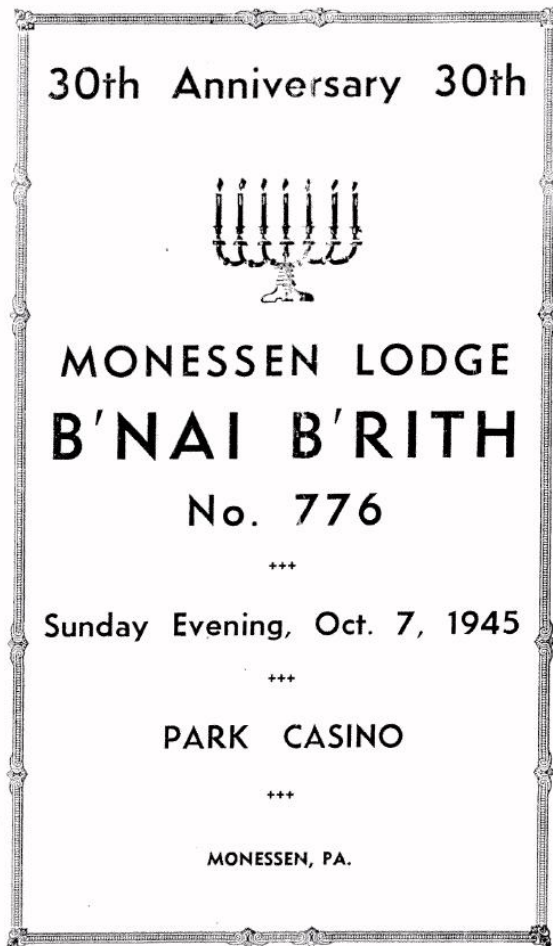


30th Anniversary Dinner Program
Courtesy of Donna Cowan, USA



30th Anniversary Dinner Program

Courtesy of Donna Cowan, USA

President's Message

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On this, the thirtieth anniversary of Monessen Lodge No. 776, our thoughts and thanks are directed towards that small group of Monessen Jews who had the foresight to recognize the need for the formation of a B'nai B'rith Lodge in Monessen.

In the years since its inception, each succeeding administration of our lodge has accepted office as a sacred trust. It is not surprising that this milestone finds us a strong organization dedicated to the lofty ideals and principles of B'nai B'rith.

The past thirty years of B'nai B'rith activity in Monessen is only the beginning. The success we have enjoyed throughout those years is a challenge to us for the future. The war has taught us how to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. Let us apply that lesson to our work in B'nai B'rith. Our problems as Jews are many and their solution calls for the united effort of each and every Ben B'rith.

With this in mind, let us, united and strong, work to that end.

DR. RALPH M. CHERKIN, President
Monessen Lodge No. 776

30th Anniversary Dinner Program
Courtesy of Donna Cowan, USA

**Personnel of 30th Anniversary
Committee**

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HYMAN B. BAZELL, Chairman
EDWARD BERKOWITZ, Treasurer
JEROME L. SAMUELS
HYMAN POLLACK
JOHN HOFFMAN
MORRIS H. SAMUELS
MORRIS EPSTEIN
HERBERT KRAUSE
JACK BOHRER
THEODORE KRAUSE
ADOLPH BERGSTEIN
BERNARD SAMUELS
DR. RALPH M. CHERKIN

30th Anniversary Dinner Program

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Welcome

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Much has been spoken and written about America's roll in the greatest Victorious War.

America with its resources, manpower and ability to muster all forces, has completed the task she undertook. Though militarily unprepared, she has never wavered or questioned the possibility of the ultimate Victory against Nazism and Facism.

And so has B'nai B'rith!

Much has been spoken and written about B'nai B'rith in her great roll to do service: Service to our Country; Service to our People; Service to all Mankind.

Monessen Lodge No. 776 B'nai B'rith is proud to be a part of this great service organization.

In celebrating our Thirtieth Anniversary, we have shown that we too played a great roll in the service, and by our will to serve, we have achieved much.

We welcome you, all delegates and Friends! We hope your stay here will be just as pleasant and enjoyable as we are pleased to have you and enjoy you. We are proud of You and B'nai B'rith!

HYMAN B. BAZELL, Chairman

30th Anniversary Dinner Program

Courtesy of Donna Cowan, USA

30th Anniversary Program

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America Assembly
Invocation Rabbi Nathan Kohen
Ehuner Max Gordon, at the Organ
Welcome Hyman Bazell, Chairman
Toastmaster Hon. David H. Weiss
Greetings Dr. Ralph M. Cherkin
President Monessen Lodge No. 776
Violin Solo Max Shapiro
Well Known Concert Violinist
Greetings Mrs. Edward H. Stern
President of E'nai B'rith Women
Remarks Meyer Feldman, Esq.
President Western Pennsylvania Council
Vocal Solo Miss Phyliss Cohen
Accompanied by Miss Ruth Levinson
Remarks Max U. Applebaum, Esq.
Assoc. Regional Director
Violin Solo Max Shapiro
Address Theodore Cook
Sec'y District Grand Lodge No. 3
Benediction Rabbi Nathan Kohen
God Bless America Assembly

30th Anniversary Dinner Program
Courtesy of Donna Cowan, USA

Monessen Lodge No. 776

1945 Officers 1946

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President Dr. Ralph M. Cherkin
Vice President Herbert Krause
Secretary Hyman B. Bazell
Treasurer Edward Berkowitz
Ass't Monitor Jerome Samuels
Monitor Bernard Samuels
Warden Theodore Krause
Guardian Morris Bergstein
Trustees Charles Rosenson, Sam D. Stern, David Samuels

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History of Monessen Lodge No. 776

Thirty Years of B'nai B'rith

By

Morris H. Samuels

In September, 1915, a group of twenty-six men decided to organize a B'nai B'rith Lodge in the Monongahela Valley, and October, 1915, a charter was granted to the Monongahela Valley Lodge No. 776 B'nai B'rith, with these men, (whose names appear elsewhere in this program) being listed as charter members.

A few years later, beautiful lodge room furniture was bought, and I might say, is still the envy of visiting brothers. During the regime of our late Brother, Thomas Bergstein, the largest number of members (25), ever to come into the Lodge at one time, was initiated at a tremendous banquet.

Our Jewish boys organized one of the first A. Z. A. Chapters in Western Pennsylvania, being the eighty-second to enter the fold, in this country. Our A. Z. A. boys had the honor and distinction of having the first A. Z. A. owned home in the world.

One of the outstanding events in our history, occurred on October 28, 1934, when Monongahela Valley Lodge played host to the Western Pennsylvania Council, which then consisted of only thirteen lodges. At this banquet we had as guest speaker, Richard E. Gutstadt, Chairman of the Anti-Defamation League.

In 1935 we allowed the Donora members to separate from us, so that they might form their own lodge and thereby add strength to the B'nai B'rith. At this time our name was officially changed to Monessen Lodge B'nai B'rith No. 776. A few years later, the Charleroi members also left us, to form an organization of their own. With all this, we still retained a membership of (fifty-two) in our own lodge. At present we have a membership of seventy-two.

During World War II, we did everything that was asked of us, and more. All those entering the service were given a gift by the B'nai B'rith and now a beautiful plaque with the names of those who served in the Armed Services has been purchased, and will shortly be presented to our Community.

30th Anniversary Dinner Program

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Committee Chairmen 1945-1946

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Program—Jerome L. Samuels, Chairman; Joseph Weiss, Co-Chairman

Anti-Defamation—Harold B. Cramer, Hyman B. Bazell

Americanization—Louis Roth, Aaron Schwartz

Hillel—Morris H. Samuels, Allen Cowan

Membership—Sam D. Stern

Publicity—Hyman B. Bazell

Wider Scope—Dr. Max Heatter

War Service—Bernard Samuels, Joseph Weiss

Adult Education—Rabbi Nathan Kohen, Albert Kulick

Vocational Guidance—John Hoffman, Joseph Shire

Dues Committee—Herbert Krause, Adolph Bergstein

B'nai B'rith Youth—Ted Krause

Social—Edward Berkowitz

Athletic—Edward H. Stern

Relief—David Samuels

30th Anniversary Dinner Program

Courtesy of Donna Cowan, USA

Past Presidents

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Max Janavitz

Joseph Safier*

Jacob Myers*

Hyman Silverman

Henry Eisenberg

Meyer Miller*

Max Schloss*

Mendel Mendelson

Leonard Pokempner

Thomas Bergstein*

Dr. S. H. Rosenthal

Dr. Max Heatter

Sam D. Stern

Julius Labow

Harry Rivkees

Morris H. Samuels

Joseph Shire

Joseph Friedland

Harold B. Cramer

Adolph Bergstein

Hyman B. Bazell

Bernard Samuels

Dr. Ralph M. Cherkin

* Deceased

30th Anniversary Dinner Program

Courtesy of Donna Cowan, USA

Charter Members

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Rabbi H. Levendorf	Emanuel Feldman
Alfred Tanzer*	Jacob Bornstein*
Joseph Safier*	Samuel Weiss
Henry Eisenberg	Gus Hirsch
Max Janavitz	Harry Hirsch*
Max Shapiro*	Max Hirsch*
Sig. Welber	L. Wetzler*
Henry Cramer	H. Harris*
David Snitzer	A. Nayhouse*
Morris Rozner*	A. Cherkin
G. Rogaliner	Dr. I. J. Israel
Harry Lebowitz	J. Goldstein*
H. Weinberger*	Ed Weill

* Deceased

30th Anniversary Dinner Program

Courtesy of Donna Cowan, USA

Message From West. Penn'a Council

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To the members of B'nai B'rith Monessen Lodge No. 776

On behalf of the officers and delegates of B'nai B'rith Council of Western Pennsylvania, I extend to the Monessen Lodge No. 776 our heartiest congratulations on this, your thirtieth anniversary. It is a Lodge such as yours, one of the strong links in our chain, that makes our Order as great as it is.

Now that peace is again on this world, let us all join hands and in the true spirit of B'nai B'rith work for a better world so that Israel and all mankind may benefit.

Fraternally,
MEYER FELDMAN, President
Western Pennsylvania Council

30th Anniversary Dinner Program

Courtesy of Donna Cowan, USA

30th Anniversary Greetings

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Mr. and Mrs. Benny Albert
Mr. and Mrs. Herman Albert
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Albert
Mr. and Mrs. Adolph Bergstein
Mr. and Mrs. Morris Bergstein
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Bohrer
Mr. and Mrs. H. B. Bazell
Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Albert
Mr. and Mrs. Allen Cowan
Mr. and Mrs. H. Clateman
Dr. and Mrs. Ralph M. Cherkin
Mr. and Mrs. Edw. Berkowitz
Mr. and Mrs. Edw. H. Stern
Mr. and Mrs. H. Pollack
Mr. and Mrs. Morris Epstein
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Krause
Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Krause
Mr. and Mrs. John Hoffman
Mr. and Mrs. Harold B. Cramer
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Cramer
Mr. and Mrs. Morris Borof
Mr. and Mrs. Henry Eisenberg
Mr. William Gottlieb
Atty. and Mrs. David Weiss
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Weiss
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Greenfield
Dr. and Mrs. M. Heatter
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Keisler
Mr. and Mrs. William Moss
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Chodes
Mr. Harry Rogowitz
Mr. Aaron Schwartz
Mr. and Mrs. Julius Feldman
Mrs. Jean Spevok and Family
Mr. and Mrs. William Bobier, Cleveland, Ohio

30th Anniversary Dinner Program

Courtesy of Donna Cowan, USA

30th Anniversary Greetings

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Mr. and Mrs. Jerome Samuels
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Samuels
Mr. and Mrs. Morris H. Samuels
Mr. and Mrs. David Samuels
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Samuels
Mr. and Mrs. Bud Samuels
Mr. and Mrs. Isadore Bergstein
Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hollander
Mr. and Mrs. Sam D. Stern
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Shire
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Shire
Mr. and Mrs. Ben Notovitz
Mr. and Mrs. E. Handelsman
Mr. and Mrs. Barry Hirsch
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Roth
Mr. and Mrs. A. Kulick
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Friedland
Mr. and Mrs. Hyman Cherkin
Mr. and Mrs. Meyer Rogowitz
Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel Feldman
Mr. and Mrs. I. Sanes
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Rosenson
Mr. and Mrs. William Sklov
Mr. and Mrs. M. Stadlander, Monongahela, Pa.
Mr. and Mrs. Ben A. Rubin, Monongahela, Pa.
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Wolf, Donora, Pa.
Mr. and Mrs. Sam Closky, Donora, Pa.
Mr. and Mrs. Harry Balis, Donora, Pa.

30th Anniversary Dinner Program

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In The Service of Our Country

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Bergstein, Edward	Stern, Leonard
Cherkin, Dr. Harold M.	Bergstein, Milton
Shire, Dr. Irwin Pohl	Shire, Herbert
Rosenson, Bernard J.*	Perchesky, Nathaniel
Berger, Eugene	Krasik, Sylvia X.
Albert, Isaac	Rogowitz, Joseph
Steinman, Martin	Clateman, Dr. Arthur
Rosenson, Milton	Stuhl, Paul
Mayer, Martin	Krasik, Willard
Perchesky, Bernard	Clateman, Irwin
Feldman, Dr. Eugene	Feldman, Frederick
Klein, Anton	Schwartz, Leonard
Ponchek, Hyman	Hoffman, John
Schrager, Howard	Cramer, Dr. Paul
Krasik, James B.	Handlesman, Frederick
Feldman, Arthur E.	Bergstein, Isidore
Rozner, Julian H.	Pavloff, Abraham
Wilensky, Abraham	Spevok, Bernard
Brody, Jerome M.	Kellman, Harry
Moss, Dr. Sidney	Bergstein, Bernard

* Killed in Action