Is APF a Puzzle to You?
Our Organization in Action

58 Years Ago 1950, APF begins mission to build bridges between Israeli and North American Medicine

50 Years Ago 1958, Emanuel M. Glazier, APF National Secretary receives “Man of the Year” certificate at the 8th Annual Assembly

40 Years Ago 1968, APF has dramatic growth in membership - 4550 plus!

30 Years Ago 1978, Israel celebrates its 30th Birthday and Nobel Prize winner for Medicine Dr. Roslyn Yalow speaks to APF’s New York Chapter

20 Years Ago 1988, Ms. Nurit Shor was chosen as the first awardee of the Soloman Hirsh Nurse Award

10 Years Ago 1998, Israel celebrates its 50th Anniversary. APF awards 40 Fellowship grants to young Israeli physicians

Today Your Annual Appeal contributions will write our future history!

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From Our Chapters

APF has established chapters in the Westchester, NY area and in the Detroit, MI area.

For information regarding chapter meetings and functions, please call the APF office at 617-232-5382 or e-mail info@apfmed.org

If you are interested in starting an APF chapter in your area, please call or e-mail to discuss this opportunity.

Carol L. Ghatan, Editor
In Memoriam

The American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel sadly mourns the loss of the following members. Their contributions to society and this organization will be missed and not forgotten.

Alvin Fineston, M.D.
Clifton Forge, VA

Mrs. Shirley Freedland
Huntington Beach, CA

Bernard Friedson, M.D.
Jerusalem, Israel

Paul Levitan, M.D.
Belvedere Tiburon, CA

Lloyd J. Paul, M.D.
W Bloomfield, MI

Irwin Peikes, M.D.
Norristown, PA

Hubert L. Rosomoff, M.D.
Miami Beach, FL

Myer Sharpe, M.D.
Newton Upper Falls, MA

Robert A. Sher, M.D.
New City, NY

Dennis B. Zaslow, D.O.
Miami, FL
I would like to summarize some of the important activities of the American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel during this past year.

1. Emergency and Disaster Preparedness Courses
   There were 34 participants in the November 2007 Course sponsored by APF, the Ministry of Health (MOH), and the Israeli Defense Forces Medical Corps (IDF). Eighteen participants attended the May 2008 Course and another 13 attended the November 2008 Course. The dates are already set for the May and the November 2009 Courses. We are exploring the feasibility of adding an extra three to five days to the 2009 Courses to permit excursions to other cities, and to encourage participants to bring their spouses. As I have noted previously, the excellence of this Course has attracted and trained not only healthcare professionals, but also police officers, firefighters, and disaster planners from all over North America.

2. Emergency Medical Volunteer (EMV) Registry
   Dr. Don Starr has provided exemplary leadership for our Emergency Medical Volunteer Registry. Currently there are over 400 healthcare professionals on the Registry. While we all hope that our volunteers are never needed, and that there will be peace in the region, the Ministry of Health continues to inform us that we need to augment the number of volunteers willing to travel to Israel in the time of a declared national emergency. If you wish further information about becoming a volunteer, please contact the APF Office.

3. Fellowship Program
   The Israel Medical Association (IMA) and the American Physicians Fellowship (APF) have jointly sponsored 10 of the 52 fellowship awards (see enclosed APF News for current awardees). Additionally awarded fellowships were the Klitzberg Oncology Awards, the Claire and Emanuel G. Rosenblatt Oncology Awards, and the Kass and Knoll Research Awards for Israeli physician scientists continuing their research in Israel, as well as other designated grants from our donors.

4. Student Programs
   Dr. Allen Menkin led a group of 36 medical students on the third annual Taglit/birthright Israel/APF medical student tour. In addition to typical birthright activities, the students spent time at the Ministry of Health, Israeli Defense Forces Medical Corps Headquarters, and the Simula-
tion Center at the Chaim Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer. APF has begun pre-registration for its 2009 student trip. Please contact the APF Office for further details.

APF also welcomes Yaniv Larish as its new student representative. Yaniv brings considerable enthusiasm and expertise to our organization. He formally served in the Israeli military prior to beginning his medical studies at Einstein Medical School in New York City.

5. Israel Activities

In May, twenty of us visited a reinforced bus shelter at the Torani Hadash School in Sderot, which APF donated for a cost of $20,000 from your generous contributions. We were really struck by the fact that one day prior to our visit children raced to this, and nearby shelters, when a Kassam rocket fell nearby. Thankfully, there were no casualties. It was disconcerting, however, for us to learn that one hour after we left this site a Kassam rocket killed a woman less than one mile from where we were standing. APF Course participants also dedicated a $10,000, vitally needed, defibrillator system, purchased with funds donated to the APF, to the Magen David Adom Station in Sderot.

I cite these examples to indicate that while conditions in Israel are currently “quiet” we all have a foreboding sense that future urgencies, and indeed, emergencies, will arise, and will occur not only in Northern Israel but also in areas adjacent to Gaza and the West Bank. The APF serves a vital function in that we make grants available to the IDF Medical Corps and Ministry of Health, where they are sorely needed. In the last four years we have made 20 such grants available for their vital work.

One only has to go to Israel and visit the sites that we have visited to be impressed that the mission of APF has never been more important! We vitally need your support, and even in this time of fiscal uncertainty in our country, it is critically important that our colleagues and friends continue to contribute to support these very important functions. If any of you have questions regarding any aspect of my comments above feel free to either e-mail me (ngreenberger@partners.org) or call our office in Boston to set up a time to talk with me.

Norton J. Greenberger, M.D.
President
APF is proud to announce that Dr. Rachel Grossman and Dr. Keren Levanon are both recipients of the distinctive Claire and Emanuel G. Rosenblatt Fellowship Award for 2008 – 2009. This special grant is for post-doctoral Israeli fellows training in oncology at leading U.S. or Canadian medical centers.

**Dr. Rachel Grossman** is a surgeon in the Neurosurgery Department of Sheba Medical Center in Tel-Hashomer. She did her medical training at the Sackler Medical School in Tel Aviv, followed by residency training in the Neurosurgical Department of the Sheba Medical Center. She is presently a Research Postdoctoral Fellow at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. During her fellowship, she will be looking at the genetic and genomic changes that lead to brain cancer and learning the ways to locate and to analyze the genes that are mutated during brain cancer development, with the hope of counteracting the mutation in order to slow or stop tumor growth. Her goal is to bring the knowledge and experience she has gained to the neuro-oncology units in Israel. Dr. Grossman is accompanied by her two young children.

**Dr. Keren Levanon** is a physician in the Department of Medical Oncology at Sheba Medical Center in Tel-Hashomer. She did her training at the Sackler Medical School in Tel Aviv, followed by residency in the Medical Oncology Department of the Sheba Medical Center. She is presently a Research Postdoctoral Fellow at Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, Massachusetts. Her research focuses on the pathogenesis of serous ovarian carcinoma, the most malignant gynecological cancer in developed countries. She is studying the basic genetic alterations involved in the serous carcinogenesis. Dr. Levanon is accompanied by her husband and their four young children.
The American Physicians Fellowship is pleased to announce this year’s recipients of the Dr. Edward H. Kass and the Dr. Isaac Knoll Research Awards. These annual awards are granted to support the biomedical research of promising young physicians in Israel.

The 2008 – 2009 Dr. Edward H. Kass Research Award for Medical Research has been granted to Dr. Amir Sonnenblick from Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem for his project: “The role of STAT3 signaling in chronic inflammation associated HCC in the Mdr2-KO mouse model”.

Dr. Sonnenblick received his Ph.D. from the Department of Biochemistry of Hebrew University and his M.D. from Hadassah Medical School. He is presently associated with the Oncology Department of Hadassah Medical Center. It has been written about Dr. Sonnenblick that “he is an outstanding brilliant scientist” with an impressive “wealth of knowledge”.

The grant was established in memory of Edward H. Kass, M.D., a distinguished Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and past President of the APF (1986 - 1990). APF is grateful to Mrs. Amalie Kass, whose generosity and support has made the endowment for the Dr. Edward H. Kass Award possible.

Dr. Michal Weiler-Sagie of the Nuclear Medicine Department of the Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa is the recipient of the 2008 – 2009 Dr. Isaac Knoll Research Award for Medical Research for her examination of “In Vivo Molecular Imaging of Human Embryonic Stem Cells”.

Dr. Weiler-Sagie received both her M.D. and Ph.D. from Ben Gurion University in Beer Sheva. The overall objective of her research is to develop techniques to allow non-invasive longitudinal in vivo evaluation of the engraftment, proliferation, survival, homing and migration of human embryonic stem cell derivatives, and to be part of the development of a new field in biomedicine --- regenerative medicine.

The Dr. Isaac Knoll Research Award is granted in memory of Isaac Knoll, M.D., one of APF’s founding members, through the generosity of a fund established at APF by Dr. Knoll.
In 1988, Dr. Richard Hirsh established the Solomon Hirsh Memorial Nurse Education Fund at the American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel in memory of his father. The Fund sponsors Israeli nurses for short-term specialized training at leading medical centers in North America. Nurses have the opportunity to learn the most up-to-date techniques and to expand their knowledge and clinical expertise. Close to sixty nurses have been sponsored in the past 20 years. Our most recent grantees include:

Yael Osher – is the Head Nurse of the NICU at the Edith Wolfson Medical Center in Holon. She participated in a two week Nurse Visitor Program at the Hospital for Sick Children (SickKids) in Toronto, Canada. While at SickKids, she learned about standards of nursing leadership, developmental care in the NICU, transport of babies with complications, and working through ethical situations in the nursing practice. Additionally, she spent another two weeks at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles where she had further training, including quality and risk management issues, conflict management, and training of nurses for the NICU. In both places, she was able to learn new treatment approaches and methods in the field of Neonatology Nursing which she hopes to implement in her unit at Wolfson Medical Center.

Halla Isa – is the Deputy Head Nurse in the Department of General Surgery A at Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa. She is also a senior clinical instructor for new nurses and students. During this past September, she participated in the Clinical Observation Program of Nursing Studies provided by the Institute for Nursing Healthcare Leadership in Boston, Massachusetts. Her individualized program enabled her to observe nursing practices at Harvard University Medical School’s affiliated hospitals and provided her with current leadership knowledge and concepts about professional nursing practices for advance nursing and patient care at Rambam.
Hadassah Medical Organization

Hadassah University Hospitals
Office of the Director General

Prof. Shlomo Mor-Yosef, M.D., M.P.A.
Director General
Ruth and Morris Popkin Professor of Health Administration

January 31, 2008

Dr. Norton Greenberger
President
APF
2001 Beacon Street, Suite 210
Boston, MA 02135
USA

Dear Dr. Greenberger,

Personally and on behalf of the Hadassah Medical Organization, I would like to take this opportunity to express our grateful appreciation to the American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel (APF) for their ongoing support of Israeli physicians.

For over half a century, the APF has dedicated itself to advancing medical education, research and health care in Israel. Your generous funding has provided our physicians with fellowship opportunities abroad. The skills and knowledge gained has significantly advanced medicine in Israel with a commensurate saving of lives. Additionally, new professional relationships are created with colleagues from abroad, resulting in uncounted joint research developments and collaborative medical advances.

Hadassah well understands the importance of the APF’s research grants, particularly, as we understand the overwhelming demands on young physicians. We invest heavily in the younger generation, directing them to become outstanding physician-researchers, not just excellent clinicians. We do everything we can to encourage them to engage in research as part of their medical education, and everything we can to support them. The involvement and backing of generous and understanding donors is often the factor that determines whether or not a research project will go forward.

We are most grateful for your support and hope that our partnership will continue well into the future.

Sincerely,

Professor Shlomo Mor-Yosef
Director General
Our Fellows

Neta Adler – a surgeon in the Plastic and Reconstructive Plastic Surgery Department of the Rabin Medical Center in Petach Tikva recently completed a Reconstructive Breast/Microsurgery Fellowship in the Department of Surgery at the University of Chicago in Chicago, Illinois. She is beginning an additional fellowship in Pediatric Plastic Surgery at Chicago’s Children’s Memorial Hospital encompassing all aspects of plastic surgery as they pertain to infants, children and adolescents. Dr. Adler is accompanied by her husband, also a physician, and their daughter. She is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Yair Bar – an oncologist from the Chaim Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer is a Thoracic Oncology Fellow at the Ottawa Regional Cancer Center in Canada. He is focusing on clinical thoracic oncology and basic cancer translational research. Dr. Bar is joined by his wife, also a physician, and their three children. He is the recipient of the Dr. Lawrence Kline/Ms. Sherry Merkis Award.

Olga Barkay – a gastroenterologist from the Tel Aviv Medical Center is participating in an Endoscopic Retrograde Cholangiopancreatography (ERCP) Fellowship at Indiana University Hospital in Indianapolis, Indiana. One of the most complicated procedures in the field of invasive gastrointestinal endoscopy, she hopes to perform and further the development of this procedure in Israel. She is accompanied by her husband, also a physician, and their two young children. Dr. Barkay is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Shai Bar-Sela – an ophthalmologist from Sherutey Briut Clalit (HMO) in Jerusalem is a Fellow in the Department of Pediatric Urology at the Robert Cizik Eye Clinic at the University of Texas in Houston, Texas. He is interested specifically in a better understanding of the treatment modalities of glaucoma and conducting invasive procedures for complex cases. He is accompanied by his wife and their four children. Dr. Bar-Sela is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Yuval Bar-Yosef – an urologist from the Tel Aviv Medical Center is a Fellow in the Department of Pediatric Urology at Jackson Memorial Hospital and Miami Children’s Hospital in Miami, Florida. He hopes to become proficient in major reconstructive procedures and in minimally invasive ones, and ultimately perform these at his institution in Israel. Dr. Bar-Yosef is accompanied by his wife, an attorney, and their two young daughters. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Roy Beinart – a cardiologist from the Heart Institute at the Chaim Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer is a Clinical and Research Fellow in the Department of Pacing and Electrophysiology at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, Mass-
achussetts. During his three-year fellowship, he hopes to increase his clinical knowledge and academic experiences in this field of study. Additionally he will take part in several basic science research projects, including the use of MRI/MRA to determine stroke risk. His wife, also a physician, and their two young children join Dr. Beinart. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

**Itsik Ben-Dor** – a cardiologist from the Rabin Medical Center in Petach Tikva is a Fellow in the Cardiology Department at Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C., focusing on Interventional Cardiology. He expects to acquire technical skills in coronary interventions that are not yet in use in Israel. Additionally Dr. Ben-Dor will be researching the feasibility of bioabsorbable stents, now in animal studies, for future use in human patients. Dr. Ben-Dor is joined by his wife, also a physician, and their three children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

**Yuval Ben-Moshe** – an urologist from Rambam Medical Center in Haifa is participating in a fellowship in Echo Cardiography at The Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas. During this fellowship, he will be focusing on stem cell issues and tissue engineering, and their unique application to the field of urology. He hopes to be able to continue furthering the development of these studies in his department upon his return to Israel. Dr. Ben-Moshe is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

"This scholarship helps me to enrich not only my personal ambitions and knowledge, but also transform this knowledge to serving patients in need."

**Sagit Ben-Zekry** – a cardiologist from Rabin Medical Center in Petach Tikva is participating in a fellowship in Echo Cardiography at The Methodist Hospital in Houston, Texas. She hopes this fellowship program will allow her to gain experience in order to implement new technologies such as live three-dimensional echocardiography and contrast echocardiography at her hospital in Israel. Dr. Ben-Zekry is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

**Shaul Beyth** – an orthopedic surgeon from the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem is a Fellow in the Department of Orthopedic Surgery at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio. During his fellowship, he will be focusing on shoulder surgery, as well as basic research on mesenchymal stem cell and tissue regeneration, with the hopes of developing a novel therapeutic approach to treat traumatic and degenerative conditions. Dr. Beyth is accompanied by his wife, a dentist, and their four children. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

**Simon Biner** – a cardiologist from the Echocardiography Lab and Congestive Heart Failure Day Care Clinic at the Tel Aviv Medical Center is a Research Fellow in the Division of Cardiology at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, California. Dr. Biner’s fellowship focuses on echocardiographic and clinical assessment of valvular heart disease and diseases of the aorta. Upon his return to Israel, he plans to establish a Valvular Heart Disease Clinic and to continue his research. Dr. Biner is accompanied by his wife.
and their two children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Yaron Ehrlich -- an urologist from the Rabin Medical Center in Petach Tikva is a Fellow in the Urology-Oncology Program at Indiana University in Indianapolis, Indiana. During his two-year fellowship Dr. Ehrlich is learning to treat the most complex and challenging urologic oncology cases, as well as being trained in advanced technology systems such as robotic surgery. He hopes this training will allow him to provide better care for his cancer patients in Israel. His wife, a Research Ophthalmology Fellow, and their two children, accompany Dr. Ehrlich. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Dana Ekstein – a senior neurologist from the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem is a Fellow in the Department of Neurology, Epilepsy Unit, at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston, Massachusetts. Her primary goals during this fellowship are to acquire optimal training in the care of ambulatory epilepsy patients, the management and monitoring of patients with intractable epilepsy, and in the pre- and post-surgical care of patients with epilepsy. Upon her return to Israel, she plans to establish a new adult epilepsy service at her hospital. Dr. Ekstein is accompanied by her husband, a dentist, and their four children. She is the recipient of the Dr. Leonard Gottlieb Award for APF Fellows studying in Boston.

“I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for the expression of support and confidence in the importance of the post-doctoral training for my personal career development and, more importantly, for better oncological care in Israel.”

Paul Fefer -- a cardiologist from the Chaim Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer is a Clinical Fellow in Interventional Cardiology at the Sunnybrook Health Sciences Center in Toronto, Canada. In addition to his clinical fellowship, Dr. Fefer will be working on the development of an animal model of complete coronary occlusions, as well as learning new imaging techniques and experimenting with their application. Upon his return to Israel, he hopes to continue similar research, and expand into other areas using the new techniques he has acquired. Dr. Fefer is accompanied by his wife and their two children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Victoria Furer – an attending physician in the Department of Internal Medicine at Shaare Zedek Medical Center in Jerusalem is a Fellow in the Division of Rheumatology at NYU Hospital for Joint Diseases in New York City, New York. She hopes the clinical training, with its current state-of-the-art investigative tools, as well as future independent research, will allow her to contribute significantly to the advancement of clinical and research rheumatology in Israel. Dr. Furer is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Miguel Glatstein – from the Pediatric Emergency Department of Sourasky Medical Center, Dana Children’s Hospital, in Tel Aviv is a Fellow in the Division of Pediatric Emergency Medicine at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada. His fellowship involves both basic science research and clinical projects. Additionally, Dr. Glatstein
is interested in continuing and expanding his involvement in academic medicine. He is accompanied by his wife, a biologist. Dr. Glatstein is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Azgad Gold – a psychiatrist at the Tel Aviv Community Mental Health Center is a Fellow in the Division of Psychiatry, Law and Ethics at Columbia University Medical Center in New York City, New York. He hopes that this fellowship in forensic psychiatry and psychiatric ethics will enable him to establish a program of psychiatry, law and ethics at his home institution in Israel. Dr. Gold is accompanied by his wife and their four children. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Ran Harel – a neurosurgeon from the Chaim Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer is a Spine Surgery Fellow at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Harel desires to help relieve pain and discomfort for all his patients. Additionally, he envisions the orthopedic and neurosurgical spine units cooperating and possibly becoming one spine department at his hospital in Israel. His wife and their two children accompany Dr. Harel. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Limor Helpman Bek – a gynecologist from the Lis Maternity Hospital of the Tel Aviv Medical Center is a Fellow the Department of Gynecologic Oncology at the University of Toronto in Canada. She is participating in a three-year fellowship, which includes a year of basic science research and an additional two years of clinical, multi-disciplinary training in medical oncology, radiation oncology, pathology, and advanced surgical training. She hopes to return to Israel and bring her clinical experience and newly gained sophisticated surgical skills to her patients. Dr. Helpman Bek is accompanied by her husband, and their two young children. She is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Netanel Horowitz – a physician from the Department of Hematology at the Rambam Health Care Campus in Haifa is a Research Fellow in the Department of Hematology and Oncology at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. He is studying the relationship between haemostatic system components and tumor biology, with hopes that it will have clinical application in the future for the treatment of cancer and its complications. Ultimately, he hopes that there will be newfound cooperation between his Israeli hospital's research group and the research team he is working with in Cincinnati. Dr. Horowitz is joined by his wife, a chemist, and their four children. He is the recipient of the Dr. Alvin Hoffman Award and the Klitzberg Oncology Award.

Sorin Iordache – an orthopedic and hand surgeon from Beilinson Hospital is a Clinical Fellow in the Department of Surgery (Hand and Upper Limb Division) at the University of Western Ontario, Canada. He hopes, during this fellowship, to be exposed to the treatment of the upper limb sub-specialization as well as the treatment of elbow problems. Dr. Iordache is joined by his wife and their three young children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.
Avinoah Ironi – an attending physician in the Emergency Department of the Chaim Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer is a Fellow in the Resuscitation Program, Emergency Department, of Kingston General Hospital in Ontario, Canada. He hopes to witness and experience the different practices and principles of emergency medicine and resuscitation in North America, with the goal of contributing to the establishment and institutionalization of this specialty in Israel. Dr. Ironi is accompanied by his wife, a teacher, and their four children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Erez Kachel – a cardiac surgeon from the Chaim Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer is pursuing a fellowship in Cardiovascular Surgery at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto, Canada. He hopes this fellowship will afford him the opportunity to participate in a large number of surgeries and to experience new and progressive surgery techniques. Additionally, Dr. Kachel hopes to learn more about the field of surgeries for congestive heart failure patients. He is accompanied by his wife and their two children. Dr. Kachel is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Gadi Kahn – an orthopedic surgeon from Soroka Medical Center in Beer Sheva is a Clinical Fellow studying Orthopedic Sports Medicine at Sunnybrook Health Sciences Centre, University of Toronto, Canada. In addition to his clinical and surgical patient care duties, he is involved in two research projects for ACL injuries. Dr. Kahn is accompanied by his wife and their three children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Boaz Kalmovich – a surgeon from Wolfson Medical Center in Holon is a Fellow in the Trauma Program at McGill University/Montreal General Hospital in Canada. He has recently completed a position as Deputy Head of the Trauma Branch of the IDF Medical Corps. Dr. Kalmovich is accompanied by his wife, also a physician, who is participating in a Head and Neck Surgical Fellowship, and their three children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Daniela Katz – an oncologist from the Sharett Institute at Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem is a Research Fellow at M.D. Anderson in Houston, Texas where she is doing research in the treatment of sarcoma. She also has interest in the fields of breast cancer and lung cancer. Dr. Katz is accompanied by her husband and their three children. She is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant and the Klitzberg Oncology Award.

Gabriel Katz – an ophthalmologist from the Goldschleger Eye Institute, Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer is a Fellow in the Vitreoretinal Service, Department of Ophthalmology at St. Michael’s Hospital in Toronto, Canada. While there, he hopes to learn new and revolutionary treatments for eye diseases and techniques for vitreoretinal surgery. Dr. Katz is accompanied by his wife, an attorney, and their two children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Se-
nior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

**Victor Kizhner** – an otolaryngologist from the Sieff Medical Center in Safed is a Fellow studying the treatment of Obstructive Sleep Apnea and Snoring (OSAS) in the Department of Otolaryngology at St. Luke’s – Roosevelt Hospital Center in New York City, New York. Upon his return to Israel, he hopes to provide new and better treatments for OSAS to his patients. Dr. Kizhner is joined by his wife. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

**Merav Leiba** – a physician in the Hematology and Bone Marrow Transplantation Department of the Chaim Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer is a Research Fellow in the Medical Oncology Department of the Dana Farber Institute in Boston, Massachusetts. She is researching the development of new drugs for multiple myeloma, one of which is planned to go into clinical trials this year. Dr. Leiba is accompanied by her husband, also a physician, and their three children. She is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund and the Klitzberg Oncology Award.

**Dan Levin** – an obstetrician-gynecologist from the Wolfson Medical Center in Holon, and on staff at the Infertility Unit of the Maccabi Health Services, is pursuing a clinical fellowship at McGill University’s Reproductive Center in Montreal, Canada. He is participating in a two-year program in reproductive endocrinology and infertility, with interest in fertility preservation and in vitro maturation of oocytes. He hopes to return to Israel to implement all that he has learned. Dr. Levin is accompanied by his wife, a family physician, and their three children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

“I am sure that the advance specialty training that I am now receiving will enhance my abilities as a physician when I return to Israel. Thank you very much for your generous support.”

**David Lifshitz** – an urologist from the Rabin Medical Center in Petach Tikva, and Chief of the Endourological Unit at HaSharon Hospital, is a Fellow in the Department of Urology at the University of Chicago Medical Center in Illinois. His fellowship program will allow him to expand his expertise in surgical skills, including laparoscopic urology. Additionally, upon Dr. Lifshitz’s return to Israel, he hopes to be involved in the training of residents in laparoscopic urology. His wife and their two children accompany Dr. Lifshitz. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

**Alexander Lowenthal** – a pediatrician from the Schneider Children’s Medical Center in Petach Tikva is a Fellow in the Division of Pediatric Cardiology at the University of California in San Francisco, California. He hopes to acquire new skills and techniques in the different subspecialties of pediatric cardiology, especially in fetal cardiology, non-invasive imaging and electrophysiology. Dr. Lowenthal is accompanied by his wife, a high-school teacher, and their two children. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.
Meir Marmor – an orthopedic surgeon from the Barzilai Medical Center in Ashkelon is a Research Fellow in Orthopedic Trauma at the University of California, San Francisco and San Francisco General Hospital. Dr. Marmor was a military doctor in the Israeli Special Forces. Upon his return to Israel, Dr. Marmor will help lead the Trauma Unit of Barzilai Medical Center, and be in charge of orthopedic trauma surgery. He is joined by his wife, an ENT surgeon, and their three children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Yoav Michowitz – a cardiologist from the Tel Aviv Medical Center is a Fellow studying Cardiac Electrophysiology at UCLA Cardiac Arrhythmia Center in Los Angeles, California. He hopes his fellowship will enable him to experience new advanced technologies that he can bring back to his institution in Israel. Additionally, after his return, he hopes that this fellowship will be the basis for cooperation between Israel and UCLA for further research. He is accompanied by his wife, also a physician, and their two daughters. Dr. Michowitz is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Ido Nachmany – a surgeon from the Sourasky Medical Center in Tel Aviv is a Clinical Fellow at the Thomas E. Starzl Transplantation Institute at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Nachmany hopes to expand his training in transplantation surgery to related fields such as the surgical-oncology treatment of liver and bile duct tumors. He is accompanied by his wife and their three children. Dr. Nachmany is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

“I am very delighted to know there are generous people who are willing to reach out despite the political and economic situation in the world.”

Amit Nahum – a pediatrician specializing in allergy and immunology at the Kaplan Medical Center in Rehovot and at the Kipper Institute of Immunology, Schneider Children’s Hospital in Petach Tikva is a Fellow in the Division of Immunology and Allergy at The Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada. He hopes that this clinical fellowship will enhance his skills to benefit Israel's population, and that his research work will lead to finding the immune defect and mechanism underlying a disease known as chronic mucocutaneous candidiasis. Dr. Nahum is accompanied by his wife, also a physician, and their three young children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

Ariella Ofran – a family doctor in the Maccabi Health Services HMO (Northern Region) is a Fellow in the Family Medicine Department of Tufts University in Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Ofran is participating in a Master Teaching Fellowship Program that offers her the opportunity to be exposed to new teaching formats. She plans to use the techniques learned in this program in her future work in teaching, medical administration, and management. Her husband, also a physician, and their four children accompany her. Dr. Ofran is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.
Itai Pessach – a pediatrician from the Safra Children’s Hospital at the Chaim Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer is a Fellow in the Department of Immunology and Allergy at Children’s Hospital and Harvard Medical School in Boston, Massachusetts. During his three-year fellowship, he will participate in extensive basic research, with clinical exposure, in order to gain proficiency in advanced and new technologies used to treat severe primary immunodeficiencies. Dr. Pessach is accompanied by his wife, a psychologist, and their two young sons. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

Gilad Regev – an orthopedist from the Tel Aviv Sourasky Medical Center in Tel Aviv is participating in a clinical Spine Surgery Fellowship at the University of California – San Diego Medical Center in San Diego, California. His focus during this program will be on minimally invasive surgery, utilizing computer-assisted image guidance. Dr. Regev is accompanied by his wife and their young son and newborn daughter.

Deborah Rubin-Asher – a physician in the Department of Neurological Rehabilitation of the Chaim Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer is a Fellow in the Division of Physiatry at the University of Toronto in Canada. Dr. Rubin-Asher hopes this fellowship will enable her to become more proficient at diagnosing and managing the neurological, behavioral, and emotional conditions that develop in traumatic brain injured patients, ultimately leading to their rehabilitation. She is accompanied by her husband, also a physician, and their three children. Dr. Rubin-Asher is the recipient of the Dr. Clara J. Szekely Award.

David Shveiky – an obstetrician-gynecologist from the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem is a Fellow at Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C., with special interest in female pelvic medicine and reconstructive surgery. He is currently engaged in research determining the basic mechanisms of pelvic floor dysfunction, especially in the elderly. Upon return to Israel, he is interested in pursuing an academic career, while still integrating clinical responsibilities and basic medically oriented research. His wife and their two children accompany Dr. Shveiky. He is the recipient of

Einat Shalom-Paz – an obstetrician/gynecologist from the IVF Unit of the Hillel Yaffe Medical Center in Hadera is a Fellow in the Gynecologic Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility Program at McGill University and at Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal, Canada. She hopes to be able to assist women who need to delay fertility through her investigation of fertility preservation and in-vitro maturation. Dr. Shalom-Paz is accompanied by her husband, an architect, and their four children. She is the recipient of the Dr. Clara J. Szekely Award.

Raneen Shehadeh-Mashor – an ophthalmologist from the Bnai Zion Medical Center in Haifa is a Fellow focusing on ocular surface diseases, including those of the cornea, in the Department of Ophthalmology at Toronto Western Hospital in Toronto, Canada. Upon her return to Israel, she hopes to be able to introduce advanced medical and new surgical techniques for ocular surface and corneal diseases to the population in northern Israel. Dr. Shehadeh-Mashor is accompanied by her husband, an optometrist, and their young daughter.
a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant

**Orna Staretz-Chacham** – an attending physician in the Neonatology Department of the Soroka Medical Center in Beer Sheva is a Fellow in the National Human Genome Research Institute at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, Maryland. Her goal is to gain broad knowledge of molecular genetics and metabolic disorders, and to be able to apply this knowledge to the children in the Negev region of Israel. Dr. Staretz-Chacham is joined by her husband and their three children.

**Ziv Vaknin** – an obstetrician-gynecologist from the Assaf Harofe Medical Center in Zerifin is a Clinical Fellow in the Gynecological Oncology Training Program at McGill University’s Faculty of Medicine in Montreal, Canada. His specific goals include improvement and expansion of his surgical skills in this field, as well as learning new experiences in other treatment modalities. He also hopes to participate in research projects. His wife, a physiotherapist, and their two children accompany Dr. Vaknin. He is the recipient of the Dr. Alvin Hoffman Award.

**Danielle Vicus** – an obstetrician-gynecologist from the Sheba Medical Center at Tel Hashomer is a Fellow in the Gynecology Oncology Division at the University of Toronto in Canada. In addition to participating in research, she hopes to learn new procedures, including the most recent surgical techniques, which can be beneficial to her patients at her home hospital, as well as be shared with her colleagues in Israel. Her husband and their two children accompany Dr. Vicus. She is the recipient of the Dr. Alvin Hoffman Award.

**Sergey Yalonetsky** – a pediatric and congenital disease cardiologist from the Rambam Hospital in Haifa is a Fellow in the Congenital Cardiac Center for Adults at Toronto General Hospital in Canada. The main focus of this fellowship training is learning how to treat adult patients who have survived infancy and childhood with heart defects that involved surgical and interventional procedure. His wife and their child accompany Dr. Yalonetsky. He is the recipient of a joint American Physicians Fellowship/Israel Medical Association Fellowship grant.

**Zohar Yehoshua** – an ophthalmologist from the Kaplan Medical Center in Rehovot is a Clinical Fellow at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Miami, Florida. Dr. Yehoshua’s goal in this fellowship is to explore the use of spectral domain OCT in the diagnosis and treatment of macular diseases. Dr. Yehoshua also hopes to be trained in the imaging of the retina, a new technology not yet available in Israel. His wife, a dentist, and their three children accompany Dr. Yehoshua. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

“I am sure that your support will help me complete my fellowship with great success. This would allow me to return to Israel with the knowledge and experience that will allow me to provide better care to my patients.”

“I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank you for the expression of support and confidence in the importance of the post-doctoral training for my personal career development and, more importantly, for better oncological care in Israel.”
Jonathan Yeshayahu – a pediatrician from the Maccabi Health Services in Ashdod is a Fellow at the Pediatric Endocrinology Unit of the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada. While there, he will be focusing specifically on diabetes, childhood obesity, and other growth disorders. He hopes to take the knowledge acquired during his fellowship to the diverse population of Ashdod and the surrounding Negev. He is accompanied by his wife, a family physician, and their five children. Dr. Yeshayahu is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

“It is my hope and intention that with the experience and knowledge that I will accomplish during my fellowship, I shall become a better physician and surgeon for the benefit of future patients.”

Leor Zach – an oncologist from Sheba Medical Center in Tel Hashomer is a Fellow in the Radiation Oncology Branch of the National Cancer Institute (NIH) in Bethesda, Maryland. He is specifically interested in imaging applications for brain and spinal cord malignancies, and has started to write a clinical trial for imaging and serum biomarkers for spinal cord compression. Dr. Zach is joined by his wife and three children. He is the recipient of the Harry and Bella Wexner Senior Fellowship for Medical Education and Research of the Legacy Heritage Fund.

“By awarding me the Dr. Alvin Hoffman Award, you have lightened my financial burden which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of this fellowship, learning and improving my skills in research and science. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community.”

APF Facilitates a Special Grant to Cytotechnologist

APF recently helped to facilitate a special grant to Ms. Katya Voskoboinik, a young Ukrainian immigrant to Israel.

Katya is a medical technician in the Pathology Department of B’nai Zion Medical Center in Haifa, and was invited to attend the UCLA School of Cytotechnology and become the first formally trained cytotechnologist in Israel in 37 years. One of the stipulations of this full tuition scholarship, for the 2008 - 2009 training year, is that she is expected to return to Israel and become instrumental there in the development of the profession of Cytotechnology.

Dr. Barbara Florentine, an APF member, and former APF Board Member, generously offered to provide housing for the school year. APF was proud that it could direct designated donations for Katya’s other expenses and assist her to participate in this unique opportunity.
The American Physicians Fellowship for Medicine in Israel is pleased that it could facilitate special grants for several physicians and administrators to attend Courses and Conferences in 2008.

**Dr. Yedidia Bentur**, Director of the Israel Poison Information Center and a member of the Mass Toxicological Committee of the Supreme Health Authority in Israel attended the Medical Chemical Defense Conference in Munich, Germany. The Conference specifically focused on sulfur mustard, which has been used in wars and is a serious chemical terrorism hazard. Dr. Bentur has shared the knowledge gained at the Conference with the clinical toxicologists at the Poison Center, and feels that implementation of such knowledge will improve Israel’s level of preparedness for war or terror attacks with chemical warfare agents.

**Maj. Eran Hadad, M.D.**, the Director of the Medical Research Team from the Trauma Branch, Surgeon General’s Office of the Israeli Defense Forces Medical Corps and **Ltc. Gil Hirschhorn, M.D.**, the Head of the Trauma Branch, Surgeon General’s Office of the Israeli Defense Forces Medical Corps, both attended the biennial Shoresh Conference held in Baltimore, Maryland in September. The focus of the meeting was the exchange of information and the exploration of future collaborations of mutual benefit in medical research including: chemical biological defense, infectious disease, combat casualty care, and post traumatic stress disorder.

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**Your dollars help to put it all together!**

www.apfmed.org
Immediately after the hurricane hit the Galveston and Houston areas this Fall, the APF office began to seek the four APF fellows who had come to study there. We wanted to make sure that all was okay with them and their families. This natural disaster was quite a trying experience for them, an experience not to be forgotten during their Fellowship. All are doing well now, after some harrowing times, and we wish them the best of luck.

Below is an e-mail from Dr. Yuval Ben-Moshe to APF’s Israeli Intern, Mrs. Dana Even-Amit.

From: Dr. Yuval Ben-Moshe  
Sent: Wednesday, September 17, 2008 12:59 PM  
To: APF Intern  
Subject: Re:

Hi Dana:

I was very happy to get the e-mail from you.

Sorry that we couldn’t talk by the phone - my phone was doing a lot of trouble since the hurricane, and most of the time I can’t reach or hear anyone. I’m writing you from the medical center because we still don’t have any electricity.

My area was damaged around by many fallen trees and the wind but luckily it wasn’t flooded. Many people left so at night especially when we have a curfew it seems a little as ghost neighborhood.

At the beginning we didn’t have any water but now there’s water - cold but water - you have to boil them if you can but still there’s water! Apart from it we eat all the time from cans - it looks a little like third world but we hope that it will become better in the following days.

I don’t want to get you too bored with all this things so I’ll finish at this point

Sincerely yours
Yuval
APF is the official organization designated by the Government of Israel to maintain a Registry of Emergency Medical Volunteers willing to travel to Israel in time of declared emergency.

In 1967, even prior to the Six-Day War, a call was placed to APF to undertake the task of determining whether an adequate number of volunteer physicians, nurses and paramedical personnel could be found to help sustain the medical needs of Israel in wartime. APF arranged for an emergency mass meeting of its membership and other interested healthcare professionals, and over 300 individuals attended a meeting in Boston to hear about the medical situation in Israel. Additionally, hundreds of volunteers from all over the United States and Canada called offering their services. Fortunately, because of the rapid success of the Israeli army, the services of the APF volunteers were not needed.

From this experience, it became evident that a more formalized Registry needed to be created, and the Emergency Medical Volunteer Registry was born.

The response to volunteer by more than 1100 medical personnel during the Yom Kippur War in 1973 was tremendous. In addition to answering the Israeli Government’s call for drugs and surgical equipment, APF did send medical volunteers.

During the Gulf Wars, as well as the most recent War in Lebanon, the Registry of Emergency Medical Volunteers was put on call. In 2006, in coordination with a mock drill in Israel, selected physicians on APF’s EMV Registry were contacted. Constant vigilance and preparedness are essential.

Unfortunately, there is no peace, and the need for volunteers continues. You are still needed! Please become a volunteer!

For information about APF’s Emergency Medical Volunteer Registry, please visit our website at: www.apfmed.org or call the APF office at 617-232-5382
Emergency and Disaster Training Courses in Israel

2009 Course Dates

May 2nd* - 7th, 2009 *after Shabbat

November 7th* - 12th, 2009 *after Shabbat

Spaces are limited and do go fast, so please sign up early!

If you are interested in registering, or for further information, please visit our website www.apfmed.org or contact Sarah Rosenfeld-Mahoney at the APF Office (617) 232-5382 or via e-mail at sarah@apfmed.org
Save Money By Making A Donation

As you consider your year-end tax planning, we hope you will consider making good use of the income tax charitable deduction. No matter what your income, if you itemize, you can almost always lower your income taxes through charitable giving.

And consider the APF in your estate plans. It is a wonderful way of helping a great cause in the future. In addition to gifts of cash or stock, also please consider a charitable bequest in your will.

Please contact the APF Office for more information.

Such acts of tzedakah are much appreciated.

All gifts of $500 or more will receive a copy while quantities last!

*Publication of this book was assisted by a grant from the APF

This book traces significant points of history of the Jewish People and the history of Medicine. Two significant questions are reviewed: Does Judaism foster a special attitude toward medicine? And to what extent did life in the Diaspora influence the Jewish contribution to medicine? There are beautiful colored plates of posters, photographs, and manuscripts throughout the book.

Keep for yourself or give as a gift!

Israel’s Best Kept Medical Secret!
Thirty eight North American Jewish medical students, dental students, and nurses danced with their Israeli hosts at Ben Gurion Airport, studied ethics at Rambam’s tomb in Tiberias, toured the ancient city of S’fat, climbed Mount Arbiel, and began a search for their Jewish identities....... and that was just the first day! The pace picked up after that!

We are doing it again next year. If you want to see Israel, up close and personal. If you want to spend the most exhausting, inspiring, rewarding ten days of your life join our 2009 Taglit/birthright - APF Student Tour.

It is free, and the memories are priceless!

We will not have a reserved date until later this year, but we are aiming for a mid-June departure. Jewish medical, dental or nursing students, less than 26 years of age, who have not been on an organized trip to Israel, and pre-meds with a medical school acceptance, are eligible.

Space is limited so register early. You can pre-register by contacting Sarah Rosenfeld-Mahoney at: sarah@apfmed.org or by calling 617-232-5382
Twenty doctors and nurses attending the American Physicians Fellowship’s (APF) Emergency and Disaster Course in Israel visited the embattled town of Sderot on Monday, May 12th. They helped to dedicate a $20,000 reinforced bus shelter for the Torani Hadash School procured by contributions to APF. One day earlier, tens of schoolchildren raced to this and nearby shelters when a Kassam Rocket fell nearby. There were no casualties.

The APF Course participants also dedicated a new $10,000 vitally needed defibrillator system at the Sderot Magen David Adom Station, purchased with funds donated to APF.

All photos were taken by Sasson Tiram

**The Doctors’ House Call that Saved Lives in Sderot**

Twenty doctors and nurses attending the American Physicians Fellowship’s (APF) Emergency and Disaster Course in Israel visited the embattled town of Sderot on Monday, May 12th. They helped to dedicate a $20,000 reinforced bus shelter for the Torani Hadash School procured by contributions to APF. One day earlier, tens of schoolchildren raced to this and nearby shelters when a Kassam Rocket fell nearby. There were no casualties. The APF Course participants also dedicated a new $10,000 vitally needed defibrillator system at the Sderot Magen David Adom Station, purchased with funds donated to APF.

All photos were taken by Sasson Tiram

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