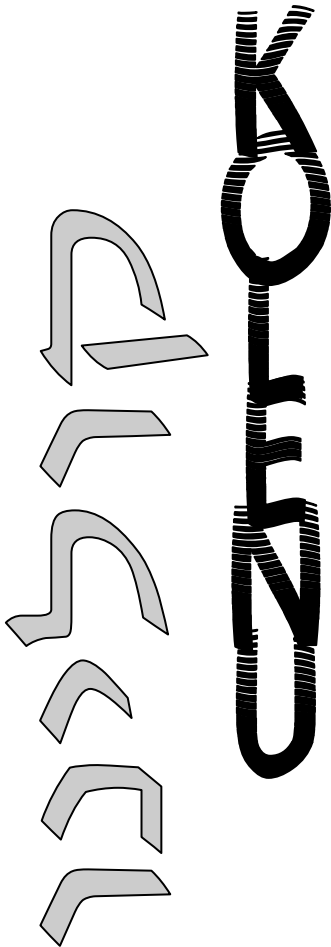


**HAGALIL
USY's
NEWSLETTER**



FALL KINNUS



WELCOME TO Fall Kinnus 2009!

What's up Hagalil? I'm Lindsay Steinbach, your Communications Vice President and I want to **WELCOME** you to the wonderful world of Kolenu!!! Kolenu is a great way to express yourself and talk about your USY experiences! As you are all leaders in USY, I encourage you to write for Kolenu. If you would rather draw something than write, feel free as we include art as well! So send me some stuff for Kolenu!

In this issue of Kolenu, you will find out about what other USYers are passionate about. Besides from that, you'll find out things about your fellow USYers that you may not have known before! So what are you passionate about?? There is also a Freshmen Spotlight including freshmen talking about their early experiences in USY. Finally, there are articles written by USYers that went on USY summer programs such as USY on Wheels: Classic, USY on Wheels: Mission Mitzvah, and Pilgrimage! So turn the page and read on!

Lindsay Steinbach
Communications Vice President 2009-2010

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS SUMMER?

Are you interested in a USY Summer Program?! Email Andrew Geller, Hagalil's Summer Programs Recruiter, at andrewcgeller@gmail.com if you have any questions!

Do you want to write for Kolenu? It's an awesome way to express yourself, and share all the amazing and fun experiences you've had in USY. If you're Interested, email Lindsay Steinbach at Lin-zatart100@comcast.net !

What Am I Passionate About?

Dictionary.com defines passion as: *any powerful or compelling emotion or feeling, as love or hate;*

a strong or extravagant fondness, enthusiasm, or desire for anything.

I have a passion for USY. Most people spend four years in USY and leave. Some come and staff for a while and move on. A few even stick around once they leave college. I was a member of USY. I staffed while I was in college left for a bit and came back to staff more. Then I never left!

I have a passion for education- both formal and informal. I love to see USYers grow as individuals, as leaders and grapple with the educational and religious pieces of USY. It makes me smile when I get an email years later from former USYers recanting the lessons that they learned and where they are in life.

But even more so, I have a passion to staff USY summer programs. Each summer, hundreds of USYers travel to Israel together on the USY Israel trips. Now is the time to start thinking about how you are spending your summer. Whether it is: Eastern Europe/ Israel Pilgrimage, Israel Pilgrimage/ Poland Seminar, Italy/ Israel Pilgrimage, Israel Adventure or Israel Adventure Plus. If you are a senior, it's not too late to think about NATIV. Have the time of your life on a USY Israel trip. For more information check out the website: www.usy.org/escape.

Hope to see you in Israel this summer!

Michelle

Michelle Rich

Director of Education and Youth Activities

**ARE YOU A MEMBER OF HAGALIL'S 3 CLUBS
—613, HESCHEL, AND HECHALUTZIM?
IF NOT, JOIN TODAY!**

It's All About the Double "S"

My passions are a part of me. They're what drive me to do everything that I do. Passion is engraved in my soul, and even my name, as both "Melissa," and "passion," have a double "s." My passion is evident in all of the things that I carry: the intangible, and the tangible.

I know that this is a strange way of answering the question "what are you passionate for," but I truly am passionate for everything, as cliché as it sounds. The best way I could describe my passion is by letting you know the other things that make me who I am, or explaining to you some of the things that I carry.

I think it's safe to say that I carry an unusual load: a load that is meaningful; a load that is empowering; a load that is fulfilling. What I carry is unique and rare, and sometimes overwhelming. It is my own. I would never give up the things I carry, because if I did, I would be giving up pieces of me.

Strength. I carry the strength of a physical trainer, but not in the physical sense. The strength I carry is in my character. If this sort of strength could help me do a pull-up, then maybe I would be able to. But unfortunately it doesn't, and I don't carry the strength of muscles. I guess I do have physical strength somewhere though, because it takes seventeen muscles to smile.

Responsibility. I carry the responsibilities that come with being a sister, a daughter, a friend, a student, and a leader. Sometimes these responsibilities bog me down, but I don't let them bog me down for long. I remember that I am indebted to the world around me and that I owe everyone the best I have to offer. That keeps me going strong.

Above all, I carry myself, and I do it with pride, confidence, and determination. I don't need to walk with a strut in order to carry myself in a way to be noticed. I am noticed for what's inside. In order to be recognized for who I am and what I stand for, I let you get to know me. I have nothing to hide, and I'm proud of what I carry, because what I carry makes me who I am.

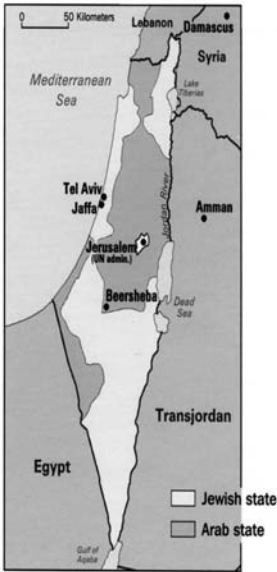
Melissa Sperber

Social Action/Tikun Olam Vice President

It's All About Helping Out

Never do I feel the benefit of my actions as strongly as I do while volunteering. Volunteering is the best way for me to improve myself and the community. Helping people is an invigorating experience and gives me a chance to change, for the better, the lives of others. As if in exchange, by working with people, I have learnt new things and seen new perspectives. At times the work has put me in uncomfortable situation, but this discomfort has enabled me to mature and discover things about myself I was never before aware of. In all these ways, volunteering has enabled me to help others while also helping myself.

Daniel Listwa



It's My True Passion..

When I think about the things that I am passionate about in life, the first thing that comes to mind is Israel. As Jewish teenagers, we are so lucky to be able to grow up in a world where Israel, a Jewish state, a homeland rich in history, culture, tradition and excitement, is a place we can each call our own. I think it is something that we too often take for granted and, in an era that poses many imminent threats, this can be extremely dangerous. I believe wholeheartedly that each one of us has the obligation to stay updated on what is happening in Israel – both politically and culturally – so that we can each create a personal connection to the land that is so important to our people.

Shayna Schor



**Do you play an instrument?
Are you interested in participating in Shacharit Live?**

Talk to Cory Nagelberg or send him an email at sugg22@aol.com!

Passion for Glasses

In the word passion, the letter “s” repeats. This is also the case in the word glasses. That lead me to the point of my article; I have a passion for glasses. Like the ones people wear on their faces. They help your vision and decoratively frame each eye. They are just too cool. I wish I had a pair of snazzy spectacles.

Now I’m not a huge fan of sport goggles also known as “rec specs.” Sunglasses are chill. However, my affinity is for your everyday pair of spectacles. Glasses have the ability to change a person’s character. In addition, one’s character is judged based on the pair of glasses he or she is sporting. Glasses can make a woman seductive. Or your “frames” could make you look completely cerebral. If I see a person rocking classy turtle shell glasses, I would think that is one stylish dude. I would have the opposite reaction if someone is wearing wide lens 80’s glasses with a thin gold border.

You are probably wondering why I like glasses so much. Or you might ponder why I wear “flasses” (fake glasses) for any project or presentation I deem appropriate. I am not sure why. But you can ask anyway. This passion of mine is more like an obsession. A few years ago, Hagalil held a donation drive for used glasses. I tried to smuggle a few pairs home with me, but was unsuccessful. ONLY KIDDING. But I’m sure you thought the worst of me and believed my lie. Nevertheless, I think it is clear, I have a passion for glasses and the way they reflect our personalities and the judgments of others.

Jonathan Steinberg

Who Says You Can't Have More Than One?

I have two passions – Judaism and my dog, Diego. Many think that the two are completely different, but for me they are intertwined – inseparable, really.

Judaism has been my passion since my parents brought me to a world filled with good food and family gatherings. If anything, I have learned that Judaism is nothing without the community and the food it can supply. It is the life and excitement of holidays, prayers, and *shimchas* that makes me most passionate about Judaism. Who does not like a little vacation with a spiritual stress reliever and dancing if you are up for it? Also, my Judaism makes me and my value system different. The choices I make- keeping kosher, giving tzedaka, and involving myself in Jewish studies in USY and Hebrew school- show who I truly am, and separate me from the mundane and monotonous life of waking up to school, studying, sleeping, and waking up again (and let's not forget eating).

You might be asking, “What does this have to do with your dog?” My answer is- everything. Diego wakes me up each morning, staring at me with the most adorable, large, puppy dog eyes because he knows that at this moment it is my responsibility to care for him (the most arduous task of walking him for a mere 5 minutes). He reminds me that I am not alone in this world and I must care for others if I wish for my own loves and passions to thrive. Furthermore, Diego is the most Jewish dog I know. He takes advantage of my love for him and begs for a treat after every walk, and every time I leave the house (be it for school, a friend's house, or just to get the mail). Every Friday night Kiddush, Diego quietly lies by the dinner table, planning on how to get the most food from each family member. He slowly surrounds the table, finding weaknesses in the family's love for him, and jumps on any opportunity to get a piece of my mother chicken. The similarity is obvious. Judaism and taking care of my dog are both based on relationships; be it between two individuals, or an individual and the community. Caring for someone, other than yourself, is rewarding. Helping others, and seeing their happiness and joyfulness, at times, is what attracts me to the Jewish way and what causes me to love Diego even more. Because at the end of the day, when I am tired or a bit down, it is nice to have Diego run towards me, jumping, licking, rolling over, even sneezing uncontrollably, to cheer me up.

Hadar Weiss

I'm Passionate About You!

I am passionate about passing knowledge on to others. I find it extremely important to share what you know with someone else, so that they can then pass it along to someone else. Along with passing along the message of USY to everyone I see, I pass along my knowledge of theatre lighting. As head of WHS Lighting Crew this year, one of my responsibilities is to share the technique of lighting design with all the new crew members. The importance of passing knowledge reaches far beyond our current day. Long ago, passing along a trade was the greatest act of kindness one could perform for another because that allowed them to survive and make a living. In addition to being a great mitzvah, it's easy to do! I encourage you to share your skills with someone else, and pass the knowledge around. Also, there are a lot more things you can share other than knowledge. Passing things in general is pretty awesome. You can share something with someone so easily! Pass them a food item at dinner, or just pass along some happiness. Smile at the next person you see!

Halli James

It's All About the Politics..

I enjoy doing a lot of things. Hanging out with friends, drawing, reading: these are all things that I like doing, and if I could do any one of them instead of work, I'd be a very happy camper. What I'm passionate about is a bit more difficult to explain. Since about two or three years ago I've found the political system in America absolutely fascinating. Everything from the management and twist and turns of campaigns for a public office to large policy decisions once a candidate is already in office are topics that I could talk endlessly about (just ask my family.) I realize that politics and government aren't exactly protecting trees, ballroom dancing, or saving the penguins--"normal" things that you'd expect someone to say they're passionate about--but it's what I want to spend the rest of my life doing, so yes I'd say I'm "double S" passionate for PoliSci.



Oren Fliegelman

The Beat

At the risk of sounding cliché, music is my life. It is the one thing that I am truly passionate about with all my heart. I cannot describe in words how much music means to me, how much it has changed my life, and how much my life revolves around music. Though I may not be able to do that, I can give you someone else's description of what music is about. Gerard Way, the lead singer of My Chemical Romance, once said "If for one minute you think you're better than a sixteen year old girl in a Green Day t-shirt, you are sorely mistaken. Remember the first time you went to a show and saw your favorite band. . . All you knew was that this music made you feel different from anyone you shared a locker with. Someone finally understood you. This is what music is about." I love this quote. Music has the ability to give you a feeling that you can't get from anything else. It can change your perspective. It can help you find who you are. It can even save your life. Different types of music mean different things to different people. Personally, I love several genres of music, but to be honest, I just do not have a connection with rap. I do not, however, say that rap is bad or that it sucks. This is because even though I may not have a connection to rap, there are people that do. Peoples' lives have been saved as a result of listening to rap and the connection they have to it. That is what is so great about music. There are so many genres and variations of music, that everyone can find music that they have a connection with. Music is an amazing thing and can be life changing. Going to concerts and experiencing what it is like to be in the middle of crowd full of people who share your love for music is an amazing experience. Music has changed my life and it can change yours too.

Ariel Lubow

My Passion

I really stink at singing. In fact, I'm so terrible at singing that I've frequently been begged not to try out for a choir, or sing in the car, or even in the shower. And as those of you who also can't sing know, if you can't join them, play an instrument that is louder than they are. Over the past few years, I have developed a passion for playing the bass guitar, which has two S's in its name, like the word passion. Playing bass has opened up a whole new world for me – it opened me up to a new group of friends, it gave me confidence to perform in front of an audience, it allowed me to learn a whole new set of skills, and it helped me to really appreciate music. I really love playing bass – probably the best side effect of playing bass is that I now see everything in a more musical manner. The bass guitar helps provide a really solid rhythmic foundation for a band, but it also provides a melodic and harmonic link between the drums and the guitar. The idea that something can provide a foundation and simultaneously add embellishments to an object (or song) was really revolutionary towards me. I use that as an inspiration constantly – I'm always looking for a way to make whatever project I'm working on as functional and solid as possible, while at the same time having fun elements.

Cory Nagelberg

I'm Making a Difference

What is better than the feeling of seeing those twenty young students from Newark NJ, rushing into my synagogue every Thursday afternoon, into my arms, with huge smiles, ready to play games, do an art project, eat a warm meal and do their homework? Absolutely nothing. I have been fortunate enough to participate in the SCEEP program for the past two and a half years. In this program, myself, along with peers from my school and schools nearby, take our Thursday afternoons to tutor second grade children from Newark. For the two hours I am there, I have such a warm, heart-felt feeling about these children; one that never escapes. We are taking the children away from their crazy lives at home, where they are surrounded by many things a second grader should not be exposed to. Last year, SCEEP was cancelled because there were shootings at school buses in Newark and the students were unable to come to us. The student whom I had tutored for two years was kicked out of SCEEP for bringing a knife in his backpack for protection; don't forget, he was only seven years old. When I heard about this, tears filled my eyes because my bond with him was so strong. One wonderful aspect of this program is watching the children succeed and improve their grades each year. Being a part of their lives, and feeling the strong embrace of the group of kids week after week is truly amazing. Not only does working with these children have a great impact on them, but it also has a great impact on me. It makes me realize how much I take for granted sometimes and how truly lucky I am to have a mother, father and two brothers that love me more than anything, a warm house to come home to, a school to attend everyday without a doubt in my mind anything will go wrong and to have a great group of friends that care about me. To live care-free is something these children usually don't experience. So for these two hours a week, that we take them under our wing, seeing their smiles makes me realize that although it is only to a handful of the hundreds of children in Newark, I *am* making a difference.

Shai Kartus

I Love USY!

I am passionate about USY. Yeah I know it sounds really corny and people have other things besides USY that they are passionate about for example playing guitar, or painting, or riding horses but that's just not me. Even my friends at school who are not Jewish, know that I am highly involved in USY (sometimes they think I even talk about it too much, which isn't true) which proves that it is what I am passionate about.

I started USY as a shy and nervous, freshman who only knew one or two people. As the years have gone by, and the memories have been made, I would have been crazy to hesitate on signing up for Encampment 06'.

All of us dread when people say, "Oh its our last year! It is the end!" But they are wrong. You have to take what you experienced with USY, and keep it with you. The leadership skills, or friendships we make will last forever. USY was just a step in the beginning of the rest of our lives. I personally know that USY has made me find myself and not be that shy, nervous freshman that I was 4 years ago. You all should find someone and tell them about USY so they can see how amazing it is. You need to pester and annoy to the greatest extent, alright maybe not to the extent of people wanting to hurt you, but enough so that they will come to at least one event and see how they like it. I am a member of the Kadima RGB just for this reason. I want to tell the 8th graders how awesome, and fun USY will be in the years ahead. My goal is to show them that it could change their lives too. So the next time you think, "Oh no! It is my last year in USY!" think, wow, maybe I should get more people to join USY so that they can be passionate about it and have crazy, fun filled adventures too.

Frankie Stern

It Runs in my Blood

"Family by blood, friends by choice"—we've all seen or heard this saying, but it's time I explain why it's so important to me. As I pondered about the many things that I am passionate about in life, including music, USY, friends, clothes, and USY on Wheels, I decided that I am most passionate about my family. I love my parents and my sister, but my true passion lies within the bond I have with my cousins who are close in age with me. You may know them because they are all in USY (Ariana, Lexa, and Levana). These girls know me inside and out, and I know that I can go to them with any problem or situation and not be worried about being judged. My cousins, besides being my family, are my security blankets, and most of all—they are my best friends. We help one another through everything, and I couldn't imagine my life without them. We all look forward to all the Jewish holidays, unlike some of our friends, because we know we'll all be getting together to celebrate, whether it be in shul or at somebody's house. So yeah, I'd say I'm double "S" passionate for the bond I have with my cousins. Family rocks!

Lindsay Steinbach

Freshmen Spotlight

It's All In The Family

Hey guys! It's Samantha; I'm a freshman and I'm so enjoying my first year at USY. My "first" Hagalil experience was 6th grade Kadima encampment. I heard about USY from my family, who's been involved since my dad's generation, so I thought I'd check it out. I remember knowing no one except my cousin, Mat Napchen, who was a counselor. The first day I was welcomed by friendly faces, which quickly became best friends. I loved being involved in Kadima, so the decision to come to USY was not a hard one.

Unlike most USYers who have a strong chapter and then go to regional events, I started the opposite. We're trying extremely hard build up a Hoboken chapter, so that Hudson County will get involved and be heard! Our board is small, with Genna as our SA/TO rep. and me as our president, but soon enough we'll have an awesome chapter, monthly events, and even board meetings!

My favorite thing about USY would have to be that we all have such a great sense of community. Being only a freshman, I still feel welcome all the time. I really look up to the older members of USY and love hanging out with them. But my favorite memory so far (there are so many!) would have to be this summer's encampment when we were doing Havdalah. Havdalah is always my favorite part of any convention. All the prayer is slow and you have a deeper, spiritual, and unspoken connection with everyone around you.

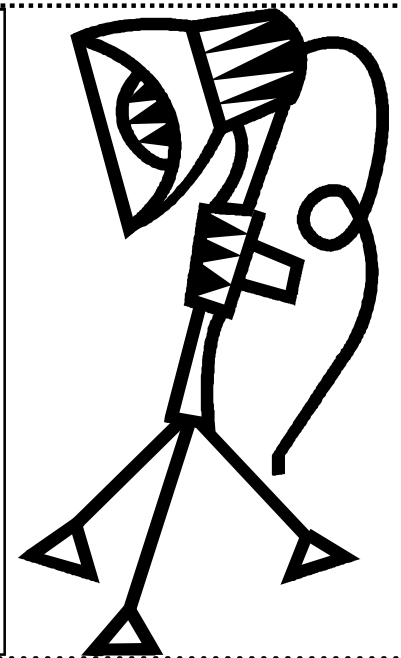
I hope everyone has fun at Fall Kinnus and I can't wait to see you all again at the next event!

Samantha Glass

It's Finally My Turn

I came into USY with two legendary older siblings who had already paved the way for me as a USYer. All I really had to do was show up, or so I thought. At LTI, I was wrong. Although all of my brother's friends already knew me and my sister's friends (the staff) knew who I was, practically no one my age did. I made the effort and went out of my way to introduce myself to people and start a conversation with them, despite the awkwardness that went along with it. Now, it will pay off because at conventions to come I will know people from LTI all because I made that extra effort to meet new people. I'm really excited to meet more people and make new friends as the year goes on, and to finally experience real USY ruach!

Gaby Roth



Do you want to show New Jersey the awesome things you do at chapter events? Send pictures to, or contact Andrew Podob at hagalilpublicity@gmail.com!

THE SUMMERS OF A LIFETIME!

The Summer of my Life

I was on USY on Wheels Bus E 2009 this past summer, and it was definitely the summer of my life. When we were in California, we volunteered at the San Francisco Aids Walk 2009. We managed and controlled the crowds by directing people to where they can go, and where they are not permitted. Towards the end of the Walk, we gathered by the finish line to cheer on the walkers. We handed out "1st Place" stickers to everyone and gave out pamphlets with certificates of completion inside. Our *Ruach* encouraged all the walkers and was much appreciated by them. This simple act of volunteered for a noble cause was an inspiring experience which I will carry with my throughout the year, and years to come.

Jon Stone

A Summer That Will Go Unforgotten



This past summer I embarked on a journey that I will never forget. On USY on Wheels Classic I ventured across the country for six and a half weeks with a group of 48 "wheel nicks" who I can now call my family. Throughout my month and a half on "Wheels" I saw so many spectacular things. From hiking to the top of a waterfall at Yosemite National Park to swimming in the ocean on California's gorgeous beaches, we covered it all! However, there is one memory that I will always cherish because my entire summer is captured in my experience at the Grand Canyon. After spending a long three and a half days at the famous land mark, we finished hiking, learning, and most of all witnessing the spectacular Arizona landscape. The morning of our departure, our bags were already packed and the bus was loaded as we awoke at four am. Dragging my slippers in one hand and my fuzzy blanket in the other, half asleep I got onto the bus as we drove away from our hotel. Five minutes later the sky still black and the air still crisp with morning dew we arrived at the grand balcony over looking the giant crater before us. Carefully placing my tallis bag on the stone ledge, I put on my tallit, wrapped my teffilin, and found myself a personal spot among my peers. As I began to hum the tunes of the familiar morning prayers the sun ever so gradually rose in the distance. Within ten minutes a feeling shot through my body I had never experienced before. I looked to my left, looked to my right, and took a step back ever so slightly for a panoramic view filled my glasses. Before my eyes forty seven Usyers stood before me each deeply involved in their personal prayers. The golden orange sun painted a backdrop across the skyline as the beautiful colors of the Grand Canyon became our new sanctuary. Arm over arm, prayer book over prayer book, tear over tear, we were all one. One family, on one bus, filled with ruach and spectacular adventures. I encourage everyone to take the initiative and go on USY on Wheels because the friendships you make and the experiences you encounter are like nothing else. Bus A 2009 will always be my bus, now its time you get yours!

Joshua Ull

It Took My Breath Away

Over the summer, I went on Eastern Europe/Israel Pilgrimage. At first, I was apprehensive about not knowing anyone in my group, but I easily made friends that I shared great experiences with. In Eastern Europe, our Jewish culture might have seemed strange to those who didn't understand our practices, but we were reinvigorating Jewish life in places where it was once dominant, but is now virtually nonexistent. After two whirlwind weeks in Europe, we headed to Israel, where I spent four of the most amazing weeks of my life. One of the best days of the trip was our day with Danny Siegel. I went to the Diplomat Hotel, where Russian immigrants live in Jerusalem, and learned about their lives before and after they made Aliyah. Afterwards, we packed bags of food, which would feed 215 families. I didn't realize that our small group of 42 people could make that big an impact on others, but I was glad to see that we were working together to do something beneficial for others. All of the things we did in Israel were so much fun: sleeping in a Bedouin tent, riding a camel, kayaking in the Jordan River, picking onions at Israel's food rescue network Table to Table, shopping at the shuk and on Ben Yehuda Street, and the list goes on and on. My summer on pilgrimage was definitely the best.

Nerissa Manela

BUS H 2009 – The Best Summer of my Life!!!!!!!!!!!!

Once in a Lifetime Experience

I walked into Auschwitz I and Auschwitz-Birkenau, but I had not entered into a concentration camp, instead, I entered another planet. A planet where over 65 years ago, morals were no more, all humanity was lost, and one's survival was completely out of his or her control. Tons upon tons of shoes from the victims of this planet had been collected and are currently displayed in a barrack where these atrocities took place. Once my eyes saw this sight, it felt as if my blood had stopped flowing and all of my bodily functions froze.

For me, this really put it all into perspective. Instead of thinking of the massive yet unfathomable number of six million Jews who perished during the Holocaust, I decided to focus on a single pair of shoes and the effect the death of that one individual had on other people. The number six million, while certainly astounding, does not do justice for the effects that this tragedy had on this generation of people as well as the many generations that followed. Who walked in these shoes that I was staring at? Where were those who loved him then, and who is still missing him today? Pilgrimage was one of the most moving experiences I've ever had. Group 7 rocks!

Matt Haimowitz

This past summer I went on USY on Wheels: Mission Mitzvah and had the best summer of my entire life. On June 31st, 39 kids, 4 staff, 1 rosh, and 1 bus driver met in Chicago, Illinois. We traveled all the way to California and back to Chicago. Along the way we stopped in Kentucky, Texas, Arizona, Oklahoma, California, Oregon, South Dakota, Minnesota, and many more. In every city that we stopped in, we did some form of community service and some sightseeing. When we were in Louisville, Kentucky, we went to the Louisville Slugger Museum and Factory. We learned about the history of the baseball bat and how the bats are made. In Texas, we went on jeep rides in a gorgeous canyon near Amarillo, Texas and then went to the Texas Legacy Show. In the Texas Legacy Show, singers and dancers perform their hearts out to original songs and an original story about their amazing home state of Texas. In Oklahoma City, we went to a food bank and sorted thousands of boxes of packaged meals. Then we packed all of the meals into boxes to be sent out to the needy all over the state of Oklahoma. After the food bank, we went to the memorial for the Oklahoma City Bombing. It was truly and awe-full experience to learn about a horrible tragedy that occurred so close to home. In Arizona we went to the Roadrunner food bank and sorted through various kinds of canned goods and then packed them into boxes. After that, we bagged cereal by hand into 6-ounce bags and then sealed them for distribution. We went to the Stuffed Bear Factory, one of the two remaining bear factories that make their bears by hand. Also in Arizona, we went to the Grand Canyon and saw the canyon at sunrise and then hiked down to various parts of the breath-taking canyon. In Oregon, we went to Crater Lake National Park. Crater Lake used to be a volcano. When that volcano exploded, a gigantic crater was created and all that was left of the volcano was a 30-foot mountain. Over time the crater collected water and all of that water stays in the crater forever. It was the clearest water I had ever seen and one of the most amazing sights of my life. In South Dakota, we went to the Corn Palace and then onto Wall Drug, which is an amazing country style strip mall that is a treat for all who go to it. On the last stop of our trip before we went back to Chicago, we went to Minnesota. We cleaned up a forest by picking weeds and cutting down dead branches, went to a concert in a park near a river. We then went to the magnificent and spectacular Mall of America. Finally, when we returned to Chicago, we went to the Navy Pier and then concluded our trip with a banquet followed by a heartfelt night of memories and tears before we all parted ways and flew home. I will never forget my summer on BUS H and the people and places I experienced.

Jesse Nagelberg