

OVERVIEW

YOM HASHOAH HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE, QUAD CITIES

MISSION STATEMENT (9/96): The Yom Hashoah Committee seeks to honor the memory of the victims of the Holocaust and those who helped the victims, and to tell the story of the Holocaust in such a way as to encourage resistance to any future holocaust.

Oct 8, 1980	Formation of Holocaust Program Committee
Jan 21, 1981	Formation of Jewish Federation of the Quad Cities Professional Advisory Committee of the Holocaust Program
Apr 17, 1982	Speaker, Congressman, Tom Lantos, California (Special Tribute to Raoul Wallenberg)
Apr 10, 1983	Speakers, Irvin and Phillis Karp, Des Moines (Special Tribute to Oskar Schindler)
Apr 30, 1984	Speaker, R.W. Rasmussen, Consul General, Royal Danish Consulate, Chicago, Illinois (Special Tribute to Nation of Denmark)
Apr 21, 1985	Speaker, John Henry Weidner, Righteous Gentile (originally from Netherlands)
Apr 20, 1986	Speaker, Dr. Jan Karski, Righteous Gentile, Professor of Government, Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service
Apr 26, 1987	Speaker, Daniel Levitas, Research Director of Prairiefire Rural Action, Des Moines
Apr 17, 1988	Dramatization: Excerpts from <i>The Diary of Anne Frank</i> (Director, Charles Rubovits; "Otto" by Charles Rubovits; "Anne" by Katie Williams; "Peter" by Jamie Herzberg)
Apr 23, 1989	Speaker, Mayor Raymond L. Stone, Couer D'Alene, Idaho
Apr 22, 1990	Speakers, Esther Avruch, Esther Schiff, Esther Katz, Leon Celnik (Personal Histories of QC Survivors)
Apr 14, 1991	Speaker, Isadore Katz, Local Survivor ("A Soldier's Story")
Apr 26, 1992	Speaker, Barbara Steiner, Survivor of Warsaw Ghetto, Skokie [Hope for Humanity Award to Rev. Thomas Kalshoven]
Apr 25, 1993	Speaker, Irene Gut Opdyke, Righteous Gentile, California [Hope for Humanity Award to Wanda Bigham, President Teikyo Marycrest University]
Apr 10, 1994	Speaker, Lucille Eichengreen, Author <i>From Ashes to Life: My Memories of the Holocaust</i> , Survivor of Lodz Ghetto, Auschwitz, Neuengamme and Bergen-Belsen
Apr 30, 1995	Speaker, Richard S. Corbin, Liberator, Davenport; Special Commendation to 16 Local Liberators) [Hope for Humanity Award to Suzanne Golden]
Apr 21, 1996	Speaker, Harry Burger, Survivor, St. Louis, Missouri
May 4, 1997	Speaker, Ernest Michel, Survivor and Author <i>Promises to Keep</i>
Apr 26, 1998	Speaker, Hiroki Sugihara, Son of Chiune Sugihara, Righteous Gentile, Japan [Hope for Humanity Award to Rev. Richard Swanson]
Apr 18, 1999	Speaker, Mel Mermelstein, Survivor of Auschwitz, Gross-Rosen and

Buchenwald; Author of *By Bread Alone*

- May 7, 2000 Speaker, Cornelis Suijk, Righteous Gentile, California
- Apr 22, 2001 Speaker, Thomas Blatt, Survivor and Author of *Sobibor: The Forgotten Revolt, From the Ashes of Sobibor, and Only the Shadows Remain*, Seattle, Washington
- Apr 21, 2002 Speaker, Edith Molnar, Survivor, Dallas, Texas **[Hope for Humanity Award to Samuel Gilman]**
- May 4, 2003 Speaker, Aaron Elster, Child Survivor, Lincolnshire, Illinois
- Apr 18, 2004 Speaker, Fritzie Fritzshall, Survivor of Auschwitz, Chicago, Illinois
- Apr 10, 2005 Speaker, Yanina Cywinska, Survivor Auschwitz & Dachau; **Tribute to 9 local Liberators**
- Apr 30, 2006 Speaker, Samuel Harris, Child Survivor of Csestochowa & Deblin; President of Holocaust Memorial Foundation of IL; Author of *Sammy, Child Survivor of the Holocaust*; **25th Observance**
- April 15, 2007 Speaker, Philip Bialowitz, Survivor of Sobibor Death Camp
- May 4, 2008 Speaker, Eva Schloss, Survivor of Auschwitz; step-sister of Anne Frank; author of *Eva's Story* and *The Promise* **[Richard Swanson Hope for Humanity Award presented to Rev. Alan Egly, Director of Doris and Victor Day Foundation]**
- April 26, 2009 Speaker, Dr. Ralph Troll, local child survivor; Emeritus Professor, Augustana College
- April 18, 2010 Speaker, Robert Behr, Survivor of Theresienstadt and Wulkow, USHMM Volunteer
- May 1, 2011 Speaker, Walter Reed, Victim of Kristallnacht, Hidden Child, and US Army Interrogator of German Prisoners; **30th Annual Observance**
- April 22, 2012 Speaker, Agnes Schwartz, Survivor and Daughter of Man Saved by Raoul Wallenberg
- April 7, 2013 Speaker, Joseph Koek, Survivor and Hidden Child, Holland **[Richard Swanson Hope for Humanity Award presented to Ida Kramer; Memorial Tribute Rev. Ron Quay]**
- April 27, 2014 Speaker, Jenő Laszlo Berta, Davenport, sheltered Jewish family during Holocaust and experienced Nazi occupation of his village in Hungary
- April 19, 2015 Speaker, Irving Roth, Survivor, Auschwitz and Buchenwald; Director of Holocaust Resource Center, Manhasset, NY **[Richard Swanson Hope for Humanity Award presented to Dr. Marrietta Castle & Deb Bowen; Memorial Tributes to Ida Kramer and Sue Golden; Recognition of 2 liberators]**
- May 1, 2016 Speaker, Felix Weil, Kindertransport child, Dayton, OH; honored liberator John Gaultier
- April 23, 2017 Speaker, Doris Fogel, Survivor, family fled from Germany to China; **honored 2 rescuers with local ties: Paula Toth and Anton Zagorskis**

April 15, 2018	Speaker, Marguerite Mishkin, hidden child in Belgium; retired teacher, Chicago
May 5, 2019	Speaker, Harold Kasimow, family hidden by Christian family in Poland; Iowa
April 19, 2020	(Minimal observance online due to Covid-19 cancellation)
April 11, 2021	Service, Virtual; Speaker, Ida Paluch Kersz, Survivor of Sosnowiec, Poland ghetto, volunteer
May 1, 2022	Service in-person and virtual Speaker, Rodi Glass (speaking online), Holocaust Survivor Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Richard Swanson Hope for Humanity Award presented to Rabbi Henry Karp, Rabbi Emeritus, Temple Emanuël
April 23, 2023	Speaker, Dr. Ralph Troll, local child survivor, Germany; Professor Emeritus, Augustana
May 5, 2024	Service in-person; virtual Speaker, Sol Nayman, Polish Survivor, in labor camps in Soviet Union & Ukraine; Richard Swanson Hope for Humanity Award presented to Richard Weinstein
April 27, 2025	Speaker, Marion Blumenthal Lazan, Survivor & author, Germany & Netherlands; focus on “Eighty Years of Holocaust Remembrance”
April 19, 2026	Speaker, Yvonne Aronson, Child Survivor, Brussels, hidden in convent & by individuals; QC’s 45th Annual Holocaust Remembrance ; music featuring Violins of Hope