

SHAFTY Scribbler

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Comedy Night

On December 18th, Sr. SHAFTY set out for a night of Chinese food and comedy. After a few delicious servings of lo mein, wonton soup, and General Tso's Chicken, old and new SHAFTYites got to know each another through a series of mixers. Then, we were off to Georgine's, where the comedians had us rolling in our seats for the whole show. The long-anticipated comedy

club trip was a hit among all SHAFTYites, as we dined, played, and laughed the night away.

By Chad Nobel



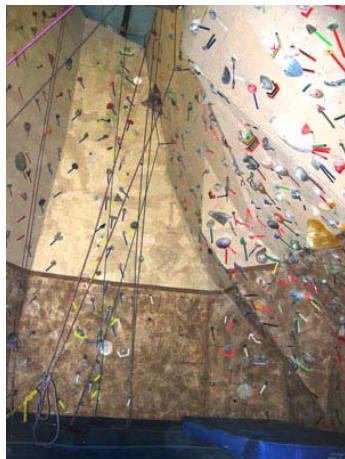
Rock Climbing

In the middle of January, SHAFTY went to the Doylestown Rock Gym and had tons of fun all night long! Most people went for the simple and easy rock walls, but several people wanted

to challenge themselves and climb a very steep and difficult wall! Afterwards, we all got on the bus and took a trip to a small, nearby restaurant known as Smokin' Lil's. This

By Emily Shain

restaurant offered many delicious sandwiches that anyone would enjoy. By the end of the night we were all exhausted after this trip, but being extremely tired was well worth it.



WINSTY

By Devon Riggs

Winter Institute, better known as WINSTY, was a weekend of fun and social action from January 14-16. After the six-hour bus ride to Pittsburgh and squeals and screams of hello, we got down to what WINSTY is really about... social action. All of us signed up for various social action projects from helping out at shelters, food kitchens and hospitals to helping at libraries, gardens and

even our host, Temple Sinai. After many hours of volunteering, we had fun going ice skating, dancing, spending time with friends and voting for NFTY-PAR superlatives. Our wonderful weekend ended with heartwarming stories about various PAR-ites who were touched by the people they helped, from the three year old brother of a cancer patient at the hospital to an older

woman at one of the nursing homes who wanted to give the prize she won at Bingo to the girl helping her. On the ride home, we were all tired but happy with all the mitzvahs we accomplished over the



course of the weekend.



Sahara Sam's

SHAFTY put away their gloves and hats and packed their towels and bathing suits and headed to Sahara Sam's Indoor Water Park. We got to escape the cold weather and swim in 80 degrees! Some of

us enjoyed sliding down the crazy water slides, boogie boarding down a wave simulator or just relaxing in the lazy river. Either surfing or just watching, the Flow Rider seemed to be where all the action

By Jenna Leace

was! Everyone took their turn wiping out on the extremely fun simulator. After a long day full of fun, we all hit the lazy river before it was time to leave. Sahara Sam's was a great way to escape the cold

President's Address

By Chad Nobel

We certainly had a long winter this year, but nevertheless, our SHAFTYites braved the Bucks County Tundra to spend time with old and make new ones as well. The past few events have had an absolutely fantastic turnout. I love seeing so many new faces at each one! Our events have included our annual midnight bowling shul in, rock climbing, and Sahara Sam's Indoor Water park! We only have two events left: The Melting Pot in April

and our first-ever SHAFTY barbecue in May, which will take place in Tyler State Park. Regardless of the time of the year, we're always looking to add new members to the SHAFTY family. Stay warm in these last few weeks of winter weather and please make sure you join us at our last few events!

NFTY-PAR Elections

NFTY-PAR is an awesome experience, and it brings so much to so many kids in a lot of different ways. The biggest thing that anyone can give back to an organization like PAR is to run for their leadership. This is something I had the pleasure to do, and win! I and 12 others ran for PAR board, and it was a very difficult decision because everyone who ran for office this year was extremely qualified. PAR Board for 2011-

2012 is Sarah Horn (President), Jane Mittleman (Programming VP), Sam Prager (Social Action VP), Jake Hershman (Religious and Cultural VP), Louis Markowitz (Eastern VP), Gadi Paskoff (Western VP), Dean Kroker (Fundraising VP), and Rachel Abramowitz (Secretary). NFTY-PAR has some great leaders to lead them forward, and I look forward to see what I and my fellow board member-elects can do for it. This board will be

By Louis Markowitz

inducted at Spring Kallah from April 8th-10th, and our first event as a board is Hag Mac 2011, from May 13th-15th! Be sure to



NFTY Convention 2011

Back in February, five of our SHAFTY-ites took the trek to Dallas, Texas for the Bi-Annual National NFTY Convention. Over 700 Jewish teens from all over the nation came together for five days of singing, cheering,

leadership training, meeting new friends, and a whole lot of Judaism. It was impossible to not meet new friends. Everytime you turned around there was somebody new. I met people from Missouri, people from

By Carly Harris

Los Angeles, even people from Canada! The first night we had the most incredible song session I have ever experienced. We sang and danced so hard that they had to put up a sign that told us "not to jump up and down however

Constant use will not wear ragged the fabric of friendship.
~Dorothy Parker

NFTY Convention 2011 (Continued)

tour the Dallas stadium, and go to a real honky-tonk, and had concerts and private one-on-one sessions with Dan Nichols, and my new favorite singer, Josh Nelson the up-and-coming Jewish singer. The weekend was full of enough memories to last until the next

convention in California in 2013.



Jr. SHAFTY

There was plenty of snow and ice for Jr. Shafty's winter events this year. Back by popular demand was January's Ultrazone lock-in. Jr. Shafty had 30 kids who laser tagged, played arcade games and ate tons of munchies into the wee hours of the morning. It was the largest turnout for an event all year and it was great to see new faces join us such as Alli Abramson and Sydney

Cohen. I don't think Cory Stillman, Jared Scharf and Max Newman stopped playing laser tag all night long! It was a great but very exhausting and (at least for me) fun night! Thanks to Randi Denmark for chaperoning. Since Jr. Shafty was tired of the cold weather we decided to pretend it was summer and go to Sahara' Sam's water



By Leslie Leibowitz

If it's not fun, you're not doing it right.
~Bob Basso

Jr. SHAFTY (Continued)

loved the flow rider surf simulator. I loved watching Mitchell Koganski and Grant Denmark hang ten! We had a yummy lunch and played our share of arcade games and then we headed home. We rode in style to March's

Backwards Progressive Dinner. Five host families invited us into their homes for our meal. We sure ate our fill! The chocolate fountain at Jake Greenberg's house was amazing! Hannah Kravatz hosted the main

course and we ate plenty of burgers. Then it was off to Steven Miller's house for a sherbet. Austin Kane invited us in for matzo ball soup and great salad. Finally, we went to Rachel Freeman's house for appetizers. Make sure you join us

6th Grade Retreat

SHAFTY's annual 6th Grade Retreat took place from March 4th-5th. All of the 6th grade students of Shir Ami's Hebrew school gather together and connect with one another and become closer to each other. Sr. SHAFTY lead the service, written by Liz Schorr and Carly

Harris, which took place on Friday night. We all found a way to have a Shabbat service, but make it fun as well! The theme of this service was "You've Got a Friend In Me", and it was very successful. Incorporated in this service were several quotes that dealt with

By Emily Shain

friendship and all of the 6th graders took turns reading them aloud. This service was a huge



Midnight Bowling



On March 12, SHAFTY gathered for the most anticipated event of the year: Midnight Bowling! We were especially excited to have two members of NFTY-NYAR in attendance. Before we left, SHAFTY's PVP, Carly Harris, led an awesome program that had us all think more about what being Jewish means to us. The first part of the program was a game titled "How Jewish Is It?" We had to rate things, such as Israel and food,

from 0-5, 0 being gentile and 5 being Moses. The second part included a group discussion in which we talked about our own, personal Jewish values. Everyone gave intriguing insights into their beliefs. An Italian-style dinner of Caesar salad, garlic bread, and lasagna followed, and then we all moved into the chapel for Havdallah led by RCVF Liz Schorr. Shortly after the service concluded, everyone boarded the bus for Brunswick Zone. We put

By Josh Dienstman

on our bowling shoes, chose our bowler names, and then the strikes began to pile up. At 3 AM, when our arms and fingers could no longer hold a bowling ball, everyone got back on the bus to return to Shir Ami where some chose to pull an all-nighter and others chose to get as much sleep as they possibly could on Daylight Saving Time. Midnight Bowling successfully lived up to its hype and anticipation!

Purim Carnival

"Come one, come all!" The Purim Carnival took place on March 20th and it was a great success! SHAFTY held the first-ever miniature golf course in our very own youth lounge. It included five challenging courses, one of them

being a triangle. Of course it was in the shape of Hamen's hat.. SHAFTY also performed a fantastic parody of the 1980's version of MTV. We all sang remakes of hit songs such as "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" and "Thriller". It was

By Sydney Denmark

hosted by the one and only, M.C. Megillah! It was a huge success. We're all looking forward to a huge turnout next year as well. Thanks to everyone who helped out and participated!



Bonim and Chalutzim

In December, we welcomed back A Sharp Productions for our annual Hanukkah Hop. What a blast! Everyone had fun sharing Hanukkah traditions with their friends. Isaac Kravatz and Craig Klevan led Hanukkah prayers and lit the menorah. Abby and

It as the crowd hipped and hopped to the Cupid Shuffle. Ben Blumenfeld could've been mistaken for Michael Jackson for his cool and smooth moves on the dance floor. Thanks to all of the chaperones who helped with decorating, serving food, supervising, and

By Mindy Smoot

Sure everyone had a blast! We all had an awesome time! We made another great donation to Bucks County Children and Youth Services to help many other less fortunate kids in our area enjoy the holiday season with the fabulous gifts you contributed.

Bonim and Chalutzim (Continued)

January brought Chalutzim to Bounce U, where “U” bounced until you dropped. Zach Saver and Corey Klevan got caught in the Hurricane Simulator! Chelsey Siegal and Tori Dorfman and friends went down a huge bouncy side every way imaginable! Our super gladiators, including Brandon Sherwood and Bennett Bobrin, battled it out with the biggest hands you ever did see! They were so big, they couldn’t even hold their hands up!

There was an obstacle course, tower, and basketball, too! The Wild Winter Wonderland didn’t end yet. In February both Bonim and Chalutzim made their way to Bear Creek Mountain for once of the most popular events of the year – Snow tubing! What a beautiful day for snow tubing....no hot chocolate needed today!! While trudging up the mountain, we learned that some kids enjoyed the slower chutes while others loved to fly

down the faster ones. We even talked our chaperone Lori into tubing for the first time in her life. Congrats, Lori, for completing an activity on your bucket list! And, then there were our 6th grade boys who enjoyed people watching as they reclined and relaxed on their tubes after their 5th time down the mountain. Once we ate lunch we piled back on the bus for a return ride home of Chalutzim and Bonim singers. A big thank you to our



Letter From The Editor

Dear SHAFTY,

I can’t believe this year has gone by so fast! I have had so much fun at all of our events and I can’t wait for more! I have to say, one of my favorite events was

Rock Climbing. Plus, the sandwiches at Smokin’ Lil’s were delicious! Of course, I always enjoy our annual Midnight Bowling Shul-In. I never bowled so much in one night. I can’t wait for next year! I am really looking forward to our

last few events, the Melting Pot and our first-ever barbecue. Make sure you join us! Writing this newsletter has been a lot of fun. I hope you enjoy it.

Love,
Emily



Winter Coat Donation

Throughout the months of February and March a coat drive a coat drive ran. we received over 75 generous donations. I would like to thank everyone who helped by donating. all of the coats went to One Warm Coat, an organization that distributes coat donations throughout local areas,

which means Philadelphia for us. the coats were greatly appreciated by the organization as well as myself for everyone at Shir Ami donating and giving aid to so many less fortunate. Also, there is currently a soda tab collection going

Rebecca Benoff
between grades K-5 and 6-10. The winning grade will get an ice cream party. So...who will win? Bring in as many soda tabs as you can. Thanks again to everyone who helped with the coat drive. Now let’s keep the social action going with the soda tab collections!