# Meet Shem Cohen

http://shemcohen.com/ http://www.linkedin.com/in/shemcohen www.changeevents.com



# Shem Cohen's Work Results in:

- Common Ground shared purpose, direction, strategy, values and committed action
- Engaged, focused and energized people
- Exceptional solutions to complex challenges
- Successful partnerships and alliances
- Higher-performing organizations

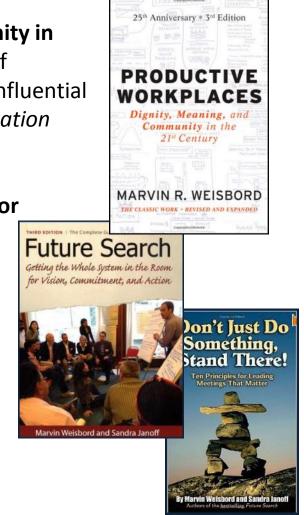


# Shem Cohen's work is included in:

- "Productive Workplaces: Dignity, Meaning, and Community in the 21st Century" (Marvin Weisbord) - Awarded Top Shelf Business Book by *Strategy and Business Review* and most influential work in the field of the past 40 years by the *Global Organization Development Network* 

- "Future Search, Getting the Whole System in the Room for Vision, Commitment, and Action" (Weisbord & Janoff)
- "Don't Just Do Something..., Ten Principles for Leading Meetings That Matter" (Weisbord & Janoff)

... and the success stories of many clients



# Shem Cohen's expertise is people and organizations. (Socio-Technical Systems)

#### Services - Help Leaders to Align, Focus and Energize Organizations

- Collaborative Planning & Change
- Executive Team Planning, Design & Facilitation
- Management, Employee & Stakeholder Engagement
- M/A Integration; New Business Launch
- Leadership Transitions
- Conflict Resolution Diplomacy & Mediation
- Culture of Engagement and Inspired Action

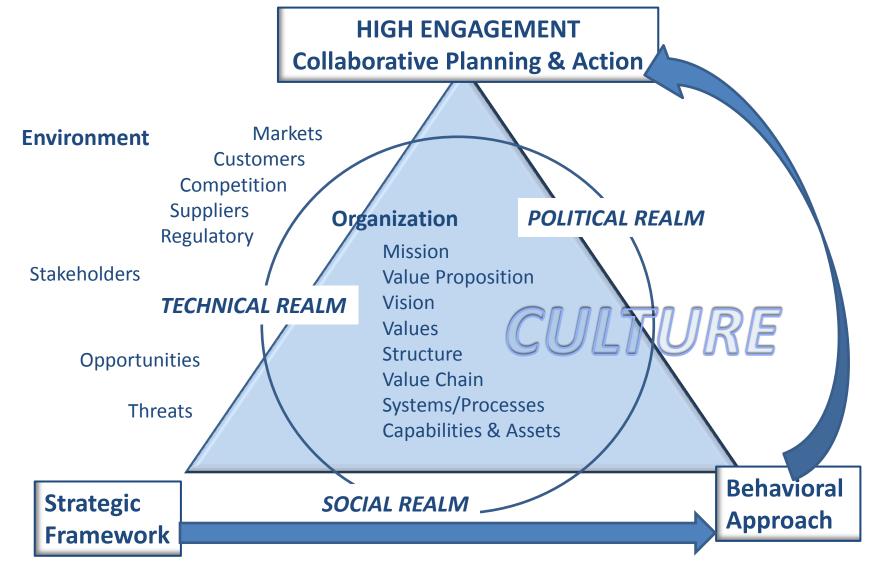
www.ChangeEvents.com

- Masters Degree in Organization Development
- Guest Faculty, New York University Stern School of Business Executive Education

# Shem Cohen's Mission

- To help people discover their greatest potential for action towards a more-desired future
- To help people live more productive, meaningful and successful lives
- To help organizations to thrive and prosper

## Shem Cohen's Methods



### What Shem Cohen's Clients Say

"This strategic planning initiative has been successful beyond our wildest expectations" - AVP, Head of Function, The Federal Reserve Bank

"Thank you for helping us through a rather difficult and complex transition and helping us achieve so much progress in so little time"

- Section Head, The United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations

... your efforts have invoked a positive change that will be long lasting. I am grateful". - VP, General Manager, JPMorgan Chase

*"I truly appreciate the impact you had on my life and the company"* - CEO, The American Taekwondo Association

"The 2 1/2 days exceeded my personal goals... It was the most powerful executive team building program I've experienced in my 23 years with Xerox"

- Employee Development Manager, Xerox Corporation

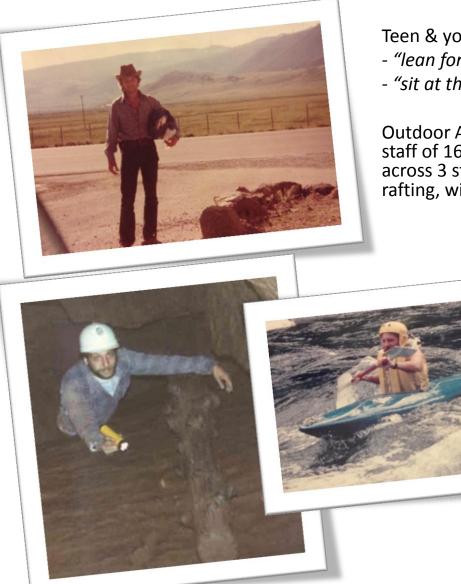
http://www.changeevents.com/testimonials/

"I am truly grateful for your abilities as a consultant who could not only analyze the critical issues hampering a more effective organization, but to then bring all the elements to the table and seemingly without effort, cast a strategy that has subsequently led to one of the most synergistic relations in the organization's history" - Senior Region Director, Northeast United States, The National Parks Conservation Association

one of Shem's most honored treasures...

"I recommend Shem Cohen for any project where high participation and responsible action make a difference." - Marvin Weisbord, Co-Director, Future Search Network, Renowned Author and Consultant

### Shem Cohen's Background, early years



Teen & young adult years – traveled, - extensively

- "lean forward to the next crazy venture beneath the skies"
- "sit at the feet of Masters and drink with thirst their wisdom"

Outdoor Adventure Leader – By age 22, Shem was leading a staff of 16 and with responsibility for 200 participants spread across 3 states in high-adventure activities (climbing, caving, rafting, wilderness treks...)



### Shem Cohen's Background, early years

Shem spent a decade in Social Services, created and led ground-breaking development programs for teens in Foster Care and 'at-risk' youth throughout New York State

- New York State Certified Wilderness Guide
- NYS Certified Emergency Medical Technician

#### Facilitated many, many dialogues – crisis intervention, conflict resolution, situation & life counseling

Trained many youth workers in counseling skills, conflict resolution and adventure leadership

Shem was also a working musician and teacher

Bachelor's Degree in Music, Classical Guitar Performance/Concentration

-- Part Time Faculty Towson State University Music Preparatory Department





In concert with middle-east musician, Shlomo Bar

### Shem Cohen, Transition to Organization Development

During the early 1990's Shem Cohen led *many* corporate teambuilding programs and team interventions with senior leaders across corporations and businesses

Upon completing graduate school in the mid 1990's, Shem discovered "Future Search", the work of Marv Weisbord and Sandra Janoff. Through experimenting, and through truly fortunate mentorship, Shem discovered a way of integrating the principles of Future Search with best-practice organization development models and methods, resulting in amazingly consistent (and often historic) client successes



### Shem Cohen, 20 years of learning-by-doing

#### Sample Projects

- Helped the United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations improve cross-section collaboration, communications, organizational capability & performance
- Helped the British Home Office establish a North America Network of Visa-Issuing Posts, create the North America business plan & strategy
- Helped the Federal Reserve Bank significantly improve the computing environment for research economists
- Helped Del Monte Foods effect a successful restructuring of their North America Marketing Organization and create their North America Strategic Marketing Plan
- Helped the 7th largest non-profit health insurance company in the country create it's IT roadmap in pursuit of Health Value Strategy
- Helped the National Parks and Conservation Association establish a new Northeast US Region
- Help many family business and small business partnerships resolve important concerns, develop their businesses and create better lives with and for each other



# Shem Cohen, 2014

Dedicated to helping people improve their lives, organizations and communities

Dedicated father to two really great young adults

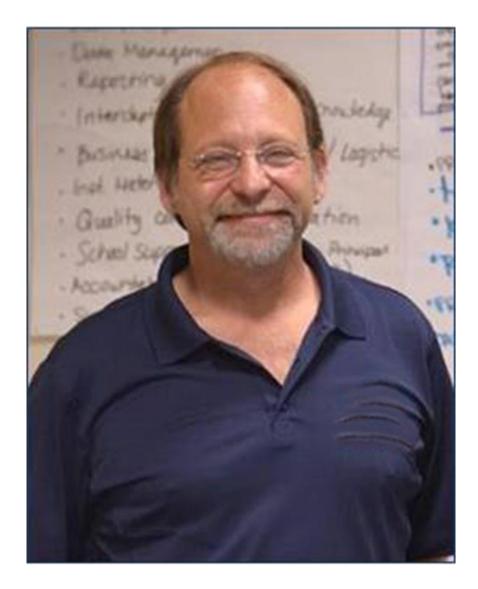
Still love a good adventure...





Still learning music, enjoy playing an occasional concert





#### Shem Cohen

#### Helping Leaders to Align, Focus and Energize Organizations

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- M/A Integration; New Business Launch
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