

# Library Light

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1987



**LEARN HOW TO LIVEN**

**UP YOUR LIBRARY**

**BY USING**

**"BULLETIN BOARDS**

**AND DISPLAYS:**

**GOOD THINGS**

**COME IN PRETTY**

**PACKAGES"**

**DATE: MONDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1987**

**TIME: 7:30 P.M.**

**PLACE: SHEILA SPORN LIBRARY  
VALLEY BETH SHALOM  
15739 VENTURA BLVD., ENCINO**

**PHONE: (818) 788-2199, Ext. 120**

Dear Friends,

Jewish Book Month is upon us. We are in the throes of decorating our libraries, publicizing special events that will take place - contests, speakers, shabbat services, or the brunch, lunch or Oneg Shabbat that will honor this important period. And each of these occasions is a reminder to our public that we are the "People of the Book."

In our role as librarians we assume a special trust. It is up to us to share our knowledge of books with our clientele, to make them aware of what is available, what is appropriate, and what might be of interest or assistance to them in their quest for knowledge and information. Not just during Jewish Book Month, but all year through, we have this singular charge - to remind and remember the "People of the Book."

As the year 1987 draws to a close, may the many blessings of Thanksgiving and the brilliant lights of Hannukah be with you.

Shalom,



**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!**

**Monday, December 7th - 'Children and Play in the Holocaust: Games Among the Shadows' - Simon Wiesenthal Center (9760 W. Pico, L.A. 90035) - 8:00 P.M.**

**Monday, December 14th - General Meeting - VBS - 7:30 P.M.**

**Monday, January 4th - Board Meeting**

**Monday, February 1st - General Meeting**

**Monday, March 7th - Board Meeting**

**Monday, April 11th - General Meeting**

**Monday, May 2nd - Board Meeting**

**Monday, June 6th - General Meeting**

**SIMON WIESENTHAL CENTER TO HOST HOLOCAUST LECTURER IN DECEMBER**

The Jewish Studies Institute of the Simon Wiesenthal Center and Yeshiva University of Los Angeles, in conjunction with the Simon Wiesenthal Center Library, have planned a special evening for Monday, December 7th. In addition to a lecture, based on the forthcoming book by Dr. George Eisen, the Library/Archives will present an exhibit of related materials, including a display of some of the documentation and photographs collected by Dr. Eisen during his research. Librarians and archivists are invited to view this exhibit, beginning at 7:15. The lecture will follow at 8:00 P.M. For further information on the program, call Adaire Klein at the Simon Wiesenthal Library/Archives, 213-553-9036.

AJLSC LIBRARY LIGHT is distributed free to AJLSC members.

EDITORS: Joan Buchbinder,

Jan Sherman,

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**PREVIEW OF OUR DECEMBER MEETING**

On Monday, December 14, the AJLSC will meet at Valley Beth Shalom to hear about how to produce exciting and interesting library displays. Bulletin boards and displays help to draw people into the library as well as to highlight special books or topics. A bibliography on bulletin board and display ideas will also be distributed.

Please plan to attend!

--Susan Dubin, Program Chairman  
Day School Librarian, Valley Beth Shalom

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**SAVE THESE SUNDAYS!!!****NOVEMBER 22ND**

"Children's Books Make Life-Long Friends" will be the topic. Temple Judea, 5429 Lindley, Tarzana, will be the location. And 7:30 P.M. will be the time that Amy Cohn, marketing manager of Horn Book, Inc., delivers her views on children's literature. A featured writer in Hornbook's newsletter to parents, this very special speaker has appeared frequently on radio and television, where she has endeavored "to bring the pleasure and stimulation -- both emotional and intellectual -- I get from reading to children and their families whenever I can."

**DECEMBER 6TH**

Mildred Simon, author, lecturer, scholar, and political activist, will be the guest speaker when the Friends of the Peter M. Kahn Jewish Community Library sponsor their Jewish Book Month celebration. Festivities begin with a reception at 1:30, followed by the lecture, "Sholem Asch Revisited." Bring your \$1.00 donation to the Board Room of the Jewish Community Building, 6505 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048. But first, R.S.V.P. : (213) 852-1234, Ext. 3202.

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**\*CALLING ALL SLIDES! CALLING ALL PRINTS!\***

Do you have slides or prints of special scenes in your library? Can you mark them clearly on the back or on the slide mounting and send them to us? Maybe we'll make your library a star!

Edith Lubetski, president of the National Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) has asked me to chair a committee mandated to produce a sound slide show promoting Jewish libraries in general and AJL in particular. Dorothy Steiner and Barbara Leff have agreed to assist with this project, but we will need help from all members of AJLSC.

Please go through your PR pictures - 35 mm slides or clear color prints - and choose any you think show Jewish librarianship or libraries to best advantage. Classes at work, volunteers moving books; whatever is special and appealing or dramatic. Though we'd rather not be responsible for mailing them back, we will do so if you mark them clearly.

We hope to finish this project and preview it locally before next year's convention in Kansas City. So, please send the slides or snapshots by December 15, 1987 to:

Rita C. Frischer. Sinai Temple Library, 10400 Wilshire Blvd., L.A., CA 90024

**A CORNUCOPIA OF EVENTS TO FEAST ON IN NOVEMBER****POMEGRANATE GUILD CONVENTION - NOVEMBER 1ST - 30TH**

A harvest for fall - The Pomegranate Guild of Judaic Needlework is holding its 10th Annual Convention in Los Angeles, and we, as Los Angeles residents, are invited to partake of this harvest, a most beautiful feast for the eyes.

As part of the Convention, all types of Judaic needlework will be on display from November 1st - 30th at the Jewish Community Building, 6505 Wilshire Boulevard. Encourage your patrons to attend by displaying books on Judaic art and needlework - another facet of our fascinating Jewish culture and heritage.

**YOUR PRECIOUS LEGACY - NOVEMBER 15TH:**

"Your Precious Legacy -- How To Preserve It" is the subject for the annual fall conference of the Southern California Jewish Historical Society, according to Pauline Hirsh, President. It will be held at the Jewish Community Building, 6505 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, 90048, on Sunday, November 15, from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

Dr. Marc Lee Raphael, Professor of History and Director of the Melton Center for Jewish Studies at Ohio State University, will be the keynote speaker. He will discuss the importance of organizing and preserving historical material, to preserve the continuity of Jewish traditions and culture from the past to the future. According to Dr. Raphael, "Unless we consciously save the memorabilia of our families and our communities, future generations will not know the rich heritage they possess."

Experts, in specialized areas of historical research will headline the morning and afternoon sessions which are designed to help organizations, congregations, and families learn how to gather memorabilia and artifacts, how to preserve important documents and photographs, and how to make use of the information they gather. Four concurrent sessions are scheduled for the morning:

**ORGANIZATIONS AND CONGREGATIONS** -- Dr. Steve Lowenstein, former archivist at YIVO, now at the University of Judaism; Grace Cohen Grossman, Curator of the Hebrew Union College Skirball Museum.

**FAMILY HISTORIES AND MATERIALS**--Hyna Rudd, Director of Records Management, City of Los Angeles.

**HOW TO PRESENT HISTORICAL MATERIAL**--Ruth Linnick, oral histories; John Bragin, displays; Yaffa Claire Draznin, written narratives.

**JEWISH GENEALOGY**--Laura Klein, first President of the Jewish Genealogical Society; Heidi Auerbach Farkash, family reunions; Gerald Factor, family trees.

In the afternoon, Dr. Fred Massarik will interview director Arthur Hiller ("Man of La Mancha," "Plaza Suite") in a "model" oral history session.

Further information is available from the Society's office at 6505 Wilshire Blvd., Room 1108, or by telephoning (213) 852-1234, Extension 3207 or (818) 990-8640, Extension 3207. Ask for Andrea Levinger Smith. Registration for the full day's program, including kosher lunch, is \$18.00. Advance reservations are required.

**CMLEA CONFERENCE - NOVEMBER 18TH-21ST**

The California Media and Library Educators Association will be holding its annual conference, Impact 2000, in San Diego this November. Librarians and media specialists from all grade levels of education, both public and parochial, are invited. Included in the Conference will be sessions concerning the areas of curriculum, literature, management, networking, research, and technology, as well as exhibits, exhibits, and more exhibits. Many authors will be on hand to display and discuss their works.

For more information, contact Gail Richmond, Middle School Librarian, Fayman Library, La Jolla Country Day School, 9490 Genessee Avenue, La Jolla, CA, 92037. (619) 453-3440.

## JEWISH BOOK MONTH - NOVEMBER 16TH TO DECEMBER 16TH

The Peter M. Kahn Jewish Community Library has adapted three "lovely and amusing" Jewish folktales into playlets, which are being offered free of charge to Jewish educators and librarians. The playlets "The Decision Concerning An Egg" and "The Purse and the Poor Man" humorously teach judgment and discretion. "The Judgement Between the Widow and the Wind" is about tzedakah. All three are delightful and suitable for students ages 10 - 12+.

If you are interested in any or all of these playlets, send your request to Hava Ben-Zvi, Peter M. Kahn Jewish Community Library, 6505 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90048. Please include the name and address of the school or library with which you are affiliated, as well as your position.

### YASD/ BAKER & TAYLOR CONFERENCE GRANT NOW AVAILABLE

The YASD/Baker & Taylor Conference Grants are made possible by the generous support of the Baker & Taylor Company and are administered by a committee of ALA's Young Adult Services Division. The two grants of \$750.00 each are awarded to librarians who work directly with young adults in either a public library or a school library to enable them to attend the 1988 ALA Annual Conference in New Orleans, July 9-14.

Requirements for application are:

- \* YASD personnel membership (preferably for at least two years)
- \* One to ten years experience working with teenagers
- \* No previous attendance at an ALA Annual Conference

Request applications from YASD/Baker & Taylor Conference Grants committee, YASD/ALA, 50 East Huron St., Chicago, IL 60611. Application Deadline: March 2, 1988.

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### CENTRAL CATALOGING SERVICE TO GO ON SUBSCRIPTION BASIS

Rita Frischer, coordinator of the Sinai Temple Blumenthal Library Central Cataloging Service for Libraries of Judaica (CCS), has announced that as of December 31, 1987, mailings will be on a subscription basis only. This is in accordance with the original grant which covered set-up and one year's free distribution, but then called for CCS to become entirely self-supporting.

After carefully computing cataloging, entry and distribution costs, the following non-profit fee schedule has been devised:

- 1) CCS will provide a minimum of six mailings in 1988, covering all new entries and retrospective entries as appropriate, for a fee of \$156 to be pre-paid quarterly at \$39 per quarter.
- 2) A 10 percent discount will be allowed for pre-payment in full, bringing the 1988 charge down to \$ 140.
- 3) Special cataloging aids such as subject heading lists and selected retrospective cataloging will be made available to subscribers for nominal additional charges.

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## A REPORT ON AJL'S JUNE CONVENTION IN LIVINGSTON, NEW JERSEY

The members of New Jersey AJL laid out the red carpet for all as they hosted the 22nd annual national convention. It started with about sixty exhibitors showing the old and new in books and other publications, as well as audio cassettes, video cassettes, sheet music, and various other treasures for us to view and review.

Sunday afternoon, as official representative of our chapter, I attended the Council meeting conducted by National president, Edith Lubetski, Head Librarian of Heide Steinberg Library, Yeshiva University, New York. She reported on a variety of national issues effecting the individual members, among them:

- 1) revisions of some AJL publications, the goal being to update every three years
- 2) reprints from JUDAICA LIBRARIANSHIP, the national publication
- 3) the increase in national membership of two hundred new members in the last year. At the time of convention, membership totalled close to 900. The demographics of some chapters (where members have to travel as much as three hours for a meeting) necessitate mini-conventions.

In addition, other council members reported on their specific areas of interest and concern. Our own Barbara Leff, past national president, discussed the Judaica education of members, a survey in "Judaica Librarianship" concerning available courses, the Jewish studies component, and correspondence courses that are being offered. Dr. Marcia Posner, Executive Vice President of AJL, has written a textbook of library skills for Judaica librarianship.

At the National Convention next year, two five hour classes will be offered at different levels, and participants will receive 1/2 CEU.

Following the National Council meeting, I attended a Chapter Presidents meeting, conducted by Jean Lettofsky of the Cleveland College of Jewish Studies Library. There was a discussion as to what constitutes a Chapter's affiliation with National AJL. Current by-laws state a chapter must have ten National members to be affiliated. A question asked repeatedly is, "What does an individual receive as a National member?" (See the letter from Edith Lubetski and Marcia Posner elsewhere in this issue to learn how you benefit.

By Sunday night everyone was fully acclimated and warmly receptive to the marvelous keynote address by Benjamin Nelson, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at Farleigh Dickinson College. He discussed "American-Jewish Literature - Affirmation or Illusion?" in a most interesting and provocative manner. He told us that he was pleased to speak to a totally literate and literary audience. He also stated that the prevalent Jewish American writers are a phenomena, far out of proportion to the total population. (Names like Bellow, Malamud, Ozick, Potok, Singer, Uris, and Wouk come to mind.) He posed the question, "Is it American-Jewish literature or American writers who happen to be Jewish?" Optimism is a major thrust. Characters who are in pain or alienated are simultaneously hopeful. The fixer, the pawnbroker, and Herzog all are questors, with a willingness to hope and a feeling that self affirmation of Jewishness makes one less alone. The "Menschen" are the protagonists in each.

Monday morning found us boarding buses for New York City and a tour of Yeshiva University, the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, Hebrew Union College, and the libraries, of course. What a treat! At Yeshiva University, SSC Division was treated to a lecture by Peninah Schram. She discussed and demonstrated her gift, the art of storytelling. Storytelling is a dialog between questions asked and the reasons behind the answers that are more important than the questions

asked. Wherever we are, we tell stories "to create pictures in the mind" - Jewish stories where one generation tells another - where it teases, it pleases. The basic tools for a storyteller are the body, the face, and the voice. Following Peninah's workshop, we partially toured the library and a special Ashkenazi art exhibit.

Then on to JTS. Here we were entertained and enthralled by Velvel Pasternak, the noted authority on Hassidic music. His discussion of "Hassidic Music: A Joyous Celebration" was indeed a joyous celebration. Thousands of original melodies, over the years, have been transmitted by word of mouth, varied and changed. Despondent people cannot survive. They must interject "simcha" - through singing. Touring JTS Library was interesting. It has the capacity for 12 million volumes, housed on four floors, and at present houses 256,000 volumes which are not computerized. The building opened in 1983. Seating capacity is 300, counting study carrels, reading rooms, and a lounge. There are discussion rooms where students can study and talk. Closed stacks contain materials that survived the 1966 fire. And there are 15,000 rare books, some that date back as far as 851.

Moving on to HUC, I attended a session entitled "Tuning In With Video: How School Librarians Tap Into the New Video Excitement". Although fair, it was not as interesting or stimulating as the previous programs. Yet, seeing the college and its facilities was enjoyable. A great day!

Tuesday morning started off with Dr. Marcia Posner's "Telling the Truth in Jewish Children's Literature." She discussed the history and told us that children's literature really began in the nineteenth century. In Jewish fairy tales, from the Talmud and the Midrash, power comes from G-d. In Gentile fantasy, power comes from other sources. Her discussion of literary criteria to make a story "Jewish" was interesting indeed.

Following Marcia's discussion, I attended a lecture by Hazel Karp. Hazel, past National president, talked about her experiences with "Circulation Plus and Cataloging Plus: Low Cost Automation for the School and Synagogue Library". In conjunction with Robert Rowen, a representative from Follett Corporation, she discussed the automation of her library from the point of view of a novice. The total start-up cost, without hardware, was \$1395. This included the program at \$695 plus updates and revisions for one year. In addition, she purchased a bar wand for \$250 and bar codes at \$45 per thousand, along with bar code protectors and other miscellaneous items. Even though the program operates on an IBM clone, terminals can be Apples or other PCs. An interesting bit of information - five years ago, a five megabyte Apple, hard disk, started at \$4600 and today can be purchased for \$495. State of the art is IBM.

Tuesday's luncheon was an author affair, where we had the opportunity to meet and visit with many notable authors. The featured speaker was Arlene Kushner, author of FALASHA, NO MORE. She discussed the history of the Falashas in Ethiopia and the progress they have made. Her new adult volume is on this subject. It was thought-provoking, to say the least.

The annual AJL Book Awards Banquet was held Tuesday evening. Devis Grebu received the Sydney Taylor-AJL Illustrator's Award for Joseph Who Loved the Sabbath, authored by Marilyn Hirsch. (Please note that Mr. Grebu is the artist of the new children's poster for Jewish Book Month, 1987.) The award for the outstanding book for older children went to BEYOND THE HIGH WHITE WALL, Nancy Pitt's first novel. Berl Kagan received the Harold Mason Reference Book Award for his LEKSIKON FUN YIDDISH-SHRAYBERS or LEXICON OF YIDDISH WRITERS, a real find. Elaine Solowey of Israel was granted the Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award for her novel, CUBS OF THE LION JUDAH.

Wednesday morning found us back in session. Divisional meetings were first on the agenda. Sue Baranchik, President of SSC Division, led the meeting. Merrily Hart, Chairman of the Book Awards Committee, reviewed the Awards process. She discussed the Jewish and literary values that are considered in selecting the Sydney Taylor-AJL winners. This year, 46 books were reviewed before a winner was chosen. Lillian Schwartz, Chairman of the Manuscript Awards Committee, told us that she received 105 letters of inquiry and sent applications. The five judges reviewed 15 acceptable manuscripts, written for children between the ages of 8 and 12, before selecting the winner. Beverly Newman, Chairman of the 1988 Convention in Kansas City, announced the date - June 19th ----- and the place - Hilton Plaza Inn. On the agenda is a visit to the Harry S. Truman Library. Our own Rita Frischer discussed the Central Cataloging Project she is chairing, with the help of Rachel Glasser (AJLSC Membership V.P.) She told the assembled group that 700 books have been entered, and four computer printouts have been mailed. For those interested in subscribing, the monthly fee is \$13.

Following the divisional meetings, a general business meeting was held. The minutes from June, 1986 were read and corrected. Edith Lubetski gave her president's report. She initiated and established a 10-year calendar so that major literary events, booksellers' conventions (for example, the Frankfurt Book Fair) will not be held on Jewish holidays. Rita Frischer told about the organization of a slide show presentation as PR for AJL. It will tell who we are and what we do. Adaire Klein is writing grants for AJL-Israel study tours for the proposed convention in 1990. Individual achievements, as well as group accomplishments, will be considered. Membership and treasurer's reports were given by the respective officers, David Gilner and Sharona Wax. Resolutions presented by the Executive Board were as follows: (1) A reference list, co-produced with JWB for Judaica Librarianship - Passed; 2) Bibliographies updated every three years with original author contacted first - Passed; 3) Subscription to Judaica Librarianship for non-members; 4) The possibility of JWB and AJL cooperative efforts in the certification of libraries - Minimum standards to be: Library budget support, 10 hours of service a week, acquisition of 100 books per year, participation in Jewish Book Month, a separate budget; 5) Membership directory prepared, alphabetically by name, organization, geographical index - to be sold; 6) Office of Vice President of Publications created - Passed; 7) The adoption of a Refusenik Russian Jewish Librarian, Ura Miller, who cannot work in Russia - Passed; 8) Establishment of a Doris Orenstein Memorial Fund to subsidize Convention attendees, i.e., new members working in Jewish libraries - Passed; 9) Chairpeople to investigate a program for recruitment of Jewish librarians. R and S Division recommended that R and S librarians be in charge of their own program, in coordination with the general program chairman.

Under New Business, Adaire Klein recommended that the Russian librarian be made an honorary member, with copies of all publications sent to her. Susan March (AJLSC member) requested that the Hamotzi and Birkat be led by women who would like that honor, as well as the men. The recommendation was sent to National Council to take under consideration. It was recommended that the membership list, for members only, be distributed. This will be considered by the Executive Board and Council at the Midwinter meeting.

All in all, the convention was a rewarding experience. If you, too, would like to benefit from our National Convention, meet and mingle with others who do what you do, discuss and digest areas of interest and importance to all of us, join AJL and look forward to an exciting time in Kansas City in June, 1988.

--Fran

**MORE MEDIA MATERIALS IN PETER M. KAHN COMMUNITY LIBRARY****VHS**

- 774:T ALL IN THE FAMILY: Archie Delivers a Eulogy - 20 min. color 15  
His good friend, Jerome (Stretch) Cunningham, has died and Archie is asked to say something about him at the funeral service. His simple remarks reveal both the conditions for positive human relationships and the misconceptions that prevent them.
- 778:T DAVID BEN-GURION: A Man of Israel - 10 min. b/w 14+  
Narrated by Marvin Kalb who characterizes Ben-Gurion as "a man of vision, a man of reality, a man of Israel", this short documentary shows the early settlements, the proclamation of the State and excerpts from Ben-Gurion's speeches. Abba Eban, Shimon Peres and others add their evaluations.
- 768:T DAVID BEN-GURION: 29 min. color 1977 16+  
A straightforward chronological presentation of the life of this statesman. It is told in the context of Zionism and the struggle for Israel's survival and independence. Many still photographs are used to tell the story.
- F-231 THE DAY GRANDPA DIED: 11 min. color 1970 10+  
David, a young Jewish child, had a warm relationship with his grandfather, and he is disturbed by the news of the older man's death. The kindness, understanding and psychological support of his family help him accept the reality of death and see it as an inevitable part of the life process.
- 769:T THE DEAD SEA: 26 min. color 1986 16+  
The area of the Dead Sea has many Biblical references - from the time of Abraham pleading for Sodom to David in hiding. In a later period of Jewish history, there was the fortress Masada. Places near the Sea are also important in the development of Christianity.
- 780:T IN HER OWN TIME: 60 min. color 1985 16+  
Barbara Meyerhoff's last work is a study of the customs and regulations which guide many Jewish families in the Beverly-Fairfax area of Los Angeles. As she explored Jewish traditions in a series of interviews, Meyerhoff deepened her own bonds and attitudes.
- 766:T ISAAC AND REBECCA: 20 min. color 1953 12+  
With a cast from the Habimah and Chamber Theater, the story of Eliezer's trip to find a wife for Isaac is told in full costume and scenery of that time. The dialogue is based on the account in Genesis, Chapter 24.
- 779:T JERUSALEM, GETTING IT TOGETHER: 30 min. color 1986 12+  
In telling the history of the city and its many transformations throughout the centuries, the producers have included an architect's reconstruction in line drawings. This helps the viewer visualize the original shape of things before looking at their current condition.
- 777:T JEWISH HOLIDAYS: 75 min. color 1987 10+  
An observant family demonstrates the use of symbols, foods and how to celebrate each of

Continued on page 10

**MORE MEDIA MATERIALS (continued)**

- 777:T **JEWISH HOLIDAYS**  
the holidays. They explain such terms as teshuvah and tefilah, as well as the historical background and origins of the festivals. This is a fine introduction to the events in the Hebrew calendar.
- 772:T **THE KIBBUTZ:** 18 min. color 1980 14+  
Photographs and cartoons offer an introduction to the kibbutz: its operation, goals, development and future. From the basic idea of mutual assistance came the concept of equality for all in assigned tasks. "It doesn't always work perfectly. These are not cogs of a wheel...but human beings."
- 771:T **NO MORE SPECIAL ME:** 50 min. color 1981 14+  
This training video for teachers who help children with disabilities uses puppets to represent children with several kinds of handicaps. Through interaction between a room of healthy youngsters and the puppets, many lessons in understanding and cooperation are learned.
- 775:T **SHAME OR DISTINCTION:** 20 min. color 1987 12+  
Restrictive clothing or badges for Jews had their beginnings in the 9th century. Dolls dressed in the garments of the time and place are real images of the regulations which controlled Jewish dress through the centuries. The dolls are on display at the Jewish Community Library, with descriptions relating to each one.
- 770:T **THIS IS ISRAEL:** 60 min. color 1986 10+  
From the traffic of Tel Aviv to the desert of Sde Boker, across the highways in the Galilee to the Dead Sea, we are carried through the breadth and length of the land, with emphasis on Jerusalem and its treasures, old and new.

**DAVKAGRAPHICS FOR JEWISH LIBRARIES?**

If you do a lot of display work or need library signs and have access to an Apple or IBM computer and a Printshop Program 2.0 or higher, you might want to consider ordering Davka Corporation's Davkagraphics Program. At a very nominal cost, it will give you 60 graphics on Jewish themes and a Hebrew font of letters that can be used to make Hebrew signs, banners, and letterheads. Davkagraphics also can be used with a Macintosh without Print Shop, serving as clip art for use with various Macintosh applications. The cost is \$24.95; the Macintosh version costs \$34.95.

I bought the program and have used it for banners, seasonal signs, etc. I also find it good PR to provide the school with banners and signs for various holidays, so they can copy them on classroom bulletin boards.

Davka Corporation's address is: 845 North Michigan Avenue  
Suite 843  
Chicago, Illinois 60611

--Rita Frischer

**A SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF INTERMEDIATE CHILDREN'S LITERATURE- 1987****By Rita Frischer**

- Bitman, Marcia. SHIMON AND THE SHABBOS BLUES. Hoboken, N.J.: KTAV, 1987. \$3.95  
Summary: A young boy experiences his first Shabbat at the home of an observant friend.  
x287.5 Bit 1. Shabbat--Fiction. I. Shiman, Hedy, illus. I. Title.
- Chaikin, Miriam. EXODUS. New York: Holiday House, 1987. \$14.95.  
Summary: Retelling of the Biblical story of Moses leading the Jews out of Egypt.  
x021.9 Cha 1. Moses the Lawgiver. 2. Pesah--History. 3. Bible Stories. I. Mikolaycak, Charles, illus. I. Title.
- Chaikin, Miriam. YOSSI TRIES TO HELP GOD. New York: Harper & Row, 1987. \$10.95.  
Summary: Yossi tries to do a good deed, and it almost costs him his two best friends.  
xFic Cha 1. Friendship--Fiction. 2. Family life--Fiction. I. Saldutti, Denise, illus. II. Title.
- Citrin, Paul J. JOSEPH'S WARDROBE. New York: UAHC, 1987. \$6.95.  
Summary: An adventure novel, set in the time of King Solomon, which explores the values of compassion, freedom, justice, identity, and community. Teacher's guide available at T136.75 Cit.  
xFic Cit 1. Joseph, Biblical Character--Fiction. 2. Solomon the King--Fiction. 3. Legends. 4. Values--Fiction. I. Aitken, Lindsey, illus. II. Title.
- Cohen, Barbara. THE CHRISTMAS REVOLUTION. New York: Lothrop, Lee & Shepard Books, 1987. \$11.95.  
Summary: Two Jewish 4th graders refuse to take part in the school Christmas festivities.  
xFic Coh 1. Hanukkah and Christmas--Fiction. 2. Prejudice--Fiction. I. De Groat, Diane, illus. II. Title.
- Cohen, Barbara. FIRST FAST. New York: UAHC, 1987. \$7.95.  
Summary: The story of a wager between two boys, involving the fast and Yom Kippur and an appreciation of repentance and prayer.  
x240.5 Coh 1. Yom Kippur--Fiction. I. Lemeiman, Martin, illus. II. Title.
- Corwin, Judith Hoffman. JEWISH HOLIDAY FUN. New York: Simon & Schuster, 1987. \$4.95.  
Activity book for celebrating Jewish holidays with cooking, crafts, and legends.  
x236.6 Cor 1. Holidays--Arts and Crafts. 2. Cookery. 3. Legends--Holidays. I. Messner Holiday Library. II. Title.
- Hackwell, W. John. SIGNS, LETTERS, WORDS--ARCHAEOLOGY DISCOVERS WRITING. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1987. \$13.95.  
Summary: The history of writing as studied through archaeological evidence from 3000 B.C. through the Latin alphabet.  
x470.2 Hac 1. Archaeology. 2. Writing--History. 3. Alphabet--History. I. Title.
- Harvey, Brett. IMMIGRANT GIRL--BECKY OF ELDRIDGE STREET. New York: Holiday House, 1987. \$11.95.  
Summary: A ten-year-old Jewish immigrant girl tells of growing up in 1910 New York.  
xFic Har i. Immigration & Emigration--Fiction. 2. New York (City)--Lower East Side--Fiction. I. Kay, Deborah Kogan, illus. II. Title.

**INTERMEDIATE CHILDREN'S LIT continued**

Kesserman, Shanedy. THE SILVER MEGILLAH. Lakewood, N.J. Shalsheles Pub., 1987. \$3.50.

Summary: Story about the miracle of Purim, written in verse form.

x249.5 Kes 1. Purim--Fiction. I. Tirado, Alex, illus. II. Title.

Levinson, Riki. DINNIE ABBIE SISTER-R-RI New York: Bradbury Press, 1987. \$11.95.

Summary: Adventures of a five-year-old Jewish girl growing up in Brooklyn with two lively brothers.

xFic Lev 1. Family Life--Fiction. I. Cogancherry, Helen, illus. II. Title.

Nathan, Joan. THE CHILDREN'S JEWISH HOLIDAY KITCHEN. New York: Schocken Books, 1987. \$10.95.

Easy recipes for holiday dishes, giving steps suitable for children to perform alone or with adult help.

x699 Nat 1. Cookery. I. Title.

Scnur, Steven. THE RETURN OF MORRIS SCHUMSKY. New York: UAHC, 1987. \$6.95.

Summary: Grandpa Morris has a secret plan to make Rebecca's wedding far more meaningful than they had ever dreamed possible.

xFic Sch 1. Weddings--Fiction. 2. Old Age--Fiction. 3. Values--Fiction. I. Lazzaro, Victor, illus. II. Title.

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**Central Cataloging Service continued**

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**WANTED AND NEEDED -- WANTED AND NEEDED -- WANTED AND NEEDED**

Book reviewers to write for LIBRARY LIGHT. If you or anyone you know would like to share good books with others, please consider writing reviews. We all can take part, and we will all benefit. If everyone would write about a book they feel is "too good to miss", we would all be the beneficiaries. And just think how far that influence could go.

Make a "New Year's Resolution" to write a book review for LIBRARY LIGHT.

--Fran

## TEMPLE JUDEA'S LIBRARIANS RESPOND TO OUR PLEA

We stopped the presses to add two more pages to LIBRARY LIGHT, so that our readers could be treated to some reviews offered to us by the librarians of Temple Judea in Tarzana. Our thanks and gratitude for favoring us with their thoughts on some recent publications.

Hammer, Armand. HAMMER.

There are many people who do not know that this famous philanthropist, oil magnate and multi-millionaire is Jewish. "As for my own forebears," he writes, "they came from Russia and before that from Israel." He claims to be a descendant of Judah Maccabee, also known as Judah the Hammer. His father, an ardent Socialist, was a doctor and also owned a pharmaceutical company and drug stores. Armand became involved with this company while attending medical school at Columbia, and by the time he was 21, he was a millionaire.

When Armand finished medical school in 1921, he had six months before he was to begin his internship at Bellevue. He decided to go to Russia to aid in the typhus epidemic there. He stayed nine years. Mr. Hammer arranged to have grain supplied to the Soviets in exchange for furs. At this time he met Lenin and because of this single fact, i.e., that he met and spoke with Lenin, Armand Hammer got the clout he has to this very day within the Soviet Union.

This book is incredible reading because of what this one man has accomplished. In Russia, he got involved with grain sales, a pencil factory and art works. This was the start of the Hammer Galleries, and we all know what this led to! He left Russia when Stalin came into power. Back in the U.S. he continued to flourish financially. One chapter is entitled "The Tough Years>" This mainly refers to his two unhappy marriages prior to marrying the love of his life, Frances. The great names of modern history are people he has known and with whom he has worked. Naturally, every U.S. president as well as leaders and dictators from all over the world. His story is the story of the 20th Century.

When Armand Hammer took over Occidental Petroleum thirty years ago, it was worth \$78,000. Today it is the twelfth largest industrial company. What is really amazing is that he did not get involved with Occidental until he married Frances in 1956 and "retired" to Los Angeles. Today Mr. Hammer has two goals in life. One is world peace; the other is a cure for cancer. One has only to recall his sending Dr. Robert Gale to Chernobyl to see how dedicated he is in the field of medicine and research. We know he has served as an advisor to various presidents and has been responsible for the release of many dissident Jews in the Soviet Union. We can only pray that he will be granted the years to enable him to see his two goals accomplished.

--Naomi Marblestone

Raskin, Barbara. HOT FLASHES.

"We always looked good at airports...We were a generation - although we didn't think that way...We believed ourselves to be the best and the brightest women of our time...We have read and written lots of books about women like us and the way we live now...Although our nests have been depopulated, they are not completely empty...Currently because of economic shortfalls, many of the yuppies we spawned have returned home to live with us." These are a few of the "hot flashes," thoughts, epiphanies that Barbara Raskin has about her generation, those women born between 1935 and 1945. This novel is a tribute to her peers, a description of what makes them run, their causes, marriages, children, lives.

Sukie Amram dies in Washington, D.C., and her three closest friends come from all over the country to bury her and pay her homage. Sukie was a 60's liberal, a person who housed the peace march participants on the floor of her living room. She was generous, loving, eccentric, and all who knew her loved her. But in the past few years of her life, her husband had left her for another woman, and she was grieving. This novel is the story of Sukie and her closest friends and what went right and wrong in their lives.

"We were such good friends. Really...We still are." When you read this book, you will laugh and you will cry. No matter what your age or generation, you'll love it.

--Judy DuRoff

Cowan, Paul and Rachel. MIXED BLESSINGS.

Rachel and Paul Cowan have made a unique spiritual pilgrimage since their marriage in 1965. Cowan's first book, ORPHAN IN HISTORY, recounted the meeting of a Chicago Jew and a New England Unitarian who fell in love on the way to graduate school. After their marriage, Cowan rediscovered his Jewish roots and Rachel eventually converted.

MIXED BLESSINGS follows the results of the Cowan family's dedication to Jewish ideals. So many people came to the couple for advice on intermarriage that they established workshops to deal with both the practical and emotional problems faced by couples of dissimilar faiths. Each chapter deals with specific areas: the in-laws; the arrival of children; the functioning of a two-religion family; "time bombs," - problems not immediately apparent early in an intermarriage: what Jews think Christians believe and vice versa. As a convert, I found the section on symbols particularly fascinating. Liberal Christians find it nearly impossible to understand the vehemence of Jewish objection to a Christmas tree - something they view as a merely secular object.

This is a highly readable book, full of case histories and segments of confrontations between participants in the workshops. Best of all, the Cowans have no axe to grind. A final note: Rachel Cowan is now studying for the rabbinate.

--Connie Salper

### IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

MORE BIBLIOGRAPHIES FROM RITA FRISCHER!

SELECTED JEWISH PICTURE BOOKS by DR. MARCIA POSNER.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY OF JEWISH STORIES compiled by PENINA SCHRAM.

