

Congregation Beth Shalom
Northbrook Illinois
Torch Award Application
Best Overall Activities
2009-2011

Part I – Identification Information

Submission Identifier Code: TA 11-016
Full Title for Entry: Congregation Beth Shalom Best Overall Activities
Entry Category: Best Overall Activities
Contact Person to be listed on Torch Award CD: Bradley Shaps
Email address to be listed on torch Award CD: brad.shaps@gcgfinancial.com
Club number & Club name: 643, Congregation Beth Shalom – Northbrook, IL
Number of Club Members: 337
Synagogue name, city and state: Congregation Beth Shalom, Northbrook, IL
Club President Name (at time of entry): Bradley Shaps
Club President Name (at time of convention): Harvey Redfern
Person preparing entry: Bradley Shaps
Email address of person preparing entry: brad.shaps@gcgfinancial.com
Date of entry submission: April 1, 2011

Part II – Summary Information

While Congregation Beth Shalom, Northbrook has long been a very successful club, for the two year period July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2011 we set aggressive goals and are very proud of the results. Our goals included:

- Establishing new programs and activities to further meet Congregants' needs;
- Enhancing our core programming and increase participation;
- Implementing additional FJMC initiatives;
- Engaging young members in our Club, Board and Executive Board ensuring the Club's long term viability; and
- Continuing to support the needs of our Congregation and the community at large.

Over the 2 year period we sponsored more than 90 programs and activities. We initiated several new programs and initiatives to meet the needs of our congregants, including a career support group and monthly business networking breakfasts. Through modifications to some of our core programs, we greatly increased program participation. For example, in the past we averaged 30 or 40 participants in our World Wide Wrap. This year there were more than 175 participants. In 2010, our annual Yom Hashoah program participation increased from approximately 100 attendees to more than 500 in 2010. We participated in the FJMC community service week, added a men's health program, and engaged in activities to improve the environment. Moreover, in response to Rabbi Simon's recent paper, we are holding focus groups regarding the involvement of men in the Conservative Movement. We focused on building a strong foundation for the future of our Club by bringing on 17 new Board members (mostly under the

age of 40), adding 6 younger members to our Executive Board and significantly increasing our overall membership. To top all of this off, we initiated and helped implement a Sefer Haftarah fund raising initiative, which to date has raised more than \$270,000, the second most successful fund raiser in the 43 year history of the Congregation.

Part III – Certification that the program was not submitted by our club for a prior Torch Award

This series of overall programs was not submitted for a prior Torch Award

Part IV - Entry Documentation

Our Club has a history of offering excellent programs and enhancing and supporting the social and spiritual life of the Synagogue. For the 2 year period July 1, 2009 – 2011 Congregation Beth Shalom Men's Club exceeded our very ambitious goals and:

- Enhanced our core programs increasing participation and the quality of the programs;
- Introduced new programs that met the changing needs of our congregants;
- Introduced additional programs in support of national FJMC initiatives;
- Supported the overall needs of our Synagogue;
- Supported the needs of the Community; and
- Developed future leaders for our Club and Synagogue.

Below is a brief summary of the initiatives and programs completed during the period July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2011. For purposes of this application we have divided our programs and activities into the following categories:

Programs to Support Synagogue and Congregant Needs

FJMC Programs

Israel Programs

Community Service Programs

Social Programs

Other Educational Programs

Programs in Support of Synagogue Youth

Men's Club Leadership Development

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

Sefer Haftarah Project – In March of 2010, our Men's Club initiated a fundraising project to create a customized Sefer Haftarah for the Synagogue. Funds raised will be used for youth programming and other Synagogue programs. Our Board authorized a gift of \$15,000 to initiate the project and organized a Synagogue committee to implement the project. Our President served as co-chairman of the Sefer Haftarah committee and 5 other members of our Men's Club

served on the 10 person committee. Even though this project was initiated during difficult economic times, as of March 2011 we raised more than \$270,000 making this the second largest fund raising project in the 43 year history of the Congregation. A copy of the brochure utilized for the Sefer Haftarah project is attached to this application.

Career Support Group (8 sessions September 2010 – December 2010) - Recognizing the detrimental impact of the economic downturn and the number of congregants that were unemployed or feared unemployment, we created a Career Support Group. We identified members of the Congregation who were Human Resource professionals and experienced at assisting people in career transition. Together, the committee organized a curriculum that included 4 sessions to provide assistance with various skills such as resume writing, networking and interviewing. We invited several guest speakers to participate in these programs and share their expertise. After the initial 4 sessions were complete, we coordinated and facilitated accountability sessions to provide ongoing support and guidance to people during their job searches.

Business Networking Group – (Monthly October 2009- June 2011) - We established a business networking group within the Synagogue and held monthly meetings to allow fellow congregants to network with each other, sharing information about their businesses and business leads. Each session began with Sunday morning breakfast and was followed by a formal networking program. We established a LinkedIn group not only to advertise the program but also to allow participants to utilize this business networking tool. This initiative has been a huge success averaging more than 30 participants at each session.

ShabbaTone Ruach initiative – In 2009, our Synagogue implemented ShabbaTone, musical Friday night services in 2009 to be held 4 or 5 times per year. In August of 2010, Men's Club approached our Cantor about forming a Ruach group to learn the prayers and songs that were sung at ShabbaTone and to lead and encourage participation during the service. The Cantor, our Ritual Director and Men's Club president coordinated 4 sessions to practice the prayers and plan how we would try and create "ruach" during the service. At the time of this writing, we have held 2 ShabbaTone services and we have succeeded in our objectives.

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, following morning Minyon many congregants also join us for breakfast and camaraderie. Many of our breakfasts, as detailed below, were followed by noteworthy speakers. At all of the breakfast events, Men's Club members cook and serve a tremendous breakfast consisting of eggs, lox, bagels, pastries and a variety of other items.

Bagels on the Run (September 13, 2009 and September 19, 2010) - 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. This created great camaraderie for Club Members and great PR for the Club. This new activity was instituted after hearing about a similar program at the 2009 convention.

Build Synagogue Sukkah (September 27, 2009 and September 19, 2010) - 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.

Business Networking breakfast with Guest Speaker Sima Dahl (January 17, 2010) - Our January Business Networking breakfast featured guest speaker Sima Dahl who presented "Sway Factor: The Art of Networking in a Digital Age." The more than 40 individuals who attended learned about networking utilizing LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter.

Purim Carnival (February 28, 2010 and March 20, 2011) – Every year our Men's Club enthusiastically helps at the Purim Carnival, cooking and serving hot dogs, chips, falafel, hamantachen, and soda.

Business Networking breakfast with Guest Speaker Steve Yastrow (April 18, 2010) – Our networking breakfast featured Steve Yastrow discussing "Creating "We" Relationship with your Prospects, Customers, Clients or Referral Sources."

Business Networking with Congregation Beth Judea (July 27, 2010) - We jointly sponsored a business networking event with Congregation Beth Judea. A good mix of individuals from each Congregation networked at a local restaurant.

Business Networking breakfast with Guest Speaker Shalom Klein (January 16, 2011) - Our January Business Networking breakfast featured guest speaker Shalom Klein who led a discussion about networking and how to follow up with individuals you meet at a networking event.

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.

Synagogue Board - Members of our Men's Club, including Past Presidents are involved in all aspects of Synagogue life and committees including serving on the Synagogue Board and Executive Board.

FJMC Programs

Build-a-Pair (2010 and 2011) – 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 2011, we once again participated in a well received Build-a-Pair program.

World Wide Wrap (February 7, 2010 and February 6, 2011) – In previous years our World Wide Wrap Program averaged a disappointing 30-40 participants. One of our Club's major objectives was to significantly increase this participation, so in 2010, we reinvented our World Wide Wrap program. As described above, we involved the Hebrew school by participating in the Build-a-Pair program. We modified our service and implemented the Regional USY Sunday

Schacharit Live service that featured an interactive multimedia musical service including movie video clips and a USY band that led us in song. In 2010, participation increased to more than 150 participants and in 2011 we used the same format and had more than 175 participants. **This was the 3rd largest reported World Wide Wrap program in the world.**

Man of the Year Dinner (February 24, 2010) - We participated in the FJMC Midwest Region Man of the Year Dinner and honored Glen Roter as our Man of the Year.

Man of the Year Dinner (February 23, 2011) - Our Club organized the 2011 FJMC Midwest Region Man of the Year Dinner. For the first time, the program included a raffle and silent auction to raise money for the region. Our Club honored Larry Grossman as our Man of the Year and more than 50 people attended in his honor.

Annual Yom Hashoah Candle Packing (March 17, 2010 and March 16, 2011) - We again participated in the Men's Club Yellow Candle program sending candles to all of our congregants and college students. In addition, we continued to send 6 candles to Linda Hooper at the Whitwell Middle School (the school from the movie "Paperclips") so that they can continue to share in our common bond to remember the Holocaust.

Men's Club Shabbat (March 19, 2010) – Our annual Men's Club Shabbat included a service written by our Club and featured our Men's Club choir and readings pertaining to our theme "Celebrating Israel's innovations and accomplishments." In addition, we honored Dr. Michael Greenberg as our Kavod Award recipient for his commitment to Men's Club, the Synagogue and the community. Finally, we announced the establishment of our Sefer Haftarah project in honor of the Synagogue's Executive Director Harvey Gold and his more than 30 years of service to our Shul.

Yom Hashoah Program (April 10, 2010) – To increase participation and enhance our annual Yom Hashoah program, we jointly sponsored the program with our Synagogue's Distinguished Speaker Program. A packed house of more than 500 people heard New York Times best-selling author, James Carroll, speak on "The Church and the Holocaust."

Keruv Speaker Jane Kaplan (October 10, 2010) – Author Jane Kaplan was featured at our Sunday morning breakfast and discussed her book "Interfaith Families: Personal Stories of Jewish-Christian Interfaith Marriage." Her presentation was followed by a workshop and interesting discussion about issues faced by interfaith families.

FJMC Regional Officer Installation and Training Breakfast (January 23, 2011) - We hosted a breakfast to install the incoming FJMC Midwest Region officers which was followed by a training session for members of the Region's Clubs.

Men's Club Shabbat (March 18, 2011) – Our annual Men's Club Shabbat service featured our Men's Club choir and readings about our theme "Unsung Jewish Heroes." In addition, we presented our Kavod award to past FJMC International President, Dr. Jerry Agrest.

Yom Hashoah Program and Service (May 9, 2011) – In a further effort to enhance our annual Yom Hashoah Program, we worked with the clergy, the Synagogue Vice President of Programming, the Hebrew School and US, and developed a meaningful Yom Hashoah commemoration to precede our guest speaker, Ruth Messinger. The newly created program will include songs presented by the youth and Men's Club choirs, poems and other readings read by Men's Club members, and a ceremony where 6 Holocaust survivors will light a yellow candle. Following the candle ceremony, the Shofar will be sounded and we will listen to Ruth Messinger, President of American Jewish World Service, speak on "From Genocide to Justice: The Power of Our Actions to Heal the World." We anticipate a standing room only crowd for this highly-anticipated program.

Focus Groups – Involving Men in the Conservative Movement (April 10 , 2011 and May 4, 2011) - After reading Rabbi Simon's paper "The Status of Jewish Men in the Conservative/Masorti Movement" we felt it was important to take action. As a Board, we are taking great efforts to reach out to all of the men in our congregation especially those who are not active in Synagogue life. Our plan is to create focus groups to obtain input from congregants with the goal of parlaying the feedback into engaging programs.

Midwest Region Board - We currently have 4 officers serving on the FJMC Midwest Region Board including the current President and Executive Vice President.

Community Service Programs

Lieberman Geriatric Center – (Monthly October 2010- June 2011) Our Men's Club members volunteer at the Lieberman Geriatric Center on Shabbat once a month throughout the year. We help residents to and from their rooms to Shabbat services, assist the residents during services, help with the Torah Service and pass out challah and wine after the service. To highlight the role we play and how much our services are appreciated below is the text of an Email we received on December 4th 2010:

Dear Brad,

As you may have heard, our service leader at Lieberman Center this morning was unexpectedly not able to come to lead services. The Beth Shalom volunteers stepped in to lead the services. The Lieberman residents were very pleased with their leadership and the Lieberman staff were very grateful that these wonderful volunteers were present and willing to step in so that Shabbat services could still happen. Please pass our thanks on to them.

These volunteers were:
Elliot Goldman
Mitch Portugal
Scott Rogoff
Bob Spector

Gratefully,
Susan Buchbinder
Director of Religious Life
CJE SeniorLife

Texas Hold'em Poker Tournament (January 31, 2010 and January 30, 2011) – Our Annual poker tournament had more than 50 participants, raising over \$2,000 each year for Israeli charities.

Lox Box (March 7, 2010 and March 6, 2011) – Selling lox boxes is an important fund raiser and community service project 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 2010 and 2011. In 2010 we sold 1325 boxes, including 360 for the Ark and 192 boxes for the Council for Jewish Elderly. In 2011 we sold 1330 lox boxes including 3100 for the Ark and 202 for the Council for Jewish Elderly. As a result of these donations, more than 6600 people were fed over the 2 years.

Community Service and Mitzvah Initiative Breakfast (November 14, 2010) - In connection with the FJMC National Community Service Initiative we sponsored a breakfast featuring Rabbi Wolkin discussing Tikun Olam. In conjunction with the breakfast we ran a canned food drive. Anyone donating nonperishable items was treated to a free breakfast sponsored by Men's Club

FJMC Community Service project (November 18, 2010) - We participated in the FJMC Community Service week collecting and delivering nonperishable food to the Northfield Food Pantry. In addition we spent several hours at the Food Pantry sorting and restocking shelves.

Earth Day Celebration (April 2011) - We are collaborating with the Synagogue Social Action committee and one of the Congregation's Chavarah to collect and recycle used DVD's, CD's, sporting goods equipment, batteries, computer hardware, engine oil, household paint and other items.

Passover Baskets (2011) – We contributed \$200 to help support the Synagogue's Social Action committee and its purchase of baskets of food to be delivered to needy members of the community for Passover.

Israel Programs

Israel 101 (2009-2010 and 2010-2011) – 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 class targeted adults and high school juniors and seniors and focused on Israel's history and current events, emphasizing Israel Advocacy.

Israel 102 (2009-2010) - Co-sponsored and helped develop a more advanced Israel Advocacy program for graduates of our Israel 101 program and members with more advanced knowledge

about Israel. The program consisted of 4 sessions which included discussions and the development of Israel advocacy programs at the Synagogue.

Hadassah Breakfast featuring Brian Abrahams (October 25, 2009) - Our annual Hadassah breakfast had more than 200 people in attendance. Our guest speaker Brian Abrahams, the Midwest Regional Director of AIPAC presented “Shifting Sands: The U.S./Israel Alliance in an Unstable Middle East.”

USCJ Scholar Breakfast featuring Rabbi Jonathan Porath (November 8, 2009) - We co-sponsored our annual USCJ Scholar Breakfast featuring Rabbi Jonathan Porath who spoke on “What Do You Do When a Million Jews Show up in Your Neighborhood? (How Has the Russian Aliyah Changed Israel?)”

JUF Breakfast featuring Linda Gradstein (March 21, 2010) – Our Annual JUF Breakfast featured Israel correspondent Linda Gradstein who presented “Covering Israel: A Journalist’s Perspective.”

Israeli Army Veterans Dinner (June 18, 2010) - In conjunction with American Friends of Israel War Disabled Foundation, we hosted a Shabbat dinner honoring 7 disabled Israel War Veterans.

Hadassah Breakfast featuring Richard Baehr (November 7, 2010) – Nationally acclaimed journalist, radio talk show personality and speaker Richard Baehr joined us to discuss “Election Results & the New Congress: Good or Bad for Whom.”

JUF Breakfast featuring Jeffrey Goldberg (February 27, 2011) - National Correspondent and author Jeffrey Goldberg presented “Is War Coming? Iran, America, and the Future of the Jewish State.”

Yom Ha’atzmaut Shabbat Dinner (May 13, 2011) - Recognizing that our Synagogue had no formal activities relating to Yom Ha’atzmaut we approached the Director of Jewish Life and Learning with the idea of creating a Yom Ha’atzmaut program. Together with the Director of Youth Activities and the Director of Education we are in the process of planning a Shabbat Dinner celebrating Yom Ha’atzmaut. The evening will include Israeli dancing, Israeli music and an Israel trivia contest.

Social Programs

Opening Dinner featuring Harold Ramis (September 10, 2009) - Screenwriter, director and actor, Harold Ramis, whose films include some of the most popular and influential comedies of our time (Animal House, Caddyshack, Stripes, Ghostbusters and Groundhog Day) was our featured speaker at our program which kicked off our 2009-2010 year. The more than 200 people in attendance were entertained by Mr. Ramis and enjoyed the dinner served by our Men’s Club.

Fantasy Football – (Fall 2009 and 2010) - We organized a fantasy football league for Synagogue members as a fund raiser for the Synagogue and Men’s Club. We had approximately

25 participants in 2009-2010 and more than 30 in 2010-2011 who enjoyed bantering about their football knowledge and raised several hundred dollars for the Synagogue and Men's Club in the process.

Steaks and Monday Night Football in the Sukkah (October 5, 2009) - Our Rabbi and Men's Club members grilled steaks and we watched the Green Bay Packer vs. Minnesota Viking Monday Night Football Game in the Sukkah. We had an enjoyable evening, fulfilling the Mitzvah of eating in the Sukkah and social bonding.

Bears Bash (October 18, 2009) - We watched the Sunday Night Bears game vs. the Atlanta Falcons and noshed on hot dogs and hamburgers prepared by our Men's Club.

Erev Thanksgiving Program (November 24, 2009) – Our Erev Thanksgiving dinner program featured the Rope Warrior, a professional athlete and entertainer, who executed amazing stunts with a jump rope and entertained the more than 100 individuals who attended this annual event.

Daddies and Darlings (December 6, 2009 and December 5, 2010) – We had more than 60 dads and their children attend our annual program featuring a pancake breakfast, songs, stories and a craft project.

Family Bingo (January 17, 2010 and January 16, 2011) - We jointly sponsored our annual Bingo Night with Sisterhood and Young Family Outreach. More than 100 people enjoyed a homemade pasta dinner prepared by Men's club and Bingo.

MC/Sisterhood Seven Course Road Rally (February 13, 2010) - Our joint Men's Club Sisterhood Program, a Road Rally had 50 participants traveling to various restaurants around town gathering clues. The event also included desert and time to socialize back at the Synagogue.

Golf Outing (June 7, 2010) - Our annual lunch and golf outing was once again a well attended fun event for both the serious golfers and duffers who participated.

CBS Board and Officer Installation Dinner and Auction (June 7, 2010 and June 6, 2011) - We followed golf with a dinner at the Synagogue, installation of officers and an auction to raise money for our Youth Scholarship Fund.

Opening Dinner featuring Dan Bernstein (September 21, 2010) - Local sports radio host Dan Bernstein joined more than 175 Men's Club members for our Annual Opening Dinner. Dan was a last minute replacement for Moose Skowrin, who became ill the week before the program.

Bears Bash and Steaks in The Sukkah (September 27, 2010) - We had a huge turnout to watch the Monday night Bears-Packers Monday and enjoy Steaks in the Sukkah.

Erev Thanksgiving Program (November 24, 2010) – Two-time International Juggling Champion, Andy Head, amazed everyone in attendance at our Annual Erev Thanksgiving Program.

Jews and Baseball (March 10, 2011) – Over 100 people joined us for hot dogs and the movie “Jews and Baseball: An American Love Story.”

Golf Outing (June 6, 2011) - Our annual lunch and golf outing will be held June 6, 2011.

CBS Board and Officer Installation Dinner and Auction (June 6, 2011) - We will once again follow our golf outing with dinner at the Synagogue, installation of officers and an auction to raise money for our Youth Scholarship Fund.

Other Educational Programs

Breakfast and Discussion about “A Serious Man” (January 10, 2010) - Men’s Club hosted a breakfast which was followed by a discussion about the movie “A Serious Man” led by movie critic Reid Schultz and our Senior Rabbi, Rabbi Carl Wolkin.

USCJ Scholar Breakfast featuring Rabbi Benjamin Segal (October 3, 2011) – Author and lecturer Rabbi Benjamin Segal joined us and presented “The Conservative Dilemma- Do We Practice What We Preach”

A Man’s Responsibility Discussion Group (January 8, January 22, and February 5, 2011) - We worked with the Clergy to develop a 3 session series discussing a man’s responsibility as a son, husband and father. Each member of the clergy led one Shabbat afternoon study session which was followed by Mincha and Havdallah.

Prostate Cancer Awareness (May 24, 2011) – We are sponsoring a Prostate Cancer awareness program featuring Dr. Daniel Shervin who will provide information on screening, detection, treatment and support groups.

Activities in Support of Synagogue Youth

MC/ Youth Basketball game (January 27, 2010 and January 26, 2011) – Annually, Men’s Club plays our USY basketball team in a basketball game.

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.

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 2010 we presented a check in the amount of \$1200. We anticipate presenting a similar contribution in 2011.

Men’s Club Leadership Development

Men’s Club Leadership Development Initiative (2009-2011) - 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.

2009 Convention (July 2009) – Several of our members, including our incoming President, attended Convention in Philadelphia.

2011 Leadership Development Institute (January 2011) – One of the future leaders of our Club attended the LDI training program.

FJMC Midwest Region Training Breakfast (January 23, 2011) - Several members of our Club participated in the training session coordinated by the Midwest Region.

congregation **Beth shalom**

SEFER HAFTARAH PROJECT

Establishing the Harvey R. Gold Sefer Haftarah Fund



THE SEFER HAFTARAH

The Sefer Haftarah has been part of Jewish liturgy since Roman Times when it was first introduced as a way to counter a Roman decree that forbade the reading of the Torah in public assemblies. During the 9th century, the Ben Asher family developed the system of cantillation and punctuation (trope and k'tiv). From that time onward it became traditional for the Haftarot to be chanted. It was common during the Middle Ages to have books of the prophets in the Ark next to the Torah scrolls. When it came time to read from the Haftarah, a scroll was taken out of the Ark and a Haftarah was chanted. Books of Haftarot in scroll form have been in use for more than one hundred years but have almost been totally eclipsed by the printing press. The CBS Sefer Haftarah will be used to further enhance the spirituality of the reading experience.

(Source: Federation of Jewish Men's Clubs)

Harvey R. Gold



Harvey's commitment to Jewish life began early at Congregation Bnai Zion in Rogers Park where his entire family was involved in synagogue life. Following the example set by his parents, Anne and Ben, and his older brothers, Sheldon, Aaron and Chuck, all of blessed memory, Harvey held numerous USY offices while also serving as a Torah reader, Shofar blower, Hebrew tutor, religious school teacher and young adult services leader – all while completing his studies at Sullivan and Hebrew High School.

During his college years, Harvey continued to act as the senior advisor for USY and Kadima at Bnai Zion. Upon graduation from Roosevelt University, he worked as the Youth Director at Niles Township Jewish Congregation in Skokie where he was instrumental in the USY group's growth and expansion.

In 1972, Harvey joined a still young Congregation Beth Shalom and became our Administrative Director and Youth Advisor. His move to Executive Director came three years later, and his commitment to CBS has been unending ever since. Through his constant vigilance and leadership, today Beth Shalom is one of the leading Conservative congregations in the country.

Harvey's dedication to the Conservative movement is manifested in his many accomplishments, affiliations and leadership positions held over the past 40 plus years. These include the Chicago Association of Temple Administrators (CATA), United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism (USCJ) Midwest Board and Youth Commission, and as a past board member of the North American Association of Synagogue Executives (NAASE). In March, 2003, Harvey was honored as the 4th guest lecturer of the Erma Lee Ettinger Lecture Series at the NAASE Convention held in New Orleans. Harvey has served as a guest lecturer to these organizations and in 2007 was honored by the USCJ for his 40 years of service to our movement. Today, Harvey continues to be an active leader among Executive Directors around the country.

On the occasion of his 10th anniversary here at CBS, Harvey was honored by the synagogue. At that time, Rabbi Wolkin said the following words that are as true today as they were then: "Harvey has boundless energy and enthusiasm and it is his tireless effort and investment of hard work that has made dreams become a reality. He has a respect and sensitivity for the young as well as older members of our congregation and a deep love and devotion to our community and its members."

As a lifelong Chicagoan, Harvey's professional and personal network has touched many, many people. Let us, his friends, participate in creating an everlasting legacy to Harvey, to Congregation Beth Shalom and to the youth of our congregation by honoring him with this *Sefer Haftarah*.

*The assessment of any human being is not
what he says but what he does.*

The Haftarah is a source of profound wisdom for today from the prophets of old. Whether chanted by a Bar/Bat Mitzvah or anyone during a service, it deepens the meaning of worship through study. By having our own Sefer Haftarah at Congregation Beth Shalom, we will be able to further enrich this experience and create a new and shared community tradition.

—Rabbi Carl Wolkin

WHAT IS THE SEFER HAFTARAH?

The Sefer Haftarah is a compilation of prophetic texts of striking beauty with a scroll that outwardly resembles the Sefer Torah. Carefully hand written by a Sofer (or scribe) on parchment, the Sefer Haftarah is mounted at both ends on its unique Etz Chaim and then covered in a custom cloth mantle for safe keeping. When not in use, it will be stored in the Ark next to our CBS Torah scrolls. It contains all of the Haftarot recited on Shabbat and holidays. Unlike a Torah scroll, the Beth Shalom Sefer Haftarah will have vowels and trope markings to make it easier for congregants to read. The Congregation Beth Shalom Sefer Haftarah will also contain personalized dedications from individuals, families and groups that will appear throughout the Sefer Haftarah scroll.

WHY IS CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM WRITING ITS OWN SEFER HAFTARAH?

There are several reasons why we have chosen to commission the creation of our own Sefer Haftarah at this time in our congregation's history.

First, we want to create a special liturgical legacy for this and future generations at Congregation Beth Shalom. This Sefer Haftarah will serve as a connection between generations past, present and future through the dedication of individual Haftarot by our members. Through this project we are enabling the CBS family to permanently become a part of this new tradition here. It is a true *l'dor v'dor* opportunity.

Secondly, this project also gives us the chance to honor Harvey R. Gold, Congregation Beth Shalom's Executive Director of more than 35 years and nearly 40 years of continuous devotion to our shul. He has always had a special passion in his heart for our young people, and this project will raise funds that will be focused upon ensuring that our youth programming and education offerings are vibrant and nurturing.

Harvey's life is an example of what a strong devotion to a Jewish life from early on can mean to the ongoing strength and continuation of our Jewish community. It's fitting that we dedicate his ever-lasting legacy to those essential causes.

HOW CAN WE PARTICIPATE?

Members and friends have a unique opportunity to dedicate a Haftarah in our new Sefer Haftarah and to have their inscription written directly in the scroll by the Sofer. Members can create their own personal legacy that will be part of our greater and ongoing traditions here.

Contributors can commemorate important moments in the new Sefer Haftarah for any reason they choose. You may choose to contribute in honor or in memory of a loved one, or for any other meaningful occasion:

Bar/Bat Mitzvah	Anniversary of a past Bar/Bat Mitzvah
Birth of a child or grandchild	Wedding anniversary
Graduation	Yahrzeit or other memorial dedication
Meaningful birthday	Other significant milestones

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

We have created the following options for you and your family or organization to participate in this unprecedented project here at Congregation Beth Shalom. Each contributor will receive a certificate specially designed for this project, which is suitable for framing. Sponsorships of \$3,600 and above will be given the opportunity to help complete a letter in the CBS Sefer Haftarah during our dedication event.

All gifts will be acknowledged during our dedication weekend, as well as in a special keepsake that will be created for Harvey and for our synagogue permanent collection.

Etz Chaim	\$10,000 each (one available)
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The Etz Chaim are the wooden spindles and handles that hold the parchment in place and are used to carry the scroll. The sponsorship of the Etz Chaim provides an opportunity for a CBS family to have their dedication always present whenever the Sefer Haftarah is in use or on display. Your dedication will appear on a plate affixed to the Etz Chaim.

Sefer Haftarah Books	\$7,200 each (five available)
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The Sefer Haftarah is organized into the five Books of the Torah. Each of these books is then divided into individual Haftarat. Sponsoring an entire book allows you to underwrite a more significant portion of the project honoring Harvey. You will be allowed a personalized dedication space (subject to limits determined by the Sofer) that will be featured at the start of the book you sponsor.

Yad	\$5,400 each (one available)
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Our Sefer Hafarah will have a permanent Yad that will be draped from the Etz Chaim and used on all occasions by the reader. The Yad represents a unique naming opportunity for one sponsor and will carry your name and serve as a reminder of your support for CBS.

Four High Holiday Haftarat	\$5,400 each (two available per Haftarah)
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There are four High Holiday Haftarat read during Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. These special selections hold great meaning and are especially treasured by many families. Each of these Haftarat can be sponsored by two contributors and your dedication will appear adjacent to these revered Haftarat portions.

Festival and Special Occasion Haftarat	\$3,600 each (two available per Haftarah)
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On festival and special occasion days, the Haftarah consists of a reading appropriate to that day. These portions of the Haftarah commemorate important events on the Jewish calendar and are available in limited numbers. Dedications will appear in the scroll by your sponsored selection. We will be happy to work together with you to make a selection that is right.

Weekly Haftarah Portions	\$1,800 each (four available for each weekly portion)
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This is a great way to mark events that are meaningful to you. We will be glad to help you research your own b'nai mitzvah portion – or that of any other family member. This is also a wonderful way to start a new tradition within your own family. Your dedication will appear in the Sefer Haftarah adjacent to the portion you choose.

ADDITIONAL WAYS TO HONOR HARVEY AND BENEFIT THE SEFER HAFTARAH FUND

Co-Sponsor Harvey's Bar Mitzvah Haftarah \$613 each (unlimited availability)
Harvey's bar mitzvah portion was T'RUMAH. This section deals with the obligation to build a temple and to maintain it. Clearly, Harvey was destined to follow the path he has, and we are all the beneficiaries of that today.

We are offering a special opportunity to join others in a one of a kind Sofer-written section that will be inserted into the Sefer Haftarah. Your name will be included among those who are honoring Harvey and his most appropriate Haftarah. There will be a heading explaining the significance of this section in Harvey's life.

Gold Line listing	\$360 each (unlimited availability)
Silver Line listing	\$180 each (unlimited availability)

We know that many people will want to make a donation in support of the Harvey R. Gold Sefer Haftarah Fund in other amounts. The Gold and Silver sponsor level provides you with that opportunity. It honors Harvey's special occasion and shows appreciation for his commitment to Congregation Beth Shalom and to our young people. There are two categories of participation in this category. The Gold Line listing, and the Silver Line listing, which is named for Harvey's mother's surname, enable you to participate in the establishment of this new fund.

All those contributing in this manner will have their gifts acknowledged in our dedication ceremony and as part of the keepsakes being created for Harvey and for Congregation Beth Shalom.

HARVEY R. GOLD SEFER HAFTARAH FUND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jerry Agrest	Jill Olefsky
Kevin Braude	Harvey Redfern
Larry Dechter	Debra Lynn Ross
Jim Donenberg	Brad Shaps
Ellen Grossman	Lee Shulman
Arnie Hoffman	Dan Sneider
Jack Knopoff	Perry Weinstein
Larry Levin	Harry Zoberman

Contact any committee member with your questions or
e-mail us at CBSSSEFERHAFTARAH@gmail.com

Please select from the following Haftarah portions and list the numbers corresponding to your first and second choices on the Sponsorship Order Form. If you would like help in selecting a sponsorship, please contact us.

THE FIVE BOOKS (\$7,200 EACH)

GENESIS
EXODUS
LEVITICUS
NUMBERS
DEUTERONOMY

HIGH HOLIDAY HAFTAROT (\$5,400 EACH)

1. ROSH HASHANAH — DAY 1
2. ROSH HASHANAH — DAY 2
3. YOM KIPPUR — MORNING
4. YOM KIPPUR — AFTERNOON

FESTIVAL AND SPECIAL OCCASION HAFTAROT (\$3,600 EACH)

Please select by number

5. MACHAR CHODESH	13. HANUKKAH —	21. PESACH INTERMEDIATE
6. ROSH CHODESH	SECOND SHABBAT	SHABBAT
7. SUKKOT — DAY 1	14. SH'KALIM	22. PESACH — DAY 7
8. SUKKOT — DAY 2	15. ZAKHOR	23. PESACH — DAY 8
9. SUKKOT — INTERMEDIATE	16. PARAH	24. SHAVU-OT — DAY 1
SHABABAT	17. HA' HODESH	25. SHAVU-OT — DAY 2
10. SH'MINI ATZERET	18. HA'GADOL	26. TISH-AH B'AV —
11. SIMHAT TORAH	19. PESACH — DAY 1	MORNING
12. HANUKKAH —	20. PESACH — DAY 2	27. FAST DAYS —
FIRST SHABBAT		AFTERNOON

WEEKLY HAFTARAH PORTIONS (\$1,800 EACH)

Please select by number

GENESIS	47. T'TZAVVEH	65. KORAH
28. B'REISHIT	48. KI TISSA	66. HUKKAT
29. NO-AH	49. VA-YAK-HEL	67. BALAK
30. LEKH L'KHA	50. P'KUDEI	68. PINHAS
31. VA-YERA		69. MATTOT
32. HAYYEI SARAH	LEVITICUS	70. MAS'EI
33. TOL'DOT	51. VA-YIKRA	
34. VA-YETZEI	52. TZAV	DEUTERONOMY
35. VA-YISHLAH	53. SH'MINI	71. D'VARIM
36. VA-YEISHEV	54. TAZRI-A	72. VA-ETHANNAN
37. MI-KETZ	55. M'TZORAH	73. EIKEV
38. VA-YIGGASH	56. AHAREI MOT	74. R'EIH
39. VA-Y'HI	57. K'DOSHIM	75. SHOF'TIM
	58. EMOR	75. KI TETZEI
EXODUS	59. B'HAR	76. KI TAVO
40. SH'MOT	60. B'HUKKOTAI	77. NITZAVIM
41. VA-ERA		78. VA-YEILEKH
42. BO	NUMBERS	79. HA-AZINU
43. B'SHALLAH	61. B'MIDBAR	
44. YITRO	62. NASO	
45. MISHPATIM	63. B'HA-ALOT'KHA	
46. T'RUMAH	64. SH'LAH L'KHA	

CONGREGATION BETH SHALOM

Sponsorship Order Form

Donor's Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mobile Phone: () _____ Home Phone: () _____

E-mail: _____

Sponsorship: (Please indicate your sponsorship choice below. If you are selecting a Haftarah please include the number shown next to it.)

Choice 1: _____ Choice 2: _____

Donated By: _____

Dedication: _____
(35 character limit)

In Honor Of: _____ In Memory Of: _____
(35 character limit) (35 character limit)

Requests will be accepted beginning November 15, 2010 and will be honored in the order received. All sponsorships of \$613 and over submitted with payment **by January 31, 2011** are guaranteed the appropriate dedication in the Sefer Haftarah where applicable. If donation is received after that date, dedication placement will be on an availability basis only.

Please note: Because of the high demand for certain sponsorships, if we are unable to honor your request, a member of the committee will contact you to discuss alternative sponsorships.

All payments are tax deductible.

Payment Information:

Gifts of \$1,800 or more are payable over three years with one-third due at time of order

Please make checks payable to Congregation Beth Shalom.

Credit Cards will be accepted—please provide:

Name on card: _____

Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Fax Form to (847) 498-9160, e-mail to CBSSEFERHAFTARAH@gmail.com, or mail to:

Sefer Haftarah Project
Congregation Beth Shalom
3433 Walters Avenue
Northbrook, Illinois 60062

THANK YOU



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Beth shalom
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