



Enjoying the summer experiences of a lifetime

CAMPERS



Providing a safe and nurturing camp community

PARENTS



Making a difference in the lives of children

STAFF



Connecting with thousands around the world

ALUMNI



The Pinemerit

A Publication of Pinemere Camp

March 2006

A Letter From Aaron...

Dear Friends:

Less than 100 days to the start of the Pinemere season - it's my annual reminder that summer is coming soon and I can't wait to be back in the Poconos.

The off-season has been filled with many developments for camp, including the enrollment of hundreds of campers, the hiring of amazing staff (most were at camp last summer), the planning of new programs and lots more. We have enjoyed continued progress in the Pinemere Giving Campaign, which will allow us to begin a variety of projects to enhance the camp facility and make Pinemere an even better summer home for all of us. And we've even started a brand-new program for our teens (CIT-TWO Leadership/Travel Program) that will have more than 20 Pinemere CITs of '05 taking Pinemere "on the road." Other new things have come from our work with the Pinemere Parent Advisory Committee, which has been an invaluable group of moms and dads that care a lot about our camp. In fact, we'll be starting a new "SPARK" Program based on their insight, which will have children ages 6 to 11 at Pinemere for a weekend that will give them their first taste of a Pinemere summer.

I hope that everyone - whether you are a camper, parent, staff member or alumni - is looking forward to the summer of 2006. It promises to be extra-special, and I'm going to look forward to counting down the days until we get to June 25th!

Think Camp!

Aaron

Expect a big mailing in April containing:

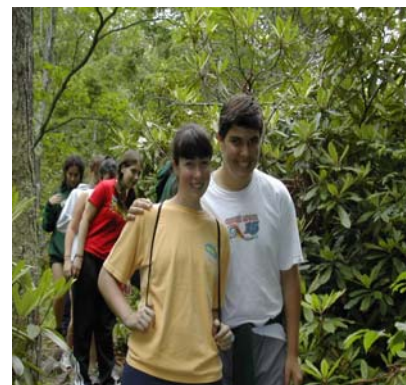
- Family Handbook
- Medical Forms
- More!

CIT-TWOs Set to Hit the Road New Leadership Program Debuts in '06

In the summer of 2006, Pinemere is introducing the first-ever CIT-TWO: Teen Leadership/Travel Program for graduates of the 2005 CIT Program. Twenty-two participants will build on their CIT experience with new challenges and adventures both in and out of camp including visits to other Jewish camps, informal Jewish education, service learning, outdoor education, adventure activities, city tours and college visits, group development, and much more.

With the addition of this new program, we have created a three-year leadership continuum for teens at camp. This new structure includes the traditional in-camp CIT Program for 15 year olds, the CIT-TWO Program for 16 year olds, and the traditional Junior Counselor Program, now for 17 year olds. Participation and progression through these programs will help our teens develop the qualities that will make them positive Jewish role models for camp and for their own communities.

The CIT-TWOs are excited for the journey ahead. And, with close to three weeks in camp this summer, they will build on the solid foundation that they created last summer and help us cross the bridge into another fabulous summer at Pinemere. For more information on Pinemere's Leadership Programs, please contact our office.



Aaron Selkow/Executive Director • Rachel L. Steinberg, M.S.W./Associate Director • Andy Rosenberg, M.S.Ed./Assistant Director • Ann Selkow/Business Manager • Jeffrey Kolansky, Esq./President



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Off Season: 222 Race St., Suite B, Philadelphia, PA 19106
 Tel (215) 925-8000 Fax (215) 925-3941
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A Summer Camp for Boys and Girls
 Serving the Jewish Community
 Since 1942





Pinemere's Young Leaders Think Outside the Box

First Annual Young Leadership Day exceeds expectations

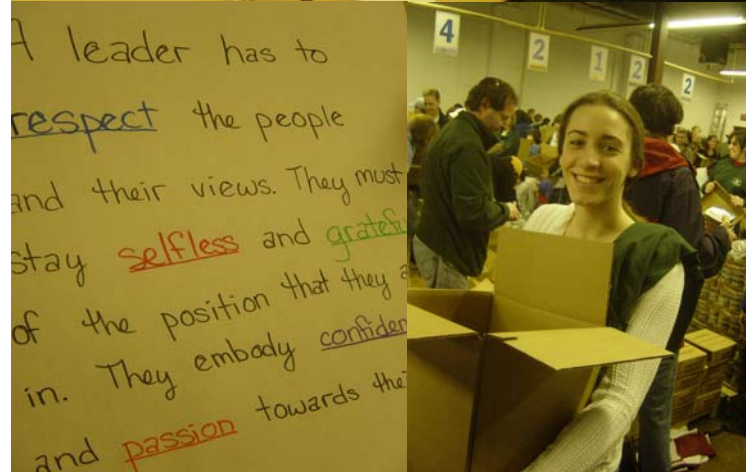
On Sunday, March 12th, a mixed group of Pinemere's incoming CITs, CIT-TWOs, and Staff members participated in the Young Leadership Community Service Day. The event brought these teens together for the Jewish Relief Agency's monthly food distribution, where they built boxes, packed them with food, and delivered them to Jewish seniors in Northeast Philadelphia.

After braving the rain and delivering over 140 boxes of food, the participants traveled to the Philadelphia JCC's Klein Branch, where they lunched and relaxed. After they enjoyed bagels and hamantashen, the teens participated in a leadership workshop.

Everyone listened intently as guest speaker Isaac Saposnik began the program. Isaac, the Assistant Director of the Jewish Reconstructionist Federation's camp, demonstrated a fantastic awareness of leadership at camp. First the teens discussed the qualities of famous leaders. Then they selected quotes from Jewish texts that they found personally meaningful, using them to create a personal definition of leadership. Finally, the participants got into small groups and collaborated on developing a definition of leadership.

The workshop showed everyone that a leader can have many characteristics and how important these traits are in leadership at camp. It was a wonderful day, and all are looking forward to using their new skills at camp in 2006.

Participants included Brett Carroll, Shelby Etter, Andrew Forman, Jason Forman, Lindsey Goldberg, Rachel Goldfarb, Staice Graff, Matt Gross, Phil Jacobs, Dana Kimmelman, Robbie Kornblatt, Marlee Miller, Liza Mitgang, Jake Robbins, Becky Simon, and Ariel Sodomsky.



Pictured clockwise from top: Participants define leadership using quotes from the Torah, Becky Simon packs food boxes at the JRA, a collaborative view of leadership



The JRA Food Distribution in action

Want to get involved? Here's how it works:

Distributions take place one Sunday each month at our warehouse in Northeast Philadelphia (located at 9986 Gantry Road just off Red Lion Road). From 10:00 until 11:30 volunteers package food into boxes and bags. Then, volunteers load their cars and distribute the food packages to families according to pre-determined delivery routes, complete with driving directions and maps. Volunteers then stop back at the warehouse to return the distribution route, feedback and any undeliverable boxes. If you plan to join us at a distribution, please let us know that you will be coming. We need to know how many people are coming ahead of time so that the delivery routes may be planned accurately.

From www.jewishrelief.org



Save The Date! Alumni Day 2006 Sunday, July 16th

Pinemere Camp is pleased to announce that it will hold an Alumni Day event at camp on Sunday, July 16, 2006. While we have had occasional gatherings like this over the years (including our "Kick-Off" event last summer), this year's program will mark the start of an annual tradition.

We are seeking alumni interested in assisting our camp staff in the planning of the event. Please e-mail us at AlumniDay@Pinemere.com or call our office at

215-925-8000 to volunteer or share some ideas.



Join fellow Pinemere alumni for a fabulous day of friends and memories!

Relics From the Trunk

Jewish Museum of Maryland puts Pinemere, Jewish Camping on Display

Pinemere Camp is included in an exciting new exhibit at the Jewish Museum of Maryland in Baltimore, entitled "Cabin Fever! Jewish Camping and Jewish Commitment". The exhibition opened Sunday, March 5, 2006, and will be at the museum for at least one year, before it travels to the Washington, DC area.

This exhibition is the museum's first for children and families focusing on summer camps attended by Jewish Marylanders. It highlights the various ways in which Jewish summer camps provide children with the tools for building positive Jewish and personal identities. Interspersed throughout the exhibit are contemporary and historic photographs, objects, and first-person quotes from campers, counselors, and directors past and present that provide testimony about the impact of summer camp. Memorabilia from Pinemere and quotes from Alumni will be on display!

This is a wonderful opportunity to relive those fond memories of camp together with your family and friends. Please send Beth Schonberger an email at Beth@Pinemere.com with your thoughts on the exhibit. For more information, visit www.jhsm.org.

Introducing... "SPARK"

A 3-Day Overnight Experience for First-Time Campers

July 14-16, 2006

From Friday, July 14 to Sunday, July 16, 2006, children ages 6 to 11 are invited to come for a real-live camp program that will introduce them to life at Pinemere. Our staff will help children adapt to camp, make friends, learn new skills, and meet challenges in age-appropriate activities. The tuition for this special program will be \$300.00 per child, and SPARK campers will have the option to enroll in Pinemere's 2006 Second Session at a discounted rate. For more information and an application please contact:

Rachel Steinberg
215-925-8000
Rachel@Pinemere.com



Kings and Queens and Bishops too....

Pinemere would like to wish a very Happy Birthday to:

December

Michele Abramson
Leah Ansell
Martine Appel
Ryan Baumohl
Zachary Cohen
Jamie Cooper
Drew Ehrlich
Avi Eisenberger
Jeremy Ferman
Shira Ferman
Zachary Gayner
Jon Golden
Mikhael Gustin
Gabe Hanoufa
Carly Kaufman
Ben Kleiner
Aliza Levin
Dylan Mann
Patrick Manning
Talia Marcus
Becky Millman
Jeri Mintzer
Scott Monsky
Jesse Pudes
Ilana Ruben
Max Scheinfeld
Marisa Sobel
Madeline Schonberger

January

Brendan Bellomo
Rachel Berlowe-Binder
Eli Bleemer
Ari Bleemer
Jennifer Bromberg
David Chanin
Daniel Cominetto
Carly Friedlander
Sydney Gayner
Kattie Hepp
Katie Jablin
Alexis Kaufman
Aaron Kogon
Erik Miller
Sara Newman
Samantha Perlestein
Molly Polin
Jordan Pollack
Wendy Sherman
Sam Silverberg
Becky Simon
Ken Syme
Alex Vigderman
Drew Weinberger
Glory Wood-Eisenberg

February

Benjamin Berger
Brittany Feinberg
David Ferman
Jordana Fish
Mallory Friedlander
Erica Gavzy
Nate Gross
Alyssa Helibrunn
Madeline Kaufman
Britney Keyser
Sarah Krulik
Daniel Marcus
Rachel Morrison
Dylan Pogust
Judy Robbins
Erica Rosenberg
Benjamin
Schonberger
Joshua Smertz
Joshua Snyder
Jake Tamposi
Michael Tarnofsky
Sam Wechsler
Jake Weiner

March

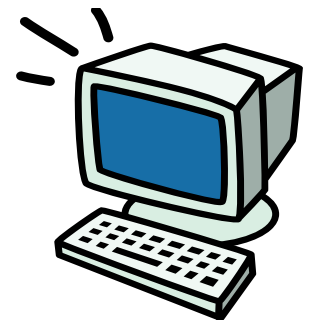
Noah Ackerman
Brett Carroll
Francesca Caulder
Rebecca Chirlian
Hillary Cutler
Shelby Etter
Corinne Fish
Jason Forman
Allison Friedlander
Nathan Gelb-Dyller
Meredith Harris
Josh Kaufman
Madeline Manning
Stephanie Prezant
Rachel Kramer
Rachael Russell
Adam Sachs
Mayan Silkoff
Rachel Singer
Josh Weinberg
Kaley Weinstein
Jared Widman



Is something exciting happening in your family or community? Email Andy at Andy@Pinemere.com and see it in the next issue of the Pin-E-merit!

Fit for a Queen

Israeli-American actress Natalie Portman has been in the spotlight for half of her life, starting with a powerful film debut in "The Professional" at age 12 and ascending to Hollywood royalty with her role as Queen Amidala in the "Star Wars" prequels. After juggling a film career with her studies at Harvard University for four years, she has received critical acclaim for several recent performances, including those in "Cold Mountain," "Closer" – for which she received an Oscar nomination, and the upcoming "V for Vendetta." In an excerpt from the 2005 book "Stars of David: Prominent Jews Talk about Being Jewish," Portman talks with journalist Abigail Pogrebin about growing up in very Jewish Long Island, dealing with anti-Israel sentiment and her happy memories at Harvard Hillel.



Don't forget to visit www.pinemere.com for news updates, weekly polls, and more!

As featured in the *Hillel Campus Report*, March 2006.