

Elk Shoals Interfaith Girls Camp

From July 20-25, eight girls from Temple Israel spent their days living, playing, sharing, communicating, learning and praying with girls of the Christian and Muslim faiths. They identified all the wonderful things they have in common and saw the beautiful things that were also different and made each one of them so special. They will all take what we have

learned and make the world a better place, more peaceful, through our new understanding and love of each other. In school and in our future, they will appreciate and enjoy all the varieties of people in our communities.

Some of the thoughts the girls would like to express include: "Wish for others what you wish for yourself"; "Love your neigh-

bor as yourself"; "How good and pleasant it is when we live together in unity."

The girls from Temple Israel were: Anna Harbacevich, Abbey Leach, Rebecca Lewis, Leah Newman, Brooke Phillips, Miriam Roochvarg, Evelyn Trost, and Chloe Teichman. ☆



Hebrew Cemetery Association

By Lorrie Klemons, Publicity

This year's annual meeting and memorial service will be held Sunday, October 5 at 10:30 AM, 1801 Statesville Avenue (rain or shine).

The Zohar states that "... That which constitutes a real person is the soul, the rest being only garments which cover the inner essence. When people depart this earth, they put off their outer coverings and continue to live by virtue of the soul, which is immortal."

On Sunday, October 5, hundreds of Charlottean Jews will make their annual pilgrimage to the Charlotte Hebrew Cemetery in order to memorialize Charlotte's departed Jewish souls at the Cemetery Association's Annual Meeting and Memorial Service. Some of those in attendance will come because they have loved ones buried at the cemetery. Others will attend to honor the memory of friends. Others will attend to honor and to show respect to the souls of strangers who preceded them in eternal life. And there are those who just show up to support the work of the Hebrew Cemetery Association as it strives to provide a sanctified and dignified burial ground for the deceased.

What draws hundreds of people to attend a memorial service held at a cemetery on a Sunday morning? Those of us who have been



living in Charlotte for a while recognize the uniqueness of our Jewish community. It is a community that acknowledges the goodness in people and celebrates the

contributions that each Jew makes to our continued history. The continuity of our people rests on our traditions, on our rituals, on our past, our present and our future. We are a people who remember. We remember our past and we never forget those who influenced our lives in such great ways. Their traditions, their ideals, their love and devotion: we hold to them fast, and they cannot die or vanish from off the face of the earth as long as we cherish those memories.

The men, women and children buried at Charlotte's Hebrew Cemetery were the folks who shaped our unique community. They were the visionaries who planned for, created and contributed to the wonderful Jewish community that we all enjoy today. We are a people who remembers and thus, we cannot forget our debt to all those who preceded us in eternal life as each one of them accounts for our miraculous survival as a people. Their precious souls are to be celebrated by each one of us enjoying the world they left behind.

One way you can participate in that celebration is by attending the annual Memorial Service this year

on Sunday, October 5, rain or shine at the cemetery at 10:30 AM. If you can't make the service, won't you please consider joining the Cemetery Association with a tax deductible annual dues donation of \$72?

The Cemetery Association is a non-profit committee of Jewish volunteers who care about the sanctity and dignity of those who preceded us in eternal life. We believe that the cemetery is a Beit Olim, a house of two worlds, a sacred domain where the two worlds meet with a kiss: the world going out and the future coming in.

For more information about membership benefits, graves, prepaid funeral costs, endowment donations, and/or including the cemetery in your estate planning, contact Association President, Kevin Levine at 704-333-5155 or Cemetery Director, Joe Kodsí at (H) 704-364-4112 or (M) 704-576-1859. Visit the website of the Hebrew Cemetery Association of Charlotte at www.hebrewcemetery.org.

Directions to the cemetery: Providence Road north into and through uptown; right onto Graham St.; follow Graham for about two miles; left at fork in road onto Statesville Ave.; travel about 1/2 mile, cemetery will be on your left.

May you all be blessed with a sweet and healthy New Year. L'Shanah Tovah. ☆

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