

Affinity Groups Take Root In Charlotte

Rich Osborne, president of the Jewish Federation, declared that the affinity group concept has been firmly established in Charlotte. Osborne said, "Like the legendary Phoenix which rose from the ashes, we are now experiencing a strong desire and commitment by leadership to implement the vital ingredients to make things happen... to make things work... effectively. The concept is not new and we have tried to structure affinity groups in the past but for whatever reason, there was no longevity. We have to date experienced the rebirth and early maturation of certain divisions which will ultimately become an asset to the Charlotte Jewish Federation as well as having an enormous impact on the general community."

Physicians & Dentists Division

Chairman: Dr. David S. Citron; Steering Committee: Dr. Niles Choper, Dr. Scott Goodman, Dr. Robert Haber, Dr. Robert Kipnis, Dr. Scott Menaker, Dr. Edwin Newman, Dr. Michael Rothberg, Dr. Jared Schwartz, Dr. Philip Solomon, Dr. Samuel Zimmern, Dr. Joseph Zucker.

Maimonides Society event held in February with Prof. Velvl Greene as featured speaker. The topic of interest was "Jewish Law and Medical Ethics." The next event is projected for late May. Future planning will consider participation in a mission to Washington, DC; participation in national Maimonides mission to Israel; and "adopting" a medical/dental project.

Maimonides Society



(l-r) Prof. Velvl Greene (guest speaker), Dr. David S. Citron, Chairman, Rich Osborne, Federation president

Financial Division



(l-r) Steve Menaker, Amiel Goldberg, Bernard Sandler, Judie Van Glish, David Miller

What Is An Affinity Group?

Lou Wernick, Jewish Federation staff Director for the affinity groups said, "Affinity groups refer to the homogenous groups with similar interests, concerns, tastes and relationships. This could be based on gender, age, profession, and/or groupings. The Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte has established three different affinity groups based on these components. The commonalities appear to be that the group is respected, has financial and leadership potential, have common interest applicable to their group such as Jewish medical ethics for Maimonides Societies or financial workshops for Jewish financial professionals and contemporary subjects that impact on the Jewish conditions at home and around the world for the lawyers group."

Lawyers Division

Chairman: Hal Levinson; Steering Committee: Mark Bernstein, Irving Brenner, Steve Garfinkel, Meg Goldstein, Alan Kaplan, Alan Krusch, Jeff Ckson, Allan Singer, Amy vser, Ronald Weiner.

The inaugural event for the reconstituted lawyers division was held on April 17 and featured Dr. Carlos Rizowy who spoke on current developments in the Middle East from legal and political per-

Lawyers Division



Pictured right are: (l-r) Hal Levinson, Chairman, Dr. Carlos Rizowy (guest speaker), Lou Wernick, Federation Director of Special projects

spectives and concerns regarding terrorist activities. Dr. Rizowy is an authority on international legal issues and political analyst on National Public Radio. Future planning will consider the establishment of a Brandeis Society within the framework of the lawyers division as well as missions to Washington, DC and Israel. Hal Levinson said, "I am asking all Charlotte Jewish lawyers to work with me towards the development of an organization which will provide community leadership in legal and related moral issues."

Financial Division

The financial division represents professionals within the banking, stock brokerage, accountants, real estate and insurance industries. Chairman: Richard Gross, President of NationsBank Capital Markets, Inc. Steering Committee: Larry Brown, Paul Edelstein, Shelton Gorelick, Todd Gorelick, Amiel Goldberg, Peter Levinson, Eugene Marx, Steve Menaker, Adrian Mesoznick, David Miller, Ken Rivkin, Bernard Sandler and Judie Van Glish.

The first meeting of the steering committee was convened on April 18. Consideration was given to sponsoring several events during the year featuring eminent members of the profession and long-term goals will include a financial division mission to Israel and interaction with the other affinity groups.

Commonalities Of Purpose For Each Group

1-Foster a sense of common purpose and commitment to work for the betterment of Jews everywhere.

2-Mobilize the professionals within the framework of each group to serve as a resource in the Jewish and general communities.

3-Increase revenues through the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte to support Jewish life. Rich Osborne concluded, "We will be able to reach our objectives and achieve our goals because of the keen sense of interest and deep commitment to Jewish causes expressed by the dedicated leadership of each of the affinity groups."

Cancer Center Renamed to Honor the Blumenthal Family

by Scott White

The Cancer Center at Carolinas Medical Center has been renamed the Blumenthal Cancer Center.

The Board of Commissioners of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Hospital Authority made the announcement to honor the family of Anita and Herman Blumenthal. Herman Blumenthal is the Chairman of the Board of Radiator Specialty Company in Charlotte, and has distinguished himself as a civic and philanthropic leader. The Blumenthal Foundation's support was instrumental in the building of the Blumenthal Performing Arts Cen-

R. Stuart Dickson, Chairman of the CMHA, and Dr. Herman A. Godwin, Jr., Medical Director of the Cancer Center at Carolinas Medical Center made the announcement.

"Herman Blumenthal is the epitome of quiet and effective leadership in this state," said Dickson. "Just as our physicians and researchers are working to cure cancer, the Blumenthal family has worked to improve the lives of North Carolinians."

Blumenthal, speaking on behalf of his family, said, "I have been impressed by the quality of diagnostic, treatment and research programs underway at CMC, in attempts to cure this devastating disease. My



Anita and Herman Blumenthal

ter. The Blumenthal Foundation has also funded the recently established William Friday Program in Leadership, and sponsors Wildacres, a nationally known retreat for artistic and intellectual activities located near Little Switzerland, N.C.

family is proud to have our name associated with one of the finest cancer centers in America." The Blumenthal's are members of Temples Israel and Beth El.

Making Dreams Intersect with Reality

by Dr. Kenneth W. Stein

Clear strategic motives explain the recent heinous attacks perpetrated by militant Palestinians against Israelis. Kill Jews; generate apprehension among Israelis; grotesquely illustrate that "armed struggle" against Israel is alive and well; incite dissension among Israeli citizens and between the general public and political lead-

ership - if possible, fray societal bonds; subvert Israel's May parliamentary election; demonstrate the incapacity of Israel's vaunted security apparatus to defend Israeli life and property; weaken, undermine, and halt the Arab-Israeli negotiating process; and, discredit any segment of Arab leadership which permanently or temporarily threatens to embrace an accommodation with Israel.

A chilling portrait for Israelis or for any civilized human being to visualize. It was believed by historians, politicians, and analysts that such repulsive accounts which chronicled Israel's daring struggle to exist, survive, and persevere were on their way for storage in archives.

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