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PERSONALS

Mazeltov to:

Sharleen & Norman Wollach on the birth of their daughter. Michael & Myrna Fainsteen on the birth of their son. Colin & Jane Scher on the birth of their daughter. Dalia Jacobs on the birth of her daughter. Natie & Celia Levy on the birth of their granddaughter. Brenda & Barry Jacobs on the birth of their granddaughter Stan & Mal Smiedt on their son's Barmitzvah. Clive & Tammy Moch on the birth of their son. Myra & Dennis Monk on their 25th Wedding Anniversary. Selwyn & Barbara Klein on their 25th Wedding Anniversary. Brian & Brenda Mervis on their 25th Wedding Anniversary.

Tanya & Dennis Goodman on the birth of their son. Maeva & Simeon Brett on the birth of their son. Ilana & Vivian Arenson on the birth of their son. Hilary & Fred Spilkin on the birth of their daughter.

Condolences to:

Ettie Sack on the passing of her father. Jeff Simon on the passing of his father. Howard & Brian First on the passing of their mother. Jane Scher and Carol Slavin on the passing of their grandmother.

We wish Gerald Pinn well after his recent heart surgery.

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WHEN: Sunday, May 21st Noon to 3:00 p.m. TIME:

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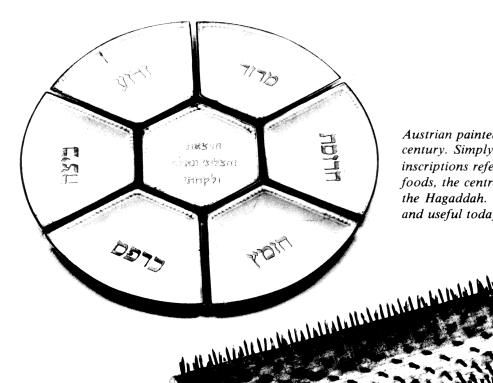
SAJAC REPORTER

The Publication of the South African Jewish American Community in San Diego

Volume 1, No. 9

SPRING 1989

The Board of SAJAC wishes everyone in the community a HAPPY PESACH



Austrian painted-creamware Seder set, mid-19th century. Simply painted in russet, with Hebrew inscriptions referring to the traditional Passover foods, the central dish has an inscription from the Hagaddah. This attractive dish is as practical and useful today as when it was first produced.

Matzah Roller, Bohemia, Early 19th century.

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NEWCOMER'S CORNER

by Pam Nathan

A Faux Pas? This is a true story! Glenda, Carole and Claire are all members of SAJAC welcoming committee. Well, Glenda gave Carole the phone number of a "newcomer" to get in touch with. Carole got an answering machine when she called. She left a long message of welcome, explaining how the welcoming committee would be bringing over a welcome basket filled with challah, candles, wine, candy and some useful information. There was only one snag! Glenda had not given Carole the "newcomer's" phone number but, in fact, Claire's neighbor's phone number. Claire was away on vacation and had given Glenda her number in case of an emergency. You can imagine Debbie Spektor's surprise to hear this message on her return. She called Carole, saying how sorry she was that she wasn't South African. She was so impressed that an organization such as SAJAC existed and complimented its participants. The end of the story? Carole finally called the real "newcomer" to set up the visit and not 24 hours later the "newcomer" called Carole back to tell her that she was leaving town and returning to Dallas!

Returning to South Africa, much to their disappointment, are the Weinbergs. Errol and Cynthia, Elisa, Steve, Mark and Allen have been living in California for the past 3 years. Unfortunately, they have been unable to renew their visas. We wish them well and want them to know that they will be missed.

Rochelle and Frank Stupel have moved here from L.A. Rochelle's son, Anton came with them but her daughter decided to remain in L.A. Frank is involved with the chain store "Latitudes". They love living in La Jolla and are very appreciative of the support they have received from SAJAC members

Bennie Favish has also moved here from L.A. Imagine my surprise to find out from Bennie that he graduated from the same Homeopathic College as I did in S.A. Small world, I say! Bennie is in the diamond business now.

And yet another true story? I called Michelle Simkowitz to find out that she was here on a visitor's visa and therefore not sure how long she was able to stay. I remembered her parents, Sid and Marilyn, from Durban North Beach 28 years ago! When I told her my name, she was quiet for a moment, went away from the phone and came back again asking me if I remember Heidi Nathan. Heidi Nathan? ... it was taking my memory chips a moment to compute. Heidi Nathan? ... of course, she is my daughter, Romi Nathan's twin! Andy and I had met Paul and Brenda Nathan in the labor ward at the Marymount Maternity Home on May 20, 1968. The coincidence of two Nathan families, not related, giving birth to two daughters a half an hour apart, drew us together instantaneously.

I couldn't wait to see Heidi again. We met the following evening, perused my photo album from 17-20 years ago and caught up on all the possible stories that could be communicated in an evening. I was anxious for Romi and

Heidi to meet again and was hoping it was possible to accomplish before Heidi left on Monday to go back east to visit with friends.

Heidi left on Monday. She didn't go back east. She returned to South Africa to attend her father's funeral. Paul Nathan had suffered a massive coronary. He passed away suddenly while on vacation in Muizenberg.



Bennie Favish



Frank, Rochelle and Anton Stupel

If the stereotype that all Jews were wealthy had any validity, we wouldn't be running this ad. In fact, there are many Jews in San Diego who live below the poverty line.

Among them are people like Sadie Goldberg, an elderly woman who is too sick, and too frightened to leave her home. We deliver hot meals to her door and arrange for regular visits by a social worker.

There is the Cohen family, a divorced mother supporting three young children. She's turned to us for counseling and financial assistance and referrals for vocational guidance.

It's Time To Begin The Real Discussion About Jews And Money.

And then, there are the Lerners, who left everything behind in the Soviet Union last year to live in freedom in America. They depend on us for housing, medical care, vocational guidance, and more.

But our services reach beyond the San Diego Jewish community. Way beyond.

Last year we were there, when Bani Birani, a Black Jew of Ethiopia, made a daring escape from his homeland to join his wife and children in Israel.

In just the same way, we're there for 4 million Israelis. Today they're beset with problems and bound in controversy. But, for their humanitarian needs, they know where to turn. To the American Jewish community.

However, providing all these services doesn't just come about like the miraculous opening of the Red Sea. It takes a significant amount of money. Last year it took more than \$1 billion. Almost \$6 million of that was raised here in San Diego by the United Jewish Federation, the local affiliate of the worldwide United Jewish Appeal.

The donations are made by thousands of individuals, like yourself, from every economic bracket, who believe in the age-old tradition of giving — which they learned from their parents and grandparents, and dates back to the beginning of the Jewish people.

Without this "giving" there would be no means for guaranteeing Jewish survival.

This year, the world situation demands that we raise more money than ever before. We know it can be done. Because there's only one true thing you can say about Jews and how they handle money.

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MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT

- Les Kacev

As SAJAC enters it's third year, we have a lot to be proud of. Reviewing our achievements, and a lot to look forward to as we prepare for an active and exciting year ahead.

In order to function effectively, it is imperative that we have a healthy and active membership. There are in excess of 325 Jewish South African families or singles residing in the greater San Diego area that we are aware of. We would like to see each and every one of you joining SAJAC and participating in as many as possible of the activities which we organize. During the past few months I have spoken to numerous people who have previously not been involved with SAJAC. Most were not aware of the various activities that SAJAC performs.

We have social functions such as our annual braai and dance. These serve to promote social interaction and to provide a forum for integration. Special senior, teen and single functions are also held. We will strive this year to make these functions more attractive to the community at large and hope that the integration aspect becomes more predominant.

We arrange educational activities such as visits to various agencies and co-sponsored events where groups are given an opportunity to promote their specific activities. We have worked together with Jewish Family Service, AIPAC, ADL, the JCC to mention just a few. We will continue to keep our members informed of interesting events in our community.

The SAJAC Reporter, is an effective medium for communication with the Jewish South African population in San Diego. We have also kept all South Africans aware of pending legislation and other pressing matters by direct communication when necessary.

There are many other activities and functions which we perform which are done more discreetly and with less publicity. SAJAC has been involved in finding employment for a number of individuals. We have been involved in providing advice and help to businesses. We have given financial assistance to those in need. We have been there when people have needed someone to talk to, and have not known who to turn to. The utmost discretion is used in these cases. At the present moment, there are several of our community who are seeking employment. If you have or know of any opportunities, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

We believe that there is a place for everyone in our organization. Just put a 'y' in before our and it becomes your organization. If you have any gripes or criticism, let us hear them - as long as they are constructive. We need you, your input, and your support.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank Leah Levin for her dedicated service, and to the SAJAC Board and other committee members, thanks for your unstinting and selfless efforts.

Les Kacev

A Report on SAJAC'S A.G.M.

by Sandy Kodesh

There are AGM's and AGM's. There are people who attend AGM's and people who never attend them. This was an AGM that everyone enjoyed. I could sense the intimacy in the chatter beforehand, and the sincere applause after each speaker. Here are my impressions of SAJAC's second annual general meeting, held at the JCC on January 5th.

The room was full, every chair occupied. Leah Levin, the outgoing president welcomed us, outlined the aims of SAJAC, and gave a review of the year gone by. Her dedication and commitment to this organization could be heard in every free flowing word. She laid the foundations. For two years she tended and cared for this group of people from her homeland, and now she was handing the reins over to Les Kacev.

For me it was very meaningful to have been a pioneer of this organization. My mind flowed backward in time, and remembered all those stories that my Dad told me about "BACK AHEIM", and how they had to leave everything they were familiar with, and come to the "NEW" country and start again. Today in South Africa there are still societies

representing the different "SHTETLACH". There is a Dansk and a Kadan society that I am aware of. Now, for us, there is SAJAC. How proud we will be when our children take over from us and run a second generation of SAJAC.

After Leah's speech, Les introduced Steve Abrahamson, Executive Vice President of UJF, who then installed the incoming board members. Steve also commended SAJAC on their good work and said what an asset we were to the community. He noted what an impact SAJAC has made in such a short time. There were three UJF representatives present, a clear indication of the recognition they give us.

Murray Galinson was the speaker of the evening. He is the Campaign Chairman for UJF. His topic was "Vanishing Jews of Europe" and he told us of Jews who were fighting for their identity in countries that threatened their safety and self expression.

While everyone was deep in thought about Murrays stories and statistics, Mervyn Kodesh arrived at the podium to thank him. He changed the mood immediately with his comic way of expressing himself. No one is quite sure what he spoke about, but his way of saying it had everyone chuckling.

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"CORETTA SCOTT KING SPEAKS"

by Brian Marks

For her selfless contribution to the betterment of mankind. For her unselfish lifestyle and commitment to the memory of her husband. For her limitless energy in the pursuit of nonviolent social change. And for her leadership and dream of a better world for all people, I stand in awe of Coretta Scott King.

So why was I disappointed by what she had to say in her address as part of the outstanding Beth El Distinguised Speaker series held at the synagogue March 8?

Perhaps it was her reliance on the relationships between African Americans and Jews of the past that had no real bearing on the contemporary issues separating the two minorities today. Perhaps it was her reliance on the trust that her prophetic husband had in the faith of mankind to understand the commitment that the Jewish people have felt in their lifelong struggle against injustices and bigotry.

True, while no one can deny her sincerity and the sincerity of her dream that blacks and Jews, who share so many common social injustices, walk through history hand in hand ... there appeared to be a reliance on the dream rather than the realities and practicalities of what we can do today.

Mrs. King is the first to admit that serious difficulties lie ahead between African Americans and Jews. Questions like a Palestinian State, Israeli relations with South Africa and the anti semitic attitudes of several current black leaders. These were mentioned as serious but not insurmountable. That, I'm sure is the greatest advantage of dreams.

Why indeed would blacks want to re-establish their ties with the Jewish community. If I were a cynic, I might have gotten a hint from Mrs. King's lecture that a Jewish sponsorship of Afro American development might by occupying a little more than the back of her mind. Our mutual commitment to education as the escape out of the ghetto might prompt one to think that Jewish financial interests could be directed toward a more educated black minority. And there is nothing wrong with that.

A young mind is a tremendous thing to waste and any financial assistance to help anyone in the pursuit of an education and a better life is as noble an ideal as ever. Yet somehow, throughout Mrs. King's speech I got the feeling that there was more to this talk than met the eye. Not only was the historic perspective placed back into perspective but there appeared to be a fund raising element to the ideals that in some way, for me, took away from the commitment to real sharing.

As Mrs. King says, the person and the philosophy are two totally separate entities. In a way, I found that to be particularly true that night.

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Goldilocks by any other name ...

by Glenda Sacks

Everybody's heard the expression "the Russians are coming", well they've come to San Diego. I have the fascinating, formidable task of having to teach ten lovely Russian children English. They range in age from 5 to 12 and range in size from skinny to less skinny.

The first week we communicated with smiles, nods, scowls and numerous shoulder shrugs. A month later we were having little conversations. "You, no in Moscow? they asked in disbelief. "You go?" The TV crew and camera came to the school to do a news item. There were whispers and questions of "KGB, KGB".

Eventually they developed enough language for story time. "Goldilocks" seemed like a good start to me. Up leaped three indignant Russians, hands on hips "Marushka" they yelled furiously. "No Goldilocks!"

The overalls and shoes with buckles worn the first few days, quickly became jeans, sweaters and sneakers. The lunch consisting of a fried egg on black bread has been replaced by peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

These kids are incredibly quick and eager to learn. They are like little sponges, soaking up knowledge and culture. So, here we have a SA teacher, in a religious Jewish school in America teaching Russian kids English. As long as they can say "Where is the bathroom" with an American accent all will be well.

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Not only is the country, culture, language etc. new and different, but even Judaism is alien. Their first Friday night here, challah, wine and candles were sent home for Shabbat. "Your first Shabbat in America!" No, they retorted, "Our first Shabbat ever"

Hopefully these children will soon be chatting away merrily in English and will be indistinguishable from the other

Next time ex-South Africans talk about the difference between the "old country" and America, think about some of the problems other cultures have and SMILE!



Membership Update:

- 1) If you know of any new arrivals or any potential members that have not vet been contacted by SAJAC, please contact Dr. Michael Goldsmid at 483-5417.
- 2) Have a change of work or home address/phone number? Please contact Brenda Jacobs at 459-3154 so that we can update our records accordingly.
- 3) Please return your completed membership forms by April 10 to insure your listing in the 1989-90 Membership/Yellow Pages Directory.



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SPRING 1989

PESACH The Season of our Freedom

by Helene Bortz

For lo, the winter is past, The rain is over and gone; The flowers appear on the earth The time of singing is come.

Song of Songs 2:11

Pesach commemorates the deliverance of the children of Israel from two centuries of Egyptian bondage and recalls their mass exodus from Egypt about 3300 years ago.

The story of Israel's increasingly oppressive servitude, the Divine mission entrusted to Moses, the stubborn resistance of the Egyptian Pharaoh, the series of plagues that finally caused Pharaoh's change of heart and the Israelites's escape, are all recounted in Exodus.

These events were preliminaries to the emergence of the Jewish nation, for Pesach marks the birth of the Jews as a free people and the birth of the Jewish national identity.

The festival of Pesach has three additional names: "The festival of the matzot", "the season of our freedom" and "the holiday of spring".

The Jewish calendar is set so that certain holidays always occur in a particular season of the year. Thus, the holiday of liberation is also the holiday of spring, not by coincidence but by design and Pesach begins on 15 Nisan, at the first full moon of spring.

Whoever is familiar with the Haggadah recounted each year at the Seder table knows that Pesach is a time for questioning. Aside from the traditional ones asked by the four sons, this whole episode in the history of the Jewish people brings to mind innumerable questions.

• Why did the Jews have to go through centuries of bondage before they were given the Torah?

We are taught that the 613 Mitzvot we are commanded to observe, relate to either the relationship between man and man or the relationship between man and God.

Being slaves taught the Jews how to (and how not to) act towards their fellow men and through their long slavery they understood the meaning of compassion.

It is also through slavery that the Jewish people were able to witness God's miracles. man was not a witness to the creation of the world nor to his own creation. It is only at the time of its deliverance from Egypt that the Jewish people as a whole became a witness to God's miracles.

• Why did it take the Jews forty years to walk from Egypt to the land of Israel when the distance could have been covered in a few months?

It is said that it took one day for the Jews to leave Egypt but it took forty years for Egypt to leave the Jews.

The Egyptian world in which the Jews lived for two centuries was one of extreme materialism and deprivation and most Jews had descended to a low spiritual level. A long

period of time was therefore necessary to enable them to learn about the Torah they had just received.

In order for the Jews to entirely devote themselves to their studies God also freed them of any material concerns. Not only did they receive food; the Manna which fell daily from heaven, they also had the Well of Miriam which rolled with them wherever they went and provided water, the Pillar of fire which went before them and killed the snakes and scorpions of the desert, and the Pillar of cloud which surrounded them and kept them clean.

Freedom had been given to the Jews to serve God and the Jewish people were now free to observe the mitzvot.

• Why does the Haggadah which gives such a detailed account of the events surrounding Pesach, not once mention Moses?

There is no hero-worshiping in Judaism. Moses was a great leader, but he was only God's messenger. His presence assured people that God needed human beings to perfect the world, but it was God who freed the Jews, not Moses. Because the rabbis were afraid that Moses would be made into a supernatural being and worshiped, they left him out of the Haggadah.

• What happened to the Jews who refused to leave Egypt?

They were killed by the Angel of Death during the plague of darkness so that the Egyptians would not be witness to

• What part did the Jewish women play in Egypt and after the

The Midrash emphasizes the crucial part played by the Jewish women in perpetuating the Jewish race. Were it not for their determination to continue bearing children in spite of the Jewish mens' decision to separate from their wives after Pharaoh's decree of the slaving of Jewish new borns, there might be no Jewish nation today.

Another example of the high spiritual level of the Jewish women was their refusal to participate in the making and worshiping of the golden calf.

• The Torah speaks of four sons, one wise, one wicked, one simple, and one who does not even know how to ask a question. What is the underlying reason for a sequence which elevates the wicked son and places him next to the

The wicked son is placed next to the wise son in the Haggadah to empasize our responsibility to every individual. We have a duty to improve his character and to expose his Jewish core. This applies even more so to the fifth son, the one who does not even sit at the seder table because he has left Judaism all together.

Should any letter of a Sefer Torah be missing, the sanctity of all the letters are impaired. Similarly, if any individual Jew is missing from his people, the people are considered incomplete. All Jews are mutually responsible for each other.

A Profile

by Sandy Kodesh



I went to interview Fanny because she is an ex South African senior, and she has accomplished great fulfillment in her life here in San Diego. She is a former president of the San Diego Chapter of Hadassah, and is now Area Vice President of the California Southwest region. In May she is going to be installed in Scottsdale Arizona as President of California Southwest region. This is an impressive title and I was interested to meet with her and see what kind of a woman she is. What a wonderful experience it was. Fanny is a well groomed, vital woman, exuding energy and warmth in her open revelations of where she has come from and what life has held for her.

She was born and grew up in Libau in Latvia with her parents and two younger sisters and was active in Betar, a Zionist Youth organization. After graduating from high school she studied at the University of Riga until the Germans overran Latvia.

Fanny and her middle sister, Jenny, survived four years of ghetto and concentration camps. After their liberation and recuperation in Germany, Fanny worked for the UNNRA Medical Service which was attached to the Allied Eighth Army. Having been connected with the welfare and rehabilitation of displaced persons her work took her to Stockholm, Sweden, where she worked for the World Jewish Congress for approximately three years before emigrating to South Africa to begin a new life.

In Johannesburg, Fanny married her late husband Louis, who had left Libau prior to the German occupation. Together they were actively engaged in business for 31 years. And there

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they raised and educated their family, two sons and a daughter, and were both deeply involved in the strong Jewish community of Johannesburg.

During this period Fanny was president of the Ladies Sections of the Jewish Guild, of the Maccabiah Organization of South Africa, and of the Houghton Golf and Lawn Bowling Club. She was on the PTA Board of the Houghton Hebrew School and on the Board of the Tel Hai of South Africa, an organization that provides housing and schooling in Israel for orphans and children from broken homes. In addition she was an active member of the Woman's Israel Zionist Organization. Somehow she also found time to make 15 trips to Israel! Her support of Israel and Jewish causes was continuously high on her list of priorities.

With the foresight that is typical for her, she and Louis made plans early to leave the country and, after assuring that all of the children and grandchildren had emigrated, they also left to settle in San Diego where two of Louis' brothers were living. A short while after arriving in the U.S., Fanny's husband passed

Fanny then became active in Hadassah. She volunteered to be program vice president for the San Diego Chapter and did this for 3 years. She says most insistently that Hadassah helped her through very sad and lonely moments in her life and she met all her friends through it. She met and married her husband Morris in 1982. When she was offered the Presidency he said to her "Honey go for it, you are capable and I'll support you."

In 1982 she went to Jerusalem to the Hadassah National Convention.

From 1985-1987 she was president of the San Diego Chapter and in 1988 became vice president of the California Southwestern Region of Hadassah Executive Board and served as an area Vice President. She represents the Hadassah region on the JCRC and also the Soviet and Oppressed Jewry Council. She has been to Israel 19 times and her husband has joined her on 3 occassions.

She ended this interview with "Maybe I should not have taken on such a big job ..." But I know she can do it, and do it successfully. Fanny has an energy that will always carry her through.

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SAME STEM - NEW ROOTS

by Renee Dishman

"Die Stem" literally translated means "the voice". A man who opted to use his voice, his musical talent and his burning desire to increase world awareness of South Africa's diverse situation; has succeeded in doing just that.

SPRING 1989

Johnny Clegg ... lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand (Wits); has this passion to bridge two distinctly unique cultures and colorful histories. He attempts to deliver a powerful message through the medium of music. His musical involvement began in the compounds of the mining community. Finding home-made instruments and tribal folk stories an interesting way to understand a history; he channelled his energies to perfecting this musical form, thus, escorting black music into the western world.

Johnny has spent the latter part of his life in Hillbrow and his interests have lead him to having many scraps with the law. This Jewish, white South African was never deterred by this and grew with his musical acclaim. His music embraced Black rhythm, English and Zulu.

Johnny often quipped at performances that any reports of his imprisonment were, obviously; just fictitious ... for now. His compassion for his fellow human being, his deep seated need to open the channels of communication; and his love of music gave rise to one of the most diverse, talented groups, Savuka, formerly called Jaluka.

The pure energy witnessed in Tribal African dance music evokes multifaceted feelings of power, survival and love in all who watch these performances. Johnny has also learnt to play many primitive instruments.

The ethnic fusion which is his claim to fame lies in his lyrics of nature, beauty, harmony and survival. He identifies with a repressed group and is actively involved in the pursuit of freedom, love and liberty.

Although many of his songs demonstrate the implications of "The Struggle"; and the political injustices he proposes workable solutions. He pours positive motivation, ideas on negotiation and music that promotes joy ... into his package

Johnny started the sound waves from which others have learn't. These waves have opened many eyes to South Africa's





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Kid's Scene

by Lolly Pop

Guess what? I got some mail! Lucky me. Please send more. I also received a poem from Benji Kacev and a story from Jami Datnow.

Teachers

by Benji Kacev

Teachers are preachers,
They say
the same things the same way.
"Raise your hand when you speak".
You get in trouble when you squeak
Teachers are sometimes nice,
and they give you advice.
Teachers are stern.
They say we still have a lot to learn.
Everyone has a teacher in math or spelling,
some teachers do a lot of yelling.

Having a teacher is sometimes fun and sometimes no fun at all So if you have any questions just give me a call.

"My First Experience at Camp Ramah"

by Jami Datnow, Age 9

Camp Ramah is located in Ojai, California, which is a four hour drive from San Diego. Campers range from age 9-15. Children come from all parts of the U.S.A. to go to camp.

In the morning each age group has prayers. Then, the whole camp goes to the dining hall for breakfast. After breakfast we go to the bunks to clean up. As the day goes on we have dancing, art, singing, and sports. There are also a lot of other fun activities. Every age group goes on different outings. The schedule is changed for Tuesday and Shabbat. Shabbat is a very special time of camp. It is a time of togetherness, sharing, feelings, and rest.

I think that camp was on of the most exciting experiences of my life. I highly recommend it to anyone who loves to have fun, and make a lot of friends.





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Your Publication Team

Have you ever wondered who are the people that bring you the SAJAC magazine? Here they are, a happy band of people who enjoy doing it.

They meet only once before each issue, make all decisions about what is to be written, and who will write it, and as the President Les Kacev said "It's the smoothest running committee". Here is a picture of them at a recent get together - you can see why the magazine is such a success.



From Left: Leah Levin, Michelle Levy, Jeff Chalmers, Linda Rosenberg, Pam Nathan, Darryl Gordon, Sandy Kodesh, Mervyn Kodesh, Linda-Anne Kahn, Brian Marks, David Kahn and Carole Marks.



When they were all seen at a SAJAC function, we knew a picture would put it all together. Mazel tov to all of them - they reproduced well! Jane Scher, Sharleen Wollach & Tammy Moch.

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WE WEREN'T BOARD!

by Sandy Kodesh

8

A very successful social function took place on Saturday March 11. You might ask why you didn't receive an invitation, and a follow up telephone call, or hear people discussing where and when it was to take place. The answer is that is was only for the SAJAC board members. These are a band of volunteers who give a great deal of time and thought to the smooth running and success of our SAJAC organization. These are the people who meet each month, to plan, and discuss what functions will best entertain, amuse, educate and interest you. Besides the monthly meeting, there are sub-committees who meet independently to do their more specialized duties.

At the 2nd AGM in January, new board members were installed, and in order for these people to work with complete unity and harmony, we decided to spend an evening getting to know each other better.

We planned a progressive dinner and it was such great fun. We met in the parking lot of U.T.C. where armed with any drinks we needed, we boarded a large yellow school bus.

We were such a relaxed happy group. We had no responsibility to make this a successful function. We were just there to have fun!

We drove to Sheryl and Norman Abel's house where we had snacks and hors d'oeuvres. WOW! Kichlach and chopped herring into the bargain!



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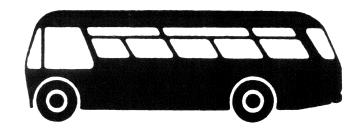
Board meetings are very serious - no time for socializing - so this was our time to talk and laugh and enjoy ourselves. As we were settling in we were told to board the bus again. This time off to Ann and Harvey Lyons for the main course of tuna lasagne and salads. The atmosphere settled into a warm comfortable buzz.

From the Lyons we took the bus for our longest ride - to Del Mar for dessert at Linda & Ernest Slome. By now we felt familiar enough to start telling jokes and for some jokes the lights had to be low. But they were of a high standard and were well told.

On arrival we were greeted with a wonderful smell of brewing coffee and aah! Such tempting tasty treats.

Finally we boarded the bus for our last leg home, and it was close to midnight.

It was such an enjoyable evening, and I'm sure this feeling that we enjoyed will flow on into the forthcoming functions.



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DEAR MOM

March 19

Dear Mom,

I can't believe I called Michael "David" in my last letter. I was sure you were wrong when you said I'd done it but I checked on my computer and you're right. Do you know how frustrating that is? No offense, but if there was one habit I did not want to inherit from you its mixing up the names of the people closest to me! GRRR!

Thanks for keeping me so up to date on what's going on with Leon's bypass. Of course I talk to Michael every day but he's not very informative. I suppose if it was my father I'd be the same. Thank goodness he managed to get to Cape Town in time to be at the hospital when Leon came round. I'm sure it did help him fight his way through those first few days. Mom I know we went through this a hundred times on the phone but please you have to tell us what's happening there. If you remember I said in my last letter that I could tell from your letter that something was wrong, so I worried anyway, and if we'd known exactly what was wrong Michael could have made better arrangements. I hate to resort to this, but, what if you hadn't told us and he hadn't made it through the surgery and Michael hadn't got there in time?! Nuff said.

The winter is finally ending and just soon enough for me. The highveld weather has spoiled me forever and I couldn't stand the greyness anymore! David didn't mind it that much, he was used to Cape Town winters.

17

You asked if I was nervous about being alone in the house. To tell the truth I had not even thought about that until you mentioned it. Right or wrong I feel very safe here. The walls, the security gates, the watchdogs and worst of all the guns everybody started buying are four good reasons I'm glad I'm here, and together they help me (a little) to face the idea of Pesach without Daddy's ridiculous hiding places for the Afikomen, and you panicking over the kneidelach until everyone's had their second helping.

I haven't said a word about the kids in this letter and quite honestly I just can't think of anything to say. Maybe that's okay ... no news is good news. Of course they're missing Michael and they know Zeida is sick but these things take second place to who they're going to be for Purim. Lucky them. Long may it last.

Okay that's about it for now. I'll probably speak to you before you get this but I always feel so rushed and frantic on the phone. Please send Leon and Sylvia my love. Tell him I'm counting on him to be ready to play soccer with David when we come in July.

Love to Daddy, Janice

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COOK'S CORNER

by Brenda Jacobs

Pesach is a very busy time and with everyone's busy schedules, we hope that these simple but delicious dishes will make your time in the kitchen less stressful and more enjoyable. These dishes are quick and can be done in advance. They can also be frozen, leaving you more time to do the last minute things and set the table.

Passover Potato Kugel

- 6 large potatoes
- 2 onions
- 6 tablespoons matzo meal
- 3 eggs
- 6 tablespoons chicken fat
- 3 tablespoons sugar
- 3 tablespoons syrup

pepper, good pinch of salt

Grate potatoes and onion in processor. Add all other ingredients and bake in greased oven proof dish at 400° until golden brown. You can freeze it but do not bake as long if it is to be frozen. Bake till golden brown after freezing.

Quick Kneidlach

2 eggs

2 tablespoons fat salt, pepper to taste matzo meal Beat egg well. Add fat and seasoning; beat again. Add sufficient matzo meal gradually to make mixture just firm enough to roll into balls. Do not allow to stand. Boil in salted water or directly in soup for about 20 minutes without removing lid.

Pesach Chicken Blintzes

3/4 cups polo flour

l cup cake meal

pinch salt 3 eggs

2 cups water

Beat eggs, add sifted dry ingredients and use water to make smooth batter. Grease heated pan lightly with oil; pour in batter and swivel around to coat pan lightly. When dry turn out onto cloth. Grease pan for each pancake. Mince chicken in processor, best to use chicken from soup. Mince with a little fried onion. Put into center of each pancake. Fold into envelope and freeze or fry.

Macaroons

- 3 eggs
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons potato flour
- 2 cups coconut

Beat egg whites stiffly, add sugar and beat again. Add potato flour. Steam over pot of boiling water for 10-12 minutes, stirring constantly. Remove from stove and add coconut. Whip yolks and add to mixture. Form into small cones and place on greased sheet and bake for about 10 minutes at 350°.

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THE PREDICTABLE CRISIS OF IMMIGRATION Help is Available

Adjusting to life in the U.S. often feels like doing an obstacle course. Some hurdles are crossed more easily than others, but in all cases knowing what to expect is extremely helpful.

Mourning for losses seems endless. Jobs aren't so plentiful. Husbands and wives feel the strain between them. The children may adjust too quickly. They may become Americanizied in some of the most undesirable ways of the culture. Strain is inevitable for everyone. Some people adapt more quickly than others. Often, feelings of shame prevent people from talking about their pain. They think they are the only ones who are having such a hard time, and suffer in quiet desperation.

Jewish Family Service of San Diego is a multi-faceted agency. Its largest service is the therapy that is provided confidentially to Jewish families. In the best tradition of serving its people, well-trained skillful therapists may see entire families, couples, or individuals, helping them to communicate more effectively with each other when there are difficulties among them. Because of their experience in working with many kinds of families with different kinds of problems, the clinical staff of JFS is particularly well equipped to help South African families in the community.

Call 291-0473 in San Diego or 944-7855 in Encinitas to arrange for an appointment. Fees are based on income. Private medical insurance frequently co-pays.

JFS will provide a staff member to present a program on "The Challenge of Immigration". Some thought-provoking observations about families will be offered. Tasks that families must accomplish in order to adapt; will be discussed, as well as the symptoms that signal danger. There will be an opportunity for the audience to share their observations in what promises to be an informative evening. This event will be held on May 2, at the home of Claire Ellman at 8:00 p.m. Call Claire at 546-1779 to confirm your attendance.

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YES! I AM A U.S. CITIZEN

by Carole Marks

It seemed that I would be filling out forms forever, supplying information ad infinitum, and then came the learning of facts facts about the American Legal System, Government, History, Presidents, towns, cities, Pledge of Allegiance etc, etc. Finally my interview date came and I got up early, dressed appropriately, and went downtown to have my interview. Nervously I faced the female official who asked only a few questions, five to be exact, and then asked me to write a sentence in English to ascertain that I had a good grasp of the English language. "Raise your hand and repeat after me", she told me, so I repeated after her my pledge to the United States of America, upholding this country above all others, and in addition swearing that I would bear arms against my native country in support of this, my new country. So I was sworn in as a U.S. Citizen, and that was that. Now I was told to go have some photographs taken, sign a few more forms and that I would hear in the mail the date of my official swearing in, which would be done at a formal ceremony.

It seemed an anti-climax somehow. After all the years of firstly trying to get a 'Green Card' (which eventually turned out to be blue!), then the anticipation of waiting till I had been in the country for five years, before I could apply to become a U.S. Citizen, wondering whether I should give up my own citizenship identity to now become an American, 'studying' the facts about America and so on and so forth, this short interview and the ease with which it occurred and ended, seemed somehow to be not as much as I had anticipated.

I got the date for the swearing in ceremony, and being single and not thinking much more about it went off to Balboa Park on my own. Upon arrival, there were various forms to sign (again!) and then on a clear and crisp, sunny morning the American flag was raised with soldiers saluting. About one hundred and fifty people of various ethnic backgrounds stood around the courtyard, children, old people, young families. Slowly the chattering died down, a feeling of ... almost pride, seemed to emerge. People's shining faces literally looked up at the flag waving gently in the breeze, chests seemed to swell, and smiles came out all over.

We all filed into the hall afterwards, where a Supreme Court Judge sat at a tall table and delivered a speech. He talked about how so many people from so many lands had been coming to the United States over countless years, and how this melting pot of different nationals had bonded together to form and create this great land - the United States of America. How Freedom, Equality and Demoncracy were still the beacons of light that drew all these peoples from their lands to come here, and pursue their chances of living in this great nation. That with enough energy and vigor, with enough 'true grit', an individual was limitless in his or her possible achievements. There was a quiet hum around, the light shining in through the large windows and arched doorways was golden and shimmery. I felt a throb in my throat that I could not swallow away.

An older, rather regal lady ascended the dais after the speech. An organization member of the Daughters of the American Revolution she welcomed us all to the Citizenry of the United States and offered, after the ceremony a special tea, that she and her members had prepared. Members of this organization, naturally all women, are almost all descended from women who lived during the time of the American Revolution, and today they are involved in community service work, especially work which revolves around the history of America and the American revolution.

As the ceremony winded down we all stood up to pledge Allegiance to the Flag of America, and as I looked around I realized that there were a number of people who had tears rolling down their cheeks. I was surprised to recognize that I too, was full of emotion, surprised at this tremendous feeling of enthusiasm and pride that I was becoming a U.S. Citizen. Surprised that all my cynicism had vanished and instead I was feeling rather dazed, full of unnamed emotions that made me feel good, feel safe. That I was finally becoming a member of a country that truly allowed free speech, free thought, that believed an individual was innocent always until proven otherwise, that there were Laws and Amendments to those laws contained in the Constitution, that protected the individual's rights in his home, in his business, in his community, in his associations and his beliefs.

Yes! I am a U.S. Citizen!



(Continued from page 14)

SPRING 1989

faces ... we hope and pray that they all reach Cape Town safely, and anxiously await a phone call confirming this."

On Sending a Child to Ulpan:

"I think that since the time the El Al flight couldn't get off the ground at Jan Smuts they have decided to zap us with heavy charges for overweight. Not one Ulpanik was within the weight limit, it was impossible to be ... The check-in lady told me to go and take the 'toasters and irons' out of the suitcase, which infuriated me as there were no such things in the luggage. I told her to ... politely, and just tell me what was to be paid (R37 per kilo). Most of the other parents opened the suitcases in the foyer of Sandton Sun and were busy pulling shoes and jerseys out of their kids' cases."

This and That:

"Just came back with Merle - went to a friend of hers - and two other women were there. Guess what the talk was all about? If not the children in America, then Australia otherwise grandchildren and more grandchildren, with photos."

"Our latest local debacle is that Terreblanche was caught breaking into the Union Buildings (for heaven knows what) and has been asked to resign from the party. So he fired the four party members who had the audacity to reprimand him! They would be comical if they weren't so dangerous."

Sports Scene:

On the cricket scene, the lure of good money means much to players who are nearing the end of their careers and to those who've been 'overlooked' by the selectors, so it seems probable that an English cricket team will play in South Africa this year.

This, despite the severe bans on cricketers playing in South Africa proposed by the ICC. Also a strong possiblity of a World XV Rugby Tour to celebrate the South African Rugby Board's centenary this year.

Soccer: In the first phase of construction, a new soccer stadium, bigger and better than ever, to be known as First National Bank Soccer Stadium, and with a seating-capacity of 120,000. At a completed cost of R60 million it will include 80 suites, 18 commentary booths, seating for 40 press members, and offices. The lower concourse will house the box office and gates. Interestingly, the pitch will be surrounded by a moat 3 metres deep and 3 metres wide, and the players will enter the pitch via a tunnel under the moat!

Athletics: the IAAF considers Zola Budd to be a South African, despite her British passport, so Zola, who plans a comeback to world athletics, faces a 2-year ban on all events, except British events.

Bruce Fordyce of Comrades marathon fame, won the Standard Bank 100 Challenge at the beginning of February. Distance: 100 km, which Bruce completed in 6 hours, 25 minutes and 7 seconds.

Not all is gloom, and you may be surprised to hear that South African Squash players are still welcome as members of the International Squash Players' Association!

Showtime:

Plans are under way for a follow-up to "Shaka Zulu" which grossed \$62 million in the U.S., according to director, Bill Faure. Tenative proposed title: "The Last Zulu Emperor"! Hope they'll think of a better one in due course.



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SA NEWS

by Naomi Rudick

What's the latest buzz from those sunny South African shores? We're not talking serious stuff here — rather odds and ends that highlight Jewish South African life, or jog the memory a little. So, herewith my "ragbag" of news, views, and events, gleaned from "The Star" (International Airmail Weekly), and my own, personal "foreign correspondents"!

News

Kim Shippey, well-known sports broadcaster for the SABC, is now living in America, and is with the "Discovery" channel in Boston.

One of Johannesburg's "characters", millionaire traffic cop, Richard Hoyle, died in January at the age of 76. He was always a familiar sight to drivers at the Melle Street/Empire Road intersection (near the Parktown Boys' High) during rush hour, and I was amazed to learn that he did point duty for the traffic department almost daily for 19 years!

April I this year will see Southern Africa's biggest implosion (and the world's third biggest) when the entire city block between Kerk, Pritchard, Harrison and Simmonds Streets in Johannesburg "will become a pile of rubble in the space of 20 seconds". This marks the first stage in a large-scale revamp of the central business district. First National Bank's new head office project, "BankCity" is the new development project for this vast area.

Sadly, the Connoisseur Hotel in Johannesburg is closing

down - due, it seems, to lack of support. Wonder why? This really marks the end of an era in Johannesburg Jewish life: Remember the Connoisseur's heyday - all those weddings and barmitzvahs which Gloria catered there, and the Thursday night smorgasbord (eat all you can - and everyone did!)?

Views

On the Year-End Holiday Season in Cape Town:

"... it was as its most beautiful this year. The sea was so calm-more like a lake, with no big waves, but still the wonderful 'ozone' that flows from the sea - the healing 'luft' that our parents were convinced caused all illnesses to disappear and children to grow. It was the only place to go for a 'real' holiday. And they were right. The bathing at Muizenberg remains magical ..."

"More noticeably in Cape Town, and to a slightly lesser extent in Johannesburg, there is a new mood. As Blacks move into "White" facilities there is a buzz, and one is distinctly conscious of living in Africa. Whites have begun to use Black minibus taxis (which have proliferated in their thousands). There is a buzz and a feeling that people are living here. Seapoint was forever lively, and New Year's Eve incredible. Nobody slept. It was a boiling hot night and everyone was out in the streets - hooting, singing, happy ... we had a little party, went to the beach, and finally waited for the sun to rise.

On Sending a Child to Betar Camp:

"My Bradley had to be at the station at 6 a.m. to load the luggage and to welcome his responsibilities: a group of 10 year old boys who all looked like potential thugs to me. You know, spidery legs with spikey haircuts, and incisors too large for their (Continued on page 15)

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Thoughts and Reflections on becoming a U.S. Citizen

by Linda Anne Kahn

SPRING 1989

As I stand here in Balboa Park in the cool crisp morning air, waiting to be sworn in as a U.S. citizen, I reflect back on the past 9 years. I think of our arrival in this land of opportunity, our anguished 3½ year wait for that cherished "green card" and the years that followed.

A grey-haired lady from the Republican Party is congratulating everyone and handing out red, white and blue voter's registration forms.

I shall now have a voice in this land of dreams and hopes. We are standing outside the Veterans War Memorial eagerly waiting to be told what to do next. A stout black lady dressed like a man appears. She hoists a faded tatty looking Stars and Stripes.

Suddenly, I hear a voice and feel a tap on my shoulder. You can imagine my surprise as I turn around and hear, "Goie Môre!" Charlene and Norman Wollach!

Finally one official arrives and welcomes us to our New Citizen's day. The Military rank goes first, followed by pregnant ladies and the handicapped. I think this will be a long wait.

As I gaze around at this diversified group of Asians, Phillipinos, Blacks, Mexicans and a few caucasians, I feel quite insignificant - a small speck in a giant universe - quite a humbling feeling. Imagine not clutching a green and gold passport in my hands as I travel. And how about going back to the land of my birth as an American. Is this what I wanted? Mixed emotions and thoughts go through me as the finality of it all hits home.

Is the Judge having coffee and donuts inside? Will they ever come to get us? Welcome to America - always waiting in line!

Finally we are guided in to a gloomy hall where I hand my faded blue "green" card over to a grey haired volunteer from the League of Women Voters. She snatches the coveted card from my hands, and nonchalantly tosses it into an empty tin. My heart begins beating faster. "You've just taken my card!" I feel naked. I have been guarding this card for the past $5\frac{1}{2}$ years.

Finally 2 hours after our arrival the Judge arrives - a female judge - to begin the proceedings and welcome us to the land of the free and the home of the brave.

There are representatives from 38 countries including Afgahnistan, Cambodia, China, Egypt, Iraq, Japan, Peru, Turkey, to name a few.

We are told we must now give up our old ties and loyalites and be bound by a new allegiance. Of course we will still have a natural affection for the country of our birth and remain close to its culture and our old friends, but from now on U.S.A. is to be our country - our adopted country. Freedom is offered to all of us, regardless of race, color or creed. The flag is a symbol of that freedom, proclaiming equality, justice and recognition for every man.

I was choked with emotion. As we recited the Pledge of Allegiance my heart pounded.

As each country was announced the citizens of that country had to stand up. When Mexico was announced, half the hall stood up. The other half of the hall stood up as the Phillipines were announced. Eva Koffler from Johannesburg was amongst the South Africans who announced themselves.

As we were presented with American flags and our rather large naturalization certificates, I could not stop thinking about our less fortunate fellow Jews in Russia.

It was a confusing, emotional experience. In some ways it was almost an anti-climax, but never-the-less, we are now American Citizens - We did it!



David & Linda-Anne Kahn, Sharleen & Norman Wollach being sworn in.



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WHOSE BROAD STRIPES AND BRIGHT STARS
THROUGH THE PERILOUS FIGHT
O'ER THE RAMPARTS WE WATCHED
WERE SO GALANTLY STREAMING
AND THE ROCKETS RED GLARE
THE BOMBS BURSTING IN AIR
GAVE PROOF THROUGH THE NIGHT
THAT OUR FLAG WAS STILL THERE
OH SAY DOES THAT STAR SPANGLED BANNER YET WAVE
O'ER THE LAND OF THE FREE
AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE

JCRC "San Diego Encounter" - Mexican Border Tour

by Joyce Axelrod

Joyce Axelrod, a community leader, participated in the recent Jewish Community Relations Council sponsored "San Diego Encounter" Border Tour. This is an example of JCRC Intergroup programming.

Never has "a picture is worth a thousand words" been more true for me as when I saw hundreds of people waiting for nightfall to enter illegally into the United States.

With immigration as a major issue confronting us as Jews, San Diegans and Americans, the UJF's Jewish Community Relations Council recently sponsored a tour of the San Diego/Mexican border.

The U.S. Border Patrol arranged for our group of fourteen community leaders to tour the San Diego/Tijuana border at dusk. I was amazed that the border with Mexico does not have any demarcation: no fence, no walls, no lines. On the Mexican side is a heavy concentration of shacks and run-down houses. On the American side are brush covered hills and canyons that provide excellent cover at night for the alien to enter the U.S.

The Border Patrol agent who drove our van shared much information with us during our three hour sight-seeing venture. Some of the facts he reported are:

- The US shares a 2,000 mile border with Mexico.
- The largest port of entry in the world is at San Ysidro.
- \bullet The San Diego Border Patrol was responsible for the arrest of over 44% of all illegal aliens encountered along the Mexican border.
- \bullet 50% of all legal US Border crossings pass through San Ysidro.
- Twenty-five percent of certain crimes in San Diego County, like car-theft and burglary, can be attributed to illegal aliens.
- The incidence of violent crime committed against undocumented aliens on the US side of the border by Mexican "bandits" is escalating.
- The money paid to smugglers by would be immigrants totals millions of dollars annually.
- The smuggling of drugs from Mexico across our border continues at an alarming rate.
- And on and on and on ...

We saw the site of the proposed "ditch" and observed the helicopters on their twenty-four-hour-day observation. The group visited the central communications unit that tracks the border using sophisticated equipment like micro-wave relays, radio direction-finding systems, starlight scopes, video cameras and recorders. We met with a few agents responsible for this Herculean task.

The depression of the economics of our southern neighbors, over-population, and under-employment, coupled with the attraction of jobs in the United States make so many desperate

to illegally immigrate. It is a severe struggle for both sides.

At one point, our guide was talking about the job having its dangerous moments. He noted his identification with the Israeli soldiers in their efforts to deal with the Palestinian rock throwers, commenting that a rock is definitely a deadly weapon.

JCRC programs such as this serve to remind us of the important role that JCRC plays in enriching our understanding of issues that influence our Jewish and secular lives.

Dr's Roy Howard & Brian First and their families would like to express their gratitude to the community for the kindness & sympathy shown to them at the time of the passing of their mother, Pearl.

AIPAC TO OPEN IN SAN DIEGO

from our Roving Reporter Norman Sarkin

Howard Kohr & Sarah Catz, representatives from AIPAC, the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, were speakers at Congregation Beth Israel on January 31st.

Howard Kohr, the Director of Executive Branch Relations for AIPAC, explained that AIPAC is the only American organization registered to lobby Congress to build a strong relationship between the United States and Israel. AIPAC was formed in 1951 by all major Jewish organizations, when they realized that Israel could not survive without the kind of aid only the US government could provide. Its formation provided a full-time presence of professional lobbyists in Washington, DC who know the legislative process and can affect foreign policy. In 1981, the sale of AWAC's to Saudi Arabia was the watershed for the growth of AIPAC whose membership now numbers 50,000.

As the Executive Branch liaison, Kohr maintains relationships with the White House, State & Defense Department agencies responsible for determining US policy toward Israel, and the Middle East.

Catz, the Associate Director for AIPAC, discussed AIPAC's annual Policy Conference in Washington, D.C. This year the conference will be held Sunday, May 21st through Tuesday, May 23rd.

During the conference 1,500 people from all fifty states gather in the nation's Capital for three days of speeches, banquets, briefings ... and most importantly, lobbying members of Congress of Capitol Hill. In 1988, 90 Senators and 206 Congressmen participated in the AIPAC Policy Conference.

Catz is opening an AIPAC office in San Diego. For more information please call (800) 274-4722.

Whatever ever happened to a free lunch?

by Brian Marks

Have you ever noticed that Americans are always trying to give you something. And they get kinda angry if you refuse to take it.

Now I like a gift as much or even more as the guy next door—but the capitalist spirit that made this country great also changed the gift giving rules around 180 degrees. I don't know why, but everyone always wants something in return.

In some countries they would call it a bribe and ship you off to the pokey for a lifetime and a half. Here it's called marketing. And when I tell you that if something sounds too good to be true, that's the story of gift giving in the U.S.

Cars. I always believed that if anyone could give you back fifteen hundred bucks just for buying their car, they were pretty well fleecing you to start with. And what's more, I always thought that if something was any good, people lined up for it. No one had to bribe you into buying it.

No one ever had to bribe you to live in La Jolla, buy a Mercedes or shop at Saks. But they'll gladly pay you to buy a Buick that no one is buying and everyone is overstocked with. I don't know. Call me dumb. But why should I buy something that nobody wants to begin with.

But it doesn't stop there.

You may already have won \$1,000,000 if you subscribe to Ladies Home Journal. And you believe that?

If you do, I have got a time share with an ocean view to sell you right in the heart of Kansas. And what is more, to get you to attend the sales presentation I'll even give you luggage, or cutlery, or a TV set or your own star. You name it ... you can have it.

Banks give you toasters so you'll give them your money. McDonalds give your kids crayons if you'll give them your kids money. Sports Illustrated will send you the Not So Great Moments in Sports if you just give them your reading money, and even landlords will give you free rent if you promise to give them lots of your money.

Am I psychic, or is there a pattern here?

Whatever happened to the free spirit of giving something for nothing. Wouldn't it be great if Chrysler just gave you a grand — no strings attached. Resorts sent you a compact disc player because you decided to travel to their competitor. IBM sent you round the world just for buying an Apple. Or the Chargers gave you a poster for attending a Padres game.

Sounds like more fun to me. Sounds like somthing a kinder, gentler nation wouldn't think twice about doing. And you know, it may even be good for business. I mean wouldn't you want to spend your loot at Sears if, for every buck that climbed out your wallet Coke restocked your refrigerator. I know I would.

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