1. It’s official! Sean Morgan named the next director of Camp Wise! Sean is no stranger to CW—he has served as the Camp Wise Assistant Director for the past 3 summers learning the ins and outs of all things Wise. Prior to his time at the “Home of Happiness,” Sean was the Assistant Director at the Buffalo JCC’s Camp Lakeland and the St. Louis JCC’s Camp Sabra, where Sean grew up as a camper and counselor. Sean has his undergraduate degree in education from Southeast Missouri State University and is currently earning his Master’s degree in Camp Administration and Leadership—how cool is that?! Not only does Sean bring serious waterskiing skills and a professional announcer’s voice to the table, but he brings a love and passion for overnight camping that is unsurpassed. Join us in wishing him the best of luck in Summer 2012 and beyond!

2. Ahhh! Camp is almost full for Summer 2012! This fall’s registration will go down in the history books—we have over 600 campers registered, with 85% of last summer’s campers already signed up! We have barely 100 spots left and many of our age groups are full with waitlists. Thinking about camp for next summer? Hurry and call us today! We have been recruiting all over Ohio this fall, and we’d be happy to come visit you for an info session too.

3. Sledding, snowball fights, and snowmen, oh my! This past January, we hosted the very first Ohalim Winter Wonderland Weekend out at camp! We invited all 2010 Ohalimers to reunite with us in the snow over Martin Luther King, Jr. Weekend. We spent Sunday afternoon out on the Noar rec, sledding down the hill onto the ultimate Frisbee field and throwing snowballs at each other. Sunday night we pretended like it was summer and had an indoor beach party! Campers played volleyball and limbo in the chadar, and even got to dig out some summer shorts and tees to wear for the occasion. Sunday morning was the great “Snowlympics” complete with a snowy Maccabiah-style great race. We concluded the day with a celebration of Tu B’Shevat, the Israeli birthday of the trees. This MLK weekend we will host the 2nd annual Ohalim Winter Wonderland Weekend, so 2011 Ohalimers should mark their calendars today! Bring on the snow, Cleveland!
the best of the best: the 2011 staff scholarship winners

Staff scholarship is the highest honor we award our staff each summer. Actually, it’s the highest honor they award each other! Each summer staff members nominate their peers who go that extra mile—Camp Wise style. Those nominated are always there to lend a helping hand, constantly full of energy and enthusiasm, and leaders amongst the group. During the closing summer staff banquet an auction is held with donated items, like the historic red wagons that have been used to bring canteen to our campers and a night on the town complements of some of our Columbus-based staff. Auction proceeds are divided between the staff scholarship recipients.

In 2011 we had five winners with a portion of the proceeds going towards camper scholarship. This year’s winners were: Jonathan Zamudio, Sara Federman, Ethan Goodman, Ben “Stallz” Stallsmith, & Maor Avneri

Jonathan Zamudio is studying restaurant management at the Universidad del Valle in Puebla, Mexico. Jonathan came to camp for the first time in 2010 to work in our kitchen and returned this year as the Dining Hall Manager. Jonathan always had a smile on his face, and he sang a song session version of “La Bamba” that brought the chadar down.

Sara Federman has been on the pool staff since 2009. Currently, Sara is spending her junior year studying pre-med at the University of Salford, via the University of Toledo. Sara was a leader at the pool this summer, mastering the art of the world’s best swim lesson and craziest night swim.

Hailing from Mansfield, Ohio Ben Stallsmith is a junior at The Ohio State University studying education. “Stallz,” as his campers affectionately call him, was selected to be one of 6 Cornerstone fellows for this past summer. He shined as a counselor and helped plan the spooky Scooby Doo Maccabiah!

Ethan Goodman earned his 7-year shirt this summer. After two years as a counselor, Ethan made the switch to teva specialist. Ethan brought many new ideas to our nature program this summer, including his most popular addition: pickle-making from the Camp Wise garden!

With a smile that can light up the entire chadar, Maor Avneri returned to camp for his second summer as a trips specialist. He is known for his wacky lunchtime skits and crazy Israeli shenanigans. Thanks to Maor, our overnights and trips are more popular than ever.

Camper Scholarship: The staff chose to divide the auction proceedings six ways, with the sixth portion donated on behalf of the 2011 staff to Camper Scholarships. This is one way the camp staff chose to “Live Wise” again this summer. ⭐
Noar girls (Isabelle Perla, Brianna Weisman, Maris Isenberg, Aviva Isakov) enjoy a break on the brand new swing set built by the 2011 SITs. The SITs built four swings to create a new area in camp for cabins to enjoy their together time!

Nitzan Goldzweig and Emily Newman show off their hand-made tallitot! This summer in Ohalim, each camper had the opportunity to make their very own tallit with our Jewish Educator, Mara Berde.
a camp wise matriarch –
the ruth baker story

By Jennie Post

Ruth Baker is the matriarch of an intergenerational Camp Wise family. Ruth, her mother, her two sons, and her two grandsons are all Camp Wisers. I have known Ruth as a Camp Wise nurse and grandma extraordinaire since I started working for Camp Wise five summers ago. This fall I was lucky enough to get to know her in another light – Camp Wise alumna. Ruth invited me to her home in Beachwood to share her personal Camp Wise story with me, and from the moment I walked in I knew I was going to hear something special.

Sitting on Ruth’s dining room table was a stack of Camp Wise items: The book The Camp Wise Story, written by Albert M. Brown, bookmarked to the page that describes Ruth’s mother, Shelley Blondes, one of the very first Camp Wise nurses. Under that was a Camp Wise brochure featuring Ruth and her grandsons, Sam and Gabe Baker, current Camp Wise staff. Underneath it all was a huge old photo album, carefully labeled with perfect typewritten headings and captions. Ruth spent the morning flipping through the photos with me, sharing detailed anecdotes about each photo. Her pride for her summers at camp filled the room, and I found myself daydreaming about what Camp Wise was like almost 70 years ago.

The early days

Ruth was a camper at Camp Henry Baker in 1942 and then Camp Wise from 1943-1946. Camp Henry Baker was the camp of the Council Educational Alliance, one of the predecessor agencies of the Mandel Jewish Community Center. Henry Baker was located across the stream from Camp Wise at its Painesville site, and the two camps merged in 1943. Ruth spent her elementary years at camp with her mom and was so excited when it was finally her turn to go to camp on her own.

In the summer of 1942, Ruth hopped on the bus with her neighborhood friends, learning the traditional Camp Wise songs on the drive out to Painesville. Across the street from the Painesville site was a new and bustling rayon factory. Ruth recalls that “the smell of the rayon factory was gross, but we loved it because we knew it meant we were close to camp.” The rayon factory’s pollution is one of the reasons Camp Wise left Painesville for its current home in Chardon.

Ruth can’t remember all the details of her days at camp- just that she loved every minute of it. “I know we didn’t have a pool, or horses, or heaven-forbid a jet-ski! But whatever it was we had, the people, the spirit—it was wonderful.” She’ll never forget who her counselors were, which girls were in her cabin, and which boys were considered the biggest dreamboats. “Some things never change,” says Ruth.

“Beans, beans, lotsa lousy beans!”

Some of Ruth’s most cherished memories are from the days of the U.S. Crop Corps. During World War II, as farmworkers headed overseas to fight, farms faced a serious lack of labor to help keep up with growing demand for food. Camp Wise stepped up and participated in the government’s Crop Corps, which gave locals the chance to help the war effort while learning farm skills as well.

Every morning, two trucks came to camp to take the teen campers out to the local farms to pick and package crops. Ruth and her friends loved feeling like they were helping to win the war—they felt incredibly proud and patriotic. They used to lie down between the rows of beans, taking in the joy of being out in the fields, gossiping about boys and their favorite camp activities the same way campers do today. Ruth’s favorite camp song is even about her farming days, “There are beans, beans, beans from the days of the U.S. Crop Corps.”

The Next Generation

Ruth loves that her kids and grandkids look forward to camp during the year just as she did. She thinks one of the most amazing parts of camp is that, despite all the increased opportunities and distractions in their young lives, they still hold Camp Wise above all else. “How could they not,” she said. “Something you just expect. It’s like going to college and having your bar mitzvah— you just go to Camp Wise.” When it was time for Ruth’s grandsons to go to Camp Wise, it was the same thing. “Camp Wise is an important part of our family’s life! It is remarkable to me that my grandsons feel the same way about camp as I did. They still count down the days.”

Today you can still find Ruth out at Camp Wise, working as a substitute nurse. She loves being able to keep up her own connection with camp, not to mention checking in on many of her camp friends’ grandkids! And someday many years from now, you will see Ruth’s great-grandchildren and great-great grandchildren running around Camp Wise. For after all, that is the Baker way.
The last night of each session, on CW night, we recognize staff and campers who have been at camp for 5, 7, 10 and 13 years. Five years are recognized with a 5-year bag, 7 years earns you a cool 7-year shirt, after 10 years you receive a sacred Camp Wise Crazy Creek Chair, and 13-year staff are honored with a giant CW sweatshirt blanket. Mazel tov to our 2011 10 and 13-year staff:

Sam Baker  Jeff Bloom  Lissy Collin  Phil Dworken  Sarah Judis
Andrew Mann  Barry Marlin  Lindsay Migdal  Rachel Motz  Matt Newman
Ilyssa Peltz  Sam Richards  Hannah Rinehardt  Rachel Rzepka  Lauren Rubin (13)

we love our parent volunteers

Todah rabah to our wonderful camp families who donated their time to camp this summer. Our volunteer doctors helped to keep camp healthy and happy, and our host families showed our international staff warm, Cleveland hospitality on their days off. If either of these opportunities sounds like something you’d like to try in 2012, let us know!

Doctors
Deborah Gold
Julian Peskin
Scott Singer
Chris Young
Rob Zimmerman

Host Families
Anne and Steve August
Seth and Jodie Bromberg
Jennifer and Jason Drasner
Ann and Scott Flamm
Erica and Larry Goldstein
Becky and David Heller
Jodie and Jon Herbst
Lisa and Michael Kaufman
Ellyn and Larry Klein
Michelle and Matthew Lewis
Pam and David Kleinman
Debbie and Richard Roth
Sharon and Marvin Rotblatt
Sonni and Steve Senkfor
Edie and Steve Shafron
Diana Shall
Deb and Scott Singer
Darby and Jon Steiger
Deb and Scott Singer
Peggy and David Sugerman
Amy and Mitch Zlotnik

campers by city

wanted:

Trucks to be donated for use as camp maintenance vehicles. A fondness for gravel and carrying heavy loads required. Will be rewarded with long drives down to the beach, and soapy car washes.
A very special “Todah Rabah” to all of our most recent Camp Wise donors!

In addition to our annual contributions to camp, this past year we held a special capital campaign called Live Wise. Our Live Wise campaign partnered with the Grinspoon Institute for Jewish Philanthropy (GIJP). Through this partnership we were able to raise over $100,000 and the GIJP matched a portion of the money donated.

CW Staff Fund
Heidi and Loren Chylla
Tammy & Aaron Caplan
Jennifer & Jason Drasner
Joni & Todd Giterman
Meredith & James Grosser
Naomi & Jeremy Grunzweig
Heidi Kamins & Andrew Shupp
Jamie & Ben Light
Beth & Lawrence Pollack
Carrie & Steve Rudow
Shani & Scott Spiegel
Darby & Jon Steiger
Peggy & David Sugerman
Shelly Grieve-Zerkel & Danny Zerkel
In honor of Mr. & Mrs. Jonathan Stein
Sharon & Sanford Stein
In honor of Rabbi & Mrs. Daniel Stein
Sharon & Sanford Stein
In honor of Adam & Nancy Levin Family
Beth Nicoson
In honor of Jessica Linden’s awesome counselors
Lisa Linden

Camper Scholarship
Cheryl & Todd Bendis
Lynn Berg & Howard Bram
Tammy & Aaron Caplan
Mary Lou Capichioni & Bob Chakin
Jennifer & Benoit Cohen
Paula & Kenny Cohen
Eileen Davis
Sharon & Robert Dizenhuz
Stacie Ettinger
Jane & Doug Furth
Hayley & Marc Feldman
Heidi & David Frelich
Jodi & Jon Herbst
Elise Jaffe
Heidi Kamins & Andrew Shupp
Shelia & Kevin Margolis
Debra & Kirk Migdal
Susannah Muskovitz & Steven Izen
Leah Sass
Melissa Shamis
Tobie Silver
Shani & Scott Spiegel
Darby & Jon Steiger
Peggy & David Sugerman
Harriet & Neil Schor
Leslie Wachter
Marla Zafft
Michael Zoldan
In memory of Irene Tishler
Howard & Donna Sperber
Kathleen & Paul Yates
Western Reserve Kennel Club
In memory of our dear son Steve
Carol & Bill Goldman
In honor of Jamie Semel’s Bat Mitzvah
Alison & Michael Arkin
Marlene & Harold Blumenthal
Jessie Bruder
Bonnie & Mel Dolin
Dubin Family
Lillian & Zeyd Ebrahim
Elizabeth & William Edgerton
Lynn & Bruce Goodman
Jerry & Clay Granoff
Jodie & Jon Herbst
Pricilla & Robert Horst
Susan & Michael Hyman
Geoffrey James
Joseph Kornfeld
Liz & Brett Krantz
Carol & Marvin Lader
Sharon & Larry Newman
Jason Outcalt
Cantor Misha Pisman
Jennie Post
Tamar Preminger
Dr. Tena Rosner
Andrew Seidel
Susan Semel
Ray Sharrow
Peter Shick
Deb & Scott Singer
Jeffrey Solomon
Mary Solomon
Sloane Stack
Sarah Tibbits
In honor of Jonah Ricanati’s Bar Mitzvah
Matthew Warshawsky
Kitty Warshawsky
Lee Warshawsky
Tim, Sarah and Daniel Tibbits
In honor of Keeva Schneider’s Bar Mitzvah
Jeremy Pappas
In honor of Don Kaufman’s 80th Birthday
Pam & Mark Goldfarb
In honor of Scott Brown
Karen & Neal Brown
In memory of Mr. Fever
Sherri Koppel
In honor of Sophie Alter’s Bat Mitzvah
Jamie, Ben & Hannah Light
In memory of Lillian Grossman
William Kress

Camp Operations
Jessica Auerbach
Sheryl Berman
Sherri Koppel
Leah Sass
In memory of Barbara Gilden
Bernda Temsey
In honor of Dr. Harold Mars
Audrey & Albert Ratner Family Foundation

Live Wise Campaign
Cathy & Paul Becker
Joel Beren
Julie & Robert Bloom
Toby & Norm Bresky
Michael Broida
Jane & Scott Brown
Ellen & Jonathan Brown
Kaye & Mel Chavinson
Heidi & Loren Chylla
Lisa-Karyn & Larry Davidoff
Hayley & Marc Feldman
Amy Filzer
Julie & Michael Frayman
Phillip Friedman
Mark Gersman
Dan Goodman
Alvin, Lottie & Rachel Gray Fund
Elyse & kenneth Gustafson
Dolores Kleinman
Brett Krantz
Frances W. & H. Jack Lang Philanthropic Fund
Jim & Robin Levine
Kevin Levine
Julian Peskin
Kelly & Gil Rubanenko
Jon Rubinstein
Fredell Schnee
Keeva Schneider Philanthropic Fund
Kyla & Mitchell Schneider
Jessica & Alan Semel
Marcy & Brett Shankman
Michael Shapiro
Elizabeth & Brad Sherman
David Shifrin
Deb & Scott Singer
Marvin & Judy Solganik
Jason Sperling
Patty & Richard Sperling
Shani & Scott Spiegel
Darby & Jon Steiger
Edie Ungar-Shafron
Carol & Yair Weinstock
Michael Weinstock
Marni Weinstock
Wolinsky Trust
Beth & Chris Young
In honor of Jim Levine’s Milestone Birthday
Heather Ross-Lowenstein & Irwin Lowenstein Philanthropic Fund

*If we inadvertently left you off the list, please let us know so we can include you in our next list.
C.I.T.s (Campers-in-Training)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Camp Wise Alum</th>
<th>Years At Camp</th>
<th>‘Future Camper’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Becca Gruenspan</td>
<td>1981-1991</td>
<td>Trey Gruenspan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Gerber</td>
<td>1985-1990</td>
<td>Eyal Gerber</td>
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<tr>
<td>Franklin Malemud</td>
<td>1984-1991</td>
<td>Lux MacCartney Malemud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James McConnell</td>
<td>1990-1991</td>
<td>Hjalmar McConnell</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Please let us know when any Camp Wise alumni welcome a new baby, and we’ll send them a Future Camper onesie, pictured here on Chuck Lang and Aron Bloch.

Here’s a big CW cheer

When someone at camp celebrates a big day we all stand on our benches and cheer about it! Here’s a big C.W. cheer for all those campers and their families who have celebrated their B’nai Mitzvah since our last newsletter. Please let us know if we missed you and we’ll include you in our next issue.

Also, tell us how you are “Living Wise” by emailing us at wisekids@mandeljcc.org about your bar mitzvah project and we’ll highlight it on our website!

Zach Beder  
Ari Bluestein  
Brooke Bulmash  
Claudia Gill  
Parker Goodman  
Hallie Howard  
Greg Israelstam  
Ryan Kaplevatsky  
Alex Kaufman  
Eli Kaufman  
Alex Krasnow  
Marcus Leavitt  
Zachary Levin  
Stella Moss  
Jonah Ricanati  
Max Rosenthal  
Emma Saks  
Philip Schnee  
Keeva Schneider  
Jamie Semel  
Max Shall  
Ella Silverstein  
Samantha Starkoff  
Gabe Sugerman  
Jason Wasserstrom  
Skylar Wittenberg  
Kendall Yulish  
Blake Zaffiro

be in touch!

Summer:  
13164 Taylor Wells Road  
Chardon, OH 44024  
440.635.5444

Fall, Winter & Spring:  
26001 South Woodland Rd.  
Beachwood, OH 44122  
216.593.6250

www.campwise.org  
wisekids@mandeljcc.org  
Become a fan of Camp Wise on Facebook
2nd annual ohalim winter wonderland!

Sunday, January 15 – Monday, January 16

Calling all 2011 Ohalimers!
Come play at camp in the snow!

Save the dates — Details coming soon.

wise wednesdays

Last fall, we started a new tradition at Camp Wise! Every Wednesday, the year-round team wears Camp Wise gear to work and we encourage our campers, staff, alumni, and supporters to wear CW stuff too! If you participate in Wise Wednesday, take a picture and email it to jpost@mandeljcc.org and we will add it to the Wise Wednesday photo album on the Camp Wise Facebook fan page!

Becca, Jamie, Jessica, Kari (and her cardboard cutout), and Alan Semel celebrate Wise Wednesday together as a family!