

THE SHOFAR OF THE DAY

Jewish Scouting Alumni's triannual newsletter

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Meet our first registered alumni: JSA is proud to welcome its first officially registered alumni member, Douglas Carp. This milestone reflects the purpose of JSA: reconnecting alumni who continue to carry Scouting's values of community, service, and responsibility forward.

Scouting, Then and Now

By Douglas Carp, Alumnus

Scouting was an incredibly memorable time in my life. As a young teen, it helped me learn practical skills and form friendships whose memories have stayed with me for my entire life. The skills I learned through Scouting have proven invaluable. When people think of Scouting, they often picture camping and making fires. What they do not always realize is that we were also learning responsibility, leadership, and how to be a productive member of society. Those lessons extended far beyond the uniform and shaped how I approached life as an adult.

I hope Scouting experiences a resurgence in popularity like it did decades ago, because the values it teaches are just as important today as they were then.

A Bridge Worth Building

By Ian Price, JSA Vice Chair

B'eizat Hashem, Jewish Scouting Alumni is off to a strong start, and I keep thinking about what we are really building. A bridge back to the people and values that shaped us. For many of us, Scouting was where Jewish identity met everyday leadership responsibility, service, community, and character were not abstract ideas. They were lived experiences, and those lessons stayed with us long after the uniform was put away. From campfires to service projects, Scouting gave us practice for adult life. It taught us how to show up, how to lead, and how to care for something bigger than ourselves. My hope is that JSA becomes a simple home base. A place where we stay connected, share stories, mentor when it fits, and support Scouting in practical and meaningful ways.

Thank you for being part of this beginning. If you have an idea for what we should do next, or a story to feature in a future issue, I would love to hear from you. Until then, may we keep strengthening the bridge, one connection and one act of service at a time.

יותר מעשר More Than Ten

By Matthew Rosen, JSA Chair

Baruch Hashem, we already reached double digit membership in just our first 30 days! We now have more than ten registered members through the website JewishScoutingAlumni.org, reflecting the lasting connection our alumni feel to the values of Scouting. I look forward to welcoming even more alumni as our community continues to grow!

Mitzvah Day

By Dr. Justine Green, JSA Secretary

Recently, I had the meaningful opportunity to give back and perform mitzvot within the Jewish community by participating in Mitzvah Day, a program rooted in the value of Tikkun Olam—repairing the world. Alongside fellow congregants of all ages, I dedicated my time and energy to a variety of hands-on service projects that supported individuals in need both locally and beyond. These included making SunButter and jelly sandwiches, decorating cards and pictures for IDF members, first responders, and seniors, assembling no-sew blankets, hygiene kits for those experiencing homelessness, and Shabbat kits for JNF seniors. I also took part in preparing “just-add-water” mason jar soups for families facing food insecurity, creating Sharsheret bracelets to raise cancer awareness, and supporting community wellness through blood donation and engagement with local police K-9 therapy dogs. The experience was a powerful reminder of the impact we can make when we come together in service, compassion, and community.

