

# Shevet Tapuz

December 2005



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Funding Support for The Israeli Scouts is Provided by The Jewish Federation of Orange County

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## Goodbye to Yoav and Welcome to Gabi

We are very happy to introduce you to our new merakez shevet, Gabi Berger, who just arrived from Israel, but at the same time we are very sad to say goodbye to Yoav. We are thankful to Yoav who came from Israel in September to help us start the new year. Yoav could only stay a few months since he has to start his military service in a few days, but nevertheless he managed to accomplish a whole lot in a short period of time, setting the foundations for the coming year; opening the new year, assigning the different duties to the Shachbag (grades 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>), organizing a weekend of leadership seminar, strengthening the bonding among the chanichim and taking care of other things in order to provide for a successful year.

Yoav, we wish your time as a soldier will pass quickly and safely and we are looking forward to see you back with us soon.

\*Special thanks to Shanny Raz, our first merkaezet, who is helping us from Israel, and who has, among other things, helped us to recruit many of our Merakzim, including Yinon, Yoav and Gabi.

## Scouting Newport Bay

Our field trip to Newport Bay, lead by Yoav, our Merakez Shevet, a few days before he left to Israel, was a great fun for everyone. The children explored the natural reserve. They saw various plants and a few animals, and they entered the visitor's center where they watched a video about the reserve.

For Gabi, our new Merakez Shevet who was leading the activity with Yoav, it was a great opportunity to meet the chanichim (scouts) before Yoav leaves. At the end of the trip we had a small farewell ceremony to Yoav, with presents and cookies. Click here to view pictures:

<http://www.shevettapuz.org/FieldTripNewportBay.htm>

(Continue on Page 4)

**Chanukah  
Candles Lighting**  
Sunday, Dec 25, 2:00 pm  
At the JCC

## Celebrate Community

Shevet Tapuz and its families would like to thank the Shachbag (grades 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>) for taking an active role in the Jewish Federation's Celebrate Community Event, helping to organize all the children activities for that day. The Jewish Federation had a lot of compliments about our chanichim. Click here to view pictures from this fun event:

<http://www.shevettapuz.org/CCP2005.htm>

## Parents Meeting with Gabi

Sunday, 12/18/05,  
2:00-3:30

**Come meet Gabi and help us plan for the future during our regular activity time at the JCC.**

This will be an opportunity for the parents to meet our new merakez shevet and to learn about the activities planned for the coming year. Coffee and desert will be served.

## Website Update - Directory and Ads (Coming Soon)

Beginning in January 2006, Shevet Tapuz plans to offer in its website a Directory Listing, Employment Ads and For Sale Ads.

The listing and ads will be offered as a service to the community for a nominal donation.

In order to make this happen **we need a parent volunteer** to coordinate it; to be the contact person with the community, to accept the ads and donations and to transfer them to our webmaster and treasurer respectively.

Please contact Edna or Sabrina if you have any questions and /or would like to help.

Please visit the web page below to access the Directory Listing Form and Ads Forms, and for more information.

<http://www.shevettapuz.org/ads.htm>

## A Message From Gabi - Merakez Hashevet

To all the parents and chanichim Shalom!

If I had any doubts about taking this duty as a leader of Shevet Tapuz, they vanished on my first two days here, in Orange County.

It was a very good feeling to meet the families which volunteered to host me, to see the good involvement of the parents, and of course, to see the Shevet functioning so well.

It's important to remember that the number of chanichim is not the only parameter that matters, because the number is a consequence of multiyear effects. So when I say that the Shevet functions well, I mean that the shachbag is involved and contributing a lot, and we have a routine and organized activity for all ages.

The key for the Shevet's success, as I see it, is a triangular of the involvement of parents, the contribution of the shachbag, and good management. All the rest is a consequence of one of these aspects.

I hope that more parents will choose to participate actively in the Shevet's activities and that we will increase the circle of involved parents. [\(Continue on the next page\).](#)

### (A Message From Gabi - Merakez Hashevet: Continue)

The shachbag is already doing well and I hope that we can keep it going in full speed all-year long, that we will manage to arrive to higher levels of leadership and of responsibilities, and that we'll finish the year with a sufficient number of young leaders from 9<sup>th</sup> grade for next year.

I will try my best to fill the last end of this triangular successfully.

I want to use this opportunity to thank Yoav for the work he has done, which to my impression was very good, and I hope I will manage to continue in the same way, and that together we will bring the Shevet several steps ahead.

Chazak Ve- Ematz !

Gabi

## The Tzofim at Tarbut V'Torah Community Day School

By Naomi Yaron

On Friday, December 2, a team of Young Tzofim Counselors (madrichim) with the Merakez Gabi, led a group of TVT Middle-schoolers in a "sample peula". The counselors prepared 4 different activity centers where students played different games.

The activity that was mainly carried out in Hebrew was great fun and the students had no problem participating since most of the them understand and can even speak some Hebrew.

Click here to view pictures from this fun event.

<http://www.shevettapuz.org/TzofimTVT.htm>

## Used Books Sale Sunday, 3/12/06.

### Shevet Tapuz Spring Fund Raising Event

Mark your calendar for this great event.

Bring us your lightly used English and Hebrew books and visit us on March 13 for great bargains.

Please bring your used books on any Sunday when the Tzofim meet from now until March 13 (check our calendar at <http://www.shevettapuz.org/calendar.htm>).

If you have any questions please e-mail Ayelet Ashkenazi at [ayelet@theashkenazis.com](mailto:ayelet@theashkenazis.com) or call her at 949 -502-3495.

## Grant from the Jewish Federation

### A Message From Eyal Giladi

Dear Tzofim Members,

I am pleased to announce that Shevet Tapuz has been awarded a grant from the Jewish Federation of Orange County. This generous grant represents the commitment of the Jewish Federation to work with Shevet Tapuz and to support our activities and mission. More specifically, this grant was awarded to support a special collaboration between Shevet Tapuz, TVT and the JCC. The grant has been requested for the payment of the flight, the additional salary and other expenses associated with bringing a fulltime shaliach from Israel to Orange County. Our Merakez Shevet next year will be this shaliach and he will work with other local Jewish organizations such as the Jewish Federation, TVT and JCC.

It is imperative that we design into our activities this cooperation in order for us to continue to win this support and funding for the shlichim / merakzim in the future.

We all have recognized the importance of integrating the Israeli community with the Jewish Community and working together with our children in developing them into community leadership roles, as well as familiarizing them with the Jewish/Israeli cultures of their heritage.

I wish to especially express my gratitude to the special contribution made by Sabrina and Edna in supporting our grant application.

Chazak Ve- Ematz  
Eyal Gilad

## Scouting Newport Bay (Continue from Page 1)

By Ayelet Ashkenazi

It was a beautiful morning when I joined the shevet's first field trip for the 2005-2006 activity year.

But it wasn't the weather or the place that made this field trip so special. It was seeing how enthusiastic the "Madrichim" were, and how much energy they put to make the "chanichim" energetic, busy and happy.

I was amazed that even the songs, games and morale stayed as I remembered from a long time ago....

Keep up the good work!! Good luck to the new "Merakez shevet" Gabi.

Chezak Ve-Ematz !!!  
Ayelet Ashkenazi , Eden's Mom

## December Calendar

- **Peulot, 4- 9 Grades:** December 4, 11, 18
- **Meetings, 10 -12 Grades :** Contact Gabi
- **Chanukah Celebration for the Whole Family**  
Candles Lighting at the JCC.  
Sunday **Dec 25<sup>th</sup>**, at 2:00 pm.  
Donuts and drinks will be served.  
Please bring your family and friends.
- **Seminar Tzofiyut, 10-12 Grades, January 14-15.**
- **Yom Tzofe, 4-12 Grades, January 28-29.**

Click here to view our calendar for the rest of the year.

<http://www.shevettapuz.org/calendar.htm>

This newsletter and the Shevet' website are the only communication tool for the Israeli community in OC.

We would like to invite all the members of the Israeli community to use it to place their announcement (such as Adults Soccer Group, 4X4 trip, Israeli Folk Dancing) in our newsletter and website.

E-mail your announcements to the shevet's e-mail

[Tzofim@ShevetTapuz.org](mailto:Tzofim@ShevetTapuz.org)

## Community Events /Programs

### Chanukah Adopt-A-Family Program

Sponsored by the Jewish Family Service of Orange County.

<http://www.jfsoc.org/specialevents.html>

\* Please note that events listed here are not sponsored or endorsed by Shevet Tapuz. The information listed here is provided by the sponsoring organizations or on their behalf and Shevet Tapuz is not responsible for the content, quality, or schedule of the events.

### Newsletter Editors

**Sabrina Hinkis and Edna Manor**

Please E-mail your Articles or News Items for the January Newsletter to

[Tzofim@ShevetTapuz.org](mailto:Tzofim@ShevetTapuz.org) by 12/26/05