

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES

NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA CHAPTER - NYMA

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1, no. 2

Winter 1986

Editors: Marion Stein and Aviva Astrinsky

THE SECOND NYMA CONFERENCE

The Fall conference of the NYMA Chapter of AJL took place on November 7th, 1985 at the Judaica Division of the New York Public Library. Continuing to explore the treasures among us, Dr. Leonard Gold, director of the Division, gave an annotated slide presentation of some of its rare books, manuscripts and documents. Other members of the staff spoke briefly about their areas of responsibility, thus affording us a glimpse of their day to day work. The conference concluded with a tour of the renovated facilities of the Library and the special exhibit of the Treasures of Spain, which included a number of Jewish rare books.

(Aviva Astrinsky, JTSA)

FALL ACQUISITION WORKSHOP

The topic of this workshop, which took place on October 14th, 1985, at the 92nd Street Y, was Collection Development Policies. The panelists were: Dr. Philip Miller of HUC-JIR, Aviva Astrinsky of JTS, Zvi Erenyi of the Gottesman Library, YU, Frank H. Unlandhern, Middle East Bibliographer, Butler Library, Columbia University, and Prof. Edith Lubetski of Stern College for Women, YU.

(Aviva Astrinsky, JTSA)

FALL CATALOGUING WORKSHOP

The 8th cataloguing workshop sponsored by the NYMA Chapter of AJL took place on November 25th, 1985 and was hosted by the Klau Library of the Hebrew Union College-JIR. Leah Adler (YU), Micha Oppenheim (JTSA) and Bella Weinberg (YIVO) served as convenors.

Two presentations were given. The first, by Leah Adler, described L.C.'s recent revision of footnote no. 4 to AACR 2 rule no. 22.3 C2 for establishing names of persons with surnames written in the Hebrew alphabet. AJL Cataloguing Committee had been in contact with L.C. concerning these changes. The fact that most of the recommendations of this Committee were accepted by L.C., is seen as a clear indication that AJL does have influence on L.C. in decisions regarding the cataloguing of Jewish and Hebrew materials.

The second presentation was given by Prof. Bella Weinberg and concerned RLIN's work on Hebrew character sets for its data base. The implementation date for Hebrew capability is now projected to the 3rd quarter of 1986.

(Pearl Berger, YU, and Rita Lifton, JTSA)

DAY SCHOOLS WORKSHOP

The first Day School Libraries workshop to be sponsored by NYMA Chapter of AJL was held on December 5th, 1985, and was hosted by the library of Manhattan Day School. Freda Kleinburd (MDS) and Marion Stein (Solomon Schechter of Westchester) were the convenors.

Building a day school library collection was the topic of discussion, and three presentations were given on the subject.

Esther Nussbaum of Ramaz H.S. Library addressed the issue of censorship and the selection process. She gave a lively and detailed description of the many factors that affect the librarian's decisions in these matters.

Marion M. Stein described the integrated collection and how it functioned in the library of the Solomon Schechter School of Westchester. This library strives to support the school's philosophy of integrating Jewish and general studies.

The workshop was well attended by Day School librarians, who were very grateful for an opportunity to socialize with their colleagues and exchange news and views.

(Marion M. Stein, Solomon Schechter School of Westchester)

JEWISH YOUTH LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE

This past summer, the Jewish Youth Library sponsored a new and exciting project - the Jewish Youth Bookmobile. A used school bus was leased, all the seats (except two) were taken out, and 180 linear feet of shelving were installed. A fine and varied selection of books in Hebrew, English and Yiddish was selected from the Library's holdings, and the Jewish Youth Library

The Jewish Youth Library, located at 1353 51st Street in Brooklyn, has a fast growing group of members, who are avid readers and visit the library regularly during the school year. But during the summer months, the majority of these readers are in the Catskill Mountains in Sullivan County. With the Bookmobile, the library is able to travel to many bungalow colonies and summer camps in the Catskills and thus provide service to its active members. As a bonus, youngsters who usually don't come to the library are exposed to it for the first time and subsequently become members.

Wherever it goes, the Jewish Youth Library Bookmobile is met with great excitement and joy, and this is very gratifying to the Library's staff, who see it as one of its most successful and fulfilling projects. So successful, in fact, that the Library is seeking sponsors to expand the scope of the bookmobile and enable it to reach other Jewish communities in Metropolitan New York. Flatbush and Staten Island are the two immediate goals; Manhattan, New Jersey, Long Island and Rockland County are not far behind.

(Blima Young, Librarian, JYL)

THE JEWS OF ASCHKENAZ

The Gottesman Library of Yeshiva University is sponsoring a symposium in honor of the current exhibition at the Yeshiva University Museum. The symposium will be held on Sunday, March 23rd. Key note speakers will be Dr. Menahem Schmelzer and Rabbi Jacob Katz.

AJL JOB CLEARING HOUSE

The clearinghouse has many openings listed. They include:

1. Day School Librarian
2. Part time Reference Librarian in an academic library
3. Cataloguer in an academic library

Please send resumes to:

Prof. Edith Lubetski, Head Librarian
Hedi Steinberg Library
Stern College, Yeshiva University
245 Lexington Ave.
New York, N.Y. 10016-4699

NEWS OF NYMA MEMBERS

Yael Penkower has left her part-time position as reference librarian at Hedi Steinberg Library, Stern College, YU, to take a full time position as a cataloguer at the YIVO Institute.

Shuli Berger, formerly a cataloguer at the Boesky Library, JTSA, is now the Judaica and Hebraica cataloguer at Brooklyn College.

Jack Weinstein is now the Director of the Gratz College Library.

Freda Kleinburd is leaving her position as Librarian of Manhattan Day School in anticipation of the birth of her first child, and to finish her doctoral dissertation.

Linda Lerman, Administrative Librarian for Public Services at the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, received a Master of Business Administration last August. She majored in management and finance.

Welcome to the new director of the Jewish Book Council, Paula Gribbetz Gottlieb. Farewell to Ruth Frank, former director of the Jewish Book Council, who has relocated to Washington D.C.

JOIN NATIONAL AJL! Annual dues of \$25.00 entitle you to a 20% discount on AJL and Jewish Book Council publications. Send your applications to: Sylvia Friedman, 17201 Northeast 11th Court, North Miami Beach, FL 33162.

NYMA SPRING 1986 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Thursday, February 27, 1986 Reference Workshop at the Klau Library,
HUC-JIR, 1 West 4th Street, N.Y.C. 3-5 p.m.
Subject: Doing Research on Jewish Genealogy
RSVP: Aaron W. Kuperman, (718)780-7700
 (718) 845-8637
- Thursday, April 3rd, 1986 Day School workshop at the Yeshiva of
Flatbush, 2-4:30 p.m.
Subject: How to encourage Hebrew reading.
RSVP: Esther Nussbaum, Ramaz H.S.
 (212)427-1000.
- Monday, May 12th, 1986 NYMA Spring Conference at the Yeshiva
University Museum, 1-4:30 p.m.
Subject: What makes a Hebrew book rare.
Speaker: Dr. Menahem Schmelzer.
RSVP: Individual invitations will be sent soon.
- Wednesday, May 28th 9th cataloguing workshop, Boesky Library,
Jewish Theological Seminary, 9-12 a.m.
Subject: To be announced--send in suggestions!
RSVP: Micha Oppenheim or Rita Lifton
 (212)678-8092