

THE CHARLOTTE JEWISH NEWS

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Editorial

Sit, Listen and Behold!

Though I literally despise attending board meetings, especially those of which I am not a member, I do avail myself on occasion of attending a few. It seems impossible to me now that I was once an active board member of 7 organizations in one year...that's really too much for anybody. I was, however, most eager to find out more about what the JCC is doing and planning to do now that they are occupying their new facilities, so I sat through their July open board meeting.

It gave me the opportunity of finding out more about our new director, Barry Hantman, and I was pleasantly delighted with his presentations. I feel that Barry will be an asset to the JCC and to our entire Charlotte community. He has much to offer and is most willing to share his expertise as well as listen to the membership.

Though much still has to be completed in the building itself, there are many plans in the works, especially in programming. There will be something for everybody... children, teens, adults (singles, marrieds, seniors). Some of these will take a while to be implemented. With patience and everyone's help, they will be accomplished.

The one thing that all of us must bear in mind is that not only is our director new, but the entire aspect of Shalom Park is new. Just like a new bike, we have to learn to ride it; or like a new pair of shoes, we have to learn how to "break them in".

In order to have an active and vibrant "J" we need membership. The more members we have, naturally the more income will be had to continue those programs which have begun and those programs which are on the "drawing board". The more members we have, the more socials and activities will be available to all.

For those of you who are not currently members of the "J", I urge you to join and become a part of a very viable group of people. The "J" is truly "The Center of Things". And once you do join, become an active member; there's always an opening for a volunteer... there are many committees which can use your help. So...come on down...give us a call...we're waiting for YOU!

—R.M.

**The Jewish Calendar
 Candlelighting**

- Aug. 1 - 8:09 p.m.
- Aug. 8 - 8:02 p.m.
- Aug. 14 - Tisha B'av
- Aug. 15 - 7:54 p.m.
- Aug. 20 - Tu B'av
- Aug. 22 - 7:46 p.m.
- Aug. 29 - 7:37 p.m.
- Sept. 5 - 7:27 p.m.
- Sept. 12 - 7:17 p.m.



Who Done It?

By Marvin Bienstock
 Director of Charlotte
 Jewish Federation

This is the first of a series of monthly articles by Mr. Bienstock.

Last January, 80 new memberships were registered in our Temples for a special 6-month free trial period. Last month, 30 newcomers met each other and members of the community at a Shalom Y'all party.

Last year, 800 individuals called and were helped by Social Services. This fall the Joint Hebrew High School will

start up.

For the past two years the Joint Adult Institute has provided classes for hundreds of adults interested in learning about their Judaism. When 400 people get to hear the dynamic Israeli Chassidic Festival...when over thirty people went on special trips to Israel in the past 12 months...when hundreds commemorate Yom HaShoah (the Holocaust remembrance) each year...who done it...who is doing it...and who will keep doing it?

I'm sure you can guess the answer - THE FEDERATION. But, I'll bet you didn't

know that until now! That's because the Federation often does its work in cooperation with other institutions and organizations.

Because most people don't realize how active Federation is, they tend to think of it only in terms of the annual "Campaign". Of course the campaign is essential, just as your job is essential to your continued well being. But, just as you are more than your job, so Federation is much more than the campaign.

In the months to come Federation is going to make an all out effort to let you know just how much it is doing for you and with you. You will be hearing about and seeing publicity on leadership development, working with volunteers, creating an endowment fund, expanding outreach, and much much more.

You might well be one of the people asked to get involved with these new areas. If that happens, jump on the chance. There is a wonderfully skilled, diverse and caring group involved through Federation projects and committees and the Board. Working with Federation leads to new friendships, exposure to new ideas and a chance to fulfill your personal goals.

By the way, you don't have to wait to be asked. You can call me at 366-5007. I'll be glad to meet and talk about your interests and how Federation can fit into your life in a way you will enjoy. Then, the next time the question is asked... 'Who done it?', the answer could be Federation and YOU.



Palestinian Non-Violence Forum Held

By Joel A. Gallob
 (JTA)

Dr. Mubarak Awad is an affable man with an M. A. in counseling and a mission in life: Palestinian non-violent resistance to Israel. In January 1984 he founded the Palestinian Center for the Study of Non-Violence (PCSN), which holds classes and trains non-violent organizers. He spoke in N. Y. at the UN Church Center on May 23. His forum was organized by the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, which has open ties with the PLO. Yet his Center's actions have been very un-PLO-like affairs.

His biggest effort has centered on 2,000 olive trees in the northeastern town of Qatanna. On January 7, villagers told him that the Agriculture Ministry's Green Patrol was uprooting their olive trees. Center staffers photographed the trimming, uprooting and removal of the trees. Awad says, while authorities explained that the land had been a no-man's land from 1948-67, that now belongs to Israel.

The farmers' lawyers utilized papers indicating land ownership in preparing their case for the High Court, while the PCSN organized a

January 25 (Tu B'Shvat) planting of new trees. Some 100 Arabs, Israelis and villagers planted 500 seedlings, according to the Center newsletter, as "a non-violent action, a constructive act of peace and a show of solidarity." Soldiers and police came, but nobody was hurt or killed - or arrested. "Some seedlings were replanted two or three times, but no tools or stones were raised in anger."

An agreement was reached allowing the trees to stay, the people all to leave and the matter to go to court. Awad says, but the Green Patrol soon returned and removed the trees. When an Israeli journalist found them, he says, they had been planted along Jerusalem's Martin Luther King Street. The matter is still pending in court.

Is Dr. Awad believable, and what is his relation to the PLO? He answers: "the first 6 months, I was accused of being CIA, an Israeli pay. Many threats came...some from Israeli settlers. Now, however, the PLO has read my papers seriously. They did not give me a green light, but they have not tried to stop me." Given who hosted him in New York, this may be an understatement.

Yet when asked by one angry young woman if, given Israeli violence, his tactics could work, he answered: "Jews have been the champion for civil rights everywhere. Like anyone else, when it comes close to home, it is harder for them. But there are many in Israel who see this is not the Israel they want. If they are enough, it will work..."

Pushed further, he gave his personal feelings. "Occupation is wrong and it is a sin to accept it. But you have a choice how to resist. If you chose to pick up a gun, I will not stop you. But I will not pick up a gun. It is easy to shoot someone if you have a gun. It is difficult to confront someone holding one if you are not."

Is this a cause for hope, or a more palatable arm to a blood-soaked organization; an honest effort or a strategem? The answer may be that Awad could not avoid having some relation to the PLO, given reality; but if he is PLO, this is a very different PLO indeed. They may use him and fear him, tolerate or support him; but his actions adhere to Ghandi. His newsletters highlight a Mahatma quote: "An eye for an eye leaves the world blind."