

# The Wise Times

Spring 2016 | Volume 10, No. 1

## We like it, we love it, we want more of it!

Hey Campers: Do you ever find yourself daydreaming about being at Camp Wise? Do you imagine spending time with your friends laughing, playing, participating in chugim and goofing around with some great staff? Do you ever find yourself wondering who your counselors will be or what this year's Maccabiah theme is? Well, guess what? The time for those questions to be answered is coming soon! That's right, kids. Only a couple of months away from what we hope will be the best summer ever for you at CW.

### New Solel Trips

There's a ton of stuff to get excited about all over camp, especially in Solel. Solel 2-0-1-6 get ready! We have an incredible summer planned for you. Both sessions will go where no Solel has gone before. You'll be the first Solel to experience these amazing new adventures. Wanna hear about some highlights? No problem. Both sessions will visit Cincinnati and Western Kentucky. This trip will include Kings Island amusement park, zip-lining down the side of a mountain, alpine sliding, canoeing and yes – a trip to Mammoth Cave National Park where you'll have a mind-blowing experience inside the largest caving system in North America. First session Solel includes a rafting and biking experience in Ohio, PA. You'll also get a chance to visit historic and beautiful Fallingwater – Frank Lloyd Wright's architectural masterpiece. Second session Solel will visit Niagara Falls, NY and spend time on the famous Maid of the Mist boat on the Niagara River. Along with that, you'll visit a U.S. Navy shipyard and Splash Lagoon indoor waterpark. And of course there will be some surprises during both sessions that we're not going to share just yet...

### New Chug Programming

This summer our program areas will focus on enhancing experiential education at camp. Experiential education, at its core, involves hands-on, project-based team learning. We

plan to infuse this philosophy of "team learning" into all of our activities. The concept is simple. Our specialists will teach the skills campers need to learn in each activity, and then facilitate the group to help each other learn. So, all of our campers will have the opportunity to develop skills and at the same time understand teamwork and a sense of responsibility to a community.

### Enhanced Jewish Life

Judaism is at the very heart of Camp Wise. We are very intentional in the way we incorporate our six core Jewish values into camp every day. Our core values are: Kavana (Spirituality), Kehilah Kedosha (A Holy Community), Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World), Betzelem Elohim (In the Image of G-d), Hachnasat Orchim (Welcoming Guests) and Clal Yisrael (The Unity of the Jewish People). These values drive our way of life at camp, and this summer each Shabbat will have a specific value paired with it. Working with our Jewish Educator, the campers will also chose a creative theme that incorporates both the value and the weekly Parsha. Shabbat will become even more meaningful as we integrate our values with the Parsha.

### Special Evening Programs

Evening programs are awesome! And there are some very cool people that help make them that way. Each village has some very creative individuals whose job is to design and facilitate incredible evening programs for each village! Village programmers add a unique spirit to each village and help out with all-camp programs as well. The 2016 Solel village programmer is Annie Adelman! Noar village programmers are, Hannah Tucker and Matthew Paley! In Ohalim we have Simone Light and Rachel Teitelbaum.



Experiential hands-on learning at Camp Wise

And in the mighty village of Chalutzim, Adam Bloom and Nicole Krasnow will be handling village programming fun. ★

## Camp Wise Year-Round

While there is no question that summer is the best time of year to be at camp, we can have exciting camp experiences all year round!

We had 3 amazing CW reunions this off-season. At our annual Cleveland reunion over 200 campers and 30 staff enjoyed a morning of laser tag, games, roller-skating, and reminiscing at Fun'N'Stuff the day after Thanksgiving. In February we re-united with our campers in Columbus and South Florida. AT KDB in Columbus, 30 campers along with future campers enjoyed the arcade and wonderful interactions. At our first-ever Florida reunion in Jupiter,

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“Working together, to help a dream come true. The magic that is in Camp Wise, will always be with you.”  
 –Magic at Camp Wise, Marc Wolf



Since my first taste as a camper in 1991, Camp Wise has always held a special place in my heart. Many years later I can now describe what sits in that special place as the magic of Camp Wise. What

makes the magic so special is that it's almost impossible to put into words. But if I could try to explain it, I would include the late-night campfires with Noar campers and the joy of seeing a Rishon camper hear us sing Shalom Alechem on Friday night. The magic is the sounds of Maccabiah cheers that could only be muffled by the tears of Solel campers on their final Shabbat. When I joined the Camp Wise Team as the Assistant Director four years ago I was fortunate to pair my education and experience with the magic of Camp Wise.

I am pleased to serve as the Interim Director for 2016 along with our very experienced and talented team of camping professionals all of whom have spent many summers together at Camp Wise: Jon

Hausman, Program Director; Nick Goldman, Operations Manager; Beth Young, Special Projects Associate; and Cathy Becker, Registrar.

This summer we have the unique opportunity to work with three former Camp Wise directors who also happen to be national leaders in the field of Jewish overnight camping and youth programming. Jodi Sperling, Scott Brown and Jonathan Rubinstein each share a deep connection to the magic of Camp Wise and will be seen around camp in an advisory capacity.

Jodi Sperling, Camp Wise Director from 2004 to 2011, who now serves as Senior Consultant for Residential Camps with the national JCC Association, will be join us for our two-week staff orientation and training period prior to the start of camp.

Scott Brown, Camp Wise Director from 1979 to 1983, has an extensive background in Jewish communal service, most recently as Hillel Vice President for Leadership Coaching for 12 years. Scott will join us at Camp Wise during the first session.

Jon Rubinstein, Camp Wise Assistant Director in 1997 and Director from 1998 to 1999, owns and operates Joe, a thriving New York City-based coffee company with 14 locations in Manhattan and Philadelphia. Jon will be at camp during the second session.

I am excited to share the magic with each of you this summer. Whether you are a camper, staff member, parent, or alum – I am confident that 2016 will prove that Camp Wise truly is the Home of Happiness and that “the magic that is in Camp Wise, will always be with you.”

B'Shalom,

Rachel Felber

*Prior to returning to Camp Wise in 2012, Felber spent five years as the Youth and Teen Assistant Director of Camp Shalom at the JCC of Austin where she also served as the Austin BBYO Director. Felber has an undergraduate degree from Clark University and a Master of Science in Social Administration from CWRU's Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences.*



FRIDAY, AUGUST 26 – SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2016



Relax, unplug and have a blast at Women's Weekend at Camp Wise. Kayak on the lake, relax by the pool, get creative in the art shack, tackle the rock wall, hike the trails, sample great food and drink or just sleep in – it's all up to you! **Join us for a fabulous weekend that will leave you feeling refreshed and reinvigorated.**

*Women's Weekend at Camp Wise is everything you remember from camp as a kid – only better!*



**Bring 6 friends\* and come for free!**

**For complete information & accomodations visit [www.campwise.org](http://www.campwise.org)  
 For more info contact Cathy Becker at 216-593-6250 or [wisekids@mandeljcc.org](mailto:wisekids@mandeljcc.org).**

\*Must bring 6 people who have never attended Camp Wise Women's Weekend or Mom's Camp. Other restrictions may apply.

# Staff Spotlight: Rabbi Shana Nyer and Cori Bloch!



**Rabbi Shana Nyer**

**Job at Camp Wise:**  
Judaic Educator

**Summers at Camp Wise:**  
1986-1989 (camper) and  
1995, 1996, 1999, 2000  
(staff)

**Some cool stuff about**

**Rabbi Shana:** This summer will be her third serving as Judaic Educator at Camp Wise! The first time around she was in rabbinical school, and now she has 15 years of experience as a congregational Rabbi and educator. Rabbi Shana currently serves as the Director of Lifelong Learning at Suburban Temple Kol Ami in Beachwood, OH.

**Rabbi Shana's favorite camp memory:**

"There was a Willy Wonka Maccabiah when the Judges were Oompa Loompas and everyone was running around with orange faces and green wigs. It was hilarious and an amazing site to behold."

**Rabbi Shana knows how important meaningful Jewish experiences are at Camp Wise:**

"What's exceptional about camp is that it's an immersive experience. We have the camper's undivided attention. We have a unique opportunity to program without the distractions of their everyday lives. Judaics and any other activities at camp therefore take on a special meaning that they don't necessarily have at home."



**Cori Bloch**

**Job at Camp Wise:**  
Youth Village Manager

**Summers at Camp:**  
1990, 91 & 92 (camper)  
and 1997, 98, 99 & 2000  
(staff)

**Some cool stuff about**

**Cori:** She is currently a kindergarten teacher at Old Brooklyn Community School, where she's been for the last four years. Prior to that, Cori taught students with Autism for several years and was the Director of the Columbus JCC's Camp Hoover day camp for two summers.

**Cori's favorite camp memory:** "Crazy-go-nuts night, with all the messiness and excitement was really fun. It was always a great evening program."

**Cori can't wait to return to Camp Wise, a place that's so special to her:** "I'm excited to go back to the place where I have so many awesome memories. I can't wait to work with a new generation of campers and staff."

**We are SO EXCITED to have Rabbi Shana and Cori join us at Camp Wise again!**

## Camp Wise Year-Round

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camp staff met with both current and future campers for an afternoon of bowling. It was a real strike!

This winter also saw 2 fabulous programs at Camp Wise. 5th and 6th graders enjoyed the snow at camp, went sledding on the Noar rec, ate real snow cones and drank gallons of hot chocolate! They even left their mark on the village of Ohalim by leaving name tags that we hope will survive until summer. 7th and 8th graders spent the evening at camp with a special girls' night program where they made lip gloss and talked about being Camp Wise Women. The next day they enjoyed a great day of snow tubing!

We want to give a shout out to several camp families who opened their homes this winter to host parlor meetings for families who wanted to learn s'more about Camp Wise. Many thanks to Julie Cohen, Dana Adler, Maureen and Bruce Cohen, Stacy Schlein and Jeremy Sosin, and Jill and Brad Davidson. We appreciate your commitment to Camp Wise!

CAMP WISE

# FAMILY CAMP

*Experience what all the kids are raving about!*

**Friday, August 5 - Sunday, August 7, 2016**

**Thinking about camp for a future camper or just want to have a fabulous get-a-way weekend with your family? – Family Camp is for you!**

- Water activities on our private lake
- Sports, arts & crafts, and more
- Campfire songs & s'mores
- Climbing tower & zip line
- Shabbat in our outdoor chapel
- Delicious kosher meals

**For info contact Cathy Becker: (216) 593-6250 • wisekids@mandeljcc.org**

**Register Today!**  
campwise.org

# camp wise all-stars: Summer 2016



Karl Taylor  
**Chalutzim**  
 Leeds University '14  
 BBC Children's Programming  
 3rd Summer at Wise  
**Most looking forward to...**

lots of cheering, campfires, GaGa , amazing evening programs and Chalutzimers enjoying activities all over camp.

**Favorite camp song...** "Take Me Home, Country Roads", it does just that! It always reminds me of Camp!

**Campfires make me think of...** I want s'more. S'more, s'mores please! Campers love s'mores so much I've heard them s'more in their sleep.



Sydney Ungar  
**Ohalim**  
 University of Michigan '16  
 9th Summer at Wise  
**Most looking forward to...**

the mighty village of Ohalim showing everyone why we're the BEST village with our crazy, fun programs and awesome ruach all summer!

**What is your favorite item to grab from the CW red wagon for canteen?** Skinny Pop!

**Favorite camp song...** "Wish You Were Here" by Pink Floyd because it reminds me of how special Camp is, and it always makes me smile when I hear it.



Richard Rebak  
**Ohalim**  
 University of Bristol '16  
 3rd Summer at Wise  
**Most looking forward to...**

having the opportunity to hang out with all of the campers in Ohalim and make their summers truly special. I cannot wait for the Ohalim Boys to drown out everyone with their incredible ruach in the Chadar. It's going to be the best summer ever!

**Favorite camp song...** I love "Circle Game" by Joni Mitchell, it was already one of my favorite songs ever, but the Camp Wise version with the incredible dance moves manages to improve a classic. It is so much fun.

**Favorite thing to grab from canteen red wagon...** Hershey Bar  
 Aaron Friedman



Noar  
 The Ohio State University '16  
 8th summer at Wise  
**Most looking forward to...**

seeing old friends and making new ones, campers and staff alike.

**Favorite CW activity...** euchre. The lake and the woods are my happy places.

**Campfires make me think of...** Maccabiah



Jamie Campbell  
**Pool**  
 Glasgow Caledonian University, International Business and Supply Chain Management

2nd summer at Wise

**Most looking forward to...** I'm really excited to get Chalutzim and Ohalim in the pool during their swimming lessons and see their progress through the weeks.

**Favorite camp song...** "Good Riddance (Time of Your Life)" by Green Day...reminds me of my teenage years growing up in school and playing football (soccer) in the park in the summer.

**Favorite thing to grab from canteen red wagon...** Cheez-Its...hands down...no contest



Nate Shiffman  
**Lake**  
 Bowling Green State University  
 9th Summer at Wise  
**Most looking forward to...**

playing at the lake!

**Favorite camp song...** "Don't Stop Me Now", because it makes me want to dance

**Campfires make me think of...** telling jokes that normally wouldn't be funny but are.



Ali Parkinson  
**Teva**  
 Staffordshire University '14  
 Sales & Marketing Manager  
 3rd Summer at Wise  
**Most looking forward**

to... facing new challenges, creating a strong bond with my team and having new, exciting, creative chugim for campers!

**Favorite camp song...** "The Celery Song", it's not an official camp song, but it won a place in my heart last summer.

**What is your favorite item to grab from the CW red wagon for canteen?** Green Pringles



Adam Cohen  
**Ropes**  
 The Ohio State University '02; Teacher at Shaker Heights High School  
 12th Summer at Wise

**Most looking forward to...** working with staff from all over the world and of course, the campers. I also love seeing my daughter Leila and her friends thrive at camp, along with other campers who I see throughout the year in other contexts.

**Favorite CW activity...** the ropes course (what a surprise!!)

**Campfires make me think of...** s'mores and late night song sessions with Marc Wolf and Mark Young.



James Worthington  
**Horseback Riding**  
 Horse Trainer at TC Equestrian (England)  
 4th summer at Wise

**Most looking forward**

to...creating a better and more advanced Horseback Riding program.

**Favorite camp activity...** Wakeboarding down at the lake.

**Favorite camp song...** "Brown Eyed Girl" by Van Morrison. It is a song I have heard my entire life and camp gave it even more meaning to me than it already had before.



Zach Mandel  
**Media**  
 Kent State University '16  
 2nd Summer at Wise  
**Most looking forward to...**

Positively influencing the campers. Also, the staff soccer game.

**Favorite camp activity...** Radio. I loved teaching the campers what I think is valuable information (getting creative, looking up current events, etc.) as well as entertaining the camp.

**Campfires make me think of...** Nothing. Seriously, when I am staring into the depths of a nice campfire, I don't have a care in the world. I am just happy to be surrounded by people I really care about, who care about me too.



Benjamin Stallsmith  
**Teen Village Manager**  
 The Ohio State University,  
 M.Ed; Middle School  
 Teacher at Florence and

Joseph Mandel Jewish Day School  
 15th Summer at Wise

**Most looking forward to...** I am  
 incredibly excited to spend the summer  
 working with an amazing group of SITs,  
 taking on new responsibilities and seeing  
 my students from the Mandel Jewish Day  
 School around camp.

**Favorite camp activity...** serving of  
 course! Why else would I be the SIT  
 Supervisor two years in a row!?

**What is your favorite item to grab from  
 the CW red wagon for canteen?** You  
 think I eat canteen?...ok maybe I grab a  
 Hershey bar, a bag of M&M's, or a bag  
 of Skinny Pop every now and then. And  
 maybe some Oreos if I'm extra hungry.



Josh Chefitz  
**Social Worker**  
 Case Western Reserve  
 University, MSSA  
 3rd Summer at Wise

**Most looking forward  
 to...** meeting awesome first time campers  
**Favorite camp activity...** basketball. I love  
 playing with campers and staff and having  
 the opportunity to interact on the court in  
 a friendly game of competition.

**Favorite camp song...** "Rock Me Mama".  
 It reminds me of my own days as a camper.



Miron Gusso  
**Arts**  
 Florida State University,  
 undergraduate, University  
 of Connecticut, Master's  
 Degree

1st summer at Wise

**Most looking forward to...** working with an  
 ambitious and passionate group of people,  
 but secretly remembering how to horseback  
 ride.

**What is your favorite item to grab from  
 the CW red wagon for canteen?** I don't  
 know what the red wagon is, but I am  
 assuming I can grab some Fanta Soda and  
 some gummy worms?!

**Campfires make me think of...** campfires  
 are definitely my favorite nighttime camp  
 activity, sing-alongs, s'mores, staring off  
 to all the stars in the sky, and trying to  
 remember how on earth to ride a horse.



Matt Zukerman  
**Sports**  
 University of Arizona '13  
 9th summer at Wise  
**Most looking forward to...**  
 being back at camp since I

have missed the last few summers.  
**Favorite camp activity...** any and all  
 sports, especially basketball. I also really  
 like spending time in the Art Shack making  
 candles.

**Campfires make me think of...** song  
 sessions and the beginning of camp.

## calling all camp families!

There are many wonderful ways for our camp families to help us make our summer successful. One is by hosting some of our international staff on their day(s) off. This summer we have staff joining us from countries including Israel, Australia and the UK.

Another opportunity to volunteer is as a camp doctor. Our camp infirmary is staffed 24 hours-a-day with registered nurses. We are looking for doctors who can be on call (by phone) for one week to speak with the camp nurses, and arrange to come to camp three times during their call week to see campers on site.

Please contact Cathy at the camp office to help us out! 216-593-6250

# A Taste of Camp for Adults with Special Needs.



"I look forward to coming to Camp Chai every year!  
 It's the best part of my summer." - Eric M., Cleveland

## Camp Chai at Camp Wise

Experience the Magic!  
 August 7-10, 2016

- Camp includes:
- tie dying • pottery • crafts • swimming
  - tennis • basketball • great healthy food
  - sleeping in cabins • canoeing and other lakefront activities • evening dances
  - climbing tower • nature walks • amazing staff • team building • and so much more!

For questions, details, and prices  
 call the Camp Wise Retreat Coordinator  
 Nick Goldman: (216) 593-6239  
 ngoldman@mandeljcc.org



13164 Taylor Wells Road  
 Chardon OH 44024 • campwise.org



# “I’m tryin’ to tell you

## We are proud of you, I said we are proud of you...uh!

When someone at camp celebrates a big day we all stand on our benches and cheer about it! Here is a big CW cheer for all those campers, who with their families have celebrated their B’nei Mitzvot since our last newsletter. Please let us know if we’ve missed you and we’ll include you in our next issue.

### B’nei Mitzvot

Evin Bromberg	Adam Kling
Shayna Caruso	Zach Lehner
Allie Dettelbach	Emma Lenson
Derek Gill	Julia Levin
Josh Goetz	Kayla Roth
Tyler Goetz	Megan Roth
Emily Isaacson	Macaela Salomon
Abe Katz	Hailey Weisman
Amelia Katz	Ethan Winger
Zak Kaufman	Hillary Zager

## we welcome you to wise in chardon, mighty glad you’re here!



We are so excited to welcome Jon Hausman to our full time team as the Program Director at Camp Wise! This is a dream come true for Jon, or: “Haus-Man”

as he’s often called at camp. Jon grew up at CW, spending time as a camper from 1993-1995, staff member and supervisor from 1996-2001, 2006-2007, 2009, 2014 and 2015. “I’m so excited to work for The Home of Happiness all year-round. It’s an honor to be a part of such a great team and helping to shape the future of a place that has so much meaning and is so special.”

Jon is looking forward to implementing the new Solel trips and to working with our specialists to enhance experiential

education in all of the program areas. We know that Jon will bring both his experience and enthusiasm to all facets of camp!

Jon has not only worked for Camp Wise, but brings a lot of camp experience from all over the country. He’s also worked for Eagle’s Nest Camp in North Carolina, Camp Friendship in Minnesota, URJ Kutz Camp in New York and Camp Boggy Creek in Florida. Jon’s favorite part of camp is lunch-time song sessions: “When everyone in the dining hall gets loud and everyone’s up and excited singing together – it’s my favorite part of the day,” Jon explained.

Jon spent the past four years working for The Temple – Tifereth Israel in Beachwood where he was the Director of Experiential Education and NFTY teen advisor. He has a B.A. in Psychology from Bowling Green State University and a M.S. in Experiential Education from Minnesota State University at Mankato.



Join us for the third annual Alumni Reunion. Come for the weekend or join us for the day. Kick on those old flip-flops, grab your favorite Camp Wise t-shirt, and let yourself slip back into simpler times at “The Home of Happiness.”

Open to all Camp Wise alumni who graduated high school class of 2011 or earlier.

For info: (216) 593-6250  
wisekids@mandeljcc.org

Registration opens in March – stay posted to [CampWise.org](http://CampWise.org) for more information.

Adults only. Interested in an event for families? Check out our Family Camp on August 5-7, 2016.

SAVE THE DATE  
**Camp Wise Alumni Reunion**  
September 2-4, 2016

# “somethin’ ‘bout my life...”

## C.I.T.s (Campers-in-Training)

Camp Wise Alum	Years At Camp	'Future Camper'
Michael Klein	1986-1991, 1994-1996	Sam
Dan "Sprout" Stein	1991-1999, 2006	Judah
Lee Steinbock	1996-2001	Lennox
Adam Wallenstein	1994-1999	Penelope "Elle"
Amanda Karp Emerman and David Emerman	1997-2007 1996-1999	Jane
Andrew Felber	1990-1991	Noah
Jodi Sperling	2004-2011	Elijah

Please share with us when any Camp Wise alumni welcome a new baby, and we will send them a Future Camper onesie, featured here on Lennox Steinbock.



Samuel Klein



Lennox Steinbock



Ellie Wallenstein



Jane Emerman



Noah Felber



Elijah Sperling Kaplan

Our website got a makeover!  
Check it out at [www.campwise.org](http://www.campwise.org)

### KEEP US IN THE LOOP!

Share your life events in "The Wise Times"  
Email [wisekids@mandeljcc.org](mailto:wisekids@mandeljcc.org):

- Weddings • Births • Bar mitzvahs • Moves • Jobs • Other life cycle events!

We can't wait to hear from YOU!

## Wedding...



### Jared Rothkopf and Abby Droz

Long time camper, staff and supervisor Jared Rothkopf married Abby Droz on October 31

## Wanted:

Camp Wise is looking for mini-vans or trucks to be used as camp maintenance vehicles. We are also looking for queen size bedding and/or furniture to make our staff housing quarters more "homey". If you have any of these items to donate, please contact us at the camp office to arrange for a pick-up and tax write off!

## Be in touch!

### Summer:

13164 Taylor Wells Rd.  
Chardon, OH 44024

216.593.6250

### Fall, Winter & Spring:

26001 South Woodland Rd.  
Beachwood, OH 44122

216.593.6250

[wisekids@mandeljcc.org](mailto:wisekids@mandeljcc.org)

[www.campwise.org](http://www.campwise.org)



open  
house



mandel jewish community center of cleveland  
26001 south woodland road • beachwood, ohio 44122

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Cleveland, Ohio  
PERMIT NO. 1279

**Sunday June 5, 2016**  
**1-4 pm at Camp Wise**

New to Camp Wise?  
Been coming for years?  
Just curious? Bring a picnic  
lunch and join us for an  
afternoon tour of camp.  
Open to everyone!

## new family Q & A night

**Thursday April 14, 2016**  
**Mandel JCC Stonehill Auditorium**  
**6:30 p.m.**

All new campers and their parents are encouraged to come to this comprehensive orientation to Camp Wise. Meet the year-round team, learn tips to prepare for the summer, and meet other new camp families. Campers will have an opportunity to meet camp staff and get to know other first time campers in their program.

RSVP to the camp office by April 8th at  
216-593-6250 or email [wisekids@mandeljcc.org](mailto:wisekids@mandeljcc.org)



*Past, present and future Goldberg campers (Taylor, Jessa and Lily,) gather for one final hug before Jessa leaves for camp.*



*Seth and Josh Newman are excited to leave for camp.*