

2013-2015 Torch Awards - Application

Section 1: Title

Club Name: Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club

Current Contact: Larry Grossman

Program Name: Best Overall Club

Section 2: Contact information

Person completing form

First Name: Larry

Last Name: Grossman

E-Mail: larrydgrossman@gmail.com

Club President at time of Convention

First Name: Scott

Last Name: Rogoff

E-Mail: rogofflaw@gmail.com

Current Club Co-Presidents

First Name: Larry/Raymond

Last Name: Grossman/Rokni

E-Mail: larrydgrossman@gmail.com

Section 3: Category

Best Overall Activities

Section 4: Program overview

The Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club is an active and integral part of our community, providing education, community service, social and bonding experiences, and leadership development, as well as lots of meals. We have a large number of signature events and constantly seek to integrate with the many other arms of the synagogue. An average year includes at least 85+ events and programs. We are a dynamic and committed group of men always striving to enhance our Jewish experience.

We began our co-presidency in July of 2013 with three primary objectives:

- Growth
- Engagement
- Succession Planning & Execution

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Growth was a critical issue. We finished 2012-13 with approximately 230 members, which was down from the 250-300 member levels we had maintained over the past decades. As a large congregation of over 1,200 family units and over 850 men, we felt this was poor penetration and we found through casual surveys that we had an awareness issue. Men were not averse to joining; many simply did not really know who we were and what we did. This was particularly evident among our younger members, many of whom viewed us as a bunch of old-timers. We also suffered greatly due to a historical need for recruitment and opt-in via a process marginally connected to the synagogue membership process.

Rather than launch an intense marketing and awareness plan that might have taken years to show change, we lobbied our Executive Director to include Men's Club membership dues in the synagogue dues statement, and allow members to opt-out if they so chose. We updated our Men's Club marketing brochure and had a very visible presence during our High Holiday ticket pick-up days so we could interact with as many men as possible on a personal basis. The results for 2013-2014 were astounding: 416 paid members plus 40 non-paid/first year synagogue members for a total of 456 members, a 98% increase!

We were then concerned that we might lose men the following year who might have unwittingly joined, but we were wrong: in 2014-15 we have 446 paid members plus 60 non-paid/first year synagogue members for a total of 506 members, a 11% increase over last year's record!

Engagement: Once we had these members, how do we keep them? How do we demonstrate the value of being a Men's Club member? How do we expand their participation in Men's Club and synagogue activities? We decided to take a hard look at everything we did and decide what was working and what was in need of refreshing and updating. These programs were identified as needing revision:

- Yom HaShoah Yellow Candles**

This program was originated by one of our esteemed members, Dr. Jerry Agrest. After many years of success, it had plateaued in terms of fund-raising as the costs of executing the program increased due to postage escalation. We had been raising money for the generalized purpose of "Holocaust education", but that was somewhat nebulous. We found that we were mailing 1200+ candles and only getting donations from less than 50 people, and though we were raising \$4,000-\$5,000/year, much of that was eaten up by costs. To reinvigorate the program, we needed to establish a definitive, relevant and easily embraced beneficiary. Our Yellow Candle Chairman Steve Lessman (a former CBS and Midwest Region FJMC past president) led this initiative by contacting the Director of Development at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Educational Center. We made a \$10,000 commitment to their Youth Opportunity Scholarship Fund, which enables schools lacking field trip budgets to experience the Museum. We kicked off our efforts with a brunch featuring a local public school teacher discussing how her students learned from the experience. In addition, our Cantor and youth choir Shir Joy performed relevant songs and our

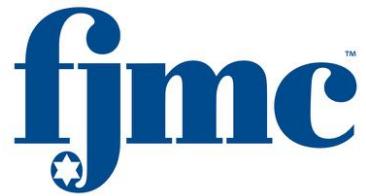
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member docents led tours. In our first year we raised over \$9,250 from 170 donors and were able to pay the first \$4,000 of our commitment while retaining some funds for the next year's costs (See Yellow Candle Torch Award application for more details). The Museum recognized our commitment by placing a plaque on their wall of honor. To our knowledge we are the only synagogue auxiliary organization so recognized.

- Worldwide Wrap

This service and program was traditionally conducted from the bima in our main sanctuary. Under the leadership of Cantor Steven Stoehr and our Ritual Programming committee, the service was re-engineered to be conducted in the round in one of our social halls. The service became an interactive teaching experience where the history and traditions of tefillin and some of the prayers were discussed and related to 5 posters that were set up around the room. Over 150 people attended each year and walked away with a rich spiritual feeling. Of particular note, the February 2, 2015 event coincided with one of the top 5 snowfall accumulations in the history of Chicago. Thirty-five participants braved the elements to attend, but Sunday school had been cancelled. We did our first ever Worldwide ReWrap on February 22, 2015 to include the 40+ Sunday school children who had participated in the Build-a-Pair program as well as their parents and many others who had missed the first service due to the snow. Attendance at the ReWrap was about 120 people.

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congregation beth shalom men's club

2015 FIMC World Wide Wrap
Join Hundreds of Congregations Globally In the Uniquely Jewish Spiritual Experience and Tradition of Tefillin

Sunday, February 1, 2015
8:30-10:00 am
Tefillin instruction will be available!

Whether you regularly wear Tefillin, or it has been a while since you have, please join us for this educational and spiritual experience. We will assist those wishing to learn or renew their practice of wearing Tefillin. All are welcome to participate.

In the event that you do not have a set of Tefillin, we will have extra sets available for you to use. If you would like to acquire a new set of your own, the Sisterhood Gift Shop can accommodate you. Please visit the Gift Shop for details.

Yes, we plan to attend:
Name: _____
E-mail: _____
Phone: _____



- **Men's Club Shabbat**

Our Men's Club Shabbat service had been languishing on Friday nights. Our programs, while creative, failed to draw 100 people and member participation had dwindled to less than 25. After extensive discussions with our Past Presidents, Clergy and Board, a decision was made to move to Saturday morning with the Men's Club taking over the entire service, with the exception of the misha berach and Mourner's Kaddish. The result was the active participation of 60 Men's Club members including many Kavod Honorees and Past Presidents. We had attendance of over 350 people and a remarkable spiritual experience. It should be noted that the date was March 21, 2015, which coincided with Shabbat Ha-Chodesh and Rosh Chodesh which meant that we used three Torahs, and also utilized our Harvey R. Gold Sefer Haphtarah that had been a synagogue-wide fundraising project initiated by Men's Club in honor of our now retired Executive Director.

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next three projected president candidates are in their 40's. Last year we added similar numbers of younger members to our Board and Executive Board.

Additionally, we conducted the following programs, always with an eye towards fulfilling our core objectives. Note the while many of the programs could fit into several categories, to avoid duplication we included each program under only one category.

Programs to Support the Synagogue and Congregant needs

Weekly Trope Breakfasts - Most Sundays during the school year we serve breakfast to trope students and their parents who attend the Synagogue's trope classes on Sunday morning. In addition, many congregants also join us for breakfast and camaraderie following morning Minyan. Noteworthy speakers and programs followed many of our breakfasts, as detailed below. At all of the breakfast events, Men's Club members cook and serve a tremendous breakfast consisting of eggs, lox, bagels, fresh fruit, pastries and a variety of other items. We serve approximately 25 breakfasts annually to 30- 300 people, depending upon the program.

Bagels on the Run (September 7, 2013 and September 15, 2014) - Members of our Club handed coffee, bagels and the Men's Club calendar to parents as they dropped their children off for the first day of Sunday school. We included promotional materials about our Club. This created great camaraderie for Club Members and great PR for the Club.



Build Synagogue Sukkahs (September 15, 2013 and September 29, 2014) - Each year our Men's Club builds the Sukkah for the Synagogue. This is a fun activity attended by a large number of Men's Club members and is followed by a Men's Club Breakfast. In the past 2 years we have expanded our outdoor Sukkah to include a 400 square foot indoor Sukkah to accommodate more congregants for our school activities as well as our annual Sukkoth event that draws 350+ people.

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Purim Carnival (March 16, 2014 and March 1, 2015) – Every year our Men’s Club enthusiastically helps at the Purim Carnival, cooking and serving hot dogs, chips, falafel, hamantachsen, and soda. We donate our time and the food to support this important fun afternoon for our young families with young children and introduce them to Men’s Club in action.

High Holiday Ushers - Each year members of our Club serve as Co-chairmen of the High Holiday Usher Committee and more than 25 members of the Club volunteer as ushers for the services. It is the tradition at CBS that Kol Nidre at both of our services is staffed by Men’s Club members serving the greater good of CBS.

Synagogue Board and Leadership – Multiple members of our Men’s Club Board and Executive Board members and Past Presidents are involved in all aspects of Synagogue life and committees including serving on the Synagogue Board and Executive Board. Our current congregation president and our incoming president are both past presidents of Men’s Club. Additionally, two other Men’s Club past presidents are currently serving on the Executive Board. Men’s Club has proven to be an important leadership development arm of Congregation Beth Shalom. In addition, there are two Men’s Club members that act as the synagogue photographers covering distinguished speakers, materials for public relations, calendars, birth certificates and a range of key synagogue events. Another member put his carpentry skills to work and created a wall cabinet including an ark to hold Torahs in the Youth Lounge.

FJMC Programs



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Build-a-Pair (2014 and 2015) – In 2010 our Men’s Club and Religious School participated in the Build-a-Pair program for the first time. Men’s Club purchased kits for the Religious School Bet students. The students built their Tefillin and participated in the World Wide Wrap. In 2014 and 2015, we once again participated in the Build-a-Pair program, purchasing forty-five sets each year for use by our Sunday school students to learn from and use in our Worldwide Wrap events.



Man of the Year/Youth of the Year Dinner (February 23, 2014) - We hosted, organized and promoted the FJMC Midwest Region Man of the Year Dinner and first ever Youth of the Year award. This involved managing promotion and logistics for all elements of the banquet. We vetted caterers, managed the logistics of both the venue and the ad book as well as project managed getting all of the nominees bios and pictures. We also developed an online reservation system. We honored Past President Kevin Braude as our Man of the Year and Julia Braude as Youth of the Year. Over 350 people attended.



- **Shiva Minyon Leader Certification**- Midwest Region FJMC Pilot Program- The CBS Men’s Club was one of three clubs that participated in the pilot program for FJMC which was led by Cantor Steven Stoehr of Congregation Beth Shalom. Five members participated in this program. Barry Brusso, Howard Freidin, Andy Berman, Mark Jesselson, and Michael Greenberg. Michael Greenberg recruited members. The course focused on three areas: Ritual aspects of a Shiva Minyan including chanting, service flow and mood, and concluding thoughts, especially the on last night of Shiva. They were also instructed on recognizing the audience needs and comfort levels:
- (Knowledgeable vs. Uninitiated Worshippers). Leader presence from time you arrive to time depart. Psychological aspects.
- Laws regarding Shiva period.

Commentary from participants: “Thanks for organizing the Shiva Minyan meetings.” “I came away with a lot of new things.”, “Thanks for organizing the three classes with Cantor Stoehr, I have come away with a spoonful of valuable information on the overall subject and would like to add more ingredients to the mix.”

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The CBS course occurred on three separate nights lasting one and a half hours each (as opposed to the two other Region clubs that held one 1-hour session.) Attendees will receive certificates at the Cantors Assembly Conference on May 3, 2015 in Chicago.



Man of the Year/Youth of the Year Dinner (February 22, 2015) - Our Club organized the 2011 FJMC Midwest Region Man of the Year Dinner. Our Club honored Past President Bradley Shaps as our Man of the Year and Zach Sandler as Youth of the Year. More than 50 people from CBS attended in their honor.



Annual Yom Ha'Shoah Candle Packing Meeting (March 18, 2014 and March 19, 2015) - We again participated in the Men's Club Yellow Candle program sending candles to all of our congregants and college students. About 25 members helped us pack over 1,200 candles each night.



Yom Ha'Shoah Program (April 27, 2014) – To increase participation and enhance our annual Yom Ha'Shoah program, we invited author Ronald Balson to talk about his book, “Once We Were Brothers”, the gripping tale about two boys, once as close as brothers, who find themselves on

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opposite sides of the Holocaust. Over 150 people attended. We had author Steven Richards discussing his Holocaust book based upon a true story, "Sitting on Top of the World" on April 19, 2015, and had a crowd of 180 people attending. We were also honored by the appearance of Kurt Wagner, the 83 year-old protagonist of the book.



Midwest Region Board - We currently have two officers serving on the FJMC Midwest Region Board including the current President and treasurer. Both are past presidents of the CBS Men's Club.

Community Service Programs

Lieberman Geriatric Center – (Monthly for 2014 and 2015) Our Men's Club members have volunteered at the Lieberman Geriatric Center on Shabbat once a month throughout the years. We help residents to and from their rooms for Shabbat services, assist the residents during services, help with the Torah Service and pass out challah and wine after the service.

Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament (January 26, 2014 and February 8, 2015) – Our Annual poker tournament had more than 50 participants, raising over \$3,000 each year for Israeli charities benefiting victims of terrorist activities.

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12th Annual No Limit Texas Hold'em Tournament and Dinner to benefit charities in Israel

**Sunday, February 8, 2015
at 4:30 p.m.**

\$50.00 per person if paid by February 1, 2015 or
\$60.00 per person at the door
Players must be at least 21 years old.

Great Prizes!!!
Flat screen TV * Gift Certificates and much more
Final table all receive prizes

Deli dinner to be served around 5:30 p.m.

Please complete the form below in its entirety and return with your Check or fill out complete Credit Card Information to:
Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club, 3433 Walters, Northbrook, Illinois 60062. Enclosed is my check made payable
to Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club in the amount of \$_____, for ____ reservations.

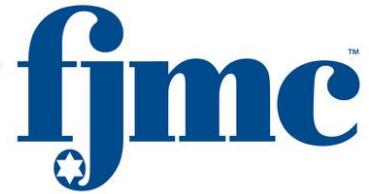
City _____ Zip _____ Telephone _____
Credit Card Number _____ Exp. _____ CAVV _____
Signature _____

Questions: Contact Steve Kring at kring1@yahoo.com



Lox Box (March 5, 2014 and March 8, 2015) – Selling Lox Boxes is an important fundraiser and community service project and a signature event for our Club. Many of the boxes sold are donated to The Ark (a food pantry serving needy Jewish families in the Chicago area) and the Council for Jewish Elderly. This is a huge undertaking involving all members of our Board who sell and deliver boxes to various homes. In addition, hundreds of Synagogue members (and their children) help pack the boxes the night before delivery, staying at the Synagogue until the last bagels are packed after midnight. Even in a very difficult economy our lox box program was a huge success in both 2014 and 2015. In 2014 we sold 1,125 boxes, including 500 for the Ark and the Council for Jewish Elderly. In 2015 we sold 1,075 lox boxes including over 450 for the Ark and the Council for Jewish Elderly. As a result of these donations, more than 5,600 people in need were fed over the two years.

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Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club

LOX BOX 2015!

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2015

Enough of your favorite foods to serve 6 people for just \$30.00!!!
NO PRICE INCREASE FROM LAST YEAR!

* Nova Lox * Dosen Fresh Bagels *Orange Juice *Tomato
*Onion *Cream Cheese *Donuts AND MORE!!

ORDER YOUR BOXES TODAY

BY CHECK OR CHARGE CARD: Complete this form and return it with payment to CBS 3433 Waters, Northbrook, IL 60062 American Megafund, Inc. Checks payable to "CBS Men's Club".
ORDER BY EMAIL: cbsmenclubboxx@gmail.com
ORDER BY PHONE: 847-272-2052
Email any questions to cbsmenclubboxx@smmt.com

BE A SPONSOR OR BENEFACITOR - RECEIVE FREE BOXES

CBS Men's Club delivers hundreds of donated Lox Boxes each year to help feed those who are less fortunate. Over the last 18 years we have delivered over 10,000 boxes to those in need. Your help will go even more.

BENEFACITOR - For every 20 Lox Boxes purchased for charity, CBS or AKA, receive 2 additional Lox Boxes at NO CHARGE

SPONSOR - For every 10 Lox Boxes purchased, whether they are for yourself, gifts, or for the community, receive 2 additional Lox Box at NO CHARGE

Boxes for **SELF** **SPONSOR** **CLOUDS FOR JEWISH LEADERS** Total Boxes _____
 a \$30.00 Total Cost _____
 (Benefactor or Sponsor - Number of CHARGE Boxes _____)

Purchaser _____
 City _____ Zip _____
 Address _____
 E-Mail Address _____
 I WILL PICK UP MY LOX BOX AT CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM BETWEEN 7:30 AM AND 1:00 PM

PLEASE DELIVER THE LOX BOX TO: Purchaser _____ Other _____ (please use a separate form for each delivery order)
 Recipient _____ Street _____ # of Boxes _____
 City _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ For GPR Orders Only: Enter Fax _____
 LOCATION OF HOME FOR DELIVERY (please be specific, or preferably include an Internet Map) _____
 Neverland / You Can't Make This Up _____ Security Code _____
 Exp Date _____
 Signature _____
 LAST DATE FOR LOX BOX ORDERS - March 1, 2015

Israel Programs

Israel In-Depth: What You Need to Know (2014-2015) – We co-sponsored five breakfast events with the synagogue's Israel Committee featuring renowned educator Carl Schrag providing in-depth discussions of the key issues facing Israel, including: understanding Gaza and Hamas, the truth about divestment, a critical look at the Israel apartheid charge, understanding Israel's electoral system and Nakba, the Palestinian view of the founding of Israel. Each event drew over 100 people.



ISRAEL IN DEPTH:

What You Need to Know Now

The events of summer 2014 underscore an important new dimension. Now when Hamas rockets are not flying and the IDF is not engaged in active combat, Israel is a central part of our lives, and each of us needs to take steps to understand the issues beyond the headlines. The series will focus on important issues on Israel's agenda, offering a critical look at the Israel Apartheid charge, the truth about divestment, the history of Nakba, and a brief current events update. All sessions will be taught by Carl Schrag and will take place at 10am, immediately following the Men's Club breakfast.

Sunday, November 2, 2014

The Truth About Divestment: What Would a Divested World Look Like?

This program will explore the concept of divestment from the perspective of the anti-Israel crowd at the time the BDS crowd, Considering the scope and reach of Israeli innovation in fields as diverse as technology, agriculture and medicine, what would it mean for the world if a full boycott gained momentum? What can we do to combat the effort?

Sunday, January 11, 2015

Who is Truly Free? A Critical Look at the "Israel Apartheid" Charge

Beginning with a clear reading of Israel's Declaration of Independence, we will gauge how successful the country has been at living up to its own lofty ideals. We'll learn about the rights enjoyed by Arab citizens of Israel, residents of the West Bank and Israelis throughout the Arab world. The separation barrier, military rule, autonomy and peace talks will help complete the picture.

Sunday, February 8, 2015

30 Parties and Nobody to Vote For: Understanding Israel's Electoral System

We'll explore how Israel's parliamentary democracy works and why the founders set it up this way. We will examine the ideology behind the system, the strengths and weaknesses of it, how to change the system, places and times to the way the Knesset is run, and the impact of the system on Israeli politics.

Sunday, March 15, 2015

Nakba or Independence Day? Exploring Multiple Narratives

Millions of people view the establishment of Israel as Nakba, or "the catastrophe." We'll consider different narratives about the events that led to the state of Israel gaining independence and use the 1948 War of Independence as a lens to understand different views on current events.

You'll benefit most if you attend all 5 sessions, but drop-in is welcome!

This class is co-sponsored by The CBS University/Adult Education, Men's Club, Israel Committee and Youth

CBS High School students wishing to earn scholarships toward an approved trip to Israel by attending these sessions should contact Matt Rissner (Mrissner@bethshalom.org) or Leah Blue (LBlue@bethshalom.org)

Israel 101 (2013-14) - We continued to co-sponsor our Gold Torch Award program on Israel education and advocacy, a joint effort between Congregation Beth Shalom's Men's Club, Religious School, Adult Education committee and Youth department. The program consisted of six classes designed to educate and empower our Congregation to make a difference on behalf of Israel. The

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class targeted adults and high school juniors and seniors and focused on Israel's history and current events, emphasizing Israel Advocacy.



Art and Israel

Sunday, September 14, 2014
Breakfast: 9:30 – 10am (\$7 per person)
Program: 10am - Noon



Israel needs our help! We all want to show our support, but we can't all go to Israel at a moment's notice. But what if Israel could come to us?

Learn more about the conflict in Israel and the impact it's having on the life of Israel's citizens. Meet Ilan Hasson and a fellow artist who will share their art and their insights.

Show your support by viewing and buying beautiful Israeli art and Judaica brought by our visiting artists. Paintings by Ilan Hasson and his wife Daphna Shapira-Hasson, in addition to jewelry, tallitot, and Judaica will be available for sale.

Please RSVP to the cbsisraelcommittee@gmail.com by Wednesday September 10th with the number of attendees for breakfast and the program, or the program only, to insure your place and meal.

USCJ Scholar Breakfast featuring Rabbi Joel Levy (November 24, 2013) - We co-sponsored our annual USCJ Scholar Breakfast featuring Rabbi Joel Levy discussing "Property Ownership in God's World."



Israeli Army Veterans Breakfast (June 22, 2014) - In conjunction with American Friends of Israel War Disabled Foundation, we hosted a Sunday brunch dinner honoring 10 disabled Israel War Veterans who had been hosted by CBS families and were touring both Chicago and the US. Nearly 200 people attended.

JUF Breakfast featuring Ari Shavit (January 15, 2015) - Ari Shavit is an Israeli reporter and writer. He is a Senior Correspondent at the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* and the author of the 2013 *New York Times* Best Seller *My Promised Land: The Triumph and Tragedy of Israel*. A crowd of nearly 300 attended.

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Social Programs



Men's Club Softball League (2013-14) CBS was one of the founding members of the North Shore softball league. It started as a one-day tournament in 2013 and evolved to a six team league in 2014. This coming year 12 teams from various Conservative and Reform congregations from the North Shore area will compete in slow pitch softball. This was a great way to engage younger members who otherwise had not been interested in Men's Club. From it we have developed several new Board members.



Opening Dinner featuring Sidney Green (September 10, 2014) – Ten-year NBA player and former college star and coach Sidney Green talked about his experiences in the influence several Jewish men had on his life and career. The more than 100 people in attendance were entertained and enjoyed the dinner served by our Men's Club.

Fantasy Football – (Fall 2013 and 2014) - We organized a fantasy football league for Synagogue members as a fundraiser for the Synagogue and Men's Club. We had approximately 25 participants in 2013-2014 and more than 30 in 2014-2015 who enjoyed bantering about their football knowledge and raised several hundred dollars for the Synagogue and Men's Club in the process.

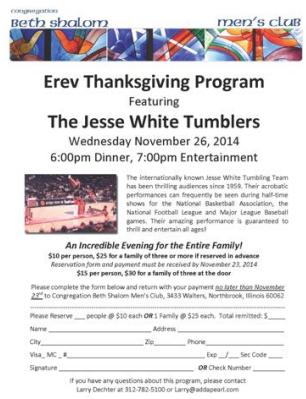
Bruchah-Tology: Our annual Final Four bracket competition with the grand prize being free Men's Club breakfasts for a year and bragging rights. There were 25-30 participants each year.

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Steaks and Football in the Sukkah (September 13, 2013 and October 12, 2014) - Our Rabbi and Men's Club members grilled steaks and we watched the Bears football games in the Sukkah. We had an enjoyable evening, fulfilling the Mitzvah of eating in the Sukkah and social bonding with 150 people attending.



Bears Bash (November 4, 2013 and November 9, 2014) - We watched the Monday Night & Sunday Night Bears games vs. the Green Bay Packers and noshed on hot dogs and hamburgers prepared by our Men's Club. We also do a Lucky Squares pool with 50% of the money going to our Youth Scholarship Fund. There were different NFL winners each year, but lots of fun and camaraderie amongst the 200 attendees.



Erev Thanksgiving Program (November 26, 2014) – Our Erev Thanksgiving dinner program featured The Jesse White Tumblers, a professional athlete and entertainer, who entertained the more than 350 individuals, including primarily young families, who attended this annual event.

Daddies and Darlings (February 16, 2014 and December 7, 2014) – In association with CBS's Young Family Outreach group, we had more than 60 dads and their children attend our annual

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program featuring a pancake breakfast, songs, stories and a craft project. In February we tried an event at a local children's gym as a change of pace and it was well received. This is an event to engage younger men into the club by meeting them at the event and following up with them post event for club involvement.

Family Bingo Night

Congregation Beth Shalom men's club

Sunday, January 19, 2014

The 16th Annual Bingo Night will begin at 5:00 P.M. Sunday, January 19th
Chances to win prizes
(No school next day – Martin Luther King's Birthday)

Children under 3	Children 3-9	Children 10-13	Ages 14+
Free	\$5.00	\$7.00	\$9.00

Price includes dinner, dessert and one Bingo card per person!!

For questions, contact Larry Dechter at (312-782-5100) or Larry@AudiPearl.com

Reservation Form for January 19, 2014 Men's Club/Sisterhood Bingo Night

Name(s): _____ Phone # _____

age 14+ \$9.00 _____ # age 10-13 at \$7.00 _____
age 3-9 \$5.00 _____ # under 3 are free _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Return to Congregation Beth Shalom 3435 Walters Ave, Northbrook, IL 60062
Please make check payable to "Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club" or
Return no later than Wednesday, January 12th, 2014

Family Bingo Night (January 19, 2014 and January 18, 2015) - We jointly sponsored our annual Bingo Night with Sisterhood and Young Family Outreach. More than 150 people enjoyed a homemade pasta dinner prepared by Men's club and Bingo, with prizes for all.

40th Annual Golf Scramble

Mission Hills Country Club Sunday, August 25, 2013

- Men and Women - All Golfers Welcome!
- Buffet Lunch, Cart, Full Locker Room Facilities, Balls and Prizes
- Registration: 10:30 am - 11:30 pm
- Buffet Lunch: 11:30 am - 12:45 pm
- Shotgun Start at 1:00 pm
- 6:00 P.M. Dinner, Awards and Auction Presentation

Attendees	Golf/Dinner	Golf Only	Dinner Only
Men's Club & Sisterhood Members	\$85	\$70	\$15
Non-Member Guests	\$95	\$80	\$15

Reserve _____

Of Attendees for Golf/Dinner: @ \$85 per person _____ @ \$95 per person _____
Of Attendees for Golf Only: @ \$70 per Person _____ @ \$60 per person _____
Of Attendees for Dinner Only: @ \$15 Per Person _____

Promote your company or recognize a milestone event (birthday, anniversary, etc.)
by becoming a hole sponsor. @ \$25 per hole _____ # of sponsored holes: @ \$25 per hole _____
Milestone(s): _____

Golfer(s) Name(s): _____ Total Amount: \$ _____
Others In Foursome: _____ "If You Do Not Have a Foursome, We Will Match You Up"

Email Address: _____ (0)

Limited Tee Times! Reservation Cutoff August 15th
Please Make Checks Payable to "CBS Men's Club"

MC/Visa Credit Card # _____ Security # _____ Exp. Date _____
Signature _____

Please return form to Congregation Beth Shalom, 3435 Walters Ave., Northbrook, IL 60062
Attn: Men's Club Golf

For Further Information, Contact Larry Dechter (312)-782-5100

Golf Outing (August 25, 2013 and August 20, 2014) - Our annual lunch and golf outing was once again a well-attended fun event for both the serious golfers and duffers who participated. We tried moving to a Sunday instead of previously scheduled Mondays and had slightly improved attendance but we did not do our usual barbecue dinner and installation afterwards and have decided to move back to Mondays in the future. It was a noble experiment from which we learned.

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Opening Dinner featuring Ham! (October 2, 2013) - Local sports radio host, sports attorney, law professor and author Eldon Ham joined more than 125 Men's Club members for our Annual Opening Dinner. Great information on the history and impact of the home run, among other things from the author of "All the Babe's Men: Baseball's Greatest Home Run Seasons and How They Changed America."

Other Educational Programs

Men's Health: Different Paths to Weight Loss (January 12, 2014) - Members of Men's Club shared why and how they accomplished significant weight loss in a discussion moderated by Dr. Sam Grief, a practicing physician and Executive Board member. We learned about the Adkins Diet, gastric bypass surgery, and an organic vegetarian diet under strict medical supervision.



ADL Speaker (December 15, 2013) – Lonnie Nasatir, the Anti-Defamation League's Regional Director of the Greater Chicago/Upper Midwest area was our speaker and provided an update on the Anti-Defamation League's most recent poll data on anti-Semitism to a crowd of about 125 people.

JNF Speaker (April 4, 2014) - We hosted a breakfast to hear Rick Krosnick, Chief Development Officer from Jewish National Fund discuss Making the Desert Bloom: Israel's Challenge of Populating the Negev. A crowd of approximately 75 people attended and learned.

CBS Day at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Learning Center (February 15, 2014) – To help kick-off our Yellow Candle fundraising commitment we hosted a breakfast and program at the location. We have committed \$10,000 to the Youth Opportunity Scholarship Fund that allows schools without funding to bring their students to learn firsthand about the Holocaust. We had a

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teacher speak about the impact of the experience on her students as well as the CBS Children's Choir and a dedication of our commemorative plaques. Then we had our congregation members who are also docents at the Museum conduct tours for all of the 250 attendees.

Activities in Support of Synagogue Youth



MC/ Youth Basketball game (January 29, 2014 and January 21, 2015) – Every year our Men's Club plays our USY basketball team in a basketball game and loses. But we did cover the spread this year by only losing by 13 to the team that won the league!

Sponsor USY Basketball team and trips to USY Conventions (Annually) – Annually, we donate \$500 to our USY chapter to sponsor our USY Basketball teams and provide funds for USY members to attend conventions. In 2014-15 we doubled our donation as they USY group was able to field two teams, one of which was crowned league champion.

Men's Club Youth Scholarship Fund (ongoing) – At many of our programs we raise money for the Men's Club Youth Scholarship Fund. In June of 2014 we presented a check in the amount of \$1000. We anticipate presenting a similar contribution in 2015.

Men's Club Leadership Development

Men's Club Leadership Development Initiative (2013-15) - Over the years our Men's Club Board has had very little turnover. We had a number of long standing members who were no longer interested in serving on our executive board and actively serving on committees. We recognized that it was imperative that we recruit and develop new Board members. Over the last two years we added 17 new members to our Board and 6 new individuals joined our Executive Board. For the first time, one of our members attended the Leadership Development Institute held outside Baltimore. As a result of these initiatives, the foundation of our club is solid, and the leaders are in place to ensure the future success of our club.

2013-2015 Torch Awards - Application



2014 Regional Retreat to Starved Rock (May 2-4, 2014) Four members of the CBS Men's Club board attended and actively participated in this event of both learning, praying and bonding.

2013 Convention (July 2013) – Eight of the CBS Men's Club members, including six board members, attended the 2013 Convention in Boston. The Club received a Quality Club Award at this Convention as well as a Silver Torch Award for the Israel Program.

Section 5: Certification

I certify that my club has not won a Gold Torch Award for essentially the same program in a previous year. (Previous silver and bronze winners in this category that submit an enhanced application only qualify to be considered for a Gold Torch award.)

Certification: Initials: LDG

Section 6: Pictures

Pictures have been inserted above with each description for contextual relevance.

Section 7: Video

<http://youtu.be/5Lz6As1l02w>