

OLE TIME CONDUCTOR APPEARS AT LANDMARK

Longtime Las Vegas familiar with the entertainment scene will recall the year 1958 when the late "Doc" Bailey, then owner of the Hacienda Hotel, booked a group led by Johnny Olen, soon to become local favorites. Among the members was a 19 year old pianist named Charlie Shaffer. A native of Houston, Texas, Charlie's musical training revolved mostly around the trumpet, for which he had a scholarship.

However he'd been toying with the piano since age 4, started lessons at age 5, and has favored, and proved proficient in it every since.

In his musical travels he played at the Bakersfield (CA) Hacienda which was also owned by Bailey and which led to his Las Vegas stint. Under manager Buck Ram, who also managed the well-known Platters, Charlie appeared on Dick Clark's Saturday Night show,

and performed at clubs up and down the east coast, mostly as an unknown. Along the way, he even managed a film role in a Warner Bros. movie called "Born Reckless" starring Marnie Van Doren. His role? A member of a saloon band.

The Johnny Olen group featured early rock, some country western and a lot of top 40, with selections made popular by Fats Domino, Little Richard and their contemporaries. Charlie soon took off

on his own, and racked up a respectable list of credits in Las Vegas with lounge appearances at almost every major resort hotel on the strip. He also formed "backup" groups for individual acts and production shows.

Recently he visited Nashville where he recorded eight selections (vocals) and two instrumentals, which, hopefully, will soon appear as a series of singles as well as in album form. His selection as musical conductor and arranger for Arturo Coppola who is currently at the

Landmark, is illustrative of the high esteem in which he is held in this community, and is a definite plus for the show.

SABBATICAL PROGRAM PLANNED IN ISRAEL

A unique annual sabbatical program for Rabbis and scientists, sponsored by the Institute for Science and Halacha in Jerusalem, has recently been announced by Dr. Dov Ehrlich, M.D., Chair-

man of the Institute. The program is being planned with the particular needs and interests of the hundreds of Rabbis, scientists and academics from around the world who plan to spend their sabbatical leave in Israel.

According to Yossi Sharon, spokesman for the Institute and coordinator of the program, the novel element of this program is that the Institute will look after visitors with whom it has had no previous contact.

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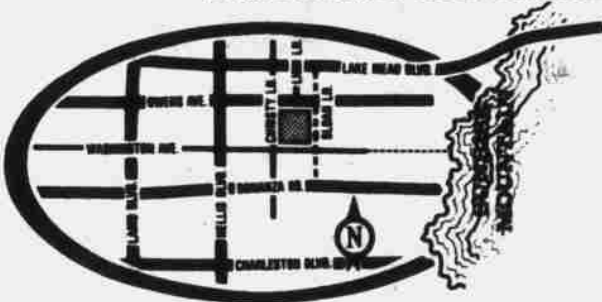


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