CHICAGO JULY 3-6 2025

fjmc™ INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

EMBRACING CHANGE • ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES

Federation of Jewish Men's Club International Biennial Convention

Leadership Innovation Community

The FJMC mission is to involve Jewish Men in Jewish Life by building and strengthening Men's Clubs in the Conservative / Masorti Movement. We accomplish this mission by:

LEADERSHIP	Mentoring leaders at the club, region and international level.
INNOVATION	Developing programming that better connects people of all ages to the Jewish community,
COMMUNITY	Forming meaningful long-lasting relationships based on camaraderie, common interests and core values.

"FJMC (Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs) is the umbrella organization for a confederation of more than 200 men's auxiliaries serving more than 20,000 men around the globe. In 2021, we amended our bylaws to welcome non-Masorti/Conservative clubs to affiliate as well as individuals unconnected to congregations, and have affiliated Reform, Orthodox, Masorti and Individual members. Our affiliated clubs are concentrated in North America throughout the United States and Canada. The influence of FJMC's programs and contributions are felt worldwide. FJMC's mission is to involve Jewish Men in Jewish Life. While the FJMC is an 'arm' of the Masorti/Conservative Movement, as a result of our bylaw changes, our affect goes beyond the Masorti/Conservative Movement. Our programs have a profound impact on our congregations, our families, our youth and world Jewry."

CONVENTION TEAM

REGIONAL FOCALS Chairs: Denis Vogel (NNJ) and Lester Shapiro (MAR)

ANSHEI DAROM	Howard Kaplan
ANSH-EH ZAFON	Rick Wronzberg
CONNECTICUT VALLEY	Phil Margolis
FLORIDA	Rich Nebb
HUDSON VALLEY	Alan Pressman
KIO+	Lawrence Cohen
MIDDLE ATLANTIC	Steve Pilchik
MIDWEST	Jonathan Norton
NEW ENGLAND	Eric Pell
NEW YORK METRO	Jonathan Brody
NORTHERN NEW JERSEY	Steve Harkavy
SEABOARD	Bob Watts
TRI-STATE	Steve Haberman
WESTERN	Scott Vineberg

CREDITS FOR THE 2025 CONVENTION

CONVENTION CHAIR	Mark Givarz
CONVENTION VICE CHAIR	Jay Steinmetz
CONVENTION CHAIR EMERITUS	Rick Wronzberg, Danny Mandeau
AD JOURNAL COORDINATORS	Aaron Altman, Glenn Pollack
ANTISEMITISM INITATIVE	Irv Varkonyi
AV COORDINATORS	Bob Watts, David Beckman
CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP COMMITTEE:	Doug Segerman, Alex Pomerantz
DARCHEI SHALOM	Norm Kurtz
DINING ROOM MANAGER	Robert Lipka
ENTERTAINMENT	Cheryl Pilchik
FINANCE	Mitch Daks, Gregg Pollack
GEFFEN INSTITUTE COORDINATOR	Karl Rubin
HEALTH AND WELLNESS	Bob Braitman
HMV (HEARING MENS VOICES) CHAIR	Jeff Schuman
HOSPITALITY	Phil Margolis, Scot Fowler & Seth Goldberg, Sam Sussman, David Weil, Marc Cohen
INCLUSION COMMITEE LEAD	Jerry Brodsky
INSTALLATION CEREMONY	Allan Kahan
ISRAEL INITIATIVE	Karl Rubin
LOCAL PROGRAMMING TEAM	Steve Lessman, Jon Norton, Sandy Victor, Jay Lawrence, Norwin Merens
MA'ASIM TOVIM AWARDS	Steve Lessman
MARKETING	Bruce Martin, Bruce Fagan, Lisa Pollack, Lester Shapiro, Norwin Merens
ONLINE REGISTRATION CHAIR	Norm Katz
OPENING CEREMONIES	Josh Lisman, Warren Sufrin
PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY	Bob Watts, Gary Katz, David Singer, David Beckman, Alex Romano, Barry Hemmerdinger, Jonathan Longman
PROGRAM FAIR CHAIRS	Alan Lightstone, Alex Romano
PROGRAMMING CHAIR	Mitch Ross
PROGRAMMING VICE CHAIRS	David Glass, Rob Blitzer
PROGRAMMING COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Bob Watts, Phillip Gordorov, Doug Segerman, Dale Levy, Glenn Hauer, Alex Pomerantz, Joel Kling, Warren Sufrin, Jeff Schulman, Noam Raucher, Cheryl Pilchik, Alan Budman, Bruce Tomar
QUALITY CLUBS AWARDS CHAIR	Scott Vineberg
QUALITY REGIONS AWARDS CHAIR	Marc Cohen
REGISTRATION COORDINATOR	Creighton Cohn
REGISTRATION CHECK-IN STAFF	Jonathan & Judith Epstein, Linda Romano, Alex Pomerantz, Plia Cohn, Stanley Dreyfuss, Hal Berkowitz, Jerri Blitzer
RITUAL	Jay Englander, Dale Levy, Eric Wallerstein, David Glass, Orin Rotman, Josh Lisman
TORCH AWARDS CHAIR & TEAM	Lester Shapiro, Stephe Sturman, Rick Wronzberg, Jon Medwin, Bob Watts, Benny Shapiro
TRIBUTE JOURNAL PRINTER	PGS Printing & Graphic Services
VENUE	Danny Mandeau, Rick Wronzberg, Jay Steinmetz, Mark Givarz
WEBSITE COORDINATORS	Bruce Fagan, Bob Watts
WHISKY TASTING SPONSOR	Bourbon Rabbi
WHOVA COORDINATORS	Michael Keats, Glenn Wohl, David Beckman, Bob Watts
WINE SPONSOR	Covenant Wines *www.covenantwines.com*
UNSUNG HEROES	Many thanks to the countless unsung heroes who don't want recogntion. These heroes chased down Ad Journal sales, shipped items, spontaneously volunteered, and much more!

INCOMING PRESIDENT'S LETTER

fjmc

INVOLVING JEWISH MEN IN JEWISH LIFE

Leadership Innovation Community
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First Vice President
Bruce Tomar
Ventnor, NJ
Vice Presidents
Marc Cohen
Marlton, NJ
Creighton Cohn
St. Louis, MO
Dr. Gary Katz
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Honorary President
Allan R. Kahan, Esq.
Silver Spring, MD
Executive Director
Rabbi Noam Raucher
Pasadena, CA

Dear Convention Attendees:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2025 FJMC Biennial Convention. Whether it is your first or sixteenth convention, I hope you find your time here in Chicago fun, informative and unforgettable. You will experience in person the ruach and excitement of networking with Jewish men like yourselves.

I still remember my first convention 28 years ago. I didn't know what to expect, but I soon discovered that I was in the company of other Jewish men that wanted to share their experiences, programs and kind spirit. I made lifelong friends and found mentors whose sole purpose was to help me grow as a man and a leader and to work with me for the betterment of my club.

As we move into a future of expanding community involvement and collaboration, we will continue to build on the successful initiatives including family focus and inclusion started by outgoing president Alan Budman. Our vision and mission are to bring new opportunities and personal growth to our men's community and to communities of Jewish men around the globe. We will expand our programming not only in Jewish life but also in your life and growth as a man. We will continue to extend a hand in friendship and collaboration to our LGBTQI+ community, our brothers of color and the community around us, as we have already started with our brothers of the Hizmet community. We are blessed to have a dynamic Executive Committee, involved Past International Presidents and our visionary Executive Director, Rabbi Noam Raucher.

FJMC has a Leadership Development Institute (sponsored by the FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life). LDI provides intensive leadership training for emerging leaders at the club and regional levels. What I've learned in my years with FJMC was that the more involved I got, the richer my experience was. I've learned and continue to learn new skills, made many friends, work with the best mentors in the world and I've become a better leader and person. I urge you to offer your skills and abilities to your clubs, regions and at the international level. Please email me at btomar@fjmc.org to start your adventure in FJMC. I look forward to meeting you and convention and working with you in the months ahead.

Yours in brotherhood

Bruce Tomar

Bruce Tomar
FJMC International President 2025-2027

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S LETTER

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July 4, 2025

There are so many people who contributed to the success we have enjoyed during the last two years. No administration is successful without many, many people working very hard to accomplish its goals, and the Budman/Tomar Administration was no exception. Please join me in thanking the Executive Committee Team of VPs, Marc Cohen, Creighton Cohn, Gary Katz, Alex Kiderman, Javier Rosenzwaig and Benny Sommerfeld, Treasurer Gregg Pollack, Secretary Bob Watts, Members David Glass, Danny Mandeau, Mitch Ross and David Singer, Regional Presidents' Chairs Phil Margolis and Dan Moldover, and my closest advisors and right-hand men, Honorary President Allan Kahan, 1st Vice President Bruce Tomar and Executive Director Rabbi Noam Raucher for the passion you brought to the table and the leadership you gave to your respective portfolios.

The Past International Presidents and mentors, who provided me guidance, support and dedication to the organization in my journey to and during this role, including: Dr. Jerome Agrest, Bob Levine, Dr. Robert Braitman, Norm Kurtz, Esq., Mark Berlin, Esq., Michael Mills, Myles Simpson, Allan Gottesman, Stan Greenspan, and Tom Sudow, and particular thanks to my pre-Presidential mentors Dr. Stephen Davidoff z"l, Burt Fischman z"l and Larry Allen, who trained me to be a leader long before I saw myself as one.

To all the various leaders of signature FJMC programs, including Shoah Yellow Candles Chairs Art Lashin and Ed Margolis, Marketing Chair Aaron Altman, Leadership Development Institute Chairs Rob Blitzer and Eric Yegelwel, Atid, Inclusion and International Chair Jerry Brodsky, IT and Website Chairs, Barry Balik, Norm Katz and Bob Watts, Friends Chair David Glass, Fischman Fund Chair David Kravitz, 311 and Foundation Chair Doug Segerman, New Club Recruiters Danny Mandeau and Lester Shapiro, Attracting Younger Members Chair Elliot Feldman, Combatting Antisemitism Chairs, Dan Granek z"l and Irv Varkoni, Israel Programming Chair Karl Rubin, WWW Chairs Len Abrams z"l and Bill Becker, HaD'Var Chair Lester Shapiro, Affinity and Webinars Chair Bruce Fagan, Convention Chairs Mark Givarz, Jay Steinmetz and Mitch Ross, and all the committee Chairs and members too numerous to mention. And a special thank you to Lisa Pollack, Administrator Extraordinaire.

And to all the other men (and women) who made all the various facets of our organization function smoothly and successfully at all levels, thank you for your dedication and passion to the FJMC. Yasher Koach!

And finally, to my wife, Susan, our children, Heather and her husband Chris, Traci and her husband Dustin, and our beautiful granddaughters Isabella and Avary, I thank you for your support and love. I love you all!

Thank you!

Alan Budman

Alan Budman
International President, FJMC 2023-25

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Our Name, Our Vision, Our Mission

By Rabbi Noam Raucher

At this summer's convention, members of the FJMC community voted overwhelmingly in favor of adopting a bold new identity: FJMC International—an organization now rooted in the values of Friendship, Judaism, Mentorship and Community.

This historic shift isn't just cosmetic—it's spiritual, strategic and deeply personal. It reflects who we are becoming: an organization committed to the emotional, physical and spiritual well-being of Jewish men across generations and around the world.

Our new vision is clear:
Men will cultivate meaningful relationships, a sense of purpose, and physical, emotional and spiritual health through communities rooted in Jewish values and brotherhood.

Our renewed mission explains how we'll get there:
FJMC provides men opportunities for personal growth, and to build strong relationships. We accomplish this through: celebrating Jewish learning, traditions and culture; gathering for social events and retreats; performing service projects; engaging over Israel; combating hate and antisemitism; mentoring the next generation of leaders; prioritizing our health and wellness; and by supporting one another in safe and nonjudgmental communities.

As we look ahead to our centennial in 2029, this rebrand positions us to grow stronger, reach farther and serve more men than ever before. Stay tuned for new materials, programs and digital tools that reflect this exciting transformation—and thank you for being part of it.

Together, we're not just continuing a legacy. We're building the future—one brother at a time.

Rabbi Noam Raucher

Rabbi Noam Raucher
Executive Director of FJMC International.

CONVENTION CHAIR LETTER

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On behalf of the FJMC and the Midwest Region, Welcome to Chicago, the "Windy City"!

What a journey we've had together! Our last Convention in 2023 in Philadelphia, under the theme "Make Your Own History," was a blast—and here we are again, ready to create more amazing memories. Chicago holds a special place in our hearts. Back in 2021, this very hotel was set to host us before Covid-19 had other plans, turning our Convention into a virtual "Taste of Convention." But now, we're back in full force and ready to embrace this incredible city in person.

Change is the one constant, isn't it? Think of everything that's evolved in the past few years: from global shifts to developments in Israel and beyond. For nearly a century, the FJMC has provided countless opportunities for men to connect, celebrate, and grow through religious, social, and philanthropic activities. And here's the thing—FJMC isn't just accepting change; we're charging ahead! We've uncovered major trends shaping our membership: Community and Relationships, an Increasingly Diverse Membership, and Questions about our Existence and Identity. This Convention is our first bold step toward embracing change, and we're ready to "Embrace Change & Energize Communities."
Throughout the week, you'll hear the Hebrew word Atid, which means "Future," as we focus on adapting and innovating together. Check out our expanded Ritual Experiences—a sneak peek into how we're shaking things up this year! We've got surprises, energy, and plenty of ruach in store.

So why hold a Convention now? To connect, laugh, learn, and empower each other! Fun and meaningful moments—that's our recipe for success. We've planned an unforgettable experience that will leave you inspired and energized to lead the way forward.

Every Convention is unique, but one thing is certain—the ruach and fellowship we share create magic every single time. So, on behalf of Jay Steinmetz, my fantastic 2025 Convention Vice Chair, and incredible advisors Danny Mandeau and Rick Wronzberg ("with a ZED")—welcome! Get ready for four days of unforgettable memories, new knowledge, and friendships that will strengthen your club, synagogue, and region.

This Convention wouldn't be possible without our dream team—a group of talented individuals from across Canada and the United States. As Convention Chair, it's been my honor to lead this team, fostering collaboration and empowering them to shine as leaders in their own right. With the support of Alan Budman, our FJMC President, and incoming President Bruce Tomar, we've curated an amazing experience for everyone.

Shoutout to the superheroes behind the scenes: Programming Chair and Co-Chairs Mitch Ross, David Glass, and Rob Blitzer; Marketing Co-Chairs Bruce Fagan and Bruce Martin; IT wizard Norm Katz; Convention Controller Mitch Daks; and Ritual Chair Jay Englander. You'll find the full list of our dedicated Convention Team listed in this Tribute—please thank them when you see them. Their hard work, enthusiasm, and months of dedication have made this event a reality.

So, let's make this Convention one for the books! Jump in, have fun, and let's embrace the future together. Welcome to Chicago—it's time to energize!

Mark Givarz

Mark Givarz, 2025 FJMC Convention Chair

Affiliated Internationally with the Conservative-Masorti Movement

FOUNDATION LETTER

To All Convention Attendees, Foundation Fellows, and Legacy Members

On behalf of the FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life, it is with great pride and heartfelt appreciation that I welcome you to the 2025 FJMC International Convention which marks a transfer in the Foundation's leadership, allows us to reflect on and celebrate our accomplishments, and gives us the opportunity to look ahead to a promising future.

Since 2003, the Foundation has been instrumental in partnering with the FJMC to award grants fostering leadership, innovation, and community among Conservative / Masorti Jewish Men. Our commitment ensures that the guiding values which make us better fathers, spouses, and Menchen continue as a legacy for future generations. Your support of the FJMC Foundation transforms your gifts into grants which allows the FJMC to continue enriching the lives of Jewish Men. I encourage all of you to find out more about how you can support the Foundation as a current donor (Fellow) or as part of your estate planning progress (Legacy Society).

I am happy to report the Foundation issued more grant dollars over the past 2 years than it has in any time in its history. In addition, it ended the fiscal year with a historial record for assets. This means we can still fulfill our mission while maintaining the necessary financial tools to provide support for the future. This achievement is in no small part due to the great work of our Board and our officers for the past two years. Specifically, thank you to Warren Sufrin, Ken Turkewitz, and Peter Gotlieb for the tremendous effort that you made toward the success of the Foundation.

As we move forward, may this convention be a source of inspiration, connection, and renewal for us all. Let us continue to learn from one another, support each other, and build a future rooted in excellence, unity, and purpose. In that light, I am excited to see what our new officers, Steve Dix (Chair), Ken Turkewitz (Treasurer), and Jeff Schulman (Secretary) will do in guiding this organization through continued growth and successes.

Finally, thank you to my wife, Shana, and my children Emma and Jack for supporting me, loving me, and agreeing to share me with my FJMC friends over the last 21 years.

With sincere thanks and warmest regards,

Douglas Segerman

Douglas J. Segerman, Chair 2023-2025
FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life

MAYOR BRANDON CASEY'S MESSAGE

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

BRANDON JOHNSON
MAYOR

July 3, 2025

Dear Friends:

As Mayor and on behalf of the City of Chicago, I am honored to welcome all those gathered for the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs 2025 Convention.

Since its founding, the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs (FJMC) has worked to foster brotherhood in the Jewish community through clubs across the United States and Canada. Through these clubs FJMC supports many initiatives including equity, mental and health care, interfaith events, and support for the Jewish community in Uganda. Through their efforts FJMC is building community, spreading awareness, and promoting Jewish history and culture.

This event will bring together members from around the world to network, inspire, and learn. With a full schedule of keynote speakers, plenary sessions, and networking events, attendees will gain the tools and resources needed to move their chapters forward. I congratulate all of this year's award recipients and honorees, and I commend the FJMC for their ongoing efforts in the Jewish community.

I hope that during your stay in Chicago you take the time to see all the city has to offer. Explore our downtown and lakefront areas, tour the vibrant neighborhoods across our city, sample our diverse cuisine, visit our distinguished universities, and our world-class museums.

I hope your event is memorable and enjoyable. Best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Mayor

MAYOR BRANDON CASEY'S VIDEO MESSAGE



ALDERMAN DEBRA SILVERSTEIN

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ALDERMAN, 50TH WARD
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COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIPS

LICENSE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION (CHAIRMAN)

BUDGET AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

COMMITTEES AND RULES

FINANCE

POLICE AND FIRE

PUBLIC SAFETY

SPECIAL EVENTS, CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND RECREATION

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the City of Chicago, and as the only Jewish member of the Chicago City Council, it is my distinct honor to welcome you to our great city for the 2025 Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs Biennial Convention.

I am thrilled that nearly 400 Jewish leaders and participants from across North America will be gathering to pray, learn, celebrate, and strengthen the bonds of community. In a time when Jewish life is being tested by rising antisemitism and radicalization, your collective presence here in Chicago sends a powerful message of unity, resilience, and pride.

As a proud advocate for the Jewish community, I commend your tireless efforts to strengthen Jewish identity, support synagogues, and foster the next generation of Jewish leadership. Please know that the City of Chicago—and especially the vibrant Jewish community I am proud to represent—welcomes you with open arms.

Thank you for choosing Chicago as the home for your convention this year. I wish you all a successful and enriching experience.

Sincerely,

Alderman Debra Silverstein
Chicago's 50th Ward

FJMC: A LEGACY OF INNOVATION AND GROWTH

The history of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs can be measured by how well its leadership has adhered to its mandate: building a network of Men's Clubs to strengthen the Jewish home, synagogues, and the Conservative Movement. In the mid-1920s Rabbi Samuel M. Cohen, then Director of the United Synagogue of America, conceived of bringing together leaders from existing Conservative Movement Men's Clubs into a "National Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs of the United Synagogue of America." He envisioned that this group would foster an interchange of ideas to help them focus on their common needs.

NFJMC members served on United Synagogue committees and held positions of leadership. They also developed several programs such as the Pocket Calendar/Diary and the Tract Series. These were entrusted to United Synagogue because it was better positioned to distribute and maintain them.

At first, the NFJMC was housed in the Jewish Theological Seminary and was supported financially by United Synagogue through the Joint Campaign. Beginning in the 1940s, that financial support was gradually reduced. In 1967 the NFJMC relinquished any support and became an independent 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization.

The early NFJMC leadership came from the New York and Philadelphia areas. In 1952 it elected Albert Jacobson from Chicago president, its first leader from beyond the East coast. This made the NFJMC became unique among Conservative Movement organizations by not viewing New York as the center of the Jewish community in North America. Today, the FJMC remains the only Conservative Movement organization to have elected presidents from Canada, and was the first to elect presidents from the Midwest and the West coast. With the growing strength of Canadian Men's Clubs, the adjective "National" was dropped from the organization's name in 1983. Today, the international Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs is known simply by its acronym, FJMC.

CONVENTIONS

Conventions have played an important role since the first one in 1931. Held annually at first, the conventions became biennial in 1979. They have proven to be an important opportunity for Men's Club officers, members, and the international leadership to meet, share experiences, and learn from each other. In 1983, FJMC expanded its convention programming to provide training for club and regional officers, with lay leaders as instructors. Two years later, FJMC established the Ma'asim Tovim Award to be presented at each convention to men who have made outstanding contributions to their regions and communities.

Torch Awards are presented to clubs to recognize outstanding programming. New FJMC programs and initiatives are unveiled and showcased at biennial conventions, such as the first Art of Jewish Living program in 1985, Hearing Men's Voices in 1999, and Keruv in 2003. The 1974 FJMC convention in Los Angeles was the first in the Conservative Movement to be held on the West coast. In 1977, FJMC convened in Montreal where, for the first time, a major arm of the Conservative Movement elevated a Canadian to its presidency.

The more recent conventions were held in Weston, Florida (2005), Chicago (2007), Philadelphia (2009), Orange County, Southern California (2011), Boston (2013), Miami (2015), Washington, DC (2017), Toronto (2019), Virtually (2021) and now Philadelphia (2023).

BREAKING NEW GROUNDS

In 1961, FJMC sponsored the first organized trip to Israel by a Conservative Jewish organization. FJMC's Rosh Hashanah Greeting Card Program, introduced in 1970, was the first of its kind among Jewish organizations and since has been adopted by B'nai B'rith, Jewish War Veterans, and others.

The Century Club (later FJMC 100) adopted this program and merged since 2004 into the Foundation for Jewish Life. The Foundation created a stronger vehicle to provide effective funding to serve our constituency, established in 1978 to provide seed money for new projects through individual $100 annual contributions. These programs included the Hebrew Literacy campaign,

1929 National Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs (NFJMC) Started

1931 1st NFJMC Convention New York, NY

1935 NFJMC Convention

1939 NFJMC Convention

1943 NFJMC Convention

1947 NFJMC Convention

1951 NFJMC Convention

1953 NFJMC Convention

1955 NFJMC Convention

1957 NFJMC Convention

HISTORY

the Art of Jewish Living series, the Shabbat Morning Torah service videotape, and the "Prayers and Invocations" booklet.

HEBREW LITERACY

In 1975, FJMC introduced the first of several educational programs that have moved the organization to the forefront of the Conservative Movement. Rabbi Noah Golinkin created for FJMC a lay person-to-lay person method of teaching synagogue Hebrew. He designed this unique approach to provide members of congregations with lay role models and a sense of comfort within the synagogue.

The Hebrew Literacy Program uses two universally known prayers to teach Hebrew literacy, and consists of two volumes Shalom Aleichem (1975) was based on the Friday evening service, and Ayn Kelohenu (1981) focused on the Shabbat morning service. Since this program's inception, more than 180,000 people have gained the ability to follow and participate in synagogue services.

RAMAH PROJECTS

In 1981, the Middle Atlantic Region built an indoor recreation center for Camp Ramah in the Poconos with funds raised through an annual concert series. This effort marked the first time an FJMC region took an active role in supporting other Conservative Movement programs, greatly enhancing the image of the Men's Club movement in the region.

Two years later, the Western Region adopted the Tikvah program to provide a Jewish camping experience for children with special needs at Camp Ramah in California. In 1989, the Great Lakes Region committed to building a guest facility for Camp Ramah in Canada and dedicated it in 1995. That same year, the New England Region adopted Camp Ramah in New England's Tikvah program, while the Southeast and Florida Regions began the drive to create Ramah Darom, which opened in northwestern Georgia in Summer 1997. In 1999, New York Metro Region laid the groundwork for an innovative program for challenged children at Ramah Berkshires.

ART OF JEWISH LIVING

FJMC enlisted Ron Wolfson in 1985 to develop materials to create a total living and learning environment around key Jewish holidays. Tens of thousands of our synagogue members and Russian immigrants have developed a sense of competence with ritual matters and a sense of ease in the synagogue through the Art of Jewish Living series. The first book, on the Shabbat Seder, was followed in 1987 by the Passover Seder book (later translated into Russian). Next followed the Hanukkah volume and then a final publication, A Time to Mourn, A Time to Comfort.

YOM HASHOAH YELLOW CANDLE PROGRAM

The Beth Tzedec Men's Club of Toronto originally developed the Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle Program in 1983 to provide both Jews and non-Jews with a meaningful ritual that would enable them to observe Yom HaShoah in their homes. FJMC adapted and expanded it to become one of our most successful and far-reaching FJMC activities.

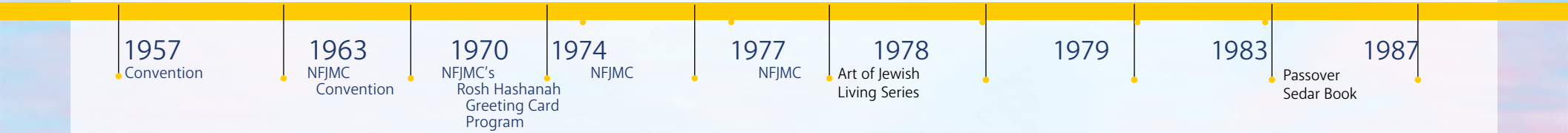
By 1991, its third year as an FJMC international program, more than 100,000 families lit Yellow Candles in their homes to commemorate the Holocaust and keep alive the memories of the six million who perished. The program has expanded beyond FJMC-member households to Women's League chapters; Hillel/B'nai Brith campus organizations; Reform, Reconstructionist, and Orthodox congregations; Jewish Community Centers, Holocaust Memorial Centers; church groups, and others.

In 1998, FJMC created the From Darkness into Light scholarship program where by United Synagogue Youth members at congregations participating in candle distribution can receive scholarships for USY Eastern European Pilgrimage programs.

As the need for Holocaust remembrance grows, the FJMC continues to expand its programmatic efforts. Current efforts include the opportunity to our synagogues to provide Yom HaShoah Yellow Candles to Masorti Congregation throughout the world.

THE WORLD WIDE WRAP

The World Wide Wrap has become one of the FJMC's signature programs, as clubs around the world join to celebrate the mitzvah of tefillin. And we've brought



HISTORY

participation into the 21st century with online registration and reporting of club's "wrap." Held on Super Bowl Sundays, in 2011, over 5,000 men "wrapped" tefillin. Now it's up to 25,000 men. Further, to help introduce the mitzvah to younger Jews, a companion program, Build-a-Pair allows fathers and their fifth through seventh grade children to create model "tefillin" and decorate them as they learn about the mitzvah.

SEFER HAFTORAH SCROLL

FJMC's desire to make men more ritually sensitive, foster Jewish learning, and enhance awareness of the importance of local Men's Clubs led to creation of the FJMC's Sefer Haftorah scroll in 2003. The scroll, consisting of all the Haftorot and written on parchment with vowels and cantillation, is circulated among Men's Clubs and at FJMC events. In addition, synagogues can purchase their own Sefer Haftarot scrolls.

INTERMARRIAGE CONCERNS: KERUV

In 2003, FJMC undertook to study the impact intermarriage and changing families have on the Conservative Jewish population in North America. Since then, two volumes and a host of seminars have been developed as FJMC continues to innovate and lead the Conservative Movement. FJMC's Keruv initiative actually began in 1999 with the goal of placing intermarriage on the agenda of the Conservative Movement. To date, more than 150 rabbis and 90 lay leaders have taken part in FJMC Keruv training programs. Currently, 54 congregations in North America have Keruv programs supervised by FJMC trained lay leaders and professionals. FJMC, a volunteer-led organization with minimal staff and

maximum effectiveness, continues in the 21st century to be an innovative thinking and planning organization that understands the importance of the Conservative/ Masorti movement and the strength of commitment of members of Conservative synagogues. FJMC successfully involves Jewish men in Jewish life and is a significant component of the future of Conservative /Masorti Judaism.

ABAYUDAYA REGION (UGANDA, AFRICA)

The FJMC's newest region, the Abayudaya, has seven clubs in Uganda near the town of Mbale, a native Jewish community known as the "Abayudaya" or people of Judah. FJMC has been working with them for nearly five years, and they became an official region in 2018.

HEARING MEN'S VOICES

Hearing Men's Voices (HMV) is a unique program that engages Jewish men in Jewish life, enabling deeper connections and better relationships among men. The FJMC understood that men do not open up to each other or turn to each other for support. The FJMC and its HMV committee have prepared wonderful, turn-key materials to help clubs implement, facilitate, and manage Hearing Men's Voices' group.

IMAGINE LIFE

The FJMC came to realize that over 40% of the Jewish community were facing issues of mental or supporting someone who is struggling. The purpose of Imagine Life – A Mental Health Initiative Before It is Too Late, is to create awareness, prevention, and education for combating drug addiction, suicide, anxiety and depression, and to provide a model of support for families. The FJMC has partnered with the Blue Dove Foundation (Atlanta) to members of the community and to help develop a supportive structure.

The FJMC is encouraging -

- Education for the clergy to become a resource for congregational families.
- The synagogue venues become available for support groups.
- The Men's Clubs take the lead to initiate programs within their synagogues to honestly discuss mental health issues.
- Explore resources and partner with community agencies, such as the Jewish Family Services, NAMI and other who can provide the vital professional support that is needed.

ENGAGEMENT – AFFINITY GROUPS

Beginning in 2020, the FJMC realized that Men's Club and involving Men (and women) in Jewish life could not stop at the parking lot of the Synagogue. A number of efforts were begun to reach people where they are and around topics they are interested – in essence to build affinity.

1989
Shabbat Morning Torah Service Video

1991
100,000 families lit Yellow Candles in their homes to commemorate the Holocaust

1993
FJMC Convention
Split Rock Lodge, PA

1995
FJMC Convention
Pines, NY

1997
FJMC Convention
Concord, NY

1998
FJMC created the From Darkness into Light Scholarship Program

1999
FJMC Convention
Fallsview, NY
Hearing Men's Voices Program
Ties That Bind Video

2001
FJMC Convention
Toronto, ON
World Wide Wrap
Keruv Program

2003
FJMC Convention
Sefer Haftorah Scroll
Foundation for Jewish Life

2005
FJMC Convention
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

HISTORY

The FJMC launched a number of online affinity groups around topics they have a passion for:

- Cooking
- Genealogy
- Investing
- Photography
- Sports
- Yiddish

Over 2,000 people have participated – men and women – and many are not affiliated with Men's Club or a Synagogue. We are engaging them where they are.

The FJMC also launched a series of Webinar around a variety of topics and also promote webinar and educational programs being held by Clubs, Regions, and partner organization. Together the Affinity Groups and Webinars have brought in over 1,000 people who previously were not affiliated with the FJMC and over 2,000 different FJMC members have participated.

OPENING UP

The FJMC realized that it can provide great value to the Jewish community and is planning on opening up is membership to any Jewish men's club and also will start to offer an individual Membership for people who do not belong to a men's club. The FJMC will still be strongly rooted in the practice of the Conservative /Masorti Judaism but will be open to anyone who wants to participate in the programs and activities of Involving Jewish Men in Jewish Life.

2021 - 2023 - We changed our bylaws and opened our doors to other men's groups and individuals not affiliated with Congregations, including Reform Brotherhoods, Orthodox Men's Clubs and men's groups connected to synagogues unconnected with the Masorti/Conservative movement. We've affiliated six Reform Brotherhoods, one Orthodox club, numerous additional Masorti/Conservative Clubs and more than fifty individual members.

In order to help our synagogues be more welcoming to underserved groups, we established the Inclusion Initiative, initially spearheaded by First Vice President Alan Budman and thereafter by Jerry Brodsky. The Women's League for Conservative Judaism was asked to partner in this initiative, and the large committee of members developed material and signage for congregations. Among the "Underserved Communities" that are the focus of the initiative are: Individuals with mental and/or physical health challenges; Jews of Color; LGBTQIA+ individuals; and Non-traditional Families, but over time and depending on the demographics and needs of particular congregations, the groups will expand.

To make our office operations more efficient and effective, in November 2021, we retained the services of Officense, an association management company located in Baltimore, Maryland. And we closed our New York City office, and moved our office records and organizational items into a storage unit. Our store and its items were ably maintained by our office assistant, Lisa Pollack.

We implemented strict financial controls and got our financial house in order. Funds due Region for dues subvention and yellow candle sales were deposited into our Savings Account until paid. Vendors were paid promptly. The organization ran surplus budgets for the entire Kahan-Budman administration.

While our Shoah Yellow Candle program had a decrease in candle sales due to the Covid Pandemic and many shules closed for normal operations, through the hard work and creative leadership of the Shoah Yellow Candle leadership, our candle sales rebounded in 2022-23. And, to show this FJMC signature initiative to a new generation, who might be unable to light a physical candle, a Shoah Yellow Candle App was developed for both Apple iOS and Android platforms, so that college students and seniors in senior housing could memorialize the Shaoh.

As our website was more than a dozen years old (ancient in tech terms) we retained a developer to do a wholesale revision of the FJMC site (which should make its appearance sometime in the summer of 2023) to make our message more appealing to a new generation of men.

We expanded our Affinity Groups to eleven in number, to help bring like-minded people together on subjects they are passionate about.

We created a group of Club Consultants, experienced FJMC leaders, to reach out to clubs needing assistance, and have a real person be there to help

2007 FJMC Convention Chicago, IL

2009 FJMC Convention Philadelphia, PA

2011 FJMC Convention Costa Masa, CA

2013 FJMC Convention Danvers, MA

2015 FJMC Convention Miami, FL

2017 FJMC Convention Washington, DC

2018 Abayudaya Region joins FJMC Uganda, Africa

2019 FJMC Convention Toronto, ON
90TH Anniversary of FJMC
Imagine Life Initiative

HISTORY

them make their clubs better. The group of Club Consultants will make their formal introduction at the Philadelphia Convention 2023.

Even during this time of Covid Pandemic, we juggled a few things, had one LDI as a Virtual Institute, but had two in-person gatherings which were well attended and introduced our emerging leaders to our organization.

We used the Burt Fischman Leadership Development Fund to make sure emerging leaders in the organization would have the funds necessary to participate in both Leadership Development Institutes and Convention, where their leadership skills could be 'polished.' We know that Burt, z''l, would be honored that his legacy of leadership development continues in his name.

And, we involved more men in various committees and FJMC initiatives then ever before, which will continue in the next administration.

And, after a lengthy and thorough search, we hired a new Executive Director, Rabbi Noam Raucher. As many small non-profits have closed their physical offices during Covid, and realized that with video conferencing, we are all closer than local visits, Rabbi Raucher is on the west coast, but connected to the leadership of the organization through modern technology.

SINCE 2023 EVENTS

- Club Recruitment Initiative formed implementing a new strategy.
- Strategy - Reachout beyond the Conservative movement - Reform, Reconstructionist, other
- Added 15 new clubs
- Taste of the FJMC webinars
- Individual Membership initiative
- New Texas Region established - 6 new clubs.

CLUB EXPANSION

From 2023-5 we have added 15 clubs to the organization from coast to coast and created a new Texas region. Several of the new clubs come from outside the Conservative movement which widened the umbrella of the FJMC.

We have introduced a "Taste of the FJMC" webinar series which allowed potential new members to find out more of what our organization has to offer.

We have also continued to reach out to Individual Members and will make this group a focus for our expansion efforts as we move forward.

FIGHTING ANTI-SEMITISM

It will be 636 days since Israelis and other nationalities were murdered or kidnaped from the NOVA Music Festival and surrounding towns and kibbutzim when the FJMC Biennial Convention convenes on July 3, 2025. Growing antisemitism before Oct 7, such as the Charlottesville Unite the Right march of Neo Nazi's has increased exponentially in the US and the globe after Oct 7. The FJMC's Committee to Combat Antisemitism, established following our 2023 Convention, aims to educate and inspire FJMC members to take action on behalf of our families, friends, and communities to combat antisemitism. We have established partnerships with the Anti-Defamation League and the Foundation to Combat Antisemitism (Blue Square Foundation). Regular online webinars examine antisemitism and inspire us to fight hate. Our FJMC Toolkit Newsletter shares information on calls to action issued by ADL and others to reach out to elected officials. Convention workshops this week are focusing on training professional and lay leaders to combat antisemitism, understanding the impact of antisemitism on Gen Z in high schools and colleges, and learning how to reach out to the community and elected leaders through ADL's Advocacy training.

HAD'VAR-THE WORD OF THE FJMC

Beginning in November of 2023, a reintroduced and reimagined online monthly international newsletter, 'HaD'Var-The Word of the FJMC', was proudly developed by a hardworking committee and distributed with the mission to inform and highly engage our entire organizational community. With nineteen editions published to date, HaD'Var has featured articles to highlight our various beneficial organizational initiatives, spotlight many of our regions, place focus on the unique stories of our leaders and members, offer spiritual guidance from our Executive Director Rabbi Noam Raucher, and as

2021
FJMC Convention
Virtual due to Covid 19

2023
FJMC Convention
Philadelphia

well provide general interest features to celebrate the many Jewish holidays as they came along. Creatively being multidimensional, HaD'Var also integrated photos and videos shared by our members and clubs, throughout our organization, within articles and features to highlight the support and engagement offered for their local communities. And to further highlight the grassroots of our organization, a monthly 'Regional Connections' section was instituted to share and feature regional newsletters and web reports from across our organization. To view our current, and all of our past editions, of HaD'Var, please visit the Media Section of the FJMC Website.

FJMC FIRSTS

In the Conservative Movement in North America, here are some of FJMC's firsts:

- Organization leader from beyond the East Coast
- Presidents from the Midwest, West Coast, and Canada
- Conventions on the West Coast and in Canada
- Sponsored trip to Israel
- Rosh Hashanah Greeting Card Program
- Active support of other Conservative Movement programs
- Online affinity groups

2025
FJMC
Convention
Chicago

MEMORY FROM OUR ARCHIVE (2007 - CHICAGO)

The Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, a national organization, will join with the Midwest Region to honor 45 influential Chicago Jewish men as they hold their biennial convention July 11-15 at Indian Lakes Resort in Bloomingdale.

This is the first time the organization, which consists of 270 affiliated clubs, has held its convention in the Chicago area.

Selecting 45 influential Jewish men from a variety of professions was a way to tap into the "local flavor" of the region, Steve Lessman, a past president of the Midwest Region and local chairman for the convention, said.

"Chicago has had a strong, thriving Jewish community for well over 150 years," he said. "Jewish men from Chicago have made substantial contributions to American life in government, business, sports, entertainment, literature and religion, and it was really difficult to select these men as outstanding representatives of Chicago's Jewish community."

Noting the contribution of Chicago-era men to the organization, he pointed out that Arthur Goldberg, a former United Nations ambassador, U.S. Secretary of Labor and U.S. Supreme Court justice received its Distinguished Service Award in 1983. In addition, three past international presidents, Albert Jacobson, 1952-54; Mannye London, 1965-76; and Jerry Agrest, 1987-88, are from the Chicago area.

"Having our first FJMC convention here is a fitting venue to honor Jewish men from our community. Eleven of the 19 clubs in our region are in Chicagoland," Lessman said.

There are some 25,000 members throughout North America in the FJMC's affiliated clubs, Lessman said. The clubs are dedicated to involving Jewish men in all aspects of Jewish life.

During the week of the convention, each of the 45 men will have his individual biography displayed on the dining tables at the convention site.

The notable men are: Max Adler, Dankmar Adler, Ben Aronin, Jacob Arvey, Barney Balaban, Saul Bellow, Jack Benny, Henry Crown, Dr. Joseph Bolivar Delee, Leonard Dubkin, Rabbi Bernhard Felsenthal, Todros Geller, Arthur Goldberg, Bertrand Goldberg, Rabbi Solomon Goldman, Benny Goodman, Larry Goodman, Henry Greenbaum, Ben Hecht, Sidney Hillman, Rabbi Emil Hirsch, Milton Horn, Bernard Horwich, Gov. Henry Horner.

Also, Philip Klutznick, Irv Kupcinet, Sid Luckman, Julian Mack, Abraham Lincoln Marovitz, Abner Mikva, Steven Nasatir, Sol Polk, A.N. Pritzker, Jerry Reinsdorf, Admiral Hyman Rickover, Julius Rosenwald, Barney Ross, Dr. Theodore Sachs, Seymour Simon, Studs Terkel, Mel Torme, Maynard Wishner, Sidney Yates, Sam Zell.

For more information about the convention, call Lessman at (630) 368-9177.

ABAYUDAYA JEWS OF UGANDA: A COMMITTED AND DESERVING COMMUNITY

The Abayudaya is the Jewish community of Uganda, centered around the small city of Mbale and stretching into Kenya. This community was founded 106 years ago by military commander Semei Kakungulu. Today, the Abayudaya are about 2,000 Jews spread over several villages. The primary spiritual leader of the Abayudaya is Rabbi Gershom Sizomu, ordained in 2008 by the Ziegler School in LA. He is the first native-born black rabbi in sub-Saharan Africa and the first chief rabbi of Uganda. The community operates schools, the largest of which are the Hadassah Primary School and the Semei Kakungulu High School. The community has a USY chapter, as well as an FJMC-affiliated Men's Club founded by our brother Aaron Kintu Moses z"l, and now led by President Allan Zilaba. The Abayudaya have seen severe challenges over the past century. They were persecuted by Idi Amin, and the community shrank to a few hundred members forced to pray secretly in caves. Prior to COVID-19, the Abayudaya were growing in numbers and involvement with the global Masorti movement. In 2018, many young Abayudaya participated in the first Abayudaya Birthright trip to Israel. The pandemic and shutdown hit Uganda and the rural Abayudaya community very hard. They had to close their schools, and the adults were mostly unable to work. Their daily subsistence was threatened. Masorti organizations, including the FJMC, rallied to their support the community. Now that the pandemic is past, the FJMC and the rest of the Conservative movement are needed to assist while the Abayudaya get back to work, with sustainable investments to help the community grow. A recent FJMC mission saw the results of our work, including the major chicken processing operation built by the Abayudaya Men's Club with support catalyzed by FJMC efforts, and other community-building projects.

For those inspired to participate in supporting the Abayudaya, we recommend these paths: 1. Get involved in our efforts by participating in our leadership. Please contact the FJMC Abayudaya Committee at abayudaya@fjmc.org. 2. Donate funds for the community and scholarships for the Hadassah Primary School. We will be relaunching a FJMC effort shortly and look for news on this page - *https://fjmc.org/initiatives/abayudaya/*. 3. For those with the means to get involved at a higher level, Rabbi Gershom Sizomu is looking for donors to help fund a microcredit program, whereby the Abayudaya can be loaned funds to start their own commercial enterprises. The Abayudaya have no intention of requiring our tzedakah forever, and they are moving forward. Together, we can help the Abayudaya build a sustainable, prosperous future for our Jewish brothers in east Africa.



FJMC visitors with Abayudaya Men's Club



FJMC with the family fo Aaron Moses z"l

Organizational Guidelines for Promoting the New FJMC International Name, Vision, and Mission

Purpose:
To ensure a consistent, professional, and inspiring rollout of our rebranded identity—FJMC International, representing Friendship, Judaism, Mentorship, and Community—across all platforms and communication materials, so that our message is clear, compelling, and aligned with our values.

1. Key Messaging - New Organizational Identity
Official Name: FJMC International
Acronym Meaning: Friendship, Judaism, Mentorship, Community

Vision Statement:
Men will cultivate meaningful relationships, a sense of purpose, and physical, emotional, and spiritual health through communities rooted in Jewish values and brotherhood.

Mission Statement:
FJMC provides men opportunities for personal growth, and to build strong relationships. We accomplish this through: celebrating Jewish learning, traditions, and culture; gathering for social events and retreats; performing service projects; engaging over Israel; combating hate and antisemitism; mentoring the next generation of leaders; prioritizing our health and wellness; and by supporting one another in safe and nonjudgmental communities.

CHICAGO JULY 3-6 2025

fjmc INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

EMBRACING CHANGE • ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES

IN MEMORIUM

IN MEMORIUM

Ansh-eh Zafon

Neil Z. Melman
Bernie Shoub
David Solomon
Louis Wronzberg

Connecticut Valley Region

David Klau

Florida Region

Stuart Lenett
Gloria Mandel
Brian Pearlman
Brian Shaw

Hudson Valley Region

Andrew (Andy) Alper
Jason Eidlitz
Claire Pressman

KIO Region

Henry Mentle
Judson Rubin
Eric Schechtman

Middle Atlantic Region

Leonard Abrams, Esq.
Linda Abrams
Bernard Granor
Arnold Kramer
Jules Mendelsohn
Robert Rubin
Ed Snyder

Midwest Region

Jerome (Jerry) Agrest
Bunny (Bernice) YegelwelDr.

New York Metro Region

Jerry Berkson
Daniel Granek
Gloria Pollack

Northern New Jersey Region

Bernice Shapiro Weis
Howard Gerber
Barry Segal
Yale Greenspoon
Michael Zuckerman
Joseph Brabowsky
Stuart "Stu" Kaplan
Rabbi Mark Mallach
Leon Kleiner

Seaboard Region

Kay Cohen Beser
Michael Freilich, Esq.

Tri-State Region

David Essrow
Dr. Ira Ungar
Joseph Zackheim

Western Region

Joyce Pollack
Robin Pollack
Dennis Herold
Joe Back
Lisa Kovary
Rabbi Michael Graetz
Jay Tuchscher
Miriam Fierstein
Daniel Savell

CHICAGO JULY 3-6 2025

fjmc™ INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

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EXCELLENCE IN PARTNERSHIP
MASORTI OLAMI

MASORTI OLAMI

Masorti Olami means Masorti/Conservative Judaism around the world. The organization was founded in 1957 under the name "The World Council of Synagogues, Inc" in New York, and later, Rabbi Joseph Wernik transferred the office to Jerusalem under the name Masorti Olami. The organization was founded with the dream of making Masorti/Conservative Judaism a force in the Jewish world.

Our strength also comes from our close partnerships with organizations from all across the Movement including Marom, MERCAZ Olami, NOAM Olami the FJMC and the Conservative/Masorti institutions throughout Israel and North America.

Today, together with our partners in Israel and North America, we represent ~2 million Jews around the world. We exist and thrive in six regions, including Latin America, Europe, Africa, Australia, and Asia. Masorti/Conservative Judaism offers Jews a unique approach to Judaism. We practice a robust and Halachic Judaism firmly rooted in Torah and Mitzvot but fully integrated into our modern-day lives. We distinguish ourselves by examining the values of egalitarianism, pluralism, humanism, tolerance and democracy in the development of Jewish tradition alongside traditional halachic sources.

In addition to our larger regions, Masorti also has active communities in Australia, South Africa, Russia, Japan, and India, as well as the Abayudaya Jewish communities in Uganda and Kenya—rural communities in Africa whose religious journeys led them to convert to Judaism under the auspices of Masorti/Conservative rabbis. NOAM Olami, our very strong youth movement, spreads across 15 countries with 35 chapters and over 4,500 participants.

Masorti Olami is an International Jewish Organization within the World Zionist Organization (WZO) and it and its members and directors subscribe to the Jerusalem Program of the WZO. We invite you to visit our Masorti/Conservative congregations and discover new, vibrant egalitarian Jewish communities wherever your travels may take you.

Our Mission & Vision

Governing Principles: In carrying out its mission, Masorti Olami acts to advance the interests and principles of Masorti Judaism. It works with all other arms of the Conservative/Masorti movement, such as the FJMC to be an effective spokesperson for Masorti Judaism.

It's the study of Torah, in the fullest sense, and the transmission of its principles from generation to generation.

CHICAGO JULY 3-6 2025

fjmc INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

EMBRACING CHANGE • ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES

WHAT IS THE FJMC?

Monthly Newsletter

The Club Leaders and Regional Leaders receive a monthly newsletter with helpful and timely information. They include information such as:

- Agenda items for their next meeting
- A suggested Torch Award activity they may wish to try
- Time sensitive items such as award applications and upcoming events
- Planning for the future of their clubs and regions
- FJMC International news
- And more!

We receive positive feedback on these monthly newsletters regularly. Please check them out!

Fighting Antisemitism

(When this was submitted) It will be 636 days since Israelis and other nationalities were murdered or kidnaped from the NOVA Music Festival and surrounding towns and kibbutzim when the FJMC Biennial Convention convenes on July 3, 2025. Growing antisemitism before Oct 7, such as the Charlottesville Unite the Right march of Neo Nazi's has increased exponentially in the US and the globe after Oct 7. The FJMC's Committee to Combat Antisemitism, established following our 2023 Convention, aims to educate and inspire FJMC members to take action on behalf of our families, friends, and communities to combat antisemitism. We have established partnerships with the Anti-Defamation League and the Foundation to Combat Antisemitism (Blue Square Foundation). Regular online webinars examine antisemitism and inspire us to fight hate. Our FJMC Toolkit Newsletter shares information on calls to action issued by ADL and others to reach out to elected officials. Convention workshops this week are focusing on training professional and lay leaders to combat antisemitism, understanding the impact of antisemitism on Gen Z in high schools and colleges, and learning how to reach out to the community and elected leaders through ADL's Advocacy training.

Health Challenge

FJMC Past President Bob Braitman has challenged the men of our community to commit to improving their health.

Goals

- To increase awareness of health and wellness issues by the men of our communities
- To encourage Men's Clubs to adopt wellness programming as an integral part of their mission
- To add visibility and vitality to Men's Club programming on a local level
- To create another “portal of entry” for men otherwise not involved to play an active role in their Men's Club

Robert E. Braitman, M.D.
Past International President, FJMC
Certified Mohel
Twitter @mentschen

Young Men's Initiative

For more than a century, the FJMC has focused on serving and supporting Jewish men, by engaging them in Jewish life, bringing them together, cultivating strong relationships across generations and borders, and enriching the lives of our men, our synagogues and our communities.

Today, that mission still remains as strong as ever. But to truly be successful, we want to make sure we are reaching members of all ages, including the younger generations that are less likely to be affiliated with organizations – including synagogues. We remain committed to our longtime members and those who seek us out, but we also need to reach out to a new audience to remain vibrant for all.

So FJMC is embarking on a new international initiative designed to change our landscape and draw in more of the younger members of our diverse Jewish communities. To do so requires no shift in our mission. But it does require changes in how we think, how we operate, how we market, and how we program. In short, it's a new mindset for all of us.

Younger men – those in their 20s, 30s, and 40s – have different priorities than those in their 50s, 60s, 70s and beyond. They are starting or rising in their jobs. They are getting married, having kids, and raising families. They are building lives for themselves, and more involved with their families.

There are many demands – personal and professional – that are competing for their time and attention.

We need to meet them where they are, and engage them by acknowledging the importance of their families. We need to reconsider the types of events we plan, and when we hold them, so that they appeal to a broader mix of all ages and experiences. We need to diversify our offerings and programming. We need to find new ways to promote them to a different crowd. Our longtime events are still valuable, but we also need to think outside the box in which Men's Clubs have traditionally operated. Finally, we need to empower them to take ownership by developing and running their own programs if they choose.

FULL PAGE

Teach our Children about the

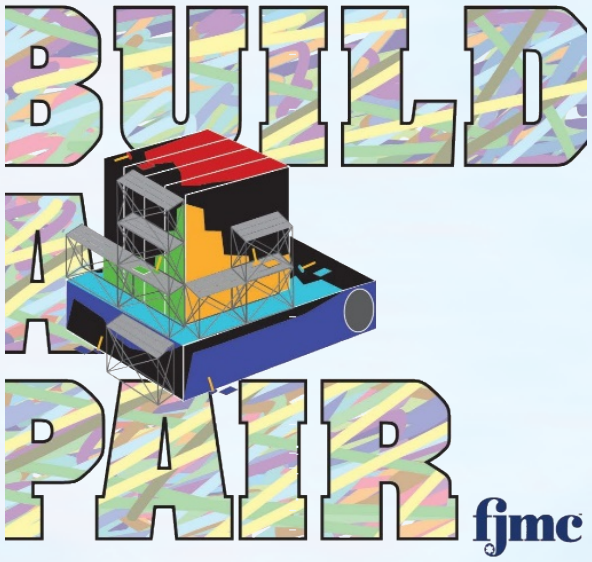
Mitzvah of Tefillin

Build-a-Pair

Congratulates FJMC Leadership

And Thanks Participating Clubs!

Up to $500 in Prize money now available



CHICAGO

JULY 3-6
2025

fjmc™ INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

EMBRACING CHANGE • ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES

FJMC INTERNATIONAL SECTION

PRESIDENT'S

1929-2025

TERM	NFMJC PRESIDENT
1929-33	Edwin Weinrib z"l
1933-37	Theodore Charnas z"l
1937-41	Louis Schwartz z"l
1941-43	Abraham Leonard z"l
1943-45	Milton Berger z"l
1945-47	Stanley Garten z"l
1947-49	Arthur Bruckman z"l
1949-50	Barnet Lieberman z"l
1950-52	Milton Nevins z"l
1952-54	Albert Jacobson z"l
1954-56	Albert Kaufman z"l
1956-58	Abraham Satovsky z"l
1958-60	Bernard Rackmill z"l
1960-61	Morris Spelfogel z"l
1961-63	Philip Goldstein z"l
1963-65	David Rosenzweig z"l
1965-67	Mannye London z"l
1967-69	Herman Rothenberg z"l
1969-71	Morton Tabas z"l
1971-73	Max Goldberg z"l
1973-75	Murray Jacobs z"l
1975-77	Abraham Silver z"l
1977-79	Morton Lang z"l
1979-81	Samuel Berlin z"l
1981-83	Jacob Lish z"l

TERM	FMJC PRESIDENT
1983-85	Joseph Gurmankin z"l
1985-87	Jules Porter z"l
1987-89	Jerome Agrest z"l
1989-91	Lawrence Allen
1991-93	Harold Nissen z"l
1993-95	Allen Brown
1995-97	Sidney Katz z"l
1997-99	Stephen Davidoff z"l
1999-2001	Leonard Gimbel z"l
2001-03	Bob Levine
2003-05	Daniel Stern z"l
2005-07	Robert E. Braitman
2007-09	Norm Kurtz
2009-11	Mark Berlin
2011-13	Michael Mills
2013-15	Myles Simpson
2015-17	Allan Gottesman
2017-19	Stan Greenspan
2019-21	Tom Sudow
2021-23	Allan Kahan
2023-25	Alan Budman
2025- 27	Bruce Tomar

z"l - Zichrono Livracha -
Of Blessed Memory

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

– John Quincy Adams

FJMC REGIONAL PRESIDENTS

2023-2025



ALAN LIGHTSTONE
Ansheh Darom
Region



NORM WOLTER
Ansh-eh Zafon
Region



PHIL MARGOLIS
Connecticut Valley
Region



ED KOCHMAN
Florida
Region



ALAN PRESSMAN
Hudson Valley
Region



JOSH LISMAN
KIO+
Region



STEVEN PILCHIK
Middle Atlantic
Region



JON NORTON
Midwest
Region



PAUL DAVIDSON
New England
Region



SHEA LERNER
New York Metro
Region



DAVID JULIS
Northern
New Jersey
Region



DAN MOLDOVER
Seaboard
Region



JONATHAN EPSTEIN
Tri-State
Region



WARREN STERLING
Western
Region

FJMC REGIONAL PRESIDENTS

2025-2027



HOWARD KAPLAN
Ansheh Darom Region



NORM WOLTER
Ansh-eh Zafon Region



JACOB KOVEL
Connecticut Valley Region



JON ZIMMER
Florida Region



MITCH SPIEGEL
Hudson Valley Region



LAWRENCE COHEN
KIO+ Region



LARRY NATHANSON
Middle Atlantic Region



ERIC YEGELWEL
Midwest Region



MARTY PALEY
New England Region



STUART HAIMES
New York Metro Region



LARRY KLIOZE
Northern New Jersey Region



RICHARD STERNBERG
Seaboard Region



RUSTY DWORKIN
Texas Region



STEVE HABERMAN
Tri-State Region



MITCH ELOVITZ
Western Region

FJMC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2023-2025



ALAN BUDMAN
President
Middle Atlantic Region



BRUCE TOMAR
Exec Vice President
Middle Atlantic Region



MARC COHEN
Vice President
Middle Atlantic Region



CREIGHTON COHN
Vice President
Midwest Region



GARY KATZ
Vice President
Western Region



ALEX KIDERMAN
Vice President
Tri-State Region



ALAN KAHAN
Honorary President
Seaboard Region



BENNY SOMMERFELD
Vice President
Western Region



BOB WATTS
Secretary
Seaboard Region



JAVIER ROSENZWAIG
Vice President
Hudson Valley Region



DAVID SINGER
At Large
New England Region



GREGG POLLACK
Treasurer
Midwest Region



MITCH ROSS
At Large
Western Region



DANNY MANDEAU
At Large
New England Region



DAVID GLASS
At Large
Norther NJ Region

FJMC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2025-2027



BRUCE TOMAR
President
Middle Atlantic Region



GARY KATZ
Exec. Vice President
Western



DAVID GLASS
VP Revenue
Norther NJ Region



MITCH ROSS
VP Regions
Western Region



MARC COHEN
VP Club Services
Middle Atlantic



CREIGHTON COHN
VP Speccial Activities
Midwest Region



ALAN BUDMAN
Honorary President
Middle Atlantic Region



BENNY SOMMERFELD
VP Programming Jewish Life
Western Region



BOB WATTS
VP Programming Jewish Men's Life
Seaboard Region



JON NORTON
Secretary
Midwest Region



RICK WRONZBERG
Treasurer
Ansh-eh Zafon Region



DANNY MANDEAU
At Large
New England Region



AARON ALTMAN
At Large
NY Metro Region



MARK GIVARZ
At Large
Florida Region



LESTER SHAPIRO
At Large
Mid Atlantic Region

YASHER KOACH

יישר כח

ALAN BUDMAN

Thank you for your
inspired leadership of
FJMC International
2023-2025



MIDDLE · ATLANTIC · REGION
fjmc

from your friends in the
FJMC Middle Atlantic Region

YASHER KOACH
יישר כח

BRUCE TOMAR

Mazel Tov on becoming the
new President of
FJMC International
2025-2027



MIDDLE • ATLANTIC • REGION
fjmc

from your friends in the
FJMC Middle Atlantic Region

Allan Budman

כֹּל הַכָּבוֹד !

We thank you for your leadership and guidance.
Northern New Jersey Region



Bruce Tomar

We congratulate you on being named
FJMC International President.
We wish you the best of luck
for your term of office.

Northern New Jersey Region



NEW YORK METRO REGION
fjmc

The Members of the
New York Metro Region
and its Executive Board



Toda Raba

Alan Budman

As The Outgoing
FJMC International President
2023-2025

Yasher Koach

NEW YORK METRO REGION
fjmc

The Members of the
New York Metro Region
and its Executive Board

Mazal Tov

Bruce Tomar



As The Incoming
FJMC International President
2025-2027

Chazak, Chazak, V'nitchazek

As my official duties with the organization are ending, but not my involvement, let me wish the following:

Alan Budman
International President, 2023-25
You've done a wonderful job as President, and the changes you'veImplemented have brought us and will bring us to new heights.
Yasher Koach

Bruce Tomar
International President, 2025-27
We all look forward to your administration and taking the FJMC organization to new heights. If need something, please call on me.

Richard Sternberg
Incoming President, Seaboard Region
I look forward to you and your leadership team taking the Region to new heights.

Myles Simpson
PIP and Presidential Award Winner
Your dedication to the organization for so many years has been duly recognized, and this honor is well deserved.

Norm Katz & Jerry Brodsky
Distinguished Service Honorees
The hours you've both spent with your respective assignments for the FJMC, and how well those assignments have turned out, are testament to your dedication to this organization. Thank you.

Bob Watts
2025 Maasim Tovim Honoree, Seaboard Region
Mazel Tov on this well-deserved honor. Thank you for all you've done for the FJMC, on both the Region and the International level. And, thank you for the incredible work which you've done on our new website!

And to all those I've had the opportunity and privilege to work with, whether as chairs of an initiative, Committee Chairs or as members of the Executive Committee or Board, let me thank you so very much for the help, your leadership and efforts on behalf the FJMC, and most importantly, **your friendship**.

Allan R. Kahan
International President 2021-23
Honorary President 2023-25

Mazel Tov to Bruce Tomar!

The Men's Club of Congregation Beth El proudly congratulates our very own **Bruce Tomar** on his installation as **International President of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs**.

Bruce's leadership, dedication, and unwavering commitment to Jewish life and values continue to inspire us all. We are honored to call him one of our own and look forward to the strength, vision, and heart he will bring to this new role.

Yasher Koach, Bruce — we're so proud of you!

— *The Men's Club of Congregation Beth El*

Mazel Tov to the 2025 FJMC Midwest Region Ma'asim Tovim Award Recipient
Michael Greenberg

Yasher Koach to the FJMC Midwest Region Outgoing President
Jonathan Norton

Thank you both for your dedicated service to the FJMC Midwest Region!
Mazel Tov and Yasher Koach to all 2025 Ma'asim Tovim Recipients

Bruce Martin
Alan Lighthstone
Mitchell Goldblatt
Jonathan Zimmer
Stephen Sturman
Karl Rubin
Art Lashin
Elliot Feldman
Milton Lipitz
Rob Blitzer
Bob Watts
Jonathan Epstein
Benny Sommerfeld

Jerry Agrest, z"l

In memory of the past President of FJMC's Midwest Region,
past FJMC International President and mentor to many.

Eric Yegelwel

FULL PAGE

Congratulations to our International and Regional Leaders!

Tri-State Region



Ma'asim Tovim
Jonathan Epstein



President
Steve Haberman

FJMC



Outgoing President
Alan Budman



Incoming President
Bruce Tomar

FULL PAGE

In Recognition of

FJMC International President
Alan Budman and the 2023-25 Board
and
Incoming President
Bruce Tomar and the 2025-27 Board

May we continue to go from
Strength to Strength!

With much gratitude for all your hard work,

Mitch Ross

FULL PAGE



The Members of the

New York Metro Region

and its Executive Board

In Remembrance

Dr. Jerome Agrest z"l

FJMC Past International President; Regional Past President of the Midwest Region;
Ma'asim Tovim Honoree; Past Honoree of the FJMC Presidential Award;

Men's Club member of Congregation Beth Shalom, Northbrook IL.

His lifelong service, and dedication to the FJMC was deeply felt, and meaningful.

May the legacy of **Dr. Jerome Agrest** be a source of blessing, and comfort to all who knew, and loved him.

FULL PAGE

We honor our outgoing international president and board

Alan Budman

And celebrate our incoming international president and board

Bruce Tomar



"Do not seek greatness for yourself, and do not covet honor. Practice more than you learn. Do not yearn for the table of kings, for your table is greater than their table, and your crown is greater than their crown"

Pirke Avot 6:5



FULL PAGE

NEW ENGLAND REGION fjmc



We honor our 2023-2025
international officers,
David Singer and Danny Mandeau



fjmc
Leadership Innovation Community



We welcome our 2025-2027
International officers,
Andy Fandel and Howard Kaufman



FULL PAGE

OJC
ORANGETOWN JEWISH CENTER

Kol HaKavod from the Orangetown Jewish Center Men's Club to outgoing International President Alan Budman and his FJMC Executive committee, and to incoming International President Bruce Tomar and the incoming FJMC Executive Committee. As well as our Ma'Asim Tovim honoree, Stephe Sturman, our Outgoing Regional President, Alan Pressman and our Incoming Regional President, Mitch Spiegel

FULL PAGE



The Members of the Hudson Valley Region wishes Yasher Koach

to the outgoing International Executive Board 2024-2025.

We thank you for your outstanding leadership for these past two years

Alan Budman

We know that you will continue to have an impact on Jewish Men in Jewish life

Alan Pressman, Outgoing HVR President & Executive Board

Mitch Spiegel, Incoming HVR President & Executive Board

FULL PAGE



The Torah is truly a Tree of Life

Happy are they, who understand its teachings

And fulfill Hashem's commandments

Hudson Valley Region of the FJMC wishes Yasher Koach to the incoming International Executive Board. Under the upcoming leadership of our new

President- Bruce Tomar- we know that he will have an impact on strengthening our Brotherhood.

Alan Pressman, Outgoing HVR President & Executive Board

Mitch Spiegel, Incoming HVR President & Executive Board

FULL PAGE

THE EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE BROTHERHOOD WISHES

YASHER KOACH TO

MITCH GOLDBLATT

ON RECEIVING THE CT VALLEY REGION

MA'ASIM TOVIM AWARD

MAY YOU GO FROM STRENGTH TO STREMGTH

MAZEL TOV TO ALAN BUDMAN ON COMPLETING

HIS TERM AS FJMC INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

AND

BEST WISHES TO BRUCE TOMAR AS HE BEGINS

HIS TERM AS INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

FROM

THE EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE BROTHERHOOD [WEST HARTFORD]

Congratulations to
Bruce Tomar
on becoming the
President of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs

From
Lee Goldberg, Alan Powell, Bernie & Eileen Yaffa, Alan & Reva Budman, Dave & Carol Kirshtein

HAVURAH ALEY HA'ETZ OF TEMPLE ETZ CHAIM

IN THOUSAND OAKS CALIFORNIA IS PROUD TO HONOR MYLES SIMPSON

Myles has dedicated himself to the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs. His hard work and perseverance have enabled the FJMC to grow and thrive. In addition to his commitment and leadership to FJMC, Myles has been an integral part of our Havurah for more than 40 years, and we are proud to call him our dear friend.

"From Strength to Strength"

With Love,

Laura and Geoff Graham, Merrill and Steve Kaminsky, Wendy and Peter Margolis, Dave Munowitch and Emily Habib, Janice and Yaakov Orlowski, Karen and Michael Roberts, Sheri and Jeff Schoenwald, Lynnette Shifman, David Yodkovik and Michelle Orkin, and Betty and Bob Zonshine

HALF PAGE/ COMBO

Mazal Tov to Incoming FJMC International President

Our Friend, Congregant, and Inspiration

BRUCE TOMAR

We are thrilled that the line of dedicated FJMC leaders runs through Beth El Voorhees!

May you and FJMC go from strength to strength.

קהילת בית אל
CONGREGATION
Beth El
ESTABLISHED 1921

Rabbi David Englander *Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro* *Rabbi Sam Hollander*

Jason Whitney, President

Adath Israel Brotherhood

Wishes to Extend a Heartfelt Mazel to

Bruce Tomar

as the new
President of FJMC International

Mazel Tov Bruce!

Wishing you the best in your Presidency!

Love,
Jill and Scott Tomar

COMBO PAGE

Alan,

Congratulations on your very successful presidency.

Thank you for your vision, leadership and friendship.

~ Marcia and Elliot Feldman

Dear Bruce,
We are so proud of you to have such an honor bestowed upon you.

Mazel Tov,
Amy and Marc

Congratulations Bruce!

Good luck.

Danny Mandeau

**To our new FJMC President,
L'dor V'dor.
May you go from strength to strength as you follow in your parent's and siblings' and FJMC brothers' proud tradition of Jewish service and leadership.
B'ahavah,
Your family –
Marcia, Jenn, Dave, Bree, Harvey, Heather, Andy, Zach, and Alana**

Mazel Tov on your presidency Bruce.

We are so proud of you!

Elaine and Carl

Dear Bruce,
We are so proud of you to have such an honor bestowed upon you.

Mazel Tov,
Amy and Marc

COMBO PAGE

Congratulations Bruce on becoming
FJMC International President!

Our families have known each other a long time
and we couldn't be prouder to see you in this leading role.

We know that your commitment, leadership,
and passion for the FJMC is unwavering.

Here's to many meaningful years ahead!

With all our Love

Gail & Fred Eisenberg

SUPPORTERS

Congratulations Bruce on becoming president - Martin Seidman
Mazel tov Bruce on this great honor! Jody & Bobby Orr

CHICAGO JULY 3-6 2025

fjmc INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

EMBRACING CHANGE • ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES

DISTINGUISHED AWARDS SECTION

Distinguished Service Awards

JERRY BRODSKY



Jerry Brodsky is lead consultant and founder of American Educational Consultants. Having spent 35 years in the public schools, 28 years as a licensed practicing attorney in Ohio, and retiring from the superintendency of a high ranking school district, he currently provides consultative services to schools interested in improving student achievement, improving instruction for students with disabilities, and identifying opportunities for fiscal accountability of schools.

Jerry received his Bachelors of Science in Education and Masters in Education degrees from Kent State University and his Juris Doctor degree from Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. At the age of 75 he recently received an Executive Masters of Science in Diplomatic Practice degree from Seton Hall University in conjunction with The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and is using that degree in his work as a Peace Corps participant helping university professors in Ethiopia, virtually.

Jerry has been happily married for over 53 years and has adult children and amazingly brilliant grandchildren. His work with FJMC includes being past-president of his local club and organizer of its young JMen, a past officer of his region, chaired FJMC's Atid Committee, currently chairs its Inclusion Committee, having been the chief editor of the FJMC Inclusion Resource Guidebook, and the renewed International Region, which under his leadership for the first time includes men in 9 different countries outside of North America.

Distinguished Service Awards

NORM KATZ



Norm Katz is the Chief Architect of Nuvee AI, a healthcare technology company that creates AI-based health companion apps to help patients dealing with chronic disease. Norm grew up in Philadelphia and attended Hebrew school and Junior Congregation at Ner Zedek, where he learned to davin shacharit at 11 years old. He attended Northeast High School, was president of his USY chapter, and received a bachelor's in computer science at Temple University. After college, Norm moved to San Diego, where he began a diverse engineering career applying his knowledge of image and signal processing and pattern recognition to defense, healthcare, law enforcement, and identity protection.

Norm has been happily married for 37 years to Roxanne Schindler Katz, daughter of Holocaust survivors, Max and Rose Schinder, z"l. Norm & Rox have twin girls Shannah and Nicki. When the girls were in preschool, Norm became active on committees and held several VP positions on the board of Tifereth Israel Synagogue, where he was invited by his colleagues Phil Snyder and Joel Kriger to become a club officer and later, club president. Norm attended LDI and his first biennial convention in Chicago in 2007, where he was inspired by Norm Kurtz's inauguration address as incoming FJMC President.

Shortly thereafter, Norm was invited to join the FJMC IT Committee and eventually became IT Director, a position which he still holds today. The IT committee provides vital services to FJMC and is staffed by an incredibly dedicated team of volunteers, each of whom commits 100s of hours each year to keep our website, your event registrations, fundraising campaigns, reports, and mailings running smoothly, day and night.

Norm will be serving as executive VP of Western Region in July 2025 and looks forward to becoming regional president in 2027 as well as taking on EC roles in the future. Norm is also a fellow of the FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life. He is extremely honored to receive this award and looks forward to continuing to serve FJMC well into the future.

We make a living by what we get.
We make a life by what we give.
Winston Churchill

Yasher Koach

Ma' asim Tovim Award Honoree

Robert Blitzer

FJMC Distinguished Service Award Honorees

Jerry Brodsky
Norm Katz

Presidential Award Honoree

Myles Simpson

You are an inspiration to us all.

With Admiration and Respect

David Julis

Mazel Tov!

Ma' asim Tovim Award Honoree

Robert Blitzer

FJMC Distinguished Service Award Honorees

Jerry Brodsky

Norm Katz

Presidential Award Honoree

Myles Simpson

From the NNJR Board of Directors





The Western Region Executive Board Honors:

רַבִּי אֱלִיעֶזֶר אוֹמֵר, יְהִי כְבוֹד חֲבֵרְךָ
חָבִיב עָלֶיךָ כְּשֶׁלְּךָ

Rabbi Eliezer said: Let the honor of your friend be as dear to you as your own. -- Pirke Avot 2:10

Benny Sommerfeld
Our Ma'Asim Tovim Honoree
and
Incoming FJMC Vice President
Programming Jewish Life Program

Mitch Ross
Incoming FJMC Vice President Regions

Norm Katz
Distinguished Service Award

Gary Katz
Incoming FJMC Executive Vice President

Myles Simpson
Presidential Award

Mitch Elovitz
Incoming Regional President

Warren Sterling
Outgoing Regional President

Kol Hakavod as we go from Strength to Strength!

"We achieve greatness by handing over our values onto the next generation and empowering them to go and build the future."
- Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Mazel Tov

To

Jerry Brodsky

For all of his hard work pushing our Region and the entire FJMC toward a brighter future.

The KIO+ Board

Congratulations to Norm Katz

for being honored with the Distinguished Service Award

Norm has been dedicated to FJMC for many years. Over the past 18 years, Norm has contributed countless hours helping to take FJMC into the digital age – modernizing the FJMC website and all of the technology currently being used.

Norm is also very dedicated to his immediate family, his extended family, his friends, his community, and Tifereth Israel Synagogue where he attends minyan regularly, and reads Torah many Shabbat mornings.

Norm bends over backwards and offers unlimited hours of help when anyone close to him needs help, whether it be his family, his friends or his community. We have all experienced Norm's generous heart personally. We love Norm and appreciate him more than he will ever know.



Lots of Love and Mazel Tov to Norm,

Wife Roxanne, and her brothers, Ben, Steve, & Jeff

FULL PAGE - NEW YORK METROPOLITAN



Congratulations Jerry Brodsky on being awarded a Distinguished Service Award and for all you do for the B'nai Jeshurun Men's Club!

FULL PAGE - NEW ENGLAND

NEW ENGLAND REGION fjmc

Thanks each of you for exemplary service to FJMC.

"Do not be wise in words, be wise in deeds."

Jewish Proverb







HALF PAGE



Mazel Tov to Norm Katz on being honored with the Distinguished Service Award,
for your long service to the FJMC

Thank you for your tireless, unsung (and unpaid) work to make sure our IT works, and your friendship, and teaching me.
The migration of the FJMC website would not have been done without your skills and diligence!

All the best in your new role as Executive VP of Western. They are very lucky to have you!

Bob Watts, outgoing FJMC International Secretary and Webmaster, and VP Designate

Congratulations to Norm Katz for being honored with the Distinguished Service Award.
Norm has been dedicated to FJMC for many years. Over the ___ years, Norm has contributed countless hours helping to take FJMC into the digital age. He helped modernize the FJMC website and all of the technology that is being currently used.
Norm is also very dedicated to his immediate family, his extended family, his friends, his community, and Tifereth Israel Synagogue where he attends minion regularly, and reads Torah many Shabbat mornings.
Norm bends over backwards and offers unlimited hours of help when anyone close to him needs help, whether it be his family, his friends or his community
We have all experienced Norm's generous heart personally
We love Norm and appreciate him more than he will ever know.

Lots of Love and Mazel Tov to Norm,
Wife Roxanne, and her brothers, Ben, Steve, & Jeff

COMBO PAGE



I've known Norm since he first met his wife, my best friend, Roxanne over 4 decades ago! He is a devoted husband, father, and friend.
He fully embraces all he believes in, especially his outstanding accomplishments with FJMC. He has earned this honor many times over.
Mazel tov Norm!
Miriam & Phil

Congratulations Jerry Brodsky
on being awarded a
Distinguished Service Award
and for all you do for the
B'nai Jeshurun Men's Club!

SUPPORTERS

Congratulations Norm Katz. Well done! The Gollubs
Yasher Koach on your well-deserved Presidential Award - Norman Phillip Katz

CHICAGO JULY 3-6 2025

fjmc™ INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

EMBRACING CHANGE • ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES

PRESIDENTIAL AWARD SECTION



Presidential Award 2025
Myles Simpson

Myles Simpson is a past International President of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, the umbrella organization serving men's clubs and individuals in Synagogues across North America and internationally. Leading up to that role, he served as President of his own Men's Club at Temple Etz Chaim in Thousand Oaks, CA, President of the FJMC Western Region, and held several FJMC positions including Chairman of the Yom HaShoah Yellow Candle Program and Chairman of FJMC's 2011 International Convention. Myles was his Region's Ma'asim Tovim Honoree in 2007. He also served as Chair of the FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life, the organization that provides long-term financial support to the FJMC. In recent years Myles has been mentoring upcoming FJMC leaders at the club, region, and international levels, was involved in helping onboard our new Executive Director, and participated in the Atid Committee to help envision the future of FJMC.

Myles has been very involved in his Synagogue for the past 30 years. He has served on the Temple Board for several years, including Chair of the Search Committees for the Synagogue's Rabbi and Chazzan, Vice President of Religion and Worship, and Temple President from 2006-2008.

Myles has also served on the Boards of the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies, the Jewish Theological Seminary, Mercaz USA, and served on several committees of United Synagogue and the Jewish Federation Council. He began his career in the Jewish volunteer world as President of a local chapter of Mogen David Adom.

Myles retired at the end of 2012 from the Boeing Company where he worked as an engineering manager. Prior to that Myles worked for an acoustics engineering consulting firm.

Myles and his wife Gail have been married for 55 years and have three wonderful sons and nine amazing grandchildren, who make them very happy and keep them young! In his spare time, Myles supports Gail in her tireless efforts for Na'amat, which is a social services organization in Israel. They were both awarded the Na'amat Distinguished Community Leader Award in 2017. Myles and Gail also enjoy traveling to interesting countries around the world, including visiting Israel regularly.

We make a living by what we get.
We make a life by what we give.
Winston Churchill

Yasher Koach

Ma' asim Tovim Award Honoree

Robert Blitzer

FJMC Distinguished Service Award Honorees

Jerry Brodsky
Norm Katz

Presidential Award Honoree

Myles Simpson

You are an inspiration to us all.

With Admiration and Respect

David Julis



The Western Region Executive Board Honors:

רַבִּי אֱלִיעֶזֶר אוֹמֵר, יְהִי כְבוֹד חֲבֵרְךָ
חָבִיב עָלֶיךָ כְּשֶׁלְּךָ

Rabbi Eliezer said: Let the honor of your friend be as dear to you as your own. -- Pirke Avot 2:10

Benny Sommerfeld
Our Ma'Asim Tovim Honoree
and
Incoming FJMC Vice President
Programming Jewish Life Program

Mitch Ross
Incoming FJMC Vice President Regions

Norm Katz
Distinguished Service Award

Gary Katz
Incoming FJMC Executive Vice President

Myles Simpson
Presidential Award

Mitch Elovitz
Incoming Regional President

Warren Sterling
Outgoing Regional President

Kol Hakavod as we go from Strength to Strength!

"We achieve greatness by handing over our values onto the next generation and empowering them to go and build the future."
- Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov to

Benny Sommerfeld

and

Myles Simpson

on their well-deserved honors from the
Federation of Jewish Men's Club

fjmc

Benny lives up to the ideals of Gemilut Hasidim
in all he does.

Myles continues to be a leader of
the highest caliber.

Both are dugma'ot for TEC, FJMC and beyond.
We love you and appreciate you.

Temple
Etz Chaim
עץ חיים

Dad,
Mazel tov on such an amazing award. It doesn't surprise us though. You have always been a leader and mentor to us; someone who has always shown us what is right…and makes the best fruit faces!



Love your children and grandchildren,
Ian, Sara, Howard, Jessica, Eric and Jenn
Jack, Ari, Luke, Micah, Avi, Lilah, Sophie,
Penny, and Simone

In Honor of Myles Simpson, Recipient of the 2025 FJMC Presidential Award

Temple Etz Chaim
עץ חיים
Men's Club



With immense pride, we congratulate Myles Simpson on receiving the 2025 FJMC Presidential Award. As only the tenth recipient, this award recognizes your visionary leadership and lasting contributions to the FJMC and Conservative/Masorti Judaism worldwide. This honor is profoundly deserved.

Mazel Tov on this momentous achievement!

With utmost respect and admiration

Temple Etz Chaim Men's Club

MAZEL TOV MYLES SIMPSON PRESIDENT'S AWARD RECIPIENT



You are the example of a true leader. When your term as president was up you did not retire and go out to pasture but remained active in the trenches. Always there to help grow the organization and mentor new leaders.

I am so proud of you! The world is a better place because of you.



Love you,

Gail

FULL PAGE


NEW YORK METRO REGION
fjmc
The Members of the
New York Metro Region
and its Executive Board
Toda Raba and Yasher Koach
President Award
FJMC International
Myles Simpson
for your outstanding leadership, dedication and service
Chazak, Chazak, V'nitchazek

COMBO PAGE

Myles Simpson, Presidential Award

Benny Sommerfeld, Ma'asim Tovim Award

Gary Katz, incoming Executive Vice President

Mazel Tov on your being honored for years of service to the FJMC – locally, regionally and internationally, and for your devoted service to the Jewish people all over the world

Rabbi Richard Spiegel, Temple Etz Chaim Rabbi Emeritus and Linda Spiegel

Congratulations Myles Simpson

Harvey Wolf

Congratulations

Myles Simpson

from

Denise Marks and Steve Weisberger

Myles,

This award is a testament to your hard work and dedication to the Jewish community.

Mazel Tov!
Gary & Marci

Myles,
Congratulations on your achievement.

Your devotion to the FJMC and to your family is beyond outstanding.

Marcia & Glenn Pollack

CONRATUATIONS MYLES ON BEING
THE RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD.
YOU HAVE WORKED DILIGENTLY FOR MANY YEARS
IN HELPING TO MAKE THE FJMC SO SUCCESSFUL.

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU,
COUSINS MARCY AND FRED

SUPPORTERS

Myles, Congratulaions on a well deserved honor. Nomi Freed
Mazal Tov Myles! Your Philly friends Selma and Marty Roffman
Myles, Yasher Koach on this well-deserved Presidential Award.
Howard Kaufman

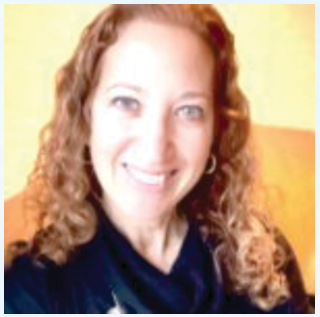
CHICAGO JULY 3-6 2025

fjmc™ INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

EMBRACING CHANGE • ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS SECTION

Keynote Speakers



TAMI ARNOWITZ
Founder of Good Questions Coaching & Teaching

Tami Arnowitz is the founder of Good Questions Coaching & Teaching, consulting with Jewish communal organizations to help them achieve their goals in areas such board trainings, market research, clergy transition, and strategic planning. Tami also provides coaching for Jewish professionals, clergy, lay leaders, communities, and individuals.

Tami earned her BA from Wellesley College and her MBA from Columbia Business School. She holds a Life Coach Certification from the Life Coach Training Institute and has pursued additional studies at Hebrew University and The Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem. A dedicated volunteer in her synagogue and school communities, Tami has also spent 25 years as an engaged clergy spouse. She lives in Mamaroneck, NY, with her husband, Rabbi Jeffrey Arnowitz, their four boys, and two dogs.

Sponsored by:

Keynote Speakers



RABBI JOSH FEIGELSON
President & CEO of the
Institute for Jewish Spirituality

Rabbi Josh Feigelson, PhD has been President & CEO of the Institute for Jewish Spirituality since 2020. He previously served as Dean of Students at the University of Chicago Divinity School. Josh is the author of Eternal Questions: Reflections, Conversations, and Jewish Mindfulness Practices for the Weekly Torah Portion (Ben Yehuda Press, 2022) and host of "Soulful Jewish Living: Mindful Practices for Every Day," a podcast co-produced by Unpacked and IJS. Josh is a third-generation Eagle Scout and at age 19 was National Chief of the Order of the Arrow, the highest elected office for youth in the Boy Scouts of America. He lives with his wife Natalie and their three sons in Skokie, IL.

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fjmc

fjmc HUDSON VALLEY REGION 2023 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION - PHILADELPHIA

Keynote Speakers

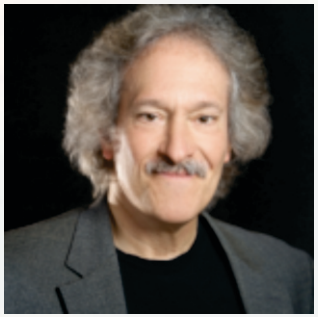


RABBI BENAY LAPPE
President & Rosh Yeshiva of Svara

Ordained by The Jewish Theological Seminary in 1997, Benay founded SVARA in 2003. An award-winning educator specializing in the application of queer theory to Talmud study, Benay has served on the faculties of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Temple University, American Jewish University, The Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, The Grad-uate Theological Union's Center for Jewish Studies at UC-Berkeley, and The Wexner Institute. Benay was named to The Forward 50 list of most influential American Jews, The Forward's 2014 List of Most Inspiring Rabbis, is a Joshua Venture Fellow, and in 2016 received the prestigious Covenant Award for innovative Jewish education. While learning and teaching Talmud are her greatest passions, Rabbi Lappe is also a licensed pilot, shoemaker, and patent-holding inventor.

Sponsored by:

Keynote Speakers



ORI Z. SOLTES
Professor
Georgetown University

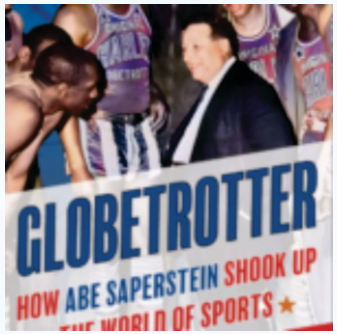
Dr. Ori Z. Soltes teaches in Georgetown University's School for Foreign Service across disciplines, from art history and theology to philosophy and political history. He is the former Director of the B'nai B'rith Klutznick National Jewish Museum, and has curated more than 90 exhibitions there and in other venues across the country and overseas. He is the author of over 300 books, articles, exhibition catalogues, and essays on diverse topics.

Ori is the author of "*Between Thought & Action…An Intellectual Biography of Fethullah Gulen*," written in 2022. Fethullah Gulen, the Founder and Spiritual Leader of the Hizmet philosophy passed away on October 20, 2024.

Among Ori's other recent books are *Our Sacred Signs: How Jewish, Christian and Muslim Art Draw from the Same Source*; *Searching for Oneness: Mysticism in Judaism, Christianity and Islam*; and *God and the Goalposts: A Brief History of Sports, Religion, Politics, War, and Art*, and *Identity, Art, and Migration*. He wrote, directed, and hosted a 26-part series on Jewish Art and Architecture and is currently completing a four-part documentary on ecclesiastical architecture in the Washington, DC area, called *A Sacred Piece of Home*.

Sponsored by:

Keynote Speakers



MARK & MATTHEW JACOB
Authors Presentation
& Book Signing

The original Harlem Globetrotters weren't from Harlem, and they didn't start out as globetrotters. The talented all-Black team, started by Jewish immigrant Abe Saperstein, was from Chicago's South Side and toured the Midwest in Saperstein's model-T. But with Saperstein's savvy and the players' skills, the Globetrotters would become a worldwide sensation.

Globetrotter: How Abe Saperstein Shook Up the World of Sports is the fascinating biography of Saperstein, a five-foot-three promoter who made an amazing impact in a sport where height is at a premium. After Saperstein founded the Harlem Globetrotters in the 1920s, they battled everything from blizzards to bigotry, steadily building a reputation for talent and comedy until their footprint covered the entire world.

Abe Saperstein's impact went well beyond the Harlem Globetrotters. He helped keep baseball's Negro Leagues alive, was a force in getting Satchel Paige his shot at the majors, and befriended Olympic star Jesse Owens when he fell on hard times. When Saperstein started the American Basketball League, he pioneered the three-point shot, which has dramatically changed the sport. *Globetrotter* reveals the tireless work and impressive achievements of a man and a basketball team that made millions of people laugh, gasp, and applaud at their astounding performances.

Jonathan Eig, Pulitzer Prize winner for King: A Life calls *Globetrotter,* "A beautifully written, nuanced portrait of one of America's most interesting, influential, and overlooked sports figures. *Globetrotter* dazzles with its fine writing and scores over and over again with its impressive research. It's a winner."

Sponsored by:

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MA'ASIM TOVIM SECTION

MA'ASIM TOVIM HONOREES PAGE 1



Bruce Martin
Ansh-eh Zafon



Alan Lightstone
Anshei Darom



Mitchell Goldblatt
Connecticut



Jonathan Zimmer
Florida



Stephe Sturman
Hudson Valley



Karl Rubin
KIO+

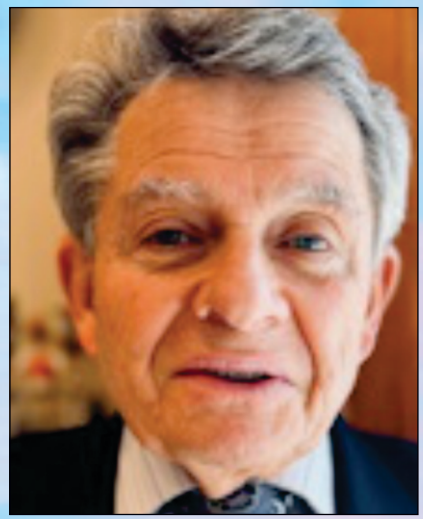


Art Lashin
Middle Atlantic



Michael Greenberg
Midwest

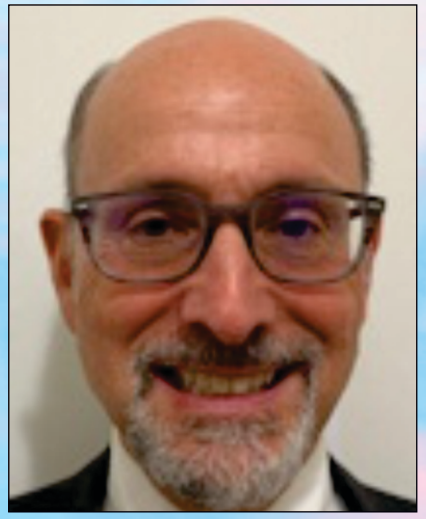
MA'ASIM TOVIM HONOREES PAGE 2



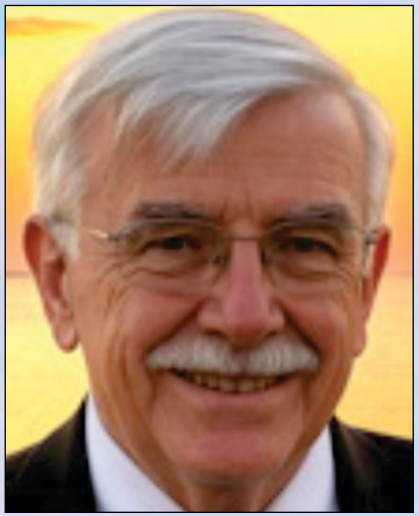
Elliot Feldman
New England



Milton Lipitz
New York Metro



Rob Blitzer
Northern New Jersey



Bob Watts
Seaboard



Jonathan Epstein
Tri-State



Benny Sommerfeld
Western

FULL PAGE

Mazal Tov to my fellow





Ma'asim Tovim & Other Honorees

CHAZAK! ! ! חזק

Rob Blitzer

FULL PAGE


NEW YORK METRO REGION
fjmc
The Members of the
New York Metro Region
and its Executive Board
Mazal Tov
Ma'asim Tovim Honorees
Bruce Martin
Ansh-eh Zafon
Alan Lightstone
Anshei Darom
Mitchell Goldblatt
Connecticut Valley
Jonathan Zimmer
Florida
Stephe Sturman
Hudson Valley
Karl Rubin
KIO
Art Lashin
Middle Atlantic
Michael Greenberg
Midwest
Elliot Feldman
New England
Milton Lipitz
New York Metro
Robert Blitzer
Northern New Jersey
Bob Watts
Seaboard
Jonathan Epstein
Tri-State
Benny Sommerfeld
Western
Yasher Koach

CONGRATULATIONS

TO ALL THE

MA'ASIM TOVIM RECIPIENTS

WE ARE VERY PROUD OF ALL OF YOU



ANSHEI SHABBAT GREETING GROUP

ANSH-EH ZAFON REGION



Bruce Martin
Ansh-eh Zafon

Synagogue involvement has been a major part of my life. As a teen, I ran Junior Congregation Services and served on the Executive of my shul's USY chapter. Eventually this led to my involvement with men's clubs on a club level serving for many years as President and running a variety of programs.

Soon enough I became active with our region, Lake Ontario Region which is now known as Ansh-Eh Zafon. I have chaired numerous retreats, the Yellow Candle program as well as running several Man of the Year events in Toronto. I served as Ansh-Eh Zafon president from 2020-2022.

My involvement with FJMC International didn't really begin until my first LDI at Pearlstone Resort around 10 years ago. It was there where I learned about The Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs and all it has to offer its regions and clubs. I worked as marketing chair for the Toronto Convention even though I had never attended one before and co-chaired marketing for the Chicago convention that ended up being virtual due to Covid.

Working in The Jewish Community has always been a passion of mine. In 2022, I chaperoned the youth baseball team at the Maccabi Games in Israel. Currently I am volunteering at the new Toronto Holocaust Museum teaching school children from all walks of life about the horrors of the Shoah.

I have been a business owner since graduating with a degree in Business and Finance and operated a printing company till 2021. Currently I own and operate a greeting card company in Support of Make A Wish, Canada.

I have been married to my amazing wife, Cathy for 38 years and have 3 sons, Jacob (Kelsey), Noah and Joseph. This past June, we were blessed with the arrival of our first Grandchild, Seth.

I am extremely honoured (Canadian spelling) to be Ansh-Eh Zafon's Ma'asim Tovim recipient this year. I wish a hearty Mazal Tov to my fellow honourees.

FULL PAGE - ANSH EH ZAFON REGION



BETH EMETH BROTHERHOOD
EXTENDS TO

Bruce Martin

A HEARTY YASHER KOACH AND MAZEL TOV

ON RECEIVING THE ANSHE ZAFON MA'ASIM TOVIM AWARD

FOR HIS DEDICATION AND OUTSTANDING SERVICE

TO THE CONGREGATION, FJMC AND THE JEWISH COMMUNITY.

Beth Emeth

BEBY BROTHERHOOD

ANSHE ZAFON

The FJMC's largest and most northerly region
We are very proud of our members!

Bruce Martin Ma'asim Tovim honouree
Norm Wolter continuing Regional President
Rick Wronzberg as incoming International Treasurer
We also honour the Memory of Neil Melman and others who have passed away in the past 2 years.

ZAFON WITH A ZED

צפון עם אנשי

QUARTER PAGE COMBO - ANSH EH ZAFON REGION

Adath Israel Brotherhood

Wishes to Extend a Heartfelt Mazel to

Bruce Tomar

as the new
President of FJMC International

Adath Israel Brotherhood

Wishes to Extend a Heartfelt Mazel to

Bruce Martin

as Ansh-eh Zafon's
Ma'asim Tovim Honoree

Adath Israel Brotherhood

Wishes to Extend a Heartfelt Mazel to

Rick Wronzberg

as the new
Treasurer of FJMC International

Mazel Tov to Bruce Martin on receiving
the Ansh-Eh Zafon award. O Canada!
Love your family,
Cathy, Jacob, Kelsey and
Seth, Noah and Olivia, Joseph and Michelle

Look for information about convention 2027!

ANSHEI DAROM REGION



Alan Lightstone
Anshei Darom

I am a devoted husband, father, and retired professional whose life reflects a commitment to family, Jewish values, and community leadership. With a career spanning over three decades and a passion for creative and spiritual pursuits, I have made an enduring impact in both my professional and personal spheres.

My wife Sharon and I have shared 32 years of marriage, building a life together filled with love, respect, and shared values. We have raised two accomplished children, Jenna and Jordan, who continue to be a source of pride and joy. This past year we were overjoyed with the marriage of our daughter to Ian and we look forward to being grandparents one day.

My deeper engagement with Judaism began with my marriage to Sharon. A pivotal moment came when we decided to keep a kosher home—a significant shift from my upbringing in a Long Island "Conservative" Jewish household where keeping kosher was something the rabbis did. Shabbat dinners became a cherished family tradition, where we would gather with our children and whatever friends stopped by that week for meals and meaningful discussions about the weekly parsha—this reinforced my family's bond and shared commitment to Jewish life. I am proud to say that both of my children honor Shabbat traditions in their own homes.

After a 34-year career at UPS where I excelled in Pricing Strategy, Revenue Management, and Revenue Management Systems I retired. Known for my strategic vision and collaborative leadership, my contributions left a lasting legacy of innovation and success.

Retirement has provided me with the opportunity to explore personal interests alongside my leadership roles in my volunteer activities. My love for cooking continues to thrive as have my other hobbies which include woodworking, hiking and gardening. These activities provide me a balance of creativity, physical activity, and personal fulfillment.

My dedication to Judaism extended beyond my family into active involvement in synagogue life. Over the years, I've taken on various roles, including heading the Social Action Committee and serving as a member of the Board of Trustees. My leadership skills and passion for community-building led me to hold significant positions in Jewish organizations:

President of the Etz Chaim Men's Club
Vice President of Fundraising for Congregation Etz Chaim
Current President of the Anshei Darom Region of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs (FJMC)

Through these roles, I have championed initiatives that strengthen Jewish identity, foster community engagement, and promote acts of tikkun olam (repairing the world).

Kol Hakavod to our

Ma'asim Tovim honoree

Alan Lightstone

Anshei Darom Region

May you go from strength to strength

Synagogue Emanu-El Men's Club Charleston, SC

Temple Beth El Men's Club Birmingham, AL

Temple Israel Men's Club Charlotte, NC

FULL PAGE - ANSHEI DAROM REGION

Congregation ETZ CHAIM



The Etz Chaim Men's Club congratulates Alan Lightstone for being honored with the
Ma'asim Tovim Award
for the Anshei Darom region.

His dedication, experience and leadership have been invaluable to our club, our region, and all of the FJMC.

Yasher Koach!!

FULL PAGE - ANSHEI DAROM REGION

TO OUR DEAR FRIEND AND COLLEGUE

ALAN LIGHTSTONE

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE AND CONTINUE TO DO FOR OUR MEMBERS, OUR CLUBS, THE ANSHEI DAROM REGION AND ALL OF THE FJMC.
JIM HANDLER, HANK NEEDLE, STEVE DIX, AND MARK ISBITTS, AS PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS OF ANSHEI DAROM'S MA'ASIM TOVIM AWARD,WELCOME YOU TO THE CLUB!
MAZEL TOV AND YASHER KOACH

HALF PAGE - ANSHEI DAROM REGION

Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club

Atlanta, Georgia

Congregation Beth Shalom Men ' s Club Congratulates

Alan Lightstone

Ma 'asim Tovim Award winner for the Anshei Darom Region

When in Atlanta, GA visit us in Dunwoody, or online at www.bethshalom.net

אנשי דרום
fjmc
ANSHEI DAROM
Men of the South



All of the brothers of the Anshei Darom Region wish a hearty

Mazel Tov

to our own Alan Lightstone on his being named as Anshei Darom's

Ma'asim Tovim Awardee.

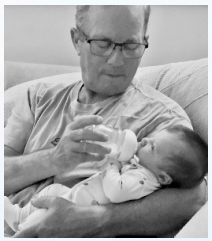
Alan's dedication to the Etz Chaim Men's Club, to Congregation Etz Chaim, to the Anshei Darom Region, and to all of the FJMC serve as an inspiration to us all; not to mention his absolute wizardry with a brisket.

May we all strive to emulate his dedication to service.

Yasher Koach, Alan!!!

QUARTER PAGE - ANSHEI DAROM REGION





ALAN LIGHTSTONE
2025 ANSHEI DAROM MA'ASIM TOVIM AWARD RECEPIENT

This honor is a testament to the quiet, consistent difference you makein so many lives. Whether you are leading with purpose and passion or lending a hand to all who need support, you give with your whole heart. You are a mensch in the truest sense. Alan, whether we call you Bro, Hubby, Dad, Pops or Gramps, we are proud of you and grateful for the gentle ways you love us and enrich our lives.

With great pride and much love, Mazel Tov!!

Sharon, Jenna, Ian, Ronen, Jordan, Odessa, Irwin, Robin, Helayne, Mark, Fred and Melanie

CONGRATULATIONS ALAN

YOUR FRIENDS FROM WEST END

IN NASHVILLE APPRECIATE YOUR

HARD WORK AND DEDICATION TO

ANSHEI DAROM - THANK YOU!!!

Mazel Tov Alan on your
Ma'Asim Tovim award.
It is well deserved, and we can't think
of a better tribute for someone
who has dedicated years of service
to the FJMC at all levels.

B'Shalom,
Chuck and Marsha Bernstein

CONNECTICUT VALLEY REGION



Mitchell Goldblatt
Connecticut

A Connecticut native, Mitch graduated from Amity High School in Woodbridge, CT, received a BA Degree in Political Science from Muhlenberg College (Allentown, PA) and an MBA Degree in Management from the University of New Haven (West Haven, CT).

After nearly two decades in various purchasing positions for Connecticut manufacturing firms, Mitch was elected to his first of three terms as First Selectman of the Town of Orange. Following a two-year role in real estate, Mitch became the Director of Human Resources for the Town of Guilford, a position he holds today. He is also an adjunct professor of Public Administration and Labor Relations at the University of New Haven.

Since he was very young, Mitch has been an active participant and volunteer in various civic, political, and religious organizations. He has served as Reunion Chairman for both his high school and college classes, and currently is the chair of the Orange Recycling Committee and a member of the Orange Pension Board. He has been the Building Chair for both the Library and the Fire House, and is a member of the Bond Oversight Committee. A former Town Constable and member of the Orange Town Plan and Zoning Commission, he also served as Chair of the Orange Inland Wetlands Commission for a decade. Mitch has been a member of the Orange Board of Selectmen for over thirty years, and is a member and former President of the Connecticut Public Employer Labor Relations Association (ConnPELRA).

In 2016 he was voted by readers of The Orange Times as a Volunteer of the Year, in 2017 he received the Keeper of the Flame Award from the Congregation Or Shalom (Orange, CT) Men's Club, in 2022 he was named a Paul Harris Fellow by the Orange Rotary Club, and in 2023 he was presented the O'Sullivan Award for Public Service.

As a teen, he was a member of Beth Israel Synagogue (Derby, CT) chapter of United Synagogue Youth (USY) and attended USY Encampment. In college, he was a member of Hillel and after graduation became an active Men's Club and synagogue member.

Since the merger of Beth Israel Synagogue and Congregation Or Shalom, Mitch has been an active board member of the Or Shalom Men's Club and the Jewish Community. In 2004 the Jewish Historical Society of Greater New Haven recognized Mitch as a Prominent Jewish-American Political Leader with New Haven Connections.

His late father Barry Goldblatt, a 2011 recipient of the Keeper of the Flame, was a founder of the Yellow Candle Program to perpetuate the memory of the Holocaust. Mitch has been extremely involved in that effort, as chair of the Congregation Or Shalom Yellow Candle Program in 2015. Then, in 2020, Mitch accepted the position of Yellow Candle co-chair for the Connecticut Valley Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, a position that he still holds today.

Beginning in 2023, Mitch spearheaded the local Yellow Lights Program with the Or Shalom Men's Club to mark International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Mitch and his wife Abby, are the proud parents of two adult children, Carl and Shayna.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MITCHELL GOLDBLATT

On this special honor of receiving the Connecticut Valley Ma'asim Tovim Award

Your family is so very proud of you!

With love,
Abby, Carl, and Shayna



FULL PAGE - CONNECTICUT REGION

THE EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE BROTHERHOOD WISHES

YASHER KOACH TO

MITCH GOLDBLATT

ON RECEIVING THE CT VALLEY REGION

MA'ASIM TOVIM AWARD

MAY YOU GO FROM STRENGTH TO STREMGTH

MAZEL TOV TO ALAN BUDMAN ON COMPLETING
HIS TERM AS FJMC INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
AND
BEST WISHES TO BRUCE TOMAR AS HE BEGINS
HIS TERM AS INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

FROM

THE EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE BROTHERHOOD [WEST HARTFORD]

FULL PAGE - CONNECTICUT REGION

MAZEL TOV TO OUR MA'ASIM TOVIM HONOREE

MITCH GOLDBLATT

MAY YOU GO FROM STRENGTH TO STREMGTH

MAZEL TOV TO ALAN BUDMAN ON COMPLETING
HIS TERM AS FJMC INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT
AND
BEST WISHES TO BRUCE TOMAR AS HE BEGINS
HIS TERM AS INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

FROM THE CT VALLEY REGION LEADERSHIP AND OUR CLUBS

TEMPLE BETH SHOLOM MEN'S CLUB [HAMDEN]
BETH EL MEN'S CLUB [STAMFORD]
BETH EL TEMPLE MEN'S CLUB [WEST HARTFORD]
BETH ISRAEL BROTHERHOOD [WEST HARTFORD]
BETH SHOLOM B'NAI ISRAEL BROTHERHOOD [MANCHESTER]
EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE BROTHERHOOD [WEST HARTFORD]
KOL HAVERIM MENS CLUB [GLASTONBURY]
OR SHALOM MENS CLUB [ORANGE]
RODEPH SHOLOM MEN'S CLUB [BRIDGEPORT]

Congregation Or Shalom Men's Club and Board of Directors are so very proud to celebrate with our own Mitch Goldblatt, as the 2025 Connecticut Valley Ma'asim Tovim Awardee at the FJMC Convention in Chicago, July 2nd-6th, 2025.



May you continue to bring us ~Nachas~

HALF PAGE - CONNECTICUT REGION

Yasher Koach to Mitch Goldblatt

Seth and Patti Hollander
John and Christine Kelman
Steve Cooper and Cindy Vassilowitch
Gary and Dineen Pearl
Sid and Elaine Klein
Paul and Lauren Seplowitz
Harvey and Mary Jane Remz
George and Barbara Lehrer
Keith and Bonnie Indeck
Fidelity Lodge #78- Knights of Pythias
Michael Glauberman
Bill Lipman and Gail Chotiner
Barry Wasserman and Ruth Friedman
Roger and Fern Tausig
Bob and Debbie Oshrin
David and Edina Oestreicher

The Beth El Temple of West Hartford Men's Club honors Phil Schulz

for his many contributions on the local, regional, and international Men's Club levels

AND congratulates him on being installed as the new president of our Temple.

YASHER KOACH TO MITCH GOLDBLATT

MAY YOU GO FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

DON & REGINA MILLER

FLORIDA REGION



Jonathan Zimmer
Florida

Jon was born in Huntington Station, Long Island, NY and lived there until he was 14, after his parents got sick of the weather, high taxes, and congestion of living in New York and wisely moved to sunny Sarasota, Florida. After graduating college at the University of Florida (Go Gators!), Jon moved to Tampa and has been there for 26 years.

Jon has been an active member of Congregation Kol Ami for over 20 years and served as Security Chair before becoming active in Brotherhood, thanks to Barry Dvorchik (z'l) and his mentorship. He's implemented several annual traditions of successful programming such as Firearm Safety Day, Cigars and Spirits Night, Hearing Men's Voices sessions, and more.

Jon's greatest accomplishment is being a father to Alissa, his 10 year old daughter. He's a Business Development Manager for a chemical company in their healthcare division. His hobbies include spending time outdoors, traveling around the country, watching the Gators, enjoying a good stout, pale ale or scotch, and spending time with Alissa.


Mazal Tov to
Florida Region
2025 Ma'asim Tovim
Honoree
Jon Zimmer
fjmc
Mens Club is Brotherhood
Florida Region FJMC
From
the
Florida
Region
Board of
Directors

Congratulations to
Jon Zimmer
Florida Region Ma'asim Tovim Award
And incoming Region President

From the Florida Region Executive Committee:
President – Ed Kochman
Treasurer – Dr. Moshe Adler
Secretary – Eric Perlman
Technical Advisor/Webmaster – Rich Nebb
Immediate Past President – Blake Lenett
Regional Advisor(s) – Elliot Burns,
Elliott Davis, Mark Givarz
Member(s) at Large – Gary Dalin, Jeff Litt,
Michael Danoff, Allan Gottesman
Presidential Appointees- Jason Waksman,
Meir Niad

Congratulations to

Jonathan Zimmer

Recipient of the Florida Region Ma'asim Tovim Award

From Susan and Ed Kochman

Thanks to the retiring Florida Region Executive Committee and Board
For your dedication and service these past two years.

Thanks also to the incoming Officers and Board for your
assuming your responsibilities for the Florida Region 2025-2027.

Ed Kochman, Immediate Past President Florida Region,
Trustee, Middle Atlantic Region.

Torat Emet Men's Club

Temple Torat Emet
8600 Jog Road
Boynton Beach, FL 33472
561-369-1112

fjmc

CO-President
Ira Brandell
Harry Saltzman

Executive V.P.

Vice President
Jonathan Shochat
Alan Pransky

Treasurer
Jason Waksman

Record. Sec'y
Harry Saltzman

Immediate Past Pres.
Jeffry Charnow

Parliamentarian

Chaplain
Rabbi Michael Klein

Directors
Michael Gere
Fred Jaffe
Burt Katz
Ed Kochman
Mark Lefkof
Rich Nebb
David Yellin

Past Presidents
Gary Dalin
Charlie Deutch
Steve Hyman
Gerald Rosenberg *
Eli Levine*
Abraham Banke
Harold Schafer *
Gerald Rosenberg *
Leonard Kliegman *
Joel Leibling *
Daniel Leon *
Jerome Baylin *
Sylvan Seyman *
* Deceased

Temple Torat Emet's Men's Club offers a Hearty Mazel Tov and Yasher Koach!!

Mazel Tov Jon Zimmer as Florida Region's recipient of this year's Ma'asim Tovim Award

This recognition celebrates Jon's remarkable dedication and tireless effort in enriching and growing the clubs in Florida

May Jon's leadership continue to inspire and elevate the Florida Region as he assumes the role of President in July 2025

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the following individuals for their leadership, mentorship and support for FJMC, Florida Region and Temple Torat Emet Men's Club:

Rabbi Michael Klein, Rabbi, Temple Torat Emet and Regional Ritual Advisor, Florida Region

Ed Kochman, President, Florida Region

Ira Brandell, President, Temple Torat Emet Men's Club

Mazel tov
to

Jonathan Zimmer

on this very well deserved honor.

We are so proud of you and
know how proud dad would be of you as well.

Love,

Mom, Alissa, Gina, Alex, Ava and David

FULL PAGE - FLORIDA REGION

Congratulations to

Jonathan

for all your hard work and dedication!

Dad is certainly looking down and beaming.

Love,

Mom, Alissa, Gina, Alex, Ava and David

HALF PAGE - FLORIDA REGION

Jon,
Mazal tov on receiving this incredible honor - FJMC Florida Region Ma'asim Tovim!
It has been my pleasure and honor not only to work closely with you over the years and watch you become the leader you are today but also to call you my friend.
Yasher koach! and Congratulations!

Mario Rodriguez



Mazal Tov Jon,

From your friends:

Ronald Pross

Michael Binder

Lisa Teblum

Ronald Gray

Daniel Ochman

Moshe Shmia

Allan Feldman

Yoav Rappaport

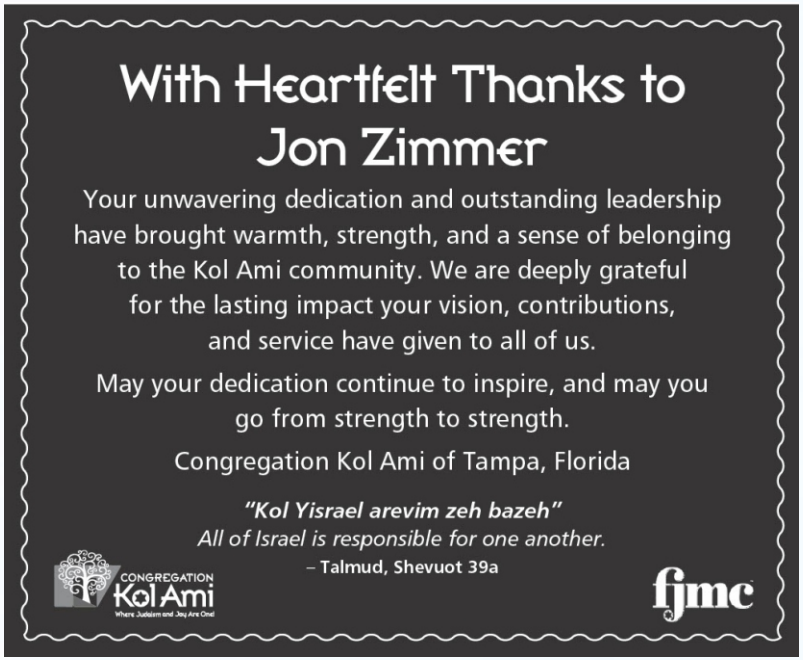
Barbara Freedland

Emmanuel Garcia

HALF PAGE - FLORIDA REGION

Congrats Jon on this well-deserved honor!

Che' Hatcher



HALF PAGE - FLORIDA REGION

Mazel Tov, **Jon,**

on being chosen as

the Florida Region

Ma'Asim Tovim honoree,

and your nomination

as President of

the Florida Region.

Yasher Koach.

Elliott Davis

Mazal tov

Jonathan

B’nai Torah Men’s Club

Boca Raton, Florida

HALF PAGE - FLORIDA REGION

Mazal tov

Jon

We are so proud of you!

Jody Sampson and Prakash Nair

Congregation Kol Ami, Tampa, FL

Congrats Jon for this prestigious honor!

We recognize your 4 year presidency

of the Brotherhood of Kol Ami and

remarkable contributions to our club,

region, synagogue, and the broader

Jewish community over the years.

Best of luck on your

FJMC Florida Region presidency.

Mazel Tov, Jon! Your hard work and

dedication truly deserve this recognition.

The Brotherhood of Kol Ami

COMBO PAGE - FLORIDA REGION

Mazel Tov to Jon Zimmer
on becoming the Ma'asim Tovim Award
recipient for the Florida Region.

Thanks for making the Florida Region
a better place for all, and good luck
as our new Regional President!

Congregation Beth Shalom Brotherhood,
Clearwater, FL

Yasher Koach to Jon Zimmer
on this distinguished honor.
You're a beacon of dedication
and service, quietly making
a difference one good deed
at a time.

Keep up the good work!
Wendy & Blake Lenett

Yasher Koach to the

Ma'asim Tovim Award Recipients

Jon Zimmer (Florida Region)

Art Lashin (Middle Atlantic Region)

Thanks for all that you do,

Jason Waksman

HUDSON VALLEY REGION



Stephe Sturman
Hudson Valley

Stephe Sturman is an active member of Temple Sinai in Middletown NY, where he has had the pleasure to serve as Men's Club President, Board of Trustee member and Temple President.

He is a hairdresser for 51 years, 22 of which were spent traveling the U.S and Canada as a platform artist and educator, doing hair shows, symposiums and continuing Ed conferences. He served as Director and Chair for the New York State Design Team (The educational body for the New York State Cosmetology Association) and Director of Hair America (the educational body for the National Cosmetology Association). He was a national designer and platform artist for TRESSA International as well as national designer and Artistic Director for IT&LY Hair Fashion, North America.

He is a collector of ancient artifacts, mostly Egyptian and Roman/Holyland in origin, and enjoys stringing and selling jewelry made with ancient beads ranging from 2,000 to 3,500 years old.

He is proud of his involvement with FJMC and the privilege of having been President of Hudson Valley Region FJMC, and having served as chair of FJMC's Inclusion initiative.

He takes pride in having been recognized by the Jewish Federation of Orange County as Volunteer of the Year and by Temple Sinai Men's Club as Man of the Year.

A special honor was being named last year's recipient of the Hudson Valley Region Stanley Stern Award for Exemplary Service.

Stephe lives in Middletown, NY and has been fortunate to travel the world with his husband and partner of 50 years, Rob Abramson.

He believes that it is the responsibility of each of us to do what is in our power to help one another in whatever way we can.

To see the change, we must be the change.



The Torah is truly a Tree of Life

Happy are they, who understand its teachings

And fulfill Hashem's commandments

Hudson Valley Region of the FJMC wishes Yasher Koach to the incoming International Executive Board. Under the upcoming leadership of our new

President- Bruce Tomar- we know that he will have an impact on strengthening our Brotherhood.

Alan Pressman, Outgoing HVR President & Executive Board

Mitch Spiegel, Incoming HVR President & Executive Board



The Members of the Hudson Valley Region wishes Yasher Koach

to the outgoing International Executive Board 2024-2025.

We thank you for your outstanding leadership for these past two years

Alan Budman

We know that you will continue to have an impact on Jewish Men in Jewish life

Alan Pressman, Outgoing HVR President & Executive Board

Mitch Spiegel, Incoming HVR President & Executive Board

FULL PAGE - HUDSON VALLEY REGION



FULL PAGE - HUDSON VALLEY REGION



The Torah is truly a Tree of Life

Happy are they, who understand its teachings

And fulfill Hashem‘s commandments

Yasher Koach to Ma‘asim Tovim Honoree

Stephe Sturman

No one is more deserving, keep on doing your good work.

Alan Pressman- HVR President and the entire HVR Executive Board

FULL PAGE - HUDSON VALLEY REGION



Kol HaKavod from the Orangetown Jewish Center Men's Club to outgoing International President Alan Budman and his FJMC Executive committee, and to incoming International President Bruce Tomar and the incoming FJMC Executive Committee. As well as our Ma 'Asim Tovim honoree, Stephe Sturman, our Outgoing Regional President, Alan Pressman and our Incoming Regional President, Mitch Spiegel

FULL PAGE - HUDSON VALLEY REGION



In Loving Memory of our Brother

Andrew Alper

Patriarch, Mentor and Friend to all. May his memory be for a blessing to all who knew him!

Stephe Sturman and Alan Pressman

KIO+ REGION



Karl Rubin
KIO+

Karl Rubin is a financial advisor with Voya Financial Advisors and lives in Columbus, Ohio with his wife, Sharon Simon, who is a clinical therapist. His son Jacob is 30 years old and is a consultant for Price Waterhouse Coopers. Jacob lives, works and skis in Denver, Colorado.

Karl has been involved with the FJMC for over 15 years, ever since a few members of his local synagogue, Congregation Tifereth Israel, found out he could make a pretty mean latke and had not really played much poker and asked him to join the Men's Club poker group. Shortly after sharing his stack with his Jewish brothers, Karl went on to become Tifereth Israel's Men's Club secretary, vice-president and then eventually Club president. A short period later he was asked to become the regional president of KIO+, a role he happily embraced. As he got more involved in not only Men's Club but other shul activities, he began reading Torah and became a board member of his shul. One thing led to another, and after going to LDI a few times and learning new skills he became vice president of his synagogue and eventually became president of Congregation Tifereth Israel in Columbus.

Among the many FJMC International roles Karl has embraced are being on numerous committees, leading discussions during Hearing Men's Voices sessions and chairing the very successful FJMC Affinity Groups and Webinars for two years. In his role as Affinity groups chair he helped engage thousands of people around the world and helped people stay connected, even in the midst of a world pandemic. Additionally, Karl has for many years been both a board member and an honorary board member of the Foundation for Jewish Life.

One of Karl's passions has always been Israel and it's people. Most recently over the past two years, Karl has been the chairman of FJMC Israel Programming and Affairs. Shortly after the tragic events of October 7, 2023, he created the very successful Israel On My Mind Webinars and Reflections. Israel On My Mind is a program that has a two-fold approach. First, members and non-members are invited to share their personal thoughts, feelings and connection to Israel by writing a personal reflection. These are then shared with others via the FJMC website. The second component of Israel On My Mind presents monthly webinars with those who have some personal connection to Israel. Subjects have ranged from a live feed from the Soroka Medical Center in Israel which received many of the early casualties from October 7, to representatives and participants of the Israel Lone Soldier program to interviewing the presidents of Mercaz USA and Canada and sharing their insight regarding the World Zionist Organization and Israel today. Encouraging American and Canadian Jews to participate in the Mercaz election is another of the projects he has embraced.

In his spare time Karl is passionate about biking and fundraising for Pelotonia which is a one day annual cycling event with the James Cancer Research Hospital at The Ohio State University. He has been training and riding with a group of cyclists where the goal has been to ride 100 miles in one day for the past 10 years where the ultimate goal is to find a cure for cancer during our lifetime.

Karl keenly understands that in life, people bring you to people and that many of us are where we are today because of the people around us. In particular, for his FJMC journey, he greatly appreciates the support and guidance he has been given by Doug Segerman, Stan Greenspan, Tom Sudow, Allan Kahan and Norm Kurtz. Additionally, he deeply values the friendships he has developed over the years because of FJMC. Clearly, without those friendships he wouldn't be here today.

Mazel Tov

To

Karl Rubin

If everyone was more like Karl, the world would not be in need of healing.

We are honored to honor you.

The KIO+ Board

Mazel Tov

To

Jerry Brodsky

For all of his hard work pushing our Region and the entire FJMC toward a brighter future.

The KIO+ Board

Mazel Tov to KIO+ Recipients and other honorees, including:

Karl Rubin Ma'asim Tovim Recipient

Lawrence Cohen Incoming Regional President

Josh Lisman Outgoing KIO Region President

Jerry Brodsky Distinguished Service Award

Club Men of the Year:

Tim Patton, Adath Israel , Cincinnati

Dave Philips, Agudas Achim, Columbus

Stephen Musin, Beth Abraham, Dayton

Dr. Aaron Wolkoff, B'nai Jeshuran, Cleveland

Richard Price, Park Synagogue, Cleveland

Stephen Manos, Tifereth Israel, Columbus

Elliot & Rose Segerman Youth of the Year:

Sam Pressman Adath Israel, Cincinnati

Mazel Tov

To

Bruce Tomar

And

Alan Budman

For your Service to the FJMC

From KIO+

FULL PAGE - KIO+

Also, congratulations
Aaron Wolkoff
On being named Man Of The Year!

In Memory of Our beloved Co-President
Eric Schectman
Who passed away this year.



Congratulations Jerry Brodsky

on being awarded a

Distinguished Service Award

and for all you do for the

B'nai Jeshurun Men's Club!

FULL PAGE - KIO+

Mazel Tov

To

Lawrence Cohen

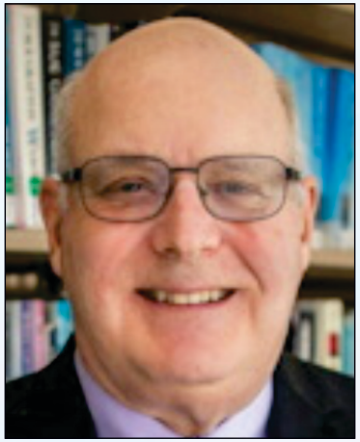
For stepping up and becoming

Our fearless leader.

You will do infinitely better than the last guy.

Sincerely - The Last Guy

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION



Art Lashin
Mid-Atlantic

Art Lashin is a dedicated individual who has significantly impacted his synagogue and community. Art and his wife, Eileen, have been members of Beth Sholom Congregation in Elkins Park since 1976 and have shown unwavering dedication to their faith and community. Art has held various leadership positions within the Men's Club, including President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, and Programming VP, demonstrating his commitment and leadership within the organization. Art's passion for the Men's Club is unwavering, rooted in his belief that it provides a valuable platform for men to engage with and contribute to the Jewish community. He cherishes the sense of camaraderie and the enriching activities organized by the Men's Club, which significantly contribute to the congregation's social, religious, and educational experiences.

His involvement extends to the Middle Atlantic Region, where he served as Regional President and Treasurer and contributed to organizing events such as the Man of the Year, Leadership Development Institute, and the Quad Retreat. Additionally, Art has been actively involved with the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, serving as the FJMC Shoah Yellow Candle™ Program Chair and a member of the FJMC Executive Committee and the FJMC Board of Directors.

Outside of his community involvement, Art had a successful 42-year career as a managing attorney at a major Philadelphia law firm. He dedicated his free time to philanthropy, including volunteering at the National Pediatric Cancer Foundation and serving for twenty years as a board member and Vice President at the Hebrew Free Loan of Greater Philadelphia.

Art's life is guided by the motto, "Always find time for things that make you happy to be alive." His diverse hobbies, such as traveling, gardening, fishing, and birding, reflect this philosophy. These activities bring him joy and showcase his zest for life, love for exploration, and appreciation of nature.

Art and Eileen have been happily married for 48 years, a testament to their enduring love and commitment. They have two children, Andrew and Debra, their spouses, Jillian and Adam, and four grandchildren: Everly, Brielle, Emmy, and Lennox. Their close-knit family is a source of joy and strength for Art, and their support has been instrumental in his many achievements.

Art is honored as the 2024 Middle Atlantic Region Man of the Year for his outstanding contributions, which have left a lasting impact on his synagogue and region. His dedication to synagogue and community service continues to inspire others, and his priorities align with enhancing membership growth, club retention, and programming. Art expresses his heartfelt gratitude to the MAR Regional Board and his friends at the Beth Sholom Men's Club for their continuous support in nurturing the growth and needs of his Club, Region, and FJMC.

Mazel Tov to Arthur Lashin

Middle Atlantic Regional Man of the Year
FJMC Ma'asim Tovim Award Honoree

To our beloved husband, father, and grandfather, whose life epitomizes selflessness and good deeds.



As your family, we have witnessed your unwavering love, dedication, and countless hours devoted to the Middle Atlantic Region, the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, and the Men's Club of Beth Sholom Congregation, Elkins Park, PA. Your contributions have made a significant difference to many and have inspired pride in your colleagues.

We are incredibly proud of your remarkable leadership, accomplishments, charitable work, selfless endeavors, and unwavering commitment to Jewish causes. You exemplify what it means to live and work with genuine purpose and integrity.

Your incredible sense of humor and quick wit always brighten our day. We are so proud of you!

With All Our Love,

Eileen Lashin
Debra, Adam, Everly, Brielle, and Lennox Friedman
Andrew, Jill, and Emmy Lashin

YASHER KOACH

יישר כח

BRUCE TOMAR

Mazel Tov on becoming the
new President of
FJMC International
2015-2017



MIDDLE • ATLANTIC • REGION
fjmc

from your friends in the
FJMC Middle Atlantic Region

YASHER KOACH

יישר כח

ALAN BUDMAN

Thank you for your
inspired leadership of
FJMC International
2023-2025



MIDDLE · ATLANTIC · REGION
fjmc

from your friends in the
FJMC Middle Atlantic Region

Mazal Tov, Alan!

We take great pride in your service to FJMC as International President.

You have demonstrated leadership, initiative and commitmentand have distinguished yourself as a role model and mensch.

Your tireless dedication to the men of our movement is exemplary. FJMC has been fortunate to have you serve in this role just as we at Temple Sinai have been blessed by your extraordinary leadership.

May you continue to go from strength to strength!

Rabbi Adam Wohlberg Amy Kalenscher, President
Cantor Sharon Brown-Levy Ari Goldberg, Executive Director

Temple Sinai
תורה • עבודה • גמילות חסדים

Thank you for your exceptional leadership as President of the Federation of Jewish Men's Club. Your vision and dedication have strengthened Jewish men's engagement across our communities and inspired countless members to deepen their involvement in Jewish life.

Your devoted work has left an indelible mark on the FJMC, and we are grateful for the passion and commitment you brought to this vital role.

Thank you for all you do for our community!

TEMPLE SINAI
Men's Club

In Memoriam – Leonard Abrams z"l





The officers and members of the Beth Sholom Congregation of Elkins Park, PA, honor the memory of Leonard Abrams, z'l. He was our leader and colleague whose exceptional professionalism and kindness have set a benchmark for us all.

Len's enduring legacy of compassion and service will inspire generations within the Beth Sholom Congregation and the Middle Atlantic Region.

BETH SHOLOM
CONGREGATION • ELKINS PARK PA
MEN'S CLUB

May his memory be a perpetual blessing.

ARTHUR LASHIN

Middle Atlantic Regional Man of the Year
FJMC Ma'asim Tovim Award Honoree



BETH SHOLOM
CONGREGATION • ELKINS PARK PA
MEN'S CLUB

The officers and members of the Men's Club of Beth Sholom Congregation of Elkins Park, PA, take pride in recognizing the accomplishments of our esteemed leader and friend,Arthur Lashin.

We celebrate Art's unwavering commitment and exceptional leadership, which have made a lasting impact on our Men's Club, the Beth Sholom Community, the Middle Atlantic Region, and FJMC. His invaluable contributions have profoundly strengthened our community, and we will always cherish his legacy.

We wish you Mazal Tov!

Beth Sholom Men's Club

Thank You from Alan Budman

There are so many people who contributed to the success we have enjoyed during the last two years. No administration is successful without many, many people working very hard to accomplish its goals, and the Budman/Tomar Administration was no exception. Please join me in thanking the Executive Committee Team and my closest advisors and right-hand men, Honorary President Allan Kahan, 1st Vice President Bruce Tomar and Executive Director Rabbi Noam Raucher for the passion you brought to the table and the leadership you gave to your respective portfolios. I know that Bruce will do a tremendous job as FJMC President.

Thanks to the Past International Presidents and mentors, who provided me guidance, support and dedication to the organization in my journey to and during this role.

Thanks to all the various leaders of signature FJMC programs and the members too numerous to mention.

And to all the other men (and women) who made all the various facets of our organization function smoothly and successfully at all levels, thank you for your dedication and passion to the FJMC. Yasher Koach!

And finally, to my wife, Susan, our children, Heather and her husband Chris, Traci and her husband Dustin, and our beautiful granddaughters Isabella and Avary, I thank you for your support and love. I love you all!

Thank you!

Alan Budman
International President, FJMC 2023-25



Baruch Dayan HaEmet

The FJMC Middle Atlantic Region mourns the passing of

Leonard Abrams, Esq. z"l

FJMC Ma'asim Tovim Honoree
MAR Regional Man of the Year
Past President of the Middle Atlantic Region
Past President of Beth Sholom Congregation Men's Club
Past Chair of the FJMC Yellow Shoah Candle Project
Past Chair of the MAR Tour De Shuls Bike Ride for Camp Ramah

Len's legacy lives on in the many men who learned from his unassuming approach to leadership and natural empathy for others.

He was a rare human being,
A man we proudly called
LEADER, MENTOR & FRIEND.

YASHER KOACH

יישר כח

MARC COHEN

Mazel Tov on starting
second term as
FJMC International
Vice President
2025-2027



MIDDLE • ATLANTIC • REGION
fjmc

from your friends in the
FJMC Middle Atlantic Region

YASHER KOACH

יישר כח



STEVE PILCHIK
on completing your term as
MAR President
2023-2025



LARRY NATHANSON
on beginning your term as
MAR President
2025-2027

MIDDLE • ATLANTIC • REGION
fjmc

from your friends in the
FJMC Middle Atlantic Region

YASHER KOACH

יישר כח

ARTHUR LASHIN

Regional Man of the Year and

MA'ASIM TOVIM AWARD HONOREE



MIDDLE · ATLANTIC · REGION

fjmc

from your friends in the
FJMC Middle Atlantic Region

Yasher Koach on being the Middle Atlantic Region's Ma'asim Tovim Honoree



ART LASHIN

Thank You for all your valuable support and ideas. You have been a great mentor.

from

Larry Nathanson & Lyn Kugel

MIDWEST REGION



Michael Greenberg
Midwest

Michael was born in Chicago, Illinois and attended synagogue and schools located on the southeast side of Chicago. He first became active in the Jewish Community in high school as a member of Golden AZA and later attending Hillel in college. From grammar school through college he played trumpet and was an avid photographer.

Professionally, he received a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Illinois, College of Pharmacy, Department of Medicinal Chemistry, and worked as a scientist and Research Director for over 36 years in the food industry. Thirty years were spent working for the Wm. Wrigley Jr. Company during which he was an Inventor listed on over fifty five issued United States patents, numerous international patents, and author/coauthor on numerous publications in peer reviewed journals.

Michael joined Congregation Beth Shalom, Northbrook, Illinois in 1990 and became active in their Men's Club. He was the Club Treasurer, and held Vice President Positions in House, Membership, and Ways and Means. After a two year stint as Executive Vice President, he was the Club President during which they won FJMC Quality Club Awards and Torch Awards. In 2001, he became the Clubs Man of the Year and in 2010 he became the Kavod honoree. He was the Congregation Beth Shalom Youth Basketball Coach for two seasons, was the unofficial photographer at all major synagogue and Men's Club events, and sounded the shofar during High Holidays at Beth Shalom for twenty one years before retiring in 2020.

He became active in the Federation of Jewish Men's Club Midwest Region, serving as the Recording Secretary, Vice President, Executive Vice President and from 2013-15 as President. He was an editor and contributor to the Region Website, and the Region Newsletter entitled "The Communicator". He was the Region Photographer at Man of the Year, Region Events and International Conventions for over two decades. Key accomplishments as President included starting a Softball Tournament & BBQ- first held in 2013 which morphed into a Region Softball league that continues to this day, creating a Tu B'Shvat Haggadah for Clubs to hold Seders that was distributed to Region clubs, and expanding the annual Man of Year to include Youth of the Year with a fund raising option to support Youth Groups. Another major program improvement as a result of his efforts was the Midwest Region FJMC Retreat which was held from May 2-4, 2014 at Starved Rock State Park, Illinois. This major improvement involved a combination of venue, speakers, kosher food (yes, meat!!), libations, and plenty of ruach

In 2019, he authored a Jewish World War II history book entitled "Tables Turned on Them- Jews Guarding Nazi POWs Held in the United States". He presented the story behind the book at the 2019 FJMC Convention in Toronto, made over 30 Zoom Webinars to FJMC clubs from 2020-2021, 3 webinars to FJMC, and others to the National World War II Museum, the Chicago Jewish Historical Society, and Jewish War Veterans.

As a photographer, his images have been exhibited in the Greater Chicago Jewish Festival Art Fair, and many local galleries. Others have appeared in print such as the Fall 2012 Issue of "Voices of Conservative Judaism", the February 1, 2013 Jewish Daily Forward, the April 2016 cover photo and August 2019 issues of the Chicago Jewish News, and the 2020 Calendar of The United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism.

Michael has been married for over 40 years to his lovely wife, Judi, and they have lived in Northbrook for over 40 years. They have one son, Rob who is married to Molly and they live in Libertyville with our three year old granddaughter Ruby.

FULL PAGE – MIDWEST REGION

Mazel Tov to the 2025 FJMC Midwest Region Ma'asim Tovim Award Recipient
Michael Greenberg

Yasher Koach to the FJMC Midwest Region Outgoing President
Jonathan Norton

Thank you both for your dedicated service to the FJMC Midwest Region!
Mazel Tov and Yasher Koach to all 2025 Ma'asim Tovim Recipients

Bruce Martin
Alan Lighthstone
Mitchell Goldblatt
Jonathan Zimmer
Stephen Sturman
Karl Rubin
Art Lashin
Elliot Feldman
Milton Lipitz
Rob Blitzer
Bob Watts
Jonathan Epstein
Benny Sommerfeld

Jerry Agrest, z"l
In memory of the past President of FJMC's Midwest Region,
past FJMC International President and mentor to many.

Eric Yegelwel

FULL PAGE - MIDWEST REGION



Kol HaKavod to

Michael Greenberg on being the

2025 Midwest Region Ma'asim Tovim

Anshe Emet Synagogue congratulates you on your years of service to the FJMC, and for making our very own Midwest Region the best Region!

FULL PAGE - MIDWEST REGION

CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM
MEN'S CLUB

Congratulations to
our very own

Dr. Michael Greenberg

2025 Midwest Region
Ma'asim Tovim Honoree



"A man is great if today he is greater than yesterday, and tomorrow he is greater than today."

- Aaron David Gordon

FULL PAGE - MIDWEST REGION

In memory of our beloved friend
Jerry Agrest (z"l) —
the heart and soul of FJMC.

Congratulations to **Jon Norton** for his outstanding leadership of the MW Region these past two years.

Best wishes to **Eric Yegelwel** as he assumes the mantle of MW Region president.

We join in celebrating **Michael Greenberg** of the MW Region and the other distinguished men of FJMC being honored as they are recognized as מַעֲשִׂים טוֹבִים Ma'asim Tovim

כל הכבוד

Kol Hakavod **Alan Budman** and the outgoing FJMC Executive Board

מזל טוב

Mazal Tov **Bruce Tomar** and the incoming FJMC Executive Board

ישר כוח

Yasher koach **Louis Rabin** and the dedicated men of **Congregation Beth Judea Men's Club** for helping make our Men's Club the best in FJMC!



Evan and Merle Rumack

Norm and Joan Kurtz

fjmc
Leadership Innovation Community

FULL PAGE - MIDWEST REGION

We are proud of our Midwest Region's

Ma'asim Tovim 2025

(Doer of Good Deeds)

Mike Greenberg

Mazel Tov

On this well deserved honor!

Jay Englander
Midwest Region, Executive Vice President, 2025-27
&
Lisa Binowitz, MSW

And

Steven Bucksbaum
Midwest Region, Vice President, 2025-27
&
BettyAnn Brody-Bucksbaum, MD PhD

FULL PAGE - MIDWEST REGION

Congratulations & Yasher Koach to Ma'asim Tovim Honoree

Dr. Michael J. Greenberg

For your dedication and devotion to FJMC's Midwest Region and Congregation Beth Shalom, Northbrook, Illinois.

Our entire family is appreciative that your skills and commitment have now been recognized by the Jewish community.

Harris & Sharon Goldenberg
Trudi & Jay Krames/Family
Gary & Michelle Goldenberg/Family
Michelle & Dan White/Family

HALF PAGE - MIDWEST REGION



FJMC Midwest Region Past Ma'asim Tovim Recipients Salute Michael J. Greenberg

Dr. Jerry Agrest, z"l	Steve Lessman	Evan Rumack
Gerry Brin	Norwin Merens	Ernie Smolen, z"l
Mark Givarz	Howard Minkoff	Rodney Ugent
Norman Kurtz	Herbert Root	Sandy Victor

HALF PAGE - MIDWEST REGION

MAZEL TOV
TO OUR MEMBER
DR. MICHAEL GREENBERG

FJMC Midwest Region Ma'asim Tovim Honoree

We Celebrate Your Contributions & Dedication



CONGREGATION
BETH SHALOM

Rabbi David Chapman Cantor Steven Stoehr



Sue Lampert
Congregation President

Michael Garlin
Executive Director

3433 Walters Avenue, Northbrook, IL 60062 | 847.498.4100
www.bethshalomnb.org

Mazel Tov!

Dr. Michael J. Greenberg
Ma'asim Tovim Recipient 2025

Thank you for all you do for your Men's Club, FJMC's Midwest Region and Chicago's Jewish community.

North Suburban Synagogue
Beth El Men's Club

Highland Park, Illinois

QUARTER PAGE - MIDWEST REGION

Congratulations to Dr. Michael J. Greenberg

FJMC Midwest Region's 2025 Ma'asim Tovim Recipient

We have known you for more than **20** years and are thrilled you're being honored. As a fellow Beth Shalom men's club president and Region president, your friendship and effective counsel speaks volumes. Your beautiful photography appears on the walls of our home.

Mike, you encouraged me to join the CBS men's group. Thank you!

Pam & Harvey Redfern
Lincolnshire, Illinois

Congratulations

Dr. Michael J. Greenberg

THE 2025 FJMC MIDWEST REGION
MA□ASIM TOVIMAWARD RECIPIENT

Our family is so proud of your accomplishments and leadership!

A great role model to the Jewish people.

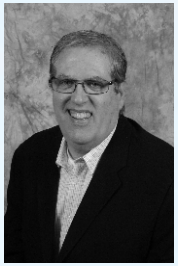
With much love from your wife, Judi Greenberg, son and daughter in-law Rob and Molly Greenberg,

And Granddaughter, Ruby!! Woo hoo!!

Congratulations goes to the Regional Midwest Ma'asim Tovim Honoree

Dr. Michael J. Greenberg

Yasher Ko'ach from your brothers from B'nai Amoona Men's Club



In memory of our dear friend and Past Anshe Emet Men's Club President Harvey Popolow ז״ל

You will always be remembered for your dedication to our Anshe Emet community and your many good deeds.

We know your memory will always be for a blessing.

The Anshe Emet Men's Club

QUARTER PAGE - MIDWEST REGION

Mazel Tov

Dr. Michael J. Greenberg

2025 Ma'asim Tovim Award Winner

From your good friends at

WISCONSIN CBINT MEN'S CLUB

Congregation Beth Judea Men's Club

Long Grove, IL

wishes

Mazal Tov

Michael Greenberg - MW Region Ma'asim Tovim recipient

Jon Norton - Immediate Past MW Region President

Congratulations

Eric Yegelwel - Incoming MW Region President

We mourn the passing of our beloved friend and mentor Jerry Agrest (z"l)

Congratulations & Mazel Tov,
Michael Greenberg

Michael, The Broodo clan is very proud of you
for your dedication, efforts and
numerous contributions
to FJMC's Midwest Region and
Congregation Beth Shalom.

Jack & Kenny Broodo

MAZEL TOV

Dr. Michael J. Greenberg

FJMC Midwest Region

2025 Ma'asim Tovim Recipient

An Honor Richly Deserved

Marylyn & Howard Minkoff

NEW ENGLAND REGION



Elliott Feldman
New England

Elliot has been active in leadership roles since he became President of the Temple Israel Brotherhood in Sharon at age 35. Some years later, he became the President of the New England Region, where he initiated the Region's first-ever Chili Cookoff, a very successful program. After finishing his term, he was named the national Vice President of Operations and then Vice President of Clubs. As VP of Operations, he led the effort to outsource the FJMC office operations, resulting in the hiring of Officense. As VP of Clubs, Elliot's committee helped bring in eight new clubs into FJMC and worked to increase the number of affinity groups within the FJMC webinars to six. He currently serves as the Chairman of the Focus on Families and Attracting Young Men Committee, a cause he holds dear for two reasons: the survival of FJMC depends on attracting younger men, and he believes that these men deserve the enriched lives and friendships that come with joining a men's club. This membership can help them overcome the isolation that so many of them face.

Elliot brings the same passion to his professional life. For over forty years, he has helped older people who have lost vision become more independent. It gives him great joy when patients tell him that he has significantly improved their lives. He is gratified to know that the program model he built many years ago is now being adopted by agencies serving people who are visually impaired across the country.

His volunteer activities include serving on the boards of the Sharon Council on Aging and Health & Social Services Consortium Elder Services. He has a particular interest in how society can help improve the health and quality of life of at-risk elders.

He is a past Vice President of Temple Israel of Sharon and a past chairman of several committees at Temple Israel, including a major gifts committee. Elliot is also a co-founder of the Temple Emanu-El Brotherhood of Providence.

He and his wife, Marcia, are the proud parents of four children: Joshua and Caroline, Amanda and Jonathon, Adam and Alison, and Sarah and Adam. They are thrilled to be the grandparents of six grandchildren, all five years old or younger: Jade, Ella, Eden, Piper, Landon, and Shay.

Elliot's hobbies include home repairs, baking desserts, and trying to keep up with his grandchildren.

Accordion Content



Mazel tov to Poppy or as you may know him, Elliot Feldman! A true builder of organizations, friendships and family.

Your dedication to Temple Israel of Sharon, its Brotherhood, the New England Region Brotherhood, and the National Brotherhood has made a lasting impact — one that fills us with immense pride.

With love from your biggest fans, Marcia, Josh, Caroline, Amanda, Jon, Adam, Ali, Sarah, Adam and the littlest cheer squad, Jade, Ella, Eden, Piper, Landon, and Shay



Mazel Tov to my Fellow Ma'asim Tovim Honorees

Rob Blitzer
Jonathan Epstein
Mitchell Goldblatt
Michael Greenberg
Art Lashin
Alan Lightstone
Jonathan Zimmer
Milton Lipitz
Bruce Martin
Karl Rubin
Benny Sommerfeld
Stephe Sturman
Bob Watts

I am fortunate and honored to be included in this group of men dedicated and committed to the FJMC mission.

Yours in Brotherhood,
~ Elliot Feldman

FULL PAGE - NEW ENGLAND REGION

Elliot Feldman

2025 Ma'asim Tovim Award Honoree New England Region



Elliot – you are an inspiration to us all!
All of us in the Brotherhood of Temple Israel of Sharon are proud to call you "brother!"

Mazal Tov and Kol Hakavod!



Temple Israel SHARON

FULL PAGE - NEW ENGLAND REGION



FULL PAGE - NEW ENGLAND REGION

NEW ENGLAND REGION fjmc

Kol Hakavod to our new Regional Board for 2025-2026

Marty Paley
President

Stephen Shrago
Executive Vice President

Russ Bernstein
Vice President of Clubs

David Landman
Vice President of Training

Howard Kaufman
Vice President of Recruiting

Alan Kritz
Treasurer

Steve Rafsky
Asst. Treasurer

Ken Turkewitz
Financial Secretary

Andy Fandel
Communications Secretary

Eric Pell
Recording Secretary

General Members
Larry Bressler

Max Pearlstein

Paul Davidson
Immediate Past President

FULL PAGE - NEW ENGLAND REGION

We celebrate the contributions of outgoing president, Paul Davidson and warmly welcome incoming president, Marty Paley



"When a man is made leader of the community, he becomes rich. "

Talmud, Yoma



NEW ENGLAND REGION fjmc

Honoring Elliot Feldman

רַבִּי יוֹסֵי אוֹמֵר, כָּל הַמְכַבֵּד אֶת הַתּוֹרָה, גּוּפוֹ מְכֻבָּד עַל הַבְּרִיּוֹת

Rabbi Yose said: whoever honors the Torah is himself honored by others

Pirke Avot, 4:6

Mazel tov to our Ma'asim Tovim Award winner. You live an exemplary life of dedication to your family, faith, friends and FJMC. Your local, regional and international contributions will stand for generations and for this, along with your menschlicheit, we say kol ha'kavod! May you go from strength to strength with warm thanks from the New England Region.



HALF PAGE - NEW ENGLAND REGION

With profound gratitude, we honor **Elliot Feldman** for embodying the spirit of Maasim Tovim.

Thank you, Elliot, for your dedication and contributions to our community.

We celebrate our friendship, your leadership, compassion, and unwavering commitment to making the world a better place!

MAZAL TOV!!

Bob Braitman and Bonnie Gordon

Congratulations to ALL the 2025 FJMC Honorees

A Very Special Congratulations to Elliot Feldman who said "**YES**" in 2005 with the promise that his involvement was for one term.

A hearty "well done" to Alan Budman who done his old Keruv buddies proud, and who has thrived in legal retirement.

A big "Thank You" to all who stepped up and who are stepping up to take the organization that we sold as "Not your grandfather's men's club," to something new again.

David Kaplan

HALF PAGE/COMBO - NEW ENGLAND REGION

The Beth El Temple of West Hartford Men' Club
honors **Phil Schulz**
for his many contributions on the local, regional, and international Men's Club levels
AND congratulates him on being installed as the new president of our Temple.

Elliot,
Your dedication to Brotherhood
and, of course, to our family,
is UNMATCHED!!

We are so proud,
Congrats on this well deserved honor!

Sherry

Elliot,
Yasher Koach
for your unselfish dedication
to the purpose of
the Brotherhood,
Temple Israel and
the community at large.
Mary & Morey Waltuck

COMBO - NEW ENGLAND REGION

FIve minutes after meeting you
for the first time, I knew you were
a man of many Ma'asim Tovim.
If the award had not yet existed
they would have invented it for you.

Mazal Tov!

David Gibeley

Alan,

Congratulations on your very successful presidency.

Thank you for your vision, leadership and friendship.

~ Marcia and Elliot Feldman

Mazel Tov, Elliot on the 2025 Ma'asim Tovim Award for the New England Region. It is an extraordinary achievement and a tribute to your work at the local, regional, and national levels is an example for all of us.
Kol Hakavod,
Rachel and Brian Silver

New England - Elliot Feldman,
Western - Benny Sommerfeld
Mazel Tov on a well deserved honor

Richard Silver

MAZEL TOV ELLIOT!

CONGRATULATIONS ON THIS HONOR.
YOU ARE SO DESERVING OF THIS,
AFTER ALL THE YEARS OF DEDICATION
TO YOUR CHAPTER AND JEWISH CAUSES.

ANDREA, NEIL, JILLIAN, MARNA, MITCH,
JAKE, ALEC AND GLORIA

MAZEL TOV TO ELLIOTT FELDMAN
ON RECEIVING THE MA'ASIM TOVIM AWARD
MAY YOU GO FROM
STRENGTH TO STRENGTH
DON & REGINA MILLER

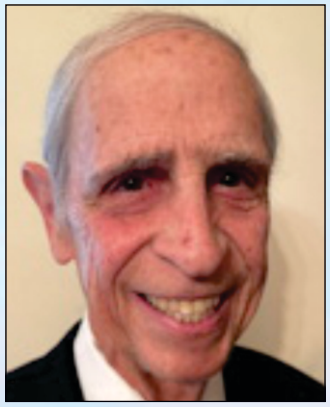
BUSINESS CARD - NEW ENGLAND REGION

Mazal Tov to Elliot Feldman on a well deserved honor. Karen and Natahn Beraha	Thank you for your outstanding contributions to both the New England Region and the International organization. Your leadership in outsourcing our office and transitioning to Officense has made a remarkable difference for FJMC—this transformation simply wouldn't have been possible without your dedication. Additionally, your thoughtful efforts to engage younger men have provided valuable insight and inspiration to all of us. David Singer
Mazel Tov. Paul & Debbie Bettan	Mazel Tov Eliot Feldman 2025 Ma'asim Tovim Award Alan J.Nissenbaum and Ellen Zarrow-Nissenbaum
Yasher Koach to Elliot Feldman **New England Region Ma'asim Tovim Honoree** **Rick Kramer and Sara Shapiro**	Larry, great renewal of the NER Retreat. Howard and Russ you have great opportunities as 2026 Retreat co-chiars. David Kaplan thanks for being our secret weapon Richard Gray
Congrats, Elliot, **well deserved!** **Dave Goldberg**	**Elliot,** ***your continuing commitments and accomplishments are most appreciated.*** **Richard Gray**

BUSINESS CARD - NEW ENGLAND REGION

New England's Keeper of fhe Flame is thriving after a great event hosted by Temple Emanuel in Newton and club president Adam Steinberg. Looking forward to a great new event at Temple Israel of Natick led by David Tursky, David Landman and Alan Avery-Peck. Kudos to the 300+ recipients over the past 25 years. "Once a Keeper always a Keeper". Richard Gray	Congrats Elliot for your honor of many years of dedication and service to your Chapter. Michael & Ruth Feldman
Paul, great run as NER president. Marty, looking forward to your enthusiastic future as incoming NER president. And kudos to the great bunch of guys of all ages and interests who make up the New England Region. Richard Gray	Elliot, Mazal Tov! What a great honor for a great guy! Steve Rafsky
Elliot: Your tireless devotion to all things FJMC goes beyond *good* works-- you do *spectacular works!* Mazal tov, Donna and Rob Carver	**Mazel Tov on the** **Ma'asim Tovim, Elliot** **Most deserved,** **Danny Mandeau**
Elliot Feldman **a well deserved honor** **Ronald Silver**	MAZAL TOV & KOL HAKAVOD ELLIOT! So proud to have you as a brother & friend! Cantor Alan & Lisa Kritz

NEW YORK METROPOLITAN REGION



Milton Liptz
New York Metro

Milton and his wife, Carol, have been members of Temple Beth El for more than forty years. Their three children had attended the Hebrew School and Hebrew High School, and had their Bat and Bar Mitzvahs at Temple Beth El. Their eight grandchildren have enjoyed taking part in many Temple events.

Milton earned a BBA from Bernard Baruch College, CUNY, and a Master's Degree from NYU in Educational Supervision and Administration. He was the Principal of "The Business, Computer Applications and Entrepreneurship Magnet High School" in NYC. Prior to that he was the Director of the "Work Experience and Training Unit" for the NYC Department of Education, and has also held various supervisory and administrative positions in the Educational field.

Although now retired from the Department of Education, he has continued to teach Introductory Business Management and Marketing Courses at St. John's University. He has also taught courses at LaGuardia Community College, and The Parsons School of Fashion at The New School.

As a member of the Board of Trustees at Temple Beth El, Milton is an active participant at Daily Minyans, Shabbat services, and at Holiday events. President of the Men's Club for the past six years, he has presided over many religious, cultural, and social programs for the Temple, including: The World Wide Wrap, Men's Club and Veterans Shabbats, Kristallnacht Memorial Programs, Yom HaShoah candle lighting programs, Tuesday Trivia programs held during COVID, Monday Night at the Movies with the Men's Club showing various Moriah Films purchased from the Simon Wiesenthal Center, and Drive-In Movies/Barbecue programs held in June. Trips have been organized to the Museum of Jewish Heritage, Tenement Museum, various Synagogues, as well as to various Sporting Events. Milton has established a Northwell Health Collaborative with eight Partners including Community Synagogues and the JCC, where pertinent medical issues/concerns are shared with the Congregants.

The Men's Club of Temple Beth El of Cedarhurst has won Torch Awards; A Gold Medal in the category of "Coping with COVID"; and a Silver Medal in the category of "Men's Health Programs". In addition, the Men's Club has won "The Quality Club Award" for six consecutive years.

Milton is an avid sports fan. He and his wife, Carol, a Clinical Psychologist, love to travel, and have visited many countries around the world. They also enjoy Broadway Shows, concerts, and museums. Above all, they love spending time with their family.

Always an enthusiastic person, Milton believes that a leader is only as strong as the people he works with. He is a team player who is very proud of the accomplishments of The Men's Club at Temple Beth El, and he is honored to be chosen MA'ASIM TOVIM representing the New York Metropolitan Region.

NEW YORK METRO REGION

fjmc

The Members of the

New York Metro Region

and its Executive Board

Mazal Tov

Milton Lipitz

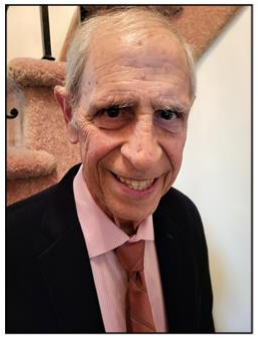
As Our

Ma'asim Tovim

Honoree

For your exemplary dedication to our region

Yasher Koach



NEW YORK METRO REGION

fjmc

The Members of the

New York Metro Region

and its Executive Board



Toda Raba

Shea Lerner

As The Outgoing

NY Metro Region President

2023–2025

Yasher Koach

NEW YORK METRO REGION

fjmc

The Members of the

New York Metro Region

and its Executive Board

Mazal Tov

Stuart Haimes



As The Incoming

NY Metro Region President

2025 - 2027

Chazak, Chazak, V'nitchazek

NEW YORK METRO REGION
fjmc

The Members of the
New York Metro Region
and its Executive Board



Toda Raba

Alan Budman

As The Outgoing
FJMC International President
2023-2025

Yasher Koach

NEW YORK METRO REGION fjmc

The Members of the

New York Metro Region

and its Executive Board

Mazal Tov

Bruce Tomar



As The Incoming

FJMC International President

2025-2027

Chazak, Chazak, V'nitchazek

FULL PAGE - NEW YORK METROPOLITAN REGION

MAZEL TOV
MILTON LIPITZ!

WE ARE SO PROUD THAT YOU WERE SELECTED TO BE THE MA'ASIM TOVIM FOR 2025—WELL DESERVED!!

THROUGH YOUR ROLE AS MEN'S CLUB PRESIDENT AT TEMPLE BETH EL OF CEDARHURST, NEW YORK, AND YOUR WORK WITH THE NEW YORK METROPOLITAN REGION OF THE FEDERATION OF JEWISH MEN'S CLUBS, WE HAVE WITNESSED YOUR DEDICATION, HARD WORK, AND COMMITMENT TO SERVING AND IMPROVING OUR COMMUNITY.

MAY WE CELEBRATE MANY MORE MILESTONES TOGETHER. L'CHAIM!!

WITH LOTS OF LOVE FROM YOUR FAMILY, XOXO
CAROL (WIFE), CHILDREN, AND GRANDCHILDREN

FULL PAGE - NEW YORK METROPOLITAN REGION

The Members of the

New York Metro Region

and its Executive Board

In Remembrance

Dr. Jerome Agrest z"l

FJMC Past International President; Regional Past President of the Midwest Region;
Ma'asim Tovim Honoree; Past Honoree of the FJMC Presidential Award;

Men's Club member of Congregation Beth Shalom, Northbrook IL.

His lifelong service, and dedication to the FJMC was deeply felt, and meaningful.

May the legacy of **Dr. Jerome Agrest** be a source of blessing, and comfort to all who knew, and loved him.

FULL PAGE - NEW YORK METROPOLITAN REGION

NEW YORK METRO REGION
fjmc

The Members of the
New York Metro Region
Toda Raba to the
Outgoing Executive Board 2023-2025

President
Shea Lerner

Executive VP Finance
Stuart Haimes

2 VP Operations
Jonathan Brody

3rd VP Membership & Programming
Warren Berkowitz

Treasurer
David Scherr

VP of Programs
Hal Berkowitz

VP of Community Outreach
Dr. Steven Mandel

VP Club Retention & Recruitment
Erez Barak

Recording Secretary
David Snyder

Corresponding Secretary
David Levine

Sgt. at Arms
Joe Bruck

Regional Spiritual Advisor
Rabbi Steven Conn

Immediate Past President
Aaron Altman

Yasher Koach

FULL PAGE - NEW YORK METROPOLITAN REGION

NEW YORK METRO REGION

fjmc

The Members of the
New York Metro Region
Mazal Tov to the
Incoming Executive Board 2025 2027

President
Stuart Haimes

Executive VP Finance
Jonathan Brody

2 VP Operations
Warren Berkowitz

3rd VP Membership & Programming
Milton Lipitz

Treasurer
David Scherr

VP of Programs
Hal Berkowitz

VP of Community Outreach
Steven Mandel, MD

VP Club Retention & Recruitment
Erez Barak

Regional Spiritual Advisor
Rabbi Steven Conn

Recording Secretary
David Snyder

Sgt. at Arms
Joe Bruck

Ass't Sgt. at Arms
N/A

Immediate Past President
Shea Z. Lerner

Chazak, Chazak, V'nitchazek

FULL PAGE - NEW YORK METROPOLITAN REGION

THE MEMBERS OF THE MEN' CLUB OF

TEMPLE BETH EL OF CEDARHURST

CONGRATULATES OUR PRESIDENT

MILTON LIPITZ

ON THE RECOGNITION OF HIS OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP
BY THE NEW YORK METRO REGION IN SELECTING HIM FOR THE

MA' ASIM TOVIM

(GOOD DEEDS) HONOR
AND NAMING HIM AS THEIR NEW

THIRD VICE PRESIDENT

Philip Altheim
Bill & Elaine Bergenfeld
David Betron
Steve Biller & Alese Gingold
Stewart Bluestone
David & Mady Cohen
Neil Coplan
Gilbert Davids
Herbert Donner
Steven & Ellen Ehrlich
Alvin Epstein
Michael Feinberg
Brian Fine
Robert & Rhonnie Fischman
Ephraim Garber
Laurence Gilbert
Steven Greenbaum
Joel & Evvy Harris
Jack Henenberg
Horace Herbsman
Michael Herzog
Richard Holland
Steve & Iris Howard
Stuart Kobrick
Mark Lebow
Richard Levi
James Lurie
Carl & Phyllis Malinowski
Isaac Malter
Mark Mundell
Michael Rattner
Marvin Rose
Richard Rubel
Steven Schlaff
Harvey Shaw
Steven Simon
Herbert & Rochelle Somer
Eugene Stern
Andrew Tarica
Mady & Frank Welner
Edward Wind
Philip Yacht
Fred & Elaine Zeilberger
Brian Zeigler
Alan & Shana Zuckerman

FULL PAGE - NEW YORK METROPOLITAN REGION

TEMPLE BETH EL

TEMPLE BETH EL OF CEDARHURST
is proud of our eternal Man of the Year and
Do-er of Good Deeds
MILTON LIPITZ

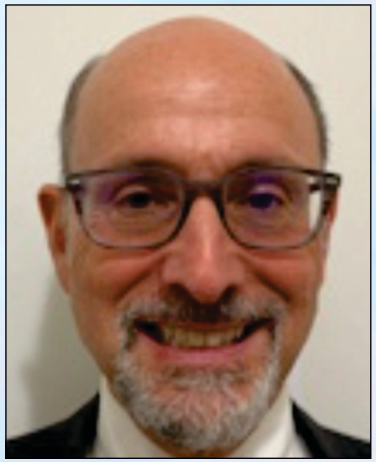
Milton has touched and enhanced so many aspects of congregational life.
We are happy to see him advance in the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs to serve as the incoming 3rd Vice President of the NY Region.

Mazel tov Milton from all of your friends and admirerers back home!

Bob Fischman	Rabbi Steven Kane	Dr. Edward Edelstein
President	Rabbi	Executive Director

Congratulations in your new role as
Senior 3rd Vice President of the New York Metropolitan
Region of the FJMC and as the recipient of the
Ma'asim Tovim Award.
We wish you every success in the future.
Mazel Tov!
Love, Roslyn and Harold Lipitz

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY REGION



Rob Blitzer
Northern New Jersy

Rob and his wife, Jerri, had been involved members of Beth El Synagogue in East Windsor, NJ for over 30 years. Jerri, had been Youth Commissioner and daughters Monica [past USY chapter president] and Stephanie were both very involved with youth groups and social action. For Rob, Men's Club was his chance to be in the Youth group he never was as a kid. Prior to becoming involved with Men's Club, Rob served on the synagogue board including executive positions as Fundraising and Membership Vice President.

After becoming his club's Man of the Year, Rob left the synagogue board and became Men's Club president. During his first term as president, the Club won a Torch Award for its World Wide Wrap program. During his second stint as club president, sharing the club presidency with Marshall Alter, the Beth El Synagogue Men's Club was awarded the Quality Club Award, which it received year after year. Beth El Synagogue Men's Club served the community well, living up to its motto: Help out and have fun!

At some point Rob was asked to join the Northern New Jersey Region (NNJR) board, where he has been working to help Jewish guys from Jersey get the most out of FJMC. His first big role for the region was chairing the convention committee and with his efforts, a record number of attendees from the NNJR community descended upon Philadelphia (2009).

Rob believes community is critical to fostering the FJMC's mission of involving Jewish men in Jewish life. The rewards of community and Jewish living are most evident at convention and regional retreats. For many years, Rob chaired the biennial multi-region retreat, successfully coordinating with leaders from the Hudson Valley, Middle Atlantic and New York Metro Regions. This past year the retreat welcomed FJMC Executive Director Noam Raucher and his kids, to another successful multi-region retreat. The success of the retreat was really measured by the tremendous friendship, learning and camaraderie that the men took with them, not to mention the amazing bonfire Saturday night.

Rob continued to take on leadership positions within NNJR, and eventually became NNJR President in 2020 – – more like virtual President as Covid put a stop to all in-person events. Rob helped keep NNJR afloat by pivoting to virtual events on Zoom, including the Presidents' Dinner and Man of the Year programs. These successful events provided a blueprint for FJMC and other regions to follow.

While he continues to devote time to the NNJR as part of the executive board, Rob has become more involved at the international level of FJMC. This past year he chaired the Leadership Development Institute (LDI), has been involved with new club recruitment and is co-chair of Programming for the 2025 FJMC Convention.

Rob is honored to be the NNJR Ma'asim Tovim honoree. In large part, he says, it is because of the support of his wife, Jerri, that he has been able to help out and have fun as part of the FJMC

We make a living by what we get.
We make a life by what we give.
Winston Churchill

Yasher Koach

Ma' asim Tovim Award Honoree

Robert Blitzer

FJMC Distinguished Service Award Honorees

Jerry Brodsky
Norm Katz

Presidential Award Honoree

Myles Simpson

You are an inspiration to us all.

With Admiration and Respect

David Julis

Mazel Tov!

Ma' asim Tovim Award Honoree

Robert Blitzer

FJMC Distinguished Service Award Honorees

Jerry Brodsky

Norm Katz

Presidential Award Honoree

Myles Simpson

From the NNJR Board of Directors



Allan Budman

כֹּל הַכָּבוֹד !

We thank you for your
leadership and guidance.
Northern New Jersey Region



Bruce Tomar

We congratulate you on being named
FJMC International President.
We wish you the best of luck
for your term of office.

Northern New Jersey Region




Rob Blitzer
Your entire family appreciates all of the
מעשים טובים you have done for us.
We are so proud of you.
Love and hugs -
Jerri, Monica & Steph
along with Dad & Luca

Mazal Tov to Rob Blitzer
NNJR Maasim Tovim

With many thanks and deep appreciation for what you do for the Northern New Jersey Region and FJMC.

David and Lisa Glass and Family



FULL PAGE - NORTHERN NEW JERSEY REGION

Mazel Tov to the 2025 FJMC Midwest Region Ma'asim Tovim
Award Recipient

Michael Greenberg

Yasher Koach to the FJMC Midwest Region Outgoing President

Jonathan Norton

Thank you both your dedicated service to the FJMC Midwest Region!

Mazel Tov and Yasher Koach to all the other Ma'asim Tovim Recipients

Bruce Martin
Alan Lighthstone
Mitchell Goldblatt
Jonathan Zimmer
Stephen Sturman
Karl Rubin
Art Lashin
Elliot Feldman
Milton Lipitz
Rob Blitzer
Bob Watts
Jonathan Epstein
Benny Sommerfeld

Jerry Agrest z'l
In memory of the past President of the FJMC Midwest Region, past FJMC International President and mentor to many.

Eric Yegelwel

FULL PAGE - NORTHERN NEW JERSEY REGION

Northern New Jersey Region

WE HONOR AND CONGRATULATE OUR

FRIENDS AND LOCAL HEROES

MA'ASIM TOVIM

ROB BLITZER

AND

NNJR PRESIDENTS ~ PAST AND FUTURE

DAVID JULIS & LARRY KLIOZE

AND ALL THE OTHER AWARD RECIPIENTS

AT THE 2025 FJMC INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

FROM YOUR FRIEND, LEN WHITMAN

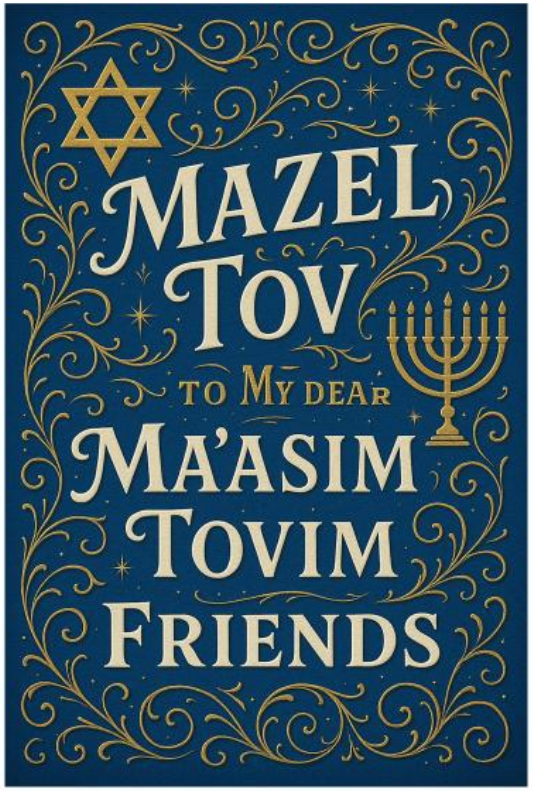
FULL PAGE - NORTHERN NEW JERSEY REGION



FULL PAGE - NORTHERN NEW JERSEY REGION



Benny Sommerfeld





Bob Watts



Jonathan Epstein

Your deeds have become national treasures. Each of you is so deserving of this award.

כל הכבוד!

Paul Davidson



Rob Blitzer

HALF PAGE/ COMBO - NORTHERN NEW JERSEY REGION

Mazal Tov to Incoming FJMC International President

Our Friend, Congregant, and Inspiration

BRUCE TOMAR

We are thrilled that the line of dedicated FJMC leaders runs through Beth El Voorhees!

May you and FJMC go from strength to strength.

קהילת בית אל
CONGREGATION
Beth El
ESTABLISHED 1921

Rabbi David Englander *Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro* *Rabbi Sam Hollander*

Jason Whitney, President

To Rob Blitzer,

the Northern New Jersey recipient of the
2025 Ma'asim Tovim Award:
Congratulations on this
well-deserved honor!
For the past thirty years, you and Jerri
have been truly special friends, and it's
a bond that we'll continue to treasure!

With love,
Caryn and Marshall Alter

Look for convention 2027!

SEABOARD REGION



Bob Watts
Seaboard

Bob Watts grew up in rural Connecticut, attended college in Florida, and Columbia U. for a Masters of International Affairs, and went to work for the State Department as a Foreign Service Economic Officer. His served overseas in Portugal and Brazil, and State sent him to Stanford for a MA in Economics, and after returning to DC, Bob met his beshert Linda at the State Department.

Bob grew up in an observant Episcopalian family, but had always been drawn to Judaism through friends and girlfriends. He completed his journey when he met Linda, who grew up in Cherry Hill, NJ. He and Linda were transferred to Peru where Bob studied for conversion in Spanish with the Masorti Rabbi there, and had his beit din at Temple Beth Sholom in Cherry Hill in 1994. Bob and Linda served together in Canada and Uzbekistan, with their two little children. Bob's first Men's Club experience in Ottawa.

Bob and Linda (and Vega and Zach) finally put down roots in Northern Virginia in 2004, and joined Congregation Olam Tikvah in Fairfax, VA. One fateful night during the 2004 AL pennant race, Bob answered a call and agreed to help out with the Men's Club to get off the phone and back to watching his Sox beat the Yankees.

Bob retired after 30 years as a diplomat in 2010, and stayed on part-time as a consultant at State until March 2025. While spending most of his as an economist, in his last job Bob picked up many social media, communications and IT skills. Stan Greenspan met Bob at the 2011 Convention and asked him to edit The Unraveller haftarah commentary. He set up the first FJMC webinars and has led the organization on social media, tech training, video and photography, and set up the FJMC Youtube channel.

Bob also felt that to deepen his FJMC commitment he needed to take up leadership, and became club President. He launching successful fundraising efforts, and with the club won two Gold Torch Awards for promoting Israel/Masorti causes. Bob became Seaboard Region President in 2021, followed by his appointment to the FJMC Executive Committee in 2021. He managed the migration and setup of the new FJMC website.

Bob became FJMC Secretary in 2023, and was nominated to be a Vice President for 2025-2027. He also manages the website, chairs the regional leadership program, and is on the Convention Programming, Inclusion, and International Committees. He supports club and region activities, organizing the region 2022 retreat, and helps coordinate work with the Abayudaya Jews of Uganda. He went with a FJMC delegation to Uganda in December, 2024 – January, 2025.

Bob has been active in other volunteer organizations. He was in the board of the regional Holocaust Commission, served on the board of his local JCC, is on the board of the Alumni Association of New College of Florida and mentors students on international careers. He is a member of the Fairfax County Democratic Committee, and manages the Olam Tikvah livestream. He loves classical music and every summer he and Linda spend time at the Wintergreen Music Festival in the Blue Ridge Mountains, often accompanied by children Vega, who lives in in Richmond, VA, and Zach, a graduate student in history at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA. The family is growing, as Zach is engaged to marry Ruby Jackson, a 4th grade teacher in Harrisonburg, the week after the 2025 FJMC Convention.

Bob is extremely proud and honored to have been chosen the region Ma'asim Tovim for 2025, and looks forward to continuing to work with his brothers to move the FJMC forward.

To Bob Watts

Mazel Tov on your Ma'asim Tovim Award
and becoming a Vice President of the FJMC!
We are proud of you for all you do for the FJMC, the region, club, congregation and our family,
from your loving family, wife Linda, kids Vega and Zach, brothers Lance and Jonathan, mother-in-law Minna, and brother and sister-in-law Joel and Monica







Congratulations to Bob Watts

For your Ma'asim Tovim Award

From your brethren at Olam Tikvah Men's Club

Because doing good is what Bob does



Mazel Tov

BOB WATTS

With love and appreciation
for all you do for the entire
Olam Tikvah community

FULL PAGE - SEABOARD REGION

We, past Regional Presidents of the Seaboard Region want to Congratulate and wish a Yasher Koach to……

Bob Watts

Seaboard Region Ma'asim Tovim Honoree

Your contributions as club president, Regional President, FJMC Secretary and now an International Vice President, are testament to your dedication to the organization and worthiness of this honor. Thank you for all you've done and will do in the years ahead.

Dan Moldover

Outgoing Regional President, Seaboard Region

You've taken the Region to new heights. We look forward, with anticipation, to the next chapter in your leadership journey.

Richard Sternberg

Incoming Regional President, Seaboard Region

We know you have the skills and dedication to bring the Seaboard to new heights. We look forward to helping you accomplish this. Don't hesitate to call on us.

Allan R. Kahan

Outgoing Honorary International President FJMC

Thank you for all you've done.

Dan Moldover, 2023-25

Alex Pomerantz, 2017-19

Bruce Gordon, 2015-17

Hal Freed, 2013-15

Bill Becker, 2011-13

Greg Gore, 2009-11

Jeff Moss, 2007-09

Michael Neulander, 2005-07

Irv Varkonyi, 2001-03

Norman Soroko, 1999-2001

Allan Kahan, 1997-99

Ira Bartfield, 1995-97

Mark Berlin, 1991-93

FULL PAGE - SEABOARD REGION



In honor of Seaboard Ma'asim Tovim Bob Watts

Thank you for your service to the FJMC, Seaboard, and Olam Tikvah

Tobias Dienstfrey

Elliott Dubin

Hal Freed

Patty & Bruce Gordon

Barry & Karen Hemmerdinger

Pearl & Barry Oslick

Alex Pomerantz

Alex & Linda Romano

Jim & Gwen Sloan

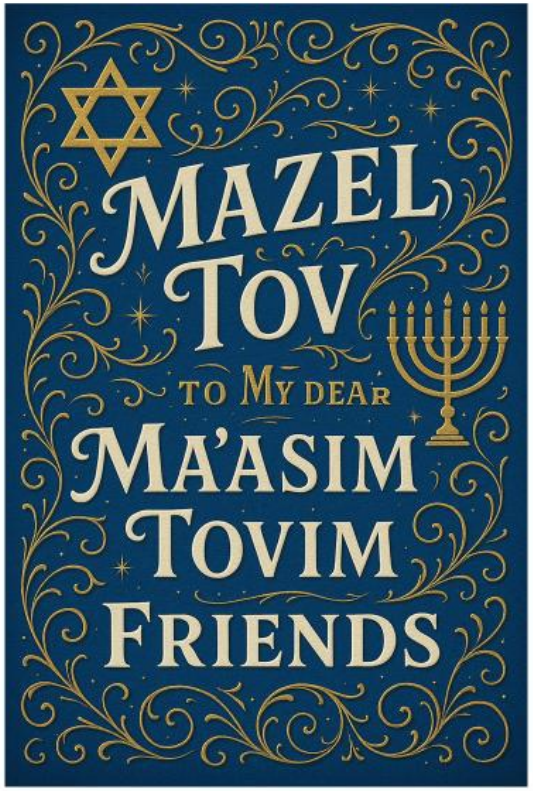
Gary Smith

Marc Smith

FULL PAGE - SEABOARD REGION



Benny Sommerfeld





Bob Watts



Jonathan Epstein

Your deeds have become national treasures. Each of you is so deserving of this award.

כל הכבוד!

Paul Davidson



Rob Blitzer

HALF PAGE - SEABOARD REGION

Beth El Men's Club - Norfolk, Virginia



Congratulates

Bob Watts

Seaboard Region
Leadership Innovation Community
fjmc
Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs

2025 Ma'asim Tovim Honoree

Seaboard Region
Leadership Innovation Community
fjmc
Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs

Congrats to Bob Watts on being Seaboard's Ma'asim Tovim and being an incoming FJMC International Vice-President.

Bob - you are a tremendous mentor and a dear friend, and we are so happy for you!

From Jordan and Barbara Baker

TRI-STATE REGION



Jonathan Epstein
Tri-State

Tri-State Region

Jonathan D. Epstein is President of the Tri-State Region and President of the Temple Beth Tzedek Brotherhood in Buffalo, N.Y., where he has been a member since moving to Buffalo with his wife, Judy, in 2004. He has led the Brotherhood for most of the last 16 years, reinvigorating it twice with the help of a core group of members and the synagogue's spiritual and lay leadership. He is also a current member of the synagogue's Board of Trustees, where he has previously served as Treasurer and Secretary, and chaired its Shofar newsletter committee.

Jonathan has been involved in FJMC since 2008, after being invited and recruited to participate in the Leadership Development Institute by former FJMC International President Stan Greenspan and other members of the former Lake Ontario Region from Toronto. He has attended several LDIs and international conventions since then, including in California, Boston, Toronto, Philadelphia, and most recently the current convention in Chicago.

He has been President of Tri-State since 2021, after succeeding Alex Kiderman, shortly after the Western New York clubs were transferred from Lake Ontario Region (renamed Anshe Tzafon) to the Tri-State Region just prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. He took on a second two-year term in 2023, and will be succeeded by Steve Haberman in 2025. Jonathan is also Vice Chair of FJMC's Young Men's/Young Families Initiative, a member of the HaD'var Newsletter Committee and Marketing Committee, a member of the International initative, a member of the 2025 Nominating Committee, and a member of the Strategic Task Force.

Professionally, Jonathan is a national and statewide award-winning Financial Reporter at The Buffalo News, covering real estate and development amidst the ongoing resurgence of Buffalo. He is part of the Business Next business desk covering Buffalo's business community, and previously covered banking, insurance, and real estate together for the newspaper.

Prior to joining the News in January 2004, Jonathan spent six and a half years covering banking, credit cards and insurance for The News Journal in Wilmington, Del., a 150,000-circulation Gannett Co. daily newspaper. He also covered small business lending. He began his career as a Community Banking reporter and deputy Community Banking section editor for The American Banker, a daily financial services newspaper owned by Thomson Corp., from July 1994 to August 1997.

A native of Schenectady, N.Y., Jonathan earned his bachelor's degree in history and political science from University of Rochester in 1993 and his master's in print journalism from Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism in 1994. He was also a journalism fellow at the Stonier Graduate School of Banking program at University of Delaware in 1997, a National Press Foundation Fellow in 2000, and a fellow of the Columbia Age Boom Academy in 2023.

Jonathan is active in the Jewish community in Western New York, where he is a past recipient of the Buffalo Jewish Federation's Ann & Meyer Riwchun Emerging Leadership Award. He is also immediate past-president of Kadimah Academy, a private K-8 Jewish day school organization in Western New York that is now collaborating with the Park School of Buffalo on an innovative partnership called Kadimah Scholars at Park.

He is married to a University of Rochester alumna, with a daughter at UR and a son in Kadimah Scholars at Park School, and resides in Amherst, N.Y.

FULL PAGE - TRI-STATE REGION

BETH EL MENS CLUB

BUILD A PAIR fjmc

Tri-State fjmc

BETH EL CONGREGATION OF THE SOUTH HILLS

Beth El Congregation

Beth El Men's Club

Build-a-Pair

Congratulate

FJMC

Tri-State Region

Men's Club Leaders



Ma'asim Tovim
Jonathan Epstein



Tri-State Exec VP
Howard Ressel



Club President
Greg Gordon



Tri-State President
Steve Haberman

FULL PAGE - TRI-STATE REGION

Congratulations to our International and Regional Leaders!

Tri-State Region



Ma'asim Tovim
Jonathan Epstein



President
Steve Haberman

FJMC



Outgoing President
Alan Budman



Incoming President
Bruce Tomar

FULL PAGE - TRI-STATE REGION



Temple Beth El
בית אל
Men's Club

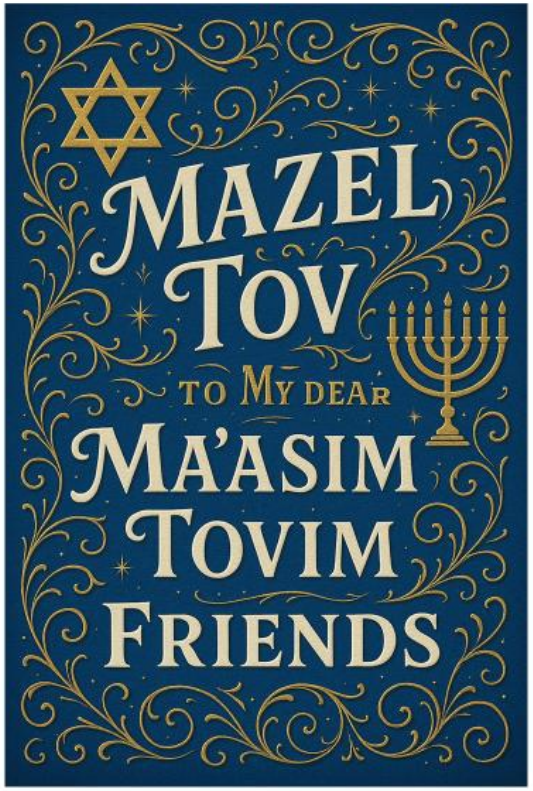
Congratulations to our Region's Maasim Tovim winner Jonathan Epstein!

Men's Club of Temple Beth El, Rochester, NY

FULL PAGE - TRI-STATE REGION



Benny Sommerfeld



Your deeds have become national treasures. Each of you is so deserving of this award.

כל הכבוד!

Paul Davidson



Bob Watts



Jonathan Epstein



Rob Blitzer

HALF PAGE - TRI-STATE REGION

Mazel Tov to Temple Beth Tzedek of Buffalo's
Jonathan Epstein on his well-deserved recognition as
Ma'asim Tovim for the Tri-State Region.
Mazel Tov also to all other honorees, particularly
our friends Bob Watts, Elliot Feldman and Jerry Brodsky,
who have worked closely with Jonathan, and to
FJMC's incoming and outgoing leadership.
Go Bills! Go Buffalo! Go Jonathan!
Brotherhood of Temple Beth Tzedek

Mazel Tov & Yasher Koach to
TriState Region's Ma'asim Tovim Honoree

Jonathan Epstein

Tri-State fjmc
Beth Shalom Men's Club

Mazel tov on new Tri-State Region officers:
President (Steve Haberman - Beth El Pittsburgh)
Exec VP (Howard Ressel - Beth El Rochester)
Secretary (Greg Gordon - Beth El Pittsburgh)
Treasurer (Warren Sufrin - Beth El Pittsburgh)
VP (Robbie Zaremberg - Beth Shalom Pittsburgh)
VP (Gil Wolfe -Temple Tzedek, Buffalo)

Beth Shalom בית שלום

WESTERN REGION



Benny Sommerfeld
Western

Benny Sommerfeld was born in Gothenburg (Göteborg), Sweden. Early on he was involved in the Jewish community through sports, playing soccer ("real" football) and the youth movement, Habonim. During his years in Sweden was active in the Jewish Congregation of Gothenburg as President of the Information Board and a member of the Youth and Leisure Board. He was part of a group that created the Jewish Local Radio station, with weekly live broadcasts interviewing Jewish personalities in town and playing Jewish music for the listeners. He served as program host and technician controlling the broadcast.

His professional career started as a Chemical Engineer at Volvo Cars. After seven years in Process Engineering, he transferred to Advanced Product Development. This brought him to the USA and California. Instead of returning back to Sweden he decided to stay, after meeting his Beshert wife, Irma at a Shabbat dinner in one of Los Angles' major conservative shuls.

Benny joined Valley Beth Shalom, Encino in 1993 and sang in their adult choir for the next ten years. During that time, he got married (1996). In 2006, he became involved in the Conservative movement through the Temple Etz Chaim Men's Club (MC) when he was asked to help organize the MC Shabbat. Benny was part of the MC Board as VP for different portfolios until he became President of the Club in 2012. He has continued his involvement in the Western Region and after rotating to different positions on the Regional Board, was President of the Western Region from 2017-2019. Benny has continued his leadership role within the FJMC. He has chaired LDI for the regional track twice and is now in his third term as member of the Executive Committee.

Benny served a layman Cantor in his congregation (until they found a Cantor) and is still part of the community until today. He has transitioned from engineering to becoming a clergy. Benny currently serves as the Associate Chaplain at his temple, while finishing his master's program to become a Jewish Chaplain.

Benny resides in Thousand Oaks California with his wife Irma, and they have two daughters, Naomi and Marissa who still live in Los Angeles.



The Western Region Executive Board Honors:

רַבִּי אֱלִיעֶזֶר אוֹמֵר, יְהִי כְבוֹד חֲבֵרְךָ
חָבִיב עָלֶיךָ כְּשֶׁלְּךָ

Rabbi Eliezer said: Let the honor of your friend be as dear to you as your own. -- Pirke Avot 2:10

Benny Sommerfeld
Our Ma'Asim Tovim Honoree
and
Incoming FJMC Vice President
Programming Jewish Life Program

Mitch Ross
Incoming FJMC Vice President Regions

Norm Katz
Distinguished Service Award

Gary Katz
Incoming FJMC Executive Vice President

Myles Simpson
Presidential Award

Mitch Elovitz
Incoming Regional President

Warren Sterling
Outgoing Regional President

Kol Hakavod as we go from Strength to Strength!

"We achieve greatness by handing over our values onto the next generation and empowering them to go and build the future."
- Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Yasher Koach to our friends in the Western Region
for their dedication and accomplishments

Benny Sommerfeld – Ma'asim Tovim Award

Gary Katz – incoming FJMC Executive Vice President
Mitch Ross – incoming FJMC Vice President
Benny Sommerfeld – incoming FJMC Vice President

Norm Katz – FJMC Distinguished Service Award

Warren Sterling – outgoing Region President
Mitch Elovitz – incoming Region President

הוּא הָיָה אוֹמֵר, לֹא עָלֶיךָ הַמְּלָאכָה לִגְמֹר, וְלֹא אַתָּה בֶן חוֹרִין לִבָּטֵל מִמֶּנָּה

He [Rabbi Tarfon] used to say: It is not your duty to finish the work,
but neither are you at liberty to neglect it. – Pirkei Avot, 2:16

May you all go from strength to strength!

Myles and Gail Simpson

NORMAN KATZ

ARTHUR LASHIN

International, Region and Club Leaders

Your Leadership, Innovation and Community Supports Our FJMC!



Thank you! Mazel Tov!

Edward Margolis, Co-Chair
FJMC Shoah Yellow Candles Program

In Honor of
Western Region Ma'asim Tovim Award recipient
Benny Sommerfeld

In Recognition of
Western Region President
Warren Sterling and the 2023-25 Board
and
Incoming Western Region President
Mitch Elovitz and the 2025-27 Board

May we continue to go from
Strength to Strength!

With much gratitude for all your hard work,

Mitch Ross

Mazel Tov

Mazel Tov to

Benny Sommerfeld

and

Myles Simpson

on their well-deserved honors from the
Federation of Jewish Men's Club

fjmc

Benny lives up to the ideals of Gemilut Hasidim
in all he does.

Myles continues to be a leader of
the highest caliber.

Both are dugma'ot for TEC, FJMC and beyond.
We love you and appreciate you.

Temple
Etz Chaim
עץ חיים

Mazel Tov and Yashir Koach to

Gary S. Katz

Incoming FJMC
Executive Vice President

and

Benny Sommerfeld

International Vice President
And Western Region
Maasim Tovim Awardee

We are very proud of you!

With love,

Irwin & Gloria Katz
Lynne Katz
Michael, Jennifer, Olivia, & Isla Katz
Jonathan Katz & Allison Rapundalo
Joshua Katz















In Honor of Our Western Region Leaders

Temple Etz Chaim
עץ חיים
Men's Club

We are proud to recognize the outstanding members of the FJMC Western Region for their upcoming service and continued dedication.

Our heartfelt congratulations to our new FJMC International Officers:

- **Gary Katz,** Executive Vice President
- **Benny Sommerfeld**, **Vice President**
- **Mitch Ross**, Vice President

Mazel Tov to **Norm Katz** on receiving the FJMC Distinguished Service Award. Thanks for you many years of hard work and commitment.

A special thank you to our outgoing President, **Warren Sterling**, for his tremendous leadership and service, and a warm welcome to our incoming President, **Mitch Elovitz**.

Your collective commitment and vision are the bedrock of our success. Thank you all for stepping up and making a difference.

Yasher Koach! With sincere gratitude and best wishes,

Temple Etz Chaim Men's Club

In Honor of Benny Sommerfeld, Recipient of the Ma'asim Tovim Award

Temple Etz Chaim
עץ חיים
Men's Club



Congratulations to Benny Sommerfeld on receiving the Ma'asim Tovim Award, our region's highest recognition for his many years of dedicated leadership and good deeds.

Yasher Koach and Mazel Tov on this wonderful honor!

Temple Etz Chaim's Men's Club

In Honor of Myles Simpson, Recipient of the 2025 FJMC Presidential Award

Temple Etz Chaim
עץ חיים
Men's Club



With immense pride, we congratulate Myles Simpson on receiving the 2025 FJMC Presidential Award. As only the tenth recipient, this award recognizes your visionary leadership and lasting contributions to the FJMC and Conservative/Masorti Judaism worldwide. This honor is profoundly deserved.

Mazel Tov on this momentous achievement!

With utmost respect and admiration

Temple Etz Chaim Men's Club

FULL PAGE - WESTERN REGION

In Recognition of

FJMC International President
Alan Budman and the 2023-25 Board
and
Incoming President
Bruce Tomar and the 2025-27 Board

May we continue to go from
Strength to Strength!

With much gratitude for all your hard work,

Mitch Ross

FULL PAGE - WESTERN REGION



Celebrating two incredible leaders who have truly made a difference – their passion, wisdom, and kindness have guided and inspired us all. Our Jewish community is stronger and their example will continue to motivate us every day.

Mazel tov to **Benny Sommerfeld** on your Maasim Tovim award and your installation as FJMC Vice President!

Yasher Koach to **Gary Katz** on your installation as Executive Vice President of the FJMC!

With love from the Temple Etz Chaim Havurah of Cindy & Marshall Scherr, Sherri & Marc Werber, Sue & Andy Richman, Arnie & Jackie Blitstein, Terri & Joe Zwicker, Linda & Ken Leon, Inez & Mark Zucherman, Lori & Jon Hops, Lisa & Rich Eidman, and Lynne Katz

FULL PAGE - WESTERN REGION

The Haimishe Havurah of Temple Etz Chaim is proud of **Benny Sommerfeld** and **Gary Katz** who enrich us with their love of Jewish culture and traditions! We are so proud to have you in our circle!



With love – Sharon Bass & Harold Seiden; Melinda Garabedian & David Harris; Lisa & Brian Hammer; Lynne Katz; Sandy Shanin & Bill Lasarow; Jen & Scott Levin; Irma Sommerfeld; Cindy Moss & Nathan Stelman; Juanita & Jerry Treshinsky

FULL PAGE - WESTERN REGION

From the 2023-2025 Executive Committee

To **Alan Budman** – Kol HaKavod! You have honored us all with your leadership over the past two years! Thank you for all that you have done and will continue to do for the FJMC! You will make an amazing Honorary President!

To **Bruce Tomar** – Yasher Koach & Mazel Tov! The FJMC clearly goes from strength to strength as you take over leadership of the FJMC.

חזק חזק ונתחזק - Hazak Hazak V'nit'hazek! – Be strong, be strong, and may we strengthen each other!



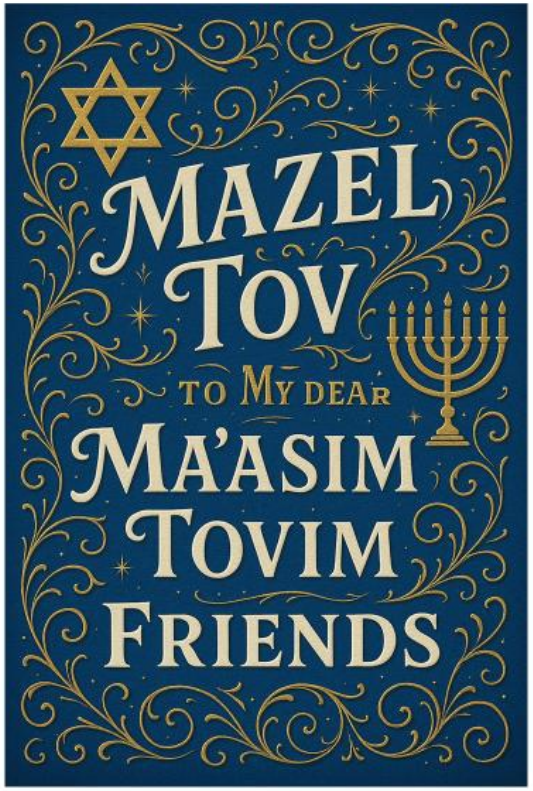
How good and how pleasant it is that brothers dwell together!

הִנֵּה מַה־טּוֹב וּמַה־נָּעִים
שֶׁבֶת אַחִים גַּם־יָחַד

FULL PAGE - WESTERN REGION



Benny Sommerfeld





Bob Watts



Jonathan Epstein

Your deeds have become national treasures. Each of you is so deserving of this award.

כל הכבוד!

Paul Davidson



Rob Blitzer

HALF PAGE - WESTERN REGION

HAVURAH ALEY HA'ETZ OF TEMPLE ETZ CHAIM

IN THOUSAND OAKS CALIFORNIA IS PROUD TO HONOR MYLES SIMPSON

Myles has dedicated himself to the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs. His hard work and perseverance have enabled the FJMC to grow and thrive. In addition to his commitment and leadership to FJMC, Myles has been an integral part of our Havurah for more than 40 years, and we are proud to call him our dear friend.

"From Strength to Strength"

With Love,

Laura and Geoff Graham, Merrill and Steve Kaminsky, Wendy and Peter Margolis, Dave Munowitch and Emily Habib, Janice and Yaakov Orlowski, Karen and Michael Roberts, Sheri and Jeff Schoenwald, Lynnette Shifman, David Yodkovik and Michelle Orkin, and Betty and Bob Zonshine



COMBO - COMBINED REGIONS

OTMC
OR TZION MEN'S CLUB
CONGRATULATES OUR CLUB AND REGIONAL LEADERS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SERVICE AND NEW ROLES



Howard Oremland
Incoming OTMC President



Ken Matlick
VP Admin for FJMC Western Region



Mitch Ross
VP Regions, FJMC International Executive Committee



Scott Vineberg
VP Programming for FJMC Western Region

Special Thanks to



Sam Binder

Outgoing OTMC President after 4 years of service!

Mazel Tov
on the Ma'asim Tovim
my singing friend Bennie!

Most deserved,
Danny Mandeau

Mazel Tov to Jonathan Epstein
FJMC Tri-State Region
2025 Ma'asim Tovim Honoree
A well-deserved honor to a dedicated person

Norwin & Laura Merens

Mazel Tov
to
Elliot Feldman
A true *mensch*, who's spread
Menschlichkeit in all he's done
*from the **B'nai Tikvah Brotherhood***
Canton, Mass.

Congratulations in your new role as
Senior 3rd Vice President of the New York Metropolitan Region of the FJMC and as the recipient of the Ma'asim Tovim Award.
We wish you every success in the future.
Mazel Tov!
Love, Roslyn and Harold Lipitz

EXTRA ADS - ALL REGIONS

YASHER KOACH TO

MITCH GOLDBLATT

MAY YOU GO
FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

DON & REGINA MILLER

מזל טוב אליוט
Mazel Tov Elliot
You exemplify and live out the following teaching:
רבי ירמיה אמר העוסק בצורכי ציבור כעוסק בדברי תורה
Rabbi Yirmiyah said:
The one occupied with the needs of the community is like one who is occupied with matters of Torah.
Andrea Gouze & Gershon Levine

In Honor of Eliezer (aka Elliot) Feldman
for his numerous deeds performed with sincerity and selflessness for multitudes.
With abiding friendship,

Hazzan Zev (aka Steven) and Myrna Dress

Congratulations Bruce!

Good luck.

Danny Mandeau

Mazel Tov Bruce!

Wishing you the best in your Presidency!

Love,
Jill and Scott Tomar

Mazel Tov, Elliot on the 2025 Ma'asim Tovim Award for the New England Region. It is an extraordinary achievement and a tribute to your work at the local, regional, and national levels is an example for all of us.
Kol Hakavod,
Rachel and Brian Silver

CHICAGO JULY 3-6 2025

fjmc™ INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

EMBRACING CHANGE • ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES

AWARD SECTION

QUALITY CLUB AWARDS

The FJMC Quality Club Award is given each year to FJMC clubs who meet established criteria for high quality programming, club administration and involvement at the regional and international levels. This award was developed to encourage clubs to pursue excellence in these areas. The Quality Club criteria may serve as an invaluable template for any club to follow in planning its yearly activities and goals. Clubs that qualify for the award receive an engraved plaque that can hold up to 15 annual award tags. The awards are presented in even-numbered years at a regional event and in odd-numbered years at the FJMC International Convention.

Award Criteria

To qualify for the award, your club must satisfy all six (6) Mandatory Requirements, and at least ten (10) of the twenty (20) Optional Requirements (including at least one from each category). Please note that being current with your membership list (in Chaverot) and FJMC dues payments are essential to achieving the award. Please see the Quality Club Award Criteria page on the FJMC website for more information.

Application Deadline

The deadline for submitting a 2023-2024 Quality Club Award application will be Friday, May 31, 2024. All applications must be received by then to be considered for the award. There are often clubs that satisfy all the criteria, but don't apply and are not considered for the award. Please don't be one of those clubs–get your application in on time!!!

FJMC believes that all clubs deserve recognition for the great work that you do in your synagogues and communities. We encourage you to look over the criteria now. If your club is functioning well, you will most likely meet many, if not all, of them. If you are missing any, there is plenty of time to plan and fulfill the requirements. Winning the FJMC Quality Club Award brings with it a great sense of accomplishment and pride which can be a tremendous asset to your club.

Any questions or comments, please contact the Quality Club Award Committee at fjmcqualityclubawards@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Steve Silverstone

Steve Silverstone
Scott Vineberg
Co-Chairs, Quality Club Award Committee

QUALITY REGION AWARDS CRITERIA

The FJMC Quality Club Award represents excellence and shows it to your fellow club members and congregation. This program was developed to encourage clubs to offer specific types of activities at the local, regional, and international level. The awards are given each year to FJMC affiliated clubs who meet established criteria. The Quality Club Award criteria list may also be used as a blueprint for a club to follow in planning its annual programs, organizing its club administration, and implementing a communication plan, since they represent best practices. The award plate (tag), to be added to your club's plaque, is presented in even numbered years at a regional event and in odd numbered years at the FJMC International Convention.

CLUB ACTIVITIES: (Choose any 4)

1. 50% of clubs have registered online and conducted the World Wide Wrap.
2. 50% of clubs have paid their dues in full to the FJMC as of the end of February of the current year and less than 1/3 have past due balances.
3. 50% of clubs have submitted a current and/or updated membership as of May 1st. For your information, dues for the following year are based on the roster detail as of August 31st of each year.
4. 60% of clubs have, within the last year, run any FJMC Program (as listed on fjmc.org)
5. 25% of the clubs sent at least one member to the previous Convention. 25% of the clubs have registered at least one member to the upcoming Convention by May 1.
6. 50% of the clubs have or will be conducting a Men's Club Shabbat by May 31 (Friday night, Saturday morning, or both). Please provide the date(s).
7. 25% of the clubs won the Quality Club Award (QCA) in either of the past two years.
8. 25% of the clubs share calendar and event information with the region and/or other clubs. Please provide the link to the calendar.

REGION ACTIVITIES: (Choose any 6)

Mandatory: The region has at least one (1) first timer registered for the upcoming International Convention by May 1.

1. Aid clubs by purchasing, organizing, and/or distributing FJMC Shoah Yellow Candles within the last year.
2. At least 35% of the region's executive board attended Leadership Development Institute (LDI), an FJMC Executive Committee or Board of Directors Meeting in the past two years.
3. The region conducts(ed) or actively participates(ed) in a regional retreat since the previous convention. Please provide the date.
4. The region has a regular newsletter or other regular communication to the Club Presidents.
5. The region conducts training sessions other than at retreat for its clubs' leaders within the last 2 years such as a regional LDI.
6. The region holds a recognition event for regional and club honorees such as a Man and/or Youth of the Year each year. Please provide the date and the type of the last event held.
7. The region has someone in place as of May 1, to be the next or continuing regional president. (Person does not need to have the formal title of first vice president but must acknowledge his willingness to serve and his name must be submitted to satisfy this requirement.). Please provide the person's name.
8. The region has a written and adopted budget for either of the past two program years. Please attach it.
9. The region has a published calendar of activities for either of the past two program years. Please attach it.
10. The region has an elected FJMC regional officer who is serving on the FJMC Executive Board or actively serving on an International FJMC committee within the last year. Please identify the person and Board or Committee.
11. The region has active discussions about joining FJMC with at least one club not affiliated with FJMC during the region's past two program years. Please provide Club name and contact information. This cannot be the same Club two or more applications in a row.
12. The region has a designated liaison from the Region Board to each club. Please provide a list.

All applications were submitted to Chairman Larry Klioze, (larryklioze@fjmc.org)

QUALITY CLUB / REGION AWARDS

There are 38 clubs that qualified for the Quality Club Award this year:

1. **Anshei Darom**
   Beth El Men's Club, Birmingham, AL
   Etz Chaim Men's Club, Marietta, GA
   Temple Israel Men's Club, Charlotte, NC
2. **Ansh'eh Zafon**
   Bathhurst Manor Jewish Centre Men's Club, North York, On1.
3. **Connecticut Valley Region**
   Beth El Temple Men's Club, West Hartford, CT
4 **Florida Region**
   Temple Beth Am Men's Club, Margate, FL
   Beth Shalom Men's Club, Clearwater, FL
   Kol Ami Brotherhood, Tampa, FL
   Temple Torat Emet Men's Club, West Boynton Beach, FL
5. **KIO+**
   B'nai Jeshurun Men's Club, Pepper Pike, OH
   Tifereth Israel Men's Club, Columbus, OH
   Beth Hillel-Beth El Men's Club - Wynnewood, PA (522)
   Beth Sholom Men's Club - Elkins Park PA
   Temple Sinai - Dresher PA
   Temple Beth Sholom Men's Club - Cherry Hill, NJ (561)
6. **Middle Atlantic**
   Beth Hillel Beth El Men's Club, Wynnewood, PA
   Beth Sholom Men's Club, Elkins Park, PA
   Tifereth Israel Men's Club, Bensalem, PA
7. **Midwest Region**
   Anshe Emet Men's Club, Chicago, IL
   Beth Judea Men's Club, Long Grove, IL
   B'nai Amoona Men's Club, St Louis, MO
8. **New England Region**
   Temple Emunah Brotherhood, Lexington, MA
   Temple Israel of Natick Men's Club, Natick, MA
   Temple Israel of Sharon Brotherhood, Sharon, MA
9. **New York Metro Region**
   Beth El Men's Club, Cedarhurst, NY
   Midway Jewish Center Men's Club, Syosset, NY
   North Shore Jewish Center Men's Club, Port Jefferson Station, NY
   Plainview Jewish Center Men's Club, Plainview, NY
10. **Northern New Jersey Region**
    East Brunswick Jewish Center Men's Club, East Brunswick, NJ
    Highland Park Conservative Temple Men's Club, Highland Park, NJ
    Marlboro Jewish Center Men's Club, Marlboro, NJ
11. **Seaboard Region**
    B'nai Israel Men's Club, Rockville, MD
    Har Shalom Men's Club, Potomac , MD
    Olam Tikvah Men's Club, Fairfax, VA
    Temple Israel Men's Club, Norfolk, VA
12. **Texas**
    Beth Torah Men's Club, Richardson, TX
13. **Tri-State Region**
    Brotherhood of Temple Beth Tzedek, Buffalo, NY
14. **Western Region**
    Etz Chaim Men's Club, Thousand Oaks, CA
    Neveh Shalom Men's Club, Portland, OR
    Or Tzion Men's Club, Scottsdale, AZ

There are 14 regions that qualified for the Quality Region Award this year:

TORCH AWARDS

Beginning from its implementation back in 1991, the goal of Torch Awards has been to encourage the development of innovative programming, recognize those clubs that develop quality programming, build community, and support the growth and development of all our FJMC International clubs. Torch Awards is a win win for everyone in our organization! Such signature FJMC programs as the World Wide Wrap, Build A Pair and the Shoah Yellow Candle Memorial Program, began from original club programming submitted for a Torch Award.

And to continue the strong support that our clubs offer to each other, for this cycle, we were privileged to have received 80 application submissions, featuring a wide variety of creative and unique programming ideas, from a total of 29 Men's Clubs and Brotherhoods from all across our FJMC International organization. Torch Awards were offered to be placed in 20 various categories, with the addition this year of adding a category to highlight how our clubs are supporting the combating of antisemitism. We also removed the category of 'Covid 19', with the need for that type of programming hopefully now in our rear-view mirror.

We proudly had application submissions placed in 18 of these 20 available categories. Our committee also oversaw to make sure the applications were felt to be placed in the appropriate category. Each application was scored by two judges, over a variety of criteria, and the average score was used to determine the rankings in each separate category, with, again, our committee working to oversee the accuracy of the judging and award rankings.

The Torch Awards Committee deeply thanks all our FJMC International clubs listed below who submitted applications. At the awards ceremony on Friday, July 4, at the International Convention in Chicago, all of the clubs were honored with either a plaque for a Gold, Silver or Bronze award or with a Certificate of Recognition in appreciation for their excellent service to our organization and, as well, most importantly to all of our communities.

Anshei Darom Region
Beth El Men's Club Men's Club, Birmingham, AL
Etz Chaim Men's Club, Marietta, GA
Temple Israel Men's Club, Charlotte, NC (Best Overall Club Torch Award Bronze Winner)

Connecticut Valley Region
Beth El Temple Men's Club, West Hartford, CT

Florida Region
Beth Am Men's Club, Margate, FL
Beth Torah Sharay Tzedek Men's Club, Tamarac, FL
Congregation B'nai Torah Men's Club, Ormond Beach, FL
Kol Ami Brotherhood, Tampa, FL
Ohev Shalom Men's Club, Maitland, FL
Temple Beth Torah Brotherhood, Wellington, FL
Temple Israel Men's Club, Winter Springs, FL
Temple Torat Emet Men's Club, West Boynton Beach, FL

TORCH AWARDS (CONT'D)

KIO+ Region
Tifereth Israel Men's Club, Columbus, OH

Middle Atlantic Region
South Jersey Men's Club, Cherry Hill, NJ
(Best Overall Club Torch Award Silver Winner)

Midwest Region
Anshe Emet Men's Club, Chicago, IL
B'nai Amoona Men's Club, St. Louis, MO
Congregation Beth Judea Men's Club, Long Grove, IL
Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club, Northbrook, IL

New England Region
Temple Emanuel Brotherhood, Newton, MA
Temple Israel of Natick Men's Club, Natick, MA
Temple Israel of Sharon Brotherhood, Sharon, MA
(Best Overall Club Torch Award Gold Winner)

New York Metropolitan Region
Beth El Men's Club, Cedarhurst, NY
Midway Jewish Center Men's Club, Syosset, NY

Northern New Jersey Region
Temple Beth Ahm Yisrael Men's Club, Springfield, NJ

Seaboard Region
B'nai Israel Men's Club, Rockville, MD
Olam Tikvah Men's Club, Fairfax, VA
Temple Israel Men's Club, Norfolk, VA

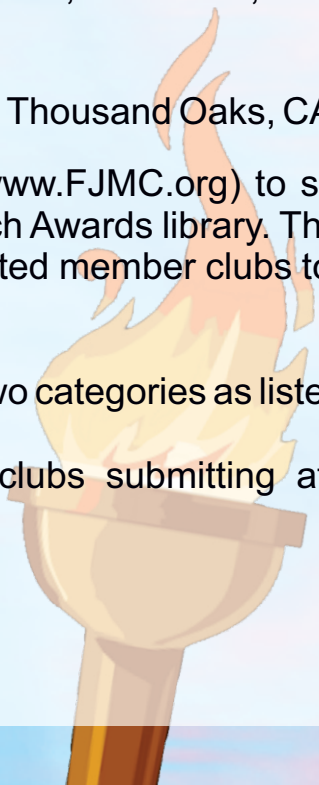
Tri-State Region
Beth Shalom Men's Club, Pittsburgh, PA
Temple Beth El Men's Club, Rochester, NY

Western Region
Etz Chaim Men's Club, Thousand Oaks, CA

Please visit the Torch Awards section of the FJMC International website (www.FJMC.org) to see the final results, in addition to all the detailed submissions that will be placed in the Torch Awards library. These will join the multitude of submissions already placed from previous years for our affiliated member clubs to utilize and benefit towards their programming success.

We were also honored at the Convention to present Regional Torch Awards in two categories as listed below:

Regional Participation Award (Region with the highest percentage of clubs submitting at least one application):
Gold Award: Tri- State and Midwest Regions
Silver Award: Florida Region
Bronze Award: Anshei Darom Region



TORCH AWARDS (CONT'D)

Best Overall Region Torch Award (Region with the highest cumulative score among clubs):
Gold Award: New England Region
Silver Award: Anshei Darom Region
Bronze Award: Midwest Region

We've all heard the expression, "It Takes a Village," and this is no more truer than with Torch Awards. We express our deep gratitude and Kol HaKavod to the following leaders and members of our organization who participated with their excellent support.

Torch Awards Committee:

Lester Shapiro, Acting Chair
Stephe Sturman
Jon Medwin
Rick Wronzberg
Benny Sommerfeld (Advisor and Supporter)
Bob Watts (Advisor and Supporter)
Jerry Emdur (Award Plaques)
Allan Kahan (Certificates of Recognition)

Judges:

Chuck Bernstein
Jerry Brodsky
Jonathan Brody
Alan Budman
Paul Davidson
Al Davis
Mitch Elovitz
Elliot Feldman
Stan Greenspan
Mark Givarz
Larry Klioze
Dave Kravitz
Blake Lenett
Phil Margolis
Danny Mandeau
Jon Medwin
Marty Melnick
Norwin Merens
Larry Nathanson
Jon Norton
Gregg Pollack
Evan Rumack
Mitch Ross
Karl Rubin
Jeff Schulman
David Singer
Myles Simpson
Tom Sudow
Irv Varkonyi
Sandy Victor
Eric Yegelwel
Len Zangwill



TORCH AWARDS (CONT'D)

Torch Award Application Submitters:

Bob Braitman
Elliot Davis
Dave Diamond
Mitch Elovitz
Elliot Feldman
Scot Fowler
Larry Gerson
Lewis Gertz
Seth Gitell
Mark Givarz
David Glass
Dana Goldfarb
Bob Goldwin
Bruce Gordon
Howard Kaplan
Gary Keimach
Milton Lipitz
David Magness
Danny Mandeau
Marty Melnick
Loren Meyer
Matthew Nathan
Mike Perloff
Alan Pransky
Howard Ressel
Mark Rosenson
Jason Saltsberg
Barry Seeskin
Jake Sheff
Moshe Shmia
Stanley Shumas
Brian Silver
Norman Soroko
Gary Sternberg
Sandy Victor
Harold Waisel
Erik Wind
Glenn Wohl
Joel Zaidspiner
Robbie Zaremberg
Jonathan Zimmer
Mark Zucherman



CHICAGO JULY 3-6 2025

fjmc™ INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

EMBRACING CHANGE • ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES

FOUNDATION SECTION

FJMC FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH LIFE

Who We Are

The purposes for which this Corporation is formed are:
To support the activities, aims and mission of the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs, Inc. ("FJMC"), a New York not-for-profit corporation which is recognized as tax exempt by the Internal Revenue Service, and to provide funding for activities that will enhance Jewish life now and in the future. It is intended that FJMC and the Foundation will work together to guide and assist Conservative Jewish men in congregational activities and in community and global service. Through this collaboration, the Foundation will strive to help bring knowledge, understanding, and harmony to the Jewish world and its neighbors.

Why I'm Involved

When Tom Sudow asked me to join the Foundation for Jewish Life of the FJMC some ten years ago, I proudly said "Yes," as I understood the vital need to support the good works of the FJMC. As I looked back at my years of affiliation with FJMC, I recalled the invaluable help of Rabbi Simon in the re-creation of my own club in the West End Synagogue in Nashville, Tennessee.

We recreated our Men's Club after an absence of over three decades. As we reached out to our congregation with the gift of a Yellow Yom HaShoah candle for all congregants, we began to appreciate the value of the FJMC, and it has continued to support our club and the Anshei Darom Region with valuable programs that enhance our Jewish lives and make us proud to carry on the traditions of the Jewish people. I felt very honored to be a member of the Foundation for Jewish Life, and when the opportunity to help create the Legacy Society was presented, I jumped in with both feet.

Both Ruthi and I recognized that to maintain the good works of the FJMC in perpetuity, the Foundation needed a long-term fundraising vehicle to help establish an endowment that would grow, and at the same time, support the many initiatives of the FJMC.

I am proud to be a founding member of the Legacy Society and to have made a lifetime gift to ensure that the great works of the FJMC continue into the future.

Dr. Eugene and Ruthi Sacks

FJMC FOUNDATION FOR JEWISH LIFE

Mission Statement

“Just as my fathers planted for me, so shall I plant for my children" – Babylonian Talmud

Why YOU should become a Partner with the FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life

Since 2003, the Foundation for Jewish Life, Inc., (FJMC Foundation) has been instrumental in partnering with FJMC to bring leadership, innovation, and community to Conservative/Masorti Jewish Men. Our commitment as leaders and as Jewish men is to ensure that the guiding values which make us better fathers, spouses and Menschen continue as a legacy for future generations. Involvement in your men’s club, your region and the FJMC is a reflection of that commitment. Your support of the FJMC Foundation transforms your gifts into an Endowment which sustains the FJMC to continue to enrich the lives of Jewish Men.

LEADERSHIP

The FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life, is committed to addressing men’s leadership role in a changing world. We help build future leaders in the Jewish Community by providing training and tools through funding a yearly Leadership Development Institute. We are striving to make the FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life, LDI the premier Men’s Jewish leadership development institute in the world.

INNOVATION

The FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life, provides ongoing funding for grants to our Men’s clubs for creative initiatives and programming that can be used by our clubs and regions. Providing financial support is paramount for us to continue to develop innovative programming and initiatives such as, Yellow CandlesTM, My Family Conversations, Keruv/Intermarriage, Hearing Men’s Voices, Minyan of Comfort, etc.

COMMUNITY

The FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life, builds Community. We build Community by partnering with FJMC to continue forming meaningful long-lasting relationships based on camaraderie, common interests and core values. We bring men together from all over the world to enhance Conservative Judaism and Jewish Life. The years of building these relationships have created something special. Any where you go in the world if you need a friend there will be someone there to help you.

How Can You Be Involved?

How you can be a partner with the FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life

Become a Fellow-

You can become a fellow of the FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life, for as little as $1,000 dollars. Your donation can be distributed/paid for over four years. Gifts over $10,000 dollars may be self directed. We cherish your gifts but more importantly we cherish each of you as part of our family which will allow the FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life, to make a difference. Help us perpetuate your legacy.

Become a Member of the Legacy Society

Designate a bequest to the FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life, and become a member of our Legacy Society. This is not a request to write a check today, rather it is a commitment to leaving a bequest through a will, a life insurance policy or some type of trust. There are two times you can be remembered after you are gone. The first in passing and the second in leaving a gift to the FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life. No matter how small or large the gift yours and your families memory will live on as a legacy foundation member

Help us secure the FJMC and its ideals and programing for the next generation

They say you “CAN ONLY LIVE ONCE BUT YOU CAN DIE TWICE” Once when you pass and again when your good name is no longer known. With a legacy gift to the FJMC Foundation for Jewish life you can ensure that your name lives on as your gift continues to help Jewish Men live Jewish lives in this rapidly changing world.

For questions or to discuss your gift please contact either me or any of the other FJMC Foundation leaders shown on the Become a Fellow page

Steve Dix

Steve Dix
Chairman, The FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life
sdix@fjmc.org

fjmc Foundation
for Jewish Life ✡ Funding Our Future

The FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life thanks the FJMC International Board and its leaders,

***Alan Budman and Bruce Tomar*,**

for being wonderful partners over the last two years.

We are happy for your successes and Mazal Tov on your achievements.

Chazak, chazak vi-neetchazek.

fjmc Foundation
for Jewish Life ✡ Funding Our Future

The FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life congratulates its current officers,

Douglas Segerman,

Warren Sufrin and Ken Turkewitz,

on an extremely successful two years of supporting the FJMC, its mission, its regions and its clubs.

Congratulations to the incoming officers, *Steve Dix, Jer Schulman and Ken Turkewitz*. We look forward to your leadership!

fjmc Foundation
for Jewish Life ✡ Funding Our Future

The FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life has been supporting the FJMC and Judaism worldwide for almost 25 years.

This only occurs through the support of our donors.

Please consider including the Foundation in your Estate Plan or becoming a Fellow (donor).

If you have any questions please contact Doug Segerman

DSegerman@FJMC.ORG



fjmc Foundation for Jewish Life ✡ Funding Our Future

We want *YOU*!

Attention all FJMC clubs and regions

The FJMC Foundation for Jewish Life is most effective when it is issuing grants to *you* in support of innovative new programming and ideas, such as Membership, Administration & Events.

Please start thinking *now* of new ideas and submit an application to the Foundation. We can provide seed money to grow those ideas into concepts that can be duplicated elsewhere!

2025 FJL FELLOWS

Abraham Fellows begins with a donation of $25,000 or more.

Anne Berman, z”l & Fay Tomick, z”l

King Solomon Fellows is open to donors of $10,000 to $24,999.

Jeffrey Goldberg Foundation
Peter Gotlieb
Eric & Fern Weis

Joshua Fellows is open to donors of $5,000 to $9,999.

Robert Braitman
Stephen Davidoff, z"l
Lillian & Richard Gray
Mark Rosenson
Mitch Ross
Rabbi Charles Simon
Myles Simpson & Family
Barry L. Wolfe

Hineni Fellows is open to donors of $2,500 to $4,999.

Beth Shalom MC, Elkins Park Pa
Alan Budman
Burton (Captain Ruach) Fischman, z"l
Allan & Helene Kahan
Barton Kogan, z"l
Midwest Region FJMC
Michael & Shirley Mills
Stephen A. & Arlene Neustein
New York Metro Region FJMC
Sylvia & Harold Nissen, z”l
Northern New Jersey Region FJMC
David Rose Memorial Fund
Gene & Ruthi Sacks
Jeffrey & Miriam Schulman
Douglas Segerman
Gary Smith Foundation
Daniel z"l & Sheila Stern
Tom Sudow

2025 FJL FELLOWS (CON'T)

Founders are open to donors of $1,000 to $2,499.

Les Agisim
Lawrence & Myra Allen
Elayne z"l & Aaron Altman
Ira Bartfield
Bill Becker
Samuel Berlin, z"l
Gerrard Berman
Arthur Bruckman, z"l
Bernie Cohen, z"l
Morris Diamant, z"l
Jack & Nora Dinsfriend
Stephen Dix
Paul Drowos
Ken Elfand
Jerry Feldman
Marc A. & Carole Firestone
Florida Region FJMC
Harold S. & Loretta T. Freed
Ira Frost
Leonard Gimbel z"l
Mark Givarz
David S. Goldberg
Max Goldberg z"l
Allan Gottesman
Dan Granek z"l
Abraham Greenberg
Stan Greenspan
David Heritch
Joseph Herschberg
In Memory of I. Murray Jacobs
Robb Kantor
Lynne & Gary Katz
Norm Katz
John Kelman
Susan & Ed Kochman
Joel Kurtz
Norman I. Kurtz
Irving Laker, z"l
Morton Lang, z"l
Bob Levine
Dale Levy
In Memory of Gil Linder z"l
Ray Lourie
Danny Mandeau
Milton Mandel
Robert Mandel
Kenneth & Lorie Matlick
Arnold Miller
A. Herschel Muchnick, z"l
New England Region FJMC
Harold November, z"l
Marty Paley
Dave Pelzman
Alex Pomerantz
Jules Porter, z"l
Richard Porter
Herman Rothenberg
Karl Rubin
Bob Schachter
Ronald Schultz
Seaboard Region FJMC
Bruce & Susan Sicherman
Abraham Silver, z"l
Steven & Ronnie Silverstone
In memory of Mary Simon z"l
Benny & Irma Sommerfeld
Stephen Steckler, z"l
Jay Steinmetz
Warren & Adele Sufrin
Bruce Tomar
Kenneth A. Turkewitz
Sandy Victor
Bob & Linda Watts
Irving Weintraub, z"l
In Honor of Eric Weis
Western Region FJMC
Les Whitman

2025 FRIENDS OF THE FJMC CONTRIBUTORS

Adler, Moshe
Alper, z'l Andy
Baker, Jordan
Bartfield, Ira
Baum, Stephen
Becker, William
Berlin, Mark
Blitzer, Robert
Brodsky, Jerry
Budman, Alan
Cohen, Marc
Daks, Mitchell
Davidson, Josef
Davidson, Paul
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Turkewitz, Ken
Victor, Sandy
Vineberg, Scott
Waskow, Larry
Watts, Bob
Weber, Mark
Weis, Eric
Whitman, Len
Wohl, Glenn
Wolf, Ron
Yegelwel, Eric
Zangwill, Len

CHICAGO JULY 3-6 2025

fjmc™ INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

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AD SECTION

Mazal Tov to my fellow





Ma'asim Tovim & Other Honorees

CHAZAK! ! ! חזק

Rob Blitzer

BUSINESS CARD PAGE

Mazel Tov, Jon, on being chosen as the Florida Region Ma'Asim Tovim honoree, and your nomination as President of the Florida Region. Yasher Koach. Elliott Davis	Congratulations Myles Simpson from Denise Marks and Steve Weisberger
To our new FJMC President, L'dor V'dor. May you go from strength to strength as you follow in your parent's and siblings' and FJMC brothers' proud tradition of Jewish service and leadership. B'ahavah, Your family – Marcia, Jenn, Dave, Bree, Harvey, Heather, Andy, Zach, and Alana	Mazal Tov to Incoming FJMC International President Our Friend, Congregant, and Inspiration **BRUCE TOMAR** We are thrilled that the line of dedicated FJMC leaders runs through Beth El Voorhees! May you and FJMC go from strength to strength. קהילת בית אל CONGREGATION Beth El ESTABLISHED 1921 *Rabbi David Englander Hazzan Alisa Pomerantz-Boro Rabbi Sam Hollander* *Jason Whitney, President*
Bob, your continuing accomplishments in FJMC and Seaboard Region are most appreciated. Richard Gray	Dear Bruce, We are so proud of you to have such an honor bestowed upon you. Mazel Tov, Amy and Marc
CONRATUATIONS MYLES ON BEING THE RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD. YOU HAVE WORKED DILIGENTLY FOR MANY YEARS IN HELPING TO MAKE THE FJMC SO SUCCESSFUL. WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU, COUSINS MARCY AND FRED	Mazel Tov on your presidency Bruce. We are so proud of you! Elaine and Carl

SUPPORTERS

CONNECTICUT - MITCHELL GOLDBLATT

Mazel Tov to Mitch Goldblatt - Sue and Phil Margolis

MID-ATLANTIC - LARRY NATHANSON

Congrats Larry Nathanson, incoming Middle Atlantic President!
..... Love, Jean & Lewis

MIDWEST - MICHAEL GREENBERG

Mazal Tov on your achievements, Michael! From Michelle & Karl
.....Braun

Mazel Tov, Mike on your well-deserved honor. Ed Maslov

NEW ENGLAND - ELLIOT FELDMAN

Yasher Koach Elliot! Amy and Harold Waisel

Mazel Tov, Elliot, a very well deserved honor. Ken & Sue Wolkon

Mazel Tov Alan. It was great working with you. Best, Danny Mandeau

Mazel Tov Bruce. Looking forward to working with you. Best, Danny
.....Mandeau

Mazel Tov Elliot from Stuart and Sally Gold

Mazal Tov Elliot! So proud of you, forever grateful for the work you
.....have done, and the example you set. Shelley & Gary Keimach

Mazel Tov and Yasher Koach Elliot! Robert s. Perlman

Congratulations on a well-deserved honor, Elliot! Michael & Tiziana
.....Getz

Congratulations - Steven Broder

Mazal Tov Elliot on an honor well deserved. You have provided
.....superb leadership for many, many years. Stephen Shrago

Well-deserved honor, Elliot! - Michael Flatto

Elliott: Congratulations on this well deserved honor! Sandy and Neil
.....Aronson

Yasher Koach, Elliot Feldman - From, Howard Epstein and the Temple
.....Emanu-El Brotherhood

Congratulations, Elliot - Susan and Philip Margolis

Mazel tov - Arlene L Flatto

Mazel tov - Edward J Willins

Paul Davidson, Yasher Koach on a great two years. Howard Kaufman

Elliot - Yasher Koach on this well deserved award. Howard Kaufman

NEW YORK METRO- MILTON LIPITZ

Yasher Koach on your many accomplishments! With warm wishes,
.....Anna and Eddie Edelstein

SEABOARD - BOB WATTS

Bob, your continuing accomplishments in FJMC and Seaboard Region
.....are most appreciated. Richard Gray

Congratulations and continued success - Gregory E Gore

PRESIDENT'S & PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS

Myles, Congratulations on a well deserved honor. Nomi Freed

Mazal Tov Myles! Your Philly friends Selma and Marty Roffman+

Congratulations Norm Katz. Well done! The Gollubs

Congratulations Bruce on becoming president - Martin Seidman

Yasher Koach on your well-deserved Presidential Award - Norman Phillip Katz

Myles, Yasher Koach on this well-deserved Presidential Award. Howard Kaufman

Mazel tov Bruce on this great honor! Jody & Bobby Orr

CHICAGO

JULY 3-6
2025

fjmc™ INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

EMBRACING CHANGE • ENERGIZING COMMUNITIES

SPONSORS SECTION

SPONSORED PROGRAMS

OPENING CEREMONY

KEYNOTE: Tami Arnowitz

MA'ASIM TOVIM

KEYNOTE: Rabbi Josh Feigelson

KEYNOTE: Rabbi Benay Lappe

INSTALLATION

INTERACTIVE PROGRAM: Rabbi Noam Raucher

KEYNOTE: Dr. Ori Soltes

ENTERTAINMENT(Both):

FJMC PROGRAM FAIR

PRESENTATION & BOOK SIGNING:

CLOSING CEREMONY

FJMC Convention 2027!

Our Biennial Event will take place July 2027. Convention is when all of the clubs from all over the world get together and have a great time. The venue is to be determined.

We look forward to seeing you there!