

Major Gifts Reception Kicks Off '96 Campaign



(l-r) Art Sandler, Carol Speizman, Bob Speizman-Major Gifts Chair

The Major Gifts Reception for the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte's annual campaign was held on Tuesday, November 28 at the home of Bob and Carol Speizman.

"We were happy to be able to host this important evening and are particularly pleased that so many of our Major Givers were able to be with us," said Bob Speizman, Major Gifts Chair.

Over 50 people attended this year's reception which included those contributing a minimum gift of \$3800 to the campaign.



Art Sandler (l) and Bill Gorelick-Campaign Chair

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30th Annual Meeting Held At Blumenthal Jewish Home

The 30th Annual Meeting and the 30th Anniversary Celebration of the Blumenthal Jewish Home were festive events attended by individuals from across the Carolinas. Those attending the Saturday evening Gala were treated to a special evening highlighted by an informative and stimulating address given by former North Carolinian New York Talk show host Barry Farber.

At the 30th Annual Meeting on Sunday, October 29, Audrey Madans of Charlotte, NC was re-elected for a second term as Presi-

dent of the Home's Board of Trustees. Also re-elected to serve a second term were the present officers of the Board: Al Herman, President-Elect, Eric Handler, 1st Vice President, Michael Schifftan, Secretary and Al Jacobson, Treasurer all from Greensboro, Ron Weiner of Charlotte serves as second Vice President and Lewis Eisenstadt of Greenville, SC is Immediate Past-President.

Ensuring that the Home will meet the health care challenges of the future and be there for our Jewish elderly is the responsibility of every Jew and Jewish community in the Carolinas. For information about the Blumenthal Jewish Home contact a member of the Board of Trustees in your community or call Sue Clein, Director of Public Relations or the Admissions Office at 910-766-6401.



Officers of the BJH Board of Trustees pictured at the 30th Annual Meeting are seen left to right: Michael Schifftan, Al Herman, Lewis Eisenstadt, Audrey Madans, Ron Weiner and Al Jacobson. Not pictured is Eric Handler.

Group Finds Improvement In The Status Of Israeli Women

While the status of Israeli women has improved markedly in recent years, serious pockets of inequality and discrimination remain, members of a week-long mission to Israel sponsored by US/Israel Women to Women reported.

"The media traditionally have given a wholly inaccurate impression of the role of women in Israeli society," said Dr. Jewel Bellush chair of the women's group. "Because they are drafted into the army, the public is under the illusion they are considered equal to men. They are not."

Organized 18 years ago by prominent writer-lecturer Virginia Snitow, US/Israel Women to Women was established to support a fledgling women's rights movement in Israel with funds and advice. The effort has been successful in large measure, according to Dr. Bellush, a retired professor of political science, but "Israeli women have a long way to go in such areas

as university positions, the right to divorce, and health care."

"We were inspired to see the growth of the Israeli network of women's groups, many of whom were started with seed money provided by US/Israel Women to Women," Dr. Bellush said. "We couldn't have guessed a dozen years ago that the small group projects we were helping to fund would lead to the creation of the women's rights movement in Israel, which now stretches throughout the country and serves as an important force in keeping the democratic process alive and well."

Mildred Weissman noted the strong influence of American and British women who had made aliyah, in helping to organize the Israeli women's movement. "They were at the forefront," she said. "Now you have the sabras- young, inspired Israeli women-who have learned how to network and organize."

One of the driving forces be-

hind the improvement of women's roles in Israel has been the impact of recent court cases initiated through the vigorous activity of Israel's women's rights groups, Dr. Bellush noted.

One key case was a judicial ruling that found women were being discriminated against the appointment of directors of state-owned companies. The court decision led to the creation of a government committee charged with appointing the directors of such companies. In the two years since the committee was formed, the number of women directors jumped from 3 to 19.8 percent of all directorial positions.

At the same time, leaders of the visiting group cautioned that in spite of such progress, a "glass ceiling" continues to exist for many working women who seek to advance their careers.

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Individuals from Charlotte elected to serve on the Board of Trustees are Florence Jaffa for a three year term and Ruth Goldberg and Shelton Gorelick as Presidential Appointees for 1995-96. Currently serving on the Board are Stanley Greenspon, completing a two-year term, Herman Blumenthal, a Life Member of the Board and Esther Frank as a representative of the CAJWM.

In her report at the meeting President Madans spoke of the health of the Home and the many challenges facing the Home in the future. Ron Weiner presented a check to the Home from the Carolinas Association of Jewish Women and Men and reported on the funds

collected through the CAJWM Remembrance Chairman and the CAJWM donations to the Home this year. Elizabeth Small of Charlotte presented a check to the Home from the Home Store in Charlotte. The CAJWM Annual Drawing was held at the conclusion of the program and the proceeds presented to the Home by Esther Frank.

The Home draws its board members, its supporters, its friends and its residents from the communities throughout the Carolinas.



Seen at the Annual Meeting are Mrs. David Swimmer and her daughter Elizabeth Small of Charlotte.