

MACCABI MOMENT

NYPD Blue meets Maccabi

By Diana Ades

Harvey Katowitz has quite a background. He was a New York police officer for 27 years and a Commanding Officer of the 41st Precinct, which is the precinct that was depicted in the movie "Fort Apache, The Bronx."

Having grown up in the Bronx, Harvey lived most of his adult life in New City, a suburb of New York City. He moved his family to Charlotte in 1995 — a decision based on cold weather, snow and the high property taxes up North. "My brother lived in Charlotte for 15 years and had always talked positively about the city," Harvey said. After looking in the Raleigh area, the Katowitzes decided on Charlotte.

Serving as the Security Chairperson for the 1998 JCC Maccabi Games is a perfect position for Harvey. He volunteered to chair the committee because of a desire to assist in an event that will have a positive impact on the Jewish Community and on Jewish youths participating from

Charlotte and other areas of the country and world. "As a result of my police background," Harvey explains, "I believe I can make a positive contribution in insuring the safety of everyone involved in the Maccabi Games."

As the Commanding Officer of a precinct, Harvey had to interact with numerous service agencies and was responsible for providing police services to over 100,000 people who lived or worked in the precinct. Harvey revealed that these services included providing security for special events such as parades and visits by dignitaries. "I was also responsible for having plans in place to deal with any type of emergency that might occur."

"I am a little disappointed that the Charlotte Police Department will not officially provide us with any on-duty police officers," Harvey expressed. "The city does appear eager to assist us, though."

He further stated that if the Maccabi Games were taking place

in NYC, "they [NYPD] would formulate the security and emergency plans and provide the personnel to carry them out." But in this case, it will be Katowitz who takes on this important task. "I am in the process of meeting with representatives of all emergency service agencies who are responsible for providing services to the areas where the Maccabi events are taking place." In fact, Harvey admits that formulating these contingency plans will be the biggest challenge facing the Security Committee.

Harvey and Carolyn, his wife of 26 years, have a 25-year-old son who lives in NY and two children (a 23-year-old son and a 16-year-old daughter) who live in Charlotte.

When asked to recount one of the most outrageous things that happened to him while on the NY police force, Harvey relates the following story that took place in 1985 while he was actually off-duty:



Harvey Katowitz

"I observed a man chasing a woman around a car," he remembers, "they were naked and bleeding from minor gun shot wounds. They both ran toward me and my car. A second woman, who was clothed and armed with a gun, began walking towards my car." Harvey identified himself as a police officer and finally coaxed the woman into dropping her weapon. "I subsequently learned that the man she shot was her husband. She had followed him to this location and found him in a compromising position with the other woman!"

Only in New York kids, only in New York! ☆



Calling all mensches!

We need you! The 1998 JCC Maccabi Games is still looking for Host Families and volunteers for this summer! If you are going to be in town from August 9 - 14 and would like to have the experience of a lifetime, please contact Amy or Barry in the Maccabi office at 366-5007 ext. 253 (Amy) or ext. 236 (Barry.) Thanks! ☆

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Tribute to Leon Levine an affair to remember

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of the net total has been set aside as long term endowment commitments, on the way to meeting the \$2 million goal established last year.

Leon, in his remarks, stated how pleased he was with the terrific show of support for the local needs of the Charlotte Jewish community. He was also quite surprised by the tremendous examples set by those in the community who "stepped up" by committing to the JCC Endowment. Many local and national companies were part of the event, and our hats go off to NationsBank for providing the marquee sponsorship that got us started.

Guests were treated to a sumptuous array of hors d'oeuvres as the evening got underway. A dinner of grilled salmon and filet mignon was enjoyed, followed by a white chocolate frozen dessert and tropical fruit kabobs at every table. The entertainment for the evening was the Eve Cornelius Band, along with Second City of Chicago.

Thanks to the generosity of Arthur's at Belk, all gala guests were given Godiva chocolate. The ladies went home with a long stem rose. Men were treated to a complimentary cigar created especially for the Gala, made possible by the Tinder Box at South Park.

Other gala committee members who helped pull this spectacular event together included Marsha Scheer, Melissa Raphael and Tammy Menaker. Additional thanks go out to Andrea Mellen (photographer), Robert Mondavi wines, Sonny Joyner special events, and First Impression and Perfect Image printing. Gala coordinator Roni Fishkin did a remarkable job, along with the entire front-office staff of the JCC. ☆