

HALHELV 2000



FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 2000

י"ז אב תש"ס

ערב שבת קדש

פרשת עקב



**From the Camp
Director's Chair:**

Dear Camp Family,
Yes! That is what we have become once again this summer. This year we were fortunate to have a new addition to our family, Yachad. We had a wonderful new beginning. We all enjoyed our new brothers and sisters and we were sad to see them go. We look forward to spending next summer with them and we thank * them for all their contributions to the Ruach at camp. Hopefully we have gotten closer and nicer to each other as our summer days rolled by. The season went by so quickly because our days were filled with wonderful activities and events. Our memories will be filled with the many exciting moments we experienced this summer thanks to our Head Counselors who hired such a great staff, Our Division Heads for listening and helping us solve our problems. Our counselors for caring for us and for making sure we got to where we needed to go, the sports staff for always being there, helping us improve our athletic skills-rain or shine. Woodshop, arts & crafts for helping us create beautiful things, the dance department for helping us kick up our heels with exuberance, the drama and music department for moving us deeply and raising our spirits.

To the overnight staff for taking us OUT to dinner and to the great outdoors, the camp mother's for wiping away our tears and making sure that campers ate and had clean clothes, the waterfront staff for keeping us safe as we developed new skills on water as well as tubing, skiing and rafting down the Delaware (at least 1/2 of us...). The chefs, bakers, cooks and kitchen staff who prepared our high powered energy food and our waiters and dining room staff who served us with a smile. To the office staff who kept us "in-the-know" making announcements, copies, organizing, taking phone messages and really making sure everything "added up" behind the scenes. To the "new and improved" canteen, thanks for all the "junk" and especially the Friday specials you supplied us with, to the doctors and nurses and entire infirmary staff for keeping us healthy, made sure we took our medicine and kissed away our boo-boos (both real & imagined...). To the library staff for those great stories, open learning atmosphere and for encouraging us to read so much that we plan to continue once we get home. For all the Torah and Midot we learned from our teachers each day at Sheurim and throughout the weeks, during the many programs

that made learning fun – even in the middle of the summer! To the drivers who took us where we needed to go and brought us what we needed from Kibud to supplies, our housekeepers for taking care of our bunks, Camp America for setting up-everywhere! and helping in the kitchen. To the baking program for all the delicious ways to decorate –our mom's will be really impressed! To the Program Department for those exciting and creative programs and for being flexible and spontaneous when the weather didn't cooperate with the schedule... To the mothers helpers who made it possible for all the working moms and dads to relax and do their jobs, knowing that their kids were in your capable hands. To the Day Camp staff for giving our "future campers" a great program-it was great to see our children (and grandchildren...) having a ball!

Last, but certainly not least, you guys- the campers of Morasha 2000. You came with a great attitude and we enjoyed watching you maintain that enthusiasm throughout the summer. Looking forward to seeing you next year!

Thanks,
A..W



SHALHEVET



It looks like our summer has come to an end. It will be very hard to say goodbye to all of the new friends we've made. It has been an incredible eight weeks, full of fun, learning, music, art, dance, sports, swimming and many more creative activities. Let's keep these memories alive through the year until we meet up again next season to make brand new ones. We'll miss you and can't wait to see you next year!

שנה טובה

MOUSE CRASHES STAFF BANQUET & CHINESE AUCTION IN BLACKOUT:

By, "Mouse"

So, there I was last Friday reading the Shalhevet (an excellent edition I might add...) when I see an ad for the Staff Banquet and Chinese auction. It sounded amazing! Great food, entertainment, and

fantastic prizes! I began to plan my entrance. How would I get in? I knew it would be tough, firstly there were rumblings about who should and shouldn't be there in the first place, when they said "Staff" did they mean *actual* staff members or did that also include possible carriers of "staff infections"?... then there was the whole "No vermin allowed in Dining Room" rule that personally, I think they take too far... so I figured I would need to make my arrival incognito. So, after Shabbat I was at my usual hang out - the Girls H.C, when this girl came rushing in looking for props to use to set up the auction. This was my big break!!! I hopped on to the bottom of her grey baggy sweatpants (I blended in perfectly with the color, and thankfully the way they wear sweatpants

these days dragging on the floor made it a breeze) and made it into the dining room unseen. My brilliant plan would have been perfect had the girl not felt me crawl up the inside of her sweatpants leg. (hey! I wanted a better look at what was going on outside - The waiters were working really hard and doing a great job thanks to Ari Stavsky & Geri Mansdorf and the Vaad decorating team was transforming the place into a jungle!) and totally FREAK OUT! I mean, what? She's been in this camp the whole summer- you'd think she'd never seen a mouse before! So the girl goes NUTS!, flings me across the room, and WHAM, the lights go out! Man, this was getting better by the second. My first black out of the summer! I had only dreamt of excitement like this before and

there I was - in the thick of it all! Thanks to the Blackout, I was able to go undetected and watch the whole thing! The room was strung with blow up monkeys and parrots and the doorways were hung with animal print balloon arches. The tables glowed with warm red candles, and the Chinese auction packages were fun and well thought out with themes ranging from Morasha Survival, Housewares, to going off to Israel and College. I heard through the grapevine that Yaffa Storch and Chavie Rosenberg worked tirelessly along with the Vaad to make the night the huge success that it was. Supposedly they raised a lot of money for Yachad which is a great program. But the really cool thing about the night was firstly, how everyone pulled together - even in the DARK to make the night a special one and secondly, to see how much fun everybody seemed to be having. Staff of all ages all

laughed hysterically at Marc Wiener the comedian and they all genuinely seemed relaxed, happy and ready to have a good time. I guess I felt a little left out and from now on I'll stick to where I belong, but at least I'll always have the memory. Thanks - Guys for a great night out!

*P.S- Lisa, sorry about the whole pants thing...

BEAUTY & THE BEAST:

The Shtilim were consummate professionals this past weekend when due to technical Blackouts their show had to be postponed. Spending an hour in the dark up at the Mercazia waiting patiently to see if the "Show would or wouldn't go on", they really held it together. (Thanks to Michael Berl, Drama crew and help from Machon and Alufot make-up artists). When the decision was made to perform on Sunday (Thank you Robin & Lauren Appel

for graciously postponing Rikkudiah), the Shtilim and supporting Yachad Castmembers took it in stride. When they finally took stage, they were superb!

Sasha Berk and Shayna Abramson led the cast in an hour and a half of music and magic with fantastic sets and costumes. Who knew there was so much talent in the Shtilim and Yachad bunks? Each performance (morning and evening) had their own special ending. In the morning, Yachad had a moving farewell message for their new Morasha family, and at the evening performance Morashia 2000 broke out! Thanks to everyone who helped make this play the smashing success that it was! We look forward to Sunday night, the last show of the season, when Staff & Machon will present the hilarious comedy Lend Me A Tenor. See 'Ya There!

MORASHIA 2000:

The Shalhevet is proud to bring you the winning Color War articles by division:

Nitzanim- Team Medina:

By, Rebecca Lewinter

Interviewer: Why is establishing a Jewish State so important to you?

Rav Kalischer: I believe that Mashiach will not come unless the Jews fulfill the

מצוות התלויות בארץ and the only way to do this is to live in ישראל.

Rav Kook: Just like Rav Kalischer, I believe that returning to Israel marks the beginning of the coming of משיח.

Interviewer:

פליטי השואה, How did you have the courage to come to Israel not knowing what would be in store for you?

פליטי השואה: People would think we would lose our belief in ה' but it has only made us more determined – we realize now how much we need a Jewish state.

Interviewer: How did it feel to be the Rabbi chosen to say שהחינו at the declaration of our own state?

Rav Maiman: It was a great honor because we have been fighting for our מדינה for so long – and our מדינה came out victorious!

Shtilim-

Team Medina:

By, Lea Shapiro

May 14, 1948

Dear Diary,

I'm 12 years old and my name is Rena. Lately we've been having a lot of trouble with the Arabs.

Every time I leave my house I feel like I'm in danger. Many people have been dying in war. Even some of my neighbors.

What's that noise? I hear screaming. I'm going to see what's going on...

(3 minutes later...) – I'm

back. Guess what? My mom just told me that Israel became a state!

I'm so excited I can't describe it to you!

This month is the 9th month after the U.N

decided to partition Israel into a Jewish & Arab

State. 9 months till a state is born! (Ha! Ha!). People

are already dancing in the streets. There are

fireworks! People are praying for things to be

good for us!

Oh no! I hear crying! I'll be right back. (30 seconds later...) – This is horrible!

The 5 surrounding Arab states of Israel are

attacking from the land, sea & air. Oh my gosh!

Out side, I can hear people screaming. Thank you to

the Haganah! Hagana must have put the situation

under control. Now I am going to dance in the

streets.

1976-

Dear Diary,

It has been around 19

years since I have last

written. I am 31 years old, married with 2 children. A

boy and a girl. It's a

gorgeous day outside. Not

too hot, but not too cold-

Just right. They're calling

today Yom Yerushalayim.

The place where the

paratroopers from the

Israeli army first landed is

open to the Jews on this

one-day. It's a beautiful

thing. My son is now 3, I

am going to take him there

for the first time. My only

hope is that

מדינת ישראל will be ours

forever.

Ilanot-

Team Moledet:

By, Tali Wohlgeleinter

כי את כל הארץ אשר אתה

ראה לך אתננה ולזרעך עד

עולם

All of the land, which you

see, is given to you and

your descendants forever.

In פסוק ח, פרק מ, ישעיהו

it says:

יבש חציר נבל ציץ ודבר

אלקינו יקום לעולם

The Midrash discusses the significance of these

words in the form of a

משל: There was a man,

who was loved by a king

and the King said to him,

"walk with me and I will

give you a present". The

man went for a walk with

the king and dies on the

way. The king goes in

search of the man's son

and says to him that even

though his father died, I will not take back the present. I promised it to your father and therefore I want you to have it. This applies to the promise that Hashem made to Avraham: since Eretz Yisrael was promised to Avraham the promise is also passed down to future generations of עם ישראל after Avraham's death.

The **אבן עזרא** emphasizes that Eretz Yisrael was given "בדבור" in the form of a state of promise. The **רמב"ן** extends this idea and writes that it was given as a מתנה at the time of Avraham but meant for future generations. "כמו שאמרו רבותנו ירושה היא להם מאבותיהם"

After **ירמיהו** acquires Anatot for חננאל it says: "כה אמר ה' צבאות אלקי ישראל עוד יקנו בתים ושדות וכרמים בארץ הזאת"

Bnei Yisrael will inherit the land promised to Avraham and build a Jewish society in ארץ ישראל. It is clear that it is our job as descendants of Avraham, even at times that our ownership of Eretz Yisrael is challenged to remember that we are the יורשים of the land that was given to Avraham in the promise of "כי לך אתננה ולזרעך עד עולם."

Alufim/fot: Team Medina-

By, Daniel Landman

Try walking into the Strick Library on Erev Shabbat and go up to a young man or woman studying Gemarah. Ask them, "Why do you learn?"

There are many answers from which to choose. One of the more common answers though is to bring myself closer to Hashem.

As Jews living in the Diaspora, we experienced first hand being taken away from Hashem.

Although we live quite comfortably in America, we know in our hearts that we belong across the ocean in Eretz Yisrael.

The tenth Bracha in the **עשרה** illustrates our yearning for redemption. "תקע בשופר גדול לחרותינו"

ושא נס לקבץ גלויותינו וקבצנו יחד מארבע כנפות הארץ ברוך אתה ה' מקבץ נדחי עמו ישראל."

"Sound the great shofar of freedom, raise the banner to gather our exile and gather us together from the four corners of the earth.

Blessed are you, Hashem, who gathers in the dispersed of his people Israel".

The **עץ יוסף** asks an interesting question. Why do we need this Bracha, when the seventh Bracha, **גואל ישראל**, requests almost the same thing from Hashem? He answers

that the first Bracha refers to physical exile and the second refers to the spiritual exile. The immediate question to ask is how does this make sense in relation to the words in the aforementioned Bracha? Sound the Shofar! Raise the banner! Gather us together! All of these terms are very physical and active, contrary to what the **עץ יוסף** seems to say. In fact, the words in "גואל ישראל", the seventh Bracha seem to relate more to the spirit than to those of the tenth!

"Behold our affliction, take up our grievance, and redeem us".

Rabbi Tzvi Kalischer, 19th Century Rabbi and Harbinger of the Zionist idea, provides what I believe is the answer to this question. R' Kalischer was always known to be an extremely modest and spiritual man. In Europe he published many books on Halachah and on religious philosophy. In addition, Rabbi Kalischer staged discussions with members of the reform movement regarding observance and religious ideas, showing his strong attachment to tradition, as well as the issues of the day.

In 1862, Rabbi Kalischer published his book Derishat Ziyyon which explained to Orthodox groups the idea of the

return to ארץ ישראל. In his book, two, among many other major theses are presented: 1. Jewish Salvation, as promised by the נביאים, will only happen if we take action if not wait for miracles to happen. 2. Palestine must be colonized. R' Kalischer followed his theses and proceeded to campaign for agricultural schools to be set up in Palestine. For generations before him, the prevailing opinion was that our redemption would come miraculously; Hashem would come down from the heavens or suddenly send his Messiah. Rabbi Kalischer broke this trend with his new ideas. He taught us that learning and praying are not the only ways to bring ourselves closer to Hashem. We must act now, and only this will bring our salvation. The עץ יוסף was right. The spiritual exile does not have to end by spiritual means. Sound the Shofar! Raise the banner! Gather us together! How can we just sit, pray, and hope that Hashem will save us? Let us move now, and sound the great Shofar in our hearts, and then Hashem will gather us together in Eretz Yisrael, במהרה בימינו, אמן.

Machon:

Team Moledet-

By, Alissa Hertzberg & Ilana Strauss
Every morning in our

we start with the Bracha of Magen Avraham. Many people fail to realize the importance of this Bracha. Magen Avraham praises Hashem for protecting our forefathers and continues to request his protection for us, as well. The source of the Bracha is in בראשית "אל תירא אברם אנכי מגן לך שכרך הרבה מאד" (לך, ט"ו). Hashem promises Avraham his protection after Lot was taken captive in the story of the battle between the four kings and the five kings.

In the Gemarah in P'sachim, Rabbi Shimeon ben Lakish comments on the פסוק,

"ואעשך לגוי גדול ואברכך ואגדלה שמך והיה ברכה" (בראשית י"ב, ב)

According to his opinion the first three phrases in the verse correspond to the fact that we mention

"אלקי אברהם אלקי יצחק ואלקי יעקב"

in the first Bracha but the fourth phrase, "והיה ברכה" is unique. This phrase is a promise to Avraham that although all of the Avot are mentioned at the opening of the Amidah, Avraham alone will have the privilege of being mentioned at the closing of the first Bracha. The מוהרש"א explains that this unique honor is bestowed upon Avraham because he was the first to be מיחד שם ה'

In the Bracha of Magen Avraham, we give

to Hashem שבת והודאה for protecting our father Avraham. In addition, within this Bracha there is a hidden בקשה נסרת, a request, that we too should merit this special "shield". We ask Hashem to remember the זכות אבות, the great merit of our forefathers. It is well known that there were great men and prophets before Avraham's time such as שם ועבר. Why then does the Bracha single out Avraham as opposed to these men when it says ברוך אתה ה' מגן אברהם?

In his commentary of the Siddur, the Chafetz Chaim says that the difference between Avraham and the men in the generations before him is the way in which they served Hashem. The great men and scholars such as שם ועבר gathered people to study Torah and taught those who wished to learn. However, no man emerged from them who succeeded in serving ה'. This was because they learned and served Hashem merely for themselves. Avraham, on the other hand, understood that only limited advances would result when one studies in private. Therefore it says by Avraham: "ויקרא בשם ה'" (בראשית י"ב, י"ח). According to Rashi, Avraham was able to call in Hashem's name because he had made his name known and familiar to

mankind. He taught Hashem's ways to the world by publicly admonishing people for the misdeeds they committed. Avraham reprimanded Avimelech about a well of water that his servants stole to attain. Avraham spoke out against robbery, thereby glorifying the name of Hashem. Because Avraham wanted to publicize Hashem's name in the world, he was זוכה to have Yitzchak for a son along with יעקב and the שבטים in the generations to follow who founded all of Bnei Yisrael. By asking Hashem to remember the זכות אבות we must also take upon ourselves to go in their ways and encourage others to do so as well. This will earn us to merit both in עוה"ז and in עוה"ב.

The Chiddushei Harim expands on this idea by explaining מן אברהם as the preservation of the Jewish נשמה in every Jew, regardless of how far he has strayed from the true path. Only by understanding the true spark that exists in all of us can we feel a connection with our Avot and try to emulate them in all their ways.

Well, another color war has come and gone, Thanks to everyone who helped make it safe, smooth and fun (you know who you are). Congratulations BLUE team on your win! Special mention to GREEN for winning Shiriah! & GOLD for winning the Art project!

DAY CAMP DAZE:

It's been an awesome eight weeks at the Morasha Day Camp and this week ended on a high. Daycampers made their own pizza's, went on their annual "OverDay", and had for the very first time, a special Day Camp Carnival! Friday afternoon, graduation will be held in the pargod.

A special ישר כח to all the kids who learned to ride their two wheeled bicycles without training wheels this summer:
Jonah Lesnick
Melissa Appel
Tzvi Richter
Bezalel Cohn
Ammy Dratch

READ-A THON:

Mazel-Tov to the winners of the Read-a-thon on Boy's Campus:
B-1-Alex Schindler
B-1-Ariel Meiri
B-2-Eitan Ulmer

HAPPY BIRTHDAY:

Chavie Rosenberg- Program
Glenn Lesnick - NWS
Daniel Landman- B-14
Fay Josovitz - G-19
Steven Genachowski B-6
Jamie Klein G-6
Laura Needleman-Ruiz G-6
Joshua Zelman B-4
Jacob Muller B-3
Ally Simon G-

*The Shalhevet would like to thank everyone that helped make this paper "happen" each week.

Dear M.C,

Just a little personal note to let you know that I think you did a G.J this summer!

Thanks for being there for me and for making my F & S, N's very F.U.N!

After camp, please come over for some D.P & a BBQ! -I'll do your hair for the occasion...

I appreciate U, You make a difference!

Love 'ya!

L.L

Dear Friends of our Morasha Family,

*We wish to extend to you a warm
invitation to join us in the Aufruf of our
dear son,*

Binyamin Shlomo, מ"ב

*on Shabbos Parshas Ekev. Davening will
take place at 7:45 a.m. in the Kollel Bais
Medrash. It will be followed by a kiddush
from 9:45-11:00 a.m. in the Simcha Room
of the Kollel campus.*

*An occasion becomes a simcha
when shared with family and friends. We
look forward to greeting you personally.*

Warmly,

Yitzchok & Sarah Cohen

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PARSHAT EKEV

In פסוקים א&ב - פרק ט In

שמע ישראל אתה עובר את הירדן לבא לרשת גוים גדולים ועצומים ממך ערים גדולות ובצרת בשמים. עם גרול ורם בני הענקים וגו'.

Hear O Israel, today you cross the Jordan, to come and drive out nations greater and mightier than you, cities great and fortified to the heavens. A great and lofty nation, children of giants,...

The חתם סופר asks: Why did Hashem allow the nations who lived in Israel to fortify themselves so strongly if Hashem had planned to give Israel to בני ישראל. He also asks Why Hashem would allow such strong people to live there if he knew he was giving Israel to בני ישראל. Why not make it easy?

To answer this question he asks another question. Why do we make a בורא נפשות after drinking water, thanking Hashem for the water, isn't he also the one who made us thirsty? Don't make us thirsty and don't give us water. To answer this question he says that we must look at the לשון of the bracha.

"Who creates numerous living things with their deficiencies."

We also thank Hashem for the deficiencies, all the negatives. Why do we do this? The חתם סופר says that without deficiencies we wouldn't appreciate and thank Hashem for what we have. We thank Hashem for thirst because once we have the thirst we really appreciate and thank Hashem for the water.

The same applies to בני ישראל. If we had gone into ארץ ישראל easily, we would have not really appreciated and thanked Hashem fully for the land. Only because of all of the hardships did we appreciate what we had when we finally got there.

This summer we had many rainy days and many complaints like "oh no it's raining again!" Maybe the rain was needed so we should not take the sunny days for granted and thank Hashem for every sunny day that we have.

On a personal note, my wife and I would like to thank Rabbi Wahrhaftig, Rabbi Cohn, the staff, all of our students in camp, and especially Moshe the baker for a wonderful summer and may we all be זוכה to greet משיח together in ירושלים.

במהרה בימנו אמן סלה.

-Rabbi Yehuda Shmulewitz

ROVING REPORTER:

Q: What is the first thing you're going to do when you get home?

A:Dale Tennant, Maintenance: Take the week off and go fishing.

Tal Meiri, Day Camp: Hug my Teddy Bear

Aaron Roller, Counselor B-19: Enjoy the silence

Lisa Lesnick, Shalhevet: Appreciate the lack of wildlife

Julie Fessel & Sara Gruenbaum, G-13: Eat Sushi!

Rebecca Nenner, Assistant Day Camp Supervisor: Wear clean clothes

Nadav Martell, Nature: Enjoy a home cooked meal

David Weiss, B-7: Check my mail on AOL

Joyce Fruchter, Assistant to the Director: Swim!

Rachel Rosen, G-10: Watch T.V

Abi Minsky, Counselor G-17: Have Tea & Crumpets at 4:00 in Times Square

Jon Martin, Waiter: Get served instead of serving

Barbara Mandell, Mother's Helper: Sleep

Radek Szerner, Camp America: Call All of my girlfriends

Lenore Ribalt, Machon: Take an hour and a half long hot shower

Esther Berman, Girls H.C Supervisor(P.M): Call Ari (Pizzaman)

Chedva Herskovics, Mothers Helper: My Laundry

Yaffa Storch, Assitant to the Program Director: Deprogram my Kids

Dan Levy, Division Head: Kiss my horse

Chavie Rosenberg, Program Director: Sleep for a very long time...

Beth Hait, Assistant Girls Head Counselor: Have a cup of Grande' Decaf Americano Starbucks Coffee