

SHABBATON EDITION!

פרשת נשא
June 2, 2017

This Week in Review

As we all know, the Chevra went on an unforgettable Shabbaton with Me-sivta Ateres Yaakov at Camp Romimu. To say that the Chevra had a great time at the Shabbaton can be compared to a group of people who were lucky enough to fly into outer space and say they had a great time! The point is there are no words to do it justice! The Chevra had an out of this world, super uplifting Shabbos from another dimension that we most probably will never forget.

Just the hype of it all was enough to get everyone singing and jumping on Friday morning as we packed our bags neatly into our two fifteen passenger vans. We split up, double checked that we had everything, and made our way to the country. What a ride it was with beautiful views and fresh mountain air! The weather was absolutely phenomenal the entire weekend. During the day, it was in the high 60's and at night, it was in the low 50's.

Shabbos was amazing. The Chevra all donned their special Shabbos garments and headed in the Beis Midrash for Mincha and Kabbolas Shabbos. It was super uplifting with singing and dancing together with the entire Yeshiva. Then with great anticipation by all of us and the Yeshiva, **Rabbi Pesach Krohn** got up to give a Drasha. It was very inspirational as he gave over some amazing stories. We had a wonderful Seudas Shabbos with Zemirots and good food. By then, it was already late, but some opted to stay up for the Tisch and for more Divrei Torah by Rabbi Paysach Krohn as well as singing and dancing.

The next morning, you can bet that not only was every single Chevra individual on time, but they had plenty of time to spare to get a cup of coffee before heading in for Shacharis which was followed by a nice Kiddush. In between lunch, the Chevra exchanged words of Torah, most of it being a review from Rav Krohn's Shiur from the night before. The whole day, everyone was excited for Rabbi





Krohn's flagship Drasha that was scheduled for the entire Me-sivta and Chevra to be a part of. But first, we took a walk down to the lake area to check out the scenery. We did the same exercise as we did last year. We counted to three and asked everyone to close their eyes and just listen to the nature around us. It was great! Everyone participated, and no one made a sound! We heard the birds chirping above, the trees rustling in the wind, and the waves of the lake crashing lightly into the dock. It was a great moment. Rav Krohn's Shiur was packed! There were probably over 250 people in the room. His main theme was that every Yid should have a "Lev Tov" - a good heart. He said that it's not about how many hours you spend in the Beis Medrash, but about having a Lev Tov. That is really what Hashem wants from every Yid - to think about other people and act on helping them.

The action continued with a beautiful Havdalah where the Menahel, **Rabbi Yaffe** and his son, whipped out two guitars and started playing for all the students and Chevra to dance along with. We followed up with sports on the camp grounds and, as if we all weren't exhausted enough we stayed up for the midnight BBQ (of course we limited the food intake since it was so late!). The Chevra left the dining hall back to the bunk as if they had just finished playing in the Super Bowl, and everyone called it a night. It was a Shabbos for the record books - again.

Amazing Stories from the Shabbaton!

Amazing dance performance...

On Friday night during Kabbolas Shabbos, the entire Yeshiva was singing and dancing in the Beis Midrash. There was a huge circle of over 100 students connected by hands held. All of a sudden, **Shlomo** burst out right in the middle of the entire thing and does a solo dance performance for the entire Yeshiva! He was soon met up with another student putting on another shtick. After that, a dozen other students rushed in to join the action in the middle with Shlomo. The Rabbeim were all smiles, and it was a wonderful moment.



In the Spotlight...

A few of us stayed up for the optional Tisch after the Seudas Shabbos. When we got there, we sat down somewhat inconspicuously. After a



few songs, **Rabbi Paysach Krohn** got up to speak and to our amazement, he started to talk about **Chaim Gans** in front of the entire Kehilah! Rav Krohn said that he used to do a few things with Chaim's father, Rabbi Gans, and when he would visit, Chaim would always be helping him in any way he needed. Rabbi Krohn asked Chaim to stand up in front of all the students, and everyone starting clapping for him. The smile on Chaim's face could not be measured.

A Lev Tov...

When we first arrived at the bunks, **Gavriel** put his stuff right next to Lipa's bed. **Lipa** said that he would help Gavriel set up his bed and put away some of his belongings. Ok that's all great. Later on that night, during the Tisch, most of the guys when to bed. However, Lipa was one of them who said he wanted to stay back. **Mayer** took Gavriel and a few others to the Tisch. When they returned later that night, Mayer saw Lipa sleeping on a couch away from his bed in a seated position. (We were lucky enough to have a huge lounge area right in our bunk with couches, tables, and comfortable chairs). Anyways, Mayer asked Lipa, "Why are you sleeping on the couch?" Lipa who just woke up and was somewhat in a slumber whispered "I was waiting for Gavriel in case he needed my help." Wow! that is exactly what **Rav Paysach Krohn** was talking about - having a Lev Tov and thinking about others. Lipa wouldn't go to sleep until he knew he could help Gavriel find his things for bed! Amazing.



Pure Simcha to Infinity...

Ok we challenge you not to smile at this one. The Chevra stayed up for a Melava Malka BBQ but still managed to go to bed at a somewhat reasonable time, 1am! For the Chevra it was lights out everyone in bed, however, some of the Yeshiva students apparently stayed up really late. Fast forward to 3am in the morning and apparently some of the students were still singing in the camp grounds ways away, and a faint humming of singing could be heard in the Chevra bunk. All of a sudden this is what happened in the Chevra bunk.



Yidi starts singing oy yoy yoy ya ya yoy yoy – yoy yoy yoy ya ya ya. Literally at 3am Yidi started singing along with the other students from



across the camp grounds! **Adir** whispered nicely "Yidi! Go back to sleep!" Yidi says "ok sorry sorry." About 15 minutes later Yidi continued his singing with Yoy yoy yoy yoy ya ya ya ya - yoy yoy yoy yoy yoy ya ya ya! Adir said again "Yidi! Go back to sleep its 3 in the morning!" Yidi: "ok sorry I'm going to sleep now." Indeed he did go to sleep after that. **Rabbi Horowitz** from the Mesivta summed it up perfectly earlier in the day from an unrelated story. Rav Horowitz came over to **Mayer** and said Yidi and everyone in the Chevra has such pure Simcha straight from the source - they are Tzadikim and it's really true. Indeed Yidi was imbuing pure Simcha that we just can't get over!

Don't Challenge the Master!

We all know that **Hudi** has the uncanny ability to calculate what day of the week you were born on if you give him your full birthday. So some students wanted to test him on it. There were four students who came over to us and asked Hudi what day they were born on. The first student tells Hudi the date and Hudi tells him he was born on a Wednesday. The student say oh sorry Hudi I was born on a Monday. **Mayer** said "are you sure? Hudi usually gets it right." He said yeah it was a Monday. Ok fine we put him aside for a moment and moved on to the other students and one by one Hudi got their exact day they were born on correct! They were amazed. We went back to the first student whose mother happened to be there at the Shabbaton. Mayer said to the first student "go back with your friends and double check if Hudi's answer was correct! I guarantee you were born on the day Hudi said you were!" About five minutes later the 4 boys coming running back into the dining room and shouting at the top of their lungs, "he was correct! He was born on a Wednesday just like Hudi said!"

A Lesson from Rav Paysach Krohn...

The following is a story that **Rav Krohn** imparted to all the students during his various Shiurim. Keep in mind we obviously could not take notes as it was Shabbos so for the exact details please refer to his books or Shiurim online.

As we mentioned above Rav Krohn's main message on Friday night was to acquire for yourself a "Lev Tov" to have a good heart and that it's not



enough to go to the Beis Midrash, but you also have to “plant seeds” by doing great acts of kindness because you never know one day who it can affect. Here is a story.

There was a Jewish man from another country on a plane and on the plane he was sitting next to a non-Jew. Since the flight was long they got to talking and the Jewish man mentioned that he was raising money for a religious institution. He didn't say what nationality he was from because he was afraid that once he said he was Jewish the wealthy non-Jew may not want to donate anything to his cause. But after the non-Jew kept pressing for him to reveal what religion he was from he finally said that he was raising money for a religious Shul. Once the non-Jew heard that, he told him, “I will fund your whole Shul right away”. The Jew was shocked! Let's take a look at what seed was planted years ago for this event to happen. It turns out that when this non-Jew was a little boy he and his family lost all of their money. In their town was a Jewish shopkeeper who owned clothing and food, and he said to this non-Jewish boy, “if you ever need food and clothing for your family just come into my store and take what you need, I will never charge you for anything!” And he survived as a child like this through the generosity of this Jewish shopkeeper. So now when he got older he became wealthy and he vowed that he wanted to give back and it happened to be that the Jewish man on his flight was the person he gave back to! Together they build that Shul. The story does not end there. Rav Krohn said that this Shul that was built from the story above, that when **Rabbi Yaffe** the Menahel of Mesivta Ateres Yaakov was a little boy he attended that very Shul! He said, “could you believe it! A Jewish shopkeeper planted the seeds by donating food and clothes to a goy to which then the goy funded an entire new Shul years later to give back to Rabbi Yaffe attending that Shul as a little boy and being inspired and leading to one day lead the entire Mesivta Ateres Yaakov! Incredible!”

We would like to thank our Shabbaton staff **Dmitiry, Adir** and **Ron** for their amazing hard work and dedication over this past Shabbos. Just on Shabbos day alone the staff was up with the individuals from 6am all the way to 1:30 am with no exaggeration! They did this all with a smile and without them the Shabbaton could not have been what it



was. Thank you!

A special thank you to **Rabbi Horowitz** from Mesivta Ateres Yaakov for taking a special interest in our Chevra. Always coming up to us and saying hello. Constantly dancing with our group and bringing them together with the other students. Rabbi Horowitz has a Lev Tov indeed.

A special thank you to **Rabbi Drebin** for coordinating the Shabbaton with Mayer.

A Special thank you to **Rabbi Rabinowitz** for his help in fundraising for the Shabbaton.

A big thank you to the parents as well. Not a single individual was without what they needed. Everyone was packed up with everything and more. But even more than that thank you for instilling such amazing Middos in your children. The compliments were never ending during the Shabbaton as to the character traits of everyone in the Chevra. You should have a lot of Nachas. We certainly did.

Good Shabbos!

Shabbaton Awards!

- **Shlomo** - Gevaldik dancing during Kabbalos Shabbos!
- **Chaim** – Best lechavod Shabbos preparation. Before Mincha, **Mayer** was walking through the bunk and he saw Chaim cleaning and polishing his shoes with a shoe brush in honor of Shabbos! Who in 2017 polishes their shoes before Shabbos? Chaim does!
- **Gavriel** – Best learner – Gavriel took advantage of every Shiur every Tisch every learning moment.
- **Lipa** – Best walkie talkie coordinator. Lipa was always communicating with Mayer as they both brought up walkie talkies.
- **Hudi** – Most humble eater during meals – Just like the Tzadikim, Hudi only ate exactly what he needed for each meal and not more.
- **Jeffrey** – Earliest riser to get up for Shacharis! (second year in a row!)



- **Simcha** – Best Shmoozer – Simcha new so many people and was able to have great chats with many students.
- **Yidi** – Tied for best Bekisha and best singer of Zemiros! (second year in a row!)
- **Shmuel** - Funniest comedian - Shmuel cracked jokes with the Yeshiva students and Rabbeim all Shabbos long and everyone enjoyed.
- **Shamshon** – Best showcase of Lchvod Hatorah – Shamshon made sure to run up to kiss the Torah every time it was taken out and didn't miss one time.
- **Tzvi** – Best helper – anytime we need extra plates cups or help with anything Tzvi was right there to answer the call!

A Joke for You...

Q: How do you keep your sleeping bag from getting stretched out?

A: Don't sleep too long in it!

Q: Why are people who go camping on April 1 always tired?

A: Because they just finished a March!

Q: What kind of car does a rich cow drive?

A: A Cattelac!



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You're Two Tents!

Shabbaton 2017!



Shabbaton 2017 Continued....

