

Shalhevet

Friday, July 13, 2001
22 Tamuz 5761
Erev Shabbat Parshat Pinchas

The three weeks begin...

On Shiva Asar B'Tamuz, the Day Camp Senior Boys and Girls wrote letters of thanks to Israeli soldiers, which will be mailed out next week. Here are some of them.

Dear Israeli I + makes me feel
bad that you are having a war
from our side we love your people
like we love ours we hope you lock
we hope God bless you



5x7 177
22x



Ammy Dratch

Dear Israeli Soldier,

I rely think that what you are
doing is nice. protected Israel we
I if you never have it.
would not feel lonely.

From,
Esther Faga
Age 8



Esty Schwartz

Dear Israeli Soldiers,
Thank all of you for all
That all of you are
doing for our country
from Betzalel who is
in the U.S.A. age 7 from New York city

Betzalel Cohn

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This Week in Camp

Machon Meets BBYO!

A summer tour bus filled with American teens has been attacked in Israel. A terrorist group promises more attacks on tourists. You are in charge of an Israel youth tour, and need to decide if it will take place this summer. What do you do?

This was the question that over 200 Machon and B'nai B'rith youth discussed this past Tuesday at the annual BBYO-Morasha Exchange Day at the B'nai B'rith Perlman Camp. It proved to be an eye-opening educational experience for everyone involved, especially since the scenario was not far from the truth: Both Morasha and NFTY are not running tours to Israel this summer as a result of the recent events in Israel.

Overall, the majority of groups agreed that given the choice, either as a board member or as a participant, they would go ahead with a tour. Some groups recommended that parents be made more aware of the risks. One group suggested hiring additional security personnel. But most said that despite the possible dangers, they would go.

"It's showing the American government that there are still people who support Israel," said Ari Baruch, a Machonik. "And it helps Israel, because it supports them with tourism. If you live in fear, then you're letting them win."

Rabbi Yitz Rosenblum from Ed Staff also pointed out that our reasons for going to Israel "should not just be for financial support. It should also be for moral support."

The experience was also extremely rewarding because it provided a chance for the Machoniks to discuss Judaism with the BBYO youth, who are far less observant. Some of the questions explored included: When do you feel Jewish? When have you felt God's presence in your life? What is a typical Shabbat for you?

Elana Gottlieb, a member of the Ed Staff who attended for the first time, enjoyed the event tremendously. She related that the interaction between the two groups provided a glimpse into some unique perspectives. It was interesting, she said, when one B'nai B'rith member told the Machon youth how lucky they were, because they received a Jewish education and experienced Shabbat simply because they were born into it.

That, said Elana, is something we very often take for granted.

Have you noticed?

We have new *birchonim* holders in the dining room, thanks to Moshe Rosenberg (Machon). We are also grateful to Eli Rosenberg (Ilano), who made the two new *hamotzi* meal signs.

This Week in the World

The United States backed Israel's demands for the United Nations to turn over a videotape that shows the possible kidnappers of three Israeli soldiers last October on the Lebanon border.

The UN refused to do so, claiming that it would compromise UN neutrality in southern Lebanon and could jeopardize the security of its peacekeepers.

- *The Jerusalem Post*

This Week in Sports

By Oscar Madison

The All-Star game became a tribute to Cal Ripken. The game started with Alex Rodriguez moving Cal Ripken over to shortstop to play his last All-Star game where his career began. Later in his first at bat, Cal homered, giving the AL a lead they would never relinquish. For his efforts, Ripken was honored with the All Star MVP. Other heroes for the AL were Derek Jeter and Magglio Ordonez, who each had solo H.R.'s helping the AL win 4-1.

In tennis, Goran Ivanisevic became the first wild card to win in Wimbledon. For the ladies, Venus Williams defended her Wimbledon crown.

Mazel tov to:

Elliot and Cindy Forgash on the birth of their bechor, Yitzchak Shmuel

Todah Rabbah to:

Zahava Block and Binyamina Baitner, for helping with last week's Shalhevet

Ask A Rabbi

This week's question:

What is the proper way for one to make tea on Shabbat?

Answer:

The issue of preparing tea on Shabbat is the *melacha* of *bishul*, making something for eating or drinking using heat (i.e. boiling, frying, roasting, etc.) So when preparing tea, we must be careful to avoid this *issur d'orayta*.

There are two opinions regarding how to do this and avoid the Biblical prohibitions. Method one is to transfer hot water from the urn into a cup and *then* put in the tea bag. (Pouring the water from the urn directly onto the tea bag is *bishul*.) Method two, which is preferred by most Ashkenazic poskim, is to transfer the hot water into a cup, and then transfer it into another cup, and then put in the tea bag.

The second method further lowers the temperature of the water, removing any chance of inadvertently doing *melachat bishul*.

-Rabbi Yitz Rosenblum

Campers and staff are invited to submit questions in the Shalhevet box, located in the library.

This Week's Parsha: Pinchas

Light Candles: 7:14

Shabbat Ends: 8:22

Weather Forecast: (As of Wednesday):

Friday: Sunny. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.

Saturday: Sunny. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.

Sunday: Sunny. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the mid 50s.

From Sorrow to Joy in Less than a Week

By Rabbi Allen Schwartz

Two months of the Jewish calendar are defined by either a pursuit or rejection of *simchah* (joy). The Mishna tells us "*mishenichnas Adar marbim b'simcha*" - when Adar arrives, we increase joy and "*mishenichnas Av mimatin b'simcha*" - when Av arrives, we curtail expressions of joy. Yet while we continue in the revelry of Adar even after Purim, the sorrow which punctuates the first nine days of Av abruptly departs on the following day. In fact, that sorrow turns to joy only six days later on Tu B'Av. This day was a festival in the time of the Temple, and remains a day of festivity and joy for us today. In fact, many couples schedule their wedding on this day.

The quick departure from sorrow to joy, from darkness to light, is one that characterizes Jewish experience since biblical times. The Midrash records that Rabbi Akiva maintained his faith in the face of the death of thousands of his students and the tragic loss of life, during the Bar Kochba revolt, which he supported. Rabbi Akiva began again with new students, strengthened by the Jewish resolve from the ashes of a dark past. The death of Sarah, our matriarch, might have dealt a devastating blow to the future of Abraham's great nation, had Rebecca not already been born. When Rabbi Akiva died, we are told that Rabbi Judah the Prince, the redactor of the Mishna, was born. On the heels of every tragedy in Jewish history, God prepares the healing for the tragedy, just as on the heels of every Tisha B'Av is there is Tu B'Av.

This turnover in Av parallels the month of Adar. Haman, the Talmud tells us, was thrilled to kill Jews in the month of Adar because he knew it was an inauspicious month for the Jews, since Moses had died in Adar. Haman did not know, however, that Adar has the potential for turnaround for Jews because Moses was also born in the month of Adar. We always have the capacity for this turnaround which is demonstrated in the Purim story itself with "*vinahafoch hu*" - "and the situation reversed itself." This is not only the theme of Purim, it virtually defines Jewish history itself. Who would have thought, so long ago, that when Rome renamed Israel, Palestine and Jerusalem, Aleia Capitolina, that almost 1900 years later Jews would have their independence and Rome's power would have

been long gone? This imprint of "the situation reversing itself" on Jewish history is what strengthened Reish Lakish, the Talmudic sage, to predict that in the future, Jews would study Torah and pray in the ruins of the Roman theaters and stadiums.

Regarding the summer months, we embark on a most challenging aspect of "the situation reversing itself," based on a fascinating passage in the Zohar. The Zohar relates that when God gave the Torah, He gave six months to the Jews and six months to Satan. The year is divided into quarters, each one made up of three months. We received the two quarters comprised of Tishrei, Cheshvan, Kislev, and Nissan, Iyar and Sivan because Tishrei, Nissan and Iyar all contain biblical holidays and therefore these quarters have special meaning to the Jewish people. Satan received Tevet, Shvat, Adar, and Tammuz, Av and Elul because these quarters are without holidays mentioned in the Torah. Satan's months take place during the winter and summer while ours take place during the fall and spring. Satan's months are tempting to those who wish to avoid responsibility - "It's too hot," "It's too cold," "School's out" . . . are just a few of the excuses we can come up with in his months. It is a special challenge for parents and summer camp leaders to ensure that Satan's temptations are overcome. This challenge is presented by the Zohar.

There is a struggle between Satan and the Jews for control of the months of the year. If Satan wins control of all the months, the world will be destroyed. If we wrest control of all twelve months, the Messiah will come. At the time of the Zohar, we are told that the score was 8-4, in our favor. Elul became ours as a result of our repentance in preparation for the High Holy Days, as well as Adar, as a result of "*vinahafoch hu*" - "the situation reversing itself."

Until now Av and Tammuz have been Satan's months. This is why, the Zohar explains, so many tragedies have occurred in our past during these months. Let's do our part in Camp Morasha so that by the end of the summer, the score is Israel - 10, Satan - 2.

(Abridged from an article that appeared in Amit Magazine)

Myths and Facts About Caring for Salamanders

Want to keep a salamander as a pet? Read this first!

Myth: Salamanders like being held by human beings.

Fact: Salamanders cannot tolerate being held by human beings. The oils in our skin are toxic to them, and some salamanders secrete fluids which can cause intense irritation to humans. If you absolutely *must* hold a salamander (such as when it is injured), your hands should first be washed in hot soapy water, and you should be careful to remove all traces of soap. Wash your hands thoroughly again when you are done handling them. An even better suggestion is to pick up the salamander with a leaf, to avoid any contact altogether.

Myth: Salamanders like eating leaves and grass.

Fact: Salamanders eat live bugs. To find food for salamanders, you need to search under rotten logs and other debris. Pillbugs, beetles, earthworms, ants, small moths, and other insects make great salamander meals. You can also buy some bugs at a pet store, or raise some worms, beetles, and insects at home (ask your mother first). Don't think that all the dead bugs on your bunk windowsills will help you out here: Salamanders are attracted to their prey by movement, so the bugs you serve your salamander should be alive.

Myth: The salamanders we always see at camp are orange-red.

Fact: The "salamanders" we usually see at camp are actually newts, and when they are mature, their skin will be green and yellow. Our "salamanders" are actually called Eastern Red-Spotted Newts. They start out in the lake as tadpoles or larva, and start wandering around land when they grow to their orange-red states. Soon they return back to the lake and mature to adult newts, which have green bodies, yellow bellies, and a row of blank-ringed red spots on their backs. Sometimes you can see other salamanders at camp: black with red backs, or, if you're really lucky, black with white spots!

Myth: A Styrofoam cup with holes is a great home for a salamander.

Fact: Hello? Would YOU like to live in a Styrofoam cup with holes?

Salamanders can make great pets, if you can give them great care. They can live very nicely in an aquarium, with access to water (which will most likely need filtering), sunlight, food, and lots of soft dirt to burrow in. If you keep their surroundings very clean and take good care of them, they may live longer as pets than if left in the wild. But if you can't provide them with the kind of home they need, it's probably best to let them run free at camp.

-researched on the Web

Ever wonder about those people at Camp Morasha that nobody knows about? The ones who work behind the scenes to make the camp run smoothly? Join us as we meet these unsung heroes of our camp, the people who perform

Obscure

Jobs at Camp Morasha

Week 1: Meet Camp America!

By: Kivi Steinberger and Maayan Dauber (Machon)

Who's that muscular blonde sailing instructor? Who's that man making sure these scrumptious Camp Morasha meals come out efficiently? Who's that foreign, dexterous, heavily accented soccer teacher? The people described above are none other than Camp America. Krzysiek Nowicki (Chris), Robert Yaniszeuisui (Rob), and Uyunou Siarhei (Zack) are three of these assiduous, young men who have come on a mission to make Morasha the great camp we all know it as.

"Chris" is twenty-year-old soccer instructor from Bydgosziz (somewhere in Poland) who has always dreamed of seeing the NY Yankees in action. He wants to learn about the customs, habits, and culture of the great US of A. His goal in life is to be an engineer in economics. He notes that the main difference between Americans and Poles is the amiable nature of the Americans, in contrast to the introverted Poles. Another difference that he notices is the unhealthy American foods verses the more nutritious and natural Polish foods. Although he is quite fond of the gregarious American society, he remains loyal to his native country and wishes to continue living in Poland.

"Rob", a twenty-year-old from Lodz (somewhere else in Poland) returned to Camp Morasha for a second year to meet

new people and expand his horizons. In his free time, which he says is very limited, he reads Shakespeare and aspires to be the lead singer of Limp Bizkit. If that fails, he will go back to Poland to study Mathematics at the University of Lodz. Additionally, he enjoys being a volunteer for the hearing impaired. He enjoys bike riding and taking long walks along the beach. He feels that Americans are cruel compared to his friendly Polish compadres.

Lastly we have "Zack", a nineteen-year-old from Belarus. He loves asparagus. He joined Camp America as a brief hiatus from his native country. He says the difference between Belarus and America is that people of his native land are kind hearted and polite, while Americans are rude and ill mannered. He wants to study international economics. Don't be scared, but Uyunou's favorite pastime is shooting (not hoops).

Without Camp America, it is clear that Morasha would be an inefficiently run institution with a gloomy ambience. So make sure the next time you pass Chris, Rob, Zack or any of the other outstanding, hard working Camp America participants, give a big hug and a hearty hello to the people who make Morasha the great place it is.

The Roving Reporter

Question: If you could have one structure built at camp, what would it be?

"A Kollel for girls." - Rabbi Yitz Rosenblum, Ed Staff

"New bunks." - Justin Mantell, B-4

"A pool." - Too many people to list

"A gazebo in the middle of boys' campus for no reason at all. Oh wait, we have that already." - Harold Rosengarten, counselor B-15

"A machine that would wash and dry my clothes and put them away." - Sharon Richter, Ed Staff

"More phone booths." - Josh Kirschner, B6

"A hot tub." - Amanda Bienenfeld, G-2

"A house with a glass elephant standing on two feet, and a jacuzzi and soda machine in my room." - Yolly Dratch, Day Camp

"A monorail so we don't have to walk everywhere." - Burry Klein, B-3

"A special welcome center to take care of everyone." - Anna Wruble, nurse

"A new lifeguard shack at boys' waterfront." - boys' waterfront staff

"A heated mikva." - Anonymous

"A skylight in my office, so I can see the light of day." - Shirley Storch

LOST:

Tefillin. Hard case cylinder with a blue cover. Last seen in Bondi 3-4. If found, contact Gideon Schneider, B-19.

Contest winners!

Last week's brain teasers proved to be a challenge for lots of people! We received many great responses. The winner of last week's contest is the **Operations**

Department - Richie Auman and the guys

- who managed to answer *every single* brain teaser correctly. They will receive a Powerade from the canteen. A special honorable mention goes to Jacob Dachs, B-3, and Uri Burger, B-12, who each did exceptionally well and only missed one!

Here are the answers from last week:

1. Split level
 2. Day in, day out
 3. Back seat driver
 4. Square meal
 5. Order in the court
 6. Age before beauty
 7. Downpour
 8. Mad about you (mad around you or mad for you was also acceptable)
 9. A home away from home
 10. Painless operation (*if you got this one, consider yourself to be very clever.*)
 11. Frank Sinatra
 12. Easy on the eyes
 13. Three musketeers
 14. Good afternoon
 15. Search high and low (or above and below)
 16. Potatoes (we also accepted potholes)
 17. Ring around the rosey
- Check out this week's contest for another chance to win!

BRAIN TEASERS

Can you find the answers to these puzzles? Submit your answers with your name and bunk number in the Shalhevet box in the library. Anyone who gets them all correctly will be entered in a drawing to receive a free Powerade. If nobody gets all of them, we will give the prize to the one who has the most correct answers. To give you an idea of how to do these, the first one is done for you. Good luck!

1. Le
vel (Split level)

2. paid
I am
worked

3. head
LOheelsVE

4. VAD ERS

5. house
prairie

6. one another
one another
one another
one another
one another
one another

7. ban ana

8. ABCDEFGHJMOPQRSTUVWXYZ

9. hea dac he

10. HOrobOD

11. ___it

12. STEP PETS PETS

13. merepeat

14. T
S U
I H
T S

15. sgeg
egg

16. Robert D O

17. roforkad

