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# The Charlotte JEWISH NEWS

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Charlotteans at the Pan American Maccabi Games in Caracas, Venezuela: (L to R) Harry Swimmer, vice president of the U.S. Sports for Israel Committee; Art Lavitt, assistant basketball coach for the U.S. team which won the silver medal; Jeff Fisher, captain of the U.S. golf team. Jeff took home the silver medal in the golf competition.

## JCC Welcomes Its 1000th Member

Mrs. Kitty Giese recently became the Jewish Community Center's 1000th member. It's almost unbelievable that in a little more than one year since moving into Shalom Park, the JCC has practically doubled its membership.

Mrs. Giese and her husband received a free health club membership for the rest of the year for being the lucky "1000."

The staff of the 'J' hopes that every one who has joined is participating in and thoroughly enjoying the wide range of activities that are being offered. In this issue of *The CJN*, you will find a complete listing of programs being offered to all age groups this



Barry Hantman, JCC director, congratulates Kitty Giese on being the "lucky" 1000th member.

fall. Tell your friends about the 'J', but better yet, bring them out to see and enjoy!

## Death Toll in Charlotte Jewish Community Was High During This Summer

It has always been a policy of *The Charlotte Jewish News* to exclude any listings of births, engagements, marriages and deaths. However, this summer was not only an unusually hot one in Charlotte, but also saw an unusually high number of deaths among our Jewish population. This was very evident within the senior group, many of them octogenarians and most of them in nursing homes. Each in his/her own way contributed to our community and to their families and friends go our condolences.

We would be very remiss if we did not mention three individuals who were stalwarts in the Jewish community and will be missed by all of Charlotte in many different ways.

Sam Citron, a prominent businessman (Southern Watch Co.), was also an outstanding musician. He gave of his talent to the community: the symphony and concerts. He frequently played his violin at Temple Israel, of which he was a member, and often entertained other senior citizens. He leaves his brother, Dr. David Citron, and nieces and nephews. Our condolences to the Ashendorf, Citron and Boxer families.

Sam Lerner met his untimely death in an automobile accident. Only in his early 50s, he already left an indelible mark within the community. Sam was one of the founders of the N.C. Hebrew Academy at Charlotte and was an ardent supporter of Israel

Bonds, having been the local Bond Drive chairman for several years. He had served on the board of Federation and was a very active member of Temple Israel. Sam, a native of Lincolnton, NC and a graduate of UNC-CH, was a partner in the real estate business (Lerner and Co.) with his brother Harry. He is also survived by his wife Lynn and four college-aged children, Mark, Gary, Eric and Julie; his father David Lerner; his in-laws Hugo and Helga Rosenberger. Sam will be greatly missed by all of us.

Morris Speizman, who died in July at the age of 81, was chairman of the board of Speizman Industries Inc. He was born in 1905 in Lodz, Poland, but arrived in the U.S. when he was 6-months-old. He spent his youth in Paterson, NJ and Kingston, Ontario, but as a young man, Wilkes-Barre, PA was his home. He attended the Philadelphia School of Textiles. He came to Charlotte in 1936.

His activities within the community were staggering. Much of his time was given to Mercy Hospital, Temple Israel, the Mint Museum and to his writings. He authored "Jews of Charlotte," "This Week's Miracle," "A Little Sense," "Our World to Come" and "Some Things I Wish I'd Said." He was a strong supporter of *The Charlotte Jewish News* and frequently wrote articles on many different subjects as well as submitting items to be reprinted which he thought were of interest.



Sam Citron



Sam Lerner



Morris Speizman

Mr. Speizman had served as president of the Mint Museum of Art, the Charlotte Lodge of B'nai B'rith, the Charlotte Jewish Federation, the Charlotte Textile Club, the World Council of Synagogues, Temple Israel (was later named an honorary life president).

He was chairman of the board of Mercy Hospital and a director of the Jewish

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## Seniors Enjoyed Special Evening Sponsored by Phil's Deli



Partygoers enjoyed supper and later were entertained.

The first annual "Chai" Buffet and Entertainment Night sponsored by Phil's Deli, took place on Sat. night, Aug. 15 at Shalom Park, and met with resounding success. The party brought out over 100 enthusiastic 62+ seniors who thoroughly enjoyed the evening, which started out with a light supper, perfect for the warm weather. The menu consisted of salads (egg and tuna), cream cheese & lox, noodle kugel, potato salad, cole slaw, tomatoes, cucumbers, assorted breads, eclairs, cream puffs and soft drinks. Gorelick Hall was festively decorated with clusters of blue and white balloons at each table.

After enjoying the meal, the partygoers were entertained by 'Viva Klezmer!', a trio comprised of Eugene Kavadlo, clarinet; Ali Kavadlo, violin; and Mike Mosley, guitar. This group really knows how to play Jewish Folk Music and had the audience singing, clapping and dancing along with them. They played many favorite melodies, among them

"Sabbath Prayer" and "Sunset, Sunrise" from "Fiddler on the Roof." Steve Haas, the new cantor at Temple Beth El V'Shalom, also added greatly to the evening's entertainment. He delighted everyone with his superb voice, singing many familiar Jewish songs, such as "Raisins and Almonds" and "My Yiddische Mama". He also had the audience get involved in a 'round' of "Shalom

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