

Shevet Tapuz

February 2006



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

A Message from Gabi

Merakez Hashevet

Parents and Chanichim Chazak!

Maybe not all of you know, but Yom Tzofe was planned and carried out by the "Shachbag"; the schedule, the activities, the ceremony, and even the food-plan for the whole camp, – all of this with my minimum intervention. This is exactly what we strive to accomplish in our activity; young leadership. Young people who can plan and carry out events on this scale and have the maturity and responsibility to take care of a group of younger kids through 2 days of camp life, and bring them back home safely. I'm sure the next events will be even better.

So Shachbag Shevet Tapuz, my deep appreciation! Chazak Ve Ematz! I also want to express my appreciation to our "Kurs Hadracha", the 9th graders, who planned and built the "Ktovot Esh" for the event, together with their two "Madrichot" – Rotem and Yanor – "Kol Hakavod"!!! And of course to all the "Chanichim", who managed the cold night outside very bravely, sleeping in their hand-built tents!

To all of you who already miss Bommer Canyon, don't forget to join us in our Tu Bishvat activity.

Gabi

Yom Tzofe

By **Sharrin Manor**, 6th Grade

Yom Tzofe, which took place on the last weekend of January, was an exciting event for both the "Chanichim" (scouts) and the "Madrachim" (counselors). When we first arrived we built tents out of "senadot" (long, wooden poles) and pieces of cloth. Although the tents were covered in several different colors and contained a few holes, it was really something to be proud of. After building the tents each of the groups went on to do their own games and activities. Later everyone joined together and helped prepare the dinner. We cut up vegetables, made salad, and prepared pasta. Our work paid off when we enjoyed a delicious dinner of spaghetti with salad and steamed vegetables. After dinner everyone took part in cleaning up and we continued on with the "peula" (activities). We once more played games in our groups until it was dark enough to use a flashlight. Afterwards we were told to change into dark clothes. We all gathered together and had a lesson on camouflage. Together all the groups played a game where people wearing dark clothes were hid in the bushes and we had to attempt to find them. We were then divided into our groups again and did different activities until everyone was nearly frozen entirely and we went to sleep. We huddled close in our tents until everyone was asleep and snoring.

The next morning we were awoken at 7 a.m. and we were told to be ready to start the activities in five minutes. Everyone dressed and gathered together for a quick morning exercise and then separated in order to roll up sleeping bags, brush teeth, and continue getting ready. Later, after everyone had finished their morning routines, a breakfast was served consisting of pancakes, fruit, and cereal with milk. Everyone devoured the food as soon as it hit their plates and gladly took more. After everyone was finished eating and we cleaned up, the scouts worked until lunchtime; taking down tents and getting in groups to prepare skits and songs for the parents at the "Yom Tzofe" ceremony later in the day. At lunch we made pita bread and helped ourselves to corn, cucumbers, tomatoes, salami, bologna, and bread with a choice of delicious Israeli chocolate spread, humus, tihina, and peanut butter. We finished our meals, cleaned up, and continued preparing for the "Yom Tzofe" ceremony until the parents began arriving. When the ceremony began we climbed ropes, jumped through windows, fell into people's hands, jumped over fire, and lit a sign reading "Yom Tzofe". We were given out new "anivot" (ties) and said goodbye to one another. After a long, fun, and memorable weekend, the Israeli scouts went home.

Yom Tzofe

By **Dror Sapir**, Merakez Tzair

Hey guys, it's Dror.

Just wanted to say a few words about Yom Tzofe from an organizer's perspective, so here they are:

It was incredibly hard work getting Yom Tzofe together and we now have to spend lots of money providing the Shachbag with pills to lower their blood pressure but **IT WAS WORTH IT!** Shachbag did a **GREAT** job and the experience was irreplaceable...

Personally, I saw this as being no less than Yom Tzofe in Israel. Some of my best childhood memories were created in camps like this in Israel. Therefore, I especially enjoyed watching the kids making their own tents and food, building, singing, going nuts, and participating in all the great activities. I am proud to have taken part in an event that allowed the kids to go through what I loved so much as a kid.

I was also amazed to feel the atmosphere in Yom-Tzofe. The counselors could try to aim toward a certain atmosphere, but it is really up to the kids. Many of the kids are not used to building tents, sleeping out in the cold, making their own food, or waking up to loud Israeli music, but they always kept an open mind. The kids decided to go with it and have fun and that is what they did...

I hope to see you all in the next activity (if I don't see you, expect to see me on your doorstep the next day, and come up with a really good excuse, I'm not easy to fool...)

Much love

Hazak Ve'ematz

Dror

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Please click on the following link to view **pictures** from The Yom Tzofe and Seminar Tzofiyut events: <http://www.shevettapuz.org/YomTzofe2006.htm>

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It was heartening to see so many caring and dedicated parents willing to help with Yom Tzofe. It takes a whole community to help raise, guide and support our children. We would like to thank the volunteer parents who stayed overnight; David Barenkewitz, Ronen Ofir and Danny Treves and Nissim Askenazi who helped with the fire ceremony. Thank you also to Ron Yazma, Monica Nahum, Doriana Zulter, Sabrina Hinkis and Naomi and Uri Yaron who helped clean up after the camp. Special thanks to our very own Gabi, who makes it all happen, and to the families who have been hosting him, the Litka, Sapir and Reuveni families.

Thanks also to the Yazma, Kalansky, Sapir and Giladi families who hosted Yoav (our previous merakez).

Purimon (Purim Festival)

Help needed for this community-wide fun event

- Parents willing to help with food making
- Parents willing to sell tickets and food at the festival

Please contact Tirtza Yazma. E-mail:

tirtzay@cox.net

Vaad meeting

On Wednesday, February 8th, at 9 AM, the Tzofim Vaad (Parents Committee) will meet at Sabrina's house (call 949-653-0421 for directions). Everyone is welcome to join the meeting.

February Calendar

- **Peulot, 4-9 Grades:** February 5 and 26 at the JCC
- **Tu Bishvat, 4-12 Grades and families:** **February 12** – at Bommer Canyon.

<http://www.shevettapuz.org/TuBishvat2006Flyer.pdf>

- **Machane Shachbag, 9-12 Grades, February 17-20**

<http://www.shevettapuz.org/msinfo.pdf>

A Meeting with Ofir Slipoy

Director of Tzofim Tzabar

On January 28, the Tzofim Vaad (Parents Committee) met with Ofir Slipoy, director of Tzofim Tzabar in the US, who came to California for a visit to Shevet Tapuz. The Vaad raised some concerns and discussed the ways in which “Hanhagat Tzabar” (Tzofim Leadership) in NY is and can be involved with our Shevet.

The goals of Tzofim Tzabar as specified by central “Hanhaga” are:

- Forging a Jewish, Israeli, Zionistic identity.
- Establishing a meaningful connection with the state of Israel
- Shivtey Ha-Tzofim (the scout troops) will function as Israeli community centers, keeping Israeli identity markers such as Hebrew language.
- Hanhagat Tzabar will act to realize the goals of the Israeli Tzofim Movement.
- Hanhagat Tzabar will act according to Israeli youth movement principles.
- Hanhagat Tzabar will enable and encourage young leadership, independence, personal and social responsibility.
- Tzabar will create a social/educational arena for “Shachbag” (10-12 Graders) that will allow for dealing with the possibility of returning to Israel as grown-ups.

Donation Needed for Merakez Ha-Shevet

- **Laptop Computer (new or used, Windows 2000 or later)**

Please contact Sabrina Hinkis (949-653-0421 www.hinkis@yahoo.com) if you can help.

Tapuz Market

A new section in the Shevet's website

We are setting a new section in the shevet's website titled: “Tapuz Market” where Tzofim members can list their Business information for free. Each member can also post his or her flyer in the website. The listing is accessible through our homepage. A preliminary listing is available at the site so members can get an idea of how the listing will look.

Community Events / Programs

ISRAEL EXPO 2006

Sunday, May 21, 2006

Orange County celebrates Israeli Independence Day. Your chance to explore Israel, experience great food, enjoy excellent entertainment, exquisite Israeli and local vendors and extraordinary children's activities.

www.jfoc.org

TIES 2006 - TEEN ISRAEL EXPERIENCE SUMMER

June 28 - August 3, 2006.

Open to all Orange County Jewish 10th-12th Graders.

[Http://www.bjeoc.org/ties2006.htm](http://www.bjeoc.org/ties2006.htm)

PACIFIC JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

February 18-26 2006.

[Http://www.jccoc.org/cultural_arts/](http://www.jccoc.org/cultural_arts/)

Israeli Song of the Month:

"Yoshev Ben Ananim" ("Sitting In The Clouds")

This song was written by 17-year-old Gad Akuka, who goes to school at "Ort-Shomron" in Binyamina. Gad performs this Rap-style song together with 16-year-old Bar Artzi. It was written as part of a struggle against teen-age reckless driving. The song was dedicated to an 11-grade friend who was killed on the train tracks in Binyamina last summer.

- Listen to the song: <http://images.nana.co.il/SiteFiles/janana/gad.mp3>
- Lyrics: <http://young.nana.co.il/Article/?ArticleID=215293&sid=26>
- If you are interested in an English translation of the lyrics, please e-mail Naomi at: naomiyaron@gmail.com

Newsletter Editors

Naomi Yaron, Sabrina Hinkis and Edna Manor

Please E-mail your Articles or News Items for the March Newsletter to
naomiyaron@gmail.com by 2/26/06