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PROFILES

by Percy Villa



Today's 'Profile' goes to the one and only Samuel A. Landy, known from coast-to-coast as SAM LANDY, "Professor of Chance."

Sam was born in Chicago in October of 1912 and came to Las Vegas in 1955.

He was brought up in an orthodox Jewish home and could read and write Hebrew at 6. He went to the Synagogue 3 times a day when other youngsters were playing ball and finally enrolled in a theological college at St. Louis Street and Douglas Boulevard to become a rabbi. He was 11 at the time. After 4 years, he decided he had lost the calling and entered the University of Illinois.

After graduation, he taught physiology and physical education in Chicago High Schools, in the summers, he took odd jobs and one of them was running a lunch counter in west side horse parlor.



SAM

"Pretty soon the boss got me into a croupier school run by Bill Johnson's syndicate. He had 17 or 18 clubs," Landy says. "Since then, I've been in and out of the gambling business."

Sam and his beautiful wife Kathy have dedicated their lives to helping others and worthy causes. He has been associated with the Saints and Sinners organization for more than 20 years. A founder of the local chapter, he serves as both regional vice president and chief jester, and is the national convention chairman for 1967.

The 1967 Circus Saints & Sinners National Convention will be held at Caesars Palace, May 21-25.

He once owned the Arrow Drug Co., in Los Angeles before coming to Las Vegas in 1955 as vice president of the Dunes Hotel. He also served as vice president of the Thunderbird Hotel.

In 1961 Landy joined the Revlon firm as assistant to the senior vice president in New York City.

He returned to Las Vegas in 1964, to rejoin the Dunes as host and public relations representative, the position he held before joining the Aladdin organization 7 months ago.

He is 5 ft. 7-1/2 inches

tall, with dark hair and brown eyes. He is a trim 155 pounder.

His favorite hobby is water skiing. Has his own boat and during the summer months can be found at Lake Mead almost daily. Likes most sports and usually is sitting up front at the events.

His favorite foods are: Chinese and Foxy's bageles ('but must be toasted').

Landy has received numerous local and national awards as the "Professor of Chance" from such groups as the B'nai B'rith, U.S. Counter Intelligence Corps, Phi Delta Epsilon national fraternity, WGN and WGN-TV, Chicago, Ill. and the Gne Autry Hotel Corporation.

As Administrative Assistant at Milton Prell's Aladdin Hotel, Landy averages nearly 15 hours per day making people happy.

Landy in our opinion is one of the most brilliant ad libbers in this or any town. He says:

"It's better to lose your money than to lose your money AND your sleep."

"The less you bet, the more your losses when you win."

"Faint heart never won fair bankroll."

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