

# INTERLAKEN BRIDGE

## THE STEVE & SHARI SADEK FAMILY CAMP INTERLAKEN JCC ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

Vol. 4 No. 1 • Spring 2012



### CIL Committee

Sheryl Selby Rubin, **Chair**

Laurel Bear

Randie Collier

Andy Enders

Melissa Feldmesser

Andrea Florsheim

Larry Golopol

Jason Gottlieb

Maureen Komisar

Dale Kunin

Stacey Nye

Sharyl Paley

Jay Plavnick

Stephanie Rubnitz

Bryan Sadoff

Cindi Samson

Laurie Shapiro

David Steinberger

Ian Wagan

Dina Weinbach

Sylvia Winter

Diane Zall

### Past Committee

#### Chairs/Co-Chairs

Laurel Bear

Dean Ellis

Jordan Fink

Art Grossman

Linda Hay\*

Leonard Loeb\*

Fran & Ron Meyers

Irv Peckarsky\*

Marilyn Pelz

Jerold Perlstein

James Sweet

Sylvia Winter

Jim Zucker

### Camp Director

Toni Davison Levenberg

**Assoc. Camp Director** Daniel Baer

**Asst. Camp Director** Sharon Cohen

### Past Camp Directors:

Howard Wagan 2000-2007

Judy Young 1995-1999

Jon Levin 1992-1995

Kevin Bukatman 1990-1991

David Friedman 1985-1989

Paul Chase\* 1983-1984

Judy Siegel 1979-1982

Steve Mirowitz 1977

Ateret Cohn\* 1971-1976

Jack Weiner\* 1968-1970

Shel Goldstein 1967

Jack Weiner\* 1966

\*of blessed memory



**A SPECIAL WEEKEND FOR ALUMNI (21 and older) & THEIR FAMILIES**

**FRIDAY, JULY 6 & SATURDAY, JULY 7, 2012**

We'll be there to dedicate the new Daniel M. Soref Aquatic Center, a gift of the Daniel M. Soref Trust and the Canteen/Picnic Pavilion and Welcome Center, gifts of the James & Eve Joan Zucker Family

**Friday 4:30 PM** Welcome reception

**6:00 PM** Shabbat walk, services & dinner

Sing & dance the night away with our first session campers

**Saturday 10:00 AM** Morning services, kiddush & dedication

Camp tours will be followed by picnic lunch & family open swim.

*Think you could make it to Peckarsky's?*

**6:00 PM Optional Dinner** Riverstone Restaurant in Eagle River.

Advanced reservations required.

**9:20 PM Havdallah Lakeside**, followed by a campfire

**Minimum donation** \$36 per person or \$72 per family

**Saturday dinner** \$20 per adult, \$10 per child (*under 10 years old*)

**Hotel reservations on your own**

*Please respect our visitation policy: Families with first session campers are not eligible for this event and 2011 staff are not allowed to visit in 2012.*

Register at <http://tinyurl.com/CILAlumni2012>

Questions to Beth Alling 414-967-8240/balling@jccmilwaukee.org

### Interlaken Shabbat Dinner Midwest World Tour

Sheryl Selby Rubin

What could be better to warm up a chilly February than with some Interlaken Ruach! We took our show on the road this winter and spread the love as we welcomed Shabbat Interlaken style in Madison, Chicago and Milwaukee. Over three hundred camp-

loving friends over three Friday nights were lucky enough to share the special Shabbat experience that only Interlaken creates every summer.

Our first stop was Madison at UW Hillel. Rabbi Andrea Steinberger and David Steinberger were our gracious hosts as-well-as proud Interlaken parents. Many of our camp staff took time out of their busy college lives to join us for a fabulous evening, and there were even a few Milwaukee



Madison

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Rachel Schwarz, Jenna Pearson, Karina Jordan, Ellen Schopler



**Camp Interlaken extends far beyond** the lakes and forests of Eagle River, Wisconsin. It lasts much longer than 8 weeks a year.

I am a Camp Interlaken alum of 8 years: 1997 through 2005. It seems like a lifetime ago that I first arrived in the 54521, a 4th grader from Los Angeles with just candy in my backpack, 2 duffel bags full of sharpie-labeled clothes, and the hope that I would have as much fun as my big sister described. Needless to say, my expectations were far surpassed. Like many of you, I experienced so many milestones at camp. I learned how to shave my legs; I plunged my first toilet; I fell in love for the first time.

But I stopped attending camp after my OZO summer. Despite my love (perhaps a borderline obsession) with camp, I felt the pressure to get an internship. I'm sure many of you reading this can relate in some way. We all have to stop sometime, but that doesn't mean we're done with camp.

It's been 15 years since that first summer, and Camp Interlaken is just as much a part of my life now as it was then. I went to college at The University of Wisconsin-Madison where I had the immeasurable privilege of living with my three best camp friends—Karina Jordan from Madison, Rachel Schwarz from Dallas and Jenna Pearson from Milwaukee. I never spent another summer at camp, but my roommates all staffed camp for a number of more years. Regardless, we all sure acted like we were at camp. Whether it was our home-made "Dairy Explosion" dinner, or our Rick Recht sing-a-longs, Camp Interlaken was never far from our minds. We even have a K'Far-style "book" from our senior

year apartment—documenting our laughs and our mishaps in a way only fellow campers could understand.

Soon, we found ourselves facing another milestone. Something much scarier than which shaving cream to use or how to start a lanyard: college graduation. And you know what? College graduation isn't so different than leaving camp. You're being pushed out of your comfortable utopia where you've come to know everyone around you and life is, well, perfect. Suddenly the real world was staring us in the face and everything seemed uncertain. But luckily for me, I had my lifelong camp friendships to lean on. Some of us parted ways, but a few of us moved to Chicago to brave the uncharted waters of the "real world" together.

When we arrived in Chicago, we re-kindled friendships with other camp friends that had been severed for years. We hadn't seen each other in who-knows-how-long, but before we knew it we were having weekly dinners and Shabbat feasts. Just the other day, we celebrated Shabbat with two challot, and finished the meal with a spirited pinky-holding rendition of the Birkat-Hamazon.

The unique joy of camp friendships is that they are founded in distance - being apart and then reuniting. You can always pick up right where you left off. The relationships you build at camp don't stay there, they stay with you. They move with you wherever you go, they grow up and evolve, just like you do. Our camp slogan, cheesy as it may be, promises to provide a "summer of fun, a lifetime of memories." But it's not just the memories from camp that last a lifetime, it's the memories you make for the rest of your lifetime.



## AVODAH WEEKEND • MAY 11-13, 2012

**Camp Interlaken is bringing back Avodah Weekend** this year, May 11- 13! Toni & Jonah (and baby Jaron), Dan, Sharon, Hazzi and Alex Strnad will be at camp setting up! We have a lot to do to get ready for an amazing summer, and we would love your help!

There are several projects that need to be done:

- Setting up the new buildings
- Deploy computers & printers
- Painting
- Assembling and Moving Furniture
- Disc Golf Course Maintenance & Relocation
- Cleaning
- Linens
- Docks (weather permitting)
- Landscaping & Gardening

We will provide meals for the weekend at camp (bagels, subs, pizza, etc.). You're welcome to leave camp for a meal on your own as well. Bring your sleeping bag if you'd like to stay in camp, or book a hotel on your own. Camp rules will apply to the weekend.

The weekend that we've selected is Mother's Day weekend, and we know that may not work for everybody. It's the only weekend that the Interlaken staff team could all get together to go up to camp. Rumor has it there is a great brunch at Riverstone! Bring your families; celebrate together. Children welcome!

If you'd like to join us or if you'd like more information about the weekend, go to <http://tinyurl.com/CILAvodah> or call the camp office, 414-967-8240.

## Start 'em Young!

**Future campers are eligible for a free Camp Onsies.** Send us your photo and we'll post your future camper on our website.

Shown here:

**Lucy Horn** (right)  
daughter of David &  
Aimee Yanow Horn



**Lola Wagner** (left)  
daughter of CJ & Danielle  
Sectzer-Wagner

## MORE FUTURE CAMPERS

Jody Siker	<i>Elliott</i>
Noah Canvasser	<i>Micah Donald &amp; Zachary Chester</i>
Tamar Arbeli	<i>Tali</i>
Aimee Yanow Horn	<i>Lucy</i>
Emily Frydman Verbun	<i>Stella</i>
Danielle & CJ Wagner	<i>Lola</i>
Stephanie Nelson George	<i>Nina</i>
Gail Ancier	<i>Avraham Simcha</i>
Sarah Phillips	<i>Tzipporah</i>
Rabbi Adam Allenberg	<i>Sophia</i>
Emilie & Jesse Sondel	<i>Evan</i>
Greg Sherman	<i>Mia Clara</i>
Samara Shapiro	<i>Elana Morgan</i>
Elana Sondel	<i>Jonah</i>
Toni Davison Levenberg	<i>Jaron</i>

## Interlaken Shabbat Dinner Midwest World Tour

*Continued*

campers who came in to celebrate with their Madison camp friends. Les Goldsmith, past camp committee member and life-long supportive parent, joined our current staff with guitar in hand for our song session. Camp alum, Brad Kahn and wife Sharon, paid us a visit with their young son and future camper. Our Madison families were incredibly appreciative of our efforts to bring a sacred part of Interlaken to them. What made it even more special was sharing Toni and Jonah's son, Jaron Levenberg's very first Interlaken Shabbat and friendship circle.



On to Chicago, where even a messy snowstorm couldn't keep us from celebrating. Campers and their families welcomed Shabbat with many dedicated alumni. The dance floor was a sea of future campers— learning all the Interlaken moves from current campers and our own Andy Fine. All of the Sectzer sisters, Danielle, Jessica and Lisa, were with us, and Adam Bilsky, attending with his wife Karee Pass Bilsky and adorable kids, joined our song leaders for the wonderful evening. These two dinners were great opportunities for the camp staff to get to know parents they only speak to on the phone during the year.

The Milwaukee dinner was our grand finale! Close to 150 guests Shabbat-walked through the JCC to wonderful services and even a Shabbat story by our assistant director, Sharon Cohen. Dozens of Milwaukee campers shared Shabbat with their families, committee families and some very special camp friends. We had an entire table full of Carneols and some new families who will be sending their first camper to Interlaken this summer. It is so exciting to see how many of our parents are alumni, and there are few things sweeter than an Interlaken alum watching their child love camp like they do.

It was a little sad to sing that last Rad Hayom – knowing that we wouldn't hear it again until June, but it was so special to bring this little bit of Interlaken magic to so many of our camper families, alumni and supporters. If you missed a dinner in your area this year, don't let it happen again!

We can plan a Shabbat in your city. Call Beth in the camp office, 414-967-8240 and we can start planning your Shabbat! See more pictures on the [Camp Interlaken Facebook](#) page!





Harry & Rose Samson Family **JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER**

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The JCC is a partner in serving the community with the Milwaukee Jewish Federation and is a beneficiary agency of the United Way of Greater Milwaukee.



## MAZAL TOV, DAN!

**Mazal Tov to Dan Baer**, Camp's Associate Director, for being accepted into the second cohort of the Foundation for Jewish Camp's Yitro Leadership Program.



FJC's Yitro Leadership Program, generously supported by the AVI CHAI Foundation, will help to train the next generation of camp leaders to build vibrant and intentional camp communities. FJC will provide training for camp assistant directors and associate directors from a diverse cross section of resident Jewish summer camps. Using experts and recognized leaders from various disciplines, the 19 month program will challenge the fellows to widen their lens of Jewish leadership in order to enhance the staff culture and experience at their home camps in order to improve the product of Jewish summer camp. Furthermore, the Yitro Leadership Program will build a network of camp assistant and associate directors who will support one another in becoming Jewish leaders and educators.

I couldn't be more excited for Dan to have this phenomenal opportunity! What an awesome honor for Dan and Camp Interlaken!

**Toni Davison Levenberg, Director**

## Charter Alumni & Friends Association Holds First Meeting and Phone Conference

I just wanted to send out a heartfelt thank you to all for taking time out to attend the first meeting of the Alumni & Friends Association Committee. What wonderful ideas filled the room -- and from as far away as Israel! Read the minutes on the Camp Interlaken website - Alumni.

Use this link  
[interlaken.campintouch.com/v2/alumni/register.aspx](http://interlaken.campintouch.com/v2/alumni/register.aspx)  
to become a member of our new Camp Interlaken Alumni & Friends Association.

Many thanks,  
Sylvia Gutt Winter

## INTERLAKEN'S 50th YEAR CELEBRATION...

is around the corner! Help us put together a video of photos, videos, recording, stories, influential people, and more! Add your story. Email material or inquiries to [history@campinterlaken.org](mailto:history@campinterlaken.org).

