

## Honoring the Past

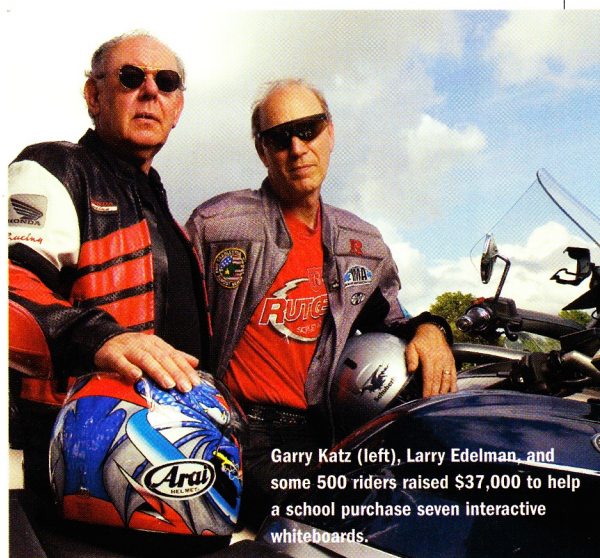
FILMMAKER STEVEN SPIELBERG WINS ORAL HISTORY AWARD

**S**teven Spielberg isn't just saying a quick thank you. As the recipient of the second annual Stephen E. Ambrose Oral History Award from the Rutgers Living History Society, he spends several minutes during his videotaped acceptance speech talking about the influence that both Ambrose, an author who was instrumental in the launch of the Rutgers Oral History Archives, and his own father had on his films *Schindler's List* and *Saving Private Ryan*. "It was much more than a gratuitous acknowledgement," says Thomas Frusciano, the university's archivist and a vice president of the society. "Everyone got the impression that the award meant a lot to him." His father, Arnold Spielberg, who served in the U.S. Army during World War II, accepted the award on his son's behalf and later in the day met with the society to recount his own experiences for the Rutgers Oral History Archives of World War II Project.

## Kosher Hogs

TWO ALUMS—AND MEMBERS OF HILLEL'S ANGELS—FIND INSPIRATION IN TENNESSEE

● When a friend in 2000 told motorcycle enthusiast Larry Edelman ENG'73 about a group called Hillel's Angels, he joined with the idea that it would be a great opportunity to network with other Jewish riders. "No matter what motorcycle group you're riding in, stopping to nosh somewhere is always part of the itinerary," says Edelman, a 54-year-old patent attorney from East Brunswick. "The difference with us is that our itinerary includes finding good pastrami."



Garry Katz (left), Larry Edelman, and some 500 riders raised \$37,000 to help a school purchase seven interactive whiteboards.

It's doubtful that they came across lean pastrami last spring when the club, which also includes Rutgers Board of Trustees member Garry Katz RC'68, ENG'68, traveled to Whitwell, Tennessee, a remote town whose population of 1,600 is ringed by the Smoky Mountains. Together with similar groups scattered around the United States—the Chaiway Riders, Yids on Wheels, and Semites on Bikes—the club rode to recognize the lengths to which the town's middle school students went to learn about intolerance and the Holocaust. Featured in *Paper Clips*, a 2004 award-winning documentary film, the students started by collecting six million paper clips—one for each Jewish victim.

Edelman explains that Norwegians once wore paper clips on their lapels as a sign of solidarity with Jews who were forced to wear the Star of David during the Holocaust. The students, who met with survivors and opened a permanent memorial on school grounds in a donated rail car once used to transport prisoners to death camps, enticed the entire community to participate and ultimately accumulated 30 million paper clips.

Edelman, whose motorcycle jacket proudly displayed a Rutgers patch, taped Anne Frank's photograph to his fender to dedicate the ride to her and his own family members who were lost in the Holocaust. "Whitwell is a poor, white, Christian community," says Edelman. "I was as moved by these kids as I was by my trip to the Dachau Concentration Camp in Germany."

BOP TILL YOU DROP

## \$1 million

~ THE COMBINED SEVEN-YEAR TOTAL RAISED BY AN ANNUAL STUDENT-RUN DANCE MARATHON ON THE NEW BRUNSWICK/PISCATAWAY CAMPUS. THE PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE INSTITUTE FOR CHILDREN WITH CANCER AND BLOOD DISORDERS.

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