

## First Annual Men's Club Community Service Week Kicks Off November 7-13

Are you ready for Community Service Week? The week of November 7-13 has been set aside for clubs around the FJMC to perform a one-day community service project. It is the newest FJMC program and should prove to be very exciting and rewarding.

The main goal is to fill a need in the local community. It is a great way to attract new members, particularly young members, and to provide positive public relations.

Ideally, these projects would be carried out during the specified week, but – as is the case with the World-Wide Wrap and Men's Club Shabbat – other weeks will do just fine. The main point is that it is better to have a community project at a different time than not at all.

An added incentive for your participation is that the FJMC will recognize it in the criteria for both Quality Club awards and Torch awards.

If your club already has a qualified community service program, that still will count towards these awards. Register online at [www.fjmc.org](http://www.fjmc.org).

There are a myriad of ideas that could be the basis of these projects. They are only limited by your imagination. The FJMC would love to hear about the success of your Community Service Days. Contact Bruce Sicherman at [bruce@sibro.biz](mailto:bruce@sibro.biz).

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### Winter Program Ideas

With winter not far off, you may be thinking about what programs you could do for the season.

Here are a few to consider:

**Movie Night.** Show an entertaining movie with a Jewish theme (e.g., Frisco Kid) and provide noshes.

**Visit nursing homes or assisted living homes.** Bring along two or three members to provide an abbreviated Shabbat service.  
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### 2011 FJMC Biennial Convention, July 13-17

Mark your calendars for the 2011 FJMC Convention which will be in Southern California. When your club plans its annual budget, don't forget to allow for funds to subsidize sending some of your leaders to the Convention. More information about the convention is on the FJMC web page and will also be in the next issue of the Advantage.

### Dates to Remember

February 6, 2011: World-Wide Wrap

March 21, 2011: deadline Yellow Candles direct shipment orders

April 1-2, 2011: Men's Club Shabbat

May 20, 2011: Quality Club award submission deadline

July 13-17, 2011: Convention

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# Club Presidents Do's and Don'ts

## DO'S:

1. Delegate responsibilities.
2. Know the talents of your members.
3. Train future club leaders.
4. Give credit where credit is due.
5. Enthusiastically support the region and FJMC and use their resources wisely.
6. Pay dues to FJMC New York office when due and at least a partial payment when 1/3 of the membership has been renewed.
7. Update membership lists with the FJMC.
8. Maintain a friendly and supportive relationship with the congregation's rabbi and leadership staff.
9. Represent your Men's Club, the Region, FJMC and the Conservative movement with high esteem and dignity.
10. Hold regular meetings and stick to an agenda.
11. Plan programs well in advance.
12. Get your programs on the synagogue and Region calendars and publicity.
13. Attend synagogue services and activities as regularly as possible and be a good model for Men's Club members.

The Unraveller has changed its scope from a weekly commentary on the haftarah to "Understanding and unravelling the secrets of Jewish Life." Check [fjmc.org](http://fjmc.org) to subscribe, submit an article or become a sponsor.

## DON'TS:

1. Be a "President for Life".
2. Be a dictator and make all decisions without consulting the other officers and Board members.
3. Devote much of your time and interests for a small group of members with the exclusion of others.
4. Take the job just for the honor of it.

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## Ask Dave



Dear Dave,

*When I ask men in our congregation to join the Men's Club, I often get questioned whether in today's time there is still a need for an organization that is exclusively for men. What should I tell them?*

*-Unsure of an answer*

Dear Unsure,

It could be argued that Men's Clubs are more important now than ever. In a July 2 article in the *Forward* online entitled "The End of Men...in Judaism?", Elissa Strauss points out "American Jewish boys and men have fewer connections to Jews and Judaism than girls and women in almost every venue and in every age". While women have become more prominent in the workplace

(outnumbering men this year for the first time in U.S. history) and in synagogue leadership, men have all too often become indifferent to their Judaism.

For many decades, the successes of the FJMC and its multitude of clubs (today numbering about 250 clubs serving 25,000 members) is a testament to the fact that Men's Clubs do serve important functions to the male members and to the associated congregations and Jewish communities. In short, they foster the mission of the FJMC of "involving Jewish men in Jewish life".

Through Men's Club activities men find camaraderie and new friendships. They become more connected to their synagogues and to Judaism. By their participation, they also set a good example for their children.

Men's Clubs also give its members the opportunity to learn and discuss issues particular to men, such as certain health issues and family relationships. The Hearing Men's Voices programs of the FJMC do just that.

Another creative FJMC program that followed from the "Hearing Men's Voices" is the *Mentschen* online forum. Such Men's Clubs programs resonate with many men and help bring men together, whether online or in person, to discuss issues of mutual interest and make new friendships.

**Send your letters or comments to Dave Edwards at:**

[FJMCAvantage@fjmc.org](mailto:FJMCAvantage@fjmc.org)

# Record 57 Clubs Earn Quality Club Awards

In the four years since the Quality Club awards began, the number of clubs qualifying has increased each year. For 2009-2010, the fifty-seven clubs listed below qualified. They represent 14 regions. Congratulations to the men in these outstanding clubs. If your club is not one of these, don't worry. Instead, start planning now for your club to earn the award next year. First, go to the FJMC web site (FJMC.org); then click on the "Local Clubs" tab, then "Club Awards". You will find the Quality Club scorecard for 2010-2011. Look this over and see how many of the criteria you already fulfill. You may find you will already qualify with the activities you have already planned. Activities from June 1, 2010 to May 15, 2011 will qualify. Perhaps you will fall short on an item or two, but with some planning you would fairly easily be able to fulfill those criteria needed for the award, and in doing so improve your club. Note you do not have to fulfill all of the criteria. **Submit your completed information via the [www.fjmc.org](http://www.fjmc.org) website or by email to [Sandy.Victor.FJMC@gmail.com](mailto:Sandy.Victor.FJMC@gmail.com) or mail it to Sandy Victor, 1009 Providence Lane, Buffalo Grove, IL USA 60089 by May 20, 2011.** The plaques will be presented at the FJMC Convention in Anaheim next July. They are awesome and will make a nice addition to your trophy case or to a special spot on a wall. All who view it will be truly impressed and the non-members will be envious.

Region	Club #	Club Name	City	State
Conn Valley	217	Beth El Temple	West Hartford	CT
KIO	303	Congregation Tifereth Israel	Columbus	OH
KIO	304	Northern Hills Synagogue-Congregation B'Nai Avraham MC	Cincinnati	OH
Great Lakes	433	Temple Beth El Men's Club	Rochester	NY
Middle Atlantic	524	Adath Jeshuran	Elkins Park	PA
Middle Atlantic	551	Temple Sinai Men's Club	Dresher	PA
Middle Atlantic	566	Beth El Voorhees	Voorhees	NJ
Midwest	614	North Suburban Synagogue Beth El	Highland Park	IL
Midwest	623	Beth El Ner Tamid	Mequon	WI
Midwest	631	B'nai Amoona Men's Club	St Louis	MO
Midwest	633	Shaare Zedek Men's Club	University City	MO
Midwest	642	Congregation Beth Judea	Long Grove	IL
Midwest	643	Congregation Beth Shalom	Northbrook	IL
New England	714	Temple Emunah	Lexington	MA
New England	719	Temple Emanuel Brotherhood	Newton	MA
New England	738	Brotherhood of Temple Israel	Sharon	MA
New England	739	Temple Shaare Tefilah	Norwood	MA
Metro New York	833	The Men's Club of the East Meadow Jewish Center	East Meadow	NY
Northern NJ	909	Temple Beth-El Mekor Chayim	Cranford	NY
Northern NJ	930	Temple Beth O'r-Beth Torah	Clark	NJ
Northern NJ	931	Congregation B'nai Israel	Toms River	NJ
Northern NJ	941	Temple Beth Shalom	Livingston	NJ
Northern NJ	947	Fair Lawn Jewish Center / Congregation B'nai Israel	Fair Lawn	NJ
Northern NJ	953	East Brunswick Jewish Center	East Brunswick	NJ
Northern NJ	957	Temple Beth El Somerset	Somerset	NJ
Northern NJ	962	Congregation Neve Shalom	Metuchen	NJ
Northern NJ	963	Congregation Agudath Israel	Caldwell	NJ
Northern NJ	969	Brandeis Men's Club	Ridgewood	NJ
Northern NJ	976	Marlboro Jewish Center	Marlboro	NJ
Northern NJ	979	Temple Shalom	Bridgewater	NJ
Northern NJ	980	Beth El Synagogue Men's Club	East Windsor	NJ
Western	1003	Burbank Temple Emanu El Men's Club	Burbank	CA
Western	1008	Congregation B'nai Israel Men's Club	Albuquerque	NM

Western	1015	Adat Shalom	Los Angeles	CA
Western	1020	Temple Ramat Zion	Northridge	CA
Western	1036	Etz Chaim	Thousand Oaks	CA
Western	1041	Temple Aliyah	Woodland Hills	CA
Western	1058	Shomrei Torah Synagogue	West Hills	CA
Western	1066	Jewish Men's Club of the Valley	Murrieta	CA
Western	1074	Har Zion Men's Club	Scottsdale	NM
Western	1075	Beth El Congregation Men's Club	Phoenix	AZ
Seaboard	1103	B'nai Israel Men's Club	Rockville	MD
Seaboard	1111	Beth Israel Brotherhood	Owings Mills	MD
Seaboard	1120	Congregation Beth El Men's Club	Norfolk	VA
Seaboard	1147	Olam Tikvah Men's Club	Fairfax	VA
Tri-State	1208	Beth Shalom Men's Club	Pittsburgh	PA
Florida	1306	Temple Beth El	West Palm Beach	FL
Florida	1345	Men's Club B'nai Torah Congregation	Boca Raton	FL
Florida	1349	Beth Torah Adath Yeshurun	North Miami Beach	FL
Southwestern	1413	Congregation Beth Torah	Richardson	TX
Anshe Darom	1706	West End Men's Club	Nashville	TN
Anshe Darom	1711	Etz Chaim	Marietta	GA
Anshe Darom	1717	Synagogue Emanu-El	Charleston	SC
Hudson Valley	1807	Beth El Synagogue Center	New Rochelle	NY
Hudson Valley	1810	Temple Israel Center	White Plains	NY
Hudson Valley	1886	Orangetown Jewish Center	Orangeburg	NY
Hudson Valley	1850	New City Jewish Center	New City	NY

## Some Jewish Apps

iPhone and iPad users have an rapidly increasing number of apps to choose from for Jewish learning and entertainment. Here are just a few examples, most of which are free. Share them with your club members or incorporate them into some of your programs.

Guess Who's Jewish -game

Pocket iSiddur (iPhone and iPad versions) – prayers in Hebrew  
ParveOMeter – timer for when to eat meat or dairy

Daily Torah – read daily verse, browse or search the Torah in English or Hebrew.

The Torah Bible Pentateuch – iPhone and iPad versions - read in Hebrew the entire Torah or select chapter and verse from an *index*. (You won't find that in the Torah.)

Hebrew Calendar – iPhone/iPad

Pocket Tehillim Jewish Psalms – iPad; all the Psalms in English and Hebrew

Shofar – iPhone; listen to the sounds of the shofar

Jewish Music (JM in the AM) – iPhone; music 24 hours/day.

The Jewish Daily Forward – iPhone; news, podcasts, blogs

iKaddish – iPhone – great tutor for learning the Mourner's Kaddish. Words in Hebrew and English transliteration are highlighted as audio is played.

Jewish Cleveland - great if you happen to be in Cleveland  
Shabbat Shalom –iPhone- find candle lighting times, havdalah times and parsha of the week in any location of the world

Hebrew/English Translator for iPhone; type English word to translate to Hebrew, or use built-in Hebrew keyboard to translate Hebrew to English

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## Winter Programs (*cont'd, p. 1*)

**Sports Night.** Attend a sporting event together and have a kosher tail-gate party before hand. Or, watch on a wide-screen TV.

**Economic Forecast.** Have a brunch with a qualified economist or financial advisor to provide an outlook of the economy and stock market for the coming year.

**Father-Child activities.** Arrange for hot dogs or pizza for lunch and then afterwards a recreational activity, such as bowling, indoor miniature golf or ice skating.

**Volunteer activities.** Help at hospitals on Christmas day.

**Bowling night, poker night, health forum, antiques road show, Comedy Night, Jewish Jeopardy,** and many more.