



חדשות



Habonim Dror Foundation News

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 1, DECEMBER 1994

Foundation History

A small group of people came together four years ago with two goals: publishing a book to chronicle Habonim Dror's 50 years of activity in North America and Israel, and establishing a fund that would provide ongoing support for the youth movement. Raising over

Many of you have already contributed both through financial gifts and helping us build a mailing list by opening up your address books and rolodexes. Over 115 people and institutions have contributed \$200 or more, qualifying them as Founding Sponsors of the Foundation. Anyone

“...the success of this campaign has enabled us to publish Builders and Dreamers and make an initial allocation to Habonim Dror”

\$110,000, the success of this campaign has enabled us to publish Builders and Dreamers and make an initial allocation to Habonim Dror. This first grant will fund a community outreach program to support existing kenim (city groups) and help develop new ones.

The response from people like you has encouraged us to broaden and formalize the effort. We are organizing a leadership team for the Habonim Dror Foundation that is multi-generational, representing the years of Habonim Dror activism. This group is being drawn from the Labor Zionist movement, the camps and individuals actively involved in the process. Early next year we will meet to establish an action plan which we hope will enable us to meet our new goal: raising an additional \$100,000 over the next two years, coinciding with the 60th anniversary of Habonim Dror in North America in 1995-6.

who would like to join that group with a new contribution or upgrading a previous, smaller donation, should do so before January 1, 1995 using the form on page 3.

We look forward to hearing your comments and receiving your contributions. You will hear from us again in 1995 when we present our plan for reaching our fund-raising goals.



Mazel Tov ...

...to Daniel Mann on his recent election as President of the Labor Zionist Alliance. Danny was the prime mover in the establishment of the Foundation and all the work that proceeded it in the form of the Habonim Dror Publications and Endowment Fund. Good luck with the challenges in your new position.

Why a Foundation? A Personal Note

Kenneth Bob

Two years ago I received a call from Mark Seal, asking me to attend a meeting with the current leadership of Habonim Dror. He explained that funding was down from traditional sources and we were going to discuss how to help the movement.

While I have never questioned the value Habonim Dror gave to my life, I admit that I went to the meeting with mixed emotions. I was afraid that I would find an organization that was a “lost cause”, perhaps beyond saving. If that was the case, I asked myself, could I ask others to invest time and money to support the movement?

What I learned at the meeting was that in the 1990's there are college and high school students who continue to believe and dream, ignoring the cynicism of their peers. More impressive, they are acting

Continued on page 2, column 1

WHOOOPS!!

We recently changed addresses and we have been informed that the post office has been less than thorough in forwarding our mail. Please accept our apologies if you had mail returned to you. You can rest assured that we are indeed alive and well; please note our new address on page 2 of this newsletter.

Why a Foundation - A Personal Note

Continued from page 1, column 3

upon their beliefs, much the way we did, through kenim, camps and Israel programs. With so much going against them, including the reduction in funding and shlichim, the movement was actually expanding.

Since returning from Israel where I lived for fourteen years, all I hear from every study, analysis, or speech is that North American Jewish continuity will rely upon Jewish education and youth trips to Israel. Combine that with a healthy dose of progressive social activism and aliyah and you have the Habonim Dror program that we have experienced for nearly 60 years.

I personally came to the conclusion that if there are still young people who want take these youth movement values into the next century, it is our role to help. I have agreed to help lead the fund-raising effort over the next two years because I believe together we can reach our goal of \$100,000

I take a populist approach to this challenge. I am convinced that there are hundreds or thousands who feel as I do about the importance of Habonim Dror. We must reach as many of those people as possible and involve them in this project.

As you read this newsletter, sit back for a moment and consider your own personal Habonim Dror experience. Did Habonim Dror camping have an impact on you? Were workshop tiyulim the most incredible way to see Israel? Did belonging to a ken make your teenage years more meaningful than those of your peers? If none of these examples match your experience, I am sure you can come up with your own.

Please join us as we help ensure the next generation of labor Zionist youth activism in North America!

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Volume 1, Number 1, December 1994

The Habonim Dror Foundation

PO Box 166

Mineola, NY 11501

This issue put together by Kenneth Bob, Jennifer Kay, and Steven Weinberg



Habonim Dror

The summer of 1994 was very successful in all aspects; the numbers in our camps were higher than ever before and some unfortunately had to turn away chanichim due to overcrowding. MBI was once again a very successful program with 86 chanichim touring Israel Habonim Dror style this past summer. As a special addition, MBI Gimel participated in a program called Maapilim 1994. This program, put together by the American Zionist Youth Foundation, was a program which aimed to bring together different youth movements and organizations and

tional seminars at Kiryat Moriah. With 39 participants, this Workshop is the largest since 1987.

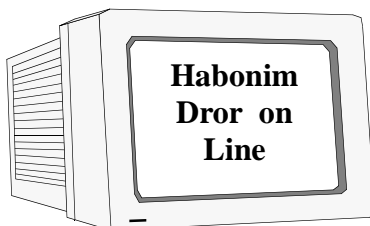
Our kenim are continuing to function very well. We have 19 extremely dedicated Rashei Ken who are doing creative and exciting programming, and who are very self motivated. Our recent merkaz meeting was very successful and we are planning for 130 participants at our national winter seminars. We have begun registration for MBI Daled and Workshop 45 and the interest level is high.

“With 39 participants, this Workshop is the largest since 1987.”

to simulate the immigration process of post-Holocaust European Jewry. From all reports, the MBI participants were very much leaders within the overall program, and benefited from the experience.

Workshop 44 is presently enjoying life on Kibbutz Urim. They have completed their Ulpan at Ben Gurion University and have spent three weeks in Jerusalem for educa-

One of the new projects that Habonim Dror is working on is to rejuvenate Habonim Dror activities in California. We are opening a Winter Camp once again this month, and the hope is that the chanichim from this camp will form the basis of a summer camp in 1996. We are trying to expand beyond the Los Angeles area, and to attract chanichim from all over California, specifically the Berkeley area, which sent participants on MBI for the past two summers.



Through the years, Habonim Dror has always been at the forefront of new social development in North America. We have not been left behind during the construction of the information super-highway, either. A group of current and former members of the movement have already connected through the internet and we are considering formalizing the link. If you would like to hear more about the establishment of a Habonim Dror email network, send us your email address. Such a network might discuss events in Israel and the Jewish community, share news from the movement and catch up on the whereabouts of old friends.

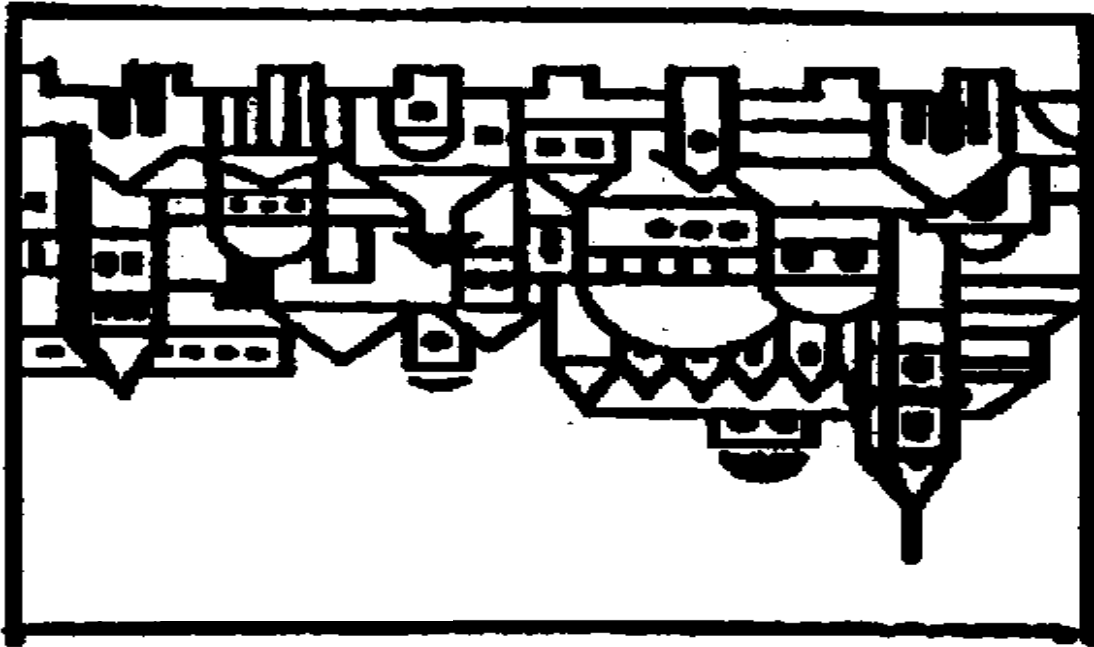
Contact us at: ken@lightstn.com or nevets2@aol.com

Camp Galil 50th Anniversary on the Drawing Boards

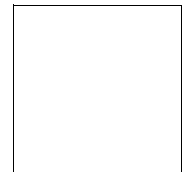
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1996

Camp Galil will be celebrating its 50th anniversary in 1996. The Galil Camp Committee has appointed Judy Shribman Ron as Chair of the Anniversary Committee. Phase I, in cooperation with the Habonim Dror Foundation, will be the development of a Galil Alumni mailing list. So please be especially sure to send in names, addresses, etc. of Galil alumni on the form provided in this newsletter so that they will receive 50th Anniversary announcements, etc.



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HABONIM DROR FOUNDATION
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Address Correction Requested