

Submission Identifier Code:155

Full Title For Entry: Yom HaShoah Holocaust Programming

Entry Category: Holocaust Remembrance

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
Each year the Men's Club seeks to have speakers and programming for Holocaust remembrance in conjunction with the Yellow Candle program. The programming these past two years have exceeded our goals.
2. Explain presentation and documentation completeness
In conjunction with the narrative outlining the events and programs that make up the Yom HaShoah Programming we have included synagogue bulletins announcing the events, a letter sent by the Rabbis in conjunction with the distribution of the Candles, an envelop sent requesting contributions, a newspaper report of the Concentration Camp visitation scholarships, and a photograph of the Student Presenters
3. Achievements of program goals, publicity, marketing and advanced planning

The program exceeded the goals we had set. Coverage in the local newspaper of our scholarship program as well as a report by the student presenters in the newspaper and synagogue bulletin publicized our program and the education of the teenagers about the Shoah.

4. Does the program enhance the image of the FJMC, region and/or your club
The scholarship program is exceedingly important to the men's club, not only for what it accomplishes, but also because it provides feed back to those members who have contributed funds to the Candle program for many years. The scholarships are funded from the Candle program contributions and members get to see how those contributions have been put to use.
5. Did you include information so other clubs can use this program
Yes
6. What is its value in club building-number of named club members participating vs. club size and shul size
The events and programs that make up the Yom HaShoah Holocaust programs are attended by synagogue members at large. The families whose children made the visits to the Concentration Camps as well as their friends attend the program where the children report on the trip and its impact on them. Holocaust programming and the Yellow Candle program are meant for the synagogue and the Jewish community at large, and not just the Men's Club.
7. What is the effect on club administration—grooming of new officers for club, shul, or region
The program enhances the reputation and image of the Men's Club. The past chairman of Beth El Men's Club Yom HaShoah program is the current Executive Vice President of the Midwest Region. The idea to enlist the Rabbi to send a letter supporting the Candle program was shared with the other clubs in the Midwest Region and FJMC
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 candle program developed by the FJMC is the foundation for the Yom HaShoah programming of the Beth El Men's Club. With that foundation we have developed programming, including the scholarship program and speaker programs to further Holocaust study
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

Beth El's Men's Club Holocaust programming has the FJMC Candle program as its core.

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

The Yellow Candle Program gives us an opportunity to work with the youth community of the synagogue who help with packing candles. Candles are sent to college students away from home. The Rabbis' support of the Men's Club and the Candle Program ensures that funds will be available to distribute candles and provide scholarships to any students who wish to visit to the Concentration Camps of Eastern Europe

Torch Award Submission
Yom HaShoah Holocaust Programming
2005-2007
North Suburban Synagogue Beth El

Holocaust Remembrance (Six Programs) – the single most galvanizing event of modern Judaism is the Holocaust and subsequent establishment of Israel. As a result, Remembrance programs are central to NSS Beth El Men's Club calendar of events. The last two years have brought some of the most meaningful and heartfelt programs we've ever done. The key to it all is the Yom HaShoah Candle Program. The money we raise from that program is the sole funding source for all the rest of our Holocaust programs outlined below.

- **Annual Yom HaShoah Candle Program** (4/4/06 and 3/20/07) - every year our own Joe Adler leads our Men's Club in packing and sending out Yom HaShoah candles. Done in conjunction with our Rabbi and Youth organizations, we pack and ship candles to the entire congregation and registered college students. It is one of the most important and rewarding programs on our calendar. The money raised from this program funds our Scholarship Program to visit the camps – see immediately below. *(See Attached-Letter from Rabbis supporting Candle Program and Contribution Envelope)(See Attached -Synagogue Bulletin Announcing Candle Packing)*

Men's Club
North Suburban Synagogue Beth El



טועדון גברים
של בית כנסת בית א-ל

Dear Friends:

In a few weeks you will receive a Shoah candle sent to you by our own award-winning Beth El Men's Club. It is a yearly program instituted by the Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs throughout the world reminding us that it is our task never to forget the destruction of European Jewry and the murder of six-million Jews, including one-and-a-half million children. As the number of remaining survivors are dwindling, we become the bearers of their legacies.

We mourn for all of those whom we have lost and recognize that their lives can never be replaced. This year, more than sixty years following the liberation of the camps, so many have chosen to forget, or ignore, the experiences and lessons of the Shoah. We must do everything we can to keep the flame alive – not just as memorial tributes to the victims of the Shoah but also in recognition of the challenges future generations, our children, will be facing. It is for this very reason that this program was created.

We urge you to light the Shoah candle on the eve of Yom HaShoah and to let it burn brightly in your window so that all can see the message of its light. We urge you to be generous to the fund that the Men's Club has created for ongoing Holocaust education and for offering scholarships to our young people to visit the Eastern Europe and learn of our common history. We encourage you to recall the memory of our Jewish martyrs as Yom HaShoah 5767 is commemorated.

With best wishes,


RABBI VERNON KURTZ


RABBI MICHAEL SCHWAB

VK:MS/rh

Executive Committee

Ronald Goldberg
V.P.

Darryl Temkin
V.P.

Manny Marczak
V.P.

Jeffrey Goldsmith
V.P.

Larry Lidov
V.P.

Officers

Michael Simkin
Manny Marczak
Michael Salberg
Program V.P.'s.

Jeffrey Goldsmith
Membership V.P.

Steven Blum
Communication V.P.

Bruno Fischer
Treasurer

Ira Frost
Secretary

Phillip Feitelberg
Past President

MEDITATION ON LIGHTING THE MEMORIAL CANDLE
FOR THE SIX MILLION

Place the candle in your window on the evening of Yom HaShoah April 15, 2007.

As we light this memorial candle we vow never to forget the lives of the Jewish men, women and children who are symbolized by its flame.

May we be inspired to learn more about our six million brothers and sisters, as individuals and as communities, tonight and throughout the year.

PLEASE DETACH & SAVE THIS PRAYER

(OVER)



Your contribution will help defray the costs
for continuing the program.

- \$ 12.00
- \$ 18.00 (for Chai . . . "Life")
- \$ 36.00
- \$ _____

Use of all contributions limited to this special program
Please make checks payable to BETH EL MEN'S CLUB
CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

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.

For additional information contact Michael Simkin, Men' Club Program Vice President.

APRIL 23, 2006 - Shoah Remembered
Cherylanne Glassner, Avram Pachter, Dana Cohen, Keren Daskin, Benjamin Derman, Allie Rabman, Jonah Meyerhoff, Samantha Kopin, and Ayal Tovian.

The Men's Club has invited these Shoah Fund 2005 recipients to enlighten everyone about their experiences from their visit to European Holocaust locations. Come and share their experience.

APRIL 30, 2006
The Photograph Re-Constructed - The Manipulation and Combining of Images
by Phil Feitelberg. Some of you know Phil as the 2006 Men's Club "Man of the Year", others as the Past President of the Men's Club, and all for his humor. On Sunday, April 30 you will hear from Phil Feitelberg the Photographer.

MIDWEST REGIONAL MEN'S CLUB RETREAT

APRIL 21-23

Perlstein Center, Camp Chi

It is a very rewarding weekend full of *Ruach* and Brotherhood!

For more info contact Darryl Temkin, 847-433-2108 or
dotpill@aol.com.

MEN'S CLUB

SHABBAT



Saturday, April 1

The Men's Club is honored to lead services one Shabbat each year. Please join us for prayer and worship on Saturday, April 1.



YOM HASHOAH CANDLE PACKING

Tuesday, April 4, 6 P.M.

Every year the Men's Club and USY pack and ship Holocaust Remembrance Candles to the Beth El community. Please join us on Tuesday April 4, for this most worthwhile effort.

Don't wait any longer.

YOU CAN STILL JOIN THE MEN'S CLUB

**GOLF LEAGUE THIS YEAR
AS AN ALTERNATE PLAYER.**



All spots for the Golf outing at Sheppards Crook on Sunday, June 11 and the Wednesday Twilight Golf League which begins May 24 are full. However, you can still be part of the fun as an Alternate Player, and enjoy playing with some average golfers but above average guys.

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

The Men's Club, through our special Holocaust Fund, is awarding a stipend to those traveling to Poland this summer in an organized educational program and whose parent is a member of Beth El.

If you would like to receive this stipend and share that experience at a Men's Club Program, please complete the bottom portion of this letter.

Mail detached form to Manny Marczak, 1318 Bob-O-Link, Highland Park, IL 60035 by May 1, 2006.

It is important that you respect this deadline, as we will be unable to process applications after May 1, 2006.

B'Shalom, Manny Marczak, Program Co Chairperson

Application for Men's Club Shoah Program

Participant's Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____

Name of Program Traveling to Poland: _____

Name & Phone Number of Program Coordinator: _____

Travel Dates _____ to _____

Parent's Signature: _____

Participant's Signature: _____

Sports Extravaganza! April 23 at 1:15 - See the ad on the back page of this bulletin

- Annual Student Scholarship Program to visit the Concentration Camps and report back to the Congregation*** (4/23/06, in progress in '07) - One way for our children to know and never forget the Holocaust is to actually go and visit the camps. From the money we raise through the Yom HaShoah Candle Program, we offer scholarships of \$250 each for students to visit Eastern Europe and the camps. The culmination of the program is when our students speak at our Annual Holocaust Remembrance Program about their experience. The program has grown over three years (four students in 2005, 9 in 2006) so that **in 2007, 13 students will participate!** We look forward to their report in April. It is an incredibly moving program and ensures that the knowledge of the Shoah will be passed down through the generations.

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

Mens's Club Holocaust Studies Program Recipients Speak About Summer Experiences

Several years ago, Men's Club initiated a Holocaust Studies program providing Beth El students with funds earned from the club's annual *Shoah* candle project. Under the leadership of program chairman Manny Marczak, the objective of the program was to encourage students to spend part of their summer in Eastern Europe, learning about the Holocaust as well as the vibrant Jewish life that once existed in Poland. The only requirement was that the students return to Beth El and tell about their experiences. Eight students recently spoke to the Men's Club using both video and photographs to tell their stories.

Benji Derman took part in the Ramah Israel Poland Seminar. As a grandson of four Holocaust survivors, he felt a special connection to Eastern Europe, continually searching for some remnant of their lives. At the memorial in Treblinka, he found a rock representing one of his grandparents' town - Staszow. He felt that the unlikely sight of his grandfather's village amidst thousands of different stones is a reminder that we must remember the survivors and the ideals that they brought to this country and Israel. **Dana Cohen** and **Allie Rabman** participated in the Shorashim program and witnessed three camps in Poland. What made their experience so bittersweet was

when they left Auschwitz, everyone in the group held hands as they continued on their way to Israel. They knew it was a journey that millions of their Jewish brethren could not make and made their Israel experience that much more meaningful.

Jonah Meyerhoff with the Ramah Israel Poland Seminar told of a visit to a synagogue in Poland. When they arrived at the Shul it was dark, so they had to light candles. He said, "With our candles, we made the synagogue come alive again and made it a place of spiritual richness."

Keren Daskin, who also attended this seminar, talked of a memorable Shabbat service in Krakow, breaking out in singing and dancing afterwards in the streets. "We celebrated Jewish life as it once was," Keren said, "bringing Judaism back to life in Poland." **Cherylanne Glassner**, agreed and spoke about attending Shabbat services at the most beautiful synagogue she had ever seen while in Krakow and seeing the Jewish Quarter there that was once so vibrant and filled with Jewish life. "Being in Poland made us realize how meaningful it was to go to Israel," she commented. **Avram Pachter** participated in the USY Poland Israel Pilgrimage and talked about his visit to the cemetery in Krakow, where he saw graves buried on top of each other. On a personal note, he found the grave of Rabbi Heller, a relative of former Associate Rabbi David Lerner and also learned about his

cousin who had smuggled weapons during the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising. **Ayal Tovian** also participated in the Ramah Israel Poland Seminar. By studying Torah at a Yeshiva in Lublin, he was moved by the great Jewish life that once existed in Poland. As he davened at a *Shul* he said, "I could feel the spirit of all the generations of Jews that had once prayed there."

All of the students felt there was no better way to understand the Holocaust than to participate in a program such as this, experience it for themselves and be committed to sharing it with the next generation. One hundred percent of the Men's Club *Shoah* Candle project, headed up by Joe Adler, goes towards Holocaust remembrance and education. This year, there are 13 students eligible for the program. For more information, contact Men's Club President, Darryl Temkin at dotpill@aol.com.



Ba'al Korei Institute

AWARDING OF VIDEOS

(Synagogue Bulletin Reporting on Student Speakers Presentation to Men's Club)

Beth El Men's Club Program Recipients Speak of Experiences

Several years ago, the Men's Club at North Suburban Synagogue Beth El in Highland Park initiated a Holocaust Studies program under the leadership of program chairman Manny Marzcak. The objective of the program was to encourage students to spend part of their summer in Eastern Europe, learning about the Holocaust as well as the vibrant Jewish life that once existed in Poland. The only requirement was that the students return and tell about their experiences. Eight students recently spoke to the Men's Club using both video and photographs to tell their stories.

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All of the students felt there was no better way to understand the Holocaust than to participate in a program such as this, experience it for themselves and be committed to sharing it with the next generation.

This year, there are 13 students eligible for the program. For more information about the Beth El Men's Club, call North Suburban Synagogue Beth El at 847.432.8900.

(Report in Highland Park Newspaper of Students Speaking to Men's Club)



(Students Speaking About Trip to Concentration Camps)

- **Our Survivors Speak*** (4/10/05) – Our Holocaust program in 2005 was one of the most impactful programs we've ever had. Five NSS Beth El members - survivors all - shared their experiences with the congregation. One, Irwin Wygodny, had never spoken about his experiences in public before this event. All who attended will never forget it.
- **Kristallnacht and the Nuremberg Trials: *Personal reflections of an eye witness* Featuring Mr. Ernest Michel** (11/9/05) – Mr. Michel, (Executive Vice President Emeritus of UJA-Federation) is the only Jew and survivor to cover the Nuremberg Trials as a reporter for the German News Agency under the byline "Auschwitz Survivor #104955". (See Attached-Synagogue Bulletin Announcing *Kristallnacht*)

program)

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

BAGELS FOR YOUR BRAIN

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SPEAKER PROGRAM 10 TO 11 A.M.

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NOVEMBER 6, 2005

Ed Sherman, Chicago Tribune - Sports, Sports, & More Sports, Mr. Sherman will bring his knowledge of sports to a lively breakfast discussion program literally off of and out of your *Tribune*.

NOVEMBER 13, 2005

Richard Baehr will present a thought provoking presentation: "Israel and the Palestinians after Gaza".

NOVEMBER 20, 2005

Lance Friedmann, Kraft Foods, 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.

DECEMBER 4, 2005

Charles Spungen, formerly with the CIA. Mr. Spungen will use his extensive knowledge of the Middle East to help us understand the current and future issues affecting Israel, Iraq and other countries in the region.

DECEMBER 14, 2005

Scotch and Wine Tasting
Sip, schmooze, learn and enjoy!
Details soon - save the date

THE NUREMBERG TRIALS AND KRISTALLNACHT PERSONAL REFLECTIONS OF AN EYE WITNESS

Wednesday, November 9 at 8 P.M.
in the Blumberg Auditorium



A special evening with **Mr. Ernie Michel**
(Former Executive Vice President and
current Executive VP Emeritus of UJA-
Federation)

- ▶ Only Jew and survivor to cover the Nuremberg Trials as a reporter for the German News Agency under the byline "Auschwitz Survivor #104955"
- ▶ Survivor of some of the most notorious camps - Auschwitz, Birkenau, Buchenwald, Berna and Buna-Monowitz to name some.
- ▶ First hand witness to Kristallnacht.
- ▶ Author of *Promises to Keep* (available in the Beth El Library).

Please plan to join us for this very special evening as we recall this monumental event on its 60th anniversary with one of our most prominent living witnesses.

Refreshments will be served.

This event is sponsored by the Men's Club.

The N.S.S Men's Club Over 30 Basketball Team will once again play in the JCC Men's league. A couple of roster spots remain open. This league is very competitive, playing on a full court with patched officials. If you are interested in joining, please contact Michael Salberg at flashstar@mindspring.com or 847-903-1491.



- **Northwestern Controversy – One Student against a Holocaust Denier***
(12/10/06) – Stuart Loren is a student who stood up to the University. He made

them confront the Holocaust denying Engineering Professor and limit his ability to spread his lies through the university web sites. Stuart told us of his experience in standing up for fellow Jews, Holocaust victims and Israel.

