

# The Charlotte Jewish NEWS

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## Major Gifts Dinner Marks Successful Start

Approximately 50 people attending the 1981 Campaign Major Gifts Dinner heard co-chairperson Alvin Levine announce a pledge total of \$384,000 for an increase of \$42,000 over the same gifts in 1980.

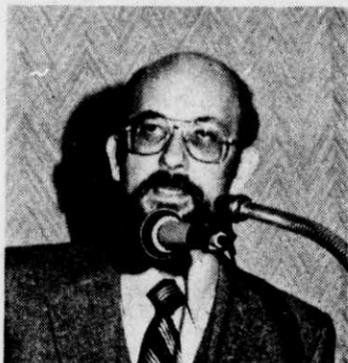
Held for the 3rd year at Cafe Eugene, the event brings together those donors to the Men's Campaign whose gifts are \$3000 or more.

"Shelton Gorelick, my co-chairman, and I are extremely proud and pleased with the response to the new campaign," said Mr. Levine. "We are a fortunate community with a bright future, but that does not mean we can forget those Jews who are less fortunate. Those many needs and causes for which we raise these dollars are even more pressing this year, and we cannot look away. I hope and I pray that each member of our community will come to realize how much the Federation does for us in Charlotte as well as for world Jewry, and, that in response to that knowledge, they will give and give generously."

Mr. Levine went on to describe exactly how the Federation benefits the Jews of Charlotte. Almost \$200,000 of the 1980 Campaign of \$625,000 remained in Charlotte and in North Carolina. Major allocations included the Blumenthal Home, Hillel, the JCC, BBYO and the Hebrew Academy.

"In effect," Mr. Levine continued, "the Federation's allocation of \$50,000 to the JCC amounted to almost \$100 per membership. The same kind of figuring is true for Jewish Charlotteans who participate in any of the other supported institutions or programs."

Keynote speaker for the even-



Rabbi Raymond A. Zwerin (photo/Ellie Luski)

ing was Rabbi Raymond Zwerin of Denver. Rabbi Zwerin used the classic Jewish technique of the "midrash" or parable to contrast the relationship between the Rabbis, other Jewish professionals, community leaders and the general Jewish community. He discussed the duties and obligations of each and emphasized how important it was for everyone to focus on their portion of the necessary tasks as well as to work together.

For Rabbi Zwerin this was the third of four speaking engagements during the day and evening.

At noon he met with the first of a series of groups which will be convened over the coming months to discuss the future directions of the Charlotte Jewish community. He urged them to be willing to dream great dreams, but, even more important, he urged them to share those dreams with everyone. He illustrated the need for this by

discussing the qualities of Moses as a leader. He reminded those present that Moses never shared the vision and the dream which God had shown him. Instead, Moses invoked G-d's help and did what was necessary whenever a crisis arose. He parted the Red Sea, provided manna and water, etc. Rabbi Zwerin pointed out that even at Mount Sinai Moses in effect told the people to stay and wait while he went to get the laws which they would be expected to follow. "This kind of leadership," said Rabbi Zwerin, "led to the wandering in the desert. However, when Joshua took over, his first act was to assign each tribe and individual specific responsibilities in the process of obtaining the land G-d had promised. With that sense of involvement they accomplished in just months what they had been unable to do for 40 years."

During the mid-afternoon Rabbi Zwerin met with teachers from the Hebrew School, Sunday School, pre-school of Temple Israel, the Temple Beth El Sunday School and the Hebrew Academy. He examined with them new approaches to curriculum and reviewed newly available teaching tools.

Rabbi Zwerin ended his day with a major address to more than 70 people at the Jewish Community Center. His talk entitled, "Clay Feet and the Kiss of G-d" focused on the unique qualities of Jewish family life and how those qualities can enhance the individual family members as well as the total community.

## Lubavitch Family Arrives in Charlotte

A new couple moved to Charlotte to achieve a goal that will bring them in touch with many Jews in North Carolina. They are representatives of the world renowned Jewish leader, Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson Shlita, the Lubavitcher Rebbe and power force of the famous Lubavitch movement.

They are here to raise the level of Jewish awareness, through education, teaching about various precepts through the mitzvah campaign, visiting communities around the state, forming Jewish youth groups, relating to young children through story and song, and teaching insights of Chassidic philosophy.

Rabbi Yoseph Groner, his wife Mariashi and daughter Rochel came from Brooklyn to start Lubavitch of N.C., hoping to reach out to every community in the state.

Rabbi Groner, born and raised in Brooklyn, attended Lubavitch Yeshiva there. After graduation, he studied at the Rabbinical College of America, N.J., continued on in the Lubavitcher Yeshivot in Paris and Israel. Upon his return to New York, he received his ordination as Rabbi and continued his studies in Rabbinics and Chassidic philosophy.

Mariashi was born in Detroit, Michigan. Her father, Rabbi Berel Shemtov, is regional director of Lubavitch in Michigan. She graduated from Beth Rivkah Schools in New York, where she went on to the Teachers Seminary. She was president of Bnos Chabad (the girls branch of the Lubavitch Youth Org.) and directed the festival mitzvah campaign.

They live at 6500 Newhall Rd., 366-3984.

## Community Project Boxscore

The Project Box Score is published to bring you up to date on the latest progress toward the Community Project.

In November the Charlotte Jewish Foundation was officially constituted. It consists of two representatives each from Temple Israel, Temple Beth El, The Hebrew Academy, the JCC and the Federation. In addition, ten members were elected from the community at large.

In one of its first acts, the Foundation appointed a committee to screen and recommend an architect for the Project.

High priorities are how to involve the entire community in

determining what the needs and concerns are in all areas of Jewish life and the planning process for addressing those needs. A second committee has been assigned and is at work on this.

The Council of Presidents of the institutions involved is continuing to meet and to set the guidelines around positive co-existence in the Project.

In the next few months each interested member of the Jewish community can look forward to both major progress and a personal opportunity for participation in the Project.

## The Roof Fell In!



photo/Ellie Luski

In 1978 the JCC conducted a successful Building Fund campaign. The brochure for the campaign read, "The JCC Has Some Good News and Some Bad News. First the Bad News - The Roof Is Falling In."

On Sunday morning, December 1, 1980 at 11:03 - the roof over the front porch did fall in! Thanks to those generous contributors to the Building Fund, the Center was back in full operation within days.

In the past three years the JCC has grown by leaps and bounds to a membership of 526 families or over 2,000 individuals. The classes, facilities and programs serve a thousand or more each week during the school year and thousands per week during the summer.

Thanks to the Building Fund, the Center has been able to

maintain and enhance the facilities in order to keep up with membership demands. Building Fund dollars have resurfaced the tennis courts, purchased pool furniture (more lounges are coming for summer, 1981), redecorated the building, built new program space and offices, renovated lights and air conditioning, and turned the little house into a usable craft center and meeting area. In addition, through sound financial management the JCC is accumulating much needed funds in anticipation of the JCC facilities in the Community Project.

In times of stress and times of simcha the membership of the JCC has had reason to remember with thanks the generosity of those who have and still continue to contribute to the Building Fund.

## Cultural Sampler: Texas Fever Band

On Sunday, January 18 at 3 p.m. at the Jewish Community Center, the Cultural Sampler features Carlton Moody and the Texas Fever Band. His brothers, David, 17; Trent, 12; and his father Dwight will also be there. An entertaining afternoon of Country and Blue Grass Folk Music will take our cultural programming in a new direction. This promises to be an enjoyable afternoon for all ages.

Carlton Moody has been around music his entire life. Early in his childhood he began singing with his parents, Dwight and Cathy Moody, and began his T.V. career at the age of 12, performing with his family on WCTU, Channel 36 in Charlotte. Later he became a

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