

# ALLERGISTS FOR ISRAEL

AmA-CHAI

Volume I

American Allergists Concerned about Helping Allergy in Israel

March 1993

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

**FOR:** A Social "KIDDUSH"  
**WHEN:** During the American Academy of Allergy & Immunology Meeting -- Friday, March 12, 1993 -- 6:15 p.m.  
**WHERE:** Chicago Hilton & Towers - Boulevard "A" and "B" rooms  
**NOTE:** Advisory Board Meeting (and everyone interested in being active!) -- 5:15 p.m. - Boulevard rooms

## A Note from Bill Silvers...

Shalom וָלֵךְ

and Welcome to our first Newsletter for

### ALLERGISTS FOR ISRAEL!

*It is very heartwarming to be part of the increasing interest and enthusiasm in bonding together at our AAI and ACAI kiddushes and helping to support the growing specialty of allergy and clinical immunology in Israel. After spending a year helping to start the new allergy clinic at the Hadassah Medical Center in Jerusalem, I returned with a personal commitment to try and help, in some way, to befriend and support this small specialty in Israel. I feel that in addition to our other personal, professional, and community commitments, we have an obligation to help strengthen, as best we can, our own specialty in Israel. We have the ever increasing momentum evidenced by larger participation in the social Kiddush at each College and Academy meeting since 1984. What started as a "mini-minyan" in my hotel room now requires a conference room with a half partition to allow for traditional davening as well as a more reformed social kiddush--and therefore, to embrace everyone. Please continue to come, bring your friends, participate, and lead the service if you wish!*

*Thank you to all who have contributed and continue to contribute. We have recently made major contributions to the Israel Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology, and to the Children's Medical Center of Israel, as well as continuing to support many allergy clinics with memberships in the American Academy of Allergy & Immunology (and therefore, receiving the JACI), in addition to teaching slides and an initial pollen sampler. As further requests will be reviewed by a funding committee, I look forward to this process becoming more formalized, interactive, and participatory from the Pacific to the Atlantic to the Mediterranean coasts!*

*Continued on Page 3*

## PLEASE JOIN US FOR A PRE-TRIP TO POLAND-PRAGUE BUDAPEST-ISRAEL EN ROUTE TO INTERASMA '93

We're very excited about our Pre-Trip for INTERASMA '93 to Poland-Prague and Budapest in October 1993. We're finalizing the details but we want to fill you in on what's happening:

**Saturday Night - October 16**  
Depart New York - JFK Intl. Airport  
**Sunday - October 17**  
Arrive Warsaw  
**Monday - October 18**  
Warsaw-Cracow  
**Tuesday - October 19**  
Cracow  
**Wednesday - October 20**  
Cracow-Prague  
**Thursday - October 21**  
Prague  
**Friday - October 22 - Group I**  
Prague/Budapest  
**Friday - October 22 - Group II**  
Prague to Ben-Gurion Airport  
**Saturday - October 23**  
Budapest  
**Sunday - October 24**  
Budapest to Ben-Gurion Airport  
**Monday - October 25**  
INTERASMA '93 - Opening Ceremonies  
Jerusalem

Departing New York for Warsaw on Saturday night, October 16, 1993, we arrive in Warsaw on Sunday, October 17.

After checking in at the Five Star Intercontinental Victoria Hotel, the guided tour of Warsaw begins.

At the beginning of World War II, Jews made up one third of Warsaw's population. Warsaw was the hub of the vibrant political, social and cultural life of Polish Jews.

The main street through the former Ghetto has been renamed for Mordecai Anielewicz, the leader of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. A memorial to him and the other heroes of the Uprising is in the Jewish cemetery.

Umschlagplatz, in the Ghetto, was where 850,000 Jews began their journey by train to Treblinka. An impressive monument now stands nearby to commemorate those who lost their lives at the end of their journey.

The Jewish cemetery is also in the Warsaw Ghetto, and is one of the most historic in the world. Hundreds of graves dating back over a century miraculously survived bombing and other attacks in Warsaw.

The tour of Warsaw continues to the Nozyk Synagogue, the only synagogue that survived the wartime calamities. Built in 1902 and devastated during the occupation, the building was recently reconstructed. After years of absence, a rabbi from Israel now officiates.

A visit to the Jewish Historical Institute is planned. The Institute carries out research in the field of Jewish History.

You'll feel as though you're stepping back to a more pleasant time when we visit the Old Town Market Square, with its Baroque and Gothic architecture, picturesque and narrow streets. We'll see where Marie Curie lived and Frederic Chopin spent his childhood.

Monday, October 18 - Warsaw and Cracow, after breakfast at the hotel, we will have a panoramic tour of Warsaw, the capital of Poland since 1596. During World War II, most of the city was destroyed.

On the tour down the Royal Route, we will have the opportunity to take a stroll through the beautiful palatial park complex of Lazienki Park, where renown Polish and foreign pianists give concerts at the Chopin monument.

In the afternoon, we will travel through the countryside, Radom, and to Cracow in time to check-in and have dinner at the Intercontinental Forum Hotel. If anyone joining us has family origins to visit, this is the time to do so.

On Tuesday, after a buffet breakfast at the hotel, we will depart for Auschwitz-Birchenu, 37 miles away, the most notorious concentration camp, and the largest "factory of death". Auschwitz is where 1.5 million Jews perished. The site of this camp now houses the Oswiecim State Museum which displays exhibits and documents concerning Nazi crimes. We will spend the afternoon in Cracow, virtually untouched by bombing during World War II. We will see the Jewish points of interest on the walk across the old Kazimierz Quarter. The Old Synagogue in Kazimierz is now designated for the Museum of Jewish History and Culture. We hope to visit a salt mine where asthmatics are placed for "Speleotherapy".

In the evening, dinner will be served at the hotel where we hope to meet with Polish allergists and learn about the state-of-the-art Polish allergy practice.

On Wednesday, after breakfast we will travel to Warsaw airport for a short flight to Prague. Upon arrival in Prague, we will check-in to the new Atrium Hotel and enjoy dinner.

On Thursday, we will have the opportunity to explore the sights of Prague on our walking tour of the city: from Wenceslas Square to the Powder Tower; along Celetna Lane to the Old Town Square with the statue of Rabbi Loew - to admire the Old Town Hall and the Animated Astronomical Clock, past the theaters and opera houses, where Mozart, Liszt, Wagner, and Berlioz performed their timeless masterpieces.

Continuing to Josephov, the Old Jewish Town, including former ghetto area, Jewish Town Hall, Old Jewish Cemetery, Kafka's house, the world renowned Jewish State Museum "Precious Legacy Museum", a network of buildings and synagogues, including the Altneuschul, Europe's oldest synagogue built in 1270. The museum houses the world's largest collection of Judaica. The afternoon is free for your own pursuits.

Dinner will be served at the hotel and we hope to meet with Prague Allergists.

Friday, after breakfast, Group I will depart for a flight to Budapest. Group II will leave for Israel.

In Budapest after check-in and a brief rest at the Intercontinental Forum Hotel, we shall take a panoramic tour which will acquaint us with the medieval, Renaissance and Baroque styles of art. It will include Citadel atop Gellert Hill, Fishermen's Bastion, the "Coronation" or Matthias Church, St. Stephen's Cathedral, Heroes' Square, the Danube Embankment, the impressive Parliament House, museums and Town Park.

You'll then get to learn about the city on your own. You will find a lively cultural place with wonderful food and friendly people.

Shabbat dinner will be served in the hotel. Shabbat, can either be spent on your own or

following a buffet breakfast, enjoy a half-day tour of the Jewish points of interest. You will get to know the Old Jewish section with its cemetery, medieval Obuda Synagogue, Jewish Museum, the Raoul Wallenberg Memorial, and the Dohany Street Synagogue, the world's second largest after New York's Temple Emanu-El.

Afternoon is free time. Dinner with wine and a Folklore Show at a typical restaurant at night.

On Sunday, following breakfast, we will fly to Tel-Aviv at which time our Pre-Trip ends!

INTERASMA '93 Registration will be held in the afternoon on Sunday, October 24, 1993, in Jerusalem. Opening Ceremonies are Monday morning, October 25, 1993.

**PLEASE LET US KNOW OF YOUR INTEREST  
BY RETURNING THE ENCLOSED FLYER  
A.S.A.P.!**

### PRE-TRIP DETAILS & PRICING

Round-trip airfare and the land portion for the Pre-Trip from New York (JFK) to Warsaw to Prague to Budapest to Israel back to New York (Group I) is: \$2,674.00 per person based on double occupancy. The single supplement is \$368.00.

If you are interested in the trip from New York to Warsaw to Prague to Israel and back to New York (Group II), the cost is \$2,204.00 per person based on double occupancy. The single supplement is \$282.00. You would join us for everything on the Pre-Trip EXCEPT Budapest and instead you will fly directly to Israel from Prague.

#### The quoted pricing includes:

- \* Five-Star Hotel accommodations
- \* Breakfast & dinner daily
- \* Sightseeing as per itinerary
- \* All gratuities/service/tax at hotels
- \* Entrance fees and portrage

The rates are based on current tariffs in foreign currencies and exchange rates in effect at this time and are subject to change by departure time.

We will fly KLM from New York to Warsaw, and KLM to Israel from Europe. It is your choice to fly KLM or El Al from Israel back to New York on the return trip.

We are working with Francine Mellon (Mike's wife) at "It's A Small World" Travel Agency in San Diego, California. The number is **800-869-0674**. Please call Francine directly regarding any questions you may have about the Pre-Trip. If you have any questions regarding INTERASMA '93 in Israel and accommodations for the conference, you may contact Gil-Kenes at 800-223-3855 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



**Israel & Elyakima Glazer with Bill Silvers  
at their home in Tel Aviv**

### *Please Meet . . . Israel Glazer, M.D. "Dean of Israeli Allergists"*

Dr. Glazer is one of the founders of the Israel Society of Allergy and served many terms as its president. He was the first American trained allergist in Israel to introduce the American approach. Through his efforts, allergy was established as a recognized specialty by the Scientific Council of the Israel Medical Association and the Ministry of Health. Thus he became one of the original group of specialists in Allergy as well as Internal Medicine.

Dr. Israel Glazer was born in Russia on March 27, 1919 and came to Palestine in 1925. He graduated from the Hebrew Gymnasium "Herzelia" in Tel Aviv in 1937 and later studied Biology at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and the University of Geneva. He earned his B.A. in 1943, and his M.D. in 1947 from the American University of Beirut.

Dr. Glazer was an intern at the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital and resident in Internal Medicine with Prof. I. Snapper at Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City. He then became a Dazian Foundation Fellow in Allergy with Dr. M. Walzer at the Brooklyn Jewish Hospital, thus completing the American Board requirements in Internal Medicine and Allergy.

Upon his return to Israel, Dr. Glazer established the Allergy Unit at the Tel Hashomer Government Hospital (now the Sheba Medical Center) in 1956 and served as its head until his retirement in 1986. He now serves as a consulting allergist to the hospital.

Dr. Glazer was honored by the ACAI as a Distinguished International Fellow at its Annual Meeting in 1991.

He is a contributing editor of the International Archives of Allergy and Applied Immunology and his main interest and publications are in the field of clinical allergy including etiological factors of bronchial asthma, allergic rhinitis, and mold and pollen surveys in Israel.

Dr. Glazer, Coordinator for INTERASMA '93, invites us all to attend the conference, and join him and his lovely wife, Elyakima (who always bakes and brings great honey bread to our Allergists For Israel Kiddushes during the AAAI and ACAI meetings).



*Yosi Mekori, M.D. with Bill Silvers, M.D.  
at the Clinic in Meir Hospital, Kfar-Saba*

**Please Meet . . . Yoseph A. Mekori, M.D.**

President of the ISACI

Doctor Mekori was born in Tel-Aviv in 1948 and educated at Tel-Aviv University (M.D. 1976). After completing training of five years in Internal Medicine at the Meir Hospital in Kfar-Saba (one of the major teaching hospitals affiliated with the Tel-Aviv University), and choosing a career in allergy and immunology, he joined Dr. Henry A. Claman as a Fellow at the University of Colorado. After completing a two year Fellowship, Dr. Mekori joined Stephen J. Galli as a research associate at the Harvard Medical School in Boston. In 1986, he returned to Israel and established the Allergy-Immunology Unit at the Meir Hospital. In 1990, he was appointed Associate Professor of Medicine at the Sackler School of Medicine (Tel-Aviv University) and in the same year, became Chairman of Medicine at the Meir Hospital. Currently, Dr. Mekori is in the United States at the MAST cell physiology section in the NIH for a sabbatical year.

Dr. Mekori is author of more than 60 scientific publications with his main areas of interest being immunomodulation of delayed hypersensitivity reactions; the role of MAST cell in nonallergic inflammatory processes, and immunopathogenesis of chronic urticaria.

"On behalf of the ISACI, I would like to acknowledge our appreciation and express our gratitude to the Members of AmA-CHAI. We look forward to seeing many of you in Jerusalem during the INTERASMA '93 meeting for an outstanding scientific and social event." Yoseph Mekori, M.D.

**FOR YOUR INFORMATION . . . ABOUT DONATIONS . . .**

As you know, we have encouraged a closer relationship between Allergists in the United States and brethren Allergists in Israel, and since our inception in 1984, we have identified with and supported Clinical Allergy development in Israel. We have recently made the following contributions in our continuing efforts to support this growing field in Israeli medicine.

To this effort, we have contributed \$5,000 in unrestricted funds to the Israel Society of Allergy and Clinical Immunology to promote allergy education and research in Israel.

We have also contributed \$5,000 to the Children's Medical Center of Israel, which was officially dedicated on October 27, 1992. We are part of the reality of a hospital which is sure to provide much needed care to many young patients in Israel and the Middle East. Dr. Donald Aaronson attended the opening.

We are continuing to provide teaching materials to allergy clinics and Allergists in Israel with medical journal subscriptions (JACI), teaching slides, and memberships in American Allergy & Immunology organizations in an effort to help the specialty of allergy grow and prosper in Israel.



**The Children's Medical Center - Israel  
Beilinson Hospital Campus, Petach Tikvah, Israel**

**THE PRAYER OF MAIMONIDES**

*The prayer of Maimonides (1135-1204) first published in 1863 under the title "Daily Prayer of a Physician before Visiting a Sick man." Every day, before he started on his medical rounds, he uttered a devout prayer:*

"I begin once more my daily work. Be Thou with me, Almighty Father of Mercy, in all my efforts to heal the sick. For without Thee, man is but a helpless creature. Grant that I may be filled with love for my art and for my fellow-men. May the thirst for gain and the desire for fame be far from my heart. For these are the enemies of Pity and the ministers of Hate. Grant that I may be able to devote myself, body and soul to Thy children who suffer from pain. Preserve my strength, that I may be able to restore the strength of the rich and the poor, the good and the bad, the friend and the foe. Let me see in the sufferer the man alone. When wiser men teach me, let me be humble to learn; for the mind of men is so puny, and the art of healing is so vast. But when fools are ready to advise me or to find fault with me, let me not listen to their folly. Let me be intent upon one thing, O Father of Mercy, to be always merciful to Thy suffering children.

May there never rise in me the notion that I know enough, but give me strength and leisure and zeal to enlarge my knowledge. Our work is great, and the mind of man presses forward forever. Thou hast chosen me in Thy grace, to watch over the life and death of Thy creatures. I am about to fulfill my duties. Guide me in this immense work so that it may be of avail."

**Continued from page 1 -- A Note from Bill Silvers .....**

As this "labor of love" has increasingly demanded more time and energies, I have asked Elaine Kauffman to be our Administrator. Elaine is a friend, and her commitment and organizational talents are much appreciated-- Thank You Elaine! Another thank you goes to Stan Kamlet, Head of the Endowment Fund of the Allied Jewish Federation of Denver, who helped with the initial structure and continues to receive the checks and make the disbursements. And most of all, I thank each and every one of you who has participated and contributed. We are now up for getting a good representation of allergists from all over the world to attend the INTERASMA '93 in October of this year. We have worked hard to get the word out, compose a meaningful and educational Pre-Trip through Poland and Prague (and Budapest for those who wish) for one week to culminate with a week of INTERASMA and Israel! There is plenty of time to plan this trip--so let us know of your interest--and join in!

**Become Involved!!** Let's have more broad based leadership and participation--and ask those of your friends who you feel have similar sympathies and commitments to join with us. Let's get together this March in Chicago, and this October, in Jerusalem!

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