

AJC Update

American Jewish Committee • A Century of Leadership



**The American
Jewish
Committee**

**San Francisco
Bay Area
Chapter
Northern
California Region**

**FALL 2005
Newsletter**

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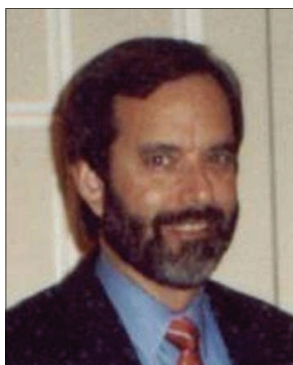
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President's Column



Steven Kornetsky

We are also presented with the challenge of creating opportunities for more involvement by our members.

I would like to thank Richard S. E. Johns for his outstanding leadership over the past two years and look forward to his continuing leadership.

I would also like to welcome the newly elected board members and the new officers installed at the chapter's 60th Annual Meeting held in June.

The chapter is especially proud and excited as we launch our unique AJC Leadership Institute in September. During the nine monthly sessions with national leaders, including Shula Bahat, National Associate Director, Jason Isaacson, Director of International and Government Affairs, and Hillel Neuer, Director of UN Watch in Geneva, these 36 younger men and women will learn the full dimension portrait of the organization, where it is headed and how to be effective leaders for AJC and the entire Jewish community.

Reaching out to those communities where we can find common issues to build bridges must

continue and we must find new ways to build bonds with rapidly growing new communities, in particular, Indian-Americans. I also hope that we can begin productive dialogues with moderate Moslem leaders in the Bay Area.

The Contemporary Jewish Life Committee has arranged for a visit by Dr. Steve Bayme, Director of AJC's Contemporary Jewish Life department and the Koppelman Institute on American Jewish-Israeli Relations, in October. We plan to host a program with Dr. Bayme in the East Bay as well as in San Francisco.

One group that I would like to see become more involved with AJC is the Orthodox community. They are an essential part of the Jewish fabric and our programs should reflect the totality of Jewish communal life.

The International Relations Committee and the Israel Advocacy Task Force will be considering a consulate hosting program whereby a committee member becomes a host for a new Consul General for the length of their term. It is important to make the diplomats feel welcome and for AJC to build friendships to insure that we have avenues of communication open.

The effectiveness of our efforts relies so much on the talented staff in the AJC office: Executive Director Ernest Weiner; Associate Director Kelly Ramot, and the person who insures that everything moves seamlessly, Office Manager Linda Twain.

I encourage every member to become involved in all of our programs. I know that you will find the AJC's work to be stimulating and rewarding as we continue our mission to strengthen the Jewish community here, nationally, in Israel and around the world.

Steven Kornetsky

**Are you about to become a grandparent for the first time?
Has someone you love recently gotten engaged or married?
Has someone you know recently lost a loved one?**

Why not make a donation to AJC in their honor, in their memory, or as a thank you for your own good fortune? All contributions are tax-deductible and an acknowledgement card is always sent. Donations can be made for any occasion: marriage, birth, brit milah, b'nai mitzvah, graduation, grandparenthood, or in memoriam. It is a wonderful way to let a loved one know you care. Please contact AJC at 415-777-3820 for more information.

Upcoming Events • Save the Date

September

- *7 Israel Advocacy Task Force and International Relations Committee meeting with Deputy Consul General of Israel Omer Caspi*
- *15 Jewish community reception with San Francisco Board of Supervisors President Aaron Peskin*
- *19 Executive Committee Meeting*
- *26 Development Committee Meeting*
- *26 Board of Directors meeting*
- *27 Opening session of AJC Leadership Institute with Shula Bahat, National Associate Executive Director*
- *28 "The Other War: Israelis, Palestinians, the Struggle for Media Supremacy" with author Stephanie Gutmann*
- *29 "Countering Biases against Jews and Hindus on the College Campus"*

October

- *17 AJC Leadership Institute with Rabbi Andrew Baker*
- *17 Board of Directors meeting*
- *20 ACCESS Steering Committee meeting*

November

- *2 Learned Hand Dinner honoring Jerry Falk*
- *3 AJC Leadership Institute with Jason Isaacson*
- *21 Board of Directors meeting*



President Bill Clinton addresses the **99th AJC National Annual Meeting** in Washington DC on May 6, 2005. Additional speakers included Ambassador Dennis Ross; John Negroponte, US Intelligence Chief; Paul Wolfowitz, US Deputy Secretary of Defense; Terry George, film director *Hotel Rwanda*; John Leo, contributing editor of *US News & World Report*; Deborah Lipstadt, professor of Holocaust Studies at Emory University; and Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, Archbishop of Washington. Mark your calendars for **AJC's 100th Annual Meeting on May 2-5, 2006!**

David Harris Addresses Chapter's 60th Annual Meeting

Chapter members and guests gathered at the Four Seasons Hotel on June 9 to celebrate the San Francisco Bay Area chapter's 60th annual meeting. AJC National Executive Director David Harris addressed the standing room only crowd.

Robert S. Stein was presented with the 2005 Lloyd R. Sankowich Leadership Award for his outstanding dedication and service to AJC and the Jewish Community.

Steven Kornetsky, a long time active member of the chapter, was installed as Chapter President. In addition, the chapter installed a number of new officers. New Vice Presidents are Vincent B. Feher, Rachel E. Teisch, and Helene Zinn. Mark Bostick was installed as Treasurer and Seth Skootsky as Secretary. Immediate past chapter president Richard S. E. Johns now serves as chair of the executive committee. New board members are Sandra Feher, Alex Gerson, Jonathon D. Graf, Nancy Price, Arthur L. Roth, and Amy Sosnick. 2004 Lloyd Sankowich honoree Rachel Teisch served as chair of the meeting.

Before the annual meeting, David Harris met with select leaders and members of ACCESS, AJC's emerging leadership group, as well as with the participants of the AJC Leadership Institute.



New board members L-R: Roth, Graf, Sosnick, Gerson, Feher and Nominating Committee Chair Harry Kirsch (Price not pictured)

New National Website Launched

AJC has launched a new national website. The new site can be navigated with much greater ease allowing members and supporters to conveniently access the plethora of information available on the site. Additionally, you can now securely join and contribute to AJC online. AJC's internationally acclaimed publications can also be purchased through the website as well. You can visit and explore the redesigned site at www.ajc.org. Don't forget to visit the chapter's website at www.ajcsanfrancisco.org regularly for postings of upcoming meetings and events.

Since much of the communication to chapter members is now through email, it is vital that we have your email address. Email us at sanfrancisco@ajc.org so you don't miss out on AJC activities!