



AMERICAN VETERANS OF ISRAEL LEGACY CORPORATION

PRESERVING THE LEGACY OF AMERICAN AND CANADIAN
VOLUNTEERS IN ISRAEL'S WAR OF INDEPENDENCE

136 East 39th Street, New York, NY 10016

Winter 2012

A MESSAGE FROM WORLD MACHAL CHAIRMAN SMOKY SIMON

I would like to report briefly on a few matters:

THE LEGENDARY "BUZZ" BEURLING

I recently returned from Canada. In my capacity as Chairman of World Machal, I was invited by the Royal Canadian Air Force Museum to attend the dedication of a life-size beautiful bronze statue of the legendary George "Buzz" Beurling. "Buzz" was the top-ranking Canadian fighter pilot in World War II, having shot down 32 enemy aircraft and damaged nine. He had been shot down four times, and by the age of 21 he had been awarded the DFM and Bar, DFC, and DSO. Having been brought up in a strict Christian tradition, his family grew to love the Old Testament and the history of the Jewish People. Immediately after the declaration of the State of Israel on May 14, 1948, "Buzz" volunteered as a "Machalnik" to fly for the Israeli Air Force. On May 20, 1948 (only six days after the State of Israel had been declared), "Buzz" and a well-known ex-RAF pilot, Leonard Cohen, were test-flying a Norseman aircraft which "Buzz" and Leonard were going to ferry to Israel, when the aircraft exploded and burst into fire and both pilots were killed instantaneously. The British were suspected of sabotage, as Britain was waging a dirty war against Israel (the British naval blockade, impounding aircraft on their way to Israel, sharing intelligence with the Egyptian Air Force, etc.). My son Saul and I were given a wonderfully warm reception at the ceremony, and the sentiments expressed about Israel were truly heart-warming.

"AISH MACHAL"

On Tuesday September 13th, Tzemach and I had a lovely experience. We were invited to meet and speak to members of "Aish Machal", consisting of 22 members from the U.S., Britain and France. They are currently going through a "toughening-up" course of six weeks. When we met them they were running on the beach and going through some pretty tough exercises. We then met at the Museum of the Irgun Tzvai Leumi. I gave them a 30 minute talk on the War of Independence and Tzemach gave them a talk on the traditions of Machal. They were extremely interested in our stories and asked very interesting questions. The leader of the course, Baruch Chedia, is an earlier American Aish Machal graduate, and their training commander is also an American "Aish Machal" graduate. Tzemach and I spent two delightful hours with these youngsters in discussions and questions and answers. They will sign on for 14 months, but if they decide on Aliyah, they will do three years of service.

LECTURE TO THE ISRAELI AIR FORCE

On October 27th I was invited to give a lecture to veteran pilots and senior officers in the Air Force on the role of Machal in the IAF in the War of Independence. I'm very much looking forward to this opportunity, as my son Saul, who was an F-15 pilot, will be a member of this group. By the way, Saul shot down the first MIG-25 when Syria became involved in the first Lebanon War in the early 1980's. In the same dogfight he nearly killed a second MIG-25, but his missile exploded prematurely.

MACHAL 1956-65

Tzemach told the story of "Machal 1956-65" to the Aish Machal Group. Members of the 1956-65 Group serve on the World Machal Committee, and I am pleased to report that they are acting as a liaison with the groups of new Machalniks coming through to serve in the IDF, known popularly as "Machal 2000", or the "New Generations of Machal".

GENERATIONS OF MACHAL

As you are aware, Machal volunteers have participated in Israel's wars and conflicts from Aliyah Bet and the War of Independence (1948-49) to date. Approximately 200 Jewish volunteers have been coming from abroad every year to serve in the Israel Defense Forces since about the year 2000. It is our aim to increase the number of volunteers from abroad by telling them about the great story and tradition of "MACHAL". "Generations of Machal" has been created on Facebook by Doddie Gordon (Machal 1956) at this link: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/generations-of-Machal/272679762744148?sk=wall>.

(The link can be viewed even if you are not a member of Facebook). You can assist by viewing and promoting this link. Doddie can be reached at d.gordon1935@gmail.com

MACHAL EXHIBIT AT BEIT HATFUTSOT MUSEUM IN TEL AVIV

The long awaited Machal Exhibition is scheduled to open at the Tel Aviv Beit Hatfutsot Museum (also known as the Museum of the Jewish People) on Friday, April 27, 2012. We are presently working with the curator and members of Beit Hatfutsot. We will of course keep you in the picture and look towards your material support to realize this important project.

Smoky Simon
Chairman, World Machal

THE ORIGIN OF THE MACHAL ORGANIZATION IN ISRAEL

by Joseph Warner

The other night I called Ralph Lowenstein to discuss a Machal matter with him. During our conversation, the fact that there was an error in the Efreim Segal article published in our latest newsletter came up; at least an error according to me. This led to other Machal subjects being discussed and I explained that I had lived in Israel for many years following the birth of the State. Until 1968, there was never an official mention made about the existence or the contribution made by the Machal in 1948. There was no proper Machal organization either at that time, but various Machalniks met from time to time. As a matter of fact, one of the usual subjects of conversation at those get-togethers was the lack of such recognition.

All of this changed after the Six Day War in 1967. The fact is that the Israeli government had decided to hold the 1968 Independence Day parade in both the old and the new cities of Jerusalem. One of our volunteers (I believe it was Smoky Simon) received a call from the Ministry of Defence informing him that Machal would be given a place of honor and that they would assist us in holding a one week reunion. So the first thing we did was hold a meeting with as many Machal chaps as we could find. The result was the formation of a proper organization with an executive board consisting of eight members - one from each of eight countries. The countries that made up the executive board provided one member from each of the following: United States, Canada, South Africa, Great Britain, Argentina, France, Belgium and Denmark. It was decided that the executive board would choose the World Machal president. As you all know, we chose Smoky Simon to be our president and he holds that position to this very day. It happens that I was the Canadian on that Board and was present for most that went on before 1967 and the years following.

It was after that date that we were recognized in a variety of ways by the Israeli government,

such as an invitation to the Executive Board to attend Independence Day celebrations at the President of Israel's residence. A stamp was issued about Machal. We received public praise from Prime Ministers such as Rabin, Begin, Sharon and others.

I would like to add here that about 20 years ago, I arranged for a plaque with the names of the 11 Canadians killed during the War of Independence to be placed in the rotunda of the main Jewish Community Centre here in Toronto. I invited the Consul-General of Israel to be the keynote speaker. It was the first time I had ever heard an official of the Israeli government say in public, "In my opinion, if it had not been for the Machal Volunteers, I am not sure that we would have won that war".

I returned to Canada in 1973 but kept in close touch with the Israel office which is now known as Machal World Headquarters and I must say they have accomplished much in the ensuing years, especially in creating the Machal monument at the Burma road where they hold an annual memorial service for all our fallen volunteers.

KOL HAKAVOD TO ALL OF THEM.

AL SCHWIMMER'S CALIFORNIA RECRUITS

By Christine Ondra

SMUGGLING AIRPLANES, BUILDING A SECRET AIR FORCE, AND RUNNING GUNS FOR THE HAGANAH

At the end of World War II, America breathed a deep sigh of relief, as the returning soldiers set about trying to get their lives back to what they were before the war. Well, not exactly. That was only true of a certain part of the population. Others, had a deep feeling that the plight of refugees, and the camp survivors in particular, needed to be resolved before the war was really concluded. A small group of these people were not of the Jewish faith, but had a strong personal sense of humanity

combined with a taste for adventure. Please remember as you read this, that all American citizens that took part in the 1948 War for Israeli Independence, put not only their lives in jeopardy, but their U. S. citizenship and risked prosecution, large fines and jail sentences.

The heroes of this piece are Mike Ondra, and his pals, Gardner Barker, Fredrick Dahms, Robert Dawn, William Postell, Alfred Pozzoli, Robert Pucher and Templeton Taylor, most of whom were trained airplane mechanics, veterans of the U.S. Army Air Corps. Being fascinated by the budding aircraft manufacturing industry and new airline companies being started, they all gravitated to Southern California's aeronautics industry, and Mike, Shorty, Bob and T. Taylor met at Pacific Overseas Airlines. They worked together for a time, and developed a smoothly operating team. In 1948 they were approached by Al Schwimmer, ostensibly to start a new airline based in Rome, Italy. Little did they know that they would be building a secret air force, running guns from Czechoslovakia to Israel for the Haganah, and later air lifting refugees from some of the hell holes of this earth to safety in Israel.

Here are some of the vignettes of those days that bring this small bit of history to life, as told to me by my late husband, Mike Ondra.

F.B.I. at the end of the runway..

On March 26, 1948, President Truman signed a Proclamation requiring the licensing of all aircraft for export as well as military supplies for shipment overseas. The embargo was to become effective on April 15th. Exporting war materials to foreign countries was now against the law. Al Schwimmer had already purchased a number of planes and spare parts for his "new airline." Mike and the other mechanics were hard at work repairing and refurbishing the planes and all of their equipment. By now, time was getting short. They had only 20 days to finish the work on the last few planes. They worked long hours into the night, slept on cots in the hangars, and started all over again just a few hours later. A lot of coffee was consumed. So much so, that one of the fellows quipped

that if they didn't finish soon, Mike's blue eyes would soon turn "coffee" brown. As the deadline grew near the work became more and more frantic. In the dark of night a mysterious large black car had appeared at the end of the runway. They had just two more planes to finish, and they had to be in the air before midnight on April 14th. All were dog tired. Just a few more hours... The mysterious car was still lurking on the runway. (It was the FBI.) It was joined by a large number of Customs Marshalls waiting for midnight to impound what they could. No time for test runs. No time for safety checks. No time for "shake down" cruises. It was 11:45 pm and two planes stood ready for takeoff. The first of the two planes taxied into takeoff position, headed down the runway and was airborne. There was just one more to finish up, but not enough time. Work, work, work. ...then it was midnight. Unfortunately the very last plane was confiscated by the agents.

Airlifting Guns from Czechoslovakia To Israel

Following the successful landing of the planes at the airfield at Zatec (code named Zebra) Czechoslovakia, the next phase of the project was to bring armaments to the fledgling IDF in Israel. This was just a bit sticky, as the boys had no passports or identity papers of any kind and the country was in the clutches of the Communists. After a number of successful gun runs to Israel, the Czech government had become aware of the operation and decided to curtail it.

From a Job, to an Adventure, to a Cause.

This all started as a job and quickly became an adventure. As the real purpose of the "new airline based in Rome" unfolded, some of the men turned tail and quit. When Mike and his pals understood the "real job," it became their cause too. For Mike, who was born in Europe and grew up in the United States, the idea of serving in the cause of freedom for persecuted people had a very special meaning. The rebirth of the State of Israel is the single most important event in the last 2,000 years of human history. I am proud to know some of the men who helped bring this about.

Note: May I suggest reading Evelan Dahms' book "Gutsy Guys and Rattletrap Planes That Helped Save a Nation".

AL SCHWIMMER; ISRAEL'S AVIATION LEGEND

Al Schwimmer, the American-born founder of Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), died in Israel on June 11, 2011, at age 94. He is survived by his wife, Rena, two children and a number of grandchildren. During World War II he served as a flight engineer in the U.S. Air Transport Command. Schwimmer was a Machal volunteer from Bridgeport, Connecticut who served in the Israeli Air Force during the War of Independence. While in the U.S., he purchased surplus planes for Israel, including C-46 Commando transport aircraft, Constellations, Skymasters and B-17 heavy bombers, icons of the World War II U.S. Air Force. He also recruited veteran pilots and crews to fly the planes in a circuitous route to Israel (to avoid having them impounded). He was successful in acquiring about 30 surplus war planes. Some were incorporated immediately into the Israeli Air Force. Others were used to transport war material, including disassembled fighter planes, from Czechoslovakia to Israel. One of the B-17s bombed Cairo on the way to duty in Israel. In 1950, upon his return to the U.S, he was convicted of violating the U.S. Neutrality Act and was fined \$10,000 in addition to losing his voting rights and veteran's benefits. He never sought a Presidential pardon since he believed that what he had done was in line with U.S values and precedent in World War II (i.e. material shipped to Britain and the Soviet Union to fight the Nazis). He received a full pardon from President Clinton in 2000. The pilots and flight engineers he recruited became the nucleus of the Israel Air Force. After the war, some of the planes he had acquired formed the foundation of El Al Airlines. Living in Israel, he was instrumental in maintaining Israel's reputation in advanced technology through his management of Israel Aerospace Industries, (IAI), Israel's largest industrial complex. President Shimon Peres called Al Schwimmer a "legend... who raised a new generation of

engineers". David Ben-Gurion described him as the Diaspora's "most important contribution to the survival of Israel."

Si Spiegelman and Ralph Lowenstein (Excerpts from *Jerusalem Post* June 12, 2011, Eulogy by Smoky Simon)

SYD COHEN; LEGENDARY CO-FOUNDER OF IAF

The man who said to tell "the damn Nazis that they were fighting a Jew" when he was in the middle of a dog fight with German airplanes during World War II has died at the age of 90. Dr. Sydney (Syd) Cohen received the nickname the "Flying Rabbi of World War II" because of the long beard he sported while flying combat missions for the South African Air Force. During Israel's War of Independence he served with Machal and became one of the founders of the Israel Air Force's first combat squadron, the 101 Squadron. Smoky Simon, World Machal Chairman, recalls how "Everybody admired him and respected him as a pilot, a leader and a fearless man with a sense of humor." "Syd and the 101 Squadron took part in every major battle of the War of Independence, and after the war he bequeathed the spirit that still reigns today in the Force; the importance of responsibility and intensive training with fantastic instructors". Cohen, who is survived by a wife and three daughters, was born in 1921 in South Africa to a Jewish family with seven brothers and sisters. He enlisted in the South African army at the age of 19 after World War II broke out and was later attached to a squadron operating through the Royal Air Force. Cohen took part in the battle of El Alamein in October 1942 – a battle that marked the beginning of the turning point in favor of the Allied forces. It was in that battle that he also lost two of his brothers, who were also serving in the Force. When the War was over, Cohen received the "Mentioned in Dispatches" award from the King of England and the South African Air Force Commander for his actions during the war. He returned to South Africa to resume his studies in medical school, but then got the call from the soon-to-be Jewish State. Cohen left medical school and in June

1948, he joined the first Israeli flight squadron through the Machal volunteers program and became a pillar of the Corps. The 101 Squadron included Ezer Weizman, as well as volunteers from the US, Canada, England and South Africa. When 101 Squadron leader Mordechai "Modi" Alon was killed in battle in October 1948, Cohen took over at the request of the then Air Force Commander Aharon Remez. He later served as the Commander of the Hatzor Airbase and together with the then Chief of Staff, Yaakov Dori, pinned the pilot wings on the new 101 Squadron pilots in 1949.

Syd later returned to South Africa to complete his degree in medicine, and in 1965 made Aliyah and worked as a doctor at the Tel HaShomer Medical Center. He also served as the Chief Medical Officer of El Al, a position he held until his retirement at the age of 85. During the Six Day War and Yom Kippur War he served as an Airborne Combat Medic and as a reservist he laid the groundwork for the Emergency Aerial Medicine unit.

Source: Excerpts from Smokey Simon's Eulogy.

OBITUARIES & REMEMBRANCES

BEN HAGAI STEUERMAN; A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Benjamin Hagai Steuerman passed on as a proud Jew on August 19, 2011. He was 90 years old, but he lives on in his wife Miriam; children Gilia, Shelly and Amiel; grandchildren Dan, Ezra, Talia, Matan, Hagit, and Elijah; and one great grandchild, Liah. Ben was born in New York in 1921. He was accepted into King's Point and served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, earning the rank of Lieutenant while serving as Chief Engineering Officer. After one war ended, Ben served as a Machal volunteer in Israel's War of Independence. During the war in Israel, Ben helped bring in displaced European Jews while also helping build the Israeli Navy. Ben later dedicated his life to fundraising, serving in executive leadership roles for many Jewish and secular causes and charities.

DAVID GEN; ALTALENA VETERAN

David Gen, 87, died on May 16, 2011. David was an ensign in the U.S. Navy and served for six years in the U.S. Merchant Marine Corps. He served as a Lieutenant in the USNR sailing with the Pacific fleet. He was proudest of his service in the War for Independence for the State of Israel. He joined the *American League for a Free Palestine*, supporters of the Irgun Zvai Leumi (IZL) underground organization in English mandate Palestine and sailed on the fabled ship *Altalena*, bringing fighters and weapons to Israel. David Gen served with the Irgun in the Jerusalem area. He is survived by his wife Carolyne and four daughters from his previous marriage to Lori Gen (deceased in 1991): Ronit Kalmanor, Yael Gen, Tamar Walsh, Ricka Gen, and four grandchildren, Julia, Laura, Erin and Nolan. He served as the President and Board Member of American Veterans of Israel (AVI) for many years.

MORTON ISAAC LEVINSON; 79TH BATTALION

Morton Isaac Levinson of Hillsborough, California died of a massive heart attack on April 15, 2011. Mort is survived by Barbara Levinson, his loving wife of 55 years, and his three children: Kate Van Zanten (Mark), Daniel Levinson (Nora) and Elise Horwich; six grandchildren and his two brothers, as well as many nieces and nephews. One of the defining moments of Mort's life was, at the age of 17, serving as the youngest American volunteer in Israel's War of Independence. He served in the 7th Brigade, 79th Battalion, with hundreds of other Machal volunteers from the U.S., Canada, England and South Africa. He served in the U.S. Army in Europe. He was a man of deep conviction and that is how he led his life. Mort will be remembered as a generous man of integrity and a loving heart.

NATHAN (NISSAN) BACK; GALILA AND IDF MEDICAL SERVICES

A native of Philadelphia, living in retirement in Israel, Nissan Back died at age 83. He is survived by his wife Toby Ticktin Back and four of their children: Ephraim, Aaron, Sara and Rachel. They have nine grandchildren, five of whom are Sabras. Nate was a retired Professor of

Biochemical Pharmacology at the State University of New York at Buffalo, New York and a scientific consultant. During World War II Nate Back served as a medic in the U.S. Navy. When the State of Israel was declared on May 14, 1948, he and his brother Sam sailed from the U.S. on the *Derecktor*, a 5,000 ton World War II surplus troop ship, now flying under the Panamanian flag. They joined 43 other American volunteers who signed up as able-bodied seamen and sailed to France where they picked up over 1,200 Holocaust survivors for the crossing to Israel. Later, sailing under the Israeli flag, the ship was renamed the Galila and transported 11,000 immigrants from Cyprus internment camps to Israel over 100 days. Upon arrival in Haifa, the Back brothers joined the IDF as Machal volunteers. Nathan served in various military hospitals providing medical support for wounded soldiers. His brother, Sam, served in the maintenance section of the Israel Air Force. Dave retired to live in Israel. Each of the Back children has served more than one year in Israel as a volunteer. Rachel immigrated to Israel in 1981.

MACHAL AND ALIYAH BET LEGACY PROJECTS- A PROGRESS REPORT

By Si Spiegelman

Years ago, AVI began to collect information through questionnaires and storing photographs donated by members. The objective was to assemble and document the historical significance of the volunteers who served in Israel's War of Independence. As a result of the persistent efforts of our archivist, Ralph Lowenstein, and supported by the AVI membership, the AVI archives were set up in Gainesville, Florida followed by the exhibition that was a first in informing the public about the North American volunteers who served and the 41 who gave their lives in Israel's War of Independence. Machal West then replicated the exhibition at the American Jewish University in Los Angeles. In 2010, the Machal and Aliyah Bet archive was transferred to the centrally located American Jewish Historical Society in New York City. The AJHS mounted an important exhibition at its Manhattan site documenting

the Machal and Aliyah Bet contribution in the war effort. It opened to the public on January, 19, 2011. The AJHS continues its work on this project by reaching out to veterans and widows for archival material (Susan Malbin (212)294-6167) and is planning conferences on the subject. Important enhancements were made to facilitate research both in the library and on-line. A traveling exhibition is in the planning stage to take the exhibit on the road this year. The work done has had far reaching results. Beit Hatfutsot Museum is now working on a Machal exhibition in Tel Aviv to open on April 27, 2012. It will encompass all of Machal and the countries the volunteers came from. Thus the work in the U.S. that centered on North America has led to an enlarged perspective covering the contribution of the Diaspora in the creation and defense of the Jewish State. The funds and support provided by AVI members and friends is bearing fruit in securing the Machal legacy for future generations.

MACHAL AND ALIYAH BET EXHIBITION AT BEIT HATFUTSOT MUSEUM IN TEL AVIV

With the support of World Machal and the funding help of generous Machalniks, Beit Hatfutsot Museum in Tel Aviv began work on the Machal exhibition that is now scheduled to open on Friday, April 27, 2012, the day after Israel Independence Day (Yom Ha'atzmaut). The exhibition will run through the spring and summer months. The Machal exhibition will leave a footprint for the future about the Machal and Aliyah Bet contribution to the creation and defense of the Jewish State in the 1947-49 struggle. It will ensure that our legacy to future generations will be documented, known and understood. Beit Hatfutsot Museum is a most fitting place to mount this exhibition depicting the heroic and inspiring story of Machal and Aliyah Bet Volunteers from the Diaspora world who came to take part in the struggle for the establishment of the State of Israel and to ensure its continued existence. The exhibit will display historical information in connection with branches of service and prominent figures through photos and relevant memorabilia. It will feature audio-visual

displays, including slide show presentations of scanned photos, video screening of Machal-related documentaries and interviews with Machal veterans, and computer stations with access to Machal websites for viewing and search by visitors. The background narration and texts will be in Hebrew and in English. The AVILC board approved a \$10,000 fund drive as our contribution to the creation of the exhibition at Beit Hatfutsot Museum in Tel Aviv. The budgeted project cost is \$26,000, of which \$15,000 has been donated by European and Israeli Machalniks and supporters. It is our purpose to make up a good part of the shortfall. Please help with a generous donation. This is about US and the cause that we served in bringing about the creation of the Jewish State. It is about the legacy that we want to leave behind... Our footprint in the sand.

Si Spiegelman

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Friends,

Welcome to this special edition of the AVILC Newsletter and thanks to Si Spiegelman for his efforts in putting it together.

We have had an eventful year, highlighted by an exceptional 2011 Mickey Marcus Memorial event at West Point, again ably organized by Si Spiegelman and Rafi Marom. The theme was to honor Christians who joined in the great cause for "no reason" other than "it was the right thing to do." (I cannot think of a better reason. Can you?) Among others, we were privileged to have Duke Labaczewski with us. **Please mark your calendars for the 46th Mickey Marcus Memorial on Sunday, April 29, 2012, honoring the Women of Machal.** We have an all-star line-up for you: Ido Aharoni, Consul General of Israel in New York with official greetings; Keynote speaker Dr. Ruth Westheimer (Haganah Veteran), and local favorite, Naomi Kantey, and others will be there to share their colorful memories of that historic time.

Lastly, it is official. Beit Hatfutsot Museum in Tel Aviv will mount a Machal exhibition that will open on April 27, 2012. We have started a fundraising drive with a target of \$10,000 to

help fund the exhibit. All contributions are welcome. (see mailing instructions below)
Please mail your donation today.

We look forward to an exciting year and welcome your suggestions for the growth of the organization.

With good wishes to all and with a special expression of gratitude to all active Machalniks for your steadfast support.

Jeff Margolis, AVILC President

**MACHAL EXHIBITION AT BEIT HATFUTSOT
MUSEUM IN TEL AVIV
PLEASE HELP MAKE IT HAPPEN!
YOUR CONTRIBUTION IS ESSENTIAL...**

Dear Reader;

You will note that the format and content level of the AVILC newsletter is changing. This is necessary to reduce the cost of the newsletter that we are distributing free of charge. Contributions from readers are greatly valued as a token of appreciation and support. Our readership is dwindling as the veterans are aging and our bank balance is consequently shrinking. If you are receiving this newsletter delivered by the U.S. Postal Service, but can receive it via e-mail, please help and send your e-mail address to avimachal@aol.com

***As always, we welcome your letters, suggestions and support.
Thank you.
The Editor***

**Please make your checks payable to "American Friends of Beit Hatfutsot"
Your donation is fully tax-deductible
and will be acknowledged by
American Friends of Beit Hatfutsot.

Mail your contribution today to:
American Veterans of Israel Legacy Corp
Bnai Zion
136 East 39th Street
New York, NY 10016-0914**

AVILC EVENTS UPDATE FOR 2012

Salute to Col. Orde Wingate at Arlington Cemetery, Washington, DC on Sunday, April 22, 2012.

Memorial Service at the Machal Monument at Shar'Hagai, Israel on– Wednesday, April 25, 2012.

Opening of the Beit Hatfutsot Machal Exhibition in Tel Aviv, Israel on Friday, April 27, 2012.

Mickey Marcus annual Memorial Service at West Point on Sunday, April 29, 2012 at 10:00 a.m.

"Salute to Israel Parade" in New York City on Sunday, June 3, 2012.

Hanukkah event at The Brotherhood Synagogue in NYC on Sunday, December 9, 2012 (tentative date).

Further announcements will be available about each event via e-mail. Please register by sending your name and e-mail address to avimachal@aol.com or calling (646) 298-8147.