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The Chai-Lites Enjoy a Varied Program

By Jane Abel

On Sept. 29, the Chai-Lites had a special Membership Day. Mayor Harvey Gantt spoke to the group on concerns of senior citizens; a lively discussion followed. Channel 9 televised the event which was aired that evening on the 6 o'clock news. The Mayor joined the Chai group for lunch which was catered by Phil's Deli. Afterwards, Gerri Bernard, flutist, and Elizabeth Clarke, harpist, both from Chamber Music of Charlotte, played a delightful selection of songs specially arranged for the flute and harp. The Chai-Lites participated by singing along and dancing the Hora when a number of Jewish songs were also performed. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the program and will have pleasant memories of the day.

The Chai-Lites are a group of Senior Citizens who meet on Mondays from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. In Nov., there will be Arts and Crafts sessions taught by Bunnie Rogers, an instructor for Central Piedmont Community College, specializing in Senior Adult Crafts. A current events discussion will also be led by Dr. Nancy Hewatt, a professor at CPCC, who has a doctorate in political science. The group is also very involv-ed in the Golden Age Walking Club. The distance each individual walks is recorded on a chart and at the end of the year an awards banquet will be held for those participating in the program.

On Fridays, the Chai-Lites

Cultural Sampler

Though Spirit Square's presentation of the Joffrey Ballet's Joffrey II dance company is completely sold out, there is still time for you to join your JCC friends for opening night of Charlotte Little Theatre's production of "Ain't Misbehavin'." This musical tribute to the music of the great Fats Waller will open on Thursday, March 12, 1987.

The JCC's Cultural Sampler

are attending BodyWorks which consists of non-stressful exercises specifically designed for Senior Citizens while sitting in their chairs. Then they participate in the Shabbat program with the Hebrew Academy. They set the tables and join the students in Shabbat festivities. At the end of the program, each of them receive a challah and flowers. This is a wonderful opportunity for intergenerational companionship which is so important for all.

The Outreach services of the Charlotte and Mecklenburg County libraries has lent the Chai group approximately 75 books. The librarians will change the selection every six to eight weeks. This service will allow any avid reader an opportunity to use the library on a regular basis.

The Chai-Lites will be attending the Happy Hearts Seniors Craft Fair at the Park Center Building the first week of Nov. This Fair enables Seniors to sell their handmade crafts, demonstrate their talents, and also meet other Senior citizens. On Nov. 19, the group will attend the movies at Eastland Mall, free of charge for Senior adults and then eat lunch in the mall. Also, the group has started a luncheon club. Each month they collectively select a restaurant for lunch. A Thanksgiving lunch will be served to the Chai-Lites for a nominal charge on Nov. 24.

One of the Chai-Lites has been placed in a clerical position on a volunteer basis approximately three hours per week. She is working for the Federation, Foundation and JCC. Hopefully, more volunteer positions will be found for those wanting to donate their time.

If anyone is interested in more information or has any additional ideas about the Chai group, please contact Jane Abel, the Senior Adult Worker, at 366-5007.



Chai-Lites dancing the Hora.



Gerri Bernard (L) and Elizabeth Clarke entertained the Chai-Lites.



Mayor Gantt speaks to the group.



Mayor Gantt joins the Chai-Lites for lunch.

