

2 0 1 5 S U M M E R E D I T I O N



SHALHEVET

JULY 3-4, 2015 / SHABBAT PARSHAT BALAK

Welcome to Morasha 2015!

We were thrilled to welcome a record-breaking 754 campers to Morasha on opening day! After introductory meetings and divisional icebreakers, campers jumped right into the swing of things with swim tests, sports evaluations and specialties, as they reunited with old friends and met new bunkmates.

Our opening night show featured a surprise concert starring Lipa Schmeltzer in our brand new Mercazia Performing Arts Center. The rain outside was drowned out by the spirited sounds of campers singing and dancing to the catchy music, waving colorful glow-sticks as they viewed a slideshow of pictures from last year. The high energy and excitement was contagious as everyone cheered proudly for their respective divisions— a perfect way to kick off what promises to be an incredible summer!



In addition to our regular roster of activities, we are excited to be launching a host of unique specialties this season. From glass fusing and chesed projects, to drama workshops and video editing, and from pro basketball clinics and smoothie-making, to fishing and Morasha's very own Political Action Committee, we are proud to offer an opportunity for every camper to shine and perfect their skills. Whether they're passionate about sports, politics, the arts, or technology, everyone can find their niche at Morasha.

Night activities were also in full gear, with pool parties and army nights setting the bar high for what's to come. On Thursday night, boys and girls campus celebrated in costume for "Purim in July" with a seudah (with hamentashen for dessert!), topped off by a rockin' chagiga.

We are looking forward to sharing a relaxing and inspiring shabbos with special guest speaker Alan Veingrad, former NFL offensive lineman for the Dallas Cowboys, followed by Fourth of July festivities and fireworks on Motzei Shabbos. Good Shabbos!

There's a new blogging specialty at Morasha! Each week, campers can come to the blogging room in the library, where they brainstorm together to write creative and informative entries for their divisional blogs, called DivisionConnect, on the Morasha website. Some of the blog posts will also be printed in the Shalhevet.



This week, we are excited to introduce Nate Lieberman from Montreal, Canada, our special correspondent for Older Shtili Boys:

The Older Shtili Boys are having an awesome time so far! On Wednesday, our bunk had our first specialty activities: archery and riflery. We split up into two groups with our counselors. One group was with Yair Zakai and the other was with Judah Wagner.

At archery, Tom showed us how to shoot the bows. We shot at the hay and tried to shoot as many balloons as we possibly could. The record was 5 balloons, shot by me! At riflery, Chris showed us how not to shoot each other :), but to shoot the targets. First, you take a magazine and load the gun; next, cock your gun and carefully aim; then, take your gun off safety and fire away!!

On Wednesday night, we had an NBA all star tournament, with a three point contest, a scoring duo competition, a foul shot shootout and a half court contest, all sponsored by NIKE (not really ;). For Tuesday's night activity, we had counselors asking us true or false questions. Apparently, Yair found an M16 in his bathroom, Michael swallowed a quarter and Yehoshua broke Abe's leg at some point. In addition, for those who weren't sure, Yehoshua DID NOT jump out of a plane!

On Thursday, our leagues started, and our teams are named after Chinese takeout foods, like Mou Foo Yung, General Tso's Chicken, and the Egg Rolls. For more details, go to your local Chinese restaurant. Bon appétit!

Till next time, à la prochaine fois,

Yours truly,

Nathan Lieberman

Bunk B-12, OSB 2015

Check us out on Instagram
@oldershtilimboys





Dvar Torah

by Rabbi Matan Wexler:

In this week's parsha, פרשת בלק, the Torah tells us that בלק hired בלעם to curse בני ישראל because he was afraid of them. When בלק sends emissaries to בלעם, בלעם is described as a person with an amazing gift of speech – whomever or whatever he blesses *is blessed* and whomever or whatever he curses *is cursed*. The תורה goes on to relate the story of how בלעם attempted to curse the Jews three times and, each time, his plan was thwarted and he actually

ended up giving the Jews a blessing instead!

Why were בלק and בלעם so determined to curse בני ישראל? Why didn't בלק simply ask בלעם to bless his nation, the nation of מואב, to be protected from בני ישראל?

Our rabbis explain that בלעם attempted to give the Jewish People an עין הרע, an evil eye. An עין הרע is basically a way of calling attention to someone's strengths and indirectly asking Hashem that these strengths or gifts be taken away, which is what בלעם tried to do to the Jews.

בלק and בלעם were completely focused on doing bad to בני ישראל. They had negative outlooks and this blinded them from coming up with an easier solution to their problem. It never occurred to בלק to ask בלעם to *bless* מואב because all he could think about was inflicting pain on the Jews, and בלעם never thought to bless מואב for this very reason.

We are now starting our summer "vacation" at camp. It may be a break from school but it is certainly not a break from life. You can't be on vacation from life. Life is challenging and it is supposed to be that way. Hashem constantly gives us tests each and every day so that we become better people in the process. Getting through these difficulties is not easy. However, if we have a positive attitude and outlook, then we'll soon realize that not only can we pass these tests that Hashem gives us, but we can pass them with flying colors!

Wishing everyone a productive and meaningful summer! Good Shabbos!

GIRLS CAMPUS IN ACTION



Type to enter text

YOUNGER SHTILIM get creative at ductigami



NITZIS get their first taste of Morasha



YACHAD designs hats during chesed



*OLDER SHTILIM happily reunite
with camp friends!*

GIRLS CAMPUS IN ACTION



MANHIGOT and ILANOT all decked out in black and red for opening night



ALUFOT try their hand at glass fusing, one of many new activities this summer

BOYS CAMPUS IN ACTION

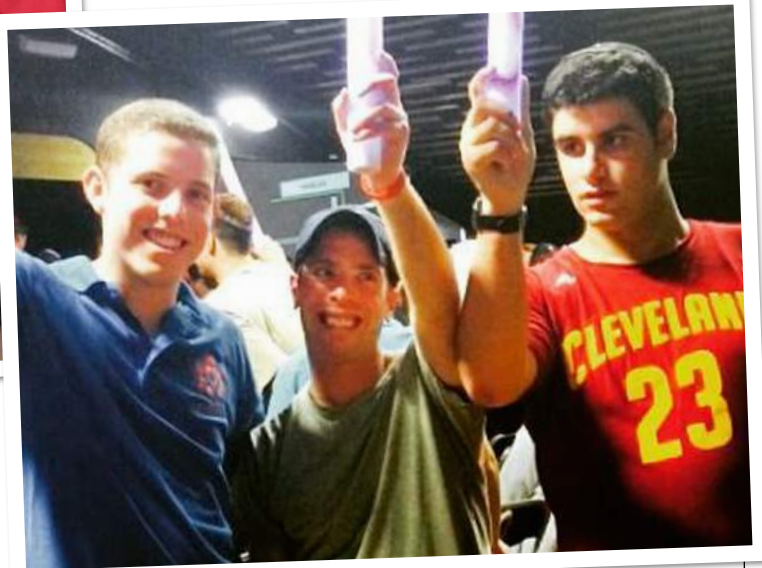


NIITZI BOYS make some noise at Purim in July and arts and crafts



YOUNGER SHTILIM are all smiles

YACHAD enjoys the opening night ceremony and concert



BOYS CAMPUS IN ACTION



OLDER SHTILIM take a shot at archery



ALUFIM get their basketball leagues started



Manhigim (top) celebrate Purim in July, and the Ilanot (right) enjoy the Lipa Schmeltzer concert





MEET OUR NEW STAFF:

We are excited to welcome many new senior staff members to the Morasha team. This week, we're proud to introduce **Danny and Sally Shatzkes, and their children: Belle, Robin, Jacob, and Ricky**

What are your jobs at camp?

Sally: I'll be teaching a drama elective and directing THREE dramatic productions. I'll be also be helping create some night activities that are drama-inspired.

Danny: I'm in charge of the music program and I will be working out of the brand new music studio. I'll be teaching music electives, spearheading Shiria, and playing the music for all productions. I also hope to get campers involved in playing and performing on their instruments for camp productions and events.

What do you do during the year back home?

Danny: I am an entrepreneur and I own two companies: Harmony Studios, a music and audio production company based out of a recording studio in my home, and Gig Gear, a company that manufactures innovative products and accessories for music and audio professionals. I play and perform every chance I get, including as a member of the band Men in My Head. We've had two Billboard #1 singles, and sales of those songs raised almost half a million dollars for Tuesday's Children charity.

Sally: I work at Yeshivah of Flatbush. I am a licensed creative arts therapist/drama therapist and theater director working with kids and adults. In my work I use theater to help, heal, and promote self growth and healthy relationships among the student body, parent body, and faculty.

Why did you decide to come to Morasha?

Danny: I spent five summers in Morasha before I got married. Two of them on the music staff (yes, there was an entire music staff!), two of them as a Sulam counselor (one summer we traveled to Europe and the other to the midwest and Alaska) and lastly as the Boys Assistant Head Counselor. Those five summers were the best summers of my life and I always felt like Morasha never really left me. Morasha is also where I completely fell head over heels for this girl I knew and worked with. And whaddaya know, I ended up marrying her!

Sally and Danny Shatzkes (continued):

Sally: We have always loved Morasha - its values, mission, and amazing programs. We worked together when we were on junior staff and it was during those summers that we learned how to create amazing programs for kids. Now we have come back to our roots and we are ready to work together again to make amazing musical and dramatic productions!

What are some of your goals for the summer?

Sally: We really hope to get as many campers and staff involved in the arts as possible. We would like to put on programs that inspire our audiences and to teach our campers about the magic of music and theater.

Danny: If I had to sum up my goal in three words it would be, "Let's rock, Morasha!" Historically, music was just as much a part of the Morasha experience as sports, swimming or learning. I aim to bring that back in every way I can. I'd like to get campers and staff members playing as part of the band for performances, Shiria, concerts, etc. I'd like to see if I can put a choir together to perform throughout the summer. And hopefully with the new studio, anything we create can be recorded.

What is your favorite thing about Morasha so far?

Sally: We really love to see our kids meeting all the other campers. We love that they can wake up in the morning and run outside and play and feel safe and have a great time. We love that there are no "strangers" here and that we all really feel part of the family, even though we just got here.

Danny: The people. Hands down, Morasha has the most talented, dedicated and genuinely welcoming staff of any organization I've ever been a part of. I'm glad and proud to be a part of it.



Who is your favorite musician or actor?

Sally: I always loved Lucille Ball from "I Love Lucy." She made history as a female comic actress and she is fabulous to watch.

Danny: My first instrument was piano and I grew up trying to be Billy Joel and Elton John. Their playing and songwriting can still blow my mind when I listen to their music.

What are you most looking forward to at camp?

Sally: We love the feeling of living together with such a big Morasha family. We look forward to watching our kids fall in love with Morasha just like we did years ago. We are also looking forward to meeting many new campers and inspiring them to step out of their comfort zone and do things they never thought they could.

Danny: I can't wait to set up the studio, get in there with campers and start making music!

**SAVE THE DATE:
FRIDAY, JULY 17**

**What:
Morasha's Annual Blood Drive
When: All day
Who: Anyone age 16 or older**

**For more information:
Please contact Rachel Feld
at 732 882 8434**

BRAINTEASERS:

Hidden in the grid below are eight, 7 letter words. Each word begins with the central P and you can move one letter in any direction to the next letter. All of the letters are used exactly once each. What are the words?

D	I	S	I	S	A	K
M	R	C	N	C	Y	E
A	C	Y	A	H	N	A
H	Y	S	P	I	B	L
I	E	R	O	L	L	S
C	M	P	U	R	A	T
M	U	I	L	A	E	R

Each of the following sets of letters can be made into a real word by adding three letters to the beginning, and the same three letters in the same order to the end.

For example, ANGLEM can have ENT added at the start and the end to become ENT + ANGLEM + ENT = ENTANGLEMENT.

ERTAINM
ISCOVE
ROW
IOXID
ROCOS

Complete these 5-letter words:

_S_G_
__R_F
_ZU__
E__X_
_P__C
__LN_
_W__M
__JO
Q__A
_V_K_
I__H_
_B_Y_
__DT_

Staff Night Activities

Week of July 5–July 11

Sunday–July 5

Staff Games vs. Lavi
Courts 11 PM

“From Flames to Festivals: The True Nature of the Three Weeks”–Jacob Braun
10:15 PM/ Library

Monday–July 6

Spin w/ Miriam
9:30 PM/Spin Room

Staff SLIP meeting
10:30 pm/ Mercazia

“Halacha V’ein Morin Kein: Rabbinic Censorship & Psak Halacha in Public Policy”–
R’ David Katz (MMY)
9:30 PM/ Library

Tuesday–July 7

“Get Hypnotized!”–Hypnotist show
2 shows – 7:15 pm & 8:15 pm/Mercazia

Staff Night Out @ Capra Cinemas
Busses leaving 10:45 pm
Sign up sheet in canteen

“Living an Inspired Life”–R’ JZ Spier
10:15 PM/Library

Wednesday–July 8

Girls Campus Pool Party
9:30 pm/Pool

“Living Inspired Week by Week: Shiur on Hilchot Shabbos”–
R’ Mordechai Willig
10:15 PM/Library

Thursday–July 9

Trip Day

Motzei Shabbat–July 10

Morasha Cup
9:15 pm/Hockey Courts

Girls Campus Dance Off
9:15 pm/Mercazia

NIGHT ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

WEEK 2
JULY 6 - JULY 11

	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	M. SHABBAT
Nitzi Girls	ICE CREAM SUNDAYS	It's about time	GET HYDRATED	ARMY NIGHT	T R I P D A Y	MORASHA CUP / DANCE OFF
Nitzi Boys		Pool Party & s'mores		Dodgeball (GYM)		
YS Girls		It's about time		Pool Party		
YS Boys		bean bag toss		Super emPower		
OS Girls		It's about time		MINUTE IT 2 WIN IT (MERCAZIA)		
OS Boys		OVERNIGHT				
Ilanot Girls		It's about time		Dodgeball (TANK)		
Ilanot Boys		Pool Party				
Manhigot		It's about time		Pool Party		
Manhigim		Dodgeball Tourny (TANK & GYM)		BEACH VOLLEYBALL TOURNY W/BBQ		
Alufot		It's about time		Edible Arrangements (NSDR)		
Alufim		Dodgeball Tourny (TANK & GYM)				
Yachad		It's about time		PEACE		