

**Congregation Beth Shalom
Committee Reports
Annual Meeting
June 15, 2020**

Fundraising Report

Ray Rokni, Fundraising VP

The Fundraising Committee was given the responsibility of raising \$18,000 towards the operating budget for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. We are pleased to announce that we raised \$11,430 that is being reported for this time period. In addition, the Fundraising committee has planned an upcoming event for the Rabbi Melman 18th anniversary celebration that has already raised a net contribution of \$29,413. This will be deferred to the 2020-2021 calendar year as the April event was postponed due to the global pandemic.

We are all very grateful to Dr. Lee Shulman who generously continues to donate the proceeds of his Foreskins for Philanthropy program to CBS, netting \$7,010 from 18 brit Milla celebrations.

The ongoing Congregation Beth Shalom gift card program netted \$3,330 so far this year, providing an easy way to raise funds for CBS. We will continue to encourage more congregants to participate as the program nets the congregation between 2.5% and 15% for doing what comes naturally, shopping and giving gifts and costs the purchaser only the face value of the gift card.

In addition, we have received \$1,090 from various other programs:

Misc. donations	\$84
Amazon Smile	\$104
Zelda's (holiday food commissions)	\$52
Postage contract donation to CBS	\$850

We hope to have an in-person congregation-wide celebration for Rabbi Melman and anticipate that we will be moving this event to May of 2021. As we had to halt our campaign in early March of this year, we have not truly started our promotional campaign to encourage a substantial congregation attendance and to offer sponsorship opportunities as well as an extensive solicitation of Jewish organizations and our local community. Even with our limited initial promotion, we have over 200 attendees and over 30 tribute contribution and sponsorships netting \$29,413.

Special thanks to Cantor Stoehr for his assistance in selecting and negotiating our entertainment selection. We are also grateful for the Hoffman foundation contribution and especially Arnie Hoffman for his generous support toward funding of the entertainment for this event.

Many thanks to the fundraising event committee members: Tami Rokni, Beth Sher, Mitch Padnos, Neil Rosengard, Seth Schrank, Jack Knopoff, Karyn Liss, Diana Lewis, Darlene and Norman Padnos, Brad Shaps, Bobbi Simkin, Fern Roseman, and Suzy Hakimian for their continuous support of this event.

I also need to thank Michael Garlin for his dedicated support and guidance, Susan Karlinsky for her dedication in managing our registration, collection and general

fundraising finances, and Deanne Friedman for her support in managing our fundraising digital campaign.

It certainly takes all of us to be successful and I truly appreciate everyone's efforts. Our goal has always been to bring the CBS community closer together while raising funds to support the many essential programs and services offered by our synagogue.

While our major fundraising commitment has not yet been completed, and has been postponed to the 2020-21 calendar year, I look forward to working with Howard Sigal, our incoming Ways and Means VP, and to making our Rabbi Melman celebration a truly memorable event.

House Report

Laura Shulman, House VP

House committee comprised of 17 amazing CBS member volunteers working in conjunction with our Executive Director Michael Garlin

Projects 2019-20

- 1 Replacement of the Parking Lot over Summer 2019
 - a. Tore up to stone base and entire new binder and pavement layers
 - b. Sewer upgrades
 - c. New light poles and timers
 - d. Entry circle re landscaped

- 2 Security enhancements
 - a. Exterior glass
 - b. Classroom lockdowns
 - c. Triage kits
 - d. Exterior doors
 - e. Panic buttons
 - f. Extensive training and procedure manuals

- 3 Computer system upgrade
 - a. Technology cloud based
 - b. Equipment updates
 - c. Software conversions for database, billing, website
We don't know how lucky we are that we did this in this last year as it has enabled our staff to operate outside the building these past months and given up the capability to do all we are able to offer to our members during this pandemic.

- 4 Building Fund expenditures
 - a. RTUs
 - i. Lucky to only have to replace some heat exchangers in 2 units
 - ii. We have over 15 RTUs on our building; well-maintained as many have exceeded useful lives
 - b. Gutters/Tuckpointing/Insulation as needed at point around exterior
 - c. LED light conversion completed

- 5 Maintenance of 3 parsonages
 - a. Move in work to get home ready for Rabbi Ferratier
- 6 Annual review of contracts for Bldg Insurance, snow plow, landscaping
- 7 Update Asset Life Schedule to reserve Capital Reserve needs for Finance Committee
- 8 Established the Capital Resource Committee comprised of House VP, Fundraising VP, Exec Director, Immediate Past President to report to the President

Financial Report (see attached)

Cheryl Braude, Jim Donenberg, and Majorie Maxwell

To be presented at Annual Meeting.

Membership Report

Randy Samborn, Membership VP

The Membership Committee was engaged a variety of programs and planning throughout the year, culminating in launching YACHAD, affinity groups for the next synagogue year. The Committee, which had dwindled in size in recent years, was re-formed with new members representing the Board of Trustees and the membership-at-large. The Committee is strong and focused entirely on matters that affect membership recruitment and retention.

Last summer, the Committee delivered new seat back pocket cards containing a welcome letter from the clergy and the benefits of CBS membership. The cards were added to seat back pocket materials during regular services, as well as on special occasions when large numbers of prospective members were in the house, and they are useful for initiating or responding to interest in membership.

The 2019-20 membership season kicked-off with three Services Under Sky – Aug. 9, 16, and 23 – aimed at attracting current and prospective members. On Aug. 9, we celebrated students heading back to college with a tailgate Shabbat, including a BBQ dinner after the service. On Aug. 16, we marked the 50th anniversary of Woodstock with special melodies arranged by Cantor Gershon, and on Aug. 23, we observed the 50th anniversary of the Apollo 11 lunar landing with ice cream from out of this world.

In November, Michael Garlin reported that membership remained stable following the High Holiday dues collection season. The year-end membership tally was 1,174 households, including 34 Friends of CBS.

On Dec. 6, the second CBS Community Shabbat dinner was smaller than the event in September, but it brought congregants and families together after three separate Shabbat evening services – a traditional minyan, a lively Shabbatone, and a family service for young children, whose early dinner preceded their service.

This spring, the Committee officially launched the YACHAD affinity group program after many months of research and discussion. YACHAD is tailored for members who have an interest, hobby, or activity that lends itself to small group participation.

CBS has long served as a home away from home, providing its members with connections to the Jewish community through spiritual, educational, and social interaction. Now, as we learn to live with social distancing, CBS is creating new opportunities to enhance personal connections and make them even stronger.

YACHAD affinity groups will unite small groups around common interests, assisted by CBS staff but driven by lay leaders and participants. The goal is to strengthen our members' relationships to the synagogue and each other, while serving as an innovative tool in membership recruitment and retention.

Based on the concepts of "relational Judaism," detailed in books and writing by Dr. Ron Wolfson, affinity groups will engage members in activities they enjoy, while also fostering small group relationships within our large community that will keep members connected and involved.

Just a few examples could include but not limited to; Hiking Groups, Canasta for Fun, Eating Explorers, Gourmet Cooking, Bridge, Israeli Conversation, Book Clubs, Mah Jongg, Fantasy Sports Leagues, Exercise Groups, Whiskey Group, Vegan Group, Museum Goers, Women's Groups, Men's Groups, etc., etc., etc. The idea is finding your passion and sharing it with others who share the same.

Over the summer, we plan to identify and train individual members who will lead various affinity groups by planning and organizing activities outside the synagogue that will forge relationships among our members. Participating in and belonging to an affinity group also will help attract new members – perhaps your neighbor or a relative who shares a common interest by connecting with them at their level.

Finally, this spring, Committee members stepped-up by volunteering to make wellness calls to CBS members to stay connected and offer any assistance during the pandemic.

Programming Report

Ellen Grossman, Programming VP

JULY 19th, 2019 -- Thank you again to Diana Lewis for all that she did to bring Daniel Silva to Congregation Beth Shalom. He appeared at no cost to us because we were the first stop on his book tour. We did purchase 500 of his books as part of his appearance agreement. We had over 900+ attendees and pre sold approximately 200+ books with another 75+ sold to date. Silva arrived Friday afternoon and came to CBS to sign his new book "The New Girl" which is still available for \$25@ thru the shul office.

SEPTEMBER 19th, 2019 -- The **Great Round Challah Bake** featured Judy Wolkin and was co-sponsored by the CBS Sisterhood. It was great fun and a great success with over 200 participants.

OCTOBER 19th, 2019 -- We had a congregational Sukkah Hop featuring eight clergy and congregant homes and ending at CBS with a concert by Jewish Rock Radio personality Kenneth Lyonswright.

OCTOBER 24th, 2019 -- Bari Weiss was our Distinguished Speaker. The event was very well attended, and she captivated the audience. I received many comments about her depth of knowledge and her presentation of the information which included historical perspectives as well as present day tie ins. She spoke at length and answered many more questions as well as signed books and had personal conversations with individuals. Her book, *How to fight Anti-Semitism*, is still available for sale through the shul office for \$20@. We have sold approximately 175+ books to date.

JANUARY 26th, 2020 -- Sunday we had a joint event with JUF featuring Yaakov Katz, American born Israeli journalist and author who has currently serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the *Jerusalem Post*, where he had previously been military reporter and defense analyst. His perspective on the state of Israel's security and its history were fascinating to the large crowd, over 200+ in attendance.

FEBRUARY 16-18th, 2020 -- Thirty-seven congregants, including Rabbi Ferratier, went on a Civil Rights Journey through Atlanta, Birmingham, Montgomery, and Selma. It was an incredible and thought-provoking experience that no one will ever forget.

MARCH 9th, 2020 -- For Purim this year, we enjoyed the comic stylings of the Bible players who treated us to the "Unkosher Comedy Show".

The following were also part of our Programming Year, as they have been in prior years:

Havdalah, Dinner, and a Movie

Israel in Depth- Carl Schrag Sunday mornings with Men's Club breakfasts.

Hazak Programs

CBS University Classes

By the end of March, we were in the throes of being quarantined and learning about what this Covid-19 was going to do to our lives. We converted eight of our classes on Zoom and served well over 300 adult learners. Our Zoom classes have been very well attended with some having more attendees than the in-person classes. Thank you to all our teachers who have helped us through this exceedingly difficult transition to zoom. **But most of all I want to personally thank LEANN BLUE AND LISA ORLOV.** Without them, many/most of our class attendees would not be on Zoom and would not be able to enjoy the learning and break from the quarantine isolation by being connected to friends and co-learners. Leann and Lisa have empowered our congregants to be able to attend Zoom classes and will continue to do so if needed. Just contact them by email with your cell phone number to set up an appointment.

Given the uncertain quarantine future, we are considering some Zoom speakers during the summer, and we are in the process of scheduling. The first of those speakers will be Jonathan Mussman, Head of Production for Non-Fiction Originals at Netflix, on June 23rd, 2020 at 7 pm...watch for the Zoom link. We are also continuing some of our CBS University classes during the summer 2020. So please read your emails and sign up for the Zoom classes that interest you.

With the current situation, until we are in Phase 5, we are looking forward to a January/February 2021 (possible) restart for future in-person Distinguished Speakers.

I would like to thank the Program Committee and all the people who helped with each of the events. We continue to be working hard scheduling many more programs and speakers for the upcoming year.

Ritual Report

Howard Freidin, Ritual VP

According to the CBS bylaws, the Clergy and Ritual Committee are responsible for all religious services of the Congregation. We formulate the rules and regulations for all religious services subject to the approval of the Board of Trustees, and within the halakhic interpretation and halakhic limits established by the Rabbi. The committee offers advice, guidance and support to the Clergy regarding the character and mode of the various services and periodically reviews the religious atmosphere of the Congregation and reports its findings and recommendations to the Clergy and to the Board of Trustees. In conjunction with the Clergy the ritual committee supervises the purchases of books, supplies and religious articles pertaining to religious services and rituals. This committee is led by the Ritual Vice-President.

There are currently 25 members of the ritual committee, of whom about half are on the CBS board.

In order to work more efficiently, the ritual committee is composed of a number of subcommittees, each with their own responsibilities.

Following are a few highlights of the year:

- COVID-19 changed everything - Though the building has been closed, we continue to have morning and evening minyan as usual, with the weekday morning minyan starting at 8:00. Minyan is streamed, with just one clergy present for services (two on Shabbat morning).
- Cantor Gershon has decided to move to the east coast. A search committee was formed, and we are looking forward to welcoming Randi Simon to CBS as our new bar/bat mitzvah coordinator/tutor next month. All of our interviewing was done through Zoom.
- Bar/Bat Mitzvah
 - We have been working with the bar/bat mitzvah families whose event as been impacted by COVID-19. Some have had a Zoom-Mitzvah, and others have rescheduled for a future date.
 - Earlier this month we assigned Bar and Bat Mitzvah dates to about 35 students for the 2022-2023 school year
 - We had a short-term meeting with families in December and June. We had a long-term meeting with parents in May. The May and June meetings utilized Zoom.
 - We assigned parent ambassador and serving responsibilities for the year
 - We responded to ongoing Bar/Bat Mitzvah parent inquiries
- High Holiday

- We had High Holiday services last year, and they are scheduled again for the fall this year, though they are likely to look different than they have in the past. The high holiday committee is meeting to discuss and develop options for the services that will make them meaningful to our congregation.
- The Ritual Committee, in conjunction with the clergy, selected Seymour Politinsky and Jeff Smoler as our Neilah honorees recognizing their contributions to ritual over numerous years.
- Ambassador/Minyan Leader
 - We assigned Ritual and Board ambassadors for all Shabbat / Holiday religious services
 - We also assigned the door openers and minyan leaders for Sunday evening and Secular holiday evening services
 - We coordinate the assignment of leaders for Shiva minyans
- Ritual Committee Shabbat
 - Last July members of the ritual committee led services on a Shabbat morning.

All Shabbat, holiday services, and daily minyan services are live-streamed to allow those unable to attend services to still connect with CBS. Live streaming was made possible through a generous gift from the CBS Men's Club and can be accessed from the CBS website.

It's been a great and busy two years and I have enjoyed the position. I'm sure Seth Schrank will do a great job in the next two years.

School Report

Alan Zelkowitz, School VP

Despite the year ending with many changes due to COVID-19, this has been an amazing school year. There were 207 students in kindergarten through 8th grade and 25 students in our CBS High program. We had a full staff who participated in monthly trainings and consistently provided feedback to ensure that our program constantly adapted to the needs of our students and families.

Our Hebrew program, Aleph Champ, continued to be a positive tool to help our students learn to read. They enjoyed working at their own pace and earning jelly beans and medals as they achieved each level of the program. Students frequently requested one-on-one tutoring so they could move through the program at a faster pace and many came in on non-school days to be tested for the next level. Our students then move on to reading groups to build vocabulary and finally to small conversational Hebrew units.

We began using a new *T'filah* program this year, Hebrew in Harmony, in our 4th through 6th grades. This program includes music, *kavanah*, videos, and journaling in addition to learning the words and choreography to the prayers. Students enjoyed using iPads to work both in small groups and individually. The goal is for students to be able to work at their own pace to learn *T'filah* as they do in Hebrew.

This school year also included many special activities such as:

- A 7th Grade Field Trip to Maot Chitim to build boxes on September 15th.
- A kindergarten through 2nd Grade Shofar Factory Field Trip on September 22nd.
- A 5th and 6th Grade Shabbaton with Beth Judea on October 11th and 12th
- Author and puppeteer, Marilyn Price, performed for our kindergarten through 2nd grades.
- Author, Michele Weber Hurwitz spoke to our 3rd through 5th grades.
- The 7th graders and their parents toured the Illinois Holocaust Museum.
- The Bible Players performed a special Purim Spiel for our kindergarten through 6th graders and then held an improvisational comedy class with our 7th graders.
- We had 15 kindergarteners welcomed into the school during the *Chagigat HaGan* Ceremony.
- During the *Siddur* Ceremony, 28 third graders received their own *siddurim*.
- After winter break our 3rd through 7th graders participated in *chugim* (clubs). They were able to choose from: Gaga, Kugel Cooking, Cooking with the 7 Species, the art of *Havdalah* and social action.

In March as schools closed, we made contacting each family by phone a priority. Then based on the results of a parent survey we designed and implemented on-line learning. This new program also included individual tutoring and take-and-make art projects. We continually adapted throughout the rest of the school year to meet the needs of our families.

We are currently working on plans for next year that cover all 5 phases of Governor Pritzker's plan. Our goal is to move seamlessly between phases as required to ensure the safety, physical health and mental health of our students and families.

Social Action Report

Sara Weinstein, Social Action VP

Congregants at CBS gave time, money and donations of goods to help our local community, the greater Chicagoland area, the US and Israel. The following are a few of the projects that Congregation Beth Shalom Social Action completed!

We have continued to support our refugee family. Thanks to Sandee Levin and Tami Rokni for their leadership! The family had a baby in the fall, so it has been an exciting year for all involved! Thank you to the large group of dedicated volunteers!

We provide food monthly for 7 clients from the ARK. Thank you to Merrill Medansky and her Committee for their dedication and contributions!.

Comics were sent to Operation Gratitude and candy was collected for the US Military and local Police and Fire Departments in honor of Veterans Day. Thank you to Jill Olefsky for organizing and delivering.

Back to School supplies were collected and delivered to WINGS.

Sisterhood collected kitchen items for Ronald McDonald House and new and gently used bras to 'I Support the Girls'.

Towels and small blankets were collected for Heartland Animal Shelter at 'Blessing of the Pets'.

Over 50 participants provide a portion of a meal for approximately 40 homeless guests at PADS shelter each month, year round! We also served a meal to the guests in November and March. Many CBS members supported PADS residents by donating to a fund to provide food delivered to the local hotels that are housing the guests beginning in March. Thanks to Marlene and Mara Silverman for providing essential bags for the residents!

CBS reached a new record for blood donations this year!! 173 successful blood donations were made by our members at CBS during September 2019 and April 2020 Blood Drives. Thank you to Steve Elisco and his committee for their hard work and efforts!

70 Flu Shots were given September 2019.

We collected candy for the US Military in honor of Veterans Day.

At Mitzvah Day, November 2019, we made table decorations for Thanksgiving dinner at a homeless shelter, dog toys for local animal shelters, blankets for children at Lurie's Children Hospital and stress balls for an elementary school in Waukegan. Thank you to the many volunteers who worked to make this day a success!

We collected many boxes of Holiday gifts for children at JCFS.

We collected thousands of pounds of food for Northfield Township Food Pantry and the ARK. Thanks to the many volunteers who always made sure the food is delivered to the ARK and Food Pantry. Our special ARK food drive in May and June has been very successful! Thanks to our congregants who participated and help stock the ARK Food Pantry.

Many CBS Hebrew School students participated in Social Action Chuggim. Thank you to the following speakers who helped the students learn about their organizations: Sue Karlinsky for making soup for the homeless and talking about the Food Pantry and the ARK, Colleen for speaking about her experiences with Lurie Children Hospital and Henry Feta for talking about foods insecurity and Hunger Free Northbrook. Also thank you to Michelle Rosenmutter for her help in the future! Thank you also to Stacy Ybarra for making this possible!

We also collected thousands of 'pop' tabs for Ronald McDonalds Houses, cell phone chargers for Northwestern Hospital, 350 pairs of glasses for Lions Club and 120 cell phones for SHALVA.

We made 50 quarts of matza ball noodle soup for our congregants who are ill and the Food Pantry.

Our newest Social Action commitment this year has been providing supplemental food bags to children in Northbrook schools who are 'food insecure'. Thank you to Leatte Gelfeld for organizing and delivering over 170 bags purchased by our congregants through June! We will be continuing this over the summer and next school year.

Thank you to the clergy for their support and commitment to Social Action. Thank you to all the congregants who brought donations, shopped and cooked for the homeless and delivered groceries.

Thank you Susan Karlinsky for her dedication to everything Social Action!

Our committee works very hard to identify areas where we can be of assistance. Thank you to Sisterhood, Men's Club, Religious School and Youth.

A special thank you to the Social Action Committee. We couldn't accomplish all we do without you. This is a TEAM effort!!

Youth Report

Dan Sher, Youth VP

This is the first full year with our new Director of Youth and Young Family Engagement, Eric Golberg and what an amazing year it was. The year started out with our USY board participating in a Chapter Leadership Training Institute in August that was supported by the Wolkin Innovations in Education Fund. That weekend was also the start of the videos that Rabbi Ferratier started doing with the youth. If you have not seen any of the "Ask the Rabbi" videos you should go onto the Congregation Beth Shalom page on Facebook and look them up.

Our Young Families also saw a wide range of programming including continuing our Shabbat with a Twist and having 24 programs throughout the year. Our 17 Chaverim members enjoyed five unique programs this year including a Tu B'Shevat Treasure Hunt and we had three different programs for our Kadima members including Improv with Knuckleball comedy and we had three of our Kadima members participate in the Kadima Konvention. Eric was also one of the group leaders for the Ta'am Yisrael trip where we had 15 students that were registered to participate.

This year, we had six Regional General Board members as part of CHUSY. Ashley Star co-chaired the Kadima Konvention, Brandon Wagner co-chaired the ST/TO Lock-in, and Lexi Cohn and Celia Murphy co-chaired the 8th Grade Shabbaton. In addition, we had two of our members on Regional Executive Board with Celia Giles holding the regional communications vice president and Geoffrey Gitles as Executive Vice President of the region. This coming year, Geoffrey Gitles was elected the Regional President, Ashley Star is the Executive Vice President and Brandon Wagner will be Social Action/Tikun Olam Vice President. As you can see – it is great that our youth support not only our USY chapter, but the greater Region and community as well.

This year we featured 26 brand new engaging programs as part of our Thursday night USY Lounge Nights. We averaged over 28 youth each week at these lounge nights and had new themes for programs such as "Hats off to TO" (Tikun Olam) and a successful book drive. We sent 12 members, the most number of USY'ers in our region, to the International Convention in California this past December and we raised over \$2,000 between our honey fundraiser and our hamantaschen sales.

The second half of the year certainly was not what anyone imagined or planned for, but Eric and our youth once again rose to the challenge as our world went into quarantine. With the help of our teen leaders, the Gloss Youth Lounge went immediately online providing programs and content every day of the week. Monday was Freshman Facetime, Rabbi Warner did a Parsha Talk and one of our youth advisors, Adam Blue, did LTI (Let's Talk Israel). These programs not only engaged OUR teens, but also teens from all over the region as well as the country with USYers from New England, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Florida joining our calls and Eric getting calls from other youth advisors all over the country asking for his help and advice.

Eric challenged the board this year to embed Judaism into every program that we do and this year our USY chapter took home the most programming awards in the region at Kinnus. That was only topped with our USY chapter being awarded the CHUSY Region's chapter of the year. Not a bad first year for Eric, our teens and teen leaders, and our amazing youth department!

Men's Club Report

Steve Elisco, President

The Men's Club had another year filled with spirituality, social action, thought provoking educational experiences and great comradery. While the year ended differently than planned due to COVID-19 there are many positive initiatives and moments to share with you:

We began the year with the announcement that Howard Minkoff was named the FJMC Midwest Region's 2019 MA'ASIM TOVIM Honoree. This award was bestowed upon Howard at the JFMC International Convention in Toronto, Canada, which was held from July 3-7, 2019.

One Shabbat per month from August through February, Members of the Men's Club volunteered to assist with Shabbat Services at the CJE Lieberman Center for Health and Rehabilitation.

Membership:

We concluded the year with 386 paid members and 46 complimentary new congregation members for a total of **432** members. We continue to be the largest Club in the region and one of the largest clubs in the country. We very much appreciate the assistance provided by Susan Karlinsky, as well as the efforts of Membership VP Bob Goldwin in implementing and managing this process and welcoming new members.

Leadership:

We came into this year after retiring some long time Board Members who devoted many years to the Club, and we thank them for their service. We also had a vacancy in the VP Social Programs position and an uncertain future for the next President and Executive Vice President. I am pleased to present the revised 2020-2021 Slate below, which includes eight (8) new Board Members and all Executive Committee positions filled. This Slate sets up the Co- Presidency of Steven Lessman (prior President 1995-1997) and Dr. Andrew for the 2021-2022 year.

Programs:

September

- We began the year with our opening dinner celebrating the NFL at 100 years with the Bears playing the Packers.

- We continued our service to the congregation at Yom Beth Shalom by serving lunch to the attendees.
- On a Sunday, we welcomed parents back to another year of Hebrew School by providing them with Bagels, Cream Cheese and Coffee in the Parking lot as they left after dropping their children off.
- See Sunday Breakfast Programs.

October

- We built the Indoor and Outdoor Sukkahs.
- We held Steaks in the Sukkah with delicious steaks grilled to perfection by our Grill master, Steve Lessman.
- See Sunday Breakfast Programs.

November

- Erev Thanksgiving featuring the Jesse White Tumblers was attended by over 200 congregants.
- See Sunday Breakfast Programs.

December

- Lox Box online sales began.
- See Breakfast Programs.

January

- See Sunday Breakfast Programs.

February

- See Sunday Breakfast Programs.

March

- Lox Boxes were delivered, and we had another successful year with over 1330 total boxes sold, and the program continues to grow. We are pleased to have had 700+ boxes donated to the Ark and to CJE. Special thanks to Lawrence LeVine not only for all his and his committee's hard work but for bringing us into the 21st Century with a Lox Box website, online ordering, and email reminders. Of course, we could not do this program without Howard Freidin who keeps us financial and logistically organized and established efficient routes for all our delivery drivers.
- We continued our service to the congregation at the Purim Carnival by serving lunch to the attendees.

April

- On March 11th, the Men's Club Board gathered to pack 1,100 Yellow Yahrzeit candles purchased by the Men's Club. These candles were sent to all congregants so that they may honor the memory of the 6 Million in their homes for Yom HaShoah. The proceeds of this program are used to support the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center's Opportunity Scholarship Fund. We thank Steve Lessman, Yellow Candle Chairman, for his continued leadership.
- The JFMC Midwest Region Man of the Year Dinner honoring our Youth and Man of the Year was postponed and it is hoped to be rescheduled for fall of 2020. In the meantime, we are planning a Zoom Night of

Recognition to honor our Man of the Year, Donald Pike and our Youths of the Year, Becky Jacobson and Anat Pissetzky. The date and time to be determined.

- Our Men's Club Shabbat did not occur but our Kavod Award recipient, Raymond Rokni, will be honored at our Zoom Night of Recognition. The date and time to be determined.
- See Sunday Breakfast Programs

May

- See Sunday Breakfast Programs
- We began Men's Club Chat, a social program via ZOOM to give Men's Club Members a chance to see each other and just talk about anything that comes to mind. This program will continue every two to three weeks indefinitely.

Sunday Breakfast Programs:

This year all the new and established Breakfast Programs were organized into three (3) six session series. The purpose was to assist in marketing and increase attendance. Here is what we provided to the congregation, many which were co-sponsored other CBS entities and committees:

Israel in Depth:

- September 15, 2019 – Electoral Do-Over: What to Watch in the Second Israeli Election of 2019
- September 22, 2019 – Coalition Calculus: What the Elections Mean for Israel's Future
- November 24, 2019 – Israelis and American Jews Talk About Trump: Is the Leader of the Free World "Good for the Jews"?
- December 15, 2019 – Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and Points Beyond
- January 19, 2020 - The Rainbow of Israeli Society
- February 9, 2020 - Israel Across the Generational Divide

There was a 10% increase in participation over last year for most sessions and the November 24th session was attended by over 100 participants. Carl Schrag led us through all sessions in his concise and though provoking manner and answered lots of questions even when they were not questions.

This Series was co-sponsored with CBS University/Adult Education and the Israel Committee

2019-2020 Special Programs:

- October 20, 2019 – Refugee Family Program
- October 27, 2019 – Pet Adoption Program
- November 10, 2019 – Honoring our Vets program
- January 26, 2020 – Jewish United Fund Program

- February 2, 2020 – World Wide Wrap - This year we experienced “Davening in the Dark”, a heightened sensory approach to the morning service. Special thanks go out to Canter Stoehr, Spencer Sher and Mark Luban for leading us through this emotional and spiritual service.
- April 19, 2020 – Earth Day Program – Postponed pending ZOOM Presentation, date, and time to be determined.

To Your Good Health:

- November 3, 2019 – The Health Benefits of Medical Cannabis and CBD
- December 8, 2019 – Personalize Your Nutrition for Better Health
- January 12, 2020 – Keeping the Rhythm: Sleep and Circadian Wellness as We Age- Postponed pending ZOOM Presentation, date and time to be determined.
- March 15, 2020 – Jewish Genetics – It’s Not Just Tay-Sachs Anymore This program became our first ZOOM Program presented on May 24, 2020. Special thanks to Doctors Andy Wagner and Lee Shulman and Jason Rothstein from the Sarnoff Center for Jewish Genetics, for an outstanding program.
- April 5, 2020 – Chiropractic, Nutrition and Stress Reduction-Postponed pending ZOOM Presentation, date, and time to be determined.
- May 17, 2020 – Men’s Health and Fitness - Postponed pending ZOOM Presentation, date, and time determined.

Thank You’s Not Already Mentioned:

Dr. Bob Spector for filling in this past year as Executive Vice President. His good counsel was invaluable to me in decision making and bouncing ideas off of.

Dr. Andy Wagner, VP Ritual Programs, for his work on World Wide Wrap and the planning for Men’s Club Shabbat.

Neil Rosengard, VP House for establishing and maintaining kitchen crew assignments as well as being a great partner with me on meal planning for all the Breakfast Programs. I would like to thank our Kitchen Captains and their crews who shared with us their cooking skills for our Sunday morning breakfasts and evening dinners.

Donald Pike, VP House Special Events for the meal planning and associated logistics for all our larger programs.

Frank Star, Treasurer and Howard Freidin, Financial Secretary, for keeping our finances in order.

Steve Bosse, Recording Secretary, for taking, preparing, and distributing incredibly detailed, accurate and copious Minutes of all our Board Meetings.

Mike Gilford, Corresponding Secretary, for timely Men’s Club correspondence with the Congregation.

Dan Sher, Past President and Parliamentarian, for chairing the Ad Hoc By-Laws Review

Committee last year and passing that Committee's recommended changes and updates to be considered by this year's Nominating Committee.

A special thanks to Howard Jacob for maintaining the Men's Club website, working with the Executive Committee on flyers for all programs and for just making us look good both on paper and in the virtual world.

Men's Club truly and deeply thanks the clergy, professional staff, and building staff for their unwavering support and help in all we do.

We have a terrific Board of volunteers and I would like to thank them for all their efforts.

It has been an honor and privilege to serve the Men's Club this past year and I look forward to an even better year for 2020-2021.

PRESIDENT	Steven Elisco
VICE PRESIDENTS:	
EXECUTIVE	Dr. Andrew Wagner
WAYS & MEANS	Lawrence LeVine
PROGRAM - SOCIAL	Allen Lefkovitz
PROGRAM - RITUAL	Steve Lessman
MEMBERSHIP	Bob Goldwin
HOUSE	Neil Rosengard
HOUSE SPECIAL EVENTS	Don Pike
TREASURER	Frank Star
RECORDING SECRETARY	Steve Bosse
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Mike Gilford
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Howard Freidin
PARLIAMENTARIAN	Dan Sher

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Neal Blustein	Rich Kurnick
Scott Bosley	David Lasky*
Barry Brusso	Howard Minkoff
Abe Drayer	Elliot Offenbach*
Jerry Edelman	Norman Padnos
Dr. Neil Fialkow	Ron Rabinowitz*
Steven Flack	Randy Samborn
Adam Gelfeld	Michael Schnitzler
Scott Ginsburg*	Howard Sigal
Chuck Gitles	Ron Sklar*
Elliot Goldman	Dr. Robert Spector*
Jim Hamilton	David Speigel*
Norm Iglarsh	David Sokolovsky*
Howard Jacob	David Solomon
Mark Jesselson	Gary Solomon
Dr. Ari Jaffe	David Weil
Jaeson Kaplan	Alan Wernick*

PAST PRESIDENTS

Ira Berk z"l
Harold Schy z"l
Daniel Lichtman z"l
Howard Michaels
George Platt
Martin Kahn z"l
Harry Zale z"l
Alan Redman
Robert Lipschultz
Eugene Chodash z"l
Joseph Kitzes z"l
Alan Morgan
Robert Marder
Melvyn Cohen
Steven Lessman
Glen Roter
Marc Weinstein
Arlen Lasinsky
Dr. Michael Greenberg
Jim Donenberg

Kevin Braude
Bradley Shaps
Harvey Redfern
Ray Rokni & Larry Grossman
Scott Rogoff
Dan Sher

*New Board Member

z"l Of Blessed Memory

Sisterhood Report

Robyn Rosengard, President

Sisterhood had a good year! Here are some highlights from this year:

- We had 480 paid members this year
- Our opening Luncheon with Award-winning author of The Unbreakables and Fugitive Colors was a success and well attended
- The Judaica Shop reached many congregants by holding Hallway sales and coupons which coincide with our Jewish Holidays. Once again, we had challah sales during the holidays. Thank you to Donna Fox, Diana Lewis and Darlene Padnos for their hard work and devotion and to Majorie Maxwell for keeping the books.
- Our Challah bake led by Judy Wolkin was amazing- we had over 100 people in attendance and lots of generational families! What a great night put together by Leann Blue, Deanne Friedman, Lisa Orlove, Sheri Smason and Suzanne Minkus.
- Our annual CJE luncheon in September organized by Joanne Kaplan continues to be a wonderful success and very much enjoyed by all who attend. We are the only Sisterhood to sponsor a luncheon and the rest is funded by private donations.
- Our Torah Fund program featured Rabbi Ferratier and Cantor Gershon. We continually exceed our annual goal. Thank you to Laurie B. Davis
- Sisterhood Holiday Boutique in November had close to 62 vendors. Thanks to our chairwomen Beth Sher, Sheri Smason, Lori Glen and Jackie Zelkowitz.
- In December, we continued our tradition of packing Hanukkah bags for the Hebrew School. We also donated 50 Hanukkah to the food pantry. Thank you to Jill Hartzman for your help doing all this.
- Our Sisterhood Shabbat service and dinner was lovely. Denise Eisenberg and Susan Rosenthal organized volunteers for the service and planned a beautiful dinner.
- We had a Craft night making beautiful Challah covers with the accomplished Jewish artist Risa Kleban. Thank you Frannie Goldwin for putting this together
- CBS knits program continues to be a success and many items are made for various organizations

This year Sisterhood will be making the following donations:

- \$5000 to CBS towards general operating funds
- A special donation of \$10,000 earmarked for the New outdoor Signage

- A donation each to the Ramah Scholarship, School, USY and Library
- A donation to the local Mikvah
- A donation to the Masorti Foundation for Conservative Judaism

Thank you Tanya Solomon and the Exec board, as well as Michael and the administrative staff. Two special thank you's, first to Maria for working so closely with us, we could not achieve our goals without you. Finally, to the clergy for your spiritual guidance and participation in all our programs. We appreciate you all!