



WITH YOUR SUPPORT
WE'RE BUILDING A
COMMUNITY
OF RESPECT

ACROSS THE
SOUTHEAST

2008 SOUTHEAST
ANNUAL REPORT

IN THE NEWS

Leo Frank Historic Marker

On March 7, 93 years after the lynching death of Jewish businessman Leo Frank, ADL invited Georgia elected officials, Jewish leaders and historical preservationists to the dedication of a state historical marker some 100 yards from the tree where Frank was hanged in Marietta. The ceremony featured remarks by Cobb County Chairman Sam Olens, State Senator Steve Thompson, former governor Roy Barnes, Cobb County Rabbi Steven Lebow and representatives of the Anti-Defamation League.

Leo Frank, manager of the National Pencil Company in Atlanta, was convicted of the murder of 13-year-old factory employee Mary Phagan in 1913. The state historical marker notes that the trial was fueled by anti-Semitism and mistrust of the Northerner Frank.

On August 17, 1915, after his sentence was commuted from death to life in prison by Governor John Slaton, Frank was abducted from the state prison in Milledgeville, driven to Marietta and hanged by a vigilante party composed of some of Marietta's leading citizens.

Epstein School Incident

When swastikas were found spray-painted on property outside the Epstein School in Sandy Springs last August, ADL worked with school officials, local elected officials and law enforcement agencies to make sure that students, teachers and others at the school were safe from further harm, and to encourage local leaders to speak out strongly against the crime.

We encouraged students participating in ADL's *No Place for Hate*® program to show their support for Epstein.

As a result, the school received more than 200 letters from public and parochial school students expressing their outrage over the graffiti incidents.



Fort Benning Incident

In October, the Southeast office intervened to protect a Jewish soldier stationed at Fort Benning in Macon, Georgia after he was subjected to anti-Semitic harassment by drill instructors, and was later assaulted by a fellow recruit. ADL worked successfully with the US Army to have the soldier moved to a safe location on the base while investigations of the incidents were conducted. ADL met with command level leadership at Fort Benning to assure that the guilty soldiers received punishments that demonstrated the Army's determination to root out discrimination and bigotry.

Emory University Fraternity House Fire

In November, Southeast Regional Director Bill Nigut responded to alarmed students, parents and community members following a series of anti-Israel events and activities, including a deliberately-set fire at a Jewish fraternity house, on the campus of Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. The fire at Alpha Epsilon Pi was contained quickly and no one was hurt. While there is no evidence concluding that it was an anti-Semitic act, it happened at the end of "Palestinian Week" on campus. So, Associate Director Shelley Rose and Bill met with the Hillel director at Emory and arranged a security seminar for staff members. Mr. Nigut subsequently met with Emory University President Jim Wagner to discuss how ADL can play a role in easing tensions on the Emory campus.



PROGRAMS

Echoes & Reflections

Tennessee educators were introduced to the award-winning multimedia Holocaust curriculum, *Echoes & Reflections*, at a training program conducted by the Anti-Defamation League December 11 at the University of Tennessee - Knoxville. Co-sponsored by the Tennessee Holocaust Commission and funded by The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) and the Anti-Defamation League, the training targeted middle and high school social studies and language arts teachers.

Participants included educators from public schools and the Tennessee School for the Deaf. Teachers who participated in the program will use *Echoes and Reflections* with their students over the coming year and submit pre- and post-surveys that measure the effectiveness of the curriculum in the classroom. A follow-up program will bring Holocaust survivors and educators from Yad Vashem to the Eastern Tennessee region to meet with students and the community.

Law Enforcement and Society

In May, the Southeast region inaugurated *Law Enforcement and Society*, a new ADL law enforcement training program run in collaboration with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Sixteen metro Atlanta police chiefs and other high ranking law enforcement officials traveled to Washington to undergo training sessions designed to help them better understand how to relate to the communities they police.



Bearing Witness™

From July 21-23, the Anti-Defamation League Southeast Region held its second regional Bearing Witness™ Program for Catholic school educators. In partnership with the Archdiocese of Atlanta, Bearing Witness is a three-day intensive training program to prepare Catholic school educators to teach about the Holocaust, anti-Semitism and contemporary issues of prejudice. The program has tremendous implications for the improvement of Catholic-Jewish relations in the U.S. today.

Thirty-five educators and administrators from 11 schools in metro Atlanta, Rome, and Athens, as well as the Superintendent of Catholic Schools attended the three day program.

Participants examined the similarities and differences in Jewish and Catholic theology, the importance of reading scripture in a Jewish context and the role the Catholic Church played during the Holocaust. Educators also visited The Temple and met with a local rabbi, shared a dinner with local Holocaust survivors, and visited The Breman.

Wittenstein Summer Associates

Thirty-three summer associates from 14 Atlanta law firms struggled with topics of social significance last summer as part of the Charles Wittenstein Summer Associate Research Program. Participants were asked to research issues relating to immigration that have been on ADL's radar screen recently. On Thursday, July 10th, attorneys and ADL board members joined summer associates as they presented their findings at a closing reception held at the Atlanta offices of Alston & Bird.

The Research Program is named for ADL board member Charles F. Wittenstein. Now retired, Wittenstein worked for the ADL as Southern Counsel and Civil Rights Director. In tribute to their father, his children, David & Lee Wittenstein, Robert & Susan Wittenstein, and Gary & Ruth Musicante, established this program seven years ago in their father's name.



No Place for Hate®

In April, ADL celebrated the end of year one with banner ceremonies at 99% of all the schools that participated in the first year of the initiative.

In August, we kicked off the second year of our highly-acclaimed diversity training program No Place for Hate, now operating in more than 150 schools in Georgia. During 2008, we announced No Place for Hate partnerships with the Georgia State University College of Education, Young Audiences of the Woodruff Arts Center, and continuing collaborations with the Center for Civil and Human Rights and with the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce education initiatives.



Campus Mission to Israel

Joshua Ginsberg, former Assistant Director in Atlanta, led a group of student leaders and college newspaper editors from campuses across the U.S.

on an ADL Mission to Israel in January.

Southeast participants, Jibran Shermohammed from Emory and Juanita Cousins from University of Georgia, learned about the history of the

Jewish people and the State of Israel as a modern democracy, and gained a first-hand perspective on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict by visiting religious & historic sites and meeting with decision-makers.

Empowering Young Leaders Summit

On MLK Day, 11 metro Atlanta schools participated in the annual *Empowering Young Leaders No Place for Hate® Summit*. As students toured The Breman Museum, they were asked to identify examples Target, Bystander, Perpetrator, and Ally.

Then, the students selected quotes from Dr.

Martin Luther King Jr. and discussed

how these roles also related to the

civil rights movement and

to the Holocaust.

Glass Leadership Institute

In September, after eight sessions with local ADL staff and a trip to Washington, D.C. for the National Leadership Conference, 24 future leaders graduated from the Glass Leadership Institute.

Throughout the program, participants engaged in the work of ADL and were briefed on topics important to the organization's mission.

For the first time, this year's class raised

\$4,000 for the ADL with 100%

participation from class members.



EVENTS

Abe Goldstein Community of Respect Dinner

On November 16, the annual Abe Goldstein Community of Respect Dinner drew a crowd of more than 475 supporters to the Grand Hyatt Hotel to pay tribute to honorees U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson and Marty Kogon. They were praised for their strong commitment to protecting Israel and for their longtime service to the community.

After a lively start with three students from Booker T. Washington High School in Atlanta performing a rap song they wrote entitled "No Hatin'," Regional Board Chair, Walter Jospin welcomed the crowd and described the importance of ADL now more than ever. Bill Nigut, regional director, showcased ADL programs and initiatives impacting the Southeast community.

After dinner, US Senator Johnny Isakson accepted the first-ever ADL Community of Respect Award for his commitment to building a climate of harmony, equality and respect in Georgia's schools and neighborhoods. Then, Marty Kogon, beloved past president of the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta, accepted the Abe Goldstein Human Relations Award from his Uncle Leon, son of the man for which the award was named.



Jurisprudence Luncheon

An unwavering commitment to the principle of equal access to the law is a common theme that defines the careers of the recipients of the 2008 jurisprudence awards. On March 5, ADL honored Senior U.S. District Court Judge Marvin Shoob with the Lifetime Achievement Award; Phyllis Holmen, Executive Director of the Georgia Legal Services Program, with the Elbert P. Tuttle Jurisprudence Award; and Kristin Wilhelm, a partner at Sutherland, Asbill & Brennan with the Stuart Eizenstat Young Lawyer Award.

National Chair Glen Lewy Visits

In June, National ADL Chair, Glen Lewy addressed the Southeast Regional Board and urged them to take time to see ADL's programs in action at schools and in the law enforcement community. He suggested that taking a friend or associate to a No Place for Hate® school is the best way to recruit new supporters. Lewy also talked about "Leadership 2020," the League's new program for engaging young people who can become future leaders of the organization.

A Night of Compelling Theater

Members of the Southeast region's Director's Circle for top donors were invited to an evening of entertainment at the Woodruff Arts Center in June. The evening included a reception at Table 1280 Restaurant, followed by a staged reading of "Brownie Points," a new play about racial tensions among a group of mothers attending a Brownie troop camping trip. The play reinforces the ADL mission of ending bigotry and hatred.



SUPPORT & SPECIAL FUNDING

Wachovia's Atlanta Foundation

The Atlanta Foundation of Wachovia Bank granted \$20,000 to the ADL in support of our No Place for Hate® initiative. The funding provides materials, staff consultation and banner ceremonies at no charge to participating schools in DeKalb County, Fulton County, Atlanta Public Schools and City Schools of Decatur.

SunTrust Directed Funds – SunTrust Foundation & Woolford Charitable Trust Fund

SunTrust Directed Funds - the SunTrust Foundation and Woolford Charitable Trust Fund issued a grant of \$25,000 to the Southeast region to develop and implement a No Place for Hate® survey of impact in metro Atlanta.

Microsoft Foundation

The Southeast region applied for and received \$6,000 of a national ADL grant from the Microsoft Foundation. The grant allows us to provide materials about Cyberbullying to schools participating in No Place for Hate®.

