

B'Yachad

Av 5759 • August 1999

TOGETHER

Alumni Make Yom Iyun Banquet a Historic Success

“The banquet was absolutely terrific, except for one mistake. We didn’t anticipate such a large turnout, and failed to reserve the Grand Ballroom for the dinner.”

This is how Rosh HaYeshiva Rabbi Nota Schiller summed up the historic success of the Yom Iyun and 27th Anniversary

Dinner of Ohr Somayach, May 2nd at the Hilton in New York City. No one expected that almost two thousand people would arrive to hear the impressive roster of world renowned rabbeim

giving lectures throughout the day. Fortunately, the Hilton’s Grand Ballroom, which was reserved for another evening affair, was put at our disposal for the afternoon at the last minute.

Furthermore, no one would have imagined that almost 700 people would attend the Ohr Somayach 27th Anniversary Banquet. For the dinner, the smaller hall we had reserved could not

hold the large number of guests, and the only solution the Hilton management could offer was two adjoining halls.

This *bidiyeved* situation turned out to be a *lechatchilah*. It meant that the alumni and their families would be together in a hall set aside for them and their rabbeim,

which gave the evening the special flavor of an intimate alumni reunion.

Although this arrangement required both of the Roshei Yeshiva, Rabbi Nota Schiller and



Part of the overflow audience at the Yom Iyun

Rabbi Mendel Weinbach, to speak alternately in each of the halls, it allowed them to devote their remarks to their beloved former talmidim just as they had paid special attention to them throughout the Yom Iyun. There was an opportunity for alumni to meet with them, and with Rabbi Bulman, Rabbi Pindrus, Rabbi Schoen, Rabbi Bradpiece, Rabbi Gottlieb, Rabbi Wein and Rabbi Tatz.

What both halls were able to enjoy simultaneously was a

showing of "Ohr-Dessa Odyssey." The video describes the magnificent Ohr Somayach educational and social network serving more than 630 students and their families in the Ukrainian city of Odessa, a project which experts have described as the most successful outreach program in the former Soviet Union.

The alumni participation in the events of this unforgettable day, both in attendance and financial assistance, was a

major factor in their success. In addition, three of the five people receiving awards at the banquet were alumni, who were honored, together with their wives, with the Shomrei Yisroel Young Leadership Award. The honors were symbolic of the fact that the alumni have emerged as the backbone of Ohr Somayach's support from the Torah community. All of which has convinced the Hanholo of Ohr Somayach that next year we must reserve the Grand Ballroom — at least!

*Let's Share
Our Simchas*

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with

b'Yachad

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Mazel Tov to...

RABBI AND MRS. BEREL HIRSCHMAN
ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR DAUGHTER

MR. AND MRS. BINYOMIN ALTMAN
ON THEIR WEDDING

MR. AND MRS. HILLEL BELNICK
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MR. AND MRS. SHALOM GARFINKEL
ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR DAUGHTER

MR. AND MRS. DOVID HODGES
ON THE BIRTH OF THEIR SON

MR. AND MRS. AHARON FRIEDMAN
ON THE WEDDING OF THEIR DAUGHTER TO
ELI BALLON

OHR SOMAYACH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
expresses its sincerest condolences to
YITZCHAK GOLDMAN AND FAMILY
of the passing of his brother, o.b.m.

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