

# The Planned Giving Newsletter of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

# Generations



December 3, 1945 farewell dinner for Major Irving Heymont (pictured third from the left), marking his departure as administrator of the Landsberg DP Camp.

USHMM courtesy of Col. Irving Heymont

## An Unassuming Hero's Legacy

"The camp is filthy beyond description. Sanitation is virtually unknown. Words fail me when I try to think of an adequate description... The people of the camp themselves appear demoralized beyond hope of rehabilitation. They appear to be beaten both spiritually and physically, with no hopes or incentives for the future..."

These words were written in September, 1945 by Col. Irving Heymont to his wife Joan, describing the conditions at the Landsberg Displaced Persons Camp, the largest DP camp in Europe. At the young age of 27, he was tasked with serving as its commander, providing the survivors with the opportunity to regain their dignity and self-determination.

Many years later, Heymont concluded that "the few months I spent at Landsberg had a greater impact on my outlook on life than any other experience in my career." He learned that "despite the deepest inhumanity suffered, the spirit of a people to survive and recover cannot be crushed." The town of Landsberg and its history continued to play a significant role in his life, and in 1989 they honored him by naming a street *Irving-Heymont Strasse*.

Col. Heymont was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action in 1945, one of his numerous decorations. He and his late wife Joan had two children, eight grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren.

Because of his deep connection with the Holocaust and its aftermath, he

*Continued on page 4*

## INSIDE

**Letter from the director**

**Give and enjoy stable income**

**Legacy of Light Society names new chair**

**Save the date for  
A Day at the Museum  
October 26**

**Upcoming exhibitions**



Officer Stephen Tyrone Johns

Courtesy of the Johns family

The Museum mourns the tragic death of Officer Stephen Tyrone Johns, who died heroically in the line of duty on June 10, 2009. There are no words to express our grief over the loss of a cherished friend and colleague, who served as a special police officer at the Museum for six years.

## From the Director of Planned Giving

The year has been a period of tremendous change. Investment markets and interest rates have fluctuated. A new administration has taken office. Much of the future seems uncertain.



USHMM

George  
Hellman

This year has also been one of great challenge and sorrow for the Museum. A senseless act of violence, fueled by hatred, took the life of Officer Stephen Tyrone Johns on June 10, 2009, in a sacred place of memory. This incident underscores the vital importance and urgency of the Museum's mission. It is more important than ever that the Museum's future be secure and its message clearly communicated.

In this issue of *Generations*, we share information about how, through a charitable gift annuity, you can make a meaningful gift while preserving, or even enhancing, your financial security.

By giving in this way you, in effect, create an "endowment" today. A predetermined rate of payment is made to you for the rest of your lifetime. The remainder will be used to support our permanent endowment fund, which provides annual, ongoing support for all the Museum's endeavors.

For more information about the benefits of a charitable gift annuity, see Naomi Katz's accompanying piece about gift annuities.

*George E. Hellman*  
George E. Hellman



"Tears did not come to my eyes until I saw the people who did what they believed necessary to protect the lives of their neighbors. It was not bravery that drove them, but a recognition of human responsibility. May we all be more like them."

—Museum visitor

## Gift Annuities: A Creative Way to Give and Enjoy Stable Income

Many United States Holocaust Memorial Museum supporters have discovered the benefits of charitable gift annuities. Senior Planned Giving Officer Naomi Katz has worked with many individuals who have given in this way.

Below are a number of questions she is often asked about gift annuities. Call Naomi at 202.488.2681 or e-mail her at [nkatz@ushmm.org](mailto:nkatz@ushmm.org) if you have other questions, or return the attached card for a personalized illustration of the tax and other benefits of a charitable gift annuity for you.



Naomi Katz

**Q.** How does a gift annuity work?

**A.** A supporter simply transfers cash or other appropriate assets to the Museum, and in return receives generous fixed payments for the rest of his or her life. Payments are determined based on age, payment rate, and other factors.

**Q.** Will my payments change from year to year?

**A.** No, the amount of your payment is set when your annuity begins.

**Q.** Are there tax benefits?

**A.** Yes. There can be a combination of income, capital gain, and estate tax savings.

**Q.** Can more than one person receive payments?

**A.** Yes, two people can receive payments from a particular gift annuity. You can designate others to receive payments either with you, instead of you, or after your lifetime.

**Q.** Can I use low-yielding securities to fund a gift annuity?

**A.** Yes. This may allow you to increase your spendable income, since a gift annuity may pay more and be taxed more favorably than other income. There can be additional tax benefits if the securities have increased in value because you avoid the tax on a portion of the capital gain in the property.

*Continued on page 4*

The purpose of this publication is to provide general gift, estate, and financial planning information. It is not intended as legal, accounting, or other professional advice. For assistance in planning charitable gifts with tax and other financial implications, the services of appropriate advisors should be obtained. Consult an attorney for advice if your plans require revision of a will or other legal document. Deductions vary based on applicable federal discount rates, which can change on a monthly basis. Some opportunities may not be available in all states. ©MMIX RFSCO, Inc. All Rights Reserved.



## SAVE THE DATE

### A Day at the Museum

Monday, October 26, 2009

Please join us for a special day of programming:

- Private curator-led tours of special exhibitions *State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda* and *From Memory to Action: Meeting the Challenge of Genocide*.
- Exclusive access to the Museum's conservation lab.
- Roundtable discussions with our scholars-in-residence.

Cost is \$25 per person, lunch included. For more information, please contact Naomi Katz at 202.488.2681 or Juliann Garrett at 202.488.6125. This program is sponsored by The Legacy of Light Society.

### State of Deception: The Power of Nazi Propaganda

Since opening in January, nearly 250,000 visitors have seen this groundbreaking exhibition which reveals how Nazi leaders showed the world new ways of using the weapon of propaganda, communicating seductive ideas to millions of Germans and other Europeans, along with frightful depictions of Jews and those deemed to be threats to the German national ideal.

## We gratefully acknowledge those who have made Legacy of Light Society commitments in 2008.

The following have consented to having their names listed.

June C. Bashkin	Anne Marie Kaufman
Mrs. Mira Becker	Barbara J. Kaye
Lenny Bell	Maryla Orgel Korn
Miriam Citron Burhans	Henry R. Krauss
Helen M. Clawson	Lester J. Marks and Miriam F. Hart
Joyce Stoer Cordi	Werner L. Markus
Benjamin and Selma Cornet	Sally W. Morgan
Dr. Sidney Davidson*	Dr. Alfred Munzer
Sam M. Devinki	Karen S. Perna
Alan Dworkin	Lee Prescott
Rachel L. Einwohner	Walter W. Reed
Seymour K. Fass	Albert A. Rogat
Rafael Feferman	Henry B. Rubin
Gerald M.+ and Mary L. Fisch*+	Stanley Scheller
Mimi Fisz	Sam and Nancy Shamie and Family
Dr. Robert P. Frankenthal	Alan J. Shepherd*
Reneé S. Freemond-Woods	Louis Simon
Audrey Gerson	Ellen B. Sondheim
Constance C. Gilson	Helene Heffler Stolker
Bernard E. Goldberg	Lee Stuart
Dr. Cy Gruberg	Linda and Schuyler Sylvers*
Dr. Zygmunt J. Haas	Richard and Sheila Weilheimer
Thomas J. Innes	Donna Zabel

## Legacy of Light Society Names New Chair



Milton Herson

Former member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council, Arlene Herson of Boca Raton, Florida, will serve as National Chair of the Museum's Legacy of Light Society. Arlene is the producer and host of the award-winning syndicated cable television program, *The Arlene Herson Show*.

Recognizing that her term on the Council was ending, Arlene sought a way to perpetuate her connection with the Museum. She did so by establishing a bequest for the Museum's benefit, thereby joining the Legacy of Light Society. Arlene is dedicated to inspiring others to make the Museum a part of their legacy. "It is our ongoing duty to ensure that for generations yet to come the Museum will always be able to encourage citizens everywhere to break the silence—to speak out—to act against prejudice, antisemitism, and hatred, and to forever remind mankind of the fragility of freedom."

## Stable Income...

*continued from page 2*

**Q.** How secure are my payments?

**A.** The Museum follows the annuity rates promulgated by the American Council on Gift Annuities. The rates anticipate that in addition to earnings on any annuity funds, approximately one-half of the amount contributed will be returned over time to the annuity payment recipients. Payments are made from the funds that are contributed and administered by State Street Global Advisors, the Museum's charitable gift annuity custodian. The assets of the Museum stand behind gift annuity payment obligations.

## Museum Exhibitions Around the Country

**Deadly Medicine: Creating the Master Race**

**Louisville, Kentucky**

University of Louisville,  
Komhauser Health Science Library  
November 13, 2009–February 1, 2010

**Fighting the Fires of Hate: America and the Nazi Book Burnings**

**Clinton, Illinois**

Vespasian Warner Public Library  
December 9, 2009–January 27, 2010

**Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals**

**1933–1945**

**Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

William Way Community Center  
October 9–December 4, 2009

## Hero's Legacy...

*continued from page 1*

always felt passionate about the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's mission, believing that we all have a responsibility to teach this history. Heymont chose to support the Museum's efforts by contributing photographs and oral testimony to the Museum's collection.

He also established three charitable gift annuities that provided him with steady income and other tax benefits during his lifetime and, following his death on March 17, 2009 at age 90, will now support the Museum's endowment. In this way, Irving Heymont's extraordinary legacy lives on.

For a complete listing of events or to view the exhibitions online, please visit [www.ushmm.org](http://www.ushmm.org).

UNITED STATES  
**HOLOCAUST**  
MEMORIAL  
**MUSEUM**

100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW Washington, DC 20024-2126 [ushmm.org](http://ushmm.org)



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**SECURING FUTURE GENERATIONS**  
Learn more at [ushmm.org/endowment](http://ushmm.org/endowment)



# Securing future generations

The **Legacy of Light Society** recognizes individuals who have made a commitment to secure the Museum's future and our timeless cause by including the Museum in their estate plans. Make a bequest or other planned gift today to the Museum's endowment and let your commitment live forever.

**YES, I would like to receive more information** about the Museum's Endowment Fund and how I can secure the future work of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum with a gift that can also help enhance my financial security today.

I would also like to receive complimentary material about:

- Gifts through my will
- Gift opportunities from retirement plans
- Giving through gift annuities

I would like a personal illustration of how a charitable gift annuity would provide me payments for life. Please indicate the amount(s) you would like illustrated:

\$10,000    \$25,000    \$50,000    \$100,000    Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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name (please print)

birth date

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name of second individual (optional)

birth date

I have already included the Museum in my will or other estate plans.

Please enroll me as a member of the **Legacy of Light Society**.

I would consider including the Museum in my estate plans.

I am interested in making a gift to the Museum's Annual Fund and would like a Museum representative to contact me.

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name (please print)

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e-mail (optional)

telephone (optional)

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address

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city, state

zip

*This information will be kept strictly confidential.*



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