

South Jersey Men's Club

A Unique Jewish Organization

The South Jersey Men's Club (SJMC) is a unique Jewish organization. Rather than being a men's club that's part of a single synagogue, it is a group of men from throughout South Jersey – many (but not all) of whom are also affiliated with a specific synagogue and their synagogue's men's club. As such, SJMC works to provide social and charitable activities that benefit the *overall* South Jersey Jewish community. Many SJMC activities involve the Jewish Federation of Southern New Jersey, including the Katz JCC.

SJMC came about after congregation Beth Jacob – Beth Israel folded in 1990 and its men's club decided to continue under the SJMC banner. SJMC has been described as “a synagogue men's club without a synagogue,” and the club has won numerous awards from the International Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs. The club's numerous activities include the following fraternal and philanthropic activities that enrich the lives of its members and benefit the community.



SJMC members distribute Yom HaShoah candles at the JCC.

- The SJMC holds monthly bagels-and-lox breakfast meetings at the JCC with exceptional speakers.
- More than 20 members help out on a regular basis at the Federation's Betsy and Peter Fischer Food Pantry.
- We obtain and distribute Yom HaShoah candles for the community's annual Holocaust memorial event.
- Through our Law Enforcement Appreciation Breakfast, held for over 25 years, we honor area law enforcement members and foster positive relations between the area's Jewish and law enforcement communities.
- Members of the religious committee conduct shiva minyans for members who do not belong to a synagogue.
- The SJMC has an annual picnic and conducts field trips, such as to the National Museum of Jewish History and to the Pinelands.
- We have a very active Fantasy Football League.
- We created and organized the Jewish Athletic Group to facilitate closer relations between Jewish organizations in South Jersey.
- Through our annual Operation Maccabi project, we send out Hanukkah cards to Jewish U.S. troops and Israeli soldiers.
- Members have participated in Volunteers for Israel by working on Israeli bases.
- The SJMC donated several dozen teddy bears for Afghanistan refugee children who were being housed at the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst in South Jersey.



The SJMC purchased, and its members assembled, shelves for the Federation's Betsy and Peter Fischer Food Pantry.

For more information on SJMC, please contact Club Membership Director Ron Ettinger at Ettinger0502@gmail.com, or visit our website at www.sjmclub.org.