

## **LOX BOX 2021**

February 21, 2021

Please see the basic program description described earlier for the Lox Box 2020 on March 1, 2020.

In a “normal” year the focus of the program is to raise funds for the Club to offset some of the cost of programs we provide at no cost to the Congregation and the larger community, and to provide funds and food to both the Ark and the Council for Jewish Elderly.

This year we put more emphasis on the donation aspect of the program. We still provided a small lox box to be picked up at the synagogue, as we cancelled delivery for this year. We exceeded expectations in all areas of the program with the following being the results:

**1405** Boxes sold. The largest amount since 2014! Of those boxes here is the breakdown:

**958** Went to the Ark and CJE for a total value in food and funds of \$20,000.00

**52** Were purchased and donated to Police and Fire Departments throughout the Metropolitan area.

**395** Boxes purchased and picked up at the synagogue.

The Program also raised \$15,000 to support the multitude of programs as described earlier.

Adapting a large hands-on fundraiser in the face of Covid-19 was no small feat.

### **Box Size:**

Typical Year: During a typical year, a group of club members would build, tape and stack boxes ahead of time. During box packing, rows of tightly lined boxes would fill the social hall for filling.

Covid-19: We reduced the number of items in the box from 15 to 5 items. We used durable and reusable bags which reduced the effort needed to pack boxes.

### **Packing Logistics:**

Typical Year: With boxes lining the floor, packing would take place with people and carts zipping past the boxes adding items into the bags.

Covid-19: We set up 5 socially distant tables which had all items on the table to be packed. Each person was responsible for packing their own bags.

### **Pick-up & Delivery Logistics:**

Typical Year: Limited pick-up at the synagogue, over 550+ boxes delivered by club members and volunteers.

Covid-19: All boxes were picked up and were done with limited contact to contactless, placing boxes through passenger car windows, back seats, and trunks.

See the Sponsorship, Recognition and Coupon book, and the flyer prepared for this program are attached under “Marketing”.



Above Left - Packing Socially Distant, Center – Separating the Singles from the Doubles, Right – Pick-up in the A-K Line



Above Left – Getting in the A-K Line, Center – Pick-up in the L-Z Line, Right – Curbside Pick-up



Above – The Outdoor Team

**BEER ON THE WALL**

March 4, 2021

This was a virtual beer tasting and social event. You could participate in any of the following ways:

- Just ZOOM in and join the discussion.
- Order and pick up dinner at the synagogue and join the discussion.
- Order and pick up dinner with the four flights of beer being tasted at the synagogue, then join the discussion.
- Order and pick up the four flights of beer being tasted, at the synagogue, then join the discussion.

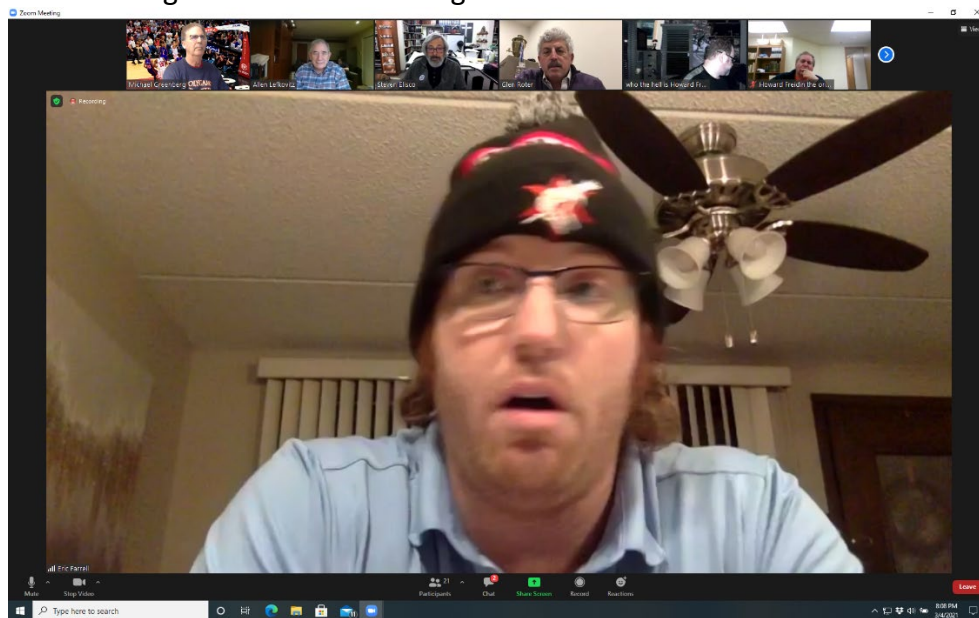
The program was led by Eric Farrell, a member of the Beer on the Wall staff. Beer on the Wall is a craft beer focused retail store and beer cafe with 12 rotating drafts and over 600 bottles and cans available for on-site consumption or takeaway.

This was a fun and educational program and lasted for 2 full hours on ZOOM! This was the longest ZOOM program since we began our online programing.

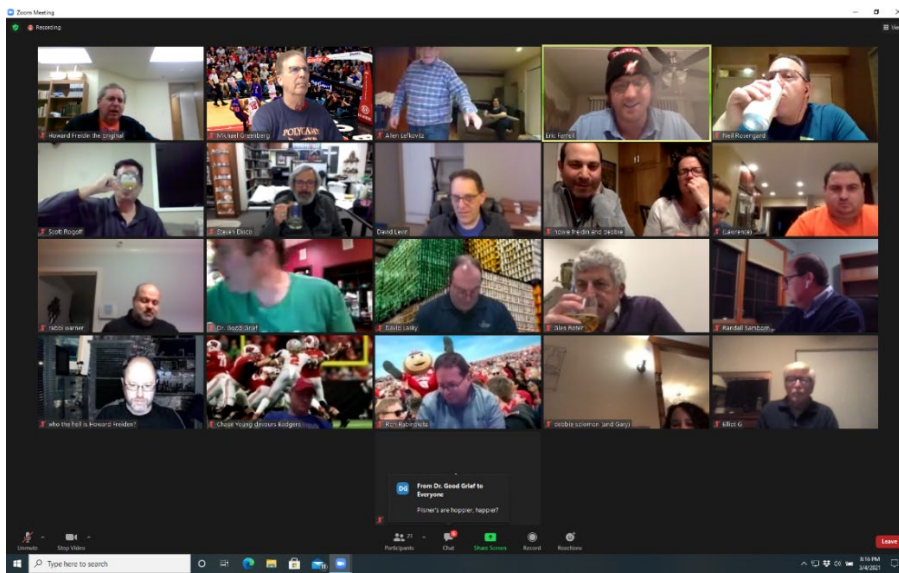
The flyer for this event is attached under "Marketing".



The Flight of Four Beers Being Tasted and Discussed at this Event



Eric Farrell From Beer on the Wall, Takes us Through the Tasting and Discussion of the Four Beers and More



Participants Enjoyed the beer and Two Hours of Discussion. Who Knew There Was So Much to Discuss About Beer?

### **YOM HA'SHOAH YELLOW CANDLE PACKING**

March 10, 2021

Just like our Lox Box Program we had to devise a new way of conducting this annual program. We followed the same five step process described under the 2020 program on March 11, 2020, except there was no assembly line.

Instead, 25 members of the club volunteered to come to the synagogue by appointment and picked up the following:

- One box of candle boxes and one box of candles
- One bag with the literature and rubber bands
- One manilla envelope with mailing stickers
- One USPS mailing bag

Each member in their own homes packed their 48 candles, put them in the USPS mail bag and then brought the full bag back to the synagogue. Our mailing service then picked up all the bags and had them mailed and in the homes of all congregates by the fourth week of March.



Above Left and Right – Fathers and Sons Packing Candles at Home



Above All – Other Members Packing at Home and Getting to Bring Back to the Synagogue

### **COVID-19 AND THE TORAH: IMPLICATIONS FOR JEWISH LIFE**

March 14, 2021

In the program on December 6, 2020, we addressed dealing with the stress created by COVID-19. In the program on January 10, 2021, we addressed the practical decision response to COVID-19. In this program we entered the spiritual response.

Many are asking, “Is this our great flood” as depicted in the parshah No’ah? So, the Men’s Club asked our Senior Rabbi, Aaron Melman to give us his interpretation. Are there specific teachings in the Torah that can help explain what we are going through? Are there lessons in the Torah to help us address dealing with COVID-19?

Rabbi Melman reviewed all these questions and provided great insight from the Torah and how a spiritual response can help us as we continue to find our way through what we are experiencing.

The flyer for this Program is attached under “Marketing”.

### **MEN’S CLUB SHABBAT AND NIGHT OF RECOGNITION**

March 20, 2021

COVID brought on many challenges in coordination of a Men’s Club Sabbath. In 2020 COVID hit at same time of the planning for Men’s Club Sabbath. This program is very extensive as it involves the Men’s Club running the entire Shabbat Morning Service with 70 members taking on all parts including Torah readings, reading the Haftorah as well as all honors. We also planned the Kiddush after the service. We had to cancel that entire program.

2021 had its own challenges, zooming was not allowed on the Sabbath, only stream and no congregants in synagogue. Our Vice president of Ritual worked a plan out with Senior Rabbi Aaron Melman. He would allow zoom on Ma’ariv Sabbath Service followed by Havdalah. We then included a Night of Recognition Program as we did on August 12, 2020, honoring our Man of the Year, our two Youths of the Year and the Kavod Award recipient.

Besides words spoke on behalf of each honoree by our President, all of our Clergy participated. Rabbi Ferratier provided words to our Youths of the Year, Rabbi Melman acknowledged both our Man of the Year and Kavod Award Recipient and Cantor Stoehr chanted meaningful song while the families stood with the honored men and youths with a tallis wrapped on their shoulders.

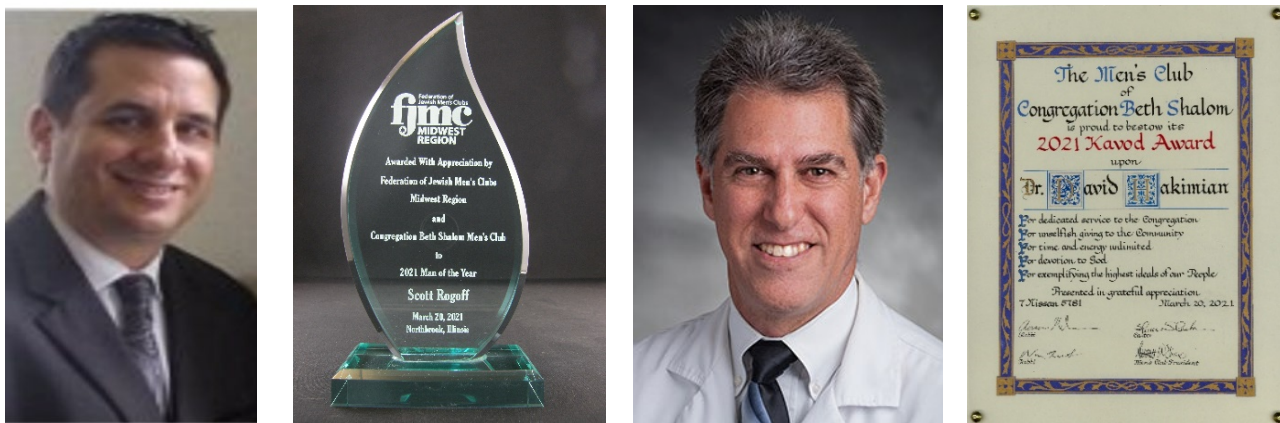
Even via ZOOM, this program was spiritually meaningful and emotional.

Prior to the program we encouraged congregants to order Kosher desserts via the Men's Club Square Site, to enjoy while watching the Zoom to be picked up at various locations in area, prior to Shabbat. Andy Wagner our Executive Vice President chaired the Ritual part and assigned readers for Ma'ariv and Havdalah. Steven Elisco, our President, MC'd the Night of Recognition.

The event Itinerary and Program are attached under "Detail Program Documents". The Flyer is attached under "Marketing".



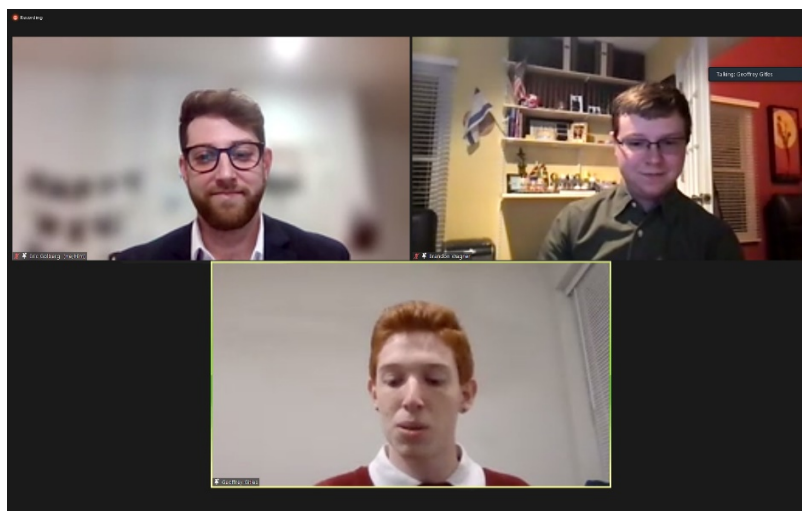
Above - Youths of the Year Brandon Wagner, left and Geoffrey Gites, right



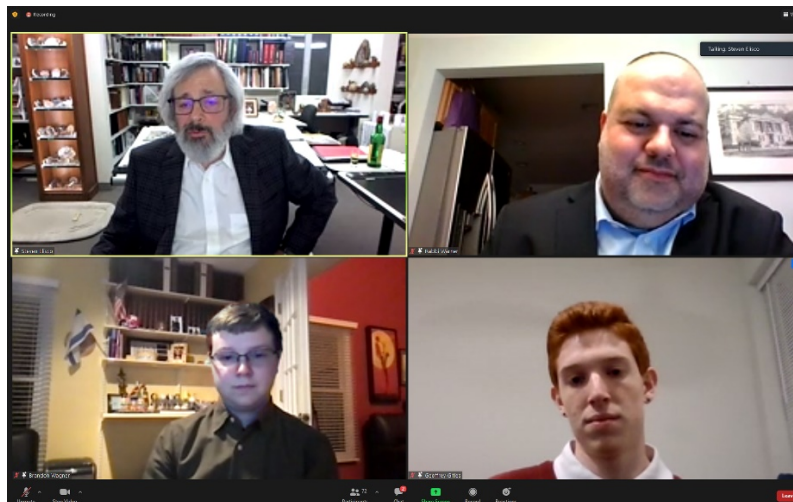
Above - Man of the year Scott Rogoff, left and Dr. David Hakimian Recipient Raymond Rokni, right



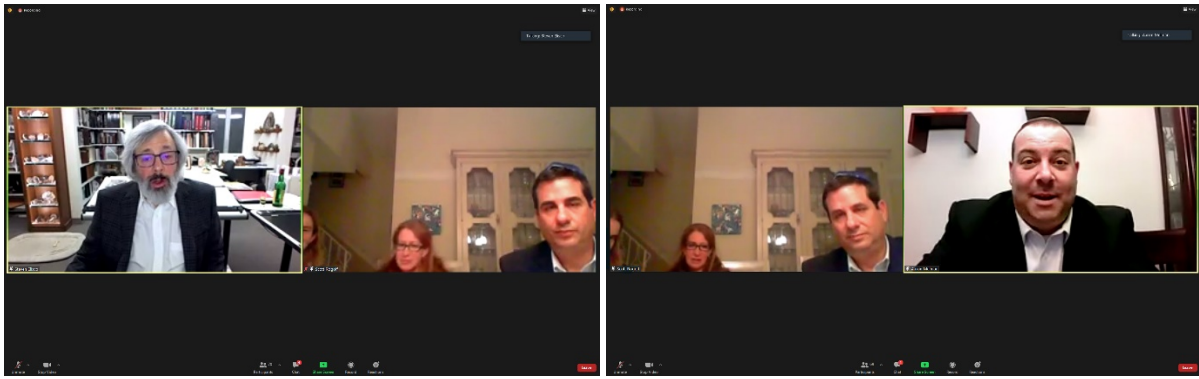
Men's Club President Steven Elisco Presented the D'var Torah



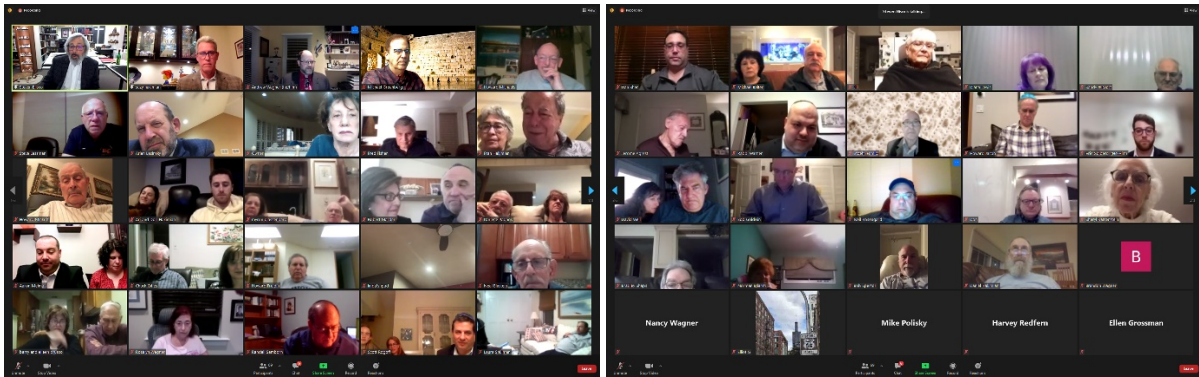
Above Left, Eric Golberg Director of Youth and Young Family Engagement, Above Right, Brandon Wagner and Center, Geoffrey Gitles.



Above Left Men's Club President, Steven Elisco and Above Right Rabbi Ferratier with words for Brandon Wagner Lower left and Geffery Gitles Lower Right.



Above left, Men's Club President, Steven Elisco and Rabbi Aaron Melman, Above Right with Words for Man of the Year, Scott Rogoff



Over 125 Congregants participated via ZOOM



Dr. David Hakimian Accepts his Kavod Award in the Presence of His Family



# YOM HA'SHOAH PROGRAM – A FAMILY JOURNEY OF SURVIVAL AND DISCOVERY

April 7, 2021

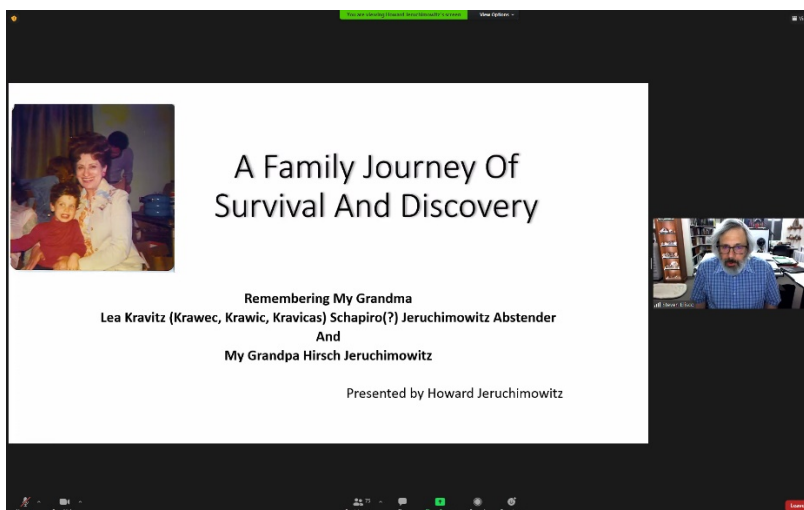
COVID brought on many challenges in coordination of a Yom Hashoah Program at Congregation Beth Shalom. 2020 we cancelled the program and still got the candles sent out. The last five years CBS Men's Club did not coordinate the actual Yom Hashoah program for the synagogue. This year we asked to coordinate since we had a great idea, and it was approved.

A fellow Men's Club member Howard Jeruchimowitz who recently became part of Speakers Bureau for Illinois Holocaust Museum asked if could present his Lithuanian paternal grandparents' story how they both survived the Holocaust, sharing the story of his family's history and journey from their native country to the United States, to protect the lives of their family and to ensure their future.

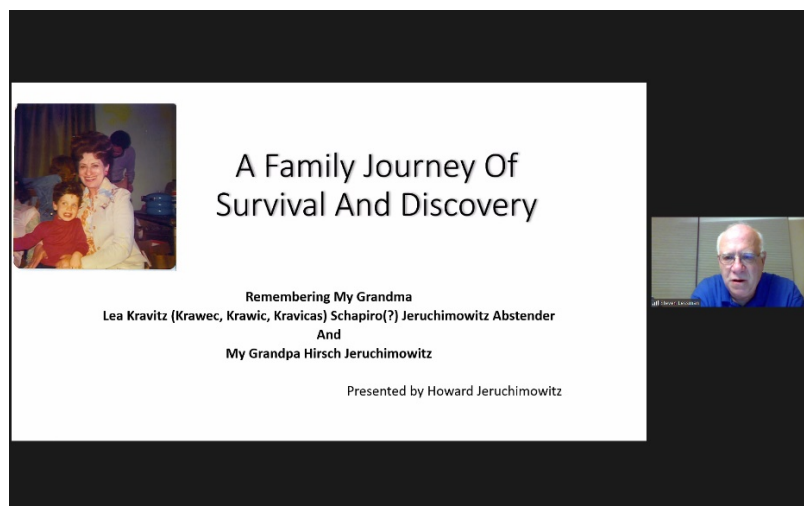
We promoted it with a flyer on all synagogue information months before the date on Yom Hashoah on zoom. We also included a flyer in the 1100 candles we packed for Yom Hashoah that were mailed to all congregants. How we did the Yellow Candle Program this year is described above.

Over 90 screens enjoyed the 45-minute presentation with questions lasting another 15 minutes. A total of one hour program. We have letter and phone calls telling us what a great program it was. How meaningful and emotional.

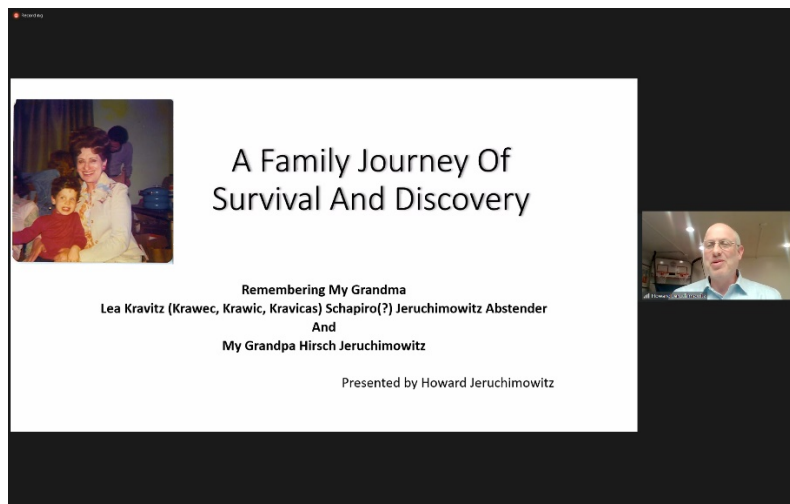
The flyer for this Program is attached under "Marketing".



Men's Club President, Steven Elisco Introduces the Program



Men's Club Vice President of Ritual Introduces the Speaker

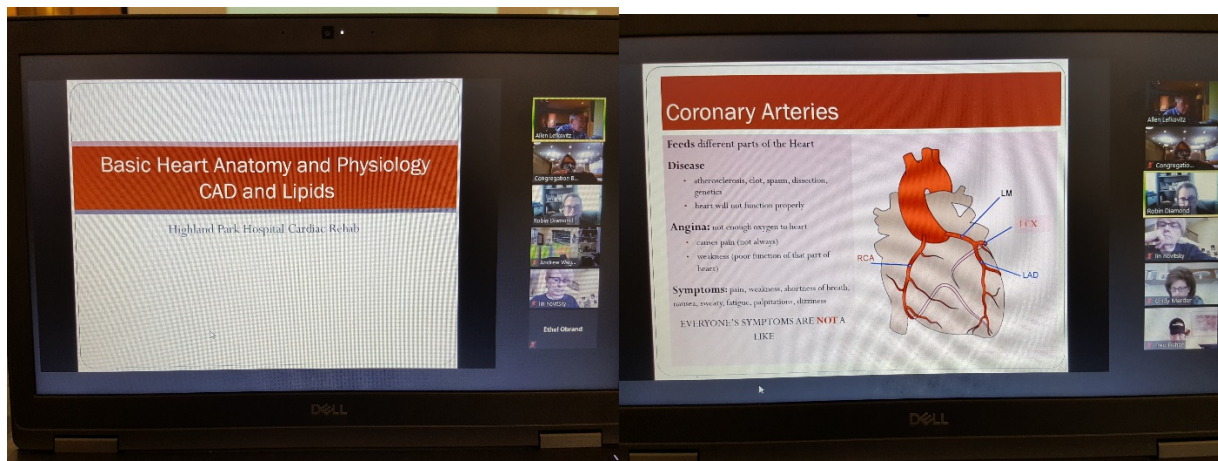


Men's Club Member, Howard Jeruchimowitz Tells His families Story

**OUR HEART – HOW DOES IT WORK AND HOW DO WE FIX IT**

April 18, 2021

As a follow up to Dr. Zaack's earlier program on February 14, 2021, Robin Diamond, a nurse with the NorthShore Healthcare in their Cardio Rehabilitation program spoke about how does our heart works and what we can do to fix it after having a heart attack. Robin was well prepared with a PowerPoint presentation and clearly presented information on the workings of our heart, the procedures to repair our heart and arteries and the importance of diet and exercise for maintaining a healthy heart.



PowerPoint Slides From the Presentation



The Presentation was Broadcast Into the Spring Blood Drive that was Organized and Run By the Men's Club