

The Wise Times

Spring 2015 | Volume 9, No. 1

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

Quite a winter we had here in Northeast Ohio. From some of the coldest and snowiest weather in memory, to all the school that was canceled as a result, it's been quite a wild ride. By the time this edition of *The Wise Times* hits your mailbox, winter will seem like a distant memory, and spring days will tiptoe longer and longer into the summer. And summer, well that's our favorite season of all! Here are some highlights to look forward to this summer:

Over the last few years we've noticed that two of our most popular activities, Horseback Riding and Archery have been in high demand. We couldn't be more thrilled that so many campers want to participate in these unique offerings—so we've decided to expand both of these programs so that more campers can participate in each activity more often.

That's right! This year we're adding a second archery range, and more horses! We've hired two archery specialists, and with the addition of a second archery range more people will be able to enjoy archery during the summer. Up at the stables we will have another Horseback Riding specialist, and more horses. This will allow us to offer Horseback Riding as a chugim (elective) more often to each village, and will allow our Horseback Riding instructors to work with smaller groups of campers. That way they will be able to concentrate on



A group rafts down the New River in West Virginia

helping kids build skills at all different levels of expertise.

This summer campers are also going to get more opportunities to sign up for chugim (electives). Not only will Chalutzim and Ohalim campers have three chugim a day (instead of the previous two), but also all campers will have the opportunity to sign up for chugim three times during Session I, and twice during Session II. Campers will now go to their chugim every day instead of every other day. This way they will be able to engage in a more cohesive skills progression, and choose more variety on a regular basis. Don't worry—campers will be able to pick their favorite chugim multiple times throughout the summer. In addition, Noar campers will have a daily activity period, where they will get to choose one of 7 or 8 activities each day!

Speaking of Noar, we've also completely revamped our Noar overnight trips program. All 8th grade Noar campers will now take a trip down to Athens, Ohio, where we have partnered with the Ohio University Outdoor Pursuits program to run an incredible two-day adventure program

in Hocking Hills including rappelling, hiking, and flat-water kayaking. Campers will spend a cozy night in the OU Outdoor Pursuits facility—meaning no tent-camping required! 9th grade Noar campers: This summer country roads will take you home to West Virginia where we've partnered with ACE Adventure Resorts for an amazing overnight trip with a full-day of whitewater rafting, and time to play on their incredible lake toys! You can also leave the tents back at camp—you'll be staying in elevated lodging down at ACE.

Don't worry Sole!—we've upped the ante on your "big trip" as well! This year we've partnered with Nantahala Outdoor Center for an action-packed trip with a full day of rafting, duck-boating, and zipline canopy tours. Plus some more surprise trips, and all sorts of in-camp fun!

There are a ton of great programs to look forward to this summer. Plus cheering in the Chadar, song sessions around the campfire, skits, raids, and all the Camp Wise shenanigans you know and love! We can't wait to see you in just a few short months! ★



More archery for summer 2015



around the campfire with Sean

Why I'm Sending My Child to Camp Wise and You Should Too.

For the last 7 years I've stood in front of a lot of people and encouraged them to send their children to Camp Wise. I've spoken with parents about national studies that show powerful links between participation in Jewish overnight camp and lifelong cultural and spiritual engagement in the Jewish community. I've shown families videos of campers laughing, smiling, and creating friendships. I've given future campers tours of our campgrounds and shared stories and anecdotes from previous summers. For the last 7 years I've been speaking passionately with our community as the Camp Director.

Today, as a parent, I want to tell you why I am choosing to send my daughter to CW and why you should too. As a parent there are so many things I want for my daughter and I will fight tooth and nail to ensure her safety and happiness. I also understand that the community my wife and I surround ourselves with has a tremendous amount of influence on our daughter's life. That's why we will try to make the best decisions for her – the best school district, fun extracurricular activities, healthy eating, and other important choices. My wife and I know that sending our daughter to Camp Wise is the right decision. Here are a few reasons why:

We will send her to camp so she can gain a strong sense of independence. We want our daughter to experience time away from her parents. We know it will give her the opportunity to start to make her own decisions in a safe environment – what activities to do, who to hang out with what she feels passionate about. She'll gain social skills necessary to make new friends and learn how to maintain those relationships over time. Her confidence will grow because she will try new things and gain new hobbies. She'll hit some rough patches too. It might be failing to climb to the top of the climbing wall, or she could get into an argument with a cabin mate. Without her parents around (we'll try to keep our distance) she will learn to lean on friends and counselors to help work

through challenges and gain important problem solving skills along the way.

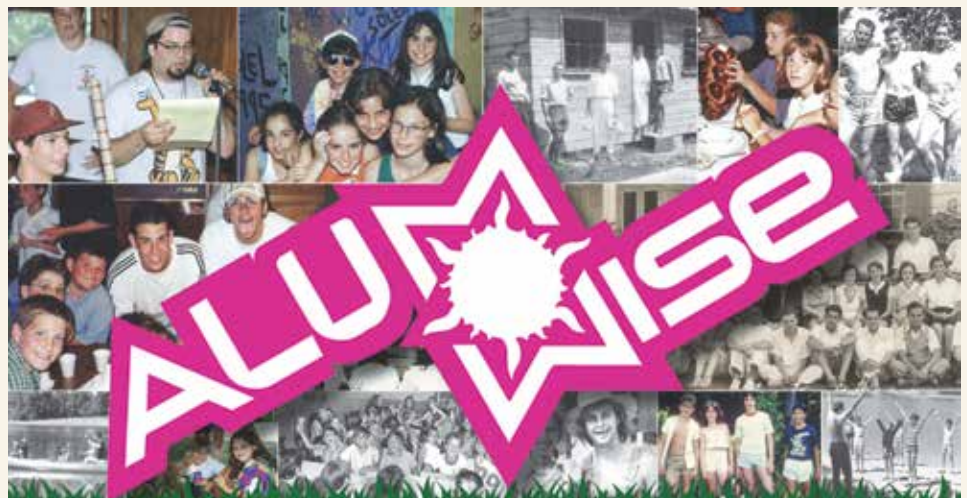
We will send her to camp to have positive role models in her life. We want our daughter to be exposed to people who can inspire her. Camp Wise staff members are so passionate about what they do and try to give back to the campers an experience as moving as the one they had growing up. We want our daughter to be surrounded by people who will accept her no matter what – no questions asked and no judgments. It's important to us that she has role models that will help her overcome obstacles and help her solve problems. We want her to be encouraged and pushed to try new things within reasonable limits. We always want her to feel comforted and supported, and I know that Camp Wise staff members provide the support we would expect.

We will send her to camp to help her discover her Jewish identity. We want our daughter to be an active member in her Jewish community. We know at Camp

Wise she will be immersed in a Jewish environment every day. Through fun and engaging Jewish activities, camp will help her discover her Jewish identity, and model for her how to be an active member in the Jewish community. She'll continue to learn prayers and discuss Torah at a level that is comfortable for her and supported by her counselors. She'll be able to experience Jewish traditions with close friends and bring them home. We know that at camp she won't just learn about Judaism – she'll live it!

I am certain that I'll make mistakes as a parent, that's a given. But I won't allow myself to miss the opportunity to send my daughter to Camp Wise. I already have a countdown on my phone.

Sean Morgan



SAVE THE DATE

Camp Wise Alumni Reunion

September 4-6, 2015

Open to all Camp Wise Alumni who graduated from high school in the class of 2010 or earlier.

Registration opens in April

Haifa...Yisrael! Tel Aviv...Yisrael! Camp Wise... Yisrael! David Melech...Yisrael!

Camp Wise Staff go on a Birthright Adventure of a Lifetime

This past winter break 16 Camp Wise staff joined 23 other JCC camp staff for a unique 10-day Taglit Birthright Israel experience. The group was in good hands with co-leaders Rachel Felber, Camp Wise Assistant Director and Pinemere Camp Director Mitch Morgan (Sean's brother)! The Hebrew word "taglit" translates to "discovery" which was an apt way to describe the ten amazing days in Israel.

The group had a chance to visit all the big tourist sites: Jerusalem, the Kotel (Western Wall), Masada, the Dead Sea, the Negev (desert), and the Golan (in the north). However the power of this trip went far beyond seeing the sites. While participants built connections to the land of Israel, they built connections between one another—and found that the foundations of community built during a Jewish overnight camp experience can tie a group together.

For Hannah Tucker the experience was unmatched. Not only did she get to visit Israel for the first time, but she was also able to do so with the community she feels the most connected to—her friends from Camp Wise. Hannah really enjoyed being able to build some bridges with staff from other camps as well. "We all shared this common thing called camp and it was amazing to see all of our similarities because of our camp experiences," said Hannah. Hannah recalled that one day the tour guide uttered the word "announcements." Each group of

staff began to sing their version of the "Announcement Song" to the surprise and befuddlement of the guide! On a more serious note, Hannah remembers a Friday night Shabbat and Oneg. "We shared different Shabbat songs, poems, and traditions and it was an amazing night!" 2015 will mark Hannah's 9th summer at Wise and her 3rd year as a Counselor.

Zach Marlin, 2015 Ohalim Boys Supervisor, found out that the Camp Wise Shabbat magic can be created outside of camp as well. Singing the Camp Wise version of the Mi Chamocha with a group of camp staff in a kibbutz outside of Jerusalem made him feel like he was in the Chapel in the woods. The feeling was similar for Sydney Unger who is always looking for the chance to feel the way she feels at Camp Wise. She said, "During the school year I yearn to be back at the Home of Happiness where I can yell at the top of my lungs, laugh until I cry, and sit around a campfire reminiscing with friends all within the same day. Our JCC Camp Staff Birthright group allowed me to get a quick, but much-needed "mini-camp" where I could experience all of that once again in an incredible country and with new and old friends alike." 2015 will mark Sydney's 8th summer at Wise and her 3rd year as a Counselor.

By the culmination of the trip the group



New Years Eve with former Camp Wise Director Jodi Sperling in Tel Aviv

discovered that each new experience with camp allows the individual to become the best version of themselves. Hannah Caplan might say it best, "Camp people are a special breed of people, and it's impossible to describe to someone who isn't one. All I know is that I want to be surrounded by camp people for the rest of my life". 2015 will mark Hannah's 8th summer at Wise and her 4th year as a Counselor.

Want to learn more about Taglit-Birthright? Visit birthrightisrael.com. Or just ask one of these Camp Wise participants who will be at Camp this summer: Alex Goodman, Brian Chessin, Hannah Caplan, Hannah Davidoff, Hannah Tucker, Julia Friedman, Nate Shiffman, Reuben Don, Sydney Ungar, and Zach Marlin. ★

LIKE CAMP FOR KIDS... ONLY BETTER!

2015 Women's Weekend at Camp Wise

Women
of all ages
welcome!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14 – SUNDAY, AUGUST 16, 2015

To register: campwise.org • For more info: call 216-593-6250 or wisekids@mandeljcc.org

Women's Weekend is a wellness retreat at camp designed specifically with woman of all ages in mind.

- Everything you remember from camp as a kid – only better!
- All meals are kosher and delicious – and cooked by someone else – imagine that!
- Swim or relax by the lake or the pool, get creative in the art shack, climb the rock wall, hike the trails or just sleep in!
- Relax and revive with a total body massage
- Yoga session with professional instructor

Cost: \$290
\$25 discount for Mandel JCC members

“...take it home, and share it with a friend.”

The next “take it home” should be written by you! Give us a call at 216-593-6250 or send us an email to wisekids@mandeljcc.org to share stories!

Alumni of Camp Wise share something that goes beyond close quarters in the summer, and singing around square folding tables at meals. Although alums’ time spent at camp may be distanced years apart, they are able to sew their lives with the thread of a common experience. Camp Wise helps us inform ourselves of who we truly are long before we are cognitively or emotionally mature enough to be true to who we want to be. Years later we look back at our summers at camp and realize their profound impact on the people we have become. It is at that moment of reflection that we are able to express gratitude for the people who helped shape our lives, and thank the community that made us feel a part of something much larger than ourselves.

We hope to continue to share stories, written by Alumni new and old, who wish to express the impact of their summers at the home of happiness. We invite our community at large to share their stories with us (details below) to continue a tradition of intergenerational thanksgiving.

Name: Dan Stein, Rabbi at Bnai Abraham
Home: Easton, PA

In June, 1991, my parents dropped my brother and me off at the Toledo JCC where a blue rental van--piloted by Andy Cohen--waited to shuttle us to the “Home of Happiness.” Camp Wise had a special place in our family’s history. My great grandmother had taken my grandmother there in the summers when it was a fresh air camp for Jews seeking a break from Cleveland’s slums. Our cousins had planted victory gardens there during the Second World War. My mother and aunts had been campers and counselors on the banks of Lake Erie before the camp relocated to Chardon. For me, Camp Wise played a pivotal role in my social and spiritual development.

I was a Camp Wise camper and staff member for ten years between 1991 and 2005. At critical stages in my personal development the camp was there to support and challenge me. As a kid who attended Jewish day school, Camp Wise taught me that Judaism could be more than what I experienced in a classroom or a synagogue. It allowed me to explore Judaism creatively in the outdoors with new friends. Camp Wise helped Jewish prayers and rituals make sense to me.

At camp I learned that my skills and talents were valued and special. As a (somewhat) dorky kid who was mostly interested in books and music I sometimes felt like a social outlier in the outside-of-camp world. But at camp, counselors like Andy Cohen, Marc Wolfe, Maxine Stevens, Gary Buchler, Michael Klein, Scott Gabor, David Alpern, Beth Young, Bernie Pelsmajer, and the whole Haas family (and I’m probably leaving a bunch out) helped me realize that my talents were unique and special. Yet it wasn’t just the staff. During the summer other campers helped me to learn self-confidence. I have fond memories of overcoming social fears during improvised dances in empty Ohalim cabins. It was a place where I felt safe growing.

As a staff member, I was empowered to lead, teach, and create in ways that were formative. Past camp director Jon Rubinstein encouraged me to develop as a leader during my role as a drama SIT. I learned how to lead rehearsals and play accompaniment on the fly. My goals to study music were solidified by the creative challenges I learned to manage at camp.

When I was studying to be a rabbi, I was honored to serve in a role that was inspirational to me as a child. As the Jewish Educator at

Camp Wise, I was guided by memories of the “Creative Prayer Workshops” I experienced as a kid. I tried to honor that legacy and empower campers to be their own creative religious selves. I’m grateful to Jodi Sperling for her patience in guiding me in that role; I know I am a better Jewish educator for her mentorship.

Over the years, I’ve worked and taught at a variety of camps and Jewish institutions, but the lessons I learned at Camp Wise are the ones I return to the most frequently. At Wise I learned that Judaism is best expressed creatively—in the context of community. I learned that Jewish tradition is meant to serve us, to help us live lives of meaning, and support us as we grow. I learned that Judaism is most meaningful when we experience it with family and friends who share in its gifts of love and peace. Perhaps most importantly, I learned that even the most important issues of faith aren’t meant to be taken too seriously—from Andy Cohen and Camp Wise I learned that Judaism can (almost) always be fun, and should often be experienced with a sense of humor.

As a relatively new dad I love singing camp songs to my daughter Miri. I don’t want her to grow up too quickly, but I do look forward to driving her out to Chardon someday soon for her first summer at Camp Wise. I can’t wait to see who she’ll be when she comes home! ★



Above: Dan and Samantha Licker, hanging out in the Chadar



Right: Dan, Miri and Dena

Staff spotlight: Josh Chevitz, camp social worker

The Lowdown:

Job at Camp: Social Worker

Education: Case Western Reserve University, Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, Masters of Science in Social Administration

Summers at Camp Wise: Two

Most looking forward to: Meeting first-time campers and working with our amazing team of supervisors and staff.

Favorite camp hangout spot: When my walkie-talkie "isn't working" you can likely find me shooting hoops on the basketball courts!

Favorite canteen item: Mike & Ike's. Mike & Ike's. Mike & Ike's.

Everyone at camp will know me because of my: Silly socks and the dry-fit Nike hat I wear every single day!

This winter Camp Wise Assistant Director Rachel Felber sat down with Josh Chevitz who will be returning for his second summer as the Camp Social Worker. Having a Licensed Social Worker on staff allows Camp Wise to be a national innovator in the ways that we support kids in having an incredible summer experience. Josh works with Rachel and our supervisory team to ensure positive support of our cabin staff in creating meaningful and welcoming experiences for everyone. We are truly lucky to have Josh in this position, and we cannot wait for him to join us again this summer. Josh will be joined at camp this summer by his daughter Adler (6) and son Sammy (4) who are both looking forward to another summer at CW. Josh's wife, Tyler Katz, is an Obstetrician at Hillcrest Hospital.

R.F. Tell us about your summers at camps...

J.C. I remember it like it was 30 years ago (30 years... That's ridiculous!) I started at the age of eight and kind of never stopped. I went to two camps in Maine (Indian Acres and Camp Manitou) and then many years on staff at URJ (Union for Reform Judaism) Camp Coleman in Cleveland, Georgia. I was a counselor, a Unit Head and one summer I was even responsible for Jewish programming. Oy!

R.F. Share a meaningful memory you have from your summers at camp.

J.C. This might sound crazy, but the most significant camp memory I have is from my very first summer. It was practically the last day of camp – Color War – and I was running an obstacle course. I didn't exactly wow anyone with my athleticism that summer but something clicked for me that day. The older campers had finished their events, and they came down to root for the little kids. After all, we were on the field right outside the dining hall. I remember them cheering me

on. And I remember thinking to myself I can try harder...and so I did. And I simply started running harder. And I remember thinking, "My legs are on fire. They are burning right now." And I looked and saw how these kids twice my age loved it. And so I ran even harder. And I kept pushing myself. And began to coach myself until the finish line.

Camp is a great place to take risks and to push yourself. No matter what happens, you'll be supported.

R.F. Do you have a camp nickname?

J.C. When I was a camper I had a counselor named Perry (aka P-dogg). P-dogg gave many of us nicknames. Mine was "Chevy" and it stuck. You can also call me Chev-dogg but only if you're a Dogg yourself. That's just a rule.

R.F. How did you decide to pursue a career in Social Work?

J.C. Years ago in Los Angeles, I was going after a career in screenwriting when something amazing happened. I sold absolutely zero screenplays. That's actually not the amazing thing that happened. The amazing thing was that I worked at Pacific Palisades Charter High School. I was a full-time substitute for many years. It became evident that the students were affecting me and vice versa, especially students from the inner city. I realized that this was where I wanted to put my energy. When we moved to my wife's hometown of Cleveland I enrolled in the Masters of Science in Social Administration program at Case. Prior to coming to Camp Wise I spent time working and interning with programs at Hospice of the Western Reserve, Bellefaire, and Beechbrook.

R.F. At the end of every summer you head back to Camp Manitou. Tell us what you do there.

J.C. A few years ago I joined the clinical team for Experience Camps in Maine at Camp



Josh's wife Tyler, Sammy, Josh and Adler

Manitou. This is a one-week summer camp for boys who have experienced a significant death-loss. It is the most profound week for all of us who are involved. From the second the campers step off of the bus there's an immediate bond that they all share. I feel privileged to be part of Experience Camps and I am amazed by our campers in the way that they support each other and continue to grow.

R.F. It is no secret that you love basketball. Who would you choose: LeBron, Kyrie, or Josh Chevitz?

J.C. Kyrie is the man, on and off the court. He's always been a great scorer but his facilitating and defensive play don't get enough credit. Mark my words - the Cavs will go as far as Kyrie takes them! Off the floor, Kyrie is just as impressive. Last year, he did a great interview for the Shared Grief Project that's worth checking out. I'm really impressed by him, and I love how giving he is of his time.

R.F. I noticed you have a purple phone case. Is there a reason why you chose the color purple?

J.C. I think purple is a beautiful color. And purple is also the color that represents epilepsy awareness. Most people don't know that 1 in 26 people has epilepsy. Our son, Sammy, has Infantile Spasms and we are so thankful for every seizure-free day. We have recently celebrated more than 20 months since Sammy's last seizure. ★

For more information about:

Manitou Experience visit www.ManitouExperience.org

The Shared Grief Project visit www.TheSharedGriefProject.org where you can view Kyrie's video.

Epilepsy Awareness visit www.epilepsy.com



Sammy, Josh and Adler at Camp, Summer 2014

camp wise all-stars: Summer 2015



Brian Chessin
Chalutzim Boys
 The Ohio State University, '16
 11th Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...
 working with the incredible group of staff & SITs, & the mighty village of Chalutzim
Favorite hangout spot... the Chalutzim gaga pit
Favorite camp song... "Get Together" at the CW Chapel
Everyone at camp will know me because...
 I will be the first person to dress as president Obama wearing an alien hat. And apparently I've been known to eat eggs in the past



Kari Semel
Chalutzim Girls
 DePaul University, '16
 10th Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...
 the long-awaited return of the Israeli Scouts
Favorite hangout spot... the swings near the old infirmary
Favorite item to grab from the canteen red wagon... "do they have carrots in the canteen wagon?"
This summer's Maccabiah theme should be... Roald Dahl books. Pink Matilda team, orange James & The Giant Peach team, etc.



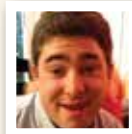
Zach Marlin
Ohalim Boys
 Brandeis University, '16
 11th Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...
 showing everyone why Ohalim rocks!
Favorite hangout spot... the O-Rec
Favorite camp song... "Take Me Home, Country Roads"
Favorite lanyard stitch... box, it's the only one I actually know how to do



Zoe Landis
Ohalim Girls
 Macquarie University (Sydney, Australia), '17
 3rd Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...
 getting to spend more time in the village and with the Ohalimers
Favorite hangout spot... the drama closet
Favorite camp song... "Country Roads", as soon as I hear the opening chords my heart flies to 13164
This summer's Maccabiah theme should be... musicals, can you imagine the amazing cheers?



Matthew Krantz
Noar
 Dartmouth College, '16
 10th Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...
 s'mores around the campfire, song sessions, & the new Noar trips
Favorite hangout spot... the swings outside the old infirmary
Favorite camp song... "Brown Eyed Girl."
 It's such a quintessential camp song
Everyone at camp will know me because of my... crazy costumes, boundless energy, & unmatched ruach (spirit)



Tivon Sterin
Solel
 The Ohio State University, '15
 13th Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...
 I'm super pumped for Solel '15 & all the crazy adventures!
Favorite hangout spot... I'm a huge Ohalim rec field fan, from casual Frisbee to soccer to the 4th of July Carnival and a little crazy go nuts
Favorite item to grab from the canteen red wagon... White Cheddar Cheez-Its for life!!
This summer's Maccabiah theme should be... I heard that What's in the Ketchup Bottle Maccabiah was making a comeback



Becky Sebo
Cultural Arts
 Ohio University, '15
 12th Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...
 being back at camp! I missed the Home of Happiness a lot last summer
Favorite hangout spot... I love chilling in the dairy fridge in the kitchen on a hot day
Favorite camp song... "In My Life" by the Beatles, it reminds me of all the camp people who have changed my life!
This summer's Maccabiah theme should be... Passover Foods, Team Matzah, Team Ten Plagues, etc.

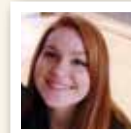
James Worthington



Horseback Riding
 Horse Trainer at TC Equestrian (England)
 3rd Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...
 returning after a year away from the Home of Happiness
Favorite hangout spot... taking horses to the lake
Favorite item to grab from the canteen red wagon... Hershey bar
Everyone at camp will know me because... only summer will tell!!



Zoe Coleman
Lake
 University at Kingston Upon Thames (England), '15
 3rd Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...
 jumping in the lake, falling off a Jet Ski, & losing my voice from singing too much!
Favorite hangout spot... the blob at the lake
This summer's Maccabiah theme should be... African Animals - who really is the King of the Animals?
Favorite lanyard stitch... whichever one Julia Friedman uses to make bracelets!



Zoe Morris-Jones
Sports
 University of Huddersfield (England), '14
 3rd Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...
 spending every day with people I've missed so much & acting crazy without being judged
Favorite hangout spot... the Chadar because it's a place where you can relax but also shout to your heart's content
Favorite item to grab from the canteen red wagon... CHEEEEEEEZITS!!!!
This summer's Maccabiah theme should be... a futuristic theme OR crayola OR frozen OR Marvel agents



Adam Cohen
Ropes
 The Ohio State University, '02; Teacher at Shaker Heights High School
 11th Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to... facilitating team & community building across age groups, languages & cultures. I'm also excited to see my daughter, Leila, enjoy camp
Favorite hangout spot... 30 feet up in a tree behind Chalutzim
Favorite camp song... I love the welcome song because it's a familiar tune for lots of reasons...OH...
This summer's Maccabiah theme should be... ice cream Maccabiah. Team Mitchell's, Jenny's, Ben and Jerry's, East Coast, Pierre's, etc.



Ethan Goodman
Teva (nature)
 Northern Arizona University,
 '14
 10th Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...

working on the garden, I hope we get to pickle cucumbers this summer

Favorite hangout spot... woods behind Ohamlim. At night when all the fireflies are out it looks like a million floating stars around you

Favorite item to grab from the canteen red wagon... popsicles on a hot day

This summer's Maccabiah theme should be... different types of pickles



Beth Young
Pool
 University of Cincinnati, BA & Ursuline College, M.Ed.
 23rd Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...

song sessions in the Chadar

Favorite hangout spot... the middle of the Ohalim village

Favorite item to grab from the canteen red wagon... chuckles

This summer's Maccabiah theme should be... the Beatles, Brian Epstein can be Team #5



Benjamin Stallsmith
Staff in Training (Israel Trip Leader)
 The Ohio State University,
 M.Ed; Middle School
 Teacher at The Agnon

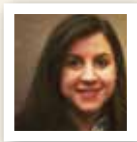
School
 14th Summer at Wise

Most looking forward to... the 4th of July carnival & returning to Israel for an amazing 3-week trip

Favorite hangout spot... the Solel deck or the lake!

Favorite camp song... something tells me we'll be hearing a lot of Taylor Swift this summer!

Everyone at camp will know me... as the guy running around the Chadar with my partner in crime, Hannah Henschel, making sure everyone gets fed



Hannah Henschel
Staff in Training
 University of Cincinnati, '15
 12th Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...

the amazing team of SIT's & the 4th of July Carnival!

Favorite hangout spot... the Noar Zoo is the best place in camp & the best place to play camouflage

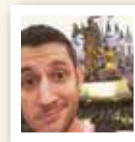
This summer's Maccabiah theme should be... Common Trees of Ohio; The Buckeyes, The Black Walnuts, The Osage Oranges, The Red Cedars, The White Pines



Kyna Levi
Jewish Educator
 Hebrew Union College, '13
 Masters in Jewish Education
 1st Summer at Wise
Most looking forward to...

meeting new people and learning about Camp Wise, its culture and all the fun ins and outs.

Favorite camp song... After working at several different summer camps, I love LOVE learning new melodies and songs that are part of the camp culture.



TJ Klopstein
Media
 The Ohio State University,
 '15
 1st Summer at Wise

Most looking forward to... Meeting everybody and getting the chance to spend so much time outside enjoying what the world has to offer.

This summer I will be known for... The Lamest/Punniest/Most hilarious corny Dad jokes you will ever experience.

Camp Wise Family Camp 2015

FRIDAY, AUGUST 21 - SUNDAY, AUGUST 23



Escape to Camp for the Weekend!

Experience what all the kids are raving about!

- Enjoy swimming, boating, water skiing & tubing on our fabulous private lake
- Play archery, basketball, soccer & more
- Sing songs around the camp fire
- Get creative with art projects like tie dying
- Reach new heights on our climbing tower and zip line
- A magical camp Shabbat in our peaceful outdoor chapel
- Delicious kosher meals
- Special activities for kids led by our amazing camp staff
- Late-night programming for parents
- Accommodations in our renovated cabins or rustic yurt village

Whether you're thinking about camp for a future camper, want to relive your camp days, or just want a fun weekend out of the city, family camp is for you!

For more information contact Nick Goldman at 216-593-6239 or ngoldman@mandeljcc.org



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

Guided by our Jewish Core Value of Hachnasat Orchim—"Welcoming Guests," we want to give a big Camp Wise welcome to our three newest full-time staff members: Dave Fuhrman, Facilities Manager; Tim Ramos, Maintenance; and Nick Goldman, Wise Retreat Center Manager. Dave, Tim and Nick join the Camp Wise team with a wealth of knowledge and a passion for camp.

Dave comes to Camp Wise with more than 20 years of experience in facility management. Before joining the Camp Wise team, Dave and his wife Susan spent the



Nick Goldman

better part of the last 20 years living in Buffalo, NY. Dave acted as the Caretaker for the Buffalo JCC's Camp Centerland—a large Day Camp similar to the Burton campus of the Mandel JCC's Anisfield Day Camp – and later was the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds for the Buffalo JCC. Dave and Susan have two children, Lisa and Ryan, and 4 grandchildren, Matthew, Daniel, Kaleigh, and Dylan. All of his kids and grandkids

were longtime Camp Centerland campers; it is safe to say that camping is in the Fuhrman family blood! Dave couldn't be more excited to get back into a camp atmosphere and looks forward to making the grounds of Camp Wise and Anisfield Day Camp even more beautiful than they already are.

Tim joined the Camp Wise team in the summer of 2014. Tim has a background in recreational facility management, and worked for the past two years at Punderson State Park. He loves being outdoors and enjoys outdoor sports. One of his favorite outdoor activities is mountain unicycling—he is actually the Former North American Junior Champion of Mountain Unicycling! Tim is a lifetime Geauga County resident and is super excited to be working so close to home. No matter how big or how small the job, Tim can always be found working hard, with a smile on his face! Tim's level of enthusiasm and excitement is contagious, and we couldn't be more excited to have Tim as a part of our team.

Nick has been a part of the Camp Wise family for more than a decade! This summer will be his 12th summer at CW in several different roles. Nick started his Camp Wise career as a Noar camper and worked through the ranks as an SIT, staff member,



Tim Ramos and Dave Fuhrmann

and supervisor. Nick graduated from The Ohio State University in May of 2013 with a degree in Strategic Communications. That summer Nick returned to Camp Wise as the Waterfront Supervisor, and began full time work in the camp office after the summer season. We're thrilled to have Nick on the full-time team—his passion for camp and commitment to a high-level of customer service is evident in all of his interactions with our rental groups. We're excited to see the Wise Retreat Center grow with Nick at the helm.

Let's all get up on our benches and welcome Dave, Tim and Nick the Camp Wise way!



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 5-9, 2015

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

community connections

We're proud to call 13164 Taylor Wells Road our home...

Most campers, parents, and Alumni think about Camp Wise as a place people go during the summer. Even though summer is our favorite time of year, Camp Wise transforms into the Wise Retreat Center during the other 10 months of the year. The Wise Retreat Center opens its doors to many school groups, youth groups, business groups, and others for both overnight and daytime use. This past Fall the Wise Retreat Center had the pleasure of hosting the Burton Chamber of Commerce's Maple Leaf Ball.

The Burton Chamber of Commerce partnered with Camp Wise and the Basal Cell Carcinoma Nevus Syndrome Life Support Network to host The Maple Leaf Ball. Nearly 200 people came together in a beautifully decorated Chadar Ochel to honor local community leaders for their commitment and dedication to improving the greater Burton area. With a live band, an auctioneer, and a delicious dinner, this event was one for the record books!



Sean and Nick receive generous donation from the Maple Leaf Ball Committee

Thanks to the hard work and dedication of the committee, and the generous support of the community, The Maple Leaf Ball Committee chose to donate \$5,300.00 in event proceeds to Camp Wise to go

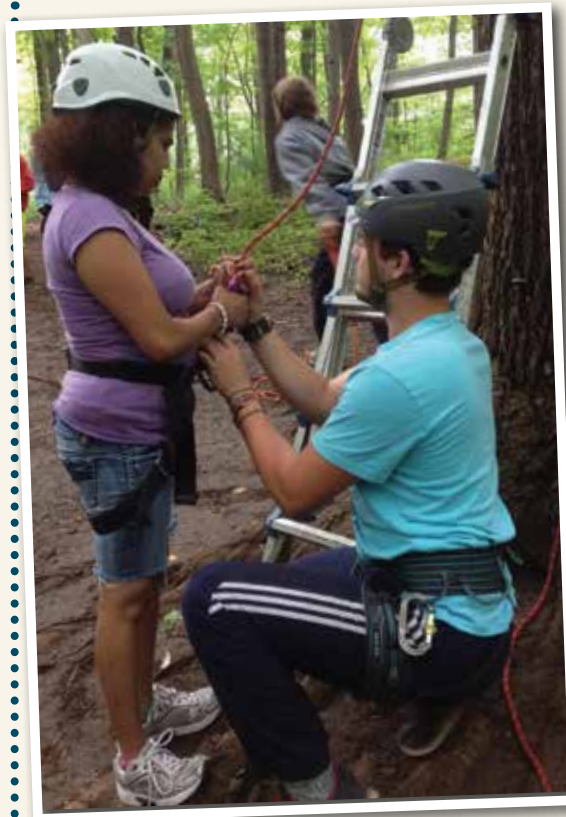
towards funding camper scholarship. We cannot thank them enough for their support and we look forward to continuing our relationships with our community partners. ★

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.

The other 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 "take 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



Did you know each summer Camp Wise works with community partners to enhance our camp programs?

One partner we've worked with for many years is Highbrook Lodge, the overnight camp of the Cleveland Sight Center. Highbrook Lodge is located just around the corner from us in Chardon. In 2014, Solel campers hosted their peers from Highbrook Lodge for a day of traditional camp activities such as climbing the tower on the ropes course and jet skiing. We are looking forward to continuing this partnership in 2015 with Second Session Solel. We are also excited about creating opportunities for our staff to share with each other.

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.

Bentley Adkins	Jason Loeb
Abe Arenberg	Abigail Mendelsohn
Ethan Bloch	Molly Moran
Sam Brelus	Justin Pilloff
Jack Brewer	Adam Rosenthal
Grant Bulmash	Carly Sandow
Brielle Cohen	Jackson Scaglione
Dale Chalfin	Morgan Soble
Parker Gill	Gabriella Stern
Sophia Honig	Noah Strassels
Leora Joseph	Gabriel Weiss
Maddy Kish	Juliana Withee
Jackson Leb	Tommy Zaffiro
Ben Littlejohn	Cole Zucker

"I'm tryin' to tell you making camp proud!"



Former counselor, lifeguard, and supervisor **Megan Garrett is now** the Program Director at Indiana University Hillel.



While never a camper at CW, **Cydney Goldberg** made a huge impact as a counselor and supervisor. She now is the Israel Engagement Coordinator with Hillel at Penn State.



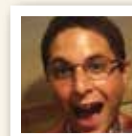
Brian Innenberg might be years removed from his time at CW, but as the Regional Director of BBYO Ohio Northern Region he is able to partner with Camp Wise on a year-round basis.



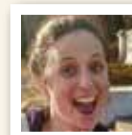
Abby Kaufman, Director of Camp Chai and Youth Programs at the Robert E. Loup JCC in Denver spent countless summers as a camper, counselor, specialist, and supervisor.



Spending summers as a specialist and counselor prepared, **Celia Bernstein Livshin** for her next career as Regional Director of BBYO Great Midwest Region.

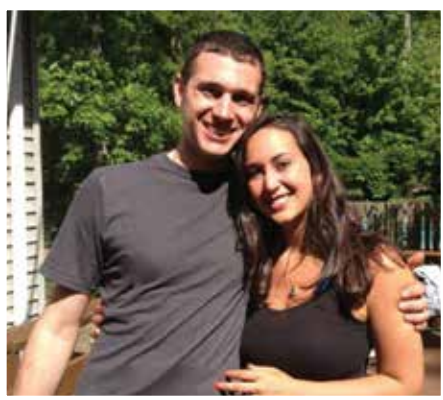


Lifelong camper, counselor, and supervisor, **Matt Newman** is now the Jewish Student Life Director for the Cleveland Hillel Foundation.



Judith Wertheim is a past camper and counselor who still enjoys time at Camp Wise working with BBYO Ohio Northern Region as the Associate Regional Director.

weddings...



Amanda Karp and David Emerman

Amanda Karp (Solel 2002) and David Emerman (Solel 1999) were married November 1, 2014



Melissa Shamis and Eli Steinberger

Melissa Shamis (Solel 2003) and Eli Steinberger (Solel 2002) were married November 8, 2014



Samantha Schiff and Josh Beren

Samantha Schiff (staff, 2009-2010) and Josh Beren (Solel 2005) were married March 29, 2015

somethin' 'bout my life..."

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

Camp Wise Alum	Years At Camp	'Future Camper'
Alexis Leventhal Blum	1991-1999	Vivian
Jonah Levenberg	1992-1999	Nava
Amanda Pumfrey Lozier	2003-2007, 2009	Kennedy
Jeff Greenwald	1994-2009	Sloane (not pictured)
Ken Weinberg	1991-1998	Joshua

Please let us know when any Camp Wise alumni welcome a new baby, and we'll send them a Future Camper onesie.



Vivian Blum



Nava Levenberg



Kennedy Lozier



Joshua Weinberg

Camp Wise Director, Sean Morgan and his wife Jenny welcome Olivia Charlotte. This is their first child and are very excited to watch her grow up at CW!



Olivia Morgan

in memoriam

Camp Wise is the "Home of Happiness" for those whose lives it touches. The passion and caring of individuals has helped shape the camp over the last 108 years. It is with sadness that we remember those who helped bring joy to so many others.

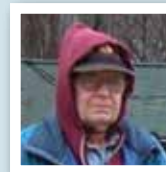
Florence Kassoff Hoicowitz 1924-2015



Florence served as the Camp Wise Registrar for over 40 years. Her passion and dedication helped many families find the

financial assistance they needed in order to send their children to Camp Wise. Florence will be remembered for her commitment to Camp Wise, the Jewish community and Jewish youth.

Weldon Curly Eubanks 1933-2015



Curly joined the Camp Wise maintenance team in 1979. He put in countless hours taking care of the 325 acres of Halle

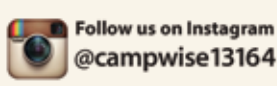
Park. From mowing the playing fields, to painting buildings, to building benches and cubbies, Curly took pride in the work he did. Curly will be remembered with a smile on his face—always up for a quick chat or a joke while taking care of the "Home of Happiness."

KEEP US IN THE LOOP!

Share your life events in "Wise Times!" Email wisekids@mandeljcc.org:

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

We can't wait to hear from YOU!



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

www.campwise.org

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Sunday May 31, 2015
1-4 p.m. at Camp Wise
RSVP by May 21

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 30, 2015
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 directors, 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 24th
At 216-593-6250 or email
wisekids@mandeljcc.org

*Tyler Krantz and
Lexi Stovsky are
ready to greet
campers and their
families on the
first day of camp*



*Julia Levin,
Cheryl, Alec
Noah and Emily
Isaacson are
excited for the
start of camp*