



CONGREGATION
B'NAI TORAH

2015-2016 Board of Trustees and Officers

Hal Levison

A Jewish Camp Experience

Scott Raynes

For many years, my parents told me that when I was 9 years old, I was going to go to sleep-away camp. For me, camp is like a different life where you get to learn about Jewish culture, meet new people, and have tons of fun.

Diane Firestone

Golda Sheets

When I went to camp for the first time, I was a little scared. But at the end, I didn't want to leave. Camp changed how I view Jewish culture. Camp changed lots of things in a good way. To me, camp is more than just, camp. It's a different life. There are tons of new people. Nobody judges you on what is different about you. In addition to your cabin-mates and counselors, you get to know your unit head and other kids in your unit. Kids come from all over the United States. Some of them, I'll never forget. My counselor was a family friend, who was going to school in Philadelphia. Some of the bunk-mates were from Indiana and Kentucky.

Barbra Jacobs

Treasurer

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Jessica Rothman

Campers are split into units by school grade. I was in Garin, which means seed. Garin is the youngest unit. The next unit up was Shoreshe, meaning roots. Then there's Geza, trunk, and Anaf, meaning branches. My brother was in Avodah, or cleanup crew, and they cleaned the camp. My brother had to clean my toilet, which made me laugh.

Bookkeeper

Sharie Habegger

Rabbi

Rabbi Anat Moskowitz

Every spot on camp has a Hebrew name. For example, migdal means tower and the chadar ochel is the dining hall. The etgar, Hebrew for challenge, is a huge rope course that they just added last year. The migdal is a tall climbing tower standing at 65 feet tall. Every cabin has one chance to climb it, but you aren't forced to. I made it a third of the way up, and then I came down. Nobody judged me, and I went to a height I was comfortable at.

Religious School Coordinator

Barbra Jacobs

Song session is every night between dinner and services. The entire camp stands up and dances, and has tons of fun. I didn't know a lot of the songs at the start, but by the end of camp I knew them all by heart. In addition to playing gaga, an Israeli game, we learned lots of Hebrew words and Israeli history.

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Congregation-Bnai-Torah



Every night we have services where everyone comes down from the dining hall to the sanctuary where our song leaders and a cabin lead the service. The song leaders do the songs, while the cabin introduces thoughts related to the songs. Shabbat is a special free day. The Shabbat walk is where the top deck (senior staff) and Avodah start at the girls area, picking up each cabin as they walk to the sanctuary. One by one, cabins join the procession singing songs until we get to the sanctuary. It's an amazing experience.

Every two weeks, there's a bunk night, where the units split into bunks and the counselors plan a special night activity. On the first bunk night, my bunk built a cardboard and duct tape rocket. The second bunk night, our bunk went on the migdal swing, a gigantic swing between the migdal and the 'dynamic duo'; another tower. Then we went on a candy scavenger hunt. To end the night, we went on a creek walk.

Every single year, I want to go back to camp!

Nolan attended camp at Goldman Union Camp Institute (GUCI) in Zionsville, Indiana. GUCI is one of 16 Jewish summer camps that are part of the Union for Reform Judaism (URJ). For more information about URJ summer camps, go to: <https://urjyouth.org/camps/>





What Jewish Camp Means To Me

By Ilene Raynes

We get turned around in town - -Great Barrington, Massachusetts. It looks familiar and we recognize some of the stores and shops, but things are different, too. The last time we were here was 9 years ago to renew our wedding vows at a special ceremony for couples who had met at camp. And the time before that, who's to say? It seems like forever ago, and also only just yesterday.

Scott and I met in 1987 (yes, we are THAT old) at Eisner Camp <http://eisnercamp.org/> which is one of 16 summer camps run by the Union for Reform Judaism. Many of you ask about why we have sent Chance to Jewish sleep away camp for so many years and now why we choose to send Nolan. The root of our desire to send them stems back to our experiences at Eisner. It was a summer home for both of us, where we learned about our identities as Jewish teens, where we made life-long friends, and where, every once in a while, someone met their future spouse!

So, to commemorate our 20 years of marriage, Scott and I decided to take a tour of Eisner at the start of our summer vacation. I made plans in advance with the director of the camp, to ensure we'd be welcomed. And welcomed, we were! Yes, they have a full-time security staff now, understandable in these tense times, but once we pulled up and mentioned our pre-arranged appointment, we were greeted with open arms. Staff members shook our hands, congratulated us on our anniversary, asked who we were still in touch with and asked about my brothers (also Eisner, Crane Lake, Coleman and GUCI alums – all URJ camps). We felt that we had reached a place where everyone understood our past summer experiences and were thrilled to be reliving them with us.

We were given our own personal tour guide to walk us around camp. Although she was decades younger than us, she shares our enthusiasm and listens attentively to the stories we tell as we pass each place that held memories for us. She allows us to go in every building we chose, to open any door we'd like, and to explore all corners of the camp. We comment on what is the same, what is different and what we remember.

We are thrilled to visit Scott's bunk from the year we met – the roofing and side shingles of the A-frame had been replaced, but the inside is all still original. We are both shocked at how small the cabin feels. 8 or so teen boys shared this place? But the proof is there. With just a little bit of searching, we find Scott's name still scrawled in the rafters of the bunk! We take pictures, we rejoice, we remember when Scott wrote his name in that very spot. We even peek out at the rock on the backside of the cabin where Scott and I used to sit and talk.

B'Nai Torah Mitzvah Committee

The Mitzvah Committee is here for CBT's members in times of need.

Contact Elissa at 303-666-0853 or eroselyn@mindspring.com if you or another member you know is in need of help (such as a health crisis) or if you are interested in being called when a need arises.



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We continue on our journey, walking on the vast and green Olim (oldest unit, means “makes Aliyah” in Hebrew) hill, remembering early morning gathering at the flag pole, and sharing a less-than-clean bathroom with many other campers. We enter the Olim Beit Am (building where the oldest unit gathered for services or programming) and we read the names on the hundreds of wooden plaques created by campers over the decades (spanning back to the 1950s). We are delighted when we remember someone. We comment on the funny sayings on the plaques. We again rejoice at our continued connection to our summer home.

Our tour guide tells us how important it is to keep the legacy of camp – that original feeling – alive, while expanding their facilities and abilities to educate the Jewish youth of today. We love seeing the same staff lounge area, the same Bonim (youngest unit, means “builders” in Hebrew) Beit Am (building where the youngest unit gathered for services and programming) and the same Boat House (was once bunks for Bonim campers, now houses the day camp). Although there are vast changes and additions to the camp, we marvel that the feeling of Eisner is still alive for us, walking through it, so many years later.

As we make our way across camp, we feel close to each other – a common shared experience of summertime reaching back to our youth. We also feel a bond with the thousands of other reform Jews who have shared memories of this special place. Even now, sitting in temple on a Friday night, we nudge each other, remembering how a certain concept was explained at camp or humming a “camp” tune to a memorable song.

Our summer vacation started that day, as we walked down Memory Lane and I for one, look forward to visiting Eisner again, in another 20 years.

To learn more about Jewish camping, see <https://urjyouth.org/camps/>

For information on scholarships for Jewish camps, see <http://www.jewishcamp.org/one-happy-camper>



Volunteer Spotlight

This newsletter's volunteer spotlight falls on Jesse Kallweit. He has only been a member of the CBT family for a relatively short time, but has made a significant impact. If you haven't seen him at services, count it as a rare occasion. Most often, you'll find him moving tables and helping set up for services, or cleaning up afterwards. When he's not up and running, he'll be quietly chatting with guests or other congregants with a calm demeanor that makes him easy to talk to. But behind the calm and easy appearance lies a tremendous and generous heart.

Jesse joined the Board of Trustees in March of this year and quickly immersed himself in the role. Since then, he's been busy with several initiatives including evaluating our space options and exploring fundraising ideas. At present, he is working with the church and a contractor friend to improve the rabbi's 'office'. He reached out to the church and discussed our concerns over the current arrangement, gaining approval to pursue options for reconfiguring the space. You'll be hearing more about this initiative in the coming month.

Jesse is heavily involved with the CBT community and improves it simply with his presence. It is always great to see his kind wife and wonderfully engaged kids. He has become a tremendous asset to CBT, anticipating needs and bringing new ideas and perspectives to a busy Board. He's truly a breath of fresh air, and a valued member of the CBT family and we sincerely thank him.

"Jesse is a visionary and doer! He envisions improvements and growth for our community and then puts his efforts into making these things happen! He has aided the rabbi in ideas for Adult Ed, helped add drumming to our services, has been front and center helping to set up the room for services and onegs, is consistent in making a board presence at services and events and does it all with a smile and genuine helping nature!" – Rabbi Moskowitz



Announcement

Dear CBT family member -

Many of you may be unaware, but our beloved rabbi's 'office' was previously a bathroom. Some of you may have even met with her in the cramped and inhospitable closet over the years. A quick look reveals plumbing that's been poorly capped, and the tell-tale white tiled walls. Worse yet is the smell that emanates from the hastily covered sewage drain. When we gave the church's staff a tour, they were embarrassed for us. We have been fortunate to see our congregation grow recently, but can't imagine prospective members meeting with her in such a space.

Frankly put, our rabbi deserves better! After too many years of ignoring the issue, the Board has decided to take action. We have reached out to a contractor and have a plan to address the tile, plumbing and electrical issues, and expand the space. This will provide a respectable office in which the Rabbi can conduct her business. We've received approval from the church to renovate, and we've set a goal to complete the renovation before the High Holy Days. We just need your support to make the vision a reality. Please donate to this worthy cause.

Contributions can be made through the [website](#), or checks can be sent via mail to the CBT address. Please add a note that the donations are specifically intended for the rabbi's office.

If you'd like to volunteer to help remove tiles and/or assist with the project, please contact Jesse Kallweit at kallweitjesse@gmail.com.



Religious School Happenings


Hope all of our Religious School students and families have had a great summer.

We look forward to welcoming returning and new students on Sunday, September 11 at 12 PM.



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Personal Appointments may be scheduled on an individual basis
To contribute to the post, please email
amy_gartin@hotmail.com



High Holiday Schedule 2016-5777

Rosh HaShanah

Sunday, October 2 nd	7:00pm	erev Rosh HaShanah Service Followed by our annual honey cake contest
Monday, October 3 rd	9:30am	Rosh HaShanah Service Lunch to follow, provided by the Board of Trustees

Tashlich

Sunday, October 9 th	1:30pm to 2:30pm	Please meet at the synagogue
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Yom Kippur

Tuesday, October 11 th	7:00pm	Kol Nidre Service
Wednesday, October 12 th approximately	9:30am 11:30am 4:00pm 5:00pm 6:00pm	Yom Kippur morning service Jewish text study, meditation & movement for adults and teens Family Service with reading of the Jonah Story Yizkor Neilah

A light “break the fast” nosh to follow

Visitors are welcome at no charge

Childcare will be provided

Donations to Congregation B'nai Torah are gratefully accepted.



Birthdays

September

Sophia Gartin	9/1
Kim Schwartz	9/3
Heather Israel	9/3
Mike Dias	9/4
Stacy Jessen	9/6
Erin Barclay	9/8
David Barclay	9/11
Hannah Farkas	9/11
Rachel Levison	9/11
Aimee Schneider	9/12
Monika Schneider	9/18
Marcy Haloin	9/19
Shaina Levison	9/19
Deborah Doleshal	9/21
Tiger Greer	9/21
Lori Hakim	9/22
Calvin Hahn	9/24
Ron Jessen	9/25
Michelle Zeles-Hahn	9/25
Eli Farkas	9/30
Liz Hendricks	9/30

October

Chance Raynes	10/2
Kyla Quintero	10/14
Sharie Habegger	10/16
Jack Kaufman	10/19
Daniel Hendricks	10/21
Ashton Gartin	10/27
Colette Lottor	10/27
Mya Jessen	10/28

Anniversaries

Kim & Lou Schwartz	9/1
Amy & Tyler Gartin	9/8
Melissa & Howard Fear	9/8
Stefan & Roberta Brodsky	9/12
Wendy & Howard Wagner	9/18
Joann and David Freedman	9/28
Collette Lotter & Rick Jacobi	10/6
Jackie & Russel Weisfield	10/7
Alison & Neil Gallensky	10/13
Ilene & Scott Raynes	10/13
Ed Weisel & Kyla Quintero	10/18
Carol & Bob Zeles	10/29

Yahrzeits

Murray Shapiro	9/1
Arthur Burnett	9/10
Warren Raynes	9/12
Sam Farkas	9/25
Leita Neyman	9/28
Marvin Kempner	
Alex Rosenfelder	
Nikki Abbondeonelo	
Danny Brown	10/8
Don E Haloin Jr.	10/15
Charlotte Brodsky	10/19
Nate Barmutz	



Cooking Corner

Super simple and tasty salmon. A make-ahead Yom Tov item!

- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon honey
- 2 teaspoons margarine
- 2 teaspoons Dijon mustard
- 1 tablespoon soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 teaspoons fresh ginger
- 1 whole salmon fillet, (2 ½ pounds, ¾ to 1 inch thick)
- 2 lemons, halved
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- Garnish with chives

Preheat oven to 400° F or grill to medium heat. In a small saucepan, melt brown sugar, honey and margarine. Whisk in mustard, soy sauce, olive oil and ginger. Cool slightly.

Place salmon skin side down on aluminum foil on a large baking sheet. Leave a foil border of ¼ to ½ inch. Coat salmon with honey mixture. Dip each lemon half in sugar. Place lemons around salmon. Bake salmon for 20 minutes or grill salmon indirectly over medium heat until edges begin to brown and inside is opaque, 15 to 25 minutes – depending on thickness of fish and desired degree of doneness.

Serve salmon warm or at room temperature with caramelized lemons alongside. I like to squeeze the sweet lemons over the salmon before serving but they are a beautiful garnish too. Add chives for garnish.

Recipe from <http://www.aish.com/h/hh/r/Apples-Honey-Pomegranates-Oh-My.html>



Congregation B’Nai Torah gratefully acknowledges that much of our support comes in the form of donations from our members and visitors. We have included the below donation form in the B’Nai Torah Post to simplify the donation process. Thank you for your generosity.

I would like to make the following donation to Congregation B’Nai Torah:

The contribution amount _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____
anniversary • birth • graduation • appreciation • birthday • marriage • bar or bat mitzvah

My name _____

My address _____

My phone number _____

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This newsletter is produced 4-6 times annually.
Please contact Amy Gartin for details at
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