

LEONID NEMINOVSKY SHARES

Leonid and his wife Alla stayed at Ner Yaakov for one week in August. He shared only a little about his experiences in the Holocaust, but one could clearly see his pain. Leonid was born in 1930, and shared that he was sent to two concentration camps and also to a ghetto before he was finally liberated by the Russian Army in March 1944. At the age of only 12, he was in the Reigorod Camp in the Vinitsa area, Ukraine for six months; then for one year and eight months in the Bratslav Camp in Romania.

"What I experienced in the camps is too hard and too painful for me to tell." Still, he started to open up a little, before we sat down to enjoy a Sabbath-meal together.

"Twice the guards in Reigorod tried to kill me! They shot me, but I survived." At one point, sharing the following incident, it seemed like every painful traumatic memory was clear before his eyes and it seemed like he still heard the cries and screams, like it "happened today." "One day the guards came and threw many used clothes in front of us," he shares. "These were the clothes from the people they had just killed. Some of the inmates saw the clothes and they recognized them as the clothes of their now dead family members and relatives, and started to scream and cry terribly. I remember it very clearly...!"

He told us about a goal he has, that he wants to find more witnesses still alive who survived the same terrible camps as he did, and who could testify together at Yad Vashem. According to Leonid, they do not have enough information about the places he survived. Let's pray that he will succeed!



Leonid

NEWS IN BRIEF



1. Abby with Polina 2. Arie and Ines 3. Finnish group visiting

4. „Hugs are always welcome!“

Dear Friends, Even if our former tenants at Ner Yaakov are still very glad to have the center for many different many groups, reconciliation meetings, having wonderful Shabbat dinners or celebrating the Feasts.

What a blessing to host the **Brazilian—Jewish youth** again this year: 130 young people listened to the survivors, myself and also to a police officer sharing with them. It is a highlight for the survivors each year.

The **guest-group visits**—usually four elderly people, who stay for one week in our house—are going very well. The volunteers, who do a great job in spoiling these survivors, and myself are very blessed when these guests leave after a week, joyful, rested and blessed. You will see some new faces in the future, also faces of new survivors we started to visit and care for in their private homes.

In the Spring we had two **beautiful guests** with us, sponsored by German believers from CZW, **Alexey and Valentina Heistver**. Alexey is the leader of a Holocaust association in Germany. How nice to have them with us, but sad, that Valentina was sick some days while in Israel. We hope they will come again soon!

The biggest blessing and joy for us is, that we have the home available for a very sick survivor, and others who just need a break. We are thankful that we could offer a room to **Polina Spivak**, who is living in a hospice and is very ill. She needs to have a real break from this very sad atmosphere that she is constantly surrounded with. So Polina came sometimes for the weekend or for a holiday to Ner Yaakov. Please pray for her.

It was wonderful to have **Arie Suposnik**, who came for a few days to rest, with us. He also needs prayer for his health!

We hope, that the Ner Yaakov center will continue be a true place of refuge, rest and comfort for many more survivors. Please pray for that!

“A time to keep silence, and a time to speak.” Eccl. 3