood finishes" in which fully matured whisky is moved from one barrel into another one that had previously aged a different type of alcohol (e.g., port, Madeira, rum, wine, etc) to add the "finish".

The selection of casks has a profound effect on the character of the final whisky. Single malt Scotch is too delicate to be aged in new oak casks, as new oak would overpower the whisky with tannin and vanillin, making it overly astringent. Thus used casks are needed.

Bourbon casks made from American oak impart a characteristic vanilla flavor to the whisky. An important minority of whisky maturation occurs in sherry casks. This practice arose because sherry used to be shipped to Britain from Spain in the casks rather than bottles. The casks were unwanted by the sherry cellars and returning them to Spain was expensive so they were utilized in a variety of ways including Scotch production. Today sherry casks are actually imported for use in aging whisky, but they account for only seven percent 7% of all casks imported for such purposes.

In addition to imparting the flavors of their former contents, sherry casks lend maturing spirit a heavier body and a deep amber colour. For this reason, single malt Scotches that have been matured in sherry casks are especially prized by blenders, as they give a blend a roundness and richness. Modern shipping techniques have reduced the supply of wooden sherry casks to such an extent that the Macallan Distillery builds casks and leases them to the sherry cellars in Spain for a time, then has them shipped back to Scotland.

Chill filtration

A final step in whisky production is "chill filtration". This is a process in which the whisky is chilled to near 0°C (32°F) and passed through a fine filter before bottling. This removes some of the compounds produced during distillation or extracted from the wood of the cask, and prevents the whisky from becoming hazy when chilled, or when water or ice is added. Chill filtration also removes some of the flavor and body from the whisky, which is why some consider chill-filtered whiskies to be inferior.

Bottling

With single malts, the now properly aged spirit may be "vatted", or "married", with other single malts (sometimes of different ages) from the same distillery. The whisky is generally diluted to a bottling strength of between 40% and 46%.

Occasionally distillers will release a "Cask Strength" edition, which is not diluted and will usually have an alcohol content of 50–60%.

Many distilleries are releasing "Single Cask" editions, which are the product of a single cask which has not been vatted with whisky from any other casks. These bottles will usually have a label which details the date the whisky was distilled, the date it was bottled, the number of bottles produced, the number of the particular bottle, and the number of the cask which produced the bottles.

To Be Continued.

GIGGLES

Herpes!

The Jewish sisters-in-law meet at their weekly session at the beauty shop. Ruth says to Golda, "Such news I got for you, Golda! My Irving is finally getting married. He tells me he is engaged to this wonderful Jewish girl, but he thinks the poor darling may have some strange illness called herpes."

After offering congratulations, Golda says to Ruth, "So, Ruthie, do you have any idea what is this herpes, and can your Irving catch it?"

Ruth answers, "God forbid! But his Papa and I are just so happy to hear about his engagement. You

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know how we've all worried about him. It's past time he's settled with a nice girl. As far as the herpes goes, who knows?"

"Well," Golda says, "I have a very fine medical dictionary, you know, Ruthie. I'll just run home right now and look it up and call you."

Golda goes home, looks it up, and calls Ruth excitedly, "Ruth! Ruth! Thank goodness, I found it. Not to worry! It says herpes is a disease affecting the gentiles!"

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

RIDDLE

The riddle in the last issue was:

Before the Days of Motor Cars, a man rode into town on his Horse. He arrived on Friday, spent three days in town and left on Friday.

How is that possible?

Did you get the answer?

Anyway Steve Foonberg, B.H.P.D. did and was the first one to answer correctly. The horse's name was Friday. Also congratulations to Bonnie Bresalier, our "National Webmaster" who also emailed the correct answer by stating "I always wanted a horse by the name of Friday."

NOW for this issues riddle:

How can you quickly find out what is so unusual about this paragraph? It looks so ordinary that you would think that nothing is wrong with it at all and, in fact nothing is. But it is unusual. Why? If you study it and think about it you may find out, but I am not going to assist you in any way ... you must do it without coaching. No doubt, if you work at it for long it will dawn on you...who knows? Go to work now and try your skill.

Email your answer to marvgoldsmith@msn.com.

SHOMRIM SOCIETY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

The Shomrim Society of Northern California was admitted as a member of the National Conference of Shomrim Societies at its annual meeting in December. This chapter is under the leadership of Jerome Cobert, a Berkeley Police Officer. Simon Silverman, a San Francisco Police Department Lieutenant, and Eric Thomson, a Sergeant in the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department are the Vice Presidents. Northern California has several of our former members, Vadim Rotberg, Gordon Perlow and Keith Kops. If any of you know of others in the Northern California area (now defined as North of San Luis Obispo County) who are active or retired law enforcement officers, prosecutors, etc. please have them contact Jerome at P.O. Box 1702, Sebastopol, CA 95472 or his e-mail jcopd1@comcast.net for membership information in what is going to be a very active chapter. I had the pleasure of meeting Jerome recently and he is an enthusiastic individual with some great ideas and programs for his chapter.

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.

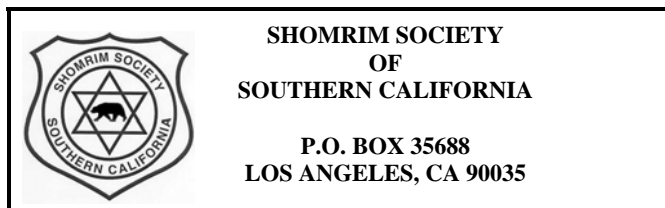
The National Conference of Shomrim Societies has a new website due to the efforts of our national webmaster Scott Bresalier: www.nationalshomrim.org. Visit the new website and sign the guestbook and leave your comments.

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.

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APPLICATION Please Print

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Please place check mark in front of choice:

- \$18 Initial Membership
- \$36 Renewal Membership
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How did you hear about the Shomrim Society of Southern California?

What can the Shomrim Society do for you?

SIGNATURE	DATE
_____	_____

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

Renew Now For 2008!

**COPY THIS PAGE AND RECRUIT
A NEW MEMBER!**

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 \$36.00. 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.

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HOLD THE DATE! MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

SHOMRIM SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

ANNUAL INSTALLATION BANQUET

TUESDAY, April 15, 2008

6:00 P.M.

HONORING AND BESTOWING MEMBERSHIP

ON

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

FIRST ASSISTANT CHIEF OF POLICE

JAMES P. McDONNELL

&

HONORING

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Los Angeles County Sheriff

Cocktails and Hors d'oeuvres: 6:00 P.M.

Choice of Prime Rib or Salmon

Covert \$80.00 per person

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	
		Baton	
EDUCATION EXPENSE		Ammunition Holder	
Tuition		Ammunition Magazines & Clips	
Books and Supplies		Keepers	
		Key Holder	
TELEPHONE		Badge Tabs	
Message Units		Belts	
Coin Telephone		Holsters	
		Badge Holder	
PUBLICATIONS		Citation Book	
Thomas Guide		Patrol Box	
Davis Books		Whistle	
Penal Code		Mace Case	
Manuals & Journals		Bullet Proof Vest	
		Duffle Bag	
UNIFORMS		False Arrest Insurance	
Pants, Shirts & Jackets		Brass & Copper Cleaners	
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Rain Gear			
Hats, gloves, Belts & Ties		TOTALS TO SCHEDULE A	
Name Tags & Emblems			
Shoe Shine Kit		MILEAGE AND TRAVEL EXPENSE	
		Station to court Mileage	
UNIFORM MAINTENANCE		Miles	
Cleaning & Laundry		Education Mileage	
Tailoring		Miles	
Uniform Repairs		Special Detail Travel Expense	
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