GALA 2015
Honoring
Rabbi Ira Budow & Dr. Susan Fuchs
Jack Engelhard
Howard & Patti Klein Katzoff
Shani Weiss
Education
Advocacy
Outreach
Wednesday, October 21, 2015
Tribute Book
"The Star-Spangled Banner"

Oh, say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight, O'er the ramparts we watch'd, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare,
the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
O, say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave?
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Hatikva

Kol od balevav p'nimah
Nefesh Yehudi homiyah
Ulfa'alev mizrach kadinah
Ayn ftzion tzofyah
Od lo avdah tikvatenu
Hatikva bat shnot alpayim
U'hoyt am chofsih b'artzeni
Eretz Tzion v'Yerushalayim

As long as in the heart within,
The Jewish soul yearns,
And toward the eastern edges,
onward, an eye gazes toward Zion.
Our hope is not yet lost,
The hope that is two thousand years old,
To be a free nation in our land,
The Land of Zion, Jerusalem.

The Pledge Of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of
the United States of America,
and to the Republic
for which it stands,
one Nation under G-d,
indivisible, with liberty and
justice for all.

"G-d Bless America"

G-d bless America,
Land that I love.
Stand beside her,
and guide her, Thru the night
with a light from above.
From the mountains,
to the prairies,
To the oceans, white with foam
G-d bless America,
My home sweet home.

Prayer for the State of Israel

Our Father who is in heaven,
Protect and Redeemer of Israel,
bless the State of Israel,
the dawn of our deliverance.
Shield it beneath the wings of Your love;
spread over it Your canopy of peace;
send Your light and Your truth to its leaders,
officers, and counselors, & direct them with Your good counsel.
Strengthen the defenders of Our Holy Land;
grant them, our G-d, salvation and
crown them with victory.
Establish peace in the land,
and everlasting joy for its inhabitants.

Remember our brethren, the whole house of Israel, in all the lands of their dispersion. Speedily bring them to Zion, Your city, to Jerusalem Your dwelling-place, as it is written in the Torah of Your servant Moses: "Even if you are dispersed in the uttermost parts of the world, from there the Lord your God will gather and fetch you. The Lord your God will bring you into the land which your ancestors possessed, and you shall possess it; and God will make you more prosperous and more numerous than your ancestors." Unite our hearts to love and revere Your Name, and to observe all the precepts of Your Torah. Speedily send us Your righteous Messiah of the House of David, to redeem those waiting for Your salvation. Shem forth in Your glorious majesty over all the inhabitants of Your world. Let everything that breathes proclaim: "The Lord God of Israel is King; His majesty rules over all." Amen. Selah.
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION
OF AMERICA
GREATER PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT
TRIBUTE GALA
October 21, 2015
HILTON PHILADELPHIA CITY AVENUE
HONORING:
RABBI IRA BUDOW & DR. SUSAN FUCHS
JACK ENGELHARD
HOWARD & PATTI KLEIN KATZOFF
SHOSHANA “SHANI” WEISS
Honorary Co-Chairs
Bonnie Kaye Glenn Segal
Brandon Swartz Hillary Weiss
Gala Event Committee
Chairman: Howard Katzoff
Co-chairs: Heather Berman & Eleanor Weinglass
Lee Bender • Leonard Getz • Morton Gleit
Ruth C. Gleit • Kevin Ross • Gene Shusman
Roberta Weiss • Steve Feldman
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Leonard Freedman • Jon & Jackie Gomberg
Andrea & Richard Gottlieb • Amy & Elliot Holtz • David Kosloff
Francine Lipstein • Russell & Chaya Lyons
Menachem & Sharon Meller • Mark Moster • Gary & Judy Stein
Susan & David Warner • Jay Weinstein
Ronald & Marguerite Werrin • Seth Zwilberg
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♦ National President ♦
Morton A. Klein

♦ Honorary National President ♦
Lewis B. Dashe
Welcome to the Zionist Organization of America - Greater Philadelphia District’s 2015 Gala. The Gala Committee has selected another worthy group of honorees. We are heartened by their work and we thank them for all that they do for Israel and the Jewish people. Rabbi Ira Budow and his wife, Dr. Susan Fuchs; Jack Engelhard; Shani Weiss; and ZOA’s own Howard Katzoff and Patti Klein Katzoff: Each of you is a role model.

While we enjoy this festive evening, lurking is the knowledge of increased deadly Palestinian-Arab attacks against Israeli civilians, growing incitement and threats against Israelis and Jews everywhere, hostility from governments around the world including our own and the potentially catastrophic manifestations of the Iran deal. Yet through it all, ZOA remains strong and steadfast and continues to speak out in the boldest of terms and take action that is unmatched.

While we are grateful for your participation tonight in the Gala and your financial support of this Tribute Book, it is urgent that you participate in as many of our events and initiatives as possible, heed our action alerts, and support ZOA throughout the year both financially and with participation. While the news and developments can be frustrating, this is the time for us all to increase our efforts for Israel.

You can count on ZOA to lead the way via our Greater Philadelphia District and other offices throughout the nation, our Israel Office, our Center for Law and Justice, our Campus Activism Network, our Government Relations Department, our Center for Middle East Policy and our staff, lay leaders and members across the country. We count on you to help us grow.

ZOA is the oldest and foremost organization promoting and defending Israel. Please join our organization to bolster our strength to fight for Israel.

Michael Goldblatt • Morton Klein • Lewis B. Dashe

National Chairman of the Board • National President • Honorary National President
Since its founding in 1897 the Zionist Organization of America has been fighting for the Jewish people and the Land of Israel. Under the leadership of such illustrious presidents as Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis and current National President Morton A. Klein, ZOA works to strengthen U.S.-Israel relations through educational activities; public affairs programs; lobbying on Capitol Hill; outreach to the under-informed; and combating anti-Israel bias in the media, textbooks, and on college campuses. ZOA has more than 25,000 members, with chapters in Philadelphia, Chicago, Cleveland, Dallas, Detroit, Long Island, Miami, Milwaukee, North Jersey, Oakland, Pittsburgh and Washington, D.C.

- ZOA was victorious in its campaign to get the Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights to use Title VI to protect Jewish students on campus who face hostile conditions due to anti-Semitic harassment, intimidation and discrimination. ZOA’s Center for Law & Justice has filed complaints on behalf of Jewish students citing Title VI at Rutgers University, UC Irvine, UC Santa Cruz, and Columbia University.

- ZOA is the only organization that documents and exposes Palestinian-Arab violations of the Oslo Accords and the “Road Map.” ZOA’s efforts for American victims of Palestinian-Arab terrorism led to the passing of the Koby Mandell Act.

- The ZOA has played a key role in Congress regarding victims of terrorism, keeping Jerusalem unified under Israeli sovereignty, fighting Hamas and Fatah, and working on the imposition of sanctions on Syria and Saudi Arabia.

- ZOA’s campaigns have succeeded in defeating hostile critics of Israel nominated for government positions.

- ZOA’s Government Relations Department continues to educate lawmakers and discuss key legislation.

- The ZOA’s growing Campus Activism Network regularly brings student activists to Israel for leadership training programs and is active on college campuses throughout the country. Our Young Professionals Division was created with the vision of gathering leaders, visionaries, advocates and supporters to Israel and combining their efforts with those of ZOA for the benefit of Israel.

*The Wall Street Journal* has called us “The most credible advocate for Israel on the American Jewish scene today.”
ZOA's Greater Philadelphia District

We have been relentless in promoting, supporting and defending Israel throughout our region with activities and initiatives to educate, advocate and reach out on behalf of the people and land of Israel. Our recent activities have included:

- Encouraging persistent calls, letters and emails to lawmakers throughout the region urging opposition to the Iran "deal;"
- Offering presentations and making speeches on Israel, the peace process and media bias;
- Hosting screenings of the documentary "Body and Soul;"
- Meeting with lawmakers and candidates in Washington and locally;
- Making sure Zionism and pro-Israel activism is at the forefront of Jewish communal establishment;
- Leading the regional “Buy Israel” effort, now in its sixth year;
- Working with students on area campuses;
- Monitoring, analyzing and responding to media bias;
- Being interviewed on area radio shows, radio and TV news and in newspapers;
- Having articles and letters by our leadership published in a variety of local, national and international publications, and interacting on social media;
- Monitoring and challenging anti-Israel speakers;
- Staging regular pro-Israel counter-demonstrations outside of the Israeli Consulate for the past 14 years;
- Partnering with Jewish and Christian groups to promote Israel;
- Sending large delegations to National ZOA’s Washington Mission and Brandeis Dinner
- Holding free quarterly meetings featuring prominent speakers; and
- Serving as a member of the Jewish Community Relations Council and taking part in meetings with the Consul General of Israel.

As Israel’s security and survival becomes more perilous, we urge you to join us, become active and support the continuation and expansion of our work. To learn more, phone us at 610-660-9466, email us at office@zoaphilly.org or find us on the Web at www.zoaphilly.org.

We appreciate every member and every donation.
The ZOA Guardians of Israel Award

Israel has a strong, courageous and much-admired army. But the threats to Israel's existence are not limited to the battlefield.

Her enemies are constantly working to undermine and delegitimize Israel, to hurt her economically, and erase the overwhelming public support throughout much of the West for the Jewish State – including here in America. Other adversaries work within the Jewish community to weaken affinity with the Jewish state.

These enemies trade in lies and propaganda. Their weapons are doctored photos, quotes and statistics taken out of context; phony “victims” and staged events for the media; and promises of peace they have no intention of fulfilling.

They are particularly effective against our young, impressionable and under-informed members of the community.

There is also the timeless foe known as complacency.

It is our duty, as people who love Israel, to take on these enemies and counter their gains with education and advocacy and activism.

By writing and talking, demonstrating and lobbying, buying goods from Israel and other acts, we fight back and protect Israel in the war of ideas.

Some go the extra mile, casting aside “political correctness,” rolling up their sleeves, cajoling and nudging and assertively imparting their love for Israel to others. They speak with family and friends, or young people, or congregants, or colleagues about these matters.

They know just the right thing to say to light that spark in an individual or a congregation. Some even take people to Israel to give them a first-hand experience.

They instill pride in Israel and make sure we never forget our Israeli brothers and sisters.

Such people are worthy of the title “Guardians of Israel.”
Rabbi Ira Budow has been the director of Abrams Hebrew Academy for the past 35 years. He began his tenure at Abrams when the school moved from Trenton, N.J. to Yardley, PA. Rabbi Budow has devoted his entire career to Abrams and has assumed multiple roles at the school at various times. In addition to his administrative duties, he teaches, has also coached the girls’ basketball team, and brings his therapy dog, Domino, to school.

Rabbi Budow is a Zionist whose love of Israel encompasses his entire life. He leads the school’s campaign each year to send letters from students to Israeli soldiers as Shalach Manot, a program sponsored by ZOA. He has devoted himself not only to teaching children about Israel and Judaism, but to making Israel come alive to his students. That dedication comes to life each year as he leads the 8th grade graduating trip to Israel. Despite having made the trip for almost two decades, his enthusiasm and creativity never flag. He leads the students up the steps to the Kotel and supervises the dedication of a Torah to the IDF from Abrams Hebrew Academy before each graduation, and it is a moving and wonderful example of his love for Israel and the Jewish people.

Dr. Susan Fuchs is a well-respected child and adolescent psychiatrist. She incorporates the use of therapy dogs into her practice and holds a master’s certification in that field. The use of therapy dogs as part of the treatment process is part of a well-developed and respected program in Israel, and Dr. Fuchs is an enthusiastic supporter of its efficacy in treating her patients. She is a supporter of the Israel Guide Dog Center for the Blind and has visited the Center while in Israel with the Abrams Hebrew Academy annual 8th grade trip.

She devotes free time to volunteering within the community and is currently a member of the Board of Directors of the Rescue Mission of Trenton, an agency that serves the truly needy men and women in that community. Dr. Fuchs previously volunteered her medical services on overseas missions to underdeveloped countries in Latin America and also in Israel as a participant in The American Physicians and Friends for Medicine in Israel. She shares her husband’s love of Israel and Zionism.

The couple have been married for 30 years, and together they share three children and one granddaughter.
The ZOA Amudei Ha’Kehillah Award
(Pillars of the Community Award)

Most communities are like a house. A very large house. Like a house, they have a foundation and many distinct areas, each serving its own purpose. There is an area in public view, and a space that is often unseen by all but a select few.

If the particular community is truly fortunate, it includes pillars to prop it up and lessen the burden on the foundation.

Klal Yisrael has had literal pillars (known as amudim) since the time of the Tabernacle, and figurative pillars even earlier, dating back to the Patriarchs and Matriarchs.

Today, the Philadelphia-area Jewish community is blessed to have among us many people who can be described as “pillars” who are out in front, always reliable to be supportive and serve as role models.

They offer their leadership or their time, their expertise and encouragement, their dollars and their sense.

Typically they are selfless and act out of love for their people or for a near and dear cause. Their devotion and enthusiasm are often contagious, inspiring friends, relatives, and even strangers to try to match their passion, dedication, energy and level of participation in the community.

Often they go about their work unnoticed. But surely, without such individuals, couples, and families, it is quite likely that the community might weaken and sag.

These “pillars” serve our community and the Zionist Organization of America in a variety of ways including by allotting time, energy and creativity to the cause of Israel, ZOA and the community at large. It is only fitting that from time to time, ZOA and the community give back by recognizing their good and important deeds.
Patti and Howard Katzoff, from the moment they met, have shared a mutual love for the Jewish State of Israel. They have devoted a great deal of energy to the wellbeing of Eretz Yisrael.

The Katzoffs have visited Israel more times than they can count, well over 40, and their Time Share residence in Jerusalem is their second home. They are also annual participants in ZOA’s Purim Mishloach Manot Mission, distributing care packages to more than 9,000 IDF soldiers at a variety of bases. In advance of that mission, the Katzoffs lead a campaign to get Jewish day school students to write thank you letters to the soldiers.

Howard and Patti operated six USA BABY stores in the Philadelphia area for more than 25 years. Howard is a member of the Pennsylvania bar and in his “youth” worked using his chemical engineering background as a corporate and patent attorney. Patti is currently the “Discount Queen 44” of E-Bay, and has an educational background and extensive experience in counseling women.

Howard is a former co-president of ZOA’s Greater Philadelphia District and has been chairman of our Gala since its inception. He is a past president of the Congregations of Shaare Shamayim and has served the congregation in many capacities including Capital Campaign chair and Synagogue Merger and Clergy Search chair.

The Katzoffs have been honored by Israel Bonds and were presented with Shaare Shamayim’s Lifetime Achievement Award.

They have three children, Karen, Arthur (Heather) and Robert, and four grandchildren, Zoe, Ava, Brody, and Savannah.
The Future Is Now Award

Many of us are bewildered why it seems that so many young Jews are not interested in Israel and Zionism, or worse: that so many young Jews participate in groups or activities that are actually anti-Zionist and anti-Israel. "How can this be?" we wonder. What kind of parents must they have? What kind of teachers? What kind of rabbi?

Yet there are plenty of young Jews who are engaged -- deeply engaged -- in pro-Israel advocacy and activism. They rarely get the recognition or the spotlight. More established figures tend to get the koved.

When we do see these young people doing what we expect all young Jews to do, we kvell and we proclaim "They are our future."

Yes, we hope they remain engaged, and we of older generations have to help keep them engaged and active in our movement.

But we must not only think of them as the "future." We must acknowledge that they are doing great things in the present and play an important role today. They deserve the recognition and the koved and need to be encouraged.

Thus, "The future is now."

Each one of us can help young Jews to be involved in pro-Israel and Zionist activities. Engage them in conversations about Israel. Ask them what they know and find out what they are learning in school or hearing from their friends or in the media or pop culture — and gently correct wrong information and fill-in knowledge gaps. Mentor them and suggest things they can do, be it posting on social media, helping to inform their friends, contacting lawmakers, monitoring the media and responding to bias and even analyzing their own textbooks and other materials. Help them find Web sites with factual reporting and accurate historical data. Yes, also introduce them to ZOA, bring them to a meeting or along on our annual Washington Advocacy Mission, and purchase a ZOA membership for them as a gift.

Each of us holds the key to a better future for Israel and Zionism and the Jewish community by helping to shape the young people in our lives now.

If you need suggestions for resources or activities, please phone our Office at 610-660-9466.
The Future Is Now Award Recipient
Shoshana “Shani” Weiss

Shani Weiss is a recent graduate of Drexel University. While studying towards degrees in Finance and Management Information Systems, she saw a need for a pro-Israel group on campus. So she founded Drexel's first pro-Israel student organization: Dragons for Israel (DFI) in 2010.

DFI hosted more than 75 diverse events for hundreds of students during Shani's tenure at Drexel including a lecture by Brett Stephens of The Wall Street Journal, initiating Drexel's annual Israel Peace Week, and creating the Tikvah Fellowship - a six week intensive class introducing students to an in-depth history of Israel.

Weiss began her Israeli activism journey as a freshman in college when she attended the Hasbara Mission to Israel and the CAMERA (Committee for Accuracy in Middle East Reporting in America) Leadership Advocacy Israel trip. Inspired by her travels, Shani continued on as a CAMERA Intern, a Stand With Us Emerson Fellow and a Grinspoon Fellow. She has participated in numerous Israel advocacy training missions and conferences with the ZOA and others around the county.

In 2012, she accepted the national David Bar-Ilan Award on behalf of Dragons for Israel for “Most Outstanding Campus Activism.”

Shani currently works as an investment analyst and continues to look for ways to be involved in Israel activism after Drexel.

We need more like Shani Weiss: Young Jews who have a passion for Israel and are engaged in pro-Israel advocacy and activism as a regular part of their lives.
The Ben Hecht Award for Outstanding Journalism

is awarded annually by the Zionist Organization of America to a journalist, author or commentator whose work best exemplifies the principle that guided Ben Hecht: using one’s communication talents in the service of Israel, Zionism and world Jewry.

Previous recipients include David Horowitz, Nonie Darwish, Erick Stakelbeck and Dom Giordano.

Ben Hecht (1894-1964) was a patriotic American who worked tirelessly to save European Jewry from the Nazis, and was a devoted Zionist. His pageants stirred Americans’ souls and inspired people to act.

Early on Hecht was a journalist who covered World War I from Berlin for the Chicago Daily News.

A successful Hollywood writer, Hecht penned more than 70 credited and uncredited screenplays. He won two Academy Awards and was nominated for four others. He also penned 35 books and wrote and produced Broadway plays. The screenplays he wrote or contributed to included: “Wuthering Heights,” “Notorious,” “Gone with the Wind,” “Casino Royale,” “Cleopatra,” “Scarface,” “The Sun Also Rises,” “A Farewell to Arms,” “Guys and Dolls,” “Gunga Din,” “Let Freedom Ring,” “Angels with Dirty Faces,” “Stagecoach” and “A Star Is Born.”

Among his most important books were: Perfidy, A Jew in Love and A Guide for the Bedevilled. He co-wrote the play “The Front Page.” But it is not for these hits that this prestigious award bears Hecht’s name. As Hitler and Nazi Germany threatened America’s European allies and the dangers to European Jewry became known due to the work of Peter Bergson and the Bergson Group, Hecht called attention to the need to help our allies and to try to save Jews. He created articles, plays and pageants to alert and activate the masses.

When America entered World War II, Hecht immediately wrote the production “Uncle Sam Stands Up.” In 1943, Hecht assembled top entertainment luminaries and wrote the pro-Jewish pageant, “We Will Never Die,” performed at Madison Square Garden and staged in five other cities. After the war, Hecht turned to helping re-establish Israel. He wrote the screenplay for the Bergson Group’s production of “A Flag is Born,” which opened September 5, 1946 in New York. It raised nearly a half-million dollars for the American League For a Free Palestine (which supported the Irgun). “Hecht helped organize the Altalena’s mission to bring weapons and immigrants to Israel,” according to Marnie Winston-Macauley.

For more about Ben Hecht, see: http://www.aish.com/j/sod/_of_David_Ben_Hecht.html and http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0372942/
Ben Hecht Award Recipient
Jack Engelhard

Jack Engelhard is one of those rare writers who consistently simultaneously stirs the mind as well as the emotions — particularly when he is writing about Israel and related issues, which he does quite often in both columns and novels.

Engelhard is perhaps best-known in some circles as the author of the best-selling book *Indecent Proposal*, which was made into a successful film. Both the book and the film became international sensations. Engelhard is known in other circles for his hard-hitting staunchly pro-Israel commentaries.

Engelhard is an American patriot and a lover of Zion. His writings reflect his deep devotions to both.

An the age of four, he was brought to America from occupied France — he was born in Toulouse — after his parents managed to flee Hitler.

Once in America, Engelhard established himself as an author of note. His other books include *The Bathsheba Deadline*, a searing first-hand account of anti-Israel media bias; *Escape From Mount Moriah*, his book of memoirs which received many literary citations and a film from the book was honored at Cannes; *The Days of the Bitter End*; and *The Horsemen*. Reviewer John W. Cassell termed Engelhard “A writer without peer and the conscience of us all.”

Today, he continues to write books.

“Home base” for Englehard’s journalism is Israel’s Arutz Sheva/Israelnationalnews.com, from where his columns are syndicated throughout the world.

Previously he had a two-decade career at *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, where he shared top prize for excellence in reporting from the AP and from Sigma Delta Chi — the Society of Professional Journalists, and a four-year stint as editor at KYW-Radio in which he led the station to top ratings.

He has also been published by *The New York Times*, *The New York Daily News*, and numerous other leading publications.

Engelhard has served as an American volunteer for the Israel Defense Forces.

Jack is married to Leslie and the couple have two children, David and Rachel.

Website: www.jackengelhard.com
Master of Ceremonies
Bart Blatstein

We are both fortunate and grateful to not only have Bart Blatstein as our master-of-ceremonies tonight, but also as part of our ZOA Family: as a member of Philadelphia ZOA’s Board, and a National Assistant Treasurer.

Bart Blatstein is a communal leader, a civic leader and a business leader. He is the CEO Tower Developments, a privately held development company. Under his guidance, Tower Investments has become well known for its aggressive and creative urban investments in major projects, as well as its expertise in all aspects of planning, design, construction, financing and leasing. Most recently, Bart set his development focus on the redevelopment of Northern Liberties and established the neighborhood as the place in Philadelphia, to live, work and play. His redevelopment efforts have created jobs, business opportunities, tax revenues and the impetus for more investment in the Philadelphia. He has also recently been involved in projects in Atlantic City.

In his more than 30 years in the real estate industry, Bart Blatstein has earned the reputation as one of the region’s most respected and successful developers. Tower transformed vast tracts of post-industrial properties along Columbus Boulevard into flourishing retail, entertainment, and office development. In Manayunk, his company developed the largest contiguous commercial site along the Schuylkill riverfront.

Blatstein is also very active in array of business, civic and charitable groups. He was a founding member of the Waterfront Developers Council and is a past president of the Jewish Publishing Group board. He serves on the Board of Trustees of Community College of Philadelphia, Temple University’s President’s Advisory Board and Board of Visitors, the Northeast Treatment Centers, Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia where he chairs its Real Estate Division, Israel Bonds and the Technical Assistance Center for Emerging Contractors.

In every sense of the word, Blatstein is a Philadelphian, with passion and vision for the City, its neighborhoods, and its bright future.
National ZOA President Morton A. Klein

Morton A. Klein is National President of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), the oldest pro-Israel group in the U.S., founded in 1897. He is widely regarded as one of the leading Jewish activists in America.

A child of Holocaust survivors, Klein was born in a displaced persons camp in Gunzberg, Germany. He was an economist who served in the Nixon, Ford, and Carter administrations. He has served as a biostatistician at the UCLA School of Public Health and the Linus Pauling Institute of Science and Medicine in Palo Alto, Calif., having worked closely with two-time Nobel Laureate Linus Pauling. He has been a lecturer in mathematics and statistics at Temple University.

Klein is a member of the National Council of AIPAC and a member of the International Board of Governors of Ariel University in Ariel, Israel. Under Klein’s leadership, The Jerusalem Post has called the ZOA “one of the most important and influential groups in the U.S. today.” The Wall Street Journal called the ZOA “heroic and the most credible advocate for Israel on the American Jewish scene today” and added, we should “snap a salute to those who were right about Oslo and Arafat all along, including Morton Klein who was wise, brave, and unflinchingly honest.”

Klein’s successful campaigns against anti-Israel bias in leading textbooks, travel guides, universities, churches, and the media, as well as his work on Capitol Hill, were the subject of 30 feature stories both here and in Israel, including in The New York Times, and Los Angeles Times. His scientific research on nutrition and heart disease was cited by Discover magazine as one of the Top 50 Scientific Studies of 1992.

While a health economist in Washington, Klein was also the first to determine and publicize the dangers of annual mammograms for women under the age of 50, changing national policy in this area, including the reduction of radiation emission from mammograms.

Klein has appeared numerous times on TV and radio, including on NBC National News, Jim Lehrer News Hour, O’Reilly Factor, CNN, Fox-TV, The Kelly File with Megyn Kelly, Erin Burnett OutFront, CNBC, MSNBC, NPR, BBC, C-Span, VOA and Israel TV and radio.

He has delivered more than 400 lectures throughout the world including at Harvard, Yale, Princeton, Stanford, UC/Berkeley, MIT, Columbia, Penn, Michigan, Brandeis, Brigham Young, and at Israel’s Hebrew University, Ben-Gurion University and Ariel University. He has also spoken at the National Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine, General Assembly (Federation) meetings, Israel Bonds, B’nai B’rith Canada, Rabbinic Council of America, JCRC’s and synagogues from coast to coast, and the U.S. Dept. of State’s Distinguished Lecture Series.
A Message from Honorary National President Lewis B. Dashe

In the past, I have occasionally made reference to two quotations: “If you forget the past, you are doomed to repeat your mistakes” and “All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing.” To this I can now add a third: “These are the times that try men’s souls.” For the situation facing Israel today is both frightening and infuriating.

Not only is the U.S. committed to giving $150 billion to Iran, but shockingly, to help Iran protect against any acts of sabotage against its nuclear program. This agreement is with the same ayatollah who, even after the deal was concluded, refers to the United States of America as the “Great Satan” with whom Iran need not have any further contact.

What we must do now is to persistently and consistently increase our efforts, presence and contacts in Washington with our representatives and leaders: That we want them to keep working for changes in interpretation and definitions in the Iran agreement — for the sake of our country, the Middle East and the world as we know it.

In my 96 years, I have perhaps seen and experienced more than my share of anti-Semitism. I have long ago concluded that the world is either openly anti-Semitic or indifferent to the fate of the Jews.

Perhaps under the evidence of the current united front against us, we can finally find the impetus to unite with the self-respect that I think is still deep within us. For I still believe that if we ever unite, we can surprise the world with our imagination, our ingenuity and our creativity.

Am Yisrael Chai!

Lewis B. Dashe
Honorary National President
Message From Board Chairman Gene Shusman

Dear ZOA dinner guests,

Thanks for attending this year’s ZOA Gala. Your support for ZOA is a mitzvah for your children and grandchildren. Let me explain:

THEY are our REAL honorees. It is to them ZOA dedicates all its time, effort, and resources.

I, Gene Shusman, am writing this message just before Kol Nidre services. My heart is heavy. My spirits are still kindled but dim.

I, an American Jew, feel betrayed/abandoned/isolated/alone because of the actions/inaction of many of my fellow Jews, most Jewish organizations, my government and the rest of the world.

I, one of HaShem’s chosen people and Philadelphia ZOA’s board chairman, will never stop promoting a strong Israel: The Jewish homeland. HE has returned his people to after 2,000 years of wandering in the Diaspora.

I … I … I … Oy … Oy … Oy … .

Most Jewish/Zionist organizations choose to sit on the sidelines when issues of importance surface which effect Jews, Israel, American-Israel relations because they don’t want to make waves. NOT ZOA. We have ALWAYS been out front advocating for a safe, secure Jewish homeland.

Recently, when it was much too late, most Jewish/Zionist organizations — realizing the gravity of the Iran deal: Israel’s possible vaporization and the annihilation of yet another 6 million Jews — joined with ZOA to oppose Iran getting nuclear missiles in addition to $150 billion to supply terror groups like Hezbollah, Hamas and Islamic Jihad to finally erase what Muslims call Israel’s creation: the “naqba” (the catastrophe).

ZOA does much with limited resources. We are the gadfly. We do much with little. Lobbying on Capitol Hill, supporting our Jewish children on college campuses, and so much more. If everyone here — YOU — became a member and paid for a membership for their/YOUR children and grandchildren, ZOA’s voice would be much more powerful AND EFFECTIVE.

The future of your children, grandchildren, America and Israel are in YOUR HANDS.

YOU have the power to save the world. What will you choose? The clock is ticking.

With love of Zion, America, my children and grandchildren; thanks for your support,

Gene
Message From Our Co-Presidents

We welcome you and thank you for joining with us this evening as we recognize some preeminent supporters of Israel.

The ZOA is America’s oldest Jewish defense organization. Since 1897, ZOA has been a fearless, determined and outspoken advocate — at first for the right of Jews to live in Eretz Israel as a free and independent nation, and since May 14, 1948, for the right of the modern Jewish state of Israel to flourish in a genuine peace and with security. We also work tirelessly for the Jewish people everywhere.

By being here tonight you are helping to enhance the work we do, perpetuate our storied organization, and add to our many successes.

To our ZOA members: We appreciate your affiliation. To those who are engaged in the work we do as friends or supporters, we are grateful you are a trusted ally, especially in these challenging times when both Israel and the Jewish People are under constant assault, fighting for our very existence and dignity.

To those who are new to ZOA, we hope this will be the beginning of a lifelong relationship. To all of you: It gives us great comfort to know that you join with us in your love for Israel and are willing to act with us.

We also thank the many businesses, families and individuals who support our Gala with ads and notices in this Journal. And our tireless staff, including our indefatigable executive director, Steve Feldman.

There is much work to be done in a variety of venues: the media, schools and campuses, within the Jewish community, politicians and beyond. We must support Israel vocally and publicly by reaching out to the uninformed and under-informed, to reporters and editors and to elected officials. Join us. Become active in ZOA or financially support our work. It is especially important to reach the younger segments of our community to help them become Zionists.

What sets us apart is that we take action. We ask that you actively assist us to not only right the wrongs, but to pro-actively advance Israel’s cause. Israel’s story is full of wonderful achievements including scientific advances, serving as a human rights beacon, and responding to natural disasters around the world — always ready to lend a hand, even to her enemies. There are also the countless steps Israel has undertaken to achieve peace — doing more than would be asked of any other nation. May we all go from strength to strength.

Lee Bender and Kevin Ross — Co-Presidents
Message From the Executive Director

Welcome to our Fifth Annual Gala, a milestone for our organization.

For a few hours we break from making phone calls, writing letters and emails and talking to all who will listen as we try to solve the world’s misplaced animosity against Israel and the Jewish People.

As the leading organization in our region committed exclusively to education, advocacy and outreach on behalf of a secure, strong and vibrant Jewish State of Israel, we find ourselves at the forefront of a struggle against myriad foes here in America and worldwide — including, sadly, within the Jewish community.

The Iran capitulation, the Arabs’ continuing violence against Israelis using rockets and rocks, increasing incidents of Jew-hatred and anti-Jewish rhetoric, campus problems and worsening media malfeasance are but some of the issues and situations that need our attention. That is a collective “our.”

Some still ignore those situations, or figure: “Let someone else take care of it.” We at ZOA are both privileged and proud to be that “someone else.”

Our cause is like the “Tug of War” game we played in our youth. But this is no game. Our enemies are many; they pull with all of their might; they fight dirty. We are pulling too. But each of you must pull your weight or we will all be dragged down. Pull will us: The Philadelphia ZOA Family.

It is my sincere hope that starting tonight, those of you who are members take the opportunity to become more active. To others: Please join us and/or help fund our many initiatives.

Apathy is another foe. For us in America, speech is free. But the cost of apathy is great. With our individual and unified efforts, we can prevail.

I sincerely thank our officers, executive committee and board members — each of whom is a volunteer. Thanks also to our many other volunteers who help during the year; all ZOA members; Mort Klein; my Office assistants, Linda Rosen and Beth-Ellen Kroope; and the businesses, families and individuals who support this Gala and Ad Journal. Please patronize them — mention that you saw their ad in our book. Thank you to our honorees for all that you do for our People. You inspire me. I particularly want to thank Howard Katzoff, who has been my partner in this Gala enterprise since we began. He is a pillar of ZOA as well as of the community, I also want to thank our recording secretary, Heather Berman, who worked on this book with me and created the centerpieces. Thank you HaShem.

Steve Feldman
Message from the Gala Chairpersons

Welcome to the Zionist Organization of America-Greater Philadelphia District’s fifth annual Gala.

In our fifth year as chair and co-chairs of the ZOA Philadelphia’s Gala, we are proud to have these Zionists in our community and working alongside us. All of our honorees actively inspire us as they show their love for Israel through their words and actions. Rabbi Ira Budow and his wife, Dr. Susan Fuchs; celebrated Jack Engelhard; Shani Weiss and Howard and Patti Klein Katzoff are hardworking, tireless individuals who are passionate supporters of Zionism.

Our Gala is Philadelphia ZOA’s chief yearly fundraising event. To our guests, we thank you for your participation tonight as well as for your commitment to Israel and to your support of the ZOA.

There are myriad tasks that have to be accomplished each year to make this Gala a success. There are no words that can describe the gratitude to the many people who have given their time and their talents to work on the many tasks that help tonight become the extraordinary experience that we are enjoying. We especially recognize and appreciate the diligent labor of Executive Director Steve Feldman and office assistants Linda Rosen and Beth-Ellen Kroope. We also recognize our volunteers — those here tonight and those who work throughout the year. You are essential to ZOA. Thank you for stepping up.

We also extend our deepest gratitude to the businesses, institutions, and individuals whose generosity and solidarity you see throughout this Ad Journal, and the elected and appointed officials who have also extended greetings herein. Please take note of these supporters of Israel and ZOA. We hope that the ties between our community and these establishments are mutually beneficial.

We warmly invite you all to continue to work with ZOA in our common efforts to help Israel so that the Jewish state may go from strength to strength, and that the special U.S.-Israel relationship be reinforced. All of ZOA’s energies are focused on educating our youth, developing new initiatives and reaching out to the region’s broader Jewish community to fulfill the goals of a safer, more secure and more prosperous Jewish State of Israel.

Howard Katzoff, chairman
Heather Berman, co-chair
Eleanor Weinglass, co-chair
Thank you

- Heather Berman
- Bart Blatstein
- Barbara Oslick Brown
- Rabbi Ira Budow
- Bobbie Dzubow
- Lew Dashe
- Miriam Einhorn
- Len Getz
- Betsey James
- Howard Katzoff
- Beth-Ellyn Kroope
- Ed Rosen
- Linda Rosen
- Gene Shusman
- Myrna Waldman
- Roberta Weiss
- Eleanor Weinglass
- Wendy Woloshin
- All of tonight’s Gala participants
- Those who volunteered tonight and during the Gala process – particularly for the mailings
- Mort Klein
- Michael Goldblatt
- Gene Shusman
- Lee Bender and Kevin Ross and the other Officers,

- Board and Executive Committee of ZOA-GPD
- The Gala Committee
- Richard Chaitt
- Bruce Fagan
- Chris and the folks at Marathon Printing
- Walt, Joe and the folks at Nuss Printing
- Constantin Raducan
- Randy Schaller
- Amy Westphal
- All of our advertisers

If anyone’s name was inadvertently omitted, we apologize. If you would like to volunteer or get more involved to further the goals of our organization as we strive to help Israel and strengthen the mutually-beneficial U.S.-Israel relationship, please call the Philadelphia ZOA Office at 610-660-9466 or email us at office@zoaphilly.org.
October 21, 2015

SHALOM:

I am exceptionally pleased to send greetings and express my sincere deep appreciation to the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) Greater Philadelphia District on the occasion of this annual Gala event.

Several outstanding people were selected to be presented with well-deserved awards for their support for ZOA and the State of Israel.

I feel privileged to represent Israel to this community alongside such committed individuals and organizations such as ZOA, whose staunch devotion and tireless work on Israel’s behalf is truly inspirational, and very much appreciated.

As the Consul General of Israel to the Mid-Atlantic Region, I wish Mazal Tov to all of the honorees and thank all thank all present for your involvement and love of Israel.

Sincerely,

Yaron Sideman
Consul General of Israel
to the Mid-Atlantic Region

1880 JFK Blvd., Suite 1818, Philadelphia, PA 19103
http://embassies.gov.il/philadelphia
Dear Friends:

On behalf of the State of New Jersey, I am pleased to extend greetings to everyone gathered for the annual Tribute Gala hosted by the Zionist Organization of America – Greater Philadelphia District.

I am proud to be the Governor of one of the most diverse states in the Nation. The vital contributions made by Jewish Americans reinforce the unique social, cultural and economic fabric of our State. Since its inception, the Greater Philadelphia ZOA has provided educational, advocacy and outreach initiatives that enhance the status and visibility of our state’s thriving Jewish American community. I applaud ZOA for providing these programs and for championing causes that are of interest to its members throughout New Jersey and the greater Philadelphia region.

Special recognition is in order for tonight’s distinguished honorees. These individuals have made vital contributions to the success of ZOA and remain strong role models within the Jewish community.

Best wishes for a successful and enjoyable event.

Sincerely,

Chris Christie
Governor
October 21, 2015

Dear Guests and Honorees,

As Governor, it is my pleasure to join with the Greater Philadelphia District of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) in recognizing this evening’s honorees. Rabbi Ira Budow and his wife, psychiatrist Susan Fuchs, author and columnist Jack Engelhardt, former co-president of the Philadelphia ZOA Howard Kastoff and his wife, Pat Kastoff, will all receive awards for their support and service to the ZOA. Additionally, Shani Weiss, a campus pro-Israel advocate, will receive the first The Future Is Now Award.

The Greater Philadelphia Chapter of ZOA is the only local Jewish organization solely dedicated to ensuring that Israel remains a safe and secure Jewish State and preserving a strong U.S.-Israel relationship. The chapter includes eastern Pennsylvania, southern New Jersey, and Delaware. The award recipients have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the Jewish community and have earned the right to be commended for their exemplary service.

Congratulations to the honorees and best wishes for a memorable and enjoyable event.

Sincerely,

Jack A. Markell

Jack A. Markell
August 17, 2015

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to extend warmest regards as the Greater Philadelphia District of the Zionist Organization of America celebrates its 2015 Gala.

This Gala is a remarkable reminder of the dedication of the ZOA and its 2015 honorees to a safe and secure Israel. The bond between Israel and the United States has been and always will be unbreakable. The work of the ZOA in strengthening this relationship and combating anti-Semitism is a true testament to your hard work and commitment throughout these many years. The ZOA’s long existence speaks to the noble ideals and values which have guided the organization since its foundation. These values stand out as a positive example for future generations.

Thank you for all the work you have done and all that you continue to do. I look forward to your continued success.

Sincerely,

Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator

Zionist Organization of America
Greater Philadelphia District
One Belmont Avenue, Suite 601
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania 19004
United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 21, 2015

Zionist Organization of America
Greater Philadelphia District
2015 Gala

Dear Friends and Supporters of Israel,

It is my pleasure to extend my warmest greetings to this year’s attendees of the 2015 Gala of the Zionist Organization of America’s Greater Philadelphia District. The ZOA has been one of the strongest and most effective voices for the State of Israel since its founding in 1897. I would like to recognize and thank its members for their continued commitment and dedication to the organization over the years.

I would like to also congratulate the Philadelphia ZOA and tonight’s honorees. Rabbi Ira Budow and his wife, Susan Fuchs, will receive the Guardians of Israel Award. Jack Engelhardt will be recognized with the Ben Hecht Award for Outstanding Journalism and Shuni Weits will receive The Future is Now Award, a new award by the ZOA. In addition, Howard Katzoff and his wife, Patie Klein Katzoff, are recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award.

Once again, I would like to recognize and thank tonight’s honorees, attendees and the Zionist Organization of America’s Greater Philadelphia District for their tremendous support of Israel and the Jewish Community.

Sincerely,

Pat Toomey
U.S. Senator
October 21, 2015

Zionist Organization of America
Greater Philadelphia District
One Belmont Avenue, Suite 601
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Dear Friends,

It is a pleasure to extend my congratulations as you gather for the 2015 Gala of the Zionist Organization of America’s Greater Philadelphia District. I am especially delighted to congratulate tonight’s honorees on being recognized for their tremendous work.

The oldest pro-Israel organization in the United States, the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) has long been a key voice in support of strong and successful ties between Israel and the United States. Through educational activities and outreach, ZOA continues its commitment to fighting anti-Semitism and nurturing the enduring bond between the United States and Israel. As you celebrate all that you have accomplished, I wish you a joyful and memorable event.

Again, congratulations. I am honored to send my best wishes for your continued success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

Cory A. Booker
United States Senator
August 18, 2015

Dear Friends,

Please accept my sincere congratulations on your Annual Gala on Wednesday, October 21st, celebrating the success of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA)'s Greater Philadelphia District. Since its inception, ZOA-Greater Philadelphia has remained dedicated to local advocacy that promotes a strong U.S.-Israel relationship and a secure Israel. Your work extends throughout the area, from eastern Pennsylvania to southern New Jersey and my home state of Delaware.

I join you in congratulating Rabbi Ira Badow, Susan Fuchs, Jack Engelhard, Howard Katzoff, Patti Klein Katzoff and Shanti Weiss. Each one of these leaders has demonstrated their strong commitment to Israel and is deserving of tonight's honor. I join you in celebrating their leadership and wishing them all mazel tov.

I share your commitment to Israel's security and defense, and strongly support the ironclad relationship between our two great nations. Best wishes to you in the future.

Sincerely,

Christopher A. Coons
United States Senate
September 10, 2015

Dear Friends,

I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to all of honorees at this year’s Greater Philadelphia District of the Zionist Organization of America annual Gala. This is well deserved recognition, given the countless hours all of the recipients have worked on behalf of the Jewish community here in the United States and in Israel.

Since 1897, the ZOA has worked tirelessly to help establish the state of Israel and to ensure that that great state now in existence continues to be a strong and secure nation, and that the special bond between the government and people of the United States and Israel remains unshakeable. ZOA’s thriving chapter in the Philadelphia area is a testament to the deep and powerful relationship between the City of Brotherly Love and Israel. It is the commitment and dedication of its membership which allows the organization to fulfill its noble ambitions and so it is only right and proper to recognize their contributions on this auspicious occasion.

It is my privilege to congratulate Shani Weiss on being honored with The Future Is Now Award, Rabbi Ira Budow and his wife Dr. Susan Fuchs on receiving the Guardians of Israel Award, Jack Engelhard on being presented with the Ben Hecht Award for Outstanding Journalism, and Howard Katzoff and his wife Patti Klein Katzoff on being honored with the Pillars of the Community Award.

Once again, please accept my congratulations on your awards and I hope you have a wonderful evening at the Gala. I look forward to continuing to work with all of you and the ZOA, and if I can ever be of assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Congressman Brendan F. Boyle
Pennsylvania – 13th District
U.S. House of Representatives
October 21, 2015

Zionist Organization of America
Greater Philadelphia District
One Belmont Avenue, Suite 601
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Dear Friends:

It is with great respect and gratitude for the work of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), Greater Philadelphia District, that I thank you for your attendance to this year’s Annual Philadelphia ZOA Gala.

As the oldest and one of the largest pro-Israel groups in America the ZOA has admirably worked for advocacy on behalf of the Jewish State since 1897. This work, which has been accomplished at both national and local levels, is vital to continuously advance the United States relationship and to efficiently communicate to America’s leaders what Israel’s security needs are. It has always been a pleasure to work with the Philadelphia Chapter of the ZOA and I consider them one of my premier sources for information when it comes to topics related to Israel, Iran and the Middle East.

I would like to extend congratulations to this year’s honorees: Rabbi Ira Budow and his wife, Susan Fuchs, recipients of the Guardians of Israel Award; Jack Engelhard, recipient of the Ben Hecht Award; Howard and Patti Klein Katzoff, recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award; and Shani Weiss, recipient of The Future is Now Award.

On behalf of the constituents of the First Congressional District I am honored and proud to support the Zionist Organization of America.

Sincerely,

ROBERT A. BRADY
Member of Congress
September 10, 2015

Dear Friends and Supporters of Israel:

I would like to join the Greater Philadelphia District of the Zionist Organization of America in offering heartfelt congratulations to all of those being honored during the 2015 Gala Event: Rabbi Ira Bedow and Sandra Fuchs, Guardians of Israel Award; Jack Engelsbard, Ben Hecht Award for Outstanding Journalism; Shoshannah “Shani” Weiss, The Future Is Now Award; and Howard and Patti Klein Kataooff, Pillars of Community Award.

Each honoree has been a tireless advocate on behalf of the State of Israel and has demonstrated exemplary leadership on critical issues for the Jewish community. The recognition of their efforts is indeed well-deserved.

Congratulations also are in order for everyone at the Zionist Organization of America who worked hard to make the 2015 Gala Event possible and best wishes as you continue your important work. Thank you for all your efforts to support the special relationship between the United States and Israel.

Sincerely,

Ryan Costello
Member of Congress
Lee Bender, Co-President
Kevin Ross, Co-President
Zionist Organization of America
Greater Philadelphia District
One Belmont Avenue, Suite 601
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

Dear Mr. Bender and Mr. Ross:

On behalf of the 15th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, I take great pleasure in extending greetings to you, the honorees, the staff, and members of the Greater Philadelphia District of the Zionist Organization of America on the occasion of ZOA’s Annual Gala.

To Rabbi Ira Budow, Susan Fuchs, Jack Engelhard, Howard Katzoff, Patti Klein Katzoff and Shani Weiss, recipients of this year’s prestigious ZOA awards, I applaud your achievements. Each of you epitomizes the qualities of a strong leader and inspired advocate for the State of Israel.

As Congress and nations around the world analyze the Iran Nuclear Agreement, ZOA’s mission to advocate for Israel takes on a very significant role. I support that mission and those individuals who work resolutely to keep Israel safe and secure.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Charles W. Dent
Member of Congress
15th District, Pennsylvania
October 21, 2015

Zionist Organization of America
Greater Philadelphia District
One Belmont Avenue
Suite 601
Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania 19004

Greetings and welcome to the Greater Philadelphia District of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) upon the occasion of your annual Gala honoring your 2015 selections as champions of Israel.

Congratulations are in order for those the Philadelphia ZOA is honoring tonight at the Hilton Philadelphia City Avenue:

Shani Weiss is an Israel advocate, educator and founder of “Dragons for Israel” a pro-Israel organization on her college campus created to promote a balance between advocacy, learning and fun. The group continues though Shani has graduated. She is the recipient of The Future Is Now Award;

Rabbi Ira Budow and Dr. Susan Fuchs, Rabbi Budow has served for 33 years as the director of Abrams Hebrew Academy and has exposed hundreds of students to the beauty of Israel and instilled in them a love for Zion. They are being presented with the Guardians of Israel Award;

Jack Engelhard, a veteran journalist proposes reputable options to anti-Israel media bias, policies and adversaries via his regular column in Israel National News and posts on social media. He is the author of Indecent Proposal, turned into a box office sensation, will receive the Ben Hecht Award for Outstanding Journalism;

Howard and Patti Klein Katzoff, the “model champions” dedicate their time, talent and treasure to promote and defend Israel and Zionism. Fully committed to their advocacy for Israel, Howard is a past co-president of Philadelphia ZOA, Patti is an addiction counselor and former owners of a children’s furniture business. They are recognized with this year’s Pillars of the Community Award.

The Philadelphia ZOA prides itself as the region’s leading organization solely dedicated to a secure, strong and vibrant Jewish state of Israel. Thank you for your continued advocacy and activism, and best wishes on a successful event.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Member of Congress
Dear Friends,

On behalf of the 8th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, I would like to extend my greetings to the Zionist Organization of America and all of its members. Thank you for the outstanding work you do in our local community, and around the country to help foster and promote a strong and resilient U.S. – Israel relationship.

I would like to personally congratulate this year’s award winners: Rabbi Ira Budow and Susan Fuchs - recipients of the Guardians of Israel Award, Jack Engelhard - recipient of the Ben Hecht Award, Howard Katzoff and Patti Klein Katzoff - recipients of the Pillars of the Community Award, and Shani Weiss – recipient of The Future Is Now Award. As a strong supporter of the state of Israel, I sincerely appreciate your efforts and am honored to recognize you all today.

I look forward to working with the Zionist Organization of America in the future to promote our mutual interests. It is an honor and a privilege to serve you in the United States Congress. Have a great evening.

Sincerely,

Mike Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3607

July 29, 2015

Zionist Organization of America
Greater Philadelphia District
1 Belmont Avenue, Suite 601
Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

To the Philadelphia Chapter of the Zionist Organization of America,

I wish to extend my congratulations to the Zionist Organization of America as well as all of the honorees attending the annual Gala dinner. I appreciate your advocacy efforts in support of a strong U.S.-Israel relationship and commend you for all the work you do for the Jewish community in the 7th District of Pennsylvania and in the Greater Philadelphia Region.

This year’s honorees deserve special recognition for their efforts in strengthening this unbreakable relationship. Congratulations to Rabbi Ira Bukow and his wife Susan Fuchs for receiving the Guardians of Israel award, Jack Engelhard for his outstanding journalistic contributions, Howard Katzoff and his wife Pati Klein Katzoff for receiving the Pillars of the Community Award, and Shani Weiss for her activism on her college campus.

On behalf of the entire 7th District of Pennsylvania, I again thank you all for your hard work and commitment to a strong U.S.-Israel relationship.

Sincerely,

Patrick Meehan
Member of Congress
To the Members of the Zionist Organization of America:

I would like to congratulate the Zionist Organization of America Greater Philadelphia District (ZOA-GPD) as we thank the people who have most strongly supported and advocated for Israel.

This gala marks another incredible year for ZOA-GPD. I wish to express my appreciation for the work of each member and contributor whose efforts have helped to develop this organization, which is vital to our ally Israel. I want to recognize the accomplishments of ZOA-GPD and the individuals and families who should particularly be praised for their leadership in building peaceful bonds between Israel and our own Nation. I join with you in honoring Rabbi Ira Bodow and Dr. Susan Fuchs, Shani Weiss, Jack Engelhard, and Howard and Pati Klein Katzoff.

I want to express my appreciation for Philadelphia ZOA, which stands to preserve support for the Jewish state. This organization serves a fundamental part of my constituency. I join with you in celebration and thank each member for the work you do in our community.

Cordially,

Joseph Pitts
Member of Congress
To the Zionist Organization of America:

Please accept my warm congratulations on your almost 120 years of continued advocacy, and my thanks for your tireless work on behalf of the US-Israel relationship. There has never been a more important time for the bonds of friendship between the United States and Israel to remain strong and unshakeable, so thank you for all that you do.

And a big congratulations to tonight’s honorees. I am especially proud so many New Jerseyans are among those being recognized!

All the best to you as you celebrate.

Best regards,

Tom MacArthur
Member of Congress
October 21, 2015

Greetings!

It is a pleasure and a privilege to welcome you to the 2015 Gala of the Zionist Organization of America’s Greater Philadelphia District on October 21, 2015.

The Zionist Organization of America is a nonprofit organization founded in 1897 to help reestablish the nation of Israel in the historic homeland of the Jewish people. Since Israel declared independence in 1948, the organization has worked to ensure that the country remains a strong, secure, and vibrant nation, and that the relationship between Israel and the United States of America remains positive.

This year’s annual Zionist Organization of America Gala is expected to attract 350 guests. The gala will honor several people for the pro-Israel activities they are engaged in, including Rabbi Ira Budow and his wife Susan Fuchs, Jack Engelhard, Howard Katzoff, and Shani Weiss.

On behalf of the City of Philadelphia, I commend all of the honorees being celebrated tonight, and wish you all a festive and rewarding gala.

Sincerely,

Michael A. Nutter
Mayor
In Memory of
Sondra Rendelman
Commited Zionist
Philadelphia ZOA Board Member
May Her Memory Be for a Blessing

In Memory of
Joseph H. Levine
Commited Zionist
Philadelphia ZOA Supporter
May His Memory Be for a Blessing

In Memory of
Judith Cohan
Commited Zionist
Beloved Philadelphia ZOA Member
May Her Memory Be for a Blessing

From the Philadelphia ZOA Leadership
SUPPORTS

THE PHILADELPHIA ZOA
2015 ANNUAL GALA

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

GUARDIANS OF ISRAEL HONOREES
RABBI IRA BUDOW & SUSAN FUCHS

BEN HECHT AWARD RECIPIENT
JACK ENGELHARD

THE FUTURE IS NOW Awardee
SHANI WEISS

PILLARS OF THE COMMUNITY HONOREES
HOWARD & PATTI KLEIN KATZOFF
Congratulations to all our deserving honorees.

It is so important that all of us here tonight are part of this great organization of our esteemed leader, Morton Klein.

Judy Taylor
Mazel Tov
to
Rabbi Ira Budow &
Dr. Susan Fuchs

Thank you for your
dedication on behalf of
Jewish youth

Eve & Stephen Milstein
Sam & Gracie
“All of Israel is responsible one for the other” (Shavuot 39a)
Congratulations to our precious daughter and sister,

**Shani Weiss**

2015 recipient of The Future Is Now Award.

You have inspired us with your love and dedication for our Jewish homeland and your tireless efforts for Israel advocacy at Drexel University. You saw a void and you stepped up in a meaningful way to promote education and understanding.

We are incredibly proud of your accomplishments!

Politz Day School of Cherry Hill
Kohelet Yeshiva High School
Drexel University Dragons for Israel
Hasbara Fellow
CAMERA Fellow
Stand With Us Emerson Fellow
Grinspon Fellow
ZOA Mission to Israel
Bizrael
Mazel Tov!

*Love Mom, Dad, Josh, Noah, Ari*
Congratulations to all the Honorees!

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It is with great humility and a distinct honor and privilege for us to celebrate the greatness/importance of Patti’s and Howard’s contributions to Am Yisrael.

Gene and Fran Shusman and Family
Congratulations to all the honorees — with special love & affection to Howard & Patti on This well-deserved honor

Ruth & Mort Gleit
Mazel Tov to the honorees.

Thank you ZOA for your unwavering support of Israel.

Dr. and Mrs. Jonathan and Bonnie Pontell and

Joshua and Shoshana Pontell
Congratulations to

Rabbi Ira Budow and Dr. Susan Fuchs
Guardians of Israel Award recipients

Jack Engelhard
Ben Hecht Award recipient

Shani Weiss
The Future Is Now Award recipient

and last but indeed not least,
congratulations to the most dynamic,
dedicated, hardest-working pro-Israel team I know: My dear friends

Patti and Howard Katzoff
Pillars of the Community Award recipients

Lewis B. Dashe
Honorary National President
CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THE HONOREES.

WE ARE PRIVILEGED TO BE COUNTED AMONG SO MANY FRIENDS WHO SUPPORT ZOA.
MAY WE ALL BE BLESSED WITH THE STRENGTH TO CONTINUE ADVOCATING FOR A SAFE AND SECURE JEWISH STATE OF ISRAEL.

AM YISRAEL CHAI
HOWARD & PATTI
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As Steve Feldman says:

“Do something good for Israel today.”
MAZEL TOV AND BEST WISHES TO
HOWARD AND PATTI KLEIN KATZOFF
AND TO
ALL THE ESTEEMED HONOREES
WE SALUTE YOU AND THE
ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
FOR YOUR INVALUABLE
ACCOMPLISHMENTS
IN FOSTERING THE ETERNAL RELATIONSHIP AMONG
ISRAEL, THE JEWISH PEOPLE, AND
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VICKI AND GARY ERLBAUM AND FAMILY
We dedicate this page in memory of our beloved friend

Sondra Rendelman

May the legacy of Sondra’s passionate love for Israel, our Jewish people, and her dedication to ZOA be an inspiration for us all to redouble our efforts on behalf of the Zionist movement.

Like Sondra, let us be strong and courageous!

Roz and Larry Buchsbaum
CONGRATULATIONS
TO
HOWARD & PATTI KLEIN
KATZOFF

FROM
GERALD & ETTIE STEINBERG
Mazel Tov

to

Howard & Patti Klein

Katzoff

From

Susan Steinberg
Congratulations to the honorees:
Rabbi Ira Budow
and Susan Fuchs
Jack Engelhard
Shani Weiss
Howard and Patti Klein
Katzoff

We overwhelmingly support Israel and the ZOA at this critical time.

Sharon & Menachem Meller
In honor of the Zionist Organization of America and our fellow honorees
Jack Engelhard
Howard and Patti Klein Katzoff
Shani Weiss
For their dedication to our Jewish people and the land of Israel

“For the Torah shall come forth from Zion and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem”
Isiah 2

Rabbi Ira and Dr. Susan Fuchs Budow
Dear Rabbi and Susan,

Thank you for your years of endless dedication and devotion to Abrams Hebrew Academy.

Congratulations on such a well-deserved honor.

Love,
Jeremy, Shayna, Ethan,
Hannah, Lisa and Brandon Swartz
Mazal Tov
Rabbi Ira Budow and
Dr. Susan Fuchs

In Honor of their dedication to
Israel, ZOA,
and Abrams Hebrew Academy

L’dor v’dor

Abrams Hebrew Academy
YASHER KOACH
TO
RABBI IRA BUDOW AND
DR. SUSAN FUCHS
AND TO THE ZOA.
MAY YOU GO FROM
STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

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Mazel Tov to
Rabbi Ira Budow
&
Dr. Susan Fuchs

Daryl and Glenn Segal
To All of the Honorees:

Thank you for your lifelong service to our community

All the best

The Mandell Family
Congratulations to ZOA’s 2015 Honorees

- Rabbi Ira Budow & Susan Fuchs -
- Jack Engelhard -
- Shani Weiss -
- Howard & Patti Klein Katzoff -

From Jim and Diane Showers and The Friends of Israel staff

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Congratulations
to the Philadelphia ZOA
and the honorees!

Malka Kantor-Rapkin,
Avi & Rachel
Kantor and
Family
Thank you Rabbi Budow for all you do to instill a love of Am Yisrael, Torat Yisrael & Medinat Yisrael in our children.

Seth Zwillenberg & Rene Rubin
We congratulate the worthy honorees, and offer our deepest thanks to ZOA for your sacred work on behalf of Israel’s security.

Be strong and of good courage – and may God bless your efforts!

Steven Weiner, Lisa Wise, Michael & Joshua
Congratulations
Howard and Patti

The Esther Brigade
The Bridge Foundation
Friends of the IDF

Kathy Magnuson
Rosemary Schindler Garlow
Mary Beth Brocklebank
Karen Berner
Congratulations to ZOA’s honorees

Thank you,
Mort and Rita Klein

Ann Holstein
Ed Altman
Dear Howie and Patti:
We are so proud of your wholehearted commitment to ZOA. Your caring and sincere devotion is an inspiration to us all.
You warm our hearts with your genuine love and dedicated work for Israel and our Jewish people.
May HaShem bless you both to 120, with good health, to continue your ma’asim tovim.
With great love to our deeply admired cousins,
Kol Hakavod,
The three sisters
Harriet Cortell, Goldie Kopmar, Judy Geller Nevel
Georgia Ohio Florida
We salute the 2015 Gala honorees and all of our friends at ZOA. Thank you for stepping up for the Jewish People and for stepping up for Israel!

Mazel Tov,

Amy and Elliot Holtz
Andrea and Richard Gottlieb
and The Jerusalem U team
Yeser Chah

to the 2015 award recipients
Am Yisrael Chai!

Jon Liss
&
Michel’s Bakery
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Thank you for being that voice.

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Our honorees for Philadelphia ZOA’s 2015 Gala are:
Rabbi Ira Budow and Dr. Susan Fuchs: Guardians of Israel Award
Jack Engelhard: Ben Hecht Award for Outstanding Journalism
Howard and Patti Klein Katzoff: Pillars of the Community Award
Shoshana “Shani” Weiss: The Future is Now Award

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Our gratitude to all of tonight’s honorees for their tireless defense of Israel and support for the Jewish People.

Anne & Rodney Elkin
Mazal Tov to The ZOA, the amazing staff and the wonderful honorees.

May you have the strength to continue your important work inspiring, educating and defending the Jewish people and Israel for many years to come.

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Shani Weiss
And our old friend from
the Playwrights Workshop
on South Street
Jack Engelhard
May you go from strength to
strength
Len & Susan Getz

Congratulations
to friends
Howard and Patti Klein Katzoff
and
All the Honorees!
May “they go from strength to strength…”
Psalm 84:8
Charles & Moni McCracken
Every business, businessperson and professional who has an advertisement or notice in this Gala Tribute Book and Ad Journal supports the work of Philadelphia ZOA.

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Thank you!
Shani,
I am so very proud of your accomplishments! Over the last five years, I witnessed your devotion to Israel firsthand as you tirelessly built Drexel’s Dragons for Israel. The inspiring and stimulating events you organized have made a lasting, positive impact on my life as well as the lives of hundreds of other Drexel Dragons and community members. You truly are a beacon of light for Jews locally, nationally, and abroad.

With much love,
Rob and the Wexler family

Congratulations to
the honorees
and especially to
my friends the
Katzoffs

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Shani Weiss
Your pro-Israel activism has inspired a generation of Jewish Students at Drexel

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Because of your amazing work at Abrams, no one is more deserving of the Guardians of Israel Award.

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Rabbi Ira Budow & Susan Fuchs
Because of your amazing work at Abrams, no one is more deserving of the Guardians of Israel Award.
MAZEL TOV
To all the Honorees,
Especially to:
Rabbi Ira Budow
and Dr. Susan Fuchs
for their outstanding
contribution
to Jewish education and
to the Jewish Community
Ellen and David Weiss

Howard and Patti:
Mazal Tov
on this very special
and meaningful
honor.

Love,
Joan and Ken,
Goldie and Mel

Congratulations
To
Patti & Howard

Shelly Forman

MAZEL TOV
To all the Honorees,
Especially to:
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for their outstanding
contribution
to Jewish education and
to the Jewish Community

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Howard Katzoff and Patti Klein

Kol HaKavod on your tireless work for the Jewish People and the Jewish State

Gloria Z. Greenfield
President

Mazel Tov

to

Shani Weiss

Your passion and tireless advocacy are an inspiration to all.

Love,
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Michael & Brenda Goldblatt

Howard and Patti: Thank you for being beacons of Zionism and for your unswerving devotion in supporting Am Yisroel and Eretz Yisroel.
You both are an inspiration and we are proud to have you as our friends.
The Ross Family: Kevin, Sharon, Aaron, Binyamin and Eliana

Congratulations to the honorees & Philadelphia ZOA

John & Sherry Cohn

Mazel Tov to the Honorees

Melvyn Freid

To Morton Klein
For all you do
For Israel

Susan Kristiansson

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Mazel Tov
TO SHANI WEISS ON THIS WELL DESERVED HONOR!
LOVE FROM MICHAL, JOSH, SHIMSHON, YEHUDA, CAROLYN, & ADAM

Best wishes
Gary & Gail Cantor

Mazel Tov to Our Friends
Rabbi Ira Budow
and Dr. Susan Fuchs,
Supporters of Israel and Judaism
Dale & Bruce Sattin

Mazel Tov!
Howard and Patti Klein Katzoff
And all other honorees!
Sharon & Dan Berry
Eleanor & Mark Weinglass

Mazel Tov
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Upon receiving the Guardians of Israel Award
The Brandspiegel Family

Mazel Tov
to those receiving awards and to
Philadelphia ZOA
Rabbi Joshua Kalev
Tiferet Bet Israel

Congratulations to all of the honorees!
Leon & Fran Levy

Mazel Tov on this latest honor
Ruth Sugerman
Mazel Tov

Patti and Howard
Rhonda and Bruce

Mazel Tov
to our honorees and ZOA for all that
you do for Israel & America

Rabbi Neil Cooper
Temple Beth Hillel-Beth El

Mazel Tov
Rabbi Budow & Dr. Susan Fuchs
Thank you for all your years of
dedication to Abrams Hebrew
Academy

Drs. Sheri & Paul Rosen

Congratulations ZOA!

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David Adom
the blood of Israel

Ronnie Pleet

Congratulations to Howard and
Patti Katzoff on your 2015 ZOA
award for Pillars of the
Community! Your passion and
energy are truly inspirational!
Thank you for all you do!

Richard I. Neff, CPA

Theodor Herzl z"l
1860-1904
1897 First Zionist Congress

Anonymous

A hearty “Mazel Tov” to
Howard and Patti Katzoff.
A true mensch and friend.

Harry & Susan
Steven, Stacy & Evan
Schmidt
To Howard & Patti Katzoff
May Hasham grant you continued strength, good health, and much nachas.
And Mazel Tov on your recent engagement!
May you enjoy many years of health and happiness!
Heather Berman

Barukh atah Adonai, Eloheinu, melekh ha-olam
Betsey James

In honor of Howie and Patti Katzoff
Michael & Elaine Lowenkron

To Howard & Patti Katzoff
May Hasham grant you continued strength, good health, and much nachas.
A well deserved yasher koach to ZOA and all of the honorees for their dedication & support of Israel.
Heather Berman

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Mazel Tov to Philadelphia ZOA’s Honorees.
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Mazel Tov to those being honored this evening.

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In honor of
Mort Klein,
a champion for
Israel
Robin Sue and Bill
Landsburg

In honor of
Bobbie Dzubow

David Fitzgerald

Mazel Tov to the honorees

Mr. & Mrs. Ray Leven

Thank you to the honorees.

Leroy Kean
Mazel Tov to the honorees and to Philadelphia ZOA

Dan & Carole Cirucci

Mazel Tov to all!
The Law Office of Evan Aidman

Mazel Tov for your awards.
Thank you, ZOA

Lynne Burden Kramer
Mazel Tov to the Katzoffs and all of ZOA’s honorees.

Steven & Lynne Savran
Savran Benson LLP

Mazel Tov to Rabbi Ira Budow and Dr. Susan Fuchs and to all the other award recipients. We are so proud of Abrams Hebrew Academy’s Principal, Rabbi Ira Budow, who shares his love of Judaism and Israel with all of his students.

Brian and Jill Chevlin

“Judaism comprises an indivisible connection between the religion, the people and the land. You don’t have to be religious or a Zionist to be a Jew. But to deny this unique triple lock is to deny what Judaism inescapably is. So to be anti-Zionist is to be anti-Judaism.”

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Russell Lyons
Mazel Tov to the honorees, and thank you, Philly ZOA.

Betsy and David Rentz

Dear Shani,

Mazel Tov!

We are so very proud of you for all of your achievements.

Love,

Your Gabay Cousins

Congratulations to all of ZOA’s awardees.

Richard Atkinson & Linda Warner
Shani:
So proud of you!

Sharyn Rauer

Mazel Tov to all of Philadelphia ZOA's honorees

Mark Moster

Thank you ZOA for all your efforts on behalf of Israel.

Sally Dyckman

To Howard & Patti:
A well-deserved honor

Elaine and Marshall Perlman
Mazal Tov Shani on this well-deserved honor. You are an inspiration to all of us and show us what a difference one person can make.

A special thanks to Steve Feldman for all your hard work and tireless efforts on behalf of Israel and the Jewish People.

Rabbi Shimon and Shoshana Kay and everyone at MEOR Drexel

In memoriam:
Edith Moses Isadore, volunteer typist for Philadelphia ZOA

Martin Isadore
5 Ways You Can Help Israel

For many, one of the most frustrating aspects of the war against the Jewish People, delegitimization of Israel and Islamo-fascism is the seeming inability to help. While we may not be able to stop the terrorists nor all attacks against Israel on campuses, in the media or at the U.N., we can combat the lies about Israel and Israelis, we can educate others and we can take action to lift the spirits of Israelis.

We may not see the immediate results of our actions, but every action we take makes a difference and could be the “tipping point.” Here are some simple and practical suggestions as to what you can do to help.

1) **STAY CURRENT ON THE TRUTH** – Stay educated and clear on what is really going on. The Internet offers useful sources for getting a more accurate picture of what is really happening in the Jewish state and surrounding areas. Visit such sites and recommend them to friends – you will be amazed at how people’s eyes can be opened when they start to get the real picture about what is going on.

2) **CHALLENGE MEDIA BIAS** – The media has a powerful influence on public opinion and government policy. When you notice a biased report or see that facts or context are omitted, immediately contact the news outlet and object. Be respectful and stick to the facts. Share this with friends and colleagues so they too can complain. The more responses the better. You can also seek out and join committees that promote unbiased information about Israel such as the ZOA.

3) **SPEAK OUT!** – The next time you hear something anti-Israel, don’t wonder: “What is someone going to do about it?” No single Jewish organization can fight the propaganda war on every front. Sometimes, you must be the “someone.” Talk to people! Be an ambassador for Israel by explaining the true facts to everyone you meet. You never know how your contribution may affect someone else’s views. The worst thing that one can do is to remain quiet. So do something.

4) **APPEAL TO YOUR REPRESENTATIVES** – Elected officials and other government leaders need to hear from you. Find out who your elected officials are (if you are not certain) in the House and Senate and urge them to take legislative action supporting Israel and against those trying to harm Israel. Ask them to publicly express support for Israel. Also, ask state and local officials to pass resolutions or issue proclamations in support of Israel. Each call, letter, email and fax is counted.

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