

MIDWEST REGION FELLOWSHIP EVENT CHICAGO FIRE SOCCER GAME 9/2/2012



Our summer event was a Chicago Fire Soccer game on September 2nd at Toyota Park. The Fire won and all had a good time. See more photo coverage inside as well as coverage of other regional and club happenings.

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Chicago Fire Soccer Game

President's Dinner

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CKI ; Beth Shalom etc.*



Prez Sez—

Building Our Men's Club Team

In Hebrew the word that best describes teamwork is Achdut. Related to the word Echad (one), Achdut is usually defined as “unity.” After all, when we operate with teamwork we are united as one group with common goals.

The Menorah is also symbolic of the Jewish people and their success. Like candles, each of us is radiant, talented and shining in our own way. The only way to succeed as Jews and within our own organizations is to unite our talents like the outer stems of the Menorah and direct our energies towards a unifying force.

For the last two years, our Regional organization has continued to work to reach out to the Clubs, to understand what the Clubs needs are in order to help them continue to grow and be successful.

Too often the Clubs work and operate autonomously and don't interact with the other Clubs within our own region and/or don't participate in Regional activities and events. In recent months we have been able to have discussions with representatives of many of the individual Clubs and have been able to get feedback as to what is most important to them. As a result, there are several initiatives underway including organizing a business networking group, a regional sports competition and building a program and speaker resource data base. We will continue to meet with various leaders and members of the Clubs to get their ideas and involve them in the planning and implementation of these new programs and initiatives.

Let us be inspired by the Menorah to always work together towards achieving our common goals, each doing his part that is best for the “team,” whether our team is our family, our business, our synagogue, or our Region and its Men's Clubs.

By sharing our strengths and talents and interacting with each other regularly we can accomplish so much more.

B'Shalom Shelly





PRESIDENT'S DINNER OCTOBER 25, 2012



Midwest Region President Shelly Pike addressing the crowd.



Harvey Redfern, CBS MC President with Norm Kurtz and Brad Schwartz of Beth Judea.



Rodney Ugent of Beth Israel Ner Tamid of Milwaukee talks with Bob Olshan- Pres. of Shaare Zadek MC of St. Louis



Former Regional Presidents Lew Bernstein and Herb Root with Rodney Ugent.

At this key meeting for club presidents, reports were given re: 2012 Achievements, the 2013 region schedule, Yom HaShoah Candles Program, FJMC Quality Club Award/ Torch Awards criteria, Midwest Region Man of the Year Brunch and Fundraiser February 17th 2013, FJMC Convention- July 24-28, 2013, potential initiatives for improving Regional Support to the Clubs and much more. It was a productive and fun evening for all.



CHICAGO FIRE SOCCER GAME — MORE PICTURES



Midwest Region Financial Secretary Paul Glaser enjoys the game.



The ball is in the net!!



Midwest Region Section amongst the Chicago Fire crowd.



FJMC CONVENTION JULY 24-28, 2013

Its not as far off as you think!

Start making your plans today!

Federation of
Jewish Men's Clubs
fjmc
**INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION
2013**

LEADERSHIP
INNOVATION
COMMUNITY

*Conservative/Masorti Men at the Crossroads:
Responding to a Changing World*

July 24-28, 2013
DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Boston North Shore
Danvers, Massachusetts



FJMC MIDWEST REGION NOTE CARDS AVAILABLE FOR YOUR FUND RAISING NEEDS!



We now have a **new and improved note cards** that **feature stained glass windows, curtains or other forms of art** from each of our member clubs.

New for the 2012-13 version are art from West Suburban Har Zion, Beth El Synagogue-Omaha, Congregation B'nai Tikvah, Congregation Beth Israel -Milwaukee, and Congregation Rodfei Zedek. Some of these were submitted by the Clubs or synagogue executive directors, others were shot with the executive director's blessing.

Please visit the Midwest Region website www.midwestregionfjmc.org for further information on this and all of our programs and relationships. Contact Michael Greenberg (gumboyl@gmail.com) to order packs.

The photo collage of stained glass windows and art of Midwest Region FJMC synagogues was assembled by Michael Greenberg, Executive Vice President, Midwest Region FJMC. More of Michael's work can be seen at www.imagetripping.com and www.flickr.com/photos/imagetripping.



Around the Region

BHCBE's First-Ever Scotch & Steak Event in the Sukkah -- Successful!

More than 60 BHCBE Men's Club members and guests turned out for the Wilmette, IL Club's first-ever Scotch & Steak event in the Sukkah on Wednesday, October 3. Because of inclement weather, participants opted to sit in BHCBE's Spak Auditorium as well the synagogue's nicely decorated and festive sukkah.

The program included welcoming remarks from Rabbi Allan Kensky along with the participation of Cantor Pavel Roytman and Rabbi Michael Cohen. FJMC Midwest Region officers were also on hand to show their support for the program.

Special thanks to many members of the BHCBE Men's Club for a highly successful and well received event to kick off the program year.

Club EVP Ivan Cramer coordinated the event logistics and also made sure everyone received a steak or veggie burger cooked just right **Norwin Merens for BHCBE Men's Club**



Steve Bucksbaum adds his "special touch" to steak grilling in the outside cooking area adjacent to the BHCBE sukkah.



Around the Region

CKI MEN'S CLUB HOLDS YOGA NIGHT



The Men's Club of Congregation Knesseth Israel, in Elgin, Illinois, presented a "Yoga Night" this October.

The event featured a discussion from CKI's Rabbi Margaret Frisch Klein on a connection between Judaism and yoga practice, a 45-minute session from Danae Molitor, a certified personal trainer and yoga teacher, and a healthy post-yoga meal featuring veggie burgers and other organic snacks prepared by CKI Men's Club's Iron Chef, Paul Glaser.

Those attending the presentation learned that yoga practice can stimulate one's nervous system, joints, ligaments, glands and other internal organs, and provide quite a challenge keeping one's kippah on while in Fish Position. **Paul Glaser for the CKI Men's Club**



Around the Region

BETH SHALOM MEN'S CLUB KICK OFF DINNER

The Men's Club of Congregation Beth Shalom had sports personality Zach Zaidman from 670 "The Score" Radio headline their kick off dinner on October 23rd.



670 The Score's Zach Zaidman



670 The Score's Zach Zaidman with Beth Shalom's Steve Lessman



CBS Men's Club enjoys their kick off dinner buffet.



Men's Club members enjoy Zach's comments.



Around the Region

BETH SHALOM MEN'S CLUB ALONG WITH NORTH SHORE

HADASSAH HOLDS POLITICAL UPDATE BREAKFAST

Paul Green from WGN and Bill Cameron with WLS radio appeared October 27th at Beth Shalom to discuss the upcoming election and the issues of the day.



An interested crowd gathered to hear the political update.



Not quite a presidential debate but engrossing and well attended nonetheless!



AROUND THE REGION

Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid takes off



THE MERGER OF TWO CONSERVATIVE SYNAGOGUES (AND MEN'S CLUBS) IS A REALITY

The new Conservative synagogue Congregation Beth Israel Ner Tamid, near Milwaukee, was officially inaugurated on Sept. 9 when two of Beth El Ner Tamid Synagogue's Torah scrolls were brought to what had been Beth Israel's building and were installed in the ark.

The scrolls were carried in by Beth El president Bob Peterman (left) and CBINT president Nathaniel Sattler, while CBINT spiritual leader Rabbi Jacob Herber (wearing tallis at right) led the way.

Note by Rodney Ugent. Photo by Leon Cohen.



AROUND THE REGION

NSS BETH EL HONORS TWO MEN'S CLUB MEMBERS

This past Simchat Torah Beth El honored two deserving individuals at the Hakafot Services. **Darryl Temkin** was honored as *Hattan Brashit* and **Ernie Smolen** was honored as *Hattan Torah*. They were escorted to the bimah for the aliya under a most elaborate chupah by family and friends. The honors are given to individuals who have devoted themselves to the Congregation as well as other Jewish causes.

They were introduced prior to "going up" by Rabbi Vernon Kurtz., who offered a short bio and told of the work and efforts that both honorees have given to Congregation, Men's Club and other Jewish organizations.

Both **Darryl** and **Ernie** expressed that they were humbled and honored with the aliyot that they received. This is usually a one time honor given by a congregation to an individual. Kol Hakavod to both of them. May they continue to serve our community in the future as they have in the past.

BETH JUDEA MEN'S CLUB

10TH ANNUAL TEXAS HOLD'EM POKER TOURNAMENT

Sunday November 11, 2012 in the Beth Judea Social Hall.

Key Event Facts:

Registration 4:15 PM Poker Game 4:30 PM Break for Dinner at 6:00 PM

Cost is \$40.00 with advanced registration. \$50.00 at the door. Optional rebuy is \$20.00

Cost includes:

Tournament play

Dinner and SOFT DRINKS

Prizes including door prizes

Grand Prize for Tournament Winner

RSVP: ASAP TO FRED RABINOWITZ @ 847-398-5488 OR RABINO49@AOL..COM



AROUND THE REGION

A TRIBUTE TO THE FJMC MIDWEST REGION VOLUNTEERS AT CJE's LIEBERMAN CENTER

For the past six years, CJE's Lieberman Center has been blessed with volunteers every Shabbat morning from the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs. These volunteers help to make Shabbat special in so many ways for the Lieberman residents.

Originally members from 5 Men's Clubs, Northshore Cong Beth El, Beth Shalom of Northbrook, Northwest Suburban Congregation, Beth Hillel Congregation B'nai Emunah, and Congregation Beth Judea have rotated on a weekly basis and joined the Lieberman residents in worshipping together on Shabbat morning. Sometimes wives and children joined in as well. Because Northwest Suburban is no longer functioning as a congregation, we are now down to 4 participating Men's Clubs, but a number of former members of Northwest Suburban are still volunteering through their new affiliations with one of the other four congregations.

Men's Club volunteers assist in escorting Lieberman residents to and from services and participate in the services in so many ways; joining in the prayers, carrying the Torah, doing hagbah, assisting residents who need help during the service to find their place, and just adding their voices, enthusiasm and participation to the service. Their presence lifts resident's spirits so much and makes them feel they are part of an authentic intergenerational Shabbat community. Rabbi Shlomo Levine and CJE's Rabbi Michael Schorin, who conduct many of the services, concede that they really could not do it without the FJMC volunteers.

The relationship we have built together over the last six years goes beyond the usual volunteer / organization relationship. The residents and volunteers have built true friendships and feel that they are part of a community together. It is with great pride that last spring CJE honored the FJMC volunteers by making the group one of the recipients of the "CJE Senior Life Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award".

Thanks also go to Northwest Suburban Congregation. When they closed in 2010, they decided to share some of their funds with CJE. These funds have allowed CJE to create new customized prayer booklets for use in our services and helped CJE to purchase a badly needed new Torah!

Special thanks to Ernie Smolen and Darryl Temkin who have been coordinating this program.

If you have any questions about CJE, please contact Susan Buchbinder at CJE Senior Life. Ernie can give you Susan's contact information. If your Men's Club would like to join in this wonderful program or have questions, please contact Ernie Smolen at ernieeds@comcast.net.



Midwest Region - FJMC

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**Where can you find more pictures,
articles, information about the
Midwest Region FJMC?**

**Visit the Midwest Region FJMC Web
Site at:**

<http://www.midwestregionfjmc.org/>

SAVE THE DATES

Sunday Jan 20, 2013 Region Meeting – Beth Israel Ner Tamid - Milwaukee

Sunday Feb 3, 2013 World Wide Wrap XII

Sunday Feb 17, 2013 Man of the Year Brunch & Fund Raising Event at NSBE