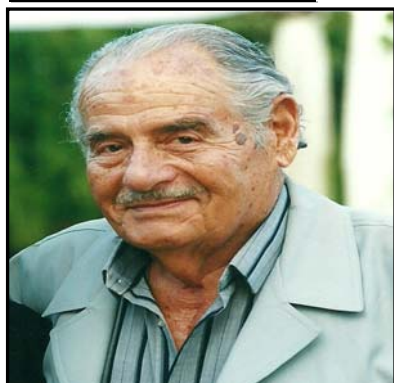


BETTER LATE THAN NEVER - MATZUVA UPDATE 3/11

Shlomo Doron שליט



It is with much sadness that we announce the passing of our most senior member, Shlomo Doron at the age of 94 years. Shlomo was born in 1917 in Romania, the son of a serving Czech army officer during WW1. He grew up in his home town of Brno in Czechoslovakia. The family were Zionists and his father was the principal of the college he studied at. He was an outstanding student who had two main targets – to be a doctor and emigrate to Palestine.

He began his medical studies and managed to study the first four years, With the conquest of Czechoslovakia by the Germans in 1939 he was forced to leave university. Shlomo ran away and ended up in Prague living there illegally for 6 months. He managed to get a permit for Palestine and lived in Jerusalem with the intention of continuing his medical studies. However, there was no medical faculty at that time. So he joined up with Hava his childhood girlfriend and moved to Kibbutz Degania Bet. They married at Kibbutz Kfar HaChoshesh and subsequently were invited to join Kibbutz Matzuva. There the couple were proud parents to three sons and a daughter. He held various leading roles at Matzuva as well as in the kibbutz movement. Shlomo was active in the field of member welfare, education, health and vocational orientation. He was also involved in agricultural education at the Ministry of Education. After filling various roles outside Matzuva he returned to work in its orchards. He was personally involved in the setting-up of "MiloPri" the regional avocado packing-house and he was recognized worldwide as 'the authority' on his innovative packing system for avocado. He eventually retired but continued to work part-time in the kibbutz secretariat. However, Shlomo had health problems and 5 years ago and close to his 90th birthday had a leg amputated. Notwithstanding, Hava and Shlomo, who recently celebrated a 70th wedding anniversary, continue to swim 30 lengths every day at the pool in Shlomi. The last few weeks saw a drastic deterioration in his health at the Nahariya hospital Shlomo was lucid and alert as always and refused treatment to prolong life. All his family were with him at the end – his wife Hava, 4 children, 14 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren. May his dear soul rest in everlasting peace. [partial translation of an obituary by the editor in the last Matzuva Newsletter 148].

HERE WE GO AGAIN ...THE 'MIFLAT PUB' HAS OPENED AGAIN!!!

Snakes Out – Roll out the Barrel

After about 20 years the old Matzuva dairy was still the Miflat Pub. It closed down and the banana branch took it over as a storeroom until they moved to the now permanent agricultural compound. Since then it's been a commercial animal centre managed by an external entrepreneur with a large number of snakes (for petting). As this area is designated as 'community' they have been told to relocate somewhere else (not at

Matzuva). Apparently they left it in a hell of a mess but young hands spent days and nights reconverting it into the Miflat pub.

The Hebrew word **מפלט** (Miflat) translates as a refuge, asylum, escape, shelter, retreat, resort, recourse, escapement. When one thinks of it it's an appropriate word for young adults having been one myself many, many years ago.

I didn't make it to the opening – I think I would have been refused entrance as being overage. Thankfully, Max with his ever primed camera was able to record some of the atmosphere.



Postcard of the old Miflat Pub



Photos: Max Nathans

THE NEW MIPLAT LOGO ON THE PUB'S OUTER WALL



MATZUVA CELEBRATES 71 YEARS

Opening Words by Karni Am-Ad at the celebration that took place in the now empty dining room but full to overflowing with the entire Matzuva community:

I received an invitation to the kibbutz birthday party and it was hard to understand! In the dining room? Friday evening meal? A festival ceremony – everything for 5 shekels? Can this be Matzuva's 71st birthday? – I asked myself and answered myself quickly – this cannot be.. All the signs seem to be of a time machine back to when we were 40 or even 50 as we entered the dining room always getting a notice for some sort of duty roster to clean up the dining room later. Here I once got a bag full of fruit and was able to order a kibbutz car. Here I was measured up for clothes and on Tuesdays they served chips and ice cream there. Here I pushed forward to get a better seat at the weekly movie. From here we set out to market turkeys at night, dragged into a banana enlistment for my sins. Once again I was sleeping every night in a children's house away from my parents home and told to wear a white shirt at ceremonies and to tie the dog up.

It was hard to return to reality as I entered the dining room.

Here was the assembly of hundreds of residents celebrating Matzuva's 71st birthday and in reality we don't yearn too much for the old but look forward to the new with growth moving from despair to redemption. There's a lot to do and aspire to and I wish every child, senior and everyone a lot of satisfaction being at this pleasant place. When we reach the 72nd birthday we look to being without a debt and enjoying a better and enjoyable lifestyle here.

The evening following was great with the veteran members being presented with bouquets of flowers and a home-produced show was followed with the final course being refreshments hot and cold and citrus fruit straight from the orchards.

The legendary David Novak was the older and trusted DJ for the evening.

'SAVYON HOUSE' CLOSES IN ORDER TO OPEN AGAIN

Savyon House is a Nursing Care Centre for Golden Agers at Matzuva run by the Amal Company that has a network of such centres throughout the country.

There has been a longstanding dispute between the kibbutz and the company regarding finances plus criteria demands of Amal by the Health Ministry for correct running of the home. A month ago there was only one Matzuva care patient at Savyon with the other residents coming from other communities. Due to this impasse the company decided to close the home and it caused ripples of distress among our veteran members the majority of whom if in need of care prefer in-house Phillipine or Indian nurses.

A general meeting was convened at the instigation of our seniors with the kibbutz trustee, Dani Ivri. It was decided to approach Amal not to take such a drastic step and an agreement was reached in which they would close the facility for one year and bring the home up to accepted health ministry criteria and then reopen for a further 24 years. Meanwhile, all the residents were relocated to other homes.

MATZUVA APPROACH ROAD

The entrance road to Matzuva from the Kabri-Shlomi highway 70 is to be widened. The road will still have the Ulpan olive grove to the south and will be lined with a paved sidewalk. This is part of the community village B infrastructure plans and will include a traffic circle and road lighting.

MATZUVA RECIPE BOOK LAUNCH

It was cakes and literature at the launch of the Matzuva 70 Recipe Book featuring all sorts of recipes all submitted by residents at Matzuva. Most of the gastronomic authors displayed their actual finished articles eagerly devoured by those attending this gastronomic bonanza. All those calories produced by mostly female members to celebrate Matzuva's 70th year. Leading this binge was none other than Jackie Meirkowitz (ex-Ulpan), Karin Gefen-Nathans, Liat Chen, Inbal Carmel and Elisheva Carmi. At the moment the edition is in Hebrew and whether it is to be published into English is debatable but believe me the cakes were great!



That's all for now – take care and be in contact.

Best wishes

Baruch
Matzuva – March 2011



MATZUVA'S 70th YEAR



100 YEARS OF THE KIBBUTZ MOVEMENT