



Salute to Graduates

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A Present for Annie

By Patty Gorelick



With their Russian family in Moscow — Patty is wearing the Snoopy shirt and her son Todd is seated at far right.

The Gorelick boys, Shelton and William, grew up in Charlotte without ever having met any of their father's family. All of their cousins, aunts and uncles were caught behind the Iron Curtain. Years passed with sporadic letters arriving whenever the cousins felt safe enough to write. In 1989, with relaxed restrictions on tourism by the Soviet government, eleven members of the Charlotte Gorelick family left for Moscow and the long dreamed of family

reunion. Annie Gorelick, mother of Shelton and Bill, in poor health at 88, could not go.

It is now 1991 and we hope the time for Annie Gorelick and her nieces and nephews to meet has finally arrived. On Aug. 17, at Shalom Park in Gorelick Hall there will be a special celebration of Annie's 90th birthday. The Russian nieces and nephews are planning to be here to share in this happy occasion. It will be Aunt Annie's best birthday present!

JCC Holds Annual Meeting Hal Levinson Installed as New President

By Rita Mond

The fifth annual meeting and installation of the new officers and board of directors of the Jewish Community Center was held on April 28 at 10:15 a.m. in the Luski Youth Activity Room. The very well attended meeting began with a lovely brunch.

A special tribute and gift were presented to Mike Van Glish as outgoing president for the outstanding service he gave in that capacity for the past two years.

Barry Hantman, executive director, gave his report, part of which is presented on page 8 in *The CJN*. The newly installed president Hal Levinson gave his address.

This was followed by the presentation of numerous awards. Among these were the President's Cup Award presented to Jill Newman for her outstanding and dedicated work as an officer of the JCC during the past two years and for her work as cochairperson of the Membership Committee and the Patrons and Benefactors Program for the Golden Circle Theatre/JCC's fund-raiser.

The Executive Director's Award was presented to Ethel Gordon for her sizable contribution in chairing the gala event of the joint Golden Circle Theatre/JCC's fund-raiser for the past two years. Her work in visual arts and beautifying the JCC is recognized throughout the JCC and Shalom Park.

The Outstanding Volunteer Service Award was presented to Flora and Leon Benveniste for their giving of themselves for the enhancement and growth of the JCC. They have volunteered



(L to R) Barry Hantman, JCC executive director; Mike Van Glish, outgoing president, and Hal Levinson, new president.

their mornings and afternoons, providing many hours of important work. Their contribution has enabled the JCC to complete many projects on time and effect real cost containment.

Several recognition awards were also presented to corporate sponsors, programming organizations and an award for Service to Special Children was presented to Elise Menaker and Carolyn Hennes.

After the meeting, the group

went to the New Fitness Center for a special demonstration. Dessert and coffee were served in the Health Club.

A special thanks goes to Linda Goldsmith who chaired the annual meeting and presided over it.

We wish Hal Levinson, the officers and board of directors of the JCC a successful year and thank all who made this past year for the "J" a memorable one.

Soviet Jewry Update

Last month we reported that five new families arrived in Charlotte from the Soviet Union, four of whom were reunited with relatives here. All are gradually getting acclimated, learning English and looking for jobs. A few have already started working part time.

On May 15, our newest family, the Kayumovs, arrived from Tashkent, USSR. They are Yuri Kayumov, 50, his wife, Makhinur, 34, their daughter, Svetlana, 5, and their son, Mikhail, who will be 7 next month.

Yuri applied for a visa in 1974 to emigrate to Israel, but just as he was ready to leave, he was arrested on some "trumped up" charges and was imprisoned for a few months. It has taken him and his family all these years to finally get to the U.S. They have had a very difficult life escaping the persecution that they have experienced in the USSR. A full story on this will appear in the August issue of *The CJN*.

We are anticipating several more families arriving in Charlotte in the next few months and will continue to keep you updated on them as well as all our other "new Americans." Above all, right now, we need your help

to continue to give donations of money, household items, new clothing, etc. We desperately need volunteers to help with driving and to socialize with all the families. We encourage you to take them to Temple, to the JCC and to special functions, especially those concerning our Jewish heritage.

The children of our Soviet families have done very well in school and have excelled in learning English. Like most youngsters, they are looking forward to the summer vacation. Three of our young people have been accepted in college. Who, where and what they will be doing will also be included in August's "Update."

On May 19, the Coalition for Soviet Jewry held a covered dish party at Penny and Carl Eisenberg's home for the Soviet families and all those who have volunteered this past year. We thank the Eisenbergs and all who have helped.

If you can volunteer your time in any capacity, have goods to donate, or know of any jobs available, please call Sally Schrader, 364-6594, or Penny Eisenberg, 847-4037.

Phil's Deli Sponsors Annual Chai Party

Phil's Deli will be holding its fifth annual Chai Party on Sunday, July 21, 3-5 p.m. in Gorelick Hall at Shalom Park. There will be a delicious buffet, entertainment, door prizes and lots of fun. All our senior citizens (65+) are invited. Reservations are a must. Please call Phil at 366-5405 or Marcia Stern, 366-5007, if you are going to attend. Transportation will be provided if needed. There is no charge for this lovely afternoon, thanks to the generosity of Phil Levine.

Minkin Assumes New Position in Massachusetts

Michael Minkin, executive director of the Charlotte Jewish Federation, has resigned his position to assume directorship of the Federation in Worcester, Mass.

Minkin worked in his present capacity in Charlotte since August 1, 1987 and his last official day here will be June 14. Prior to coming here he spent a year as Executive Director for the Los Angeles, California office of the Development Corporation of Israel.

The Federation Board has formed a search committee for someone to take over Minkin's position.



Mike Minkin

We hope that he, his wife Janet, and their two sons, Benjamin and Josh, will enjoy their new home in the Northeast.

Kosher Restaurant Opens in Warsaw

By Susan Birnbaum

NEW YORK (JTA) — Kosher roast beef, gefilte fish, chopped liver and cookies shaped like Jewish stars were available in April in Warsaw, at the opening of the first kosher restaurant in Poland in some 30 years.

The Menora restaurant, located at Plac Grzybowski 2, opposite Warsaw's Nozyck Syna-

gogue and the Yiddish Theater, was inaugurated "in the belief that it would be very beneficial both to the local Jewish community and Jewish tourists coming to Poland," Rabbi Michael Schudrich of the Ronald S. Lauder Foundation said in a telephone call from Warsaw. The restaurant "can also be a cultural bridge to those Poles who want to taste authentic Jewish food," he added.

The Lauder Foundation, which has wanted to see a kosher restaurant opened in Poland for the last three years, enabled its dream to come to fruition through a grant it made to the Warsaw Jewish community.

But the enterprise was actually opened by a Polish gourmet. See KOSHER page 13

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