



Youngsters from across Israel participated in a BBYO-sponsored rally for soldiers missing in action.

Staszow Reunion

Common wisdom has it that if you win money or fame, the relatives come crawling out of the woodwork. That's certainly been true in Jack Goldfarb's case. Only he couldn't be happier.

Goldfarb, a member of B'nai B'rith's New Israel Couples Unit in New York, was profiled in the June-July 1993 issue of *The B'nai B'rith International Jewish Monthly* because of his efforts to memorialize the 5,000 Jews of Staszow, Poland, almost all of whom were murdered during the Holocaust. Goldfarb dedicated the town's first Holocaust memorial on November 8, 1992, 50 years to the day after its Jewish community was deported to the death camps.

Since the *IJM* article appeared, Goldfarb has heard from several people whose parents or grandparents came from Staszow, where Goldfarb's own parents were born. At least three think they might be related to him.

He recently had his first meeting with one of his Staszow relations, Jeffrey Graubart, a Los Angeles B'nai B'rith member whose grandfather was a rabbi in Staszow. Goldfarb had brought photos of the town's synagogue, which deeply touched Graubart. "I always wondered what my grandfather's synagogue looked like," he says.

Of those who have contacted him, Goldfarb says, "I feel these people's strong hunger to know more about Staszow.... I feel an immediate kinship when I meet with these people."

Hundreds Rally for MIAs

Zechariah Baumel has been missing since June 1982. Zvi Feldman disappeared in southern Lebanon the same year. And Ron Arad has not been heard from since his plane was shot down eight years ago. These men are among the many Israeli prisoners of war or soldiers missing in action for whom B'nai B'rith youngsters rallied this winter. Hundreds of members of Noar Lenoar — BBYO in Israel — came from all parts of the country to urge their government to highlight the search for these soldiers in the ongoing negotiations for Middle East peace.

Organized by the Jerusalem Ramot chapter, the effort began with a petition calling on the government to do everything possible to guarantee the release of Israeli POWs. Next, the group distributed educational material on the subject to all of the organiza-

tion's chapters. Finally, they enlisted the logistical support of the Ramot community center, where the group holds its meetings, and invited Jerusalem high-schoolers and BBYO members from around the country to stage a rally in front of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office. More than 1,500 students took part.

According to Limor Brenner, Noar Lenoar regional director, the youngsters created an emotional ceremony which included a song for peace sung by Yona Baumel, father of Zechariah Baumel.

"The organizers have learned that leadership is, in many ways, about inspiring others to take a stand and make a difference," says Brenner. "Hundreds of teens are now concerned and ready to act on the issue of the prisoners of war and those missing in action as a result of the initiative taken by a select group of young people."