

Submission Identifier Code:156

Full Title For Entry: Young Members Initiative

Entry Category: Membership Enhancement

Contact Person to be listed on Torch Award CD: Darryl Temkin

E-Mail Address to be listed on Torch Award CD: DOTPILL@aol.com

Club Number 614; Club Name: North Suburban Synagogue Beth El Men's Club

Number of Club Members: 170

Synagogue name, city and state: North Suburban Synagogue Beth El, Highland Park, Illinois

Club President Name at Time of Entry: Darryl Temkin

Club President Name at Time Convention: Darryl Temkin

Person Preparing Entry: Darryl Temkin

E-Mail Address of Person Preparing Entry: DOTPILL@aol.com

Date of Entry of Submission: April 1, 2007

Part III **SELF ASSESSMENT OF ENTRY**

1. Assess program procedural completeness and achievement of program goals

The young member initiative approached the objective from many fronts and has been successful in bringing in a strong dedicated core of young members and future leaders of the club. Membership development and bringing in younger members is an on-going effort, but the initiative outlined in the narrative of this submission is a solid beginning

2. Explain presentation and documentation completeness
Submission includes a narrative discussing the programs that make up this initiative and publicity for and pictures of these events.
3. Achievements of program goals, publicity, marketing and advanced planning

Men's Club programming is publicized in the synagogue bulletin, through special flyers sent to synagogue members and reminders in the Shabbat bulletin. The programs directed to members with young families were publicized through word of mouth of the young leaders of the men's club at "Tot Shabbat" and other synagogue programs directed at younger families.

4. Does the program enhance the image of the FJMC, region and/or your club?

The programs that make up this initiative enhance the Men's Club as well as the FJMC by introducing young men and their families to what the men's club has to offer and how the Men's Club can enhance their synagogue experience.

5. Did you include information so other clubs can use this program

Yes. Samples of flyers and Synagogue Bulletins are included as well as an explanation of the programs

6. What is its value in club building—number of named club members participating vs. club size and shul size

This program was and is directed toward younger families and has been successful in getting a core of young men interested in Men's Club. The interest and enthusiasm for the programs, in particular those with parent and child participation, indicates that we have something to offer to the younger members.

7. What is the effect on club administration—grooming of new officers for club, shul, or region

The young member initiative has developed a core of young members who have taken on leadership roles in the club and in program development.

8. Identification of source of program or practice and description of unique aspects. Most programs were not invented out of the blue, but evolved. Help us understand where it came from

The source of the program came from within the club and the synagogue. Speaking with younger synagogue members we learned about the programming that would interest them.

9. Identification of this program as an adaptation of a previous Torch Award entry or other program. Awards will be given for implementations that are particularly effective. The original sources of the programs will be most pleased to know that their efforts have borne fruit

The Young Member Initiative is a new program and not one that was previously submitted for a Torch Award

10. Identification of the part of the programming effort attributable to the men's club if a joint effort with another group

This initiative was run entirely by the Men's Club. We had the participation of the Associate Rabbi in the Father and Child Tzedukah Project and the Rabbis and Cantor often attend Men's Club events, including the programs to bring in younger members.

Torch Award Submission
Young Members Initiative
2005-2007
North Suburban Synagogue Beth El

Young Members Initiative (Eight Programs) – Getting new, young leadership and members is a challenge all Men's Club's face. Over the last fifteen months, we have added many brand new programs designed to attract young new members and train new leadership for our club. It has been a wonderful success. All the events listed below were run by new, young leaders and officers of our Men's Club. We know that we are in good hands as we look to the future of NSS Beth El's Men's Club. Programs added at suggestion of new leaders – switched from Sundays to evenings – three executives are young – did not sacrifice any of the programs that have been recognized for previous torch awards and are meaningful to our congregation and long time members.

- **Annual Scotch and Israeli Wine Tasting** (12/14/05 and 11/16/06) – The first time we held this event over 40 men attended and it became an annual affair. This year over 50 men attended and we have gotten many new members to sign up as a result. (See Attached-Synagogue Bulletin Notice of Wine Tasting

N.S.S. Beth El Sisterhood

TORAH FUND NEWS

The Jewish Theological Seminary was founded in 1886 as a rabbinical school. Today under the leadership of its new chancellor, Arnold M. Eisen, it is the academic and spiritual center of Conservative Judaism worldwide encompassing a world-class library and five schools. The Seminary trains tomorrow's religious, educational, academic, and lay leaders for the Jewish community and beyond. *today rabah* to all our members who performed the mitzvah of *tzedakah*.

Guardian (\$300.00 +) Yadelle Sklare

Benefactors: (\$180.00+)

Elinor Bayliss, Rita Buckman, Ruth Burack, Lois Chudacoff, Bernice Cohen, Pearle Cohen, Reva Duman, Adrienne Eckerling, Ruth Fischer, Alene Frost, Elise Frost, Debra Goldman, Eileen Goldstein, Lorna Greenspahn, Betty Hamilton, Karen Kesner, Thelma Klein, Myrna Kopin, Bryna Kurtz, Corinne Lane, Karen Levy, Zella Ludwig, Cara Madansky, Kathryn Marczak, Joyce Pollack, Hilda Reingold, Hortense Rubinoff, Susan Saper, Shirley Schuster, Sandra Strauss, Sandra Turner.

Contributors (\$18.00+)

Rose Aronson, Sandra Becker, Eve Biller, Abby Block, Barbara Blumberg, Lana Eisenberg, Ethel Friefeld, Eveida Gross, Marianne Horowitz, Ellen Jacobson, Hortense Jacobson, Geraldine Kaplan, Myra Kramer, Marsha Levin, Cacilia Masover, Roselynn Roseman, Rhoda Rothman, Rochelle Rubin, Lori Stark, Mildred Weber, Pearl White.

Marilyn Lewis Torah Fund V.P.

Pearle Cohen Assistant

N.S.S. Beth El Men's Club

The Midwest Region Men's Club Retreat will be held at Indian Lakes Resort from Saturday through Sunday, January 13-14. It will start at 7pm on Saturday, January 13 and end in the afternoon of January 14. Rabbi Kurtz will be keynote speaker on Saturday evening. We encourage all Men's Club members to attend this event.

BAGELS FOR YOUR BRAINS

The Men's Club Bagels program is a regularly scheduled program on Sunday mornings from September through April offering interesting speakers on current issues including Israel, politics, sports, medical care, and things happening in the community and affecting you, your family and friends. The Bagels Programs are open to the public, and all are welcome, so come and bring a friend, family member or other person who may be interested. Women are welcome to attend. There is no charge for these programs, but everyone is encouraged to join the Men's Club. Breakfast is served at 9:30 A.M., followed by the speaker program from 10:00 - 11:00 A.M.

NOVEMBER 5, 2006

Christopher Kennedy, Legislative Director of the Autism Society of Illinois
The Health Care Crisis and What Can Be Done About It

Christopher M. Kennedy is an attorney and partner in Kennedy Pierson & Strachan in Chicago and Lake Forest, Illinois. He is also a registered lobbyist and currently serves as Legislative Director of the Autism Society of Illinois. Chris has written, promoted and gotten passed various laws affecting health care in Illinois, including

the Autism Reporting Act, a bill mandating increased health insurance coverage, and the Autism Task Force Act, among others. He is also a member of the Illinois Medicaid Waiver Advisory Committee, the Illinois Autism Task Force, and the Autism Society of America's Government Relations Committee.

NOVEMBER 12, 2006

Volunteers for Israel. Mort Friedman of Volunteers for Israel will speak to us about the marvelous opportunities to truly help, beyond our tourism when we visit Eretz Yisrael. VFI connects Americans with Israel through volunteer service. By partnering with civilian and military organizations, VFI enables volunteers to work side-by-side with Israelis. If you are planning on visiting Israel, Volunteers for Israel can connect you with projects that make a difference and will add meaning to your trip, your life and to Israel itself. Many of our congregants have already participated and may also share their experiences.

JOIN THE NSS BETH EL

MEN'S CLUB FOR A GREAT NEW EVENT ON NOVEMBER 29

Membership Dinner Event Exclusive ONLY for dues paying Men's Club members!

Wednesday, November 29
at 6:45 PM

In the NSS Beth El Blumberg Auditorium

Featuring Great Food, Great Sports Speaker, and Great Fun!!

Cost to paid up members: Only \$15 (New Members are FREE)

Send all dues and payments to:
Beth El Men's Club, 1175 Sheridan Road, Highland Park, IL 60035

Dues are \$35.00 (\$54.00 for Dues & Breakfast Sponsorship)

Please RSVP by November 19 - Rob Freeman at robmf@comcast.net

MEN'S CLUB 2ND ANNUAL SCOTCH & WINE TASTING

Thursday, November 16 at 7:30 to 9:30 P.M.

Join us at Binny's, 153 Skokie Valley Highway, Highland Park



Free admission for Men's Club members. \$10.00 for non-members
Experts in Single Malt Scotch Whiskeys and Israeli wines will educate your palate on these fine spirits. Snacks will be served.

You must be 21 and over to attend. RSVP to Michael Salberg mbsalberg@sbcglobal.net

- **Father and Child Bowling (2/26/06)** – Last February, our Club hosted a fun-filled Sunday afternoon of bowling and kosher pizza. 14 Dads brought their kids out for the event and we added four new members to the club(*See Attached-Synagogue Bulletin Notice Father and Child*)

Bowling)

N.S.S. Beth El Men's Club

BAGELS FOR YOUR BRAIN SUNDAY - BREAKFAST 9:30 A.M., SPEAKER PROGRAM 10 TO 11 A.M.

This year we have many *Bagels for Your Brain* Sunday morning speaker programs scheduled, as well as many other kinds of programs.

Our Sunday "Bagels" programs are always open to the entire Beth El community. Please join us!

Men's Club dues are only \$35 (regular) or \$54, which honors *Bagels for Your Brain* sponsors. Please contact Michael Simkin, Manny Marczak or Michael Salberg.

Please mark your calendars now. Check the N.S.S. Beth El web-site for program details and updates.

JANUARY 8, 2006

Lance Friedmann, Senior Vice President
Global Health and Wellness

"Your Health and the Food You Eat"

You can tell from the title that Mr.

Friedmann will discuss healthy food choices.

This important presentation will provide each of us with useful information for our daily lives.

JANUARY 15, 2006

David Askew, Assistant Illinois Attorney
General.

"Protecting Your Civil Rights"

Mr. Askew will discuss important civil rights issues that affect the protection of individuals and the impact on Jewish community.

JANUARY 22, 2006

"The Technion: Securing Israel's Future"

Speakers: Highland Park residents Dr. Stephen A. Laser, National President of the American Technion Society (ATS) and Cynde Hirschtick Munzer, Senior Vice President of the ATS Chicago Chapter

Located in Haifa, Israel, the Technion was founded in 1924 with 17 students in road building and architecture. Known as the "MIT" of Israel, the Technion today has more than 12,000 students, 800 faculty members, 19 faculties, 40 research centers and institutes, 71,000 graduates and 2 Nobel prizes, Israel's only Nobel prize in science.

JANUARY 29, 2006

Joel Retsky, MD, FACP, Gastroenterologist with Ravinia Associates in Highland Park and Chief of Gastroenterology at Highland Park Hospital.

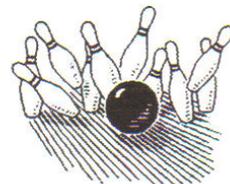
"Screening for Colon Cancer"

1ST ANNUAL MEN'S CLUB BOWLING EVENT

Sunday, February 26 at 12:30 P.M.

The Men's Club cordially invites all Men's Club and Synagogue members to the 1st annual Bowling Extravaganza.

We invite all dads and their children to join us on Sunday, February 26, 2006 at Highwood Lanes from 12:30 - 3:30 P.M. for Unlimited Lunch, Bowling, and lot's of fun. It's only \$20 per family and will include unlimited bowling and lunch.



Please join us for this fun day and give Mom some free time! Please R.S.V.P. to Jeffrey Goldsmith (jgoldsmith@curran-connors.com) or by phone, 847-441-3232. We look forward to seeing you there!

MEN'S CLUB GOLF LEAGUE

The Men's Club Twilight Wednesday Golf League completed their 8th season with an 18 course Golf Dinner, and awards for everyone.

Beginning with our Golf Outing at Geneva National in June and ending in September, it was another great season for the boys of summer.



While some are packing their clubs for the winter, don't be left out in the cold! Starting making your plans now to join us for next season, as we expect to fill all our slots for next year.

If you have an interest in golf, enjoying the summer with new friends, we hope you join us on the first tee next season.

For additional information contact: Manny Marczak at mannymarczak@sbcglobal.net or call 847-831-0545.

- **Sports Extravaganza with Bull’s Legend Bob Love and Bulls Mascot “Benny the Bull”** (4/23/06) – The event started with Bulls mascot “Benny the Bull” running down the halls of our Sunday school and stirring up the excitement. Dads and kids enjoyed a wonderful video on the Championship history of the Bulls. Bob Love gave a motivational speech geared to motivate our children to achieve and not succumb to drugs, alcohol and other temptations. Hot dogs, soft drinks and Bulls memorabilia completed a wonderful afternoon. As an aside, upon completion of the Annual FJMC Regional Retreat, six of our members rushed back to the Synagogue to attend the Sports Extravaganza! (*See Attached-Synagogue Bulletin Notice of Sports*)

Extravaganza)

JOIN US FOR BETH EL MEN'S
CLUB'S SUNDAY SPORTS EXTRAVAGANZA

For Kids of all ages

Featuring special guest

Bob Love



A Chicago Bulls Basketball Legend and 3-time NBA All-Star

Sunday, April 23 at 1:15 P.M.

Cost: \$20 per family

Autographs and pizza for all.

Return this form with check made out to N.S.S. Beth El Men's Club to:

N.S.S. Beth El, ATTN: Sports
1175 Sheridan Rd.
Highland Park, IL 60035



Name _____

Number of attendees _____

Amount Enclosed _____

RESERVATIONS DUE NO LATER THEN SUNDAY, APRIL 16.

For more information contact Joe Adler 847-302-8889



North Suburban Synagogue Beth El
1175 Sheridan Road
Highland Park, IL 60035
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Highland Park,
Illinois
Permit No. 96

- **First Annual Paid Up Membership Dinner (11/29/06)** – This event was only open to members who had already paid their annual dues. As an incentive, the dinner was free to new members. The evening featured a great dinner, loads of Ruach and a hilarious and memory filled presentation on Jewish Sports Heroes by Chicago Sports personality Mike Lederman. Attendance was great and we will do this event annually as a result. (*See Attached-Flyer Announcing Paid Up Members Dinner; Synagogue Bulletin Announcing Paid Up Members Dinner*)



Join NSS Beth El Men's Club

for a GREAT NEW event on November 29th

Membership Dinner

Exclusive Event ONLY for Dues Paying Men's Club Members!

When: Wednesday, November 29 at 6:45PM

Where: NSS Beth El Blumberg Auditorium

Cost: Only \$15 for the Dinner (New Members are FREE)

Featuring Great Food and Great Fun!!

Featured Speaker: Mike Leiderman

(CHICAGO-BASED TV PERSONALITY, JOURNALIST AND PUBLIC SPEAKER)

Topic: Jewish Sports Heroes — Not a Thin Book

Just another reason to join the Men's Club plus other great programs like Bagels for your Brains Breakfast series, Scotch tasting night, Golf League, and many others.

Send dues to: Beth El Men's Club, 1175 Sheridan Rd, Highland Park, IL 60035

Dues are *only* \$35.00 (\$54.00 for Dues + Breakfast Sponsorship)

Please RSVP by November 19th

Rob Freeman at robmf@comcast.net or 847-780-4015

Pay your \$15 in advance via the slip below or pay at the door!

Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Home Address: _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Regular Membership (\$35) ____ Breakfast Sponsor Membership (\$54) ____

Membership Dinner Payment Enclosed (\$15) _____

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- **Family Oneg Shabbat** (12/10/06 and 3/18/07) – Following select Shabbatot, the Men's Club hosts a deli lunch for members of the congregation and their families

who have made a reservation. Costing a nominal price for the entire family – regardless of size - It attracts young families and encourages them to remain after services and utilize the Shul as a social venue. It has been a resounding success.

- **Father and Child Tzedukah Project to benefit the Robineau Senior Home (3/11/07)** – In conjunction with our young Assistant Rabbi and our new, young Programming VP over 20 children signed up to make and decorate their own Tzedukah boxes. After hearing the meaning and importance of Tzedukah, the children will spend the next few months raising money for the Men’s Club’s favorite cause – The Robineau Home for Seniors (through the Council for Jewish Elderly). The money raised will be donated to the Home and designated for a special project of Robineau’s choice. It is such a worthwhile endeavor and accomplishes so much for the children (learning the meaning of charity and helping and visiting the elderly), the club (the program is conceived and run by new, young leadership while enhancing an established program – Robineau), Robineau and the community. This one is special. *(See Attached: Children Displaying “Hand-Made” Tzedukah Boxes)*

