

## **IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION**

Submission Identifier Code	119
Title of Entry	Daddies and Darlings
Entry Category	Youth Programming
Contact Person	Mark Berlin, <a href="mailto:mark.berlin@fcc.gov">mark.berlin@fcc.gov</a>
Club number and name	1102 – Adas Israel Men’s Club
Number of members	412
Synagogue name, city, state	Adas Israel Congregation Washington, DC 20008
Club President	Jeff Cohen
Person preparing entry	Mark Berlin, <a href="mailto:mark.berlin@fcc.gov">mark.berlin@fcc.gov</a>
Date of entry submission	March 6, 2007

## **SUMMARY INFORMATION**

Since 2005 the Adas Israel Men’s Club has held an annual “Daddies and Darlings” program for fathers and their pre-school aged children. It is the only activity of its kind in the congregation. The program itself involves an entertainer to play games and sing songs with the children, but it is the way in which younger men are being involved in Men’s Club activities that deserves the most recognition. E-mail addresses are required for reservations, and the club used this information to create a database of younger men as a means of promoting further activities of interest to them. In addition, the club strategically placed some of its officers at the event in order to interact with the young fathers as a means of further building the club.

## **PRESS RELEASE INFORMATION**

This information is not being provided. The Washington Post will not accept stories such as this, and we have even tried in the past to submit a story to the Washington Jewish Week about our club winning the Best Overall Activities Torch Award, and it refused to run the story. Should we win the Torch Award for this activity, we will, of course, report it in our synagogue newsletter as part of a greater article about the convention.

## **SELF-ASSESSMENT OF THE ENTRY**

1. Assess program procedural completeness and achievement of program goals.  
Our goal was to have a program attractive to younger men as part of a larger goal of pushing our club in that direction. Our 2006 event certainly met that goal with more than 80 persons (including children) attending. It also provided an opportunity to enlist attendance at other programs oriented toward younger men and enabled us to get a couple of men who actually began to work for the club on

other activities. As far as procedural completeness, the program was also successful because it involved planning, advertising, food arrangements, reminder notices to registrants, and follow-up after the event.

2. Presentation and documentation completeness. In the Entry Documentation section below we will discuss how the event was planned and implemented and will attach sample advertising.
3. Achievements of program goals. See #1 above.
4. Enhancement of image. The program was a turning point for our club. We have had some programs in the past aimed at involving younger men but got limited attendance. This was our club's first true success with these demographics and, hopefully, will signal an overall change in our direction and recognition of that fact among younger men in the congregation.
5. Is information included so other clubs can use this program? Yes
6. Number of persons participating in comparison to club and synagogue size. Ours is a huge synagogue (1600+ families), and our Men's Club is one of the largest in the FJMC with more than 400 members. But this program was not open to all men in the congregation. It was only open to men with children ages 3-5, and we probably had a majority of them attend with one or two children each. In addition, we had about six Men's Club members working on the activity and did not want more to attend. Not only did we not want to overwhelm the young fathers in numbers, but we also wanted to keep the age level relatively low so that the fathers could better identify with the club.
7. What is the effect on the future of the club? Already we have recruited two of the fathers attending to be members of our Board and to work on other Men's Club programs, and we are encouraged that they will be future club officers.
8. Source of the program idea. The Beth Shalom Men's Club in Northbrook, IL, had a program by this name for Chanukah in 2003. We adopted the program name but modified it to be on the morning of the Purim Carnival. While older kids were in Religious School in the morning, we got the men with pre-school age kids to come to a program then and to stay at the synagogue for the Purim Carnival in the afternoon. And it has been the only program in the congregation for fathers and their pre-school aged children.
9. Previous Torch Award entry? To our knowledge, no club has submitted this for a Torch Award.
10. Part of the program attributable to the Men's Club. 100%

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION AND ENTRY DOCUMENTATION**

Our "Daddies and Darlings" program started with a Sunday morning breakfast for dads and their pre-school age children (ages 2-5) and culminated with The Great Zucchini (a children's party favorite in the Washington area) doing magic tricks and playing games with the children. Before the performance began, we had a few games like ring toss to occupy the children. All morning we had Men's Club members circulate to talk with the young fathers and to encourage their involvement in other Men's Club activities.

Publicity for the event began more than a month in advance with an article in the synagogue newsletter and a flyer that was distributed twice to the Gan Hayed Nursery School at the congregation. (See attachments.) We also placed that flyer on the Religious School and congregational websites and had notices for several weeks in the order of service pamphlet distributed each Shabbat. At the beginning of the year, the Daddies and Darlings program was featured on a Men's Club bookmark that was distributed on Rosh Hashonah in the High Holy Day machzor (see attachment). And we also included a flyer in a multi-program mailing to all 400+ Men's Club members (see attachment).

One member of the committee was responsible for the purchase of the food and oversaw others in its preparation. In addition to our normal lox-and-bagel breakfast, we had special food for the occasion – finger fruits (grapes and strawberries) for the children and mini-hamantaschen for everyone.

The chairman of the program, Josh Lubarsky, made the arrangements with our entertainer, The Great Zucchini, and also coordinated with the synagogue for the set-up of the room. He also introduced the program and encouraged the dads to participate in other Men's Club programming. Josh also collected the \$7 admission per family at the door.

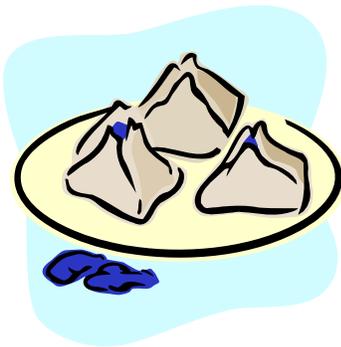
The day after the program we e-mailed each of the fathers to thank them for attending and to once again suggest future Men's Club programs they might be interested in.

# Daddies & Darlings

**Breakfast and Entertainment for  
Dads and Their Pre-School Age Kids, ages 2-5**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 12, 2006  
9:45-11:45 a.m.  
Gewirz Auditorium**

Dads –  
Bring your pre-school son and/or daughter  
and enjoy a bagel breakfast and hamantaschen  
for a morning of fun with The Great Zucchini,  
Washington's funniest and most magical  
pre-school entertainer.



**COST: \$7 per family**

Although you can pay at the door, please let us know in advance how many will attend from your family, so that we can have enough food. RSVP to Josh Lubarsky at (703) 768-2242 or at [daddies-darlings@cox.net](mailto:daddies-darlings@cox.net).

***SPONSORED BY THE ADAS ISRAEL MEN'S CLUB  
Dads do not need to be a Men's Club member to participate!***

# Adas Israel "Chronicle"

February, 2006 issue

March, 2006 issue

## 'Daddies and Darlings,' March 12

**Who:** Dads and their preschool- and kindergarten-age children

**What:** A chance for dads and kids to have fun at the synagogue! Bagels and break fast, 9:45-10:30 AM; interactive entertainment with **The Great Zucchini**, 10:30-11:45 AM. **The Great Zucchini**, Washington's funniest and most magical preschool and kindergarten entertainer, performs a colorful magic show where every child is a star and is guaranteed to laugh!

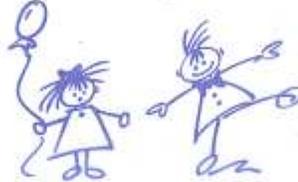
**Where:** Gewirz Auditorium

**When:** March 12, the morning of the Purim Carnival.

**Cost:** \$7 per family

RSVP to Josh Lubarsky, 703-768-2242, or e-mail

*Daddies-Darlings@Cox.net* so we can order enough food!



## 'Daddies and Darlings' for Dads and Preschool Kids

After the success of this event last year, the Men's Club is once again sponsoring a "Daddies and Darlings" program on Sunday morning, March 12, for dads and their preschool kids.

This year the Great Zucchini, Washington's funniest and most magical preschool and kindergarten entertainer, will perform a colorful magic show in which every child is a star and is guaranteed to laugh. We are scheduling this program on the morning of the Purim Carnival, so you can attend the program with your preschool child and then stay for the carnival with your older children.

There will be a special breakfast at 9:45 AM in the Gewirz Auditorium, followed by some games and then the Great Zucchini from 10:30 until 11:45.

The cost is \$7 per family, which can be paid at the door. Please RSVP to *Daddies-Darlings@cox.net* so we can order enough food, or contact Josh Lubarsky, 703-768-2242, for more information.

**THE GREAT ZUCCHINI**

## Men's Club Bookmark in High Holy Day Machzor

### ADAS ISRAEL MEN'S CLUB 2005-06



#### BIKE 'N BAGEL

Bring your bike to the synagogue when you drop off the kids for Religious School. Then join the group for a bike ride through Rock Creek Park, followed by a lox and bagel breakfast. Oct. 23, Apr. 30, May 21, June 4.



#### KOSHER SEX & A REDSKINS' GAME

Join us for subs, beer, & a Sunday night Redskins' game on a wide-screen TV and hear about kosher sec (i.e., what's permitted by the Torah and Talmud and what's frowned upon. Nov. 6



#### ISRAELI EMBASSY BRIEFING & RECEPTION

Hear the Embassy's Minister Counselor of Public Affairs discuss the latest news about Israel, followed by a dessert reception. Nov. 10



#### AFTERNOON WITH ABBA

Join us for a father-child hot dog lunch after Religious School, followed by an off-site activity, like laser tag or indoor swimming. Dec. 11



#### MOURNING & COMFORTING WORKSHOP

Learn all about Jewish practices and traditions about death. Also hear what you can do to comfort those who are ill or in mourning. Mar. 5, 19, & 26



#### "GOLDA'S BALCONY" AT THE WARNER THEATER

Enjoy Valerie Harper as Golda Meir in this smash hit that just completed 15 sold-out months on Broadway. Co-sponsored with the Sisterhood. Mar. 5



#### DADDIES & DARLINGS

On the morning of the Purim Carnival there will be games, songs, and stories for Dads and their pre-school age kids. Mar. 12



#### DISTRIBUTE FOOD TO THE NEEDY

On the Sundays before Thanksgiving and Passover help the Jewish Social Service Agency deliver food to the needy. Nov. 20 & Apr. 9



#### MEN'S HEALTH ISSUES

A panel of experts on such diverse issues as hair loss in men, the prostate and impotence, and snoring. Apr. 23

**AND MUCH, MUCH  
MORE!**



## Daddies and Darlings

A Men's Club-sponsored fun morning for Dads and their pre-school age kids

Sunday, March 12, 9:45-11:45 a.m.  
Gewirz Auditorium



After breakfast and games, The Great Zucchini will perform a colorful magic show. The cost is \$7 per family at the door. Please RSVP to [Daddies-Darlings@Cox.net](mailto:Daddies-Darlings@Cox.net) or call Josh Lubarsky at (703) 768-2242 so that we can order enough food.

Program Advertising Insert in a  
Mailing to All 400+ Men's Club Members