

INTERLAKEN BRIDGE

THE STEVE & SHARI SADEK FAMILY CAMP INTERLAKEN JCC ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4 No. 2 • Fall 2012



Join the Bridge to Our Future Preservation Campaign

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Past Camp Directors:

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Judy Young	1995-1999
Jon Levin	1992-1995
Kevin Bukatman	1990-1991
David Friedman	1985-1989
Paul Chase*	1983-1984
Judy Siegel	1979-1982
Ateret Cohn*	1978
Steve Mirowitz	1977
Ateret Cohn*	1971-1976
Jack Weiner*	1968-1970
Shel Goldstein	1967
Jack Weiner*	1966

*of blessed memory

Visit Camp Interlaken and you won't feel that much has changed since you or your children were last there. You may see some new stuff, but the heart and soul of Camp endures throughout the generations – Camp shines with ruach! Camp is still the place for lasting friendships, a connection to Israel, and individual growth, learning and fun. Camp is almost 50 years old, and many of the facilities on the grounds were old when we got there!

During the past few years, Camp has been actively seeking major gift support for a \$4 million Campaign. Dubbed the "Bridge to Our Future" Preservation Campaign, this effort has been successful in raising over \$2.6 million so far to fund a number of projects for Camp.

Several of the Campaign's goals are realities - a new K'far Noar village, a new addition on the infirmary, a new aquatic center, a new welcome center, and a new canteen with a picnic pavilion.

There are plans for the renovation of the amphitheater, the boy's cabins, a new building to house female staff, and new family staff housing. We even thought about a new athletic building.

These enhancements are part of a long-term facility plan that was developed by a committee of alumni, camper parents, staff, architects and developers.

We extend our sincere thanks to our generous donors thus far and to our dedicated Strategic Planning Committee, Building Committee, Camp and Campaign Committees for their continued hard work on behalf of Camp.

We will celebrate the public kick-off of the Campaign this winter at our blow-out Havdallah on January 26th, 6PM at the JCC and hope all of you will be able to celebrate with us. Watch for details.

Together, we can reach our goals



I would not have the family I do if I hadn't gone to camp. I would not have made the relationships I had to recommend me for the job I got after college that reconnected me with the family that introduced me to my husband.

The story may be convoluted, but each and every one of us has a story. Interlaken has a special place in the hearts of all who are lucky enough to call Old 70 home for even just a short time.

Camp meant a lot to me when I was there, but it means so much more to me now. It has been and continues to be the most meaningful volunteer opportunity I've ever had. It has kept me connected with so many amazing people throughout the years. It has become a haven for my family. We have been privileged to send our own campers for eight unforgettable summers, and there will be many more. It is a huge part of our lives.

It's unimaginable that I haven't been a camper in almost 30 years, and it boggles my mind that our son just spent his last summer as a camper in K'far Noar. It sounds a bit pathetic, but I did cry writing him that final postcard. If he plays his cards right and wants it badly enough, we could have our very own ozo in 2014. How did that happen so fast, and how do we make sure it keeps on happening?

When did we grow up enough to hold the future in our own hands, and when did it become our turn to step up and make sure everything is taken care of? No one is going to guarantee this very special place is still around for our grandchildren and their children if we don't make it a priority now. My family has made a financial commitment to Camp. We made the largest charitable donation we have ever made to ensure Camp's future. We also went so far as to give an additional legacy gift to provide for Camp even after we are no longer here to enjoy Camp ourselves.

I'm asking you to join me. Interlaken needs all of us if it is going to thrive and keep creating magic well into the future. The time to step up and make the commitment is now. Soon we will all gather again at Lake Finley to celebrate Camp's 50th summer. Please help us make sure there are 150 more summers. Please help us to preserve Interlaken and all of the amazing things it stands for.

The time to step forward is now.



P.S. I can help you make a difference in preserving our place on Lake Finley. Sheryl Rubin sheryl@campinterlaken.org

It's a Small World!

Here in Oklahoma, I delivered the baby of another Interlaken alumna: Leanne Wolraich. I bet this is the first time this has happened.

Andrew Wagner, MD (*Andy was a camp doc this year and his son Brandon got to enjoy camp, too.*)

Subject: The sound you may have heard overnight was the world getting smaller

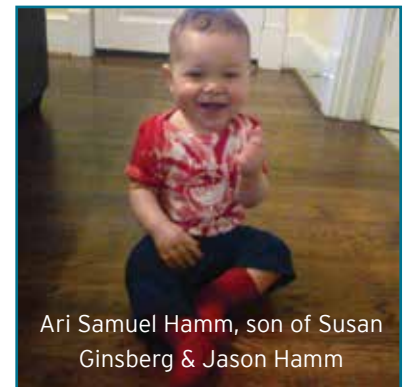
Andy's Dad, **Alan Wagner, MD** emailed us about the following Interlaken meeting:

The rabbi and his wife from the temple we attended tonight in Wellington, New Zealand, spent 3 weeks at Camp Interlaken around 2004. They know Sharon and Carey Cohen and Simcha Cohen (who I delivered) and other Interlaken folks. His name is Rabbi Adi Cohen and wife Gilah.

Dr. Alan & Roz Wagner

Start 'em Young! More Future Campers

Mike Wood	Elon Nesta
Leanne Wolraich	Seneca Ray
Jonathan Shikora	Max Franklin
Susan Ginsberg and Jason Hamm	Ari Samuel
Jessica Sectzer-Rubin & Larry Rubin	Zoe Belle
Sara Weiner Haluf & Erez Haluf	Samuel Moses
Mia Kaminsky Meyer	Jonah Harry
Adam and Katrina Butlein	Presley Bijou
Daniel Charous	Aiden Samuel
Beth (Epstein) Bernstein	Shayna Miriam



Ari Samuel Hamm, son of Susan Ginsberg & Jason Hamm

Correction from the Spring 2012 newsletter: Stephanie Nelson George's baby is Nina. Avraham Simcha is the son of Gail Ancier. Our apologies for this error!

Future campers are eligible for a free Camp Onsie. Send us your pic & we'll post your future camper on our website.



Alumni weekend on July 6 & 7 was our best yet! Over 120 alumni and former staff came to Camp and walked the Shabbat walk. The circle was so large and so warm. "One big circle, everybody in it" held great meaning for all attending. We also dedicated the Daniel M. Soref Aquatic Center. The Welcome Center and Canteen & Picnic Pavilion are gifts of the Jim & Eve Joan Zucker Family, long time supporters of Camp. Audrey Strnad, (Yes, Alex's Grandma) spoke on behalf of the Daniel M. Soref Trust on why giving back to the Jewish community meant so much to Daniel M. Soref and to her.



SAVE THESE DATES!

Tu b' Shvat Havdallah - January 26 at the JCC Milwaukee - 6:00PM

Avodah weekend - Late May or June date to be announced at Camp

Camp Begins - June 19

Alumni Weekend - July 5 - 7, at Camp

Family Camp August 13-18 **Note:** We are almost full!



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The JCC is a partner in serving the community with the Milwaukee Jewish Federation and is a beneficiary agency of the United Way of Greater Milwaukee.



TONI'S TAKE

Notes from the desk of CIL Director Toni Davison Levenberg

This summer we brought back a long standing Interlaken tradition that hasn't happened for many years: **Avodah Weekend**. We are so thankful to the small group of volunteers who helped us set up Camp. They were the first to see the amazing Daniel M. Soref Aquatic Center, our new Welcome Center, and the new Canteen and Picnic Pavilion. They were taken aback by the changes at first, but then after the weekend ended, Sarah, one of the staff, wrote a note in the staff Facebook group about the new beautiful facilities at camp. At the end of her post, she addressed our staff's fear of change by saying: **"Don't worry guys, ...the stars are still the same."**

Six Words

Recently, Dan Baer, our Associate Director, attended a seminar for the Foundation for Jewish Camp's Yitro Fellowship, and he was asked to sum up his summer in six words. The goal of the program was to stress the importance of words by emphasizing that the six words in the Shema are so incredibly powerful and meaningful to us. We decided to put it out to the summer staff and ozrim to help sum up the summer in six words. Here are some of the responses we

got: "Summer of fun, lifetime of memories," "The change doesn't change a thing," "Creating magic on not enough sleep," "My most challenging but rewarding summer," "Four words: seventeen new shoresh campers," and "A fantastic experience, an amazing adventure." Dan ended up using Sarah's comment about the stars for his presentation. It was fun to hear what phrase other camps used to describe their summers; no one even had one that was similar.

Toni

Can you think of six words to sum up your Camp Interlaken experience? We would love to post them in the next Alumni Newsletter! Please send them to toni@campinterlaken.org.

INTERLAKEN'S 50th YEAR CELEBRATION...

is around the corner! Help us put together a video of photos, videos, recording, stories, influential people, and more! Add your story. Email material or inquiries to history@campinterlaken.org.



Family Camp Memories

Dr. Ron and Fran Meyers have always loved camp.

When their children were young, Patti Weigler asked them to come to Family camp and just try it. Ateret Cohn welcomed them as she did so many of us...and Ron, Fran



Back: Ron & Fran Meyers; Sue & Arnold* Effron
Front: Steven Meyers, Jenny Meyers Strimling, Diane Meyers Zall, Barbara Effron Glazer, Mark Effron
** of blessed memory*

and their children and grandchildren have come back to camp in so many ways. Their children, Diane, Steve and Jenny and all ten grandchildren have come to camp (Emily was a counselor this year) and this past summer they came back to Family Camp while their son Steve and family were there. It reminded Fran of the summer her family took a road trip to camp with the Efron Family and the trip was timed to end with Family Camp. Today, those children have brought their children to Family camp and the tradition started by Ateret is still flourishing.

Something magical always happens at the lakefront, the campfire and of course at Shabbat.

Lynn Friedman Falender's Family Camp Story

Over a decade ago, my Dad asked how I would feel about our family revamping the Ulam in memory of my beloved mother. We spoke about the opportunity to mesh my Mom's love of our positive Jewish experiences at Interlaken and the performing arts. This was a way to have her name live on in a place that campers could enjoy for years to come.



Lynn Falender with son, Bradley,
at the Brenda Friedman Ulam dedication plaque

Still, sitting at my desk in Chicago, I thought it was an odd choice. My siblings and I had no children and none of us even lived in Wisconsin. I cherished my years at Interlaken, but the camp was nowhere in my foreseeable future.

Fast forward to present time and my perspective couldn't be more different. With gratitude, I am filling my photo album with pictures of our week at Family Camp. Although I didn't get many "azi yofi's" in my day for taking Rap Session and Mime, I got to watch with tears in my eyes as my three boys "skied around the room."

Below my Mom's picture, my son participated in the camp talent show. In fact, my whole family (against our wishes) performed on the stage. We didn't have any talent, but everyone cheered us on just the same. That's the kind of love and encouragement that can only be found at Camp Interlaken.

Today, my sense of connection and my fondness for Cat Stevens restored, Dad's choice seems clear. My kids are excited to go back to Interlaken and still talk about the good times they had and friends they made. They came home from Family Camp feeling confident, happy and fulfilled. Funny, that must be exactly what my parents saw in us when my brother, sister and I came home from camp.

Thank you, campers and staff, for helping my family make memories to last a lifetime.



The Falender Family at Interlaken: Parents, Mike & Lynn and sons, Bradley, Leo & Nate

More Family Camp photos & reminiscences
can be found at www.campinterlaken.org.

Send *your* Family Camp stories to
info@campinterlaken.org

**Where would you be today...
if you had never gone to camp?**



Dear JCC Staff,
Thank you for giving me the
opportunity to attend Camp
Interlaken JCC.
P.S. One of my favorite
things was doing Maccabiah.

This year, Camp Interlaken will spend over \$74,000 on meeting scholarship needs. Our camp endowment funds, generous donors and the Milwaukee JCC cover some of this cost, but we need your help to make sure we can meet everyone's needs.

Support Camp Interlaken's Alumni Scholarship Fund. We are hoping that ALL of our Alumni will understand how vital this is and give back to our camp community. Our goal for the 2012 camp season is to raise as much of the scholarship need as possible.

Help us make sure that no camper is turned away and all of our kids have the opportunity to skip around the room, be a schmutz buster, get kuntzed and celebrate Shabbat in one of the holiest places we know!

Please make your donation at campinterlaken.org or send to:

Camp Interlaken Scholarship Campaign
6255 N. Santa Monica Blvd. • Milwaukee, WI 53217

Camp Interlaken is grateful to the following Endowment Funds for their continued support:

Elaine & William Appel • Neiland & Amelia Vish Cohen • Ateret Cohn Scholar-in-Residence • Director's Discretionary Fund • Harry Dizack JCC Camp Interlaken Scholarship • Dorf Family Camp Interlaken Avodah • Alan I. and Sanford J. Ettinger • Brenda Friedman Ulam and Theater Building • Friends of Camp Interlaken • Mildred Roth Goldberg • Linda Hay CIL Family Camp • Betty & Paul Jacobs K'far Noar • Eli & Helen Keller • Kennedy Barnett Family Camp Interlaken • Kids 4 Kids @ Camp JCC Scholarship • David Jonathon Kohl Camp Interlaken Scholarship • Dr. Ronald & Fran Meyers Family Camp Interlaken Facility • Lorraine & Morry Mitz Family Interlaken Chadar Ochel • Alvin & Joan Pereles • Phi Delta Epsilon • Horace J. & Idabelle Rosen Children's Camp Scholarship • "Bubbe" Jean Rubin Camp Interlaken Canteen • Steve & Shari Sadek Family Camp Interlaken JCC • Schuminsky Family Camp Interlaken JCC Scholarship • Jeffrey Sehler • Faye Greenberg Sigman Family Camp Interlaken Scholarship • Adam (A.J.) Sobel Camp Interlaken Scholarship • Betty & Martin Stern • Tracy Sweet Camp Interlaken JCC Scholarship • James & Eve Joan Zucker

For more information please contact Harriet Rothman in the Camp Endowment Office at (414) 967-8239.

Once a Year, It's All in the Family at Camp Interlaken JCC



August 13-18 • ALMOST FULL! • Contact Beth, 414-967-8240/balling@jccmilwaukee.org