

Shevet Tapuz



January - February 2007

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Backpacking Trip Joshua Tree National Park

By: Tomer Kalansky

SO it all started out with us arriving at Joshua Tree Park in the middle of the night with super strong winds and lots of sand in our faces, not to mention the fact that it was really really really cold!!!!

We arrived at the trailhead and had dinner with a side of sand. After that we all stood and watched as Yeetav lit the last Chanukah candle inside Eyal Karny's car. We sang some songs, had some laughs and then started on our hike.

We walked for about twenty minutes and Gabi decided to have us set up camp. We set up our tents in the midst of all the wind and sand blowing in our face, which by the way isn't the most fun. At around midnight or so everybody got into their tents and that was the end of our first night backpacking. At around lunchtime, Gabi taught us all how to read a topographical map and explained how easy it was to misread it but gave us all some pointers on what to look for to make sure we don't mess up.

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

At around lunchtime, Gabi taught us all how to read a topographical map and explained how easy it was to misread it but gave us all some pointers on what to look for to make sure we don't mess up.

The wind never let up until later that afternoon, when we played a game many of us won't forget (Bzzz...!). We reached our last night in the wilderness in which we all ate more than our fair share of rice.

The next morning we woke up to a wilderness day and a beautiful one. We watched the sunrise, had some oatmeal and were on our way to finish the last section of the hike. About 100 meters away from the end of the track, we stopped, and then ran the last stretch except for poor Gabi who had to pick up all the trash that was falling out of our backpacks! For lunch we had falafel followed by some chocolate fondue with strawberries, pineapples, oranges, and apples. After that we went for some rock climbing which is by far one of the most unforgettable events ever! Especially for one of our guides Schoney who got his fair share of Hebrew language lessons.

At the end of the day, we all went home and slept in our own beds and all took excessively long showers...

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All the parents would like to thank Gabi, who put up a lot of time preparing and leading our kids on this special and challenging experience, the dedicated fathers: Eyal Karni, Guy Naor and Rani Porat who drove, helped and encouraged the kids, Guy and Rani who made and shared a beautiful slide show and Tirtza and Naomi who prepared and sent along food for the trip.

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Click [HERE](#) to view pictures from the [BACKPACKING TRIP](#)

Nature Hike Along The Amazing Beaches of Orange County

The parents and kids who went along on this Sunday-morning hike would agree that it was a fitting ending to the winter break vacation. The sun was shining, the weather was warm, the views were breathtaking and the company was great.

The Madrichim made up a pirate hike-legend, complete with a hidden treasure, clues buried in old bottles, and Gabi dressed up as Jack Sparrow, make-up, black hair a sword and all....

We would like to thank the Madrichim for their hard work, our Merakez-cum-Pirate Gabi and the parents who came along: Eran Frenkel, Dani Treves and Naomi Yaron.

Photos from this hike will be posted in the Shevet website soon.



Yom-Tzofe

February 3 – February 4

Saturday 2 pm – Sunday 5:30

Location: [Bommer Canyon](#) (Irvine)

A Talk with the Israel-Programs coordinator

On Sunday, **January 14, 12 pm -1 pm**, at the **JCC**, **Hagar Meged** will talk about Israel programs available for high-school graduates, during or after their college studies. This is an hour-long presentation recommended for 11-12th graders and their parents.

January and February Events

Click [HERE](#) to view the **2006-2007 Calendar**

January 14 A discussion with **Hagar Meged**, 11 – 12 grads.
12 pm-1 pm at the JCC.

January 14 **Shachbag Meeting** 1 pm-3pm, at the JCC.

January 14 **Peula**, 4-9 grades, 3pm-5pm, at the JCC.

January 21 **Peula**, 4-12 grades, 3pm-5pm, at **Las Lomas Community Park**
10 Federation Way, Irvine

January 28 **Peula**, 4-12 grades, 3pm-5pm, at the JCC

- February 3 and 4 **Yom Tzofe**, Bommer Canyon.
<http://www.shevettapuz.org/events/YomTzofe2007.htm>
- February 11 **Peula**, 4-12 grades, 3pm-5pm, at Las Lomas Community Park
- February 11 **Parents meeting**, 3pm-5pm, at the JCC. One parent from each family is requested to attend for the purpose of Vaad election.
- February 18 **Machane Shachbag** 8-12 Grades
- February 25 **Peula**, for 4-12 grades, 3pm-5pm at the JCC.

As you can see, the calendar is full of activities. We hope to see you all. Have a happy and healthy new secular year.



Community Message Board

JCC Maccabi Games

August 12 -17, 2007

1,800 Jewish teens will come together for a week of competition in Orange County, CA.

Tryout dates: **January 7, 14, 21**

<http://www.ocmaccabi.org/>

Ehud Barak in Orange County

Sunday, January 28, 7:30, at [Congregation B'nai Israel](#) (Tustin).

[FLYER](#)

Newsletter Editors

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Please e-mail your articles or news items for the March Newsletter to

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