Page 16 - THE CHARLOTTE POST - Thursday, April 12, 1979



Leon LevineBoard Chairman Family Dollar Growth Rate

Exceeds Early Expectations

By Susan Ellsworth Post Staff Writer

When Leon Levine, at age 22, founded the first Family Dollar Store in 1959 on Central Avenue in Charlotte, he expected someday to own a chain of 50-100 stores.

Levine, who is now chairman of the board, has exceeded his own expectations. Within 20 years he has acquired about 200 stores in North Carolina and South Carolina

"Family Dollar is still in its infancy as a company," Levine declared recently.

He recalled obtaining the discount idea for Family Dollar from observing a small store in Kentucky which had nc items priced over \$1.00.

His retail experience began at age 12, when he started working in his family's small department store in Rockingham, N.C. At 18 Levine began his own

business with a partner in Wingate, N.C. manufacturing chenille bedspreads while attending school. Money from the sale of his share of the bedspread business helped finance the Family Dollar venture

Within a year after opening his first store, Levine opened a second and third. By 1962 he had 10 stores in convenient locations for shoppers in Charlotte. The company's Execu-tive Offices and Distribution

The YWCA is looking for 100 volunteers to assist with a wide range of jobs, from front Center are located just outside Charlotte on Old Monroe Road.

"The idea," Levine asserted, "is to have the stores go to the people, rather than forcing customers to drive miles away to a large store." Levine said he chose to offer

small discount stores instead of one large store to have less overhead and offer lower prices.

Donald Rhine, senior vice president-merchandising and advertising, emphasized that Family Dollar customers can find the latest looks in fashion at low prices.

"If velour is in fashion, then Family Dollar will have velour; if terry is in style, then we carry terry," Rhine commented.

Family Dollar Stores, Inc. has 319 retail discount stores in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia and Alabama. Levine said the company intends to expand and have 380 stores operating by the end of August.

In Charlotte, Family Dollar Stores are located at these places: 3416 Wilkinson Blvd., 123-125 W. Trade St., 2048 N. Graham St., 5436 E. Indepen-dence Blvd., 1614 South Blvd., Central Square Shopping Cen-ter, 5605 Wilkinson Blvd., 6000 N. Tryon St., 1600 W. Trade St., 5615 South Blvd.

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desk to handicap swim. Kicking off its recruiting

campaign, the Y has designated two weeks between April 22 and May 4 as YWCA Volunteer Weeks. The campaign will coincide with National Volunteer Week, April 22 to 28, and National YWCA Week, April 30 to May 4.

The volunteer program is unlike past volunteer activities at the YW. Heretofore, volunteers have concentrated their work by serving on Y The present committees. campaign will key volunteers into a long list of specific jobs which requir commitments ranging from once a week to spot assignments. The list of volunteer requiremen sads: From desk **Clerical** office **Class registration clerks** Team Sports scorekeeper, timers Gymnastics Typist Kamp-A-Long Health, Physical Ed and Recreation Task Forces on Gynmastics team, Swim

team, ENCORE (post-

mastectomy program),

Trade St. Center program,

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For more information, call Eleanor McNair, Volunteer Coordinator, at the Y, 525-5770, or at home, 536-7195. Lvnne Rayburn, Associate Executive Director, is also available to answer questions, and can be reached at the Park Road Center, 525-5770.

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