A special Men’s Club Tuesday meeting was held on to honor an extraordinary member. It was “A Day to Honor Eddie”—our own Ed Chidakel. About 90 people participated, along with Eddie’s family and invited friends. We applauded, roasted and toasted Eddie with all the love and respect that he engenders through his fellowship, service and leadership.

After his dramatic heart attack in New York last year, everyone was delighted and amazed by “Fast Eddie’s” fast recovery. This inspired Ronny Watts to take up a collection for an event to honor Eddie. The response was substantial; planning for a special event, a surprise party, followed close behind.

Marvin Arluk, Simon Sznurman and Isaac Bockman handled the catering which included post-lunch snacks, cake and ice cream. Ronny David Frome and Chuck Brownstein developed the program.

Ronny served as Master of Ceremonies, presenting two short videos, one composed of photos of Eddie’s family and Men’s Club lives, and the other a roast featuring photos of historic Jewish actors and athletes that are reflected in Eddie’s character and his club activates. Many members who know Eddie well offered testimonials that honored his service and example.
Toby Gottesman, our founder, summed up the general sentiment by observing that the outpouring of concern by the membership about Eddie’s illness, and the joy of his fast recovery changed the club from an “organization into a family.”