

Fall 2011

Editor: Devon Riggs

SHAFTY

Scribbler

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Ocean City By: Ashley Levy

Sr. Shafty got a flashback of the past summer this month at the Ocean City, New Jersey trip. We started off as a large group doing mixers, having fun, and bonding on the beach. Then we split up with our friends to wander around the boards, relax for a few hours on the beach, and purchase anything from food to clothing. Others decided to remain on the beach and take a leisurely nap. Whatever your decision was, when we all came back together in the end, it was a great day! This trip was a

perfect blend of bonding, adventure, and of course, the beach!

Jr. SHAFTY at Ocean City



Bonim and Chalutzim at Point Pleasant



Summer Leadership Kallah

By: Carly Harris

SLK (pronounced slick) was the best ending to everyone's summer. NFTY-PAR hosted Summer Leadership Kallah up at beautiful Camp Harlam for 4 days of leadership training, singing, sun and fun. Although camp ended just a few days before SLK began, teens were more than happy to be back with all of their PAR friends. Special events for SLK included Pie Mafia, other wise known as pieing your friends in the face, the ever popular Service Auction, where people sell baked goods or activities ranging from a photo shoot to a star gazing session to a bed time story, East vs West Regional Volleyball

(HOLLA TO THE EAST!!), and awesome leadership programs. Not as many people come to this event because they're usually at the beach or spending the last

days of summer getting their tan on. Since it was a much smaller crowd, many of our SHAFTY-ites formed more friendships, or group lead, or got to song lead. All wonderful experiences. This week was the best ending to any Summer. If you had fun at SLK, don't forget to sign up for WINSTY!



Rocky Horror Shul-In

By: Jess Stoltz

On October 29, 2011 our Rocky Horror Shul-In was held at Shir Ami. The snow couldn't stop us! A great time was had by all. We all dressed in exotic costumes to resemble the characters from the movie. A common costume choice was the maid. We started our night with delicious hoagies and snacks. We moved on to a very meaningful program made by Sydney Denmark that taught us all that what we see on the outside isn't always what's on the inside. It also taught



us not to stereotype. A beautiful havdallah service was led by Emma Leibowitz, Carly Harris, and Aaron Smith. We had a minor issue during the night when the movie theatre lost power due to the snow. However, we were able to have a private showing of the movie at the synagogue thanks to Rabbi Goldberg, Paul Rubin and Ferne Levy's parents. After the movie we enjoyed hanging out and singing along to music played

by Ethan Fisher on the piano. Staying up all night and bonding with everyone in the Shafty community was how we concluded the night. We all finally crashed somewhere between 4 and 6 am! What a crazy, fun night. A fabulous time was had by all at the Rocky Horror Shul-In!



Fall Kallah By: Jackie Bernstein

Fall Kallah was, to me, a complete and utter success. I'm not just talking about who won the membership award (it was SHAFTY) and who hung that award on their youth lounge wall (go see it). I'm talking about catching up with old friends as well as making new ones (like all NFTY-PAR events). I'm talking about those people who went above and beyond while dressing for the decades dinner (appreciation to all those who thought outside the box), and those who were awesome enough to get on stage, get hypnotized, and not fake it (alright I'm done with the parentheses). Fall Kallah was all about finding who you are as an individual. We tried to an-

swer questions about ourselves, some more difficult than others; I saw everyone really getting into the activity. For me, one of the deepest (and slightly awkward) experiences (oops! sorry about the parentheses) was staring into a stranger's eyes, and realizing how rarely you actually *look* at someone when you're talking to them. Outside of programs, I know there were some fantastic heart-to-hearts going on. At the end of the event, the

main thought on everyone's mind was: how am I going to make it to WINSTY?



Bonim and Chalutzim By: Mindy Smoot

Kickoff 2011! Bonim and Chalutzim kicked off the SHAFTY year at Point Pleasant Beach, NJ on Sunday, September 25, 2011. It was a beautiful day with beautiful weather. The group started off getting their toes sandy and wet when we played "Red Rover" on the beach as well as "Steal the Bagel" and other fun mixers. Then the groups went on to the boardwalk for rides, mini golf, and the aquarium, and some good old people watching (and a funnel cake or two). Sammy Hassid, Ari Gold, and Jacob Backall found themselves dizzy on the Tilt-A-Whirl. Maddie Freeman, Stephanie Mishler, Matt Prell, and Joey Axler made their way up the boardwalk and back, hitting rides, games, and some great Kohrs Bros. ice cream. Yum!

October found Chalutzim at Active Acres Farm on October 23rd for Pumpkin Picking. Although there were some worries about the pumpkin crop this year due to the

excessive rain, we found some HUGE pumpkins and some really neat looking pumpkins. Some of us (Sydney Mandel) did such a good job decorating the pumpkins that we turned into zombies! Everyone enjoyed their pumpkin, including Alec Rovner, Matty Sandman, Elena Crowell, and Madison Kusienki. Bonim gathered at Ultrazone on October 16th for some target practice. Great teamwork and sportsmanship all around. Evan



and Harrison Black get special recognition for their sportsmanship. Aaron Masters is a great shot! The girls held their own and did very well! Good job this year, Bonim!

November had a jam-packed fun-filled weekend in store for SHAFTY. While the seniors were enjoying SHAFTY After Dark back home at Shir Ami, Bonim headed to Uno Chicago Grill for a delicious dinner on Saturday evening. Nate Silverman saved most of his for later, while Etan Shemesh and Stuart Berman couldn't get enough. We are so glad Noah Gordon and Matt Prell were able to join, and what

a great group of Bonim girls! Maddie Freeman and Stephanie Mishler, our regulars, were met with a happy surprise of Amanda Hyman, Roxy Iliescu, and Haley Schwartz! Glad you could join us, ladies!

Once we were done chowing down, we heading over to Neshaminy AMC

Theater for a hilarious viewing of "Jack & Jill" with Adam Sandler. There were giggles and laughs all around while we celebrated Thanksgiving, Chanukkah, and the New Year with Adam Sandler as both Jack and Jill! Funny movie!

On Sunday the 20th, a small group of Chalutzim kids got together for lunch at Isaac Newton's. We had the entire second floor where we enjoyed a yummy meal and ice cream for dessert (and some time well spent making

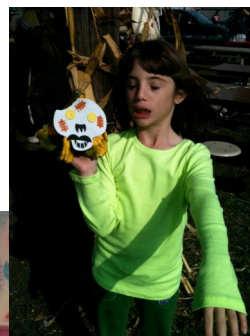
popped next door to Alleghe-ny Art where we get to know each other closely and painted some beautifully creative treasure boxes. The amount of creativity our Chalutzim has is overwhelming! To highlight a few, Noah Necowitz, Alex and

And what a group of sweet-hearts, some making their boxes as Chanukah gifts for sisters and cousins!

Bonim and Chalutzim are made up so many great kids! You are all kind, warm-hearted, caring kids who really know how to have fun!!!



Aaron Diefes, Alison LaPat, and Abigail Baram showed their deco-



strange butter, oil, sugar and pepper concoctions.) Next we

rating "stuff" in the party room!

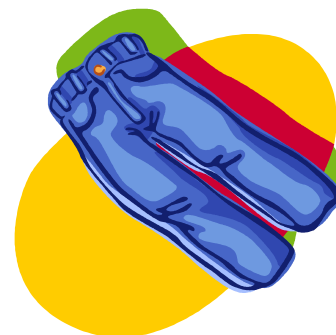
Blue Jeans Service

By: Emma Leibowitz

And the season they go round and round, just like the theme of the October SHAFTY blue jean service. The service was written by me, our RCVP. I lead with the help of Aaron Smith, Aaron Schnitzer, and David Schnitzer all on guitar. Along

with the normal SHAFTY members attending the service we had some new families from Temple Shalom come join us. It was a big hit with the families and the SHAFTY members. The service then moved outside to bonfire out in the back of the parking lot for an oneg.

The smores and singing songs around the fire ended a great night for everyone!



Jr. SHAFTY By: Leslie Leibowitz

Well Jr. Shafty, our year is off to a great start which began with an ice cream social on the opening night of Midrasha. I have never seen well over 100 ice creams be inhaled so quickly!! Can you say brain freeze???

We followed up with our annual trip to Ocean City NJ. Although it was postponed till the Sunday after it was scheduled, we had a great time hanging out on the beach for mixers and eating our way through the boardwalk. Fried Oreos or the boardwalk fries...which were the favorites? We adopted a Jr. Shafty mascot, a very fat sparrow, who really liked the fries!! We learned from this trip that Alec Rubin is a dare devil on the go carts and

that Isaac Kravitz needs more practice driving before he gets out on the real roads. Jennifer Ross and Abby Vitcov were awesome at target practice and won great prizes. Jacob Diefes, Andy Capaldi, and Craig Klevan did a great job with our scavenger hunt!

The fun continued with our October M&M night. We had a great turnout and boarded

the bus to Monster Mini Golf. What a great place to have a good time! Daniel Levy, Danielle Lean, and Brook Freidman might be ready to join the pro golf tour! Jeremy Lyons, Michael Fineman, and Zach Brilliant won a zillion tickets at the arcade. Then we were off to Macaroni Grill where we had a mixer using M&M candies. The food was

yummy and everyone had a great time. Thanks to Hailey Rosenfield's dad Elliot



for chaperoning!! Many more fun events are planned for the year. So grab your friends and join in all the fun! See you at the next Jr. Shafty event!!

President's Address

By: Becca Benoff

This year surely began with an interesting start, it is only autumn and we've already experienced an earthquake, flood, and a record breaking snow storm. If we were back in biblical times, Noah would probably tell us it's time to start building the ark, but we're a

little more optimistic in this day and age. Instead of dealing with the multitude of weather-related issues, we look forward to an incredible upcoming year. With an enthusiastic board and even more excited participants, SHAFTY has a remarkable year in



store with copious events, programs, services, fundraisers, and social action projects. Rain or shine, flood or snow storm, come join SHAFTY and all the fun and experiences it has to offer.

Board Bonding By: Aaron Smith

Each year, the person on the SHAFTY board with the Tikkun Olam position organizes a board retreat. This year, I, having the Tikkun Olam position, organized this retreat that we call board bonding. Board bonding is a great opportunity for the SHAFTY board to learn about what it means to be a good leader, as well as get to know the other board members. During board bonding, we did a lot of leadership programs, team building activities, and trust exercises. We went swimming, had a Havdalah service, and had a great time. My favorite activity



that we did this year is called Master Architects. In this activity, the board was split up into four groups, and each person in each

group was assigned one of four roles: one who is bossy, one who is lazy, one who doesn't say much, and one who observes. Each team was given a set amount of construction paper, a roll of duct tape, three unsharp-

ened pencils, and scissors. While each person was acting out their role, the groups were supposed to try to make the tallest tower possible while still being able to support the three pencils on top. This activity was supposed to be very hard. Afterwards, we all discussed how each group did. All of the activities had a meaning. This one's meaning was that you have to be creative; doing the absolute minimum requirements for everything shows. In my opinion, this year's board bonding was a huge success; I had a blast. I learned a lot about what it means to be a leader, as well as got to know the other board members better.



Israel Update By: Hannah Kravatz

Gilad Shalit is an Israeli defense soldier who was captured by the Hamas on June 25, 2006. He was held hostage for over 5 years and was just released on October 18, 2011. He was traded for a total of 1027 prisoners. Of these prisoners 477 were Palestinian terrorists, and the other 550 were other Palestinians jailed in Israel. Do you think it was a fair trade, 1027 prisoners for one man?

For Israel, the men being

released were terrorists whose murderous bombing campaigns claimed hundreds of Israeli lives. A spokesman for Hamas's military arm said "We will continue to abduct Israeli soldiers and officers as long as there are Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails".

In Israel most citizens agree with the decision for the trade but 14% believe he should have been freed but not under the Hamas's conditions. I personally agree with

the 14% of Israeli citizens but, then again, if Gilad was my own son I would trade anything for him.



Pretzel Sale **By: Lauren Gross**



SHAFTY started off the school year with an amazing fundraiser. Our famous pretzel sale, like always, was a huge success and we look forward to having another one soon! We appreciate all the support that we get from our religious school families and teachers. You all are the whole reason we are able to do as much to help others as we do.

All of our proceeds go toward charities that will be decided on by our SHAFTY board at the end of the school year because our combined effort will help others. Stay tuned for our next upcoming fundraiser where we truly try to put the fun back in fundraising!

TOP 5 FAVORITE SHAFTY EVENTS:

1. Rocky Horror Shul-In
2. Backwards Dinner
3. Board Bonding
4. Ultrazone laser tag and sleepover
5. Ocean City

Dear Melech,

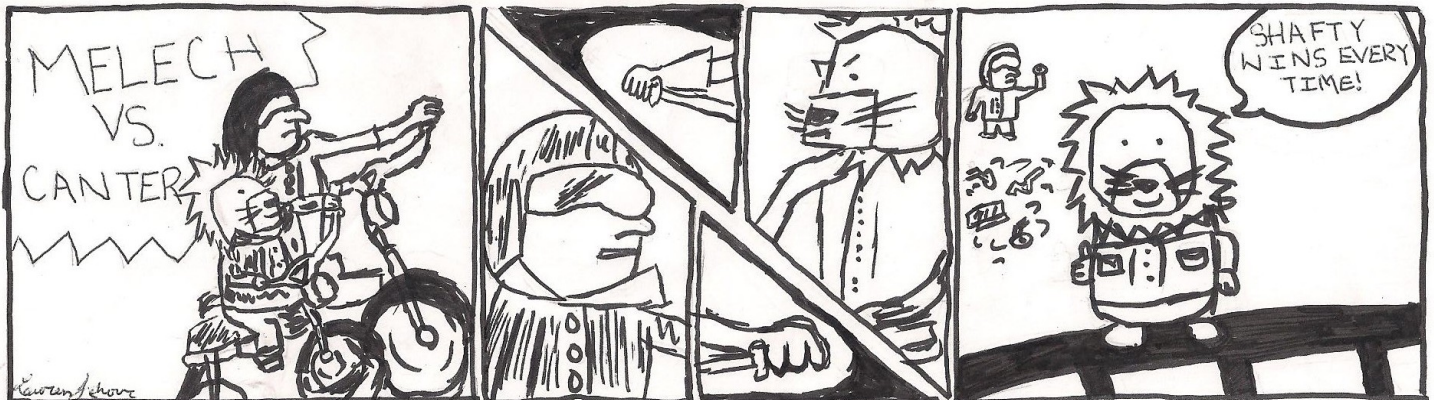
I'm lonely kid and lack constructive and entertaining Jewish activities to occupy my free time. What should I do to keep myself busy and look like I have a social life?

From,
Lonely

Well Lonely,

I am confused as to why you would ask me this since I'm a lion that lives in the Shir Ami youth lounge and have no social life. But why don't you try some of the monthly SHAFTY events. I heard that they are a good time for Jewish kids of all ages to hang out with old friends or make some awesome new ones.

Good Luck,
Melech



By: Lauren Schorr