

Change in IRA Regulations Can Assist with Year-End Gifts

As a result of recent Congressional legislation, taxpayers who are at least 70½ will have the opportunity to make tax-free gifts using their traditional or Roth IRA's. Historically, any lifetime distributions from IRAs are subject to tax if withdrawn voluntarily or as part of an IRA mandatory withdrawal requirement. The amount of the withdrawal is included as part of your annual income. The opportunity now exists for donors to distribute gifts directly from their IRAs to charitable organizations. The amount of this gift would not be included as income.

For the majority of us, our IRAs and our homes are our two largest assets. As a result of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, there is now an opportunity to incorporate your IRA into your charitable giving strategy. This may allow you to utilize your assets in a more efficient manner for the remainder of 2008 and throughout 2009.

At age 70½, IRA owners are required to take mandatory withdrawals. Even though they may prefer those funds to remain in their retirement plan and continue to grow tax-free, a withdrawal is required. The new legislation does not change this unavoidable requirement. However, it now provides an opportunity to use this distribution to support a charity. Individuals can make a major gift of up to \$100,000 (a couple with individual IRAs can each give that amount) or utilize the equivalent of those mandatory withdrawal amounts. This may provide a more tax-effective way to pay or increase annual membership dues, fulfill pledge payments or make additional gifts to support non-profit programs. For this reason, IRAs now provide a viable option when deciding how to fund charitable gifts.

As we approach year-end, please consider this limited opportunity when meeting with your investment and tax advisors. Contact Phil Warshauer at the Foundation for the Charlotte Jewish Community 704-973-4544 or pwarshauer@charlottejewishfoundation.org for further clarification. You can also contact the Executive Director or President of your favorite nonprofit organization about how the use of your IRA can assist with current or future charitable giving. We will be glad to work with you and your professional advisors to determine if this opportunity is suitable for you and your family. ☆

Community Is Our Middle Name Levine JCC Annual Meeting Recognizes Outstanding Volunteers

The theme of the 22nd annual meeting of the Sandra and Leon Levine Jewish Community Center was "Community is Our Middle Name." The event, co-chaired by Linda Goldsmith and Linda Lepow, was held on October 16.

Evelyn Berger delivered an inspiring D'Var Torah to over 150 attendees. Evelyn noted, "We are gathered here because we love what we do, as employees, Board members, volunteers and members...we truly love this place." This sense of community and affection was further exhibited in a slide show presentation, which displayed photos illustrating LJCC activities throughout the past year.



Community Award winner, Chai Hopes knitting group, pictured at the Levine JCC

operating funds have been invested in the facility over the past two years, and that over \$95,000 will go into equipment upkeep and maintenance this year. Judy believes that bolstering the financial capacity to maintain and improve the LJCC is the most significant challenge currently facing the Board and management team.

Program Service Awards were presented to these outstanding volunteers: Lori Handler, Staci Mond (Family and Children Committee), Russel Dabak (Fitness Dept.), Barry Sherbal (Oasis Senior Enrichment) and Stephen Coen (Room In The Inn). All recipients have repeatedly shown commitment and dedication to the community through extraordinary volunteer efforts at the LJCC.

An additional Program Service award was presented to Chai Hopes, a group that meets at the J every Wednesday morning to knit blankets for patients of the Levine Children's Hospital. Deanna Williams, Volunteer Coordinator for the hospital, spoke of how

much the blankets mean to the patients and their families and thanked the group for their inspiring efforts. Lynn Edelstein accepted a plaque on behalf of the entire group, which is now on display in the LJCC Membership Office.

Kim Worrel was named Volunteer of the Year for spearheading the Annual LJCC Golf Tournament as well as his involvement in mentoring Charlotte's Jewish youth at the Maccabi games.

Michael Stier received the President's and Executive Director's Award for his dedicated service to the J for more than a decade. During this time, he generously shared his business and financial acumen with the Health and Recreation Departments and

is to enhance volunteer community leadership by facilitating community learning, networking, and service.

CEO Phil Berman and Judy August praised our dedicated employees for their exceptional work and commitment to excellence. Stephanie Garner, Dan Vizzini, Mark DiDonato and Anna Gunsher were specifically recognized as outstanding employees in 2008.

The general membership unanimously approved the slate of nominees. Larry Schwartz, Ken Golder and Peter Smul are the newly elected Vice Presidents. Michael Newman is joining them on the Executive Committee as VP/Treasurer. Newly elected members of the Board of Directors are Andy Cohen, Jonathan Fine, Eric Kent, John Baron, Ellyn Gross, Jill Newman, Stacey Slomka, Michael Stier and Brad Winer. ☆



Kim Worrell receives Volunteer of the Year Award from Phil Berman, Levine JCC CEO, and Judy August, Levine JCC Board President

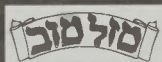
President Judy August, in her annual report, remarked that our increased membership participation proved that the bond with the Jewish community is stronger than ever. To continue to provide value to our membership, Judy advised that \$750,000 of LJCC



Lori Handler and Staci Mond receive Program Award from Levine JCC Board Members John Box and Larry Schwartz

the Tennis Committee. Michael also served the J as Treasurer for the past two years, and continues as a member of the Board of Directors.

Judy August announced the selection of Roni Fishkin as the LJCC's Leadership Charlotte Ambassador. Leadership Charlotte is an organization whose mission



Mazel Tov & Congratulations



Marx Wealth Management Awarded Five-Star Status

Marx Wealth Management has been named a 2008 Five-Star Best in Client Satisfaction Wealth Manager by Crescendo Business Services and Charlotte Magazine. High-net worth Charlotte residents and leaders in the financial services industry were surveyed, rating wealth managers they knew on nine criteria: customer service, integrity, knowledge/expertise, communication, value for fee charged, meeting of financial objectives, post-sales service, quality of recommendation, and overall satisfaction. In addition, each of the wealth managers was reviewed for regulatory actions, civil and judicial actions and customer complaints. Finally, each wealth manager was personally evaluated by a blue-ribbon panel comprised of individuals from the financial services industry. Among



Gene Marx

the companies awarded this prestigious designation are Gene Marx and Catherine Kloppenborg of Marx Wealth Management.

About Gene Marx

Gene is Senior Vice President of Investments at UBS Financial

Services. He has been focusing on the Financial Planning and Investment Consulting needs of his clients for 18 years. Gene received his undergraduate degree from UNC - Chapel Hill and earned his MBA from Tulane University in New Orleans. He and his family are members of Temple Beth El.

About Catherine Hunter Kloppenborg

Catherine is an Investment Associate at UBS Financial Services. She is a Certified Financial Planning Practitioner and has worked with Gene for over 10 years. Catherine received her undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia.

About Marx Wealth Management

Marx Wealth Management is a team of UBS professionals dedicated to offering a customized

approach to wealth management built on a personal relationship and shaped by an understanding of client needs and aspirations. Current and future assets can be analyzed, liabilities weighed and estate planning strategies implemented. We offer periodic reviews to determine if your investment strategies remain aligned with your goals, and proactively propose and implement solutions.

About UBS

UBS is one of the largest fully integrated financial services companies in the world. It is the world's largest Wealth Manager and Private Bank offering a wide range of products and services to deliver comprehensive solutions to its clients. ☆