



## MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENT MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION

### FEDERATION OF JEWISH MEN'S CLUBS 2016-2017



#### TEMPLE SINAI MEN'S CLUB, DRESHER, PA DAVID KEPNISS

##### **FAMILY**

Spouse: Marla Kepniss

Children: Talia, Emmett, Max and Joel

##### **EDUCATION**

Bachelors in Engineering from The University of Virginia

##### **OCCUPATION**

My career has been one in Technical Sales and Marketing. I've always sold and promoted engineered products with a knack for speaking to varied audiences, both technical and non-technical. Today, I'm a Key Account Manager for Basler AG, overseeing \$10MM in sales of industrial machine vision cameras.

##### **HOBBIES/INTERESTS**

SPORTS: Lacrosse – Coach, administrator and board member for Upper Dublin's Crooked Lacrosse Club for over five years. I am the coordinator for the 1st – 4th grade program, writing practice plans and encouraging other parents to be coaches. I am the Chairman for the club's annual tournament fundraiser, The Battle of Fort Washington, responsible for raising \$15K per year; Racquetball (league), Softball (formerly on Temple Sinai Men's Club team), Mountain Biking, Snow Boarding, Running

NON-SPORTS: I serve on the board of a scholarship fund for my hometown of Clark, NJ. I help raise funds and administer need-based scholarships to college-bound students of Clark, NJ; Freelance web design and graphic design – I've authored over two dozen websites including my latest efforts for an RSVP website for my son Emmett's Bar Mitzvah! I enjoy creative graphic design and have been responsible for creating most TSMC flyers and announcements for the past few years.

##### **BUSINESS HONORS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

Over the years, I've published several trade articles and earned one patent in the field of metallurgy. Recently, I became a Certified Vision Professional to better serve my company's camera customers.

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### **MEN'S CLUB OFFICES HELD**

President, Exec. Vice President, Board Member, chaired multiple events and established several new ones.

### **SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN MEN'S CLUB**

- Recruiting new members from the ranks of Preschool and Religious School fathers while not alienating our established, older members
- Created multiple event programs to engage all men, young fathers, their children and the synagogue and community as a whole
  - Donuts with dads to recruit new members
  - Daddy Daughter Dance to raise funds and bring over 300 community members into the doors of Temple Sinai
  - Oy'lympics activity for Religious School families
- Assumed a leadership volunteer role in Men in the Kitchen to help provide low-cost catering for simchas held at TS. I volunteer regularly and encourage others to do the same and invite their children into the kitchen.

### **FAVORITE MEN'S CLUB PROGRAMS**

- Tailgate in the Sukkah
- Wingbowl in the Sukkah
- Daddy Daughter Dance – Hollywood Style
- The Chubby Bunny event at the Oy'lympics

### **WHAT MEN'S CLUB MEANS TO ME**

My goal as Men's Club President was to encourage the involvement of Temple Sinai's men in all facets of congregational life and to make their commitments of time and money to the shul as valuable and meaningful as possible. I think I made great progress towards that goal while possibly also tricking our members into thinking they joined a fraternity. It's no secret that beer and junk food played heavily into our tactics for luring both new and established members to events of all kinds.

### **REASON FOR THE AWARD**

David Kepniss brought the next generation of leaders and new energy to Temple Sinai Men's Club through new programs and outreach to preschool and religious school dads. With the bi-annual Daddy-Daughter Dances, David encourages young fathers to plan and execute large community events – a commitment of time, energy and involvement in synagogue life never seen before. As Club President, he inspired younger men to leadership positions without alienating the older members and consistently brought everyone together for Pub Nights and other events. As Immediate Past President, he has stepped-up to be a new chair of Men in the Kitchen – Men's Club catering for events at Temple Sinai. For his continued involvement and excellence in leadership, Temple Sinai Men's Club is proud to name David Kepniss our Man of the Year.