

ALBUQUERQUE B'NAI B'RITH

NEWSLETTER

December 27, 1965

ATTENTION!!! The next meeting of the B'nai B'rith will be on January 9, 1966, at 10:00 A.M., at the NCO Club, Kirtland Air Force Base. The NCO Club is located one block and a half West of Girard and four blocks South of Gibson. When you reach that point, turn West another half of a block and the NCO Club is straight ahead. This is an important meeting! At this meeting the membership will be asked to vote upon undertaking the creation, establishment and building of a B'nai B'rith House in Albuquerque. This will involve time and effort on the part of your Lodge as well as money. While the money is not intended to be raised from the Lodge, the Lodge will be the source of securing the funds. In later years, after the establishment of the house, your Lodge will be called upon for financial assistance. If you are at all interested in this matter, you must be at this meeting to vote. If you fail to vote at this meeting, or fail to come to this meeting, you cannot complain in later years about the direction that your Lodge has taken. Nominations will be made for delegates to the District Convention in Chicago, Illinois on June 25 to 28. If you are interested in attending that convention, and part of your expenses will be paid, please be at the meeting so that we may know who those persons interested are.

The standards for the Ben B'rith of the Year have been approved by your Board of Directors. One of those standards includes the attendance at the Sunday morning breakfasts. If you are interested (and we think everyone is) in being considered for that award, you must attend Sunday morning breakfasts. Remember the date, January 9.

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CONGRATULATIONS to Brother Herman Bloch's GLOBE FURNITURE COMPANY bowling team for winning first place in the first half of the season. The team is composed of Jack Mendelsberg (Captain), Doctor Nat Weitz, Dave Katz, Herman Bloch, and Chuck Glass.

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OUR BEST WISHES to Brother Ralph Goldberg and our prayers for a speedy recovery. Brother Goldberg, 1949 Past President of our Lodge, is home recuperating from a heart attack. Your cards and good wishes can be sent there.

DID YOU KNOW DEPARTMENT

Did you know that your local B'nai B'rith Lodge in Albuquerque is No. 336 out of over 1,500 Lodges throughout the world? Did you know it was founded in 1886?

Did you know that your Lodge has directly participated in national activities of the B'nai B'rith through donation to victims of Hurricane Betsy' and through its support for the GIs in Viet Nam through Christmas cards and cookies, a program of a local service club? Did you also know that your B'nai B'rith has received official recognition and has participated in the citizenship ceremonies in Albuquerque and Santa Fe?

Did you know that your Lodge was the originator and moving force in the Governor's Proclamation of B'nai B'rith Week in New Mexico and has supplied the District Grand Lodge No. 2 President's personal representative to New Mexico since 1963?

Did you also know that your Lodge sponsored a drive to deliver television and radio set parts and sets to the State Prison to aid in prisoner rehabilitation and has promoted better inter-faith relationship with the breakfast with the Archbishop earlier this year, and with the promotion of an extended conference between the Rocky Mountain Region ADL Director and Archbishop James P. Davis. This conference occurred immediately prior to his Excellency's departure for the Ecumenical Council. The conference between the two men dealt with Catholic-Jewish relationships and particularly with the deicide charge.

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Did you know that our Lodge has local activities here in Albuquerque? The Lodge sponsors a bowling league, created the B'nai B'rith Cemetery which was later turned over to B'nai Israel and Temple Albert, sponsors B'nai B'rith Youth Groups by supplying them with advisors, and giving them financial and moral support, supported the B'nai B'rith-AZA Baseball game for three years, and assisted in the AZA Youth for Christ Basketball game which the AZA donated its share of the proceeds to the United Community Fund. In addition, the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization worked at the Albuquerque Civitan Camp for Mentally Retarded and Physically Handicapped Children and put in over 1,000 man hours there. As a result, your AZA Chapter won the District 2 Service Award competing against 200 other AZA Chapters in the District.

Did you know that your Lodge gives active leadership assistance in the Hillel program at the University of New Mexico? That membership has increased from 4 to 75 in the last two years with a result of an increased Jewish identity in college youth and helping to reverse the trend of the vanishing American Jew. Your Lodge has also helped in the creation of new Jewish leadership for Albuquerque through the activities of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization. We have assisted such people as Louise Seppoff, Herman Weil, Bruce Pasternack, Kenny Gins, and many others to retain their Jewish identity and to take an active part in Jewish and community affairs. Through Hillel, such people as Brian and Bonnie Iviner have also taken their place in the Albuquerque Jewish Community. Through your own Lodge, through the renewed vigor and expansion of the Lodge from 75 members to over 260 members since 1958, we have created new Jewish leadership in Albuquerque.

Did you know that your Lodge now sponsors the Bonds for Israel program under the direction of Henry Pave, its chairman?

Did you know that your Lodge co-sponsored, with KOB TV and the Xerox Corporation, the television presentation of "Let My People Go," and through the Anti-Defamation League co-sponsored on KOB and KARA Radio the program "Danger on the Right." Did you know that your Lodge pays for the Anti-Defamation League Bulletin which is distributed to each of you? Did you know that your Lodge has distributed over 100 copies of the book "Danger on the Right" to every school and public library in the City and to all "key opinion molders?" Did you know that your Anti-Defamation League has assisted the exposure of Anti-Semites in New Mexico, including members of the American Nazi Party who threatened members of your own Lodge and tried to blackmail them?

Did you know that your Lodge assists through the Anti-Defamation League in the publication and distribution of the book "With Justice for All," which is supplied to the Albuquerque Police Department and is now being distributed to the State Police throughout New Mexico and that this program in Albuquerque has been carried on since 1960?

Did you know that your Lodge is also active in non-Jewish community work, assisting through the Men of B'nai B'rith's Fund for the St. Joseph Hospital Building Fund and through our Veterans' Community in maintaining a Halloween Booth for the 8th consecutive year at the Veteran's Hospital and supplying weekly service, including library, reading, writing of letters, etc., to the Veterans in the hospital?

Are you proud to be a member of this Lodge? You should be. Why not have one of your Jewish friends, who is not a member of the Lodge, come with you to the January meeting? The Lodge needs all the assistance it can get, both financial and physical. Each man who pays his dues to the Lodge works for B'nai B'rith. As Ben Z. Glass, the former Executive-Secretary of District Grand Lodge No. 6, told us a year ago when he spoke to us, "However long a man works to earn the amount of his dues, that long does he work for B'nai B'rith - if he does nothing more."