



NATIONAL ARCHIVES

There is No Virtue in Being Unprepared

The number of victims is so large that comfort for some is found only in a misguided belief there could never be another Holocaust. One surviving family's daughter knows better, and has some personal reasons for telling people it's OK to defend yourself.

Doris Wise Montrose founded Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors in memory of her father who spent World War II in Auschwitz-Birkenau. "In exchange for tailoring Nazi uniforms, they allowed him to live and would reward him with an occasional potato or an onion," Montrose said. He never saw his first wife, parents or six sisters and their families again. His younger brother survived.

Space was limited when her Los Angeles-based organization held a firearm familiarization day on May 12, so the slots filled fast. Itamar Gelbman provided instruction. Gelbman—a grandson of

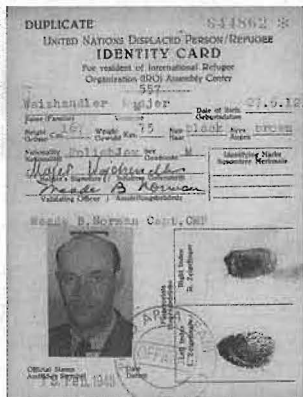
Holocaust survivors—put students behind the trigger of a variety of guns.

Response was unanimous. "I was so afraid to pick up a gun and after this first class, I'm no longer shaking," Lea Rosenfeld said. "Many of my friends are now interested, too." Rabbi Yitzchak Sapochkinsky said, "Good introduction to remove the fear or apprehension... I was always telling myself that I wanted something like this and there it was." Les Hajnal, P.E., put it into perspective. "I had a great time and learned a lot from Itamar. I, for one, am determined to hold fast to the principal of 'never again!'"



Man's inhumanity to man was on full display in concentration camps like Buchenwald.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES



Most of Mejer Wise's family was murdered during the Holocaust.

Montrose explained, "The inspiration and motivation for including firearms training... is this quote from Alex Kozinski, Chief Judge of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals and also a child of Holocaust survivors: 'All too many of the other great tragedies of history—Stalin's atrocities, the killing fields of Cambodia, the Holocaust, to name but a few—were perpetrated by armed troops against unarmed populations. Many could well have been avoided or mitigated, had the perpetrators known their intended victims were equipped with a rifle and 20 bullets apiece... If a few hundred Jewish fighters in the Warsaw Ghetto could hold off the Wehrmacht for almost a month with only a handful of weapons, six million Jews armed with rifles could not so easily have been herded into cattle cars.'"

The danger hasn't disappeared, either. The Anti-Defamation League says deeply seated anti-Semitic feelings are on the increase—infecting 1.1 billion people globally. Montrose warns it's not only Jews, but every American, who is in danger if

radical elements get their way. "I am consumed by doing my part to make sure no other Jew ever has to face what we faced before."

How does she reconcile religious beliefs with firearms? "In the Jewish tradition, self-defense is a moral obligation," she explained. "From the Talmud: 'If someone comes to kill you, rise up and kill him first.' The law of *pikuach nefesh*, or saving lives, takes precedence over all others. To fail to protect human life, including your own, simply because doing so might require the protector to use violence... would be contrary to *pikuach nefesh*."

There are no Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors memberships or dues. Montrose said its ultimate goal is, "To become obsolete as a result of having fulfilled our mission successfully."

Montrose's father and mother—who saw most of her family survive—met in a displaced-persons camp after



Doris Wise Montrose founded Children of Jewish Holocaust Survivors in 2006.

he learned the fate of his wife and parents. Ultimately, the pair married, moved to Canada and had two girls. One of them has a passion for reminding lawful citizens, "There is no virtue in being unprepared."

HAVA Heart



Honored American Veterans Afeld (HAVA) and Academi hosted nearly 200 veterans and spouses—along with more than 100 of their children—near Moyock, NC, in June. The event set a new record for the annual HAVA/Academi Family Day, and featured 3-gun shooting stages, a crossbow stage, Airsoft, a bounce house for children, gift bags, a shooting demonstration, prizes and more.

"This was truly a complete family day for these American heroes, spouses, caregivers and their kids," said Tom Taylor, HAVA chairman. "We served over 50 percent more spouses and children than last year, and had numerous families come back for their second or third year. What a privilege it is for HAVA volunteers and our entire industry to be a part of these events that say thank you to the disabled veterans and injured active-duty military who have served our nation so valiantly."

High-Caliber Game

You'll instantly be king of your Thursday-night chess league when you show up with this set from Olde World Collectibles and Creations. All pieces are made from spent .223 Rem. casings. Pieces on the brass side have black-walnut wooden bases, and the steel side features red-oak bases. Each piece is clear coated, and has been finely detailed with cutting, curling and wood-burning techniques. The board is made from a solid piece of red oak and is decorated with brass carrying handles. MSRP: \$345; (866) 575-7742, etsy.com/shop/oldeworldcc



Quick Shots

Soldiers from the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit (USAMU) took both individual and team titles at the 55th Interservice Pistol Championships held in June. USAMU Blue won the overall team championship for the ninth consecutive year, while SSG Patrick Franks

claimed his first overall individual championship crown. MidwayUSA celebrated its 37th anniversary in June. Opened in 1977 under the name Ely Arms, the business has grown into a successful online retailer of shooting, reloading and gunsmithing products.

The New Jersey State Police adopted the SureFire X300 Ultra as standard-issue after a comprehensive testing-and-evaluation process. The agency is purchasing 2,800 of the weaponlights for issue to all of its sworn officers. The X300 Ultra delivers 500 lumens of blinding light

through a precision Total Internal Reflection lens and is powered by two CR123A lithium batteries. GunVault has expanded its warranty on fire and burglary to an industry exclusive five-year guarantee, with replacement free of charge if damaged by either.