

Association of Jewish Libraries New York Metropolitan Area Chapter - NYMA

NEWSLETTER

Vol. II, No. 2

Spring, 1987

National AJL Conference in New Jersey in June

The national AJL conference will be June 21-24 at the Holiday Inn in Livingston, New Jersey. This is the first national conference in this region since 1981 (next year the conference is in Kansas City). For more information on the conference contact Marilyn Breitman at (201) 992-8070. Detailed information was included in the national AJL newsletter sent out in April.

Costs

The registration fee, which includes meals is \$142 (\$157 after May 26). There is no discount for skipping the meals. Daily registration will be \$25 for Sunday and Wednesday, \$40 for Monday, and \$60 for Tuesday excluding the banquet (\$80 including the Banquet, \$40 for the banquet alone). Registration forms were included in the national AJL newsletter; anyone registering for less than the full conference should attach an explanatory note to the registration form. Catering is by Prestige Caterers of Bayside, N.Y. under the supervision of Vaad Harabanim of Queens.

Conference Schedule

On Sunday, June 21, afternoon meetings will be followed by dinner and the keynote speaker. On Monday and Tuesday, parallel programs will be conducted by the R&S (Research and Special Library) and SSC (Synagogue, School and Center) Divisions. Monday's programs will be in Manhattan, with transportation provided from Livingston to and from New York, and between the libraries where the programs are meet. The annual banquet is Tuesday evening in Livingston. Wednesday morning is reserved for business meetings, followed by a luncheon program. The exhibits in Livingston will be open to conferees all four days, and to the public on Monday.

R&S Programs

On Monday, the Research and Special Library Division will hear a discussion on "Scholars and Scoundrels: a study in Jewish forgery," a discussion of the resources at JTS's Saul Liberman Institute of Talmudic Research, and a panel discussion on Judaica publishing. On Tuesday, there will be an analysis of Stanford University's Taube-Baron Collection from both a bibliographer's and a cataloger's perspectives, a program and workshop on Jewish archives, a panel discussion on "retrospective conversion," a cataloging workshop, and a discussion on the "Biblioteca Rosenthaliana (Amsterdam) and the Association of Libraries of Hebraica and Judaica in Europe."

SSC Programs

On Monday, the Synagogue, School and Center Division is sponsoring programs on techniques in story telling, Jewish music, and the use of audio-visual materials. On Tuesday, their programs will consider "Preserving synagouge records," Jewish children's books, "Computerizing your library," bibliotherapy, and services to the handicapped.

Transportation

Livingston is a suburb of New York City. The Holiday Inn can be reached by bus from the Port Authority bus terminal in Manhattan. In addition, NYMA is attempting to arrange a chartered bus from Brooklyn and Queens to Livingston to facilitate commuting to the conference. NYMA is also be arranging car pools to the conference. *For further information on transportation, please turn to the last page of this newsletter.*

NYMA Spring Conference May 20 at JTS Library

The Spring NYMA conference will hear Ms. Evelyn Cohen, Curator of Graphics at the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary discuss the *Illuminated Hebrew Manuscripts in the Collection of the Library of the Jewish Theological Seminary*. The conference will start at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 20 at the J.T.S. Library at 3080 Broadway (corner of Broadway and 120th Street in Manhattan). Registration fee is \$5 for members and \$10 for non-members.

Computer Workshop Report

Computer systems for Hebrew word processing were discussed at a NYMA workshop on Jan. 19. Below are listed names of products for Hebrew word processing discussed at the workshop, and known to be usable. Products under development, or products not regularly sold and supported locally are excluded. Two computer user groups of interest to anyone working with Hebrew or Judaica are also listed. Products listed below are for MS-DOS (IBM compatible) unless otherwise indicated. For further information please contact Aaron Kuperman (in the evening) at (718) 854-8637.

Multi-Lingual Scholar. Gamma Production, 710 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 609, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Software for multi-lingual word processing in Hebrew, Roman, Cyrillic, Arabic, Greek and other scripts. Supports all Hebrew vowels, including special characters used for Yiddish. Current version is 2.9. Requires 512K RAM and graphics capability.

Fancy Font. Soft Craft, Inc., 16 N. Carroll Street, Suite 500, Madison, WI 53703. Software to enable even an inexpensive dot matrix printer to produce output equivalent to a laser printer. Includes several Hebrew fonts. Current version is 3.0.

Hebrew Users Group, Berkeley Hillel Foundation, 2736 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, CA 94704. Publishes a newsletter on Hebrew computing. Costs \$7.50 annually for an apparent quarterly issue reviewing products and discussing Hebrew and Judaica computer applications.

Computer Hebrew Users Group of New York, c/o Michael Rand, 21 Bennett Ave., New York, N.Y. 10033, (212) 923-4825. Similar to the above in purpose, but holds local meetings (usually in the area of JTS/Columbia University).

Davka Corporation, 845 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 843, Chicago, IL 60611, (800) 621-8277. Markets a variety of Hebrew-English word processing programs including *Achbar* for the Macintosh and *Mince* for MS-DOS, as well as other types of Jewish oriented programs for a variety of computers.

Computer Linguist P.O. Box 70742, Eugene, OR 97401. Formerly known as Pangloss. Software for Hebrew word processing.

Alef-Bet, Quad, 23601 Draco Way, Canoga Park, CA 91307, produced by Grynberg Engineering in Israel is a word processing system that uses a special "chip" rather than software. This program is widely used in Israeli government offices.

MacInHebrew c/o Joseph Weinstein, MIT Hillel, 312 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA 02139. This is a low cost, non-commercial, system for Hebrew word processing on the Macintosh computers.

NYMA Activities

Synagogue Librarians. An organizational meeting for synagogue librarians was held April 5. Participants from eight congregational libraries met to discuss their libraries including the scope of collections, hours of service, use, staffing and financial support. A second meeting, planned for Sunday, June 14 from 1 to 3 p.m. at Temple Emanu-El, 1 E. 65th Street, New York, will discuss acquisitions. Anyone interested is requested to contact Salome Cory at (212) 744-1400 for more information.

Day School Librarians. On March 25, Day School librarians attended a workshop at the Board of Jewish Education in Manhattan. Presentations were given by Benjamin Miller (BJE librarian), Dr. Israel Lerner (Specialist in Judaic Studies), and Rochelle Daube and Gitty Bender (BJE Media specialists). The workshop learned about the resources of the BJE's 20,000 plus volume reference collection and about its media resources.

Cataloging workshop. A program is planned as part of the national conference. Contact Micha Oppenheim at (212) 678-8092 for more information.

Reference workshop. If anyone is interested in helping to prepare a workshop, program or project for a 1987-88 Reference workshop, please contact Aaron Kuperman, at 522 E. 3rd St., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11218. Possible ideas include preparing a "class" on the acquisition and use of some class of Judaica materials, compiling a union list of some limited subset of Judaica, or conducting a studying on some aspect of Judaica reference. New ideas are welcome.

Job notice. The Abraham Joshua Heschel School in Manhattan is looking for a librarian. They are a conservative day school currently serving the elementary grades, and growing. The position could be full or part time. Resumes should be sent to the: Abraham Joshual Heschel School, Library Committee, 270 W. 89th St., New York, N.Y. 10024.

Plans for next year. Anyone interested in helping plan AJL-NYMA activities for next year should contact Aviva Astinsky at (212) 678-8970.

Officers and Members of the NYMA Executive Board

President	Aviva Astrinsky (JTS)	<u>WORKSHOP COORDINATORS</u>
Vice-President	Esther Nussbaum (Ramaz Upper School)	Conferences Marion Stein (Solomon Schechter, Westchester)
Past-President	Edith Lubetski (Stern College)	Cataloging Micha Oppenheim (JTS)
Recording Secretary	Phyllis Holman Weisbard (NYU Law School)	Reference Aaron Kuperman (Brooklyn Public Library)
Corresponding Secretary	Marlene Schiffman (HUC-JIR)	Synagogue Salome Corey (Temple Emanu-el)
Treasurer	Yael Penkower (YIVO)	Day Schools Susan Winter Young (Temple Beth Shalom, Roslyn Hts)
Publicity	Rita Lifton (JTS)	Eileen Schmidman (Ramaz Lower School)
Newsletter editor	Aaron Kuperman (Brooklyn Public Library)	

