



The AREIVIM Times

SUMMER 2018, ISSUE 1 | PARSHAS BALAK

IN THIS ISSUE:

WELCOME TO
CAMP AREIVIM

LEAGUE
UPDATES

PARSHA
QUESTIONS

PICTURES:
WEEK 1

OVERNIGHT
ITINERARY I

MASMEI AREIVIM

SHINAYIM MIKRAH

Rabbi Yossi Bennett
Director

Rabbi Yosef Friedler
Assistant Director

Rabbi Tzvi Greenfield
Senior Division
Head Counselor

Rabbi Yehoshua Robinson
MIT Division Head

Rabbi Tzvi Finkel
Learning Director

Welcome To Camp Areivim!!!

Wow! What an amazing first week of Camp! This one is for the books! Tuesday began with Shacharis followed by important announcements from Rabbi Bennett explaining many of the protocols and guidelines of Camp, including the importance of achdus among the campers. In doing so, ensuring that everyone - both new and old - feel comfortable in Camp and are having a blast! Campers also heard all about the new Senior Division Campus including the HUGE Bais Medrash, the incredible new gym, the awesome game room, the fully-stocked canteen and so much more! Shiurim were then announced as campers cheered for their friends and rebbeim and raced off to breakfast.

The 4th grade division - our SIT's (Seniors in Training) - met their rebbeim in their shiur rooms and, almost immediately, one could hear the kol Tefilah and kol Torah reverberating throughout the halls of the Camp building.

Camp Areivim's famous "Hat-Trick Tickets" were already flowing throughout shacharis and shiur which can be used for three separate uses. Campers can (1) use them in the canteen and (2) enter into the end-of-the-week raffle and (3) the Grand Raffle at the end of the half! These tickets are worth a lot, and campers earn them throughout the day for learning, having good midos, showing good sportsmanship, cheering and going l'fnim mi'shuras ha'din. To date, more than 8000 tickets have already

been distributed!

An engaging and exciting learning curriculum has been expertly prepared by our incredible Learning Director, Rabbi Tzvi Finkel, tailored to each age group's level. The 4th grade is learning Mishnayos Sanhedrin and Parshas Balak, the 5th grade is learning Masechtas Brachos (4th Perek), the 6th grade is learning Masechtas Kiddushin (29a) and the 7/8th grade is learning Arvei Pesachim. The shiurim are already in full swing and we are looking forward for this summer to be a summer of shteiging in addition to all the incredible Leagues, swimming, activities and trips Camp Areivim has planned for Summer 2018!

Tuesday was also League evaluations. Rabbi Yehoshua Robinson, MIT Division Head and League Commissioner for the Senior Division, was introduced to the campers and detailed many of the guidelines and rules of the Leagues. Campers were then divided up by shiur and got the ball rolling with all the amazing athletic games Camp Areivim provides. Football and soccer on the amazing football turf at LHS, hockey and basketball in the new gym, and baseball were just some of the sports that shiurim played as counselors coached and "scouted" the campers for Leagues. Games were fun, menchlech and intense! Combined with mincha, snacks and a refreshing swim in the Areivim pools, the first day of Camp came to a close with campers and counselors waiting for more!

Welcome To Camp Areivim!!!

continued from page 1

Wednesday was the first trip day for the Senior Division. After Campers received their new Camp Areivim t-shirts (which should be worn on trip days), Rabbi Hersh and Rabbi Greenfield led the Division out to the Country Fair Entertainment Center! Miniature golf, driving range, go-karts, batting cages, lazer tag - what more could a camper ask for?! A variety of delicious sandwiches were distributed to campers for lunch keeping them well-nourished during their outing.

Thursday marked the start of Leagues, which got off to a tremendous start. After a morning of geshmakeh learning, campers convened in the lunchroom for their first fleishigeh lunch after which Rabbi Robinson announced the League teams and League coaches. See the League Updates below for more details about this year's Leagues.

Rabbi Hersh and Rabbi Bennett already began discussing the upcoming first major overnight for the Senior Division this week and campers were "jumping out of their keilim" upon hearing some of the details of the trip. Itineraries and instructions are included with this newsletter. Please read them carefully.

Erev Shabbos Kodesh was another one for the books! Shtark learning was followed by a delicious cholent and kugel lunch and another intense League activity and topped off with the Erev Shabbos Program including this week's end of the week raffle. Congratulations to all the winners!

Reminders for Next Week:

Monday: Connecticut Overnight

Tuesday: Connecticut Overnight

Wednesday: NO CAMP

Thursday: 3-Point Shootout

Have an incredible Shabbos!

Can't wait for next week!!!

Rabbi Tsvi Greenfield

Senior Division Head Counselor



League Updates

Rabbi Yehoshua Robinson

WELCOME TO AREIVIM LEAGUES! The first day of camp featured our evaluation games. I must say the counselors did a fantastic job evaluating the boys' skills and talents and, with their advice, we were able to make extremely balanced teams. By Thursday, our famous Areivim Leagues hit the ground running!

The 4th-5th Grade Conference features 8 teams! The theme for the team names is animals so, just to give you some examples, Dovie Adler leads his Adler's Aardvarks and Yoni Nenner leads his Nen's Hens. You get the idea! The games this Thursday were extremely competitive, but also mentchlich at the same time, the unique Areivim blend! Apparently, before the game between Melohn's Marlins vs. Kail's Quails, there was a boy who didn't want to participate thinking he would lose the game for his team, but the other boys encouraged him with their kind and positive words and sure enough that camper played happily and made a tremendous contribution to the game! Some of the Games came down to the wire as well. In fact, Adler's Aardvarks were victorious in baseball on Thursday, with a walk-off single in the bottom of the 9th, it was so exciting!

Did I mention the 6th-8th Grade Conference?!?! All of these games were tight, competitive, but dripping with achdus. The game featuring Mandelbaum's Moose vs. Nen's Hen's was a nail biter. The Moose took the lead by a touchdown. The Hens got the ball back with enough time to make one more push for a Tie. Sure enough, the Hens tied the game as time expired with a touchdown with Hudi Teigman. What was so amazing was to watch boys from the other team congratulate Hudi for his last second TD!

That wraps up this week's recap of our sports for the week. It's hard to imagine that we could duplicate Thursday games, but if history is any indication of what's to come, things will only be getting better and better!

Rabbi Yehoshua Robinson

MIT Division Head/League Commissioner

Something to Say at the Tish

Rabbi Tzvi Finkel

When Moav saw how the Bnei Yisroel defeated the mighty empires of Sichon and Og they became very frightened. Afraid that they were next, they decided to do some research. Being that our leader Moshe Rabbeinu spent some time in Midyan, they thought that, perhaps, Midyan can shed some insight in where lies Moshe's strength. Midyan responded that Moshe's power is with his mouth. Moshe has a special ko'ach to use his mouth in Tefilla. To counter Moshe's abilities, they hired Bila'am, whose power was also with his mouth, to curse klal yisroel. It seems like there is something wrong with this strategy. If Moav wanted to know the strengths and weaknesses of Moshe, wouldn't it make more sense to go to Mitzrayim? After all, in Midyan Moshe did not stand out as anyone special. He was just a shepherd. On the other hand, in Mitzrayim, Moshe showed what he is capable of accomplishing. It would seem they would get a much more accurate assessment from Mitzrayim than from Midyan?

However, if Moav would have contacted Mitzrayim, they would have learned the truth. After going through the 10 makkos and Kriyas Yam Suf, they recognized that Hashem controls the world and it does not pay to start up. That is not what they wanted to hear. They wanted someone to tell them they really did stand a chance. Therefore, Mitzrayim was the wrong address. They decided to approach Midyan.

When seeking advice we have to be honest with ourselves. Is it the answer to the question we are looking for or do we hear what we want to hear?

Parsha Questions: Parshas Balak

- 1. Why did Moav consult specifically with Midian regarding their strategy against the Jews?**
22:4 - Since Moshe grew up in Midian, the Moavim thought the Midianim might know wherein lay Moshe's power.
- 2. What was Balak's status before becoming Moav's king?**
22:4 - He was a prince of Midian.
- 3. Why did Hashem grant prophecy to the evil Bilaam?**
22:5 - So the other nations couldn't say, "If we had had prophets, we also would have become righteous."
- 4. Why did Balak think Bilaam's curse would work?**
22:6 - Because Bilaam's curse had helped Sichon defeat Moav.
- 5. When did Bilaam receive his nevu'os?**
22:8 - Only at night.
- 6. Hashem asked Bilaam, "Who are these men with you?" What did Bilaam deduce from this question?**
22:9 - He mistakenly reasoned that Hashem isn't all-knowing.
- 7. How do we know Bilaam hated the Jews more than Balak did?**
22:11 - Balak wanted only to drive the Jews from the land. Bilaam sought to exterminate them completely.
- 8. What is evidence of Bilaam's arrogance?**
22:13 - He implied that Hashem wouldn't let him go with the Moabite princes due to their lesser dignity.
- 9. In what way was the malach that opposed Bilaam a malach of mercy?**
22:22 - It mercifully tried to stop Bilaam from sinning and destroying himself.
- 10. How did Bilaam die?**
22:23 - He was killed with a sword.
- 11. Why did the malach kill Bilaam's donkey?**
22:33 - So that people shouldn't see it and say, "Here's the donkey that silenced Bilaam." Hashem is concerned with human dignity.
- 12. Bilaam compared his meeting with a malach to someone else's meeting with a malach. Who was the other person and what was the comparison?**
22:34 - Avraham. Bilaam said, "Hashem told me to go but later sent a malach to stop me. The same thing happened to Avraham: Hashem told Avraham to sacrifice Yitzchak but later canceled the command through a malach."
- 13. Bilaam told Balak to build seven altars. Why specifically seven?**
23:4 - Corresponding to the seven altars built by the Avos. Bilaam said to Hashem, "The Jewish People's ancestors built seven altars, but I alone have built altars equal to all of them."
- 14. Who in Jewish history seemed fit for a curse, but got a blessing instead?**
23:8 - Yaakov, when Yitzchak blessed him.
- 15. Why are the Jewish People compared to lions?**
23:24 - They rise each morning and "strengthen" themselves to do mitzvos.
- 16. On Bilaam's third attempt to curse the Jews, he changed his strategy. What was different?** 24:1 - He began mentioning B'nei Yisroel's sins, hoping thus to be able to curse them.
- 17. What were Bilaam's three main characteristics?**
24:2 - An evil eye, pride and greed.
- 18. What did Bilaam see that made him decide not to curse the Jews?**
24:2 - He saw each shevet dwelling without intermingling. He saw the tents arranged so no one could see into his neighbor's tent.
- 19. What phrase in Bilaam's self-description can be translated in two opposite ways, both of which come out meaning the same thing?**
24:3 - "Shatum ha'ayin." It means either "the poked-out eye," implying blindness in one eye; or it means "the open eye", which means vision but implies blindness in the other eye.
- 20. Bilaam told Balak that the Jews' Hashem hates what?**
24:14 - Immorality.



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