FJC Brotherhood

BONDINGS

WEBSITE: fjcbrotherhood.org
EMAIL: fjcbrotherhood@gmail.com

BROTHERHOOD OFFICERS:
President: *Jim Linsky*
1st Vice President: *Andy Zetlin*
2nd Vice President: *Lanny Eder*
Treasurer: *Harvey Albert*
Recording Secretary: *Andy Jablon*
Corresponding Secretary: *Barry Lew*

RECENT PAST PRESIDENTS:
Alan Bernstein,
Joel Lubin
Arthur Brecher

BONDINGS Editors:
Bob Mendes
Bob Zibbell

FEBRUARY 2026

A SPECIAL BREAKFAST

At 9:30 on Sunday morning, February 15th, the Brotherhood will hold its first BRING-A-FRIEND-AND-EAT-FREE –SCHMOOZE breakfast.

Any Brotherhood member who brings a *non-member* friend gets a free breakfast – as does his friend. BUT – you MUST register in advance. Others will pay a special price of only $10. We're also including a trivia contest with prizes for the winners. For details, see the "Time to Schmooze" flyer attached to this newsletter.

+ + + + + +

A MESSAGE FROM THE BROTHERHOOD PRESIDENT

Where Does the Money Go?

Ever wondered what happens after you pay your dues and cover your breakfast? It's a fair question - where does the money go? We know many of you are curious, so let's break it down. Each breakfast involves grocery shopping, bagel runs (yes, that's a separate adventure!), and a police detail to keep everything running smoothly. Plus, we donate to our speaker's chosen charity.

Think you know the grand total for a typical breakfast? Email us your guess and you could win a prize! The closest estimate without going over - just like "The Price is Right" - will score one of those coveted OJM (Old Jewish Men) books the new members are enjoying. And speaking of food, mark your calendars - the next breakfast on February 15th is FREE (with some strings attached). Will there still be lox? You'll have to come and find out! Don't forget our annual paid-up luncheon on June 24th is also FREE and features the classic corned beef vs. pastrami dilemma.

Our support goes beyond food. We contribute to FJC, both in large and small ways. Last year, we donated to the New Torah fund. Ever wondered what a new Torah costs? Of course, new Torahs need new covers, so we're also helping with that. When something extra is needed in the kitchen, Brotherhood will provide. We hand delivered holiday gifts to Betty, Steven, and Steve - do you know who they are? Steve just retired, so he received TWO checks!

We're also proud members of MRJ (Men of Reform Judaism) and our dues help us stay connected. We donated to the Los Angeles

Jewish Federation as they recover from the wildfires. When outside events get pricey (such as bus rental or admissions), we subsidize to lower your cost. Plus, have you noticed the mugs and aprons? They're all thanks to your support! Your generosity helps us strengthen our community in so many ways.

Jim Linsky
President, FJC Brotherhood

++

Half the fun is getting here. There are some members who might want to come to one of our breakfasts, but they no longer drive. If you are one of those – or if you know of one, reach out to fjcbrotherhood@gmail.com and we'll do our best to work things out.

++

GOT JUNK? As they say, "One man's junk is another man's treasure," so why not. Use BONDINGS as your FREE classified ad carrier for buying or selling stuff. Just send the info on what you have – or what you need – to fjcbrotherhood@gmail.com

++

WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA

If you **have an idea for** a brotherhood activity, don't keep it to yourself. email it to fjcbrotherhood@gmail.com

Particular categories include:
Breakfast speakers
Field trips
Local activities

++

NEEDED: A FEW GOOD MEN (TO VOLUNTEER).

The Brotherhood always needs volunteers for various jobs. If you'd like to help out, from time to time, let us know your talents by going to: fjcbrotherhood@gmail.com

++

ENGLISH, SHE'S A FUNNY LANGUAGE, NO?

- The words 'dependent' and 'independent are opposites, right? So why do flammable and inflammable mean the same?
- Often, we hear about a disgruntled employee. Is there any such thing as a gruntled employee??
- People are always giving other people "short shrift." Does anyone ever get "long shrift?" And just what is shrift anyway?
- 'Why is the "K" silent in knife, but not in knish?

++

SO WHAT'S YOUR STORY? Is there a writer lurking in your brain? BONDINGS is looking for contributing writers. Send your essay, poem or whatever – to fjcbrotherhood@gmail.com. A few hundred words at most that may be edited.

++

THIS MONTH'S SUBMISSION

The Brotherhood = My Brothers

by Andy Jablon

Being in the brotherhood has been a revelation for me. First, I'm not one to join groups or clubs, so joining the brotherhood was a big step. I had not been around this many Jewish people since Hebrew school. I removed myself from the fold ever since I've been on my own. After college, I eventually found myself living in Watertown MA, which was not a hot bed for Jewish people. It was mostly an Armenian, Italian, and Greek community, all with their own strong cultures, but none of them mine. We lived on the Watertown-Newton line, so Jewish culture was not far away. Our son graduated from Watertown High School with three Jews out of 150 kids in his graduating class. We never joined a shul, but instead we had High Holiday services at Brandeis where he had his bar mitzvah.

It wasn't until we moved to the Cape that I was introduced to the Brotherhood by Stan Samuelson. I immediately found it comforting to be in a community that I had not been part of for a long time. Whether I knew it or not, Jewish culture was still part of me. Even though the Brotherhood faces were different, they still were familiar. Guys in their 70's and 80's looked like my teenage friends, just older. The prayers which I hadn't uttered in years came back quickly. And sharing lox and bagels brought joy. I'm really glad to be back in the fold again.

++

A FEW WORDS ABOUT OUR BREAKFASTS:

Our brotherhood breakfasts are special. Our speakers are timely and relevant. A typical breakfast consists of bagels, lox, and cream cheese; eggs; a potato medley; pancakes or French toast; fruit cocktail; coffee or tea; juice and pastry served buffet style - seconds if you want. The buffet opens at 9:30. Speaker begins at 10:00, questions at 10:30 and you're out by 11:00. All breakfasts are at Speen Hall.

Temple members, brotherhood and sisterhood members pay $18; non-members pay $25, **no tax, no tipping!**

NOTE: These prices do not apply to our February 15th breakfast fast.

++

COMING ATTRACTIONS

DATE/TIME	ACTIVITY
Feb.15	NEW MEMBER BREAKFAST – BRING A FRIEND. Members who bring a friend eat FREE, as does the friend. Others pay only $10. Special added attraction: a trivia contest.
March 15	BREAKFAST – Speakers Andy Judelson and Joanie Linsky will discuss levels of care and living with advanced illness.
April 4	BREAKFAST – Speaker: Rabbi Todd Zinn
May 31	BREAKFAST – Speaker: Ben Linsky will speak about the "Meth Mile:" through the eyes of a Boston Police Officer.
June 6	Wine Tasting and Auction Fundraiser
June 24	Annual Meeting and Paid-Up Luncheon
Fall TBA	BREAKFAST – Speaker: U.S. Congressman Bill Keating will speak on the current state of affairs in Washington. and what's happening with our bridges.